Chemically modified Taq polymerase

January 2015—Empirical Bioscience, formerly known as Syzygy Biotech, has introduced FlashTaq Hot-Start Taq DNA Polymerase, a chemically modified Taq polymerase designed to reduce nonspecific amplification in PCR. FlashTaq offers stability and rapid activation time and will not become active until the temperature and time threshold has been reached, thus reducing the likelihood of nonspecific amplification and primerdimer formation, according to a company statement. The enzyme recovers both 5' to 3' polymerase and 5' exonuclease activities within two minutes.



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