

Instruction Manual

KEY TO SYMBOLS USED

	Catalogue number		Caution
	Batch code		Contains sufficient for <n> tests
	Research Use Only		Use-by Date
	Version		Consult instructions for use
	Temperature limit		Keep away from sunlight
	Manufacturer	NCA	Negative control of amplification
	Date of manufacture	C-	Negative control of extraction
PCE	Positive Control of Extraction	C+_{WNV/STI}	Positive control of Amplification
		IC	Internal control

1. INTENDED USE

AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit is an *in vitro* nucleic acid amplification test for qualitative detection of *West Nile virus (WNV)* RNA in the biological material (blood plasma, serum, leukocytic fraction of blood, cerebrospinal fluid, and urine) and human autopsy material (brain, liver, spleen, and lymph node tissue), animal material (brain tissue), mosquitoes and ticks using real-time hybridization-fluorescence detection of amplified products.

NOTE: For research use only. Not for diagnostic procedures

2. PRINCIPLE OF PCR DETECTION

West Nile virus detection by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is based on the amplification of pathogen genome specific region using specific *WNV* primers. In the real-time PCR, the amplified product is detected with the use of fluorescent dyes. These dyes are linked to oligonucleotide probes, which bind specifically to the amplified product during thermocycling. The real-time monitoring of fluorescence intensities during the real-time PCR allows the detection of accumulating product without re-opening the reaction tubes after the PCR run.

AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit is a qualitative test that contains the Internal Control (Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC)). It must be used in the extraction procedure in order to control the extraction process of each individual sample and to identify possible reaction inhibition.

AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit uses "hot-start," which greatly reduces the frequency of nonspecifically primed reactions. "Hot-start" is guaranteed by separation of nucleotides and Taq-polymerase using a chemically modified polymerase (TaqF). The chemically modified polymerase (TaqF) is activated by heating at 95 °C for 15 min.

The results of amplification are registered in the following fluorescence channels:

Table 1

Channel for fluorophore	FAM	JOE
cDNA-target	Internal Control (IC) STI-87-rec cDNA	WNV cDNA
Target gene	Artificially synthesized sequence	5' non-coding target and part of the genome encoding nucleoprotein (5'-UTR – C protein)

3. CONTENT

AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit is produced in 2 forms:

variant FRT, **REF** R-V53(RG,iQ,Mx)-CE;

variant FRT in bulk¹, **REF** R-V53(RG,iQ,Mx)-CE-B.

Variant FRT kit includes:

Reagent	Description	Volume, ml	Quantity
RT-G-mix-2	colorless clear liquid	0.015	1 tube
RT-PCR-mix-1-FRT WNV	clear liquid from colorless to light lilac colour	0.6	1 tube
RT-PCR-mix-2-FEP/FRT	colorless clear liquid	0.3	1 tube
Polymerase (TaqF)	colorless clear liquid	0.03	1 tube
TM-Revertase (MMIv)	colorless clear liquid	0.015	1 tube
Positive Control cDNA WNV / STI (C+_{WNV/STI})	colorless clear liquid	0.1	1 tube
RNA-buffer	colorless clear liquid	0.6	2 tubes
Negative Control (C-)*	colorless clear liquid	1.6	8 tubes
Positive Control WNV-rec	colorless clear liquid	0.03	5 tubes
Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC)**	colorless clear liquid	0.12	5 tubes

* must be used in the extraction procedure as Negative Control of Extraction.

** add 10 µl of **Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC)** during the RNA extraction procedure directly to the sample/lysis mixture (see **RIBO-zol-C**, **RIBO-prep**, **MAGNO-sorb** protocols).

Variant FRT is intended for 60 reactions (including controls).

4. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 0.15 M NaCl or PBS buffer solution (137 mM sodium chloride; 2.7 mM potassium chloride; 10 mM sodium monophosphate; 2 mM potassium diphosphate; pH=7,5±0,2).
- Homogenizer for pretreatment of autopsy material, mosquitos and ticks.
- Stainless steel beads (5 and 7 mm diameter).
- RNA extraction kit.
- Disposable powder-free gloves and a laboratory coat.
- Pipettes (adjustable).
- Sterile pipette tips with aerosol filters (up to 200 µl).
- Tube racks.
- Vortex mixer.
- Desktop centrifuge with a rotor for 2-ml reaction tubes.
- PCR box.
- Real-time instruments (for example, Rotor-Gene 3000/6000 (Corbett Research, Australia); Rotor-Gene Q (QIAGEN, Germany); iCycler iQ5 (Bio-Rad, USA), Mx3000P (Stratagene, USA)).
- Disposable polypropylene tubes:
 - a) screwed or tightly closed 1.5-ml tubes
 - b) thin-walled 0.2-ml PCR tubes with domed caps if a plate-type instrument is used;
 - c) thin-walled 0.2-ml PCR tubes with flat caps if a rotor-type instrument is used.
- Refrigerator for 2–8 °C.
- Deep-freezer at the temperature from minus 24 to minus 16 °C.
- Reservoir for used tips.

5. GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

The user should always pay attention to the following:

- Use sterile pipette tips with aerosol filters and use a new tip for every procedure.
- Store all extracted positive material (specimens, controls and amplicons) away from all other reagents and add it to the reaction mix in a distantly separated facility.
- Thaw all components thoroughly at room temperature before starting an assay.
- When thawed, mix the components and centrifuge briefly.
- Use disposable protective gloves and laboratory cloths, and protect eyes while samples and reagents handling. Thoroughly wash hands afterwards.
- Do not eat, drink, smoke, apply cosmetics, or handle contact lenses in laboratory work areas.
- Do not use a kit after its expiration date.
- Dispose of all specimens and unused reagents in accordance with local regulations.
- Samples should be considered potentially infectious and handled in biological cabinet in compliance with appropriate biosafety practices.
- Clean and disinfect all samples or reagents spills using a disinfectant, such as 0.5 % sodium hypochlorite or another suitable disinfectant.
- Avoid inhalation of vapors, samples and reagents contact with the skin, eyes, and mucous membranes. Harmful if swallowed. If these solutions come into contact, rinse the injured area immediately with water and seek medical advice if necessary.
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are available on request.
- Use of this product should be limited to personnel trained in DNA amplification techniques.
- Workflow in the laboratory must be one-directional, beginning in the Extraction Area and moving to the Amplification and Detection Area. Do not return samples, equipment and reagents in the area where the previous step was performed.



Some components of this kit contain sodium azide as a preservative. Do not use metal tubing for reagent transfer.

¹ In bulk form contains unlabeled tubes. Tubes with identical reagent are packed in one bag with label.

6. SAMPLING AND HANDLING

NOTE: Obtaining samples of biological materials for PCR-analysis, transportation, and storage are described in the manufacturer's handbook [1]. It is recommended that this handbook is read before starting work.

AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit is intended for analysis of the RNA extracted with RNA extraction kits from the biological material:

– **blood plasma, blood serum, and CSF**

Take a whole blood specimen in the morning after overnight fasting in a tube with 6 % EDTA solution in the ratio 1:20. Invert the closed tube several times. To collect plasma, centrifuge the tube at 1600 g for 20 min. Obtain blood serum by standard methods. Take 200 µl of biological material for the test (if RIBO-prep kit is used for extraction) or 1 ml (if MAGNO-sorb is used for extraction).

– **leukocytic fraction of blood**

To obtain leukocytic fraction of blood (the biological material is recommended to be used on the second week of the disease), transfer 1.5 ml of the blood with EDTA to an Eppendorf tube and centrifuge at 400 g for 10 min. Then collect 500–600 µl of plasma and centrifuge at 7,000 g for 10 min. Use the cell pellet and 200 µl of the supernatant (if extracting with RIBO-prep or combined extraction methods (RIBO-zol-C and RIBO-sorb kits or RIBO-zol-C and RIBO-prep kits) for subsequent RNA extraction.

– **internal organs of animals and autopsy material**

Homogenize internal organs of animals and autopsy material in a porcelain mortar with a pestle and prepare 10 % suspension with sterile saline solution or phosphate buffer.

