

BIOPSY PHANTOM RECIPE

Ingredients: Agar (Beckton, Dickinson & Co. 500g, Difco Plate Count Agar)

Stuffed olives (green!) Pimiento stuffing (!).

Enema Bags (Epiflex enema bags) 2L.

Recipe:

1. 25g of agar powder per litre i.e. add 50g per bag to water in large saucepan.
2. Bring to boil and simmer for 1 minute. Advise not doing this while cooking dinner for the family – pungent aroma. Watch it does not boil over!
3. Take small plastic bead out of enema bag, cut tubing to 20cm.
4. Add dozen or so stuffed olives to bag.
5. Let agar solution cool then keeping enema bag in a sink of cold water carefully pour agar solution (2.2L per bag) through red cap. Seal cap then holding bag underwater, squeeze air out through tubing and then clamp. Be careful pouring agar solution into enema bag, a funnel is prudent. If you don't keep the bag in cold water, the bag can melt/split if the agar is not cooled sufficiently.
6. Leave in sink to set, rotating bag whilst the agar is setting - to avoid all olives sinking to bottom.
7. Keep in fridge to set (two hours). Will last 3 – 4 days.
8. Biopsy at will.

Variations:

Penne pasta – for teaching anaesthetists to insert needles into veins.

Cut up marshmallows in balloons – for teaching registrars gall bladder drainage.

Have fun!!!