

Yersinia pestis*, Strain KIM Derivative 23 (D23)*Catalog No. NR-4685****For research use only. Not for human use.****Contributor:**

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Product Description:

Bacteria Classification: *Enterobacteriaceae*, *Yersinia*

Species: *Yersinia pestis*

Biotype/Biovar: Medievalis

Strain: KIM derivative 23 (D23)

Source: Derivative 23 of the highly virulent KIM strain, which was originally isolated from a Kurdistan Iran man (KIM)

Comments: *Yersinia pestis*, strain KIM(D23) is an avirulent derivative of the KIM strain. The complete genome of *Y. pestis*, strain KIM has been sequenced (GenBank: AE009952).¹

Yersinia pestis (*Y. pestis*) is the etiologic agent of bubonic, septicemic and pneumonic plague. Three biovars have been associated with the three historically recognized pandemics of *Y. pestis*: Antiqua, Medievalis, and Orientalis. Rodents are the main reservoir and the organism is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected flea. Humans and other animals can also serve as hosts.²

Y. pestis is an aerobic, non-spore-forming, Gram-negative, rod-shaped bacterium. Virulence-associated genes are located on the chromosome and on three plasmids found in typical *Y. pestis* strains: 1) pMT1 (pFra; ~ 100 kb), which encodes a murine toxin and capsular protein with anti-phagocytic activities, 2) pCD1 (pYV; ~ 70 kb), which encodes a type III secretion system and is essential for virulence and 3) pPCP1 (pPla; ~ 9.5 kb), which encodes a protease that facilitates the initial dissemination of the bacteria to the lymph nodes.³ Virulence factors on the chromosome are located in an unstable locus, *pgm*.⁴

Y. pestis, strain KIM(D23) contains the pMT1 plasmid, but lacks the pCD1 and pPCP1 plasmids that are essential for virulence as well as the unstable chromosomal *pgm* locus.⁵ The complete sequence of the chromosome (4,600,755 bp; GenBank: AE009952),¹ pMT1 (100,984 bp; GenBank: AF074611), pCD1 (70,504 bp; GenBank: AF074612), and pPCP1 (9,610 bp; GenBank: AF053945) from *Y. pestis*, strain KIM have been determined.⁶

The presence of the pMT1 plasmids in NR-4685 has been confirmed by PCR amplification of a plasmid-specific sequence from extracted DNA.

Material Provided:

Each vial contains approximately 0.5 mL of bacterial culture in 0.5X Tryptic Soy Broth supplemented with 10% glycerol.

Note: If homogeneity is required for your intended use, please purify prior to initiating work.

Packaging/Storage:

NR-4685 was packaged aseptically in screw-capped plastic cryovials. The product is provided frozen and should be stored at -80°C or colder immediately upon arrival. For long-term storage, the vapor phase of a liquid nitrogen freezer is recommended. Freeze-thaw cycles should be avoided.

Growth Conditions:**Media:**

Tryptic Soy Broth or Brain Heart Infusion Broth

Tryptic Soy Agar or Sheep Blood Agar

Incubation:

Temperature:⁷ 28°C or 37°C

Atmosphere: Aerobic

Propagation:

1. Keep vial frozen until ready for use; thaw slowly.
2. Transfer the entire thawed aliquot into a single tube of broth.
3. Use several drops of the suspension to inoculate an agar slant and/or plate.
4. Incubate the tubes and plate at 28°C or 37°C for 24 to 48 hours.

Citation:

Acknowledgment for publications should read "The following reagent was obtained through the NIH Biodefense and Emerging Infections Research Resources Repository, NIAID, NIH: *Yersinia pestis*, Strain KIM Derivative 23 (D23), NR-4685."

Biosafety Level: 2

Appropriate safety procedures should always be used with this material. Laboratory safety is discussed in the following publication: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Institutes of Health. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories. 5th ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2007; see www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/biosfty/bmbl5/bmbl5toc.htm.

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References:

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4. Hare, J. M. and K. A. McDonough. "High-Frequency RecA-Dependent and -Independent Mechanisms of Congo Red Binding Mutations in *Yersinia pestis*." J. Bacteriol. 181 (1999): 4896-4904. PubMed: 10438760.
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6. Hu, P., et al. "Structural Organization of Virulence-Associated Plasmids of *Yersinia pestis*." J. Bacteriol. 180 (1998): 5192-5202. PubMed: 9748454.
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