Instruction for Use for Neo-Sensitabs Dispensers, mobile

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Neo-Sensitabs dispensers, mobile

Manufacturer
ROSCO Diagnostica A/S, Taastrupgaardsvej 30, DK-2630 Taastrup, Denmark, www.rosco.dk

Intended use
To be used for dispensing Neo-Sensitabs^{TM} on agar plates for *in vitro* diagnostic use.

Intended users
Technicians trained in susceptibility testing on agar.

Models available
7 holes: A dispenser adaptable to 85 to 95 mm petri dishes delivering up to 7 Neo-Sensitabs at a time.
12 holes: A dispenser for 14-15 cm petri dishes delivering up to 12 Neo-Sensitabs at a time .

Components
The main components of the Neo-Sensitabs dispenser are 3 plates: 2 stationary and 1 moving (sliding plate), each accommodating 7 holes. The sliding plate and the stationary plates are made of acrylic plastic. Further, the three legs and the spacers are made of PEHD-1000.

Principles
The Neo-Sensitabs dispenser is transparent and the agar surface is plainly visible while the tablets are being transferred.
Neo-Sensitabs cartridges match the dimension of the top-plate adapters. Each cartridge accommodates 50 Neo-Sensitabs.
When in the rest position, the hole of the intermediate sliding plate is aligned against the holes of the top plate. Slight pressure applied to the intermediate slide will push the tablets towards the holes of the bottom plates thus releasing one tablet from each cartridge. The bottom-plate holes are provided with chutes, ensuring that the tablets are placed onto the agar surface in a pre-determined pattern. Allow 1-2 mm free space between the agar plate and the chutes before dispensing. The dispenser is optimized for situations where the surface of the agar has a height of 3-4 mm. Adjustable legs (not included) can be mounted in order to gain a more flexible adjustment of dispenser height in order to compensate for alternative agar plate dimensions and geometries.

Precautions
Only to be used in combination with Neo-Sensitabs. Make sure that the chutes do not touch the inoculated agar plate before dispensing. The dispenser must not be autoclaved or exposed to ultraviolet light or radiation. The first tablet in the tubes may be defect, and therefore the outcome of the first portion may be defect tablets.

Storage
No particular storage requirements, however, dispenser with cartridges inserted must be stored at room temperature.

Materials provided
A dispenser as labelled on the container.

Materials required but not provided
Neo-Sensitabs in cartridges and others materials necessary to perform an agar diffusion test.

Procedure

1. Remove the lids from a desired number of Neo-Sensitabs cartridges and insert the cartridges into the top-plate adapters. The wedge on the side of the cartridges will fit into the band in the adapters and assure the right orientation on the cartridges.
2. Place the Neo-Sensitabs dispenser above a petri dish.
3. Pressing the handle of the intermediate sliding plate with the thumbs of both hands, will cause tablets to be released and transferred to the agar surface. If the sliding plate is operated too slowly, the tablets may tend to stand on edge and perhaps tumble. This is practically eliminated when the pressure is applied briskly. If the pressure is applied too fast the tablets might break. It is recommended to train in the use of the dispenser before the dispenser is used for clinical procedures
4. This operation is repeated until the cartridges are empty. It is not possible to use the dispenser if an empty cartridge is present, due to the red bottom-cup in the cartridge that will block the middle plate. This will insure that all tablets in an antibiogram are dispensed to all relevant plates.

Cleaning

Clean the dispenser occasionally to remove dust from the Neo-Sensitabs tablets. Use soap and warm water. The dispenser is easy to disassemble for inside cleaning.

Disposal: Damaged or used dispensers, which have been cleaned, are disposed of according to local regulations for plastic materials.