INTENDED USE
Calcofluor White Reagent and Potassium Hydroxide Reagent is a rapid staining method for the detection of many yeasts and pathogenic fungi in prepared slides from clinical specimens.

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION
Calcofluor White Reagent was first described by Hageage and Harrington in 1984. Calcofluor White can be used to perform direct examination to identify fungal elements.

PRINCIPLE
Calcofluor White Reagent works as a non-specific fluorochrome that binds with cellulose and chitin contained in the cell walls of fungi and other organisms. The addition of Potassium Hydroxide (KOH) works as a cleaning agent to remove any tissue cells.

MATERIALS PROVIDED
- PL.392 Calcofluor White Reagent 10 ml
- PL.393 10% Potassium Hydroxide Reagent 10 ml

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED
- Glass slides
- Inoculating loop
- Immersion oil PL.396
- Microscope

STABILITY AND STORAGE
Calcofluor White and Potassium Hydroxide Reagents should be stored at 15-25°C in their original containers. Product stored under these conditions will be stable until the expiry date shown on the product label.

PRECAUTIONS
- For In Vitro Diagnostic Use only.
- For professional use only.
- Directions should be read and followed carefully.
- Do not use beyond the stated expiration dates.
- Microbial contamination may decrease the accuracy of the staining.
- Safety precautions should be taken in handling, processing and discarding all clinical specimens.
- Specimens should be processed in the correct containment level conditions.
- Dispose of all material in accordance with local regulations.

STABILITY AND STORAGE
Calcofluor White and Potassium Hydroxide Reagents should be stored at 15-25°C in their original containers. Product stored under these conditions will be stable until the expiry date shown on the product label.

PROCEDURE
1. Prepare a smear on a clean glass slide and allow to air dry.
2. Apply 1 drop of Calcofluor White and 1 drop of Potassium Hydroxide onto the slide and mix.
3. Cover with a clean cover slip.
4. Allow to stand for at least 5 minutes.
5. Examine using a microscope.

QUALITY CONTROL
Internal quality control of the Calcofluor White Reagent must be performed regularly on known reference material.

Recommended Quality Control:
Positive control – Candida albicans NCTC83179/ATCC® 10231* (PLD.42)
Negative control – Escherichia coli NCTC®12241 /ATCC® 25922” (PLD.02)

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Examine using fluorescent microscopy.

LIMITATIONS
- Only experienced personnel should carry out the interpretation of stained slides
- Read prepared slides as soon as possible after staining. Failure to do so may affect the results.
- Non-specific reactions may occur when tissue samples are used.

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

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*NCTC® and NCPF® are trademarks of Public Health England. ATCC® strains are listed for reference only. ATCC® is a registered trademark of the American Type Culture Collection.
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