If a TissueLyser LT automated homogenizer is used, set the following parameters:

- the volume of PBS buffer or 0.15 M NaCl solution for homogenizing is defined by the volume of homogenized tissue. The tissue–buffer ratio is 1 : 9; therefore, a 10 % suspension is prepared;
- the total sample volume should not exceed 1 ml for 1.5-ml tubes;
- homogenization parameters
 - for brain tissues: bead size, 5 mm; frequency, 50 Hz/s; homogenization time, 2-3 min;
 - for liver, spleen, and lymph node tissues: bead size, 7 mm, frequency, 50 Hz/s; homogenization time, 10 min;
 - for lymph nodes: bead size, 5 mm; frequency, 50 Hz/s; homogenization time, 5 min.

Take 30 µl of the suspension for RNA extraction if extracting with RIBO-prep or by a combined extraction method (RIBO-zol-C and RIBO-sorb kits) and 100 µl of the suspension if extracting by a combined extraction method (RIBO-zol-C and RIBO-prep kits).

– **urine**

Collect a urine sample to a clean vessel. If the sample will not be analyzed within 1 day after taking, transfer the urine to a 30-ml centrifuge tube or an Eppendorf tube, add glycerol (10 % of the sample volume), stir, and freeze at the temperature minus 20 °C for storage up to 1 week or at the temperature minus 70 °C for storage for a long time.

If a cooling centrifuge (temperature, 4 °C; tube volume, 30 ml; acceleration, 8,000 g) is used, follow the pretreatment algorithm described below:

Centrifuge the sample at 8,000–9,000 g for 10 min and discard the supernatant. Transfer the pellet and 1 ml of the supernatant to an Eppendorf tube. Centrifuge the sample at 8,000 g for 10 min. Discard 900 µl of the supernatant. Use the pellet with the remaining 100 µl of the supernatant for RNA extraction. In the case of a high content of salts in the urine sample, transfer 100 µl of the supernatant to an Eppendorf tube and use it for RNA extraction.

If a cooling centrifuge for 30-ml tubes and 8,000 g is absent, centrifuge 1-ml sample as described below. Extract RNA from the pellet with 100 µl of the supernatant.

– **mosquito suspension**

To prepare mosquitoes suspension, use a porcelain mortar and pestle. If a TissueLyser LT automated homogenizer is used, set the following homogenizing parameters: bead size, 5 mm; frequency, 50 Hz/s; homogenization time, 5 min; buffer volume, 700 µl (a pooled sample of 25 mosquitoes) or 1,000–1500 µl (a pooled sample of 50 mosquitoes).

Prepare mosquito pools (up to 50 mosquitoes). Homogenize gnats in sterile saline solution or phosphate buffer calculating 30 µl of the solution per 1 mosquito. Centrifuge the samples at 10,000 g for 1 minute. Collect 100 µl of the supernatant for RNA extraction.

– **tick suspension**

Form tick pools: pool of hungry ticks consists of 5-7 specimens; pool of half-full ticks consists of 2-3 specimens; pool of blood-filled ticks consists of 1 tick.

If a TissueLyser LT automated homogenizer is used, set the following homogenizing parameters for the *Hyalomma* genus ticks: bead size, 7 mm; frequency, 50 Hz/s; homogenization time, 10–12 min; buffer volume, 700 µl (hungry tick) or 1,000-1500 µl (blood-filled tick and tick pools).

To prepare tick suspension a sterile porcelain mortar and pestle can be used as well. Prior to homogenization, blood-filled ticks should be pierced to let blood out. Homogenize ticks in 700 µl (if the sample consists of 1 hungry tick) or 1-1.5 ml (if a blood-filled tick or tick pools are homogenized) of 0.15 M sodium chloride solution. Add the solution in small portions while homogenizing. Centrifuge the prepared suspension at 10,000 rpm for 1 min and use 100 µl of the supernatant for RNA extraction.

The samples are to be stored at 2–8 °C for 1 day or at the temperature not more than minus 16 °C for 1 week.

Internal organ tissues and mosquitoes are to be stored at the temperature not more than minus 16 °C for 1 week or at the temperature minus 70 °C for a long time.

Ticks are to be stored alive at most 1 month or at the temperature not more than minus 16 °C for 1 week, or at the temperature minus 70 °C for a long time.

