



# SBT RESOLVER™

## Instructions for Use

### PCR Amplification and Sequencing of the HLA-DRB3,-DRB4 and -DRB5 Loci

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**IVD**



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## Principle

The HLA Sequencing Based Typing (SBT) procedure described here was originally developed by D. Sayer in 2001<sup>1</sup> and developed into a single tube assay in 2004<sup>2</sup>. The procedure involves the initial amplification of the target sequence followed by enzymatic treatment to remove unincorporated primers and dNTPs. The amplicon is then used as a template for direct automated fluorescent DNA sequencing using customized sequencing primers and the Big Dye<sup>®</sup> Terminator sequencing chemistry available from Applied Biosystems<sup>™</sup> by Life Technologies<sup>™</sup>. The extension products are purified according to the ethanol precipitation method and denatured using Hi-Di<sup>™</sup> formamide available from Applied Biosystems<sup>™</sup> by Life Technologies<sup>™</sup>, before separation and detection on an automated fluorescent DNA sequencer. It is recommended that the resulting data is then analysed with Assign<sup>™</sup> SBT sequence analysis software from Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd<sup>3-5</sup>.

## Intended Use

These Conexio Genomics' SBT Resolver<sup>™</sup> SBT kits are used for the typing of the HLA Class II genes, HLA-DRB3, -DRB4 and -DRB5 in a laboratory setting from genomic DNA. Each kit contains reagents that facilitate the PCR amplification and DNA sequencing of a given gene. The resultant sequencing data is then interpreted through the use of Conexio Genomics' Assign<sup>™</sup> SBT software. It should be noted that these kits are not to be used for the diagnosis of disease.

## Kit Composition

| Kit          | Catalogue No    |  | PRE-PCR Contents <sup>†</sup><br>(No of vials)   | POST-PCR Contents<br>(No of vials)  |                |
|--------------|-----------------|---|--|---|----------------|
| <b>Locus</b> |                 |   |  |   |                |
| HLA-DRB3     | AN-PD11.0-0(20) | 20 tests  | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DNA POL – DRB3</div><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">HLA-DRB3 MIX</div> | 1 x 10µL<br>1 x 370µL<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB3EX2F</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB3EX2R</div>  | 1 x 44µL each  |
|              | AN-PD11.0-0(50) | 50 tests  | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DNA POL – DRB3</div><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">HLA-DRB3 MIX</div> | 1 x 20µL<br>1 x 920µL<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB3EX2F</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB3EX2R</div>  | 1 x 110µL each |
| HLA-DRB4     | AN-PD12.0-0(20) | 20 tests  | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DNA POL – DRB4</div><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">HLA-DRB4 MIX</div> | 1 x 10µL<br>1 x 370µL<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB4EX2F</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB4EX2R</div>  | 1 x 44µL each  |
|              | AN-PD12.0-0(50) | 50 tests  | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DNA POL – DRB4</div><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">HLA-DRB4 MIX</div> | 1 x 20µL<br>1 x 920µL<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB4EX2F</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB4EX2R</div>  | 1 x 110µL each |
| HLA-DRB5     | AN-PD13.0-0(20) | 20 tests  | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DNA POL – DRB5</div><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">HLA-DRB5 MIX</div> | 1 x 10µL<br>1 x 370µL<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB5EX2F</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB5EX2R</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-left: 20px;">DRB5EX3F</div> | 1 x 44uL each  |
|              | AN-PD13.0-0(50) | 50 tests  | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DNA POL – DRB5</div><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">HLA-DRB5 MIX</div> | 1 x 20µL<br>1 x 920µL<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DRB5EX2F</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DPB5EX2R</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-left: 20px;">DRB5EX3F</div> | 1 x 110uL each |

<sup>†</sup>The PRE-PCR component of each kit consists of a vial of a locus-specific PCR mix (e.g. 

HLA-DRB3 MIX

) consisting of PCR buffer, dNTPs, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, locus specific PCR primers, and a single vial of DNA polymerase (e.g. 

DNA POL – DRB3

).

The POST-PCR kit contains sequencing primers (e.g. 

DRB3EX2F

).

