

S. aureus PNA FISH®

Staphylococcus aureus Culture Identification Kit



IVD

REF KT001



Intended Use

S. aureus PNA FISH is a qualitative nucleic acid hybridization assay intended for identification of *Staphylococcus aureus* on smears made from positive blood cultures containing Gram-positive cocci in clusters observed on Gram stain.

Subculturing of positive blood cultures is necessary to recover organisms for susceptibility testing and/or differentiation of mixed growth.

S. aureus PNA FISH is intended as an aid in the diagnosis of *S. aureus* bacteremia.

IVD For *in vitro* diagnostic use.

Summary and Explanation

S. aureus is well recognized as a leading cause of both community and hospital-acquired bacteremias.

Identification of *S. aureus* species in blood cultures is routinely based on presumptive identification as Gram-positive cocci in clusters followed by final identification after subculture and biochemical analysis (1).

S. aureus PNA FISH is a fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) method using PNA probes hybridizing to unique *S. aureus*-specific ribosomal RNA sequences (2,3,6-7).

The test provides rapid identification of *S. aureus* on smears made from positive blood cultures leading to improved patient therapy and management (4,5).

Principle of the Procedure

A fluorescein-labeled, *S. aureus*-specific PNA probes is added to a smear prepared from a blood culture. Hybridization is performed at 55°C for 30 min. The hybridization is followed by a post-hybridization wash at 55°C for 30 min. with Wash Solution. Finally, the smear is mounted with Mounting Medium and examined by fluorescence microscopy.

Reagents

S. aureus PNA FISH is comprised of the following kit components:

Fixation Solution

Fixation Solution

3 mL phosphate-buffered saline with detergent.

S. aureus PNA

S. aureus PNA

1.5 mL PNA probes in hybridization solution. Contains 30% formamide.

60x Wash Solution

60x Wash Solution

50 mL Tris-buffered saline with detergent

Mounting Medium

Mounting Medium

3 mL photobleaching inhibitor in glycerol.

Precautions

IVD For *in vitro* diagnostic use.

For professional use only, by personnel trained in laboratory techniques and experienced in fluorescence microscopy.

Safety Precautions

The *S. aureus* PNA contains 30% formamide. May cause harm to the unborn child. Keep out of reach of children. Avoid exposure - obtain special instructions before use. Material Safety Data Sheet is available on request. Formamide is non-hazardous once diluted into Wash Solution during the wash step.

Establish precautions against microbiological hazards.

Do not eat, drink, smoke, apply cosmetics, store or prepare foods within the designated work area.

Dispose of reagents in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

Technical Precautions

Reagents must not be used after the expiration dates printed on the labels.

Reagents are provided at fixed concentrations. Assay performance may be affected if the reagents are modified in any way or are not stored under the recommended conditions as detailed in "Storage of Kit Components".

Avoid microbial contamination of reagents.

Avoid any cross-contamination of samples and reagents, as this may give rise to erroneous results.

Do not allow dropper bottle tip to touch the smear as this may cause cross contamination of material between slides, or cause contamination of the reagent.

Do not use filters other than the Dual Band Filter (AC003).

Do not use microscope slides other than the Microscope Slides (AC001).

It is important that the microscope is functioning properly. Make sure that the microscope bulb is correctly adjusted and has not aged beyond its specified lifetime.

Storage and Preparation of Kit Components

To ensure optimal kit performance, it is important that kit components are stored and prepared according to the following instructions:

Storage

Store kit components at 2-8°C. Place kit components at room temperature prior to use and return the kit components to 2-8°C after use.

Preparation of Wash Solution

Prepare working strength Wash Solution by adding 4 mL of 60x Wash Solution followed by 240 mL of fresh deionized or distilled water directly to the Staining Dish. Store remaining concentrate at 2-8°C.

Preparation of Mounting Medium

The Mounting Medium should be left at room temperature for at least 5 min. before use.