7. WORKING CONDITIONS

AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit should be used at 18–25 °C.

8. PROTOCOL

8.1. RNA extraction

It's recommended that the following nucleic acid extraction kits are used:

Material	Extraction kit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> leukocytic fraction of blood suspension of internal organs suspension of mosquitoes suspension of ticks urine sediment (including salts) 	RIBO-zol-C (for the stage I of RNA extraction) and RIBO-prep or RIBO-sorb (for the stage II of RNA extraction)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> blood plasma blood serum leukocytic fraction of blood cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) internal organ homogenates mosquitoes homogenates urine sediment (without salts) 	RIBO-prep
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> blood plasma blood serum CSF 	MAGNO-sorb

8.1.1 RIBO-prep

RNA is extracted from blood plasma, blood serum, leukocytic fraction of blood, CSF, urine (without salt sediments), homogenates of internal organ tissues, and mosquito homogenates.

Extract RNA according to the manufacturer's protocol taking into account next additions and improvements:

The volume of the tissue homogenate sample is 30 µl. The volume of the suspension of mosquitoes is 100 µl. The volume of the blood plasma, blood serum, CSF is 100 µl.

If extracting from leukocytic fraction of blood and urine sediment: add 300 µl of Solution for Lysis and 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) directly to the tubes with the samples.

NOTE Add 300 µl of Solution for Lysis and 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) to the tube labeled C– (Negative Control of Extraction); Add 10 µl of Positive Control WNV-rec, 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC), and 300 µl of Solution for Lysis to the tube labeled PCE (Positive Control of Extraction).

Centrifuge the tubes under the following conditions:

- after Solution for Precipitation addition, at 10,000 g for 5 min,
- after washing with Washing Solution 3, at 10,000 g for 2 min,
- after washing with Washing Solution 4, at 10,000 g for 2 min,
- after RNA-buffer addition, at 10,000 g for 1 min.

8.1.2 RIBO-zol-C and RIBO-prep

RNA is extracted from the leukocytic fraction of blood, urine sediments, suspensions of internal organ tissues, mosquitoes, and ticks.

I stage. RIBO-zol-C

Extract RNA according to the manufacturer's protocol taking into account next additions and improvements:

The volume of the suspensions of internal organ tissues, mosquitoes, and ticks is 100 µl.

If extracting from leukocytic fraction of blood and urine sediment: add 300 µl of Solution D and 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) directly to the tubes with the samples.

Add 100 µl of Negative Control (C–) and 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) to the tube labeled C– (Negative Control of Extraction);

NOTE Add 10 µl of Positive Control WNV-rec, 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC), and 90 µl of Negative Control (C–) to the tube labeled PCE (Positive Control of Extraction).

Centrifuge the tubes under the following conditions:

- do not centrifuge the tubes after mixing the Solution D and Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) with the test or control samples and incubation,
- after Solution E and solution A addition centrifuge at 1,500 g for 5 s,
- after solution B addition and placing the tubes on ice (0–4 °C) for 5 min, at 10,000 g for 10 min.

The volume of the top phase collected at the final step is 200 µl.

II stage. RIBO-prep

Extract RNA according to the manufacturer's protocol taking into account next additions and improvements:

Use 200 µl of top phase obtained at I stage of RNA extraction as a test sample. Do not add Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC).

NOTE Centrifuge the tubes under the following conditions:

- after Solution for Precipitation addition, at 10,000 g for 5 min,
- after washing with Washing Solution 3 and Washing Solution 4, at 10,000 g for 2 min,
- after RNA-buffer addition and incubation, at 10,000 g for 1 min.

8.1.3 RIBO-zol-C and RIBO-sorb

RNA is extracted from the leukocytic fraction of blood, urine sediments, suspensions of internal organ tissues, mosquitoes, and ticks.

I stage. RIBO-zol-C

Extract RNA according to the manufacturer's protocol taking into account next additions and improvements:

The volume of the tissue suspension sample is 30 µl. The volume of the suspension of mosquitoes and ticks is 100 µl.

If extracting from leukocytic fraction of blood and urine sediment: add 300 µl of Solution D and 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) directly to the tubes with the samples.

