

MBPCR134 Hi-PCR[®] Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit

Instructions For Use

Description

Enterococcus species, normally found in the gastrointestinal and female genital tracts, have become significant nosocomial pathogens causing urinary tract infections and sepsis. Vancomycin, which targets Gram-positive cocci by binding to the D-alanyl-D-alanine terminus of peptidoglycan precursors, is commonly used to treat these infections. However, Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE) have emerged since the 1980s due to widespread vancomycin use, posing a global healthcare threat. VRE frequently colonize asymptomatic individuals, particularly in long-term care facilities, leading to environmental contamination. Detection of VRE and resistance genes (*vanA*, *vanB*) is effectively achieved using nucleic acid amplification methods such as Real-Time PCR, which offers a faster and more sensitive alternative to conventional PCR.

NOTE: HiMedia's Hi-PCR[®] Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) Probe (Multiplex) PCR Kit is for *in-vitro* use only.

Intended Use

Recommended for sensitive and specific detection of *vanA*, *vanB* genes and *Enterococcus* spp. in clinical samples.

Principle

Real-time polymerase chain reaction, also called quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (qPCR) or kinetic Polymerase Chain Reaction, is a laboratory technique based on the principle of PCR. This technique is used to amplify a targeted DNA sequence by use of hydrolysis probes that are short oligonucleotides that have a fluorescent reporter dye attached to the 5' end and a quencher dye to the 3' end. HiMedia's Hi-PCR[®] Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit is designed to detect ***vanA*, *vanB*** and ***Enterococcus* spp.** in **FAM, HEX and Cy5 channels** respectively in tube 1 and **Internal Control** in **JOE channel** in tube 2.

Positive Control

This is a control reaction using a known template (target pathogen). A positive control is usually used to check that the primers have been designed properly and the PCR conditions have been set up correctly.

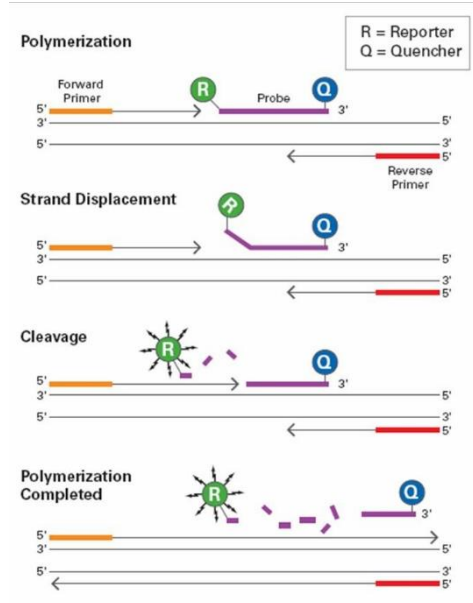
Internal Control

This is a heterologous control (Internal Control, IC) sequence that serves as the in-process control to identify possible PCR inhibition and to confirm the integrity of the reagents of the Kit. It determines the validity of the tests.

Negative Control

A Negative control is needed to ensure that the reagents, equipment, and environment used in the assay are not contaminated. In this reaction, Molecular Biology Grade Water is used as the template. It is recommended to have a minimum of 1 reaction of negative control per run.

Diagrammatic representation of preferential binding of probe specific to DNA fragments in Real-time PCR



Polymerization: A fluorescent reporter (R) dye and a quencher (Q) are attached to the 5' and 3' end of the probe respectively

Strand displacement: When the probe is intact, the report dye emission is quenched.

Cleavage: During each extension cycle, the DNA polymerase cleaves the reporter dye from the probe

Polymerization completed: Once separated from the quencher, the reporter dye emits its characteristic fluorescence

While the probe is intact, the proximity of the quencher dye greatly reduces the fluorescence emitted by the reporter dye by fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET). The probes are designed such that they anneal within a DNA region amplified by a specific set of primers. During PCR amplification, these probes will hybridize to the target sequences located in the amplicon i.e. the DNA. As the *Taq* DNA polymerase replicates the template with the bound probe, the 5'-nuclease activity of the polymerase enzyme cleaves the fluorescent probe. The end result in cleavage of the probe is separation of the reporter dye from the quencher dye and increasing the reporter dye signal. As the probe is removed from the target strand, primer extension continues to the end of the template strand. Hence, fluorescence detected in the quantitative PCR thermal cycler is directly proportional to the fluorophore released and the amount of DNA template present in the PCR. Thus, inclusion of the probe does not inhibit the overall PCR process.

