

For Immediate Release:

Easy Detection of *Acinetobacter*

New culture media from Hardy Diagnostics isolates *Acinetobacter* and MDR *Acinetobacter*



Multiple Drug Resistant (MDR) *Acinetobacter baumannii* growing on Hardy Diagnostics' new MDR *Acinetobacter* Media

Photo by Daniel Berger

Santa Maria, California; April 1, 2010 – Hardy Diagnostics, an ISO certified biomedical firm, has announced the release of two new products to aid in the fight against antibiotic resistant microorganisms. Leeds Medium is a selective and differential medium for the isolation and differentiation of both sensitive and drug resistant strains of *Acinetobacter* spp. MDR *Acinetobacter* Medium has additional antibiotics added to the Leeds Medium base to further select for multi-drug resistant (MDR) *Acinetobacter* spp. Colonies of *Acinetobacter* are pink with a pink color diffused into the medium. They will be fully developed within 24 hours. Other bacteria will produce yellow colonies with a yellow color diffused into the medium.

Acinetobacter spp. has been isolated from patients, the environment, soil, and water. They are frequently responsible for episodes of hospital acquired infections (HAI) and have been isolated from nebulizers, gloves, and even dust. Skin colonization with *A. baumannii* in healthy individuals is common and may serve as a source of infection. *Acinetobacter* has been reported

1430 West McCoy Lane, Santa Maria, California, USA ~ Ph: (805) 346-2766, Fx: (805) 346-2760
Website: www.HardyDiagnostics.com ~ Email: Sales@HardyDiagnostics.com
California ~ Washington ~ Utah ~ Arizona ~ Ohio ~ Texas



as responsible for 2-10% of all gram-negative bacterial infections in intensive care units in Europe and the United States. *Acinetobacter baumannii* is often resistant to commonly used antibiotics including beta-lactams and aminoglycosides. Because of the increasing resistance to antibiotics, management of *A. baumannii* infection has become a public health concern. Some strains have become resistant to almost all currently available antibacterial agents, including carbapenems, which were once considered the drug of choice for treatment of *A. baumannii* infections.

The introduction by Hardy Diagnostics of a new screening media for *Acinetobacter* and MDR *Acinetobacter* is a significant step forward in the early detection and treatment of these human pathogens.

ABOUT HARDY DIAGNOSTICS

Hardy Diagnostics is an FDA licensed and ISO 13485 certified manufacturer of medical devices for microbiological procedures in both clinical and industrial laboratories. The company manufactures about 3,000 products for the culture and identification of bacteria and fungi from its Santa Maria, California headquarters. Currently over 6,000 laboratories are serviced by Hardy Diagnostics throughout the nation.

The company was founded in 1980 by Jay Hardy, a Clinical Laboratory Scientist from Santa Barbara, CA. Today, Hardy Diagnostics maintains six distribution centers throughout the U.S. and exports products to over 30 foreign distributors.

The company's mission is to partner with its laboratory customers to prevent and diagnose disease. For more information, visit www.HardyDiagnostics.com.

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Contact Information:

Contact Person: Christopher Catani
Company Name: HARDY DIAGNOSTICS
Address: 1430 West McCoy Lane, Santa Maria, CA 93455
Phone Number: (805) 346-2766, Ext: 5696
Fax Number: (805) 928-2950
Email Address: CataniC@HardyDiagnostics.com
Company Website: www.HardyDiagnostics.com

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*1430 West McCoy Lane, Santa Maria, California, USA ~ Ph: (805) 346-2766, Fx: (805) 346-2760
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