



**FOOD SAFETY LABORATORY  
CORNELL UNIVERSITY**

**inlA ORF & Gene Fragment PCR & Sequencing**

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## SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose

To provide a standard laboratory procedure for PCR and subsequent sequencing of the entire *inlA* ORF.

### 1.2 Scope

This SOP applies to the Food Safety Lab, including the Laboratory for Food Microbiology and Pathogenesis of Foodborne Diseases and any experimental procedures conducted by laboratory members at other locations.

### 1.3 Definitions

## SECTION 2 MATERIALS

### *inlA* gene PCR Primer Sets:

The whole *inlA* ORF is amplified as four fragments using the four pairs of primers shown.

Primer	Sequence (5'-3')	Annealing temp. (°C)	Amplicon size
inlA proF	TTT TAA AAG GTG GAA TGA CA		
inlA proR	GAA GCG TTG TAA CTT GGT CTA	52	500 bp
inlA F1	CAG GCA GCT ACA ATT ACA CA		
inlA S1R	GGA CTG ATG TTA CTT ATT TGG T	52	800 bp
inlA F2	AAG ATA TAG GCA CAT TGG CGA GTT		
inlA S2R	CGT ACT GAA ATY CCA KTT AGT TCC	57	800 bp
inlA seq F	GTG GAC GGC AAA GAA ACA AC		
inlA R	ATA TAG TCC GAA AAC CAC ATC T	52 <sup>a</sup>	900 bp

*Exact primer locations outlined on next page of SOP*

When amplifying and sequencing to determine the presence and location of Premature Stop Codons (PMSC) start with the 3' end of the *inlA* ORF. Locations of PMSCs are contained within the papers listed under this SOPs references section.



