

REMBRANDT®

In situ Hybridisation and Detection

RISH & HRP Detection Kit -v5

Immaterial property information

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<i>RISH-HRP kit for the detection of</i>	Biotin Label product code	Digoxigenin label product code	# Assays
Epstein-Barr Encoded Small RNAs (EBER)	A500K.0101	A500K.9901	40
Kappa/Lambda light Chain RNAs	C600K.0101	C600K.9901	40

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Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 Intended use

REMBRANDT® has been designed for the detection of specific DNA or RNA sequences by using the *in situ* Hybridisation (ISH) technique in paraffin embedded tissue sections, cytological specimens and frozen sections.

1.2 The ISH principle

ISH enables the detection of specific DNA or RNA sequences in histological and cytological specimens, without losing the often very essential morphological details. The principle of ISH is based on a “reaction” (= hybridisation) between a specifically labelled DNA or RNA sequence (= probe) and a DNA or RNA sequence present in the sample (= target). In case of matching sequences, a hybrid between the probe and target will be formed. Non-perfect matches are washed out by the stringency wash procedure (PanWash). The formed hybrids can easily be visualised by a specific staining procedure, i.e. substrate conversion by enzyme-conjugated antibodies. This conversion, i.e. the combination of AEC and Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP) conjugated anti-DIG or anti-BIO antibodies provided with this kit, will yield a detectable and coloured precipitation. The ISH technique is highly sensitive, specific, fast and easy to perform. Moreover, no radioactivity is involved. The reagents supplied with this kit are tailored to each other and therefore, REMBRANDT® is the ultimate user-friendly tool for performing ISH.

1.3 Controls

Use of both positive and negative controls is an essential part of the routine. To ensure that the ISH procedure is performed correctly and that observed positive and/or negative staining are specific, controls should be included in each experiment. This REMBRANDT® kit includes positive and negative control probes serving as a procedure control to be used on sections from the specimen under investigation. The positive control slides contain the desired target RNA and serve as a control for the specific probe. Additional control slides and probes are available from PanPath; please contact your local supplier.

1.4 Contents of a REMBRANDT® RISH & HRP Detection Kit

Item label	description	Item (cap) colour	Item contents description	Item amount
DIGEST	PEPSIN POW	Black vial	: Pepsin digestion reagent	1 gram
DIGEST	PEPSIN DIL	Transparent vial	: Pepsin diluent (1N HCl solution)	15 mL
PROBE ²	Yellow/Purple vial	: Specific ¹ BIO or DIG labeled oligo probe(s)	0.8 mL
PROBE	+1 ² RISH	Pink vial	: RISH positive control oligo probe (BIO or DIG)	0.8 mL
PROBE	-1 ² RISH	Green vial	: RISH negative control DNA probe(BIO or DIG)	0.8 mL
CONJ ² HRP	Red vial	: HRP-conjugated anti-DIG or anti-BIO	15 mL
SUBS	AEC	Blue vial	: AEC substrate	2 mL
BUFF	AEC	Blue vial	: AEC buffer	15 mL
COUNT	MG	Orange vial	: Methyl Green counterstain	15 mL

1.8 Performance precautions

- Read all instructions before processing any assay.
- **DO NOT** use reagents beyond their expiry date.
- Allow all components to warm up to room temperature (20-25°C) before use.
- Homogenize probe solution before use.
- Avoid cross contamination of specimens.
- Work RNase-free directly after deparaffinisation until the hybridization step is completed.
- Wear gloves and treat glassware overnight at 200°C.
- **DO NOT** substitute a reagent with one from another manufacturer.
- When using treated glass slides other than those provided in the kit, specimens may fall off during the procedure.

1.9 Preparation of reagents in advance

Pepsin digestion reagent:

Dissolve the proteolytic reagent (black) in 4 mL of distilled or deionised water (upon receipt of the kit). Aliquot in portions of i.e.50 µL and store at -20°C.

Pepsin diluent:

Dilute the 1N HCl solution (transparent) to the application required concentration (paraffin sections 0,1 N; cytological and frozen preparations 0,01 N) with distilled or deionised water.

TBS buffer salt:

Dissolve 1 pouch in 1000 mL distilled or deionised water. Dissolve the salt completely and keep the buffer free from contamination.

