

Sample clean-up: Polysaccharides

Sample type: Cell, Tissue, Ascites

Method: Ultra-centrifugation & Solvent extraction

2015. 8.

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The presence of polysaccharides interferes with separation of proteins by IEF. The effects are similar to nucleic acids, but are far more difficult to remove from samples.

Methods to remove polysaccharides from sample:

1. Ultra-centrifugation: large polysaccharides will sediment and complexing agents, such as spermine or polyethyleneimine, are added to disrupt polysaccharide interactions; there is a high risk of protein loss.
2. Solvent extraction/precipitation: acetone precipitation and other solvent extractions will remove polysaccharides and enable subsequent electrophoresis (i.e., TCA, TCA/acetone, ammonium sulfate, phenol/ammonium acetate, and organic solvent extraction).