

ABIN6953808

Competition ELISA Kit for Anti-Sperm Antibody

Human

96 tests

For research use only

Not for use in clinical diagnostic procedures

Version Jul 2024

Intended use

The kit is an enzyme immunoassay for in vitro quantitative measurement of AsAb in human serum, plasma.

Reagents and materials provided

- Pre-coated, ready to use 96-well strip plate, flat bottom
- Plate sealer for 96 wells
- Reference Standard
- Standard Diluent
- Detection Reagent A
- Detection Reagent B
- Assay Diluent A
- Assay Diluent B
- Reagent Diluent (if Detection Reagent is lyophilized)
- TMB Substrate
- Stop Solution
- Wash Buffer (30 x concentrate)
- Instruction manual

Materials required but not supplied

1. Microplate reader with 450 ± 10 nm filter.
2. Precision single or multi-channel pipettes and disposable tips.
3. Microcentrifuge tubes for diluting samples.
4. Deionized or distilled water.
5. Absorbent paper for blotting the microtiter plate.
6. Container for Wash Solution
7. Incubator capable of maintaining 37 °C.
8. 0.01mol/L (or 1x) Phosphate Buffered Saline (PBS), pH7.0-7.2.

Storage of the kit

1. For unopened kit: All reagents should be stored according to the labels on the vials. The Standard, Detection Reagent A, Detection Reagent B, and 96-well Strip Plate should be stored at -20 °C upon receipt, while the other reagents should be stored at 4 °C.
2. For opened kits: the remaining reagents must be stored according to the above storage conditions. In addition, please return the unused wells to the foil pouch containing the desiccant and seal the foil pouch with the zipper.

Note:

It is strongly recommended to use the remaining reagents within 1 month, if this is done before the expiry date of the kit. Please refer to the label on the kit packaging for the expiration date of the kit. All components are stable until the expiration date.

Sample collection and storage

Sample type	Collection procedure
Plasma	Collect plasma using EDTA or heparin as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge samples for 15 min at 1000×g at 2-8°C within 30 min of collection. Collect the supernatant and assay immediately or store samples in aliquot at -20°C or -80°C for later use. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles. Hemolysed samples are not suitable for ELISA assay!
Serum	Use a serum separator tube and allow samples to clot for 2 hours at room temperature or overnight at 4°C before centrifugation for 20 min at 1000×g. Collect the supernatant and assay freshly prepared serum immediately or store samples in aliquot at -20°C or -80°C for later use. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles.

Note:

1. Samples to be used within 5 days may be stored at 4 °C, otherwise samples must be stored at -20 °C (≤ 1 month) or -80 °C (≤ 2 months) to avoid loss of bioactivity and contamination.
2. Sample hemolysis will influence the result, so hemolytic specimen should not be used.
3. When performing the assay, bring samples to room temperature.

Reagent preparation

1. Bring all kit components and samples to room temperature (18-25 °C) before use.
2. Standard - Reconstitute the Standard with 0.9 mL of Standard Diluent, kept for 10 minutes at room temperature, shake gently(not to foam). The concentration of the standard in the stock solution is 200 ng/mL. Please prepare 7 tubes containing 0.5 mL Standard Diluent and produce a double dilution series according to the picture shown below. Mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer. Set up 7 points of diluted standard such as 200 ng/mL, 100 ng/mL, 50 ng/mL, 25 ng/mL, 12.5 ng/mL, 6.25 ng/mL, 3.12 ng/mL, and the last EP tube with Standard Diluent is the blank as 0 ng/mL.
3. Detection Reagent A - Briefly spin or centrifuge the stock Detection A before use. Dilute to the working concentration with working Assay Diluent A, respectively (1:100).
4. Wash Solution - Dilute 20 mL of Wash Solution concentrate (30x) with 580 mL of deionized or distilled water to prepare 600 mL of Wash Solution (1x).
5. TMB substrate - Aspirate the needed dosage of the solution with sterilized tips and do not dump the residual solution into the vial again.

