



HIER Citrate Buffer pH 6.0 (10 X)

REF / Cat. No.: ZUC028-100 100 ml
ZUC028-500 500 ml

Instructions for use

Intended use

HIER Citrate Buffer pH 6.0 is a solution developed for heat induced epitope retrieval (HIER) in formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded tissue sections on slides. This procedure is primarily used in immunohistochemistry. HIER Citrate Buffer pH 6.0 is intended for in vitro diagnostic use.

Summary and explanations

Immunohistochemical staining procedures consist of sequential incubation steps with blocking solutions, antibodies and secondary reagents, enzymes and chromogenic substrates carried out on tissue sections. These tissue sections are mostly prepared out of formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded tissue blocks. Cellular structures are very effectively stabilised by formalin fixation which results in optimal morphological preservation of the sample. On the other hand the formalin fixation leads to strong cross-links between proteins. This means that epitopes of antigens are being masked and often are no longer accessible for primary antibodies. In order to enable primary antibodies to bind to the antigens the epitopes have to be recovered. Heat induced epitope retrieval (HIER) in buffer solutions of different compositions and pH-values restore structures of the epitopes making them more accessible to specific antibodies. Enzymatic digestion with proteolytic enzymes is another way of recovering epitopes. The primary antibody used determines the appropriate method.

Principle of the method

HIER Citrate Buffer pH 6.0 is a 10fold concentrated citrate buffer solution with additives of stabilising substances. For preparation of the working strength solution the buffer concentrate is diluted 1:10 with deionised or distilled water. The resulting solution has a pH of 6.0 (5.8 to 6.2). HIER Citrate Buffer pH 6.0 is a very efficient epitope retrieval solution in immunohistochemical staining procedures to be used with primary antibodies of many different specificities.

Reagent provided

REF / Cat. No. ZUC028-100

100 ml **HIER Citrate Buffer pH 6.0**
(10fold concentrated, adequate for 1 litre ready-to-use citrate buffer)

REF / Cat. No. ZUC028-500

500 ml **HIER Citrate Buffer pH 6.0**
(10fold concentrated, adequate for 5 litres ready-to-use citrate buffer)

Storage and handling

The solution should be stored at 2-8°C. Do not freeze it. Under these conditions the solution is stable up to the expiry date indicated on the label. Do not use product after the expiry date. If stored at room temperature the solution is stable for at least 10 month from the date of delivery. The prepared working strength solution is stable for 1 month, if stored at 2-8°C. A positive and a negative control have to be carried out in parallel to the test material. If you observe unusual staining or other deviations from the expected results which could possibly be caused by this reagent, please contact Zytomed Systems' technical support or your local distributor.

Precautions

Use by qualified personnel only. Wear protective clothing to avoid contact of reagent or specimen with eye, skin or mucous membrane. In case of the reagent or specimen coming into contact with a sensitive area, wash the area with large amounts of water. Microbial contamination of the reagent must be avoided, since otherwise non-specific staining may occur. ProClin 300 is used for stabilisation. A material safety data sheet (MSDS) is available upon request.

Reagent preparation

Preparation of the citrate buffer working strength solution:

- Dilute HIER Citrate Buffer concentrate 1:10 with deionised or distilled water and mix thoroughly.
- The pH-value should be at 6.0 (5.8 to 6.2). If necessary adjust pH-value with diluted NaOH or HCl solution.

Procedure

HIER Citrate Buffer is suitable for various HIER-methods such as steamer, pressure cooker, autoclave, water bath, and microwave oven. Tissue sections used in heat induced epitope retrieval should always be placed on adhesive slides. Epitope retrieval is carried out after dewaxing and rehydration of the sections.

Exemplary protocol using steamer:

1. Prepare the working strength solution by diluting the buffer concentrate as described above and transfer to a Coplin jar. Please make sure that there is enough volume to cover the tissue sections on the slides completely.
2. Fill steamer with water according to instruction manual, close lid and start.
3. After 10 minutes place Coplin jar with citrate buffer in the steamer, close the lid and heat the solution for 20 minutes.
4. Place slides with tissue sections into the preheated solution and close the lid. Tissue sections have to be completely covered with citrate buffer solution.
5. Incubate slides 20 – 40 minutes. The optimal incubation time needs to be elaborated by the operator.
6. After the incubation take the Coplin jar with slides out of steamer and let cool down at room temperature for about 20 minutes.
7. Remove citrate buffer, rinse slides with wash buffer and proceed with immunohistological staining.

Quality control

We recommend carrying out a positive and a negative control with every staining run. The positive control permits the validation of appropriate processing of the sample. If the negative control has a positive result, this points to unspecific binding. Please refer to the instructions of the detection system for guidance on general quality control procedures.

Troubleshooting

If you observe unusual staining or other deviations from the expected results please read these instructions carefully, contact Zytomed Systems' technical support or your local distributor. Also refer to the instructions of the detection systems for guidance on general troubleshooting.

Expected results

During the reaction of the substrate with horse radish peroxidase or alkaline phosphatase in the presence of a chromogen, a coloured precipitate is formed at the location of the bound primary antibody. This reaction only takes place if the target antigen is existent in the tissue. The chromogen used determines the colour of the precipitate. The analysis is carried out using a light microscope.

Limitations of the procedure

Immunohistochemistry is a complex technique involving both histological and immunological detection methods. It requires a highly trained histotechnologist. Tissue processing and handling prior to immunostaining, for example variations in fixation and embedding or the inherent nature of the tissue can cause inconsistent results (Nadji and Morales, 1983). Inadequate counterstaining and mounting can influence the interpretation of the results. Zytomed Systems guarantees that the product will meet all requirements described from its shipping date until its expiry date, as long as the product is correctly stored and utilized. No additional guarantees can be given. Under no circumstances shall Zytomed System be liable for any damages arising out of the use of the reagent provided.

Performance characteristics

Zytomed Systems has conducted studies to evaluate the performance of the reagent. The product has been found to be suitable for the intended use.

Bibliography

Shi S-R, Cote RJ, Taylor CR J Histochem Cytochem 45:327-343, 1997
 Shi S-R, Key ME, Kalra KL J Histochem Cytochem 39:741-748, 1991
 Nadji M and Morales AR Ann N.Y. Acad Sci 420:134-9, 1983

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Explanation of the symbols on the product label:

REF	Bestellnummer Catalog Number Reference du catalogue		Verwendbar bis Use By Utiliser jusque		Gebrauchsanweisung beachten Consult Instructions for use Consulter les instructions d'utilisation
LOT	Chargenbezeichnung Batch Code Code du lot		Lagerungstemperatur Temperature Limitation Limites de température	RUO	Nur für Forschungszwecke For Research Use Only Pour la recherche uniquement
IVD	In vitro Diagnostikum In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Device Dispositif médical de diagnostic in vitro		Achtung/Gefahr Warning/Danger Attention/Danger		Hersteller / Manufacturer / Fabricant Zytomed Systems GmbH Anhaltinerstraße 16 14163 Berlin, Germany Tel: (+49) 30-804 984 990 www.zytomed-systems.de
	Achtung/Gefahr Warning/Danger Attention/Danger		Achtung Warning Attention		