L. monocytogenes EGD-e|LMO00433|inlA: 2403 bp - Internalin A

agtttgtcggttaaggagtcgggctgaattcgtcaataatagacca **aaaaaaaggtgaaatgaca** cgtgtatat (inlA-proF)  
caacataaaaatgat~~tgc~~catgattgaattccattaagttcgtactgaaatatactaaaaatattatataataggaaaaat  
gtgcgtggaaacgacgagatgaaggatatactaaacggctccgttagacagatggactactaaataccataggaac  
aattcgtggggagcataattaaataaagcagacatgat~~ttc~~cgatcgaggagaaaatcctataacaacgaaac  
ctgtatattgttctactattgaaaaggagtgttatata  
1 - gtg aga aaa aaa cga tat gta tgg ttg aaa agt ata cta gta gca ata tta gta ttt ggc (inlAF1)  
61 - agc gga gta tgg att aac acg agt aac ggg aca aat gct **cag gca gtc aca att aca caa**  
121 - gat act cct att aat cag att ttt aca gat aca gct cta gcg gaa aaa atg aag acg gtc (inlA-proR)  
181 - tta gga aaa acg aat gta aca gac acg gtc tca caa aca gat **cta gac caa gtt aca acg**  
241 - **ctt** cag gcg gat aga tta ggg ata aaa tct atc gat gga gtg gaa tac ttg aac aat tta  
301 - aca caa ata aat ttc acg aat aat caa ctt acg gac ata acg cca ctt aaa aat tta act  
361 - aag tta gtt gat att ttg atg aat aat caa ata gca gat ata act ccg cta gct aat  
421 - ttg acg aat cta act ggt ttg act ttg ttc aac aat cag gta acg gat ata gac ccg ctt  
481 - aaa aat cta aca aat tta aat ccg cta gaa cta tcc agt aac acg att agt gat att agt  
541 - gcg ctt tca ggt tta act agt cta cag caa tta tct ttg ggt aat caa gtg aca gat tta  
601 - aaa cca tta gct aat tta aca aca cta gaa cga cta gat att tca agt aat aag gtg tcg  
661 - gat att agt gtt ctg gct aaaa tta acc aat tta gaa agt ctt atc gct act aac aac caa  
721 - ata agt gat ata act cca ctt ggg att tta aca aat ttg gac gaa tta tcc tta aat ggt  
781 - aac cag tta **aaa gat ata ggc aca ttg gcg agt** ita aca aac ctt aca gat tta gat tta (inlAF2)  
841 - gca aat aac caa att agt aat cta gca cca ctg tcg ggt cta aca aaa cta act gag tta  
901 - aaa ctt gga gct aac caa ata agt **aac atc** agt ccc cta gca ggt tta acc gca ctc act (inlAS1R)  
961 - aac tta gag ctt aat gaa aat cag ctg gaa gat att agc cca att tct aac ctg aca aat  
1021 - ctc aca tat tta act ttg tac ttg aat aat agt gat ata agc cca gtt tct agt tta  
1081 - aca aag ctt caa aga tta ttg ttc tat aat aac aag gta agt gac gta agc tca ctt gcg  
1141 - aac tta aca aat att aat ttg ctt tca get ggg cat aac caa att agc gat ctt aca cca  
1201 - ttg gct aat tta aca aca atc acc caa cta ggg ttg aat gat caa gca tgg aca aat gca  
1261 - cca gta aac tac aaaa gca aat gta tcc att cca aac acg gtt aaa aat gtg act ccg gct  
1321 - tta att gca cca gct act att agc gat ggc ggt agt tac aca gag cct gat ata aca ttg  
1381 - aac tta cct agt tat aca aat gaa gta agc tat acc ttg agc caa cct gtc act att gga  
1441 - aaa gga acg aca aca ttg agt gga acc gtc acg cag cca ctt aag gca att ttg aat gtt  
1501 - aag tt~~t~~ cat **gtg gac ggc** aaaa gaa aca acc aaaa gaa gtt gaa gct ggg aat tta ttg act (inlAseqF)  
1561 - gaa cca gct aag ccc gta aaaa gaa ggt cac aca ttg gtt ggt tgg ttg gat gcc caa aca  
1621 - ggc **gg** aact aaaa ttg aat ttc agt **acg** gat aaaa atg ccg aca aat gac atc aat tta tat (inlAS2R)  
1681 - gca caa ttg agt att aac age tac aca gca acc ttg gat aat gac ggt gta aca aca tct  
1741 - caa aca gta gat tat caa ggc ttg tta caa gaa cct acg gca cca aca aaaa gaa ggt tat  
1801 - act ttg aat ggc tgg tat gac gca aaaa act ggt ggt gac aag tgg gat ttg gca act agc  
1861 - aaa atg cct gct aaaa aac atc acc tta tat gca caa tat agc gca aat agc tat aca gca  
1921 - acg tt~~t~~ gat gtt gat gga aaaa tca acg act caa gca gta gac tat caa gga ctt cta aaaa  
1981 - gaa cca aag gca cca acg aaaa gcc gga tat act ttg aaaa ggc ttg tat gac gaa aaaa aca  
2041 - gat ggg aaaa aaaa ttg gat ttg ggc acg gat aaaa atg cca gca aat gac att agc ctg tac  
2101 - gct caa ttg agt aaaa aat cct gtc gca cca aca act ggg aaaa gca ccg cct aca  
2161 - aca aat aac ggc ggg aat act aca cca cct tcc gca aat aat cct gga agc gac aca tct  
2221 - aac aca tca act ggg aat tca gca agc aca aca agt aca atg aac gtc get tat gac cct tat  
2281 - aat tca aaaa gaa gct tca ctc cct aca act ggc gat agc gat aat gca ctc tac ctt ttg  
2341 - tta ggg tta tta gca gta gga act gca atg gtc gat ctt act aaaa aca cgt gtc agt aaaa  
2401 - tag  
aagtagtgtaaagagctaga~~gtggttcg~~actata~~ct~~actgtttttttttaataactagaatcaaggagag (inlAR1)  
gatagtgtgaaagaaaagcacaacccaagaagaaggatatttttaatctcaggttagctatttttagttatg  
gataattttggaaacggggcgaagtgaaatcacaagcggagactatcacctgcaacgccaatcaagcaaaatttt  
tcagatgatgtttcgagaaacaatcaaagacaattaaagaaaa



## SECTION 3

## PROCEDURES

### 1. PCR amplification using primers inlA proF and inlA proR

1A. Master Mix preparation:

PCR Reagents [Concentration]	Volume (µl) for 1 reaction
inlA proF [12.5µM]	2
inlA proR [12.5µM]	2
DNTPs [10mM]	1
MgCl <sub>2</sub> [25mM]	3
Flexi 5X PCR buffer	10
Taq DNA polymerase	0.25
dH <sub>2</sub> O	30.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>

1B. Thermocycling conditions:

#### PCR cycling conditions:

3 minutes	at	94° C	
1 minute	at	94° C	
1 minute	at	52° C	35X
1 minute	at	72° C	
5 minutes	at	72° C	
∞	at	4° C	

### 2. PCR amplification using primers inlA F1 and inlA S1R

2A. Master Mix preparation:

PCR Reagents [Concentration]	Volume (µl) for 1 reaction
inlA F1 [12.5µM]	2
inlA S1R [12.5µM]	2
DNTPs [10mM]	1
MgCl <sub>2</sub> [25mM]	3
Flexi 5X PCR buffer	10
Taq DNA polymerase	0.25
dH <sub>2</sub> O	30.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>



