



STEAM MONITOR STRIPS

Quality Control Strips for Antigen Retrieval in a Pressure Steam Chamber (Decloaking Chamber)

ISO
9001:2000
CERTIFIED

Control Number: 904-613- 030707

Catalog Number: 613 H, C, D

Description: 25, 100, 250 Strips, Ready to Use

Intended Use:

For Quality Control with Antigen Retrieval in a pressure steam chamber (Decloaking Chamber)

Summary & Explanation:

Heat-induced epitope retrieval methods (HIER) are used to pretreat tissues for optimum antibody-antigen reaction. Many different kinds of heat retrieval methods are used. These include the following: microwave, waterbath, steamers and pressure cooker methods. These methods were developed to "Standardize" immunohistochemistry for formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissues. Heat retrieval methods' lack of "standardization" and quality control (QC) procedures is a problem.

BIOCARE QC Steam Monitor Strips are for antigen retrieval in a pressure steam chamber (Decloaking Chamber). The Steam Monitor Strip gives a visual QC to make sure that the pressure cooker has reached the optimum temperature and pressure.

Known Applications:

Quality Control for Antigen Retrieval in a pressure steam chamber (Decloaking Chamber) to check optimum temperature and pressure.

Supplied As:

25, 100 or 250 strips packed in a vinyl foil bag

Storage and Stability:

Store at 0°C to 45°C

Protocol Recommendations

1. Place from 1 to 4 Tissue Tek™ containers filled with 250 ml of either BIOCARE's ANTIGEN DECLOAKER, BORG DECLOAKER, NUCLEAR DECLOAKER, EDTA DECLOAKER, REVEAL, DIVA or any other suitable heat-induced epitope retrieval (HIER) solution. You can also use plastic Coplin jars. Fill each plastic Coplin jar with 50 ml of HIER solution. (Place the heat shield in the center of the pan. This will keep the Coplin jars from warping and keep them level.)
2. Place the Steam Monitor Strip on top of the Tissue-Tek™ staining dish or Coplin jar. One monitor strip per run is required. Do not place lids on the staining dishes. Do not submerge the Steam Monitor Strips in the solution.
3. Put the Decloaking Chamber lid on and secure. Align the OPEN arrow with the white dot on the pan handle. Grip the lid handle and rotate clockwise to the CLOSE position.
4. Put weight on the Vent Nozzle.
5. Factory Settings :
Set Point 1 (SP1): Program for 125°C and set timer for 30 seconds.
Set Point 2 (SP2): Program at 95°C for 10 seconds.
6. The pressure will rise to 17-25 PSI, and the temperature will rise to 120-125°C. Upon reaching full temperature and pressure, the timer starts counting down. This process takes about 10 minutes.
7. When the pressure has dropped to 0, it is now safe to open. The HIER solution will be at approximately 95°C. Slightly push down on the brown lid handle and rotate counter clockwise to the OPEN position. Remove the lid slowly and allow the steam to escape. Cool slides down for an additional 5-10 minutes.
8. Examine the QC monitor strips. The entire indicator line should be uniformly a dark-brown to black. If the indicator line is white or yellow, it is an indication that the pressure cooker may have not reached the proper temperature and/or pressure.
9. Date the monitor strip and record the maximum pressure on the pressure gauge.*

*This data can be use for quality control for CAP inspection.

Performance Characteristics:

The protocols for a specific application can vary. These include, but are not limited to: fixation, heat-retrieval method, incubation times, tissue section thickness and detection kit used. Due to the superior sensitivity of these unique reagents, the recommended incubation times and titers listed are not applicable to other detection systems, as results may vary. The data sheet recommendations and protocols are based on exclusive use of BIOCARE products. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the investigator to determine optimal conditions. These products are tools that can be used for interpretation of morphological findings in conjunction with other diagnostic tests and pertinent clinical data by a qualified pathologist.

Quality Control:

Refer NCCLS Quality Assurance for Immunocytochemistry approved guidelines, December 1999 MM4-A Vol.19 No.26 for more information on Tissue Controls.

Precautions:

N/A

Troubleshooting:

Follow the reagent specific protocol recommendations according to data sheet provided. If atypical results occur, contact BIOCARE's Technical Support at 1-800-542-2002.

Limitations & Warranty:

There are no warranties, expressed or implied, which extend beyond this description. BIOCARE is not liable for property damage, personal injury, or economic loss caused by this product.

