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TECHNICAL DATA SHEET 483

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Pneumocystis Control Slides

BACKGROUND

In recent years it has been demonstrated that *Pneumocystis carinii* is a life threatening pathogen in the immunosuppressed patient, especially those with HIV infection.¹ To improve survival rates among these patients, it is necessary for the laboratory to recognize these organisms and report them as soon as possible so treatment can begin. Many staining techniques for *P. carinii* are used in the lab. The *Pneumocystis* Control Slides from Polysciences can be used in Gram-Weigert or Methenamine Silver Staining Techniques to confirm the interpretation of positive staining on fresh specimens.

The Control Slides can also be used in conjunction with Polysciences' Fungi-Fluor[®] *Pneumocystis* Kit which provides fluorescent detection of *P. carinii* cysts in BAL specimens. The kit offers an inexpensive and efficient detection system for *P. carinii*.

INTENDED USE:

Polysciences' *Pneumocystis* Control Slides are unstained, rat lung imprints. The Control Slides are offered specifically in conjunction with the Fungi-Fluor[®] *Pneumocystis* Kit to demonstrate:

1. The level of background staining experienced using the Fungi-Fluor[®] *Pneumocystis* Kit on lung specimens.
2. The specific morphological structure of *P. carinii* that can be illustrated with the Fungi-Fluor[®] *Pneumocystis* Kit as described in the package insert for the kit.
3. The staining of other fungal elements present in the lung that can be detected by the Fungi-Fluor[®] *Pneumocystis* Kit.

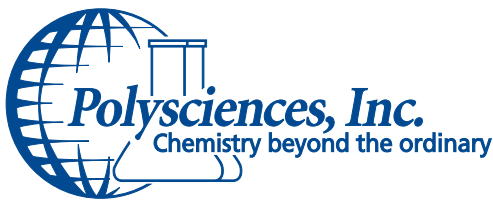
The *Pneumocystis* Control Slides are also compatible with other staining processes for *P. carinii* including Methenamine Silver Staining and Gram-Weigert techniques.

WARNINGS:

1. If no cysts, trophozoites or sporozoites are detected with your staining system - please repeat your process on a separate control slide. If negative results persist, please contact Technical Services at 1-800-523-2575 or FAX 1-800-343-3291.
2. These slides should be used only by personnel who are properly trained in the handling of chemical specimens that may contain HIV-1, HIV-2, or other AIDS-related infectious material.
3. These slides should be examined by personnel familiar with the morphology of *P. carinii* and the staining results expected with a particular staining system.

STORAGE & HANDLING:

1. Slides may be stored at Room Temperature.
2. Slides should be handled with care - Read all warnings prior to use.
3. Slides are methanol fixed.



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LIMITATIONS:

To the best knowledge of Polysciences, each Control Slide contains *P. carinii* organisms. A certificate of conformance is available from Polysciences that states that the slides have been quality controlled by an independent laboratory for the presence of *P. carinii* on the slides. If problems are experienced in detecting *P. carinii* on the Control Slides please contact Technical Service at 1-800-523-2575 or FAX 1-800-343-3291. The information given in this bulletin is to the best of our knowledge accurate, but no warranty is expressed or implied. It is the user's responsibility to determine the suitability for his own use of the products described herein, and since conditions of use are beyond our control, we disclaim all liability with respect to the use of any material supplied by us. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as a recommendation to use any product or to practice any process in violation of any law or government regulation.

EXPECTED VALUES:

It is expected that each Control Slide will contain in the least two(2) *P. carinii* organisms. *P. carinii* may be present in cyst, trophozoite or sporozoite forms. *P. carinii* cysts tend to cluster or clump and sporozoites and trophozoites may appear as individual forms within a cluster of cysts.

REFERENCE:

1. Pifer, L. L., Eur. J. Clin. Micro. 3:3 169, 1984.

ORDERING INFORMATION:

The *P. carinii* Control Slides are included with Fungi-Fluor® Pneumocystis Kit and are also available separately.

Cat. #	Description	Size
22363	Fungi-Fluor® Pneumocystis with Control Slides	1 kit (100)
22251	Pneumocystis Control Slides	1 box of 10

Please consult data sheet #482 for more information on the Fungi-Fluor® Pneumocystis Kits.

TO ORDER

In The U.S. Call: 1(800) 523-2575 • (215) 343-6484

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Order online anytime at www.polysciences.com