



HighYield T7 ARCA mRNA Synthesis Kit (ac⁴CTP)

Synthesis of ARCA-capped & N⁴-acetylcytosine-modified (m)RNA

Cat. No.	Amount
RNT-119-S	15 reactions x 20 µl
RNT-119-L	50 reactions x 20 µl

For general laboratory use.

Shipping: shipped on gel packs

Storage Conditions: store at -20 °C

Additional Storage Conditions: avoid freeze/thaw cycles

Shelf Life: 12 months after date of delivery

Description:

HighYield T7 ARCA mRNA Synthesis Kit (ac⁴CTP) is designed to produce large amounts of ARCA-capped and N⁴-acetylcytosine-modified (m)RNA via *in vitro* transcription with T7 RNA polymerase. The resulting 5'-capped and internally modified (m)RNA can subsequently be used for microinjection, transfection or *in vitro* translation experiments.

Anti-reverse cap analog (ARCA, m^{7,3'-O}GpppG)-capped (m)RNA possesses a significantly higher translation efficiency compared to traditional m⁷GpppG-capped (m)RNA. This is due to 3'-O-methylation of the m⁷ guanine moiety that allows ARCA incorporation in the correct ("anti-reverse") orientation only resulting in a 100 % translatable capped (m)RNA population.

N⁴-acetylcytosine modifications have been shown to increase (m)RNA stability and to reduce immunogenicity.

The kit contains sufficient reagents for **15 reactions (S-Pack) or 50 reactions (L-Pack) à 20 µl (6 mM ARCA, 1.5 mM GTP, 7.5 mM UTP, 7.5 mM ATP, 7.5 mM N⁴-Acetyl-CTP)**. An individual optimization of ARCA and N⁴-Acetyl-CTP concentration can easily be achieved with the single nucleotide format.

A 20 µl reaction yields about **30-50 µg RNA after 30 min incubation (1 µg T7 control template, 1.4 kb RNA transcript)**. Yields may however vary depending on the template (promotor design, sequence length, secondary structure formation)).

Content:

HighYield T7 RNA Polymerase Mix

RNT-119-S: 2x 40 µl incl. RNase inhibitor and 50 % glycerol (v/v)

RNT-119-L: 3x 40 µl incl. RNase inhibitor and 50 % glycerol (v/v)

HighYield T7 Reaction Buffer

1x 200 µl (10x), HEPES-based

ATP - Solution

1x 100 µl (100 mM)

GTP - Solution

1x 100 µl (100 mM)

CTP - Solution

1x 100 µl (100 mM)

UTP - Solution

1x 100 µl (100 mM)

ARCA - Solution

RNT-119-S: 2x 10 µl (100 mM)

RNT-119-L: 6x 10 µl (100 mM)

N⁴-Acetyl-CTP



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RNT-119-S: 3x 10 µl (100 mM)

RNT-119-L: 8x 10 µl (100 mM)

T7 G-initiating control template (1.4 kbp)

1x 10 µl (200 ng/µl), 1.4 kbp PCR fragment plus T7 class III phi6.5 promoter resulting in 1400 nt RNA transcript

PCR-grade water

1x 1.2 ml

DTT

1x 100 µl (100 mM)

To be provided by user

T7 Promotor-containing DNA template

RNA purification tools

RNase-free DNase I

Important Notes (Read before starting)

Prevention of RNase contamination

Although a potent RNase Inhibitor is included, creating a RNase-free work environment and maintaining RNase-free solutions is critical for performing successful *in vitro* transcription reactions. We therefore recommend

- to perform all reactions in sterile, RNase-free tubes using sterile pipette tips.
- to wear gloves when handling samples containing RNA.
- to keep all components tightly sealed both during storage and reaction procedure.

Template requirements

- **Template type:** Linearized plasmid DNA or PCR products containing a double-stranded G-initiating T7 class III phi6.5 promoter region upstream of the target sequence.

Minimum T7 promotor sequences:

T7 class III phi6.5 promotor (G-initiating)

5'-TAATACGACTCACTATAGNN...-3'

Bold: First base incorporated into RNA, NN: ideally CG

- **Template quality:** DNA template quality directly influences yield and quality of transcription reaction. Linearized plasmid DNA needs to be fully digested and to be free of contaminating RNase, protein and salts. We recommend selecting restriction enzymes that generate blunt ends or 5'-overhangs and purification by phenol/chloro-form extraction. A PCR mixture can be used directly however, better yields will usually be obtained with purified PCR products (e.g. via silica-membrane based purification columns).
- **mRNA production:** For the production of functional mRNA, the DNA template needs to encode the following structural features e.g. 3'-UTR, 5'-UTR, correctly orientated target sequence and poly(A)-tail. Alternatively, poly(A)-tailing can post-transcriptionally be performed with Poly(A) polymerase.



