INOCULATION AND STAINING KIT FOR HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 1 AND 2

KHERP Inoculation and staining kit for Herpes simplex 1 and 2 using the Immunofluorescence technique. 24 test.

KIT CONTENTS:
- 50 ml of inoculation medium (MEM containing 2% fetal bovine serum).
- 2 ml of antibiotic mixture (10,000 Units penicillin, 10 mg streptomycin and 25 µg amphotericin B per ml).
- 1 ml of FITC-labelled monoclonal antibody specific for the envelope glycoprotein of Herpes simplex 1 and 2. Diluted in phosphate buffered saline containing bovine albumin, sodium azide and Evans blue as counterstain.
- 2 positive (Vero cells infected with Herpes simplex type 1 and negative (non-infected Vero cells) control slides.

Materials required but not included in the kit:
- 24 shell vials of Vero cells (supplied).
- Adequate precision micropipettes.
- Centrifuge with swinging rotor giving at least 1500 g.
- 37°C incubator.
- Distilled water.
- PBS (phosphate buffered saline pH 7.0-7.5).
- 24x60 coverslips.
- Fluorescence microscope and suitable filters according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- DPX.
- Mounting medium (buffered glycerin).
- Humid chamber for incubation of slides.

CONSERVATION:
Store at 2-8°C. Do not use the kit reagents beyond the expiration date printed on the label. Kits are stable through the expiration date when stored closed and at the temperature indicated. The cells used in the inoculation process should be stored at 34-38°C.

STABILITY AND HANDLING OF REAGENTS:
Handle reagents in aseptic conditions to avoid microbial contaminations.
Use only the amount of reagents required for the test. Do not return the excess solution into the bottles.

VIRCELL SL does not accept responsibility for the mishandling of the reagents included in the kit.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND PRECAUTIONS:
1. Use kit components only. Do not mix components from different kits or manufacturers.
2. Clean pipette tips must be used for every assay step. Use only clean, preferably disposable material. Use only sterile material for the inoculation process.
3. Do not use in the event of damage to the package.
4. Never pipette by mouth.
5. Inoculation medium, monoclonal and conjugates in this kit include substances of animal origin. Positive controls contain fixed antigens. Samples may control the patient specimens should be handled as potentially infectious. No present method can offer complete assurance that these or other infectious agents are absent. All material should be handled and disposed as potentially infectious. Observe the local regulations for clinical waste disposal.
6. Monoclonal and conjugate contain sodium azide (concentration <0.1%). Avoid contact with acids and heavy metals.

7. Evan’s blue (concentration <0.1%) is a carcinogen. Avoid contact with skin or eyes. In case of contact with this solution, rinse thoroughly with water and seek medical attention.
8. Use only protocols described in this insert. Incubation times and temperatures other than specified may give erroneous results.
9. Microscope optics, light source condition and type will affect the fluorescence quality.
10. Do not leave the reagents at RT longer than absolutely necessary.

PRELIMINARY PREPARATION OF THE REAGENTS:
All reagents are ready to use.

ASSAY PROCEDURE:

SHELL-VIAL TECHNIQUE:
1. Incubate the vials at 37°C until scheduled for use.
2. Remove the medium and inoculate 200 µl of the sample.
3. Centrifugate the tubes at 700 g for 45 min.
4. Keep at 37°C for 1 h.
5. Remove the inoculum and add 1 ml of MEM containing 2% of SFB.
6. Incubate for 24-48 h at 37°C.

STAINING SHELL-VIAL TECHNIQUE:
1. Incubate the inoculated vials at 37°C until scheduled for use.
2. Dispose of the medium and remove the coverslip by punching the bottom of the vial with a red-hot needle. Pick the coverslip with forceps (be care not to damage the cell monolayer) and air-dry it.
3. Adhere to a slide with DPX with the cell monolayer facing upwards (the cell-containing side appears opaque under light). Press slightly the coverslip against the slide with the help of a pipet tip to avoid bubbles.
4. Fix for 10 minutes with acetone.
5. Add 25 µl of FITC-labelled monoclonal antibody. Carefully spread over the whole monolayer and incubate for 30 minutes at 37°C in a humid chamber in the darkness.
6. Wash in PBS for 10 minutes.
7. Dry and add one drop of buffered glycerin. Place a coverslip and press slightly to avoid bubbles. View under the fluorescence microscope at 400x.

INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL:
Each batch is subjected to internal QC testing before release.

VALIDATION PROTOCOL FOR USERS:
Positive and negative controls should be included into each test run. It allows the validation of the assay and kit. The observed fluorescence pattern should be:
Positive control: characteristic apple-green fluorescence in the whole cell.
Negative control: no fluorescence.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS:
The reaction is positive when characteristic apple-green fluorescence in the whole cell can be observed.
The reaction is negative when no fluorescence is observed.
A negative result does not exclude an infection by herpess simplex.

LIMITATIONS:
1. The user of this kit is advised to carefully read and understand the package insert. Strict adherence to the protocol is necessary to obtain reliable test results.
2. A negative result does not exclude an infection by herpess simplex.

LITERATURE:

For any question please contact: customerservice@vircell.com

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