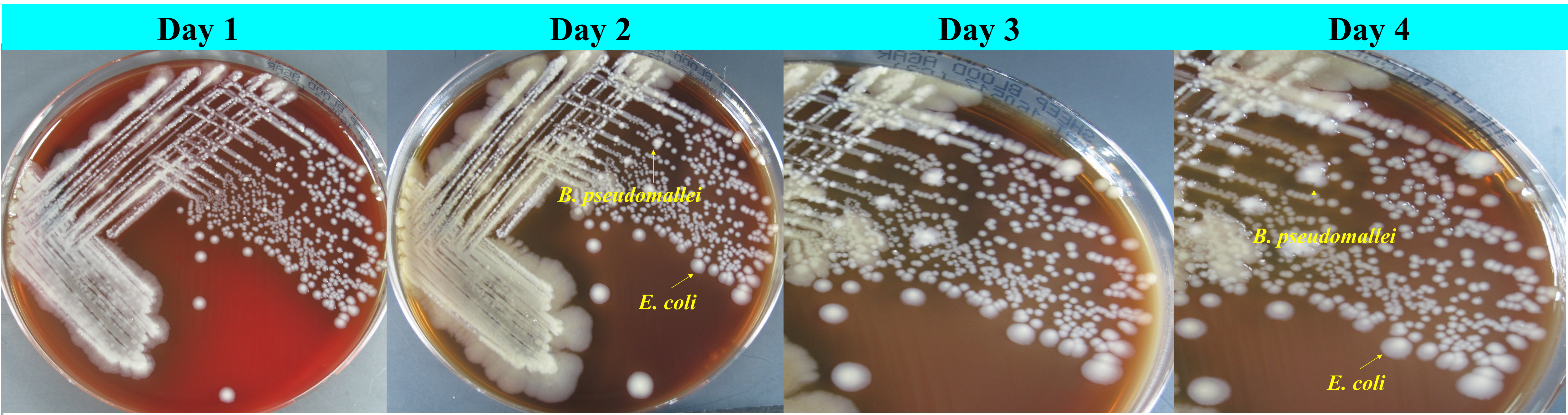


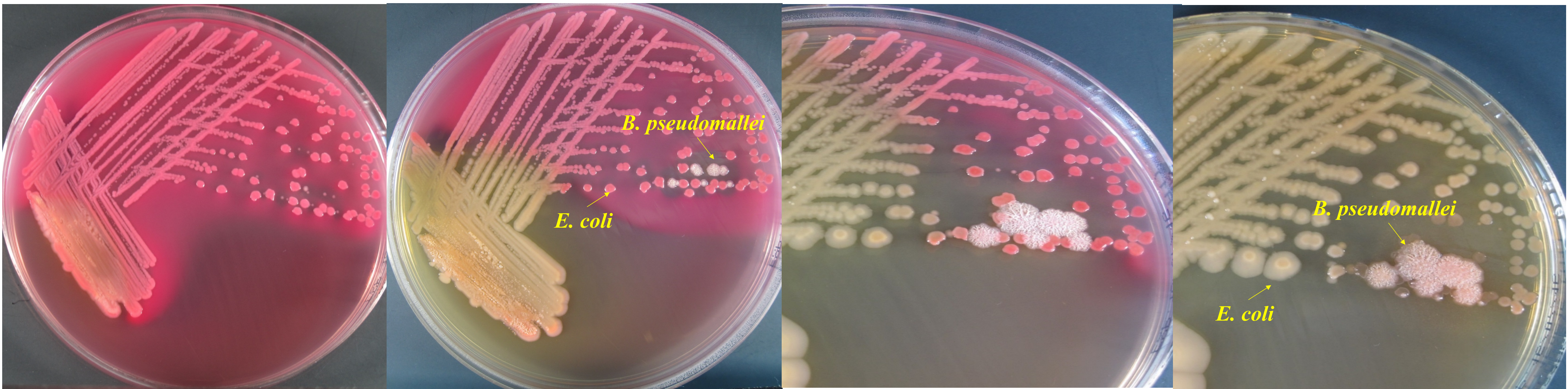
Colony morphology of *Burkholderia pseudomallei* on different culture media