## Storage Requirements

The PRE- and POST-PCR boxes may be separated and stored in designated PRE- and POST-PCR freezers. When stored at -20°C (temperature range of -15°C to -25°C is acceptable), the kit components can be used until the expiry indicated on the outer kit containers and can tolerate up to 25 freeze-thaw cycles.

Accelerated stability testing for these kits have indicated a shelf life of two and a half years from the date of manufacture when stored at -20°C. While confirmatory real-time testing is underway it is strongly recommended that these kits are NOT to be used beyond their expiry date.

To maintain optimal kit performance, the kit components should be removed from the -20°C storage location and thawed rapidly at room temperature before use. The kit components, with the exception of the polymerase, should then be gently vortexed to ensure that the components of each tube are appropriately mixed after thawing. After use, the kits/components should be returned immediately to -20°C.

## Materials, Reagents and Equipment Not Supplied

### PCR

1. Sterile water
2. Electronic or mechanical pipettes and aerosol-resistant tips
3. Thermal cycler with heated lid  
These kits have been tested using the following thermal cyclers:

MJ Research PTC 225 DNA Engine DYAD™, Applied Biosystems™ by Life Technologies™ Veriti™ Thermal cycler, GeneAmp® PCR System 9700, and Eppendorf Mastercycler® Pro.

**Use of other thermal cyclers with these kits requires validation by the user.**

4. 0.2mL thin-walled thermal cycling reaction tubes (8 well strips or 96 well plates).  
Use those recommended for use with your thermal cycler.
5. Sterile 1.5mL tubes
6. Sterile biological safety cabinet or hood.
7. Table top centrifuge with plate adapters and capacity to reach 2500 x g
8. Vortex

### Agarose Gel Electrophoresis

9. Agarose gel electrophoresis apparatus
10. 1% agarose (molecular biology grade) TBE gel containing 0.1µg/mL ethidium bromide.
11. Loading buffer
12. PCR Marker suitable to cover range of 300 – 1300 bp
13. UV transilluminator

### Purification of PCR Product

14. ExoSAP (USB<sup>®</sup> ExoSAP-IT<sup>®</sup> Cat No 78200 for 100 reactions or Illustra<sup>™</sup> ExoProStar<sup>™</sup> Cat No US77702 for 100 reactions)
15. 2mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> (available for purchase from Conexio Genomics, product code MgCl2-1.0(50) or MgCl2-1.0(3000)).
16. Shaker

**The use of alternative PCR purification techniques requires validation by the user prior to use.**

### **Sequencing Reaction**

17. BigDye<sup>®</sup> Terminator Cycle Sequencing Kit v3.1 or v1.1, Applied Biosystems<sup>™</sup> by Life Technologies<sup>™</sup>.
18. 5x Sequencing Reaction Buffer (Conexio Genomics, product code SEQ BUF-2.0(400) or SEQ BUF-2.0(5000)) or BigDye<sup>®</sup> Terminator v3.1 or v1.1 5X Sequencing Buffer, Applied Biosystems<sup>™</sup> by Life Technologies<sup>™</sup>.

### **Purification of Sequencing Reaction Products**

19. 125mM EDTA, pH8.0 (available for purchase from Conexio Genomics, product code EDTA-3.0(200) or EDTA-3.0(5000)).
20. Absolute Ethanol. Each run needs freshly prepared 80% ethanol solution consisting of absolute ethanol and sterile water. DO NOT USE DENATURED ETHANOL.

**The use of alternative sequencing purification techniques requires validation by the user prior to use.**

### **Denaturation and Electrophoresis of Sequencing Reaction Products**

21. Hi-Di<sup>™</sup> Formamide, Applied Biosystems<sup>™</sup> by Life Technologies<sup>™</sup>, product code 4311320
22. Automated DNA Sequencer and accessories (eg Applied Biosystems<sup>™</sup> by Life Technologies<sup>™</sup> ABI Prism<sup>®</sup> 3730), including data collection and software.  
These kits have been tested and validated on the Applied Biosystems<sup>™</sup> by Life Technologies<sup>™</sup> 3100, 3730 and 3730xl capillary sequencers and software.