1.10 Preparation of the proteolytic work solution

Prepare proteolytic work solution; 300 to 400 µL per section of 1 cm². Make fresh work solution just before use and discard non-used solution.

Paraffin sections:

dilute aliquoted proteolytic reagent 100x in 0.1N HCl, e.g. add 50 µL to 5 mL 0.1N HCl and mix.

Cytological specimens:

dilute aliquoted proteolytic reagent 25,000x in 0.01N HCl, e.g. add 4 µL to 100 mL 0.01N HCl and mix.

Frozen sections:

Dilute aliquoted proteolytic reagent 50,000x in 0.01N HCl, e.g. add 2 µL to 100 mL 0.01N HCl and mix.

GUIDE REFERENCE-V4 RISH-HRP		VIAL LABEL	
<p>PRETRATAMIENTOS SECCIONES PARAFINADAS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparar tres secciones de 4 µm y colocar las en bimas frescas 2. Caracterizar las bimas 3. Separarlas en xileno fresco 4. Inmersión en etanol absoluto y dejarlas secar al aire <p>TRATAMIENTO PROTEOLITICO (SANS-ARNAISE)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disolver la poción de pepsina (negro) en 4 ml de agua destilada/deionizada, hacer alícuotas de 150 µl y congelar a -20°C. 2. Diluir la solución HCl 1N (solución de pepsina en agua que diluente) (transparente) según el uso que se prefiera (parafina, citológica o congelada). 3. Diluir una alícuota de la solución de stock proteolítico con la solución diluida de HCl e incubar cada sección en 300-400 µl de la siguiente manera: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> dilución parafina: 100x en 0.1N HCl dilución citológica: 25.000x en 0.01N HCl dilución congelada: 50.000x en 0.01N HCl 4. Añadir 2 µl a 100 ml de HCl 0.01N 5. Desprender el exceso de solución proteolítica a la dilución de trabajo 6. Desprender las bimas en soluciones alcohólicas crecientes y secar al aire <p>PROTOCOLO DE HIBRIDACION (SANS-ARNAISE)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Añadir una gota o 20 µl de una solución de sonda por extensión y lavar con agua destilada/deionizada 2. Hidratar 3. Rinsar las bimas sumergiendo las portas en tampón TBS 4. Lavar todos los pasos en tampón TBS <p>PROTOCOLO DE DETECCION Y TINCION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Añadir 23 gotas de conjugado (rojo) a cada muestra 2. Sumergir las portas en tampón TBS 3. Preparar el AEC a la solución de trabajo de acuerdo con la siguiente tabla: 	<p>TEMPO D'INCUBATION</p> <p>2-16 hrs à 56-60°C 2 X 10 min. 5 min.</p> <p>30 min. 37°C bloc chauffant 10 min. 37°C bloc chauffant 10 min. 37°C bloc chauffant 3 X 1 min.</p> <p>16 hrs 37°C incubateur 10 min. 3 X 1 min.</p> <p>30 min. 37°C bloc chauffant 3 X 1 min. 1 min. 3 X 1 min.</p>	<p>INCUBATION</p> <p>PEPSIN DIL.</p> <p>PEPSIN DIL.</p>	<p>GUIDE DE REFERENCIA-V4 RISH-HRP</p> <p>PRETRATAMIENTO DE LAS SECCIONES DE PARAFINA</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparar cortes de 4µm y depositarlos sobre portas (látidos) 2. Caracterizar las portas 3. Separarlas en xileno limpio 4. Sumergirlas portas en etanol absoluto y secar al aire <p>TRATAMIENTO PROTEOLITICO (LIBRE DE RNAsa)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A la recepción del kit disolver la pepsina en polvo (vial negro) en 4 ml de agua destilada/deionizada, hacer alícuotas de 150 µl y congelar a -20°C. 2. Diluir el diluyente de la pepsina (vial transparente) CH 1N a la concentración requerida para la aplicación (parafina, citológica o congelada; ver 3) 3. Diluir la solución proteolítica stock descongelada en CH diluido e incubar cada muestra con 300-400 µl: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parafina: 100x en CH 0.1N citológica: 25.000x en CH 0.01N congelada: 50.000x en CH 0.01N 4. Añadir 2µl a 100 ml de CH 0.01N 5. Eliminar el exceso de solución proteolítica a la dilución de trabajo 6. Desprender las portas en soluciones alcohólicas crecientes y secar al aire <p>PROTOCOLO DE HIBRIDACION (LIBRE DE RNAsa)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Añadir 1 gota o 20 µl de la solución de la sonda por muestra. 2. Hidratar 3. Rinsar las portas sumergiendo las portas en tampón TBS 4. Lavar todos los pasos en tampón TBS <p>PROTOCOLO DE DETECCION Y TINCION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Añadir 23 gotas de conjugado (vial rojo) a cada muestra 2. Sumergir las portas en tampón TBS 3. Preparar el AEC a la solución de trabajo de acuerdo con la siguiente tabla:
<p>1-13 4 2ml</p> <p>14-26 8 4ml</p> <p>27-39 12 6ml</p> <p>40-52 16 8ml</p>	<p>5-15 min. 37°C bloc chauffant</p> <p>3 X 1 min.</p> <p>1 min.</p> <p>3 X 1 min.</p>	<p>INCUBATION</p> <p>PEPSIN DIL.</p> <p>PEPSIN DIL.</p>	<p>TEMPO D'INCUBATION</p> <p>2-16 horas A 56-60°C 2 X 10 minutos 5 minutos</p> <p>30 minutos en un termobloque a 37°C 10 minutos en un termobloque a 37°C 10 minutos en un termobloque a 37°C 3 X 1 minuto</p> <p>16 horas a 37°C en un incubador 10 minutos 3 X 1 minuto</p> <p>30 minutos en un termobloque a 37°C 3 X 1 minuto 1 minuto 3 X 1 minuto</p>