Molecular Features

- Fast and simple
- Good sensitivity and specific results
- Guaranteed reproducible results
- Rapid detection of all relevant clinical pathogens

Technology features:

- Fast and reliable results within 90 minutes.
- One-step assay i.e. reverse transcription and amplification are performed in the same tube.
- Includes all reagents & controls for validity of the test.
- Open system – Compatible with 4-channel and 5-channel qPCR cyclers.
- Wet-lab assays validated on the Bio-Rad CFX Opus 96, Applied Biosystems QuantStudio 5 and Insta Q96® Plus Real Time PCR Systems.

Sample type: Clinical samples / cultured isolates

Storage and Shelf life

The provided kit has a shelf-life of 12 months when stored between -10°C to -20°C. Repeated thawing and freezing of PCR reagents should be avoided, as this may reduce the sensitivity. If the reagents are to be used multiple times, we recommend storing reagents as aliquots to avoid repeated freeze and thaw.

Degradation of sample DNA specimens can also reduce the sensitivity of the assay. HiMedia Laboratories does not recommend using the kit after the expiry date stated on the pack.

Specimen Handling

Follow appropriate techniques for handling specimens; after use, contaminated materials must be sterilized by autoclaving before discarding. Standard precautions as per established guidelines should be followed while handling clinical specimens and items contaminated with other body fluids. Safety guidelines may be referred to in individual safety data sheets.

Kit Contents:

The provided PCR kit contains:

Components	Product code	Reagents provided for (reactions)* (µL)	
		25R	50R
VRE Master Mix	DS2209	675 µL	1350 µL
VRE Primer-Probe Mix	DS2210	81 µL	162 µL
Internal Control Primer-Probe Mix	DS1117	27 µL	54 µL
Internal Control DNA	DS1096C	27 µL	54 µL
VRE Positive Control	DS2230	25 µL	50 µL
Molecular Biology Grade Water	ML065	284 µL	347 µL

* For a 25 µL PCR reaction

Materials needed but not provided

Appropriate real-time PCR instrument

Appropriate nucleic acid extraction system or kit

Centrifuge with a rotor for 1.5 mL - 2 mL reaction tubes

Centrifuge with a rotor for microtiter plates, if using 96 well reaction plates

Vortex mixer

PCR tubes (0.1ml or 0.2ml) or 96 well reaction plates with corresponding (optical) closing material or lid

Pipettes (Capacity: 0.5 - 10 µL/10 - 100 µL/20 - 200 µL/100 - 1000 µL)

Pipette tips with filters (As per pipette capacity)

Powder-free gloves (disposable)

All these materials are available through www.himedialabs.com

Product name	Product Code
Real-Time PCR Instrument and equipment	
Insta Q96® AG Real time PCR System, 96 well block, 5 channels	MBLA027
Insta Q96® AG 6.0 Real time PCR System, 96 well block, 6 channels	MBLA028
Insta Q96® Plus Real time PCR System, 96 well block, 5 channels	LA1073
Insta Q96® - 6.0 Real time PCR System, 96 well block, 6 channels	LA1074
Insta Q96® Real time PCR System, 96 well block, 5 channels	LA1012
Insta Q48® M4 Real time PCR System, 96 well block, 4 channels	LA1023
Insta Q48® M2 Real time PCR System, 96 well block, 2 channels	LA1024
TabSpin™ Microcentrifuge	LA1089/LA1090
Automated nucleic acid extraction system and materials	
Insta NX® Instrument - fully automated nucleic acid purification system utilizing the Innovative Super -S membrane column method	LA1056
Insta NX® Mag16, Insta NX® Mag16 ^{Plus}	LA1118, MBLA018
Insta NX® Mag32, Insta NX® Mag32 ^{Plus}	LA1096, MBLA019
Insta NX® Mag96	LA1097
Extraction Kits	
HiPurA® Bacterial Genomic DNA Purification Kit	MB505

