Detection of *Listeria* in Food and Environmental Samples Using an ISO-Validated Multiplex PCR Kit: the foodproof[®] *Listeria* plus *L. monocytogenes* Detection LyoKit

Due to the extreme risk of illness from foods contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, many Ready-to-Eat products and food production environments are highly monitored using *Listeria* spp. as an indicator. Some available PCR assays require a separate secondary test to identify *L. monocytogenes*, which causes delays in corrective actions and increases laboratory labor. However, the foodproof[®] *Listeria* plus *L. monocytogenes* Detection LyoKit detects food-relevant *Listeria* spp. and *L. monocytogenes* in a single reaction.

Validation Methods

- The study comprised 50 inclusivity and 30 exclusivity strains per target, sensitivity, relative level of detection (RLOD) and collaborative studies.
- Validation of the alternative method was performed and compared to the ISO reference method (culture) for:
 - Composite Foods/Ready-to-Eat/Reheat
 - Meat Products
 - Milk and Dairy Products
 - Vegetables
 - Seafood and Fishery Products
 - Environmental Samples
- Samples were enriched in:
 - Half-Fraser Broth (1:10) at 30 ± 1 °C for 24 46 h
 - Actero[™] Listeria Enrichment Broth (1:7) at 36 ± 1 °C for 20 24 h.
- Following incubation, DNA extraction was performed with foodproof[®] StarPrep[®] Two Kit (Standard or 8-strip), then lysates were analyzed by real-time PCR with the foodproof *Listeria* plus *Listeria* monocytogenes Detection LyoKit.

Validation Results

- The validation study (NordVal No. 054) indicated that the foodproof method performed comparably to reference method EN ISO 11290-1:2017 and fulfills the validation criteria according to EN ISO 16140-2:2016.
- The specificity studies yielded:
 - 100% inclusivity of the 50 target strains
 - 100% exclusivity of the 30 non-target strains
- Additionally, the acceptability limits for the sensitivity and RLOD studies for all categories and enrichment protocols were met.

Industry Significance

- The validation of the foodproof *Listeria* multiplex assay provides many industries with the ability to quickly screen for *Listeria* and then immediately identify if corrective actions need to occur for *Listeria monocytogenes* in a single test.
- Using a single assay reduces costs and improves operational efficiencies throughout food production and environmental monitoring, as well as for high-throughput testing laboratories.



Standard Extraction Option













Products

Product No.	Description	Quantity
Enrichment Options		
MED2018	- Actero™ <i>Listeria</i> Enrichment Media	2 kg
MED2020		10 kg
DNA Extraction Options		
KIT230177	foodproof [®] StarPrep [®] Two Kit, Standard	96 reactions
KIT230186	foodproof [®] StarPrep [®] Two Kit, 8-Strip	480 reactions
PCR Test Options		
KIT230129 (LP) KIT230130 (RP) KIT230369 (DP)	foodproof [®] Listeria plus Listeria monocytogenes Detection LyoKit	96 reactions

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