

Evaluation of the mycoplasma detection capability of Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma for qPCR

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1. Introduction

Mycoplasma are known as important contaminants of biological products derived from cell lines in the Biopharmaceutical Industry affecting every parameter of a cell culture system. Contaminated cultures can result in production loss and unsafe products. Mycoplasma are the smallest of the self-propagating organisms. Unlike viruses, mycoplasma can reproduce outside of living cells. Many species within the genera *Mycoplasma*, *Acholeplasma* and *Spiroplasma* thrive as parasites in humans, birds, plants and animal hosts. Some species can cause disease in humans. Such contaminations can arise from the contamination of the source cell lines themselves (cell substrates) or from adventitious introduction of mycoplasma particles during production. Based on this contamination risk guidelines and technical papers are published to give guidance on mycoplasma safety for the manufacturing of biological products as for instance the *European Pharmacopoeia*, chapter 2.6.7., "Mycoplasmas".

The detection kit Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma was designed especially for the detection of *Mollicutes* (*Mycoplasma*, *Acholeplasma*, *Spiroplasma*) contamination in ATMPs and cell cultures by using the cells itself, cell culture supernatant or a defined mixture. Special features are a handsome sample preparation procedure, an acceptable sample volume in respect of the expensive, unique and limited sample as well as short time-to-result.

The kit utilizes the polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which was established as the method of choice for high sensitivity. The kit includes a Primer/Probe/Nucleotide mix containing a FAM[™] labelled probe specific for a broad range of different mycoplasma species. False negative results due to PCR inhibitors or improper DNA extraction are detected by the internal amplification control. The Internal Control DNA can be added to the sample prior to DNA extraction and analysis for verification of the complete process (DNA extraction and PCR reaction). The Internal Control DNA can also be added directly to the PCR master mix to act as a PCR control only. The amplification of the control reaction is detected at 610 nm (ROX[™] channel) and the pathogen-specific sequence at 520 nm (FAM[™] channel). The kit contains dUTP instead of dTTP, so the option is available to degrade amplicons from previous analysis by use of uracil-DNA glycosylase (UNG). Thus the occurrence of false-positive results can be minimized.



2. Objective

This non-GLP/GMP study is designed to evaluate the mycoplasma detection capability for the Mycoplasma Detection Kit Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma for qPCR. Mycoplasmas and the protocol for validation are described in section 2.6.7 of the *European Pharmacopoeia*. This chapter includes guidelines and specifications for relevant parameters like specificity, detection limit and robustness in comparison to the traditional culture method. As for detection a nucleic acid amplification technique (NAT, PCR) is used, section 2.6.21 of the EP will also be considered. Validation should be conducted in accordance with ICH guideline Q2B. As the method employed is used for the purpose of obtaining a qualitative result only (positive/negative), it is not necessary to demonstrate compliance with all individual requirements of ICH Q2B. This opinion is based on the requirements of the European Pharmacopoeia 2.6.21. The validation plan does consider the core requirements of validation in accordance with ICH Q2B in the context of their applicability to the qualitative nature of the test employed.



3. Definitions and Abbreviations

advanced therapy medical products
Dulbecco´s modified Eagles medium
desoxyribonucleic acid
Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH
European Collection of Cell Cultures
European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare
European Pharmacopoeia
fetal bovine serum
g-force (unit for measurement of rotation speed of centrifugation)
good laboratory practice
good manufacturing practice
internal amplification control
International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for
Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use
meter
not applicable
not valid
National Collection of Type Cultures
nanometer
no-template control
optical density (at a wavelength of 260 nm)
positive control
quantitative polymerase chain reaction, "real-time" PCR
colony-forming units per milliliter
potentia hydrogenii
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
second
Thermus aquaticus
tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane



4. Responsibilities

The product development manager was responsible for drafting the test protocol in association with the management. Quality management was responsible for reviewing the test protocol to ensure its accuracy, completeness and validity.

Test initiation was initiated once all personal in charge had approved the protocol by signing and filing the protocol cover page and after production or receipt of the necessary material for testing.

Minerva Biolabs technicians executed the test protocol. The quality manager was responsible for the execution of the protocol.

The product development manager drafted the report and quality management reviewed and approved its validity. The report was closed by signing of the report cover page.

No deviations, including test failures or other unforeseen circumstances occurred during the execution of the test protocol. No further actions were required.



5. Test Material

The testing was conducted using the following test system, product solutions and material. Corresponding lot numbers were filed on the result reports.

5.1 Test System

The test system used for the detection of mycoplasma during this study was as follows:

Table 1. Test System Information

System type	Supplied by	Catalogue No.	Storage Conditions
Microsart [®] ATMP Mycoplasma	Sartorius Stedim Biotech	SMB951-3xxx	+2 - 8 °C

5.2 Sample Matrix

As sample matrix defined cell culture medium components (Table 2) were used for specificity testing. For robustness testing this medium containing approximately 1×10^6 Vero-B4 cells/ml. The cell suspension was heat-treated for 20 min at 95 °C in portions of 13 ml to inactivate all containing DNases. The heat-treated suspension was stored below – 18 °C and intensively vortexed after thawing for immediate use.

Table 2.Matrix Formulation

Product Ingredient	Manufacturer/Source	Catalogue No.	Storage Conditions
Vero-B4	DSMZ	33	liquid nitrogen
DMEM medium	Biochrom AG	FG 0415	+2−8 °C
Foetal bovine serum	Biochrom AG	S0615	< -20 °C

5.3 Microorganisms and Eukaryotic Material

Microorganisms and eukaryotic material used for spiking or specificity testing during the study are described in the following tables:



Table 3.Mollicutes Description

Species	Family	Natural Host	Origin	No.	Quantification
EP 2.6.7. listed m	EP 2.6.7. listed mycoplasma species used for spiking				
Acholeplasma laidlawii	Acholeplasmataceae	ubiquitous		10116	
Mycoplasma fermentans		human		10117	
Mycoplasma hyorhinis		mammal		10130	
Mycoplasma orale	Mycoplasmataceae	human		10112	
Mycoplasma pneumoniae		human	NCTC	10119	See chapter 5.4
Mycoplasma gallisepticum		bird		10115	
Mycoplasma synoviae		mammal		10124	
Mycoplasma arginini		mammal		10129	
Spiroplasma citri		plant		10164	

Table 4. Description of non-Mollicutes Bacterial Strains and Eukaryotic Materials

Species	Family	Natural Host	Origin	No.	Quantification
DNA from bacteria	DNA from bacteria species used for specificity testing				
Clostridium	Clostridiaceae	ubiquitous		51-0792	
acetobutylicum					
Lactobacillus acidophilus	Lactobacillaceae	human	Minerva Biolabs	51-1723	OD ₂₆₀
Streptococcus pneumoniae	Streptococcaceae	human		51-0566	
DNA from cell cul	DNA from cell cultures and tissues used for specificity testing				
Species	Family	Natural Host	Origin	No.	Quantification
Vero-B4	kidney	African green monkey	DSMZ	ACC 33	
Per.C6	human embryonic retinoplasts	human	Cruecell	B127-006	
RK13	kidney	rabbit	ECACC	21715	OD ₂₆₀
CHO-K1	ovary	hamster	DSMZ	ACC 110	
Murine Genomic DNA	blood	mouse	Bioline	Bio-35027	
Calf Thymus DNA	thymus	bovine	Invitrogen	15633019	

5.4 Mycoplasma Harvest

All mycoplasma listed in Table 3 were cultivated in 50 ml broth according to EP 2.6.7 in either Frey or Hayflick medium to mid log phase. The growth kinetic of the organisms under specific culture conditions was determined in former experiments to identify the best time point for harvesting.



