NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH

NovaLisa®

Legionella pneumophila IgM

ELISA

CE

Only for in-vitro diagnostic use

Product Number: LEGM0650 (96 Determinations)

ENGLISH

1. INTRODUCTION

Legionellae are aerobic gram-negative facultative intracellular parasites of certain protozoa. They are found in freshwater environments worldwide and can cause respiratory disease (legionellosis) in humans.

Legionella was first identified after an outbreak of pneumonia involving delegates of the 1976 American Legion Convention at a Philadelphia hotel.

The genus Legionella currently has at least 50 species comprising 70 distinct serogroups. One species of Legionella, L. pneumophila, is the aetiological agent of approximately 90 % of legionellosis cases, and serogroup 1 (Sg1) accounts for about 84 % of these cases.

L. pneumophila multiplies itself at temperatures between 25 and 42 °C, with an optimal growth temperature of 35 °C. Legionella thrives in warm, stagnant water in the environment and in artificial systems such as cooling towers, evaporative condensers, hot and cold water systems and spa pools that mimic the natural environment in which the organism thrives. These systems also provide the means by which aerosols/droplets are generated and the organism dispersed into the atmosphere.

Legionellosis can be acquired by the inhalation of aerosols containing Legionella bacteria or by micro-aspiration of ingested water contaminated with Legionella. Person-to-person transmission is not thought to be a risk.

The likelihood of contracting Legionnaires' disease depends on the level of contamination in the water source, the susceptibility of the person exposed, and the intensity of exposure. Legionnaires' disease is characterized as an "opportunistic" disease that attacks individuals who have an underlying illness or a weakened immune system. Predisposing risks include increasing age, being male, heavy smoking, alcohol abuse, chronic lung disease, immunosuppressive therapy, cancer chemotherapy, organ or bone marrow transplant, and corticosteroid therapy.

Legionellosis can appear in two distinct clinical presentations: Legionella pneumonia (Legionnaires' disease) with an incubation period of approx. 2-10 days (may extend up to 16-20 days) and Pontiac fever (incubation period: normally 12-48 hours).

Legionella pneumonia (Legionnaires' disease) is a serious form of pneumonia that carries with it a case-fatality ratio of 10-15 %. Legionnaires' disease patients initially present with cough, fever and nonspecific symptoms including malaise, myalgia and headache. Some patients develop shaking chills, chest pain, diarrhea, delirium or other neurologic symptoms. Extra pulmonary involvement is rare.

Pontiac fever is a milder form of the disease without manifestations of pneumonia and presents as an influenza-like illness. Symptoms may include headache, chills, muscle aches, a dry cough and fever. It is usually self-limiting and typically does not require treatment. The attack rate is much higher than for Legionnaires' disease (up to 95 % of those exposed).

Species	Disease	Symptoms (e.g.)	Transmission route
Legionella pneumophila	Legionella pneumonia (Legionnaires' disease)	Cough, fever and nonspecific symptoms (malaise, myalgia, headache). Some patients develop shaking chills, chest pain, diarrhea, delirium or other neurologic symptoms.	Inhalation of aerosols containing Legionella bacteria or micro-aspiration of ingested water contaminated with Legionella
	Pontiac fever	Influenza-like illness (headache, chills, muscle aches, a dry cough and fever) without manifestations of pneumonia	

Infection or presence of pathogen may be identified by:

- Culture
- Urinary antigen detection
- PCR
- Serology: Detection of antibodies by IF, ELISA

2. INTENDED USE

The Legionella pneumophila IgM ELISA is intended for the qualitative determination of IgM class antibodies against Legionella pneumophila in human serum or plasma (citrate, heparin).

3. PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

The qualitative immunoenzymatic determination of specific antibodies is based on the ELISA (Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay) technique.
Microtiterplates are coated with specific antigens to bind corresponding antibodies of the sample. After washing the wells to remove all unbound sample material a horseradish peroxidase (HRP) labelled conjugate is added. This conjugate binds to the captured antibodies. In a second washing step unbound conjugate is removed. The immune complex formed by the bound conjugate is visualized by adding Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) substrate which gives a blue reaction product.
The intensity of this product is proportional to the amount of specific antibodies in the sample. Sulphuric acid is added to stop the reaction. This produces a yellow endpoint colour. Absorbance at 450/620 nm is read using an ELISA Microtiterplate reader.

4. MATERIALS

4.1. Reagents supplied

- **Microtiterplate:** 12 break-apart 8-well snap-off strips coated with Legionella pneumophila antigens; in resealable aluminium foil.
- **IgM Sample Dilution Buffer:** 1 bottle containing 100 mL of phosphate buffer (10 mM) for sample dilution; pH 7.2 ± 0.2; anti-human IgG (RF Absorbent); coloured green; ready to use; white cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).
- **Stop Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL sulphuric acid, 0.2 mol/L; ready to use; red cap.
- **Washing Buffer (20x conc.):** 1 bottle containing 50 mL of a 20-fold concentrated phosphate buffer (0.2 M), pH 7.2 ± 0.2, for washing the wells; white cap.
- **Conjugate:** 1 bottle containing 20 mL of peroxidase labelled antibody to human IgM in phosphate buffer (10 mM); coloured red; ready to use; black cap.
- **TMB Substrate Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB), < 0.1 %; ready to use; yellow cap.
- **Positive Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; red cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Cut-off Control:** 1 vial containing 3 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; green cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Negative Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; blue cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).

For hazard and precautionary statements see 12.1
For potential hazardous substances please check the safety data sheet.

4.2. Materials supplied

- 1 Cover foil
- 1 Instruction for use (IFU)
- 1 Plate layout

4.3. Materials and Equipment needed

- ELISA Microtiterplate reader, equipped for the measurement of absorbance at 450/620 nm
- Incubator 37 °C
- Manual or automatic equipment for rinsing Microtiterplates
- Pipettes to deliver volumes between 10 and 1000 µL
- Vortex tube mixer
- Distilled water
- Disposable tubes

5. STABILITY AND STORAGE

Store the kit at 2...8 °C. The opened reagents are stable up to the expiry date stated on the label when stored at 2...8 °C.

6. REAGENT PREPARATION

It is very important to bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (20…25 °C) and mix them before starting the test run!

6.1. Microplate

The break-apart snap-off strips are coated with Legionella pneumophila antigens. Immediately after removal of the strips, the remaining strips should be resealed in the aluminium foil along with the desiccant supplied and stored at 2...8 °C.

6.2. Washing Buffer (20x conc.)

Dilute Washing Buffer 1 + 19; e. g. 10 mL Washing Buffer + 190 mL distilled water. The diluted buffer is stable for 5 days at room temperature (20…25 °C). In case crystals appear in the concentrate, warm up the solution to 37 °C e.g. in a water bath. Mix well before dilution.

6.3. TMB Substrate Solution

The reagent is ready to use and has to be stored at 2...8 °C, away from the light. The solution should be colourless or could have a slight blue tinge. If the substrate turns into blue, it may have become contaminated and should be thrown away.

7. SAMPLE COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

Use human serum or plasma (citrate, heparin) samples with this assay. If the assay is performed within 5 days after sample collection, the samples should be kept at 2...8 °C; otherwise they should be aliquoted and stored deep-frozen (-70…-20 °C). If samples are stored frozen, mix thawed samples well before testing. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing.
Heat inactivation of samples is not recommended.

7.1. Sample Dilution

Before assaying, all samples should be diluted 1+100 with IgM Sample Dilution Buffer. Dispense 10 µL sample and 1 mL IgM Sample Dilution Buffer into tubes to obtain a 1+100 dilution and thoroughly mix with a Vortex.

8. ASSAY PROCEDURE

Please read the instruction for use carefully **before** performing the assay. Result reliability depends on strict adherence to the instruction for use as described. The following test procedure is only validated for manual procedure. If performing the test on ELISA automatic systems we recommend increasing the washing steps from three up to five and the volume of Washing Buffer from 300 µL to 350 µL to avoid washing effects. Pay attention to chapter 12. Prior to commencing the assay, the distribution and identification plan for all samples and standards/controls (duplicates recommended) should be carefully established on the plate layout supplied in the kit. Select the required number of microtiter strips or wells and insert them into the holder.

Perform all assay steps in the order given and without any delays.

A clean, disposable tip should be used for dispensing each standard/control and sample.

Adjust the incubator to 37 ± 1 °C.

1. Dispense 100 µL standards/controls and diluted samples into their respective wells. Leave well A1 for the Substrate Blank.
2. Cover wells with the foil supplied in the kit.
3. **Incubate for 1 hour ± 5 min at 37 ± 1 °C.**
4. When incubation has been completed, remove the foil, aspirate the content of the wells and wash each well three times with 300 µL of Washing Buffer. Avoid overflows from the reaction wells. The interval between washing und aspiration should be > 5 sec. At the end carefully remove remaining fluid by tapping strips on tissue paper prior to the next step!

