

FAQs-MACS anaerobic / Hypoxic chamber

- 1. My current anaerobic chamber produces a lot of condensation when incubating plates. I have tried silica gel as a means to absorb moisture but this is not very effective or convenient. If I upgrade to the MACS, will I have better control over humidity levels?**

Yes, the MACS utilizes a maintenance-free humidity control system that allows the operator to define the desired humidity level. Excess moisture is removed from the chamber via a humidity control system that evaporated excess moisture outside the chamber.

- 2. I have to bake the catalyst daily in my anaerobic chamber, how often will I have to change or bake the catalyst in the MACS?**

The catalyst in the MACS chamber needs to be changed only once per year (depending on usage). Our patented use of Anotox within the chamber prevents poisoning of the catalyst by the normal by-products of anaerobic metabolism (hydrogen sulfide and volatile fatty acids). The Anotox sachet needs to be changed every six months.

- 3. I love the gloveless feature with the MACS chamber but I wish the latex sleeves would last longer, is there anything I can do to prolong their service life?**

Latex degrades when exposed to UV light which is emitted by fluorescent bulbs that are present in most laboratories. In order to prolong the life of the latex sleeves, remove them from the chamber and store them in a drawer when not in use. The sleeves are designed to easily attach and remove from the MACS workstation.

- 4. We have been using the MACS chamber and really like the gloveless sleeves, however, we recently hired a researcher who has a latex allergy. Do you have sleeves for people who cannot come in contact with latex?**

Yes, we have neoprene sleeves available that do not contain latex.

- 5. What anaerobic gas mixture do you recommend for use with the MACS?**

80% Nitrogen, 10% Carbon Dioxide, 10% Hydrogen

- 6. I recently purchased a MACS workstation with an airlock. I noticed when comparing plates grown in the MACS vs. my older chamber there was a lot more growth on the plates from the MACS. Why is there such a difference in growth?**

The MACS provides a very strict anaerobic environment, if you are working with strict anaerobes the MACS provides an excellent environment for their growth. Additionally the MACS uses Anotox with the chamber to absorb hydrogen sulfide and volatile fatty acids that inhibit the growth of anaerobes.

7. I have the variable atmosphere version of MACS (MACS VA) is there anyway I can run the system as an anaerobic chamber?

Yes, set the nitrogen setting to 100% on the MACS VA microprocessor. Connect a tank of anaerobic gas mixture to the nitrogen line. Install a catalyst and Anotox sachet and commission the instrument. Within 30 minutes the workstation will be anaerobic.

8. If I don't purchase an airlock, how will I transfer plates in/out of the system?

Patented use of "oval" shaped gloveless entry ports allow the introduction of samples/materials by acting as a transfer air lock. This process allows the user to place their materials in the chamber while placing their hands in the chamber, reducing overall gas consumption considerably by not having to run a secondary airlock cycle. Evacuation and gassing of sleeves as well as opening of inner doors are controlled via the wireless footswitch.