

***Acanthocheilonema viteae* Microfilariae,  
Harvested from Mongolian Gerbil Blood  
(Frozen)**

**Catalog No. NR-48928**

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**For research use only. Not for human use.**

**Contributor:**

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**Manufacturer:**

Filariasis Research Reagent Resource Center supported by Contract HHSN272201000301, NIH-NIAID Animal Models of Infectious Disease Program<sup>1</sup>

**Product Description:**

Classification: Onchocercidae, *Acanthocheilonema*

Species: *Acanthocheilonema viteae* (previously referred to as *Dipetalonema viteae*)

Strain: FR3

Original Source: *Acanthocheilonema viteae* (*A. viteae*), strain FR3, was obtained from TRS Laboratories in Athens, Georgia, USA.<sup>2</sup>

Comment: *A. viteae* does not contain the *Wolbachia* endosymbiont like most filarial nematodes that cause human disease. *A. viteae* is often used as the negative control for experiments investigating the bacterium.<sup>2</sup>

*A. viteae* is a filarial nematode that parasitizes rodents in Eastern Europe, Iran and North Africa. Natural hosts of *A. viteae* include the Libyan gerbil (*Meriones libycus*) and some species of the *Jaculus* and *Rhombomys* rodent genera. *A. viteae* can also infect experimental hosts including Golden Syrian LVG hamsters (*Mesocricetus auratus*), Mongolian gerbils (*Meriones unguiculatus*) and rats (*Mastomys natalensis*). In nature, third-stage infective larvae (L3) of *A. viteae* are transmitted to their mammalian host by the soft tick *Ornithodoros tartakovskyi*. *Ornithodoros moubata* can be used as an experimental vector for *A. viteae* in the lab. Once inside the mammalian host, the L3 develop into adult worms and generate microfilariae, which are ingested by the tick during its bloodmeal. The microfilariae develop inside the vector to L3, before migrating to the arthropod mouth parts for transmission to the mammalian host when the arthropod feeds.<sup>2-5</sup>

**Material Provided:**

NR-48928 consists of up to 20,000 *A. viteae* microfilariae frozen in no more than 250 µL PBS. If more material is required for your intended use, please contact BEI Customer Services at [contact@beiresources.org](mailto:contact@beiresources.org) to request the additional material.

Note: Specific questions regarding handling of *A. viteae* can be sent to Dr. Shelly Michalski at [michalsk@uwosh.edu](mailto:michalsk@uwosh.edu).

**Packaging/Storage:**

NR-48928 is packaged in 2 mL round bottom tubes. The product is provided on dry ice and should be stored at -20°C or colder immediately upon arrival (depending on desired application).

**Citation:**

Acknowledgment for publications should read "The following reagent was provided by the NIH/NIAID Filariasis Research Reagent Resource Center for distribution by BEI Resources, NIAID, NIH: *Acanthocheilonema viteae* Microfilariae, Harvested from Mongolian Gerbil Blood (Frozen), NR-48928."

**Biosafety Level: 1**

Appropriate safety procedures should always be used with this material. Laboratory safety is discussed in the following publication: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Institutes of Health. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 5th ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2009; see [www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmb15/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmb15/index.htm).

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**References:**

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6. Franke, E. D. and P. P. Weinstein. "In Vitro Cultivation of *Dipetalonema viteae* Third-Stage Larvae: Effect of Gas Phase." J. Parasitol. 70 (1984): 493-498. PubMed: 6438292.
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