

***Entamoeba histolytica*, HM-1:IMSS (xenic)**

Catalog No. NR-15432

For research use only. Not for human use.

Contributor:

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Product Description:

Protozoa Classification: *Entamoebidae*, *Entamoeba*

Species: *Entamoeba histolytica*

Strain: HM-1:IMSS (xenic)

Original Source: *Entamoeba histolytica* (*E. histolytica*), HM-1:IMSS was isolated by B. Sepúlveda and M. Delatorre from a sigmoidoscopy of an adult human male with amoebic dysentery in Mexico in 1967.¹

Comments: The xenic culture of *E. histolytica* HM-1:IMSS was produced by reassociating the axenic culture with undefined human bacterial flora. The axenic culture of *E. histolytica* HM-1:IMSS is available as BEI Resources NR-178. The whole genome shotgun sequence of *E. histolytica* HM-1:IMSS is available (GenBank: AAFB00000000).²

Entamoeba histolytica is a pathogenic protozoan parasite that predominantly infects humans and other primates. The active (trophozoite) stage exists only in the host and in fresh feces. Cysts, the environmental survival form, live outside the host in water and soils and on foods. When swallowed they cause infections by excysting (to the trophozoite stage) in the digestive tract. *Entamoeba histolytica* results in an asymptomatic carrier state in most individuals, but can cause diseases ranging from chronic, mild diarrhea to fulminant dysentery.

Material Provided:

Each vial of NR-15432 contains approximately 0.5 mL of culture in cryopreservative. Please see Appendix I below for cryopreservation instructions.

Note: NR-15432 is a xenic culture.

Packaging/Storage:

NR-15432 was packaged aseptically in screw-capped plastic cryovials and is provided frozen on dry ice. The product should be stored at cryogenic temperature (-130°C or colder), preferably in the vapor phase of a liquid nitrogen freezer. If liquid nitrogen storage facilities are not available, frozen cryovials may be stored at -70°C or colder for approximately one week. Note: Do not under any circumstances store vials at temperatures warmer than -70°C. Storage under these conditions will result in the death of the culture.

To insure the highest level of viability, the culture should be initiated immediately upon receipt. Any warming of the

product during shipping and transfer must be avoided, as this will adversely affect the viability of the product. For transfer between freezers and for shipping, the product may be placed on dry ice for brief periods, although use of a portable liquid nitrogen carrier is preferred. Please read the following recommendations prior to using this material.

Growth Conditions:

Growth Media:

LYSGM supplemented with 5% heat-inactivated adult bovine serum (HIBS) and 0.1 mg/mL of amikacin to control bacterial density. Please see Appendix II for LYSGM preparation instructions.

Incubation:

Temperature: 35°C to 37°C

Atmosphere: Xenic and microaerophilic

Propagation:

1. To establish a culture from the frozen state, aseptically add 0.5 mL of growth medium containing 20% HIBS but free of antibiotic to the frozen vial of NR-15432. Place the vial in a 35°C to 37°C water bath for 2 to 3 minutes, until thawed. Note: Manipulations with the frozen vial should be done quickly to avoid warming of the culture at a suboptimal rate.
2. Transfer the vial contents to a glass one-dram (3.5 mL) screw-capped vial and add 2.5 mL of additional LYSGM containing 20% HIBS. Tighten the cap and incubate in an upright position for 2 to 4 hours at 35°C to 37°C.
3. Ice the vial for 10 minutes and gently invert 10 times. Centrifuge at 200-350 x g for 5 minutes.
4. Carefully aspirate the supernatant without disturbing the cell pellet and transfer to a second dram vial. Resuspend the pelleted material containing the *Entamoeba* and starch with 3 mL of growth medium containing 5% HIBS. Gently invert 10 times.
5. Incubate the two dram vials at a 15° horizontal slant at 35°C to 37°C with the caps screwed on tightly. Observe the culture harboring *Entamoeba* daily until trophozoites are observed (1 to 3 days). If trophozoites are not apparent after 3 days, re-feed the culture with the bacteria-enriched culture prepared in step 4 supplemented with 5% HIBS. Treat the culture with amikacin if the bacterial density becomes too high.
6. Subculture by transferring 2 mL of culture to a new dram vial. Add 1.5 mL of bacteria-enriched culture prepared in step 4 supplemented with 5% HIBS. Gently invert 10 times. Supplement with amikacin if the bacterial density becomes too high.
7. Incubate the second dram vial at a 15° horizontal slant at 35°C to 37°C with the cap screwed on tightly. Observe the culture daily until trophozoites are observed (1 to 3 days).

Please see Appendix I below for cryopreservation instructions.

Citation:

Acknowledgment for publications should read “The following reagent was obtained through the NIH Biodefense and Emerging Infections Research Resources Repository, NIAID, NIH: *Entamoeba histolytica*, HM-1:IMSS (xenic), NR-15432.”

Biosafety Level: 2

Appropriate safety procedures should always be used with this material. Laboratory safety is discussed in the following publication: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Institutes of Health. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 5th ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2007; see www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/biosfty/bmb15/bmb15toc.htm.