   Note: Washing is important! Insufficient washing results in poor precision and false results.
5. Dispense 100 µL Conjugate into all wells except for the Substrate Blank well A1.
6. **Incubate for 30 min at room temperature (20...25 °C).** Do not expose to direct sunlight.
7. Repeat step 4.
8. Dispense 100 µL TMB Substrate Solution into all wells.
9. **Incubate for exactly 15 min at room temperature (20...25 °C) in the dark.** A blue colour occurs due to an enzymatic reaction.
10. Dispense 100 µL Stop Solution into all wells in the same order and at the same rate as for the TMB Substrate Solution, thereby a colour change from blue to yellow occurs.
11. Measure the absorbance at 450/620 nm within 30 min after addition of the Stop Solution.

8.1. Measurement

Adjust the ELISA Microtiterplate reader **to zero** using the **Substrate Blank**.

If - due to technical reasons - the ELISA Microtiterplate reader cannot be adjusted to zero using the Substrate Blank, subtract its absorbance value from all other absorbance values measured in order to obtain reliable results!

Measure the absorbance of all wells at **450 nm** and record the absorbance values for each standard/control and sample in the plate layout.

Bichromatic measurement using a reference wavelength of 620 nm is recommended.

Where applicable calculate the mean absorbance values of all duplicates.

9. RESULTS

9.1. Run Validation Criteria

In order for an assay run to be considered valid, these Instructions for Use have to be strictly followed and the following criteria must be met:

- **Substrate Blank**: Absorbance value **< 0.100**
- **Negative Control**: Absorbance value **< 0.200 and < Cut-off**
- **Cut-off Control**: Absorbance value **0.150 – 1.300**
- **Positive Control**: Absorbance value **> Cut-off**

If these criteria are not met, the test is not valid and must be repeated.

9.2. Calculation of Results

The Cut-off is the mean absorbance value of the Cut-off Control determinations.

Example: Absorbance value Cut-off Control 0.44 + absorbance value Cut-off control 0.42 = 0.86 / 2 = 0.43
Cut-off = 0.43

9.2.1. Results in Units [NTU]

$$\frac{\text{Sample (mean) absorbance value} \times 10}{\text{Cut-off}} = \text{[NovaTec Units = NTU]}$$

Example: $\frac{1.591 \times 10}{0.43} = 37$ NTU (Units)

9.3. Interpretation of Results

Cut-off	10 NTU	-
Positive	> 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen are present. There has been a contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine).
Equivocal	9 – 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen could not be detected clearly. It is recommended to repeat the test with a fresh sample in 2 to 4 weeks. If the result is equivocal again the sample is judged as **negative**.
Negative	< 9 NTU	The sample contains no antibodies against the pathogen. A previous contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine) is unlikely.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. A precise diagnosis should take into consideration clinical history, symptomatology as well as serological data. In immunocompromised patients and newborns serological data only have restricted value.		

9.3.1. Antibody Isotypes and State of Infection

Serology	Significance
IgM	Characteristic of the primary antibody response High IgM titer with low IgG titer: → suggests a current or very recent infection Rare: → persisting IgM
IgG	Characteristic of the secondary antibody response May persist for several years High IgG titer with low IgM titer: → may indicate a past infection

10. SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

The results refer to the groups of samples investigated; these are not guaranteed specifications.

For further information about the specific performance characteristics please contact NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH.

10.1. Precision

Intraassay	n	Mean (E)	CV (%)
#1	24	0.461	4.23
#2	24	1.003	2.12
#3	24	0.862	2.65

Interassay	n	Mean (NTU)	CV (%)
#1	12	21.35	5.10
#2	12	15.46	7.62
#3	12	4.22	11.86

10.2. Diagnostic Specificity

The diagnostic specificity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring negative in the absence of the specific analyte.
It is 95.65% (95% confidence interval: 85.16% - 99.47%).

10.3. Diagnostic Sensitivity

The diagnostic sensitivity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring positive in the presence of the specific analyte.
It is 100% (95% confidence interval: 66.37% - 100%).

10.4. Interferences

Interferences with hemolytic, lipemic or icteric samples are not observed up to a concentration of 10 mg/mL hemoglobin, 5 mg/mL triglycerides and 0.5 mg/mL bilirubin.

10.5. Cross Reactivity

Investigation of a sample panel with antibody activities to potentially cross-reacting parameters did not reveal significant evidence of false-positive results due to cross-reactions.

11. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

Bacterial contamination or repeated freeze-thaw cycles of the sample may affect the absorbance values.

12. PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

- The test procedure, the information, the precautions and warnings in the instructions for use have to be strictly followed. The use of the testkits with analyzers and similar equipment has to be validated. Any change in design, composition and test procedure as well as for any use in combination with other products not approved by the manufacturer is not authorized; the user himself is responsible for such changes. The manufacturer is not liable for false results and incidents for these reasons. The manufacturer is not liable for any results by visual analysis of the patient samples.
- Only for in-vitro diagnostic use.
- All materials of human or animal origin should be regarded and handled as potentially infectious.
- All components of human origin used for the production of these reagents have been tested for anti-HIV antibodies, anti-HCV antibodies and HBsAg and have been found to be non-reactive.
- Do not interchange reagents or Microtiterplates of different production lots.
- No reagents of other manufacturers should be used along with reagents of this test kit.
- Do not use reagents after expiry date stated on the label.
- Use only clean pipette tips, dispensers, and lab ware.
- Do not interchange screw caps of reagent vials to avoid cross-contamination.
- Close reagent vials tightly immediately after use to avoid evaporation and microbial contamination.
- After first opening and subsequent storage check conjugate and standard/control vials for microbial contamination prior to further use.
- To avoid cross-contamination and falsely elevated results pipette patient samples and dispense reagents without splashing accurately into the wells.
- The ELISA is only designed for qualified personnel following the standards of good laboratory practice (GLP).
- For further internal quality control each laboratory should additionally use known samples.

12.1. Safety note for reagents containing hazardous substances

Reagents may contain CMIT/MIT (3:1) or MIT (refer to 4.1)
Therefore, the following hazard and precautionary statements apply.

Warning	H317	May cause an allergic skin reaction.
	P261	Avoid breathing spray.
	P280	Wear protective gloves/ protective clothing.
	P302+P352	IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
	P333+P313	If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/ attention.
	P362+P364	Take off contaminated and Wash it before reuse.

Further information can be found in the safety data sheet.

12.2. Disposal Considerations

Residues of chemicals and preparations are generally considered as hazardous waste. The disposal of this kind of waste is regulated through national and regional laws and regulations. Contact your local authorities or waste management companies which will give advice on how to dispose hazardous waste.

13. ORDERING INFORMATION

Prod. No.: LEGM0650 Legionella pneumophila IgM ELISA (96 Determinations)

NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH

NovaLisa®

Legionella pneumophila IgG

ELISA

CE

Only for in-vitro diagnostic use

Product Number: LEGG0650 (96 Determinations)

ENGLISH

1. INTRODUCTION

Legionellae are aerobic gram-negative facultative intracellular parasites of certain protozoa. They are found in freshwater environments worldwide and can cause respiratory disease (legionellosis) in humans.
Legionella was first identified after an outbreak of pneumonia involving delegates of the 1976 American Legion Convention at a Philadelphia hotel.
The genus Legionella currently has at least 50 species comprising 70 distinct serogroups. One species of Legionella, L. pneumophila, is the aetiological agent of approximately 90 % of legionellosis cases, and serogroup 1 (Sg1) accounts for about 84 % of these cases.
L. pneumophila multiplies itself at temperatures between 25 and 42 °C, with an optimal growth temperature of 35 °C. Legionella thrives in warm, stagnant water in the environment and in artificial systems such as cooling towers, evaporative condensers, hot and cold water systems and spa pools that mimic the natural environment in which the organism thrives. These systems also provide the means by which aerosols/droplets are generated and the organism dispersed into the atmosphere.
Legionellosis can be acquired by the inhalation of aerosols containing Legionella bacteria or by micro-aspiration of ingested water contaminated with Legionella. Person-to-person transmission is not thought to be a risk.
The likelihood of contracting Legionnaires' disease depends on the level of contamination in the water source, the susceptibility of the person exposed, and the intensity of exposure. Legionnaires' disease is characterized as an "opportunistic" disease that attacks individuals who have an underlying illness or a weakened immune system. Predisposing risks include increasing age, being male, heavy smoking, alcohol abuse, chronic lung disease, immunosuppressive therapy, cancer chemotherapy, organ or bone marrow transplant, and corticosteroid therapy.
Legionellosis can appear in two distinct clinical presentations: Legionella pneumonia (Legionnaires' disease) with an incubation period of approx. 2-10 days (may extend up to 16-20 days) and Pontiac fever (incubation period: normally 12-48 hours).
Legionella pneumonia (Legionnaires' disease) is a serious form of pneumonia that carries with it a case-fatality ratio of 10-15 %. Legionnaires' disease patients initially present with cough, fever and nonspecific symptoms including malaise, myalgia and headache. Some patients develop shaking chills, chest pain, diarrhea, delirium or other neurologic symptoms. Extra pulmonary involvement is rare.
Pontiac fever is a milder form of the disease without manifestations of pneumonia and presents as an influenza-like illness. Symptoms may include headache, chills, muscle aches, a dry cough and fever. It is usually self-limiting and typically does not require treatment. The attack rate is much higher than for Legionnaires' disease (up to 95 % of those exposed).

