

Mouse monoclonal antibody against AFP (C3)

In Vitro Diagnostic Use (IVD)

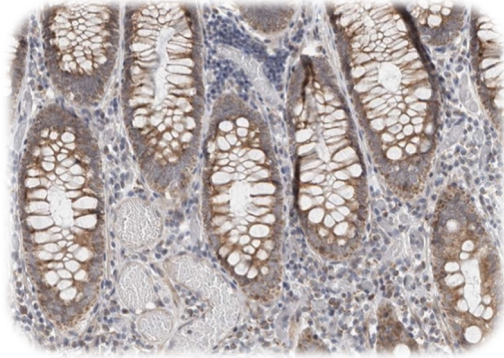


Figure 1 Colon stained with anti-AFP (C3)

Product identification

1-AL041-02	0.1 ml Concentrate
1-AL041-05	0.5 ml Concentrate
1-AL041-07	1 ml Concentrate
2-AL041-10	3 ml Ready-to-use
2-AL041-13	7 ml Ready-to-use

Intended use

Anti-human antibody for immunohistochemical use. The primary antibody is intended for qualitative detection of antigens in formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissue sections. The antibody may be used manually or with any automated staining platform. Authorized and skilled personnel may only use the product. The clinical interpretation of any test results should be evaluated within the context of the patient's medical history and other diagnostic laboratory test results. A qualified pathologist must perform evaluation.

Summary and explanation

Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) is a serum globulin found in human fetus. It is synthesized by fetal yolk sac, liver and intestinal tract and is maybe the fetal form of albumin. [1-3] After birth high AFP levels decrease quickly. [2] AFP is expressed in yolk sac tumors, germ cell tumors, hepatoid adenocarcinoma and hepatocellular carcinoma. The antibody may be helpful for detection of yolk sac tumors, mixed germ cell tumors and neoplastic liver diseases. [2,3]

Principle of the procedure

The stated primary antibody is suitable for immunohistochemical staining of FFPE tissue sections based on specific antigen-antibody reaction. Using a detection system linked to horseradish peroxidase (HRP) or alkaline phosphatase (AP) the antigen visualization is performed via specific binding of the primary antibody. Secondary antibody is binding to the primary antibody, and the enzyme complex labels this complex. The enzymatic activation of the chromogen results in a visible reaction product at the antigen site. Each step is incubated for a precise time and temperature and requires interposed washing steps. The specimen may then be counterstained. Results are interpreted using a light microscope.

Materials provided

Primary antibody	Anti-AFP (C3)
Host	Mouse

Subclass	IgG2a/k
Immunogen	Synthetic peptide of human AFP
Antibody concentrate	Concentrated antibody in TRIS (pH 7.4) with < 0.1 % sodium azide
Recommended working dilution range	1:100 – 1:200
Ready-to-use antibody	Prediluted antibody in TRIS (pH 7.4) with < 0.1 % sodium azide

Product label shows the specific lot number.

Prediluted antibody is ready-to-use and optimized for staining. No further dilution, reconstitution, mixing, or titration is needed.

Antibody concentrate is optimized for dilution within dilution range using Q Diluent for IHC (Cat. No. 400100295). Indicated dilution range should be considered as recommendation and depends on different facts (tissue, fixation, incubation conditions, etc.). Optimum dilution to be determined in user's own system.

Materials required but not provided

- Positive and negative controls
- Microscope slides (positively charged) and cover slips
- Staining jars
- Timer
- Xylene or xylene alternative, e.g. Q Dewax Solution (Cat. No. 400301105)
- Ethanol
- Deionized or distilled water
- Heating equipment for tissue pretreatment step
- Antibody diluent, e.g. Q Diluent for IHC (Cat. No. 400100299)
- Antigen retrieval reagent, e.g. Q Retrieval Low pH 6.0 (Cat. No. 401602092) or Q Retrieval High pH 9.0 (Cat. No. 401602392)
- Detection system, e.g. PolyQ Stain kits and appropriate chromogen
- Wash buffer: TBS (Cat. No. 402000192) or TBS-Tween20 (Cat. No. 402000492)
- Blocking reagent
- Hematoxylin
- Mounting medium
- Light microscope

Storage and handling

Store at 2 – 8 °C.

When stored correctly, the antibody is stable up to the expiration date indicated on the vial. This is also valid for durability after opening. Do not use after expiration date. To ensure proper reagent delivery and stability of the antibody, replace the dispenser cap after every use and immediately place the bottle cool in an upright position.