Specimen Collection and Preparation

Preparation of Smears

- Follow the blood culture system manufacturer's instruction to properly mix the blood culture bottle before smear preparation. Follow established laboratory procedures on subculturing of positive blood culture.
- Place one drop of Fixation Solution on a well on the microscope slide.
- Transfer 10 µL or a small drop from a ventilation needle of a blood culture to the Fixation Solution and mix gently to emulsify.
- Fix the smears by either heating them for 20 min. at 55-80°C or allow the smears to dry and fix them by methanol-fixation or by flame-fixation.

Test Procedure

Material Provided

S. aureus PNA FISH® KT001

Each kit contains sufficient material for 50 tests. Reagents are supplied ready for use except where indicated. The expiration date of the kit is as indicated on the outer box label.

Material Required and Available from AdvanDx

Microscope Slides	1-well microscope slides.	AC001
Coverslips	Coverslips, 22 x 22 mm, Thickness: 0.15 mm.	AC002
Dual Band Filter	Dual band filter.	AC003
Staining Dish	Staining dish with cover and slide holder.	AC004
PNA FISH Workstation	Slide warmer (55 ± 1°C).	AC005
Water Bath	Water Bath (55 ± 1°C).	AC006
<i>S. aureus</i> Control Slide	<i>S. aureus</i> Control Slide.	CS001

Positive Control well contains mixture of *S. aureus* ATCC#29213, and Negative Control well contains *S. epidermidis* ATCC#14990.

Material Required but Not Provided

- Water, deionized or distilled.
- Fluorescence microscope equipped with a 60x or 100x oil objective.
- Immersion oil. Must comply with the microscope objective and be non-fluorescent.

Assay Procedure

All steps are performed at room temperature unless otherwise stated.

Before starting the assay procedure, prepare working strength Wash Solution in the Staining Dish, add cover and start preheating in the water bath (55 ± 1°C). Do not reuse Wash Solution, but prepare fresh working strength Wash Solution for each run.

Hybridization

- Add one drop of *S. aureus* PNA to the well on the microscope slide with the smear.
- Add coverslip. Avoid air bubbles. Use a sterile loop to remove resin beads if needed.
- Incubate for 30 ± 5 min. at 55 ± 1°C.

Stringent Wash

- Immerse slide in preheated Wash Solution at 55°C and carefully remove the coverslip. Often, the coverslip slides off by gently agitating the slide in the Wash Solution. Occasionally, the coverslip must be pushed off with forceps.
- Incubate for 30 ± 5 min. at 55 ± 1°C.
- Allow the slide to air dry

Mounting

- Add one drop of Mounting Medium to the smear.
- Add coverslip. Avoid air bubbles.
- Examine slide as described below within 2 hours.
- Do not expose the slides to direct sun light or other strong light sources as this may lead to fluorescence quenching.

Quality Control

Control material should be tested in accordance with guidelines or requirements of local, state, and/or federal regulations or accrediting organizations, including controls grown in liquid media.

Quality control for fluorescent testing should be done each time testing is performed. The QC results should be able to monitor for appropriate testing conditions, particularly those affecting hybridization stringency and cell wall penetration, since PNA methodology is designed to optimize cell wall penetration.

Use *S. aureus* Control Slide (CS001) or prepare smears from liquid cultures of laboratory or reference strains of *S. aureus* as a Positive Controls and *S. epidermidis* as a Negative Control as described above under Specimen Collection and Preparation. The smears may be stored for up to 1 month at room temperature.

S. aureus must test positive, and *S. epidermidis* must test negative in accordance with the Interpretation of Results below.

Procedural Notes

Preparation of Smears:

It is recommended to use the same type of fixation (heat, methanol or flame fixation) that is used for Gram-staining. To reduce the reporting time, smears for PNA FISH may be prepared in parallel with smears for Gram-staining.

