

Diphtheria Absence of Toxin (Specific Toxicity) and Irreversibility of Toxoid: Verocells assay

HSI -AFSA -29/01/2025

Dr. Pradip Kumar Das GM-QC Biological E. Limited Hyderabad, Telangana INDIA



Specific toxicity test: Diphtheria: Ref WHO TRS 980 (Annex 04)



Stage	Test
A.3.3.4 Detoxification and purification	At harvest stage, Detoxification has been shown to be complete by performance of a specific toxicity test either by suitably validated in vivo or in vitro method.
A.3.4.4: Specific toxicity	Each bulk purified toxoid should be tested for the presence of diphtheria toxin. The test may be performed in vivo using guinea-pigs or in vitro using a suitable cell culture assay
A.3.4.5 Reversion to toxicity	Each bulk purified toxoid should be tested to ensure that reversion to toxicity does not take place during storage. The test may be performed in vivo using guinea-pigs or in vitro using a suitable cell culture assay, such as the Vero cell assay.

^{*}A detailed procedure Vero cell method is described in the WHO Manual for quality control of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccines, WHO IVB 11.11/ EP 11.2/IP 2022.

Absence of Toxin (Specific Toxicity) and Irreversibility of Toxoid - BPDT

In Vivo Test

- Absence of Toxin (Specific Toxicity) is performed in 5 Guinea pigs (250-350g)
 @500 Lf/mL by subcutaneous route
- Current procedure for Irreversibility test (Reversion to Toxicity) is performed in Guinea pigs (>500g) by Intradermal method @ 50Lf/mL 0.2mL of BPDT 2-8°C and 34-37°C





In vitro Test

 Vero cell assay for specific toxicity (fresh sample) and Irreversibility (2-8 & 34-37°C) in Single 96 well plate.

		1	1	1	_	-				_	10	11	12	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	-
		(Fresh) Lf/m	L	(2-8°C) Lf/m	L	(3	4-37°C) Lf/r	nL				
						ΔL								
		100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	Empty	Cor	ntrol	
Sample Diluted	Α										0			Cell
with PBS + Media	В										0			control
+ Cell	С										0	\bigcirc		
Toxin + Media +Cell	D	1x10^-4	5x10^-5	3x10^-5	1x10^-5	6x10^-6	3x10^-6	2x10^-6	8x10^-7	4*10^-7	\bigcirc			Blank
Sample Diluted	E										0			DAT
with PBS + DAT	F										0			Control
(50 Lf) + Cell	G										0			Control
Toxin + Media +Cell	Н	1x10^-4	5x10^-5	3x10^-5	1x10^-5	6x10^-6	3x10^-6	2x10^-6	8x10^-7	4*10^-7				Toxoid



١.			_												
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	_
			(Fresh) Lf/m	L	((2-8°C) Lf/mL			(34-37°C) Lf/mL					
]
			100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	Empty	Con	ntrol	
	Sample Diluted	Α										0			Cell
	with PBS + Media	В										0			control
	+ Cell	С										0			
	Toxin + Media +Cell	D	1x10^-4	5x10^-5	3x10^-5	1x10^-5	6x10^-6	3x10^-6	2x10^-6	8x10^-7	4*10^-7				Blank
	Sample Diluted	Е										0			DAT
	with PBS + DAT	F										0			Control
	(50 Lf) + Cell	G										0			Control
	Toxin + Media +Cell	н	1x10^-4	5x10^-5	3x10^-5	1x10^-5	6x10^-6	3x10^-6	2x10^-6	8x10^-7	4*10^-7				Toxoid

Acceptance Criteria:

The geometric mean optical density value (OD) of the wells containing Vero cells together with the control toxoid should be calculated and divided by 2 to obtain the 50% OD value.

This 50% OD value (plate specific) is used as a threshold value for the test toxoid samples. If the test sample OD is greater than the 50% threshold value the toxoid passes the test.

Validity Criteria:

As per Indian Pharmacopeia and European Pharmacopeia

❖ The test is invalid if, 5 x 10⁻⁵ Lf/mL of reference diphtheria toxin in 100 Lf/mL toxoid has no cytotoxic effect on Vero cells or the cytotoxic effect of this amount of toxin is not neutralised in the wells containing diphtheria antitoxin.

