

# Imm-Link™ BSA Immunogen Kit (for sulfhydryl groups)

Applicable to: 462-0001 1 x 2mg BSA Immunogen kit (for sulfhydryls)  
462-0500 3 x 2mg BSA Immunogen kit (for sulfhydryls)

Release 2. © EXPEDEON. 20/12/2018

## INTRODUCTION

The Imm-Link™ sulfhydryl conjugation kit allows sulfhydryl-containing haptens to be conjugated to a carrier protein simply by adding a solution of the hapten to a proprietary lyophilized mixture containing both the carrier protein and all of the chemicals required to form the conjugate.

Upon dissolution of the Imm-Link™ mixture proprietary chemicals in the mixture become activated, resulting in the coupling of the hapten to the carrier protein in a gentle and controlled process. The hands-on time to set up the conjugation reaction is typically 20-30 seconds.

Once the conjugation reaction is complete the hapten-carrier conjugate is dialyzed with ease using the supplied dialysis cartridge to remove unwanted by-products from the conjugation reaction. The hapten conjugate can then be used for the purpose of antibody production. The design of the dialysis cartridge ensures that the hapten conjugate is recovered in high yield.

## KIT CONTENTS

- 1 or 3 glass vial(s) of Imm-Link™ mix
- 1 or 3 vial(s) of Imm-Link™ sulfhydryl Modifier reagent
- 1 or 3 dialysis cartridge(s)
- 1 or 3 250ml bottle(s) of 10X dialysis buffer

## SHIPPING AND STORAGE

The kit is shipped at ambient temperature. Upon receipt store the plastic pot and components at -20°C. The other components should be stored at room temperature.

## CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE USE

### Sample buffer

Ideally, the hapten should be salt-free or in a 10-50mM buffer in the pH range 6.5 to 8.5.

See Appendix for further guidance on buffers and compatible additives.

### Amount and volume of hapten

Each molecule of BSA contains 15 to 20 potential sites for attachment. The absolute amount of material that can be bound will depend on the size of the individual hapten.

Small molecules, peptides or small proteins may be conjugated as long as the correct functional groups are present.

The volume of the solution of the molecule to be conjugated to the carrier protein should be between 0.4 and 1ml.

## INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. Setting up conjugation reactions:

- 1.1 Before you add the hapten to the Imm-Link™ mix, add 1 µl of Imm-Link™ sulfhydryl Modifier reagent to each 10 µl of hapten to be labeled. Mix gently.
- 1.2 Remove the cap from the vial of Imm-Link™ mix and pipette the sample (with added modifier) directly onto the lyophilized material. A maximum conjugation volume of 1 ml is recommended.
- 1.3 Resuspend gently by withdrawing and redispersing the liquid once or twice using a pipette.
- 1.4 Place the cap back on the vial and leave the vial standing for 4 hours at room temperature (20-25°C). Alternatively, and sometimes more conveniently, conjugations can be set up and left overnight at room temperature. The longer incubation time does not have any negative impact on the conjugate.

### 2. Dialysis of the conjugate

- 2.1 Prepare the dialysis buffer by diluting the 10X stock to 1X with deionized/distilled water.
- 2.2 Remove the plastic outer packaging from the dialysis cartridge.
- 2.3 Remove the black screw cap lid from the top of the dialysis cartridge.
- 2.4 Pipette the conjugate into the dialysis cartridge and replace the black lid.
- 2.5 Place the flotation ring on the top of the cartridge and place the cartridge in the dialysis buffer.
- 2.6 The conjugate should be dialyzed against 1 liter of 1x dialysis buffer for at least 4 hours, and then against a fresh 1 liter of dialysis buffer, for at least 4 hours.  
**Note:** A longer dialysis will not affect the conjugate quality; a combination of dialysis overnight and during the day i.e. ~16 hours and then ~7 hours is convenient and perfectly acceptable.
- 2.7 After dialysis, unscrew the black cap and recover the dialyzed conjugate using a pipette.
- 2.8 The conjugate is now ready to use.

## STORAGE OF CONJUGATES

If you are not using the conjugate immediately, store frozen at -20°C or -70°C in aliquots until required. Avoid multiple freeze thaw cycles if possible.

## APPENDIX

### Compatibility of buffers and buffer additives

**Note:** The advice below relates specifically to the subset of Imm-Link™ products that are used for conjugation of sulfhydryl-containing haptens. The requirements for other Imm-Link™ products may be different.

If the hapten is dissolved in a buffer, MES, MOPS, HEPES, TRIS and phosphate are suitable buffers for Imm-Link™ kits for sulfhydryl groups. Common non-buffering salts (e.g. sodium chloride), chelating agents (e.g. EDTA), and sugars may be present, as they have no effect on conjugation efficiency. Azide (0.02-0.1%) has little or no effect. You should avoid buffer additives that are nucleophilic, as these may react with Imm-Link™ chemicals and cause interference. You should therefore avoid thiols (e.g. mercaptoethanol and DTT).

### TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For technical enquiries get in touch with our technical support team at: [technical.enquiries@expedeon.com](mailto:technical.enquiries@expedeon.com)

For further information see our website: [www.expedeon.com](http://www.expedeon.com)

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