HiPurA® Multi-Sample DNA Purification Kit	MB554
HiPurA® Pre-filled Plates for Bacterial DNA Purification	MB505MPF-32
HiPurA® Pre-filled Plates for Food DNA Purification	MB505MPF16
HiPurA® Pre-filled Plates for Bacterial DNA Purification	MB505MPF-96
HiPurA® Pre-filled Cartridges for Bacterial DNA Purification	MB505PC16
Tubes, plates and other consumables	
Varivol II Micropipettes (Capacity: 0.5 to 10 µL/10 to 100 µL/200 to 1000 µL)	LA611/LA614/LA615
µPet Autoclavable Micropipettes (Capacity: 0.5 - 10 µL/10 - 100 µL/20 - 200 µL/100 - 1000 µL)	LA955/LA958/LA959/LA960
Q4Pet Autoclavable Micropipette (Capacity: 0.5 to 10 µL/10 to 100 µL/100 - 1000 µL)	MBLA009/MBLA011/MBLA008
Barrier Tips, Maximum capacity 10 µL	LA749A
Barrier Tips, Maximum capacity 200 µL	LA751A
Barrier Tips, Maximum capacity 1000 µL	LA859A
8-strip tubes & optically clear flat caps for PCR	PR17, PR22, PR23
PCR Tubes, 0.1mL, 0.2 mL; PCR Plates	PW1255/PR2/PR3/PR19
Optical Sealing film	PR18

Kit compatibility with Real-Time PCR Systems

Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit contains fluorophores that are compatible to the following PCR systems. Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit however has been validated on Bio-Rad CFX Opus 96, Applied Biosystems QuantStudio 5 and Insta Q96® Plus Real Time PCR Systems.

Real-Time PCR system	Company	Dye 1	Dye 2	Dye 4
Insta Q96®AG/ Insta Q96®AG 6.0/Insta Q96® - 6.0/Insta Q96® Plus/Insta Q48® M4	HiMedia Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.	FAM	HEX	Cy5
BioRad CFX Opus 96/CFX96 Touch/ CFX384 Touch	Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.	FAM	JOE/HEX	Cy5
QuantStudio™ 5	Applied Biosystems	FAM	JOE/HEX/VIC	Cy5
ABI® Prism SDS 7500	Applied Biosystems	FAM	JOE/HEX/VIC	Cy5
QIAquant 96 & 384 5plex	QIAGEN	FAM	JOE/HEX	Cy5
Rotor-Gene®6000 & Q	QIAGEN	FAM	JOE/HEX	Cy5
LightCycler® 96 / LightCycler® 480	Roche	FAM	JOE/HEX/VIC	Cy5
qTOWER ³	Analytik Jena	FAM	JOE/HEX/VIC	Cy5

Note: Ensure that the Real-Time PCR system is calibrated for dyes mentioned above and maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions and recommendations.

General Preparation Instructions

- Before use all PCR components should be completely thawed on ice (4°C).
- Perform the amplification reactions in a clean area, preferably in a biosafety cabinet.
- Use of aerosol barrier pipette tips is recommended to reduce contamination risks from extraneous DNA templates.
- Extract and store positive control sample (if used) separately from all other reagents to avoid contamination and add it to the reaction mix in a separate area.

Protocol for PCR Master Mix Preparation

1. In the “Master mix Preparation” area, thaw all components from the kit on ice, mix by inverting the tubes and centrifuge the reagents for 5 seconds. Keep on ice for later use.
2. Based on the number of specimens to be tested (N), calculate the volume of the components to be added as N* volume of “1X”
3. Use 1.5 mL Nuclease free centrifuge tube(s) for the preparation of the PCR reaction mix of Tube 1 and Tube 2. Refer to the following table. After all the reagents are added, mix them thoroughly and centrifuge for 5 seconds.

Components	Product Code	Volume to be added for 1R	
		VRE Tube	IC Tube
VRE Master Mix	DS2209	12.5 µL	12.5 µL
VRE Primer-Probe Mix	DS2210	3 µL	-
Internal Control Primer-Probe Mix	DS1117	-	1 µL
Internal Control DNA	DS1096C	-	1 µL
Molecular Biology Grade Water for PCR	ML065	4.5 µL	5.5 µL
Positive Control / Negative Control / Template DNA	-	5 µL	5 µL
Total volume	-	25 µL	25 µL

Centrifuge the tube briefly at 6000 rpm for about 10 seconds. Place the tubes in Real-time PCR machine and set the recommended PCR program (mentioned below). Interpret the data from the amplification plot (observe the Ct values).

