

IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit Handbook

Instruction Manual

For purification of total RNA from Blood samples

Cat. No. 17331 | 50 Columns

Ver 1.0

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iNtRON kits are intended for research use only. Prior to using them for other purposes, the user must validate the system in compliance with the applicable law, directives, and regulations. The PCR process is covered by patents issued and applicable in certain countries. iNtRON Biotechnology, Inc. does not encourage or support the unauthorized or unlicensed use of the PCR process. Use of this product is recommended for persons that either have a license to perform PCR or are not required to obtain a license.

Kit Contents

Label	Description	Contain
Buffer RBL	Pre-lysis Buffer	50 ml x 4 bottles
Buffer RLB ¹	Lysis Buffer	22 ml
Buffer RWA	Washing Buffer A	40 ml
Buffer RWB (concentrate) ²	Washing Buffer B	10 ml
Buffer RE	Elution Buffer	20 ml
gDNA Remover Spin Columns	gDNA Eliminator Column	50 columns
Spin Columns (Red color O-ring)	Inserted into a collection tubes (2.0ml tubes)	50 columns
Collection Tubes (2.0ml tubes)	Additionally supplied.	100 tubes

¹ Buffer RLB contains chaotropic salts can form highly reactive compound.

² Buffer RWB is supplied as concentrate. Add 40 ml of ethanol (96-100%) according to the bottle label before use.

Storage

The IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit should be stored dry at room temperature (15–25°C) and is stable for at least 12 months under these conditions.

Quality Control

In accordance with iNtRON's ISO-certified Quality Management System, each lot of IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit is tested against predetermined specifications to ensure consistent product quality.

Safety Information

When working with chemicals, always should wear a suitable lab coat, disposable gloves, and protective goggles. For more information, please request the appropriate material safety data sheets (MSDS). Do not add bleach or acidic solutions directly to the waste. Buffer RLB and Buffer RWA contains chaotropic salts, which can form highly reactive compounds when combined with bleach. If liquid containing this buffer is spilled, clean with suitable laboratory detergent and water.

Product Warranty and Satisfaction Guarantee

All products undergo extensive quality control test and are warranted to perform as described when used correctly. Immediately any problems should be reported. Satisfaction guarantee is conditional upon the customer providing full details of the problem to iNtRON within 60 days, and returning the product to iNtRON for examination.

Product Use Limitations

The IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit is intended for research use only. Prior to using it for other purposes, the user must validate the system in compliance with the applicable law, directives, and regulations. IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit is developed, designed, and sold for research purpose only. They are not to be used for human or animal diagnosis of diseases. Do not use internally or externally in humans or animals. Be careful in the handling of the products.

Technical Assistance

At iNtRON we pride ourselves on the quality and availability of our technical support. Our Technical Service Departments are staffed by experienced scientists with extensive practical and theoretical expertise in molecular biology and the use of iNtRON products. If you have any questions or experience any difficulties regarding the IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit or iNtRON products in general, please do not hesitate to contact us. iNtRON customers are a major source of information regarding advanced or specialized uses of our products. This information is helpful to other scientists as well as to other researchers at iNtRON. We therefore encourage you to contact us if you have any suggestions about product performance or new applications and techniques. For technical assistance and more information please call one of the iNtRON Technical Service Departments or local distributors.

Precautions and Safety Information

All chemicals should be considered as potentially hazardous. When working with chemicals, always wear a suitable lab coat and disposable glove. Some buffer contains the chaotropic salt which may be an irritant and carcinogen, so appropriate safety apparel such as gloves and eye protection should be worn. If a spill of the buffers occurs, clean with a suitable laboratory detergent and water. If the liquid spill contains potentially infectious agents, clean the affected area first with laboratory detergent and water, then with a suitable laboratory disinfectant. Only persons trained in laboratory techniques and familiar with the principles of good laboratory practices should handle these products.

CAUTION: DO NOT add bleach or acidic solutions directly to the sample-preparation waste.

Equipment and Reagents to be Supplied by User

IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit provides almost all reagents for extracting RNA. However, you should prepare some equipments and reagents as follows for a fast and easy extraction. When working with chemicals, always wear a suitable lab coat, disposable gloves, and protective goggles.

IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit provides almost

- Ethanol (96–100%)
- Micro-centrifuge
- Microcentrifuge tubes (1.5ml)
- Other general lab equipments
- β-Mercaptoethanol (14.2M)
- Vortex mixer
- Micro-pipettes and pipette tips

Description

The IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit provides a fast, easy method for the preparation of total cellular RNA from up to 1 ml of whole blood. Also, the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit can be used to purify total RNA from whole blood and to separate RNA from proteins, salt and other reaction components. Contaminants and enzyme inhibitors such as hemoglobin and heparin are completely removed, leaving purified RNA ready for use in downstream applications. During the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit procedure for purification of RNA from blood, erythrocytes are selectively lysed and leukocytes are recovered by centrifugation. The leukocytes are then lysed using highly denaturing conditions that immediately inactivate RNases, allowing the isolation of intact RNA. RNA is bound to the silica membrane during a brief centrifugation step. Contaminants are washed away and total RNA is eluted in 30 µl or more of RNase-free water for direct use in any downstream application. Isolated high-quality RNA from the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit is a prerequisite for many gene expression profiling techniques such as quantitative PCR or microarray analysis. The IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit can be used to isolate RNA from whole blood in ~30 min. Yields of total RNA are typically 3–10 µg from 1 ml of whole blood from normal healthy donors.

Characteristics

- Isolated high-quality RNA is suitable for many gene expression profiling techniques:
 - ✓ cDNA synthesis
 - ✓ Reverse Transcriptase PCR (RT-PCR)
 - ✓ Quantitative PCR (qPCR, qRT-PCR)
 - ✓ Microarray
 - ✓ Northern and slot blotting, RNase nuclease protection
- Advanced GxN technology for rapid and efficient purification within 30 min of total RNA from whole blood sample
- Chaotropic salt lysis buffer inactivates immediately RNase to ensure isolation of intact RNA.

Column Information

- IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit's Spin Column

Column membrane ¹	Silica-based membrane
Spin Column ¹	Individually, in inserted in a 2.0 ml Collection Tube ²
Loading Volume	Maximum 800 µl
RNA Binding Capacity	Maximum 45 µg
Recovery	85 -95% depending on the elution volume
Elution Volume	Generally, eluted with 30 –50 µl of Elution Buffer

¹ Do not store the Column packs under completely dried conditions. It may be affected to RNA binding capacity. The Spin Columns are stable for over 2 year under these conditions

² Additional Collection Tubes (100 ea) are also supplied for your convenient handling.

Important Points Before Starting

- Buffer RWB
 - : Buffer RWB is supplied as a concentrate. Before using for the first time, be sure to add 40 ml of absolute ethanol (96–100%) to obtain a working solution.
- Centrifugation
 - All centrifugation steps are carried out at RT (15–25 °C)

Note for Sample

IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit can be used for isolating total RNA from the white blood cell fraction of blood or buffy coat.

• Wholeblood

Whole blood should be collected in the presence of an anticoagulant, such as EDTA, citrate, heparin can be used. For ideal results, blood samples should be processed within a few hours of collection.

Enabling blood sample volume: Minimum 500 µl ~Maximum 1.5 ml

• Buffycoat

Buffy coat is the fraction of a centrifuged blood sample that contains most of the white blood cells. To get the buffy coat, it is better to use after obtain whole blood immediately. Prepare buffy coat by centrifuging whole blood at 3,000 rpm for 10 minutes at room temperature. After centrifugation, one can distinguish a layer of clear fluid (the plasma), a layer of red fluid containing most of the red blood cells, and a thin layer in between, the buffy coat, with most of the white blood cells and platelets. The buffy coat is usually whitish in color but sometimes green. The buffy coat is used to extract RNA from the blood of mammals.

