

Column Care and Use Instructions

YMC-Pack Polyamine II

YMC-Pack NH₂

YMC-Pack PA-G

1. Introduction

Thank you for purchasing a YMC high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) column. YMC-Pack Polyamine II/PA-G is a silica based polyamine column and YMC-Pack NH₂ is a silica based aminopropyl column. Each product is suitable for separation of mono- and oligosaccharides.

YMC HPLC columns, which are manufactured under highly controlled conditions, must pass a series of stringent tests before being accepted for shipment. (Please refer to the column inspection report). To ensure optimal performance and durability of the column, please read these instructions carefully before using this column.

2. Specifications

Packing material	Functional group	Usable pH range	Usable temperature range	
			Regular use (recommended)	Upper limit
Polyamine II	polyamine	2.0 – 7.5	25 – 35 °C	50 °C
NH ₂	aminopropyl			40 °C
PA-G	polyamine	4.0 – 7.5		

3. Column connections

The “WT” or “QT” at the end of the product code indicates the style of column endfittings.

WT = Waters style / QT = Parker style

4. Shipping solvent

Indicated in the COLUMN INSPECTION REPORT. Replace with this solvent for storage. When replacing a mobile phase containing buffer salts/additives, extra care must be taken to prevent salt precipitation.

5. Mobile phase

- The correct direction of the solvent flow is indicated by an arrow on the column identification label.
- Aqueous or non-aqueous solvent can be used as a mobile phase. Repetitive replacement among solvents with large difference in polarities might degrade the column performance. In general, acetonitrile, methanol, tetrahydrofuran (THF), and *n*-hexane are recommended for regular use. When using THF or non-aqueous solvent as a mobile phase, be mindful of the solvent resistance of your system or tubing (PEEK parts are especially unsuitable for use with THF).
- Acetonitrile aqueous solution is a typical mobile phase for the analysis of saccharides.
- The mobile phase containing buffer salts/additives can be used for separation of ionic compounds. After using these mobile phase, the same column is not recommended for sacchride analysis using acetonitrile/water, because it may change the retention characteristics and peak shapes.
- Recommendations of pH and temperature for column use are shown in the specifications table in section 2. Column lifetime varies depending on conditions of use such as pH, temperature, and mobile phase composition. In general, high temperature and concentration of buffer or additive, low organic solvent concentration will shorten column lifetime.
- When using the column at pH near the upper or lower limit, the column lifetime will shorten under certain conditions by temperature and mobile phase composition.
- When replacing the mobile phase between aqueous and non-aqueous solvent, flush the column with more than 10 column volumes of 2-propanol etc. For example, acetonitrile/water (75/25) → 2-propanol → *n*-hexane/2-propanol (90/10).

6. Column cleaning (general method)

- When mixture of acetonitrile/water is used as a mobile phase for saccharides analysis, wash the column with a solvent containing a higher ratio of water than the mobile phase and replace with the shipping solvent for storage.
- In the case that the adsorption of polar substances is estimated after the normal phase separation with a non-aqueous mobile phase, flush the column with ethanol or 2-propanol. Replace with *n*-hexane/2-propanol (90/10) after cleaning.
- For YMC-Pack Polyamine II, when change in peak shape or retention time of acidic analyses or reducing sugars is observed, wash the column with acetonitrile/water/28 % ammonia solution (70/30/0.1).

7. Other environments

- The operating pressure should be kept under 15 MPa (2175 psi) for less than 150 mm length column, under 20 MPa (2900 psi) for 250 mm length column, under 10 MPa (1450 psi) for more than 10 mm I.D. column.
- To prevent exposure of the column to excessive pressure, the sample solution should be filtered through a 0.2 µm membrane or smaller to remove particulates. We recommend using a pre-column filter to prevent the column frit from being clogged with samples.
- Avoid using a column repeatedly near the pressure limit or abrupt change in pressure to prevent shortening of the column life.
- Adjust the flow rate appropriately because the pressure changes depending on the column length, temperature, types of organic solvent etc.