Disclaimers:

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References:

1. Landa, L., B. Sepúlveda and M. De la Torre. “Advances in Methods of *Entamoeba histolytica* Culture.” Arch. Invest. Med. (Mex.) 1 (1970): 9-14. PubMed: 4332884.

2. Loftus, B., et al. “The Genome of the Protist Parasite *Entamoeba histolytica*.” Nature 433 (2005): 865-868. PubMed: 15729342.

3. Stanley, S. L., Jr. “The *Entamoeba histolytica* Genome: Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed and Sex Too?” Trends Parasitol. 21 (2005): 451-453. PubMed: 16098811.

4. Loftus, B. J. and N. Hall. “*Entamoeba*: Still More to be Learned from the Genome.” Trends Parasitol. 21 (2005): 453. PubMed: 16099723.

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APPENDIX I: CRYOPRESERVATION

1. Prepare CPMB-2 Basal Solution (see recipe below).
2. Prepare L-Cysteine/Ascorbic Acid Solution (see recipe below).
3. Harvest cells from several cultures that are in peak density of growth and place on ice for 10 minutes.
4. Gently invert tubes 20 times and centrifuge at 200 x g for 5 minutes.
5. While cells are centrifuging, prepare the Cryoprotective Solution:
 - a) Place 1.0 mL of DMSO in a 16 x 125 mm screw-capped test tube and ice until solidified.
 - b) Add 0.8 mL of the 2.5 M sucrose, remove from ice and invert until the DMSO is liquefied and return to ice bath.
 - c) Add 0.2 mL of the L-Cysteine/Ascorbic Acid Solution to the mixture and mix.
 - d) Add 6.0 mL of the CPMB-2 Basal Solution and mix.
 - e) Add 2.0 mL heat inactivated bovine serum and mix.
6. Resuspend the cell pellets and pool to a final volume of approximately 10 mL with the supernatant.
7. Determine the cell density using a hemocytometer, and adjust the concentration between 5×10^5 and 1×10^6 cells/mL using fresh media. If the cell concentration is lower than 5×10^5 cells/mL, centrifuge the cell suspension, remove the supernatant, and resuspend the pellet in a volume that will yield a concentration between 5×10^5 and 1×10^6 cells/mL.
8. After the cell concentration is adjusted, centrifuge at 200 x g for 5 minutes.
9. Remove as much supernatant as possible and determine the volume removed.
10. Resuspend the cell pellet with a volume of the Cryoprotective Solution equal to the volume of the supernatant removed. Gently invert the tube several times to obtain a uniform cell density.
11. Dispense 0.5 mL aliquots into plastic sterile cryovials.
12. Place the vials in a controlled rate freezing unit. From room temperature, cool at $-10^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$ until the liquid begins to freeze; from this point until -40°C is reached, cool at $-1^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$. At -40°C plunge the vials into liquid nitrogen. The cooling cycle should be initiated 15 to 30 minutes after the addition of DMSO to the cell preparation.
13. Store ampoules in a liquid nitrogen refrigerator until needed (-130°C or colder).

CPMB-2 Basal Solution

Yeast Extract	60.0 g
K ₂ HPO ₄	1.0 g
KH ₂ PO ₄	0.6 g
NaCl	2.0 g
Distilled water	1.0 L

Add the ingredients in the order listed above to the distilled water, mix and adjust the pH to 6.8. The solution should be autoclaved for 20 minutes at 121°C .

L-Cysteine/Ascorbic Acid Solution

L-Cysteine-HCl	1.0 g
Ascorbic Acid	0.1 g
10N NaOH	~ 0.7 mL
Distilled water	

Add 9.0 mL of distilled water to a 20 mL beaker and dissolve the first two components. While stirring, adjust the pH to 7.2 with 10 N NaOH (approximately 0.7 mL). Adjust the final volume to 10 mL with distilled water and filter sterilize. The solution should be used soon after preparation. Discard any unused solution.

APPENDIX II: LYSGM

Prepare ingredients in order listed below:

Dipotassium phosphate (K ₂ HPO ₄)	2.8 g
Monobasic potassium phosphate (KH ₂ PO ₄)	0.4 g
Neutralized liver digest (Oxoid L027)	0.5 g
Yeast Extract (BD 211929)	2.5 g
Sodium chloride (NaCl)	7.5 g
Gastric mucin (Sigma M2378)	1.0 g
Distilled water	950.0 mL

Autoclave for 15 minutes at 121°C. Cool.

Aseptically add:

Bovine serum (heat-inactivated).....	50.0 mL
10% Tween 80 in absolute ethanol (filter-sterilized).....	0.5 mL

Aseptically dispense 8.0 mL per 16 x 125 mm screw-capped test tube.

Aseptically add rice starch solution (see below), 0.15 to 0.40 mL per test tube. The lower the quantity, the purer the rice starch.

Rice Starch Solution:

Heat-sterilize 0.5 g rice starch* at 150°C for 2 hours. After sterilization and just prior to use, aseptically add 9.5 mL of sterile phosphate buffered saline solution at pH 7.4. Extra rice starch solution should be discarded.

*Rice starch is available from MP Biomedicals, catalog no. 102955.

Additional Xenic Culture information is available at the: [Entamoeba Home Page](#).