

INTENDED USE

The **Cellmatics™** Viral Transport Pack contains a sterile rayon-tipped swab and a vial of medium for collecting and transporting viruses from clinical specimens.

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

Proper collection and transport are extremely important for efficient recovery of virus from clinical specimens. The **Cellmatics** Viral Transport Pack is designed as a convenient collection and transport system. It contains tissue culture-compatible medium, which has been tested for preservation of virus infectivity, and sterile swabs for general specimen collection.

REAGENTS

Viral Transport Medium: 2 mL Hanks balanced salt solution containing 20 mM HEPES, 0.5% gelatin and 100 µg/mL gentamicin sulfate.

Swab: Sterile, rayon-tipped, plastic shaft.

Precautions: For *in vitro* Diagnostic Use.

Autoclave all collection materials prior to disposal.

Do not moisten swab in transport medium prior to collection, in case of patient antibiotic allergies.

Storage: Store **Cellmatics** Viral Transport Pack below 30°C.

Expiration Date: The expiration date applies to the product in its intact container when stored as directed.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

Infectivity is one of the first properties lost by viruses. To preserve infectivity and optimize isolation, the following should be observed:

1. Personnel should be trained in specimen collection techniques.
2. Collect virus specimen at the time of greatest concentration, i.e., during acute phase.
3. Use standard clinical procedures^{1,2} for obtaining specimens.

PROCEDURE

Materials Provided: **Cellmatics** Viral Transport Pack.

Materials Required But Not Provided: Specialized collection devices (urethral swabs, tuberculin syringe, etc.)

1. Obtain specimen using the rayon-tipped swab.
2. Insert swab into transport medium and break off shaft below vial lip, making sure fingers do not contaminate the inside of the vial.

3. Complete the tube and package labels and transport the specimen to the laboratory. Virus infectivity is best preserved by transporting at 2 – 6°C.
4. Inoculate into tissue culture as soon as possible. However, specimens may be held at room temperature for short periods (1 – 2 h) or stored at 2 – 6°C for longer periods (24 – 48 h) without unduly compromising viral isolation.
5. Bacteria, fungi or cell debris may be removed from specimens by centrifugation at 2500 rpm for 10 min.

Quality Control

1. Examine the transport medium for color and clarity. The medium should be a clear reddish liquid. Turbidity and/or a bright yellow color could indicate contamination.
2. Check the integrity of the swab pouch to ensure sterility.

LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

Some viruses are extremely sensitive to inactivation and require specialized handling.²

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Cellmatics Viral Transport Packs have been proven effective in preserving virus infectivity at different temperatures and for different storage times.

AVAILABILITY

Cat. No	Description
252171	Cellmatics™ Viral Transport Pack, 50 packs Each contains: Viral Transport Medium, 2 mL and Rayon-Tipped Swab, 1 swab

REFERENCES

1. Hsiung, G.D. 1982. Diagnostic virology, 3rd ed., p. 7-13. Yale University Press, New Haven and London.
2. Lennette, E.H. and N.J. Schmidt (ed.). 1979. Diagnostic procedures for viral, rickettsial and chlamydial infections, 5th ed. American Public Health Association, Inc., Washington, D.C.

BD and BD Logo are trademarks of Becton, Dickinson and Company.
Cellmatics is a trademark of Difco Laboratories, subsidiary of Becton, Dickinson and Company. © 2002 BD.



Becton, Dickinson and Company
7 Loveton Circle
Sparks, MD 21152 USA
1-800-638-8663