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Instructions for Use

RealStar®
alpha Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0

01/2017 EN

RealStar®

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alpha Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0

For research use only!

(RUO)

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Content

1. Application

The RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 is a reagent system, based on real-time PCR technology, for the detection and differentiation of herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1), herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2) and varicella-zoster virus (VZV) specific DNA.

For research use only (RUO)! Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

2. Kit Components

Lid Color	Component	Number of Vials	Volume [µl/Vial]
Blue	Master A	8	60
Purple	Master B	8	180
Green	Internal Control	1	1000
Red	Positive Control VZV	1	250
Yellow	Positive Control HSV-1	1	250
Orange	Positive Control HSV-2	1	250
White	Water (PCR grade)	1	500

3. Storage

- The RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 is shipped on dry ice. The components of the kit should arrive frozen. If one or more components are not frozen upon receipt, or if tubes have been compromised during shipment, contact altona Diagnostics GmbH for assistance.
- All components should be stored between -25°C and -15°C upon arrival.
- Repeated thawing and freezing of Master reagents (more than twice) should be avoided, as this might affect the performance of the assay. The reagents should be frozen in aliquots, if they are to be used intermittently.
- Storage between +2°C and +8°C should not exceed a period of two hours.
- Protect Master A and Master B from light.

4. Product Description

The RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 is a reagent system, based on real-time PCR technology, for the detection and differentiation of herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1), herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2) and varicella-zoster virus (VZV) specific DNA. The assay includes a heterologous amplification system (Internal Control) to identify possible PCR inhibition and to confirm the integrity of the reagents of the kit.

Real-time PCR technology utilizes polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for the amplification of specific target sequences and target specific probes for the detection of the amplified DNA. The probes are labelled with fluorescent reporter and quencher dyes.

Probes specific for HSV-1 DNA are labelled with the fluorophore ROX™, probes specific for HSV-2 DNA are labelled with a fluorophore showing similar characteristics to Cy®5 and probes specific for VZV DNA are labelled with the fluorophore FAM™. The probe specific for the Internal Control (IC) is labelled with the fluorophore JOE™.

Using probes linked to distinguishable dyes enables the parallel detection of HSV-1, HSV-2 and VZV specific DNA, as well as the detection of the Internal Control in corresponding detector channels of the real-time PCR instrument.

The test consists of two processes in a single tube assay:

- PCR amplification of target DNA and Internal Control
- Simultaneous detection of PCR amplicons by fluorescent dye labelled probes

The RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 consists of:

- Two Master reagents (Master A and Master B)
- Internal Control (IC)

- Three Positive Controls:
  - Positive Control HSV-1
  - Positive Control HSV-2
  - Positive Control VZV
- PCR grade water

Master A and Master B contain all components (PCR buffer, DNA polymerase, magnesium salt, primers and probes) to allow PCR mediated amplification and target detection of HSV-1 specific DNA, HSV-2 specific DNA, VZV specific DNA and Internal Control in one reaction setup.

4.1 Real-Time PCR Instruments

The RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 can be used with the following real-time PCR instruments:

- m2000rt (Abbott Diagnostics)
- Mx 3005P™ QPCR System (Stratagene)
- VERSANT® kPCR Molecular System AD (Siemens Healthcare)
- ABI Prism® 7500 SDS (Applied Biosystems)
- ABI Prism® 7500 Fast SDS (Applied Biosystems)
- Rotor-Gene® 6000 (Corbett Research)
- Rotor-Gene® Q5/6 plex Platform (QIAGEN)
- CFX96™ Real-Time PCR Detection System (Bio-Rad)
- CFX96™ Deep Well Real-Time PCR Detection System (Bio-Rad)

NOTE	
i	***Please ensure that all instruments used have been installed, calibrated, checked and maintained according to the manufacturer´s instructions and recommendations.***

5. Procedure

5.1 Sample Preparation

Extracted DNA is the starting material for the RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0.

The quality of the extracted DNA has a profound impact on the performance of the entire test system. It has to be ensured that the system used for nucleic acid extraction is compatible with real-time PCR technology. The following kits and systems are suitable for nucleic acid extraction:

- QIAamp® DNA Mini Kit (QIAGEN)
- QIAsymphony® (QIAGEN)
- NucliSENS® easyMag® (bioMérieux)
- MagNA Pure 96 System (Roche)
- m2000sp (Abbott)
- Maxwell® 16 IVD Instrument (Promega)
- VERSANT® kPCR Molecular System SP (Siemens Healthcare)

Alternative nucleic acid extraction systems and kits might also be appropriate.

