



Immunospheres®

For research use only; not for use in diagnostic procedures.

Product Description	Catalogue Code	Unit Size
Immunospheres IgA	BS-SPHERES-A	1 x approx. 140 det
Immunospheres IgG	BS-SPHERES-G	1 x approx. 140 det
Immunospheres IgM	BS-SPHERES-M	1 x approx. 140 det

PRINCIPLE

The Immunospheres method can be used to detect the presence or absence of immunoglobulins IgA, IgG and IgM antibodies on the surface of sperm using latex beads coated with antibodies that bind to human antibodies. In the *Direct* Immunospheres®, live motile sperm are mixed with a suspension of bead reagent. As the sperm swim through the bead suspension, the beads will bind to the sperm if antibodies are present on the sperm. In the *Indirect* Immunospheres®, live motile sperm are incubated with diluted serum. Any antibodies to sperm present in the serum will bind to the sperm. Then unbound antibodies and serum proteins are washed away. In the next step, these sperm are mixed with a suspension of bead reagent. The protocol proceeds as in the *Direct* Immunospheres®.

REAGENTS

Anti-IgA Beads: 0.8ml red latex beads coated with (goat) anti-human IgA in protein buffer with 0.1% sodium azide.
Anti-IgG Beads: 0.8ml blue latex beads coated with (goat) anti-human IgG in protein buffer with 0.1% sodium azide.
Anti-IgM Beads: 0.8ml green latex beads coated with (goat) anti-human IgM in protein buffer with 0.1% sodium azide.

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Sperm washing medium containing 1-5% bovine serum albumin
2. Positive and negative serum controls
3. Centrifuge capable of 1000g
4. 37°C incubator
5. Conical centrifuge tubes and rack
6. Pipettors and tips
7. Glass slides and coverslips
8. Sperm counting chamber
9. 56°C incubator
10. Bright-field microscope with 100X-400X magnification
11. Collecting cups

STORAGE AND STABILITY

Store the reagents at 4°C. They can be used until the expiration date on each label. All product should be stored in an upright position. Once Immunospheres have been washed, they can be stored up to 3 days at 4°C. Or, return washed Immunospheres that were suspended in sperm washing medium but not used in the experiment to the original bottles rather than discarding them.

PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

Patrick Quinn, PhD, HCLD, SAGE Assisted Reproduction Products™.