

dCODE Dextramer® (HiT) Package Insert

Products	dCODE Dextramer® (HiT) (Gold/Explore), cat# WBxxxxxdHG / UWBxxxxxHEP CD1d dCODE Dextramer® (HiT) (Gold/Explore), cat# XDxxxxxdHG / YDxxxxxdHG MR1 dCODE Dextramer® (HiT) (Gold/Explore), cat# ZAxxxxxdHG Collectively denominated dCODE® (HiT) reagents
Recommended use	Profiling and quantitation of antigen-specific T cells, NKT, or MAIT cells in cell samples ^{1,2,3} . For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.
Materials Provided	dCODE® (HiT) reagents consisting of a dextran polymer backbone carrying multiple MHC, CD1d, or MR1-antigen complexes, a corresponding unique DNA Barcode oligo, and R-phycoerythrin (PE) for sorting of dCODE® (HiT) positive cells. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ dCODE® (HiT) reagents are provided at a concentration of 160 nM in PBS buffer, containing 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 15 mM NaN₃, pH 7.2. ▪ 2 µL (one test) is recommended for staining of 1-3 x 10⁶ PBMCs. ▪ Each dCODE® (HiT) reagent is uniquely identified by its allele / Peptide / DNA Barcode. <p>The unique DNA Barcode oligo comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forward and reverse primer handle sequences for amplification of DNA Barcode ▪ Unique Molecule Identifier (UMI) sequence ▪ DNA Barcode sequence that specifies the MHC-peptide specificity <p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> Reverse handle DNA Barcode (18) UMI (18) Forward handle 5'-CTGTGACTATGTGAGGCTTCXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNGACGCTGGCTGGAACTTC-3' </p>
Sizes	dCODE® (HiT) - Gold: Single reagents of 25 tests (50 µL), 50 tests (100 µL) or 150 tests (300 µL) each. dCODE® (HiT) - Explore: Reagent Panels of 16, 32, 48, 64, 80, or 96 for 10 tests (20 µL), 25 tests (50 µL) or 50 tests (100 µL) each.
Storage	dCODE® (HiT) reagents should be stored at 2-8°C in the dark – the plastic vial only partially protects the reagents against light.
Precautions	Contains sodium azide (NaN ₃), a chemical highly toxic in pure form. At product concentrations, though not classified as hazardous, sodium azide may react with lead and copper plumbing to form highly explosive build-ups of metal azides. Upon disposal, flush with large volumes of water to prevent metal azide build-up in plumbing.
References	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bentzen, A. et al., Large-scale detection of antigen-specific T cells using peptide-MHC-I multimers labeled with DNA barcodes. Nat. Biotechnol 2016. Doi: 10.1038/nbt.3662 2. Bentzen, A. et al., Next-generation detection of antigen-responsive T cells using DNA barcode-labeled peptide-major histocompatibility complex I multimers. European Journal of Immunology, 2016. Doi: 10.1002/eji.201670200 3. Lyngaa, R. B et al., High-throughput discovery of T cell epitopes in type 1 diabetes using DNA barcode labelled peptide-MHC multimers. Eu Jour. of Immunol., 2016. DOI: 10.1038/nbt.3662
Patents	The dCODE® technology is disclosed in granted and pending patents within the WO 2015/185067 and WO 2015/188839 patent families including US11402373, US11585806, EP3152232, AU2015271324, AU2019264685, SG11201610177U and JP6956632.
Symbols	See www.immudex.com/symbols for explanation of symbols.