Buffy coat sample volume: approximately 300 µl of start amount

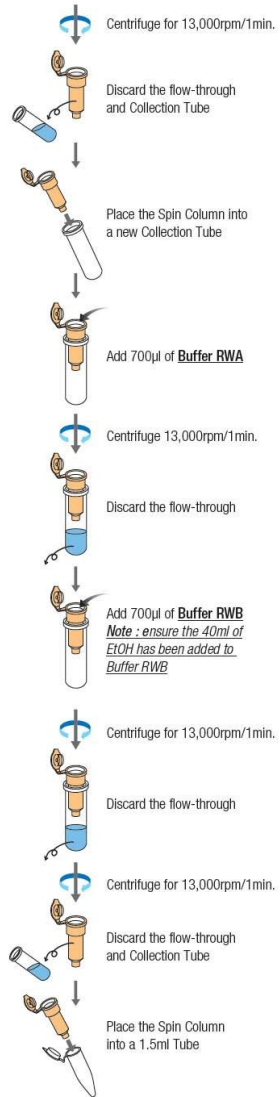
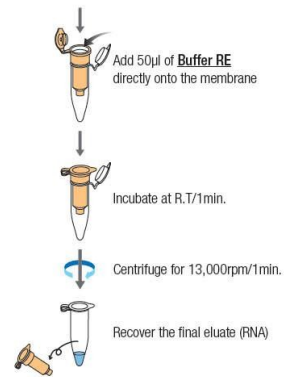
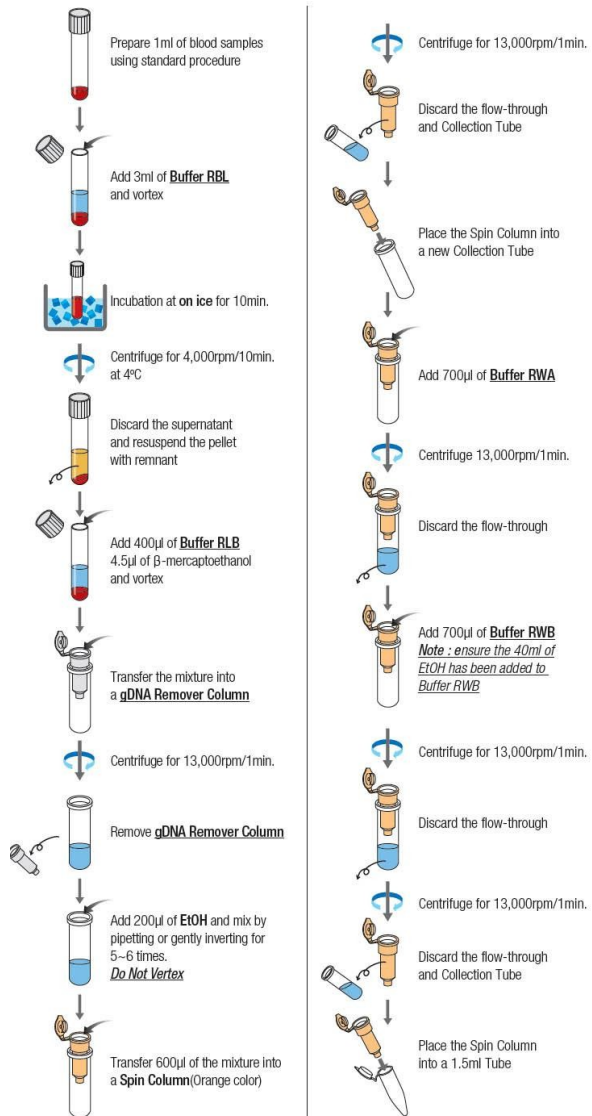
Recovery of Purified RNA

Determination of concentration, yield, and purity of RNA is determined from the concentration of RNA in elute, measured by absorbance at 260 nm. Absorbance readings at 260 nm should fall between 0.1 and 1.0 to be accurate. Sample dilutions should be adjusted accordingly: for example, the elute containing 4–40 ng RNA/µl ($A_{260} = 0.5–1.0$) should not be diluted with more than 4 volumes of buffer.

Use elution buffer or water (as appropriate) to dilute samples and to calibrate the spectrophotometer.

Measure the absorbance at 260 and 280 nm, or scan absorbance from 220–320 nm (as can be shown if there are other factors affecting absorbance at 260 nm). Both RNA and rRNA are measured with a spectrophotometer; to measure only RNA, a fluorometer must be used. Purity is determined by calculating the ratio of absorbance at 260 nm to absorbance at 280 nm. Pure RNA has an A_{260}/A_{280} ratio of 1.8–2.0. RNA purified by the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit procedure is free of protein and other contaminants that can inhibit PCR or other enzymatic reactions.

