

ELISA PRODUCT INFORMATION & MANUAL

Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) ELISA Kit (Colorimetric)

NBP2-80329

Sample Insert for Reference Only

Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay for quantitative detection. For research use only.

Not for diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.

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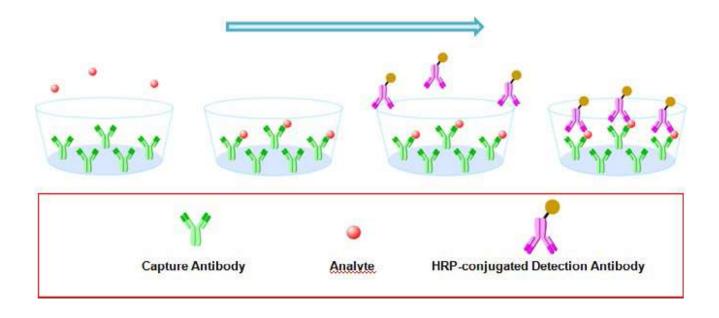
INTENDED USE

For the quantitative determination of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) concentration in serum.

The use of this kit for other sample types need be validated by the end user due to the complexity of natural targets and unpredictable interference.

PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

The principle of this ELISA kit is based on the solid phase sandwich enzyme immunoassay technique. A monoclonal antibody specific for Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) has been pre-coated onto well plate strips. Standards and samples are added to the wells and Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) present in the sample is bound by the immobilized antibody. After incubation the wells are washed and a horseradish peroxidase conjugated anti-Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) antibody is added, producing an antibody-antigen-antibody "sandwich complex". Following a wash to remove any unbound antibody a TMB substrate solution is loaded and color develops in proportion to the amount of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) bound. The reaction is stopped by the addition of a stop solution and the intensity of the color can be measured at 450 nm (See schematics below).



MATERIALS PROVIDED

Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) Microplate - 96 well polystyrene microplate (12 strips of 8 wells) coated with mouse mAb antibody against Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha).

Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) Detection Antibody - 0.2 mg/mL of rabbit pAb antibody against Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) conjugated to horseradish peroxidase (HRP) with preservatives.

Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) Standard - Recombinant Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) in a buffer with preservatives, lyophilized. The amount of standard is lot specific and indicated on the label of standard vial.

Wash Buffer Concentrate - 25 mL of a 20-fold concentrated solution of buffered surfactant with preservatives.

Dilution Buffer Concentrate - 8 mL of a 20-fold concentrated dilution buffer with preservatives.

Color Reagent A - 13 mL of stabilized hydrogen peroxide.

Color Reagent B - 13 mL of stabilized chromogen (tetramethylbenzidine).

Stop Solution - 8 mL of 2 N sulfuric acid.

STORAGE

Unopened Kit	Store at 2 - 8°C and the kit is stable for 6 months upon receipt.			
	Diluted Wash Buffer Diluted Dilution Buffer	Stored for up to 1 week at 2 - 8℃		
Opened/ Reconstituted Reagents	Conjugate Stop Solution Unmixed Color Reagent A Unmixed Color Reagent B	Stored for up to 1 month at 2 - 8° C		
	Standard	After reconstitution, store for up to 1 month at -80°C. The reconstituted standards should be aliquoted and avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.		
	Microplate Wells	Return unused strips to the foil pouch containing the desiccant pack and reseal along entire edge of zip-seal. Stored for up to 1 month at 2 - 8°C		

OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED

- ·Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 nm
- ·Pipettes and pipette tips
- ·Deionized or distilled water
- ·Multi -channel pipette, squirt bottle, manifold dispenser, or automated microplate washer
- ·500 mL graduated cylinder
- ·Tubes for standard dilution
- ·Well plate cover or seals

PRECAUTIONS

- 1. This kit is **for research use only** and is not for use in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.
- 2. The kit should not be used beyond the expiration date.
- 3. Do not mix reagents from different lots.
- 4. The kit is designed and tested to detect the specific targets and samples shown in the manual. The use of this kit for other purpose should be verified carefully by the end user.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- 5. The Stop Solution provided with this kit is an acid solution. Take care when using the reagent to avoid the risk.
- 6. All biological materials should be handled and discarded as potentially hazardous following local laws and regulations.
- 7. Personal protective equipments such as lab coats, gloves, surgical masks and goggles are necessary in experiments for safety reasons.

TECHINICAL TIPS

- 8. Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature before use.
- 9. Samples should be thawed completely and mixed well prior to analysis. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles of frozen samples.
- 10. A standard curve should be generated for each set of sample assayed. DO NOT USE the standard curves from other plates or other days.
- 11. Use a new disposable reagent reservoir and new disposable pipette tips for each transfer to avoid cross-contamination.
- 12. Read the absorbance of each well within 20 minutes after adding the stop solution.

