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ABIN6968600

Sandwich ELISA Kit for Methylenetetrahydrofolate Reductase (NAD(P)H)

Human

96 tests

For research use only
Not for use in clinical diagnostic procedures
Version Apr 2023

Intended use

For quantitative detection of MTHFR in serum, plasma, tissue homogenates.

Reagents and materials provided

- Pre-coated, ready to use 96-well strip plate
- Plate sealer for 96 wells
- Standard
- Sample/Standard Dilution Buffer
- Biotin-labeled Antibody (Concentrated)
- Antibody Dilution Buffer
- HRP-Streptavidin Conjugate (SABC)
- SABC Dilution Buffer
- TMB Substrate
- Stop Solution
- Wash Buffer (25 x concentrate)
- Instruction manual

Materials required but not supplied

1. Microplate reader (wavelength:450nm)
2. 37 °C incubator
3. Automated plate washer
4. Precision single and multi-channel pipette and disposable tips
5. Clean tubes and Eppendorf tubes
6. Deionized or distilled water

Storage of the kit

1. For unopened kit: All the reagents should be kept according to the labels on vials. The Reference Standard and the 96-well stripe plate should be stored at -20 °C upon receipt

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while the other reagents should be stored at 4 °C.

2. For used kit: When the kit is used, the remaining reagents need to be stored according to the above storage condition. Besides, please return the unused wells to the foil pouch containing the desiccant pack, and zip-seal the foil pouch.

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.
Tissue homogenates	The preparation of tissue homogenates will vary depending upon tissue type. For general information, hemolysed blood may affect the results, so the tissues should be minced into small pieces and rinsed in ice-cold PBS (0.01M, pH=7.4) to remove excess blood thoroughly. Tissue pieces should be weighed and then homogenized in PBS (tissue weight (g): PBS (mL) volume=1:9) with a glass homogenizer on ice. To further break down the cells, sonicate the suspension with an ultrasonic cell disrupter or subject it to freeze-thaw cycles. Centrifuge the homogenates for 5 min at 5000×g to get the supernatant and assay immediately or aliquot and store at ≤-20°C.

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.

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3. When performing the assay, bring samples to room temperature.

Reagent preparation

- Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature for 20 minutes before use.
- Wash Buffer: If crystals have formed in the concentrate, you can warm it with 40 °C water bath Concentrated Wash Buffer into 750 mL Wash Buffer with deionized or distilled water. Put unused solution back at 2-8 °C.
- Standards:
  1. Add 1 mL Sample Dilution Buffer into one Standard tube (labeled as zero tube), keep the tube at room temperature for 10 minutes and mix them thoroughly. Note: If the standard tube concentration higher than the range of the kit,please dilute it and labeled as zero tube.
  2. Label 7 EP tubes with 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32, 1/64 and blank respectively. Add 0.3 mLof the Sample Dilution Buffer into each tube. Add 0.3 mLof the above Standard solution (from zero tube) into 1st tube and mix them thoroughly. Transfer 0.3 mL from 1st tube to 2nd tube and mix them thoroughly. Transfer 0.3 mL from 2nd tube to 3rd tube and mix them thoroughly, and so on. Sample Dilution Buffer was used for the blank control. Note: It is best to use Standard Solutions within 2 hours.
- Preparation of Biotin-labeled Antibody Working Solution:
  Prepare it within 1 hour before experiment.
  1. Calculate required total volume of the working solution: 0.1ml/well x quantity of wells. (Allow 0.1-0.2 mLmore than the total volume.)
  2. Dilute the Biotin-detection antibody with Antibody Dilution Buffer at 1:100 and mix them thoroughly. (i.e. Add 1 µL Biotin-labeled antibody into 99 µL Antibody Dilution Buffer.)
- Preparation of HRP-Streptavidin Conjugate (SABC) Working Solution:
  Prepare it within 30 minutes before experiment.
  1. Calculate required total volume of the working solution: 0.1ml/well x quantity of wells. (Allow 0.1-0.2 mLmore than the total volume.)
  2. Dilute the SABC with SABC Dilution Buffer at 1:100 and mix them thoroughly. (i.e. Add 1 µL of SABC into 99 µL of SABC Dilution Buffer.)

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Sample preparation

- It is recommended to use fresh samples without long storage, otherwise protein degradation and denaturationmay occur in these samples, leading to false results. Samples should therefore be stored for a short periodat 2 - 8 °C or aliquoted at -20 °C (≤1 month) or -80 °C (≤ 3 months). Repeated freeze-thawcycles should be avoided. Prior to assay, the frozen samples should be slowly thawed and centrifuged toremove precipitates.
- If the sample type is not specified in the instructions, a preliminary test is necessary to determinecompatibility with the kit.
- If a lysis buffer is used to prepare tissue homogenates or cell culture supernatant, there is a possibilityof 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 therange of the standard curve, the optimal sample dilution for the particular experiment has to be determined.Samples should then be diluted with PBS (pH =7.0-7.2).

Note:

The user should estimate the concentration of target protein in the test sample, and select a proper dilution factor to make the diluted target protein concentration fall in the optimal detection range of the kit. Dilute the sample with the provided dilution buffer, and several trials may be necessary. The test sample must be well mixed with the dilution buffer. And also standard curves and sample should be making in pre-experiment. If samples with very high concentrations, dilute samples with PBS first and then dilute the samples with Sample Dilution. The matrix components in the sample will affect the test results, which it need to be diluted at least 1/2 with Sample Dilution Buffer before testing!