**The use of other denaturation techniques and sequencing platforms requires validation by the user prior to use.**

23. HLA Sequencing Analysis Software (e.g. Assign<sup>™</sup> SBT, version 3.6+ or higher Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd).

### **Sample Requirements**

1. Sterile water (negative/ no template control)
2. High molecular weight human genomic DNA (concentration range of 20-100ng/μL in Tris/EDTA buffer and OD<sub>260/280</sub>> 1.8) extracted from ACD or EDTA anticoagulated whole blood specimens. Do NOT use whole blood specimens containing heparin.


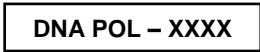
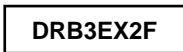



## Warnings and Safety Precautions

- This kit must be used by trained and authorized laboratory personnel.
- All samples, equipment and reagents must be handled in accordance with good laboratory practice. In particular, all biological material should be considered as potentially infectious. The use of gloves and laboratory coats is strongly recommended. Handle and dispose of all sample material according to local and national regulatory guidelines.
- There are NO dangerous substances contained in any of the kit components.
- Do NOT use reagents beyond their expiration date.
- The use of kit components from different kit batches is NOT recommended. Such use may affect the assay's performance.
- Use of reagents not included in this kit or not listed under "Materials, Reagents and Equipment Not Supplied" (e.g. alternative DNA polymerases) is NOT recommended. Such use may affect the performance of the assay.
- Care should be taken to prevent cross-contamination of DNA specimens. Change tips between DNA specimens wherever possible.
- Pre- and Post-PCR activities must be strictly physically separated. Use specifically designated equipment, reagents and laboratory coats.
- Ethidium bromide is a potential carcinogen. Protective gloves must always be used when preparing and handling gels. Dispose of ethidium-bromide gels and buffers according to local and national guidelines.
- While viewing and photographing agarose gels under UV light, always avoid direct exposure and use appropriate UV-blocking face protection, disposable gloves and laboratory coats.

## Symbols

The following non-standard symbols have been used:

| Symbol  | Description   |
|---|---|
|  | Locus specific PCR Mix  |
|  | DNA polymerase  |
|  | HLA-DRB3 exon 3 forward sequencing primer. Refer to "Kit Composition" and Table 3 for other sequencing primers. |
|  | Date of manufacture (required for non-EU markets).  |

# Procedure

## 1. PCR

- 1.1. Set up one reaction for each sample, for each locus being amplified. Include appropriate positive and negative amplification controls of known genotype and at least one no template control for each group of samples being amplified.
- 1.2. Prepare a fresh solution of PCR master mix each time a PCR is performed. Quickly thaw the required number of vials of the appropriate PCR Mix. Once thawed vortex briefly.
- 1.3. Dispense the required amount of PCR mix and DNA polymerase into a sterile tube for the number of samples to be tested. Refer to Table 1 below. Pulse vortex the solution 3-4 times.

| <b>Locus</b>                                       | <b>DRB3</b> |
|--|-------------|
| Locus-specific PCR Mix<br>e.g. <b>HLA-DRB3 MIX</b> | 16.7µL      |
| DNA Polymerase<br>e.g. <b>DNA POL-DRB3</b>         | 0.3µL       |

**Table 1: Composition of the master mix required per sample.**

- 1.4. Dispense 17µL of the master mix into each reaction well.
- 1.5. Add 3µL of sample DNA or appropriate control sample to each reaction well. Add 3µL of sterile water to the no template control reaction well.
- 1.6. Seal the reaction wells. Mix gently by vortexing and centrifuge briefly.
- 1.7. Place the reaction wells into a thermal cycler and amplify the target sequence according to the thermal cycling conditions below:

95°C - 10 mins  
96°C - 20 secs } 33 cycles  
60°C - 30 secs }  
72°C - 3 mins }  
15°C - hold

- 1.8. Amplification takes approximately 2.5 hours to complete.
- 1.9. When the PCR is completed, remove the plate from the thermal cycler and either proceed directly to gel electrophoresis or store at 4°C until required.

