

Standard Operating Procedure Approval Page:

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Name **Date**

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Name **Date**

Annual Review and Approval

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Changes Made:

061520: Review, Protocols split out into appendixes. Renumbered SOPs. Previously EIGC.003.

Changes to previous procedures:

041116: Review, LIMS steps updated

Introduction

The miRNeasy Micro Kit is designed for purification of total RNA, including miRNA and other small RNA molecules, from various sample types, including tissue. The miRNeasy Micro Kit is sufficient to extract RNA from up to 5 mg of tissue.

The miRNeasy Micro Kit combines phenol/guanidine-based lysis of samples and silica- membrane-based purification of total RNA. QIAzol Lysis Reagent is a monophasic solution of phenol and guanidine thiocyanate, designed to facilitate lysis of cells, to inhibit RNases, and to remove most of the cellular DNA and proteins from the lysate by organic extraction.

Tissue is suspended in QIAzol Lysis Reagent, supplied with the kit. After addition of chloroform, the homogenate is separated into aqueous and organic phases by centrifugation. RNA partitions to the upper, aqueous phase, while DNA partitions to the interphase and proteins to the lower, organic phase or the interphase.

The upper, aqueous phase is extracted, and ethanol is added to provide appropriate binding conditions for all RNA molecules from 18 nucleotides (nt) upwards. The sample is then applied to the RNeasy Mini spin column, where the total RNA binds to the membrane and phenol and other contaminants are efficiently washed away. High-quality RNA is then eluted in RNase-free water.

Kit Contents

miRNeasyKit	Mini (50)	Micro (50)
Catalog no.	217004	217084
Number of preps	50	50
Spin Columns	50 (RNeasy Mini)	50 (RNeasy MinElute)
Collection Tubes (2 ml)	50	50
Collection Tubes (1.5 ml)	50	50
QIAzol Lysis Reagent ^a	50 ml	50 ml
Buffer RWT ^{a,b}	15 ml	15 ml
Buffer RPE ^c	11 ml	11 ml
RNase-Free Water	10 ml	10 ml

^a Contains guanidine salt. Not compatible with disinfecting agents containing bleach; see handbook for safety information.

^b Buffer RWT is supplied as a concentrate. Before using for the first time, add 2 volumes of ethanol (96%–100%) as indicated on the bottle to obtain a working solution

^c Buffer RPE is supplied as a concentrate. Before using for the first time, add 4 volumes of ethanol (96–100%) as indicated on the bottle to obtain a working solution.

Procedure

Notes before starting

- Avoid thawing of tissue samples until RNA extraction is to be performed.
- Ensure that Buffer RWT and Buffer RPE have been prepared according to the instructions as indicated on the bottle or the table above.
- Heat RNase-Free Water by placing on top of 70°C heat block.
- Prepare DNase solution
 - To make the **DNase Stock Solution**, use a syringe and needle to add 550 µl of water (provided in the DNase kit) to the vial of lyophilized DNase. Mix gently. Remove the stopper and carefully pipet 65 µL aliquots of the stock solution into 1.5 mL tubes. Label with “DNase Stock”, the date, and your initials. Store at -20°C.
 - To make the 80 µl of **DNase Working Solution** required for each sample, add 10 µl of DNase Stock Solution to 70 µl of RDD buffer (provided in the DNase kit). Keep on wet ice or at 4°C until ready to use. Best if made fresh.
- You will need the following additional equipment and reagents:
 - QIAzol Lysis Reagent (comes with the kit)
 - Chloroform
 - 70% Ethanol and 100% Ethanol
 - Microcentrifuge set to room temperature
 - Microcentrifuge set to 4°C

All RNA extraction processes should be performed in the chemical hood.

It is important to keep all tissue samples frozen until they are ready to be processed and placed into the QIAzol Lysis Reagent. For this reason, prepare a maximum of 12 samples for extraction per batch. Leave each tissue sample on dry ice until ready to thaw in step 2.

1. **Determine the weight of the tissue for each sample. If tissue mass was not provided on the manifest, keeping the samples frozen on dry ice, use a scale to weigh all of the samples (alternatively, determine the weights of a subset of the samples and estimate the remainder). The maximum weight which can be processed per MiRNeasy Micro column is 5 mg.**
2. **Add 700 µl QIAzol Lysis Reagent to each tissue sample.**

Note: If the tissue is more than the recommended weight, then scale up the volume of QIAzol Lysis Reagent for the sample so that the correct amount of tissue is lysed per column.

3. **Include a positive control if there is concern that the sample may be compromised or limiting or if this is the first-time project that we have performed an extraction for.**

Note: Positive controls can be found in the RNA Control box in the -80°C freezer.

4. Homogenize the tissue using the TissueLyser:
 - a. Add 5 mm stainless steel bead to each sample.
 - b. Place the tubes into the TissuLyser Adapter set, ensuring balance.
 - c. Homogenize at 30 Hz for 20 s.
 - d. Flip the orientation of the tubes.
 - e. Homogenize at 30 Hz for 20 s.
 - f. Make sure that tissue is homogenized. If not, repeat homogenization.
 - g. Remove the tubes from the TissueLyser and place at room temperature.

Continue with miRNeasy protocol.

5. Incubate homogenate at room temperature for 5 min.
6. Add 0.2 volumes of chloroform to each sample (example: 0.2 x 700 μ l = 140 μ l).
7. Shake tubes vigorously for 15 s and incubate at room temperature for 3 min.
8. Centrifuge samples at 4°C for 15 min at 12,000 x g.
9. Carefully transfer aqueous phase to a new tube, avoiding the organic phase and any white precipitate.
10. Measure the aqueous phase with a P1000 and add 1.5 volumes of fresh 100% EtOH. Invert tubes to mix.
11. Obtain RNeasy MiniElute spin column (stored at 4°C). Apply 700 μ l of sample to the column.
12. Centrifuge at 8,000 x g for 15 s at room temperature and discard the flow through.
13. Repeat steps 10 and 11 until all of the sample has been applied to the column.
14. Add 350 μ l Buffer RWT to the column.
15. Centrifuge at 8,000 x g for 15 s at room temperature and discard the flow through.
16. Add 80 μ l DNase Working Solution to the middle of the column. Incubate for 15 min at room temperature.
17. Add 350 μ l Buffer RWT to the column.
18. Centrifuge at 8,000 x g for 15 s at room temperature and discard the flow through.
19. Add 500 μ l of Buffer RPE to the column.
20. Centrifuge at 8,000 x g for 15 s at room temperature and discard the flow through.

21. Add 500 μ l of 80% Ethanol to the column.
22. Centrifuge at 8,000 x g for 15 s at room temperature and discard the flow through.
23. Centrifuge the empty column for 5 min at full speed to dry the column.
24. Place the RNeasy MiniElute spin column into the labeled tube from step 8.
25. Place the column into a new 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube, and add 14 μ l of prewarmed RNase-Free Water to the center of the column.
26. Centrifuge at full speed for 1 min at room temperature to elute the RNA.
27. Store RNA on wet ice or freeze at -80°C .