#EKL56492, 96 Tests

Human Corticotropin Releasing Hormone (CRH) ELISA Kit

FOR IN VITRO AND RESEARCH USE ONLY. NOT FOR USE IN CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Last Updated 2020-03-12

The manual may be updated as a result of continuous improvements.
Please always refer to the hard copy manual included in the kit for your experiment.

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Human Corticotropin Releasing Hormone (CRH) ELISA Kit

Catalog No: EKL56492

96 Tests

INTENDED USE

The kit is a competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay technique for the in vitro quantitative measurement of CRH in human serum, plasma or other biological fluids..

REAGENTS AND MATERIALS PROVIDED

Reagents	Quantity	Reagents	Quantity
Pre-coated, ready to use 96-well strip plate	1	Plate sealer for 96 wells	2
Standard	2	Standard Diluent	1×20mL
Detection Solution A	1×6mL	TMB Substrate	1×9mL
Detection Solution B	1×12mL	Stop Solution	1×6mL
Wash Buffer (30 × concentrate)	1×20mL	Instruction manual	1

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT SUPPLIED

1. Microplate reader with 450 ± 10nm filter.
2. Precision single or multi-channel pipettes and disposable tips.
3. Eppendorf Tubes for diluting samples.
4. Deionized or distilled water.
5. Absorbent paper for blotting the microtiter plate.

6. Container for Wash Solution.

STORAGE OF THE KITS

1. ***For unopened kits:*** All the reagents should be stored at **4°C** upon receipt.
2. ***For opened kits:*** Once the kit is opened, the remaining reagents still need to be stored according to the above storage conditions. In addition, return the unused wells to the foil pouch containing the desiccant pack, and reseal along entire edge of zip-seal.

Note:

For the expiration date of the kit, please refer to the label on the kit box. All components are stable until this date.

It is highly recommended to use the remaining reagents within 1 month of opening.

SAMPLE COLLECTION AND STORAGE

- **Serum** - Use a serum separator tube and allow samples to clot for two hours at room temperature or overnight at 4°C before centrifugation for 20 minutes at approximately 1000×g. Assay freshly prepared serum immediately or store samples in aliquots at -20°C or -80°C for later use. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles.
- **Plasma** - Collect plasma using EDTA or heparin as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge samples for 15 minutes at 1000×g at 2-8°C within 30 minutes of collection. Remove plasma and assay immediately or store samples in aliquots at -20°C or -80°C for later use. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles.
- **Other biological fluids** - Centrifuge samples for 20 minutes at 1000×g. Remove particulates and assay immediately or store samples in aliquots at -20°C or -80°C. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles.

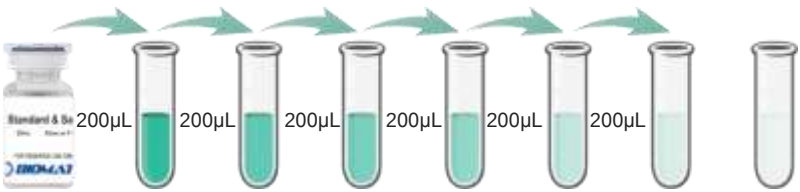
Note:

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 cannot be detected.
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 1.0mL of Standard Diluent, keep for 10 minutes at room temperature, shake gently (not to foam). The concentration of the standard in the stock solution is 1000pg/mL. Prepare 7 tubes containing 0.2mL Standard Diluent and use the diluted standard to produce a double dilution series according to the picture shown below. Mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer. Prepare a dilution series with 7 points; for example: 1000pg/mL, 500pg/mL, 250pg/mL, 125pg/mL, 62.5pg/mL, 31.2pg/mL, 15.6pg/mL and the last EP tube with Standard Diluent is the blank as 0pg/mL.

Stock Standard



Tube	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
pg/mL	1000	500	250	125	62.5	31.2	15.6	0

3. **Detection Solution A and Detection Solution B** - Detection Solutions A and B are already at the correct concentrations and do not need to be diluted further.
4. **Wash Solution** - Dilute 20mL of Wash Solution concentrate (30×) with 580mL of deionized or distilled water to prepare 600 mL of Wash Solution (1×).
5. **TMB substrate** - Aspirate the needed dosage of the solution with sterilized tips. Do not dump the residual solution back into the vial.