**NOTE:** Purification of positive amplicons by ExoSAP-IT® treatment should occur within 24 hours of completion of PCR.

## 2. Agarose Gel Electrophoresis

- 2.1. Confirm successful amplification of the internal control amplicon in for all DNA samples tested, and the applicable HLA-DRB3, -DRB4 and -DRB5 target amplicons



in positive control and positive DNA samples by agarose gel electrophoresis, using 5µL of each PCR product combined with 5µL of loading buffer (alternative volumes of loading buffer should be validated prior to use). The use of 1% agarose gels is recommended.

- 2.2. All samples tested using the HLA-DRB3, -DRB4 and -DRB5 PCR mixes should amplify the internal control amplicon regardless of the HLA-DRB3, -DRB4, -DRB5 genotype. Positive samples should amplify both the internal control amplicon plus the target amplicon. The expected sizes of each amplicon are listed in Table 2.

| Locus                    | Expected band sizes |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| HLA-DRB3 target amplicon | ≈ 640 bp            |
| HLA-DRB4 target amplicon | ≈ 460 bp            |
| HLA-DRB5 target amplicon | ≈ 470 bp            |
| Internal control band    | ≈ 400 bp            |

**Table 2: Expected product sizes for each assay.**

### 3. Purification of PCR Product

**NOTE:** Purification systems other than ExoSAP-IT® or ExoProStar™ (e.g. Agencourt® AMPure® XP or column-based systems) can be used to purify these PCR products. It is strongly recommended that users validate these procedures before proceeding. If ExoSAP treatment is to be used it is recommended that users follow the procedure described below.

- 3.1. Prepare a mastermix consisting of 4µL of ExoSAP-IT® or ExoProStar™ and 8µL of 2mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> per sample to be purified. Gently pulse vortex to mix. Dispense 12µL of the mastermix into the reaction well of each reactive sample. Seal the wells, vortex and then either place on a shaker or gently vortex for 2 minutes. Centrifuge briefly before placing into the thermal cycler. Run the thermal cycler according to the following profile:

37°C - 30mins  
80°C - 15mins  
4°C - hold

- 3.2. Upon completion, dilute the purified product 1:4 with sterile water. This dilution step will ensure that there is sufficient template to perform the sequencing reactions and ensure that the concentration of the template is sufficient to produce good quality sequence data.

**NOTE:** A higher dilution factor (e.g. 1:8) may be required if consistently high signals and associated noise and artefacts are observed. Weaker PCR products may require a lower dilution factor.

- 3.3. ExoSAP treated samples may be stored at 4°C until ready for use. These samples can be stored at 4°C for up to a week before use, but should be stored at -20°C for long term storage.

### 4. Sequencing Reaction

**NOTE:** Only HLA-DRB3, -DRB4 and -DRB5 positive samples identified by gel electrophoresis should be sequenced using the following procedure.

4.1. Table 3 lists the sequencing primers that are to be used for each locus.

| Locus    | Sequencing Primers |          |
|----------|--------------------|----------|
| HLA-DRB3 | DRB3EX2F           | DRB3EX2R |
| HLA-DRB4 | DRB4EX2F           | DRB4EX2R |
| HLA-DRB5 | DRB5EX2F           | DRB5EX2R |
|          | DRB5EX3F           |          |

**Table 3: Sequencing primers provided to sequence the positive samples for each locus.**

4.2. Prepare a fresh solution of sequencing primer mix on ice each time a sequence reaction is performed. The composition and volumes for the mix are indicated **per sample**.

| Component                       | Volume       |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Sequencing primer               | 2 $\mu$ L    |
| Sterile water                   | 11.5 $\mu$ L |
| BigDye <sup>®</sup> Terminators | 1 $\mu$ L    |
| 5X Sequencing buffer            | 3.5 $\mu$ L  |

4.3. Mix each sequencing reaction mix gently by pulse vortexing.

4.4. Dispense 18 $\mu$ L of the sequencing reaction mix to each appropriate reaction tube/well.

4.5. Add 2 $\mu$ L of purified PCR product to each appropriate well.

**NOTE:** Care must be taken to prevent cross-contamination of sequence reactions.

4.6. Seal the reaction tubes, mix gently and centrifuge briefly to ensure that the contents are located at the base of each reaction tube.