Chapter 2 REMBRANDT® RISH & HRP Detection Protocol

All incubation steps should be performed in a closed incubation chamber which contains a liquid (water) creating a saturated moisturised environment. During the incubation steps, evaporation of reagents should be prevented. Once the hybridisation procedure has been started the specimen should not be allowed to dry.

2.1 Specimen collection and pre-treatment

Paraffin embedded tissue sections

A standard procedure for tissue fixation and embedding usually involves the use of formalin and paraffin. The optimal tissue block size is 0.5 cm³. The formalin should be buffered and fixation times should (preferably) not exceed 12 hours. Excess and/or insufficient fixation may yield suboptimal morphology and target preservation. Embedding in paraffin should not exceed temperatures of 65°C. **Sample preparation:** stretch 4 µm paraffin sections on distilled water of 55°C without any additives and collect sections on bio-adhesive (i.e. organosilane) coated glass slides. Bake the slides at 56°C - 60°C in a dry air oven for 2-16 hours. Slides can be used immediately or they can be stored at room temperature for up to 3 months. Prior to ISH, slides need to be dewaxed in fresh xylene for 2 x 10 minutes. Incomplete removal of formalin and/or paraffin may affect the result of the procedure. Remove the xylene by placing the slides in 100% ethanol for 5 minutes. Air dry the slides for approximately 5-10 minutes and start with proteolytic treatment.

Cytological specimens

Make sure that no multilayer of cells is formed when making a cytological specimen. A multilayer will hamper microscopic examination of the result. The specimen should be processed as soon as possible after sampling.

Sample preparation: deposit cells on coated glass slides and air dry for 30 minutes. Fix the cells with a cross-linking fixative (e.g. 4% para-formaldehyde) for 10 minutes at room temperature and rinse with PBS. Dehydrate in graded ethanol series, air dry and start with proteolytic treatment.

Frozen sections

In general, small pieces of tissue (max. 1 cm³) are snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and either stored at -70°C or used immediately. Frozen sections are more fragile than paraffin embedded tissue sections. They should be handled with care and processed as soon as possible.

Sample preparation: collect frozen sections (4 µm) on bio-adhesive (i.e. organosilane) coated glass slides and air dry for 30 minutes. Fix the sections with a cross-linking fixative (e.g. 4% para-formaldehyde) for 10 minutes at room temperature. Dehydrate in graded ethanol series, air dry and start with proteolytic treatment.