Note:

1. Do not perform a serial dilution directly in the wells.
2. Prepare standard within 15 minutes before assay.
3. Carefully reconstitute Standards according to the instruction, and avoid foaming and mix gently until the crystals are completely dissolved.
4. The reconstituted Standards can be **used only once**.
5. If crystals have formed in the Wash Solution concentrate (30×), warm to room temperature and mix gently until the crystals are completely dissolved.
6. Any contaminated water or container used during reagent preparation will influence the detection result.

SAMPLE PREPARATION

1. Biomatik is only responsible for the kit itself, not for the samples consumed during the assay. The user should calculate the possible amount of the samples used in the whole test. Please reserve sufficient samples in advance.
2. Please predict the concentration before assaying. If values for these are not within the range of the standard curve, users must determine the optimal sample dilutions for their particular experiments. Samples should be diluted by 0.01mol/L PBS (pH=7.0-7.2).

3. If the samples are not indicated in the manual, a preliminary experiment to determine the validity of the kit is necessary.
4. Tissue or cell extraction samples prepared using a chemical lysis buffer may cause unexpected ELISA results due to the impacts from certain chemicals.
5. Due to the possibility of mismatching between antigens from other origin and antibodies used in our kits (e.g., antibody targets conformational epitope rather than linear epitope), some native or recombinant proteins from other manufacturers may not be recognized by our products.
6. Samples from cell culture supernatant may not be detected by the kit due to influence from factors such as cell viability, cell number and/or sampling time.
7. Fresh samples that have not been stored for extended periods of time are recommended for the test. Otherwise, protein degradation and denaturalization may occur in those samples and give inaccurate or incorrect results.

ASSAY PROCEDURE

1. Determine wells for diluted standard, blank and sample. Prepare 7wells for standard, 1 well for blank. Add 50µL each of dilutions of standard (read Reagent Preparation), blank and samples into the appropriate wells, respectively. And then add 50µL of Detection Solution 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^{o}C.
2. Aspirate the solution and wash with 350µL of 1× Wash Solution to each well using a squirt bottle, multi-channel pipette, manifold dispenser or auto-washer, and let it sit for 1-2 minutes. Remove the remaining liquid from all wells completely by tapping the plate onto absorbent paper. Totally wash 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 100µL of Detection Solution B to each well. Incubate for 1 hour at 37^{o}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 90µL of Substrate Solution to each well. Cover with a new Plate sealer. Incubate for 15-25 minutes at 37^{o}C (Do not exceed 30 minutes). Protect from light. The liquid will turn blue with the addition of Substrate Solution.
6. Add 50µL of Stop Solution to each well. The liquid will turn yellow with 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 drops of water and fingerprints on the bottom of the plate and confirm there are no bubbles on the surface of the liquid. 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. Remaining wells should be resealed and stored at 4^{o}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. In addition, 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 drops of water and fingerprints 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 may have an effect on the results obtained from the kit. If the humidity in your facility is less than 60%, using a humidifier is recommended.

TEST PRINCIPLE

This assay employs the competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay technique. A monoclonal antibody specific to CRH has been pre-coated onto a microplate. A competitive inhibition reaction is launched between biotin labeled CRH and unlabeled CRH (Standards or samples) with the pre-coated antibody specific to CRH. After incubation， the unbound conjugate is washed off. Next, Avidin conjugated to Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP) is added to each microplate well and incubated. The amount of bound HRP conjugate is **reverse** proportional to the

concentration of CRH in the sample. After addition of the substrate solution, the intensity of color developed is **reverse** proportional to the concentration of CRH in the sample.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS

This assay employs the competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay technique, so there is an inverse correlation between CRH 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 CRH concentration on the y-axis and absorbance on the x-axis. Draw the best fit straight line through the standard points, or it can be determined by regression analysis. Using ploting 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.

