

Staphylococcus aureus, Strain GA-656

Catalog No. NR-46221

For research use only. Not for human use.

Contributor:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Manufacturer:

BEI Resources

Product Description:

Bacteria Classification: *Staphylococcaceae*, *Staphylococcus*

Species: *Staphylococcus aureus*

Strain: GA-656

NARSA Catalog Number: NRS692

Original Source: *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*), strain GA-656 was isolated in June 2006 from a 51-year-old male with a bloodstream infection in Georgia, USA.¹

Comments: *S. aureus*, strain GA-656 is a methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) strain.¹ *S. aureus*, strain GA-656 was deposited as positive for *mec* (subtype IV); negative for PVL and *tsst*; pulsed-field type (PFT) USA800.¹ *S. aureus*, strain GA-656 is a USA800/Pediatric isolate. USA800 isolates have the same MLST profile (ST 5), *agr* group (II), *SCCmec* subtype (IV), *spa* motif (MDMGMK), and *Ridom spa* types (t002 and related) and are positive for *sem* and *seo* toxin genes. USA 800 isolates are resistant to β -lactams with some isolates being resistant to additional antibiotics.²⁻⁵ While first isolated in pediatric patients, USA800 strains recently have been isolated in adults.^{6,7}

Note: Methicillin is no longer clinically used, however, the term methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) continues to be used to describe *S. aureus* strains resistant to all penicillins.

S. aureus is a Gram-positive, cluster-forming coccus that normally inhabits human nasal passages, skin and mucus membranes. It is also a human pathogen and causes a variety of pus-forming infections as well as food-poisoning and toxic shock syndrome. In 1961, two years after the introduction of methicillin, a penicillinase-resistant penicillin, *S. aureus* developed methicillin-resistance due to acquisition of the *mecA* gene. For the last forty-five years hospital-acquired (HA) MRSA strains have disseminated worldwide. More recently, MRSA strains have been isolated that are not hospital acquired and are referred to as community-associated (CA) MRSA. These CA-MRSA strains differ phenotypically and genotypically from HA-MRSA strains and they are more frequently recovered from skin and soft tissue sources rather than post-operative wounds.^{8,9}

Material Provided:

Each vial contains approximately 0.5 mL of bacterial culture in Tryptic Soy broth supplemented with 10% glycerol.

Note: If homogeneity is required for your intended use, please purify prior to initiating work.

Packaging/Storage:

NR-46221 was packaged aseptically in cryovials. The product is provided frozen and should be stored at -60°C or colder immediately upon arrival. For long-term storage, the vapor phase of a liquid nitrogen freezer is recommended. Freeze-thaw cycles should be avoided.

Growth Conditions:

Media:

Brain Heart Infusion broth or Tryptic Soy broth or equivalent
Brain Heart Infusion agar or Tryptic Soy agar with 5% defibrinated sheep blood or equivalent

Incubation:

Temperature: 37°C

Atmosphere: Aerobic

Propagation:

1. Keep vial frozen until ready for use, then thaw.
2. Transfer the entire thawed aliquot into a single tube of broth.
3. Use several drops of the suspension to inoculate an agar slant and/or plate.
4. Incubate the tube, slant and/or plate at 37°C for 18 to 24 hours.

Citation:

Acknowledgment for publications should read "The following reagent was provided by the Network on Antimicrobial Resistance in *Staphylococcus aureus* (NARSA) for distribution by BEI Resources, NIAID, NIH: *Staphylococcus aureus*, Strain GA-656, NR-46221."

Biosafety Level: 2

Appropriate safety procedures should always be used with this material. Laboratory safety is discussed in the following publication: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Institutes of Health. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories. 5th ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2009; see www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmbl5/index.htm.

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References:

1. NARSA, NRS692
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6. Sousa-Junior, F. C., et al. "Genotyping of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Isolates Obtained in the Northeast Region of Brazil." *J. Clin. Microbiol.* 42 (2009): 877-881. PubMed: 19787144.
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8. Deurenberg, R. H. and E. E. Stobberingh. "The Evolution of *Staphylococcus aureus*." *Infect. Genet. Evol.* 8 (2008): 747-763. PubMed: 18718557.
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