Note:

1. The standard for this kit is liquid. Due to its small volume, maybe invisible to the eye.
2. Making serial dilution in the wells directly is not permitted.
3. Prepare standard within 15 minutes before assay. Please do not dissolve the reagents at 37 °C directly.
4. Please carefully reconstitute Standards or working Detection Reagent A according to the instruction, and avoid foaming and mix gently until the crystals are completely dissolved. To minimize imprecision caused by pipetting, use small volumes and ensure that pipettors are calibrated. It is recommended to suck more than 10 μ L for once pipetting.
5. The reconstituted Standards and Detection Reagent A can be used only once.
6. If crystals have formed in the Wash Solution concentrate (30x), warm to room temperature and mix gently until the crystals are completely dissolved.
7. Contaminated water or container for reagent preparation will influence the detection result.

Sample preparation

- It is recommended to use fresh samples without long storage, otherwise protein degradation and denaturation may occur in these samples, leading to false results. Samples should therefore be stored for a short period at 2 - 8 °C or aliquoted at -20 °C (≤ 1 month) or -80 °C (≤ 3 months). Repeated freeze-thaw cycles should be avoided. Prior to assay, the frozen samples should be slowly thawed and centrifuged to remove precipitates.
- If the sample type is not specified in the instructions, a preliminary test is necessary to determine compatibility with the kit.
- If a lysis buffer is used to prepare tissue homogenates or cell culture supernatant, there is a possibility of causing a deviation due to the introduced chemical substance. The recommended dilution factor is for reference only.
- Please estimate the concentration of the samples before performing the test. If the values are not in the range of the standard curve, the optimal sample dilution for the particular experiment has to be determined.

Assay procedure

1. Determine wells for diluted standard, blank and sample. Prepare wells for standard points and blank. Add 50 μ L each of dilutions of standard (read Reagent Preparation), blank and samples into the appropriate wells, respectively. And then add 50 μ L of Detection Reagent A to each well immediately. Shake the plate gently (using a microplate shaker is recommended). Cover with a Plate sealer. Incubate for 1 hour at 37 °C. Detection Reagent A may appear cloudy. Warm to room temperature and mix gently until solution appears uniform.
2. Aspirate the solution and wash with 350 μ L of 1X Wash Solution to each well using a squirt bottle, multi-channel pipette, manifold dispenser or autowasher, and let it sit for 1-2 minutes. Remove the remaining liquid from all wells completely by snapping the plate onto absorbent paper. Repeat 3 times. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against absorbent paper.
3. Add 100 μ L of Detection Reagent B working solution to each well. Incubate for 30 minutes at 37 °C after covering it with the Plate sealer.
4. Repeat the aspiration/wash process for total 5 times as conducted in step 2.
5. Add 90 μ L of Substrate Solution to each well. Cover with a new Plate sealer. Incubate for 15 - 25 minutes at 37 °C (Don't exceed 30 minutes). Protect from light. The liquid will turn blue by the addition of Substrate Solution.
6. Add 50 μ L of Stop Solution to each well. The liquid will turn yellow by the addition of

Stop solution. Mix the liquid by tapping the side of the plate. If color change does not appear uniform, gently tap the plate to ensure thorough mixing.

7. Remove any drop of water and fingerprint on the bottom of the plate and confirm there is no bubble on the surface of the liquid. Then, run the microplate reader and conduct measurement at 450nm immediately.

Note:

