HP IgA

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgA antibodies to Helicobacter pylori in human serum and plasma

- for “in vitro” diagnostic use only -

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REF HPA.CE
96 Tests

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A. INTENDED USE
Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgA antibodies to Helicobacter pylori in human plasma and sera. The product is intended for the follow-up of patients showing gastrointestinal pathologies referable to H.pylori infection.
For "in vitro" diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION
Helicobacter pylori (HP) is a Gram negative bacterium, firstly isolated in gastric mucosa by Marshall and Warren in 1983.
Hp has been recognized to be the agent responsible of most of cases of gastric mucosal damage and to play a role in the evolution of gastric diseases to carcinoma.
Hp causes an immunological response during infection and specific antibodies of the different classes of IgG, IgA and IgM are produced by the patient.
ELISA are currently used to screen patients affected by gastritis or peptic ulcers for acute active infection due to some Helicobacter pylori virulent strains.
In particular the presence of IgA and IgM antibodies is reported to be correlated to the acute phase of illness, while IgG antibodies become present at different titers shortly after primary infections and last in blood for many years.
Quantitative ELISA are also used in the follow-up of patients undergoing antibiotic therapy, useful in monitoring IgG titer variations during and after the pharmaceutical treatment

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST
Microplates are coated with H.pylori immunodominant antigens derived from tissue culture of a virulent strain.
In the 1st incubation, the solid phase is treated with diluted samples and anti-HP IgA are captured, if present, by the antigens.
After washing out all the other components of the sample, in the 2nd incubation bound anti-HP IgA are detected by the addition of anti hIgA antibody, labeled with peroxidase (HRP).
The enzyme captured on the solid phase, acting on the substrate/chromogen mixture, generates an optical signal that is proportional to the amount of anti-HP IgA antibodies present in the sample.
IgA in the sample may therefore be quantitated by means of a standard curve calibrated in arbitrary units per milliliter (arbU/ml) as no international standard is available.
Neutralization of IgG anti-HP, carried out directly in the well, is performed in the assay in order to block interferences due to this class in the determination of IgA.

D. COMPONENTS
Each kit contains sufficient reagents to perform 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
12 strips x 8 microwells coated with HP specific immunodominant antigens derived from tissue culture of a virulent strain. Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant.
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 4°C.

2. Calibration Curve: CAL N° …
Ready to use and color coded standard curve ranging:
4 ml CAL1 = 0 arbU/ml
4 ml CAL2 = 5 arbU/ml
2 ml CAL3 =10 arbU/ml
2 ml CAL4 = 20 arbU/ml
2 ml CAL 5 = 50 arbU/ml
4 ml CAL6 = 100 arbU/ml.
Standards are calibrated against an internal Gold Standard or IGS as no international one is defined.
Contains human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. Standards are blue color coded.

3. Control Serum: CONTROL …ml
1 vial. Lyophilized. It contains fetal bovine serum proteins, human IgA antibodies to HP at about 20 arbU/ml±20%, 0.3 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.

4. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle20x concentrated solution.
Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

5. Enzyme conjugate: CONJ
1x16ml/vial. Ready to use and red colour coded. It contains Horseradish peroxidase conjugated polyclonal antibodies to human IgA, 5% BSA, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.02% gentamicine sulphate as preservatives.

6. Chromogen/Substrate: SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffer pH 3.5-3.8, 4% dimethylsulphoxide, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (or TMB) and 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (or H_2O_2).
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

7. Sulphuric Acid: H2SO4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vialIt contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

8. Specimen Diluent: DILSPE
2x60ml/vial. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. To be used to dilute the sample.

9. Neutralizing Reagent: SOLN NEUT
1x8ml/vial. Ready-to-use Reagent. It contains goat anti hIgG, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.

10. Plate sealing foils n°2

11. Package insert n°1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED
1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000, 100 and 10ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (bidistilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet) set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance).
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS
1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.

2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection. Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for at least 12 months. Any frozen samples should not be freezed/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant is not turned to dark green, indicating a defect of storage.
In this case call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminium pouch, in presence of desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C. When opened the first time, residual strips are stable till the indicator of humidity inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Calibration Curve
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Control Serum
Add the volume of ELISA grade water, reported on the label, to the lyophilised powder; let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Note: *The control after dissolution is not stable. Store frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Enzyme conjugate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possibly sterile disposable containers.

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sample Diluent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Neutralizing Reagent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 – Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter (620-630nm, mandatory) for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Internal Quality Control". The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates.
3. Check that the Chromogen (TMB) is colourless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette.
4. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminium pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
5. Dissolve the content of the Control Serum as reported.
6. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
7. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
8. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
9. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
10. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
11. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
12. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
13. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.
The kit may be used for quantitative and qualitative determinations as well.

M1. QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the A1 and B1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 50 µl of the Neutralizing Reagent (SOLN NTR) in all the wells of the samples. Do not add it in the wells used for the Calibrators and the Control Serum !

Important note: *The Neutralizing Reagent is able to block false positive reactions due to RF. Positive samples in internal QC panels might be detected negative if such samples were tested positive with an IVD that does not carry out any RF blocking reaction.*

4. Then dispense 100 µl of Calibrators and 100 µl Control Serum in duplicate. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
5. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

6. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
7. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except A1+B1 blanking wells, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1 and B1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

8. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
9. Wash microwells as in step 5.
10. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank wells A1 and B1 included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

11. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid to stop the enzymatic reaction into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
12. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1 or B1 or both.

M2. QUALITATIVE DETERMINATION

If only a qualitative determination is required, proceed as described below:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave A1 well empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 50 µl of the Neutralizing Reagent (SOLN NTR) in all the wells of the samples. Do not add it in the wells used for the Calibrators !

Important note: *The Neutralizing Reagent is able to block false positive reactions due to RF. Positive samples in internal QC panels might be detected negative if such samples were tested positive with an IVD that does not carry out any RF blocking reaction.*

4. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrator 0 arbU/ml and Calibrator 5 arbU/ml in duplicate and Calibrator 100 arbU/ml in single. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
5. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

6. Wash the microplate with an automatic as reported previously (section I.3).
7. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the A1 well, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

8. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
9. Wash microwells as in step 6.
10. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

11. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
12. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

General Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Method	Operations
Neutralizing Reagent (only for samples)	50 µl
Calibrators & Control(*)	100 µl
Samples diluted 1:101	100 µl
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Enzyme conjugate	100 µl
2nd incubation	**60 min**

Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2	100 µl
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm/620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Control Serum (CS) does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Control Serum (CS) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme for Quantitative Analysis is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	CAL4	S1									
B	BLK	CAL4	S2									
C	CAL1	CAL5	S3									
D	CAL1	CAL5	S4									
E	CAL2	CAL6	S5									
F	CAL2	CAL6	S6									
G	CAL3	CS(*)	S7									
H	CAL3	CS(*)	S8									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrator
CS(*)= Control Serum- Not mandatory S = Sample

An example of dispensation scheme in qualitative assays is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S3	S11									
B	CAL1	S4	S12									
C	CAL1	S5	S13									
D	CAL2	S6	S14									
E	CAL2	S7	S15									
F	CAL6	S8	S16									
G	S1	S9	S17									
H	S2	S10	S18									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrators
S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the controls any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as qualified.

Control that the following data are matched:

Check	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.100 OD450nm value
CAL 1 0 arbU/ml	< 0.150 mean OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
CAL 2 5 arbU/ml	OD450nm > OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100
CAL 6 100 arbU/ml	OD450nm > 1.000

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.

If they do not, do not proceed any further and operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.100 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Sustrate solution has not got contaminated during the assay
CAL 1 **0 arbU/ml** > 0.150 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of a positive calibrator instead of the negative one; 4. that no contamination of the negative calibrator or of their wells has occurred due spills of positive samples or the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes haven't got contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
CAL 2 **5 arbU/ml** OD450nm < OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (e.g.: dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.
CAL 6 **100 arbU/ml** < 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead) ; 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

Should one of these problems have happened, after checking, report to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Note:**

If Control Serum has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Control Serum	Mean OD450nm CAL4 ± 20%

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Control Serum Different from expected value	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the control has occurred.

Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, CAL1, CAL2, CAL 6), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

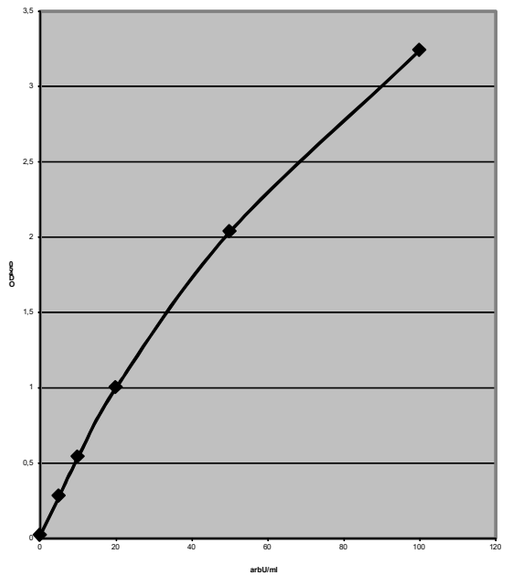
Important note:

The analysis must be done proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 12.

P. RESULTS

P.1 Quantitative method
If the test turns out to be valid, use for the quantitative method an approved curve fitting program to draw the calibration curve from the values obtained by reading at 450nm/620-630nm (4-parameters interpolation is suggested).
Then on the calibration curve calculate the concentration of anti H.pylori IgA antibody in samples.

An example of Calibration curve is reported below.



Important Note:
Do not use the calibration curve above to make calculations.

P.2 Qualitative method
In the qualitative method, calculate the mean OD450nm/620-630nm values for the Calibrators 0 and 5 arbU/ml and then check that the assay is valid.

Example of calculation (data obtained proceeding as the the reading step described in the section M, point 12):

Note: *The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.*

Calibrator 0 arbU/ml: 0.020 – 0.024 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.022 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted

Calibrator 5 arbU/ml: 0.250 – 0.270 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.260 OD450nm
Higher than Cal 0 + 0.100 – Accepted

Calibrator 100 arbU/ml: 2.045 OD450nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

The OD450nm/620-630nm of the Calibrator 5 arbU/ml is considered the cut-off (or Co) of the system.
The ratio between the OD450nm/620-630nm value of the sample and the OD450nm/620-630nm of the Calibrator 5 arbU/ml (or S/Co) can provide a semi-quantitative estimation of the content of specific IgG in the sample.

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Samples with a concentration lower than 5 arbU/ml are considered negative for anti H.pylori IgA antibody.
Samples with a concentration higher than 5 arbU/ml are considered positive for anti H.pylori IgA antibody.

Important notes:
1. *H.pylori IgA results alone are not enough to provide a clear diagnosis of Helicobacter pylori infection. Other tests for Helicobater pylori (supplied by Dia.Pro Diagnostic BioProbes s.r.l. at code n° HPAG.CE, HPG.CE and HPM.CE), should be carried out.*
2. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
3. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
4. *Diagnosis has to be done and released to the patient by a suitably qualified medical doctor.*

R. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS
Evaluation of Performances has been conducted on panels of positive and negative samples in an external clinical laboratory with reference to a FDA approved reference kit.

1. Limit of detection
No international standard for HP IgA Antibody detection has been defined so far by the European Community.
In its absence, an Internal Gold Standard (or IGS), derived from a patient with an history of past HP infection, has been defined in order to provide the device with a constant and excellent sensitivity.

2. Diagnostic Sensitivity and Specificity:
The diagnostic performances were evaluated in a performance evaluation study conducted in an external center, with excellent experience in the diagnosis of infectious diseases.
The **diagnostic sensitivity** was studied in an external study on more than 50 samples, pre-tested positive with the reference kit of European origin in use at the laboratory. Positive samples were collected from patients with a clinical history of H.pylori infection.
The **diagnostic specificity** was determined in an external study on panels of more than 100 negative samples from normal individuals and blood donors, classified negative with the reference kit, including potentially interfering specimens.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the specificity. No false reactivity due to the method of specimen preparation has been observed.
In addition 35 cross-reacting specimens were studied internally to verify absence of interference on the assay results.
No interference was observed (100% specificity).
Frozen specimens have also been tested to check whether samples freezing interferes with the performance of the test. No interference was observed on clean and particle free samples.
The external Performance Evaluation provided the following values :

Sensitivity	> 98 %
Specificity	> 98 %

3. Reproducibility:
A study conducted on three samples of different HP IgA reactivity, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs has

shown CV% values ranging 7-18% depending on the OD450nm/620-630nm readings.
The variability shown in the tables did not result in sample misclassification.

S. LIMITATIONS

False positivity has been assessed as less than 2% of the normal population.
Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates may generate false positive results.

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes Srl
Via G. Carducci n° 27 – Sesto San Giovanni (MI) – Italy

CE

HP IgG

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Helicobacter pylori in human serum and plasma

- for “in vitro” diagnostic use only -

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REF HPG.CE
96 Tests

HP IgG

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Helicobacter pylori in human plasma and sera. The product is intended for the follow-up of patients showing gastrointestinal pathologies potentially correlated to HP infection.
For "in vitro" diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Helicobacter pylori (HP) is a Gram negative bacterium, firstly isolated in gastric mucosa by Marshall and Warren in 1983.
Hp has been recognized to be the agent responsible of most of cases of gastric mucosal damage and to play a role in the evolution of gastric diseases to carcinoma.
Hp causes an immunological response during infection and specific antibodies of the different classes of IgG, IgA and IgM are produced by the patient.
ELISA are currently used to screen patients affected by gastritis or peptic ulcers for acute active infection due to some Helicobacter pylori virulent strains.
In particular the presence of IgA and IgM antibodies is reported to be correlated to the acute phase of illness, while IgG antibodies become present at different titers shortly after primary infections and last in blood for many years.
Quantitative ELISA are also used in the follow-up of patients undergoing antibiotic therapy, useful in monitoring IgG titer variations during and after the pharmaceutical treatment

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Microplates are coated with H.pylori immunodominant antigens derived from tissue culture of a virulent strain.
In the 1st incubation, the solid phase is treated with diluted samples and anti-HP IgG are captured, if present, by the antigens.
After washing out all the other components of the sample, in the 2nd incubation bound anti-HP IgG are detected by the addition of anti hIgG antibody, labeled with peroxidase (HRP).
The enzyme captured on the solid phase, acting on the substrate/chromogen mixture, generates an optical signal that is proportional to the amount of anti-HP IgG antibodies present in the sample.
IgG in the sample may therefore be quantitated by means of a standard curve calibrated in arbitrary units per milliliter (arbU/ml) as no international standard is available.

D. COMPONENTS

Each kit contains sufficient reagents to perform 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
12 strips x 8 microwells coated with HP specific immunodominant antigens derived from tissue culture of a virulent strain. Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant.
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 4°C.

2. Calibration Curve: CAL N° …
Ready to use and color coded standard curve ranging:
4 ml CAL1 = 0 arbU/ml
4 ml CAL2 = 5 arbU/ml
2 ml CAL3 =10 arbU/ml
2 ml CAL4 = 20 arbU/ml
2 ml CAL 5 = 50 arbU/ml
4 ml CAL6 = 100 arbU/ml.
Standards are calibrated against an internal Gold Standard or IGS as no international one is defined.
Contains human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. Standards are blue colored.

3. Control Serum: CONTROL …ml
1 vial. Lyophilized. It contains fetal bovine serum proteins, human IgG antibodies to HP at about 20 arbU/ml±20%, 0.3 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.

4. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle. 20x concentrated solution. Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

5. Enzyme conjugate : CONJ
1x16ml/vial. Ready to use and red colour coded. It contains Horseradish peroxidase conjugated polyclonal antibodies to human IgG, 5% BSA, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.02% gentamicine sulphate as preservatives.

6. Chromogen/Substrate: SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffer pH 3.5-3.8, 4% dimethylsulphoxide, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (or TMB) and 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (or H_2O_2).
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

7. Sulphuric Acid: H2SO4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vialIt contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

8. Specimen Diluent: DILSPE
2x60ml/vial. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. To be used to dilute the sample.

9. Plate sealing foils n°2

10. Package insert n°1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000, 100 and 10ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (bidistilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet) set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance).
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking, strongly recommended) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained

in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection.
Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for several months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant is not turned to dark green, indicating a defect of conservation.
In this case call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminium pouch, in presence of desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C. When opened the first time, residual strips are stable till the indicator of humidity inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Calibration Curve
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Control Serum
Add the volume of ELISA grade water, reported on the label, to the lyophilised powder; let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Note: *The control after dissolution is not stable. Store frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Enzyme conjugate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possibly sterile disposable containers.

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sample Diluent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter of 620-630nm, mandatory for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Internal quality Control". The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates.
3. Check that the Chromogen (TMB) is colourless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette.
4. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminium pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
5. Dissolve the content of the Control Serum as reported.
6. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
7. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
8. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
9. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
10. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
11. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
12. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
13. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.
The kit may be used for quantitative and qualitative determinations as well.

M1. QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the A1 and B1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrators and 100 µl Control Serum in duplicate. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except A1+B1 blanking wells, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1 and B1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank wells A1 and B1 included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid to stop the enzymatic reaction into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction), blanking the instrument on A1 or B1 or both (mandatory).

M2. QUALITATIVE DETERMINATION

If only a qualitative determination is required, proceed as described below:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave A1 well empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrator 0 arbU/ml and Calibrator 5 arbU/ml in duplicate and Calibrator 100 arbU/ml in single. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the A1 well, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow .
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction), blanking the instrument on A1 or B1 or both (mandatory).

General Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Method	Operations
Calibrators & Control(*) Samples diluted 1:101	100 µl 100 µl
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Enzyme conjugate	100 µl
2nd incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2	100 µl
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Control Serum (CS) it does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Control Serum (CS) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme for Quantitative Analysis is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	CAL4	S 1									
B	BLK	CAL4	S 2									
C	CAL1	CAL5	S 3									
D	CAL1	CAL5	S 4									
E	CAL2	CAL6	S 5									
F	CAL2	CAL6	S 6									
G	CAL3	CS(*)	S 7									
H	CAL3	CS(*)	S 8									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrator
CS = Control Serum- Not mandatory S = Sample

An example of dispensation scheme in qualitative assays is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S 3	S 11									
B	CAL1	S 4	S 12									
C	CAL1	S 5	S 13									
D	CAL2	S 6	S 14									
E	CAL2	S 7	S 15									
F	CAL6	S 8	S 16									
G	S1	S 9	S 17									
H	S2	S 10	S 18									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrators
S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the controls and the calibrator any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as expected and required by the IVDD directive 98/79/EC.

Control that the following data are matched:

Check	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.100 OD450nm value
CAL 1 0 arbU/ml	< 0.150 mean OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
CAL 2 5 arbU/ml	OD450nm > OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100
CAL 6 100 arbU/ml	OD450nm > 1.000

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.

If they do not, do not proceed any further and operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.100 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Sustrate solution has not got contaminated during the assay
CAL 1 **0 arbU/ml** > 0.150 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of a positive calibrator instead of the negative one; 4. that no contamination of the negative calibrator or of their wells has occurred due spills of positive samples or the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes haven't got contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
CAL 2 **5 arbU/ml** OD450nm < OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (ex.: dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.
CAL 6 **100 arbU/ml** < 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead) ; 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

Should one of these problems have happened, after checking, report to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Note:**

If Control Serum has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Control Serum	Mean OD450nm CAL4 +/-20%

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Control Serum Different from expected value	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the control has occurred.

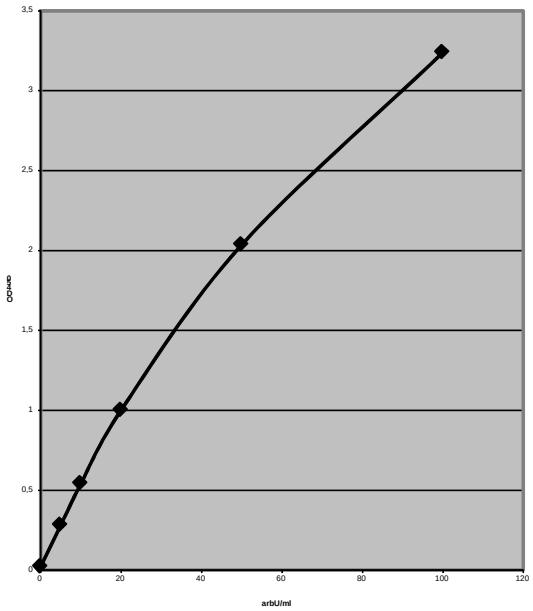
Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, CAL1, CAL2, CAL 6), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. RESULTS

P.1 Quantitative method

If the test turns out to be valid, use for the quantitative method an approved curve fitting program to draw the calibration curve from the values obtained by reading at 450nm (4-parameters interpolation is suggested).
Then on the calibration curve calculate the concentration of anti H.pylori IgG antibody in samples.

An example of Calibration curve is reported below.



Important Note:
Do not use the calibration curve above to make calculations.

P.2 Qualitative method
In the qualitative method, calculate the mean OD450nm values for the Calibrators 0 and 5 arbU/ml and then check that the assay is valid.

Example of calculation:

Note: *The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.*

Calibrator 0 arbU/ml: 0.020 – 0.024 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.022 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted

Calibrator 5 arbU/ml: 0.250 – 0.270 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.260 OD450nm
Higher than Cal 0 + 0.100 – Accepted

Calibrator 100 arbU/ml: 2.045 OD450nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

The OD450nm of the Calibrator 5 arbU/ml is considered the cut-off (or Co) of the system.
The ratio between the OD450nm value of the sample and the OD450nm of the Calibrator 5 arbU/ml (or S/Co) can provide a semi-quantitative estimation of the content of specific IgG in the sample.

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Samples with a concentration lower than 5 arbU/ml are considered negative for anti H.pylori IgG antibody.
Samples with a concentration higher than 5 arbU/ml are considered positive for anti H.pylori IgG antibody.

Important notes:
1. *H.pylori IgG results alone are not enough to provide a clear diagnosis of Helicobacter pylori infection. Other tests for Helicobater pylori (supplied by Dia.Pro Diagnostic BioProbes s.r.l. at code n° HPAG.CE, HPA.CE and HPM.CE), should be carried out.*
2. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
3. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
4. *Diagnosis has to be done and released to the patient by a suitably qualified medical doctor.*

R. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS
Evaluation of Performances has been conducted on panels of positive and negative samples in an external clinical laboratory with reference to a FDA approved reference kit.

1. Limit of detection
No international standard for HP IgG Antibody detection has been defined so far by the European Comunity.
In its absence, an Internal Gold Standard (or IGS), derived from a patient with an history of past mononucleosis infection, has been defined in order to provide the device with a constant and excellent sensitivity.

2. Diagnostic Sensitivity and Specificity:
The diagnostic performances were evaluated in a performance evaluation study conducted in an external center, with excellent experience in the diagnosis of infectious diseases.
The diagnostic sensitivity was studied on more than 50 samples, pre-tested positive with the reference kit of European origin in use at the laboratory. Positive samples were collected from patients with a clinical history of H.pylori infection.
The diagnostic specificity was determined on panels of more than 100 negative samples from normal individuals and blood donors, classified negative with the reference kit, including potentially interfering specimens.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the specificity. No false reactivity due to the method of specimen preparation has been observed.
Frozen specimens have also been tested to check whether samples freezing interferes with the performance of the test. No interference was observed on clean and particle free samples.
The Performance Evaluation provided the following values :

Sensitivity	> 98 %
Specificity	> 98 %

3. Reproducibility:
A study conducted on three samples of different HP IgG reactivity, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs has shown CV% values ranging 2-18% depending on the OD450nm readings.
The variability shown in the tables did not result in sample misclassification.

S. LIMITATIONS
False positivity has been assessed as less than 2% of the normal population.
Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates may generate false positive results.

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes S.r.l.
Via G. Carducci n° 27 – Sesto San Giovanni (MI) – Italy

CE

HP IgM

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Helicobacter pylori in human serum and plasma

- for “in vitro” diagnostic use only -

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REF HPM.CE
96 Tests

HP IgM

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Helicobacter pylori in human plasma and sera.
For "in vitro" diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Helicobacter pylori (HP) is a Gram negative bacterium, firstly isolated in gastric mucosa by Marshall and Warren in 1983.
Hp has been recognized to be the agent responsible of most of cases of gastric mucosal damage and to play a role in the evolution of gastric diseases to carcinoma.
Hp causes an immunological response during infection and specific antibodies of the different classes of IgG, IgA and IgM are produced by the patient.
ELISA are currently used to screen patients affected by gastritis or peptic ulcers for acute active infection due to some Helicobacter pylori virulent strains.
In particular the presence of IgA and IgM antibodies is reported to be correlated to the acute phase of illness, while IgG antibodies become present at different titers shortly after primary infections and last in blood for many years.
Quantitative ELISA are also used in the follow-up of patients undergoing antibiotic therapy, useful in monitoring IgG titer variations during and after the pharmaceutical treatment

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Microplates are coated with H.pylori immunodominant antigens derived from tissue culture of a virulent strain.
In the 1st incubation, the solid phase is treated with diluted samples and anti-HP IgM are captured, if present, by the antigens.
After washing out all the other components of the sample, in the 2nd incubation bound anti-HP IgM are detected by the addition of anti hIgM antibody, labeled with peroxidase (HRP).
The enzyme captured on the solid phase, acting on the substrate/chromogen mixture, generates an optical signal that is proportional to the amount of anti-HP IgM antibodies present in the sample.
The presence of IgM in the sample may therefore be determined by means of a cut-off value able to discriminate between negative and positive samples.
Neutralization of IgG anti-HP, carried out directly in the well, is performed in the assay in order to block interferences due to this class of antibodies in the determination of IgM.

D. COMPONENTS

Each kit contains sufficient reagents to perform 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
12 strips x 8 microwells coated with HP specific immunodominant antigens derived from tissue culture of a virulent strain. Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant.
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 4°C.

2. Negative Control: CONTROL -
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use. It contains, human IgM antibodies negative to HP, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/- 0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The Negative Control is pale yellow color coded.

3. Positive Control: CONTROL +
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use. It contains high titer human IgM antibodies positive to HP, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The Positive Control is green yellow color coded.

4. Calibrator: CAL ….
n° 1 vial. Lyophilized reagent to be dissolved with EIA grade water as reported in the label. It contains bovine serum proteins, low titer human IgM antibodies to HP, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label .

5. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle20x concentrated solution.
Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

6. Enzyme conjugate : CONJ
1x16ml/vial. Ready to use and red colour coded. It contains Horseradish peroxidase conjugated polyclonal antibodies to human IgM, 5% BSA, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.02% gentamicine sulphate as preservatives.

7. Chromogen/Substrate: SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffer pH 3.5-3.8, 4% dimethylsulphoxide, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (or TMB) and 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (or H_2O_2).
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

8. Sulphuric Acid: H2SO4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vialIt contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

9. Specimen Diluent: DILSPE
2x60ml/vial. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. To be used to dilute the sample.

10. Neutralizing Reagent: SOLN NEUT
1x8ml/vial. It contains goat anti hIgG, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.

11. Plate sealing foils n°2

12. Package insert n°1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000, 100 and 10ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (bidistilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet) set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance).
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 6 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection.

Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for at least 12 months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.

5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

Microplate:

Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant is not turned to dark green, indicating a defect of manufacturing.
In this case call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminium pouch, in presence of desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C. When opened the first time, residual strips are stable till the indicator of humidity inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Negative Control

Ready to use components. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Positive Control

Ready to use components. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Calibrator

Add the volume of ELISA grade water, reported on the label, to the lyophilized powder; let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Note: *The dissolved calibrator is not stable. Store it frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:

The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Enzyme conjugate:

Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possibly sterile disposable containers.

Chromogen/Substrate:

Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.

If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sample Diluent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Neutraling Reagent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 – Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter (620-630nm, mandatory) for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the sections "Internal Quality Control". The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates.
3. Check that the Chromogen (TMB) is colourless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette.
4. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminium pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
5. Dissolve the content of the Calibrator as reported.
6. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
7. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
8. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
9. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
10. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
11. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
12. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
13. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Controls/Calibrator as they are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.

2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave A1 well empty for the operation of blanking.

3. Dispense 50 µl Neutralizing Reagent in all the wells, except A1 used for blanking operations and in the wells used for the Controls and the Calibrator.

Important note: *The Neutralizing Reagent is able to block false positive reactions due to RF. Positive samples in internal QC panels might be detected negative if such samples were tested positive with an IVD that does not carry out any RF blocking reaction.*

4. Dispense 100 µl of Negative Control in triplicate, 100 µl of Positive Control in single, 100 µl of Calibrator in duplicate and 100 ul of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
5. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

6. Wash the microplate with an automatic as reported previously (section I.3).

7. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the A1 well, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

8. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

9. Wash microwells as in step 6.

10. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

11. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.

12. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

General Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Method	Operations
Neutralizing Reagent (only for samples)	50 µl
Calibrator(*) & Controls	100 µl
Samples diluted 1:101	100 µl
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Enzyme conjugate	100 µl
2nd incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2	100 µl
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm/620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Calibrator (CAL) does not affect the Cut Off calculation, therefore it does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Calibrator (CAL) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme is reported in the table below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S2										
B	NC	S3										
C	NC	S4										
D	NC	S5										
E	CAL(*)	S6										
F	CAL(*)	S7										
G	PC	S8										
H	S1	S9										

Legenda: BLK = Blank NC = Negative Control
PC = Positive Control S = Sample
CAL(*) = Calibrator – Not Mandatory

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the controls any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as expected and required by the IVDD directive 98/79/EC. Control that the following data are matched:

Check	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.100 OD450nm value
Negative Control	< 0.150 mean OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
Positive Control	OD450nm > 0.500

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.

