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Aptamer 2-step conjugation protocol (EMD Adaptation)

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ABSTRACT

The following protocol consist on an aptamer adaptation from Merck for Antibody conjugation protocol to carboxyl modified microparticles.

MATERIALS

NAME ▾	CATALOG # ▾	VENDOR ▾
500mg Sulfo NHS (N-Hydroxysulfosuccinimide)	BC97	G-Biosciences
EDC N-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethylcarbodiimide	39391-10ML	Sigma – Aldrich

MATERIALS TEXT

- PBS Buffer pH =7.4
- PBS-T Buffer (Tween-20 0.01 %) pH=7.4
- MES Buffer 50 mM pH= 6
- Glycine 50 mM aqueous solution
- Storage Buffer : Tris-HCl 50 mM pH = 8 + 0.5 % BSA
- 5' Amino-terminal modified capture aptamer, resuspended in distilled water at 100 µM concentration.


- 100-1000 µL Micropipette
- 2-20 Micropipette
- 1000 µL Micropipette tips
- 200 µL Micropipette tips
- Eppendorf Tubes (1.5 mL)
- Thermoblock
- Microfugue
- Ice

Reactives Preparation

- 1 Prepare a 200 mM aqueous solution of sulfo-NHS. Weight 22.1 mg of sulfo-NHS and dissolve it in 500 µL of distilled water. Keep stored at 4 °C. Sulfo-NHS can be stored under refrigerator for a couple of months.
- 2 Prepare 200mM EDC solution. Pipette 22 µL of 97% EDC in 484 µL of distilled water. EDC solutions must be stored at -20 °C.
- 3 Prepare a 8 µM dilution of the 5' Amino terminal modified aptamer. Mix 8 µL of 100 µM DNA stock with 92 µL of distilled water.

- 4 Reconstitute the aptamers by pipetting 100 μ L of 8 μ M solution on an empty eppendorf tube. Place in a thermoblock at 95 $^{\circ}$ C for 10 minutes. And move the tube quickly to an ice bath, letting them to cool down for 10 minutes more. The reconstituted aptamer can be kept at 4 $^{\circ}$ C for several weeks, or store frozen at -20 $^{\circ}$ C for long periods.


Latex Beads Preparation

- 5 Dilute 200 μ L of 2.5 % wt beads stock with 300 μ L of additional MES buffer. Reaching a final volume of 500 μ L.
- 6  **12000 rpm 5 minutes** the tube at 15.000 rpm for 4 minutes. Discard the supernatant and resuspend them in 500 μ L of MES buffer.

For beads resuspension, repeated pipetting it's highly recommended, aspirating and blowing out in the eppendorf tube. It's crucial assuring perfect beads dispersion, if little aggregates are appreciated, try reducing centrifugation times or sonicating the beads for resuspension (5 minutes sonication at moderate power).


- 7 Repeat step 6 twice, resuspending the last time in 1000 μ L of MES buffer.

Latex Beads Activation

- 8 Pipette 120 μ L of freshly prepared sulfo-NHS 200 mM aqueous solution and add to the latex beads tube.
- 9 Pipette 12.5 μ L of freshly prepared EDC 200 mM aqueous solution and add to the latex beads tube.
- 10 Incubate at room temperature the tube for 30 minutes under mild agitation conditions. Rotatory wheel agitator is recommended, however, intermittent vortexing, sonication, orbital agitator or balance shaker can be also used.
- 11 After the incubation time,  **12000 rpm 5 minutes** and discard the supernatant. Resuspend the beads in 1000 μ L of MES buffer.

Repeat twice more that washing step, but in the final resuspension, add just 300 μ L of MES buffer instead of 1000 μ L.

Latex Beads Conjugation

- 12 Add 200 μ L of the reconstituted 8 μ M aptamer solution, prepared previously in step 4.
- 13 Incubate the eppendorf tube at room temperature for 2 hours and 30 minutes, under mild agitation.
- 14 After the incubation time, pipette 100 μ L of Glycine 50 mM aqueous solution, for crosslinking activated groups deactivation. Wait for 5 minutes.
- 15  **12000 rpm 5 minutes** and discard the supernatant. Resuspend the beads in 1000 μ L of blocking buffer.

Repeat twice more that washing step, but in the final resuspension, add just 500 μ L of MES buffer instead of 1000 μ L.

- 16 Conjugated latex beads are at 1% wt concentration related to latex beads in the suspension. Beads can be stored in blocking buffer at 4°C for some weeks.



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