Species	Disease	Symptoms (e.g.)	Transmission route
Legionella pneumophila	Legionella pneumonia (Legionnaires' disease) Pontiac fever	Cough, fever and nonspecific symptoms (malaise, myalgia, headache). Some patients develop shaking chills, chest pain, diarrhea, delirium or other neurologic symptoms Influenza-like illness (headache, chills, muscle aches, a dry cough and fever) without manifestations of pneumonia	Inhalation of aerosols containing Legionella bacteria or micro-aspiration of ingested water contaminated with Legionella

Infection or presence of pathogen may be identified by:

- Culture
- Urinary antigen detection
- PCR
- Serology: Detection of antibodies by ELISA

2. INTENDED USE

The Legionella pneumophila IgG ELISA is intended for the qualitative determination of IgG class antibodies against Legionella pneumophila in human serum or plasma (citrate, heparin).

3. PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

The qualitative immunoenzymatic determination of specific antibodies is based on the ELISA (Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay) technique.
Microtiterplates are coated with specific antigens to bind corresponding antibodies of the sample. After washing the wells to remove all unbound sample material a horseradish peroxidase (HRP) labelled conjugate is added. This conjugate binds to the captured antibodies. In a second washing step unbound conjugate is removed. The immune complex formed by the bound conjugate is visualized by adding Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) substrate which gives a blue reaction product.
The intensity of this product is proportional to the amount of specific antibodies in the sample. Sulphuric acid is added to stop the reaction. This produces a yellow endpoint colour. Absorbance at 450/620 nm is read using an ELISA Microtiterplate reader.

4. MATERIALS

4.1. Reagents supplied

- **Microtiterplate:** 12 break-apart 8-well snap-off strips coated with Legionella pneumophila antigens; in resealable aluminium foil.
- **IgG Sample Dilution Buffer:** 1 bottle containing 100 mL of phosphate buffer (10 mM) for sample dilution; pH 7.2 ± 0.2; coloured yellow; ready to use; white cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).
- **Stop Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL sulphuric acid, 0.2 mol/L; ready to use; red cap.
- **Washing Buffer (20x conc.):** 1 bottle containing 50 mL of a 20-fold concentrated phosphate buffer (0.2 M), pH 7.2 ± 0.2, for washing the wells; white cap.
- **Conjugate:** 1 bottle containing 20 mL of peroxidase labelled antibody to human IgG in phosphate buffer (10 mM); coloured blue; ready to use; black cap.
- **TMB Substrate Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB), < 0.1 %; ready to use; yellow cap.
- **Positive Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; red cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Cut-off Control:** 1 vial containing 3 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; green cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Negative Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; blue cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).

For hazard and precautionary statements see 12.1
For potential hazardous substances please check the safety data sheet.

4.2. Materials supplied

- 1 Cover foil
- 1 Instruction for use (IFU)
- 1 Plate layout

4.3. Materials and Equipment needed

- ELISA Microtiterplate reader, equipped for the measurement of absorbance at 450/620 nm
- Incubator 37°C
- Manual or automatic equipment for rinsing Microtiterplates
- Pipettes to deliver volumes between 10 and 1000 µL
- Vortex tube mixer
- Distilled water
- Disposable tubes

5. STABILITY AND STORAGE

Store the kit at 2...8 °C. The opened reagents are stable up to the expiry date stated on the label when stored at 2...8 °C.

6. REAGENT PREPARATION

It is very important to bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (20…25 °C) and mix them before starting the test run!

6.1. Microtiterplate

The break-apart snap-off strips are coated with Legionella pneumophila antigens. Immediately after removal of the strips, the remaining strips should be resealed in the aluminium foil along with the desiccant supplied and stored at 2...8 °C.

6.2. Washing Buffer (20x conc.)

Dilute Washing Buffer 1 + 19; e. g. 10 mL Washing Buffer + 190 mL distilled water. The diluted buffer is stable for 5 days at room temperature (20…25 °C). In case crystals appear in the concentrate, warm up the solution to 37°C e.g. in a water bath. Mix well before dilution.

6.3. TMB Substrate Solution

The reagent is ready to use and has to be stored at 2...8 °C, away from the light. The solution should be colourless or could have a slight blue tinge. If the substrate turns into blue, it may have become contaminated and should be thrown away.

7. SAMPLE COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

Use human serum or plasma (citrate, heparin) samples with this assay. If the assay is performed within 5 days after sample collection, the samples should be kept at 2...8 °C; otherwise they should be aliquoted and stored deep-frozen (-70…-20 °C). If samples are stored frozen, mix thawed samples well before testing. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing.
Heat inactivation of samples is not recommended.

7.1. Sample Dilution

Before assaying, all samples should be diluted 1+100 with IgG Sample Dilution Buffer. Dispense 10 µL sample and 1 mL IgG Sample Dilution Buffer into tubes to obtain a 1+100 dilution and thoroughly mix with a Vortex.

8. ASSAY PROCEDURE

Please read the instruction for use carefully **before** performing the assay. Result reliability depends on strict adherence to the instruction for use as described. The following test procedure is only validated for manual procedure. If performing the test on ELISA automatic systems we recommend increasing the washing steps from three up to five and the volume of Washing Buffer from 300 µL to 350 µL to avoid washing effects. Pay attention to chapter 12. Prior to commencing the assay, the distribution and identification plan for all samples and standards/controls (duplicates recommended) should be carefully established on the plate layout supplied in the kit. Select the required number of microtiter strips or wells and insert them into the holder.

Perform all assay steps in the order given and without any delays.

A clean, disposable tip should be used for dispensing each standard/control and sample.

Adjust the incubator to 37 ± 1 °C.

1. Dispense 100 µL standards/controls and diluted samples into their respective wells. Leave well A1 for the Substrate Blank.
2. Cover wells with the foil supplied in the kit.
3. **Incubate for 1 hour ± 5 min at 37 ± 1 °C.**
4. When incubation has been completed, remove the foil, aspirate the content of the wells and wash each well three times with 300 µL of Washing Buffer. Avoid overflows from the reaction wells. The interval between washing und aspiration should be > 5 sec. At the end carefully remove remaining fluid by tapping strips on tissue paper prior to the next step!

   Note: Washing is important! Insufficient washing results in poor precision and false results.
5. Dispense 100 µL Conjugate into all wells except for the Substrate Blank well A1.
6. **Incubate for 30 min at room temperature (20...25 °C).** Do not expose to direct sunlight.
7. Repeat step 4.
8. Dispense 100 µL TMB Substrate Solution into all wells.
9. **Incubate for exactly 15 min at room temperature (20...25 °C) in the dark.** A blue colour occurs due to an enzymatic reaction.
10. Dispense 100 µL Stop Solution into all wells in the same order and at the same rate as for the TMB Substrate Solution, thereby a colour change from blue to yellow occurs.
11. Measure the absorbance at 450/620 nm within 30 min after addition of the Stop Solution.

8.1. Measurement

Adjust the ELISA Microtiterplate reader **to zero** using the **Substrate Blank**.

If - due to technical reasons - the ELISA Microtiterplate reader cannot be adjusted to zero using the Substrate Blank, subtract its absorbance value from all other absorbance values measured in order to obtain reliable results!

Measure the absorbance of all wells at **450 nm** and record the absorbance values for each standard/control and sample in the plate layout.

Bichromatic measurement using a reference wavelength of 620 nm is recommended.

Where applicable calculate the mean absorbance values of all duplicates.

9. RESULTS

9.1. Run Validation Criteria

In order for an assay run to be considered valid, these Instructions for Use have to be strictly followed and the following criteria must be met:

- **Substrate Blank**: Absorbance value **< 0.100**
- **Negative Control**: Absorbance value **< 0.200 and < Cut-off**
- **Cut-off Control**: Absorbance value **0.150 – 1.300**
- **Positive Control**: Absorbance value **> Cut-off**

If these criteria are not met, the test is not valid and must be repeated.

9.2. Calculation of Results

The Cut-off is the mean absorbance value of the Cut-off Control determinations.

Example: Absorbance value Cut-off Control 0.44 + absorbance value Cut-off control 0.42 = 0.86 / 2 = 0.43
Cut-off = 0.43

9.2.1. Results in Units [NTU]

$$\frac{\text{Sample (mean) absorbance value} \times 10}{\text{Cut-off}} = \text{[NovaTec Units = NTU]}$$

Example: $\frac{1.591 \times 10}{0.43} = 37$ NTU (Units)

9.3. Interpretation of Results

Cut-off	10 NTU	-
Positive	> 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen are present. There has been a contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine).
Equivocal	9 – 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen could not be detected clearly. It is recommended to repeat the test with a fresh sample in 2 to 4 weeks. If the result is equivocal again the sample is judged as **negative**.
Negative	< 9 NTU	The sample contains no antibodies against the pathogen. A previous contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine) is unlikely.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. A precise diagnosis should take into consideration clinical history, symptomatology as well as serological data. In immunocompromised patients and newborns serological data only have restricted value.		

