

Instruction Manual

Product Name	Product Description	Size	Catalog Number
Aquaguard-1	Aquaguard-1 Solution for disinfection of CO ₂ incubator water baths	100 ml	PK-CC01-867-1B
Aquaguard-1	Aquaguard-1 Solution for disinfection of CO ₂ incubator water baths	3 x 100 ml	PK-CC01-867-3B
Aquaguard-1	Aquaguard-1 Solution for disinfection of CO ₂ incubator water baths	10 x 100 ml	PK-CC01-867-10B
Aquaguard-2	Aquaguard-2 Solution for disinfection of ordinary water baths	50 ml	PK-CC01-916-1E
Aquaguard-2	Aquaguard-2 Solution for disinfection of ordinary water baths	3 x 50 ml	PK-CC01-916-3E
Aquaguard-2	Aquaguard-2 Solution for disinfection of ordinary water baths	10 x 50 ml	PK-CC01-916-10E

Cleaning and Disinfecting CO₂ Incubators

A CO₂ incubator is a basic piece of equipment in any laboratory involved in cultivation of *in vitro* cells. The culture bottles must be kept slightly opened in order to allow the penetration of CO₂, and enable the formation of a bicarbonate-CO₂ buffer system, which is the most common buffer system for tissue culture. Leakage of medium from the culture bottles, high humidity, suitable temperature, the water tray and the air flow, all form a fertile breeding ground for the development of contaminants in the incubator, which are liable to contaminate the tissue culture in all the semi-opened culture bottles.

As soon as contamination appears in the incubator, it is very difficult to eliminate it, and severe damage can be caused. Therefore, it is essential to systematically clean and disinfect the incubator. It is recommended to disinfect every 14 days, or at least once a month.

Cleaning

The shelves and surfaces of the incubator should be cleaned with soap and water. After washing with water, dry with absorbent paper.

Disinfecting the Incubator Surfaces

We recommend Pharmacidal Solution (Cat. No. PK-CC-110100) which does not contain mercury, formaldehyde, phenol or alcohol. Pharmacidal is very effective against bacteria, fungi, spores, and viruses. It is recommended to spray the incubators thoroughly every two weeks.

Disinfecting the Water in the Incubator

The water required for humidity is a source of contamination which disperses in the incubator. In order to disinfect the water, we recommend **Aquaguard-1** Solution (Cat. No. PK-CC-01-867-1B), which contains a disinfectant that does not cause damage to the stainless steel tray, is non-toxic, non-volatile, and extremely effective. We recommend to use Aquaguard-1 for the water trays of common incubator types. Some larger incubators may use steam-generators or atomizers to control relative humidity levels. Please ask whether Aquaguard-1 is suited for such incubators as well.

The water should be replaced with sterile water every two to four weeks, adding 50 ml of **Aquaguard-1** per 5 liters of water.

Preventive treatment as described above will prevent damage that can be caused as a result of contamination to the tissue culture. In addition, it will also prevent the necessity of dealing with contamination that has dispersed in the incubator and causes repeated contamination of the tissue culture.

Disinfecting Ordinary Water Baths

Aquaguard-2 (Cat. No. PK-CC01-916-1E) is intended for disinfecting various kinds of water baths from microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi. It is recommended to use 2 ml of **Aquaguard-2** for each liter of water in the bath, and to repeat the procedure every 1-2 weeks. After 4-6 weeks, the bath should be emptied and refilled with water containing **Aquaguard-2**.

The active ingredient in **Aquaguard-2** is safe to humans and does not cause any irritating effects to the skin when used in the recommended concentration.

Storage and Stability

Store at -20°C.

Intended Use

For in vitro research use only. Not for diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.

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