Cole-Parmer® qPCR test

Proteus mirabilis

RNA polymerase beta subunit (rpoB) gene

150 tests

Cole-Parmer®

For general laboratory and research use only

Revised Date: 04/07/2025

Introduction to Proteus mirabilis

Proteus mirabilis is a Gram-negative, facultatively anaerobic, rod shaped bacterium. It can be found as part of the micro flora in the human intestine. This organism is not usually a pathogen, but does become a problem when it comes into contact with urea in the urinary tract. From there, infection can spread to other parts of the body. Proteus can display two different morphological and physiological forms; one is known as the swimmer cells and the other as swarmer cells. In aqueous suspension Proteus mirabilis is found in the swimmer state, which is a small rod-like cells1 to 2 µm in length. They contain 8 to 10 flagella that aid in their swimming motility. On contact with a surface, Proteus mirabilis changes to the swarmer state where the cell considerably increases in length to form highly flagellated filaments that are 20 to 80 µm in length. These cells line up in parallel to form rafts that are able to move rapidly over surfaces en masse. On semi-solid surfaces such as an agar surface, they form concentric rings of growth. This pattern is caused by the coordinated burst of swarming activity interspeded with a consolidation to the swimmer state. The genome is 4.06Mb that includes a pathogenicity island that assists in infection. The bacterium also carries a plasmid that is approximately 36,000bp long.

Proteus mirabilis is a significant pathogen of the urinary tract. Urinary tract infection is a process following certain steps; it first starts with colonization of the bladder, which causes cystitis. Then, the infection proceeds to the kidneys, which leads to acute pyelonephritis, chronic inflammation and at last renal failure, which if left untreated, can cause death. It also produces urease, which is responsible for the formation of bladder and kidney stones as a result of the hydrolysis of urea to ammonia. Furthermore, the hemolysin that the bacterium secretes is cytotoxic for urinary tract epithelial cells which are subject to invasion by the proteus. The bacterium's swarming motility also plays an important role in renal infections, which involve colonization of the lower urinary tract, followed by ascending movement of the bacterium. It is believed that the swarming motility is correlated with the effective invasion of hosts' epithelia cells, as it provides the ability to move rapidly and therefore to rapidly colonize and invade the cells.

The bacteria can be found throughout the kidney and bladder stones, and can reinitiate infection after antibiotic treatment. Over time the stones may grow large enough to cause obstruction and renal failure. Proteus can also cause wound infections, septicemia, and pneumonias, mostly in hospitalized patients.

Specificity

The Cole-Parmer qPCR Kit for Proteus mirabilis (P.mirabilis) genomes is designed for the in vitro quantification of P.mirabilis genomes. The kit is designed to have the broadest detection profile possible whilst remaining specific to the P.mirabilis genome.

The primers and probe sequences in this kit have 100% homology with a broad range of P.mirabilis sequences based on a comprehensive bioinformatics analysis.

If you require further information, or have a specific question about the detection profile of this kit then please send an e.mail to cptechsupport@coleparmer.com and our bioinformatics team will answer your question.

Kit Contents

- **P.mirabilis specific primer/probe mix (150 reactions BROWN)**
  FAM labelled
- **P.mirabilis positive control template (for Standard curve RED)**
- **Internal extraction control primer/probe mix (150 reactions BROWN)**
  VIC labelled as standard
- **Internal extraction control DNA (150 reactions BLUE)**
- **Endogenous control primer/probe mix (150 reactions BROWN)**
  FAM labelled
- **RNAse/DNAse free water (WHITE)**
  for resuspension of primer/probe mixes and internal extraction control DNA
- **Template preparation buffer (YELLOW)**
  for resuspension of positive control template and standard curve preparation

Reagents and equipment to be supplied by the user

Real-Time PCR Instrument

DNA extraction kit
This kit designed to work well with all processes that yield high quality DNA with minimal PCR inhibitors.

Lyophilised 2x qPCR Mastermix
This kit is designed to be compatible with all commercially available Mastermixes that run with standard cycling conditions.

Pipettors and Tips

Vortex and centrifuge

Thin walled 1.5 ml PCR reaction tubes

Kit storage and stability

This kit is stable at room temperature but should be stored at -20ºC on arrival. Once the lyophilised components have been resuspended they should not be exposed to temperatures above -20ºC for longer than 30 minutes and unnecessary repeated freeze/thawing should be avoided. The kit is stable for six months from the date of resuspension under these circumstances.

If a standard curve dilution series is prepared this can be stored frozen for an extended period. If you see any degradation in this serial dilution a fresh standard curve can be prepared from the positive control.

