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Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC

Authorisation no.: FLI-B 555
Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC is approved by the Friedrich Loeffler Institute.

INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONAL USE

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REF PA1202 Vol. 1 ml

Application
Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC is used for detection of rabies virus in impression smears from brain tissues of animals and by virus isolation in cell cultures.

Principle of the test
The test is based on the principle of direct immunofluorescence. The test samples are coated with Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC working dilution (see "Methods"), then incubated, washed and placed in a fluorescence microscope to test for fluorescence.

Composition
1 ml, lyophilised
Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC contains fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC)-labelled monoclonal antibodies, which are isolated from cell culture supernatants. Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC contains stabilizers to ensure that the product remains stable throughout the duration of the shelf life.
Preservative: Sodium azide (0.9 mg/ml).

Shelf life and storage
When stored unopened at 2...8 °C, Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC is stable up to the expiration date printed on the label. If dissolved in 1.0 ml distilled water, the contents of the vial may be stored at 2...8 °C for no more than 2 months; if aliquoted and stored at -15...-25 °C, the product remains stable for at least 6 months. Thawed Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC may be kept at 2...8 °C for no more than 1 month and should not be refrozen. When in use, liquid Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC can be stored at 18...26 °C for a brief period of time. Avoid bacterial contamination! If visibly cloudy, Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC should not be used.

Test material
The test material is derived from brain samples of animals suspected of having rabies or cell cultures for isolation of rabies virus.

Materials and equipment not supplied
Microscope slides for preparation of impression smears, PBS (pH 7.2 to 7.4; see Methods), incubation chamber (37 °C), fluorescence microscope.

Methods
1. **Detection of rabies virus in impression smears**
   The test is normally performed using sample material obtained from animals suspected of having rabies.
1.1. Prepare the working dilution on the day of use by mixing Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC dissolved in 1 ml distilled water with PBS-buffer (1.72 g $Na_2HPO_4 \times 2\ H_2O$, 0.5 g KH_2PO_4, 7.2 g NaCl, and distilled water to yield 1000 ml of solution, pH 7.2 to 7.4). Working dilutions of 1:15 to 1:20 are recommended. The user has to be determined the optimal working dilution for its own test conditions.
1.2. Use microscope slides to prepare impression smears from different parts of the brain. Suitable areas, in order of preference, are: Ammon's horn, the brain stem, the cerebellum, the medulla oblongata, and the cerebrum.
1.3. Fix the slides by quickly drawing them through the nonluminous flame of a Bunsen burner three times.
1.4. Coat the slides with Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC working dilution.
1.5. Incubate the slides in a humid chamber at 37 °C for 30 minutes.
1.6. Afterwards, pour off the liquid and wash the slides by immersing them in PBS three times for 5 minutes each.
1.7. Briefly rinse the slides with water and allow them to air dry. Once dry, mount the slides on a fluorescence microscope andexamine fluorescence.

2. **Isolation of rabies virus in cell culture**
   The isolation of rabies virus in cell culture is carried out as specified in the testing labs own protocol. The level of dilution of Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC is determined by the user. Working dilutions of 1:15 to 1:20 are recommended.

Controls
Positive and negative controls should be included with each test run. For detection of rabies virus in brain tissue, an impression smear from the brain of an animal with confirmed rabies infection should be used as positive control, and an impression from the brain of a non-infected animal should be used as the negative control.

Interpretation of the test results
The prepared slides are examined using a suitable fluorescence microscope with or without oil immersion, as needed.
Positive result (+): Positive samples have nearly round particles of various size that exhibit a bright yellowgreen fluorescence that is easy to discern from the dull green fluorescence of the surrounding tissue; a halolike rim of fluorescence can often be observed. The background tissue should exhibit only dull grey-green fluorescence.
Negative result (-): The absence of particles exhibiting a bright yellow-green fluorescence against a dull greygreen fluorescence background indicates the absence of rabies virus.

Warnings
When handling impression smears, remember that all specimens containing rabies virus must be treated as highly infectious, even after heat fixation. Heat treatment does not ensure complete inactivation of rabies virus. Therefore, the use of plastic gloves and disinfection measures with disinfectants known to inactivate the virus is absolutely essential.
Because it contains materials of animal origin (stabilizer), Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC must be considered potentially infectious and handled accordingly.
Because it contains sodium azide, Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC should not be allowed to come in contact with the skin and mucous membranes.

Performance characteristics and limits of the procedure
Monoclonal Anti-Rabies, FITC working dilution must be prepared and utilized on the day of use. Discard any remaining working dilution.

Package size
1 ml, lyophilised

Explanation of the symbols used

LOT	Batch code (Lot)		Use by YYYY-MM (MM = end of month)
REF	Catalogue number		Temperature limitation
	Consult instructions for use		

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