SAMPLE COLLECTION AND STORAGE

Serum - Use a serum separator tube and allow samples to clot for 30 minutes before centrifugation for 15 minutes at 1000 x g. Remove serum and assay immediately or aliquot and store samples at $-20 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ or lower temperature. **Avoid repeated freeze** -thaw cycles.

Note:

The sample should be diluted to within the working range of the assay in $1 \times$ dilution buffer. The exact dilution must be determined based on the concentration of specific target in individual samples.

REAGENT PREPARATION

Bring all reagents to room temperature before use. If crystals have formed in buffer solution, warm to room temperature and mix gently until the crystals have completely dissolved.

Wash Buffer - Prepare 1× wash buffer by adding 20 mL of Wash Buffer Concentrate to deionized or distilled water to prepare 400 mL of Wash Buffer.

Dilution Buffer - Prepare 1× dilution buffer by adding 5 mL of Dilution Buffer Concentrate to deionized or distilled water to prepare 100 mL of Dilution Buffer.

Detection Antibody - Centrifuge at 10,000 x g for 20 seconds. Dilute to **work** concentration of $0.15 \mu\text{g/mL}$ in Dilution Buffer before use.

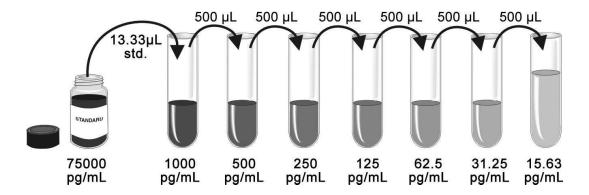
Substrate Solution - Color Reagents A and B should be mixed together in equal volumes within 15 minutes of use. Protect from light. 200 μ L of the resultant mixture is required per well. **Take care not to contaminate the Color Reagent. If the mixed color reagent is blue. DO NOT USE.**

Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) Standard - Reconstitute the Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) Standard with 1 mL of Dilution Buffer to make stock solution. Shake the vial gently until the lyophilized powder totally dissolved (**Do not turn the vial upside down**). Mix the standard to ensure complete reconstitution prior to making dilutions.

Prepare serially diluted standards as described in the following step:

Pipette 1000 μ L of Dilution Buffer into the 1000 pg/mL tube. Pipette 500 μ L of Dilution Buffer into the remaining tubes. Use the stock solution to produce a dilution series as the following figure. Mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer. The 1000 pg/mL standard serves as the high standard. The Dilution Buffer serves as the zero standard (0 pg/mL). **Ensures each assay has a standard curve. DO NOT USE the standard curve on other plates or other days.**

The following graph is only for demonstration purposes. The concentration of stock solution is lot specific and need be calculated with the actual amount of standard labeled on the standard vial.



ASSAY PROCEDURE

Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature before use. It is recommended that all samples and standards be assayed in duplicate.

- 1. Prepare all reagents, working standards, and samples as directed in the previous sections.
- 2. Remove unused microplate strips from the plate frame, return them to the foil pouchcontaining the desiccant pack, and reseal.
- 3. Wash each well three times with Wash Buffer (300 µL/well) using a squirt bottle, multi-channel pipette, manifold dispenser or autowasher. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential to good performance. Remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against clean paper towels.
- 4. Add 100 μ L of each serially diluted protein standard or test sample per well including a zero standard. **Ensure reagent addition is uninterrupted and completed within 15 minutes.** Cover/seal the plate and incubate for 2 hours at room temperature.
- 5. Repeat the aspiration/wash as in Step 3.
- 6. Add 100 μ L of Detection Antibody in working concentration to each well. Cover/seal the plate and incubate for 1 hour at room temperature.
- 7. Repeat the aspiration/wash as in Step 3.
- **8.** Add 200 μ L of Substrate Solution to each well. Incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature. **Protect from light.**
- 9. Add 50 μL of Stop Solution to each well. If color change does not appear uniform, gently tap the plate to ensure thorough mixing.
- 10. **Determine the optical density of each well within 20 minutes**, using a microplate reader set to 450 nm.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS

If samples generate values higher than the highest standard, dilute the samples and repeat the assay.

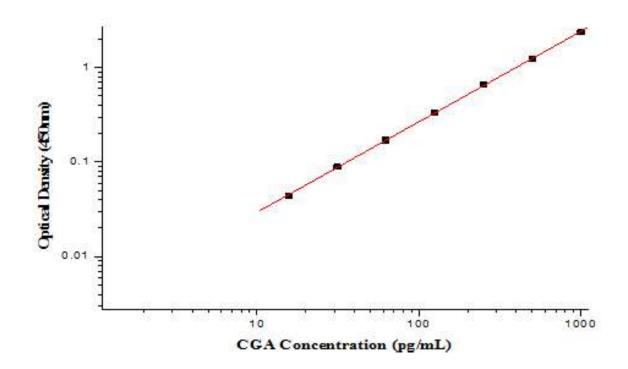
Calculate the mean absorbance for each standard, control and sample and subtract average zero standard optical density (O.D.).