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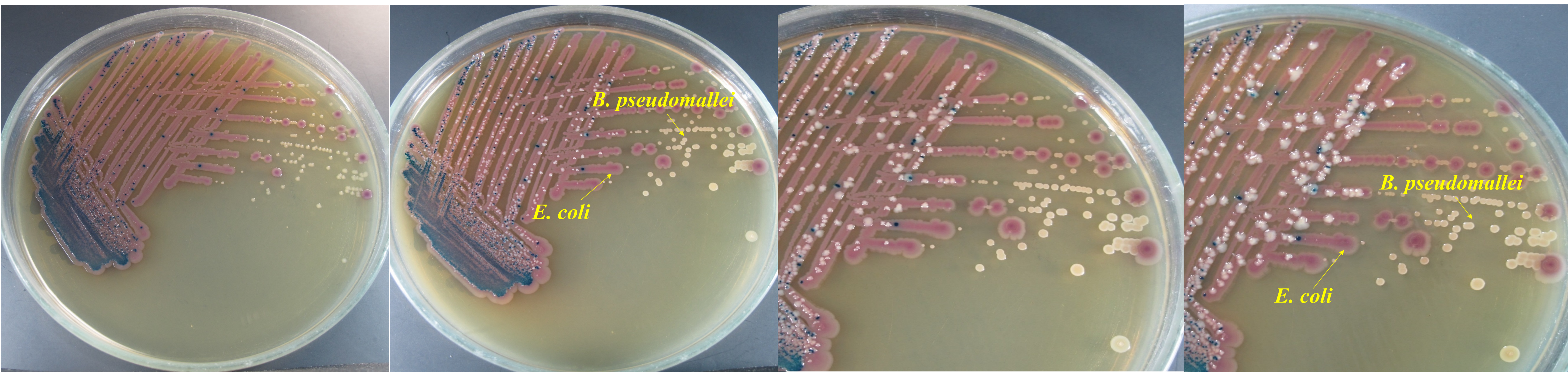
Typical appearance of *B. pseudomallei* mixed with *E. coli* isolated from non-sterile clinical sample



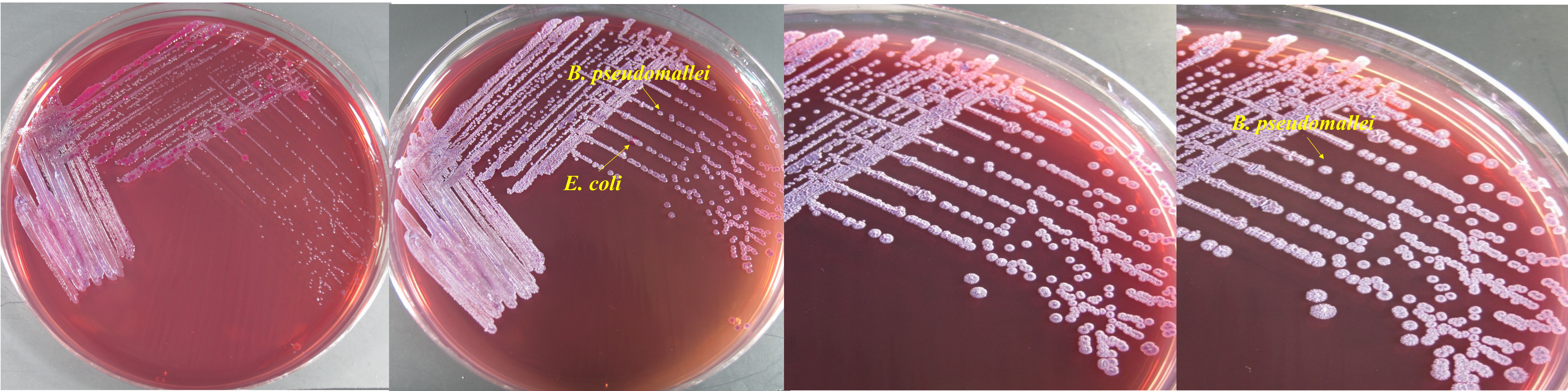
B. pseudomallei forms creamy colonies which are non-haemolytic and resemble a coliform. Slight metallic sheen. Becoming dry and wrinkled after 2 days of incubation. *E. coli* has similar morphology and tends to overgrow *B. pseudo*.



B. pseudomallei resembles a non-lactose fermenting coliform (colourless). Becoming dry and wrinkled after 2 days of incubation. *E. coli* is a lactose fermenter (pink to red colour) with colonies that become colourless on longer incubation.



B. pseudomallei appears as white /colourless colonies. *E. coli* forms red/pink colonies (with some blue areas of confluence).



First visible colonies of *B. pseudomallei* are pinpoint with clear to pale pink color. They become darker pink to purple, flat, slightly dry and wrinkled with a definite metallic sheen after 2 days of incubation. *E. coli* fails to grow because it is inhibited by gentamicin in the agar.

Note: A characteristic sweetish earthy odor may emanate from cultures (on any agar plate), especially after 2 days of incubation. Suspected clinical specimens and suspected bacterial colonies should be processed in a biological safety cabinet.

Sniffing of agar plates must not be performed!