



FUNGAL CANDIDA

MULTIPLEX qPCR TEST HANDBOOK

For Research Use Only. Not intended for diagnostic use.

CAT NO.: YS-qPX2-EC-Candida-100

100 reactions

With Endogenous Control and Frozen MasterMix

VERSION 1.0



YouSeq Ltd
8 Moorside Place
Moorside Road
Winchester
SO23 7FX
United Kingdom

+44 (0) 333 577 6697
hello@youseq.com

youseq.com

INTENDED USE

This qPCR test offers an efficient and user-friendly solution for the detection of Fungal Candida in extracted nucleic acid samples from a variety of sources. It is intended for use by trained professionals in a suitable molecular biology laboratory.

SPECIFICITY AND SENSITIVITY

Specificity

The YouSeq qPCR test for detection of Fungal Candida is designed to have the broadest detection profile possible and detect all clinically relevant strains. The primers and probes typically have a $\geq 95\%$ homology with all reference data used, from relevant, publicly available databases at the time of design.

The target genes outlined below, have been demonstrated to have distinctive sequences making them ideal targets for highly specific detection.

- Tube 1: Candida albicans (C.albic): RPR1 gene
Candida tropicalis (C.tropi): ALST2 gene
Candida parapsilosis (C.parap): TAC1 gene
- Tube 2: Candida glabrata (C.glabr): RPR1 gene
Candida krusei (C.kruse): RPR1 gene
Candida dubliniensis (C.dubli): RPR1 gene

For further information on the detection profile of the product, please do not hesitate to contact our team: support@youseq.com

Sensitivity

The qPCR test is suitable for the detection of these targets across a wide dynamic range. Under ideal PCR conditions the assay can detect less than 100 copies of the targets in the PCR reaction.

CONTENTS

Component	Cap Colour	Volume
Multiplex primer/probe mix: Tube 1 C.albic (FAM) C.tropi (VIC/HEX) C.parap (ROX) Endogenous Control (CY5)		100 µL
Multiplex primer/probe mix: Tube 2 C.glabr (FAM) C.kruse (VIC/HEX) C.dubli (ROX)		100 µL
Tetra™ 2X qPCR MasterMix		2 x 1 mL
Fungal Candida Positive Control (PTC)		500 µL *
Template Resuspension Buffer (TRB)		1.5 mL
DNase/RNase Free Water		1.5 mL

* Supplied dried - requires resuspension. See instructions in resuspension section.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL REAGENTS & MATERIALS

Nucleic acid extraction kit.

General laboratory equipment (pipettes, pipette tips, (micro)centrifuge tubes, compatible strip tubes/plates, plate seals, etc.)

qPCR instrument with channels to detect FAM, VIC/HEX, ROX and CY5.

BEST PRACTICE

Decontamination:

Before beginning laboratory work, thoroughly decontaminate any work surfaces and pipettes being used, to eliminate potential contamination.

General use and set-up:

All components should be fully defrosted with contents at the bottom of the tube before opening. To ensure contents are at the bottom, centrifuge or gently tap the tube. After use, reagents should be returned to the freezer.

Once any reagents are resuspended, mark the tick box on the tube for future reference. After this, or after combining reagents, the tube should be pulse vortexed to ensure it is mixed well.

It is advised to set up the tubes/plate and reaction mix on ice to minimise artefact formation, which may reduce sensitivity.

When preparing the qPCR reaction mix, it is recommended to incorporate an overage when calculating the total number of reactions to compensate for potential volume losses incurred during pipetting.

Set-up environments:

It is best practice to set up qPCR tubes/plates in two different environments - a clean (no template) lab and PCR (template) lab.

No Template Control(s) (NTC) and Positive Control(s) (PTC) should be included in every run. To reduce contamination, NTCs and samples can be set up and sealed in a clean lab before moving to the PCR lab.

