

Oct 20, 2017

Version 1

# lithium chloride purification, a rapid and efficient technique to purify RNA from DSS-treated tissue V.1

DOI

[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kdecs3e](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kdecs3e)

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**Protocol Citation:** Emilie Viennois 2017. lithium chloride purification, a rapid and efficient technique to purify RNA from DSS-treated tissue. **protocols.io** <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kdecs3e>

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**Protocol status:** Working

**Created:** October 19, 2017

**Last Modified:** March 17, 2018

**Protocol Integer ID:** 8326

**Keywords:** dss from colonic rna, treated colonic rna, colonic rna, mediated mrna purification, mrna purification, dss from rna extract, rna from dss, dss from rna, rna extract, primed rna, rna, human inflammatory bowel disease, dss contamination of colonic tissue, gene expression in the colonic mucosa, mrna, reverse transcriptase, enzymatic activities of reverse transcriptase, taq polymerase, amplification of mrna, treated tissue dextran sodium sulfate, tissue dextran sodium sulfate, ulcerative colitis, activities of both polymerase, histological features of human inflammatory bowel disease, polymerase, purification, transcription polymerase chain reaction, colitis, gene expression, dss treatment, previous purification step, using lithium chloride

## Abstract

Dextran sodium sulfate (DSS) is commonly used in mouse studies to induce a very reproducible colitis that effectively mimics the clinical and histological features of human inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) patients, especially ulcerative colitis. However, the mechanisms of action of DSS remain poorly understood, and observations by our laboratory and other groups indicate that DSS contamination of colonic tissues from DSS-treated mice potentially inhibits the quantitative reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (qRT-PCR) amplification of mRNA. A prior study used poly-A-mediated mRNA purification to remove DSS from RNA extracts, but we herein report a second efficient and cost-effective approach to counteract this inhibition, using lithium chloride precipitation to entirely remove DSS from RNAs. We also explored how DSS interferes with qRT-PCR process, and we report for the first time that DSS can alter the binding of reverse transcriptase to previously primed RNA and specifically inhibits the enzymatic activities of reverse transcriptase and Taq polymerase in vitro. This likely explains why DSS-treated colonic RNA is not suitable to qRT-PCR amplification without a previous purification step. In summary, we provide a simple method to remove DSS from colonic RNAs, and we demonstrate for the first time that DSS can inhibit the activities of both polymerase and reverse transcriptase. In order to reliably analyze gene expression in the colonic mucosa of DSS-treated mice, the efficiency rate of qRT-PCR must be the same between all the different experimental groups, including the water-treated control group, suggesting that whatever the duration and the percentage of the DSS treatment, RNAs must be purified.

## Attachments



Viennois E 2013 DSS ...

478KB

## Materials

MATERIALS



## Troubleshooting