If they do not, do not proceed any further and operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.100 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Sustrate solution has not got contaminated during the assay
Negative Control > 0.150 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of a positive control instead of the negative one; 4. that no contamination of the negative control or of their wells has occurred due spills of positive samples or the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes haven't got contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
Positive Control < 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong control) ; 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

Should one of these problems have happened, after checking, report to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Note:**
If the Calibrator has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Calibrator	S/Co > 1.0

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Calibrator S/Co < 1.0	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong control instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.

Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, Negative Control, Positive Control), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. RESULTS
If the test turns out to be valid, results are calculated from the mean OD450nm/620-630nm value of the Negative Control (NC) by means of a cut-off value (Co) determined with the following formula:

Cut-Off = NC + 0.250

Important note*: When the calculation of results is performed by the operating system of an ELISA automated work station, ensure that the proper formulation is used to generate the correct interpretation of results.*

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Test results are interpreted as a ratio of the sample OD450nm/620-630nm value (S) and the cut-off value (Co), or S/Co, according to the following table:

S/Co	Interpretation
< 1.0	Negative
1.0 – 1.2	Equivocal
> 1.2	Positive

A negative result indicates that the patient has not developed IgM antibodies to H.pylori.
Any patient showing an equivocal result should be retested on a second sample taken 1-2 weeks after the initial sample.
A positive result is indicative of an ongoing H.pylori infection and therefore the patient should be treated accordingly.

Important notes:
1. *H.pylori IgM results alone are not enough to provide a clear diagnosis of Helicobacter pylori infection. Other tests for Helicobater pylori (supplied by Dia.Pro Diagnostic BioProbes s.r.l. at code n° HPAG.CE, HPA.CE and HPG.CE), should be carried out.*
2. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
3. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
4. *Diagnosis has to be done and released to the patient by a suitably qualified medical doctor.*

An example of calculation is reported below.

The following data must not be used instead of real figures obtained by the user.

Negative Control: 0.100 – 0.120 – 0.080 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.100 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted

Positive Control: 1.000 OD450nm
Higher than 0.500 – Accepted

Cut-Off = 0.100+0.250 = 0.350

Calibrator: 0.500 – 0.540 OD450nm
Mean value: 0.520 OD450nm
S/Co higher than 1.0 – Accepted

Sample 1: 0.080 OD450nm
Sample 2: 1.800 OD450nm
Sample 1 S/Co < 1.0 = negative
Sample 2 S/Co > 1.2 = positive

R. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS
Evaluation of Performances has been conducted in accordance to what reported in the Essential Requirements of the Directive 98/79/EC.

1. Limit of detection
No international standard for HP IgM Antibody detection has been defined so far by the European Community.
In its absence, an Internal Gold Standard (or IGS), derived from a patient with an history of past mononucleosis infection, has been defined in order to provide the device with a constant and excellent sensitivity.

2. Diagnostic Sensitivity and Specificity:
The diagnostic performances were evaluated in a performance evaluation study conducted in an external center, with excellent experience in the diagnosis of infectious diseases.
The diagnostic sensitivity was studied on more than 50 samples, pre-tested positive with the reference kit of European origin in use at the laboratory. Positive samples were collected from patients with a clinical history of H.pylori acute infection.
The diagnostic specificity was determined on panels of more than 100 negative samples from normal individuals and blood donors, classified negative with the reference kit, including potentially interfering specimens.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the specificity. No false reactivity due to the method of specimen preparation has been observed.
Frozen specimens have also been tested to check whether samples freezing interferes with the performance of the test. No interference was observed on clean and particle free samples.
The Performance Evaluation provided the following values:

Sensitivity	> 98 %
Specificity	> 98 %

3. Reproducibility:
It has been calculated on three samples examined in replicates in different runs. CV% values obtained from a study conducted on three samples of different HP IgM reactivity, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs ranged between 4-15%, depending on the OD450nm/620-630nm reading.
The variability observed did not result in sample misclassification.

S. LIMITATIONS
False positivity has been assessed as less than 2% of the normal population.
Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates may generate false positive results.

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes S.r.l.
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CE

HSV 1&2 IgG

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 and 2 in human serum and plasma

- for “in vitro” diagnostic use only -

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REF HSVG.CE
96 Tests

HSV IgG

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 and 2 in human plasma and sera.
For "in vitro" diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 (HSV1) and type 2 (HSV2) are large complex DNA-containing viruses which have been shown to induce the synthesis of several proteins during infection, possessing an high number of crossreactive determinants and just a few of type-specific sequences.
The majority of primary and recurrent genital herpetic infections are caused by HSV2; while non genital infections, such as common cold sores, are caused primarily by HSV1.
The detection of virus specific IgG and IgM antibodies are important in the diagnosis of acute/primary virus infections or reactivations of a latent one, in the absence of evident clinical symptoms.
Asymptomatic infections may happen for HSV in apparently healthy individuals and during pregnancy. Severe herpetic infections may happen in immunocompromised and suppressed patients in which the disease may evolve toward critical pathologies.
The determination of HSV specific antibodies has then become important in the monitoring of "risk" patients and in the follow up of acute and severe infections.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Microplates are coated with native inactivated HSV1 and HSV2.
The solid phase is first treated with the diluted sample and IgG to HSV are captured, if present, by the antigens.
After washing out all the other components of the sample, in the 2nd incubation bound anti HSV IgG are detected by the addition of polyclonal specific anti hIgG antibodies, labelled with peroxidase (HRP).
The enzyme captured on the solid phase, acting on the substrate/chromogen mixture, generates an optical signal that is proportional to the amount of anti HSV IgG antibodies present in the sample. A Calibration Curve, calibrated against an internal Gold Standard, makes possible a quantitative determination of the IgG antibody in the patient.

D. COMPONENTS

Each kit contains sufficient reagents to perform 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
n° 1. 12 strips x 8 microwells coated with native UV inactivated HSV1 and HSV2 in presence of bovine proteins.
Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Calibration Curve: CAL N° …
Ready to use and color coded standard curve derived from human plasma positive for HSV IgG ranging:
4ml CAL1 = 0 arbU/ml
4ml CAL2 = 5 arbU/ml
2ml CAL3 = 10 arbU/ml
2ml CAL4= 20 arbU/ml
2ml CAL5 = 50 arbU/ml
4ml CAL6 = 100 arbU/ml.
Standards are calibrated in arbitrary units against an internal Gold Standard (or IGS).
It contains human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. Standards are blue colored.

3. Control Serum: CONTROL …ml
1 vial. Lyophilized. It contains fetal bovine serum proteins, human IgG antibodies to HSV at about 20 arbU/ml ± 20%, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label.

4. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle20x concentrated solution. Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

5. Enzyme conjugate : CONJ
2x8ml/vial. Ready to use and red colour coded. It contains Horseradish peroxidase conjugated polyclonal antibodies to human IgG, 5% BSA, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.045% ProClin 300, 0.02% gentamicine sulphate as preservatives and 0.01% red alimentary dye.

6. Chromogen/Substrate: SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffer pH 3.5-3.8, 4% dimethylsulphoxide, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (or TMB) and 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (or H_2O_2) and 4% dimethylsulphoxide.
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

7. Sulphuric Acid: H_2SO_4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vial. It contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363)

8. Specimen Diluent: DILSPE
2x60ml/vial. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide, 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. The reagent is blue colour coded.

9. Plate sealing foils n°2

10. Package insert n°1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance)..
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses.

The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.

3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection. Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for at least 12 months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in manufacturing.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C.
After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Calibration Curve
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Control Serum
Add the volume of ELISA grade water, reported on the label, to the lyophilised powder; let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Note: *The control after dissolution is not stable. Store frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Enzyme conjugate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possibly sterile disposable containers.

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sample Diluent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter of 620-630nm, mandatory for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Internal Quality Control'' . The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates.
3. Check that the Chromogen (TMB) is colourless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette.
4. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminium pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
5. Dissolve the content of the lyophilised Control Serum as reported in the proper section.
6. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
7. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
8. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles reported in the specific section.
9. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
10. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
11. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
12. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
13. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.
The kit may be used for quantitative and qualitative determinations as well.

M1. QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION:

Automated assay:

In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Sample Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor).

The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl samples into the proper wells of the microplate.
This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first 100 µl Sample Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.
Do not dilute Calibrators and the dissolved Control Serum as they are ready to use.
Dispense 100 µl calibrators/control in the appropriate calibration/control wells.
For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.
It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the A1 and B1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrators and 100 µl Control Serum in duplicate. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer by delivering and aspirating 350 µl/well of diluted washing solution as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except A1+B1 blanking wells, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1 and B1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank wells A1 and B1 included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid to stop the enzymatic reaction into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1 or B1 or both.

M2. QUALITATIVE DETERMINATION
If only a qualitative determination is required, proceed as described below:

Automated assay:

Proceed as described in section M1.

Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave A1 well empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrator 0 arbU/ml and Calibrator 5 arbU/ml in duplicate and Calibrator 100 arbU/ml in single. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer by delivering and aspirating 350 µl/well of diluted washing solution as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the A1 well, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

General Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*

2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Method	Operations
Calibrators & Control (*)	100 µl
Samples diluted 1:101	100 µl
1st incubation	60 min
Temperature	+37°C

Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20" of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Enzyme conjugate	100 µl
2nd incubation	60 min
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20" of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2	100 µl
3rd incubation	20 min
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Control Serum (CS) it does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Control Serum (CS) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme for Quantitative Analysis is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	CAL4	S 1									
B	BLK	CAL4	S 2									
C	CAL1	CAL5	S 3									
D	CAL1	CAL5	S 4									
E	CAL2	CAL6	S 5									
F	CAL2	CAL6	S 6									
G	CAL3	CS(*)	S 7									
H	CAL3	CS(*)	S 8									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrator
CS(*) = Control Serum - Not mandatory S = Sample

An example of dispensation scheme in qualitative assays is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S 3	S 11									
B	CAL1	S 4	S 12									
C	CAL1	S 5	S 13									
D	CAL2	S 6	S 14									
E	CAL2	S 7	S 15									
F	CAL6	S 8	S 16									
G	S1	S 9	S 17									
H	S2	S 10	S 18									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrators
S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the calibrators any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as qualified.

Control that the following data are matched:

Check	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.050 OD450nm/620-630nm value
CAL 1 0 arbU/ml	< 0.150 mean OD450nm/620-630nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
CAL 2 5 arbU/ml	OD450nm > OD450nm/620-630nm CAL1 + 0.100
CAL 6 100 arbU/ml	OD450nm/620-630nm > 1.000

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.

If they do not, do not proceed any further and operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.050 OD450nm/620-630nm	1. that the Chromogen/Sustrate solution has not got contaminated during the assay
CAL 1 **0 arbU/ml** > 0.150 OD450nm/620-630nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of a positive calibrator instead of the negative one; 4. that no contamination of the negative calibrator or of their wells has occurred due spills of positive samples or the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes haven't got contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
CAL 2 **5 arbU/ml** OD450nm/620-630nm < OD450nm/620-630nm CAL1 + 0.100	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (ex.: dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.
CAL 6 **100 arbU/ml** < 1.000 OD450nm/620-630nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead) ; 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

Should one of these problems have happened, after checking, report to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Note:**

If Control Serum has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Control Serum	Mean OD450nm/620-630nm CAL 4 ± 20%

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Control Serum Different from expected value	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the control serum has occurred.

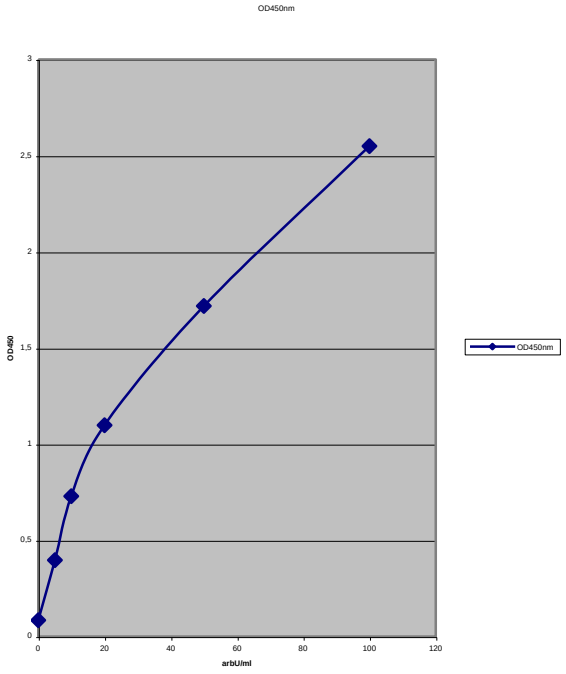
Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, CAL1, CAL2, CAL6), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. RESULTS

P.1 Quantitative method
If the test turns out to be valid, use for the quantitative method an approved curve fitting program to draw the calibration curve from the values obtained by reading at OD450nm/620-630nm (4-parameters interpolation is suggested).
Then on the calibration curve calculate the concentration of anti Herpes Simplex Virus IgG antibody in samples.

An example of Calibration curve is reported in the next page.

Example of Calibration Curve :



Important Note:
Do not use the calibration curve above to make calculations.
P.2 Qualitative method
In the qualitative method, calculate the mean OD450nm/620-630nm values for the Calibrators 0 and 5 arbU/ml and then check that the assay is valid.

Example of calculation:
The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.

Calibrator 0 arbU/ml: 0.020 – 0.024
Mean Value: 0.022 OD450nm/620-630nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted

Calibrator 5 arbU/ml: 0.350 – 0.370
Mean Value: 0.360 OD450nm/620-630nm
Higher than Cal 0 + 0.100 – Accepted

Calibrator 100 arbU/ml: 2.245 OD450nm/620-630nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Samples with a concentration lower than 5 arbU/ml are considered negative for anti HSV IgG antibody.
Samples with a concentration higher than 5 arbU/ml are considered positive for anti HSV IgG antibody.

Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for a primary infection of HSV due to the risk of neonatal malformations.

Important notes:
1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
3. *In the follow-up of pregnancy for HSV infection a positive result (presence of IgG antibody > 5 arbU/ml) should be confirmed to ruled out the risk of a false positive result and a false definition of protection.*

R. PERFORMANCES

1. Limit of detection
The limit of detection of the assay has been calculated by means of an internal Gold Standard in absence of an international preparation to refer to.
The limit of detection has been calculated as mean OD450nm/620-630nm Calibrator 0 arbU/ml + 5 SD.
The table below reports the mean OD450nm/620-630nm values of this standard when diluted in negative plasma and then examined in the assay for three lots.

Mean OD450nm/620-630nm values (n = 2)

IgG arbU/ml	HSVG.PU Lot. 0203/2	HSVG Lot. 0403/M	HSVG.PU Lot. 0603
0	0.043	0..085	0.091
5	0.381	0.397	0.427
10	0.694	0.729	0.786
20	1.076	1.099	1.097
50	1.550	1.719	1.692
100	2.396	2.549	2.478

The assay shows a limit of detection far better than 5 arbU/ml.

In addition the preparation code Accurun n° 150, produced by Boston Biomedica Inc., BBI, USA, was tested in dilutions to determine the limit of its detection and provide a further value of analytical sensitivity

Mean OD450nm/620-630nm values (n = 2)

Dilution	HSVG.PU Lot. 0203/2	HSVG Lot. 0403/M	HSVG.PU Lot. 0603
1 X	1.694	1.719	1.708
2 X	1.085	1.117	1.100
4 X	0.730	0.751	0.744
8 X	0.446	0.464	0.453
16 X	0.301	0.314	0.306
32 X	0.150	0.165	0.158
0 arbU/ml	0.043	0.085	0.066
5 arbU/ml	0.381	0.397	0.395

2. Diagnostic sensitivity:
The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested in a performance evaluation study on panels of samples classified positive by a kit US FDA approved. Positive samples from different stage of HSV infection were tested.
The value, obtained from the analysis of more than 300 specimens, has been > 98%.
In addition the Performance panel PTH 201, supplied by BBI, was evaluated with the kit against a reference FDA approved kit.

BBI Panel PTH 201 (Performance)

Panel ID #	Dia.Pro OD450nm/620-630nm	Kit S/Co	REF HSV1 S/Co	REF HSV2 S/Co
01	1.064	**2.7**	**3.5**	**1.6**
02	2.525	**6.4**	**2.9**	**4.4**
03	0.860	**2.1**	**1.0**	**1.1**
04	2.391	**6.0**	**4.4**	**4.1**
05	1.793	**4.5**	**4.0**	**2.2**
06	1.093	**2.8**	0.8	**1.4**
07	0.801	**2.0**	0.9	**1.2**
08	2.180	**5.5**	**2.9**	**3.9**
09	2.086	**5.3**	**4.6**	**3.4**
10	0.029	0.1	0.3	0.3
11	1.900	**4.8**	**3.8**	**2.7**
12	0.995	**2.5**	**2.1**	**2.3**
13	1.833	**4.6**	**2.4**	**3.3**
14	0.153	0.4	0.4	0.5
15	2.130	**5.4**	**4.7**	**3.6**
16	1.320	**3.3**	**1.9**	**2.7**
17	3.008	**7.6**	**4.6**	**5.6**
18	1.042	**2.6**	**2.8**	**1.6**
19	0.097	0.2	0.3	0.3
20	0.414	**1.0**	0.6	0.8
21	1.682	**4.2**	**3.3**	**2.2**
22	2.364	**6.0**	**5.1**	**4.1**
23	1.926	**4.9**	**4.3**	**2.2**
24	1.556	**4.0**	**1.6**	**2.5**
25	2.372	**6.0**	**5.1**	**3.7**

Note: Cut-Off = 5 arbU/ml = 0.395

3. Diagnostic specificity:
The diagnostic specificity has been determined in the same study on panels of negative samples from not infected individuals, classified negative with a kit US FDA approved.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the value of specificity.
Frozen specimens have been tested, as well, to check for interferences due to collection and storage.
No interference was observed.

Potentially interfering samples derived from patients with different pathologies (mostly ANA, AMA and RF positive) and from pregnant women were tested.
No crossreaction was observed.
An overall value > 98% of specificity was found when examined on more than 100 specimens.
3. Precision:
It has been calculated on the Calibrator 5 arbU/ml, considered the cut-off of the assay, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs for three lots.
Results are reported as follows:

HSVG: lot 0603/2

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD450nm/620-630nm	0.450	0.438	0.449	0.446
Std.Deviation	0.020	0.021	0.026	0.022
CV %	4.4	4.8	5.7	5.0

HSVG.PU: lot 0603

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD450nm/620-630nm	0.449	0.441	0.453	0.448
Std.Deviation	0.024	0.024	0.029	0.026
CV %	5.4	5.4	6.5	5.8

HSVG: Lot 0403/M

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD450nm/620-630nm	0.405	0.406	0.405	0.405
Std.Deviation	0.027	0.031	0.030	0.029
CV %	6.6	7.6	7.4	7.2

The variability shown in the tables above did not result in sample misclassification.

5. Accuracy
The assay accuracy has been checked by the dilution and recovery tests. Any "hook effect", underestimation likely to happen at high doses of analyte, was ruled out up to 500 IU/ml.

S. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE
Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.
Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates after thawing may generate some false results.
This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history, symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes S.r.l.
Via G. Carducci n° 27 – Sesto San Giovanni (MI) – Italy

CE

HSV 1&2 IgM

"Capture" Enzyme Immuno Assay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus types 1&2 in human plasma and sera

- for "in vitro" diagnostic use only -

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REF HSVM.CE
96 tests

HSV1&2 IgM

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus types 1&2 in human plasma and sera with the "capture" system. The devise is intended for the follow-up of HSV infected patients and for the monitoring of risk of neonatal defects due to HSV infection during pregnancy. For “in vitro” diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 (HSV1) and type 2 (HSV2) are large complex DNA-containing viruses which have been shown to induce the synthesis of several proteins during infection, possessing an high number of cross-reactive determinants and just a few of type-specific sequences.

The majority of primary and recurrent genital herpetic infections are caused by HSV2; while non genital infections, such as common cold sores, are caused primarily by HSV1.

The detection of virus specific IgG and IgM antibodies are important in the diagnosis of acute/primary virus infections or reactivations of a latent one, in the absence of evident clinical symptoms.

A-symptomatic infections may happen for HSV in apparently healthy individuals and during pregnancy. Severe herpetic infections may happen in immuno-compromised and suppressed patients in which the disease may evolve toward critical pathologies.

The determination of HSV specific antibodies has then become important in the monitoring of “risk” patients and in the follow up of acute and severe infections.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The assay is based on the principle of "IgM capture" where IgM class antibodies in the sample are first captured by the solid phase coated with anti hIgM antibody.

After washing out all the other components of the sample and in particular IgG antibodies, the specific IgM captured on the solid phase are detected by the addition of a purified preparation of inactivated HSV1&2, labeled with a specific antibody conjugated with peroxidase (HRP).

After incubation, microwells are washed to remove unbound conjugate and then the chromogen/substrate is added.

In the presence of bound conjugate the colorless substrate is hydrolyzed to a colored end-product, whose optical density may be detected and is proportional to the amount of IgM antibodies to HSV1&2present in the sample.

A system is described how to control whether the positivity shown by a sample is true or not (Confirmation Test), helpful for the clinician to make a correct interpretation of results.

D. COMPONENTS

The kit contains reagents for 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE

12 strips x 8 microwells coated with anti human IgM affinity purified goat antibody, in presence of bovine proteins.

Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Negative Control: CONTROL -

1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM citrate buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. The negative control is yellow colour coded.

3. Positive Control: CONTROL +

1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% citrate buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.

The positive control is green colour coded.

4. Calibrator: CAL …ml

N° 1 lyophilized vial. To be dissolved with EIA grade water as reported in the label. It contains anti HSV1&2 IgM, 4% Bovine proteins, 2% mannitol, 5mM tris base, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.

Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label.

5. Lyophilized HSV1&2 Ag: AG HSV

N° 6 lyophilized vials. The vials contain lyophilized UV-light inactivated HSV1&2 in a protein buffer. The solution contains 2% bovine proteins, 10 mM Tris HCl buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300. To be dissolved with 1.9 ml of Antigen Diluent as reported in the specific section.

6. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X

1x60ml/bottle. 20x concentrated solution. Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300. .

7. Enzyme conjugate: CONJ 20X

1x0.8 ml/vial. 20x concentrated solution of a HSV-specific antibody, labeled with HRP and diluted in a protein buffer containing 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives.

8. Antigen Diluent : AG DIL

n° 1 vial of 16 ml. Protein buffer solution for the preparation of the Immunocomplex. The solution contains 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives. The reagent is code coloured with 0.01% red alimentary dye

9. Specimen Diluent : DILSPE

2x60.0 ml/vial. Proteic buffered solution for the dilution of samples. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM citrate buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.

The reagent is color coded with 0.01% blue alimentary dye.

10. Chromogen/Substrate : SUBS TMB

1x16ml/vial. It contains a 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffered solution at pH 3.5-3.8, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (TMB), 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and 4% dimethylsulphoxide.

Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

11. Sulphuric Acid: H_2SO_4 0.3 M

1x15ml/vial. It contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.

Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

12. Plate sealing foils n° 2

13. Package insert n° 1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance)..
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection. Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for several months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:

Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in manufacturing.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C.
After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Negative Control:

Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Positive Control:

Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Calibrator:

Add the volume of ELISA grade water reported on the label to the lyophilized powder. Let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
***Important Note**: The solution is not stable. Store the Calibrator frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Ag/Ab Immunocomplex:
Proceed carefully as follows:
1. Dissolve the content of a lyophilized vial with 1.9 ml of Conjugate/Antigen Diluent. Let fully dissolved the lyophilized content and then gently mix on vortex.
2. Gently mix the concentrated Enzyme Conjugate on vortex. Then add 0.1 ml of it to the vial of the dissolved HSV Ag and mix gently on vortex.

Important Notes*:*
1. *Dissolve and prepare only the number of vials necessary to the test. The Immunocomplex obtained is not stable. Store any residual solution frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*
2. *The preparation of the Immucomplex has to be done **right before** the dispensation of samples and controls into the plate. Mix again on vortex gently just before its use.*

Specimen Diluent:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT
1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/-0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The **ELISA microplate reader** has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter of 620-630nm, mandatory for blanking purpose. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Quality Control''. The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. When using automatic devices, in case the vial holder of the instrument does not fit with the vials supplied in the kit, transfer the solution into appropriate containers and label them with the same label peeled out from the original vial. This operation is important in order to avoid mismatching contents of vials, when transferring them. When the test is over, return the secondary labeled containers to 2..8°C, firmly capped.
8. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS
1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use the device if expired.

2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates. Check that the Chromogen/Substrate is colorless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminum pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
3. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
4. Dissolve the Calibrator as described above and gently mix.
5. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
6. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
7. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
8. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
9. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
10. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
11. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.

M.1 Automated assay:

In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Specimen Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor). The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl diluted samples into the proper wells of the microplate.

This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Specimen Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first 100 µl Specimen Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.

Do not dilute controls/calibrator as they are ready to use.

Dispense 100 µl calibrators/control in the appropriate calibration/control wells.

For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.

It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

M. 2 Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 by dispensing first 10 µl sample and then 1 ml Specimen Diluent into a dilution tube; mix gently on vortex.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the well in position A1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Negative Control in triplicate and 100 µl of Calibrator in the proper wells in duplicate. Dispense 100 µl of Positive Control in single into the proper well. Do not dilute controls and the calibrator as they are ready to use !
4. Dispense 100 µl diluted samples in the proper sample wells and then check that all the samples wells are blue colored and that controls and calibrator have been dispensed.
5. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

6. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously in section I.3.

7. Pipette 100 µl of the **Ag/Ab Immunocomplex** into each well, except the blanking well A1, and cover with the sealer. Check that all wells are red colored, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the* **Ag/Ab Immunocomplex***. Contamination might occur.*

8. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .

9. Wash microwells as in section I.3.

10. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.
Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

11. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 10. Addition of acid will turn the positive control and positive samples from blue to yellow.
12. Measure the color intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction), blanking the instrument on A1 (mandatory).

Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Controls&calibrator(*) Samples diluted 1:101	100 ul 100 ul
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Immunocomplex	100 ul
2nd incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2 mix	100 ul
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Calibrator (CAL) does not affect the Cut Off calculation, therefore it does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Calibrator (CAL) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S2										
B	NC	S3										
C	NC	S4										
D	NC	S5										
E	CAL(*)	S6										
F	CAL(*)	S7										
G	PC	S8										
H	S1	S9										

Legenda: BLK = Blank NC = Negative Control
CAL(*) = Calibrator-Not Mandatory PC = Positive Control
S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the controls any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as qualified.
Control that the following data are matched:

Parameter	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.050 OD450nm value
Negative Control mean value (NC)	< 0.200 OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
Positive Control	≥ 0.750 OD450nm

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.
If they do not, do not proceed any further and perform the following checks:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.05 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Substrate solution has not become contaminated during the assay
Negative Control (NC) > 0.200 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of positive control instead of negative control; 4. that no contamination of the negative control or of the wells where the control was dispensed has occurred due to positive samples, to spills or to the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes have not become contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
Positive Control < 0.750 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during the distribution of the control (dispensation of negative control instead of positive control). 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

If any of the above problems have occurred, report the problem to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Important Note:**

If the Calibrator has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Calibrator	S/Co ≥ 1.0

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Calibrator S/Co < 1.0	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during its distribution (ex.: dispensation of negative control instead) 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.

Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, Negative Control, Positive Control), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. CALCULATION OF THE CUT-OFF

The test results are calculated by means of the mean OD450nm value of the Negative Control (NC) and a mathematical calculation, in order to define the following cut-off formulation:

Cut-Off = NC + 0.250

The value found for the test is used for the interpretation of results as described in the next paragraph.

***Important note**: When the calculation of results is performed by the operating system of an ELISA automated work station, ensure that the proper formulation is used to calculate the cut-off value and generate the correct interpretation of results.*

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Test results are interpreted as a ratio of the sample OD450nm and the Cut-Off value (or S/Co) according to the following table:

S/Co	Interpretation
< 1.0	Negative
1.0 - 1.2	Equivocal
> 1.2	Positive

A negative result indicates that the patient is not undergoing an acute infection of Herpes Simplex Virus.
Any patient showing an equivocal result, should be re-tested by examining a second sample taken from the patient after 1-2 weeks from first testing.
A positive result is indicative of a Herpes Simplex Virus infection.

An example of calculation is reported below:

Important Note: *The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.*

Negative Control: 0.080 – 0.100 – 0.070 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.090 OD450nm
Lower than 0.200 – Accepted
Positive Control: 1.850 OD450nm
Higher than 0.750 – Accepted

Cut-Off = 0.090+0.250 = 0.340

Calibrator: 0.800 - 0.840 OD450nm
Mean value: 0.820 OD450nm S/Co = 2.4
S/Co higher than 1.0 – Accepted
Sample 1: 0.070 OD450nm
Sample 2: 1.690 OD450nm
Sample 1 S/Co < 1 = negative
Sample 2 S/Co > 1.2 = positive

Important notes:
1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for an infection of HSV due to the risk of severe neonatal malformations.*
3. *In pregnancy monitoring, it is strongly recommended that any positive result is confirmed first with the procedure described below and secondly with a different device for HSV IgM detection, before taking any preventive medical action.*
4. *Any positive sample should be submitted to the Confirmation Test reported in section T before giving a result of positivity. By carrying out this test, false reactions, leading to a misinterpretation of the analytical result, can be revealed and then ruled out.*
5. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
6. *Diagnosis of infection has to be taken and released to the patient by a suitably qualified medical doctor.*

R. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

1. Limit of detection

No international standard for HSV1&2 IgM Antibody detection has been defined so far by the European Community.
In its absence, an Internal Gold Standard (or IGS), calibrated on the preparation named “Accurun – Anti HSV2 IgM plasma” produced by Boston Biomedica Inc., USA, code 9106072, has been defined in order to provide the device with a constant and excellent sensitivity..
The limit of detection of the assay has been therefore calculated on the IGS. A limiting dilution curve was prepared in the Negative Control (NC).
Results of Quality Control are given in the following table:

OD450nm values

IGS	HSVM.CE Lot # RD1	HSVM.CE Lot # RD2	HSVM.CE Lot # RD3
1X	0.541	0.568	0.580
2X	0.272	0.298	0.300
4X	0.155	0.142	0.153
NC	0.095	0.100	0.128

2. Diagnostic sensitivity:

The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested in a clinical trial on panels of 40 samples classified positive by a CE marked kit. The value obtained from the analysis was > 98%.