Technical support

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Materials Required (Not Provided)

Stain buffer: PBS, pH 7.4 cont. 1-5% serum and 0.1 g/L Herring sperm DNA
 Wash buffer: PBS, pH 7.4 cont. 1-5% serum
 Sorting buffer: PBS, pH 7.4 cont. 50% serum
 100 μ M d-Biotin in PBS, pH 7.4
 Antibodies identifying relevant cell surface markers (e.g. CD3, CD4, CD8)
 Forward and reverse amplification primers. For design see Appendix A
 qPCR reaction components
 QIAquick[®] PCR Purification Kit

Procedure

1. Prepare PBMC sample and resuspend 1-3 x 10⁶ PBMC in 50-100 μ L stain buffer.
2. Centrifuge dCODE[®] (HiT) at 10,000 x g for 1 min.
3. Preparation of dCODE[®] (HiT) reagent pool:
 - a. Add 0.2 μ L 100 μ M d-Biotin per dCODE[®] (HiT) specificity into an empty tube
 - b. Add 2 μ L of each dCODE[®] (HiT) specificity and mix
4. From this mixture, take 1 μ L and dilute with 99 μ L wash buffer. Save this for qPCR amplification as input sample (step 13)
5. Add the pool of dCODE[®] (HiT) reagents to the cell sample and mix thoroughly
6. Incubate in the dark at room temperature:
 - a. MHC I, MR1 or CD1d dCODE Dextramer[®] (HiT) pool: 10 min. incubation^A
 - b. MHC II dCODE Dextramer[®] (HiT): 30 min. incubation^A
 - c. dCODE[®] (HiT) pool comprized of a. and b.: 30 min. incubation^A
7. Add relevant antibodies in the volume/concentration recommended by provider. Incubate at room temperature in the dark for 20 min.
7. Washing:
 - a. If staining in 4 mL tubes, add 2 mL wash buffer. Centrifuge at 300 x g for 5 min. and remove the supernatant. Repeat washing with another 2 mL wash buffer
 - b. If staining in 96-well microtiter plates, make 4 sequential washes using 200 μ L wash buffer per well. Centrifuge at 300 x g for 5 min. between each wash and remove supernatant
8. Resuspend cells in adequate volume of wash buffer
9. Proceed to FACS following the guidelines and practices of your sorting facility
10. Make a two-way sort by sorting the dCODE[®] (HiT)-PE-positive population and the dCODE[®] (HiT) - PE-negative population separately
11. Collect sorted cells directly into tubes containing 500 μ L sorting buffer.
12. Centrifuge the sorted cell samples at 300 x g for 10 min. Add 1 mL pure PBS and spin down for an additional 5 min. at 300 x g. Discard

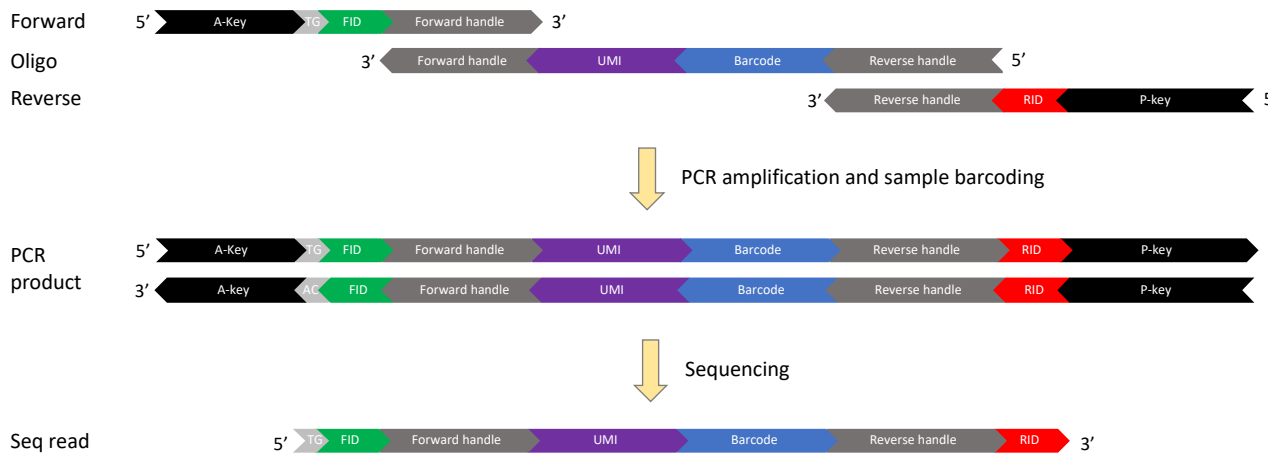
- supernatant and resuspend cell pellet in 40 μ L PBS
(Optional: Store at -20°C for up to 72h or proceed to the next step)
13. For each cell sample (dCODE[®] (HiT)-PE-positive and dCODE[®] (HiT)-PE-negative), use 20 μ L cell suspension to prepare a 40 μ L final PCR reaction volume. For dCODE[®] (HiT) input mixture, use 1 μ L of the diluted sample as template in a 40 μ L total PCR reaction volume
 14. Purify DNA from each PCR reaction (dCODE[®]-PE-positive, dCODE[®]-PE-negative, and input mixture) using QIAquick[®] PCR Purification Kit following the manufacturer's instructions. Elute each sample in 20 μ L water
 15. To prepare the final sample for sequencing, mix 10 μ L of each of the purified dCODE[®]-PE-positive and dCODE[®]-PE-negative PCR products. Add just 1 μ L PCR product from the input mixture. Remaining purified PCR products can be stored at -20°C as backup
 16. Send sample for sequencing.

