## West Nile Virus, TM 171-03

**Catalog No. NR-49789**

**For research use only. Not for human use.**

**Contributor:**
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**Manufacturer:**
BEI Resources

**Product Description:**
- **Virus Classification:** Flavivirus, Flaviviridae
- **Species:** West Nile Virus
- **Strain/Isolate:** TM 171-03
- **Original Source:** West Nile virus (WNV), TM 171-03 was isolated from a raven in Tabasco, Mexico on May 30, 2003. 2 In order to remove contaminating mycoplasma, the second viral passage at BEI Resources was performed by lipofectamine-mediated transfection of extracted viral RNA.

WNV is an arthropod-borne virus which circulates in natural transmission cycles between primarily mosquitoes (*Culex* species) and birds,3 with humans as incidental hosts. The virus is indigenous to Africa, Asia, Australia, and Europe, and has recently caused large epidemics in Romania, Russia, and Israel. WNV was recently introduced to North America, where it was first detected in 1999 during an epidemic of meningoencephalitis in New York City.4 It caused one of the worst epidemics in North America in 2012 in Texas in which 1,868 cases were reported and 89 people died.5 Most human WNV infections are asymptomatic6 but clinical infections can range in severity from uncomplicated West Nile fever to fatal meningoencephalitis; the incidence of severe neuroinvasive disease and death increase with age.7 There is no established WNV-specific treatment or licensed vaccine for humans currently available.8 Prevention depends on organized, sustained vector mosquito control and public education.8

**Material Provided:**
Each vial contains approximately 1 mL of cell lysate and supernatant from *Cercopithecus aethiops* kidney epithelial cells (Vero; ATCC® CCL-81™) infected with WNV, TM 171-03.

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

**Packaging/Storage:**
NR-49789 was packaged aseptically in screw-capped plastic cryovials. The product is provided frozen and should be stored at -60°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:**
- **Host:** *Cercopithecus aethiops* kidney epithelial cells (Vero; ATCC® CCL-81™)
- **Growth Medium:** Eagle’s Minimum Essential Medium containing Earle’s Balanced Salt Solution, non-essential amino acids, 2 mM L-glutamine, 1 mM sodium pyruvate and 1.5 g/L of sodium bicarbonate supplemented with 2% fetal bovine serum, or equivalent
- **Infection:** Cells should be 70% to 90% confluent
- **Incubation:** 3 to 6 days at 37°C and 5% CO2
- **Cytopathic Effect:** Cell rounding and detachment

**Citation:**
Acknowledgment for publications should read “The following reagent was obtained through BEI Resources, NIAID, NIH, as part of the WRCEVA program: West Nile Virus, TM 171-03, NR-49789.”

**Biosafety Level: 3**

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References:
1. Tesh, R. B., Personal Communication.

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