The culture broth was divided into two portions: One portion was used for quantification of the mycoplasma. The broth was vortexed and treated for 5 min with ultrasonic to break up mycoplasma clusters prior titration. An aliquot remained untreated for vitality control. Two tenfold dilution series were prepared in culture broth. Of each dilution step two agar plates were inoculated with 20 μ l each, incubated at 37 °C (30 °C for *Spiroplasma citri*) and checked frequently for colony formation by microscope. Frequent counting was stopped at constant colony numbers and titre calculated as CFU/ml culture broth. The preparation was valid if the CFU value for the untreated sample was below or equal to the CFU value of the treated sample. The second portion of the culture broth was filled in 1.5 ml reaction tubes at a volume of 500 μ l/tube. All tubes were stored at -80 °C until use.

Table 5. Mycoplasma Cultivation Media

Medium	Manufacturer	Catalog no.
Frey liquid medium	Heipha Dr. Müller GmbH	397100
Frey agar	Heipha Dr. Müller GmbH	097e
Hayflick liquid medium	Heipha Dr. Müller GmbH	393100
Hayflick agar	Heipha Dr. Müller GmbH	093e

As the titration of the mycoplasma spike was of severe relevance for the subsequent spiking experiments the following materials was tested in parallel as orthogonal materials to confirm the determined titres of the mycoplasma harvest:

The targeted spike level for the study was $\ge 1 \times 10^6$ CFU per ml sample matrix as a starting material for dilution series.

Table 6.	EDQM	Reference	Standards
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Article no.	Article name	Estimated titre
Y0000692	Mycoplasma fermentans BRP, batch 1	9.55x10 ⁷ CFU/ml with a range from 1.58x10 ⁷ to 5.75x10 ⁸ CFU/ml
Y0000691	Mycoplasma orale BRP, batch 1	$4.90x10^5$ CFU/ml with a range from 9.33x10 ⁴ to 2.57x10 ⁶ CFU/ml
Y0000689	Mycoplasma synoviae BRP, batch 1	1.86x10 ⁷ CFU/ml with a range from 5.89x10 ⁶ to 5.8x10 ⁷ CFU/ml
Y0000690	Mycoplasma hyorhinis BRP, batch 1	1.17×10^8 CFU/ml with a range from 6.76×10^7 to 2.34×10^8 CFU/ml



5.5 Equipment

The following lab equipment was used at the test laboratory:

Table 7. Lab Equipment

Equipment	Equipment-ID	Manufacturer	Brand
qPCR cycler	R 04 0843, ES72	Corbett Research	RotorGene 6000
qPCR cycler	275001289, ES12	Applied BioSystems	ABI Prism 7500
qPCR cycler	Model 401513; Serial No DE00700786 ES 82 and ES129	Agilent Technologies	Mx3005P
qPCR cycler	Serial No. 1402717, ES11	Roche Diagnostics	LightCycler (LC) 1.3
qPCR cycler	R 04 0843, ES72	Corbett Research	RotorGene 6000
Pipetting robot	2010002.000.056 ES120, 2010154.002.039 ES127	Analytik Jena	FasTrans
Pipettes for Master Mix			
setup		Deinin	1.10
$10.5 \cdot 10 \mu$	210267 FS60	Fonendorf	L-10 Reference
100–1000 µl	315688, ES61	Eppendorf	Reference
Pipettes for DNA/sample handling 10-100µl	207047,ES52	Eppendorf	Reference
PCR Hood	H02PC1N9861_ES29	Bioair	Aura PCR
Vortex	020314607, ES43	VWR	N/A
Centrifuge	5452YI748008, ES79	Eppendorf	MiniSpin

The following consumables were used at the test laboratory:

Table 8. Reagents, Materials and Critical Lab Ware

Article no.	Article name	Manufacturer / Supplier
72.690.001/	Micro tubes 1 5 ml/0 5 ml	Sarstadt
72.699.001		Salsteut
710970	PCR tubes	Biozym
04929292001	LC capillaries, 25 μ l	Roche Diagnostics
56-1100	Microsart AMP Extraction	Sartorius Lab Products and Services
S1120-3810	0.1-10 μ l filter tips ep type	
S1120-1840	10-100 μ l bevelled filter tips	Starlab
S1126-7810	101-1000 μ l filter tips	



6. Test Procedure

Based on the results of different proficiency tests (data available from Minerva Biolabs on request) DNA extraction prior testing is strictly required for highest confidence and sensitivity. The design and performance of pre-analytical procedures are part of this study in respect of the intended use but cannot reflect the diversity of the sample material in total. The performance of the kit within the entire analytical process has to be demonstrated by the user. The templates for the PCR analysis are prepared by direct extracting the sample and subsequent PCR analysis.

6.1 DNA Extraction

The Microsart AMP Extraction kit purifies genomic DNA from different sample matrices including cell culture samples. Mycoplasma are lysed by a combination of a detergent and chaotropic salt. The lysate is directly applied onto the spin columns. The DNA is selectively bound to the highly specified silica membrane. Two subsequent washes remove residual contaminants, like proteins, metabolites, dyes, detergent etc. The purified DNA is eluted in Tris buffer. The DNA is ready-to-use.

The Internal Control DNA of Microsart [®] ATMP Mycoplasma can be used to monitor the extraction process. 2μ I of the Internal Control DNA are added directly to the sample volume per 10μ I DNA extract. The sample is vortexed briefly prior extraction. No additional Internal Control DNA is used in the reaction mix for these samples.

The isolation of DNA will be carried out according to the update version of the instruction manual. In detail:

Transfer 200 μ l of sample material into a fresh 1.5 ml reaction tube.

Add 200 μ l Conditioner, vortex for at least 10 sec.

Add 200 μ l of absolute ethanol to the mixture. Vortex immediately and very thoroughly in order to prevent any precipitation of nucleic acids.

Take one spin column per sample from the kit and insert it into a collection tube. Mark the sample identification on the lid of the spin column. Fill the sample lysate into the spin column without moistening the rim of the spin column.

Centrifuge the system for 1 min at $10.600 \times g$ (approx. 10,000 rpm with a bench top centrifuge). Discard the flow through from the collection tube and reassemble the spin column and the collection tube.

Add 500 μ l of Buffer A1. Centrifuge the system for 1 min at 10,600 x g (approx. 10,000 rpm with a bench top centrifuge), discard the flow through and re-assemble the spin column.

Fill the spin column with 500 μ l Buffer A2. Centrifuge the system for 1 min at 10.600 rpm (10,000 x g), take the spin column out of the collection tube, dump the containing Buffer A2, discard the flow through and re-assemble the spin column.

Centrifuge for 1 min at full speed (approx. 13.200 rpm) in order to remove the remaining Buffer A2.



Discard the collection tube containing the Buffer A2 and place the spin column into a sample storage tube.

Pipette 60 μ l of pre-heated Buffer E (70 °C) into the spin column directly onto the center of the silica membrane. The complete membrane should get in touch with the Buffer E. Secure the sample storage tube and incubate for 2 min at room temperature.

Following the incubation, centrifuge the system for 2 min at 10,600 rpm ($10,000 \times g$).

Remove the spin column and use the eluate directly for the PCR procedure.

6.2 Analytical procedures

The detection of mycoplasma DNA will be carried out according to the update version of the instruction manual. In detail:

Rehydration of the Reagents:

- 1. Centrifuge tubes with lyophilized components (5 sec at maximum speed)
- 2. Add 390 μ I of Rehydration Buffer to the Mycoplasma Mix
- 3. Add appropriate amount of deionized DNA-free water Positive Control DNA 300μ I
 - Internal Control DNA 800 μ l
- 3. Incubate for 5 minutes at room temperature
- 4. Vortex and centrifuge again

PCR Master Mix Setup:

Total volume per reaction is 25 μ l including 10 μ l of sample. When setting up reactions, calculations include positive (PC) and negative controls (NTC). Pipet master mix on ice into a 1.5 ml reaction tube and mix gently.