Add 100 µl of Negative Control (C–) and 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) to the tube labeled C– (Negative Control of Extraction);

NOTE Add 10 µl of Positive Control WNV-rec, 10 µl of Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC), and 90 µl of Negative Control (C–) to the tube labeled PCE (Positive Control of Extraction).

Centrifuge the tubes under the following conditions:

- after mixing the Solution D and Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC) with the test or control samples and incubation, at 1,500 g for 5 s,
- after Solution E and solution A addition centrifuge at 1,500 g for 5 s,
- after solution B addition and placing the tubes on ice (0–4 °C) for 5 min, at 10,000 g for 10 min.

The volume of the top phase collected at the final step should be:

- 400 µl if extracting from urine sediments, homogenates of internal organs, mosquitoes, or ticks,
- 300 µl if extracting from blood sediments,
- 450 µl if extracting from Negative or Positive Controls.

II stage. RIBO-sorb

Extract RNA according to the manufacturer's protocol taking into account next additions and improvements:

Use 300, 400 or 450 µl of top phase obtained at I stage of RNA extraction as a test sample. Do not add Internal Control STI-87-rec (IC).

Use 400 µl of Lysis Solution instead of 450 µl

Centrifuge the tubes under the following conditions:

- after sorbent addition, at 1,500 g for 30 s,
- after washing with Washing Solution 1, at 1,500 g for 30 s,
- after washing with Washing Solution 3, at 5,000 g for 45 s,
- after washing with Washing Solution 4, at 6,000 g for 1 min.

After washing with Washing Solution 4 and centrifugation, incubate all tubes with open caps for 10 min at 56 °C.

After adding RNA-buffer, incubate the samples at 56 °C for 5 min and vortex every other minute.

Store an unsealed tube with RNA-buffer at the temperature not more than minus 16 °C.

8.1.4 MAGNO-sorb

NOTE Extract the RNA according to the manufacturer's protocol.

8.2. Preparing reverse transcription and PCR

The total reaction volume is 25 µl, the volume of RNA sample is 10 µl.

8.2.1 Preparing tubes for PCR

The type of tubes depends on the PCR instrument used for analysis. Use disposable filter tips for adding reagents, RNA and control samples into tubes.

1. Prepare the required number of tubes for PCR.
2. Prepare the reaction mixture for the required number of reactions. To do this, mix in a new tube RT-PCR-mix-1-FRT WNV, RT-PCR-mix-2-FEP/FRT, polymerase (TaqF), RT-G-mix-2, and TM-Revertase (MMIv) calculating per each reaction:
 - 10 µl of RT-PCR-mix-1-FRT WNV;
 - 5 µl of RT-PCR-mix-2-FEP/FRT;
 - 0.5 µl of polymerase (TaqF);
 - 0.25 µl of TM-Revertase (MMIv);
 - 0.25 µl of RT-G-mix-2;

Take into account that each run includes at least four control points: Positive and Negative Controls of extraction (PCE, C–) as well as Positive and Negative Controls of RT-PCR (C+WNV/STI, NCA).

3. Transfer 15 µl of the prepared reaction mixture to each tube.

NOTE Do not store the prepared mixture.

4. Using filter tips add 10 µl of RNA samples obtained at the RNA extraction stage into prepared tubes. Carefully mix by pipette.
5. Carry out the control amplification reactions:

NCA – Add 10 µl of RNA-buffer to the tube labeled NCA (Negative Control of Amplification).

C+WNV/STI – Add 10 µl of Positive Control cDNA WNV / STI to the tube labeled C+WNV/STI (Positive Control of Amplification).

C– – Add 10 µl of the sample extracted from the Negative Control (C–) reagent to the tube labeled C– (Negative control of Extraction).

PCE – Add 10 µl of the sample extracted from the Positive Control WNV-rec reagent to the tube labeled PCE (Positive control of Extraction)

NOTE Amplification should immediately follow after compounding of the reaction mix with RNA-samples and controls.