As per WHO IVB 11.11

- The assay is valid if, the sensitivity and specificity of the assay are confirmed: i.e. the control toxin is toxic to Vero cells and this toxic effect is neutralised in duplicate wells containing toxin and antitoxin.
- ❖ The toxoid control OD value is not less than 50% of the geometric mean optical density of cell control.
- ❖ No toxicity is seen following the addition of diphtheria antitoxin or control toxoid.

Retest: If non-specific toxicity is observed(i.e. toxin effects that are not neutralised in the presence of antitoxin) the test sample should be dialysed against the toxoid diluent prior to used in a repeat assay.

Layout for Pass batch



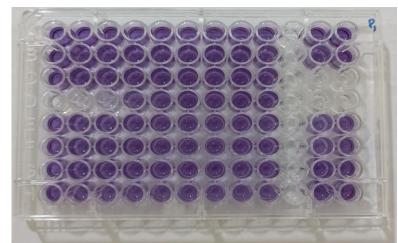
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
		(Fr	(Fresh) Lf/mL			(2-8°C) Lf/mL			37°C) Lf	/mL				
		100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	Empty	Control		
	Α													Cell
Sample Diluted with PBS + media + Cell	В													control
1 b5 i ilicala i celi	С													Disable
Toxin + Media +Cell	D													Blank
	Е													DAT
Sample Diluted with PBS + DAT (50 Lf) + Cell	F													Control
1 b3 (bAT (50 LI) (cell	G													Control
Toxin + DAT(50Lf)+Cell	Н													Toxoid

If toxin present in			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	nple layout look		(Fresh) Lf/mL			(2-	(2-8°C) Lf/mL			(34-37°C) Lf/mL					
			100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	100 Lf	50 Lf	25 Lf	Empty	Con	trol	
	Cample Diluted with	Α	\bigcirc	0		\bigcirc	0	0	\bigcirc	0	0				Cell
	Sample Diluted with	В	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc			\bigcirc	0	0				control
	PBS + media + Cell	С		\bigcirc						\bigcirc	\bigcirc				Blank
	Toxin + Media +Cell	D		0								\bigcirc		\bigcirc	DIdIIK
	Companie Dilute duvith	Е										\bigcirc			DAT
	Sample Diluted with PBS + DAT (50 Lf) + Cell	F										0			Control
		G										\bigcirc			Control
	Toxin + DAT(50Lf)+Cell	Н													Toxoid

