

MBPCR257

Hi-PCR[®] Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit

Description

Mucormycosis is an aggressive life-threatening infection caused by fungi in the order *Mucorales*. *Mucorales* is a large order of genetically very heterogeneous fungi, and the most common human pathogens are associated with the genera *Mucor*, *Rhizopus*, *Rhizomucor* and *Lichtheimia* which are responsible for almost 70-90% of all cases of mucormycosis. Species of other genera, such as *Cunninghamella*, *Apophysomyces*, *Saksenaia*, *Cokeromyces*, *Actinomucor* and *Syncephalastrum*, are less common which are responsible for 1% to 5% of reported cases of mucormycosis. Major predisposing risk factors for mucormycosis consist of an impaired immune system, generally caused by neutropenia, corticosteroid treatment, and uncontrolled diabetes with or without ketoacidosis. In certain situations, patients with prolonged neutropenia, disseminated disease, or cerebral involvement, mortality can be unavoidable. Current diagnosis of mucormycosis relies heavily on mycological culture, radiological and histopathological examination. Blood cultures or those from biopsy specimens are mostly negative, and positive cultures can occur sometimes due to contamination rather than true infection. Radiological methods also lack sensitivity, because it is difficult to differentiate imaging findings from aspergillosis, a disease that is treated differently from mucormycosis. Molecular methods are promising directions of modern laboratory diagnosis of fungal infections. Real- Time PCR based molecular techniques have high potential for accurately diagnosing infection in early stages of the disease.

NOTE: Hi-PCR[®] Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit is for *in-vitro* use only.

Intended Use

Recommended for sensitive and specific detection of *Mucorales* spp. in human 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[®] Mucormycosis PCR Kit is designed to detect the highly conserved **18S rRNA gene of all the Mucorales spp. in FAM channel and Internal Control in JOE channel** in a single tube reaction. The kit allows sensitive and specific detection of *Mucorales* spp. in a single tube reaction.

Negative Control

A negative control is needed to ensure that the reagents, equipment, and environment used in the assay is not contaminated. In this reaction, nuclease free water is used as the template.

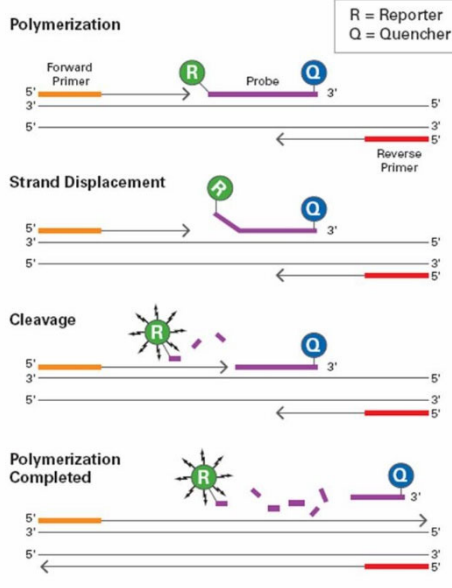
Positive control

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 control sequence which is amplified in the same reaction tube along with the target sequence (target species) but detected with a different primer (i.e. Multiplex PCR). An internal control is often used to detect the failure of amplification in cases where the target sequence is not amplified.

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.

Features

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

Types of Specimen: DNA extracted from various biological specimens such as Broncho-alveolar lavage (BAL), tracheal aspiration, sputum, pleural fluid, paraffin embedded tissue samples (FFPE), biopsy and serum can be used for the detection of Mucorales DNA.

Specimen collection and 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 blood and other body fluids. Safety guidelines may be referred in individual safety data sheets.

Storage and Shelf life

The provided kit has a shelf-life of 12 months when stored between -10° 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 pack.

Kit Contents: The provided PCR kit contains:

Components	Product code	Reagents provided for (reactions)* (µL)	
		25R	50R
Hi-Quanti 2X Realtime PCR Master Mix	MBT180	338	675
Mucor Primer-Probe Mix	DS1103	27	54
Internal Control Primer-Probe Mix	DS1021	27	54
Internal Control DNA	DS1022	27	54
Mucor Positive Control	DS1102	25	50
Molecular Biology Grade Water for PCR	ML065	200	400

*for a 25µL reaction mix

Materials needed but not provided:

- PCR tubes (Product code PW1255) or PCR Strips (Product code: PR17) or PCR Plates (Product code: PR2 / PR3 / PR19) & Sealing film (PR18)
- Insta Q Real Time PCR System (Product Code: LA1012 / LA1023 / LA1024 / LA1073/ LA1074)
- Barrier Micropipette Tips (Product Code: LA749 / LA749A / LA751 / LA751A / LA750 / LA750A / LA859 / LA859A)
- Micropipettes

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.