BENCH SIDE PROTOCOL

RESUSPENSION

Before first use, resuspend the designated component with the correct reagent and specified volume, as per the table below:

1. Add the resuspension reagent and pulse vortex the tube to ensure each is mixed well.

Component	Reagent	Volume	Location
Fungal Candida Positive Control (PTC)	TRB	500 μ L	PCR lab

qPCR REACTION SET-UP

Separate reaction mixes are required to be set up for each primer/probe mix

1. Retrieve the required components and appropriate plasticware for qPCR reaction set-up.
2. In an appropriately sized (micro)centrifuge tube, combine the following reagents to create a reaction mix that will cover all required wells (e.g. **sample(s)**, **NTCs** and **PTCs**).

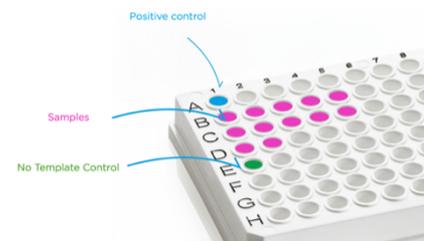
Please note: When calculating required reactions, include an overage to allow for volume loss during pipetting

Component	Volume (per reaction)
Tetra™ 2X qPCR MasterMix	10 μ L
Fungal Candida specific primer/probe mix (Tube 1 <u>or</u> Tube 2)	1 μ L
Reaction mix volume	11 μ L

3. Mix the combined reagents by briefly vortexing or inverting.
4. Dispense 11 μ L of the reaction mix into all required tubes/wells.
5. For the **NTC(s)**, add 9 μ L of DNase/RNase Free Water into required tube/well(s).
6. For each extracted **sample**, add 9 μ L into required tube/well(s).

Please note: It is best practice to seal the **NTC(s)** and **sample** tube/wells before proceeding to the positive control step.

7. For the **positive control(s)**, add 9 μ L of the resuspended **PTC**, into the required tube/well(s).
8. Seal the tube(s)/plate.
9. Briefly vortex the sealed tube(s)/plate, then spin in a centrifuge to ensure all reagents are fully resuspended and at the bottom of the tube(s)/wells before proceeding.



qPCR AMPLIFICATION PROTOCOL

1. Load the tubes/plate onto the qPCR instrument and set up the qPCR protocol following the table below.
2. Set the total reaction volume to 20 μ L.

Please note: If using a qPCR instrument that uses ROX as a passive reference, ensure the passive reference is turned off or set to “none” before starting the run.

Temperature	Time	Number of Cycles
95°C	3 minutes	-
95°C	15 seconds	x 45
60°C 	60 seconds	

 Collect fluorogenic data through FAM, VIC/HEX, ROX and CY5 channels during this step.

3. Start the run.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS - OVERVIEW

If using single threshold analysis - YouSeq recommends setting the threshold at 10% of the End Point Fluorescence (EPF) for each channel.

- For the Target channel, use the **PTC** EPF to set the threshold.
- For the Endogenous Control, use the average EPF from **samples** to set the threshold.

Results interpretation:

Reaction Type	qPCR Signal (Cq)		
Positive control	18 \pm 2	18 \pm 2	18 \pm 2
No template control	-	-	-
Endogenous Control (Tube 1): (CY5)	\leq 28	\leq 28	\leq 28
Sample Tube 1 Target(s): (FAM or VIC/HEX or ROX)	+	-	-
Tube 2 Target(s): (FAM or VIC/HEX or ROX)	-	+	-

Result

Positive result: target specific
 Candida albicans (FAM)
 Candida tropicalis (VIC/HEX)
 Candida parapsilosis (ROX)

Positive result: target specific
 Candida glabrata (FAM)
 Candida krusei (VIC/HEX)
 Candida dubliniensis (ROX)

Negative result

Coinfection

Positive signals may be observed in multiple channels when a sample contains more than one target pathogen.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS – CONTROLS EXPLAINED

Positive control

The **PTC** should amplify in a Cq range of 18 ± 2 for each target. If this Cq range is not achieved, the sample test result for the associated target is invalid and should be repeated.

