

Product Information

MystiCq™ microRNA cDNA Synthesis Mix

Catalog Number **MIRRT**

Storage Temperature -20 °C

Product Description

The MystiCq microRNA cDNA Synthesis Mix has been designed to easily convert microRNAs into cDNA templates for qPCR starting from total RNA or RNA preparations pre-enriched for microRNAs. However, recent studies have shown that Total RNA preparations and pre-enrichment for microRNAs is no longer necessary.

MicroRNAs are not naturally polyadenylated. With the MystiCq microRNA cDNA Synthesis Kit, microRNAs are polyadenylated through a poly(A) polymerase reaction. Then, ReadyScript™ Reverse Transcriptase and other necessary reagents for cDNA synthesis are subsequently added to convert the poly(A) tailed microRNAs into cDNA using an oligo-dT adapter primer. The adapter primer incorporates a unique sequence at its 5' end which allows for amplification of cDNAs in real-time RT-qPCR reactions.

The kit includes a Human Positive Control Primer that can be used to quantify a target gene that is ubiquitously expressed in most human tissues, the small nucleolar RNA SNORD44. There is sufficient Poly(A) Tailing Buffer and microRNA cDNA Reaction Mix to accommodate the use of no poly(A) polymerase and no reverse transcriptase control reactions.

Individual microRNAs are quantified in real-time SYBR® Green RT-qPCR reactions with the specific MystiCq microRNA qPCR Assay Primer and the MystiCq Universal PCR Primer (which binds specifically to the unique sequence incorporated into the cDNA by the oligo-dT adapter primer during the RT reaction). The pre-designed and validated MystiCq microRNA Assays provide maximum sensitivity and specificity in RT-qPCR amplification and quantification of microRNAs.

Reagents Provided

Description	Catalog No.	25 RXN	100 RXN
Poly (A) Tailing Buffer (5X)	MIRRT01	60 µL	240 µL
Human Positive Control Primer	MIRRT02	25 µL	100 µL
Nuclease-free Water	MIRRT03	1500 µL	1500 µL
MystiCq Universal PCR Primer	MIRRT04	125 µL	500 µL
Poly (A) Polymerase	MIRRT05	25 µL	100 µL
MystiCq microRNA cDNA Reaction Mix	MIRRT06	270 µL	1080 µL
ReadyScript Reverse Transcriptase	MIRRT07	25 µL	100 µL

Reagents Required, but not Provided

Description	Catalog No.	Vendor
MystiCq Universal PCR Primer (as necessary)	MIRUP-500RXN	Sigma-Aldrich
MystiCq microRNA qPCR Assay Primer and/or Control primer	various	Sigma-Aldrich
MystiCq microRNA SYBR Green qPCR ReadyMix™	Instrument dependent	Sigma-Aldrich

Precautions and Disclaimer

This product is for R&D use only, not for drug, household, or other uses. Please consult the Material Safety Data Sheet for information regarding hazards and safe handling practices.

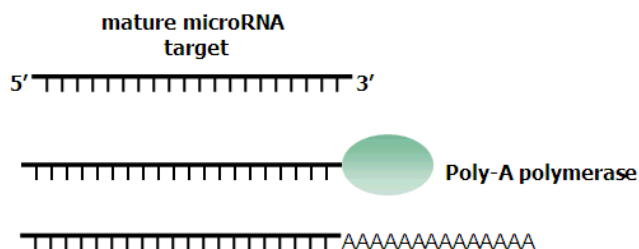
Storage/Stability

MystiCq microRNA cDNA Synthesis Mix is stable for 1 year when stored in a constant temperature freezer at -20 °C

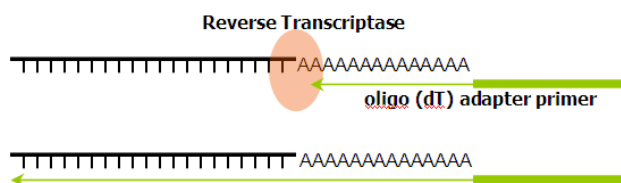
MicroRNA analysis using the MystiCq microRNA Quantification System.

