

SAFETY DATA SHEET

All deliveries containing microorganisms must be unpacked in an appropriately equipped laboratory. Microorganisms may be pathogenic to humans, animals or plants, and may produce toxins or cause allergic syndromes, independently of the risk group in which they are classified. Therefore, cultures must be handled by, or under supervision of, personnel trained and competent in microbiological techniques.

Before handling the microbiological material, the user has to be informed about and follow national regulations governing work with microorganisms. Cultivation and handling of microorganisms is restricted to laboratories that meet the containment requirements laid down by the national authorities. CECT supplies only biological material which can be handled up to containment level 2.

Please see detailed information below:

1. Identification of the Biological Agent

- The microbiological material supplied is for laboratory use only.
- Species name and catalogue strain number is given in the delivery note.

2. Hazards Identification: Risk Group and Laboratory Containment Level

- Each strain delivered is classified according to Spanish legislation or to the available information. The CECT only delivers strains allocated to Risk Groups up to 3(**).
- The required containment level depends on the Risk Group (Check national regulations).
- Apart from infectivity/pathogenicity, genetically modified microorganisms are to be handled according to relevant national legislation and under contained use only.
- Some strains are recorded in the CECT catalogue as toxin producers, although this information can be considered neither determinant nor exclusive. CECT may establish restrictions on handling and distribution of toxin producers.
- Avoid any direct skin and eye contact with the microorganism or with its aerosols.

3. First Aid Measures

In case of contact, wash contaminated skin thoroughly with disinfectant and abundant water. If wound contamination is suspected or any ingestion or inhalation has occurred, seek immediate medical attention, informing of the name of the microorganism.

4. Accidental Release Measures and Spillage / Environment Precautions

- Decontaminate/sterilise/autoclave all material which might have been in contact with the microorganism.
- Keep cultures away from drains, surface and ground water and soil.
- If the ampoules or tubes are accidentally broken, soak contaminated area with an appropriate disinfectant. Broken glass has to be eliminated using forceps in order to avoid self-injuring.

5. Handling and Storage

Ampoules or tubes must be opened and used only by trained personnel in a laboratory of appropriate containment level. Instructions are included in each package.

All cultures delivered by CECT are intended for immediate use. Before use, store cultures in a cool, dark place

Please read carefully our Terms and Conditions (MTA) regarding restrictions concerning the distribution to third parties

6. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

Depending on the Risk Group of the delivered culture different containment level is required. Each country has a different legislation and Risk Group Classification (see documents below). As a general measure, if safety cabinets are not explicitly required, the use of lab coats, protective gloves and glasses minimise worker's exposure.

7. Material Disposal

All recipients containing or in contact with the microbial material have to be sterilised after use. Autoclaving at 121°C during 20' is the general procedure. Material such as glass or metal can also be sterilised by using dry heat at 170-180°C during two hours. Metal loops can be sterilized by direct contact with the flame of a Bunsen burner.

The information provided herein is for informational purposes only and is based on the present state of the CECT knowledge and present holdings. It is the responsibility of the receptors of the cultures to observe existing updated laws and regulations. CECT accepts no responsibility for any consequences derived from the use of this information.

References

- Spanish legislation: "Guía técnica para la evaluación y prevención de los riesgos relacionados con la exposición a agentes biológicos" [Real Decreto 664/1997 de 12 de mayo (BOE nº 124, de 24 de mayo), Orden de 25 de marzo de 1998 (BOE nº 76 de 30/03/1998) and corrections on BOE nº 90 de 15/4/1998].
- European legislation: European Parliament (2000) Directive 2000/54/EC of 18 September 2000 on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work.