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## **Proteinase K**

### **From *Tritirachium album***

Tissue fixation in formalin or other aldehyde solutions forms protein cross-links that may mask the antigenic sites. This causes weak or false negative staining with the immunohistochemical detection of certain proteins. The proteinase K based solution is used to break the interfering cross-links, thereby unmask the relevant epitopes in formalin-fixed and paraffin embedded tissue sections and thus enable or enhance the staining with antibodies.

Proteinase K is a non-specific serine protease with a very high specific activity. It is therefore ideally suited for proteolytic digestion of formalin-fixed tissues. Proteinase K is active in the presence or absence of SDS, EDTA or urea. Check also our newsletter archive about formalin on [www.bma.ch](http://www.bma.ch).

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**Product number: T-3401**

**Lot: 03PO1203**

### **TECHNICAL AND ANALYTICAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

<b>Quantity:</b>	40mg enzyme in 2ml solution
<b>Concentration:</b>	20mg/ml Supplied as liquid solution in 20mM Tris/HCl (pH 7.4), 1mM CaCl <sub>2</sub> , 50% glycerol.
<b>Specific Activity:</b>	30 units/mg.
<b>Stability:</b>	Original vial: 1 year at -20°C Can be stored at -20°C with the enzyme in liquid form.
<b>Applications:</b>	Tested for immunohistochemistry (IHC); has been described to work with ISH techniques. <b>Approximate working dilution for IHC:</b> 1:50 diluted in 20mM Tris/HCl pH 8.0. The time required for optimal digestion of formalin-fixed tissues usually varies with the extent of fixation. Generally, three to six minutes (up to fifteen minutes) at room temperature is sufficient. Over-digestion may result in loss of tissue morphology or cause sections to detach from slides. Optimal dilutions and incubation times should be determined by the end user. Please see <a href="http://www.bma.ch">www.bma.ch</a> for protocols and general information.
<b>Source:</b>	Tritirachium album.

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### **Selected reference**

Anson, M.L.: J. Gen. Physiol. **22**, 79 (1939).

For *in vitro* research only.

T-3401

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2.2.2015