With the MystiCq microRNA cDNA Synthesis Mix, microRNAs are first polyadenylated in a poly(A) polymerase reaction (**Step 1**). ReadyScript Reverse Transcriptase and other necessary reagents for cDNA synthesis are subsequently added to convert the poly(A) tailed microRNAs into first-strand cDNA using an oligo-dT adapter primer (**Step 2**). The unique sequence at the 5' end of the adapter primer allows amplification of microRNA cDNAs in real-time SYBR Green RT-qPCR reactions using the MystiCq microRNA qPCR Universal Primer and individual MystiCq microRNA assays (**Step 3**).

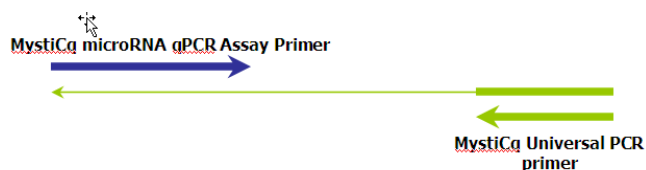
Step 1. Polyadenylation of microRNAs



Step 2. First-strand cDNA synthesis



Step 3. Real-Time SYBR Green RT-qPCR amplification of microRNAs



Procedure

Poly(A) Tailing Reaction

1. After thawing components (except enzyme), place components on ice. Mix, and then briefly centrifuge to collect contents at the bottom of the tube.
2. Combine the following reagents in 0.2-mL micro-tubes or a 96-well plate sitting on ice.

Reagent	Volume
Poly (A) Tailing Buffer (5X)	2 µL
RNA (up to 1 µg total RNA or microRNA-enriched RNA)	Up to 7 µL
Nuclease-free water	variable
Poly (A) Polymerase	1 µL
Total Volume	10 µL

3. After sealing each reaction, vortex gently to mix contents. Centrifuge briefly to collect the components at the bottom of the reaction tube.
4. Incubate:
60 minutes at 37 °C
5 minutes at 70 °C
5. Briefly centrifuge to collect the contents. Keep on ice before cDNA synthesis. If using 100 ng or less of total RNA, the incubation at 37 °C can be shortened to 20 minutes

First-strand cDNA Synthesis Reaction

Set up the cDNA Synthesis Reaction:

Reagent	Volume
Poly (A) Tailing Reaction (from final step above)	10 µL
MystiCq microRNA cDNA Reaction Mix	9.0 µL
ReadyScript Reverse Transcriptase	1.0 µL
Total Volume	20 µL

6. After sealing each reaction, vortex gently to mix contents. Centrifuge briefly to collect the components.
7. Incubate
20 minutes at 42 °C*
5 minutes at 85 °C

*The RT reaction can be run at 45 °C to reduce background without affecting the sensitivity.

The cDNA is ready for RT-qPCR. If needed, the microRNA cDNA product can be diluted with water or 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0), 0.1 mM EDTA (recommended for long-term storage). Diluted cDNA is stable for several months at 4 °C. The cDNA can be stored long term at -20 °C.

Procedure – Real Time SYBR Green RT-qPCR Amplification of MicroRNAs

Real-time SYBR Green RT-qPCR is performed using 200 nM of each MystiCq microRNA qPCR Assay Primer and MystiCq Universal PCR Primer along with the appropriate MystiCq microRNA SYBR Green qPCR ReadyMix product depending on the instrument platform being used. Please refer to the instrument reference table to select the proper formula for your instrument.