Specimen preparation

Routinely processed, FFPE tissues are suitable for use with this primary antibody. The recommended tissue fixative is 10 % neutral buffered formalin. Variable results may occur as a result of prolonged fixation or special processes such as decalcification of bone marrow preparations. Thickness of tissue sections, which should be placed on positively charged slides, should be 2 – 5 µm. Pretreatment of deparaffinized tissue with heat-induced epitope retrieval (HIER) is recommended. Slides should be stained as soon as possible, as antigenicity of cut tissue sections may diminish over time. The optimum pretreatment protocol must be determined in user's own system.

Warnings and precautions

1. Authorized and skilled personnel may only use the product.
2. There are no estimated health risks, if the product is used as directed. MSDS is available on request.
3. Product contains sodium azide as preservative. Pure sodium azide is toxic. The concentration of sodium azide in this reagent is < 0.1 % which is not classified as hazardous.
4. Do not use reagents after expiration date.
5. Take reasonable precautions when handling reagents. Use protective clothing and gloves.
6. All hazardous materials should be disposed according to guidelines for hazardous waste disposal. Materials of human or animal origin should be handled as biohazardous materials and disposed of with proper precautions.
7. Avoid microbial contamination of reagents as it may cause incorrect results.

Staining procedure

Primary antibody has been optimized for use in combination with PolyQ Stain detection systems. The following data are recommendations. Due to variation in tissue fixation and processing, as well as general lab instrument and environmental conditions, it may be necessary to adjust incubation times. The optimum protocol must be determined in user's own system.

Antigen retrieval: HIER; Boil tissue sections in Q Retrieval for 20 min followed by cooling at room temperature (RT) for 20 min.

Incubation of primary antibody for 30 – 60 min at RT.

Staining protocol: Follow the procedure described in the instructions of the used detection system.

Quality control procedures

Positive tissue control

A positive tissue control must be run with every staining procedure performed for monitoring the correct performance of processed tissues and test reagents. Known positive tissue controls should not be utilized as an aid in determining a specific diagnosis of patient sample. If the positive tissue controls fail to demonstrate appropriate positive staining, results with the test specimens must be considered invalid.

Example for positive tissue control:
Early fetal liver.

Negative tissue control

Negative tissue controls provide an indication of non-specific background staining. If specific staining occurs in the negative tissue control sites, results with the patient specimens must be considered invalid.

The variety of cell types present in most tissue sections offers internal negative control sites. Therefore, the same tissue used for the positive tissue control may be used as the negative tissue control.

Discrepancies

If quality control results do not meet specifications, patient results are invalid. Identify and correct the problem (see section "Troubleshooting"), then repeat the entire procedure with the patient samples.

Negative control reagent

A negative control reagent is used in place of the primary antibody to evaluate non-specific staining. Host species and incubation time should be similar to primary antibody.

Interpretation of results

The immunostaining procedure causes a colored reaction product to precipitate at the antigen sites localized by the primary antibody.

Cellular localization: Cytoplasmic.

A qualified pathologist experienced in immunohistochemistry procedures must evaluate positive and negative tissue controls before interpreting patient specimens.

Positive staining intensity should be assessed within the context of any background staining of the negative reagent control.

Note: A negative result means that the antigen in question was not detected, not that the antigen is absent in the cells or tissue assayed. A panel of antibodies may be used to verify the results. Additionally, the morphology of each tissue sample should be examined utilizing a hematoxylin and eosin stained section. A qualified pathologist must interpret the patient's morphologic findings and pertinent clinical data.

Performance characteristics

Table 1 Testing of healthy FFPE tissue sections

Tissue	Positive/total cases
Colon	1/1
Kidney	2/2

Table 2 Testing of neoplastic FFPE tissue sections

Tissue	Positive/total cases
Liver cancer	1/1
Prostate cancer	1/1

The method has a high precision. Measurements on six different days gave equivalent results. The trueness of the method is confirmed. Trueness and precision result in a high accuracy for the method.

Comparison with sources of clinical performance data shows that the antibody stains normal tissues as well as neoplastic tissues as indicated in the literature [1-3].