Pipetting scheme:

	for 1 reaction	for 25 reactions
Mycoplasma Mix	15 μΙ	375.0 μΙ
Internal Control DNA	1.0 μΙ	25.0 μΙ

The reagents are mixed by carefully snipping the tube and 15 μ l are added to each PCR tube. The remaining liquid is discarded.

If the Internal Control DNA was added to the sample prior to DNA extraction 15 μ I of the Mycoplasma Mix (red cap) are added directly to each PCR tube.

After pipetting the negative control (10 μ l of water or elution buffer of DNA extraction kit), the tube must be sealed before proceeding with the samples. Add 10 μ l of sample to each PCR reaction tube. Seal the tubes completely before proceeding with the positive control (10 μ l) in order to avoid cross contamination.



Programming the qPCR cycler Rotorgene 6000 (5-plex):

Program Step 1: Pre-incubation

Hold
95°C
3 min 0 sec

Program Step 2: Amplification

Setting	Cycling
Cycles	45
Denaturation	95 °C for 30 sec
Annealing	55 °C for 30 sec
Detection/ Elongation	60 °C for 45 sec
Gain setting	automatic (auto gain)
Slope Correct	activated
Ignore First	deactivated

Programming the qPCR cycler ABI Prism[®] 7500:

Program Step 1: Pre-incubation

Setting	Hold
Hold Temperature	95°C
Hold Time	3 min 0 sec

Program Step 2: Amplification

Cycling
45
95 °C for 30 sec
55 °C for 30 sec
60 $^\circ \text{C}$ for 45 sec

Programming the qPCR cycler Mx3005P®:

Segment 1 (Pre-Melt)	95°C. 3 min 0 sec
Segment 2	95 °C for 30 sec
	55 °C for 30 sec
	60 °C for 45 sec. data collection
Cycles	45
Analysis mode:	non adaptive baseline (baseline correction)

Programming the qPCR cycler LightCycler 1.3:

Program 1:	Pre-incubation
Cycles	1
Analysis Mode	None
Temperature Targets	Segment 1
Target Temperature [°C]	95
Incubation time [min]	180
Temperature Transition Rate [°C/s]	20.0
Secondary Target Temperature [°C]	0
Step Size [°C]	0.0
Step Delay [Cycles]	0
Acquisition Mode	None

Program 2:	Amplification		
Cycles	45		
Analysis Mode	Quantification		
Temperature Targets	Segment 1	Segment 2	Segment 3
Target Temperature [°C]	95	55	60
Incubation time [s]	10	30	45
Temperature Transition Rate [°C/s]	20.0	20.0	20.0
Secondary Target Temperature [°C]	0	0	0
Step Size [°C]	0	0	0
Step Delay [Cycles]	0	0	0
Acquisition Mode	None	None	Single
	- ···		
Program 3:	Cooling		
Program 3: Cycles	Cooling 1		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode	Cooling 1 None		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode Temperature Targets	Cooling 1 None Segment 1		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode Temperature Targets Target Temperature [°C]	Cooling 1 None Segment 1 40		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode Temperature Targets Target Temperature [°C] Incubation time [s]	Cooling 1 None Segment 1 40 60		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode Temperature Targets Target Temperature [°C] Incubation time [s] Temperature Transition Rate [°C/s]	Cooling 1 None Segment 1 40 60 20.0		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode Temperature Targets Target Temperature [°C] Incubation time [s] Temperature Transition Rate [°C/s] Secondary Target Temperature [°C]	Cooling 1 None Segment 1 40 60 20.0 0		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode Temperature Targets Target Temperature [°C] Incubation time [s] Temperature Transition Rate [°C/s] Secondary Target Temperature [°C] Step Size [°C]	Cooling 1 None Segment 1 40 60 20.0 0 0		
Program 3: Cycles Analysis Mode Temperature Targets Target Temperature [°C] Incubation time [s] Temperature Transition Rate [°C/s] Secondary Target Temperature [°C] Step Size [°C] Step Delay [Cycles]	Cooling 1 None Segment 1 40 60 20.0 0 0 0		

Result Interpretation:

The presence of mycoplasma in the sample is indicated by an increasing fluorescence signal in the mycoplasma FAM[™] channel during PCR.

A successfully performed PCR without inhibition is indicated by an increasing fluorescence signal in the internal control channel, provided the Internal Control DNA was added to the master mix. Mycoplasma DNA and Internal Control DNA are competitors in PCR. Because of the very low concentration of internal control in the PCR mix, the signal strength in this channel is reduced with increasing mycoplasma DNA loads in the sample.

Table 9. Result interpretation

Detection of Mollicutes	Internal Control	Interpretation
FAM ¹ ^m channel	ROX ¹ ^m channel	
positive (Ct < 40)	irrelevant	Mollicutes positive
negative (no Ct)	negative (no Ct)	PCR inhibition
negative (no Ct)	positive (Ct $<$ 40)	Mollicutes negative
borderline (Ct $>$ 40)	positive (Ct $<$ 40)	Result not valid. repeat process
		including DNA extraction
borderline (Ct $>$ 40)	negative (no Ct)	PCR inhibition



6.3 System Suitability Test Criteria

Internal control must show Ct-values in the range of +/-2 cycles of the no-template control (master mix control) if used as PCR control. If the internal control is used as process control it must show Ct-values in the range of +/-3 cycles of the no-template control (master mix control). To exclude contaminations the extraction control and the master mix control must be negative. The PCR positive control must show Ct-values of > 23 cycles.

6.4 **Reporting Requirements**

The reports generated by the qPCR machine will be printed in color. All run information will be printed, including protocol, sample identification, internal amplification control curves (ROX[™] channel) and target curves (FAM[™] channel) and filed according to the chapter structure of this validation plan. Sample identification should contain information on the species, the contained concentration in CFU/mI or alternatively the type of control (PC for positive control, NTC for no-template control).

6.5 Calculations

N/A

6.6 **Overview of experimental settings**

Specificity				
Day 1	2 matrices + IC		PCR NTC:	PCR PC:
			10 μ l Elution Buffer	10 μ l of Positive
				Control DNA
	4x each		2x	2x
	Extract DNA and perform PCR with 10 μ I DNA		Perform PCR in a final volume of 25 μ l +IC	
	extract in a final volume of 25 μ l w/o IC			
Day 2	Test of Mollicutes	Test of DNA from	PCR NTC:	PCR PC:
	DNA:	microorganisms and	10 μ l Tris Buffer	10 μ l of Positive
	10 μΙ DNA	cells:		Control DNA
	10 <i>µ</i> I DNA			
	6x each	3x each	2x	2x
	Perform PCR in a final v	olume of 25 μ l +IC		



Detection	Detection limit						
Day 3	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml	1x extraction NTC with			
	Acholeplasma laidlawii	Acholeplasma laidlawii	Acholeplasma laidlawii	DMEM + 5 % FCS			
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples				
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	<i>fermentans</i> →Split	DMEM + 5 % FCS			
	<i>fermentans</i> →Split	fermentans \rightarrow Split	into 8 samples				
	into 8 samples	into 8 samples					
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC			
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.					
Day 4	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml	1x extraction NTC with			
	Acholeplasma laidlawii	Acholeplasma laidlawii	Acholeplasma laidlawii	DMEM + 5 % FCS			
	→Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples				
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with			
Mycoplasma		Mycoplasma	<i>fermentans</i> →Split	DMEM + 5 % FCS			
	<i>fermentans</i> →Split	fermentans →Split	into 8 samples				
	into 8 samples	into 8 samples					
	Extract DNA and perform PCR with 10 μ l DNA extract in a final volume of 25 μ l + IC						
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.					
Day 5	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma	1	1			
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml	1x extraction NTC with			
	Acholeplasma laidlawii	Acholeplasma laidlawii	Acholeplasma laidlawii	DMEM + 5 % FCS			
→Split into 8 samples		→Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples				
20 CFU/ml		10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	fermentans →Split	DMEM + 5 % FCS			
	<i>fermentans</i> →Split	fermentans \rightarrow Split	into 8 samples				
	into 8 samples	into 8 samples					
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC			
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x PCR PC.						



