

Instructions for Use

# CIMac QA HR 0.1 mL Analytical Column (Quaternary Amine) (2 $\mu$ m channels)

CIM Convective Interaction Media<sup>®</sup>  
BIA-110.5213-2



**SARTORIUS**

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# 1. About These Instructions for Use

These instructions are part of the device. They apply to the device product number indicated on the cover page.

## 1.1. Accompanying Documents

In addition to these instructions, the following supporting documents may be consulted.

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Guideline: Optimisation of LC system for analytical work



## 2. Safety

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### **⚠ WARNING**

Denotes a hazard that may result in death or severe injury if it is not avoided.

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### **⚠ CAUTION**

Denotes a hazard that may result in moderate or minor injury if it is not avoided.

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### **NOTICE**

Denotes a hazard that may result in property damage if it is not avoided.

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## 2.1. Intended use

CIMac Analytical Monoliths are high performance chromatography devices for rapid high-resolution fractionation of complex biological samples. The stationary phase is polymerised as a monolith with homogeneous channel size and surface chemistry. Each unit is mounted in a precision engineered stainless steel housing to allow easy connection to any HPLC system.

This high-performance ion exchange column is primarily intended for fast, efficient and reproducible analysis and in-process control of samples throughout different purification steps. QA HR is designed for even higher reproducibility for the most sensitive separations (e. g. enrichment of full AAV capsids). The following information is being provided to ensure proper product care and optimal product performance.

## 2.2. Safety Note

Follow the guidelines in this Instructions for Use. Improper use may result in malfunction, personal injury, or damage of the product or material. Follow safety instructions, wear gloves, safety glasses, and a lab coat during operation.

### 3. Technical Data

<b>Column chemistry</b>	QA (strong anion exchanger; quaternary amine)
<b>Channel radius</b>	1050 nm (950 nm - 1150 nm)
<b>Support matrix</b>	Poly(glycidyl methacrylate -co- ethylene dimethacrylate)
<b>Monolith dimensions</b>	Diameter: 5.2 mm; length: 4.95 mm; bed volume (CV): 0.1 mL
<b>Connector</b>	10-32 UNF coned port, 1/16" OD tubing connection
<b>Operating flow rates</b>	0.2 - 3 mL/min (1 - 15 cm/min; 2 - 30 CV/min)
<b>Maximum pressure</b>	15 MPa, 150 bar, 2175 psi
<b>Operating temperature</b>	4 °C (39 °F) to 40 °C (104 °F)
<b>Chemical stability</b>	All commonly used aqueous buffers, 0.1 M NaOH, 0.1 M HCl, 8 M urea, 6 M guanidine hydrochloride and 20% ethanol solution. Avoid oxidizing agents. Avoid prolonged use of concentrated acids (more than 0.1 M) like hydrochloric, sulphuric or acetic acid. Avoid prolonged exposure in NaOH and unnecessary exposure in more than 0.1 M NaOH solutions.
<b>Recommended pH</b>	Working range 2-13, cleaning in place 1-13.7
<b>Storage conditions</b>	2 °C (36 °F) to 25 °C (77 °F); Storage solution in products manufactured before Feb 1, 2025, is 20% Ethanol in 20 mM sodium acetate at pH 5.5. Storage solution in products manufactured after Feb 1, 2025, is 20% Ethanol in 5 mM sodium phosphate at pH 6.0
<b>Shelf life</b>	N.D.

### 4. Installation

Remove the product from its shipping box or crate and place on a flat surface. Carefully inspect the product for any damage that may have occurred during shipping. Immediately report any such damage to your vendor and the courier. The product is shipped in the designated storage solution at ambient temperature and should be stored upon receiving as stated under Technical Data.

#### NOTICE

Do not store the product below 0 °C (32 °F).

## 5. Getting Started

Use the product per these guidelines. Improper use may result in malfunction, personal injury, or damage of the product or material. Follow general safety instructions for laboratory work.

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### CAUTION

Set the pressure relief valve of the system (pump) to the value indicated in the table Technical Data.