2.2 Proteolytic treatment (Rnase-free)

Place both test and control slides on a 37°C heating block or slide warmer and add 300-400 µL of a freshly prepared, pre-warmed proteolytic work solution to each specimen. Incubate at 37°C: **paraffin sections** for 30 minutes, **cytological and frozen specimens** for 10 minutes. Tap off proteolytic work solution and dehydrate the slides in graded ethanol series (70%, 95% and 100%). Duration of each soak is 1 minute. Air dry the slides and start with the hybridisation procedure. Do not treat more than 5 slides at the same time, because the temperature of the hot plate may drop dramatically, thus causing incomplete proteolysis.



REFERENCE GUIDE v4 RISH+HRP	INCUBATION TIME	VIAL LABEL	ANLEITUNG v4 RISH+HRP	INKUBATIONSZEITEN																							
PRE-TREATMENT OF PAPA-FIN SECTIONS 1. Cut 4µm sections and collect on treated glass slides 2. Heat slides 3. Dewax in fresh xylene 4. Soak slides in 100% ethanol and air dry PROTEOLYTIC TREATMENT (RNASE FREE) 1. Upon receipt of the kit dissolve pepsin powder (black) in 4 ml distilled/deionized water, aliquot in 150 µl batches and freeze at -20°C. 2. Dilute the IN-HCl pepsin solution (transparent) to the application required concentration (paraffin, cytological or frozen; see 3) 3. Dilute thawed proteolytic stock solution in diluted HCl and incubate each specimen with 300-400 µL paraffin: 100x in 0.1N HCl and 50 µL to 5 ml 0.1N HCl; cytological: 25.000x in 0.01N HCl; add 4µL to 100ml 0.01N HCl; frozen: 50.000x in 0.01N HCl; add 2µL to 100ml 0.01N HCl 4. Discard excess proteolytic work solution 5. Dehydrate slides in graded ethanol and air dry HYBRIDIZATION PROCEDURE (RNASE FREE) 1. Apply 1 drop or 20 µl of probe solution per specimen; cover with coverslip 2. Hybridize 3. Remove coverslips by soaking slides in TBS buffer 4. Wash all slides in TBS buffer	2-16 hours at 56-60°C 2 x 10 min 5 min. 30 min. on a 37°C heating block 10 min. on a 37°C heating block 10 min. on a 37°C heating block 3 x 1 min. 16 hours at 37°C incubator 10 min. 3 x 1 min.	DIGEST PEP SIN POW PROBE WASH TBS WASH TBS CONTROL WASH TBS WASH TBS SUBS HRP WASH TBS SUBS HRP WASH TBS CONTROL WASH TBS WASH TBS	HERSTELLUNG VON PAPA-FIN-SCHNITTEN 1. 4 µm Schnitte anfertigen und auf vorbereitete Objektträger ziehen 2. Schnitte inkubieren 3. In Xyloleparaffinieren 4. Schnitte in 100% Ethanol entwässern und lufttrocknen PROTEOLYTISCHE BEHANDLUNG (RNASE FREE) 1. Pepsin-Pulver (Schwarz) in 4 ml destilliertem/deionisiertem Wasser lösen, in 150 µl Portionen aliquotieren und bei -20°C aufbewahren. 2. IN-HCl Pepsin-Lösungsmittel (transparent) auf die Konzentration verdünnen, die für die entsprechende Anwendung notwendig ist (Paraffinschnitt, Zytologisches Präparat oder Gefrierschnitt; siehe 3) 3. Verdünnte die aufgetaute proteolytische Lösung in verdünntem HCl; jedes Präparat mit 300-400 µL inkubieren 4. Proteolytische Lösung zu 5 ml 0,1 N HCl geben 5. Proteolytische Lösung zu 100 ml 0,01 N HCl geben 6. 4µl proteolytische Lösung zu 100 ml 0,01 N HCl geben 7. 2 µl proteolytische Lösung zu 100 ml 0,01 N HCl geben 8. Überschüssige proteolytische Lösung verworfen 9. Schnitte in Ethanolreihe entwässern und lufttrocknen HYBRIDISIERUNGSPROZEDUR (RNASE FREE) 1. Tropfen oder 20 µl der Sonde auf jedes Präparat geben und mit einem Deckglas abdecken 2. Hybridisieren 3. Entfernen der Deckgläser durch Einweichen in TBS Puffer 4. Präparate in TBS Puffer spülen	2-16 Stunden bei 56-60°C 2 x 10 Min. 5 Min. 30 Min. bei 37°C Heizplatte 10 Min. bei 37°C Heizplatte 10 Min. bei 37°C Heizplatte 3 x 1 Min. 16 Stunden bei 37°C Ofen 10 Min. 3 x 1 Min.																							
DETECTION AND STRAINING PROCEDURE 1. Apply 2,3 drops of the conjugate (red) to each specimen 2. Soak slides in TBS buffer 3. Soak slides in distilled/deionized water 4. Prepare AEC (Blue) work solution according the following table Multiplex detection of AEC substrates <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1-13</td> <td>4</td> <td>2ml</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14-16</td> <td>8</td> <td>4ml</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27-39</td> <td>12</td> <td>6ml</td> </tr> <tr> <td>40-52</td> <td>16</td> <td>8ml</td> </tr> </table>	1-13	4	2ml	14-16	8	4ml	27-39	12	6ml	40-52	16	8ml	30 min. on a 37°C heating block 3 x 1 min. 1 min. 30 min. on a 37°C heating block 3 x 1 min. 1 min. 30 min. on a 37°C heating block 3 x 1 min. 1 min. 30 min. on a 37°C heating block 3 x 1 min. 1 min.	DETEKTION UND FREIWECHSELUNG 1. 2,3 Tropfen Konjugat (Rot) auf jedes Präparat geben 2. Präparate in TBS Puffer spülen 3. Präparate in destilliertem/deionisiertem Wasser spülen 4. AEC (Blau) Gebrauchslösung nach nachfolgendem Schema vorbereiten: Multiplexdetektion von AEC-Substraten <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1-13</td> <td>4</td> <td>2 ml</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14-16</td> <td>8</td> <td>4 ml</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27-39</td> <td>12</td> <td>6 ml</td> </tr> <tr> <td>40-52</td> <td>16</td> <td>8 ml</td> </tr> </table>	1-13	4	2 ml	14-16	8	4 ml	27-39	12	6 ml	40-52	16	8 ml	30 Min. bei 37°C Heizplatte 3 x 1 Min. 1 Min. 30 Min. bei 37°C Heizplatte 3 x 1 Min. 1 Min. 30 Min. bei 37°C Heizplatte 3 x 1 Min. 1 Min. 30 Min. bei 37°C Heizplatte 3 x 1 Min. 1 Min.
1-13	4	2ml																									
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40-52	16	8ml																									
1-13	4	2 ml																									
14-16	8	4 ml																									
27-39	12	6 ml																									
40-52	16	8 ml																									