Assay procedure

Washing

Manual: Discard the solution in the plate without touching the side walls. Clap the plate on absorbent filter papers or other absorbent material. Fill each well completely with 350 µL wash buffer and soak for 1 to 2 minutes, then aspirate contents from the plate, and clap the plate on absorbent filter papers or other absorbent material.

Automatic: Aspirate all wells, and then wash plate with 350 µL wash buffer. After the final wash, invert plate, and clap the plate on absorbent filter papers or other absorbent material. It is recommended that the washer shall be set for soaking 1 minute. (Note: set the height of the needles, be sure the fluid can be sipped up completely)

When diluting samples and reagents, they must be mixed completely and evenly. Before adding TMB into wells, equilibrate TMB Substrate for 30 minutes at 37 °C. It is recommended to plot a standard curve for each test.

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1. Set standard, test samples (diluted at least 1/2 with Sample Dilution Buffer), control (blank) wells on the pre-coated plate respectively, and then, records their positions. It is recommended to measure each standard and sample in duplicate. Wash plate 2 times before adding standard, sample and control (blank) wells!
2. Prepare Standards: Aliquot 100 µL of zero tube, 1sttube, 2ndtube, 3rdtube, 4thtube, 5thtube, 6thtube and Sample Dilution Buffer (blank) into the standard wells.
3. Add Samples: Add 100 µL of properly diluted sample into test sample wells.
4. Incubate: Seal the plate with a cover and incubate at 37 °C for 90 minutes.
5. Wash: Remove the cover and discard the plate content, and wash plate 2 times with Wash Buffer. Do NOT let the wells dry completely at any time.
6. Biotin-labeled Antibody: Add 100 µL Biotin-labeled antibody working solution into above wells (standard, test sample and blank wells). Add the solution at the bottom of each well without touching the sidewall, cover the plate and incubate at 37 °C for 60 minutes.
7. Wash: Remove the cover, and wash plate 3 times with Wash Buffer, and let the Wash Buffer stay in the wells for 1-2 minutes each time.
8. HRP-Streptavidin Conjugate (SABC): Add 100 µL of SABC Working Solution into each well, cover the plate and incubate at 37 °C for 30 minutes.
9. Wash: Remove the cover and wash plate 5 times with Wash Buffer, and let the wash buffer stay in the wells for 1-2 minutes each time.
10. TMB Substrate: Add 90 µL TMB Substrate into each well, cover the plate and incubate at 37 °C in dark within 10-20 minutes. (Note: The reaction time can be shortened or extended according to the actual color change, but not more than 30 minutes. You can terminate the reaction when apparent gradient appeared in standard wells.)
11. Stop: Add 50 µL Stop Solution into each well. The color will turn yellow immediately. The adding order of Stop Solution should be as the same as the TMB Substrate Solution.
12. OD Measurement: Read the O.D. absorbance at 450nm in Microplate Reader immediately after adding the stop solution.

Regarding calculation, (the relative O.D.450) = (the O.D.450 of each well) - (the O.D.450 of blank well). The standard curve can be plotted as the relative O.D.450 of each standard solution (Y) vs. the respective concentration of the standard solution (X). The target concentration of the samples can be interpolated from the standard curve. It is recommended to use some professional software to do this calculation, such as Curve Expert 1.3 or 1.4.
Note: If the samples measured were diluted, multiply the dilution factor to the concentrations from interpolation to obtain the concentration before dilution.

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Test principle

This kit was based on sandwich enzyme-linked immune-sorbent assay technology. Capture antibody was pre-coated onto 96- well plates. And the biotin conjugated antibody was used as detection antibodies. The standards, test samples and biotin conjugated detection antibody were added to the wells subsequently, and washed with wash buffer. HRP-Streptavidin was added and unbound conjugates were washed away with wash buffer. TMB substrates were used to visualize HRP enzymatic reaction. TMB was catalyzed by HRP to produce a blue color product that changed into yellow after adding acidic stop solution. The density of yellow is proportional to the target amount of sample captured in plate. Read the O.D. absorbance at 450nm in a microplate reader, and then the concentration of target can be calculated.

Calculation of results

Regarding calculation, (the relative O.D.450) = (the O.D.450 of each well) – (the O.D.450 of blank well). The standard curve can be plotted as the relative O.D.450 of each standard solution (Y) vs. the respective concentration of the standard solution (X). The target concentration of the samples can be interpolated from the standard curve. It is recommended to use some professional software to do this calculation.

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 31.2 pg/mL - 2000 pg/mL

Sensitivity

The minimum detectable dose of MTHFR is typically less than 18.75 pg/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-

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reactivity detection between MTHFR and all the analogues, therefore, cross reaction may still exist.

Precision

Intra-Assay: CV<8%
Inter-Assay: CV<10%

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. Wash plate 2 times before adding Standard, Sample (diluted at least 1/2 with Sample Dilution Buffer) and Control (blank) wells!
2. Add 100 µL standard or sample to each well and incubate for 90 minutes at 37 °C.
3. Aspirate and wash plates 2 times.
4. Add 100 µL Biotin-labeled antibody working solution to each well and incubate for 60 minutes at 37 °C.
5. Aspirate and wash plates 3 times.
6. Add 100 µL SABC Working Solution into each well and incubate for 30 minutes at 37 °C.
7. Aspirate and wash plates 5 times.
8. Add 90 µL TMB Substrate Solution. Incubate 10-20 minutes at 37 °C.
9. Add 50 µL Stop Solution. Read at 450nm immediately and calculation.

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.

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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.

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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
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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