Note: Fixation Solution is designed for optimal performance in the identification of Gram-positive bacteria and Yeast and must not be interchanged with GN Fixation Solution from other PNA FISH tests for Gram-negative bacteria.

Temperature Control:

It is important that the temperature of the PNA FISH Workstation has reached 55°C prior to starting the hybridization and that Water Bath Solution has reached 55°C prior to immersion of the slides. The temperature of the Water Bath should be checked using a thermometer as outside temperature readings may not always be accurate.

Parallel Testing Using Different PNA FISH Tests:

The PNA FISH kits are designed for parallel testing. Fixation Solution, 60x Wash Solution and Mounting Medium are identical and may be interchanged between different tests.

Major Blood Culture Systems and Bottle Type Compatibility:

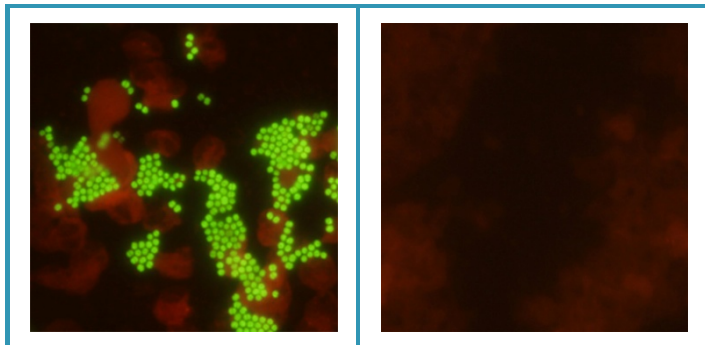
The PNA FISH platform is compatible with the commercially available continuously monitoring blood culture systems and bottle types, including

those which are supplemented with charcoal, resins and/or sodium polyanetholesulfonate.

Pediatric bottles have not been evaluated; therefore, the performance of this assay with pediatric bottles is unknown.

Interpretation of Results

Examine slides using a fluorescence microscope. The smear appears in general reddish. *S. aureus* is identified as multiple bright green fluorescent clusters of cocci in multiple fields of view whereas non-*S. aureus* appears non-fluorescent. Definitive identification is pending subculture and additional microbiological evaluation.



Representative examples of green-positive *S. aureus* (left) and negative (right) test results.

Troubleshooting

False positive Control and Sample test results may occur if the Dual Band Filter (AC003) is not used, or by contamination of the specimens.

False negative Control or Sample test results may occur if AdvanDx Microscope Slides (AC001) are not used or if the temperature is not accurately controlled during hybridization and washing.

Please refer to the Precautions and Limitations sections in this product insert or contact AdvanDx.

Limitations

False-positive results with *S. schleiferi* may occur due to a single base mismatch (6).

Other non-*S. aureus* species, including *Stomatococcus* species, may potentially cause false positive results.

In the event of co-infection, the accuracy of the *S. aureus* PNA FISH for detecting *S. aureus* at the LoD (10^5 CFU/mL) concentration in the presence of coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus* at the concentration higher than ($>$) 10^7 CFU/mL has not been established and therefore unknown.

Insufficient pediatric bottles have been tested in clinical studies, therefore, the performance of this assay with pediatric bottles is unknown.

False positive green autofluorescence may occur if a standard FITC filter is used instead of the Dual Band Filter.

False negative results may infrequently occur due to mixed growth or due to error in assay technique.

The type and condition of the instrumentation used will influence the visual appearance of the image obtained. The fluorescence may vary due to the type of microscope employed, the light source and the level of rRNA in the cells. Each laboratory should establish its own criteria for reading the results using appropriate controls.

Isolation on solid media is needed to differentiate mixed growth with other organisms.

The product has not been validated with specimens other than blood cultures.

Expected Results

The expected *S. aureus* positive result rate from GPCC positive blood culture bottles is 30%-43% depending on institutional and patient population (2,4,6-8).

