

DETECTION OF C677T POLYMORPHISM IN METHYLENTETRAHYDROFOLATE REDUTTASE GENE

AMPLI-MTHFR C677T REAL-TIME Cat 1.300RT

The increase of the level of homocysteine may depend on a metabolic block of the transformation of homocysteine in cystathionine or on the unsuccessful methylation of homocysteine in methionine. The classic form of hyper-homocysteinemia is due to a deficiency of the cystathionine sintetase that catalyzes the production of cystathionine from homocysteine and serine.

The enzyme **MTHFR** catalyzes the reduction of 5,10-methylentetrahydrofolate in 5- methyltetrahydrofolate, the predominant form of circulating folate and donor of carbon in the process of re-methylation of thr homocysteine in methionine.

A mutation **C-T**, that inserts a **Valine** instead of a **Alanine**, is associated with a reduced activity and an increased thermolability of this enzyme. Homozigote subjects for the mutation show a significative increase of the plasmatic level of circulating homocysteine, due to the unsuccessful conversion in methionine.

The grave deficiency of 5,10-methylentetrahydrofolate Reduttase (MTHFR) is the most common defect linked to metabolic processes of folates which causes iper-homocysteinemia, homocysteinemia, homocystinuria and low levels of methionine. The subjects that carry this pathology show during childhood or adolescence disorders of the motor development, mental disorders and other neurological abnormality.

Fasting hyper-homocysteinemia is associated to an increased risk of vascular cerebral, peripheral and coronary diseases.

As shown in fig 1, the detection of the polymorphism involves performing a PCR with specific primers and a probe which anneals between primer sites (1). The probe is is labeled with a fluorescent reporter dye bound to the 5' and quencher on the 3' end. (2). Due to the 5' nuclease activity of Taq pol during extension, the cleavage of the probe causes an increase of the reporter dye signal (3), and the fluorescent intensity is proportional to the amount of amplicon produced. (4) (real time quantitative PCR)

In the kit for the detection of C677T polymorphism, the probe matching the wild type sequence (allele C) is labeled to the VIC dye reporter, whereas the probe matching the mutation sequence (allele T) is labeled to the FAM dye reporter

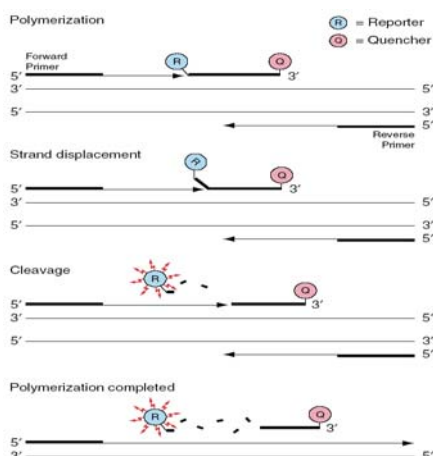


Fig. 1

Principle of method: A) extraction of genomic DNA
B) amplification C) detection using real time PCR instrument

Applicability: Genomic DNA extracted and purified by whole blood samples

Number of reactions: 96.

REAGENTS AND STORAGE

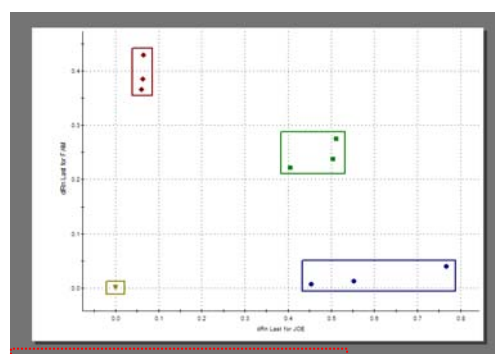
AMPLIFICATION	
PCR mix 2X	+4°C
H ₂ O sterile	-20°C
Primer-probe mix 20X	-20°C in the dark
WT Control (CC)	-20°C
Mutant Control (TT)	-20°C
Eterozygosis positive control	-20°C

Stability: over 18 months if correctly stored.

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

After an AD post-read run, the software analyzes raw data using the AD specific program. Anywhere it is useful analyzing the amplification plots, in order to check the amplification reaction.

Allelic discrimination MTHFR C677T



Legend:
Red: allele T
Green: C and T alleles
Blue: allele WT (C)

References:

Nat Genet 1995 May;10(1):111-3. Frosst P et al.
Thromb Haemost 1998 May;79(5):907-11. Margaglione M et al.