Cole-Parmer does not recommend using the kit after the expiry date stated on the pack.

Suitable sample material

All kinds of sample material suited for PCR amplification can be used. Please ensure the samples are suitable in terms of purity, concentration, and DNA integrity (An internal PCR control is supplied to test for non specific PCR inhibitors). Always run at least one negative control with the samples. To prepare a negative-control, replace the template DNA sample with RNAse/DNAse free water.

Dynamic range of test

Under optimal PCR conditions Cole-Parmer P.mirabilis detection kits have very high priming efficiencies of >95% and can detect less than 100 copies of target template.

Notices and Disclaimers

This product is developed, designed and sold for research purposes only. It is not intended for human diagnostic or drug purposes or to be administered to humans unless clearly expressed for that purpose by the Food and Drug Administration in the USA or the appropriate regulatory authorities in the country of use. During the warranty period Cole-Parmer detection kits allow precise and reproducible data recovery combined with excellent sensitivity. For data obtained by violation to the general GLP guidelines and the manufacturer's recommendations the right to claim under guarantee is expired. PCR is a proprietary technology covered by several US and foreign patents. These patents are owned by Roche Molecular Systems Inc. and have been sub-licensed by PE Corporation in certain fields. Depending on your specific application you may need a license from Roche or PE to practice PCR. Additional information on purchasing licenses to practice the PCR process may be obtained by contacting the Director of Licensing at Roche Molecular Systems, 1145 Atlantic Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501 or Applied Biosystems business group of the Applera Corporation, 850 Lincoln Centre Drive, Foster City, CA 94404. In addition, the 5' nuclease assay and other homogeneous amplification methods used in connection with the PCR process may be covered by U.S.
Patents 5,210,015 and 5,487,972, owned by Roche Molecular Systems, Inc, and by U.S. Patent 5,538,848, owned by The Perkin-Elmer Corporation.

Trademarks

Cole-Parmer® is a trademark of Antylia Scientific.

The PCR process is covered by US Patents 4,683,195, and 4,683,202 and foreign equivalents owned by Hoffmann-La Roche AG. BI, ABI PRISM® GeneAmp® and MicroAmp® are registered trademarks of the Applera Genomics (Applied Biosystems Corporation). BIOMEK® is a registered trademark of Beckman Instruments, Inc.; iCycler™ is a registered trademark of Bio-Rad Laboratories, Rotor-Gene is a trademark of Corbett Research. LightCycler™ is a registered trademark of the Idaho Technology Inc. GeneAmp®, TaqMan® and AmpliTaqGold® are registered trademarks of Roche Molecular Systems, Inc., The purchase of the Cole-Parmer reagents cannot be construed as an authorization or implicit license to practice PCR under any patents held by Hoffmann-LaRoche Inc.

Principles of the test

Real-time PCR

A P.mirabilis specific primer and probe mix is provided and this can be detected through the FAM channel.

The primer and probe mix provided exploits the so-called TaqMan® principle. During PCR amplification, forward and reverse primers hybridize to the P.mirabilis DNA. A fluorogenic probe is included in the same reaction mixture which consists of a DNA probe labeled with a 5`-dye and a 3`-quencher. During PCR amplification, the probe is cleaved and the reporter dye and quencher are separated. The resulting increase in fluorescence can be detected on a range of real-time PCR platforms.

Positive control

For copy number determination and as a positive control for the PCR set up, the kit contains a positive control template. This can be used to generate a standard curve of P. mirabilis copy number / Cq value. Alternatively the positive control can be used at a single dilution where full quantitative analysis of the samples is not required. Each time the kit is used, at least one positive control reaction must be included in the run. A positive result indicates that the primers and probes for detecting the target P.mirabilis gene worked properly in that particular experimental scenario. If a negative result is obtained the test results are invalid and must be repeated. Care should be taken to ensure that the positive control does not contaminate any other kit component which would lead to false-positive results. This can be achieved by handling this component in a Post PCR environment. Care should also be taken to avoid cross-contamination of other samples when adding the positive control to the run. This can be avoided by sealing all other samples and negative controls before pipetting the positive control into the positive control well.

Negative control

To validate any positive findings a negative control reaction should be included every time the kit is used. For this reaction the RNAse/DNAse free water should be used instead of template. A negative result indicates that the reagents have not become contaminated while setting up the run.

Internal DNA extraction control

When performing DNA extraction, it is often advantageous to have an exogenous source of DNA template that is spiked into the lysis buffer. This control DNA is then co-purified with the sample DNA and can be detected as a positive control for the extraction process. Successful co-purification and real-time PCR for the control DNA also indicates that PCR inhibitors are not present at a high concentration.