3. Diagnostic specificity:

The diagnostic specificity has been determined in the clinical trial on panels of more than 300 specimens, negative with the reference kit, derived from normal individuals of European origin.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the specificity. No false reactivity due to the method of specimen preparation has been observed.
Frozen specimens have also been tested to check whether this interferes with the performance of the test. No interference was observed on clean and particle free samples.
A study conducted on more than 60 potentially cross-reactive samples has not revealed any interference in the system.
No cross reaction were observed.
The Performance Evaluation has provided a value > 98%.
False positive reactions may be anyway pointed out and then ruled out in the interpretation of results with the procedure reported in section T, able to verify whether or not a positive result is real.

3. Precision:

It has been calculated on three samples, a negative, a low positive and a positive, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs.

Results are reported as follows:

HSVM.CE: lot # RD1

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.061	0.061	0.060	0.061
Std.Deviation	0.006	0.006	0.007	0.006
CV %	10.3	9.2	11.7	10.4

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.360	0.358	0.356	0.358
Std.Deviation	0.017	0.012	0.013	0.014
CV %	4.8	3.4	3.5	3.9

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.842	1.845	1.877	1.854
Std.Deviation	0.025	0.029	0.039	0.031
CV %	1.4	1.6	2.1	1.7

HSVM.CE: lot # RD2

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.122	0.122	0.122	0.122
Std.Deviation	0.012	0.009	0.011	0.011
CV %	9.9	7.5	8.9	8.8

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.432	0.431	0.462	0.442
Std.Deviation	0.023	0.019	0.025	0.022
CV %	5.3	4.4	5.5	5.0

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.858	1.852	1.841	1.850
Std.Deviation	0.031	0.035	0.039	0.035
CV %	1.7	1.9	2.1	1.9

HSVM.CE: lot # RD3

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.106	0.102	0.106	0.105
Std.Deviation	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.012
CV %	11.6	12.6	11.1	11.8

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.385	0.386	0.386	0.385
Std.Deviation	0.007	0.008	0.008	0.008
CV %	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.1

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.871	1.862	1.848	1.861
Std.Deviation	0.040	0.035	0.026	0.033
CV %	2.1	1.9	1.4	1.8

S. LIMITATIONS

Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates may generate false positive results.

Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.

This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.

Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history, symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

T. CONFIRMATION TEST

In order to provide the medical doctor with the best accuracy in the follow-up of pregnancy, where a false positive result could lead to an operation of abortion, a confirmation test is reported. The confirmation test has to be carried out on any positive sample before a diagnosis of primary infection of HSV is released to the doctor.

Proceed for confirmation as follows:

1. Prepare the Antigen/Conjugate Complex as described in the proper section. This reagent is called Solution A.
2. Then 25 ul concentrated Enzymatic Conjugate are diluted in 500 ul Antigen Diluent and mixed gently on vortex. Do not use any lyophilized antigen vial for this procedure ! This solution is called Solution B.
3. The well A1 of the strip is left empty for blanking.
4. The Negative Control is dispensed in the strip in positions B1+C1. This is used for the calculation of the cut-off and S/Co values.
5. The positive sample to be confirmed, diluted 1:101, is dispensed in the strip in position D1+E1.
6. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
7. After washing, the blank well A1 is left empty.
8. 100 µl of Solution A are dispensed in wells B1+C1+D1.
9. Then 100 µl of Solution B are added to well E1.
10. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
11. After washing, 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate are added to all the wells and the strip is incubated for 20 min at r.t.
12. 100 µl Sulphuric Acid are added to all the wells and then their color intensity is measured at 450nm (reading filter) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, strongly recommended), blanking the instrument on A1.

Interpretation of results is carried out as follows:

1. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.0 a problem of dispensation or contamination in the first test is likely to be occurred. The Assay Procedure in Section M has to be repeated to double check the analysis.
2. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value still higher than 1.2 the sample is considered a **false positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact not dependent on the specific presence of HSV and a crossreaction with enzymatic conjugate has occurred.
3. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.0 the sample is considered a **true positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact dependent on the specific presence of HSV and not due to any crossreaction.

The following table is reported for the interpretation of results

Well	**S/Co**		
D1	< 1.0	> 1.2	> 1.2
E1	< 1.0	> 1.2	< 1.0
Interpretation	Problem of contam.	False positive	True positive

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes S.r.l
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CE

HSV1 IgG

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 in human serum and plasma

- for “in vitro” diagnostic use only -

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REF HSV1G.CE
96 Tests

HSV1 IgG

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 in human plasma and sera.
For "in vitro" diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 (HSV1) and type 2 (HSV2) are large complex DNA-containing viruses which have been shown to induce the synthesis of several proteins during infection, possessing an high number of crossreactive determinants and just a few of type-specific sequences.
The majority of primary and recurrent genital herpetic infections are caused by HSV2; while non genital infections, such as common cold sores, are caused primarily by HSV1.
The detection of virus specific IgG and IgM antibodies are important in the diagnosis of acute/primary virus infections or reactivations of a latent one, in the absence of evident clinical symptoms.
Asymptomatic infections may happen for HSV in apparently healthy individuals and during pregnancy. Severe herpetic infections may happen in immunocompromised and suppressed patients in which the disease may evolve toward critical pathologies.
The determination of HSV specific antibodies has then become important in the monitoring of "risk" patients and in the follow up of acute and severe infections.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Microplates are coated with native inactivated HSV1.
The solid phase is first treated with the diluted sample and IgG to HSV are captured, if present, by the antigens.
After washing out all the other components of the sample, in the 2nd incubation bound anti HSV1 IgG are detected by the addition of polyclonal specific anti hIgG antibodies, labelled with peroxidase (HRP).
The enzyme captured on the solid phase, acting on the substrate/chromogen mixture, generates an optical signal that is proportional to the amount of anti HSV1 IgG antibodies present in the sample. A Calibration Curve, calibrated against an internal Gold Standard, makes possible a quantitative determination of the IgG antibody in the patient.

D. COMPONENTS

Each kit contains sufficient reagents to perform 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
n° 1. 12 strips x 8 microwells coated with native UV inactivated HSV1 in presence of bovine proteins.
Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Calibration Curve: CAL N° …
Ready to use and color coded standard curve derived from human plasma positive for HSV1 IgG ranging:
4ml CAL1 = 0 arbU/ml
4ml CAL2 = 5 arbU/ml
2ml CAL3 = 10 arbU/ml
2ml CAL4 = 20 arbU/ml
2mlCAL5 = 50 arbU/ml
4ml CAL6 = 100 arbU/ml.
Standards are calibrated in arbitrary units against an internal Gold Standard (or IGS).
It contains human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. Standards are blue colored.

3. Control Serum: CONTROL …ml
1 vial. Lyophilized. It contains fetal bovine serum proteins, human IgG antibodies to HSV1 at about 20 arbU/ml ±20%, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label.

4. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle20x concentrated solution. Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

5. Enzyme conjugate : CONJ
2x8ml/vial. Ready to use and red colour coded. It contains Horseradish peroxidase conjugated polyclonal antibodies to human IgG, 5% BSA, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.045% ProClin 300, 0.02% gentamicine sulphate as preservatives and 0.01% red alimentary dye.

6. Chromogen/Substrate: SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffer pH 3.5-3.8, 4% dimethylsulphoxide, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (or TMB) and 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (or H_2O_2).
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

7. Sulphuric Acid: H_2SO_4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vial. It contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363)

8. Specimen Diluent: DILSPE
2x60ml/vial. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide 0.1% and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. The reagent is blue colour coded.

9. Plate sealing foils n°2

10. Package insert n°1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance)..
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection.

Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for several months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.

5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:

Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in storing.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C.
After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Calibration Curve

Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Control Serum

Add the volume of ELISA grade water, reported on the label, to the lyophilised powder; let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Note: *The control after dissolution is not stable. Store frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:

The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Enzyme conjugate:

Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possibly sterile disposable containers.

Chromogen/Substrate:

Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.

If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sample Diluent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter of 620-630nm, mandatory for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Internal Quality Control".The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates.
3. Check that the Chromogen (TMB) is colourless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette.
4. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminium pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
5. Dissolve the content of the lyophilised Control Serum as reported in the proper section.
6. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
7. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
8. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
9. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
10. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
11. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
12. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
13. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.
The kit may be used for quantitative and qualitative determinations as well.

M1. QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION:

Automated assay:

In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Sample Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor). The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have

to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl samples into the proper wells of the microplate.
This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first 100 µl Sample Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.
Do not dilute Calibrators and the dissolved Control Serum as they are ready to use.
Dispense 100 µl calibrators/control in the appropriate calibration/control wells.
For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.
It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the A1 and B1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrators and 100 µl Control Serum in duplicate. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except A1+B1 blanking wells, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1 and B1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank wells A1 and B1 included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid to stop the enzymatic reaction into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1 or B1 or both.

M2. QUALITATIVE DETERMINATION
If only a qualitative determination is required, proceed as described below:

Automated assay:

Proceed as described in section M1.

Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave A1 well empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrator 0 arbU/ml and Calibrator 5 arbU/ml in duplicate and Calibrator 100 arbU/ml in single. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the A1 well, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow .
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

General Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*

2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Method	Operations
Calibrators & Control (*) Samples diluted 1:101	100 µl 100 µl
1st incubation	60 min
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Enzyme conjugate	100 µl
2nd incubation	60 min
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2	100 µl
3rd incubation	20 min
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Control Serum (CS) it does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Control Serum (CS) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme for Quantitative Analysis is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	CAL4	S 1									
B	BLK	CAL4	S 2									
C	CAL1	CAL5	S 3									
D	CAL1	CAL5	S 4									
E	CAL2	CAL6	S 5									
F	CAL2	CAL6	S 6									
G	CAL3	CS(*)	S 7									
H	CAL3	CS(*)	S 8									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrator
CS(*) = Control Serum - Not mandatory S = Sample

An example of dispensation scheme in qualitative assays is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S 3	S 11									
B	CAL1	S 4	S 12									
C	CAL1	S 5	S 13									
D	CAL2	S 6	S 14									
E	CAL2	S 7	S 15									
F	CAL6	S 8	S 16									
G	S 1	S 9	S 17									
H	S 2	S 10	S 18									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrators
S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the calibrators any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as qualified.

Control that the following data are matched:

Check	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.050 OD450nm value
CAL 1 0 arbU/ml	< 0.150 mean OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
CAL 2 5 arbU/ml	OD450nm > OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100
CAL 6 100 arbU/ml	OD450nm > 1.000

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.

If they do not, do not proceed any further and operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.050 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Substrate solution has not got contaminated during the assay
CAL 1 **0 arbU/ml** > 0.150 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of a positive calibrator instead of the negative one; 4. that no contamination of the negative calibrator or of their wells has occurred due spills of positive samples or the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes haven't got contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
CAL 2 **5 arbU/ml** OD450nm < OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (ex.: dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.
CAL 6 **100 arbU/ml** < 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead) ; 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

Should one of these problems have happened, after checking, report to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Note:**

If Control Serum has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Control Serum	Mean OD450nm CAL 4 ± 20%

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Control Serum Different from expected value	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the control serum has occurred.

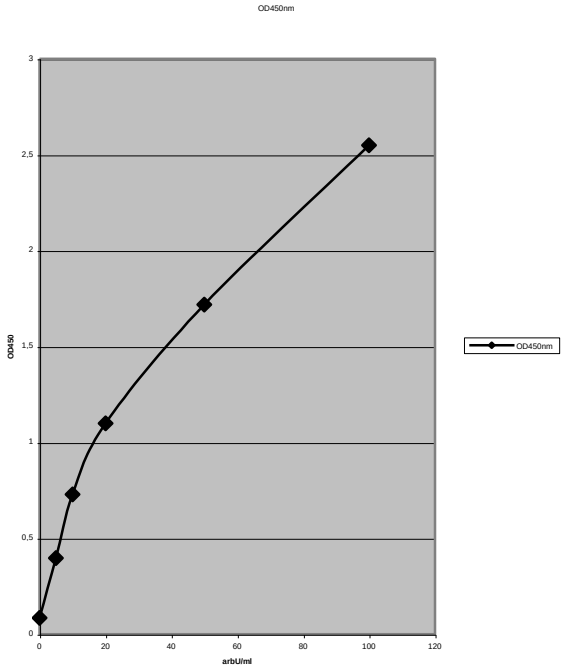
Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, CAL1, CAL2, CAL6), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. RESULTS

P.1 Quantitative method
If the test turns out to be valid, use for the quantitative method an approved curve fitting program to draw the calibration curve from the values obtained by reading at 450nm (4-parameters interpolation is suggested).
Then on the calibration curve calculate the concentration of anti Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 IgG antibody in samples.

An example of Calibration curve is reported in the next page.

Example of Calibration Curve :



Important Note:
Do not use the calibration curve above to make calculations.

P.2 Qualitative method
In the qualitative method, calculate the mean OD450nm values for the Calibrators 0 and 5 arbU/ml and then check that the assay is valid.

Example of calculation:

The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.

Calibrator 0 arbU/ml: 0.020 – 0.024 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.022 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted

Calibrator 5 arbU/ml: 0.350 – 0.370 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.360 OD450nm
Higher than Cal 0 + 0.100 – Accepted

Calibrator 100 arbU/ml: 2.245 OD450nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Samples with a concentration lower than 5 arbU/ml are considered negative for anti HSV1 IgG antibody.
Samples with a concentration higher than 5 arbU/ml are considered positive for anti HSV1 IgG antibody.

Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for a primary infection of HSV due to the risk of neonatal malformations.

Important notes:
1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
3. *In the follow-up of pregnancy for HSV infection a positive result (presence of IgG antibody > 5 arbU/ml) should be confirmed to ruled out the risk of a false positive result and a false definition of protection.*

R. PERFORMANCES

1. Limit of detection
The limit of detection of the assay has been calculated by means of an internal Gold Standard in absence of an international preparation to refer to.
The limit of detection has been calculated as mean OD450nm Calibrator 0 arbU/ml + 5 SD.
The table below reports the mean OD450nm values of this standard when diluted in negative plasma and then examined in the assay for three lots.

Mean OD450nm values (n = 2)

IgG arbU/ml	HSV1G.PU Lot # 0703	HSV1G.PU Lot # 1203	HSV1G.PU Lot # 0204/2
0	0.077	0.034	0.043
5	0.355	0.404	0.318
10	0.742	0.713	0.516
20	1.254	1.216	0.944
50	1.952	1.928	1.728
100	2.623	2.261	2.072

The assay shows a limit of detection far better than 5 arbU/ml.

In addition the preparation code Accurun n° 150, produced by Boston Biomedica Inc., BBI, USA, was tested in dilutions to determine the limit of its detection and provide a further value of analytical sensitivity

Mean OD450nm values (n = 2)

Dilution	HSV1G.CE Lot # 1004	HSV1G.PU Lot # 1203	HSV1G.PU Lot # 0204/2
1 X	1.248	1.218	1.300
2 X	0.860	0.848	0.876
4 X	0.545	0.526	0.583
8 X	0.315	0.300	0.329
16 X	0.164	0.152	0.148
32 X	0.082	0.064	0.072
0 arbU/ml	0.057	0.050	0.047
5 arbU/ml	0.288	0.355	0.318

2. Diagnostic sensitivity:
The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested in a performance evaluation study on panels of samples classified positive by a kit US FDA approved. Positive samples from different stage of HSV infection were tested. The value, obtained from the analysis of more than 300 specimens, has been > 98%.

3. Diagnostic specificity:
The diagnostic specificity has been determined on panels of negative samples from not infected individuals, classified negative with a kit US FDA approved.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the value of specificity.
Frozen specimens have been tested, as well, to check for interferences due to collection and storage.
No interference was observed.
Potentially interfering samples derived from patients with different pathologies (mostly ANA, AMA and RF positive) and from pregnant women were tested.
No crossreaction was observed.
An overall value > 98% of specificity was found when examined on more than 100 specimens.

3. Precision:
It has been calculated on the Calibrator 5 arbU/ml, considered the cut-off of the assay, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs for three lots.
Results are reported as follows:

HSV1G.CE Lot # 1004

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.292	0.290	0.285	0.289
Std.Deviation	0.024	0.024	0.027	0.025
CV %	8.24	8.28	9.42	8.65

HSV1G.PU: lot 1203

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.365	0.382	0.378	0.375
Std.Deviation	0.022	0.029	0.018	0.023
CV %	6.02	7.59	4.76	6.12

HSV1G.PU: Lot 0204/2

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.322	0.298	0.304	0.308
Std.Deviation	0.018	0.019	0.016	0.018
CV %	5.59	6.38	5.26	5.74

The variability shown in the tables above did not result in sample misclassification.

S. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE
Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.
Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates after thawing may generate some false results.
This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history, symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes Srl
Via G. Carducci n° 27 – Sesto San Giovanni (MI) – Italy

CE

HSV1 IgM

"Capture" Enzyme Immuno Assay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 in human plasma and sera

- for "in vitro" diagnostic use only -

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REF HSV1M.CE
96 tests

HSV1 IgM

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus types 1 in human plasma and sera with the "capture" system. The device is intended for the follow-up of HSV1 infected patients and for the monitoring of risk of neonatal defects due to HSV infection during pregnancy.
For “in vitro” diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 (HSV1) and type 2 (HSV2) are large complex DNA-containing viruses which have been shown to induce the synthesis of several proteins during infection, possessing an high number of cross-reactive determinants and just a few of type-specific sequences.
The majority of primary and recurrent genital herpetic infections are caused by HSV2; while non genital infections, such as common cold sores, are caused primarily by HSV1.
The detection of virus specific IgG and IgM antibodies are important in the diagnosis of acute/primary virus infections or reactivations of a latent one, in the absence of evident clinical symptoms.
A-symptomatic infections may happen for HSV in apparently healthy individuals and during pregnancy. Severe herpetic infections may happen in immuno-compromised and suppressed patients in which the disease may evolve toward critical pathologies.
The determination of HSV specific antibodies has then become important in the monitoring of “risk” patients and in the follow up of acute and severe infections.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The assay is based on the principle of "IgM capture" where IgM class antibodies in the sample are first captured by the solid phase coated with anti hIgM antibody.
After washing out all the other components of the sample and in particular IgG antibodies, the specific IgM captured on the solid phase are detected by the addition of a preparation of inactivated HSV1, labeled with a HSV1 specific antibody conjugated with peroxidase (HRP).
After incubation, microwells are washed to remove unbound conjugate and then the chromogen/substrate is added.
In the presence of bound conjugate the colorless substrate is hydrolyzed to a colored end-product, whose optical density may be detected and is proportional to the amount of IgM antibodies to HSV1 present in the sample.
A system is described how to control whether the positivity shown by a sample is true or not (Confirmation Test), helpful for the clinician to make a correct interpretation of results.

D. COMPONENTS

The kit contains reagents for 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
12 strips x 8 microwells coated with anti human IgM affinity purified goat antibody, in presence of bovine proteins.
Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Negative Control: CONTROL -
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM tris buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The negative control is cpale yellow color coded..

3. Positive Control: CONTROL +
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% human serum positive for HSV1 IgM, 2% casein, 10 mM tris buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The positive control is green colour coded.

4. Calibrator: CAL …ml
N° 1 lyophilized vial. To be dissolved with EIA grade water as reported in the label. It contains anti HSV1 IgM, fetal bovine serum, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label.

5. Lyophilized HSV1 Ag: AG HSV1
N° 6 lyophilized vials. The vials contain gamma-ray inactivated HSV1 in protein buffer. The solution contains 2% bovine proteins, 10 mM Tris HCl buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300. To be dissolved with 1.9 ml of Antigen Diluent as reported in the specific section.

6. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle. 20x concentrated solution. Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

7. Enzyme conjugate: CONJ 20X
1x0.8 ml/vial. 20x concentrated solution of a HSV1-specific antibody, labeled with HRP and diluted in a protein buffer containing 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives.

8. Antigen Diluent : AG DIL
n° 1 vial of 16 ml. Protein buffer solution for the preparation of the Immunocomplex. The solution contains 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives. The reagent is code coloured with 0.01% red alimentary dye

9. Specimen Diluent : DILSPE
2x60.0 ml/vial. Proteic buffered solution for the dilution of samples. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM tris buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The reagent is color coded with 0.01% blue alimentary dye.

10. Chromogen/Substrate : SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains a 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffered solution at pH 3.5-3.8, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (TMB), 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and 4% dimethylsulphoxide.
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

11. Sulphuric Acid: H_2SO_4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vial. It contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363)

12. Plate sealing foils n° 2

13. Package insert n° 1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance).
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection. Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for at least 12 months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in storing.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C. After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Negative Control:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Positive Control:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Calibrator:
Add the volume of ELISA grade water reported on the label to the lyophilized powder. Let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Important Note*: The solution is not stable. Store the Calibrator frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before

use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Ag/Ab Immunocomplex:
Proceed carefully as follows:
1. Dissolve the content of a lyophilized vial with 1.9 ml of Conjugate/Antigen Diluent. Let fully dissolved the lyophilized content and then gently mix on vortex.
2. Gently mix the concentrated Enzyme Conjugate on vortex. Then add 0.1 ml of it to the vial of the dissolved HSV1 Ag and mix gently on vortex.

Important Notes*:*
1. *Dissolve and prepare only the number of vials necessary to the test. The Immunocomplex obtained is not stable. Store any residual solution frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*
2. *The preparation of the Immucomplex has to be done **right before** the dispensation of samples and controls into the plate. Mix again on vortex gently just before its use.*

Specimen Diluent:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter of 620-630nm, mandatory for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Internal Quality Control". The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use the device if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates. Check that the Chromogen/Substrate is colorless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminum pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
3. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
4. Dissolve the Calibrator as described above and gently mix.

5. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
6. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
7. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
8. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
9. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
10. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
11. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.

M.1 Automated assay:

In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Specimen Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor). The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl diluted samples into the proper wells of the microplate.

This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Specimen Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first 100 µl Specimen Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.

Do not dilute controls/calibrator as they are ready to use.

Dispense 100 µl calibrators/controls in the appropriate calibration/control wells.

For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.

It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

M. 2 Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 by dispensing first 10 µl sample and then 1 ml Specimen Diluent into a dilution tube; mix gently on vortex.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the well in position A1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Negative Control and 100 µl of Calibrator in the proper wells in duplicate. Dispense 100 µl of Positive Control in single into the proper well. Do not dilute controls and the calibrator as they are ready to use !
4. Dispense 100 µl diluted samples in the proper sample wells and then check that all the samples wells are blue colored and that controls and calibrator have been dispensed.
5. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

6. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).

7. Pipette 100 µl of the **Ag/Ab Immunocomplex** into each well, except the blanking well A1, and cover with the sealer. Check that all wells are red colored, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the* **Ag/Ab Immunocomplex**. *Contamination might occur.*

8. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .

9. Wash microwells as in step 6.

10. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

11. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 10. Addition of acid will turn the positive control and positive samples from blue to yellow.
12. Measure the color intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Controls&calibrator(*) Samples diluted 1:101	100 ul 100 ul
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 cycles with 20" of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Immunocomplex	100 ul
2nd incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 cycles with 20" of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2 mix	100 ul
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Calibrator (CAL) does not affect the Cut Off calculation, therefore it does not affect the test's results calculation.*

- *The Calibrator (CAL) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S3										
B	NC	S4										
C	NC	S5										
D	CAL(*)	S6										
E	CAL(*)	S7										
F	PC	S8										
G	S1	S9										
H	S2	S10										

Legenda: BLK = Blank NC = Negative Control
CAL(*) = Calibrator-Not mandatory PC = Positive Control S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the controls any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as qualified.
Control that the following data are matched:

Parameter	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.05 OD450nm value
Negative Control mean value (NC)	< 0.200 OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
Positive Control	> 1.000 OD450nm

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.
If they do not, do not proceed any further and perform the following checks:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.05 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Substrate solution has not become contaminated during the assay
Negative Control (NC) > 0.200 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of positive control instead of negative control; 4. that no contamination of the negative control or of the wells where the control was dispensed has occurred due to positive samples, to spills or to the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes have not become contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
Positive Control < 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during the distribution of the control (dispensation of negative control instead of positive control). 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

If any of the above problems have occurred, report the problem to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Important Notes:**
The analysis must be done proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 12.

If the Calibrator has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Calibrator	S/Co > 1.2

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Calibrator S/Co < 1.2	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during its distribution (e.g.: dispensation of negative control instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.

Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, Negative Control, Positive Control), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. CALCULATION OF THE CUT-OFF

The test results are calculated by means of the mean OD450nm/620-630nm value of the Negative Control (NC) and a mathematical calculation, in order to define the following cut-off formulation:

Cut-Off = NC + 0.250

The value found for the test is used for the interpretation of results as described in the next paragraph.

***Important note**: When the calculation of results is performed by the operating system of an ELISA automated work station, ensure that the proper formulation is used to calculate the cut-off value and generate the correct interpretation of results.*

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Test results are interpreted as a ratio of the sample OD450nm/620-630nm and the Cut-Off value (or S/Co) according to the following table:

S/Co	Interpretation
< 1.0	Negative
1.0 - 1.2	Equivocal
> 1.2	Positive

A negative result indicates that the patient is not undergoing an acute infection of Herpes Simplex Virus type 1.
Any patient showing an equivocal result, should be re-tested by examining a second sample taken from the patient after 1-2 weeks from first testing.
A positive result is indicative of a Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 infection.

An example of calculation is reported below (data obtained proceeding as the the reading step described in the section M, point 13).

Important Note: *The following data must not be used instead of real figures obtained by the user.*

Negative Control: 0.100 – 0.120 – 0.080 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.100 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted
Positive Control: 1.850 OD450nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

Cut-Off = 0.110+0.250 = 0.360

Calibrator: 1.000 - 0.900 OD450nm
Mean value: 0.950 OD450nm S/Co = 2.6
S/Co higher than 1.2 – Accepted

Sample 1: 0.075 OD450nm
Sample 2: 1.580 OD450nm
Sample 1 S/Co < 1 = negative
Sample 2 S/Co > 1.2 = positive

Important notes:

1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for an infection of HSV due to the risk of severe neonatal malformations.*
3. *In pregnancy monitoring, it is strongly recommended that any positive result is confirmed first with the procedure described below and secondly with a different device for HSV IgM detection, before taking any preventive medical action.*
4. *Any positive sample should be submitted to the Confirmation Test reported in section T before giving a result of positivity. By carrying out this test, false reactions, leading to a misinterpretation of the analytical result, can be revealed and then ruled out.*
5. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
6. *Diagnosis of infection has to be taken and released to the patient by a suitably qualified medical doctor.*

R. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

1. Limit of detection

No international standard for HSV1&2 IgM Antibody detection has been defined so far by the European Community.
In its absence, an Internal Gold Standard (or IGS), calibrated on the preparation named "Accurun – Anti HSV2 IgM plasma" produced by Boston Biomedica Inc., USA, code 9106072, has been defined in order to provide the device with a constant and excellent sensitivity.
The limit of detection of the assay has been therefore calculated on the IGS. A limiting dilution curve was prepared in the Negative Control (NC).
Results of Quality Control are given in the following table:

OD450nm values

IGS	HSV1M.CE Lot # RD1	HSV1M.CE Lot # RD2	HSV1M.CE Lot # RD3
1X	0.450	0.460	0.455
2X	0.277	0.300	0.288
4X	0.216	0.198	0.185
NC	0.115	0.085	0.086

2. Diagnostic sensitivity:

The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested in a performance evaluation study on panels of 40 samples classified positive by a CE marked kit. The value obtained from the analysis was > 98%.

3. Diagnostic specificity:

The diagnostic specificity has been determined in the performance evaluation on panels of more than 300 specimens, negative with the reference kit, derived from normal individuals of European origin.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the specificity. No false reactivity due to the method of specimen preparation has been observed.
Frozen specimens have also been tested to check whether this interferes with the performance of the test. No interference was observed on clean and particle free samples.
A study conducted on more than 60 potentially cross-reactive samples has not revealed any interference in the system.
No cross reaction were observed.
The Performance Evaluation has provided a value > 98%.
False positive reactions may be anyway pointed out and then ruled out in the interpretation of results with the procedure reported in section T, able to verify whether or not a positive result is real.