Detection	limit					
Day 6	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma				
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with		
	Mycoplasma hyorhinis	Mycoplasma hyorhinis	hyorhinis $ ightarrow$ Split into	DMEM + 5 % FCS		
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	8 samples			
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with		
	Mycoplasma orale	Mycoplasma orale	orale →Split into 8	DMEM + 5 % FCS		
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	samples			
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl.		
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.				
Day 7	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma				
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with		
	Mycoplasma hyorhinis	Mycoplasma hyorhinis	hyorhinis \rightarrow Split into	DMEM + 5 % FCS		
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	8 samples			
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with		
	Mycoplasma orale +	Mycoplasma orale +	orale + IC →Split into	DMEM + 5 % FCS		
	IC \rightarrow Split into 8	IC \rightarrow Split into 8	8 samples			
	samples	samples				
	Extract DNA and perform PCR with 10 μ l DNA extract in a final volume of 25 μ l.					
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.				
Day 8	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma	1	1		
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with		
	Mycoplasma hyorhinis	Mycoplasma hyorhinis	hyorhinis \rightarrow Split into	DMEM + 5 % FCS		
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	8 samples			
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC with		
	Mycoplasma orale	Mycoplasma orale	orale →Split into 8	DMEM + 5 % FCS		
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	samples			
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl IC		
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.				



Detection	Detection limit						
Day 9	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split				
	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split	into 8 samples				
	into 8 samples	into 8 samples					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	<i>gallisepticum</i> →Split				
	<i>gallisepticum →</i> Split	gallisepticum →Split	into 8 samples				
	into 8 samples	into 8 samples					
	Extract DNA and perforn	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC			
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.					
Day 10	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split				
	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split	into 8 samples				
	into 8 samples	into 8 samples					
20 CFU/ml		10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	gallisepticum →Split				
	gallisepticum →Split	gallisepticum $ ightarrow$ Split	into 8 samples				
into 8 samples		into 8 samples					
	Extract DNA and perforn	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC			
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.					
Day 11	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma	•				
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	<i>pneumoniae</i> →Split				
	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split	<i>pneumonia</i> e →Split	into 8 samples				
into 8 samples		into 8 samples					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma	gallisepticum →Split				
	gallisepticum →Split	gallisepticum →Split	into 8 samples				
	into 8 samples	into 8 samples					
	Extract DNA and perforn	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC			
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x PCR PC.						



Detection	limit						
Day 12	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma synoviae	Mycoplasma synoviae	synoviae →Split into 8				
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	samples				
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma arginini	Mycoplasma arginini	<i>arginini →</i> Split into 8				
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	samples				
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl +IC			
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.					
Day 13	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma synoviae	Mycoplasma synoviae	Mycoplasma synoviae				
+ IC \rightarrow Split into 8		+ IC →Split into 8	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples				
	samples	samples					
20 CFU/ml		10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma arginini	Mycoplasma arginini	<i>arginini →</i> Split into 8				
	→Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	samples				
	Extract DNA and perform	Extract DNA and perform PCR with 10 μ I DNA extract in a final volume of 25 μ I IC					
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.					
Day 14	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma					
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma synoviae	Mycoplasma synoviae	Mycoplasma synoviae				
\rightarrow Split into 8 samples		→Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples				
20 CFU/ml		10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Mycoplasma	1x extraction NTC			
	Mycoplasma arginini	Mycoplasma arginini	<i>arginini →</i> Split into 8				
	→Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	samples				
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC			
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x PCR PC.						

Detection	Detection limit					
Day 15	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma				
	20 CFU/ml	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml Spiroplasma	1x extraction NTC		
	Spiroplasma citri	Spiroplasma citri	citri			
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples			
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC		
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.				
Day 16	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma				
	20 CFU/mI	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml	1x extraction NTC		
	Spiroplasma citri	Spiroplasma citri	Spiroplasma citri			
	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples	→Split into 8 samples	\rightarrow Split into 8 samples			
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC		
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.				
Day 17	Spike DMEM + 5 % FCS	S with mycoplasma				
	20 CFU/mI	10 CFU/ml	5 CFU/ml	1x extraction NTC		
	Spiroplasma citri	Spiroplasma citri	Spiroplasma citri			
	→Split into 8 samples					
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR with 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volume of 2	5 μl + IC		
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC.				



Robustnes	Robustness						
Day 18	Vero cell culture superna	atant +	10 CFU/ml M. fei	mentans			
	10x						
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR wi	th 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volu	ume of 2	25 μl + IC	
	Vero cell culture superna + IC	atant	Tris buffer + IC		RPMI -	- IC	
1x 1x 1x					1x		
	Extract DNA and perform PCR with 10 μ I DNA extract in a final volume of 25 μ I w/o IC Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x PCR PC.					25 μl w/o IC	
Day 19	Mycoplasma negative AT	MP sam	ples from	extraction NTC			
	random + 10 CFU/ml <i>M. fermentans</i>						
	2x 20		2x 1				
	Extract DNA and perform PCR with 10 μ I DNA extract in a final volume of 25 μ I + IC						
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC	•				
Day 20	DMEM + 5 % FCS + 10) CFU/m	M. fermentans	ested on			
	RotorGene 6000	ABI 75	00	LightCycler 1.2		Mx3005p	
	10x	10x		10x		10x	
	Extract DNA and perform	n PCR wi	th 10 μ l DNA ext	ract in a final volu	ume of 2	$15 \mu\text{I} + \text{IC}$	
	Add 2x PCR NTC and 2x	PCR PC	•				

NOTE: Days did not imperatively succeed.



7. Study Results

The study conditions had to provide information on all relevant validation parameters requested by ICH Q2B, EP 2.6.7 and EP 2.6.21.

7.1. Specificity

7.1.1 Sequence Alignment

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
Comparison of all primer sequences with the genomic database. Mycoplasma sequence alignments will be performed. Even though this technique is not recommended by EP 2.6.7 for specificity determination it provides additional information for species not available for testing.	<i>Mycoplasma</i> species showing \leq 3 nucleotides mismatch in the alignment of the primer sequence with the 16S rRNA genome are considered specifically detectable.	At least 1 species are putatively detectable based on sequence alignment.

Creation True Church	Primer Mismatches			
Species; Type Strain	Forward Primer	Probe	Reverse Primer	
Acholeplasma equifetale (T); C112.	0	1	2	
Acholeplasma granularum (T); BTS-39.	0	1	0	
Acholeplasma hippikon (T); C1.	0	1	1	
Acholeplasma laidlawii (T); PG8 ATCC 23206.	0	2 (1)	0	
Acholeplasma oculi (T); 19L ATCC 27350.	0	1	1	
Acholeplasma pleciae (T); ATCC 49582; PS-1.	0	1	0	
Mycoplasma adleri (T); G145.	1	0	0	
Mycoplasma agalactiae (T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma agassizii (T).	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma alkalescens (T); PG51.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma alligatoris (T); A21JP2(T).	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma alvi (T); Isley.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma amphoriforme (T); A39.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma anatis (T); 1340(T).	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma anseris (T); 1219(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma arginini (T); G230(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma arthritidis (T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma auris (T); UIA.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma bovigenitalium (T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma bovirhinis (T); PG43.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma bovis (T); Donetta (type strain); pMb16S.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma bovoculi (T); M165/69.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma buccale (T); CH20247(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma buteonis (T); BbT2g(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma californicum (T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma canadense (T); 275c.	0	0	1	



