Sera-Mag Select FAQs

Applications and automation for Sera-Mag Select

1. **Can Sera-Mag™ Select magnetic particles be left in PCR reactions?** No, ensure that no magnetic particles are carried over into the PCR reaction as this may affect downstream performance.
2. **Can I use Sera-Mag Select for both clean-up and size selection?** Yes, Sera-Mag Select is manufactured to standards suitable for both PCR clean-up and size selection. Protocols can be found in the User Guide at gelifesciences.com/size-selection-reagent.
3. **Will the size selection remove all primers and adapters from the PCR?** The effective elimination of both primers and adaptors from the PCR can be accomplished by following the size selection protocol in the User Guide gelifesciences.com/size-selection-reagent.
4. **What is the smallest fragment I can select for in my reaction?** The smallest fragment size we would recommend for size selection using Sera-Mag Select is 100 bp. Please refer to the size selection protocol, found in the User Guide at gelifesciences.com/size-selection-reagent.
5. **Can I use Sera-Mag Select to purify genomic DNA?** Sera-Mag Select will bind genomic DNA, but it is not designed for this purpose. Extremely large DNA strands can prove difficult to elute and may bind across magnetic particles causing them to aggregate.
6. **Do I need to change the program on my liquid handler if I am currently using AMPure™ XP (Beckman Coulter Inc) beads?** For the majority of applications, Sera-Mag Select may be substituted directly for AMPure XP without any change to the existing script(s), though we recommend that the user check this before substituting Sera-Mag Select into the workflow.
7. **Is tighter size selection important?** Selecting fragments in a wider range can reduce sequencing efficiency. Note that for a given amount of starting material, selection of a tighter size range from a fragmented genomic DNA sample will reduce overall yield, but will have a higher percentage of usable fragments. This can improve the amount of usable data from the sequencing run.

Storage and handling for Sera-Mag Select SpeedBeads

1. **What are the proper storage conditions for the Sera-Mag Select?** We recommend refrigeration between 2 °C to 8 °C when not in use; do not freeze. Store upright and keep bottle tightly sealed.
2. **Can I leave Sera-Mag Select at room temperature, and for how long?** When not in use, we recommend storing the product in the refrigerator between 2°C to 8°C. Do not freeze. Store upright and keep bottle tightly sealed.
3. **How long must I equilibrate at room temperature before using the Sera-Mag Select beads?** Depending on the bottle size, this will require a minimum of 30 minutes at room temperature. For best performance ensure that the beads are fully equilibrated before use.
4. **How long should I mix the Sera-Mag Select beads before adding them to my sample?** Mixing time will be dependent on method used for mixing, but we recommend mixing until the solution is visibly homogeneous.
5. **What is the best way to mix the Sera-Mag Select beads?** Mix the beads on a roller mixer or by hand with gentle repeated inversion or gentle vortexing until they are visibly homogeneous.
6. **Can Sera-Mag Select be frozen?** We do not recommend freezing as this is not necessary and may affect performance of the product.

Physical characteristics of Sera-Mag Select

1. **Where can I find the Certificate of Analysis (CofA) for my lot of Sera-Mag Select?** Enter your specific lot number to retrieve the CofA at gelifesciences.com/certificates.
2. **What volumes are available for the Sera-Mag Select?** Sera-Mag Select is supplied in 5 ml, 60 ml and 450 ml bottles, please visit gelifesciences.com/size-selection-reagent for ordering information.

gelifesciences.com/size-selection-reagent

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