

**Method 1 – Storage, Retrieval and Transport of biopsies under *Hypothermic* conditions**

- a) Store the 125 mL container of carbogenated AQIX® RS-S solution in a fridge @ 3 – 8 °C.
- b) Transport AQIX® RS-S container @ 0 - 4 °C (over ‘wet’ ice) to tissue retrieval site.
- c) Maintain AQIX® RS-S container @ 0 - 4 °C (over ‘wet’ ice) at tissue retrieval site.
- d) Open the AQIX® RS-S container for the minimum time possible before inserting the **2cm x (2- 4) cm** atrial appendage biopsy sample lengthwise into the container.
- e) Quickly attach the lid closure and tightly seal the 125 mL AQIX® RS-S container.
- f) Transport back to laboratory @ 0 - 4 °C (over ‘wet’ ice) in a polystyrene, outer box when temperatures are likely to exceed 25 °C or fall below 0 °C.
- g) Further dissection of the atrial appendage biopsy to obtain experimental preparations is carried out using ‘cold’ (3 - 8 °C) AQIX® RS-S solution.
- h) Conduct experiments immediately in the laboratory using carbogenated AQIX® RS-I @ 37 °C [**recommended**], or,
- i) Store AQIX® RS-S container + atrial appendage samples in a fridge @ 3 – 8 °C overnight prior to conducting experiments the next day using carbogenated AQIX® RS-I @ 37 °C.

**Method 2 – Storage, Retrieval and Transport of biopsies under *Ambient* Temperatures**

- a) Store the 125 mL container of carbogenated AQIX® RS-S in a fridge @ 3 – 8 °C.
- b) Transport AQIX® RS-S container @ ambient temperature to tissue retrieval site.
- c) Maintain AQIX® RS-S container @ ambient temperature at tissue retrieval site.
- d) Open the AQIX® RS-S container for the minimal time possible before inserting the **2cm x (2- 4) cm** atrial appendage biopsy sample lengthwise into the container.
- e) Quickly attach the lid closure and tightly seal the 125 mL AQIX® RS-S container.
- f) Transport back to laboratory @ ambient temperature in a polystyrene, outer box when temperatures are likely to exceed 25 °C or fall below 0 °C.
- g) Further dissection of the atrial appendage biopsy to obtain experimental preparations is carried out using AQIX® RS-S solution at ambient temperature.
- h) Conduct experiments immediately in laboratory using carbogenated AQIX® RS-I @ 37 °C [**recommended**], or,
- i) Store AQIX® RS-S container + atrial trabeculae samples in a fridge @ 3 – 8 °C overnight prior to conducting experiments the next day using carbogenated AQIX® RS-I @ 37 °C.

## Addendum

1. AQIX® RS-I solution may be substituted for AQIX® RS-S solution for either hypothermic or ambient temperature procurement of the atrial biopsies but AQIX® RS-S solution is preferred for ambient temperature procurement.
2. If tissue contamination becomes a problem during storage and/or transportation then additional AQIX® RS-S solution may be needed to thoroughly rinse the biopsies before inserting into the AQIX® RS-S solution specimen containers. Additionally, 100 mg/L of Chloromycetin may be added to AQIX® RS-S solution to prevent bacterial contamination without compromising the viability of the biopsy specimens.