If using a spin column based sample preparation procedure including washing buffers containing ethanol, it is highly recommended to perform an additional centrifugation step for 10 min at approximately 17000 x g (~ 13000 rpm), using a new collection tube, prior to the elution of the nucleic acid.

CAUTION	
	***If your sample preparation system is using washing buffers containing ethanol, make sure to eliminate any traces of ethanol prior to elution of the nucleic acid. Ethanol is a strong inhibitor of real-time PCR.***

CAUTION	
	***The use of carrier RNA is crucial for extraction efficiency and stability of the extracted nucleic acid.***

For additional information and technical support regarding pre-treatment and sample preparation please contact our Technical Support (see chapter 8. Technical Assistance).

5.2 Master Mix Setup

All reagents and samples should be thawed completely, mixed (by pipetting or gentle vortexing) and centrifuged briefly before use.

The RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 contains a heterologous Internal Control (IC), which can either be used as a PCR inhibition control or as a control of the sample preparation procedure (nucleic acid extraction) and as a PCR inhibition control.

► If the IC is used as a PCR inhibition control, but not as a control for the sample preparation procedure, set up the Master Mix according to the following pipetting scheme:

Number of Reactions (rxns)	1	12
Master A	5 µl	60 µl
Master B	15 µl	180 µl
Internal Control	1 µl	12 µl
Volume Master Mix	**21 µl**	**252 µl**

► If the IC is used as a control for the sample preparation procedure and as a PCR inhibition control, add the IC during the nucleic acid extraction procedure.

► No matter which method/system is used for nucleic acid extraction, the IC **must not** be added directly to the sample. The IC should always be added to

the sample/lysis buffer mixture. The volume of the IC which has to be added, always and only depends on the elution volume. It represents 10% of the elution volume. For instance, if the nucleic acid is going to be eluted in 60 µl of elution buffer or water, 6 µl of IC per sample must be added into the sample/lysis buffer mixture.

► If the IC was added during the sample preparation procedure, set up the Master Mix according to the following pipetting scheme:

Number of Reactions (rxns)	1	12
Master A	5 µl	60 µl
Master B	15 µl	180 µl
Volume Master Mix	**20 µl**	**240 µl**

CAUTION	
	***If the IC (Internal Control) was added during the sample preparation procedure, at least the negative control must include the IC.***
	***No matter which method/system is used for nucleic acid extraction, never add the IC directly to the sample.***

5.3 Reaction Setup

► Pipette 20 µl of the Master Mix into each required well of an appropriate optical 96-well reaction plate or an appropriate optical reaction tube.

► Add 10 µl of the sample (eluate from the nucleic acid extraction) or 10 µl of the control (Positive or Negative Control).

Reaction Setup	
Master Mix	20 µl
Sample or Control	10 µl
Total Volume	**30 µl**

► Make sure that each Positive Control and at least one Negative Control is used per run.

► Thoroughly mix the samples and controls with the Master Mix by pipetting up and down.

► Close the 96-well reaction plate with appropriate lids or optical adhesive film and the reaction tubes with appropriate lids.

► Centrifuge the 96-well reaction plate in a centrifuge with a microtiter plate rotor for 30 seconds at approximately 1000 x g (~ 3000 rpm).

6. Programming the Real-Time PCR Instrument

For basic information regarding the setup and programming of the different real-time PCR instruments, please refer to the user manual of the respective instrument. For detailed programming instructions regarding the use of the RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 on specific real-time PCR instruments please contact our Technical Support (see chapter 8. Technical Assistance).

6.1 Settings

► Define the following settings:

Settings	
Reaction Volume	30 µl
Ramp Rate	Default
Passive Reference	None

6.2 Fluorescence Detectors (Dyes)

► Define the fluorescence detectors (dyes):

Target	Detector Name	Reporter	Quencher
HSV-1 specific DNA	HSV-1	ROX™	(None)
HSV-2 specific DNA	HSV-2	Cy®5	(None)
VZV specific DNA	VZV	FAM™	(None)
Internal Control (IC)	IC	JOE™	(None)

6.3 Temperature Profile and Dye Acquisition

► Define the temperature profile and dye acquisition:

	Stage	Cycle Repeats	Acquisition	Temperature [°C]	Time [min:sec]
Denaturation	Hold	1	-	95	10:00
Amplification	Cycling	45	-	95	00:15
			yes	58	01:00

7. Data Analysis

For basic information regarding data analysis on specific real-time PCR instruments, please refer to the user manual of the respective instrument.