IQeas™ Plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit procedure



Protocol

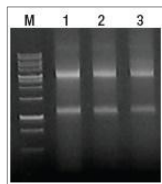
Refer to the "VISUAL PROTOCOL"

- Add 1ml of whole blood to a 15ml tube.**
Note: A maximum volume amount 1ml of whole blood can be processed on a Qeas™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit. For blood with increased number of leukocytes, less than 1ml must be used.
Note: Blood must be collected in EDTA, heparin and citrate-coated tube to prevent clotting. In case of using more than 300µl of whole blood, add Buffer RBL at the 3 volume ratio (whole blood:buffer=1:3) as before. Make sure to use a larger tube before large volume of blood preparation. If 15ml or 50ml tube is used, centrifuge at 2,000g.
- Add 3ml of Buffer RBL, and vortex.**
Note: This step is to remove RBC. If any RBC is left behind, protein such as histone will hamper experiments like PCR. Therefore, it is extremely important to remove RBC completely.
- Incubate for 10min. on ice. Centrifuge at 4,000rpm for 10min. at 4°C to obtain white blood cell pellet. Carefully remove supernatant.**
Note: If the RBC are still visible after centrifuge, repeat „step 2“.
- Resuspend white blood cell pellet in 400µl of Buffer RL and 45µl of β-mercaptoethanol (14.2M) to each sample. And then mix by vortexing.**
Note: This is actual cell lysis stage and thus important to apply vortex until no clumps are seen. Mix by pipetting until no visible cell clumps remain. If clumps of cells are still visible after 5-6 times pipetting the solution.
- Apply the lysate to gDNA Remover Spin Columns, and centrifuge for 1min. at 13,000rpm (R.T). After centrifugation, transfer the flow-through into a new 1.5 ml tube.**
Note: The maximum volume of the column reservoir is 800 µl. For sample volumes of more than 800 µl, simply load and spin again.
- Add 200µl of absolute ethanol to collected lysate, and mix it well by pipetting or gently inverting 5-6 times.**
Note: Add 0.5 volume of absolute ethanol to the lysate.
- Transfer 600µl of the mixture from 'Step 6' into the Spin Column (red color O-ring) inserted in a 2.0ml collection tube. Centrifuge at 13,000rpm at R.T for 1min., and discard flow-through and collection tube altogether.**
Note: The maximum volume of the column reservoir is 800µl. For sample volumes of more than 800µl, simply load and spin again.
- Add 700µl of Buffer RWA to the Spin Column, and centrifuge at 13,000rpm for 1min. Discard the flow-through and reuse the collection tube.**
- Add 700µl Buffer RWB to the spin column, and centrifuge at 13,000rpm for 1min. to dry membrane. Discard the flow-through and collection tube altogether.**
Note: Ensure that 40µl of absolute ethanol (EtOH) has been added to Buffer RWB.
- Place the Spin Column in a new 2ml collection tube, and centrifuge at 13,000rpm for 1min to dry the column membrane.**
Note: It is very important to dry the membrane of the spin columns since residual ethanol may inhibit subsequent reactions. Following the centrifugation, remove carefully the spin column from the collection tube without contacting with the flow-through, since this will result in carry-over of ethanol.
- Place the spin column into a new 1.5ml tube (not supplied), and 50µl Buffer RE directly onto the membrane. Incubate for 1min. at room temperature and then centrifuge for 1min. at 13,000rpm to elute.**
Note: Elution with 30µl increases the final RNA concentration, but reduces overall RNA yield conventionally. Alternatively, if you need larger amount of RNA, eluting with 100µl increases generally overall RNA yield.

Technical Information

Total RNA preparation from different whole blood amount

IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit for whole blood provides a simple and rapid method for the isolation of total RNA from blood.



[Table 1. RNA purity by performing ratio absorbance measurements.]