DETECTION RANGE

15.6-1000pg/mL. The standard curve concentrations used for the ELISAs were 1000pg/mL, 500pg/mL, 250pg/mL, 125pg/mL, 62.5pg/mL, 31.2pg/mL, 15.6pg/mL.

SENSITIVITY

The minimum detectable dose of CRH is typically less than 4.24pg/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.

SPECIFICITY

This assay has high sensitivity and excellent specificity for detection of CRH.
No significant cross-reactivity or interference between CRH and analogues was observed.

Note:
Limited by current skills and knowledge, it is impossible to perform all possible cross-reactivity detection tests between CRH and all analogues, therefore, cross reactivity may still exist.

PRECISION

Intra-assay Precision (Precision within an assay): 3 samples with low, middle and high level CRH were tested 20 times on one plate, respectively.
Inter-assay Precision (Precision between assays): 3 samples with low, middle and high level CRH were tested on 3 different plates, 8 replicates in each plate.
CV (%) = SD/meanX100
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% within the expiration date under appropriate storage condition.

Note:
To minimize unnecessary influences on the performance, operation procedures and lab conditions, especially room temperature, air humidity, and incubator temperatures should be strictly regulated. It is also strongly

suggested that the whole assay is performed by the same experimenter from the beginning to the end.

ASSAY PROCEDURE SUMMARY

1. Prepare all reagents, samples and standards;
2. Add 50μL standard or sample to each well.
   And then add 50μL Detection Solution A immediately.
   Shake and mix. Incubate 1 hour at 37°C;
3. Aspirate and wash 3 times;
4. Add 100μL Detection Solution B. Incubate 1 hour at 37°C;
5. Aspirate and wash 5 times;
6. Add 90μL Substrate Solution. Incubate 15-25 minutes at 37°C;
7. Add 50μL Stop Solution. Read at 450nm immediately

IMPORTANT NOTE

1. Limited by the current conditions and scientific technology, it is impossible to conduct comprehensive identification and analysis tests on the raw materials provided by suppliers. As a result, it is possible there are some qualitative and/or technical risks.
2. The final experimental results will be closely related to the validity of the products, operation skills of the end users and the experimental environments. Please make sure that sufficient samples are available to obtain accurate results.
3. Kits from different batches may be a little different in detection range, sensitivity and color developing time. Please perform the experiment exactly according to the instruction manual included in your kit. Electronic ones on our website are for reference only.
4. Do not mix or substitute reagents from one kit lot to another. Use only the reagents supplied by manufacturer.
5. Protect all reagents from strong light during storage and incubation. All

bottle caps of reagents should be closed tightly to prevent evaporation of liquids and contamination by microorganisms.

6. There may be a foggy substance in the wells when the plate is opened at the first time. It will not have any effect on the final assay results. Do not remove microtiter plate from the storage bag until needed.
7. Incorrect procedures during reagent preparation and loading, as well as incorrect parameter setting for the plate reader may lead to incorrect results. A microplate plate reader with a bandwidth of 10nm or less and an optical density range of 0-3 O.D. or greater at 450 ± 10nm wavelength is acceptable for use in absorbance measurement. Please read the instruction carefully and adjust the instrument prior to the experiment.
8. Even the same experimenter may get different results from two separate experiments. In order to get better reproducible results, the operation of every step in the assay should be controlled. Furthermore, a preliminary experiment before the general assay for each batch is recommended.
9. Each kit has undergone several rigorous quality control tests. However, results from end users might be inconsistent with our in-house data due to some unexpected transportation conditions or different lab equipment. Intra-assay variance among kits from different batches could arise from the above factors as well.
10. Kits from different manufacturers with the same item might produce different results, since we have not compared our products with other manufacturers.
11. Validity period: 12 months.
12. The instruction manual also works with the 48T kit, but all reagents in the 48T kit are reduced by half.

PRECAUTION

The Stop Solution suggested for use with this kit is an acid solution. Wear

eye, hand, face, and clothing protection when using this reagent.