4.7. Place the reaction tubes into a thermal cycler and run according to the following profile:

| Number of cycles | Temperature and time                       |
|------------------|--|
| 25               | 96°C – 10sec<br>50°C – 5sec<br>60°C – 2min |
| 1                | 4°C - hold                                 |

4.8. Once the program is complete, remove the reaction tubes from the thermal cycler and either proceed directly to purification of the reaction products or store at 4°C until required. It is recommended that samples are purified and run on the DNA sequencer within 24 hours.

## 5. Purification of Sequencing Reaction Products

**NOTE:** Purification of the reaction products may be carried out by procedures other than the ethanol precipitation method described here. It is strongly recommended that users validate these procedures before proceeding.

- 5.1. Briefly centrifuge the reaction wells/plates before proceeding. If reusable lids/caps have been used during thermal cycling label the lids/caps to avoid cross-contamination.
- 5.2. Carefully remove the seal.
- 5.3. To each reaction tube add 5µL of 125mM EDTA, pH8.0. Ensure that the EDTA reaches the base of the reaction tube.
- 5.4. Add 60 µL of 100% ethanol to each reaction well. Seal the plate and vortex briefly but thoroughly to ensure thorough mixing.
- 5.5. Pellet the extension products by centrifuging at 2000g for 45 minutes. **IMMEDIATELY PROCEED TO THE NEXT STEP.** If this is not possible, re-centrifuge for an additional 10 minutes before proceeding.
- 5.6. Remove the seals to the reaction tubes and discard the supernatant by inverting the reaction tubes onto paper towel or tissues.
- 5.7. Place the inverted reaction tubes and paper towel or tissue into the centrifuge. Centrifuge at 350g for 1 minute to remove any residual supernatant.
- 5.8. Remove the reaction tubes from the centrifuge and replace in an upright position on the work bench. Discard the paper towel or tissues.
- 5.9. Prepare a fresh solution of 80% ethanol with absolute ethanol and sterile water.
- 5.10. Add 60µL of 80% ethanol to each reaction tube/well. Reseal the tubes and mix by vortexing briefly.
- 5.11. Spin at 2000g for 5 minutes.
- 5.12. Repeat steps 5.6 to 5.7.
- 5.13. Remove the reaction tubes from the centrifuge and discard the paper towel. Reseal the reaction tubes and proceed to the denaturation step. Otherwise store at -20°C in the dark. It is recommended that the extension products are run on the DNA sequencer within 24 hours of setting up the sequencing reactions.

## 6. Denaturation & Electrophoresis of Sequencing Reaction Products

**NOTE:** The procedure for the denaturation of extension products in Hi-Di™ Formamide described here may not be necessary if purification procedures other than the ethanol precipitation have been used. It is strongly recommended that users validate alternative procedures before proceeding.

- 6.1. Add 12µL of Hi-Di™ Formamide to each reaction tube. Vortex and centrifuge the tubes briefly.
- 6.2. Incubate the reaction tubes at 98°C for 5 minutes. Following incubation, ensure that the reaction wells are cooled quickly to room temperature (e.g. place on ice or use the thermal cycler to perform the denaturation and cooling steps) before being placed on the sequencer. If it is not possible to run the plates immediately, store at 4°C until required.

**NOTE:** ENSURE THAT THERE ARE NO AIR BUBBLES IN THE REACTION WELLS. THESE CAN ENTER AND DAMAGE THE CAPILLARY.

- 6.3. Load the reaction plate onto the automated sequencer and prepare the data collection file according to the sequencer manufacturer specifications.
- 6.4. The following instrument parameters have been validated by the manufacturer using Big Dye® Terminator Sequencing Kit v3.1 and POP-7™. These parameters may require user validation for other polymers, sequencing chemistries and instruments. Please refer to the appropriate instrument user's manual for detailed instructions and guidance (e.g. ensure that the dye set setting is appropriate for the chemistry used, for example v1.1 Big Dye® Terminator sequencing chemistry will require a different dye set).

| <b>Parameter</b> | <b>Setting</b>         |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Dye set          | Z_BigDyeV3             |
| Mobility file    | KB_3730_POP7_BDTV3     |
| Basecaller       | KB.bcp                 |
| Run Module       | Regular FastSeq50_POP7 |
| Injection time   | 15 sec                 |
| Collection time  | 3000 sec               |

- 6.5. Use the instrument's data collection software to process the raw collected data and create the sequence files. Please refer to the appropriate instrument user's manual for detailed instructions and guidance.