For detailed instructions regarding the analysis of the data generated with the RealStar® *alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 on different real-time PCR instruments please contact our Technical Support (see chapter 8. Technical Assistance).

Data analysis using the ABI Prism® 7500 SDS or 7500 Fast SDS (Applied Biosystems), the m2000rt (Abbott Diagnostics), the VERSANT® kPCR System (Siemens Healthcare) or the Mx3005P™ QPCR System (Stratagene):

Using one of these real-time PCR systems, there will be no crosstalk between the different detection channels, if a valid calibration of the pure dyes (Pure Spectra Component File) and the background (Background Component File) has been installed. Therefore, a **VZV** DNA specific signal will show up only in the FAM™ detection channel, a **HSV-1** DNA specific signal will show up only in the ROX™ detection channel, a **HSV-2** DNA specific signal will show up only in the Cy®5 detection channel and the Internal Control signals will show up only in the JOE™ detection channel (see Figure 1).

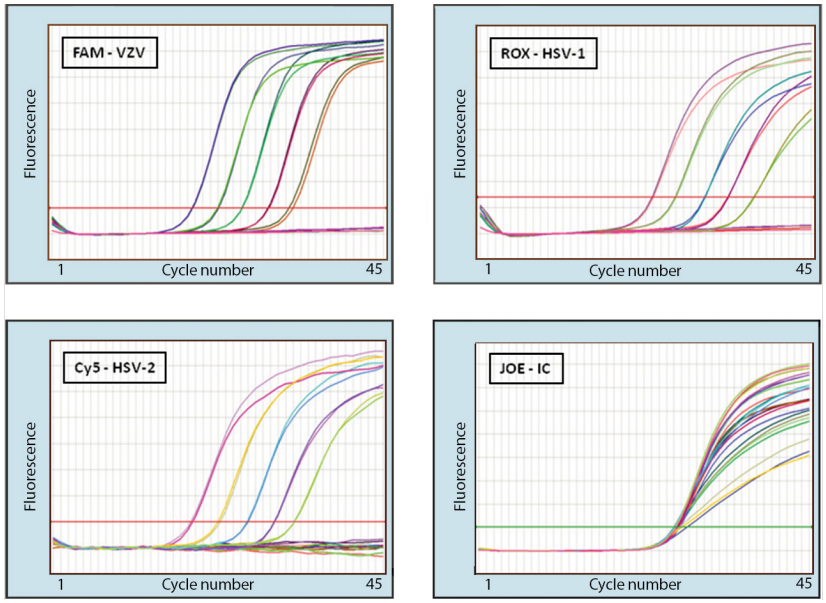

Figure 1: Dilution series of VZV, HSV-1, and HSV-2 specific DNA ranging from 1 copy/µl to 1.00E+04 copies/µl. The samples were analysed using the RealStar®*alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 on an ABI Prism® 7500 SDS (Applied Biosystems). VZVDNA positive samples generate signals in the FAM™ detection channel, HSV-1DNA positive samples generate signals in the ROX™ detection channel and HSV-2DNA positive samples generate signals in the Cy®5 detection channel. The Internal Control (IC) generates signals in the JOE™ detection channel.

Data analysis using either the Rotor-Gene® 6000 (Corbett Research) or the Rotor-Gene® Q 5/6 plex Platform (QIAGEN):

Using either the Rotor-Gene® 6000 (Corbett Research) or the Rotor-Gene® Q 5/6 plex Platform (QIAGEN) there might be a slight crosstalk between the Orange (ROX™) detection channel and the Red (Cy®5) detection channel. Therefore, a VZV DNA specific signal will show up only in the Green (FAM™) detection channel, a HSV-2 DNA specific signal will show up only in the Red (Cy®5) detection channel, and the Internal Control specific signals will show up only in the Yellow (JOE™) detection channel (see Figure 2). But a HSV-1 DNA specific signal might not only

show up in the Orange (ROX™) detection channel, but also produce a weaker crosstalk signal in the Red (Cy®5) detection channel. This crosstalk signal will always be weaker (lower fluorescence) than a signal produced by a HSV-2 DNA specific sample. Therefore, we highly recommend to analyse the samples in comparison with the VZV, HSV-1, and HSV-2 positive controls (see Figure 2). If you have any questions regarding the data analysis on a Rotor-Gene Instrument, please contact our Technical Support.