1. Assay preparation: Keep appropriate numbers of wells for each experiment and remove extra wells from microplate. Rest wells should be resealed and stored at -20 °C.
2. Samples or reagents addition: Please use the freshly prepared Standard. Please carefully add samples to wells and mix gently to avoid foaming. Do not touch the well wall. For each step in the procedure, total dispensing time for addition of reagents or samples to the assay plate should not exceed 10 minutes. This will ensure equal elapsed time for each pipetting step, without interruption. Duplication of all standards and specimens, although not required, is recommended. To avoid cross-contamination, change pipette tips between additions of standards, samples, and reagents. Also, use separated reservoirs for each reagent.
3. Incubation: To ensure accurate results, proper adhesion of plate sealers during incubation steps is necessary. Do not allow wells to sit uncovered for extended periods between incubation steps. Once reagents are added to the well strips, DO NOT let the strips DRY at any time during the assay. Incubation time and temperature must be controlled.
4. Washing: The wash procedure is critical. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential for good performance. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Solution by aspirating or decanting and remove any drop of water and fingerprint on the bottom of the plate. Insufficient washing will result in poor precision and false elevated absorbance reading.
5. Controlling of reaction time: Observe the change of color after adding TMB Substrate (e.g. observation once every 10 minutes), if the color is too deep, add Stop Solution in advance to avoid excessively strong reaction which will result in inaccurate absorbance reading.
6. TMB Substrate is easily contaminated. Please protect it from light.
7. The environment humidity which is less than 60 % might have some effects on the final performance, therefore, a humidifier is recommended to be used at that condition.

Test principle

This assay employs the competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay technique. An antibody specific to target has been pre-coated onto a microtiter plate. A competitive inhibition reaction is launched between biotin labeled target and unlabeled target

(Standards or samples) with the pre-coated antibody specific to target. After incubation the unbound conjugate is washed off. Next, avidin conjugated to Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP) is added to each microtiter plate well and incubated. The amount of bound HRP conjugate is reverse proportional to the concentration of target in the sample. After addition of the substrate solution, the intensity of color developed is reverse proportional to the concentration of target in the sample.

Calculation of results

This assay employs the competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay technique, so there is an inverse correlation between target concentration in the sample and the assay signal intensity. Average the duplicate readings for each standard, control, and samples. Create a standard curve on log-log or semi-log graph paper, with the log of target concentration on the y-axis and absorbance on the x-axis. Draw the best fit straight line through the standard points and it can be determined by regression analysis. Using some plot software, for instance, curve expert 1.30, is also recommended. If samples have been diluted, the concentration read from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor.

In order to make the calculation easier, we plot the O.D. value of the standard (X-axis) against the log of concentration of the standard (Y-axis), although concentration is the independent variable and O.D. value is the dependent variable. The O.D. values of the standard curve may vary according to the conditions of assay performance (e.g. operator, pipetting technique, washing technique or temperature effects). Typical standard curve below is provided for reference only.

Typical data

In order to make the calculation easier, we plot the O.D. value of the standard (X-axis) against the log of concentration of the standard (Y-axis), although concentration is the independent variable and O.D. value is the dependent variable. The O.D. values of the standard curve may vary according to the conditions of assay performance (e.g. operator, pipetting technique, washing technique or temperature effects).

Detection range

The detection range of the kit is 3.12 ng/mL - 200 ng/mL

The standard curve concentrations used for the ELISA's were 200ng/mL, 100ng/mL, 50ng/mL, 25ng/mL, 12.5ng/mL, 6.25ng/mL, 3.12ng/mL

Sensitivity

The minimum detectable dose of AsAb is typically less than 1.17 ng/mL.

The sensitivity of this assay, or Lower Limit of Detection (LLD) was defined as the lowest protein concentration that could be differentiated from zero.

It was determined by adding two standard deviations to the mean optical density value of twenty zero standard replicates and calculating the corresponding concentration.

Note:

Limited by current skills and knowledge, it is impossible for us to complete the cross-reactivity detection between AsAb and all the analogues, therefore, cross reaction may still exist.

Precision

Intra-assay Precision (Precision within an assay): 3 samples with low, middle and high level of target were tested 20 times on one plate, respectively.

Inter-assay Precision (Precision between assays): 3 samples with low, middle and high level of target were tested on 3 different plates, 8 replicates in each plate.

$CV(\%) = SD/mean \times 100$

Intra-Assay: $CV < 10\%$

Inter-Assay: $CV < 12\%$

Stability

The stability of ELISA kit is determined by the loss rate of activity. The loss rate of this kit is less than 5 % prior to the expiration date under appropriate storage condition. To minimize extra influence on the performance, operation procedures and lab conditions, especially room temperature, air humidity, incubator temperature should be strictly monitored. It is also strongly suggested that the assay is performed by the same operator from the beginning to the end.