Blood volume	500 µl	1 ml	1.5 ml
Purity (A_{260}/A_{280})	1.85	1.87	1.8
Yield (µg)	5.2	8.5	10

Fig. 1. Gel Analysis of total RNA isolated from different amount of human whole blood.

Total RNA was purified from different amount of human whole blood volume using the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit for whole blood. And the total RNA was analyzed in gel electrophoresis. 5 µl of eluted solution was loaded per lane on a 1.0% agarose gel.

Lane M, 1 kb ladder DNA marker; lane 1, 1.5 ml blood volume; lane 2, 1 ml blood volume; lane 3, 500 µl blood volume

Real-time RT-PCR amplification of total RNA from whole blood

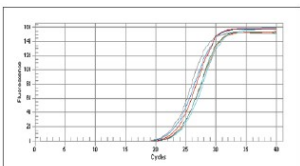
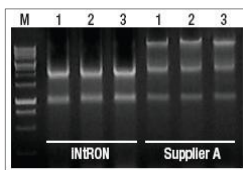


Fig. 2. High reproducible Real-time RT-PCR.

Total RNA was purified from whole blood using the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit. Total RNA was analyzed in real-time RT-PCR. Expression of GAPDH was then analyzed by Real-time RT-PCR using 100 ng RNA per reaction. The figure shows 6 times repetition plots.

Comparison of total RNA extraction

IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit shows an improved RNA extraction and DNA elimination efficiency of RNA extraction comparing with competitor's



[Table 2. RNA purity by performing ratio absorbance measurements.]

Sample Company	Rabbit blood		Human blood		Buffy coat	
	Purity	Yield	Purity	Yield	Purity	Yield
iNtRON	2.0	10.2	1.95	10.12	1.95	9.64
Supplier A	1.9	5.23	1.90	5.01	1.79	5.46

Fig. 3. Gel Analysis of Total RNA isolated from whole blood.

Total RNA was purified from whole blood using the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit and Supplier A. And the total RNA was analyzed in gel electrophoresis. 5 µl of eluted solution was loaded per lane on a 1.0% agarose gel.

Lane M, 1 kb ladder DNA marker; lane 1, rabbit blood; lane 2, human blood; lane 3, buffy coat

Technical Information

RNA Q.C data for Microarray

Reliable results in real-time RT-PCR and microarray analysis depend on the quality of the RNA sample. The IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Kit provides a high quality of RNA integrity which is determined by nucleic acid analysis, where intact RNA is indicated by a 2:1 ratio of the bands for 28S and 18S rRNA.

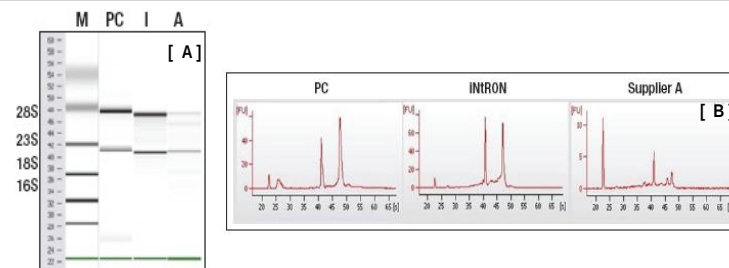


Fig. 4. RNA quality control data for microarray

Total RNA, isolated using the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit and Supplier A's kit was run on an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer and is displayed here as a gel electropherogram.

Panel A, Electropherogram gel image; Panel B, Electropherogram Summary

Lane M, RNA marker; lane PC, Positive control; lane I, IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit; lane A, Supplier A

Genomic DNA Contamination test

IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit integrate fast, convenient RNA purification with effective control of genomic DNA contamination. Leukocytes are lysed in a specialized buffer, which provides optimized conditions for removal of DNA by brief centrifugation through a DNA Remover Column. Total RNA is then purified using an IQeasTM Spin Column.

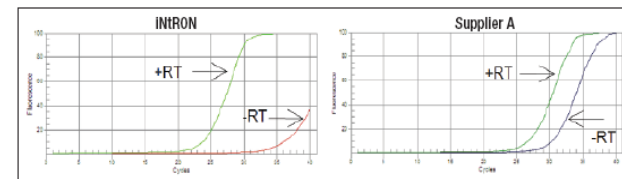


Fig. 5. Effective elimination of genomic DNA contamination

Total RNA was purified from whole blood using the IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit. GAPDH transcript was detected by real-time RT-PCR, and Ct values were observed. In control reactions without reverse transcriptase (-RT), GAPDH DNA was not detected, indicating the absence of genomic DNA contamination.