A. Protocol for PCR Master Mix Preparation

Components	Product Code	Volume to be added for 1R (for a 25 µL reaction)
Hi-Quanti 2X Realtime PCR Master Mix	MBT180	12.5
Mucor Primer-Probe Mix	DS1103	1.0
Internal Control Primer-Probe Mix	DS1021	1.0
Internal Control DNA	DS1022	1.0
Molecular Biology Grade Water for PCR	ML065	4.5
Test – Extracted Sample DNA	-	5.0
Positive Control – Provided in Kit	-	5.0
Negative Control - Water	-	5.0
Total volume	-	25

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).

B. Recommended PCR program

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. Initial denaturation | : | 95°C for 15 minutes | } | No. of cycles: 40 |
| 2. Denaturation | : | 95°C for 15 seconds | | |
| 3. Annealing | : | 50°C for 30 seconds (Plate Read) | | |
| 4. Plate Read | : | FAM/JOE | | |
| 5. Hold | : | 4°C for ∞ | | |

#for instruments not calibrated for JOE, HEX can be used

Quality Control

Each lot of Hi-PCR® Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit is assayed for contaminating endonuclease, exonuclease and non-specific DNase activities. Functionally tested in DNA amplification.

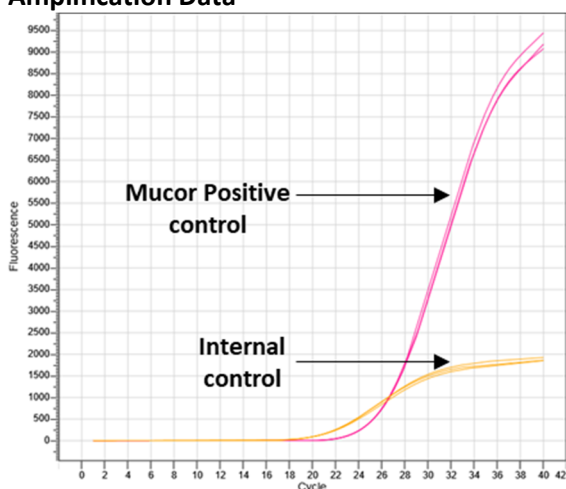
Data Analysis

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

Control	Detection channel	
	FAM (Mucormycosis)	JOE (Internal Control)
Positive Control	+	+/-*
Negative Control	-	+

*The presence or absence of a signal in the JOE channel is not relevant for the validity of the test run due to competition between the test template and Internal Control template.

Amplification Data



Sr. No	Sample	C _t value
1.	Mucor positive control	26.96
2.	Internal Control	21.17

Image representing probe based real-time amplification data of Mucormycosis with C_t values (provided in table)

Data Interpretation

Detection Channel		Result Interpretation
FAM (Mucormycosis)	JOE (Internal Control)	
+	+	Positive for Mucormycosis
-	+	Negative for Mucormycosis
-	-	PCR inhibition or reagent failure. Repeat PCR or repeat extraction from original sample

Performance Evaluation

Limit of Detection (LoD) - Analytical Sensitivity

Sensitivity for the Hi-PCR® Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit was conducted using synthetic DNA on InstaQ96® Real Time PCR system. The detectable limit of the Hi-PCR® Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit was determined to be ≈ 9 copies/reaction.

Inclusivity - Analytical Sensitivity

In silico analysis for the assessment of inclusivity for the Hi-PCR® Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit was conducted by mapping the primers and probes against all the available *Mucorales* spp. sequences in GenBank. The Hi-PCR® Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit targets 100% of the known *Mucorales* strains.

Cross-reactivity - Analytical Specificity

Wet testing analysis was performed against the pathogens available in the laboratory. In addition, *in silico* analysis was performed using NCBI nucleotide and Primer BLAST. The primers for *Mucorales* spp. were analyzed against common respiratory pathogens (data not shown because of large data set). Below mentioned table represents the list of respiratory disease pathogens analyzed for analytical specificity.

<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i>	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>
<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>
<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>	<i>Penicillium chrysogenum</i>
<i>Candida albicans</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>
<i>Mycobacterium pneumoniae</i>	<i>Streptococcus aureus</i>
<i>Legionella pneumophila</i>	<i>Human genomic DNA</i>

Warning and 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 Hi-PCR® Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit is tested against predetermined specifications to ensure consistent product quality.

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.
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Safety Information

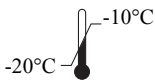
Hi-PCR® Mucormycosis Probe PCR Kit is for laboratory use only, not for drug, household or other uses. Take appropriate laboratory safety measures and wear gloves when handling.

Disposal

User must ensure safe disposal by autoclaving and/or incineration of used or unusable preparations of this product. Follow established laboratory procedures in disposing of infectious materials and material that comes into contact with clinical sample 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.



Storage temperature



Do not use if package is damaged



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Disclaimer :

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