Species: Type Strain	Primer Mismatches			
Species, Type Strain	Forward Primer	Probe	Reverse Primer	
Mycoplasma canis (T); PG14.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma capricolum.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma caviae (T); G122(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma citelli (T); RG-2C(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma cloacale (T); 383(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma columbinasale (T); 694(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma columbinum (T); MMP-1(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma columborale (T); MMP-4(T).	0	0	1	
Mvcoplasma cricetuli (T): CH(T).	0	1	2	
Mycoplasma crocodyli (T): MP145(T).	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma cynos (T): H831(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma edwardii: PG24.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma elephantis (T): E42(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma equigenitalium (T): T37(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma equiphinis (T): M432/72(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma falconis (T): H/T1(T)	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma faucium (T): DC333(T)	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma felifaucium (T): ATCC 43428	1	0	0	
Mycoplasma felis (T): ATCC 23391	1	0	1	
Mycoplasma formentans (T)	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma dallinaceum (T): DD	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma gallinacum (T); DD.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma gallicaticum ctr. E: 1	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma gallespuculi su. r, 1.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma gatogo (T): ATCC 22202	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma ganitalium (T): C27	0	0		
Mycoplasma genitalium (T); dST.	0	0	۲	
$M_{\text{reconlasma duris (T): P1/T1(T)}}$	0	1	1	
Mycoplasma bominic (T): DC21: ATCC 22114	0	1	1	
	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma hyopharyngis (T).	0	0		
	0	0	1	
	0	1	1	
Mycoplasma iguanae (1); 2327.	0		1	
Mycoplasma indiana (T); 4229.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma Indiense (1); 31(1).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma iners (T); PG30(1).	0	0	0	
Nycoplasma logaranitalium (T): 10MC(T)	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma lagogenitalium (1); 12MS(1).	0	L	2	
Mycoplasma leonicapuvi (1); ATCC 49890.		0	1	
Mycoplasma leopharyngis (T); ATCC 49889.	1	0	0	
	0	0	1	
Nycopiasma lipopnilum (1).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma maculosum (1); PG15(1).	0	0	0	
Nycoplasma meleagridis (1); 17529.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma microti (1); IL371.	0	0	1	
iviycopiasma moatsii (1); MK405(1).	0	0	0	
iviycopiasma mobile (1).	0	0	1	
iviycopiasma molare (1); H542.	0	1	2	
Nycopiasma mucosicanis (I); type strain: 1642.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma muris (1).	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma mustelae (1); MX9(1).	0	0	0	

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Consider True Chasin	Primer Mismatches			
Species; Type Strain	Forward Primer	Probe	Reverse Primer	
Mycoplasma opalescens (T); MH5408(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma orale (T); NC10112; CH 19299; ATCC 23714.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma oxoniensis (T); 128(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma penetrans HF-2.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma phocae; CSL 4693.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma phocicerebrale (T); 1049; ATCC 49640.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma phocidae (T); 105; ATCC 33657.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma phocirhinis (T); 852; ATCC 49639.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma pirum (T).	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma pneumoniae (T); ATCC 15531.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma primatum (T); HRC292(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma pullorum (T); CKK.	0	0	2	
Mycoplasma pulmonis (T); PG34(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma salivarium (T); PG20(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma simbae (T); ATCC 49888.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma spermatophilum (T); AH159(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma sphenisci; UCMJ.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma spumans (T); PG13(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma sturni (T); UC/MF; p170/171.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma sualvi (T); Mayfield B(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma subdolum (T); TB(T).	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma synoviae (T); WVU 1853; pMSk3-4 pMSF16S.	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma testudineum (T); H3110.	1	0	1	
Mycoplasma testudinis (T); ATCC 43263.	0	0	3	
Mycoplasma timone.	0	0	1	
Mycoplasma verecundum (T); GIH(T).	0	0	0	
Mycoplasma vulturii; Gb-V33.	0	0	3	
Mycoplasma zalophidermidis; CSL 4779.	0	0	1	
Ureaplasma canigenitalium (T); D6P-C.	0	0	3	
Ureaplasma diversum (T); A417.	0	0	3	
Ureaplasma felinum (T); FT2-B.	0	0	3	
Ureaplasma parvum (T); ATCC27815.	0	0	3	
Ureaplasma urealyticum (T); ATCC27618.	0	0	3	

7.1.2 Sample Matrix Effects

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
Testing of at least 4 different samples	All tested samples shall	passed
using the media components according	show a negative result.	
to Table 5 to exclude the possibility of		
false-positive results. The internal		
amplification control will be added to the		
sample matrix as extraction control		
according to chapter 8.2.		



No.	Sample Matrix	Manufacturer	Catalog No.	Lot No.	Ct FAM	Ct ROX
1	Dulbecco's MEM	Biochrom AG	FG 0415	0580A	No Ct	31.92
2	Dulbecco's MEM	Biochrom AG	FG 0415	0580A	No Ct	31.85
3	Dulbecco's MEM	Biochrom AG	FG 0415	0580A	No Ct	32.57
4	Dulbecco's MEM	Biochrom AG	FG 0415	0580A	No Ct	32.21
5	FCS	Biochrom AG	S0615	0248W	No Ct	31.95
6	FCS	Biochrom AG	S0615	0248W	No Ct	32.25
7	FCS	Biochrom AG	S0615	0248W	No Ct	32.42
8	FCS	Biochrom AG	S0615	0248W	No Ct	32.23
9	Positive control				27.16	No CT
10	NTC with IC				No Ct	33.59
11	NTC with IC				No Ct	34.76
12	NTC without IC				No Ct	No Ct
13	NTC without IC				No Ct	No Ct

ROX Channel

FAM Channel



7.1.3 Mollicutes Detection Range

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
All DNA extracts listed in Table 3 derived	All tested samples shall	passed
from Mollicutes will be tested at a load of	show a positive result.	
\geq 0.1 ng/test. At least 6 repeats shall be		
tested for each sample.		



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No	Species	Ct	Result
1	Mycoplasma pneumoniae	26.94	positive
2	Mycoplasma pneumoniae	27.21	positive
3	Mycoplasma pneumoniae	27.03	positive
4	Mycoplasma pneumoniae	27.11	positive
5	Mycoplasma pneumoniae	27.06	positive
6	Mycoplasma pneumoniae	27.09	positive
No	Species	Ct	Result
1	Mycoplasma synoviae	28.47	positive
2	Mycoplasma synoviae	28.40	positive
3	Mycoplasma synoviae	28.04	positive
4	Mycoplasma synoviae	28.12	positive
5	Mycoplasma synoviae	28.25	positive
6	Mycoplasma synoviae	27.83	positive
No	Species	Ct	Result
1	Mycoplasma arginini	23.59	positive
2	Mycoplasma arginini	23.52	positive
3	Mycoplasma arginini	23.34	positive
4	Mycoplasma arginini	23.44	positive
5	Mycoplasma arginini	23.65	positive
6	Mycoplasma arginini	23.60	positive
No	Species	Ct	Result
1	Spiroplasma citri	27.28	positive
2	Spiroplasma citri	27.54	positive
3	Spiroplasma citri	27.40	positive
4	Spiroplasma citri	27.22	positive
5	Spiroplasma citri	27.15	positive

10 20

Cycles

Spiroplasma citri

27.19 positive

6



No	Sample	Ct	Result
1	Negative control	No Ct	negative
2	Positive control	29.10	positive
3	Positive control	29.20	positive
I	Positive control	29.20	positive

7.1.4 Cross Reactivity

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
All DNA extracts listed in Table 4 derived	All tested samples shall	passed
from microorganisms and cells will be	show a negative result.	
tested at a load of ≥ 0.1 ng/test for		
microorganisms and \geq 30 ng for		
mammalian cells. 3 repeats shall be		
tested for each sample.		