## 7. Editing and analysis of electropherograms

The SBT Resolver™ kits were developed and validated using the Assign™ SBT and Assign™ ATF software developed by Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd. Users are recommended to use Assign SBT versions 3.6+ or higher as these versions of the software utilise setting and reference files specifically designed for the SBT Resolver™ typing kits and HARPS®. For more details in relation to the operation of these software please refer to the applicable user manuals available for download on the Conexio Genomics website (<http://www.conexio-genomics.com>).

The sequencing based typing data generated using the SBT Resolver™ typing kits should be analysed against the following Assign™ reference files which are provided by Conexio Genomics:

| <b>Assay</b>           | <b>Product Code</b> | <b>Assign Reference File</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| SBT Resolver™ HLA-DRB3 | AN-PD11.0-0         | DRB3.xml                     |
| SBT Resolver™ HLA-DRB4 | AN-PD12.0-0         | DRB4.xml                     |
| SBT Resolver™ HLA-DRB5 | AN-PD13.0-0         | DRB5.xml                     |

Alternatively, the sequencing data for all of the assays can be analysed against the D345.xml reference so long as the naming convention is such that each locus is analysed separately.

## Performance Characteristics

### Accuracy

Panels of up to 57 samples from the UCLA International DNA Exchange proficiency testing program (2008 - 2010) used for internal testing for the SBT Resolver™ kits yielded the following results:

| Locus    | Number of samples tested | Number of samples containing target locus | Number of mistyped samples | Number of heterozygous samples | Number of unique alleles |
|----------|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| HLA-DRB3 | 54                       | 22  | 0                          | 0                              | 3                        |
| HLA-DRB4 | 56                       | 33  | 0                          | 1                              | 3                        |
| HLA-DRB5 | 57                       | 15  | 0                          | 0                              | 4                        |

Sequence analysis of PCR and sequencing primer sites and performance evaluation has not identified any common and well documented alleles that are not amplified through the recommended use of these kits.

### Detection Limit

The recommended concentration of high molecular weight human genomic DNA is 20-100ng/μL. Internal testing has shown that samples with concentrations as low as 5ng/μL can also be used. Correct genotypes were also obtained from poor quality or sheared DNA.

### Specificity

Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd's SBT Resolver™ kits are locus specific assays. Use of the kits according to these instructions should only amplify a single locus. In most instances the use of the sequencing primers incorporated in each kit will produce a HLA typing for most samples without the need for further resolution.

It should be noted that mutations at amplification or sequencing primer sites are possible and may result in allele drop-out. Samples that suggest a homozygous typing result must be confirmed by alternative procedures.

### Limitations and Cautions

- It is strongly recommended that these kits are validated by the user prior to implementation in the laboratory using samples whose HLA type has been determined by other molecular based procedures. In particular, any deviations from this procedure (e.g. the use of alternative PCR or DNA sequencing purification procedures) must be validated by the user prior to implementation
- These kits have been validated using panels of samples whose genotypes cover a broad range of alleles. However it should be noted that rare alleles, and alleles with polymorphisms in amplification and sequencing primer sites may be encountered and these may not be amplified or sequenced.

- A positive control (human DNA sample known to have HLA-DRB3/DRB4/DRB5), a negative control (human DNA sample known to be negative for HLA-DRB3/DRB4/DRB5) and no template control (sterile water) must be included on every PCR run. The positive control must produce two amplicons of the appropriate size and the resultant sequence must be in concordance with the sample's genotype. The negative control must produce a single internal control amplicon of the appropriate size. There must be no PCR products in the no template control for each experiment. If a band is evident contamination may have occurred at some level and the run must be repeated.
- Occasionally there may be larger, fainter PCR products evident. These additional bands do not interfere with sequence results or quality.