Recommended PCR program

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Initial denaturation | : 95°C for 10 minutes | } No. of cycles: 45 |
| 2. Denaturation | : 95°C for 05 seconds | |
| 3. Annealing and Extension | : 60°C for 1 minute (Plate Read) | |
| Sampling | : FAM/HEX/JOE/Cy5 | |

Data Analysis

Selection of channels

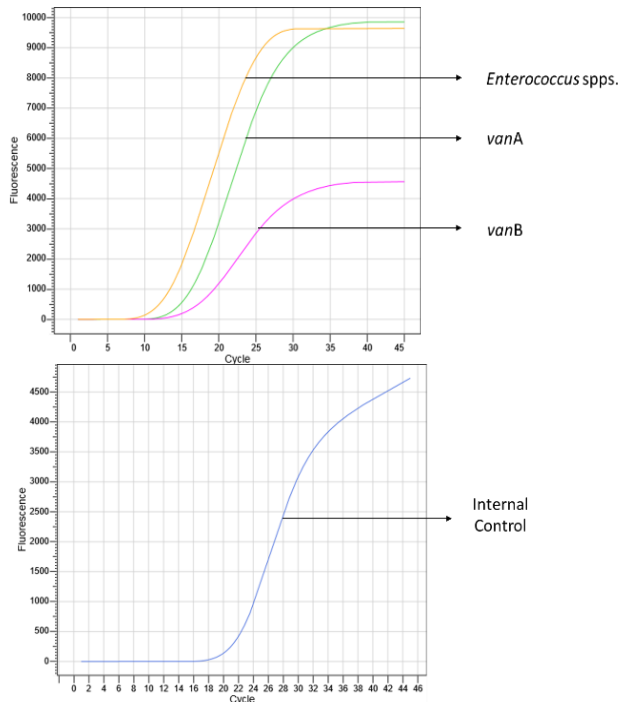
TUBE	Target	Channels	Quencher
VRE Tube	<i>vanA</i>	FAM	None
	<i>vanB</i>	HEX/JOE/VIC	None
	<i>Enterococcus spp.</i>	Cy5	None
IC Tube	Internal Control (IC)	HEX/JOE/VIC	None

Please select ‘Passive reference dye’ as ‘None’ wherever applicable

The following conditions should be met for a valid diagnostic test:

Control	VRE Tube			IC Tube
	<i>vanA</i>	<i>vanB</i>	<i>Enterococcus spp.</i>	Internal Control
Positive Control	+	+	+	+
Negative Control	-	-	-	+

Amplification Data



Sr. No.	Sample	C _t value	
		PC	NC
1	<i>vanA</i> Positive control	17.85	-
2	<i>vanB</i> Positive control	17.38	-
3	<i>Enterococcus</i> spp. Positive control	15.48	-

Sr. No.	Sample	C _t value
1	Internal Control	22.26

Image representing amplification plot of *vanA*, *vanB* and *Enterococcus* spp. using HiMedia's Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) Probe PCR Kit. The results completely depend upon sample types.

Data Interpretation

Ct value	Result
≤ 40	Detected (+)
> 41 or N/A	Not detected (-)

Target				Result Interpretation
VRE Tube			IC Tube	
<i>vanA</i> (FAM)	<i>vanB</i> (HEX)	<i>Enterococcus</i> spp. (Cy5)	Internal Control (JOE)	
+	-	+	+	<i>vanA</i> Positive: VRE
-	+	+	+	<i>vanB</i> Positive: VRE
+	+	±	+	<i>vanA</i> and <i>vanB</i> Positive: VRE
-	-	+	+	Negative for VRE
-	-	-	-	PCR inhibition or reagent failure. Repeat PCR or repeat extraction from original sample

Analytical Performance

Limit of Detection (LoD) - Analytical Sensitivity

Sensitivity for the Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit was conducted using clinical specimens on InstaQ96® Real Time PCR system. The detectable limit of the Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit for each target was determined to be **<10 copies/reaction** with co-amplification of all targets.