Species	Results
Clostridium acetobutylicum	negative
Lactobacillus acidophilus	negative
Streptococcus pneumoniae	negative
Vero-B4	negative
Per.C6	negative
RK13	negative
CHO-K1	negative
Murine Genomic DNA	negative
Calf Thymus DNA	negative



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No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Clostridium acetobutylicum	No Ct	32.30	negative
2	Clostridium acetobutylicum	No Ct	32.90	negative
3	Clostridium acetobutylicum	No Ct	32.33	negative

FAM Channel



No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Lactobacilus acidophilus	No Ct	32.35	negative
2	Lactobacilus acidophilus	No Ct	32.15	negative
3	Lactobacilus acidophilus	No Ct	31.73	negative

FAM Channel





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No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Streptococcus pneumoniae	No Ct	32.31	negative
2	Streptococcus pneumoniae	No Ct	31.89	negative
3	Streptococcus pneumoniae	No Ct	32.24	negative

FAM Channel





No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Vero B4	No Ct	32.37	negative
2	Vero B4	No Ct	32.20	negative
3	Vero B4	No Ct	32.64	negative







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No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Per C6	No Ct	32.64	negative
2	Per C6	No Ct	33.45	negative
3	Per C6	No Ct	31.89	negative

FAM Channel

ROX Channel



No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	RK13	No Ct	31.74	negative
2	RK13	No Ct	32.45	negative
3	RK13	No Ct	32.62	negative

FAM Channel





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No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	CHO-K1	No Ct	31.56	negative
2	СНО-К1	No Ct	32.11	negative
3	CHO-K1	No Ct	32.05	negative

ROX Channel

FAM Channel



No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Murine Genomic DNA	No Ct	30.96	negative
2	Murine Genomic DNA	No Ct	32.13	negative
3	Murine Genomic DNA	No Ct	32.49	negative

C1, PK, FAM E3, Murine Genomic DNA, FAM F3, Murine Genomic DNA, FAM

e Genomic DNA

FAM Channel







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No	Species	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Calf Thymus DNA	No Ct	33.07	negative
2	Calf Thymus DNA	No Ct	32.61	negative
3	Calf Thymus DNA	No Ct	32.09	negative

FAM Channel







7.1.5 Identification of Unspecific Amplification

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
Further identification of the result of	In case of amplification.	N/A
amplification is conducted by sequence	amplicon should be	
analysis using the primer portion of the	identified as homologous to	
kit for sequencing.	the Mycoplasma genome.	

7.2 Detection Limit

As the method employed is used only to obtain a qualitative result, proof of linearity is not required. However, if the concept of linearity is extended to cover the working range, the detection limit becomes extremely important. In practice, the detection limit is determined in the form of the positive threshold (i.e. the cut-off point in the form of the minimum number of amplified target sequences by volume positively detected in 95% of the sample series).

7.2.1 Culture Media Comparison

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
For spiking, all Mollicutes species listed in EP	The prepared spikes shall	passed
2.6.7 (see Table 3) are used. The spike will be	show a calculated titre within	
prepared according to chapter 5.4 from fresh	the estimated titre range of	
cultures and will be quantified immediately on	the EDQM Reference	
culture plates.	Standard.	
The ability of the culture method used to sustain		
the growth of mycoplasma in acceptable		
performance is confirmed by parallel testing with		
the EDQM Reference Standard listed in Table 6.		
The EDQM Reference Standards and the spikes of		
the same species will be diluted in culture broth		
with 3 replicates per dilution.		

Article No.	Article name	Estimated Titer	Result
Y0000692	<i>Mycoplasma fermentans</i> Ph Eur BRP, batch 1	9.55x10 ⁷ CFU/ml with a range from 1.58x10 ⁷ to 5.75x10 ⁸ CFU/ml	4.78x107 CFU/ml
Y0000691	<i>Mycoplasma orale</i> Ph Eur BRP, batch 1	4.90x10 ⁵ CFU/ml with a range from 9.33x10 ⁴ to 2.57x10 ⁶ CFU/ml	5.88x10 ⁵ CFU/mI
Y0000689	<i>Mycoplasma synoviae</i> BRP, batch 1	1.86x10 ⁷ CFU/ml with a range from 5.89x10 ⁶ to 5.89x10 ⁷ CFU/ml	2.79x107 CFU/ml
Y0000690	Mycoplasma hyorhinis BRP, batch 1	1.17x10 ⁸ CFU/ml with a range from 6.76x10 ⁷ to 2.34x10 ⁸ CFU/ml	1.99x10 ⁸ CFU/ml



7.2.2 Detection Limit

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
The prepared Mollicutes spikes according to	All samples containing at	passed
chapter 5.4 will be diluted in 1:10 dilution	least 10 CFU/ml must be	
steps (one deviating dilution step for	tested positive for all	A Detection Limit of at
accurate adjustment of concentration) in	species.	A Detection Limit of at
DMEM supplemented with 5 % (v/v) FCS to		found for all species
prepare suspensions with concentration of		listed in the EP 2.6.7.
20, 10 and 5 CFU/ml. 3 individually dilution		
series will be prepared and each of the 3		
dilutions tested according to chapter 8 with		
8 repeats each so that at least 24 results		
per dilution are obtained (n = $3 \times 8 = 24$).		

Acholeplasma laidlawii

CFU/ ml	20			10			5		
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	32.03	30.23	32.24	31.66	33.41	31.93	No Ct	30.00	No Ct
	33.43	31.79	33.53	29.17	31.09	28.64	32.98	33.93	31.79
	30.16	32.25	30.04	34.75	29.17	33.65	33.83	No Ct	34.51
	30.35	30.2	30.34	33.32	29.44	33.02	34.68	No Ct	34.09
	31.25	29.57	31.16	34.42	32.58	34.47	33.7	29.94	34.61
	29.85	30.42	29.59	32.9	31.00	32.89	30.33	29.26	30.36
	29.51	27.70	28.95	31.96	30.23	32.73	32.70	31.70	32.48
	32.13	31.15	32.62	34.31	33.75	35.21	31.96	No Ct	32.59
Mean Ct	31.09	30.41	31.06	32.81	31.33	32.82	32.88	30.97	32.92
		24/24			24/24		19/24		



Mycoplasma fermentans

CFU/ ml	20			10			5		
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	29.62	32.12	30.43	29.74	33.34	31.04	29.97	33.76	32.29
	29.15	32.18	29.83	30.78	36.02	29.71	31.09	No Ct	32.25
	29.22	32.68	30.03	30.45	35.10	30.69	30.96	No Ct	32.26
	29.73	32.52	30.37	29.72	34.39	30.72	29.74	No Ct	32.04
	29.15	31.77	30.21	29.67	32.53	31.49	31.07	33.75	32.76
	29.38	31.95	30.41	29.1	35.19	30.96	31.61	33.63	32.31
	29.57	32.88	29.77	29.59	33.3	30.80	30.99	35.12	32.93
	28.59	32.17	30.6	30.16	34.09	31.3	31.80	35.09	30.86
Mean Ct	29.30	32.28	30.21	29.90	34.25	30.84	30.90	34.27	32.21
		24/24			24/24		21/24		

Mycoplasma hyorhinis

CFU/ ml	20			10			5		
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	33.39	32.35	33.81	33.11	33.87	33.48	35.80	34.05	34.68
	33.08	32.59	32.96	32.85	33.45	33.22	35.49	34.23	33.99
	32.78	31.99	33.97	32.97	34.24	34.78	35.59	34.13	35.04
	33.39	32.33	33.89	33.08	33.69	33.80	36.92	34.71	34.70
	32.61	32.90	33.90	33.58	33.31	33.51	34.88	34.39	34.74
	32.70	33.23	33.40	34.02	33.08	34.07	35.61	33.73	34.67
	32.36	32.79	33.58	33.00	33.05	33.97	34.31	34.13	34.51
	32.46	32.59	33.85	33.74	33.23	33.67	34.47	34.6	36.11
Mean Ct	32.85	32.60	33.67	33.29	33.49	33.81	35.38	34.25	34.81
		24/24			24/24		24/24		



