

Lab Protocols

Bacterial Cellulose Cleaning

Introduction

The purpose of cleaning is to remove any remnants of *Komagataeibacter rhaeticus* or media residue from the BC pellicles, then use NaOH to make it amorphous, and water to neutralize the NaOH to make films.

Reagents

- **BC** samples
- Milli-Q H₂0
- **%** 0.1 M NaOH solution
- **Section** Ethanol

Equipment

- **\$ 250 mL cylindrical beakers**
- Hot plate
- pH probe

Procedure

- 1. Pour enough ethanol into a cylindrical beaker to immerse the BC samples for 40 minutes.
- 2. Transfer this solution into another beaker with water and boil for 40 minutes.
- 3. Transfer the solution into the 0.1 M NaOH solution and heat it at 90°C for 1 hour and 20 minutes.
- 4. Transfer the solution into Milli-Q H₂0 and allow it to rest for 24 hours.
- 5. Prepare the pH meter by calibrating using pH buffer solutions.
- 6. Measure the pH of the resulting product; if the reading is still basic, repeat step 4 again until neutralized.