For each RT-qPCR reaction add the following components:

Reagent	Volume
MystiCq microRNA SYBR Green qPCR ReadyMix (2X)	25 µL
MystiCq microRNA qPCR Assay Primer (10 µM)	1.0 µL
MystiCq Universal PCR Primer (10 µM)	1.0 µL
microRNA cDNA (0.1 – 10 ng)	variable
Nuclease-free water	variable
Total Volume	50 µL

The amount of microRNA cDNA can be adjusted depending on the expression level of the microRNA. As a starting point use about 1 ng of total RNA equivalent per RT-qPCR reaction. For microRNAs expressed at low levels you may use 10 ng of total RNA equivalent per RT-qPCR reaction. For most applications 20 to 25 µL RT-qPCR reaction volumes are suitable but reaction volumes can be scaled up or down as needed.

2-Step Cycling Procedure (recommended)

Pre-incubation / activation 95 °C for 2 minutes
 PCR (40 cycles)
 Denature 95 °C for 5 seconds
 Anneal 60 °C for 30 seconds
 (collect fluorescence data)

3-Step Cycling Procedure (optional)

Pre-incubation / activation 95 °C for 2 minutes
 PCR (40 cycles)
 Denature 95 °C for 5 seconds
 Anneal 60 °C for 15 seconds
 Extend 70 °C for 15 seconds
 (collect fluorescence data)

Procedure – Real Time SYBR Green RT-qPCR Amplification of MicroRNAs (continued)

Use of a slightly higher annealing temperature (63 °C) in the 2-step Cycling Procedure may improve the specificity of some assays. Melt curve analysis is optional. Most microRNA RT-qPCR reactions will produce a single, slightly broader first-derivative melt peak compared to reactions using two gene-specific primers due to slight heterogeneity in the poly(A) tail length.

Quality Control

Kit components are free of contaminating DNase and RNase. ReadyScript Reverse Transcriptase is functionally tested in reverse transcription quantitative PCR (RT-qPCR). First-strand synthesis is performed in triplicate on each dilution of a log-fold serial dilution of HeLa cell total RNA from 1 pg to 1 µg. One-tenth of each first-strand reaction is used for qPCR amplification. Kinetic analysis must demonstrate linear resolution over five orders of dynamic range ($r^2 > 0.995$) and a PCR efficiency $> 90\%$.

Real-time PCR Instrument Name	MystiCq™ microRNA SYBR® Green qPCR ReadyMix™	MystiCq microRNA SYBR Green qPCR ReadyMix™ Low ROX™	MystiCq microRNA SYBR Green qPCR ReadyMix with ROX™	MystiCq microRNA SYBR Green qPCR ReadyMix iQ
	MIRRM00	MIRRM01	MIRRM02	MIRRM03
Applied Biosystems 5700			•	
Applied Biosystems 7000			•	
Applied Biosystems 7300			•	
Applied Biosystems 7500		•		
Applied Biosystems 7500 Fast		•		
Biosystems 7700Applied			•	
Applied Biosystems 7900			•	
Applied Biosystems 7900 HT Fast			•	
Applied Biosystems 7900HT			•	
Applied Biosystems StepOnePlus™			•	
Applied Biosystems StepOne™			•	
Applied Biosystems ViiA 7		•		
Bio-Rad CFX384™	•			
Bio-Rad CFX96™	•			
Bio-Rad iCycler iQ™				•
Bio-Rad iQ™5				•
Bio-Rad MiniOpticon™	•			
Bio-Rad MyiQ™				•
Bio-Rad/MJ Chromo4™	•			
Bio-Rad/MJ Opticon 2	•			
Bio-Rad/MJ Opticon®	•			
Cepheid SmartCycler®	•			
Eppendorf Mastercycler® ep realplex	•			
Eppendorf Mastercycler ep realplex2 S	•			
Illumina Eco qPCR	•			
Qiagen/Corbett Rotor-Gene® 3000	•			
Qiagen/Corbett Rotor-Gene 6000	•			
Qiagen/Corbett Rotor-Gene Q	•			
Roche LightCycler™ 480	•			
Stratagene Mx3000P®		•		
Stratagene Mx3005P™		•		
Stratagene Mx4000™		•		

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