## License

The SBT Resolver™ kits contain GoTaq® Hot Start Polymerase (DNA POL) which is manufactured by Promega Corporation for distribution by Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd. Licensed to Promega under U.S. Patent Nos. 5,338,671 and 5,587,287 and their corresponding foreign patents.

## Bibliography

1. Sayer D, Whidborne R, Brestovac B, Trimboli F, Witt C, Christiansen F (2001): *HLA-DRB1 DNA sequencing based typing: an approach suitable for high throughput typing including unrelated bone marrow registry donors*. Tissue Antigens **57**: 46-54.
2. Sayer D, Whidborne R, DeSantis D, Rozemuller EH, Christiansen F, Tilanus MG (2004). *A multicentre international evaluation of single-tube amplification protocols for sequencing-based typing of HLA-DRB1 and HLA-DRB3, 4, 5*. Tissue Antigens **63**: 412-423.
3. *Assign™ SBT v3.6+ Operator Manual*, Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd
4. *Assign™ SBT v4.7 Operator Manual*, Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd
5. *Assign™ SBT v471 Operator Manual*, Conexio Genomics Pty Ltd
6. More information regarding the UCLA DNA Exchange Program can be found at: <http://www.hla.ucla.edu/cellDNA/DNA/programInfo.htm>.
7. Current HLA alleles can be found at <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/imgt/hla>.

## Troubleshooting

| Problem                | Possible cause(s)   | Solution   |
|------------------------|---|--|
| No or weak PCR product | Poor quality DNA  | Assess DNA quality by gel electrophoresis. Intact DNA should be approx 3kb with little or no evidence of smearing on gel. Re-extract DNA and repeat PCR where possible.  |
|                        | Insufficient quantity of DNA added to PCR.  | Check concentration of DNA is between 20-100ng/ $\mu$ L. Re-extract DNA and repeat PCR where possible.   |
|                        | Presence of PCR inhibitors in genomic DNA   | Avoid the use of whole blood specimens containing heparin. Re-extract DNA and repeat PCR where possible.   |
|                        | DNA polymerase not added to the mastermix or insufficient mixing of mastermix prior to addition to samples. | Repeat PCR. Ensure mastermix components are added and mixed sufficiently by vortexing.   |
|                        | Thermal cycling problems  | Check the thermal cycling run parameters.<br>Check the run history to ensure that the run was not terminated prematurely.<br>Ensure that the thermal cycler is operating according to manufacturer's specifications and is regularly maintained. |
|                        | No ethidium bromide added to the gel.   | Submerge the gel in a staining bath containing 1X TBE with 0.5mg/mL ethidium bromide. Destain in 1X TBE before taking gel image.<br>Ensure ethidium bromide is added to gel prior to pouring.  |
|                        | DNA samples are eluted or diluted in water that can have a slightly acidic pH.                              | Wherever possible use sterile water with a neutral pH.   |
| Incorrect band sizes   | Incorrect kit used  | Check that the appropriate kit has been used.  |
|                        | Incorrect thermal cycling program used.   | Check the thermal cycle parameters.  |
|                        | PCR contamination   | Check the negative control for evidence of contamination.<br>Decontaminate work area and repeat PCR.<br>Repeat PCR to identify source of contamination. Consider using a fresh kit.  |

