
Fetal Bovine Serum

Iron supplemented

Heat inactivated

Sterile filtered

Product Code: RM10948

Product Description:

Fetal bovine serum (FBS) is a ubiquitously used essential supplement in cell culture media. FBS is a cocktail of proteins, vitamins, carbohydrates, lipids, hormones, growth factors, minerals and trace elements and is used as an universal growth supplement effective for most types of human and animal (including insect) cells. The major functions of serum in culture media are to provide:

- i. Hormonal factors stimulating cell growth and proliferation and promoting differentiated functions.
- ii. Transport proteins carrying hormones (e.g. transcortin), minerals and trace elements and lipids (e.g. lipoproteins)
- iii. Attachment and spreading factors, acting as germination points for cell attachment.
- iv. Stabilizing and detoxifying factors needed to maintain pH or to inhibit proteases either directly, such as α -antitrypsin or α 2-macroglobulin, or indirectly, by acting as an unspecific sink for proteases and other (toxic) molecules.

RM10948 is heat inactivated and iron supplemented fetal bovine serum. Heat inactivation is done to destroy heat labile components such as complement that can lead to complement mediated cell lysis, antibodies and enzymes present in the serum. Iron supplementation leads to higher levels of transferrin and as a result, higher capacity to bind and transfer the Iron. It helps to achieve optimal growth with most of the cell types.

Note: Heat inactivation process can be detrimental to the growth promoting capacity of serum. When heat inactivation of serum is done, along with the complement certain amino acids, vitamins and growth factors are subjected to temperatures that could cause degradation. Hence it is recommended that researcher should experimentally determine and document the reasons for using heat inactivated serum.

Directions for Thawing of Serum:

Thawing of the sera should be done as quickly as possible in order to minimize the period of time during which elevated salt concentration prevail in the thawed liquid.

1. Remove the bottles from the freezer and allow them to acclimatize at room temperature for 10 minutes and keep in 2-8°C overnight in refrigerator.

Note: Do not place the serum in the water bath or incubator. Avoid exposing serum to elevated temperatures as this can lead to degradation of heat labile nutrients.

2. Swirl the bottle of serum frequently during thawing to disperse the released salts and proteins uniformly in the liquid.

Note on Cryoprecipitate:

We advise our users to follow the recommended thawing procedure. Proper thawing with periodic agitation is crucial to a serum's optimum performance. If bottle of serum is not frequently swirled during thawing, the released proteins and salts tend to form crystalline or flocculent precipitates. These cryoprecipitates are not detrimental to the performance of serum but might affect serum's appearance and consistency. Slight turbidity or small amount of flocculent material is normal in most serum products and will not affect its performance in any manner. Filtering serum to remove cryoprecipitate is not recommended and could result in loss of nutrients.

Quality Control:

Physical and Chemical analysis:

pH	: 6.8 - 8.2
Osmolality	: 280 – 340 mOsm/KgH ₂ O
Endotoxin	: Value EU/ml
Hemoglobin	: < 20mg/dl
Identity	: Typical

Protein:

Total protein	: 3.0 - 4.5 g/dl
Albumin	: value g/dl
α-Globulin	: value g/dl
β-Globulin	: value g/dl
γ-Globulin	: value g/dl
IgG	: < 250µg/ml

Sterility Testing:

Aerobic bacteria	: Not detected
Anaerobic bacteria	: Not detected
Fungi	: Not detected
Mycoplasma	: Not detected

Virus testing:

Bovine Virus Diarrhea Virus (BVD-V)	: Not detected
Bovine Herpes Virus 1 (BHV-1)	: Not detected
Parainfluenza Type 3 (PI-3)	: Not detected

Growth promotion and cytotoxicity:

Each lot of serum is tested for growth promotion and cytotoxicity. Growth promotion ability of serum is assessed by supplementing medium with 10% serum and analyzing the cell lines qualitatively for morphology and quantitatively by estimating cell counts through minimum three subcultures.

Storage and Shelf Life:

Store at -10°C to -40°C away from bright light. Shelf life of the product is 48 months. Thawed serum can be stored at 2-8°C up to four weeks.

Multiple freeze thaw cycles should be avoided. Serum should never be stored in frost free freezers. Frost free appliance undergoes intermittent warming cycles to prevent ice deposits and this might lead to multiple thawing of serum.

To avoid multiple freeze thaw cycles or long periods of refrigeration, we recommend freezing small aliquots which can be thawed and used as required.

Use before expiry date given on the label.

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Disclaimer

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