

Collection & transport

Thermo Scientific InhibiSURE Viral Inactivation Medium SmartNote Series

Part 2 – Viral Inactivation Medium – What does a “non-hazardous” formulation mean?

Ensuring safety at point of sample collection, during transport of viral test samples and within the testing laboratory remains of utmost importance as the COVID-19 pandemic shifts from pandemic state to endemic. The necessity to deliver reliable results while protecting staff from the risks associated with hazardous viral inactivation formulations that may react with bleach is paramount and continues to drive the scientific community to develop increasingly sophisticated technology.

Thermo Scientific™ InhibiSURE™ Viral Inactivation Medium supports safe collection and rapid inactivation of RNA enveloped viruses, stabilizing viral RNA at ambient temperature for transportation. Whether samples are collected at a clinic, or at home, the safety of patients, medical staff and laboratory scientists has never been more important.

InhibiSURE Viral Inactivation Medium helps keep staff safe by inactivating RNA enveloped viruses within 30 minutes. Its nonhazardous formulation can be safely used by both staff and patients as it does not contain guanidine thiocyanate, which is commonly used in other inactivation media and could release harmful toxic cyanide gas if mixed with bleach or strong acids.



What makes the InhibiSURE formulation non-hazardous?

The proprietary formula has been developed by researchers at Thermo Fisher Scientific to be non-hazardous. The breakthrough formula has been carefully optimized and enhanced to rapidly inactivate RNA enveloped viruses and stabilize their RNA without being toxic, corrosive or harmful to users.

What does “non-hazardous” mean for the laboratory and staff?

The InhibiSURE formulation is non-hazardous and does not require special cleaning or disposal measures. If product spills on the bench, it can be soaked up and cleaned following laboratory protocols. As generally is the case, the lab will need to manage waste according to national, federal, state and local applicable regulations.

What does this mean for medical staff and patients?

Medical staff can confidently and safely collect the patient sample without having to worry about exposure to a harmful, toxic or corrosive formulation.

What hazard statements or pictograms are on the product packaging?

None! Inhibisure is classified as non-hazardous. No hazard statements or pictograms are required on the packaging.

What viruses does InhibiSURE Viral Inactivation Medium inactivate?

InhibiSURE Viral Inactivation Medium inactivates RNA enveloped viruses. These include pathogenic viruses such as SARS-CoV-2, human parainfluenza virus, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and influenza A virus.

What sample types can be used with InhibiSURE medium?

InhibiSURE viral inactivation medium comes in a convenient, leakproof format, for professional use, that can be used with unprocessed nasal swabs nasopharyngeal swabs, or throat swabs. It is also available with nasal swabs for self-collection use.

Want to find out more? Contact our microbiology experts today at microbiology@thermofisher.com or visit thermofisher.com/viraltesting

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