

Aim 17

Preparation of Cotton plugs

Introduction

Contamination is the occurrence of unwanted microbes in culture tubes that make culture impure. Cotton plugs are used to prevent the contamination/ entry of the unwanted microorganisms in culture tubes/ flasks and the aseptic conditions are maintained in the flask/ tubes.

Requirements

1. Muslin cloth
2. Cotton roll
3. Scissor
4. Tubes/Flasks

Procedure

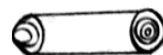
1. Unwrap the cotton roll.
2. With the help of scissor cut the cotton sheet according to the size requirement.
3. Apply light press to roll it.
4. From the centre, fold the roll and insert it into the test tubes/ flask.
5. Cotton roll is then wrapped in a muslin cloth for the preparation of cotton plugs.



Step 1: Cotton roll



Cut cotton sheat



Step 2: Roll the cotton



Fold from the centre



Cotton plug in conical flask

Cotton plug



Cotton plug in the test tube

Precautions

1. Cotton plug should not be too tight or loose.
2. Fibers of cotton should not hang in the tubes/flask.
3. It should be airtight and easy to unplug.