8.2.2 Reverse transcription and amplification

1. Create a temperature profile on your instrument as follows:

Table 2

Step	Rotor-type instruments ²			Plate-type instruments ³		
	Temperature, °C	Time	Cycles	Temperature, °C	Time	Cycles
1	50	30 min	1	50	30 min	1
2	95	15 min	1	95	15 min	1
3	95	5 s	5	95	5 s	5
	56	25 s		56	30 s	
	72	15 s		72	15 s	
4	95	5 s	40	95	5 s	40
	56	25 s		56	30 s	
		fluorescent signal detection			fluorescent signal detection	
		72			15 s	

Fluorescent signal is detected in the channels for the FAM and JOE fluorophores.

2. Adjust the fluorescence channel sensitivity according to the *Important Product Information Bulletin* and Guidelines [2].
3. Insert tubes into the reaction module of the device.
4. Run the amplification program with fluorescence detection.
5. Analyze results after the amplification program is completed.

9. DATA ANALYSIS

Analysis of results is performed by the software of the real-time PCR instrument used by measuring fluorescence signal accumulation in two channels:

- The signal of the IC cDNA amplification product is detected in the channel for the FAM fluorophore.
- The signal of the WNV cDNA amplification product is detected in the channel for the JOE fluorophore.

Results are interpreted by the crossing (or not-crossing) the fluorescence curve with the threshold line set at the specific level that corresponds to the presence (or absence) of a Ct value of the cDNA sample in the corresponding column of the results grid.

The results are interpreted according to the Table 3.

Table 3

Correspondence of targets and channels		
PCR-mix-1	Detection in the channel for the fluorophore	
	FAM	JOE
RT-PCR-mix-1-FRT WNV	IC	WNV

Principle of interpretation is the following:

- WNV cDNA is **detected** in a sample if the Ct value determined in the results grid in the channel for the JOE fluorophore is less than the boundary Ct value specified in the *Important Product Information Bulletin*. Moreover, the fluorescence curve of the sample should cross the threshold line in the area of typical exponential growth of fluorescence.
- WNV cDNA is **not detected** in a sample if the Ct value determined in the result grid in the channel for the FAM fluorophore is less than the specified boundary value, whereas the Ct value in the channel for the JOE fluorophore is not determined or greater than the specified value in the *Important Product Information Bulletin*.
- The result is **invalid** if the Ct value is not determined (absent) in the channel for JOE fluorophore, whereas the Ct value in the channel for the FAM fluorophore is not determined (absent) or greater than the specified boundary Ct value. In such cases, the PCR analysis should be repeated starting from the RNA extraction stage.

NOTE Boundary Ct values are specified in the *Important Product Information Bulletin* enclosed to the PCR kit. See also Guidelines [2].

The result of the analysis is considered reliable only if the results obtained for the Positive and Negative Controls of amplification as well as for the Positive and Negative Control of extraction are correct (see Table 4).

Table 4

Results for controls			
Control	Stage for control	Ct value in the channel for the fluorophore	
		JOE	FAM
C–	RNA extraction	Absent	<boundary value
PCE	RNA extraction	<boundary value	<boundary value
NCA	PCR	Absent	Absent
C+WNV/STI	PCR	<boundary value	<boundary value

10. TROUBLESHOOTING

Results of the analysis are not taken into account in the following cases:

1. If the Ct value determined for the Positive Control of Amplification (C+) in the channel for the JOE fluorophore is greater than the boundary Ct value or absent, the amplification should be repeated for all samples in which the specific cDNA was not detected.
2. If the Ct value determined for the Positive Control of Extraction (PCE) in the channel for the JOE fluorophore is greater than the boundary Ct value or absent, the extraction should be repeated for all samples in which the specific cDNA was not detected.
3. If the Ct value is determined for the Negative Control of Extraction (C–) in the channel for the JOE fluorophore, the PCR-analysis should be repeated for all samples in which cDNA was detected in the channel for the JOE fluorophore.
4. If the Ct value is determined for the Negative Control of Amplification (NCA) in the channels for the FAM and JOE fluorophores, the amplification should be repeated for all samples in which cDNA was detected in the channel for the JOE fluorophore, with simultaneously running NCA in triplicate.

11. TRANSPORTATION

AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit should be transported at 2–8 °C for no longer than 5 days.