9.3.1. Antibody Isotypes and State of Infection

Serology	Significance
IgM	Characteristic of the primary antibody response High IgM titer with low IgG titer: → suggests a current or very recent infection Rare: → persisting IgM
IgG	Characteristic of the secondary antibody response May persist for several years High IgG titer with low IgM titer: → may indicate a past infection

10. SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

The results refer to the groups of samples investigated; these are not guaranteed specifications.

For further information about the specific performance characteristics please contact NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH.

10.1. Precision

Intraassay	**n**	**Mean (E)**	**CV (%)**
#1	24	0.275	9.88
#2	24	0.474	7.96
#3	24	1.722	5.05
Interassay	**n**	**Mean (NTU)**	**CV (%)**
#1	12	22.35	9.56
#2	12	62.64	7.20
#3	12	1.88	14.30

10.2. Diagnostic Specificity

The diagnostic specificity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring negative in the absence of the specific analyte.
It is 100% (95% confidence interval: 88.78% - 100%).

10.3. Diagnostic Sensitivity

The diagnostic sensitivity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring positive in the presence of the specific analyte.
It is 90.0% (95% confidence interval: 68.3% - 98.77%).

10.4. Interferences

Interferences with hemolytic, lipemic or icteric samples are not observed up to a concentration of 10 mg/mL hemoglobin, 5 mg/mL triglycerides and 0.5 mg/mL bilirubin.

10.5. Cross Reactivity

Investigation of a sample panel with antibody activities to potentially cross-reacting parameters did not reveal evidence of false-positive results due to cross-reactions.

11. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

Bacterial contamination or repeated freeze-thaw cycles of the sample may affect the absorbance values.

12. PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

- The test procedure, the information, the precautions and warnings in the instructions for use have to be strictly followed. The use of the testkits with analyzers and similar equipment has to be validated. Any change in design, composition and test procedure as well as for any use in combination with other products not approved by the manufacturer is not authorized; the user himself is responsible for such changes. The manufacturer is not liable for false results and incidents for these reasons. The manufacturer is not liable for any results by visual analysis of the patient samples.
- Only for in-vitro diagnostic use.
- All materials of human or animal origin should be regarded and handled as potentially infectious.
- All components of human origin used for the production of these reagents have been tested for anti-HIV antibodies, anti-HCV antibodies and HBsAg and have been found to be non-reactive.
- Do not interchange reagents or Microtiterplates of different production lots.
- No reagents of other manufacturers should be used along with reagents of this test kit.
- Do not use reagents after expiry date stated on the label.
- Use only clean pipette tips, dispensers, and lab ware.
- Do not interchange screw caps of reagent vials to avoid cross-contamination.
- Close reagent vials tightly immediately after use to avoid evaporation and microbial contamination.
- After first opening and subsequent storage check conjugate and standard/control vials for microbial contamination prior to further use.
- To avoid cross-contamination and falsely elevated results pipette patient samples and dispense reagents without splashing accurately into the wells.
- The ELISA is only designed for qualified personnel following the standards of good laboratory practice (GLP).
- For further internal quality control each laboratory should additionally use known samples.

12.1. Safety note for reagents containing hazardous substances

Reagents may contain CMIT/MIT (3:1) or MIT (refer to 4.1)
Therefore, the following hazard and precautionary statements apply.

Warning

H317	May cause an allergic skin reaction.
P261	Avoid breathing spray
P280	Wear protective gloves/ protective clothing.
P302+P352	IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P333+P313	If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/ attention.
P362+P364	Take off contaminated and Wash it before reuse.

Further information can be found in the safety data sheet.

12.2. Disposal Considerations

Residues of chemicals and preparations are generally considered as hazardous waste. The disposal of this kind of waste is regulated through national and regional laws and regulations. Contact your local authorities or waste management companies which will give advice on how to dispose hazardous waste.

13. ORDERING INFORMATION

Prod. No.: LEGG0650 Legionella pneumophila IgG ELISA (96 Determinations)

DEUTSCH

1. EINLEITUNG

Legionellen sind aerobe, gram-negative, fakultativ intrazelluläre Parasiten bestimmter Protozoen. Sie sind weltweit in Süßwasser anzutreffen und können beim Menschen respiratorische Erkrankungen (Legionellose) hervorrufen.
Legionella (L.) pneumophila wurde zum ersten Mal nach einem Ausbruch von Lungenentzündung bei einem Treffen der US-Kriegsveteranenvereinigung „American Legion State Convention“, das 1976 in einem Hotel in Philadelphia stattfand, identifiziert.
Das Genus Legionella umfasst aktuell mindestens 50 Spezies, die aus 70 verschiedenen Serogruppen bestehen. L. pneumophila ist der Erreger von etwa 90 % der Legionellose-Fälle, wobei Serogruppe 1 für etwa 84 % der Fälle verantwortlich ist.
L. pneumophila vermehrt sich bei Temperaturen zwischen 25 und 42 °C; die optimale Wachstumstemperatur beträgt 35 °C. Legionella gedeiht in warmem, stehendem Wasser, sowohl in der Umwelt, als auch in künstlichen Systemen wie Kühltürmen, Verdunstungskondensatoren, Kalt-und Warmwassersystemen und Spa-Pools, die die natürliche Umgebung des Organismus nachahmen. Durch diese Systeme kann es auch zur Bildung von Aerosolen/Tröpfchen kommen, über die der Organismus fein verteilt in die Luft abgegeben wird.
Eine Legionellose kann durch die Inhalation von Aerosolen oder durch Mikroaspiration von kontaminiertem Wasser erworben werden. Eine Übertragung von Mensch zu Mensch gilt als unwahrscheinlich.
Die Wahrscheinlichkeit an der Legionärskrankheit zu erkranken, ist abhängig vom Grad der Kontamination der Wasserquelle, der Empfänglichkeit der exponierten Person und der Expositionsintensität. Die Legionella Pneumonie ist eine "opportunistische" Krankheit, die Individuen mit einer bereits bestehenden Grunderkrankung oder mit einem geschwächten Immunsystem befällt. Prädisponierende Faktoren sind z. B. ein hohes Alter, exzessiver Nikotin- und Alkoholmissbrauch, chronische Lungenerkrankungen, immunsuppressive Therapie, zytostatische Behandlungen, Organ- oder Knochenmarkstransplantationen und Corticosteroid-Therapie. Männer erkranken häufiger als Frauen.
Die Legionellose kann zwei unterschiedliche klinische Erscheinungsformen annehmen: die Legionella Pneumonie (Legionärskrankheit) mit einer Inkubationszeit von etwa 2-10 Tagen (bis zu 16-20 Tage) und das Pontiac-Fieber (Inkubationszeit gewöhnlich 12-48 Stunden).
Die Legionärskrankheit ist eine schwere Form der Lungenentzündung mit einer Todesfallrate von 10-15 %. Die Erkrankung beginnt mit Husten, Fieber und unspezifischen Symptomen wie Unwohlsein sowie Muskel- und Kopfschmerzen. Bei einigen Patienten treten Schüttelfrost, Schmerzen in der Brust, Durchfall, Delirium oder andere neurologische Symptome auf. Extrapulmonale Entzündungen sind selten.
Das Pontiac-Fieber ist eine leichtere Form der Erkrankung ohne Pneumonie mit leichten grippalen Symptomen wie Kopf- und Muskelschmerzen, Frösteln, trockenem Husten und Fieber. Die Krankheit ist gewöhnlich selbst-limitierend und erfordert keine Behandlung. Die Erkrankungsrate ist sehr viel höher als bei der Legionärskrankheit (bis zu 95 % der exponierten Personen).

Spezies	**Erkrankung**	**Symptome (z.B.)**	**Infektionsweg**
Legionella pneumophila	Legionella Pneumonie (Legionärskrankheit) Pontiac-Fieber	Husten, Fieber und unspezifische Symptome (Unwohlsein, Muskel- und Kopfschmerzen); teilweise Schüttelfrost, Brustschmerzen, Durchfall, neurologische Symptome; Influenza-ähnlich ohne Pneumonie: Kopf- und Muskelschmerzen, Frösteln, trockener Husten und Fieber	mit Legionellen belastetes Wasser (Inhalation von Aerosolen oder Mikroaspiration)

Nachweis des Erregers bzw. der Infektion durch:

- Kultur
- Antigennachweis im Urin
- PCR
- Serologie: Nachweis spezifischer Antikörper mittels IF, ELISA

2. VERWENDUNGSZWECK

Der Legionella pneumophila IgG ELISA ist für den qualitativen Nachweis spezifischer IgG-Antikörper gegen Legionella pneumophila in humanem Serum oder Plasma (Citrat, Heparin) bestimmt.