A separate primer and probe mix are supplied with this kit to detect the exogenous DNA using real-time PCR. The primers are present at PCR limiting concentrations which allows multiplexing with the target sequence primers. Amplification of the control DNA does not interfere with detection of the P.mirabilis target DNA even when present at low copy number. The Internal control is detected through the VIC channel and gives a Cq value of 28+/-3.

Endogenous control

To confirm extraction of a valid biological template, a primer and probe mix is included to detect an endogenous gene. Detection of the endogenous control is through the FAM channel and it is NOT therefore possible to perform a multiplex with the P.mirabilis primers. A poor endogenous control signal may indicate that the sample did not contain sufficient biological material.

Carry-over prevention using UNG (optional)

Carry over contamination between PCR reactions can be prevented by including uracil-N-glycosylase (UNG) in the reaction mix. Some commercial Mastermix preparations contain UNG or alternatively it can be added as a separate component. UNG can only prevent carry over from PCR reactions that include deoxyuridine triphosphate (dUTP) in the original PCR reaction. Cole-Parmer recommend the application of 0.2U UNG per assay with a 15 minute incubation step at 37°C prior to amplification. The heat-labile UNG is then inactivated during the Taq polymerase activation step.

Reconstitution Protocol

To minimize the risk of contamination with foreign DNA, we recommend that all pipetting be performed in a PCR clean environment. Ideally this would be a designated PCR lab or PCR cabinet. Filter tips are recommended for all pipetting steps.

1. **Pulse-spin each tube in a centrifuge before opening.**
   This will ensure lyophilised primer and probe mix is in the base of the tube and is not spilt upon opening the tube.

2. **Reconstitute the kit components in the RNAse/DNAse free water supplied, according to the table below:**
   To ensure complete resuspension, vortex each tube thoroughly.

Component - resuspend in water	Volume
Pre-PCR pack	
P.mirabilis primer/probe mix (BROWN)	165 µl
Internal extraction control primer/probe mix (BROWN)	165 µl
Endogenous control primer/probe mix (BROWN)	165 µl
Pre-PCR heat-sealed foil	
Internal extraction control DNA (BLUE	600 µl

3. **Reconstitute the positive control template in the template preparation buffer supplied, according to the table below:**
   To ensure complete resuspension, vortex the tube thoroughly.

Component - resuspend in template preparation buffer	Volume
Post-PCR heat-sealed foil	
P.mirabilis Positive Control Template (RED) *	500 µl

* This component contains high copy number template and is a VERY significant contamination risk. It must be opened and handled in a separate laboratory environment, away from the other components.

DNA extraction

The internal extraction control DNA can be added either to the DNA lysis/extraction buffer or to the DNA sample once it has been resuspended in lysis buffer.

DO NOT add the internal extraction control DNA directly to the unprocessed biological sample as this will lead to degradation and a loss in signal.

1. **Add 4µl of the Internal extraction control DNA (BLUE) to each sample in DNA lysis/extraction buffer per sample.**

2. **Complete DNA extraction according to the manufacturers protocols.**

Real-time PCR detection protocol

1. **For each DNA sample prepare a reaction mix according to the table below:**
   Include sufficient reactions for positive and negative controls.

Component	Volume
Lyophilised 2x qPCR Mastermix	10 µl
P.mirabilis primer/probe mix (BROWN)	1 µl
Internal extraction control primer/probe mix (BROWN)	1 µl
RNAse/DNAse free water (WHITE)	3 µl
Final Volume	**15 µl**

2. **For each DNA sample prepare an endogenous control reaction according to the table below (Optional):**
   This control reaction will provide crucial information regarding the quality of the biological sample.

Component	Volume
Lyophilised 2x qPCR Mastermix	10 µl
Endogenous control primer/probe mix (BROWN)	1 µl
RNAse/DNAse free water (WHITE)	4 µl
Final Volume	**15 µl**

3. **Pipette 15µl of each mix into individual wells according to your real-time PCR experimental plate set up.**

4. **Prepare sample DNA templates for each of your samples.**

5. **Pipette 5µl of DNA template into each well, according to your experimental plate set up.**
   For negative control wells use 5µl of RNAse/DNAse free water. The final volume in each well is 20µl.