Mycoplasma orale

CFU/ ml	20			10			5		
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	31.86	32.81	34.01	32.45	33.86	34.50	33.67	35.19	35.37
	31.76	33.30	33.33	32.39	34.30	34.42	33.57	36.06	36.37
	31.79	32.77	33.06	32.79	33.34	35.78	33.59	39.12	35.94
	31.85	32.99	33.13	32.62	33.57	34.83	33.48	36.17	36.11
	31.76	32.61	34.11	32.96	34.97	34.84	33.60	41.62	No Ct
	31.98	32.96	33.90	32.78	33.37	34.86	33.76	35.83	35.00
	31.76	33.04	33.47	33.18	33.97	35.17	33.44	35.69	36.99
	31.79	32.75	33.84	32.59	34.60	34.33	34.04	38.04	36.57
Mean Ct	31.82	32.90	33.61	32.72	34.00	34.84	33.64	37.22	36.05
		24/24			24/24		22/24		

Mycoplasma pneumoniae

CFU/ ml	20			10			5		
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	32.42	31.49	31.64	32.61	32.53	32.47	33.83	33.26	33.23
	31.88	29.85	31.20	32.15	32.04	32.36	36.88	32.21	33.08
	31.40	29.57	30.81	31.39	32.24	32.00	33.44	33.06	30.88
	31.13	31.88	29.98	33.02	32.69	31.84	33.62	34.15	33.10
	31.21	29.57	32.10	32.35	31.21	32.48	No Ct	32.82	34.10
	31.46	29.46	30.69	32.48	31.03	33.21	33.37	30.01	33.24
	31.54	30.57	30.84	32.17	30.92	32.25	32.18	31.47	34.16
	31.58	30.76	32.04	33.56	32.68	32.87	33.45	32.19	32.69
Mean Ct	31.58	30.39	31.16	32.47	31.92	32.44	33.82	32.40	33.06
		24/24			24/24		23/24		



Mycoplasma gallisepticum

CFU/ ml	20			10			5		
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	N/V	32.56	31.65	34.08	32.95	32.52	33.77	34.49	33.99
	32.61	30.49	31.19	36.74	34.19	32.34	35.77	35.75	33.90
	32.95	32.59	32.15	32.59	35.26	34.29	34.79	No Ct	34.00
	32.00	32.49	32.98	34.04	33.80	33.26	34.76	No Ct	42.06
	32.86	31.57	31.98	32.76	33.33	31.58	No Ct	33.59	33.64
	32.61	34.11	32.17	34.39	33.30	32.24	35.85	34.19	35.15
	33.52	33.05	31.94	34.82	31.96	31.37	No Ct	42.44	32.43
	34.01	31.04	32.17	34.00	33.01	32.28	36.09	39.59	33.15
Mean Ct	32.94	32.24	32.03	34.18	33.48	32.49	35.17	36.68	34.79
		23/24			24/24		19/24		

Mycoplasma synoviae

CFU/m I	20		10		5				
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	32.95	33.01	34.37	33.80	33.28	34.47	No Ct	31.95	34.06
	34.36	31.44	32.49	33.60	33.58	33.12	No Ct	33.91	35.62
	33.27	33.18	32.62	35.01	35.17	33.63	No Ct	32.86	33.09
	32.76	32.43	32.47	32.14	32.31	34.24	No Ct	33.11	32.33
	32.57	33.22	32.56	32.98	33.30	33.35	No Ct	33.73	33.15
	32.01	32.24	33.39	33.32	34.3	33.12	No Ct	33.04	34.71
	31.93	33.50	31.33	No Ct	33.83	35.22	No Ct	33.26	33.34
	33.17	34.23	32.79	34.03	33.59	32.48	No Ct	33.51	36.05
Mean Ct	32.88	32.91	32.75	33.55	33.67	33.70	No Ct	33.17	34.04
		24/24			23/24			16/24	



Mycoplasma arginini

CFU/ ml	20			10		5			
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	34.57	32.09	32.13	35.48	34.42	32.94	37.31	34.70	34.39
	33.09	32.19	32.15	32.93	33.14	33.12	37.44	33.79	33.85
	32.22	32.39	32.70	35.08	33.22	33.67	No Ct	33.05	33.77
	33.58	32.37	32.11	No Ct	33.64	33.68	No Ct	34.07	35.85
	34.36	32.55	32.41	34.49	33.83	34.59	40.74	34.29	33.88
	32.78	32.76	32.15	37.88	32.64	32.09	No Ct	35.11	35.36
	34.40	31.77	32.57	34.95	32.64	32.38	34.72	34.97	35.18
	No Ct	31.79	32.27	36.73	32.88	32.59	40.51	34.43	34.05
Mean Ct	33.57	32.24	32.31	35.36	33.30	33.13	38.14	34.30	34.54
		23/24			23/24			18/24	

Spiroplasma citri

CFU/ ml	20		10		5				
	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3	run 1	run 2	run 3
	35.14	35.96	34.6	36.83	35.92	34.67	37.21	36.7	44.44
	35.16	35.88	35.02	35.76	35.69	34.36	36.77	37.28	35.88
	34.78	36.07	34.86	36.03	35.38	35.04	35.69	36.99	37.79
	35.06	35.96	35.33	36.98	35.66	34.84	35.98	36.73	38.34
	34.09	34.88	34.72	35.44	35.14	34.52	36.72	36.78	37.64
	34.75	35.51	34.92	35.47	35.12	33.96	37.30	36.07	35.72
	33.61	36.09	34.73	35.36	36.68	34.56	36.65	36.55	36.48
	34.15	35.38	34.55	35.67	36.33	34.49	37.03	38.61	36.4
Mean Ct	34.59	35.72	34.84	35.94	35.74	34.56	36.67	36.96	37.84
		24/24			24/24			23/24	



7.3 Precision, Linearity, Range, Accuracy and Quantification Limit

As the requirement of the method is to provide qualitative results only, this parameter is irrelevant.

7.4 Robustness

7.4.1 Cell Culture Material

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
The robustness of the method will be	9 out of 10 samples show a	passed
demonstrated by the determination of 10	positive result.	
CFU/mI of Mycoplasma fermentans in a		
representative cell culture matrix		
according to Table 2. At least 10 repeats		
shall be tested for each sample matrix.		

No	Sample	Ct - FAM	Ct - ROX	Result
1		31.09	33.26	positive
2		31.05	32.53	positive
3		31.54	32.87	positive
4		31.29	32.01	positive
5	Supernatant of a 100 % confluent Vero cell culture	31.33	33.06	positive
6	+ 10 CFU/ml M, fermentans	31.03	33.22	positive
7		30.96	32.09	positive
8		31.15	33.29	positive
9		31.10	32.74	positive
10		30.89	32.50	positive
11	NTC	No Ct	33.30	passed
12	NTC	No Ct	32.23	passed
13	Negative control (extraction)	No Ct	32.25	passed
14	PC	25.93	32.43	passed

CCS M.f 10 CFU NK Extr NTC NTC PC

Channel FAM



Channel ROX





7.4.2 ATMPs

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
To demonstrate robustness, at least 20	19 out of 20 samples show a	passed
mycoplasma negative ATMP samples	positive result.	
(selected at random from samples		
submitted by customers for mycoplasma		
detection) spiked with 10 CFU/mI of		
Mycoplasma fermentans. At least 2		
repeats shall be tested for each sample.		

