Detection of Progesterone Receptor in Formalin Fixed, Paraffin-Embedded Mouse and Rat Tissue

Reagent and Antibody Information

1X Wash Buffer
3% Hydrogen Peroxide
1% BSA Diluent
1X Citrate Buffer
DAB Chromogen
Hematoxylin

Blocking Serum: Normal Horse Serum
Jackson Immunoresearch Laboratories, Inc.
West Grove, PA 19390
www.jacksonimmuno.com
1-800-367-5296
Catalog # 008-000-001

Avidin / Biotin Blocking Kit
Vector Laboratories, Inc.
Burlingame, CA 94010
www.vectorlabs.com
1-800-227-6666
Catalog # SP-2001

Primary Antibody (1): Mouse Anti-Progesterone Receptor Antibody
Beckman Coulter, Inc.
Fullerton, CA 92834
www.beckmancoulter.com
1-800-458-5060
Catalog # IM1546

Primary Antibody (2): Mouse Anti-Progesterone Receptor Antibody
GeneTex, Inc
San Antonio, TX 78245
www.genetex.com
1-877-436-3839
Catalog # GTX39501

Note: Primary antibody 1 or 2 can be used for this stain. Use the same antibody throughout the entire project.

Negative Control Serum: Purified Mouse IgG2a Isotype Control Serum
BD Biosciences
San Jose, CA 95131
www.bdbiosciences.com
1-855-236-2772
Catalog # 550339

Secondary Antibody: Biotinylated Horse Anti-Mouse IgG (H+L)
Vector Laboratories, Inc.
Burlingame, CA 94010
www.vectorlabs.com
1-800-227-6666

Catalog # BA-2001

Label Complex: R.T.U. Vectastain Elite ABC Reagent
Vector Laboratories, Inc.
Burlingame, CA 94010
www.vectorlabs.com
1-800-227-6666
Catalog # PK-7100

Staining Procedure

Positive Control Tissue: Female reproductive tract
Stain localization: Nuclear

1. Deparaffinize and hydrate slides through the following solutions:

Solution	Repetitions	Time
Xylene	2 times	5 minutes
100% Ethanol	2 times	3 minutes
95% Ethanol	2 times	3 minutes
1X Wash Buffer	2 times	5 minutes

2. Quench endogenous peroxidase by placing the slides in 3% hydrogen peroxide for 15 minutes.

3. Rinse the slides in 2 changes of 1X wash buffer for 5 minutes each.

4. Heat-Induced Epitope Retrieval Using The Decloaker
   Add 500 ml of distilled water to the pan inside the decloaker.
   Place a full rack of slides into a Tissue Tek® container with 200 ml of 1X citrate buffer
   (Insert blank slides into any empty slots in the rack to ensure even heating of slides)
   Place the container stably inside the pan and decloak for 5 minutes. *Maximum Pressure* _____
   Depressurize for 10 minutes.
   Remove pan top and cool for 10 minutes. *Temperature Before Cooling Slides*_____
   Rinse the slides in 2 changes of distilled water for 3 minutes each time.

5. Rinse the slides in 2 changes of 1X wash buffer for 5 minutes each time.

6. Block with 10% normal horse serum for 20 minutes at room temperature.
   Lot #_____ Date Reconstituted_____

DO NOT RINSE SLIDES. CONTINUE TO AVIDIN-BIOTIN BLOCK.

7. Avidin / Biotin Blocking Kit
   Lot #_____ Exp. Date_____ New Kit: yes / no
   Apply avidin block for 15 minutes at room temperature.
   Quick rinse in 1X wash buffer.
   Apply biotin block for 15 minutes at room temperature.

   DO NOT RINSE SLIDES WITH BUFFER BEFORE ADDING PRIMARY ANTIBODY.
   ONLY WIPE EXCESS BLOCK.

8. Apply primary antibody at a 1:150 dilution. Incubate for 1 hour at room temperature.
   Lot #_____ Exp. Date _____

   For negative control slides, dilute mouse IgG2a control serum so that it's IgG2a protein concentration matches that of the primary antibody (if necessary). Then make a 1:150 dilution. If the concentrations can't be matched using this method, the dilution for the negative reagent may need to be adjusted. Apply the negative and incubate for 1 hour at room temperature.
   Lot #_____ Exp. Date _____

9. Rinse the slides in 2 changes of 1X wash buffer for 5 minutes each.

10. Apply the horse anti-mouse secondary antibody at a 1:1000 dilution. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature.
    Lot #_____ Date Reconstituted _____

11. Rinse the slides in 2 changes of 1X wash buffer for 5 minutes each.

12. Apply the Vectastain R.T.U. Elite Label and incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature.
    Exp. Date_____ New Kit: yes / no

13. Rinse the slides in 2 changes of 1X wash buffer for 5 minutes each time.

14. Apply the DAB chromogen. Incubate in the dark for 6 minutes at room temperature.
    (Add 1 drop of DAB per ml of substrate)
    Lot #_____ Exp. Date_____ New Kit: yes / no

15. Rinse the slides in tap water 3 minutes.

16. Counterstain with hematoxylin for 20 seconds.

17. Rinse the slides in tap water until water is clear.

18. Gently agitate slides in 1X wash buffer until the tissues turn blue.

19. Dehydrate through the following solutions:

Solutions	Repetitions	Time
95% Ethanol	1 time	3 minutes
100% Ethanol	3 times	3 minutes
Xylene	2 times	5 minutes

20. Coverslip

Updated 11/28/11

This protocol has been made available for use by others. We cannot guarantee optimal results, so staining conditions must be determined by the end user.
Protocol modifications may be required due to lot number changes and/or reagent substitutions.