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In vitro Transcription protocol

The general protocol is set up for 0.5 µg - 1 µg DNA template (refer to section 1.2 regarding template requirements), a final NTP concentration of 7.5 mM, ARCA:GTP ratio of 4:1 and 100% substitution of CTP by N⁴-Acetyl-CTP, respectively.

Depending on the RNA sequence and final application, individual reaction optimization may improve product yield and biological function (e.g. variation N⁴-Acetyl-CTP/CTP ratio, variation of template amount, variation of incubation time). An optimal balance between reaction and capping efficiency is usually achieved by an ARCA:GTP ratio of 4:1 (approx. 80% capped RNA transcripts). The synthesis of RNA transcripts >= 5000 nt may require higher GTP concentrations. Lowering the ARCA:GTP ratio (e.g. 2:1) lowers the capping efficiency but may significantly improve the yield of full-length transcripts.

Component	Volume	Final conc.
PCR-grade water	X µl	
HighYield T7 Reaction Buffer (10x)	2 µl	1x
DTT (100 mM)	2 µl	10 mM
ARCA (100 mM)	1.2 µl	6 mM
GTP (100 mM)	0.3 µl	1.5 mM
UTP (100 mM)	1.5 µl	7.5 mM
N ⁴ -Acetyl-CTP (100 mM)	1.5 µl	7.5 mM
ATP (100 mM)	1.5 µl	7.5 mM
Template DNA	X µl	1 µg
HighYield T7 RNA Polymerase Mix	2 µl	
Total volume	20 µl	

- Place HighYield T7 RNA Polymerase Mix on ice.
- Thaw all remaining components at room temperature (RT), mix by vortexing and spin down briefly.
- Assemble all components at RT to a nuclease-free microtube (sterile pipette tips) in the following order:
 - Mix PCR-grade water, HighYield T7 Reaction Buffer and DTT by vortexing and spin down briefly.
 - Add nucleotide solutions and template DNA, vortex and spin down briefly.
 - Add HighYield T7 RNA Polymerase Mix vortex and spin down briefly.
- Incubate for 2h at 37°C in the dark (e.g. PCR cycler). Individual optimization may increase product yield (0.5h–4h at 37°C).

Please note: Reagents for the following steps are not provided within this kit.

DNA template removal

Depending on the down-stream application, removal of template DNA might be required. We recommend a salt-resistant, high efficiency DNAase such as Turbo™DNAse (ThermoFisher). Follow the manufacturer instructions.

Removal of 5'-triphosphate groups

5'-ends of *in vitro* phosphorylated RNAs carry a triphosphate group that is known to trigger RIG-1 mediated innate immune response in mammalian cells^[1,2]. Removal with phosphatases (e.g. CIP) before final purification is therefore recommended for RNA probes intended for transfection experiments. Please refer to the following references for more detailed information: [1],[2].

(m)RNA purification

Purification of (m)RNA is required prior to transfection or (m)RNA quantitation by absorbance measurement. Spin column purification will remove proteins, salts and unincorporated nucleotides. Please follow the manufacturer instructions and ensure that the columns match with product size and possess a sufficient binding capacity (e.g. RNA Clean & Concentrator™ columns (Zymo Research) or Monarch® RNA Cleanup kit (NEB)). Other RNA purification methods such as LiCl precipitation may work but have not been tested.

(m)RNA quantitation

RNA concentration can be determined by absorbance measurement at 260 nm (A₂₆₀) according to the Law-of-Lambert-Beer (A₂₆₀ = 1 corresponds to 40 µg/ml ssRNA).

Related Products:

m₂^{7,3'-O}GP₃G (ARCA Cap Analog) - Solution, #NU-855
N⁴-Acetyl-CTP, #NU-988

Selected References:

[1] Wienert *et al.* (2018) In vitro transcribed guide RNAs trigger an innate immune response via RIG-I pathway. *PLoS Biol.* **16** (7):e2005840.

[2] Kim *et al.* (2018) CRISPR RNAs trigger innate immune responses in human cells. *Genome Res.* **28** (3):367.