4. Precision:

Results are reported as follows:

HSV1M.CE: lot # RD1

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.083	0.107	0.116	0.102
Std.Deviation	0.004	0.017	0.013	0.011
CV %	5.12	15.82	11.59	10.84

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.393	0.436	0.421	0.417
Std.Deviation	0.031	0.019	0.007	0.019
CV %	7.93	4.38	1.68	4.66

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.469	1.530	1.541	1.513
Std.Deviation	0.034	0.055	0.037	0.042
CV %	2.31	3.60	2.39	2.77

HSV1M.CE: lot # RD2

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.101	0.099	0.097	0.099
Std.Deviation	0.009	0.011	0.013	0.011
CV %	8.91	11.11	13.40	11.14

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.412	0.395	0.420	0.409
Std.Deviation	0.015	0.009	0.012	0.012
CV %	3.64	2.27	2.86	2.92

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.512	1.498	1.534	1.515
Std.Deviation	0.042	0.035	0.028	0.035
CV %	2.78	2.34	1.83	2.31

HSV1M.CE: lot # RD3

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.095	0.112	0.092	0.100
Std.Deviation	0.012	0.009	0.010	0.011
CV %	12.6	8.04	10.86	10.50

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.405	0.398	0.412	0.405
Std.Deviation	0.012	0.015	0.014	0.014
CV %	2.96	3.77	3.40	3.37

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.489	1.475	1.518	1.494
Std.Deviation	0.025	0.032	0.028	0.028
CV %	1.68	2.17	1.84	1.90

Important note:
The performance data have been obtained proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 12.

S. LIMITATIONS

Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates may generate false positive results.
Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.
This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history, symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

T. CONFIRMATION TEST

In order to provide the medical doctor with the best accuracy in the follow-up of pregnancy, where a false positive result could lead to an operation of abortion, a confirmation test is reported. The confirmation test has to be carried out on any positive sample before a diagnosis of primary infection of HSV is released to the doctor.
Proceed for confirmation as follows:

1. Prepare the Antigen/Conjugate Complex as described in the proper section. This reagent is called Solution A.
2. Then 25 ul concentrated Enzymatic Conjugate are diluted in 500 ul Antigen Diluent and mixed gently on vortex. Do not use any lyophilized antigen vial for this procedure ! This solution is called Solution B.
3. The well A1 of the strip is left empty for blanking.
4. The Negative Control is dispensed in the strip in positions B1+C1. This is used for the calculation of the cut-off and S/Co values.
5. The positive sample to be confirmed, diluted 1:101, is dispensed in the strip in position D1+E1.
6. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
7. After washing, the blank well A1 is left empty.
8. 100 µl of Solution A are dispensed in wells B1+C1+D1.
9. Then 100 µl of Solution B are added to well E1.
10. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
11. After washing, 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate are added to all the wells and the strip is incubated for 20 min at r.t.
12. 100 µl Sulphuric Acid are added to all the wells and then their color intensity is measured at 450nm (reading filter) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction), blanking the instrument on A1.

Interpretation of results is carried out as follows:

1. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.0 a problem of dispensation or contamination in the first test is likely to be occurred. The Assay Procedure in Section M has to be repeated to double check the analysis.
2. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value still higher than 1.2 the sample is considered a **false positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact not dependent on the specific presence of HSV1 and a crossreaction with enzymatic conjugate has occurred.
3. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.0 the sample is considered a **true positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact dependent on the specific presence of HSV and not due to any crossreaction.

The following table is reported for the interpretation of results

Well	**S/Co**		
D1	< 1.0	> 1.2	> 1.2
E1	< 1.0	> 1.2	< 1.0
Interpretation	Problem of contam.	False positive	True positive

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes S.r.l.
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CE

HSV2 IgG

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 2 in human serum and plasma

- for “in vitro” diagnostic use only -

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REF HSV2G.CE
96 Tests

HSV2 IgG

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 2 in human plasma and sera.
For "in vitro" diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 (HSV1) and type 2 (HSV2) are large complex DNA-containing viruses which have been shown to induce the synthesis of several proteins during infection, possessing an high number of crossreactive determinants and just a few of type-specific sequences.
The majority of primary and recurrent genital herpetic infections are caused by HSV2; while non genital infections, such as common cold sores, are caused primarily by HSV1.
The detection of virus specific IgG and IgM antibodies are important in the diagnosis of acute/primary virus infections or reactivations of a latent one, in the absence of evident clinical symptoms.
Asymptomatic infections may happen for HSV in apparently healthy individuals and during pregnancy. Severe herpetic infections may happen in immunocompromised and suppressed patients in which the disease may evolve toward critical pathologies.
The determination of HSV specific antibodies has then become important in the monitoring of "risk" patients and in the follow up of acute and severe infections.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Microplates are coated with synthetic HSV2 specific glycoprotein G or gG.
The solid phase is first treated with the diluted sample and IgG to HSV2 are captured, if present, by the antigens.
After washing out all the other components of the sample, in the 2nd incubation bound anti HSV2 IgG are detected by the addition of polyclonal specific anti hIgG antibodies, labelled with peroxidase (HRP).
The enzyme captured on the solid phase, acting on the substrate/chromogen mixture, generates an optical signal that is proportional to the amount of anti HSV2 IgG antibodies present in the sample. A Calibration Curve, calibrated against an internal Gold Standard, makes possible a quantitative determination of the IgG antibody in the patient.

D. COMPONENTS

Each kit contains sufficient reagents to perform 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
n° 1. 12 strips x 8 microwells coated with synthetic HSV2-specific gG in presence of bovine proteins.
Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Calibration Curve: CAL N° …
Ready to use and colorcoded standard curve derived from human plasma positive for HSV2 IgG ranging:
4ml CAL1 = 0 arbU/ml
4ml CAL2 = 5 arbU/ml
2ml CAL3 = 10 arbU/ml
2ml CAL4 = 20 arbU/ml
2ml CAL5 = 50 arbU/ml
4ml CAL6 = 100 arbU/ml.
Standards are calibrated in arbitrary units against an internal Gold Standard (or IGS).
It contains human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and ProClin 300 0.045% as preservatives. Standards are blue colored.

3. Control Serum: CONTROL …ml
1 vial. Lyophilized. It contains fetal bovine serum proteins, human IgG antibodies to HSV2 at about 20 arbU/ml ± 20%, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label.

4. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle20x concentrated solution. Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

5. Enzyme conjugate : CONJ
2x8ml/vial. Ready to use and red colour coded. It contains Horseradish peroxidase conjugated polyclonal antibodies to human IgG, 5% BSA, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.045% ProClin 300, 0.02% gentamicine sulphate as preservatives and 0.01% red alimentary dye.

6. Chromogen/Substrate: SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffer pH 3.5-3.8, 4% dimethylsulphoxide, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (or TMB) and 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (or H_2O_2).
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

7. Sulphuric Acid: H_2SO_4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vial. It contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363)

8. Specimen Diluent: DILSPE
2x60ml/vial. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide 0.1% and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. The reagent is blue colour coded.

9. Plate sealing foils n°2

10. Package insert n°1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance)..
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses.

The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection.
Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for several months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in storage.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C.
After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Calibration Curve
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Control Serum
Add the volume of ELISA grade water, reported on the label, to the lyophilised powder; let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Note: *The control after dissolution is not stable. Store frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Enzyme conjugate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possibly sterile disposable containers.

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sample Diluent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter (620-630nm, mandatory) for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Internal Quality Control''. The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates.
3. Check that the Chromogen (TMB) is colourless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette.
4. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminium pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
5. Dissolve the content of the lyophilised Control Serum as reported in the proper section.
6. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
7. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
8. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
9. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
10. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
11. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
12. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
13. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.
The kit may be used for quantitative and qualitative determinations as well.

M1. QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION:

Automated assay:

In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Sample Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor). The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl samples into the proper wells of the microplate.
This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first

100 µl Sample Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.
Do not dilute Calibrators and the dissolved Control Serum as they are ready to use.
Dispense 100 µl calibrators/control in the appropriate calibration/control wells.
For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.
It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the A1 and B1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrators and 100 µl Control Serum in duplicate. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except A1+B1 blanking wells, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1 and B1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank wells A1 and B1 included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid to stop the enzymatic reaction into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1 or B1 or both.

M2. QUALITATIVE DETERMINATION
If only a qualitative determination is required, proceed as described below:

Automated assay:
Proceed as described in section M1.

Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave A1 well empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrator 0 arbU/ml and Calibrator 5 arbU/ml in duplicate and Calibrator 100 arbU/ml in single. Then dispense 100 µl of diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the A1 well, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

General Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no fingerprints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*

2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Method	Operations
Calibrators & Control (*) Samples diluted 1:101	100 µl 100 µl
1st incubation	60 min
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Enzyme conjugate	100 µl
2nd incubation	60 min
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2	100 µl
3rd incubation	20 min
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Control Serum (CS) it does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Control Serum (CS) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme for Quantitative Analysis is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	CAL4	S 1									
B	BLK	CAL4	S 2									
C	CAL1	CAL5	S 3									
D	CAL1	CAL5	S 4									
E	CAL2	CAL6	S 5									
F	CAL2	CAL6	S 6									
G	CAL3	CS(*)	S 7									
H	CAL3	CS(*)	S 8									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrator
CS(*) = Control Serum - Not mandatory S = Sample

An example of dispensation scheme in qualitative assays is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S 2	S 10									
B	CAL1	S 3	S 11									
C	CAL1	S 4	S 12									
D	CAL2	S 5	S 13									
E	CAL2	S 6	S 14									
F	CAL6	S 7	S 15									
G	S1	S 8	S 16									
H	S2	S 9	S 17									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrators
S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the calibrators any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as qualified.

Control that the following data are matched:

Check	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.050 OD450nm value
CAL 1 0 arbU/ml	< 0.150 mean OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
CAL 2 5 arbU/ml	OD450nm ≥ OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100
CAL 6 100 arbU/ml	OD450nm ≥ 1.000

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.

If they do not, do not proceed any further and operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.050 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Sustrate solution has not got contaminated during the assay
CAL 1 **0 arbU/ml** > 0.150 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of a positive calibrator instead of the negative one; 4. that no contamination of the negative calibrator or of their wells has occurred due spills of positive samples or the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes haven't got contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
CAL 2 **5 arbU/ml** OD450nm ≤ OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (ex.: dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.
CAL 6 **100 arbU/ml** ≤ 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead) ; 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

Should one of these problems have happened, after checking, report to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Note:**

If Control Serum has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Control Serum	Mean OD450nm CAL 4 ± 20%

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Control Serum Different from expected value	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the control serum has occurred.

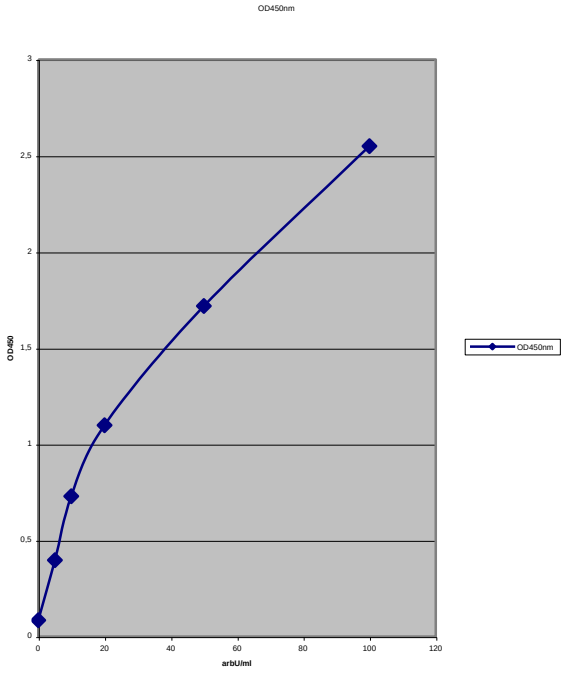
Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, CAL1, CAL2, CAL6), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. RESULTS

P.1 Quantitative method
If the test turns out to be valid, use for the quantitative method an approved curve fitting program to draw the calibration curve from the values obtained by reading at 450nm (4-parameters interpolation is suggested).
Then on the calibration curve calculate the concentration of anti Herpes Simplex Virus type 2 IgG antibody in samples.

An example of Calibration curve is reported in the next page.

Example of Calibration Curve:



Important Note:
Do not use the calibration curve above to make calculations.

P.2 Qualitative method
In the qualitative method, calculate the mean OD450nm values for the Calibrators 0 and 5 arbU/ml and then check that the assay is valid.

Example of calculation:

The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.

Calibrator 0 arbU/ml: 0.020 – 0.024 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.022 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted

Calibrator 5 arbU/ml: 0.350 – 0.370 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.360 OD450nm
Higher than Cal 0 + 0.100 – Accepted

Calibrator 100 arbU/ml: 2.245 OD450nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Samples with a concentration lower than 5 arbU/ml are considered negative for anti HSV2 IgG antibody.
Samples with a concentration higher than 5 arbU/ml are considered positive for anti HSV2 IgG antibody.

Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for a primary infection of HSV due to the risk of neonatal malformations.

Important notes:
1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
3. *In the follow-up of pregnancy for HSV infection a positive result (presence of IgG antibody > 5 arbU/ml) should be confirmed to ruled out the risk of a false positive result and a false definition of protection.*

R. PERFORMANCES

1. Limit of detection
The limit of detection of the assay has been calculated by means of an internal Gold Standard in absence of an international preparation to refer to.
The limit of detection has been calculated as mean OD450nm Calibrator 0 arbU/ml + 5 SD.
The table below reports the mean OD450nm values of this standard when diluted in negative plasma and then examined in the assay for three lots.

Mean OD450nm values (n = 2)

IgG arbU/ml	HSV2G.PU Lot # 1203	HSV2G.PU Lot # 1103	HSV2G Lot # 0304/2
0	0.022	0.030	0.014
5	0.353	0.384	0.269
10	0.596	0.606	0.557
20	1.169	1.471	0.895
50	2.030	2.276	1.776
100	3.102	3.353	2.893

The assay shows a limit of detection far better than 5 arbU/ml.

The NIBSC sample QCRHSV2QC1 (anti HSV2 Quality Control Reagent sample 1 code 13/B642) is detected positive with a mean S/Co of about 4.

2. Diagnostic sensitivity:
The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested in a performance evaluation study on panels of samples classified positive by a kit US FDA approved. Positive samples from different stage of HSV infection were tested. The value, obtained from the analysis of more than 300 specimens, has been ≥ 98%.

3. Diagnostic specificity:
The diagnostic specificity has been determined on panels of negative samples from not infected individuals, classified negative with a kit US FDA approved.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the value of specificity.
Frozen specimens have been tested, as well, to check for interferences due to collection and storage.
No interference was observed.
Potentially interfering samples derived from patients with different pathologies (mostly ANA, AMA and RF positive) and from pregnant women were tested.
No crossreaction was observed.
An overall value > 98% of specificity was found when examined on more than 100 specimens.

3. Precision:
It has been calculated on the Calibrator 5 arbU/ml, considered the cut-off of the assay, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs for three lots.

Results are reported as follows:

HSV2G.CE: lot 1004

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.286	0.303	0.256	0.282
Std.Deviation	0.022	0.037	0.020	0.026
CV %	7.7	12.4	7.74	9.28

HSV2G.PU: lot 1103

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.375	0.384	0.394	0.384
Std.Deviation	0.019	0.022	0.015	0.019
CV %	5.07	5.73	3.81	4.87

HSV2G.PU: lot 1203

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.352	0.345	0.332	0.343
Std.Deviation	0.017	0.020	0.024	0.020
CV %	4.83	5.78	7.23	5.95

The variability shown in the tables above did not result in sample misclassification.

S. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE
Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.

Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates after thawing may generate some false results.
This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history,

symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
Dia.Pro Diagnostic Bioprobes S.r.l.
Via G. Carducci n° 27 – Sesto San Giovanni (MI) – Italy

CE

HSV2 IgM

"Capture" Enzyme Immuno Assay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus type 2 in human plasma and sera

- for "in vitro" diagnostic use only -

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REF HSV2M.CE
96 tests

HSV2 IgM

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Herpes Simplex Virus types 2 in human plasma and sera with the "capture" system. The devise is intended for the follow-up of HSV2 infected patients and for the monitoring of risk of neonatal defects due to HSV infection during pregnancy.
For “in vitro” diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Herpes Simplex Virus type 1 (HSV1) and type 2 (HSV2) are large complex DNA-containing viruses which have been shown to induce the synthesis of several proteins during infection, possessing an high number of cross-reactive determinants and just a few of type-specific sequences.
The majority of primary and recurrent genital herpetic infections are caused by HSV2; while non genital infections, such as common cold sores, are caused primarily by HSV1.
The detection of virus specific IgG and IgM antibodies are important in the diagnosis of acute/primary virus infections or reactivations of a latent one, in the absence of evident clinical symptoms.
A-symptomatic infections may happen for HSV in apparently healthy individuals and during pregnancy. Severe herpetic infections may happen in immuno-compromised and suppressed patients in which the disease may evolve toward critical pathologies.
The determination of HSV specific antibodies has then become important in the monitoring of “risk” patients and in the follow up of acute and severe infections.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The assay is based on the principle of "IgM capture" where IgM class antibodies in the sample are first captured by the solid phase coated with anti hIgM antibody.
After washing out all the other components of the sample and in particular IgG antibodies, the specific IgM captured on the solid phase are detected by the addition of a preparation of inactivated HSV2, labeled with a HSV2 specific antibody conjugated with peroxidase (HRP).
After incubation, microwells are washed to remove unbound conjugate and then the chromogen/substrate is added.
In the presence of bound conjugate the colorless substrate is hydrolyzed to a colored end-product, whose optical density may be detected and is proportional to the amount of IgM antibodies to HSV2 present in the sample.
A system is described how to control whether the positivity shown by a sample is true or not (Confirmation Test), helpful for the clinician to make a correct interpretation of results.

D. COMPONENTS

The kit contains reagents for 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
12 strips x 8 microwells coated with anti human IgM affinity purified goat antibody, in presence of bovine proteins.
Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Negative Control: CONTROL -
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% human serum proteins, 2% casein, 10 mM tris buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The negative control is pale yellow color coded.

3. Positive Control: CONTROL +
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% human serum positive for HSV2 IgM, 2% casein, 10 mM tris buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The positive control is green colour coded.

4. Calibrator: CAL …ml
N° 1 lyophilized vial. To be dissolved with EIA grade water as reported in the label. It contains anti HSV2 IgM, fetal bovine serum, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label.

5. Lyophilized HSV2 Ag: AG HSV2
N° 6 lyophilized vials. The vials contain lyophilized gamma-ray inactivated HSV2 in protein buffer. The solution contains 2% bovine proteins, 10 mM Tris HCl buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300. To be dissolved with 1.9 ml of Antigen Diluent as reported in the specific section.

6. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle. 20x concentrated solution. Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

7. Enzyme conjugate: CONJ 20X
1x0.8 ml/vial. 20x concentrated solution of a HSV2-specific antibody, labeled with HRP and diluted in a protein buffer containing 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives.

8. Antigen Diluent : AG DIL
n° 1 vial of 16 ml. Protein buffer solution for the preparation of the Immunocomplex. The solution contains 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives. The reagent is code coloured with 0.01% red alimentary dye

9. Specimen Diluent : DILSPE
2x60.0 ml/vial. Proteic buffered solution for the dilution of samples. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM tris buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The reagent is color coded with 0.01% blue alimentary dye.

10. Chromogen/Substrate : SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains a 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffered solution at pH 3.5-3.8, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (TMB), 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and 4% dimethylsulphoxide.
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

11. Sulphuric Acid: H_2SO_4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vial. It contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363)

12. Plate sealing foils n° 2

13. Package insert n° 1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance).
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection. Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for at least 12 months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in storing.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C. After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Negative Control:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Positive Control:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Calibrator:
Add the volume of ELISA grade water reported on the label to the lyophilized powder. Let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Important Note*: The solution is not stable. Store the Calibrator frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before

use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Ag/Ab Immunocomplex:
Proceed carefully as follows:
1. Dissolve the content of a lyophilized vial with 1.9 ml of Conjugate/Antigen Diluent. Let fully dissolved the lyophilized content and then gently mix on vortex.
2. Gently mix the concentrated Enzyme Conjugate on vortex. Then add 0.1 ml of it to the vial of the dissolved HSV2 Ag and mix gently on vortex.

Important Notes*:*
1. *Dissolve and prepare only the number of vials necessary to the test. The Immunocomplex obtained is not stable. Store any residual solution frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*
2. *The preparation of the Immucomplex has to be done* ***right before*** *the dispensation of samples and controls into the plate. Mix again on vortex gently just before its use.*

Specimen Diluent:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, 332+P313, P305+ P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter de 620-630nm, mandatory for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the section "Internal Quality Control". The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use the device if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates. Check that the Chromogen/Substrate is colorless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminum pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
3. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.

4. Dissolve the Calibrator as described above and gently mix.
5. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
6. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
7. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
8. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
9. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
10. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
11. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.

M.1 Automated assay:

In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Specimen Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor). The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl diluted samples into the proper wells of the microplate.

This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Specimen Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first 100 µl Specimen Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.

Do not dilute controls/calibrator as they are ready to use.

Dispense 100 µl calibrators/control in the appropriate calibration/control wells.

For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.

It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

M. 2 Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 by dispensing first 10 µl sample and then 1 ml Specimen Diluent into a dilution tube; mix gently on vortex.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the well in position A1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Negative Control and 100 µl of Calibrator in the proper wells in duplicate. Dispense 100 µl of Positive Control in single into the proper well. Do not dilute controls and the calibrator as they are ready to use !
4. Dispense 100 µl diluted samples in the proper sample wells and then check that all the samples wells are blue colored and that controls and calibrator have been dispensed.
5. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

6. Wash the microplate with an automatic as reported previously (section I.3).

7. Pipette 100 µl of the **Ag/Ab Immunocomplex** into each well, except the blanking well A1, and cover with the sealer. Check that all wells are red colored, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the* **Ag/Ab Immunocomplex**. *Contamination might occur.*

8. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .

9. Wash microwells as in step 6.

10. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

11. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 10. Addition of acid will turn the positive control and positive samples from blue to yellow .
12. Measure the color intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Controls&calibrator (*) Samples diluted 1:101	100 ul 100 ul
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 cycles with 20" of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Immunocomplex	100 ul
2nd incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 cycles with 20" of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2 mix	100 ul
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

(*) Important Notes:

- *The Calibrator (CAL) does not affect the Cut Off calculation, therefore it does not affect the test's results calculation.*
- *The Calibrator (CAL) used only if a laboratory internal quality control is required by the Management.*

An example of dispensation scheme is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S3										
B	NC	S4										
C	NC	S5										
D	CAL(*)	S6										
E	CAL(*)	S7										
F	PC	S8										
G	S1	S9										
H	S2	S10										

Legenda: BLK = Blank NC = Negative Control
CAL(*) = Calibrator–Not Mandatory PC = Positive Control S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A validation check is carried out on the controls any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as qualified.
Control that the following data are matched:

Parameter	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.05 OD450nm value
Negative Control mean value (NC)	< 0.200 OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
Positive Control	> 1.000 OD450nm

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.
If they do not, do not proceed any further and perform the following checks:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.05 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Substrate solution has not become contaminated during the assay
Negative Control (NC) > 0.200 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of positive control instead of negative control; 4. that no contamination of the negative control or of the wells where the control was dispensed has occurred due to positive samples, to spills or to the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes have not become contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
Positive Control < 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during the distribution of the control (dispensation of negative control instead of positive control). 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

If any of the above problems have occurred, report the problem to the supervisor for further actions.

**** Important Notes:**
The analysis must be done proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 12.

If the Calibrator has used, verify the following data:

Check	Requirements
Calibrator	S/Co > 1.2

If the results of the test doesn't match the requirements stated above, operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Calibrator S/Co < 1.2	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during its distribution (e.g.: dispensation of negative control instead) 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.

Anyway, if all other parameters (Blank, Negative Control, Positive Control), match the established requirements, the test may be considered valid.

P. CALCULATION OF THE CUT-OFF

The test results are calculated by means of the mean OD450nm/620-630nm value of the Negative Control (NC) and a mathematical calculation, in order to define the following cut-off formulation:

Cut-Off = NC + 0.250

The value found for the test is used for the interpretation of results as described in the next paragraph.

***Important note**: When the calculation of results is performed by the operating system of an ELISA automated work station, ensure that the proper formulation is used to calculate the cut-off value and generate the correct interpretation of results.*

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Test results are interpreted as a ratio of the sample OD450nm/620-630nm and the Cut-Off value (or S/Co) according to the following table:

S/Co	Interpretation
< 1.0	Negative
1.0 - 1.2	Equivocal
> 1.2	Positive

A negative result indicates that the patient is not undergoing an acute infection of Herpes Simplex Virus type 2.
Any patient showing an equivocal result, should be re-tested by examining a second sample taken from the patient after 1-2 weeks from first testing.
A positive result is indicative of a Herpes Simplex Virus type 2 infection.

An example of calculation is reported below (data obtained proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 12).

Important Note: *The following data must not be used instead of real figures obtained by the user.*

Negative Control: 0.090 – 0.110 – 0.070 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.100 OD450nm
Lower than 0.200 – Accepted
Positive Control: 1.850 OD450nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

Cut-Off = 0.100+0.250 = 0.350

Calibrator: 0.900 – 1.100 OD450nm
Mean value: 1.000 OD450nm S/Co = 2.8
S/Co higher than 1.2 – Accepted

Sample 1: 0.070 OD450nm
Sample 2: 1.690 OD450nm
Sample 1 S/Co < 1 = negative
Sample 2 S/Co > 1.2 = positive

Important notes:

1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for an infection of HSV due to the risk of severe neonatal malformations.*
3. *In pregnancy monitoring, it is strongly recommended that any positive result is confirmed first with the procedure described below and secondly with a different device for HSV IgM detection, before taking any preventive medical action.*
4. *Any positive sample should be submitted to the Confirmation Test reported in section T before giving a result of positivity. By carrying out this test, false reactions, leading to a misinterpretation of the analytical result, can be revealed and then ruled out.*
5. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
6. *Diagnosis of infection has to be taken and released to the patient by a suitably qualified medical doctor.*

R. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

1. Limit of detection

No international standard for HSV1&2 IgM Antibody detection has been defined so far by the European Community.
In its absence, an Internal Gold Standard (or IGS), calibrated on the preparation named “Accurun – Anti HSV2 IgM plasma” produced by Boston Biomedica Inc., USA, code 9106072, has been defined in order to provide the device with a constant and excellent sensitivity..
The limit of detection of the assay has been therefore calculated on the IGS. A limiting dilution curve was prepared in Negative Control (NC).
Results of Quality Control are given in the following table:

OD450nm values

IGS	HSV2M.CE Lot # RD1	HSV2M.CE Lot # RD2	HSV2M.CE Lot # RD3
1X	0.560	0.572	0.590
2X	0.343	0.324	0.348
4X	0.239	0.218	0.225
NC	0.145	0.132	0.139

2. Diagnostic sensitivity:

The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested in a clinical trial on panels of 40 samples classified positive by a kit US FDA approved. The value obtained from the analysis was > 98%.

3. Diagnostic specificity:

The diagnostic specificity has been determined in a performance evaluation study on panels of more than 300 specimens, negative with the reference kit, derived from normal individuals of European origin.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the specificity. No false reactivity due to the method of specimen preparation has been observed.
Frozen specimens have also been tested to check whether this interferes with the performance of the test. No interference was observed on clean and particle free samples.
A study conducted on more than 60 potentially cross-reactive samples has not revealed any interference in the system.
No cross reaction were observed.
The Performance Evaluation has provided a value > 98%.
False positive reactions may be anyway pointed out and then ruled out in the interpretation of results with the procedure reported in section T, able to verify whether or not a positive result is real.

4. Precision:

Results are reported as follows:

HSV2M.CE: lot # RD1

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.092	0.113	0.097	0.101
Std.Deviation	0.011	0.019	0.010	0.013
CV %	12.25	16.83	10.24	13.11

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.451	0.471	0.435	0.452
Std.Deviation	0.018	0.000	0.033	0.017
CV %	3.92	0.00	7.48	3.8

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.530	1.574	1.527	1.543
Std.Deviation	0.023	0.052	0.006	0.027
CV %	1.48	3.33	0.37	1.73

HSV2M.CE: lot # RD2

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.095	0.101	0.097	0.098
Std.Deviation	0.006	0.008	0.005	0.006
CV %	6.30	7.92	5.15	6.45

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.431	0.428	0.453	0.437
Std.Deviation	0.023	0.018	0.023	0.021
CV %	5.3	4.2	5.10	4.9

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.558	1.552	1.541	1.550
Std.Deviation	0.031	0.025	0.039	0.032
CV %	1.98	1.61	2.53	2.04

HSV2M.CE: lot # RD3

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.104	0.108	0.099	0.104
Std.Deviation	0.015	0.010	0.011	0.012
CV %	14.4	9.2	11.11	11.57

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.425	0.436	0.440	0.434
Std.Deviation	0.008	0.006	0.009	0.008
CV %	1.8	1.4	2.0	1.7

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	1.571	1.562	1.558	1.564
Std.Deviation	0.040	0.034	0.024	0.033
CV %	2.54	2.17	1.54	2.08

Important note:
The performance data have been obtained proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 12.

S. LIMITATIONS

Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates may generate false positive results.
Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.
This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history, symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

T. CONFIRMATION TEST

In order to provide the medical doctor with the best accuracy in the follow-up of pregnancy, where a false positive result could lead to an operation of abortion, a confirmation test is reported. The confirmation test has to be carried out on any positive sample before a diagnosis of primary infection of HSV is released to the doctor.
Proceed for confirmation as follows:

1. Prepare the Antigen/Conjugate Complex as described in the proper section. This reagent is called Solution A.
2. Then 25 ul concentrated Enzymatic Conjugate are diluted in 500 ul Antigen Diluent and mixed gently on vortex. Do not use any lyophilized antigen vial for this procedure ! This solution is called Solution B.
3. The well A1 of the strip is left empty for blanking.
4. The Negative Control is dispensed in the strip in positions B1+C1. This is used for the calculation of the cut-off and S/Co values.
5. The positive sample to be confirmed, diluted 1:101, is dispensed in the strip in position D1+E1.
6. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
7. After washing, the blank well A1 is left empty.
8. 100 µl of Solution A are dispensed in wells B1+C1+D1.
9. Then 100 µl of Solution B are added to well E1.
10. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
11. After washing, 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate are added to all the wells and the strip is incubated for 20 min at r.t.
12. 100 µl Sulphuric Acid are added to all the wells and then their color intensity is measured at 450nm (reading filter) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction), blanking the instrument on A1.