6.5 Positive staining of the negative control

Possible causes	Remedies
■ Drying out of the section.	→ Incubate in a moisturised environment.
■ Washing procedure.	→ Make sure temperature is $37 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$.
■ Contamination with positive control probe or specific probe.	→ Make sure that the positive control probe is the latest to be applied to the section.

6.6 Non-specific background staining

One should always bear in mind that the staining intensity and the level of background (or non-specific) staining may depend on the type of tissue used.

Possible causes	Remedies
■ Tissue section too thick.	→ Optimal thickness of the tissue is 4-6 μm .
■ Tissue crumbled.	→ Make sure tissue is stretched completely.
■ Deparaffinization.	→ Dewax series
■ Drying out of the section.	→ Incubate all procedure steps in a moisturised environment; prevent evaporation
■ Washing temperature.	→ Make sure temperature is $37 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$.
■ Substrate incubation step too long.	→ Shorten incubation time with 5 minutes.
■ Endogenous peroxidase.	→ Inactivate endogenous peroxidase by incubating tissue sections in 3% $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ for 15 minutes at room temperature prior to the digestion step.
■ Endogenous alkaline phosphatase.	→ Inactivate endogenous alkaline phosphatase by incubating sections in substrate solution to which 4 mg of levamisole is added.

6.7 Cross Hybridisation

One should always bear in mind that there is a possibility of cross hybridisation between related subtypes and that a patient can be infected with more than one subtype of a virus.

