**TETRAZOLIUM REDUCTION TEST (TTC)**

**Principle**

To differentiate between *E. faecalis* and *E. faecium*.

*E. faecalis* reduces the colorless compound (Tetrazolium-chloride) to an insoluble substance - formozan which is red.

**Material**

BHI broth/Tetrazolium-chloride (TTC)

**Procedure**

Inoculate a loopful of an overnight plate culture to 1 ml of TTC broth. Incubate at 35°C and observe the reaction at 2 hours. If negative, re-incubate up to 8 hours / overnight.

**Interpretation**

Positive - deep magenta  
Negative - colourless or faint pink

**Quality Control**

Positive:  *E. faecalis* (ATCC 29212)  
Negative:  *E. faecium* (ATCC 19434)

**References**