12. STABILITY AND STORAGE

All components of the AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit (except for RT-G-mix-2, RT-PCR-mix-1-FRT WNV, RT-PCR-mix-2-FEP/FRT, polymerase (TaqF), and TM-Revertase (MMIv)) are to be stored at 2–8 °C when not in use. All components of the AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit are stable until the expiration date on the label. The shelf life of reagents before and after the first use is the same, unless otherwise stated.

NOTE: RT-G-mix-2, RT-PCR-mix-1-FRT WNV, RT-PCR-mix-2-FEP/FRT, polymerase (TaqF), and TM-Revertase (MMIv) are to be stored at temperature from minus 24 to minus 16 °C when not in use.

NOTE: RT-PCR-mix-1-FRT WNV is to be kept away from light.

13. SPECIFICATIONS

13.1. Analytical sensitivity

The analytical sensitivity of AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit is specified in the table below.

Type of biological material (test sample volume)	RNA extraction kit	PCR kit	Analytical sensitivity, copies/ml	Pretreatment of biological material
blood serum (200 µl), CSF (200 µl), leukocytic fraction of blood (200 µl), 10 % brain tissue homogenate (30 µl), mosquitoes (100 µl)	RIBO-prep	variant FRT	5 x 10 ³	Indicated sensitivity can be reached only if the specified pretreatment instructions are followed and the specified specimen volume is used
leukocytic fraction of blood (200 µl), 10 % brain tissue homogenate (30 µl), mosquitoes (100 µl)	RIBO-zol-C RIBO-prep	variant FRT	5 x 10 ³	
leukocytic fraction of blood (200 µl), 10 % brain tissue homogenate (30 µl), mosquitoes (100 µl)	RIBO-zol-C RIBO-sorb	variant FRT	5 x 10 ³	
blood plasma, blood serum, CSF (1 ml for all)	MAGNO-sorb	variant FRT	5 x 10 ²	

13.2. Analytical specificity

The analytical specificity of AmpliSens® WNV-FRT PCR kit is ensured by selection of specific primers and probes as well as stringent reaction conditions. The primers and probes have been checked for possible homologies to all sequences deposited in gene banks by sequence comparison analysis. The analytical specificity was assayed using the following microorganisms:

- flaviviruses (tick-borne encephalitis virus, Langat, Powassan, Japanese encephalitis, and Omsk hemorrhagic fever viruses);
- herpes viruses (I and II types, CMV, EBV, VZV, IV type), enteroviruses (ECHO, Coxsackie);
- rickettsiae of spotted fever group (*Rickettsia conorii* spp. caspia and *R.heilongjiangensis*; *Coxiella burnetii*, and *Bartonella henselae* and *B.quintana*);
- spirochaetes (*Borrelia miyamotoi*; *Treponema pallidum*; *Leptospira interrogans*, *L.kirshneri*; and *L.borgpetersenii*);

No false-positive results were observed during examination of RNA/DNA of the above-mentioned organisms, human DNA, DNA of birds, DNA of ticks and mosquitoes, DNA of rodents.

² For example, Rotor-Gene 3000/6000 (Corbett Research, Australia), Rotor-Gene Q (Qiagen, Germany), or equivalent.

³ For example, iQ5 (Bio-Rad, USA), Mx3000P (Stratagene, USA), or equivalent.

14. REFERENCES

1. Handbook "Sampling, Transportation, and Storage of Clinical Material for PCR diagnostics", developed by Federal Budget Institute of Science "Central Research Institute for Epidemiology" of Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumers' Rights Protection and Human Well-Being.
2. Guidelines to the **AmpliSens® WNV-FRT** PCR kit for qualitative detection of *West Nile virus* RNA in the biological material by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) with real-time hybridization-fluorescence detection developed by Federal Budget Institute of Science "Central Research Institute for Epidemiology".

15. QUALITY CONTROL

In accordance with Federal Budget Institute of Science "Central Research Institute for Epidemiology" ISO 13485-Certified Quality Management System, each lot of **AmpliSens® WNV-FRT** PCR kit has been tested against predetermined specifications to ensure consistent product quality.