| <b>Problem</b>  | <b>Possible cause(s)</b>                            | <b>Solution</b>  |
|---|---|--|
|   |   | If the genomic DNA of a sample appears to be contaminated, re-extract or obtain an alternative source of DNA.  |
| Weak signal intensity of electropherograms                                    | Weak PCR product                                    | Check gel image. Sequencing weak PCR bands is NOT recommended as the sequence quality may be insufficient for SBT.<br>Consider using a lower dilution factor (eg 1:2, 1:3) after PCR purification.   |
|   | Insufficient reaction products applied to sequencer | Check sequencer parameters. Injection time and voltage may need to be increased.   |
|   | Problems during purification of sequencer products  | Use extreme care when discarding the supernatant as it may dislodge the pellet.  |
| Signal intensity is too high (Presence of high fluorescent peaks – artefacts) | Too much PCR product                                | Check the gel image. Consider using a higher dilution factor following PCR purification. Check the amount of DNA polymerase used in the PCR.   |
|   | Too much reaction products applied to sequencer.    | Check instrument parameters. Consider reducing the injection time and voltage.   |
| Noisy baseline (high background)  | Contaminated PCR product                            | Refer to corrective actions listed above.  |
|   | Amplification of closely related HLA genes          | Check thermal cycling parameters.  |
|   | Poor PCR purification                               | Ensure ExoSAP treatment is undertaken according to kit's user instructions.<br>Ensure that the PCR mixture is mixed thoroughly with ExoSAP.<br>Consider using Exo-SAP following the manufacturer's procedure (increasing the amount of enzyme), or consider an alternative purification technique. |
|   | Contaminated sequencing reactions                   | Ensure that all steps are taken to prevent cross contamination. Change pipette tips wherever possible. Add liquids at the top of the reaction wells. Prevent aerosols.   |



| <b>Problem</b>        | <b>Possible cause(s)</b>                             | <b>Solution</b>   |
|-----------------------|--|---|
|                       | Contaminated sequencing primer                       | Check sequence quality of the other sequencing primers and other samples using the same primer.<br>Consider using a fresh aliquot of sequencing primer. |
|                       | Contaminated dye terminator mix or sequencing buffer | Repeat sequencing with fresh aliquot of reagents.   |
|                       | Poor purification of sequencing products.            | Repeat sequencing and ensure that purification is undertaken according to manufacturer's instructions.  |
| Presence of Dye blobs | Poor purification of sequencing products             | Purify products according to kit instructions. Ensure products are washed sufficiently with 80% ethanol.  |

## Related Products

CE marked IVDs:

### SBT RESOLVER™

XH-PD1.1-2(20) SBT Resolver™ HLA-A kit (20 and 50 tests)  
XH-PD1.1-2(50)

BS-PD2.1-2(20) SBT Resolver™ HLA-B kit (20 and 50 tests)  
BS-PD2.1-2(50)

HH-PD5.2-5(20) SBT Resolver™ HLA-DRB1 kit (20 and 50 tests)  
HH-PD5.2-5(50)  
LG-PD5.2-7(20)  
LG-PD5.2-7(50)

### SBT RESOLVER™ HARPS

For full product list, please refer to the SBT Resolver™ HARPS® Instructions for Use.

### Self-certified SBT Resolver™ typing kits:

HH-PD3.2-2(20) SBT Resolver™ HLA-C kit (20 and 50 tests)  
HH-PD3.2-2(50)

PQ-PD6.2-2(20) SBT Resolver™ HLA-DQB1 kit (20 and 50 tests)  
PQ-PD6.2-2(50)  
AN-PD6.2-3(20)  
AN-PD6.2-3(50)

HH-PD10.1(20) SBT Resolver™ HLA-DPB1 kit (20 and 50 tests)  
HH-PD10.1(50)  
KD-PD10.2-1(20)  
KD-PD10.2-1(50)

## Assign™ SBT software (Self-certified):

**ASSIGN™** SBT 3.6+

Product code: CGX0036+

**ASSIGN™** SBT v4.7

Product code: CGX00470

**ASSIGN™** SBT v471

Product code: CGX00471



For Research Use Only:

## SBT RESOLVER™

LC-PD2.9(20)

SBT Resolver™ HLA-B57 kit (20 and 50 tests)

LC-PD2.9(50)

## General Purpose Laboratory Reagents

MgCl<sub>2</sub> – 1.0(50)

2mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>

MgCl<sub>2</sub> - 1.0(3000)

SEQ BUF – 2.0(400)

5x Seq Rxn Buffer

SEQ BUF – 2.0(5000)

EDTA – 3.0(200)

125mM EDTA, pH8.0

EDTA – 3.0(5000)

Please contact your local distributor for further details.

## Support and Contact Details

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Or your local distributor.

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