Interpretation of results is carried out as follows:

1. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.0 a problem of dispensation or contamination in the first test is likely to be occurred. The Assay Procedure in Section M has to be repeated to double check the analysis.
2. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value still higher than 1.2 the sample is considered a **false positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact not dependent on the specific presence of HSV2 and a crossreaction with enzymatic conjugate has occurred.
3. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.0 the sample is considered a **true positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact dependent on the specific presence of HSV and not due to any crossreaction.

The following table is reported for the interpretation of results

Well	S/Co		
D1	< 1.0	> 1.2	> 1.2
E1	< 1.0	> 1.2	< 1.0
Interpretation	Problem of contam.	False positive	True positive

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System in compliance with ISO 13485 rule. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

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516_4

ORG 516 AMA-M2

INTENDED PURPOSE

AMA-M2 is an ELISA test system for the quantitative measurement of IgG class autoantibodies against mitochondrial M2 subtype antigen in human serum or plasma. This product is intended for professional in vitro diagnostic use only.

The test is used as an aid in the differential diagnosis of primary biliary cirrhosis (PBC). In patients with other autoimmune diseases occurrence of AMA antibodies may be related to the development or association of PBC. Evaluation of a test result should always take into account all clinical and laboratory diagnostic findings.

SYMBOLS USED ON LABELS

IVD	In vitro diagnostic medical device
	Manufacturer
REF	Catalogue number
Σ 96	Sufficient for 96 determinations
LOT	Batch code
	Use by
2°C 8°C	Temperature limitation
	Keep away from sunlight
	Do not reuse
	Date of manufacture
CE	CE marked according to 98/79/EC
	Consult instructions for use
516_4	Electronic Instruction For Use: version

MICROPLATE	Microplate
CALIBRATOR A	Calibrator
CALIBRATOR B	Calibrator
CALIBRATOR C	Calibrator
CALIBRATOR D	Calibrator
CALIBRATOR E	Calibrator
CALIBRATOR F	Calibrator
CONTROL +	Control positive
CONTROL −	Control negative
DILUENT	Sample Buffer P
CONJUGATE	Enzyme Conjugate
TMB	TMB Substrate
STOP	Stop solution
WASH	Wash Buffer
RTU	Ready to use

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Highly purified mitochondrial M2 subtype (PDC-E2, BCOADC-E2, OGDC-E2) antigen is bound to microwells.
The determination is based on an indirect enzyme linked immune reaction with the following steps:
Specific antibodies in the patient sample bind to the antigen coated on the surface of the reaction wells. After incubation, a washing step removes unbound and unspecifically bound serum or plasma components. Subesquently added enzyme conjugate binds to the immobilized antibody-antigen-complexes. After incubation, a second washing step removes unbound enzyme conjugate. After addition of substrate solution the bound enzyme conjugate hydrolyses the substrate forming a blue coloured product. Addition of an acid stopps the reaction generating a yellow end-product. The intensity of the yellow color
correlates with the concentration of the antibody-antigen-complex and can be measured photometrically at 450 nm.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- All reagents of this kit are intended for professional in vitro diagnostic use only.
- Components containing human serum were tested and found negative for HBsAg, HCV, HIV1 and HIV2 by FDA approved methods. No test can guarantee the absence of HBsAg, HCV, HIV1 or HIV2, and so all human serum based reagents in this kit must be handled as though capable of transmitting infection.
- Bovine serum albumin (BSA) used in components has been tested for BSE and found negative.
- Avoid contact with the substrate TMB (3,3´,5,5´-Tetramethyl-benzidine).
- Stop solution contains acid, classifiaction is non-hazardous. Avoid contact with skin.
- Control, sample buffer and wash buffer contain sodium azide 0.09% as preservative. This concentration is classified as non-hazardous.
- Enzyme conjugate contains ProClin 300 0.05% as preservative. This concentration is classified as non-hazardous.

During handling of all reagents, controls and serum samples observe the existing regulations for laboratory safety regulations and good laboratory practice:

- First aid measures: In case of skin contact, immediately wash thoroughly with water and soap. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes and wash before reuse. If system fluid comes into contact with skin, wash thoroughly with water. After contact with the eyes carefully rinse the opened eye with running water for at least 10 minutes. Get medical attention if necessary.
- Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures:

Observe laboratory safety regulations. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Do not swallow. Do not pipette by mouth. Do not eat, drink, smoke or apply makeup in areas where specimens or kit reagents are handled. When spilled, absorb with an inert material and put the spilled material in an appropriate waste disposal.

- Exposure controls / personal protection: Wear protective gloves of nitril rubber or natural latex. Wear protective glasses. Used according to intended use no dangerous reactions known.
- Conditions to avoid: Since substrate solution is light-sensitive. Store in the dark.
- For disposal of laboratory waste the national or regional legislation has to be observed.

Observe the guidelines for performing quality control in medical laboratories by assaying control sera.

CONTENTS OF THE KIT

ORG 516	Σ 96	Sufficient for 96 determinations
MICROPLATE	1	One divisible microplate consisting of 12 modules of 8 wells each. Ready to use. Product code on module: ***AMA***
CALIBRATOR A	1x 1.5 ml	Calibrator A 0 IU/ml, containing serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, detergent, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use.
CALIBRATOR B	1x 1.5 ml	Calibrator B 12.5 IU/ml, containing AMA-M2 antibodies in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, detergent, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use.
CALIBRATOR C	1x 1.5 ml	Calibrator C 25 IU/ml, containing AMA-M2 antibodies in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, detergent, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use.
CALIBRATOR D	1x 1.5 ml	Calibrator D 50 IU/ml, containing AMA-M2 antibodies in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, detergent, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use.
CALIBRATOR E	1x 1.5 ml	Calibrator E 100 IU/ml, containing AMA-M2 antibodies in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use.
CALIBRATOR F	1x 1.5 ml	Calibrator F 200 IU/ml, containing AMA-M2 antibodies in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, detergent, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use.
CONTROL +	1x 1.5 ml	Control positive, containing AMA-M2 antibodies in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, detergent, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use. The concentration is specified on the certificate of analysis.
CONTROL −	1x 1.5 ml	Control negative, containing AMA-M2 antibodies in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, detergent, NaN3 0.09%), yellow. Ready to use. The concentration is specified on the certificate of analysis.
DILUENT	20 ml	Sample Buffer P, containing PBS, BSA, detergent, preservative sodium azide 0.09%, yellow, concentrate (5 x).
CONJUGATE	15 ml	Enzyme Conjugate containing anti-human IgG antibodies, HRP labelled; PBS, BSA, detergent, preservative PROCLIN 0.05%, light red. Ready to use.
TMB	15 ml	TMB Substrate; containing 3,3', 5,5'- Tetramethylbenzidin, colorless. Ready to use.
STOP	15 ml	Stop solution; contains acid. Ready to use.
WASH	20 ml	Wash Buffer, containing Tris, detergent, preservative sodium azide 0.09%; 50 x conc.
	1	Certificate of Analysis

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Microplate reader capable of endpoint measurements at 450 nm; optional: reference filter at 620 nm
- Data reduction software
- Multi-channel dispenser or repeatable pipette for 100 µl
- Vortex mixer
- Pipettes for 10 µl, 100 µl and 1000 µl
- Laboratory timing device
- Distilled or deionised water
- Measuring cylinder for 1000 ml and 100 ml
- Plastic container for storage of the wash solution

This ELISA assay is suitable for use on open automated ELISA processors. Each assay has to be validated on the respective automated system. Detailed information is provided upon request.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION, STORAGE AND HANDLING

- Collect whole blood specimens using acceptable medical techniques to avoid hemolysis.
- Allow blood to clot and separate the serum or plasma by centrifugation.
- Test serum should be clear and non-hemolyzed. Contamination by hemolysis or lipemia should be avoided, but does not interfere with this assay.
- Specimens may be refrigerated at 2-8°C for up to five days or stored at -20°C up to six months.
- Avoid repetitive freezing and thawing of serum or plasma samples. This may result in variable loss of antibody activity.
- Testing of heat-inactivated sera is not recommended.

STORAGE AND STABILITY

- Store test kit at 2-8°C in the dark.
- Do not expose reagents to heat, sun, or strong light during storage and usage.
- Store microplate sealed and dessicated in the clip bag provided.
- Shelf life of the unopended test kit is 18 months from day of production. Unopened reagents are stable until expiration of the kit. See labels for individual batch.
- Diluted Wash Buffer and Sample Buffer are stable for at least 30 days when stored at 2-8°C. We recommend consumption on the same day.

PROCEDURAL NOTES

- Do not use kit components beyond their expiration dates.
- Do not interchange kit components from different lots and products.
- All materials must be at room temperature (20-28°C) prior to use.
- Prepare all reagents and samples. Once started, performe the test without interruption.
- Double determinations may be done. By this means pipetting errors may become obvious.
- Perform the assay steps only in the order indicated.
- Always use fresh sample dilutions.
- Pipette all reagents and samples into the bottom of the wells.
- To avoid carryover or contamination, change the pipette tip between samples and different kit controls.
- Wash microwells thoroughly and remove the last droplets of wash buffer.
- All incubation steps must be accurately timed.
- Do not re-use microplate wells.

PREPARATION OF REAGENTS

WASH

Dilute the contents of one vial of the buffered wash solution concentrate (50x) with distilled or deionised water to a final volume of 1000 ml prior to use.

DILUENT

Sample Buffer P: Prior to use dilute the contents (20 ml) of one vial of sample buffer 5x concentrate with distilled or deionised water to a final volume of 100 ml.

Preparation of samples

Dilute patient samples 1:100 before the assay: Put 990 µl of prediluted sample buffer in a polystyrene tube and add 10 µl of sample. Mix well. Note: Calibrators / Controls are ready to use and need not be diluted.

TEST PROCEDURE

Prepare enough microplate modules for all calibrators / controls and patient samples.

1. Pipette **100 µl** of calibrators, controls and prediluted patient samples into the wells.
   Incubate for **30 minutes** at room temperature (20-28 °C).
   Discard the contents of the microwells and **wash 3 times** with **300 µl** of wash solution.
2. Dispense **100 µ**l of enzyme conjugate into each well.
   Incubate for **15 minutes** at room temperature.
   Discard the contents of the microwells and **wash 3 times** with **300 µl** of wash solution.
3. Dispense **100 µ**l of TMB substrate solution into each well.
   Incubate for **15 minutes** at room temperature
4. **Add 100 µl** of stop solution to each well of the modules
   Incubate for **5 minutes** at room temperature.
   Read the optical density at 450 nm (reference 600-690nm) and calculate the results.
   The developed colour is stable for at least 30 minutes. Read during this time.

Example for a pipetting scheme:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	A	P1										
B	B	P2										
C	C	P3										
D	D											
E	E											
F	F											
G	C+											
H	C-											

P1, ... patient sample A-F calibrators C+, C- controls

VALIDATION

Test results are valid if the optical densities at 450 nm for calibrators / controls and the results for controls comply with the reference ranges indicated on the Certificate of Analysis enclosed in each test kit.
If these quality control criteria are not met the assay run is invalid and should be repeated.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS

For quantitative results plot the optical density of each calibrator versus the calibrator concentration to create a calibration curve. The concentration of patient samples may then be estimated from the calibration curve by interpolation.
Using data reduction software a 4-Parameter-Fit with lin-log coordinates for optical density and concentration is the data reduction method of choice.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Calibration

The assay system is calibrated against the international reference preparation WHO 67/183 for AMA-M2 as 100 IU/ml.

Measuring range

The calculation range of this ELISA assay is 0 - 200 IU/ml

Expected values

In a normal range study with samples from healthy blood donors the following ranges have been established with this ELISA assay: Cut-off 10 IU/ml

Interpretation of results

Negative: < 10 IU/ml
Positive: ≥ 10 IU/ml

Linearity

Samples containing high levels of specific antibody were serially diluted in sample buffer to demonstrate the dynamic range of the assay and the upper / lower end of linearity. Activity for each dilution was calculated from the calibration curve using a 4-Parameter-Fit with lin-log coordinates.

Sample	Dilution	Observed IU/ml	Expected IU/ml	O/E [%]
WHO	1:100	108.5	100.0	109
.	1:200	51.2	50.0	102
.	1:400	25.2	25.0	101
.	1:800	12.8	12.5	102
.	1:1600	6.1	6.3	98
.	1:3200	3.1	3.1	99
1	1:100	49.5	49.5	100
.	1:200	25.0	24.8	101
.	1:400	12.2	12.4	99
.	1:800	5.9	6.2	95

Limit of detection

Functional sensitivity was determined to be: 1 IU/ml

Reproducibility

Intra-assay precision: Coefficient of variation (CV) was calculated for each of three samples from the results of 24 determinations in a single run. Results for precision-within-assay are shown in the table below.
Inter-assay precision: Coefficient of variation (CV) was calculated for each of three samples from the results of 6 determinations in 5 different runs. Results for run-to-run precision are shown in the table below.

Intra-Assay		
Sample	Mean IU/ml	CV %
1	39.8	7.0
2	81.3	3.8
3	177.3	3.6

Inter-Assay		
Sample	Mean IU/ml	CV %
1	40.1	6.2
2	84.6	11.8
3	180.4	3.8

Interfering substances

No interference has been observed with haemolytic (up to 1000 mg/dl) or lipemic (up to 3 g/dl triglycerides) sera or plasma, or bilirubin (up to 40 mg/dl) containing sera or plasma. Nor have any interfering effects been observed with the use of anticoagulants (Citrate, EDTA, Heparine). However for practical reasons it is recommended that grossly hemolyzed or lipemic samples should be avoided.

Study results

Study population	n	n Pos	%
Primary biliary cirrhosis (PBC)	143	139	97.2
Rheumatoid Arthritis	60	1	1.7
Normal human sera	267	18	6.7

		Clinical Diagnosis POS	NEG	
ORG 516	POS	139	19	
	NEG	4	308	
		143	327	470

Sensitivity: 97.2 %
Specificity: 94.2 %
Overall agreement: 95.1 %

LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

This assay is a diagnostic aid. A definite clinical diagnosis should not be based on the results of a single test, but should be made by the physician after all clinical and laboratory findings have been evaluated concerning the entire clinical picture of the patient. Also every decision for therapy should be taken individually.
The above pathological and normal reference ranges for antibodies in patient samples should be regarded as recommendations only. Each laboratory should establishe its own ranges according to ISO 15189 or other applicable laboratory guidelines.

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5. Fussey, S.P.M., Guest, J.R., James, O.F W. et al. Identification and analysis of the major M2 autoantigens in primary biliary cirrhosis. PNAS, USA 1988; 85: 8654 - 8658.

Notice to the user (European Union):
Any serious incident that has occurred in relation to the device shall be reported to the manufacturer and the competent authority of the EU Member State in which the user and/or the patient is established .

Change Control

Former version: *ORG 516_IFU_EN_QM113145_2013-12-16_2.1* Reason for revision: *Introduction electronic IFU on homepage*

1. Pipet **100 µl** calibrator, control or patient sample
   → Incubate for **30 minutes** at room temperature
   → Discard the contents of the wells and wash 3 times with **300 µl** wash solution
2. Pipet **100 µl** enzyme conjugate
   → Incubate for **15 minutes** at room temperature
   → Discard the contents of the wells and wash 3 times with **300 µl** wash solution
3. Pipet **100 µl** substrate solution
   → Incubate for **15 minutes** at room temperature
4. Add **100 µl** stop solution
   → Leave untouched for **5 minutes**
   → Read at **450 nm**

Monobind Inc.
Lake Forest, CA 92630, USA

AccuBind
ELISA Microwells

Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG Test System

Product Codes: 12525-300

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Intended Use: The Qualitative Determination of Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Specific Antibodies of the IgG type in Human Serum or Plasma by Microplate Enzyme Immunoassay

2.0 SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION OF THE TEST

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), discovered at the end of 2019, is the cause of the disease COVID-19.[1-2] Both SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV, the cause of the 2002 SARS epidemic, are of the genus betacoronavirus and are closely related.[2] Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 is primarily through close contact with infected patients via expelled respiratory droplets, usually from coughing or sneezing.[1-2]

Due to its high transmission rate and severeness, COVID-19 has emerged as a global pandemic that has forced lockdowns and quarantine protocols from countries all over the world.[3] Though diagnoses are primarily conducted using viral nucleic acid detection via real-time reverse transcriptase PCR, many false negatives have been reported and there is urgent need for serological antibody screening as a more robust and reliable test methodology.[4-5]

Tests for immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibodies are of particular interest since they are produced in high amounts and indicate previous or recovering infection of pathogens. High levels of IgG are also known to mark immunity to a pathogen.[6] Additionally, IgG antibodies can be a good marker for efficacy of treatment of COVID-19 and successful immunization against SARS-CoV-2. However, IgG antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 do not usually appear in detectable levels until 10-20 days after symptom onset.[7-8] Therefore it is recommended that patient samples be repeated on a weekly basis to monitor the increase and stabilization of anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG antibodies.

The Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) S1-RBD IgG AccuBind® ELISA test kit is a qualitative test designed to produce highly sensitive and specific results with a simple and brief protocol. The test utilizes a recombinant receptor binding domain (RBD) from the spike region of SARS-CoV-2 coated on microwells to capture native antibodies in the sample. In the first step, prediluted samples are added directly to the wells. After the first incubation, excess sample material is washed out and an anti-human IgG (anti-hIgG) antibody labeled with an enzyme is added to the wells. After the second incubation, excess material is washed out again and substrate is added to produce a measurable color through the reaction with the enzyme and hydrogen peroxide.

3.0 PRINCIPLE

Sequential Sandwich ELISA Method (TYPE 10):

The reagents required for the sequential ELISA assay include immobilized antigen, circulating antibody to SARS-CoV-2, and enzyme-linked human IgG-specific antibody.

Upon adding a sample containing the anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody, reaction results between the antigen that has been immobilized on the microwell and the antibody to form an immune-complex. The interaction is illustrated by the following equation:

$$h\text{-}Ab_{(X\text{-}SARS\text{-}CoV\text{-}2)} + Ag_{(RBD)} \underset{k_{-a}}{\overset{k_a}{\rightleftharpoons}} h\text{-}Ab_{(X\text{-}SARS\text{-}CoV\text{-}2)} - Ag_{(RBD)}$$

$Ag_{(RBD)}$ = Immobilized Antigen (Constant Quantity)
$h\text{-}Ab_{(X\text{-}SARS\text{-}CoV\text{-}2)}$= Human Antibody (Variable Quantity)
$h\text{-}Ab_{(X\text{-}SARS\text{-}CoV\text{-}2)} - Ag_{(rRBD)}$= Immune Complex (Variable Quantity)
k_a = Rate Constant of Association
k_{-a} = Rate Constant of Disassociation

After the incubation time, the well is washed to separate the unbound components by aspiration and/or decantation. The enzyme linked species-specific antibody (anti-h-IgG,) is then added to the microwells. This conjugate binds to the immune complex that formed.

$$IC_{(h\text{-}IgG,)} + {}^{ENZ}Ab_{(X\text{-}h\text{-}IgG)} \Rightarrow {}^{ENZ}Ab_{(X\text{-}h\text{-}IgG)} - IC_{(h\text{-}IgG)}$$

$IC_{(h\text{-}IgG)}$ = Immobilized Immune complex (Variable Quantity)
${}^{ENZ}Ab_{(X\text{-}h\text{-}IgG)}$ = Enzyme-antibody Conjugate (Constant Quantity)
${}^{ENZ}Ab_{(X\text{-}h\text{-}IgG)} - I.C._{(h\text{-}IgG)}$ = Ag-Ab Complex (Variable)

The anti-h-IgG enzyme conjugate that binds to the immune complex in a second incubation is separated from unreacted material by a wash step. The enzyme activity in this fraction is directly proportional to the antibody concentration in the specimen. By utilizing a serum reference equivalent to the positive-negative cut-off value, the absorbance value can be compared to the cut-off to determine a positive or negative result.

4.0 REAGENTS

Materials provided:

A. Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG Controls – 1ml/vial - Icons PC, NC, CC
Three (3) vials of ready-to-use references for anti-SARS-CoV-2 at positive, negative, and cut-off levels of IgG. Store at 2-8°C. A preservative has been added.
Note: The Cut-Off Control is traceable to the WHO 1st International Standard NIBSC Code 20/136. The cut-off level of the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG Test System equals 110 IU/ml.

B. Anti-hIgG Enzyme Reagent – 12 ml/vial - Icon
One (1) vial of anti-human IgG-horseradish peroxides (HRP) conjugate in a buffering matrix. A preservative has been added. Store at 2-8°C.

C. SARS-CoV-2 RBD Coated Plate – 96 wells – Icon
One 96-well microplate coated with recombinant spike receptor binding domain from SARS-CoV-2 and packaged in an aluminum bag with a drying agent. Store at 2-8°C.

D. Serum Diluent Concentrate – 20ml
One (1) vial of concentrated serum diluent containing buffer salts and a dye. Store at 2-8°C.

E. Wash Solution Concentrate – 20ml - Icon
One (1) vial containing a surfactant in buffered saline. A preservative has been added. Store at 2-8°C

F. Substrate – 12ml/vial - Icon S^N
One (1) vial containing tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) and hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) in buffer. Store at 2-8°C.

G. Stop Solution – 8ml/vial – Icon
One (1) vial contains a strong acid (0.5 M H_2SO_4). Store at 2-8°C.

H. Product Instructions.

Note 1: Do not use reagents beyond the kit expiration date.
Note 2: Avoid extended exposure to heat and light. **Opened reagents are stable for sixty (60) days when stored at 2-8°C. Kit and component stability are identified on the label.**
Note 3: Above reagents are for a single 96-well microplate.

4.1 Required But Not Provided:

1. Fixed volume or variable volume pipette capable of delivering volumes ranging from 10 to 1000 µl with a precision of better than 1.5%.
2. Dispenser(s) for repetitive deliveries of 0.050 ml, 0.100 ml, and 0.350 ml volumes with a precision of better than 1.5%.
3. Microplate washers or a squeeze bottle (optional).
4. Microplate Reader with 450nm and 620nm wavelength absorbance capability.
5. Absorbent Paper for blotting the microplate wells.
6. Plastic wrap or microplate cover for incubation steps.
7. Vacuum aspirator (optional) for wash steps.
8. Timer.
9. Quality control materials.

5.0 PRECAUTIONS

For In Vitro Diagnostic Use
Not for Internal or External Use in Humans or Animals

Any components containing human serum from COVID-19 patients have been heat inactivated prior to handling and manufacturing. All products that contain human serum have been found to be non-reactive for Hepatitis B Surface Antigen, HIV 1&2 and HCV Antibodies by FDA licensed reagents. Since no known test can offer complete assurance that infectious agents are absent, all human serum products should be handled as potentially hazardous and capable of transmitting disease. Good laboratory procedures for handling blood products can be found in the Center for Disease Control / National Institute of Health, "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories," 2nd Edition, 1988, HHS Publication No. (CDC) 88-8395.

Safe Disposal of kit components must be according to local regulatory and statutory requirement.

6.0 SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

The specimens shall be blood; serum or plasma in type and the usual precautions in the collection of venipuncture samples should be observed. The blood should be collected in a plain redtop venipuncture tube without additives or anti-coagulants (for serum) or evacuated tube(s) containing EDTA or heparin (for plasma). Allow the blood to clot for serum samples. Centrifuge the specimen to separate the serum or plasma from the cells.

Please note that there has been no evidence of COVID-19 transmission through blood handling, but technicians should always exercise caution and treat all patient samples as potentially hazardous.[9]

Samples may be refrigerated at 2-8°C for a maximum period of seven (7) days. If the specimen(s) cannot be assayed within this time, the sample(s) may be stored at temperatures of -20°C for up to 30 days. Avoid use of contaminated devices. Avoid repetitive freezing and thawing. When assayed in duplicate, 0.200ml of the diluted specimen is required.

7.0 QUALITY CONTROL

Each laboratory should assay controls at levels in the normal, borderline and elevated range for monitoring assay performance. These controls should be treated as unknowns and values determined in every test procedure performed. Quality control charts should be maintained to follow the performance of the supplied reagents. Pertinent statistical methods should be employed to ascertain trends. The individual laboratory should set acceptable assay performance limits. In addition, maximum absorbance should be consistent with past experience. Significant deviation from established performance can indicate unnoticed change in experimental conditions or degradation of kit reagents. Fresh reagents should be used to determine the reason for the variations.

8.0 REAGENT PREPARATION

1. **Serum Diluent**
   Dilute contents of Serum Diluent Concentrate to 200ml (1:10 Dilution) in a suitable container with distilled or deionized water. Store at 2-8°C.
2. **Wash Buffer**
   Dilute contents of wash solution concentrate to 1000 ml with distilled or deionized water in a suitable storage container. Store at 2-30°C for up to 60 days.
3. **Patient Sample Dilution (1/100)**
   For example, dispense 0.010ml (10µl) of each patient specimen into 0.990 ml (990 µl) of serum diluent or 0.0101 ml (10.1 µl) into 1 ml (1000 µl). Cover and vortex or mix thoroughly by inversion. Store at 2-8°C for up to forty-eight (48) hours.

Note : Do not use reagents that are contaminated or have bacteria growth.

9.0 TEST PROCEDURE

Before proceeding with the assay, bring all reagents, serum references and controls to room temperature (20-27°C).
*****Test Procedure should be performed by a skilled individual or trained professional*****

1. Format the microplates' wells for each control sample and patient specimen to be assayed in duplicate. Dilute the patient or any external control samples 1/100 (see Reagent Preparation **Section 8.0)** **Replace any unused microwell strips back into the aluminum bag, seal and store at 2-8°C.**
2. Pipette 0.100 ml (100µl) of the appropriate control or diluted patient specimen into the assigned well for IgG determination.
   DO NOT SHAKE THE PLATE AFTER SAMPLE ADDITION
3. Cover and incubate 30 minutes at room temperature**.**
4. Discard the contents of the microplate by decantation or aspiration. If decanting, blot the plate dry with absorbent paper.
5. Add 350µl of wash buffer (see Reagent Preparation Section 8.0), decant (blot) or aspirate. Repeat two (2) additional times for a total of three (3) washes. **An automatic or manual plate washer can be used. Follow the manufacturer's instruction for proper usage. If a squeeze bottle is employed, fill each well by depressing the container (avoiding air bubbles) to dispense the wash. Decant the wash and repeat two (2) additional times.**
6. Add 0.100 ml (100µl) of Anti-hIgG Enzyme Reagent to all wells. **Always add reagents in the same order to minimize reaction time differences between wells.**
   DO NOT SHAKE THE PLATE AFTER ENZYME ADDITION
7. Cover and incubate for thirty (30) minutes at room temperature.
8. Wash the wells three (3) times with 350 µl wash buffer by repeating steps (4 & 5) as explained above.
9. Add 0.100 ml (100µl) of Substrate Reagent to all wells. **Always add reagents in the same order to minimize reaction time differences between wells. Do not use the Substrate Reagent if it looks blue.**
   DO NOT SHAKE THE PLATE AFTER SUBSTRATE ADDITION
10. Incubate at room temperature for fifteen (15) minutes.
11. Add 0.050ml (50µl) of stop solution to each well and swirl the microplate gently for 15-20 seconds to mix. **Always add reagents in the same order to minimize reaction time differences between wells.**
12. Read the absorbance in each well at 450nm (using a reference wavelength of 620-630nm to minimize well imperfections) in a microplate reader. **The results should be read within fifteen (15) minutes of adding the stop solution.**

Note: The relationship of absorbance to cut-off value is not necessarily linear so samples need not be diluted further if the absorbance is higher than the plate reader's capability (usually 3.0). However, these samples should be interpreted as strongly positive.

10.0 INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

A Cut-Off Control (CC) and kit specific Cut-Off Factor is used to ascertain the positivity or negativity of samples. Follow the following procedure to interpret the sample results.

1. Record the absorbance of all samples obtained from the printout of the microplate reader as outlined in Example 1.
2. Multiply the average absorbance of the Cut-Off Control by the Cut-Off Factor to obtain the Cut-Off Value.
3. Divide the average absorbance of each sample by the Cut-Off Value and multiply by 10 to obtain the relative value unit (RV).
4. If RV <9, the sample is negative for Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG and if RV >10, the sample is positive for Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG
5. Samples with RV that fall within the range of 9-10 are considered borderline and should be retested with a new blood draw within 4-7 days for reevaluation.
6. To convert RV to IU/ml, multiply RV by 11. This calculation is accurate up to 25 RV or 275 IU/ml. Patients higher than 25 RV may not dilute linearly with respect to the cut-off value.

Note: Computer data reduction software designed for ELISA assay may also be used for the data reduction. If such software is utilized, the validation of the software should be ascertained.