Performance Characteristics

Clinical Studies

The performance of *S. aureus* PNA FISH has been assessed in three clinical laboratory studies. A total of 208 routine GPCC positive blood culture bottles were included in the studies, which showed 100% (208/208) agreement between *S. aureus* PNA FISH and conventional methods; and 98.4% agreement between the shortened and the original *S. aureus* PNA FISH procedure. These studies included three commercially available, continuously monitoring blood culture systems (BacT/ALERT, bioMérieux, NC, BACTEC, Becton Dickinson, MD and VersaTREK, Magellan Biosciences, OH).

Performance Data for *S. aureus* PNA FISH (Shortened) vs. Conventional Methods

Study	Sensitivity	Specificity	Blood Culture System
A	100% (15/15)	100% (35/35)	BacT/ALERT
	95% CI (81.9-100)	95% CI (91.8-100)	
B	100% (32/32)	100% (71/71)	VersaTREK
	95% CI (84.2-99.9)	95% CI (95.8-100)	
C	100% (13/13)	100% (42/42)	BACTEC
	95% CI (79.4-100)	95% CI (93.1-100)	
Total	100% (60/60)	100% (148/148)	
	95% CI (95.1-100)	95% CI (98-100)	

Performance Data for *S. aureus* PNA FISH (Shortened) vs. *S. aureus* PNA FISH (Original)

Study	Positive Agreement	Negative Agreement	Blood Culture System
A	100% (15/15)	100% (35/35)	BacT/ALERT
	95% CI (81.9-100)	95% CI (91.8-100)	
B	96.9% (32/33)	100% (70/70)	VersaTREK
	95% CI (84.2-99.9)	95% CI (95.8-100)	
C	100% (13/13)	100% (42/42)	BACTEC
	95% CI (79.4-100)	95% CI (93.1-100)	
Total	98.4% (60/61)	100% (148/148)	
	95% CI (91.2-100)	95% CI (98.0-100)	

Analytical Sensitivity

The detection limit for *S. aureus* was determined to be approximately 10^5 colony-forming units per mL by serial dilutions of positive cultures. This is

consistent with the analytical sensitivity of slide-based staining techniques.

Analytical Specificity

S. aureus PNA FISH has been collectively tested on 148 laboratory and reference strains comprising 46 *S. aureus* strains and an additional 66 Gram-positive organisms, 32 Gram-negative organisms and 5 yeast strains which included phylogenetically related bacteria species and a variety of clinically significant species. All (46/46) *S. aureus* were green positive, 2/2 *S. schleiferi* showed weak positive results and all other (100/100) strains were negative.

Reproducibility

A reproducibility study was performed on 10 isolates in triplicate on three separate days at three separate sites. The following tables present the results of the reproducibility study; by site across three days of testing and by day across the three sites, respectively.

Summary of Reproducibility Results by Site Across 3 Days

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
Positive Agreement	36/36	36/36	36/36
Negative Agreement	54/54	54/54	54/54
Total Agreement	100% (90/90)	100% (90/90)	100% (90/90)

Summary of Reproducibility Results by Day Across 3 Sites

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Positive Agreement	36/36	36/36	36/36
Negative Agreement	54/54	54/54	54/54
Total Agreement	100% (90/90)	100% (90/90)	100% (90/90)









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Definitions

	Product code/catalog number
	Consult the instructions for use
	Contains sufficient for <n> tests
	Manufacturer
	Authorized representative
	Use by
	Batch code
	Storage temperature limitations

Technical Advice and Customer Service

For all inquiries, please contact AdvanDx or your local distributor.



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The product must not be used for Slide-Based human Cytochemistry, ISH-based Cancer Cytogenetics and Flow Cytometry.

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Purchase of this kit licenses its use under Patent numbers: US 5,985,563; US 5,888,733; US 6,664,045; US 6,395,474; US 6,357,163; US 5,539,082; US 7,223,833; EP 862,650; EP 804,456