MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Hepatitis A virus LENTICULE® Discs

Material Safety Data Sheet for:
Reference materials (RM) products for Hepatitis A virus stabilised in LENTICULE® disc format

Review date: 12 January 2027

Issued to: All users of CEFAS/UKHSA RM products for hepatitis A virus

Access: Document to be downloaded from UKHSA Culture Collections website at www.culturecollections.org.uk

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SAFETY DATA SHEET FOR CEFAS/UKHSA HEPATITIS A VIRUS LENTICULE® DISC PRODUCTS (REFERENCE MATERIALS)

1. Identification of the product and the establishment

Product: Reference material for use in laboratories examining food and water samples for hepatitis A virus

Establishment: Culture Collections
UK Health Security Agency
Porton Down
Salisbury
SP4 0JG, UK

Telephone (9.00 – 17.00 hours) +44 (0) 1980 612512

Telephone (Out of working hours) +44 (0) 1980 612100

2. Hazards identification

Physico-chemical hazard: Not applicable

Health hazard: Minimal risk of infection provided good laboratory practice is observed

Environmental hazard: Not applicable

3. Composition/information on ingredients

Plastic vials containing control-dried hepatitis A virus pMH175 43c (vaccine strain) of Hazard Group 2, in tablet format (LENTICULE® disc) with a silica gel desiccant. The silica gel self-indicating (orange) inserts are not classified as dangerous material.

Hazard Group 2 as defined by the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens 2013 Approved List of Biological Agents http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/misc208.pdf
A Hazard Group 2 organism may cause human disease and may be a hazard to laboratory workers, but is unlikely to spread to the community.

Synonyms: Infectious hepatitis, epidemic hepatitis, epidemic jaundice, type A viral hepatitis, HAV.

Identity: Positive single-stranded RNA, no envelope, 27-30 nm diameter, *Picornaviridae*, Hepatovirus.

Pathogenicity: Hepatitis A virus strain pHM175 43c (HM-175) vaccine strain HM 175 strain contains mutations involved in culture adaptation which enable it to grow well in culture and which attenuate its human pathogenicity.

Note. *Many hepatitis A infections are non-symptomatic. However, hepatitis A may cause abrupt onset fever, nausea and abdominal pain; jaundice may ensue within one to two days. Generally, in healthy individuals illness is mild with full recovery within one to two weeks. On occasion, infection may result in a severe disabling illness*

lasting more than six months with extended convalescence. Very rare case fatality reported, generally in older patients. No reports of chronic infection.

Epidemiology: Worldwide spread, sporadic and epidemic.

Host range*:* Humans, chimpanzees, macaque monkeys, owl monkeys.

Infectious dose: Unknown.

Mode of transmission: Faecal-oral route, ingestion of contaminated foodstuffs (e.g. bivalve shellfish), ingestion of contaminated water.

4. First aid measures

If accidental contact with material occurs laboratory staff must follow local first aid procedures that are normally applied following exposure to an equivalent routine sample to be tested for hepatitis A virus.

5. Fire fighting measures

Not applicable

6. Accidental release measures

Pick up the dropped tablet (LENTICULE® disc) with absorbent material moistened with a suitable disinfectant. Wipe area with a similarly moistened pad of absorbent material and subsequently sterilise all paper and the tablet (LENTICULE® disc).

7. Handling and storage

Store at -20 ± 5°C. Samples must be processed in a laboratory environment which, as defined by national regulations or guidelines, is suitable for the handling of micro-organisms of ACDP Hazard Group 2. Staff handling the material should have been trained in the handling of infectious biological material. The material should be treated with the same degree of care as would be exercised with equivalent samples submitted to the laboratory for testing. Hand-to-mouth contact should be avoided while working with the materials and normal hand-washing procedures relating to the handling of routine samples to be examined for hepatitis A virus must be observed also with the reference materials.

8. Exposure controls/Personal protection

Use good laboratory practice and wear appropriate laboratory coat.

9. Physical and chemical properties

Inert odourless dry material.

10. Stability and reactivity

Long term storage will not increase the risks of infection associated with handling the material.

11. Toxicological information

Not applicable

12. Ecological information

Not applicable

13. Disposal considerations

The used material must be disposed of using an autoclave as for routine samples to be examined for hepatitis A virus and in accordance with all local and national regulations.

14. Transport information

Refer to national and international regulations for transport of viruses in Hazard Group 2 (Biological substance, category B; UN3373).

15. Regulatory information

EC Biological agent, Hazard Category/Risk Group 2

Note that this safety data sheet does not constitute the user's own assessments of workplace risk as required by Health and Safety legislation.

16. Other information

In the event of an accident involving exposure of staff to the material contained in the reference materials, contact the Culture Collections (+44 (0) 1980 612512) during normal UK working hours. The UKHSA Porton Duty Officer (+44 (0) 1980 612100) should be contacted out of hours.

For further safety information concerning this product, participants are advised to read the instruction sheets available from the website:
www.culturecollections.org.uk

Note: The information and recommendations contained in this Material Safety Data Sheet are compiled from sources understood to be reliable, however we accept no responsibility for the accuracy, or reliability or for any loss of injury resulting from the use of this information. Equally, emerging hazards may not be covered in this document.