2.3 Hybridisation procedure (Rnase-free)*Hybridisation*

Homogenize probe solutions. Apply 1 drop or 20 μl of probe solution (yellow/purple) to each specimen and the positive control specimen. Apply 1 drop or 20 μl of the negative control probe (green) to each negative procedure control specimen and apply 1 drop or 20 μl of the positive control probe (pink) to each positive procedure control specimen. Cover all specimens with a cover slip (avoid air bubbles!). Transfer slides into a moist environment and incubate for 16 hours at 37°C (during the hybridisation the minimum temperature should be room temperature and the maximum temperature should be 37°C). Best results are obtained with prolonged incubation time (16 hours).

Washing

– Remove coverslips by submerging the slides in TBS buffer. Soak the slides until the coverslips fall off. Rinse the slides in TBS buffer for 10 minutes. Take the slides out, wipe off excess buffer and dry the edges using a lint-free cloth.

2.4 Detection and staining procedure

Apply 2-3 drops of HRP-conjugate (red) to each specimen and transfer slides onto a 37°C heating block or slide warmer. Incubate for 30 minutes at 37°C . Tap off excess detection reagent and rinse the slides in TBS buffer. Soak 3x 1 minute in TBS buffer, while occasionally shaking the container. Transfer the slides into a container with distilled or deionised water and soak slides for 1 additional minute.

Prepare during the last soak the AEC work solution in a disposable polypropylene tube or suitable glassware by mixing the AEC substrate with the AEC buffer (both blue) according the volumes given below. Do not make more work solution than necessary as it deteriorates within 3 hours after production. Keep the AEC work solution well protected from the light.

# specimens	# drops of AEC substrate	volume of AEC buffer
1-13	4	2 mL
14-26	8	4 mL
27-39	12	6 mL
40-52	16	8 mL

Take the slides out, wipe off excess of water and dry around the edges using a lint-free cloth. Ensure that the specimen on the slide is not disrupted. Apply 2-3 drops of AEC substrate (blue) to each specimen and transfer the slides onto a 37°C heating block or slide warmer. Incubate in the dark for 5-15 minutes at 37°C (examine the colour development every 5 minutes microscopically). Tap off excess substrate solution and rinse the slides for 3x 1 minute in changes of distilled or deionised water. The slides are now ready to be mounted or counterstained.

2.5 Counterstain procedure

When a contrast colour is desired, the slides can be counterstained using Methyl Green (orange). Wipe off excess reagent and apply 2-3 drops of counterstain to each specimen. Incubate for 1 minute (longer incubation is possible and will yield stronger staining). Tap off excess counterstain and rinse the slides briefly in distilled or deionised water. Mount the slides by using an aqueous mounting medium. Interpret the results under the microscope.

Chapter 3 Limitations of Procedure

3.1 Limitations

- The Rembrandt DNA and RNA *in situ* Hybridisation and Detection kits are solely applicable for the detection of corresponding DNA or RNA which may be present in cell preparations (paraffin sections, frozen sections or cytological specimen).
- Appropriate medical decisions are only possible if the medical traceability is ensured. The product is intended for professional use as an aid in the diagnosis corresponding to the DNA or RNA probes as supplied with the kit.
- Either human tissue sections or human cytological preparations may be used. Samples must be fixed in buffered formalin or alcohol. Sections should be cut at 4 µm thickness, glued to the glass slides with a bio-adhesive (e.g. organosilane), dried at room temperature, subsequently dried at 37 °C overnight, complete deparaffinisation in xylene and alcohol series and air dried. Cytological specimen should be prepared as required by the user, fixed with cytological fixation agent, rinsed in distilled water prior to the ISH procedure and air dried.
- Many factors can influence the performance of the ISH procedure. Failure in detection can be due to i.e. improper sampling, handling, the time lapse between tissue removal and fixation, the size of the tissue specimen in the fixation medium, the fixation time, processing fixed tissue, the thickness of the section, the bio-adhesive on the slide, deparaffinisation procedure, incubation times, proteolytic pre-treatment, detection reagents, incubation temperatures and interpretation of results.
- The performance of the ISH procedure is also affected by the sensitivity of the method and the DNA or RNA target load; in case the limit of the sensitivity is reached or when the target DNA or RNA load is too low, a false negative reaction may be the result.
- The clinical interpretation of the results should not be established on the basis of a single test result. A precise diagnosis, in fact, should take into consideration clinical history, symptoms, as well as morphological data. Negative results therefore do not rule out any possibility of a positive specimen.
- The Rembrandt test results are not to be relied on in case the sampling, sampling method, quality, sample preparation, reagents used, controls and procedure followed is not optimal.
- Therapeutic considerations based on the result of this test alone should not be taken. Positive results should be verified by other traditional diagnostic methods such as but not limited to clinical history, symptoms, as well as morphological data.
- The medical profession should be aware of risks and factors influencing the intensity, the absence or presence of probe signals which can not be foreseen when applying this test.
- The user should carefully consider the risk and use of sample material for this test in case the sample material does not contain sufficient or representative test material.
- Laboratory personnel performing the test should be knowledgeable and be able to interpret the test results.

