# Good Practices for CHT Ceramic Hydroxyapatite Media Usage



CHT Ceramic Hydroxyapatite, Ca<sub>10</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>6</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>, is an easy-to-use mixed-mode chromatography media. It offers cation exchange and affinity interactions. Unlike other chromatography media, CHT is both the ligand and the support matrix. Two types of CHT, Type I and Type II, are available in three particle sizes — 20, 40, and 80 µm. It is used for the purification of numerous types of biomolecules and is considered the gold standard for aggregate removal. In this wall chart, we list guidelines for the proper use of CHT in biomolecule purification.

#### What Can CHT Purify?

- Monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies and antibody fragments
- Antibodies that differ in light chain composition
- Recombinant proteins and isozymes
- Viruses, viral particles, and vaccines
- Supercoiled DNA from linear duplexes
- Single-stranded from double-stranded DNA

### **Golden Rules for CHT Use**

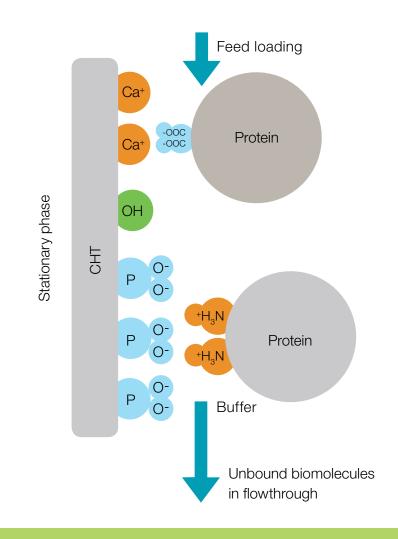
- Do not compress
- Keep pH >6.5 throughout purification
- Add phosphate and calcium to all buffers (unless otherwise noted)

## **CHT Packing**

- CHT is composed of incompressible particles, so avoid compression during packing
- Compatible with axial (without compression), flow, and pressure packing
- Upflow after packing is not recommended

## **Binding – Chemical Compatibility**

Optimal binding of biomolecules on CHT depends on the feedstock/buffer components.



#### **Commonly used binding buffers**

Phosphate-, Tris-, HEPES-, and MES-based buffers containing CHT compatible chemicals, such as:

- Guanidine-HCI
- Urea
- Acetonitrile
- surfactants Neutral salts

SDS and other

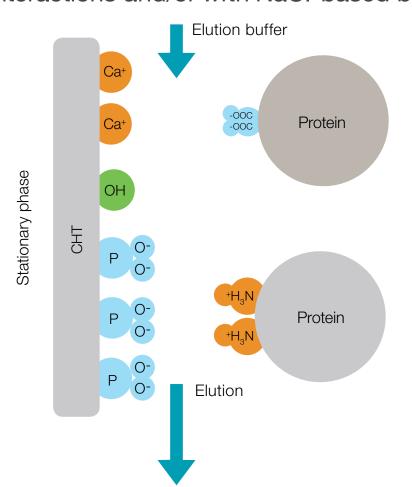
- Glycine Ethanol/methanol

#### **Chemicals not recommended** in the binding buffer

• EDTA, citrate, and other chelating agents

## Elution

Elutions can be performed with phosphate-based buffers to desorb metal affinity interactions and/or with NaCl-based buffers to desorb cation exchange interactions.





#### **Commonly used elution buffers**

- Acidic proteins and small DNA fragments: phosphate gradient
- Basic proteins: salt or pH gradient
- Mammalian viruses: up to 600 mM phosphate buffer
- Chromosomal DNA: 0.2-0.4 M phosphate buffer (higher if NaCl is present)

Some conditions will cause a drop in pH.<sup>1</sup>

#### **General Guidelines for Method Development**

### **Proteins with** Unknown pl

Binding

- At pH 6.5–7.5
- pH increase stabilizes CHT Add phosphate ≥5 mM
- Elution
- With phosphate and/or NaCl Gradient or step

  - Add phosphate ≥5 mM

#### **Basic Proteins**

**Acidic Proteins** 

Binding

- sites via cation exchange
- Calcium affinity may also play

Bind primarily to phosphate

- Consider flowthrough for nonbinding targets
- NaCl elution may provide more selectivity than phosphate
- Elution Try 0-1 M NaCl gradient and convert to step ■ Low levels of phosphate eliminate weak Ca<sup>2+</sup>
  - interactions. Try 5 mM, 10 mM, and then 15 mM

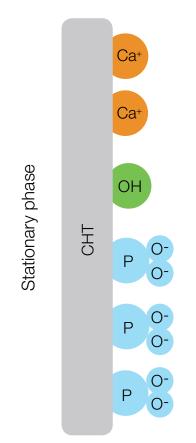
Phosphate by itself will elute target from

via metal affinity Binding • May be able to bind in high salt

Bind primarily to calcium sites

- Consider flowthrough for nonbinding targets
- calcium as well as phosphate sites
- Elution Try 0-400 mM phosphate gradient and convert
  - May be achieved with or without NaCl

## **Example Method**



- Load and wash: 5 mM phosphate buffer, pH 6.5 (buffer A)
- Gradient 1: Buffer A + 1 M NaCl, then re-equilibrate with buffer A
- Gradient 2: Buffer A + 0.40 M sodium phosphate

### Regeneration

 Regenerate with 3–5 CV of 500 mM potassium or sodium phosphate buffer at ~pH 7.5 or 400 mM trisodium phosphate at pH 11–12

## Storage

- Store unused CHT in the original container at ambient temperature
- Store regenerated and sanitized CHT in 0.1–1.0 N NaOH at or below ambient temperature

## **Sanitization**

 CHT Columns can be sanitized in up to 2 N NaOH and stored in 0.1–1.0 N NaOH

Importance of maintaining pH > 6.5: increasing the solution concentration of cations displaces protons bound to CHT phosphate groups into solution, which can lead to a drop in pH. Exposure to acidic conditions (pH < 6.5) can have a deleterious effect on the lifetime of CHT.

Changes in pH can be minimized by:

- Using co-buffers such as MES, MOPS, PIPES, HEPES, ACES, MOPSO, Tris, histidine, lysine, and arginine
- Performing a surface neutralization right before elution. Typically a wash with 7–8 CV 25 mM Tris, 25 mM NaCl, 5 mM phosphate at pH 7.75
- Using hydrated buffer salts. Do not use anhydrous sodium phosphate or dodecahydrates as these two salt types can cause irreproducible results.



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