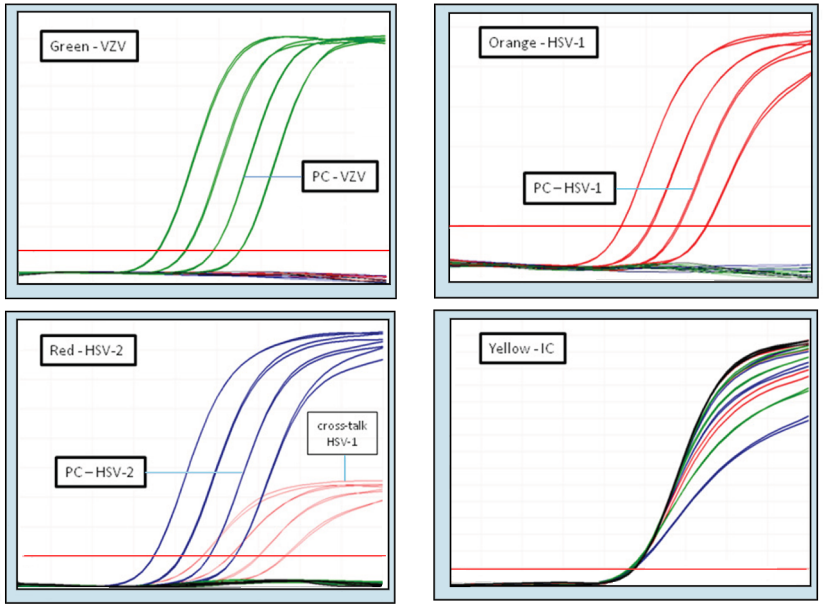

Figure 2: Dilution series of VZV, HSV-1, and HSV-2 specific DNA ranging from 10 copies/µl to 1.00E+04 copies/µl. The samples were analysed using the RealStar®*alpha* Herpesvirus PCR Kit 1.0 on a Rotor-Gene® 6000 Instrument (Corbett-Research). VZVDNA positive samples generate signals only in the Green (FAM™) detection channel, HSV-2DNA positive samples generate signals only in the Red (Cy®5) detection channel, and the Internal Control generates signals only in the Yellow (JOE™) detection channel. HSV-1DNA positive samples might generate signals not only in the Orange (ROX™) detection channel, but also weaker crosstalk signals in the Red (Cy®5) detection channel. This crosstalk signals will always be weaker (lower fluorescence) than a signal produced by a HSV-2DNA positive samples.

7.1 Interpretation of Results

7.1.1 Qualitative Analysis

Detection Channel				Result Interpretation
ROX™	Cy®5	FAM™	JOE™	
+	-[1]	-	+*	HSV-1 specific DNA detected.
-	+	-	+*	HSV-2 specific DNA detected.
-	-	+	+*	VZV specific DNA detected.
-	-	-	+	Neither HSV-1, nor HSV-2 nor VZV specific DNA detected. The sample does not contain detectable amounts of these specific DNAs.
-	-	-	-	PCR Inhibition or reagent failure. Repeat testing from original sample or collect and test a new sample.

* Detection of the Internal Control in the JOE™ detection channel is not required for positive results either in the ROX™ detection channel, Cy®5 detection channel or in the FAM™ detection channel. A high target DNA load in the sample can lead to reduced or absent Internal Control signal.

[1] Crosstalk signals can show up in the Red (Cy®5) detection channel, if using a Rotor-Gene® 6000 (Corbett Research) or a Rotor-Gene® Q5/6 plex Platform (QIAGEN).

8. Technical Assistance

For technical advice, please contact our Technical Support:

e-mail: **support@altona-diagnostics.com**
phone: **+49-(0)40-5480676-0**

9. Trademarks and Disclaimers

RealStar® (altona Diagnostics); ABI Prism® (Applied Biosystems); ATCC® (American Type Culture Collection); CFX96™ (Bio-Rad); Cy® (GE Healthcare); FAM™, JOE™, ROX™ (Life Technologies); LightCycler® (Roche); Maxwell® (Promega); Mx 3005P™ (Stratagene); NucliSENS®, easyMag® (bioMérieux); Rotor-Gene®, QIAamp®, QIAsymphony® (QIAGEN); VERSANT® (Siemens Healthcare).

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For research use only! Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

10. Explanation of Symbols

RUO	For research use only
LOT	Batch code
CAP	Cap color
REF	Product number
CONT	Content
NUM	Number
COMP	Component
	Version
	Consult instructions for use
	Contains sufficient for “n” tests/reactions (rxns)
	Temperature limit
	Use-by date
	Manufacturer
	Caution
	Note

Notes:

always a drop ahead.

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