2B. Thermocycling conditions:

**PCR cycling conditions:**

3 minutes	at	94° C	
1 minute	at	94° C	
1 minute	at	52° C	35X
1 minute	at	72° C	
5 minutes	at	72° C	
∞	at	4° C	

### **3. PCR amplification using primers inlA F2 and inlA S2R**

3A. Master Mix preparation:

PCR Reagents [Concentration]	Volume (μl) for 1 reaction
inlA F2 [12.5μM]	2
inlA S2R [12.5μM]	2
DNTPs [10mM]	1
MgCl <sub>2</sub> [25mM]	3
Flexi 5X PCR buffer	10
Taq DNA polymerase	0.25
dH <sub>2</sub> O	30.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>

3B. Thermocycling conditions:

**PCR cycling conditions:**

3 minutes	at	94° C	
1 minute	at	94° C	
1 minute	at	57° C	35X
1 minute	at	72° C	
5 minutes	at	72° C	
∞	at	4° C	



#### 4. PCR amplification for primers **inlA seq F** and **inlA R**.

This is a “hot start PCR”. The taq polymerase (added to a separate mix) is initially withheld from the reaction tubes and is not added until the thermocycler enters the first cycle and drops from 94°C to 80°C. The machine is to be paused at 80°C to add hot start mix to each tube. Once this is done, the PCR cycling can be resumed.

##### 4A. Master Mix preparation:

PCR Reagents [Concentration]	Volume ( $\mu$ l) for 1 reaction
inlA seq F [12.5 $\mu$ M]	2
inlA-R [12.5 $\mu$ M]	2
DNTPs [10mM]	1
MgCl <sub>2</sub> [25mM]	3
Flexi 5X PCR buffer	8
dH <sub>2</sub> O	28
TOTAL	44

{ 44  $\mu$ l of Master mix per 0.2ml tube + 1  $\mu$ l of **Lysate/template DNA**

##### Hot Start Taq® Mix preparation

PCR Reagents [Concentration]	Volume ( $\mu$ l) for 1 reaction
Flexi 5X PCR buffer	2
Taq DNA polymerase	0..25
dH <sub>2</sub> O	3

{ 5  $\mu$ l of Hot Start mix per 0.2ml tube add at 80° C hold during PCR cycling.

The reaction and hot start mixes above are for a 50  $\mu$ l final volume.

##### 4B. Thermocycling conditions:

##### PCR cycling conditions:

3 minutes	at	94° C
1 minute	at	94° C
1 minute	at	52° C
1 minute	at	72° C
5 minutes	at	72° C
$\infty$	at	4° C



### **Purification & Quantification of PCR fragments.**

1. Confirm clean amplification of each PCR product by gel electrophoresis alongside a DNA ladder to ensure correct amplicon size.
2. Purify amplicons using commercially available kits or reagents (i.e. Qiaquick® 8 PCR Purification Kit from Qiagen or Exo-SAP procedure).
3. Quantify the DNA using a suitable available method (e.g. gel electrophoresis, Nanodrop system, Hoechst dye etc.).

*Note: If using the Exo-SAP purification protocol, quantification of DNA is unnecessary.*

### **Sequencing**

Consult your sequencing facility's requirements for sequencing submissions. Send the appropriate amount of DNA with the appropriate concentration of one primer per sequencing reaction tube. If you amplified your DNA with the forward (inlA seq F<sub>1</sub>) and reverse (inlA-R<sub>1</sub>) primers then that amplicon must be submitted for sequencing with the same primers.

## **SECTION 4 REPORTING and LABELING**

All procedures and results need to be reported in a lab book with dates. Sequencing files are to be maintained in a single sequencing folder organized into subfolders by fragment and further subdivided into raw files, contigs, finished seqs, etc.

## **SECTION 5 TROUBLESHOOTING**

## **SECTION 6 REFERENCES**

Select Listeria monocytogenes subtypes commonly found in foods carry distinct nonsense mutations in inlA, leading to expression of truncated and secreted internalin A, and are associated with a reduced invasion phenotype for human intestinal epithelial cells. Nightingale KK, Windham K, Martin KE, Yeung M, Wiedmann M. Appl Environ Microbiol. 2005 Dec;71(12):8764-72.

Development and implementation of a multiplex single-nucleotide polymorphism genotyping assay for detection of virulence-attenuating mutations in the Listeria monocytogenes virulence-associated gene inlA. Van Stelten A, Nightingale KK. Appl Environ Microbiol. 2008 Dec;74(23):7365-75.