Inclusivity

In silico analysis for the assessment of inclusivity for the Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit was conducted by mapping the primers and probe against the available sequences in GenBank. The Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit targets 100% of the characterized strains.

Warning

Certified for *in-vitro* Diagnostic Use (IVD). Not for Medicinal Use.

Precautions

Read the procedure carefully before beginning the protocol. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. Follow good clinical laboratory practices while handling clinical samples. Standard precautions should be followed as per established guidelines. Safety guidelines may be referred in safety data sheets of the product.

Limitations

Although rare, mutations within the highly conserved regions of the targets genes covered by the kit's primers and/or probe may result in under quantitation or failure to detect the presence of the target regions in these cases. Validity and performance of the assay design are revised at regular intervals.

Performance and Evaluation

Each lot of HiMedia's Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit is tested against predetermined specifications to ensure consistent product quality.

Quality Control

Each lot of HiMedia's Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit is assayed for contaminating endonuclease, exonuclease and non-specific DNase activities. Functionally tested in DNA amplification.

Troubleshooting Guide

Sr. No.	Problem	Cause	Solution
1.	No amplification	Degraded samples	1. Check the integrity of DNA using agarose gel electrophoresis. 2. Use freshly prepared DNA to ensure the availability of intact template sequence for efficient amplification.
		Error in protocol setup	Verify that the correct reagent volumes, dilutions and storage conditions have been used.
2.	Variability between replicates	Error in reaction set-up	Prepare a large volume master mix, vortex thoroughly and aliquot into reaction tubes.
		Air bubbles in reaction mix	Briefly centrifuge reaction samples/plate prior to running on a real-time PCR instrument.

		Pipetting error	C _t values of replicates can show increased variation due to poor laboratory technique or imprecise pipettes.
3.	Amplification in negative control	Reagents contaminated	1. Replace all critical solutions. 2. Repeat the analysis of all tests with fresh aliquots of critical reagents.
4.	No signal with positive controls	Incorrect programming of the temperature profile of the thermocycler	Compare the temperature profile to the manual.

Safety Information

HiMedia's Hi-PCR® Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) (Multiplex) Probe PCR Kit is for laboratory use only, not for drug, household or other uses. Take appropriate laboratory safety measures and wear gloves when handling.




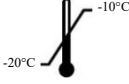







Disposal

User must ensure safe disposal by autoclaving and/or incineration of used or unusable preparations of this product. Following established laboratory procedures in disposing of infectious materials and materials that comes into contact with clinical samples must be decontaminated and disposed of in accordance with current laboratory techniques.


Technical Assistance

At HiMedia, we pride ourselves on the quality and availability of our technical support. For any kind of technical assistance, mail at mb@himedialabs.com.

Symbols:

	Manufacturer		Do not use if package is damaged
	Authorized representative in the European Community		Temperature limit
	Date of manufacture (YYYY-MM)		Consult instructions for use
	Use-by date (YYYY-MM)		In vitro diagnostic medical device
	Batch code		CE marking of conformity
	Catalogue number		

Authorized representative (AR) Address :

	AR Experts B.V. Boeingavenue 209, 1119 PD, Schiphol-Rijk, The Netherlands
---	--

Identification No.: PIMBPCR134

Rev.No.: 03

Date of Issue: 2026-01

Disclaimer :

User must ensure suitability of the product(s) in their application prior to use. Products conform solely to the information contained in this and other related HiMedia™ publications. The information contained in this publication is based on our research and development work and is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. HiMedia™ Laboratories Pvt Ltd reserves the right to make changes to specifications and information related to the products at any time. Products are not intended for human or animal or therapeutic use but for laboratory, diagnostic, research or further manufacturing use only, unless otherwise specified. Statements contained herein should not be considered as a warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, and no liability is accepted for infringement of any patents.

HiMedia Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. Reg.office : Plot No. C-40, Road No. 21Y, MIDC, Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane, (West) 400604, Maharashtra, INDIA. Customer Care No.: 00-91-22-6116 9797 Tel: 00-91-22-6147 1919, 6903 4800 Email:mb@himedialabs.com Website: www.himedialabs.com