3.2 Interpretation of the results

First, check the negative and positive controls that have been incubated with the test slides simultaneously:

- The negative control should be really negative, i.e. not show any localised colour precipitations. If the negative control could be interpreted as being positive, discard the results since no conclusions can be drawn.

6.3 Weak or no staining on a suspected positive sample

Possible causes	Remedies
■ Tissue fixation.	→ Only use buffered formalin fixative.
■ Deparaffinization.	→ Refresh dewax series.
■ Digestion.	→ Make sure correct concentration of pepsin is used. → Make sure digestion takes place at 37°C.
■ Interfering internal structures of probes.	→ In case of RISH procedures, denature sample at 60°C for 5 minutes before applying probe solution.
■ Hybridisation procedure.	→ Homogenize probe solution prior to applying probe on the section.
■ Washing temperature.	→ Make sure temperature is 37 ± 2°C.
■ Detection procedure.	→ Make sure temperature is 37 ± 2°C. → Make sure to incubate in the dark.
■ Low amount of target DNA.	→ Prolong hybridisation.
■ Colour precipitate rinsed away	→ Make sure that proper rinse and mounting media are used.

6.4 Negative staining of the positive control

Possible causes	Remedies
■ Deparaffinization	→ Re-fresh dewax series.
■ Positive control specimen incubated with positive control probe washed with PanWash. (Differentiation reagent)	→ Do not use PanWash (Differentiation reagent) on positive control specimen.
■ Interfering internal structures of probes.	→ In case of RISH procedures, denature sample at 60°C for 5 minutes before applying probe solution.
■ Detection procedure.	→ Make sure temperature is 37°C ± 2°C.

Chapter 6 Trouble Shooting Guide

6.1 Introduction

This Trouble Shooting Guide is intended to support you in obtaining optimal results with PanPath's REMBRANDT® *In Situ* Hybridisation and Detection kits.

In the next pages we inform you not only about possible causes and remedies for often occurring problems when performing ISH, but we also provide you with some tips given by experts on *In Situ* hybridisation that may be of help to you.

It is of course always possible that you encounter a problem which is not covered by this Trouble Shooting Guide, or that you still have doubts about your results. In such cases, please do not hesitate to contact your local supplier or PanPath directly. Since we consider your problem as our problem, we will do our utmost to find a proper solution.

6.2 No section or cells left on the slides

Possible causes	Remedies
■ Sample preparation.	→ Make sure samples are prepared according to protocol, the tissue is fixed in neutral buffered formalin and the slides are air dried well.
■ Tissue section too thin.	→ Optimal thickness of the tissue is 4-6 µm.
■ Wrong (side of) glass slide used.	→ Use only organosilane coated glass slides.
■ Pepsin concentration too high.	→ Make sure correct concentration of pepsin is used (depending on type of specimen).
■ Digestion step too long.	→ Reduce digestion time (15 minutes instead of 30 minutes) or digest at room temperature.
■ Coverslips removed with force.	→ Make sure that slides are soaked for at least 10 minutes in PBS.

- The positive control should show colour precipitations in conformity with the localisation of the target DNA or RNA. The colour should show the proper shade and must be clearly visible in the preferential cell/ tissue type and correspond to the target localisation.