EXAMPLE 1
(Cut Off Factor = 1.0)

COV = MeanCC x COF
COV = Cut-Off Value
MeanCC = Mean Absorbance of Cut-Off Control
COF = Cut-Off Factor (See Certificate of Analysis)
COV = 0.667 x 1.0 = 0.667

Sample I.D.	Abs	Mean Abs	RV	Pos/Neg
Negative	0.178	0.173	÷0.667 x 10 = 2.6	Negative
	0.167			
Cut-Off	0.668	0.667	÷0.667 x 10 = 10	Cut-Off
	0.667			
Positive	2.805	2.845	÷0.667 x 10 = 42.6	Positive
	2.884			
Patient 1	0.177	0.176	***÷0.667 x 10 = 2.6***	***Negative***
	0.175			
Patient 2	1.534	1.603	***÷0.667 x 10 = 24.0***	***Positive***
	1.671			
Patient 3	0.621	0.628	***÷0.667 x 10 = 9.4***	***Borderline***
	0.635			

*The data presented in Example 1 is for illustration only and **should not** be used in lieu of a Cut-Off Control run and Cut-Off Factor with each assay. **In this example, since the Cut-Off Factor = 1.0, the average absorbance of the Cut-Off Control = Cut-Off Value**

11.0 Q.C. PARAMETERS

In order for the assay results to be considered valid the following criteria should be met:

1. Maximum Absorbance (Positive control) > 1.8
2. Positive control RV > 15
3. Negative control RV < 6

12.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The MSDS and Risk Analysis Form for this product is available on request from Monobind Inc.

12.1 Assay Performance

1. It is important that the time of reaction in each well is held constant to achieve reproducible results.
2. Pipetting of samples should not extend beyond ten (10) minutes to avoid assay drift.
3. Highly lipemic, hemolyzed or grossly contaminated specimen(s) should not be used.
4. If more than one (1) plate is used, it is recommended to repeat the Cut-Off control.
5. The addition of substrate solution initiates a kinetic reaction, which is terminated by the addition of the stop solution. Therefore, the substrate and stop solution should be added in the same sequence to eliminate any time-deviation during reaction.
6. Plate readers measure vertically. Do not touch the bottom of the wells.
7. Failure to remove adhering solution adequately in the aspiration or decantation wash step(s) may result in poor replication and spurious results.
8. Use components from the same lot. No intermixing of reagents from different batches.
9. Very high concentration of anti-SARS-CoV-2 in patient specimens can contaminate samples immediately following these extreme levels. Bad duplicates are indicative of cross contamination. Repeat any sample, which follows any patient specimen with over 3.0 units of absorbance.
10. The Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) S1-RBD IgG AccuBind® ELISA Test System is a qualitative assay and does not necessarily give an indication of quantities of IgG antibodies.
11. Samples, which are contaminated microbiologically, should not be used.
12. Any patient samples used in manufacturing have been heat inactivated prior to handling. However, treat all samples, including the control samples, as potentially hazardous or infectious.
13. Accurate and precise pipetting, as well as following the exact time and temperature requirements prescribed are essential. Any deviation from Monobind's IFU may yield inaccurate results.
14. All applicable national standards, regulations and laws, including, but not limited to, good laboratory procedures, must be strictly followed to ensure compliance and proper device usage.
15. It is important to calibrate all the equipment e.g. Pipettes, Readers, Washers and/or the automated instruments used with this device, and to perform routine preventative maintenance.
16. Risk Analysis- as required by CE Mark IVD Directive 98/79/EC - for this and other devices, made by Monobind, can be requested via email from Monobind@monobind.com.

12.2 Interpretation

1. ***Measurements and interpretation of results must be performed by a skilled individual or trained professional.***
2. Laboratory results alone are only one aspect for determining patient care and should not be the sole basis for therapy, particularly if the results conflict with other determinants.
3. For valid test results, adequate controls and other parameters must be within the listed ranges and assay requirements.
4. If test kits are altered, such as by mixing parts of different kits, which could produce false test results, or if results are incorrectly interpreted, Monobind shall have no liability.
5. If computer controlled data reduction is used to interpret the results of the test, it is imperative that the predicted values for the calibrators fall within 10% of the assigned concentrations.
6. The clinical significance of the result should be used in evaluating the possible presence of SARS-CoV-2 infection or COVID-19. However, **clinical inferences should not be solely based on this test** but rather as an adjunct to the clinical manifestations of the patient and other relevant tests such as Histology, nasophyrangeal swab, etc. A positive result does not indicate active COVID-19 infection and does not distinguish between infection or contagiousness of COVID-19. Similarly, a negative result does not eliminate the absence COVID-19 infection but rather a very low titer of antibody that may be related to the early stages of disease.
7. A positive result on the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG AccuBind® ELISA test system does not necessarily predict immunity to the SARS-CoV-2. There has not yet been a conclusive study to indicate that the presence of IgG antibodies confirms immunity to the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
8. There have not been sufficient studies to determine the longevity of Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG in human patients. Therefore, it is possible that a positive IgG may decrease to a negative result over the course of several months or years on some patients.
9. If the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG AccuBind® ELISA Test System is used to monitor antibody response in vaccinated patients, samples should be taken two weeks after the full course of vaccine doses have been administered. It is not uncommon to observe a negative result on a sample with only one dose of a vaccine regimen that requires two or more doses.

13.0 EXPECTED RANGES OF VALUES

A study of apparently healthy population (>150) from prior to December 2019 was undertaken to determine expected values for the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Accubind® ELISA test system. Based on the data, the following cut-off point was established.

Presence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies Confirmed

IgG > 10 RV

14.0 PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

14.1 Precision

The within and between assay precision of the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) S1-RBD AccuBind® ELISA Test System were determined by analyses on three different levels of pool control sera. The number, mean value, standard deviation (σ) and coefficient of variation for each of these control sera are presented below.

TABLE 1

Within Assay Precision (Values in RV)

Sample	N	X	σ	C.V.
Negative	20	3.3	0.13	3.95%
Borderline	20	9.5	0.29	2.64%
Positive	20	19.3	0.32	1.65%

TABLE 2*

Between Assay Precision (Values in RV)

Sample	N	X	σ	C.V.
Negative	16	1.6	0.14	8.75%
Borderline	16	9.1	0.35	3.50%
Positive	16	29.8	1.45	4.85%

*As measured in eight experiments in duplicate.

14.2 Sensitivity

The sensitivity of the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1-RBD IgG AccuBind® ELISA Test System was determined by testing samples from 60 patients who had previously tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 via RT-PCR. The patient samples were sourced from three different blood banks. 59 out of the 60 patients tested positive indicating that the sensitivity of the test is at least 98.3% Positive Percent Agreement (PPA).

14.3 Accuracy

The Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) S1-RBD IgG AccuBind® ELISA test system was used to test samples drawn at subsequent time intervals from 60 patients who tested PCR and IgG positive for SARS-CoV-2. The data is shown in Table 3 below.

TABLE 3

		Candidate Test Results		
Days from Symptom Onset	Number of Subjects Tested	IgG Positive Results	IgG PPA	95% CI
0-7 days	17	14	82.4%	59.0%-93.8%
8-14 days	23	22	95.7%	79.0%-99.2%
≥15 days	21	20	95.2%	77.3%-99.2%
Unknown	16	16	100%	80.6%-100%
Total Subjects	77	N/A	N/A	N/A

Overall IgG PPA: (93.5% 72/77); [95% CI (85.7% - 97.2%)]

14.4 Specificity

>150 different patient samples drawn prior to December 2019 were assayed to determine the prevalence of false positives. No false positive samples were detected indicating the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) S1-RBD IgG AccuBind® ELISA Test System has a 100% Specificity.

16.0 REFERENCES

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Effective Date: 2021-SEP-22 Rev 1 **DCO: 1508**
MP12525 **Product Code: 12525-300**

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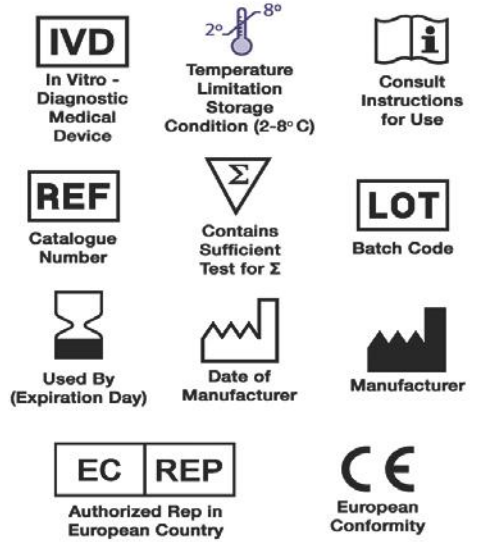
Glossary of Symbols
(EN 980/ISO 15223)



Monobind Inc.
Lake Forest, CA 92630, USA

AccuBind
ELISA Microwells

Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) IgM Test System

Product Codes: 11725-300

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Intended Use: The Qualitative Determination of Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Specific Antibodies of the IgM type in Human Serum or Plasma by Microplate Enzyme Immunoassay

2.0 SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION OF THE TEST

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), discovered at the end of 2019, is the cause of the disease COVID-19.[1-2] Both SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV, the cause of the 2002 SARS epidemic, are of the genus betacoronavirus and are closely related.[2] Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 is primarily through close contact with infected patients via expelled respiratory droplets, usually from coughing or sneezing.[1-2]

Due to its high transmission rate and severeness, COVID-19 has emerged as a global pandemic that has forced lockdowns and quarantine protocols from countries all over the world.[3] Though diagnoses are primarily conducted using viral nucleic acid detection via real-time reverse transcriptase PCR, many false negatives have been reported and there is urgent need for serological antibody screening as a more robust and reliable test methodology.[4-5]

Tests for immunoglobulin M (IgM) antibodies are of importance as as an early detection of infection.[6] The body's primary defense against a pathogen (antigen) is to produce antibodies. Specifically, IgM appears first and wanes over time as IgG antibodies begin to rise and appear at detectable levels 10-20 days after symptom onset.[7-8]

The Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) IgM AccuBind® ELISA test kit is a qualitative test designed to produce highly sensitive and specific results with a simple and brief protocol. The test utilizes a recombinant nucleocapsid protein (rNCP) in the Enzyme Reagent and Anti-human IgM antibodies coated on microwells to capture native antibodies in the sample. In the first step, prediluted samples are added directly to the wells. After the first incubation, excess sample material is washed out and a rNCP labeled with an enzyme is added to the wells to detect IgM against SARS-CoV-2. After the second incubation, excess material is washed out again and substrate is added to produce a measurable color through the reaction with the enzyme and hydrogen peroxide.

3.0 PRINCIPLE

Sequential Sandwich ELISA Method (TYPE 10):

The reagents required for the sequential ELISA assay include immobilized antibody, circulating antibody to SARS-CoV-2, and enzyme-linked SARS-CoV-2 antigen.

Upon adding a sample containing the anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody, reaction results between the antibody that has been immobilized on the microwell and the antibody to form an immune-complex. The interaction is illustrated by the following equation:

$$\text{h-Ab}_{(\text{IgM})} + \text{Ab}_{(\text{x-IgM})} \underset{k_{-a}}{\overset{k_a}{\rightleftharpoons}} \text{h-Ab}_{(\text{IgM})} - \text{Ab}_{(\text{x-IgM})}$$

$\text{Ab}_{(\text{x-IgM})}$ = Immobilized Antibody (Constant Quantity)
$\text{h-Ab}_{(\text{IgM})}$ = Human Antibody (Variable Quantity)
$\text{h-Ab}_{(\text{IgM})} - \text{Ab}_{(\text{x-IgM})}$ = Immune Complex (Variable Quantity)
k_a = Rate Constant of Association
k_{-a} = Rate Constant of Disassociation

After the incubation time, the well is washed to separate the unbound components by aspiration and/or decantation. The enzyme linked SARS-CoV-2 antigen is then added to the microwells. This conjugate binds to the immune complex that formed.

$$\text{IC}_{(\text{h-IgM},)} + {}^{\text{ENZ}}\text{Ag}_{(\text{SARS-CoV-2})} \Rightarrow {}^{\text{ENZ}}\text{Ag}_{(\text{X-SARS-CoV-2})} - \text{IC}_{(\text{h-IgM})}$$

$\text{IC}_{(\text{h-IgM})}$ = Immobilized Immune complex (Variable Quantity)

${}^{\text{ENZ}}\text{Ab}_{(\text{X-SARS-CoV-2})}$ = Enzyme-antibody Conjugate (Constant Quantity)

${}^{\text{ENZ}}\text{Ab}_{(\text{X-SARS-CoV-2})} - \text{I.C.}_{(\text{h-IgM})}$ = Ag-Ab Complex (Variable)

The anti-h-IgM enzyme conjugate that binds to the immune complex in a second incubation is separated from unreacted material by a wash step. The enzyme activity in this fraction is directly proportional to the antibody concentration in the specimen. By utilizing a serum reference equivalent to the positive-negative cut-off value, the absorbance value can be compared to the cut-off to determine a positive or negative result.

4.0 REAGENTS

Materials provided:

A. Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgM Controls – 1ml/vial - Icons PC, NC, CC
Three (3) vials of ready-to-use references for anti-SARS-CoV-2 at positive, negative, and cut-off levels of IgM. Store at 2-8°C. A preservative has been added.

B. SARS-CoV-2 IgM Enzyme Reagent – 12 ml/vial - Icon
One (1) vial of nucleocapsid protein from SARS-CoV-2 labeled with horseradish peroxides (HRP) in a buffering matrix. A preservative has been added. Store at 2-8°C.

C. Anti hIgM Antibody Coated Plate – 96 wells - Icon
One 96-well microplate coated with anti-human IgM antibody and packaged in an aluminum bag with a drying agent. Store at 2-8°C.

D. Serum Diluent Concentrate – 20ml
One (1) vial of concentrated serum diluent containing buffer salts and a dye. Store at 2-8°C.

E. Wash Solution Concentrate – 20ml - Icon
One (1) vial containing a surfactant in buffered saline. A preservative has been added. Store at 2-8°C

F. Substrate – 12ml/vial - Icon S^N
One (1) vial containing tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) and hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) in buffer. Store at 2-8°C.

G. Stop Solution – 8ml/vial - Icon
One (1) vial contains a strong acid (0.5 M H_2SO_4). Store at 2-8°C.

H. Product Instructions.

Note 1: Do not use reagents beyond the kit expiration date.

Note 2: Avoid extended exposure to heat and light. **Opened reagents are stable for sixty (60) days when stored at 2-8°C. Kit and component stability are identified on the label.**

Note 3: Above reagents are for a single 96-well microplate.

4.1 Required But Not Provided:

1. Fixed volume or variable volume pipette capable of delivering volumes ranging from 10 to 1000 µl with a precision of better than 1.5%.
2. Dispenser(s) for repetitive deliveries of 0.050 ml, 0.100 ml, and 0.350 ml volumes with a precision of better than 1.5%.
3. Microplate washers or a squeeze bottle (optional).
4. Microplate Reader with 450nm and 620nm wavelength absorbance capability.
5. Absorbent Paper for blotting the microplate wells.
6. Plastic wrap or microplate cover for incubation steps.
7. Vacuum aspirator (optional) for wash steps.
8. Timer.
9. Quality control materials.

5.0 PRECAUTIONS

For In Vitro Diagnostic Use
Not for Internal or External Use in Humans or Animals

Any components containing human serum from COVID-19 patients have been heat inactivated prior to handling and manufacturing. All products that contain human serum have been found to be non-reactive for Hepatitis B Surface Antigen, HIV 1&2 and HCV Antibodies by FDA licensed reagents. Since no known test can offer complete assurance that infectious agents are absent, all human serum products should be handled as potentially hazardous and capable of transmitting disease. Good laboratory procedures for handling blood products can be found in the Center for Disease Control / National Institute of Health, "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories," 2nd Edition, 1988, HHS Publication No. (CDC) 88-8395.

Safe Disposal of kit components must be according to local regulatory and statutory requirement.

6.0 SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

The specimens shall be blood; serum or plasma in type and the usual precautions in the collection of venipuncture samples should be observed. The blood should be collected in a plain redtop venipuncture tube without additives or anti-coagulants (for serum) or evacuated tube(s) containing EDTA or heparin (for plasma). Allow the blood to clot for serum samples. Centrifuge the specimen to separate the serum or plasma from the cells.

Please note that there has been no evidence of COVID-19 transmission through blood handling, but technicians should always exercise caution and treat all patient samples as potentially hazardous.[9]

Samples may be refrigerated at 2-8°C for a maximum period of seven (7) days. If the specimen(s) cannot be assayed within this time, the sample(s) may be stored at temperatures of -20°C for up to 30 days. Avoid use of contaminated devices. Avoid repetitive freezing and thawing. When assayed in duplicate, 0.200ml of the diluted specimen is required.

7.0 QUALITY CONTROL

Each laboratory should assay controls at levels in the normal, borderline and elevated range for monitoring assay performance. These controls should be treated as unknowns and values determined in every test procedure performed. Quality control charts should be maintained to follow the performance of the supplied reagents. Pertinent statistical methods should be employed to ascertain trends. The individual laboratory should set acceptable assay performance limits. In addition, maximum absorbance should be consistent with past experience. Significant deviation from established performance can indicate unnoticed change in experimental conditions or degradation of kit reagents. Fresh reagents should be used to determine the reason for the variations.

8.0 REAGENT PREPARATION

1. **Serum Diluent**
   Dilute contents of Serum Diluent Concentrate to 200ml (1:10 Dilution) in a suitable container with distilled or deionized water. Store at 2-8°C.
2. **Wash Buffer**
   Dilute contents of wash solution concentrate to 1000 ml with distilled or deionized water in a suitable storage container. Store at 2-30°C for up to 60 days.
3. **Patient Sample Dilution (1/100)**
   For example, dispense 0.010ml (10µl) of each patient specimen into 0.990 ml (990 µl) of serum diluent or 0.0101 ml (10.1 µl) into 1 ml (1000 µl). Cover and vortex or mix thoroughly by inversion. Store at 2-8°C for up to forty-eight (48) hours.

Note : Do not use reagents that are contaminated or have bacteria growth.

9.0 TEST PROCEDURE

Before proceeding with the assay, bring all reagents, serum references and controls to room temperature (20-27°C).
*****Test Procedure should be performed by a skilled individual or trained professional*****

1. Format the microplates' wells for each control sample and patient specimen to be assayed in duplicate. Dilute the patient or any external control samples 1/100 (see Reagent Preparation **Section 8.0)** **Replace any unused microwell strips back into the aluminum bag, seal and store at 2-8°C.**
2. Pipette 0.100 ml (100µl) of the appropriate control or diluted patient specimen into the assigned well for IgM determination.
   DO NOT SHAKE THE PLATE AFTER SAMPLE ADDITION
3. Cover and incubate 30 minutes at room temperature**.**
4. Discard the contents of the microplate by decantation or aspiration. If decanting, blot the plate dry with absorbent paper.
5. Add 350µl of wash buffer (see Reagent Preparation Section 8.0), decant (blot) or aspirate. Repeat two (4) additional times for a total of five (5) washes. **An automatic or manual plate washer can be used. Follow the manufacturer's instruction for proper usage. If a squeeze bottle is employed, fill each well by depressing the container (avoiding air bubbles) to dispense the wash. Decant the wash and repeat two (2) additional times.**
6. Add 0.100 ml (100µl) of SARS-CoV-2 IgM Enzyme Reagent to all wells. **Always add reagents in the same order to minimize reaction time differences between wells.**
   DO NOT SHAKE THE PLATE AFTER ENZYME ADDITION
7. Cover and incubate for thirty (30) minutes at room temperature.
8. Wash the wells five (5) times with 350 µl wash buffer by repeating steps (4 & 5) as explained above.
9. Add 0.100 ml (100µl) of Substrate Reagent to all wells. **Always add reagents in the same order to minimize reaction time differences between wells. Do not use the Substrate Reagent if it looks blue.**
   DO NOT SHAKE THE PLATE AFTER SUBSTRATE ADDITION
10. Incubate at room temperature for twenty (20) minutes to develop sufficient color.
11. Add 0.050ml (50µl) of stop solution to each well and swirl the microplate gently for 15-20 seconds to mix. **Always add reagents in the same order to minimize reaction time differences between wells.**
12. Read the absorbance in each well at 450nm (using a reference wavelength of 620-630nm to minimize well imperfections) in a microplate reader. **The results should be read within fifteen (15) minutes of adding the stop solution.**

Note: The relationship of absorbance to cut-off value is not necessarily linear so samples need not be diluted further if the absorbance is higher than the plate reader's capability (usually 3.0). However, these samples should be interpreted as strongly positive.

10.0 INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

A Cut-Off Control is used to ascertain the positivity or negativity of samples. Follow the following procedure to interpret the sample results.

1. Record the absorbance of all samples obtained from the printout of the microplate reader as outlined in Example 1.
2. Multiply the average absorbance of the Cut-Off Control by the Cut-Off Factor to obtain the Cut-Off Value.
2. Divide the average absorbance of each sample by the Cut-Off Value and multiply by 10 to obtain the relative value unit (RV).
3. If RV <9, the sample is negative for Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgM and if RV >10, the sample is positive for Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgM
4. Samples with RV that fall within the range of 9-10 are considered borderline and should be retested with a new blood draw within 4-7 days for reevaluation.

Note: Computer data reduction software designed for ELISA assay may also be used for the data reduction. If such software is utilized, the validation of the software should be ascertained.

EXAMPLE 1
(Cut-Off Factor = 1.0)

COV = MeanCC x COF
COV = Cut-Off Value
MeanCC = Mean Absorbance of Cut-Off Control
COF = Cut-Off Factor (See Certificate of Analysis)
COV = 0.230 x 1.0 = 0.230

Sample I.D.	Abs	Mean Abs	RV	Pos/Neg
Negative	0.059	0.060	÷0.230 x 10 =2.6	Negative
	0.061			
Cut Off	0.216	0.230	÷0.230 x 10 =10	Cut-Off
	0.244			
Positive	2.805	2.845	÷0.230 x 10 =124	Positive
	2.884			
Patient 1	0.104	0.105	***÷0.230 x 10 =4.6***	***Negative***
	0.106			
Patient 2	1.534	1.603	***÷0.230 x 10 =69.7***	***Positive***
	1.671			
Patient 3	0.225	0.217	***÷0.230 x 10 =9.4***	***Borderline***
	0.209			

*The data presented in Example 1 is for illustration only and **should not** be used in lieu of a Cut-Off sample run with each assay. **In this example, since the Cut-Off Factor = 1.0, the average absorbance of the Cut-Off Control = Cut-Off Value**

11.0 Q.C. PARAMETERS

In order for the assay results to be considered valid the following criteria should be met:

1. Maximum Absorbance (Positive control) > 1.5
2. Positive control RV > 15
3. Negative control RV < 6

12.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The MSDS and Risk Analysis Form for this product is available on request from Monobind Inc.

12.1 Assay Performance

1. It is important that the time of reaction in each well is held constant to achieve reproducible results.
2. Pipetting of samples should not extend beyond ten (10) minutes to avoid assay drift.
3. Highly lipemic, hemolyzed or grossly contaminated specimen(s) should not be used.
4. If more than one (1) plate is used, it is recommended to repeat the Cut-Off control.
5. The addition of substrate solution initiates a kinetic reaction, which is terminated by the addition of the stop solution. Therefore, the substrate and stop solution should be added in the same sequence to eliminate any time-deviation during reaction.
6. Plate readers measure vertically. Do not touch the bottom of the wells.
7. Failure to remove adhering solution adequately in the aspiration or decantation wash step(s) may result in poor replication and spurious results.
8. Use components from the same lot. No intermixing of reagents from different batches.
9. Very high concentration of anti-SARS-CoV-2 in patient specimens can contaminate samples immediately following these extreme levels. Bad duplicates are indicative of cross contamination. Repeat any sample, which follows any patient specimen with over 3.0 units of absorbance.
10. The Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) IgM AccuBind® ELISA Test System is a qualitative assay and does not necessarily give an indication of quantities of IgM antibodies.
11. Samples, which are contaminated microbiologically, should not be used.
12. Any patient samples used in manufacturing have been heat inactivated prior to handling. However, treat all samples, including the control samples, as potentially hazardous or infectious.
13. Accurate and precise pipetting, as well as following the exact time and temperature requirements prescribed are essential. Any deviation from Monobind's IFU may yield inaccurate results.
14. All applicable national standards, regulations and laws, including, but not limited to, good laboratory procedures, must be strictly followed to ensure compliance and proper device usage.
15. It is important to calibrate all the equipment e.g. Pipettes, Readers, Washers and/or the automated instruments used with this device, and to perform routine preventative maintenance.
16. Risk Analysis- as required by CE Mark IVD Directive 98/79/EC - for this and other devices, made by Monobind, can be requested via email from Monobind@monobind.com.

12.2 Interpretation

1. ***Measurements and interpretation of results must be performed by a skilled individual or trained professional.***
2. Laboratory results alone are only one aspect for determining patient care and should not be the sole basis for therapy, particularly if the results conflict with other determinants.
3. For valid test results, adequate controls and other parameters must be within the listed ranges and assay requirements.
4. If test kits are altered, such as by mixing parts of different kits, which could produce false test results, or if results are incorrectly interpreted, Monobind shall have no liability.
5. If computer controlled data reduction is used to interpret the results of the test, it is imperative that the predicted values for the calibrators fall within 10% of the assigned concentrations.
6. The clinical significance of the result should be used in evaluating the possible presence of SARS-CoV-2 infection or COVID-19. However, **clinical inferences should not be solely based on this test** but rather as an adjunct to the clinical manifestations of the patient and other relevant tests such as Histology, nasophyrangeal swab, etc. A positive result does not indicate COVID-19 and does not distinguish between infection or contagiousness of COVID-19. Similarly, a negative result does not eliminate the absence COVID-19 infection but rather a very low titer of antibody that may be related to the early stages of disease.
7. Since this test utilizes the nucleocapsid protein of SARS-CoV-2, antibodies against any part of the spike protein are not detected. The nucleocapsid protein is produced in high levels during infection and is very immunogenic. Therefore, a positive result confirms a current or previous *contraction* of COVID-19. Patients who have been vaccinated against the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 but have not been exposed to the live virus will not react with the test.

13.0 EXPECTED RANGES OF VALUES

A study of apparently healthy population (>150) from prior to December 2019 was undertaken to determine expected values for the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Accubind® ELISA test system. Based on the data, the following cut-off point was established.

Presence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies Confirmed

IgM > 10 RV

14.0 PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

14.1 Precision

The within and between assay precision of the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) AccuBind® ELISA Test System were determined by analyses on two different levels of pool control sera. The number, mean value, standard deviation (σ) and coefficient of variation for each of these control sera are presented below.

TABLE 1
Within Assay Precision (Values in RV)

Sample	N	X	σ	C.V.
Negative	20	2.1	0.11	5.24%
Borderline	20	9.2	0.23	2.50%
Positive	20	30.5	0.54	1.77%

TABLE 2*
Between Assay Precision (Values in RV)

Sample	N	X	σ	C.V.
Negative	16	1.9	0.16	8.42%
Borderline	16	9.3	0.45	4.84%
Positive	16	29.6	1.38	4.66%

*As measured in eight experiments in duplicate.

14.2 Sensitivity

The sensitivity of the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgM AccuBind® ELISA Test System was determined by testing samples from 41 patients who had previously tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 via RT-PCR. The patient samples were sourced from three different blood banks. 40 out of the 41 patients tested positive indicating that the sensitivity of the test is at least 97.6% Positive Percent Agreement.

14.3 Accuracy

The Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) IgM AccuBind® ELISA test system was used to test samples drawn at various time intervals from 41 patients who tested PCR and IgM positive for SARS-CoV-2. The data is shown in Table 3 below.

TABLE 3

Days from Symptom Onset	Number of Subjects Tested	Candidate Test Results: Total Antibody Positive results	Candidate Test Results: Total Antibody PPA	Candidate Test Results: 95% CI
0-7 days	7	7	100%	64.6%-100%
8-14 days	14	14	100%	78.5%-100%
15-30 days	9	9	100%	70.1%-100%
Unknown	11	10	90.9%	62.3%-98.4%
Total Subjects	41	N/A	N/A	N/A

Overall IgM PPA: (97.6% 40/41); [(95% CI (87.4% - 99.6%)]

14.4 Specificity

>150 different patient samples drawn prior to December 2019 were assayed to determine the prevalence of false positives. No false positive samples were detected indicating the Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) IgM AccuBind® ELISA Test System has a 100% Specificity.

16.0 REFERENCES

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Effective Date: 2021-FEB-15 Rev 1 **DCO: 1474**
MP11725 **Product Code: 11725-300**

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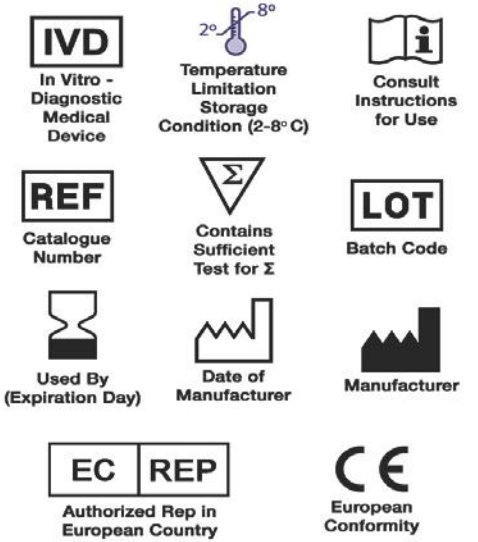
Glossary of Symbols
(EN 980/ISO 15223)



TOXO IgG

Enzyme Immunoassay for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Toxoplasma gondii in human serum and plasma

- for “in vitro” diagnostic use only -

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Code: TOXOG.CE
96 Tests

TOXO IgG

A. INTENDED USE
Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the quantitative/qualitative determination of IgG antibodies to Toxoplasma gondii in plasma and sera.
For "in vitro" diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION
Toxoplasma gondii is an obligate intracellular protozoan parasite that is probably capable of infecting all species of mammals, including man. The detection of IgM antibodies to T.gondii is particularly helpful for the diagnosis of acute infections in "risk" individuals, in association with AIDS, organ transplantation and pregnancy. As most of T.gondii infections are mild or asymptomatic in otherwise healthy individuals, the detection of T.gondii specific IgM antibodies, in absence of detectable specific IgG, has become important for the monitoring of acute infections in pregnant women, as the parasite can lead to severe birth defects. Moreover, as T.gondii infections are most severe in immunocompromised patients, where the disease can be fatal, acute infections due to this parasite have to be distinguished from other disorders.
Recently developed IgM capture assays provide the clinician with a helpful and reliable test, not affected by the rheumatoid factor as it happens to be in classic sandwich tests.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST
Microplates are coated with native T. gondii antigens, highly purified by sucrose gradient centrifugation and inactivated.
The solid phase is first treated with the diluted sample and IgG to T. gondii are captured, if present, by the antigens.
After washing out all the other components of the sample, in the 2nd incubation bound anti Toxoplasma gondii IgG are detected by the addition of polyclonal specific anti human IgG antibodies, labelled with peroxidase (HRP).
The enzyme captured on the solid phase, acting on the substrate/chromogen mixture, generates an optical signal that is proportional to the amount of anti Toxoplasma gondii IgG antibodies present in the sample. A Calibration Curve, calibrated against the W.H.O 3nd international standard , makes possible a quantitative determination of the IgG antibody in the patient.