3. TESTPRINZIP

Die qualitative immunenzymatische Bestimmung von spezifischen Antikörpern beruht auf der ELISA (Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay) Technik.
Die Mikrotiterplatten sind mit spezifischen Antigenen beschichtet, an welche die korrespondierenden Antikörper aus der Probe binden. Ungebundenes Probenmaterial wird durch Waschen entfernt. Anschließend erfolgt die Zugabe eines Meerettich-Peroxidase (HRP) Konjugates. Dieses Konjugat bindet an die an der Mikrotiterplatte gebundenen spezifischen Antikörper. In einem zweiten Waschschritt wird ungebundenes Konjugat entfernt. Die Immunkomplexe, die durch die Bindung des Konjugates entstanden sind, werden durch die Zugabe von Tetramethylbenzidin (TMB)-Substratlösung und eine resultierende Blaufärbung nachgewiesen.
Die Intensität des Reaktionsproduktes ist proportional zur Menge der spezifischen Antikörper in der Probe. Die Reaktion wird mit Schwefelsäure gestoppt, wodurch ein Farbumschlag von blau nach gelb erfolgt. Die Absorption wird bei 450/620 nm mit einem Mikrotiterplatten-Photometer gemessen.

NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH

NovaLisa®

Leptospira IgM

ELISA

CE

Only for in-vitro diagnostic use

Product Number: LEPM0660 (96 Determinations)

ENGLISH

1. INTRODUCTION

Leptospirosis (also known as Weil's syndrome) is probably the most widespread zoonosis in the world. It is caused by infection with spirochete bacteria of the genus Leptospira and affects humans as well as a broad spectrum of animal hosts. The incidence is significantly higher in warm climate countries than in temperate regions. The disease is seasonal, with peak incidence occurring in summer or fall in temperate regions, where temperature is the limiting factor in survival of leptospires, and during rainy seasons in warm climate regions, where rapid desiccation would otherwise prevent survival.

Natural reservoirs for the pathogenic Leptospira interrogans include rodents as well as a large variety of domesticated mammals (e. g. pigs, cattle and dogs). Leptospires occupy the lumen of nephritic tubules in their natural host and are shed into the urine.

Transmission can occur when humans are directly or indirectly exposed to the urine of infected animals or a urine-polluted environment. Leptospires gain entry into the human blood stream via cuts, skin abrasions or mucous membranes through contact with moist soil, vegetation, and contaminated waters; handling infected animal tissues; and ingestion of food and water. Leptospires are rarely transmitted from human to human.

The incubation period is usually 5-14 days, with a range of 2-30 days.

The spectrum of clinical symptoms is extremely wide. The vast majority of leptospiral infections are either subclinical or result in very mild illness and recover without any complications Clinical manifestations of leptospirosis range from mild influenza-like symptoms to severe life-threatening disease forms, characterized by jaundice, renal failure, bleeding and severe pulmonary hemorrhage.

The clinical presentation of leptospirosis is biphasic, with the acute or septicemic phase lasting about a week, followed by the immune phase, characterized by antibody production and excretion of leptospires in the urine. Most of the complications of leptospirosis are associated with localization of leptospires within the tissues during the immune phase and thus occur during the second week of the illness. The classical syndrome of Weil's disease represents only the most severe presentation. It is characterized by jaundice, renal failure, hemorrhage and myocarditis with arrhythmias.

Species	Disease	Symptoms (e.g.)	Transmission route
Leptospira spp.	Leptospirosis	Fever accompanied by chills, intense headache, severe myalgia (muscle ache), abdominal pain, conjunctival suffusion (red eye), and occasionally a skin rash	Direct or indirect contact with the urine of an infected animal (via cuts, skin abrasions or mucous membranes)
	Weil's disease	jaundice, renal failure, meningitis, haemorrhage and myocarditis with arrhythmias	

Infection or presence of pathogen may be identified by:

- Microscopy
- PCR
- Serology: e.g. ELISA

2. INTENDED USE

The Leptospira IgM ELISA is intended for the qualitative determination of IgM class antibodies against Leptospira spp. in human serum or plasma (heparin).

3. PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

The qualitative immunoenzymatic determination of specific antibodies is based on the ELISA (Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay) technique.
Microtiterplates are coated with specific antigens to bind corresponding antibodies of the sample. After washing the wells to remove all unbound sample material a horseradish peroxidase (HRP) labelled conjugate is added. This conjugate binds to the captured antibodies. In a second washing step unbound conjugate is removed. The immune complex formed by the bound conjugate is visualized by adding Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) substrate which gives a blue reaction product.
The intensity of this product is proportional to the amount of specific antibodies in the sample. Sulphuric acid is added to stop the reaction. This produces a yellow endpoint colour. Absorbance at 450/620 nm is read using an ELISA Microtiterplate reader.

4. MATERIALS

4.1. Reagents supplied

- **Microtiterplate:** 12 break-apart 8-well snap-off strips coated with Leptospira antigens; in resealable aluminium foil.
- **IgM Sample Dilution Buffer:** 1 bottle containing 100 mL of phosphate buffer (10 mM) for sample dilution; pH 7.2 ± 0.2; anti-human IgG (RF Absorbent); coloured green; ready to use; white cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).
- **Stop Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL sulphuric acid, 0.2 mol/L; ready to use; red cap.
- **Washing Buffer (20x conc.):** 1 bottle containing 50 mL of a 20-fold concentrated phosphate buffer (0.2 M), pH 7.2 ± 0.2, for washing the wells; white cap.
- **Conjugate:** 1 bottle containing 20 mL of peroxidase labelled antibody to human IgM in phosphate buffer (10 mM); coloured red; ready to use; black cap.
- **TMB Substrate Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB), < 0.1 %; ready to use; yellow cap.
- **Positive Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; red cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Cut-off Control:** 1 vial containing 3 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; green cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Negative Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; blue cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).

For hazard and precautionary statements see 12.1
For potential hazardous substances please check the safety data sheet.

4.2. Materials supplied

- 1 Cover foil
- 1 Instruction for use (IFU)
- 1 Plate layout

4.3. Materials and Equipment needed

- ELISA Microtiterplate reader, equipped for the measurement of absorbance at 450/620 nm
- Incubator 37 °C
- Manual or automatic equipment for rinsing Microtiterplates
- Pipettes to deliver volumes between 10 and 1000 µL
- Vortex tube mixer
- Distilled water
- Disposable tubes

5. STABILITY AND STORAGE

Store the kit at 2...8 °C. The opened reagents are stable up to the expiry date stated on the label when stored at 2...8 °C.

6. REAGENT PREPARATION

It is very important to bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (20…25 °C) and mix them before starting the test run!

6.1. Microtiterplate

The break-apart snap-off strips are coated with Leptospira antigens. Immediately after removal of the strips, the remaining strips should be resealed in the aluminium foil along with the desiccant supplied and stored at 2...8 °C.

6.2. Washing Buffer (20x conc.)

Dilute Washing Buffer 1 + 19; e. g. 10 mL Washing Buffer + 190 mL distilled water. The diluted buffer is stable for 5 days at room temperature (20…25 °C). In case crystals appear in the concentrate, warm up the solution to 37 °C e.g. in a water bath. Mix well before dilution.

6.3. TMB Substrate Solution

The reagent is ready to use and has to be stored at 2...8 °C, away from the light. The solution should be colourless or could have a slight blue tinge. If the substrate turns into blue, it may have become contaminated and should be thrown away.

7. SAMPLE COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

Use human serum or plasma (heparin) samples with this assay. If the assay is performed within 5 days after sample collection, the samples should be kept at 2...8 °C; otherwise they should be aliquoted and stored deep-frozen (-70…-20 °C). If samples are stored frozen, mix thawed samples well before testing. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing.
Heat inactivation of samples is not recommended.

7.1. Sample Dilution

Before assaying, all samples should be diluted 1+100 with IgM Sample Dilution Buffer. Dispense 10 µL sample and 1 mL IgM Sample Dilution Buffer into tubes to obtain a 1+100 dilution and thoroughly mix with a Vortex.

8. ASSAY PROCEDURE

Please read the instruction for use carefully **before** performing the assay. Result reliability depends on strict adherence to the instruction for use as described. The following test procedure is only validated for manual procedure. If performing the test on ELISA automatic systems we recommend increasing the washing steps from three up to five and the volume of Washing Buffer from 300 µL to 350 µL to avoid washing effects. Pay attention to chapter 12. Prior to commencing the assay, the distribution and identification plan for all samples and standards/controls (duplicates recommended) should be carefully established on the plate layout supplied in the kit. Select the required number of microtiter strips or wells and insert them into the holder.

Perform all assay steps in the order given and without any delays.

A clean, disposable tip should be used for dispensing each standard/control and sample.

Adjust the incubator to 37 ± 1 °C.

1. Dispense 100 µL standards/controls and diluted samples into their respective wells. Leave well A1 for the Substrate Blank.
2. Cover wells with the foil supplied in the kit.
3. **Incubate for 1 hour ± 5 min at 37 ± 1 °C.**
4. When incubation has been completed, remove the foil, aspirate the content of the wells and wash each well three times with 300 µL of Washing Buffer. Avoid overflows from the reaction wells. The interval between washing and aspiration should be > 5 sec. At the end carefully remove remaining fluid by tapping strips on tissue paper prior to the next step!