Assay procedure summary

1. Prepare all reagents, samples and standards,
2. Add 50 μ L standard or sample to each well.
And then add 50 μ L prepared Detection Reagent A immediately.
Shake and mix. Incubate 1 hour at 37 °C,
3. Aspirate and wash 3 times,
4. Add 100 μ L prepared Detection Reagent B. Incubate 30 minutes at 37 °C,
5. Aspirate and wash 5 times,
6. Add 90 μ L Substrate Solution. Incubate 10-20 minutes at 37 °C,
7. Add 50 μ L Stop Solution. Read at 450 nm immediately.

Important note

1. The kit is designed for research use only, we will not be responsible for any issue if the kit was used in clinical diagnostic or any other procedures.
2. Limited by the current conditions and scientific technology, we cannot perform a complete identification and analysis of the raw material used. Therefore, the use of the kit may be associated with some qualitative and technical risks.
3. We are only responsible for the kit itself, not for the samples used in the test. The possible amount of sample used in the whole test should be calculated in advance and sufficient sample material should be provided.
4. Each kit undergoes a very strict QC testing. Nevertheless, end-user results may differ from our internal results due to unexpected transport conditions or different laboratory equipment. Intra-assay deviations between kits from different lots can also be related to this.
5. The test results depend on the validity of the products, so the kit should be used before the expiration date and stored according to the instructions.
6. Even the same user may obtain different results in two separate experiments. To obtain reproducible results, each step of the assay should be controlled.
7. The standard of the kit and immunogen used for antibody preparation are commonly recombinant proteins, as different fragments, expression systems, purification methods might be used in recombinant protein preparation, we can not guarantee the kit could detect recombinant protein from other companies. So, it is not recommended to use the kit for the detection of recombinant protein.
8. Do not mix or substitute reagents from one kit lot to another. Use only the reagents supplied by the manufacturer.
9. Protect all reagents from strong light during storage and incubation. All reagent bottle caps should be tightly closed to prevent evaporation and contamination with microorganisms. The TMB substrate should remain colourless until it reacts with the enzyme.
10. A freshly opened ELISA plate may show a water-like substance, which is normal and does not affect the test results. Return unused wells to the foil pouch and store as before.
11. Mistakes in reagent preparation and application, as well as incorrect parameter setting for the plate reader, can lead to incorrect results. A microplate reader with a bandwidth of 10nm or less and an optical density range of 0-3 O.D. at a wavelength of 450 ± 10 nm is suitable for absorbance measurement. Please read the instructions carefully and set up the instrument before the experiment.

12. Do not reuse the reconstituted standard and the prepared working solutions. The unused stock solutions should be stored according to the storage conditions.

Precaution

The Stop Solution suggested for use with this kit is an acid solution. Wear eye, hand, face, and clothing protection when using this material.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Source	Corrective Action
Poor Standard Curve	Improper standard curve preparation	Ensure accurate operation of the dilution
	Incomplete washing and aspiration	Adequate washing and adequate aspiration
	Inaccurate Pipetting	Check and Calibrate pipettes
Poor Precision	Incomplete washing of wells	Ensure sufficient washing
	Inadequate mixing and aspiration reagents	Adequate aspiration and mixing reagents
	Reused pipette tips, containers and sealers	Change and use new pipette tips, containers and sealers
	Inaccurate Pipetting	Check and Calibrate pipettes
Low O.D Values	Inadequate reagent volumes added to wells	Calibrate pipettes and add adequate reagents
	Incorrect incubation times	Ensure sufficient incubation times
	Incorrect incubation temperature	Reagents balanced to room temperature
	Conjugate or substrate reagent failure	Mix conjugate and substrate, color should develop immediately
	No stop solution added	Follow the assay protocol in the kit manual
	Read beyond suggested reading time	Read within the time recommended in the manual

Problem	Possible Source	Corrective Action
Sample Values	Improper Sample Storage	Store the sample properly and use the fresh sample
	Improper sample collection and preparation	Take proper sample collection and preparation method
	Low quantity of analyte in samples	Resample and repeat assay

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