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# PCI/SDS DNA Extraction

#### OBJECTIVE

To extract a high yield, clean DNA sample from 1 mL high titer phage lysate.

## BACKGROUND

There are a number of ways to yield clean DNA from a high titer phage lysate. This one requires about 1 mL of sample; PCI, a solution containing phenol, chlorophorm, and isoamyl alcohol (in a 25:24:1 ratio) will be used. Phenol is a hazardous material, causes skin burns, respiratory irritation, headaches, and burning eyes. **Wear gloves** when handling PCI and work **under the fume hood**, PCI is also light sensitive so make sure to wrap the container in foil and return it to the canister immediately when done. **Phenol** is used to remove proteins and other contaminating materials from aqueous DNA solutions. **Chloroform** helps to denature proteins as well as remove residual phenol. **Isoamyl alcohol** is often added to the chloroform to reduce foaming. High salt molarity (**sodium acetate**) increases aggregation of DNA and helps to precipitate it into a pellet. In this alternative method, **MgCl<sub>2</sub>** is used as a stabilizer.

### **APPROXIMATE TIME NEEDED**

### ~ 3 hours

### **MATERIALS NEEDED**

Equipment

- Microcentrifuge
- 55°C heat block
- Pipettors, micro- and serological

Consumables/Reagents (See online media preparation guides)

- 1M MgCl<sub>2</sub>
- DNAse I (2000 U/mL)
- RNAse A (100 mg/mL)
- 0.5 M EDTA
- Proteinase K (10 mg/mL)
- 10% SDS (Sodium dodecyl sulfate)
- 95% Ethanol
- 70% Ethanol
- 3M Sodium acetate solution
- Phenol:chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (25:24:1)
- diH<sub>2</sub>O
- 15 mL conical tubes
- Microcentrifuge tubes
- Serological pipettes
- Appropriate micropipette tips

### HELPFUL TIPS

- Never quantify a DNA sample until pellet is completely re-suspended. The DNA may have to be left at room temperature or at 4°C overnight to dissolve completely.
- diH<sub>2</sub>O is used in this protocol to reduce salts to facilitate future electroporation of DNA into *Mycobacterium*. It is safer to store DNA in TE and this may be used in place of dH<sub>2</sub>O.
- The disposal of PCI is controlled, so try to minimize waste.
- This protocol utilizes 1 mL of lysate. It can be scaled up to increase DNA yield.
- DNA Extraction takes a considerable amount of time as well as patience. Do not perform in hurry or when insufficient time is available.

#### PROCEDURES

- 1. Transfer 1 mL of lysate to a 15 mL conical tube.
- 2. Add 12.5 μL 1 M MgCl<sub>2</sub>. Mix gently.
- 3. Carefully add 0.4 μL DNAse I (2000 U/mL) and 1 μL RNAse A (100 mg/mL) to the lysate-MgCl<sub>2</sub> mixture. Be careful not to contaminate the micropipettor.
- 4. Vortex briefly to mix, incubate at room temperature for ~30 minutes.
- 5. Add the following reagents/enzymes to the tube, in the order listed below.
  - a. 40 µL of 0.5 M EDTA.
  - b. 5 µL of Proteinase K (10 mg/mL).
  - c. 50 μL of 10% SDS.
- 6. Vortex the mixture vigorously.
- 7. Incubate at 55°C for 60 minutes. Vortex the mixture vigorously twice during incubation, at 20minute intervals.
- 8. Obtain two 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes. Transfer 500 µL of the mixture to each tube.
- 9. **Put on gloves** and transfer all materials to a **chemical fume hood**. Carefully transfer enough PCI to a 15 mL conical tube or a microcentrifuge tube. Return the bottle of PCI to the appropriate place.
- 10. Transfer equal amount of PCI (500 μL for the first time) to each tube with 500 μL of lysate. Invert tubes several times to mix well.
- 11. Centrifuge for 5 minutes at room temperature at 13K rpm.

- 12. Remove the top aqueous layer above the white interphase.
  - a. If a low titer lysate is used, leave a buffer region between the aqueous layer and the white interphase. In other words, avoid any protein or phenol contamination from the white interphase and the bottom organic layer.
  - b. If a high titer lysate is used (titer greater than 10<sup>9</sup> pfu/mL), repeat steps #10 and #11 until the white interphase is gone, each time removing as much of the top aqueous layer as possible. Perform #12a (leave a buffer region) during the last round when the no interphase can be seen anymore.
- 13. Precipitate the DNA.
  - a. Add 1 mL of 95% ethanol and 50  $\mu$ L of 3M sodium acetate solution to the aqueous layer obtained at the end of step #12.
  - b. Place the sample on ice for ~5 minutes. This aids with precipitation. Mix gently, and the DNA will form a "cotton ball" like precipitate.
- 14. Centrifuge at room temperature for 10 minutes at 13K rpm. Place the cap fold to the outside as an indicator to where the pellet would be.
- 15. Decant the tubes carefully, paying attention **not to lose the pellet**. Then add 500 μL of 70% ethanol to **wash** the pellet. **Do not dissolve the pellet**, since it is nearly impossible to recover dissolved pellets. Simply let ethanol run through the pellet.
- 16. Centrifuge for 10 minutes at 13K rpm at room temperature.
- 17. Decant the tubes, and carefully pipet out any remaining droplets. Once again, pay attention not to lose the pellet (by pipetting or decanting).
- 18. Air dry the pellet (~10 20 minutes), but make sure the DNA is not over dried since it would become hard to dissolve.
- 19. Dissolve DNA in ~50  $\mu L$  dH\_2O. To ensure complete solvation, set the tubes in 37°C for 10 minutes.
- 20. DNA can be stored at 4°C for the short term. For long-term storage, store at –20°C.
- Measure the concentration of DNA on the NanoDrop. (See **TOOLBOX: Measuring DNA** Concentration).
- 22. In the event of phenol contamination, repeat the procedure once (only perform #10 12 once) with just chloroform (i.e. no phenol and isoamyl).