   Note: Washing is important! Insufficient washing results in poor precision and false results.
5. Dispense 100 µL Conjugate into all wells except for the Substrate Blank well A1.
6. **Incubate for 30 min at room temperature (20...25 °C).** Do not expose to direct sunlight.
7. Repeat step 4.
8. Dispense 100 µL TMB Substrate Solution into all wells.
9. **Incubate for exactly 15 min at room temperature (20...25 °C) in the dark.** A blue colour occurs due to an enzymatic reaction.
10. Dispense 100 µL Stop Solution into all wells in the same order and at the same rate as for the TMB Substrate Solution, thereby a colour change from blue to yellow occurs.
11. Measure the absorbance at 450/620 nm within 30 min after addition of the Stop Solution.

8.1. Measurement

Adjust the ELISA Microtiterplate reader **to zero** using the **Substrate Blank**.

If - due to technical reasons - the ELISA Microtiterplate reader cannot be adjusted to zero using the Substrate Blank, subtract its absorbance value from all other absorbance values measured in order to obtain reliable results!

Measure the absorbance of all wells at **450 nm** and record the absorbance values for each standard/control and sample in the plate layout.

Bichromatic measurement using a reference wavelength of 620 nm is recommended.

Where applicable calculate the mean absorbance values of all duplicates.

9. RESULTS

9.1. Run Validation Criteria

In order for an assay run to be considered valid, these Instructions for Use have to be strictly followed and the following criteria must be met:

- **Substrate Blank**: Absorbance value **< 0.100**
- **Negative Control**: Absorbance value **< 0.200 and < Cut-off**
- **Cut-off Control**: Absorbance value **0.150 – 1.300**
- **Positive Control**: Absorbance value **> Cut-off**

If these criteria are not met, the test is not valid and must be repeated.

9.2. Calculation of Results

The Cut-off is the mean absorbance value of the Cut-off Control determinations.

Example: Absorbance value Cut-off Control 0.44 + absorbance value Cut-off control 0.42 = 0.86 / 2 = 0.43
Cut-off = 0.43

9.2.1. Results in Units [NTU]

$$\frac{\text{Sample (mean) absorbance value} \times 10}{\text{Cut-off}} = \text{[NovaTec Units = NTU]}$$

Example: $\frac{1.591 \times 10}{0.43} = 37$ NTU (Units)

9.3. Interpretation of Results

Cut-off	10 NTU	-
Positive	> 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen are present. There has been a contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine).
Equivocal	9 – 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen could not be detected clearly. It is recommended to repeat the test with a fresh sample in 2 to 4 weeks. If the result is equivocal again the sample is judged as **negative**.
Negative	< 9 NTU	The sample contains no antibodies against the pathogen. A previous contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine) is unlikely.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. A precise diagnosis should take into consideration clinical history, symptomatology as well as serological data. In immunocompromised patients and newborns serological data only have restricted value.		

9.3.1. Antibody Isotypes and State of Infection

Serology	Significance
IgM	Characteristic of the primary antibody response High IgM titer with low IgG titer: → suggests a current or very recent infection Rare: → persisting IgM
IgG	Characteristic of the secondary antibody response May persist for several years High IgG titer with low IgM titer: → may indicate a past infection

10. SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

The results refer to the groups of samples investigated; these are not guaranteed specifications.

For further information about the specific performance characteristics please contact NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH.

10.1. Precision

Intraassay	**n**	**Mean (E)**	**CV (%)**
#1	24	0.531	5.34
#2	24	1.070	3.32
#3	24	1.900	2.80

Interassay	**n**	**Mean (NTU)**	**CV (%)**
#1	12	20.74	4.35
#2	12	37.86	4.97
#3	12	6.79	8.10

10.2. Diagnostic Specificity

The diagnostic specificity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring negative in the absence of the specific analyte.
It is 96.0% (95% confidence interval: 79.65% - 99.9%).

10.3. Diagnostic Sensitivity

The diagnostic sensitivity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring positive in the presence of the specific analyte.
It is 100% (95% confidence interval: 93.51% - 100%).

10.4. Interferences

Interferences with hemolytic, lipemic or icteric samples are not observed up to a concentration of 10 mg/mL hemoglobin, 5 mg/mL triglycerides and 0.5 mg/mL bilirubin.

10.5. Cross Reactivity

It cannot be excluded that Cytomegalovirus, Treponema pallidum and Coxiella specimens may result in false-positive IgM antibody results. In addition, it should be noted that IgM class antibodies directed against Leptospira generally remain detectable for months or even years but at low titer.

11. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

Bacterial contamination or repeated freeze-thaw cycles of the sample may affect the absorbance values.

12. PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

- The test procedure, the information, the precautions and warnings in the instructions for use have to be strictly followed. The use of the testkits with analyzers and similar equipment has to be validated. Any change in design, composition and test procedure as well as for any use in combination with other products not approved by the manufacturer is not authorized; the user himself is responsible for such changes. The manufacturer is not liable for false results and incidents for these reasons. The manufacturer is not liable for any results by visual analysis of the patient samples.
- Only for in-vitro diagnostic use.
- All materials of human or animal origin should be regarded and handled as potentially infectious.
- All components of human origin used for the production of these reagents have been tested for anti-HIV antibodies, anti-HCV antibodies and HBsAg and have been found to be non-reactive.
- Do not interchange reagents or Microtiterplates of different production lots.
- No reagents of other manufacturers should be used along with reagents of this test kit.
- Do not use reagents after expiry date stated on the label.
- Use only clean pipette tips, dispensers, and lab ware.
- Do not interchange screw caps of reagent vials to avoid cross-contamination.
- Close reagent vials tightly immediately after use to avoid evaporation and microbial contamination.
- After first opening and subsequent storage check conjugate and standard/control vials for microbial contamination prior to further use.
- To avoid cross-contamination and falsely elevated results pipette patient samples and dispense reagents without splashing accurately into the wells.
- The ELISA is only designed for qualified personnel following the standards of good laboratory practice (GLP).
- For further internal quality control each laboratory should additionally use known samples.

12.1. Safety note for reagents containing hazardous substances

Reagents may contain CMIT/MIT (3:1) or MIT (refer to 4.1)
Therefore, the following hazard and precautionary statements apply.

Warning

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Further information can be found in the safety data sheet.

12.2. Disposal Considerations

Residues of chemicals and preparations are generally considered as hazardous waste. The disposal of this kind of waste is regulated through national and regional laws and regulations. Contact your local authorities or waste management companies which will give advice on how to dispose hazardous waste.

13. ORDERING INFORMATION

Prod. No.: LEPM0660 Leptospira IgM ELISA (96 Determinations)

DEUTSCH

1. EINLEITUNG

Die Leptospirose (Morbus Weil) ist weltweit die wahrscheinlich am weitesten verbreitete Zoonose. Sie wird durch Spirochäten der Gattung Leptospira verursacht, die sowohl den Menschen, als auch ein breites Spektrum an tierischen Wirten infizieren können. Die Leptospirose tritt in tropischen und subtropischen Ländern deutlich häufiger auf als in Regionen mit gemäßigtem Klima.

Die Erkrankung zeigt einen saisonalen Verlauf: in gemäßigten Breiten, in denen die Temperatur den limitierenden Faktor für das Überleben der Leptospiren darstellt, ist der Höhepunkt der Erkrankungsfälle im Sommer oder Herbst; in warmen Klimaten findet man die höchste Inzidenz während der Regensaison, da ansonsten eine rasche Austrocknung das Überleben der Leptospiren verhindern würde.

Natürliche Reservoire der pathogenen Spezies Leptospira interrrogans umfassen Nager sowie eine Vielzahl domestizierter Säugetiere (z. B. Schweine, Rinder und Hunde). Leptospiren besiedeln in ihrem natürlichen Wirt das Lumen der Nierentubuli und werden mit dem Urin ausgeschieden.

Der Mensch kann sich durch direkten oder indirekten Kontakt mit dem Urin infizierter Tiere anstecken. Leptospiren erhalten Zugang zum menschlichen Blutkreislauf über kleinere Hautverletzungen (Schnitte, Abschürfungen) oder über die Schleimhäute bei Kontakt mit feuchter Erde, Vegetation und kontaminiertem Wasser, beim Umgang mit Geweben infizierter Tiere und über Nahrung und Trinkwasser. Eine Übertragung von Mensch zu Mensch ist nur in seltenen Fällen beschrieben worden.

Die Inkubationszeit der Leptospirose beträgt gewöhnlich 5-14 Tage, mit einer Spannweite von 2-30 Tagen.

Das Spektrum klinischer Symptome ist äußerst vielfältig. Die überwiegende Mehrheit der Leptospira-Infektionen ist entweder subklinisch oder verläuft sehr mild und heilt ohne Komplikationen aus. Klinische Manifestationen der Leptospirose reichen von milden Grippeähnlichen Symptomen bis hin zu schweren, lebensbedrohlichen Formen, charakterisiert durch Gelbsucht, Nierenversagen und schwere pulmonale Hämorrhagien.

