



**Direction for use:**

Cultures of organisms identified as *Shigella* by their bacteriological and biochemical features are serotyped according to the following procedures.

1. Before testing with antisera, test the culture with normal saline, the culture should show no agglutination. If agglutination occurs, the culture is rough and cannot be tested. Take the subculture to non-inhibitory medium, incubate and test the culture with normal saline again.
2. Put a drop of serum onto the test area of the clean glass slide.
3. By using platinum wire, transfer a portion of a loopful of growth from solid medium onto the drop of serum and mix the culture and serum well. Tilt the glass slide back and forth for one minute.
4. If agglutination is found by use of one of the *Shigella* polyvalent, the preliminary report is that the culture is that group of *Shigella*. For further test for serotype of culture, test the culture with *Shigella* type specific antisera.
5. In case culture shown negative with every type of antisera, should mix 2 loops of the culture with 1ml of normal saline then boil at 100°C for 15 minutes and return to test with antisera in step 3.

**Reference:**

1. Edward, P.R. and Ewing, W.H.O Identification of Enterobacteriaceae, Fourth Edition, Burgess, Company, Minnesota 1986
2. Manual for the laboratory Identification and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing of Bacterial Pathogens of Public Health Importance in the Developing World, 2003, Center for Disease Control and Prevention: National Center for Infectious Diseases and WHO: Department of Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response.

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