Construct a standard curve by plotting the mean absorbance for each standard on the y-axis against the concentration on the x-axis and draw a best fit curve through the points on the graph. Most graphing software can help make the curve and a four parameter logistic (4-PL) usually provide the best fit, though other equations (e.g. linear, log/log) can also be tried to see which provides the most accurate. Extrapolate the target protein concentrations for unknown samples from the standard curve plotted.

TYPICAL DATA

This standard curve is only for demonstration purposes. A standard curve should be generated for each assay.

Concentration (pg/mL)	Zero standard subtracted OD
0	0
15.63	0.044
31.25	0.089
62.5	0.17
125	0.336
250	0.661
500	1.236
1000	2.357



PRECISION

Intra-assay Precision (Precision within an assay)

Three samples of known concentration were tested twenty times on one plate to assess intra-assay precision.

Inter-assay Precision (Precision between assays)

Three samples of known concentration were tested in five separate assays to assess inter-assay precision.

2	Intra -assay Precision			Inter-assay Precision		
Sample	1	2	3	1	2	3
N	20	20	20	5	5	5
Mean (pg/mL)	143	300	570	151	314	576
SD	11.98	12.21	25.49	2.52	19.01	11.79
CV (%)	8.4%	4.1%	4.5%	1.7%	6.1%	2.0%

RECOVERY

The recovery of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) spiked to different levels throughout the range of the assay in related matrices was evaluated.

Sample	Average % Recovery	Range
Serum (n=3)	97	90 -104%

LINEARITY

		Serum
1:2	recovery of detected	80%
1:4	recovery of detected	99%
1:8	recovery of detected	117%
1:16	recovery of detected	104%

SENSITIVITY

The minimum detectable dose (MDD) of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) is typically less than

3.4 pg/mL. The MDD was determined by adding three standard deviations to the mean optical density value of twenty zero standard replicates and calculating the corresponding concentration.

CALIBRATION

This immunoassay is calibrated against a highly purified HEK 293-expressed recombinant Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha).

SAMPLE VALUES

The average concentration of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha) in 10 normal human serum is 296.07 +/-102.79 pg/mL ranging from 167.43 to 493.81 pg/mL.

SPECIFICITY

This assay recognizes both recombinant and natural Human Chorionic Gonadotropin alpha Chain (hCG alpha). The factors listed below were prepared at 50 ng/mL in dilution buffer and assayed for cross-reactivity. No cross-reactivity was observed.

Recombinant	h <mark>uman</mark>			
SCG2	IL-1	IL-2	IL-33	
IL-10	IL-8	TNF-α	IL-4	
IL-6	IFN-γ	MIP-1β	TIMP-1	
TIMP-2 VEGF	GM-CSF	SCF	PDGF	

TROUBLE SHOOTING

Problems Possible Sources		Solutions	
	Incorrect or no Detection Antibody was added	Add appropriate Detection Antibody and continue	
No signal	Substrate solution was not added	Add substrate solution and continue	
	Incorrect storage condition	Check if the kit is stored at recommended condition and used before expiration date	
	Standard was incompletely reconstituted or was inappropriately stored	Aliquot reconstituted standard and store at -80 °C. The reconstituted standards should be aliquoted and avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.	
Poor Standard Curve	Imprecise / inaccurate pipetting	Check / calibrate pipettes	
Curve	Incubations done at inappropriate temperature, timing or agitation	Follow the general ELISA protocol	
	Background wells were contaminated	Avoid cross contamination by using the sealer appropriately	
Do ou dotostion	The concentration of antigen in samples was too low	Enriching samples to increase the concentration of antigen	
Poor detection value	Samples were ineffective	Check if the samples are stored at cold environment. Detect samples in timely manner	
		Use multichannel pipettes without touching the reagents on the plate	
High Background	Insufficient washes	Increase cycles of washes and soaking time between washes	
	Color Reagent should be clear and colorless prior to addition to wells	Color Reagent should be clear and colorless prior to addition to wells	
	Use clean tubes and pipettes tips	Use clean plates, tubes and pipettes tips	
Non-specificity	Samples were contaminated	Avoid cross contamination of samples	
	The concentration of samples was too high	Try higher dilution rate of samples	

ASSAY SUMMARY