Pass Result

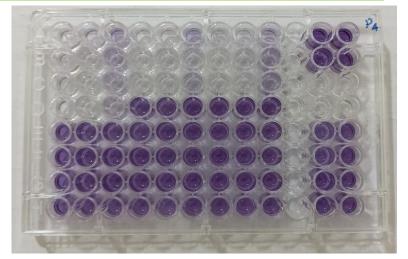


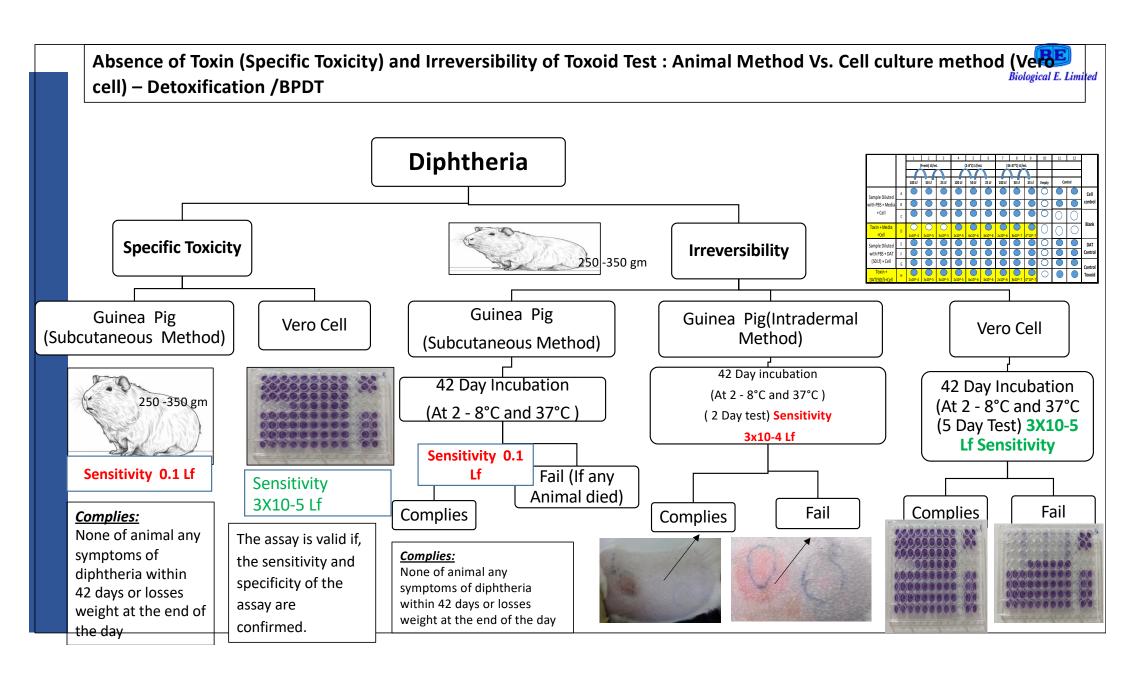
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Cell Control
Α	0.743	0.723	0.73	0.632	0.685	0.707	0.612	0.648	0.686	0.047	0.729	0.702	0.697130
В	0.695	0.68	0.679	0.588	0.62	0.661	0.608	0.601	0.675	0.046	0.641	0.72	0.348565
С	0.696	0.646	0.643	0.596	0.628	0.633	0.573	0.671	0.655	0.046	0.041	0.041	
D	0.05	0.055	0.267	0.398	0.525	0.612	0.58	0.587	0.643	0.046	0.043	0.041	
Е	0.664	0.612	0.602	0.643	0.59	0.583	0.595	0.558	0.584	0.05	0.56	0.581	
F	0.682	0.607	0.591	0.641	0.577	0.576	0.601	0.551	0.58	0.047	0.581	0.587	Control Toxoid
G	0.707	0.635	0.597	0.629	0.61	0.59	0.626	0.576	0.587	0.048	0.577	0.648	0.614548
Н	0.677	0.589	0.551	0.513	0.55	0.519	0.594	0.55	0.515	0.046	0.578	0.66	0.307274



Fail Result

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Cell Control
А	0.047	0.058	0.052	0.053	0.048	0.053	0.059	0.047	0.046	0.047	0.673	0.767	0.681211
В	0.05	0.048	0.049	0.055	0.049	0.045	0.058	0.048	0.047	0.046	0.658	0.634	0.340605
С	0.052	0.05	0.047	0.06	0.051	0.048	0.062	0.045	0.047	0.045	0.042	0.043	
D	0.044	0.047	0.176	0.338	0.469	0.518	0.53	0.474	0.495	0.046	0.041	0.056	
Е	0.636	0.553	0.556	0.564	0.582	0.54	0.531	0.523	0.562	0.047	0.545	0.534	
F	0.659	0.566	0.556	0.535	0.554	0.541	0.544	0.552	0.566	0.047	0.569	0.57	Control Toxoid
G	0.682	0.581	0.573	0.562	0.583	0.585	0.567	0.558	0.579	0.047	0.63	0.653	0.663536
Н	0.696	0.57	0.599	0.598	0.613	0.579	0.572	0.628	0.541	0.046	0.62	0.76	0.331768







Conclusion

In Vivo Test

- For specific Toxicity, 5 animals required and observed for 42 days.
- For Irreversibility, 42 days incubation and 2 days animal test.
- Sensitivity by Subcutaneous method is 0.1Lf/mL, Intradermal method 3x10^-4 Lf/mL.
- Result observation by manual.

In Vitro (Vero cell assay)

- For Specific Toxicity only cells required and observation is 7 days.
- For Irreversibility 42 days incubation and 7 days Vero cell test.
- Sensitivity by Vero cell method is 3 x10^-5
 Lf/mL. More sensitive and Reliable
- Results observation by Absorbance Readings.
 no manual intervention is required.
- No animals required.
- Complete Replacement





The monument commemorates the sacrifice of the mice in genetic research used to understand biological and physiological mechanisms for developing new drugs and curing of diseases

Thank You