

Jul 11, 2019

SPARC Retrograde Neuroanatomical Tracing of Phrenic Motor Neurons Using Intrapleural Injections of Cholera Toxin B Fragment



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DOI

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.2kpgcvn

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Protocol Citation: Latoya Allen, Marissa Ciesla, Yasin Seven, Elisa Gonzalez-Rothi, Gordon Pool 2019. SPARC Retrograde Neuroanatomical Tracing of Phrenic Motor Neurons Using Intrapleural Injections of Cholera Toxin B Fragment. protocols.io https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.2kpgcvn



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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: May 03, 2019

Last Modified: July 11, 2019

Protocol Integer ID: 22895

Keywords: Cholera toxin B fragment, CT-B, phrenic, intrapleural, retrograde, neuroanatomical tracing, labeling bilateral phrenic motor neuron pool, phrenic motor neuron, cervical spinal cord, using intrapleural injection

Abstract

This protocol describes the procedure for retrogradely labeling bilateral phrenic motor neuron pools in the cervical spinal cord using intrapleural injections of cholera toxin B fragment

Troubleshooting



- Anesthesia is induced in a closed chamber (3.5%isoflurane in 100%O2) then transfered to a heated surgical station and anesthesia is maintained via nose cone at 2-2.5%
- Sterilized 25 μ L Hamilton syringes with 9.52-mm sterile needles are prepared to administer CtB intrapleurally in rats.
- 3 Cholera toxin B fragment (CtB) is prepared as follows: 0.2% weight/volume; dissolved in sterile H2O; Calbiochem, Billerica, MA.
- 4 25 μ L of CtB is loaded into a 25- μ L Hamilton syringe and 12.5 μ L is injected per side (25 μ L total per animal).
- 5 Prep injection site for injection using aseptic methods:
- 5.1 shave and scrub injection sites per Institutionally approved animal protocol
- Rats were turned sideways to inject CtB at the 5th intercostal space at a depth of ~6 mm.
- Following injections, discontinue isoflurane and allow rat to recover fully while monitoring for signs of respiratory compromise or distress