In the test slides, start under low power magnification and focus on localisation and colour to see whether:

- The positivity (colour precipitation) observed is localised in the cell type preferred by the target.
- The colour has the right shade (no endogenous or formalin pigment).

Use high power magnification to see whether:

- The positive staining texture (granular, etc), demarcation and localisation are conform the positive control staining pattern.

Product in combination with other devices

The Rembrandt *in situ* Hybridisation and Detection kits are intended for stand-alone usage. The *in vitro* diagnostic is intended to be used in combination with standard formalin fixed, paraffin embedded tissue blocks, standard tissue freezing, tissue sectioning (microtome), standard cytological preparation methods, hot plate(s), stove(s), incubation device(s), water bath(s), temperature and incubation time control(s), and other reagents (not supplied with this reagent) and a microscope. The combination has been tested and validated. Since the standard formalin fixed, paraffin embedded tissue blocks, standard tissue freezing, tissue sectioning (microtome), standard cytological preparation methods, hot plate(s), stove(s), incubation device(s), water bath(s), temperature controls, incubation time control(s) and other not supplied reagents such as but not limited to fixation, embedding and dewaxing reagents and a microscope is not combined with the device as a product, conformity with the essential requirements is not applicable. Assay validation criteria are mentioned in '*Interpretation of the Results*' and are also depending on the target load, which may influence the validation criteria.

Specifications of the RNA probes:

	EBER	kappa	lambda	Positive Control RNA	Negative Control RNA
Specificity	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sensitivity	85%	85%	85%	95%	95%

Chapter 4 References

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Chapter 5 Probe specifications

REMBRANDT® Biotin¹ and Digoxigenin^{1,2} labelled RNA probe specifications

CAT. NO.	LABEL	DNA PROBE SPECIFICATIONS		
		Description	Size	Region
A500P.0100 A500P.9900	BIO DIG	Epstein-Bar virus small RNA's probe (PROBE xxx EBER)*	30-mer oligonucleotide	mixture of 5 oligonucleotides complementary to Epstein-Bar encoded small RNA's
C601P.0100 C601P.9900	BIO DIG	Kappa light chain mRNA probe (PROBE xxx Kappa)*	30-mer oligonucleotide	mixture of 10 oligonucleotides complementary kappa light chain mRNA's
C602P.0100 C602P.9900	BIO DIG	Lambda light chain mRNA probe (PROBE xxx Lambda)*	30-mer oligonucleotide	mixture of 10 oligonucleotides complementary lambda light chain mRNA's
Q101P.0100 Q101P.9900	BIO DIG	Negative control probe for RNA (CONTROL – xxx RISH)*	26-mer oligonucleotide	1 oligonucleotide
Q152P.0100 Q152P.9900	BIO DIG	Positive control probe for RNA (CONTROL + xxx RISH)*	37-mer oligonucleotide	1 oligonucleotide complementary to Poly-A

* xxx = label (BIO or DIG)

- Contents : - clear vial, yellow cap = BIO labelled probe; 0.8 mL (25-40 assays)
- clear vial, purple cap = DIG labelled probe; 0.8 mL (25-40 assays)
- Format : ready to use
- Application : colorimetric detection of respective RNA in human specimen by *in situ* hybridisation (ISH)
- Detection limit : 10-30 pg by filter hybridisation
- Storage : refrigerated (2-8 °C); do not freeze
- Stability : until expiry date printed on label
- Precautions : - it is important to work RNase free in the period between deparaffinisation and hybridisation; wear gloves and treat glassware overnight at 200°C before use
- homogenise solutions before use
- avoid contact with eyes and skin; do not swallow

1 The probes in this product are labelled with the Universal Linkage System (ULS™). This product or the use of this product may be covered by one or more patents of KREATECH Biotechnology BV, including, but not restricted to, the following: EP 0539466; US 5,580,990; US 5,714,327; WO 92/01699; WO 96/35696; WO 98/15564.

2 Digoxigenin (DIG) labeling and detection is protected by international patents of Roche Molecular Biochemicals. This product is supplied under a license of Roche Molecular Biochemicals. This product or the use of this product may be covered by one or more patents of Roche Molecular Biochemicals, including the following: EP patent 0324 474 (granted); U.S. patent 5.354.657 (granted).