MAXblock™ Blocking Medium

Catalog No.: 15252
Format: 150 ml
Applications: Immunofluorescence, Immunohistochemistry
Formulation: Non-mammalian blocking agent in PBS, pH 7.4, containing 0.09% sodium azide
Storage: Store at 4°C. Guaranteed stable for 6 months when stored properly.
Concentration: MAXblock is to be used at the delivered concentration (1X).

Description: MAXblock is a protein-based, non-mammalian blocking agent for use in immunofluorescence and immunodetection assays. Superior blocking is achieved utilizing a protein blend that demonstrates no cross-reactivity with secondary antibodies.

Quality Control: MAXblock has been tested for effectiveness in blocking non-specific binding of antibodies in immunofluorescence (see below) and immunohistochemistry.

Usage: For immunofluorescence, immunohistochemistry or immunocytochemistry, cells can either be grown directly on slides or coverslips, or spun down onto slides or coverslips. Blocking times are the same no matter which substrate the cells are on (see below).

Temperature	Blocking Time
4°C	Overnight
25°C	2 hours
37°C	1 hour

Coverslips can be placed cells side up in the well (one coverslip per well) of a six-well tissue culture plate. Use 1 ml MAXblock per well. Be sure to cover the plate to minimize evaporation.

Slides can be blocked cells side up in petri dishes or Coplin jars. (Glass jars are not recommended as protein adheres to glass). If Petri dishes are used, use enough MAXblock to completely cover the surface of the slide, and cover the dish during blocking to minimize evaporation. If blocking is performed at 25°C or 37°C, allow extra time to equilibrate the MAXblock to the proper temperature.

For antibody dilution and staining, it is strongly recommended that you use Active Motif's MAXbind™ Staining Medium (Cat. No. 15253). **Do not use MAXblock for diluting antibodies or for staining.**

MAXblock is for *in vitro* research use only and is not intended for use in humans or animals.

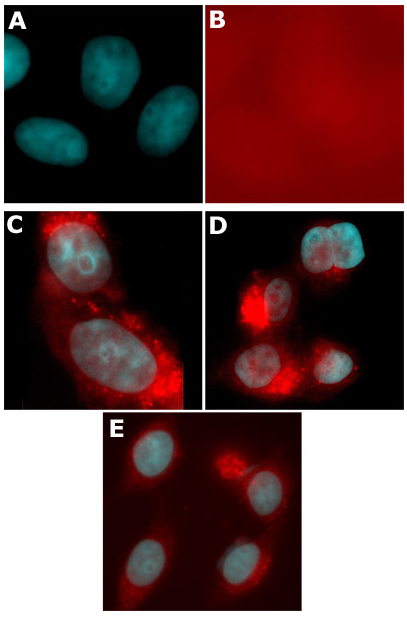

Figure 1: MAXblock Blocking Efficacy.
Methanol-fixed HeLa cells grown on a coverslip were blocked overnight in MAXblock (A), 5% non-fat dry milk (C), 5% BSA (D) or Thermo-Fisher Pierce Sea Block (E). Cells were then incubated with a fluorescent anti-rabbit secondary antibody at a dilution of 1:250 (far above the recommended dilution to demonstrate the effectiveness of MAXblock), washed with MAXwash and mounted using MAXfluor™ DAPI (Cat. No. 15257). Any observed signal (pseudo-colored red) is caused by non-specific binding of the secondary due to incomplete blocking. Note that no staining is observed in panel A, demonstrating the effectiveness of MAXblock. (Panel B is a 150% overexposure of the fluorescent channel of the MAXblock slide, which shows cell position and demonstrates that antibody binding is barely detectable above background.) Experiments with an anti-mouse secondary gave nearly identical results.