Data Analysis

Demultiplex the sequencing data according to sample (primer barcodes) and dCODE[®] (HiT) reagents (oligo barcodes). Calculate the apparent enrichment (AE) for each reagent by dividing its read count in the dCODE[®] (HiT)-PE-positive sample with the corresponding read count in the dCODE[®] (HiT)-PE-negative sample. To get the specific enrichment, divide each AE with the (median of the) AE of the control dCODE[®] (HiT) reagents.

Sequencing reads from the dCODE[®] (HiT) input mixture serve to validate the presence of all dCODE[®] (HiT) reagents.

Appendix DNA Oligo amplification and Primer design



Note: If the amplified product is sequenced using the A-key, the sequence read corresponds to the reverse complement of the oligo.

Amplification primers:

- Amplification primers are used in the PCR reaction to amplify the target region of the DNA barcode oligo.
- Each primer consists of a region for annealing to the oligo (forward or reverse handle), a unique sample ID sequence to individual label samples for multiplex sequencing, and a sequencing handle (A-key and P-key).
- The A-key and P-key must be matched to the sequencing platform (examples below are for Ion Torrent) and can be adapted as necessary.

A-key FID (8) Forward handle
 Forward 5'-CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAG + TG + Sample ID + GAAGTTCCAGCCAGCGTC-3'

P-key RID (8) Reverse handle
 Reverse 5'-CCTCTCTATGGGCAGTCGGTGAT + Sample ID + CTGTGACTATGTGAGGCTTTC-3'

Table 1: Examples of primer sequences for Ion Torrent sequencing (color-coding as above):

Forward Primer	Reverse Primer
CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAG TGCTGGGGTGAAGTTCCAGCCAGCGTC	CCTCTCTATGGGCAGTCGGTGATATTGCGCC TGTGACTATGTGAGGCTTTC
CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAG TGCTCCACAGGAAGTTCCAGCCAGCGTC	CCTCTCTATGGGCAGTCGGTGATGACCCGTAC TGTGACTATGTGAGGCTTTC
CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAG TGCTTACCTGAAGTTCCAGCCAGCGTC	CCTCTCTATGGGCAGTCGGTGATTGGCGTACC TGTGACTATGTGAGGCTTTC
CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAG TGTGGCAGCAGAAGTTCCAGCCAGCGTC	CCTCTCTATGGGCAGTCGGTGATTATATGTC TGTGACTATGTGAGGCTTTC
CCATCTCATCCCTGCGTGTCTCCGACTCAG TGTGAGTAACGAAGTTCCAGCCAGCGTC	CCTCTCTATGGGCAGTCGGTGATTGTTCTGCC TGTGACTATGTGAGGCTTTC