D. COMPONENTS
Each kit contains sufficient reagents to perform 96 tests.

1. : **Microplate**: MICROPLATE
12 strips x 8 microwells coated with purified and gamma-irradiation inactivated Toxoplasma gondii in presence of bovine proteins.
Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Calibration Curve: CAL N° ….
Ready to use and colour coded, calibrated against the 3nd international standard produced by the World Health Organization (WHO). The calibration curve range is as follows:
4ml CAL 1 = 0 WHO IU/ml
4ml CAL 2 = 50 WHO IU/ml
2ml CAL 3 = 100 WHO IU/ml
2ml CAL 4 = 250 WHO IU/ml
2ml CAL 5 = 500 WHO IU/ml
4ml CAL 6 = 1000 WHO IU/ml.
It contains Toxo IgG positive plasma titrated against WHO 3rd international standard code TOXM, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 2% casein, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. Standards are blue colored.

3. Control Serum: CONTROL ….
n° 1 vial - Lyophilized. To be dissolved with the volume of EIA grade water reported on the label. It contains fetal bovine serum, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives and human plasma positive to T.gondii calibrated at 250 IU/ml +/-10%, whose content is calibrated on 3nd international standard produced by the World Health Organization (WHO - TOXM).
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label .

4. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle20x concentrated solution.
Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300.

5. Enzyme conjugate : CONJ
2x8ml/vial. Ready to use and red colour coded. It contains Horseradish peroxidase conjugated polyclonal antibodies to human IgG, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1,5% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives. Coded with 0.01% red alimentary dye

6. Chromogen/Substrate: SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffer pH 3.5-3.8, 4% dimethylsulphoxide, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (TMB) and 0.02% hydrogen peroxide or H_2O_2.
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

7. Sulphuric Acid: H2SO4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vialIt contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

8. Specimen Diluent: DILSPE
2x60ml/vial. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM Na-citrate buffer pH 6.0 +/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% Na-azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives. To be used to dilute the sample.

9. Plate sealing foils n° 2

10. Package insert n° 1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED
1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance).
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS
1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices

should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS
1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection. Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for at least 12 months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.
6. Samples whose anti-T.gondii IgG antibody concentration is expected to be higher than 1000 IU/ml should be diluted before use, either 1:10 or 1:100 in the Calibrator 0 IU/ml. Dilutions have to be done in clean disposable tubes by diluting 50 ul of each specimen with 450 ul of Cal 0 (1:10). Then 50 ul of the 1:10 dilution are diluted with 450 ul of the Cal 0 (1:100). Mix tubes thoroughly on vortex and then proceed toward the dilution step reported in section M.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS
A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in manufacturing.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C.
After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Calibration Curve
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Control Serum
Add the volume of ELISA grade water, reported on the label, to the lyophilised powder; let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.
Note: *The control after dissolution is not stable. Store frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
Note: *Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Enzyme conjugate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possibly sterile disposable containers.

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.

If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sample Diluent
Ready to use component. Mix carefully on vortex before use.

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 – Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/- 0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter of 620-630nm, mandatory for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the sections "Validation of Test" and "Assay Performances". The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates.
3. Check that the Chromogen (TMB) is colourless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette.
4. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check that the aluminium pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
5. Dissolve the content of the lyophilised Control Serum as reported in the proper section.
6. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
7. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
8. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
9. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
10. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
11. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
12. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
13. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.
The kit may be used for quantitative and qualitative determinations as well.

M.1 Quantitative analysis

Automated assay:
In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Sample Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor). The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl samples into the proper wells of the microplate.
This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first 100 µl Sample Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.
Do not dilute controls/calibrator as they are ready to use.
Dispense 100 µl calibrators/control in the appropriate calibration/control wells.
For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.
It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

Manual assay:
1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the 1st and 2nd wells (positions A1 and B1 of the microplate) empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrators and 100 µl Control Serum in duplicate. Then dispense 100 µl of 1:101 diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the 1st and the 2nd blanking wells, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1 and B1.

Important notes:
1. *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*
2. *Mix thoroughly the Enzyme Conjugate on vortex before its use !!!*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank wells A1 and B1 included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1 or B1 or both.

M.2 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

If only a qualitative determination is required, proceed as described below:

Automated assay:
Proceed as described in section M1.

Manual assay:
1. Dilute samples 1:101 into a properly defined dilution tube (example: 1000 µl Sample Diluent + 10 µl sample). Do not dilute the Calibration Set as calibrators are ready to use. Mix carefully all the liquid components on vortex and then proceed as described below.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the 1st well (positions A1 of the microplate) empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Calibrator 0 IU/ml and 100 µl of Calibrator 50 IU/ml in duplicate, and 100 µl of Calibrator 1000 IU/ml in single. Then dispense 100 µl of 1:101 diluted samples in each properly identified well.
4. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

5. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer by delivering and aspirating 350 µl/well of diluted washing solution as reported previously (section I.3).
6. Pipette 100 µl Enzyme Conjugate into each well, except the 1st blanking well, and cover with the sealer. Check that this red coloured component has been dispensed in all the wells, except A1.

Important notes:
1. *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Enzyme Conjugate. Contamination might occur.*
2. *Mix thoroughly the Enzyme Conjugate on vortex before its use !!!*

7. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C**.
8. Wash microwells as in step 5.
9. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

10. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 9. Addition of acid will turn the positive calibrators, the control serum and the positive samples from blue to yellow.
11. Measure the colour intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

General Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*
3. *The Control Serum (CS) does not affect the test results calculation. The Control Serum may be used only when a laboratory internal quality control a laboratory internal quality control is required by the management.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Method	Operations
Calibrators & Control Samples diluted 1:101	100 µl 100 µl
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Enzyme conjugate	100 µl
2nd incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Wash step	n° 5 with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2	100 µl
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

An example of dispensation scheme for Quantitative Analysis is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	CAL4	S 1									
B	BLK	CAL4	S 2									
C	CAL1	CAL5	S 3									
D	CAL1	CAL5	S 4									
E	CAL2	CAL6	S 5									
F	CAL2	CAL6	S 6									
G	CAL3	CS	S 7									
H	CAL3	CS	S 8									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrator CS = Control Serum S = Sample

An example of dispensation scheme in qualitative assays is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S 3	S 11									
B	CAL1	S 4	S 12									
C	CAL1	S 5	S 13									
D	CAL2	S 6	S 14									
E	CAL2	S 7	S 15									
F	CAL6	S 8	S 16									
G	S 1	S 9	S 17									
H	S 2	S 10	S 18									

Legenda: BLK = Blank CAL = Calibrators
CS = Control Serum S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A check is carried out on the controls and the calibrator any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performances of the assay are as expected and required by the IVDD directive 98/79/EC. Control that the following data are matched:

Check	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.100 OD450nm value
Calibrator 0 IU/ml (CAL1)	< 0.150 mean OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
Calibrator 50 IU/ml	OD450nm > OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100
Calibrator 1000 IU/ml	OD450nm > 1.000
Control Serum	250 WHO IU/ml +/-10%

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.
If they do not, do not proceed any further and operate as follows:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.100 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Substrate solution has not got contaminated during the assay
Calibrator 0 IU/ml > 0.150 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of a positive calibrator instead of the negative one; 4. that no contamination of the negative calibrator or of their wells has occurred due to positive samples, to spills or to the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes haven't got contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.

Calibrator 50 IU/ml OD450nm < OD450nm CAL1 + 0.100	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (ex.: dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead); 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.
Calibrator 1000 IU/ml < 1.000 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly executed; 2. that no mistake has been done in its distribution (dispensation of a wrong calibrator instead) ; 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.
Control Serum Different from expected value	First verify that: 1. the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. no mistake has occurred during its distribution (e.g..: dispensation of a wrong sample); 3. the washing procedure and the washer settings are correct; 4. no external contamination of the standard has occurred. 5. the Control Serum has been dissolved with the right volume reported on the label. If a mistake has been pointed out, the assay has to be repeated after eliminating the reason of this error. If no mistake has been found, proceed as follows: **a**) a value up to +/-20% is obtained: the overall Precision of the laboratory might not enable the test to match the expected value +/-10%. Report the problem to the Supervisor for acceptance or refusal of this result. **b**) a value higher than +/-20% is obtained: in this case the test is invalid and the DiaPro's customer service has to be called.

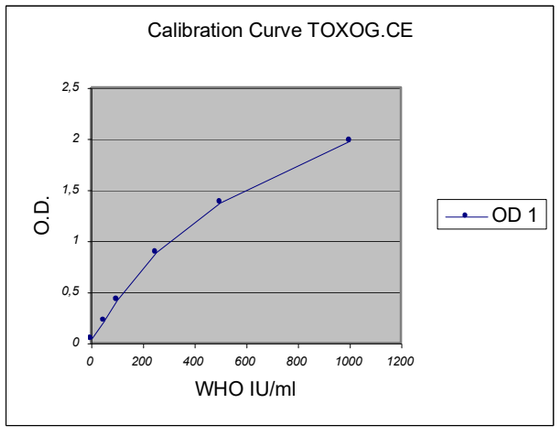
Should one of these problems have happened, after checking, report to the supervisor for further actions.

Important note:
The analysis must be done proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 11.

P. RESULTS

P.1 Quantitative method

If the test turns out to be valid, use for the quantitative method an approved curve fitting program to draw the calibration curve from the values obtained by reading at 450nm (4-parameters interpolation is suggested).
Then on the calibration curve calculate the concentration of anti Toxoplasma gondii IgG antibody in samples.
An example of Calibration curve is reported in this page.



Important Notes:
Do not use the calibration curve above to make calculations.

P.2 Qualitative method

In the qualitative method, calculate the mean OD450nm values for the Calibrators 0 and 50 IU/ml and then check that the assay is valid.

An example of calculation is reported below (data obtained proceeding as the the reading step described in the section M, point 11).

The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.

Calibrator 0 IU/ml: 0.020 – 0.024 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.022 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted
Calibrator 50 IU/ml: 0.250 – 0.270 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.260 OD450nm
Higher than Cal 0 + 0.100 – Accepted
Calibrator 1000 IU/ml: 2.845 OD450nm
Higher than 1.000 – Accepted

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for an infection of Toxoplasma gondii due to the risk of severe neonatal malformations.
The cut-off of the device has been set at 50 IU/ml, and not lower as some other devices present on the market do, in order to assure the highest diagnostic value to the test, in particular when the assay is applied in pregnancy monitoring.
Upon infection, in fact, a part from the very first time of seroconversion, patients develop a strong immunological response to Toxoplasma gondii, far exceeding 50 IU/ml.
Low titer antibodies (below 50 IU/ml) mostly show low avidity to the infective agent and may represent a diagnostic marker of a recent infection, in combination with IgM.
Pregnant women, with antibodies concentrations below 50 IU/ml are by the devise considered negative in order to make the clinician consider them "risk" patients and follow them up for both IgG and IgM along pregnancy.
Samples with a concentration higher than 50 WHO IU/ml are considered positive for anti Toxoplasma gondii IgG antibody, surely able to provide immunity against the infection.
This titer is considered the lowest concentration of IgG to provide an effective immunological protection against a second infection of Toxoplasma gondii by NCCLS, USA.

Important notes:

1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
3. *In the follow-up of pregnancy for Toxoplasma Gondii infection a positive result (presence of IgG antibody > 50 IU/ml) should be confirmed to ruled out the risk of a false positive result and a false definition of protection.*

R. PERFORMANCES

Evaluation of Performances has been conducted in accordance to what indicated in the standard prEN 13612.

1. Limit of detection

The limit of detection of the assay has been calculated by means of the 3nd international standard produced by the World Health Organization (WHO).
The limit of detection has been calculated as mean OD450nm Calibrator 0 IU/ml + 5 SD.
The table below reports the mean OD450nm values of this standard when diluted in negative plasma and then examined in the assay.

OD450nm values

WHO IU/ml	TOXOG.CE Lot # 0503	TOXOG.CE Lot # 0403	TOXOG.CE Lot # 0303
250	0.816	0.853	0.974
100	0.365	0.398	0.445
50	0.209	0.244	0.246
10	0.094	0.125	0.108
Std 0	0.033	0.031	0.056

The assay shows a limit of detection better than 10 IU/ml.

2. Diagnostic Sensitivity:

The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested in a Performance Evaluation trial on panels of samples classified positive by a kit US FDA approved. Positive samples from different stage of Toxoplasma gondii Virus infection were tested.
The value, obtained from the analysis of more than 300 specimens, has been > 98%.

3. Diagnostic Specificity:

The diagnostic specificity has been determined on panels of negative samples from not infected individuals, classified negative with a kit US FDA approved.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the value of specificity.
Frozen specimens have been tested, as well, to check for interferences due to collection and storage.
No interference was observed.
Potentially interfering samples derived from patients with different pathologies (mostly ANA, AMA and RF positive) and from pregnant women were tested. No crossreaction was observed.
An overall value > 98% of specificity was found when examined on more than 100 specimens.

4. Precision:

It has been calculated on three Calibrators, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs with three lots.
Results are reported as follows

TOXOG.CE: lot 0503

Calibrator 0 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.067	0.066	0.070	0.067
Std.Deviation	0.006	0.005	0.006	0.006
CV %	9.3	7.7	9.0	8.7

Calibrator 50 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.276	0.259	0.268	0.267
Std.Deviation	0.025	0.006	0.010	0.014
CV %	9.1	2.4	3.6	5.0

Calibrator 1000 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	2.768	2.657	2.707	2.711
Std.Deviation	0.118	0.098	0.101	0.106
CV %	4.3	3.7	3.7	3.9

TOXOG.CE: lot # 0403

Calibrator 0 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.067	0.065	0.068	0.066
Std.Deviation	0.003	0.004	0.006	0.004
CV %	5.2	6.3	8.3	6.6

Calibrator 50 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.270	0.262	0.265	0.265
Std.Deviation	0.012	0.009	0.008	0.010
CV %	4.5	3.4	3.1	3.7

Calibrator 1000 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	2.765	2.652	2.718	2.712
Std.Deviation	0.115	0.101	0.092	0.103
CV %	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.8

TOXOG.CE: lot # 0303

Calibrator 0 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.068	0.067	0.069	0.068
Std.Deviation	0.004	0.004	0.006	0.004
CV %	5.1	6.1	8.0	6.4

Calibrator 50 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.268	0.261	0.265	0.265
Std.Deviation	0.012	0.009	0.008	0.010
CV %	4.6	3.3	3.2	3.7

Calibrator 1000 IU/ml (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	2.766	2.651	2.719	2.712
Std.Deviation	0.115	0.100	0.091	0.102
CV %	4.2	3.8	3.3	3.8

The variability shown in the tables above did not result in sample misclassification.

5. Accuracy
The assay accuracy has been checked by the dilution and recovery tests. Any "hook effect", underestimation likely to happen at high doses of analyte, was ruled out up to 4.000 IU/ml.

S. LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE
Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.
Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates after thawing may generate some false results.
This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history, symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

Important note:
The performance data have been obtained proceeding as the reading step described in the section M, point 11.

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System approved by an EC Notified Body. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

Manufacturer:
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CE
0318

Toxo IgM

"Capture" Enzyme Immuno Assay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Toxoplasma gondii in human plasma and sera

- for "in vitro" diagnostic use only -

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REF TOXOM.CE
96 tests

Toxo IgM

A. INTENDED USE

Enzyme ImmunoAssay (ELISA) for the determination of IgM antibodies to Toxoplasma gondii or T.gondii in human plasma and sera with the "capture" system.
The devise is intended for the follow-up of T.gondii infected patients and for the monitoring of risk of neonatal defects due to T.gondii infection during pregnancy.
For “in vitro” diagnostic use only.

B. INTRODUCTION

Toxoplasma gondii is an obligate intracellular protozoan parasite that is probably capable of infecting all species of mammals, including man.
The detection of IgM antibodies to T.gondii is particularly helpful for the diagnosis of acute infections in “risk” individuals, in association with AIDS, organ transplantation and pregnancy.
As most of T.gondii infections are mild or asymptomatic in otherwise healthy individuals, the detection of T.gondii specific IgM antibodies, in absence of detectable specific IgG, has become important for the monitoring of acute infections in pregnant women, as the parasite can lead to severe birth defects.
Moreover, as T.gondii infections are most severe in immunocompromised patients, where the disease can be fatal, acute infections due to this parasite have to be distinguished from other disorders.
Recently developed IgM capture assays provide the clinician with a helpful and reliable test, not affected by the rheumatoid factor as it happens to be in classic sandwich tests.

C. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The assay is based on the principle of "IgM capture" where IgM class antibodies in the sample are first captured by the solid phase coated with anti hIgM antibody.
After washing out all the other components of the sample and in particular IgG antibodies, the specific IgM captured on the solid phase are detected by the addition of a preparation of inactivated T.gondii, labeled with a specific monoclonal antibody conjugated with peroxidase (HRP).
After incubation, microwells are washed to remove unbound conjugate and then the chromogen/substrate is added.
In the presence of peroxidase the colorless substrate is hydrolysed to a colored end-product, whose optical density may be detected and is proportional to the amount of IgM antibodies to T.gondii present in the sample.
A system is described how to control whether the positivity shown by a sample is true or not (Confirmation Test), helpful for the clinician to make a correct interpretation of results.

D. COMPONENTS

The kit contains reagents for 96 tests.

1. Microplate: MICROPLATE
12 strips x 8 microwells coated with anti human IgM affinity purified goat antibody, in presence of bovine proteins.
Plates are sealed into a bag with desiccant. Allow the microplate to reach room temperature before opening; reseal unused strips in the bag with desiccant and store at 2..8°C.

2. Negative Control: CONTROL -
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% human plasma negative for T.gondii IgM, 2% casein, 10 mM Tris-citrate buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The negative control is colorless.

3. Positive Control: CONTROL +
1x4.0 ml/vial. Ready to use control. It contains 1% human plasma positive for T.gondii IgM, 2% casein, 10 mM Tris-citrate buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The positive control is green colour coded.

4. Calibrator: CAL …ml
N° 1 lyophilized vial. To be dissolved with EIA grade water as reported in the label. It contains anti T.gondii IgM at 200 WHO IU/ml +/-10% (3rd WHO International Standard for T.gondii IgG&IgM), fetal bovine serum, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and ProClin 300 0.045% as preservatives.
Note: The volume necessary to dissolve the content of the vial may vary from lot to lot. Please use the right volume reported on the label.

5. Lyophilized T.gondii Ag: AG TOXO
N° 6 lyophilized vials.
The vials contain lyophilized gamma ray inactivated Toxoplasma gondii in a protein buffer. The solution contains 2% bovine proteins, 10 mM Tris HCl buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate and 0.045% ProClin 300. To be dissolved with 1.9 ml of Antigen Diluent as reported in the specifi section.

6. Wash buffer concentrate: WASHBUF 20X
1x60ml/bottle. 20x concentrated solution.
Once diluted, the wash solution contains 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.0+/-0.2, 0.05% Tween 20 and 0.045% ProClin 300

7. Enzyme conjugate: CONJ 20X
1x0.8 ml/vial. 20x concentrated solution of a T.gondii-specific monoclonal antibody, labeled with HRP and diluted in a protein buffer containing 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives.

8. Antigen Diluent : AG DIL
n° 1 vial of 16 ml. Protein buffer solution for the preparation of the Immunocomplex. The solution contains 10 mM Tris buffer pH 6.8+/-0.1, 2% BSA, 0.045% ProClin 300 and 0.2 mg/ml gentamicine sulphate as preservatives. The reagent is code colored with 0.01% red alimentary dye

9. Specimen Diluent : DILSPE
2x60.0 ml/vial. Proteic buffered solution for the dilution of samples. It contains 2% casein, 10 mM citrate buffer pH 6.0+/-0.1, 0.1% Tween 20, 0.09% sodium azide and 0.045% ProClin 300 as preservatives.
The reagent is color coded with 0.01% blue alimentary dye.

10. Chromogen/Substrate : SUBS TMB
1x16ml/vial. It contains a 50 mM citrate-phosphate buffered solution at pH 3.5-3.8, 0.03% tetra-methyl-benzidine (TMB), 0.02% hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and 4% dimethylsulphoxide.
Note: To be stored protected from light as sensitive to strong illumination.

11. Sulphuric Acid: H_2SO_4 0.3 M
1x15ml/vial. It contains 0.3 M H_2SO_4 solution.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

12. Plate sealing foils n° 2

13. Package insert n° 1

E. MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Calibrated Micropipettes (1000 ul, 100 ul and 10 ul) and disposable plastic tips.
2. EIA grade water (double distilled or deionised, charcoal treated to remove oxidizing chemicals used as disinfectants).
3. Timer with 60 minute range or higher.
4. Absorbent paper tissues.
5. Calibrated ELISA microplate thermostatic incubator (dry or wet), set at +37°C (+/-0.5°C tolerance)..
6. Calibrated ELISA microwell reader with 450nm (reading) and with 620-630nm (blanking) filters.
7. Calibrated ELISA microplate washer.
8. Vortex or similar mixing tools.

F. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. The kit has to be used by skilled and properly trained technical personnel only, under the supervision of a medical doctor responsible of the laboratory.
2. All the personnel involved in performing the assay have to wear protective laboratory clothes, talc-free gloves and glasses. The use of any sharp (needles) or cutting (blades) devices should be avoided. All the personnel involved should be trained in biosafety procedures, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. and reported in the National Institute of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
3. All the personnel involved in sample handling should be vaccinated for HBV and HAV, for which vaccines are available, safe and effective.
4. The laboratory environment should be controlled so as to avoid contaminants such as dust or air-born microbial agents, when opening kit vials and microplates and when performing the test. Protect the Chromogen (TMB) from strong light and avoid vibration of the bench surface where the test is undertaken.
5. Upon receipt, store the kit at 2..8°C into a temperature controlled refrigerator or cold room.
6. Do not interchange components between different lots of the kits. It is recommended that components between two kits of the same lot should not be interchanged.
7. Check that the reagents are clear and do not contain visible heavy particles or aggregates. If not, advise the laboratory supervisor to initiate the necessary procedures for kit replacement.
8. Avoid cross-contamination between serum/plasma samples by using disposable tips and changing them after each sample. Do not reuse disposable tips.
9. Avoid cross-contamination between kit reagents by using disposable tips and changing them between the use of each one. Do not reuse disposable tips.
10. Do not use the kit after the expiration date stated on the external container and internal (vials) labels. A study conducted on an opened kit did not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to six 6 uses of the device and up to 3 months.
11. Treat all specimens as potentially infective. All human serum specimens should be handled at Biosafety Level 2, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, U.S. in compliance with what reported in the Institutes of Health's publication: "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories", ed. 1984.
12. The use of disposable plastic-ware is recommended in the preparation of the liquid components or in transferring components into automated workstations, in order to avoid cross contamination.
13. Waste produced during the use of the kit has to be discarded in compliance with national directives and laws concerning laboratory waste of chemical and biological substances. In particular, liquid waste generated from the washing procedure, from residuals of controls and from samples has to be treated as potentially infective material and inactivated before waste. Suggested procedures of inactivation are treatment with a 10% final concentration of household bleach for 16-18 hrs or heat inactivation by autoclave at 121°C for 20 min..
14. Accidental spills from samples and operations have to be adsorbed with paper tissues soaked with household bleach and then with water. Tissues should then be discarded in proper containers designated for laboratory/hospital waste.
15. The Sulphuric Acid is an irritant. In case of spills, wash the surface with plenty of water
16. Other waste materials generated from the use of the kit (example: tips used for samples and controls, used microplates) should be handled as potentially infective and disposed according to national directives and laws concerning laboratory wastes.

G. SPECIMEN: PREPARATION AND WARNINGS

1. Blood is drawn aseptically by venepuncture and plasma or serum is prepared using standard techniques of preparation of samples for clinical laboratory analysis. No influence has been observed in the preparation of the sample with citrate, EDTA and heparin.
2. Samples have to be clearly identified with codes or names in order to avoid misinterpretation of results. Bar code labeling and electronic reading is strongly recommended.
3. Haemolysed ("red") and visibly hyperlipemic ("milky") samples have to be discarded as they could generate false results. Samples containing residues of fibrin or heavy particles or microbial filaments and bodies should be discarded as they could give rise to false results.
4. Sera and plasma can be stored at +2°…+8°C in primary collection tubes for up to five days after collection.
Do not freeze primary tubes of collection. For longer storage periods, sera and plasma samples, carefully removed from the primary collection tube, can be stored frozen at –20°C for several months. Any frozen samples should not be frozen/thawed more than once as this may generate particles that could affect the test result.
5. If particles are present, centrifuge at 2.000 rpm for 20 min or filter using 0.2-0.8u filters to clean up the sample for testing.

H. PREPARATION OF COMPONENTS AND WARNINGS

A study conducted on an opened kit has not pointed out any relevant loss of activity up to 6 re-uses of the device and up to 3 months.

Microplate:
Allow the microplate to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) before opening the container. Check that the desiccant has not turned dark green, indicating a defect in manufacturing.
In this case, call Dia.Pro's customer service.
Unused strips have to be placed back into the aluminum pouch, with the desiccant supplied, firmly zipped and stored at +2°..8°C.
After first opening, remaining strips are stable until the humidity indicator inside the desiccant bag turns from yellow to green.

Negative Control:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Positive Control:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.

Calibrator:
Add the volume of ELISA grade water reported on the label to the lyophilized powder. Let fully dissolve and then gently mix on vortex.

***Important Note**: The solution is not stable. Store the Calibrator frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*

Wash buffer concentrate:
The whole content of the concentrated solution has to be diluted 20x with bidistilled water and mixed gently end-over-end before use. During preparation avoid foaming as the presence of bubbles could impact on the efficiency of the washing cycles.
***Note:** Once diluted, the wash solution is stable for 1 week at +2..8° C.*

Ag/Ab Immunocomplex:
Proceed carefully as follows:
1. Dissolve the content of a lyophilized vial with 1.9 ml of Antigen Diluent. Let fully dissolved the lyophilized content and then gently mix on vortex.
2. Gently mix the concentrated Enzyme Conjugate on vortex. Then add 0.1 ml of it to the vial of the dissolved T.gondii antigen and mix gently on vortex.

***Important Notes**:*
1. *Dissolve and prepare only the number of vials necessary to the test. The Immunocomplex obtained is not stable. Store any residual solution frozen in aliquots at –20°C.*
2. *The preparation of the Immucomplex has to be done **right before** the dispensation of samples and controls into the plate. Mix again on vortex gently just before its use.*

Specimen Diluent:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use

Chromogen/Substrate:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Be careful not to contaminate the liquid with oxidizing chemicals, air-driven dust or microbes.
Do not expose to strong illumination, oxidizing agents and metallic surfaces.
If this component has to be transferred use only plastic, possible sterile disposable container

Sulphuric Acid:
Ready to use. Mix well on vortex before use.
Attention: Irritant (H315, H319; P280, P302+P352, P332+P313, P305+P351+P338, P337+P313, P362+P363).

Legenda:

Warning **H statements:**
H315 – Causes skin irritation.
H319 – Causes serious eye irritation.

Precautionary **P statements:**
P280 – Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
P302 + P352 – IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P332 + P313 – If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention.
P305 + P351 + P338 – IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P337 + P313 – If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.
P362 + P363 – Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

I. INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE KIT

1. Micropipettes have to be calibrated to deliver the correct volume required by the assay and must be submitted to regular decontamination (household alcohol, 10% solution of bleach, hospital grade disinfectants) of those parts that could accidentally come in contact with the sample. They should also be regularly maintained in order to show a precision of 1% and a trueness of +/-2%. Decontamination of spills or residues of kit components should also be carried out regularly.
2. The ELISA incubator has to be set at +37°C (tolerance of +/-0.5°C) and regularly checked to ensure the correct temperature is maintained. Both dry incubators and water baths are suitable for the incubations, provided that the instrument is validated for the incubation of ELISA tests.
3. The **ELISA washer** is extremely important to the overall performances of the assay. The washer must be carefully validated in advance, checked for the delivery of the right dispensation volume and regularly submitted to maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions for use. In particular the washer, at the end of the daily workload, has to be extensively cleaned out of salts with deionized water. Before use, the washer has to be extensively primed with the diluted Washing Solution.
   The instrument weekly has to be submitted to decontamination according to its manual (NaOH 0.1 M decontamination suggested).
   5 washing cycles (aspiration + dispensation of 350ul/well of washing solution + 20 sec soaking = 1 cycle) are sufficient to ensure the assay with the declared performances. If soaking is not possible add one more cycle of washing.
   An incorrect washing cycle or salt-blocked needles are the major cause of false positive reactions.
4. Incubation times have a tolerance of $\pm$5%.
5. The ELISA microplate reader has to be equipped with a reading filter of 450nm and with a second filter of 620-630nm mandatory for blanking purposes. Its standard performances should be (a) bandwidth $\leq$ 10 nm; (b) absorbance range from 0 to $\geq$ 2.0; (c) linearity to $\geq$ 2.0; repeatability $\geq$ 1%. Blanking is carried out on the well identified in the section "Assay Procedure". The optical system of the reader has to be calibrated regularly to ensure that the correct optical density is measured. It should be regularly maintained according to the manufacturer 's instructions.
6. When using an ELISA automated work station, all critical steps (dispensation, incubation, washing, reading, data handling) have to be carefully set, calibrated, controlled and regularly serviced in order to match the values reported in the sections "Validation of Test" and "Assay Performances". The assay protocol has to be installed in the operating system of the unit and validated as for the washer and the reader. In addition, the liquid handling part of the station (dispensation and washing) has to be validated and correctly set. Particular attention must be paid to avoid carry over by the needles used for dispensing and for washing. This must be studied and controlled to minimize the possibility of contamination of adjacent wells. The use of ELISA automated work stations is recommended when the number of samples to be tested exceed 20-30 units per run.
7. Dia.Pro's customer service offers support to the user in the setting and checking of instruments used in combination with the kit, in order to assure compliance with the requirements described. Support is also provided for the installation of new instruments to be used with the kit.