NI0	Sample Code	/ Charactoristics	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Pocult
IN	Sample Coue	/ Characteristics	Repe	eat 1	Repe	eat 2	Result
1	0.9M	GMP010	33.53	32.20	32.69	33.92	positive
2	0.3M	GMP010	33.60	33.68	32.32	32.51	positive
3	3M	GMP008	34.32	33.55	33.81	32.71	positive
4	3x10^6	GMP009	33.65	33.83	33.71	34.16	positive
5	0.3x10^6	GMP009	32.14	32.92	32.28	32.29	positive
6	180612 MELN P12	D1906912	31.61	33.68	31.98	32.85	positive
7	040612 MELN P1	D050612-7	32.39	35.00	31.88	32.57	positive
8	WCB13 FI.68	D311012-4	31.13	33.03	31.10	33.36	positive
9	WCB13 FI.73	D311012-4	31.07	32.58	30.97	32.66	positive
10	WCB13 FI.70	D311012-4	32.01	33.77	31.78	32.53	positive
11	P1750	D210612-1	33.44	33.86	32.05	32.23	positive
12	P1751	D260612-2	32.29	33.51	32.54	32.36	positive
13	P1752	D260612-2	32.37	32.74	33.38	32.12	positive
14	P1722	D150612-1	31.40	33.12	33.18	32.30	positive
15	P1739	D150612-1	32.42	33.65	32.98	32.97	positive
16	P1746	D120612-2	32.60	33.55	32.65	32.88	positive
17	1712-31	D191012-1	31.27	32.87	31.81	33.19	positive
18	A12-37	D191012-1	31.84	32.01	31.27	32.64	positive
19	A12-34	D191012-1	31.34	32.47	31.55	32.41	positive
20	A12-36	D191012-1	32.15	32.85	31.42	32.05	positive
21	Extraction contr	ol	No Ct	33.23			negative
22	NTC		No Ct	33.07			negative
21	Positive control		25.70	32.40			positive



Repeat 1:



Repeat 2:





7.4.3 qPCR Cycler Compatibility

Procedure	Acceptance Criterion	Results
As the test can basically be performed with any	9 out of 10 samples show a	passed
qPCR cycler capable of interpreting FAM [™] and	positive result.	
ROX [™] signals performance of the test on these		
machines needs to be validated. As not all qPCR		
cycler commercially available are accessible for		
validation the following three devices representing		
block and air heating systems are tested:		
RotorGene 6000, LC 1.2, ABI Prism 7500 and		
Mx3005p. The robustness of the method will be		
demonstrated by the determination of 10 CFU/mI		
of Mycoplasma fermentans in DMEM $+$ 5 % FCS.		
At least 10 replicates shall be tested on each		
machine.		

RotorGene 6000

No	Species	Concentration	Ct (FAM)	Ct (ROX)	Result
1	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.66	32.71	positive
2	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.92	32.45	positive
3	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.67	32.48	positive
4	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	31.71	29.61	positive
5	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.91	32.11	positive
6	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.19	31.46	positive
7	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.79	31.29	positive
8	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.31	31.53	positive
9	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.32	31.60	positive
10	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.72	31.59	positive
	NTC		No Ct	32.36	passed
	NTC		No Ct	32.71	passed
11	Extraction control		No Ct	31.85	passed
12	PC		31.90	32.36	passed





Channel F2 - ROX

LightCycler 1.2

No	Species	Concentration	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.25	30.74	positive
2	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.94	30.00	positive
3	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.96	31.33	positive
4	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.91	31.51	positive
5	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.34	30.84	positive
6	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.54	31.30	positive
7	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.00	31.42	positive
8	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.23	31.36	positive
9	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.19	31.26	positive
10	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.54	31.71	positive
11	NTC		No Ct	32.89	passed
12	Extraction control		No Ct	32.75	passed
13	PC		28.22		passed







ABI Prism 7500

No	Species	Concentration	Ct (FAM)	Ct (ROX)	Result
1	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.05	32.10	positive
2	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.09	32.58	positive
3	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	31.11	31.70	positive
4	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.25	32.14	positive
5	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.26	33.03	positive
6	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.91	32.19	positive
7	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.63	32.55	positive
8	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.56	32.34	positive
9	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	31.09	32.08	positive
10	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.93	31.72	positive
11	NTC		No Ct	33.55	negative
12	Extraction control		No Ct	31.48	passed
13	PC		31.81	33.91	passed



Channel ROX





Мх3005р

No	Species	Concentration	Ct FAM	Ct ROX	Result
1	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.25	32.54	positive
2	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.38	33.65	positive
3	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.87	32.92	positive
4	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.69	32.80	positive
5	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.20	33.04	positive
6	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.71	32.34	positive
7	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.87	33.11	positive
8	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	30.66	31.89	positive
9	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	31.16	31.13	positive
10	Mycoplasma fermentans	10 CFU / ml	29.91	32.22	positive
11	NTC		No Ct	32.17	passed
12	Extraction control		No Ct	33.19	passed
13	PC		26.06	34.09	passed



7.5 Handling of deviations

No deviations from the validation protocol occurred.



8. Conclusions

Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma was designed to be applied at any customer site equipped with qPCR cyclers as part of a routine or research PCR lab by personal trained on good PCR practise.

Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma was validated intensively in compliance with the validation protocol and EP 2.6.7 recommendations providing detailed information about the performance of the kit:

- 1. by reflecting influences of the sample matrices frequently used for manufacturing of ATMPs and in cell culture technology in general.
- 2. for all species of mycoplasma that are requested by the EP 2.6.7.
- 3. comparable to other qPCR devices not tested within the study but equally designed as block or air heated cyclers.

By following these criteria the validation protocol reflected the method itself and variations expected by the diversity of samples from different customers during QC testing in the manufacturing process of ATMPs.

The kit and the introduced protocol allow for the save and robust detection of 10 CFU/ml of all *Mycoplasma* species relevant for the production of ATMPs as listed in EP 2.6.7. The sensitivity of the kit complies in full as required for an alternative to both official methods, the indicator cell culture as well as the culture method. Anyhow, it needs to be considered that sample material is limited with 10 μ l out of 60 μ l DNA extract by using 200 μ l sample material only. Using low sample volumes, statistical uncertainty is unavoidable. When using larger sample volumes, as for example by using the Microsart AMP Mycoplasma kit in conjunction with the Vivaspin concentration method which allows for the testing of 50 μ l DNA extract per PCR using up to 18 ml of sample, the sensitivity can be further increased.

According to the sequence alignment the kit detects at least 110 different *Acholeplasma*, *Mycoplasma*, *Spiroplasma* and *Ureaplasma* species. This feature increases the chance to detect mycoplasmas which contaminate cell culture rarely, have not been described as contaminants so far or are not culturable by using the traditional *Mycoplasma* testing method.

All representatives of the phylogenetically closely related genera *Clostridium*, *Lactobacillus* and *Streptococcus* were not detected as required by the EP 2.6.7. DNA of various eukaryotic origin was not detected by Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma even at concentrations higher than 30 ng/PCR.

As robustness is a key issue of a release test, the product has been validated with different relevant sample materials and qPCR cyclers. The species *Mycoplasma fermentans* was used for spiking. *Mycoplasma fermentans* was easily detectable at the required concentration of 10 CFU/ml even in complex sample matrices and all replicates.

Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma applies with all requirements for *Mycoplasma* testing according to *European Pharmacopoeia* 2.6.7. It's the state-of-the-art product for *Mycoplasma* detection in cell cultures and other cell culture-based materials, including cryo stocks, cell culture supernatants, cell suspensions and ATMPs as Microsart[®] ATMP Mycoplasma combines highest sensitivity with minute sample volumes. Whenever larger sample volumes, e.g. cell culture media, additives or bulk harvest have to be tested, Microsart AMP Mycoplasma is the method of choice.



9. **Reference Documents**

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