Limitations

1. Errors excepted. This data sheet contains general information.
2. For *in vitro* diagnostic use.
3. For laboratory use only.
4. This reagent is "for professional use only" as immunohistochemistry is a multiple step process that requires specialized training in the selection of the appropriate reagents, tissues, fixation and processing, preparation of the immunohistochemistry slide, choice of detection system, and interpretation of the staining results.
5. Tissue staining is dependent on the handling, processing and storage of the tissue prior to staining. Improper fixation, freezing, thawing, washing, drying, heating, sectioning, or contamination with other tissues or fluids may produce artifacts, antibody trapping, or incorrect results. Optimal performance requires adequate specimen quality as well as appropriate sample preparation.
6. Excessive or incomplete counterstaining may compromise proper interpretation of results.
7. False positive results may be seen because of non-immunological binding of proteins or substrate reaction products. They may also be caused by pseudo peroxidase activity (erythrocytes),

- endogenous biotin (example: liver, brain, kidney) or endogenous peroxidase activity (cytochrome C).
8. When used in blocking steps, normal sera from the same animal source as the secondary antisera may cause false negative or false positive results because of the effect of autoantibodies or natural antibodies.
 9. Tissues from persons infected with hepatitis B virus and containing hepatitis B surface antigen may exhibit nonspecific staining with HRP.
 10. Unexpected results may occur due to biological variability of antigen expression in neoplasms or other pathological tissues.
 11. The clinical interpretation of any test results should be evaluated within the context of the patient's medical history and other diagnostic laboratory test results. Staining must be performed in a certified, licensed laboratory under the supervision of a qualified pathologist who is responsible for evaluation and assuring the adequacy of positive and negative controls. Manufacturer is not liable for incorrect results due to visual evaluation.
 12. Prediluted antibodies are ready-to-use and optimized for staining. Further dilution may lead to incorrect results.
 13. After successful validation users may dilute antibody concentrates according to requirements. Appropriate controls must be employed and documented.
 14. The performance of the product was established using the procedures provided in this package insert only and modifications to these procedures may lead to changes in efficiency. Non-application as prescribed in this data sheet leads to loss of all liability. Any changes in product, composition, implementation, as well as use in combination with any reagents other than recommended herein is not allowed; users are responsible themselves for those changes and have to perform prior validation.
 15. Application in combination with diagnostic devices requires prior validation.
 16. We do not take responsibility for any possible damage including personal injury, time or effort on economic loss caused by this product. Our warranty is limited to the price paid for the product.

Troubleshooting

1. Only intact cells should be used for interpretation of staining results, as degenerated cells show non-specific staining.
2. If no staining occurs, control application order of reagents. Follow all indications given in the instructions for use.
3. Do not allow the sections to dry out.
4. If weak staining occurs, pay attention during staining steps to freshly prepared chromogen, incubation times and temperatures, as well as accurate draining off of reagents.
5. Avoid surplus background staining by optimal removal of paraffin, washing of slides and dilution of primary antibody. If excessive background staining occurs, high levels of endogenous biotin may be present (unless a biotin-free detection system is being used). A biotin blocking step should be included.
6. Sodium azide inactivates HRP, which may lead to false results. Wash sections in sodium azide free buffer.
7. Contact quartett customer service in case of any uncertainties.

Literature

[1] Bergstrand CG and Czar B (1956) Demonstration of a new protein fraction in serum from the human fetus. Scand J Clin Lab Invest. 8(2):174.

[2] Anzai H, Kazama S, Kiyomatsu T et al. (2015) Alpha-fetoprotein-producing early rectal carcinoma: a rare case report and review. World J Surg Oncol. 13:180.

[3] Yamamoto R, Ishikura H, Azuma M et al. (1996) Alpha-fetoprotein production by a hepatoid adenocarcinoma of the uterus. J Clin Pathol. 49(5):420-2.

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In the event that the user experiences any technical or performance-related issues with the product, please consult the manufacturer or a competent authority.










Any serious incident that has occurred in relation to the device shall be reported to the manufacturer and the competent authority of the member state in which the user and/or the patient is established.

Date of publication or revision

2023-03-06

Change(s) made: Company logo, section 'Distributor', 'Manufacturer'

Explanation of symbols

	Bestellnummer Catalog number		Verwendbar bis Use by
	Chargenbezeichnung Batch code		Temperaturbegrenzung Temperature limitation
	In Vitro Diagnostika In vitro diagnostic agent		Bei beschädigter Verpackung nicht verwenden Do not use if package damaged
	Hersteller Manufacturer		Gebrauchsanweisung beachten Consult instructions for use
	Achtung Caution		