Please note: The positive control is a sequence representative of the target regions and does not contain the organism's entire genome. The positive control does not include the Endogenous Control sequence and should not be expected to amplify in the CY5 channel in reaction wells containing the Endogenous Control primer/probe mix.

No template control

The **NTC** well(s) should be negative, with no amplification.

Please note: Background laboratory contamination can result in a very late signal in **NTC** wells. If the **NTC** has amplification, comparison to the sample test result is necessary:

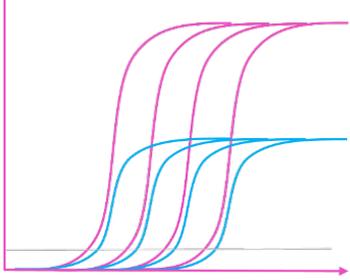
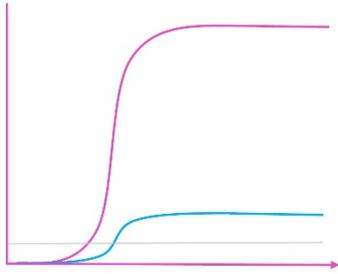
- If the **NTC** is ≥ 5 Cq later than the sample signal, it can be considered negative, and the sample test result is valid.
- If the **NTC** is < 5 Cq later, the sample test result is invalid - the test should be repeated after potential sources of contamination have been removed.

Endogenous Control

Detection of the Endogenous Control is through the CY5 channel. The Cq value from the Endogenous Control will vary according to the amount of DNA/ RNA in the sample. Cq values of ≤ 28 indicate a successful extraction has taken place with sufficient host derived DNA/ RNA in the sample. If the signal is later than this, repeating the nucleic acid extraction is advised.

Please note: For tubes containing both targets and the Endogenous control, if the sample delivers a strong positive result for the target(s) of interest, then amplification of the Endogenous Control may be affected and may appear later. In this case, lack of Endogenous Control amplification is acceptable, and the sample test result is valid.

MULTIPLEX TROUBLESHOOTING

	1	2
Trace		
What can you see?	Different fluorescence levels between Targets	Unexpected low level of fluorescence, similar to amplification from a different channel, within the same well
Cause	Fluorescence depends on the assay design and the channel e.g. FAM channel is typically the brightest	'Bleed-through' between channels; Amplification from one channel has been incorrectly assigned to a different channel e.g. fluorescence in FAM 'bleeding-through' to VIC/HEX
Action	Analyse each channel individually so the Y-axis is appropriate for that assay	Ensure instrument is compatible with the dye(s) used in this test and/or recalibrate qPCR instrument



PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Storage

Store at -20°C from arrival. The product's shelf life is outlined as an expiry date on the pouch label.

Suitable input material

This qPCR test will work well with any source of good quality nucleic acid. Good quality is defined as nucleic acid with high integrity (not degraded). Poor quality input nucleic acid is a leading cause of test failure.

Regulatory status

This product has been developed for Research Use Only (RUO) and is not intended for diagnostic use. It should not be used for diagnosis of disease or infection unless specifically approved by the regulatory authorities in the country of use.

Quality Control

In accordance with the YouSeq Ltd ISO EN 13485-certified Quality Management System, each lot of YouSeq Fungal Candida qPCR Test is tested against predetermined specifications to ensure consistent product quality. The primers/probe(s) typically demonstrate $\geq 95\%$ *in silico* specificity to their intended target and are periodically checked against newly available sequence information to maintain their detection profile.

Technical Assistance

For customer support, please contact:

e-mail: support@youseq.com
phone: +44 (0)333 577 6697

Trademarks and Disclaimers

YouSeq®, Tetra™, CY5™, ROX™, VIC™.

Registered names, trademarks, etc. used in this document, even if not specifically marked as such, are not to be considered unprotected by law.

Not available in all countries.

© 2026 YouSeq Ltd; all rights reserved.