

Human Interleukin-2 Reconstitution (IL-2)

I. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to reconstitute and properly store human interleukin-2 (IL-2). IL-2 is a secreted cytokine that is important for the proliferation of T and B lymphocytes, which is why this cytokine is used in the culturing of T cell lines or clones.

II. Reagents

Reagent	Vendor	Catalogue #
Human rIL-2 (40ug or 5.2×10^5 U/vial)	Thermo-Fisher	PHC0027
Sterile PBS	Life Technologies	14190144
Sterile 10mL syringe	Fisher	309604
Sterile 0.45 micron filter	TPP	99745
Sterile 15mL conical tube	TPP	91015
Sterile 0.65mL eppendorf tubes	Fisher	07-200-186

III. Storage

Both the lyophilized powder and the reconstituted aliquots should be stored at -80°C long term, but can be kept at -20°C for short intervals of time (1-2 weeks).

IV. Reconstitution

1. Take a vial of the lyophilized powder from the -80°C freezer and allow it warm to room temperature without the use of artificial heat (approximately 1 hour).
2. Once warmed, spray the vial with 70% ethanol, and place it in the hood for reconstitution.
3. Add 5.2mL of sterile PBS to the vial. Make sure to add the PBS ***very slowly*** to minimize splashing and overflow. Gently mix the vial to ensure the powder is completely dissolved.
4. Transfer the liquid to a sterile 10mL syringe with a sterile 0.45 micron filter on it's end.
5. Slowly, filter into a sterile 15mL conical tube.
6. Aliquot 200 μl into 1.7mL screw cap tubes and label "IL-2 100,000 U/mL [date]" on the vial. Store at -80°C (should be about 26 tubes total).

NOTE: Since IL-2 will be used in the culturing of cells, it is very important to use sterile technique throughout the entire process to reduce the chance of media contamination.

[WHO Conversion Table](#)

Please note that we use the NIBSC calibrated concentration for IL-2. The units assigned are arbitrary and used simply for mass conversion. This is the same concentration used by the NIH AIDS Reagent Program.

$$1\mu\text{g} = 1.3 \times 10^4 \text{ U}$$

NOTE: Math Overview.

Lyophilized stock is provided at 40 μ g, which is 5.2×10^5 U/vial. Add 5.2mL PBS for a concentration of 1.0×10^5 U/mL.