Häufig wird ein biphasischer Krankheitsverlauf beobachtet. Eine akute oder septikämische Phase geht nach ungefähr einer Woche in eine Immunphase über, die durch Antikörperproduktion und Ausscheidung der Leptospiren im Urin gekennzeichnet ist. Die meisten Komplikationen der Leptospirose sind mit der Lokalisierung der Leptospiren innerhalb der Gewebe während der Immunphase assoziiert und liegen in der Immunantwort des Körpers begründet. Das klassische Syndrom der Weil-Krankheit stellt nur die schwerste Ausprägung dar. Sie ist gekennzeichnet durch Gelbsucht, Nierenversagen, Hämorrhagie und Myokarditiden mit Arrhythmien.

Spezies	**Erkrankung**	**Symptome (z.B.)**	**Infektionsweg**
Leptospira spp.	Leptospirose	Fieber begleitet von Schüttelfrost, intensiven Kopfschmerzen, starker Myalgie (Muskelschmerzen), Bauchschmerzen, Bindehautentzündung (rote Augen),und gelegentlich Hautausschlag,	Direkter oder indirekter Kontakt mit dem Urin infizierter Tiere (z. B. über kleine Hautverletzungen, Schleimhäute)
	Morbus Weil	Gelbsucht, Nierenversagen, Meningitis, Hämorrhagie und Myokarditis mit Arrhythmien	

Nachweis des Erregers bzw. der Infektion durch:

- Mikroskopie
- PCR
- Serologie: z.B. ELISA

2. VERWENDUNGSZWECK

Der Leptospira IgM ELISA ist für den qualitativen Nachweis spezifischer IgM-Antikörper gegen Leptospira spp. in humanem Serum oder Plasma (Heparin) bestimmt.

3. TESTPRINZIP

Die qualitative immunenzymatische Bestimmung von spezifischen Antikörpern beruht auf der ELISA (Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay) Technik.
Die Mikrotiterplatten sind mit spezifischen Antigenen beschichtet, an welche die korrespondierenden Antikörper aus der Probe binden. Ungebundenes Probenmaterial wird durch Waschen entfernt. Anschließend erfolgt die Zugabe eines Meerettich-Peroxidase (HRP) Konjugates. Dieses Konjugat bindet an die an der Mikrotiterplatte gebundenen spezifischen Antikörper. In einem zweiten Waschschritt wird ungebundenes Konjugat entfernt. Die Immunkomplexe, die durch die Bindung des Konjugates entstanden sind, werden durch die Zugabe von Tetramethylbenzidin (TMB)-Substratlösung und eine resultierende Blaufärbung nachgewiesen.
Die Intensität des Reaktionsproduktes ist proportional zur Menge der spezifischen Antikörper in der Probe. Die Reaktion wird mit Schwefelsäure gestoppt, wodurch ein Farbumschlag von blau nach gelb erfolgt. Die Absorption wird bei 450/620 nm mit einem Mikrotiterplatten-Photometer gemessen.

NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH

NovaLisa®

Leptospira IgG

ELISA

CE

Only for in-vitro diagnostic use

Product Number: LEPG0660 (96 Determinations)

ENGLISH

1. INTRODUCTION

Leptospirosis (also known as Weil's syndrome) is probably the most widespread zoonosis in the world. It is caused by infection with spirochete bacteria of the genus Leptospira and affects humans as well as a broad spectrum of animal hosts. The incidence is significantly higher in warm climate countries than in temperate regions. The disease is seasonal, with peak incidence occurring in summer or fall in temperate regions, where temperature is the limiting factor in survival of leptospires, and during rainy seasons in warm climate regions, where rapid desiccation would otherwise prevent survival.

Natural reservoirs for the pathogenic Leptospira interrogans include rodents as well as a large variety of domesticated mammals (e. g. pigs, cattle and dogs). Leptospires occupy the lumen of nephritic tubules in their natural host and are shed into the urine.

Transmission can occur when humans are directly or indirectly exposed to the urine of infected animals or a urine-polluted environment. Leptospires gain entry into the human blood stream via cuts, skin abrasions or mucous membranes through contact with moist soil, vegetation, and contaminated waters; handling infected animal tissues; and ingestion of food and water. Leptospires are rarely transmitted from human to human.

The incubation period is usually 5-14 days, with a range of 2-30 days.

The spectrum of clinical symptoms is extremely wide. The vast majority of leptospiral infections are either subclinical or result in very mild illness and recover without any complications Clinical manifestations of leptospirosis range from mild influenza-like symptoms to severe life-threatening disease forms, characterized by jaundice, renal failure, bleeding and severe pulmonary hemorrhage.

The clinical presentation of leptospirosis is biphasic, with the acute or septicemic phase lasting about a week, followed by the immune phase, characterized by antibody production and excretion of leptospires in the urine. Most of the complications of leptospirosis are associated with localization of leptospires within the tissues during the immune phase and thus occur during the second week of the illness. The classical syndrome of Weil's disease represents only the most severe presentation. It is characterized by jaundice, renal failure, hemorrhage and myocarditis with arrhythmias.

Species	Disease	Symptoms (e.g.)	Transmission route
Leptospira spp.	Leptospirosis	Fever accompanied by chills, intense headache, severe myalgia (muscle ache), abdominal pain, conjunctival suffusion (red eye), and occasionally a skin rash	Direct or indirect contact with the urine of an infected animal (via cuts, skin abrasions or mucous membranes)
	Weil's disease	jaundice, renal failure, meningitis, haemorrhage and myocarditis with arrhythmias	

Infection or presence of pathogen may be identified by:

- Microscopy
- PCR
- Serology: e.g. ELISA

2. INTENDED USE

The Leptospira IgG ELISA is intended for the qualitative determination of IgG class antibodies against Leptospira spp. in human serum or plasma (heparin).

3. PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

The qualitative immunoenzymatic determination of specific antibodies is based on the ELISA (Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay) technique.
Microtiterplates are coated with specific antigens to bind corresponding antibodies of the sample. After washing the wells to remove all unbound sample material a horseradish peroxidase (HRP) labelled conjugate is added. This conjugate binds to the captured antibodies. In a second washing step unbound conjugate is removed. The immune complex formed by the bound conjugate is visualized by adding Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) substrate which gives a blue reaction product.
The intensity of this product is proportional to the amount of specific antibodies in the sample. Sulphuric acid is added to stop the reaction. This produces a yellow endpoint colour. Absorbance at 450/620 nm is read using an ELISA Microtiterplate reader.

4. MATERIALS

4.1. Reagents supplied

- **Microtiterplate:** 12 break-apart 8-well snap-off strips coated with Leptospira antigens; in resealable aluminium foil.
- **IgG Sample Dilution Buffer:** 1 bottle containing 100 mL of phosphate buffer (10 mM) for sample dilution; pH 7.2 ± 0.2; coloured yellow; ready to use; white cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).
- **Stop Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL sulphuric acid, 0.2 mol/L; ready to use; red cap.
- **Washing Buffer (20x conc.):** 1 bottle containing 50 mL of a 20-fold concentrated phosphate buffer (0.2 M), pH 7.2 ± 0.2, for washing the wells; white cap.
- **Conjugate:** 1 bottle containing 20 mL of peroxidase labelled antibody to human IgG in phosphate buffer (10 mM); coloured blue; ready to use; black cap.
- **TMB Substrate Solution:** 1 bottle containing 15 mL 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB), < 0.1 %; ready to use; yellow cap.
- **Positive Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; red cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Cut-off Control:** 1 vial containing 3 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; green cap; ≤ 0.02% (v/v) MIT.
- **Negative Control:** 1 vial containing 2 mL control; coloured yellow; ready to use; blue cap; ≤ 0.0015% (v/v) CMIT/ MIT (3:1).

For hazard and precautionary statements see 12.1
For potential hazardous substances please check the safety data sheet.

4.2. Materials supplied

- 1 Cover foil
- 1 Instruction for use (IFU)
- 1 Plate layout

4.3. Materials and Equipment needed

- ELISA Microtiterplate reader, equipped for the measurement of absorbance at 450/620 nm
- Incubator 37 °C
- Manual or automatic equipment for rinsing Microtiterplates
- Pipettes to deliver volumes between 10 and 1000 µL
- Vortex tube mixer
- Distilled water
- Disposable tubes

5. STABILITY AND STORAGE

Store the kit at 2...8 °C. The opened reagents are stable up to the expiry date stated on the label when stored at 2...8 °C.

6. REAGENT PREPARATION

It is very important to bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (20…25 °C) and mix them before starting the test run!

6.1. Microtiterplate

The break-apart snap-off strips are coated with Leptospira antigens. Immediately after removal of the strips, the remaining strips should be resealed in the aluminium foil along with the desiccant supplied and stored at 2...8 °C.

6.2. Washing Buffer (20x conc.)

Dilute Washing Buffer 1 + 19; e. g. 10 mL Washing Buffer + 190 mL distilled water. The diluted buffer is stable for 5 days at room temperature (20…25 °C). In case crystals appear in the concentrate, warm up the solution to 37 °C e.g. in a water bath. Mix well before dilution.

