SAMPLE PRESERVATION & TRANSPORT SOLUTION

FJORD - Viral Transport Medium is an alcohol formulated preservation solution with rapid bactericidal activity and virucidal efficacy, for use in the collection, transport and storage of viruses at ambient temperature.



Advantages:



Specimen integrity is maintained for up to 3 weeks at ambient temperature



Safe handling for health care staff, with rapid inactivation of viruses and bacteria

Specimen Total RNA integrity studies performed with FJORD - Viral Transport Medium for the Preservation of RNA materials at ambient temperature

Preservation Time 1 day 2 days 1 wk 2 wk 3 wk 28S/18S ratio* (ribosomal RNA) > 2 > 2 > 2 > 2 > 2

^{*}The 28S/18S ratio of > 2 is taken to indicate the integrity of total RNA is intact and has not degraded





EARLY ONLINE RELEASE - PRESS. 2020 Apr 16

VIRAL TRANSPORTATION IN COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

INACTIVATED VIRUS TRANSPORTATION SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED FOR SAFE TRANSPORTATION AND HANDLING AT DIAGNOSTICS LABORATORIES

Rajan Dewar, MD, PhD; David Baunoch, PhD; Kirk Wojno MD; Vinita Parkash MBBS, MPH; Roya Khosravi-Far, PhD https://doi.org/10.5858/arpa.2020-0175-LE







FJORD - Viral Transport Medium is designed for rapid inactivation of viruses at point of collection to render the virus sample safe for transport and sample processing.

Product Description

FJORD - VIRAL TRANSPORT MEDIUM (VTM) consists of:

- 1 conical tube containing 3 ml of alcohol formulated virus collection and transport solution
- 1 Nasopharyngeal (NP) flocked swab in individually packaged sterile pouch
- 1 Oropharyngeal (OP) flocked swab in individually packaged sterile pouch

Pack Size: $300\,\mathrm{VTM}\,+300\,\mathrm{NP}$ flocked swab $+300\,\mathrm{OP}$ flocked swab /carton Product Code : TM03-0300

Test Compatibility

Molecular based assays - Alcohol has been shown to preserve viral RNA and DNA for PCR analysis of respiratory viruses (Krafft, A. E., et al. 2005. Evaluation of PCR testing of ethanol-fixed nasal swab specimens as an augmented surveillance strategy for influenza virus and adenovirus identification. J. Clin. Microbiol. 43:1768-1775.)

Storage

Specimen integrity of up to 3 weeks at ambient temperature in between 15°C - 30°C .

Specific Performance Characteristics

Optimal performance when the FJORD - Viral Transport Medium is used and stored as described.

Intended Use

The FJORD - Viral Transport Medium is intended for preservation, transport and storage of clinical samples containing viruses and cells at ambient temperature from collection site to the testing laboratories.

Instruction For Use

For Nasopharyngeal (NP) collection

- Gently insert the NP flocked swab into the nostril along the nasal septum floor of the nose extending straight back until the posterior nasopharynx is reached.
- 2. Rotate the swab gently several times while the swab is in contact with the nasopharyngeal wall.
- 3. Place swab into the VTM tube and break off the swab at the moulded breakpoint.

For Oropharyngeal (OP) collection

- 1. Gently insert the OP flocked swab into the back of the throat and tonsillar area.
- Rub the swab over both the tonsillar pillars and the posterior oropharynx; avoid touching the tongue, teeth and the gums.
- 3. Place swab into the VTM tube and break off the swab at the moulded breakpoint.

Summary & Principles

During a viral pandemic, when the transport of virus samples from various collection sites to testing laboratories is required, that is when large number of samples quickly overwhelms laboratory staff, virus inactivation at the point of collection is critical in reducing the biohazard risk from accidental sample leakage during transit and sample processing.

The use of an alcohol-based collection medium for virus sample has the added advantage of rapidly rendering clinical samples non-infectious, resulting in reduced risk to couriers and laboratory staff from exposing to the biohazard from accidental sample leakage or laboratory manipulation.

Virus inactivation at the point of collection is critical for safety reasons, and the use of an alcohol-based medium would provide safe sample collection and transportation, as alcohol is widely used as a disinfectant to inactivate viruses and bacteria, which has been well documented on its effectiveness on enveloped viruses^{1,2,3}

^{1.} Jeong, E. K., J. E. Bae, and I. S. Kim. 2010. Inactivation of influenza A virus H1N1 by disinfection process. Am. J. Infect. Control 38:354–360.

^{2.} Kampf, G., J. Steinmann, and H. Rabenau. 2007. Suitability of vaccinia virus and bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) for determining activities of three commonly-used alcohol-based hand rubs against enveloped viruses. BMC Infect. Dis. 7:5.

^{3.} Steinmann, J., et al. 2010. Virucidal activity of 2 alcohol-based formulations proposed as hand rubs by the World Health Organization. Am. J. Infect. Control. 38:66–68.