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### NOTICE

The column should be equilibrated to working temperature for optimal results. Allow sufficient time for the column to reach working temperature.

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Setting up the HPLC system is a crucial factor in achieving optimal performance from CIMac™ Analytical Columns. The following suggestions should be considered:

*Capillaries:* The inner diameter of the capillaries strongly affects the peak shape. Using capillaries with smaller diameter will result in sharper peaks.

*Backpressure:* Check the back pressure of the system at a flow rate up to 2 mL/min higher than your working flow rate. Ensure that the back pressure of the system without the column stays at least 10 bar (1 MPa) below the maximum allowed pressure on the column (see Technical Data). Adjust the pressure relief valve accordingly.

*Detector:* For optimal detector sensitivity set the detector response time to the lowest possible value – for most UV detectors this value is 0.1 s.

*Acquisition rate:* The acquisition rate depends on the analysis time. A typical analysis time in the case of CIMac™ Analytical Columns is less than 15 min. Data acquisition rate of 5 to 10 Hz is recommended.

*Flow rate:* Typical analysis flow rates are 0.2–2 mL/min. For flow rate properties of the column see Technical Data.

### 5.1. General Recommendations

The following are general guidelines to consider when working with chromatography. The guidelines may not apply to specific column chemistry or sample properties.

- Treat loading material appropriately (e.g. pre-treat, filter, concentrate / dilute, etc.). For more details, please refer to the Guideline 'Pre-treatment of complex biological samples before column purification and regeneration procedures for columns with increased back pressure' ([biaseparations.com/en/library/guidelines](http://biaseparations.com/en/library/guidelines)).
  - Always use freshly prepared mobile phases, filtered through 0.2 µm filter, compatible with mobile phases.
  - Air bubbles will not disturb the stationary phase and can be washed out of the column. However, drying the monolith risks damaging the stationary phase.
  - Surfactants can improve recoveries in virus purification. Non-ionic surfactants will not interact with ion exchange chromatography media. Non-UV-absorbing (at working wavelengths) surfactants will improve the baseline signal.
  - Ensure all components of the system used are compatible with the working solutions (e.g. sodium hydroxide, organic solvents, high salt concentrations, etc).
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**NOTICE**

Always ensure mobile phases are compatible before mixing them or applying consecutively on the column. Examples of in-compatible buffers are: magnesium ion-containing buffers and sodium hydroxide (forms precipitate), acetonitrile and sodium hydroxide (forms ammonia and acetate), ammonium acetate and sodium hydroxide (potential formation of explosive atmosphere), ethanol and sodium hydroxide (forms ethoxides). Wash the column with water or another compatible solution when using two incompatible solutions consecutively.

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## 6. Operating the Column

### 6.1. Connecting the Column

Connect the column to the system in the following order:

1. Carefully remove the blind fitting on one side and connect the inlet tubing to the column.
2. Carefully remove the blind fitting on the opposite side and connect the outlet tubing to the column.

The column can be disconnected from the system by reversing the above steps.

**Note:** The flow path inside the housing is symmetrical, and analysis can be performed in both directions.

**Note:** It is recommended to apply flow in reverse direction during column cleaning to displace any debris or particles accumulated on the frit of the column.

### 6.2. Equilibration

The column should be equilibrated with a suitable counter-ion before starting with sample analysis, and after column cleaning. Equilibrating the column will ensure robust and consistent analytical results. To speed up equilibration, a buffer containing a higher concentration of the appropriate ion may be used (e.g. the elution buffer), as described here.

1. If needed wash the column with 20 CV of water to prevent mixing of incompatible buffers.
2. Wash the column with at least 20 CV of elution mobile phase (which contains elevated salt concentration).
3. Wash the column with at least 20 CV of binding mobile phase. The composition of this mobile phase should be similar to the sample composition.

Use system detectors as indication of successful equilibration. Conductivity and pH at the outlet should match buffer specifications. Before analysis, it is recommended to run several blank runs without sample injection until the baseline is stable and reproducible.

### 6.3. Strip | Regeneration

A strip is typically implemented in the analytical run to remove tightly-bound sample components. It is common to use the same approach as the elution: elevated salt concentration (e.g. 2 M NaCl), change in pH (low pH or high pH solution), or other.

