Lactofuchsin

(for *In Vitro* Diagnostic use only)

PRODUCT CODE: PL.7154

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INTENDED USE
For the identification of fungal hyphae in prepared slides from clinical specimens.

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION
Fuchsin, a component of Lactofuchsin, was first described in 1858 by August Wilhem von Hofmann and later that year patented by François-Emmanuel Verguin. It is now widely accepted for clinical use and used for observing fungal hyphae.

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST
Most fungi can be observed microscopically in a droplet of water under a cover slip, but more permanent slides can be prepared using Lactofuchsin, as it preserves the structure of the hyphae. The Lactic Acid component acts as a mounting medium, while Acid Fuchsin acts as the staining agent. The Lacto-Fuchsin mixture binds to the cell walls of fungi, colouring fungal elements pink-red in the process.

MATERIALS PROVIDED
- PL.7154 Lactofuchsin 100 ml

Per 100ml solution:
- Lactofuchsin contains 0.1g Acid Fuchsin.

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED
- Glass slides
- Coverslip
- Inoculating loop
- Microscope
- Immersion Oil PL.396

STABILITY AND STORAGE
Lactofuchsin should be stored at 15-25ºC in its original container. Product stored under these conditions will be stable until the expiry date shown on the product label.

PRECAUTIONS
- For *In Vitro* Diagnostic Use only.
- For professional use only.
- Directions should be read and followed carefully.
- Do not use beyond the stated expiration dates.
- Microbial contamination may decrease the accuracy of the staining.
- Safety precautions should be taken in handling, processing and discarding all clinical specimens.
- Samples should be processed in the correct containment level conditions.
- Dispose of all material in accordance with local regulations.
- Any serious incident that occurs in relation to the device should be reported to the manufacturer and the competent authority of the member state in which the incident occurred.

TEST PROCEDURE
Cover slip method:
1. Place a drop of Lactofuchsin in the centre of a clean glass slide.
2. Remove a fragment of the fungus colony 2-3mm from the colony edge using an inoculating needle.
3. Place the fragment in the drop of stain and tease gently.
4. Apply a coverslip. Press gently to remove air bubbles.
5. Examine using a microscope.

Tape method:
1. Place a drop of Lactofuchsin onto a clean glass slide.
2. Take a small piece of tape (2-3cm long) and place, sticky side down, onto a fungal colony.
3. Use an inoculating loop to gently press on the tape, to ensure contact between the tape and the fungus.
4. Place the tape, sticky side up, on to the drop of stain on the slide.
5. Apply a second drop of Lactofuchsin onto the exposed fungal elements and place a cover slip on top. Press gently to remove air bubbles.
6. Examine using a microscope.

QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURE
Internal quality control of the Lactofuchsin stain must be performed regularly on known reference material.

Recommended Quality Control:
Positive control – a proven positive
Negative control – a proven negative

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Acid Fuchsin binds to the cell walls of fungi and stains the fungal elements pink-red. A positive result will show stained hyphal structures; no hyphal structures indicates a negative result. Refer to an appropriate textbook for further differentiating features of diagnostic fungal specimens.

LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE
- Only experienced personnel should carry out the interpretation of stained slides.
- Read prepared slides as soon as possible after staining. Failure to do so may affect the results.

REFERENCES

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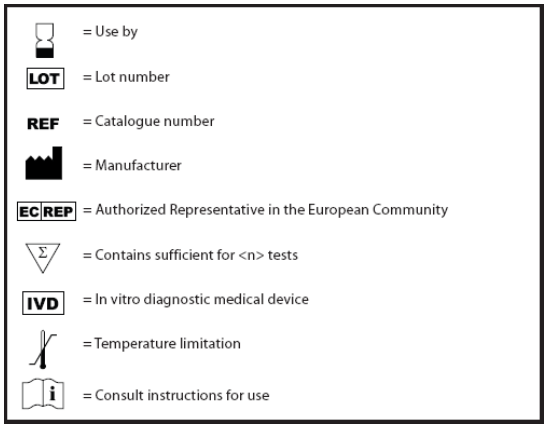

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HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION
Please refer to Safety Data sheets for full text for all hazard and precautionary statements.

DANGER	PL.7154	H225, H315, H318 P210, P264, P305+P351+P338, P310, P370+P378, P403+P235

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