6.3. TMB Substrate Solution

The reagent is ready to use and has to be stored at 2...8 °C, away from the light. The solution should be colourless or could have a slight blue tinge. If the substrate turns into blue, it may have become contaminated and should be thrown away.

7. SAMPLE COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

Use human serum or plasma (heparin) samples with this assay. If the assay is performed within 5 days after sample collection, the samples should be kept at 2...8 °C; otherwise they should be aliquoted and stored deep-frozen (-70…-20 °C). If samples are stored frozen, mix thawed samples well before testing. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing.
Heat inactivation of samples is not recommended.

7.1. Sample Dilution

Before assaying, all samples should be diluted 1+100 with IgG Sample Dilution Buffer. Dispense 10 µL sample and 1 mL IgG Sample Dilution Buffer into tubes to obtain a 1+100 dilution and thoroughly mix with a Vortex.

8. ASSAY PROCEDURE

Please read the instruction for use carefully **before** performing the assay. Result reliability depends on strict adherence to the instruction for use as described. The following test procedure is only validated for manual procedure. If performing the test on ELISA automatic systems we recommend increasing the washing steps from three up to five and the volume of Washing Buffer from 300 µL to 350 µL to avoid washing effects. Pay attention to chapter 12. Prior to commencing the assay, the distribution and identification plan for all samples and standards/controls (duplicates recommended) should be carefully established on the plate layout supplied in the kit. Select the required number of microtiter strips or wells and insert them into the holder.

Perform all assay steps in the order given and without any delays.

A clean, disposable tip should be used for dispensing each standard/control and sample.

Adjust the incubator to 37 ± 1 °C.

1. Dispense 100 µL standards/controls and diluted samples into their respective wells. Leave well A1 for the Substrate Blank.
2. Cover wells with the foil supplied in the kit.
3. **Incubate for 1 hour ± 5 min at 37 ± 1 °C.**
4. When incubation has been completed, remove the foil, aspirate the content of the wells and wash each well three times with 300 µL of Washing Buffer. Avoid overflows from the reaction wells. The interval between washing and aspiration should be > 5 sec. At the end carefully remove remaining fluid by tapping strips on tissue paper prior to the next step!

   Note: Washing is important! Insufficient washing results in poor precision and false results.
5. Dispense 100 µL Conjugate into all wells except for the Substrate Blank well A1.
6. **Incubate for 30 min at room temperature (20...25 °C).** Do not expose to direct sunlight.
7. Repeat step 4.
8. Dispense 100 µL TMB Substrate Solution into all wells.
9. **Incubate for exactly 15 min at room temperature (20...25 °C) in the dark.** A blue colour occurs due to an enzymatic reaction.
10. Dispense 100 µL Stop Solution into all wells in the same order and at the same rate as for the TMB Substrate Solution, thereby a colour change from blue to yellow occurs.
11. Measure the absorbance at 450/620 nm within 30 min after addition of the Stop Solution.

8.1. Measurement

Adjust the ELISA Microtiterplate reader **to zero** using the **Substrate Blank**.

If - due to technical reasons - the ELISA Microtiterplate reader cannot be adjusted to zero using the Substrate Blank, subtract its absorbance value from all other absorbance values measured in order to obtain reliable results!

Measure the absorbance of all wells at **450 nm** and record the absorbance values for each standard/control and sample in the plate layout.

Bichromatic measurement using a reference wavelength of 620 nm is recommended.

Where applicable calculate the mean absorbance values of all duplicates.

9. RESULTS

9.1. Run Validation Criteria

In order for an assay run to be considered valid, these Instructions for Use have to be strictly followed and the following criteria must be met:

- **Substrate Blank**: Absorbance value **< 0.100**
- **Negative Control**: Absorbance value **< 0.200 and < Cut-off**
- **Cut-off Control**: Absorbance value **0.150 – 1.300**
- **Positive Control**: Absorbance value **> Cut-off**

If these criteria are not met, the test is not valid and must be repeated.

9.2. Calculation of Results

The Cut-off is the mean absorbance value of the Cut-off Control determinations.

Example: Absorbance value Cut-off Control 0.44 + absorbance value Cut-off control 0.42 = 0.86 / 2 = 0.43
Cut-off = 0.43

9.2.1. Results in Units [NTU]

$$\frac{\text{Sample (mean) absorbance value} \times 10}{\text{Cut-off}} = \text{[NovaTec Units = NTU]}$$

Example: $\frac{1.591 \times 10}{0.43} = 37$ NTU

9.3. Interpretation of Results

Cut-off	10 NTU	-
Positive	> 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen are present. There has been a contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine).
Equivocal	9 – 11 NTU	Antibodies against the pathogen could not be detected clearly. It is recommended to repeat the test with a fresh sample in 2 to 4 weeks. If the result is equivocal again the sample is judged as **negative**.
Negative	< 9 NTU	The sample contains no antibodies against the pathogen. A previous contact with the antigen (pathogen resp. vaccine) is unlikely.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. A precise diagnosis should take into consideration clinical history, symptomatology as well as serological data. In immunocompromised patients and newborns serological data only have restricted value.		

9.3.1. Antibody Isotypes and State of Infection

Serology	Significance
IgM	Characteristic of the primary antibody response High IgM titer with low IgG titer: → suggests a current or very recent infection Rare: → persisting IgM
IgG	Characteristic of the secondary antibody response May persist for several years High IgG titer with low IgM titer: → may indicate a past infection

10. SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

The results refer to the groups of samples investigated; these are not guaranteed specifications.

For further information about the specific performance characteristics please contact NovaTec Immundiagnostica GmbH.

10.1. Precision

Intraassay	n	Mean (E)	CV (%)
#1	24	0.470	2.95
#2	24	0.782	6.50
#3	24	0.460	3.49

Interassay	n	Mean (NTU)	CV (%)
#1	12	19.60	4.87
#2	12	12.72	9.64
#3	12	3.99	4.85

10.2. Diagnostic Specificity

The diagnostic specificity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring negative in the absence of the specific analyte.
It is 97.37% (95% confidence interval: 86.19% - 99.93%).

10.3. Diagnostic Sensitivity

The diagnostic sensitivity is defined as the probability of the assay of scoring positive in the presence of the specific analyte.
It is 100% (95% confidence interval: 93,4% - 100%).

10.4. Interferences

Interferences with hemolytic, lipemic or icteric samples are not observed up to a concentration of 10 mg/mL hemoglobin, 5 mg/mL triglycerides and 0.5 mg/mL bilirubin.

10.5. Cross Reactivity

It cannot be excluded that polyclonal B-cell activation induced by Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) or the presence of Rheumatoid Factors may result in false-positive Leptospira IgG antibody results.

11. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

Bacterial contamination or repeated freeze-thaw cycles of the sample may affect the absorbance values.

12. PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

- The test procedure, the information, the precautions and warnings in the instructions for use have to be strictly followed. The use of the testkits with analyzers and similar equipment has to be validated. Any change in design, composition and test procedure as well as for any use in combination with other products not approved by the manufacturer is not authorized; the user himself is responsible for such changes. The manufacturer is not liable for false results and incidents for these reasons. The manufacturer is not liable for any results by visual analysis of the patient samples.
- Only for in-vitro diagnostic use.
- All materials of human or animal origin should be regarded and handled as potentially infectious.
- All components of human origin used for the production of these reagents have been tested for anti-HIV antibodies, anti-HCV antibodies and HBsAg and have been found to be non-reactive.
- Do not interchange reagents or Microtiterplates of different production lots.
- No reagents of other manufacturers should be used along with reagents of this test kit.
- Do not use reagents after expiry date stated on the label.
- Use only clean pipette tips, dispensers, and lab ware.
- Do not interchange screw caps of reagent vials to avoid cross-contamination.
- Close reagent vials tightly immediately after use to avoid evaporation and microbial contamination.
- After first opening and subsequent storage check conjugate and standard/control vials for microbial contamination prior to further use.
- To avoid cross-contamination and falsely elevated results pipette patient samples and dispense reagents without splashing accurately into the wells.
- The ELISA is only designed for qualified personnel following the standards of good laboratory practice (GLP).
- For further internal quality control each laboratory should additionally use known samples.

12.1. Safety note for reagents containing hazardous substances

Reagents may contain CMIT/MIT (3:1) or MIT (refer to 4.1)
Therefore, the following hazard and precautionary statements apply.

Warning	H317	May cause an allergic skin reaction.
	P261	Avoid breathing spray.
	P280	Wear protective gloves/ protective clothing.
	P302+P352	IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
	P333+P313	If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/ attention.
	P362+P364	Take off contaminated and Wash it before reuse.

Further information can be found in the safety data sheet.

12.2. Disposal Considerations

Residues of chemicals and preparations are generally considered as hazardous waste. The disposal of this kind of waste is regulated through national and regional laws and regulations. Contact your local authorities or waste management companies which will give advice on how to dispose hazardous waste.

13. ORDERING INFORMATION

Prod. No.: LEPG0660 Leptospira IgG ELISA (96 Determinations)