6. **If a standard curve is included for quantitative analysis prepare a reaction mix according to the table below:**

Component	Volume
Lyophilised 2x qPCR Mastermix	10 µl
P.mirabilis primer/probe mix (BROWN)	1 µl
RNAse/DNAse free water (WHITE)	4 µl
Final Volume	**15 µl**

7. **Preparation of standard curve dilution series.**

1) Pipette 90µl of template preparation buffer into 5 tubes and label 2-6
2) Pipette 10µl of Positive Control Template (RED) into tube 2
3) Vortex thoroughly
4) Change pipette tip and pipette 10µl from tube 2 into tube 3
5) Vortex thoroughly

Repeat steps 4 and 5 to complete the dilution series

Standard Curve	Copy Number
Tube 1 Positive control (RED)	2 x 10^5 per µl
Tube 2	2 x 10^4 per µl
Tube 3	2 x 10^3 per µl
Tube 4	2 x 10^2 per µl
Tube 5	20 per µl
Tube 6	2 per µl

8. **Pipette 5µl of standard template into each well for the standard curve according to your experimental plate set up.**
The final volume in each well is 20µl.

Amplification Protocol

Amplification conditions using Lyophilsed 2x qPCR Mastermix.

	Step	Time	Temp
	UNG treatment (if required) **	15 mins	37 °C
	Enzyme activation	2 mins	95 °C
Cycling x50	Denaturation	10 secs	95 °C
	DATA COLLECTION *	60 secs	60 °C

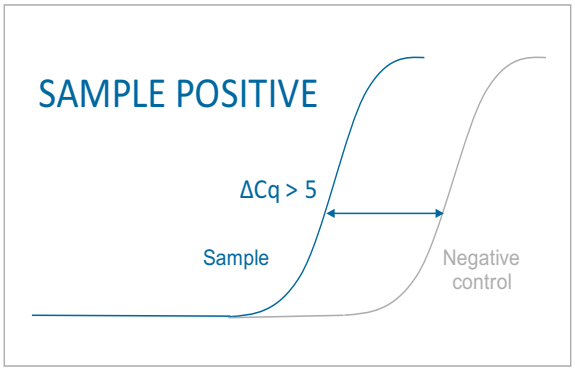
* Fluorogenic data should be collected during this step through the FAM and VIC channels
** Required if your Mastermix includes UNG to prevent PCR carryover contamination

Interpretation of Results

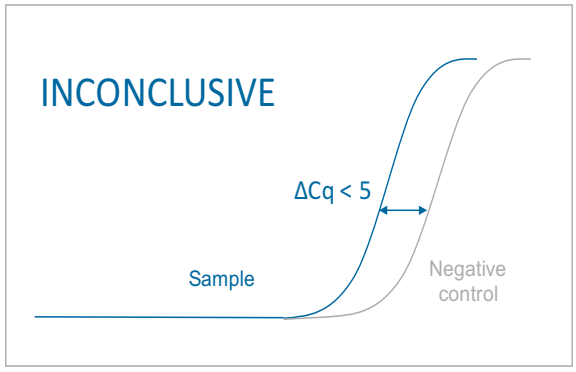
Target (FAM)	Internal control (VIC)	Positive control	Negative control	Interpretation
≤ 30	+ / -	+	-	**POSITIVE QUANTITATIVE RESULT** calculate copy number
> 30	+	+	-	**POSITIVE QUANTITATIVE RESULT** calculate copy number
> 30	-	+	-	**POSITIVE QUALITATIVE RESULT** do not report copy number as this may be due to poor sample extraction
-	+	+	-	**NEGATIVE RESULT**
+ / -	+ / -	+	≤ 35	**EXPERIMENT FAILED** due to test contamination
+ / -	+ / -	+	> 35	*
-	-	+	-	**SAMPLE PREPARATION FAILED**
+ / -	+ / -	-	+ / -	**EXPERIMENT FAILED**

Positive control template (RED) is expected to amplify between Cq 16 and 23. Failure to satisfy this quality control criterion is a strong indication that the experiment has been compromised.

*Where the test sample is positive and the negative control is positive with a Cq > 35, the sample must be reinterpreted based on the relative signal strength of the two results:



If the sample amplifies > 5 Cq earlier than the negative control then the sample should be reinterpreted (via the table above) with the negative control verified as negative.



If the sample amplifies < 5 Cq earlier than the negative control then the positive sample result is invalidated and the result should be determined inconclusive due to test contamination. The test for this sample should be repeated.

Internal PCR control

The Cq value obtained with the internal control will vary significantly depending on the extraction efficiency, the quantity of DNA added to the PCR reaction and the individual machine settings. Cq values of 28±3 are within the normal range. When amplifying a P. mirabilis sample with a high genome copy number, the internal extraction control may not produce an amplification plot. This does not invalidate the test and should be interpreted as a positive experimental result.

Endogenous control

The signal obtained from the endogenous control primer and probe set will vary according to the amount of biological material present in a given sample. An early signal indicates the presence of a good yield of biological material. A late signal suggests that little biological material is present in the sample.