## 7. Cleaning | Maintenance

Cleaning and maintenance of the column may improve its lifetime and increase reproducibility. Sample properties should be taken into account for column cleaning.

### 7.1. Cleaning in Place (CIP)

Column cleaning is recommended after one day of analysis or after observing decreased column performance. A reduced flow rate is suggested for column cleaning to extend contact time with the cleaning and neutralisation-equilibration solutions.

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#### CAUTION

Remain below the maximum pressure specified in Technical Data.

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#### CAUTION

Ensure compatibility between the current column solution and cleaning solutions (see examples in General Recommendations).

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1. If needed wash the column with 20 CV of water to prevent mixing of incompatible buffers.
  2. Wash the column with at least 20 CV of cleaning solution with 0.1 M NaOH and 2 M NaCl (combined). Make sure the contact time is properly optimised. Take into account that amino groups like QA are not stable in NaOH solutions.
  3. If needed wash the column with 20 CV of water to prevent mixing of incompatible buffers.
  4. Wash the column with at least 20 CV of a neutralisation solution. 0.5 M phosphate buffer pH 6.5 or 1 M sodium acetate pH 5.5 are recommended to efficiently displace the counter ion. A solution of 1 M ammonium acetate can also be used. **Note:** Collect ammonium acetate solution in a separate waste container to avoid mixing with NaOH.
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#### CAUTION

Prolonged exposure to 0.1 M NaOH might affect column performance. Immediately wash the column with neutralisation solution as per instruction. Any modification of recommended cleaning protocol could result in shorter lifespan of the column.

## 8. Storage

Before storage, follow instructions in Cleaning in Place section that will guide you through cleaning and neutralisation protocol.

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#### NOTICE

NaOH-ethanol mixtures at any concentration form ethoxide anions that are highly destructive to biomolecules, and ligands on chromatography media. Neutralise the column environment before introducing ethanol.

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1. Wash the column with 20 CV deionised water.
2. Wash the column with 20 CV of storage solution. Note: Reduce the flow rate when using viscous solvents (such as

ethanol) to avoid a pressure increase. Note: Any deviation from the recommended storage solution (i.e. 20% Ethanol in 5 mM sodium phosphate at pH 6.0) could affect column performance.

3. Seal the column with blind fittings and store at the temperature specified in Technical Data. If there is a possibility of biological contamination from the sample it is recommended to store the column between 2 °C (36 °F) and 8 °C (46 °F)

## 9. Troubleshooting

Problems arising during the analysis are usually related to the column, sample, mobile phase, or the instrumentation. It is advisable to use an elimination approach to exclude possible causes. Please refer to our troubleshooting guide ([biaseparations.com/en/library/guidelines](https://biaseparations.com/en/library/guidelines)).

## 10. Decommissioning | Transportation

If there is reason to return the product, complete a Return Form ([biaseparations.com/en/terms-conditions](https://biaseparations.com/en/terms-conditions)) and contact [help.bia@sartorius.com](mailto:help.bia@sartorius.com).

Contaminated samples used during the process that could cause biological or chemical hazards are potentially hazardous substances. If the product has come into contact with hazardous substances, steps must be taken to ensure proper decontamination and declaration.

### Procedure

Decontaminate the product. The operator of the product is responsible for adhering to local government regulations on the proper decontamination and declaration for transport and disposal.

## 11. Ordering Information

Transferring the workflow to a different scale or format (analytical, screening) is simple with CIM®. Contact your local support to find the appropriate products.

### Screening Solutions

Catalog number	Product name
BIA-120.5213-2	CIM® QA HR 0.2 mL Monolithic 96-well Plate (2 µm channels)



Sartorius BIA Separations d.o.o.  
Mirce 21  
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Phone +386 59 699 500  
[www.biaseparations.com](http://www.biaseparations.com)

The information and figures contained in these instructions correspond to the version date specified below.

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Masculine or feminine forms are used to facilitate legibility in these instructions and always simultaneously denote the other gender as well.

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