

Lab 3

Level 2

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DNA extraction from human blood

Blood is a complex mixture of cells, proteins, metabolites, and many other substances. About 56% of human blood volume is comprised of cells, more than 99% of which are erythrocytes. Human erythrocytes and thrombocytes (platelets, 0.5% of blood components) do not contain nuclei and are therefore unsuitable for preparation of genomic DNA. The only blood cells that contain nuclei are leukocytes (0.3% of cellular blood components). Blood samples may vary widely in the number of leukocytes they contain, depending on the health of the donor. Healthy blood, for example, contains fewer than 10⁷ leukocytes per ml, while blood from an infected donor may have a tenfold higher leukocyte concentration.

Method

Approximately 3-5 ml of blood was taken from each donor by sterile syringe and placed in EDYA tubes.

1. Each blood sample was placed into 15 ml tube.
2. TE buffer was added to a volume of about 10 ml.
3. Blood and TE buffer were mixed well by inverting the tubes several times.
4. Mixture was centrifuged at 10000 rpm for 10 minutes at 4°C.
5. The supernatant was discarded by using a pipette to avoid losing the pellet.
6. The pellet was washed with TE buffer by repeating steps 1-4 until it is pink.
7. The supernatant was discarded by using a plastic pipette (the pellet should not be lost) and pellet was resuspended in 1 ml TBS buffer.
8. 1 ml of Lysis buffer B and 100 µl of proteinase K solution were added.
9. Tubes were incubated in waterbath 55°C for 60 min with agitation.
10. The samples were taken out from waterbath and 1 ml saturated phenol, and 1 ml of the mixture chloroform: isoamyl alcohol (24:1) were added.
11. The samples were shaken 5 min by inverting the tubes.
12. The samples were centrifuged at 10000 rpm for 10 min.
13. The upper phase was transferred with plastic pipette to a new tube, the bottom phase should not be touched.
14. 2 ml of chloroform: isoamyl alcohol (24:1) was added.
15. The samples were shaken 5 min by inverting the tubes.
16. The samples were centrifuged at 10000 rpm for 10 min.
17. The supernatant was transferred to a new tube (the bottom phase should not be touched).
18. Ammonium acetate solution to a final concentration of 2.5 M was added and then 2.5 volumes of cold (20°C) 95% ethanol.
19. The tubes were inverted several times until DNA appeared as a white precipitate.
20. When the DNA concentration was high, DNA standards would form a visible precipitate, which were collected into a compact mass of material that can easily be removed from the tube by spooling the DNA mass on a pasture pipette. The DNA in this manner was spooled instead of being recovered by centrifuge, the DNA was separated from the bulk of RNA which had been co-purified but remained in solution. This eliminated the need to add exogenous RNase, which may be contaminated with nucleases.
21. The DNA was dried (it should not be over dried, otherwise it would be difficult to be resuspended) and it was resuspended in 2 ml of TE in 5 ml tube. And allowed to be sat until the DNA was released from the pipette tip. Once the DNA had been released, the tube was left in the room temperature for hours to allow the DNA dissolving in the buffer, and then it was stored in the deep freezer.
22. The samples which do not form a visible precipitate, the DNA was recovered by 30 min centrifuging and resuspended in TE buffer as described before.

Tris-EDTA (TE) Buffer

(10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM Na₂EDTA, pH=8)

It was prepared by dissolving 0.2422gm of Tris-Base, 0.0744gm of EDTA in D.W, pH was adjusted to 8.0, volume completed with D.W to 100 ml, sterilized by autoclaving and stored at 4°C.

TBS buffer

(20 mM Tris-HCl, pH= 8, 150 mM NaCl)

It was prepared by dissolving 0.1211gm of Tris-Base, 0.4383gm of NaCl in D.W, pH was adjusted to 8.0, volume completed with D.W to 50 ml, sterilized by autoclaving and stored at 4°C.

B buffer

(400 mM Tris-HCl, 100 mM Na₂EDTA, pH=8, 1% SDS)

This buffer was prepared by dissolving 2.4228gm of Tris-Base, 1.86gm of Na₂EDTA, in D.W, pH was adjusted to 8.0, volume completed with D.W to 50 ml, sterilized by autoclaving then added 0.5gm of SDS.