Panel A, IQeasTM plus Blood RNA Extraction Mini Kit; Panel B, Supplier A's RNA Extraction Mini Kit

Troubleshooting Guide

Problem	Problem	Recommendation
Low RNA yield or no RNA	Carryover of erythrocytes	–Extend RBCLysis incubation on ice to 20 min.
	Too much starting material	–Overloading the spin column significantly reduces RNA yield. Reduce the amount of starting material
	RNA still bound to spin column membrane	–Repeat RNA elution, but incubate the spin column on the bench top for 10 min with RNase-free water before centrifuging.
	Step were not followed or wrong reagent used	–Check the protocol ; 100% EtOH must be added to the Buffer RWB before use.
	Inappropriate handling of starting material	–It is essential to work quickly during sample preparation. Perform the RNA extraction procedure quickly, especially the first few steps.
RNA degradation	RNase contamination	–Although all buffers have been tested and are guaranteed RNase-free, RNases can be introduced during use. Be certain not to introduce any RNases during the RNA Extraction procedure or later handling.
	Age of blood	–Blood sample stored for too long prior to RNA isolation. or optimal results, blood samples should be processed within a few hours of collection. mRNAs from blood cells have different stabilities. mRNAs of regulatory genes have shorter half-lives than mRNAs of housekeeping genes. IQeasy™ plus Blood RNA Extraction Kit cannot be used for frozen blood samples.
	Lysis buffer does not contain β-ME	–Ensure that β-ME has been added to the lysis buffer (Buffer RLb).
	Too much starting material	–Reduce the amount of starting material. It is essential to use the correct amount of starting material
Clogged gDNA Remover spin column		
DNA contamination in downstream experiments	Trace amounts of genomic DNA may still remain	–No currently available purification method can guarantee that RNA is completely free of DNA, even when it is not visible on an agarose gel. IQeasy Kits will, however, remove the vast majority of cellular DNA. gDNA Remover Column help to further reduce genomic DNA contamination but trace amounts of genomic DNA may still remain, depending on the amount and nature of the sample.

Related Products

Product	Application	Cat. No.
IQeasy™ plus CTB RNA Extraction Mini Kit	total RNA extraction from Cell, Tissue, Bacteria	17321
IQeasy™ plus Plant RNA Extraction Mini Kit	total RNA extraction from Plant	17491
IQeasy™ plus Viral DNA/RNA Extraction Kit	Viral DNA/RNA extraction from biological samples	17153
ONE-STEP RT-PCR PreMix Kit	One-step RT-PCR premix, solution type	25101
RevoScript™ RT PreMix (Oligo (dT) ₁₅ Primer)	RT premix (oligo dT primer), aliquoted & dried type	25083/25084
RevoScript™ RT PreMix (Random Primer)	RT premix (random hexamer primer), aliquoted & dried type	25085/25086
Maxime™ RT-PCR PreMix	RT-PCR premix, aliquoted & dried type	25131
Power cDNA Synthesis Kit	cDNA synthesis	25011
SiZer™-100 DNA Marker Solution	100bp DNA size marker	24073
SiZer™-1000 DNA Marker Solution	1kb DNA size marker	24074
RedSafe™ Nucleic Acid Staining Solution	Nucleic acid staining solution, non-toxic and non-carcinogenic	21141
RNase WIPER™	DNA/RNase remover	21131
RealMOD™ Real-time PCR Core Kit	Real-time PCR reagent (for Taqman probe)	25331
RealMOD™ Real-time PCR Master mix Kit	Real-time PCR master mix Solution (for Taqman probe)	25341/25342
RealMOD™ Green Real-time PCR Core Kit	Real-time PCR reagent (for HRM dye)	25332
RealMOD™ Green Real-time PCR Master mix Kit	Real-time PCR master mix Solution (for HRM dye)	25343/25344