L. PRE ASSAY CONTROLS AND OPERATIONS

1. Check the expiration date of the kit printed on the external label (primary container). Do not use the device if expired.
2. Check that the liquid components are not contaminated by visible particles or aggregates. Check that the Chromogen/Substrate is colorless or pale blue by aspirating a small volume of it with a sterile plastic pipette. Check that no breakage occurred in transportation and no spillage of liquid is present inside the box (primary container). Check

that the aluminum pouch, containing the microplate, is not punctured or damaged.
3. Dilute all the content of the 20x concentrated Wash Solution as described above.
4. Dissolve the Calibrator as described above and gently mix.
5. Allow all the other components to reach room temperature (about 1 hr) and then mix gently on vortex all liquid reagents.
6. Set the ELISA incubator at +37°C and prepare the ELISA washer by priming with the diluted washing solution, according to the manufacturers instructions. Set the right number of washing cycles as reported in the specific section.
7. Check that the ELISA reader is turned on or ensure it will be turned on at least 20 minutes before reading.
8. If using an automated work station, turn on, check settings and be sure to use the right assay protocol.
9. Check that the micropipettes are set to the required volume.
10. Check that all the other equipment is available and ready to use.
11. In case of problems, do not proceed further with the test and advise the supervisor.

M. ASSAY PROCEDURE

The assay has to be carried out according to what reported below, taking care to maintain the same incubation time for all the samples in testing.

M.1 Automated assay:

In case the test is carried out automatically with an ELISA system, we suggest to make the instrument aspirate 1000 µl Specimen Diluent and then 10 µl sample (1:101 dilution factor). The whole content is then dispensed into a properly defined dilution tube. Before the next sample is aspirated, needles have to be duly washed to avoid any cross-contamination among samples. When all the samples have been diluted make the instrument dispense 100 µl diluted samples into the proper wells of the microplate.

This procedure may be carried out also in two steps of dilutions of 1:10 each (90 µl Specimen Diluent + 10 µl sample) into a second dilution platform. Make then the instrument aspirate first 100 µl Specimen Diluent, then 10 µl liquid from the first dilution in the platform and finally dispense the whole content in the proper well of the assay microplate.

Do not dilute controls/calibrator as they are ready to use.

Dispense 100 µl calibrators/control in the appropriate calibration/control wells.

For the next operations follow the operative instructions reported below for the Manual Assay.

It is strongly recommended to check that the time lap between the dispensation of the first and the last sample will be calculated by the instrument and taken into consideration by delaying the first washing operation accordingly.

M. 2 Manual assay:

1. Dilute samples 1:101 by dispensing first 10 µl sample and then 1 ml Specimen Diluent into a dilution tube; mix gently on vortex.
2. Place the required number of Microwells in the microwell holder. Leave the well in position A1 empty for the operation of blanking.
3. Dispense 100 µl of Negative Control in triplicate and 100 µl of Calibrator in the proper wells in duplicate. Dispense 100 µl of Positive Control in single into the proper well. Do not dilute controls and the calibrator as they are ready to use !
4. Dispense 100 µl diluted samples in the proper sample wells and then check that all the samples wells are blue colored and that controls and calibrator have been dispensed.
5. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .

Important note: *Strips have to be sealed with the adhesive sealing foil, supplied, only when the test is carried out manually. Do not cover strips when using ELISA automatic instruments.*

6. Wash the microplate with an automatic washer as reported previously (section I.3).
7. Pipette 100 µl Ag/Ab Immunocomplex into each well, except the blanking well A1, and cover with the sealer. Check that all wells are red colored, except A1.

Important note: *Be careful not to touch the plastic inner surface of the well with the tip filled with the Ag/Ab Immunocomplex . Contamination might occur.*

8. Incubate the microplate for **60 min at +37°C** .
9. Wash microwells as in step 6.
10. Pipette 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate mixture into each well, the blank well included. Then incubate the microplate at **room temperature (18-24°C) for 20 minutes**.

Important note: *Do not expose to strong direct illumination. High background might be generated.*

11. Pipette 100 µl Sulphuric Acid into all the wells using the same pipetting sequence as in step 10. Addition of acid will turn the positive control and positive samples from blue to yellow.
12. Measure the color intensity of the solution in each well, as described in section I.5, at 450nm filter (reading) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction), blanking the instrument on A1 (mandatory).

Important notes:

1. *Ensure that no finger prints are present on the bottom of the microwell before reading. Finger prints could generate false positive results on reading.*
2. *Reading has to be carried out just after the addition of the Stop Solution and anyway not any longer than 20 minutes after its addition. Some self oxidation of the chromogen can occur leading to high background.*
3. *The Calibrator (CAL) does not affect the cut-off calculation and therefore the test results calculation. The Calibrator may be used only when a laboratory internal quality control is required by the management.*

N. ASSAY SCHEME

Controls&calibrator Samples diluted 1:101	100 ul 100 ul
1st incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
Immunocomplex	100 ul
2nd incubation	**60 min**
Temperature	+37°C
Washing	n° 5 cycles with 20'' of soaking OR n° 6 cycles without soaking
TMB/H2O2 mix	100 ul
3rd incubation	**20 min**
Temperature	r.t.
Sulphuric Acid	100 ul
Reading OD	450nm / 620-630nm

An example of dispensation scheme is reported below:

Microplate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	BLK	S2										
B	NC	S3										
C	NC	S4										
D	NC	S5										
E	CAL	S6										
F	CAL	S7										
G	PC	S8										
H	S1	S9										

Legenda: BLK = Blank NC = Negative Control
CAL = Calibrator PC = Positive Control S = Sample

O. INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

A quality control check is performed on the controls/calibrator any time the kit is used in order to verify whether the performance of the assay matches the requirements reported in table below.

Parameter	Requirements
Blank well	< 0.050 OD450nm value
Negative Control mean value (NC)	< 0.150 OD450nm value after blanking coefficient of variation < 30%
Calibrator	S/Co > 1.5
Positive Control	> 0.750 OD450nm

If the results of the test match the requirements stated above, proceed to the next section.
If they do not, do not proceed any further and perform the following checks:

Problem	Check
Blank well > 0.050 OD450nm	1. that the Chromogen/Substrate solution has not become contaminated during the assay
Negative Control (NC) > 0.150 OD450nm after blanking coefficient of variation > 30%	1. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 2. that the proper washing solution has been used and the washer has been primed with it before use; 3. that no mistake has been done in the assay procedure (dispensation of positive control instead of negative control; 4. that no contamination of the negative control or of the wells where the control was dispensed has occurred due to positive samples, to spills or to the enzyme conjugate; 5. that micropipettes have not become contaminated with positive samples or with the enzyme conjugate 6. that the washer needles are not blocked or partially obstructed.
Calibrator S/Co < 1.5	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during its distribution (ex.: dispensation of negative control instead) 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the calibrator has occurred.
Positive Control < 0.750 OD450nm	1. that the procedure has been correctly performed; 2. that no mistake has occurred during the distribution of the control (dispensation of negative control instead of positive control). 3. that the washing procedure and the washer settings are as validated in the pre qualification study; 4. that no external contamination of the positive control has occurred.

If any of the above problems have occurred, report the problem to the supervisor for further actions.

P. CALCULATION OF THE CUT-OFF

The test results are calculated by means of the mean OD450nm value of the Negative Control (NC) and a mathematical calculation, in order to define the following cut-off formulation:

Cut-Off = NC + 0.250

The value found for the test is used for the interpretation of results as described in the next paragraph.

***Important note**: When the calculation of results is performed by the operating system of an ELISA automated work station, ensure that the proper formulation is used to calculate the cut-off value and generate the correct interpretation of results.*

Q. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Test results are interpreted as a ratio of the sample OD450nm and the Cut-Off value (or S/Co) according to the following table:

S/Co	Interpretation
< 1.0	Negative
1.0 - 1.2	Equivocal
> 1.2	Positive

A negative result indicates that the patient is not undergoing an acute infection of Toxoplasma gondii.
Any patient showing an equivocal result, should be re-tested by examining a second sample taken from the patient after 1-2 weeks from first testing.
A positive result is indicative of a Toxoplasma gondii infection.

An example of calculation is reported below:

***Important Note:** The following data must not be used instead or real figures obtained by the user.*

Negative Control: 0.050 – 0.060 – 0.070 OD450nm
Mean Value: 0.060 OD450nm
Lower than 0.150 – Accepted
Positive Control: 1.850 OD450nm
Higher than 0.750 – Accepted

Cut-Off = 0.060+0.250 = 0.310

Calibrator: 0.550 - 0.530 OD450nm
Mean value: 0.540 OD450nm S/Co = 1.7
S/Co higher than 1.0 – Accepted

Sample 1: 0.070 OD450nm
Sample 2: 1.690 OD450nm
Sample 1 S/Co < 1 = negative
Sample 2 S/Co > 1.2 = positive

Important notes:

1. *Interpretation of results should be done under the supervision of the laboratory supervisor to reduce the risk of judgment errors and misinterpretations.*
2. *Particular attention in the interpretation of results has to be used in the follow-up of pregnancy for an infection of Toxoplasma gondii due to the risk of severe neonatal malformations.*
3. *Any positive sample should be submitted to the Confirmation Test reported in section T before giving a result of positivity. By carrying out this test, false reactions, leading to a misinterpretation of the analytical result, can be revealed and then ruled out.*
4. *In pregnancy monitoring, it is strongly recommended that any positive result is confirmed first with the procedure described below and secondly with a different device for T.gondii IgM detection, before taking any preventive medical action.*
5. *When test results are transmitted from the laboratory to another facility, attention must be paid to avoid erroneous data transfer.*
6. *Diagnosis of infection has to be taken and released to the patient by a suitably qualified medical doctor.*

R. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

1. Limit of detection

Dia.Pro Diagnostic BioProbes s.r.l. has defined the 3rd WHO International Standard for TOXO IgG (Coded TOXG), positive also for IgM anti Toxoplasma Gondii, as an Internal Gold Standard (or IGS).
Results of Quality Control are given in the following table:

The limits of detection of this material, when diluted first in negative serum and then in the sample diluent to generate dilutions tested in four replicates, are reported in the following table for three lots of the device:

OD450nm values

WHO (IGS) IU/ml	TOXOM.CE Lot # 0703	TOXOM.CE Lot # 0603	TOXOM.CE Lot # 0503
3000 IU/ml	2.936	3.005	2.983
1500 IU/ml	2.547	2.615	2.589
750 IU/ml	2.350	2.433	2.378
375 IU/ml	1.368	1.452	1.377
188 IU/ml	0.911	1.125	0.968
94 IU/ml	0.522	0.637	0.561
47 IU/ml	0.271	0.338	0.285
23 IU/ml	0.176	0.171	0.115
Negative	0.060	0.055	0.052

In addition the preparation Accurun n° 136 supplied by Boston Biomedica Inc., USA, has been also used to detect the sensitivity of the devise. The preparation was examined on three lots in 4 replicates. Results, expressed as S/Co values, are reported in table below:

ACCURUN # 136	TOXOM.CE Lot # 0703	TOXOM.CE Lot # 0603	TOXOM.CE Lot # 0503
1X	0.808	0.957	0.796
2X	0.389	0.468	0.369
4X	0.169	0.228	0.188
8X	0.065	0.078	0.059
Negative	0.051	0.063	0.044

2. Diagnostic Sensitivity:

The diagnostic sensitivity has been tested on panels of samples classified positive by a US FDA approved kit.
Positive samples were collected from patients carrying T.gondii acute infection, confirmed by clinical symptoms and analysis.
An overall value > 98% has been found in the study conducted on a total number of more than 60 samples.
The Performance Panel code PTT 201, supplied by Boston Biomedica Inc. USA, has been also evaluated. Data are reported below:

BBI Performance Panel code PTT 201

Sample ID	TOXOM.CE OD450nm	S/Co	REF BioMerieux VIDAS S/Co	Sample ID	TOXOM.CE OD450nm	S/Co	REF BioMerieux VIDAS S/Co
1	0.052	0.1	0.3	14	0.082	0.2	0.2
2	0.048	0.1	0.1	15	0.121	0.3	0.2
3	0.078	0.2	0.1	16	0.049	0.1	0.1
4	0.072	0.2	0.4	17	0.476	**1.4**	**1.5**
5	0.048	0.1	0.1	18	0.057	0.1	0.1
6	0.044	0.1	0.1	19	0.185	0.5	0.2
7	0.045	0.1	0.1	20	0.092	0.2	0.4
8	1.134	**3.5**	**3.5**	21	0.165	0.5	0.1
9	0.126	0.3	0.1	22	0.084	0.2	0.1
10	0.047	0.1	0.1	23	3.181	**9.8**	**10.3**
11	1.232	**3.8**	**2.4**	24	0.137	0.4	0.2
12	0.088	0.2	0.1	25	1.007	**3.1**	**1.8**
13	3.166	**9.8**	**7.3**				

3. Diagnostic Specificity:

The diagnostic specificity has been determined on panels of more than 300 specimens, negative with the reference kit, derived from normal individuals of European origin.
Both plasma, derived with different standard techniques of preparation (citrate, EDTA and heparin), and sera have been used to determine the specificity. No false reactivity due to the method of specimen preparation has been observed.
Frozen specimens have also been tested to check whether this interferes with the performance of the test. No interference was observed on clean and particle free samples.
A study conducted on more than 60 potentially cross-reactive samples has not revealed any interference in the system.
No cross reaction were observed.
The Performance Evaluation study conducted in a qualified external reference center on more than 400 total samples has provided a value > 98%.
False positive reactions may be anyway pointed out and then ruled out in the interpretation of results with the procedure reported in section T, able to verify whether or not a positive result is real.

4. Precision:
It has been calculated on three samples, a negative, a low positive and a positive, examined in 16 replicates in three separate runs. Results are reported as follows:

TOXOM.CE: lot # 0703

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.058	0.072	0.076	0.069
Std.Deviation	0.005	0.006	0.007	0.006
CV %	8.9	8.3	9.1	8.7

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.583	0.567	0.579	0.576
Std.Deviation	0.040	0.049	0.056	0.048
CV %	6.8	8.6	9.7	8.4

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	2.754	2.625	2.625	2.668
Std.Deviation	0.247	0.214	0.126	0.196
CV %	9.0	8.2	4.8	7.3

TOXOM.CE: lot # 0603

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.063	0.064	0.061	0.063
Std.Deviation	0.008	0.012	0.009	0.010
CV %	13.2	18.2	15.3	15.6

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.641	0.651	0.644	0.645
Std.Deviation	0.038	0.042	0.042	0.041
CV %	5.9	6.5	6.6	6.3

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	2.889	2.830	2.879	2.866
Std.Deviation	0.122	0.123	0.074	0.106
CV %	4.2	4.4	2.6	3.7

TOXOM.CE: lot # 0403

Negative (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.057	0.060	0.060	0.059
Std.Deviation	0.006	0.007	0.006	0.007
CV %	11.1	12.4	10.5	11.3

Low reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	0.544	0.556	0.520	0.540
Std.Deviation	0.040	0.078	0.058	0.058
CV %	7.3	14.0	11.1	10.8

High reactive (N = 16)

Mean values	1st run	2nd run	3rd run	Average value
OD 450nm	2.850	2.866	2.846	2.854
Std.Deviation	0.139	0.122	0.126	0.129
CV %	4.9	4.3	4.4	4.5

S. LIMITATIONS

Frozen samples containing fibrin particles or aggregates may generate false positive results.
Bacterial contamination or heat inactivation of the specimen may affect the absorbance values of the samples with consequent alteration of the level of the analyte.
This test is suitable only for testing single samples and not pooled ones.
Diagnosis of an infectious disease should not be established on the basis of a single test result. The patient's clinical history, symptomatology, as well as other diagnostic data should be considered.

T. CONFIRMATION TEST

In order to provide the medical doctor with the best accuracy in the follow-up of pregnancy, where a false positive result could lead to an operation of abortion, a confirmation test is reported. The confirmation test has to be carried out on any positive sample before a diagnosis of primary infection of Toxoplasma gondii is released to the doctor.
Proceed for confirmation as follows:

1. Prepare the Antigen/Conjugate Complex as described in the proper section. This reagent is called Solution A.
2. Then 25 ul concentrated Enzymatic Conjugate are diluted in 500 ul Antigen Diluent and mixed gently on vortex. Do not use any lyophilized vial of T.gondii for this procedure ! This solution is called Solution B.
3. The well A1 of the strip is left empty for blanking.
4. The Negative Control is dispensed in the strip in positions B1+C1. This is used for the calculation of the cut-off and S/Co values.
5. The positive sample to be confirmed, diluted 1:101, is dispensed in the strip in position D1+E1.
6. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
7. After washing, the blank well A1 is left empty.
8. 100 µl of Solution A are dispensed in wells B1+C1+D1.
9. Then 100 µl of Solution B are added to well E1.
10. The strip is incubated for 60 min at +37°C.
11. After washing, 100 µl Chromogen/Substrate are added to all the wells and the strip is incubated for 20 min at r.t.
12. 100 µl Sulphuric Acid are added to all the wells and then their color intensity is measured at 450nm (reading filter) and at 620-630nm (background subtraction, mandatory), blanking the instrument on A1.

Interpretation of results is carried out as follows:

1. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.0 a problem of dispensation or contamination in the first test is likely to be occurred. The Assay Procedure in Section M has to be repeated to double check the analysis.
2. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value still higher than 1.2 the sample is considered a **false positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact not dependent on the specific presence of T.gondii and a crossreaction with the monoclonal antibody, labeled with HRP, has occurred.
3. If the sample in position D1 shows a S/Co value higher than 1.2 and in position E1 shows a S/Co value lower than 1.2 the sample is considered a **true positive**. The reactivity of the sample is in fact dependent on the specific presence of T.gondii and not due to any crossreaction.

The following table is reported for the interpretation of results:

Well	S/Co		
D1	< 1.0	> 1.2	> 1.2
E1	< 1.0	> 1.2	< 1.2
Interpretation	Problem of contam.	False positive	True positive

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All the IVD Products manufactured by the company are under the control of a certified Quality Management System approved by an EC Notified Body. Each lot is submitted to a quality control and released into the market only if conforming with the EC technical specifications and acceptance criteria.

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ВЕКТОР

БЕСТ

Набор реагентов для иммуноферментного выявления иммуноглобулинов класса А к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*

ИНСТРУКЦИЯ ПО ПРИМЕНЕНИЮ

Утверждена 23.10.2009
Приказом Росздравнадзора № 8459-Пр/09

Ureaplasma urealyticum – IgA – ИФА – БЕСТ

НАБОР РЕАГЕНТОВ
D-2258

1. НАЗНАЧЕНИЕ

1.1. Набор реагентов предназначен для выявления иммуноглобулинов класса А (IgA) к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* в сыворотке *(плазме)* крови человека и может быть использован в клинических и эпидемиологических исследованиях.

1.2. Набор реагентов рассчитан на проведение 96 анализов, включая контроли. Возможны 12 независимых постановок ИФА, при каждой из которых 3 лунки используют для постановки контролей.

2. ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ НАБОРА

2.1. Принцип действия.

Метод определения основан на твёрдофазном иммуноферментном анализе с применением рекомбинантных антигенов. Во время первой инкубации, при наличии в исследуемых образцах иммуноглобулинов класса А к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum,* происходит их связывание с иммобилизованными на поверхности лунок планшета рекомбинантными антигенами *Ureaplasma urealyticum*. Не связавшийся материал удаляют отмывкой.

На второй стадии антитела к IgA человека, меченные пероксидазой хрена *(конъюгат)*, свя-

зываются с комплексом «антиген-антитело». Не связавшийся конъюгат удаляют отмывкой.

Во время третьей инкубации с раствором тетраметилбензидина происходит окрашивание раствора в лунках, содержащих комплексы «антиген-антитело».

Реакцию останавливают добавлением стоп-реагента. Результаты ИФА регистрируют с помощью спектрофотометра, измеряя **оптическую плотность (ОП)** в двухволновом режиме: основной фильтр – 450 нм, референс-фильтр – в диапазоне 620–650 нм. Допустима регистрация результатов только с фильтром 450 нм. Интенсивность жёлтого окрашивания пропорциональна количеству содержащихся в исследуемом образце иммуноглобулинов класса А к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*.

После измерения ОП раствора в лунках на основании рассчитанного значения $ОП_{крит}$ анализируемые образцы оцениваются как положительные, сомнительные или отрицательные.

2.2. Состав набора:

Набор содержит все необходимые для проведения анализа реагенты, кроме дистиллированной воды:

- планшет разборный с иммобилизованными рекомбинантными антигенами *Ureaplasma urealyticum* – 1 шт.;

- положительный контрольный образец ($К^+$), инактивированный – 1 фл., 0,5 мл;
- отрицательный контрольный образец ($К^-$), инактивированный – 1 фл., 1 мл;
- конъюгат – 1 фл.;
- раствор для предварительного разведения (РПР) – 1 фл., 3 мл;
- раствор для разведения конъюгата (РК) – 1 фл., 13 мл.
- раствор для разведения сывороток (РС) – 1 фл., 13 мл;
- концентрат фосфатно-солевого буферного раствора с твином (ФСБ-Тх25) – 1 фл., 28 мл;
- раствор тетраметилбензидина (ТМБ) – 1 фл., 13 мл;
- стоп-реагент – 1 фл., 12 мл;

Набор дополнительно комплектуется:

- плёнками для заклеивания планшета – 3 шт.;
- ванночками для реагентов – 2 шт.;
- наконечниками для пипеток на 4–200 мкл – 16 шт.

3. АНАЛИТИЧЕСКИЕ И ДИАГНОСТИЧЕСКИЕ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ

3.1. Результат качественного определения набором иммуноглобулинов класса А к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* должен соответствовать требованиям СПП *(рег. № 05-2-202 от 27.03.08)*, включающей образцы сывороток, содержащие специфические IgA к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*: **чувствительность**

по иммуноглобулинам класса А к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* – 100%.

3.2. Результат качественного определения набором иммуноглобулинов класса А к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* должен соответствовать требованиям СПП *(рег. № 05-2-202 от 27.03.08),* включающей образцы сывороток, не содержащие IgA к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*: **специфичность** по иммуноглобулинам класса А к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* – 100%.

4. МЕРЫ ПРЕДОСТОРОЖНОСТИ

Потенциальный риск применения набора – класс 2а *(ГОСТ Р 51609-2000)*.

При подготовке к проведению анализа следует соблюдать меры предосторожности, принятые при работе с потенциально инфекционным материалом:

– работать в резиновых перчатках;
– не пипетировать растворы ртом;
– все использованные материалы дезинфицировать в соответствии с требованиями с СП 1.3.2322-08 и МУ-287-113.

5. ОБОРУДОВАНИЕ И МАТЕРИАЛЫ, НЕОБХОДИМЫЕ ПРИ РАБОТЕ С НАБОРОМ:

– спектрофотометр, позволяющий проводить измерения ОП растворов в лунках планшета при длине волны 450 нм и/или в двухволновом режиме при основной длине волны 450 нм и длине волны сравнения в диапазоне 620–650 нм;
– термостат, поддерживающий температуру (37±1) °С;
– холодильник бытовой;
– пипетки полуавтоматические одноканальные с переменным или фиксированным объёмом со сменными наконечниками, позволяющие отбирать объёмы жидкости от 5 до 1000 мкл;
– пипетка полуавтоматическая многоканальная со сменными наконечниками, позволяющая отбирать объёмы жидкостей от 5 до 300 мкл;
– промывочное устройство для планшета;
– перчатки резиновые хирургические;
– бумага фильтровальная лабораторная;
– цилиндр вместимостью 1000 мл;
– вода дистиллированная;
– дезинфицирующий раствор.

6. АНАЛИЗИРУЕМЫЕ ОБРАЗЦЫ

Допускается использование образцов, хранившихся не более 5 суток при (2–8) °С, либо при минус (20±3) °С, если необходимо более длительное хранение.

Сыворотки, содержащие взвешенные частицы, могут дать неправильный результат. Такие образцы перед использованием следует центрифугировать при 3000 об/мин 10–15 минут.

Нельзя использовать проросшие, гемолизированные, гиперлипидные сыворотки или подвергавшиеся многократному замораживанию и оттаиванию.

7. ПРОВЕДЕНИЕ ИММУНОФЕРМЕНТНОГО АНАЛИЗА

7.1. **ВНИМАНИЕ! Тщательное соблюдение описанных ниже требований позволит избежать искажения результатов ИФА.**

– Перед постановкой реакции все компоненты набора необходимо выдержать при температуре (18–25) °С не менее 30 минут.

– Для приготовления растворов и проведения ИФА следует использовать чистую мерную посуду и автоматические пипетки с погрешностью измерения объёмов не более 5%.

– Лиофилизированные компоненты должны

быть восстановлены, как минимум, за 15 минут до их использования.

– После отбора необходимого количества стрипов оставшиеся сразу упаковать в пакет с осушителем. Упакованные стрипы, плотно закрытые флаконы с исходными компонентами хранить при (2–8) °С.
– Раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении готовить непосредственно перед использованием.
– Раствор ТМБ готов для использования. Необходимо исключить воздействие прямого света на раствор ТМБ.
– При промывке лунки *(стрипа, планшета)* заполнять полностью, не допуская переливания промывочного раствора через края лунок, и не касаясь лунок наконечником пипетки. Время между заполнением и опорожнением лунок должно быть не менее 30 секунд.
– При использовании автоматического или ручного промывателя необходимо следить за состоянием ёмкости для промывочного раствора и соединительных шлангов: в них не должно быть «заростов». Раз в неделю желательно емкость для промывочного раствора и шланги промывать 70% спиртом.
– Не допускать высыхания лунок планшета между отдельными операциями.

– При постановке ИФА нельзя использовать компоненты из наборов разных серий или смешивать их при приготовлении растворов, кроме неспецифических компонентов *(ФСБ-Т×25, раствор ТМБ, стоп-реагент)*, которые взаимозаменяемы в наборах АО «Вектор-Бест».

– При приготовлении растворов и проведении ИФА следует использовать **одноразовые** наконечники для дозаторов.

– Посуду *(ванночки)*, используемые для работы с растворами конъюгата и ТМБ, не обрабатывать дезинфицирующими растворами и моющими средствами.

– В случае повторного использования посуду *(ванночки)* для раствора конъюгата промыть проточной водой и тщательно ополоснуть дистиллированной водой, посуду *(ванночки)* для раствора ТМБ сразу после работы необходимо промыть 50% раствором этилового спирта, а затем дистиллированной водой.

– Для дезинфекции посуды и материалов, контактирующих с исследуемыми и контрольными образцами, рекомендуем использовать дезинфицирующие средства, не оказывающие негативного воздействия на качество ИФА, не содержащие активный кислород и

хлор, например, комбинированные средства на основе ЧАС *(четвертичных аммониевых соединений)*, спиртов, третичных аминов.

– Пипетки и рабочие поверхности обрабатывать только 70% раствором этилового спирта. Не использовать перекись водорода, хлорамин и т.д.

7.2. Приготовление реагентов.

7.2.1. Промывочный раствор.

Взболтать содержимое флакона с ФСБ-Т×25. При выпадении осадка солей в концентрате прогреть его перед разведением до полного растворения осадка.

В соответствии с числом используемых стрипов отобрать необходимое количество ФСБ-Т×25 *(см. таблицу)* и развести дистиллированной водой до указанного в таблице объёма или содержимое 1 флакона – до **700 мл**.

Хранение: при температуре (2–8) °С до 72 часов.

7.2.2. Контрольные образцы.

Контрольные образцы ($К^+$ и $К^-$) готовы к использованию.

Хранение: при температуре (2–8) °С в течение всего срока годности набора.

Таблица расхода реагентов

	Количество используемых стрипов											
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
Промывочный раствор												
ФСБ-Т×25, мл	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Дистиллированная вода, мл	до 50	до 100	до 150	до 200	до 250	до 300	до 350	до 400	до 450	до 500	до 550	до 600
Раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении												
Конъюгат (концентрат), мкл	α*	2×α	3×α	4×α	5×α	6×α	7×α	8×α	9×α	10×α	11×α	12×α
РК, мл	1,0	2,0	3,0	4,0	5,0	6,0	7,0	8,0	9,0	10,0	11,0	12,0
Раствор ТМБ												
Раствор ТМБ, мл	1,0	2,0	3,0	4,0	5,0	6,0	7,0	8,0	9,0	10,0	11,0	12,0

α = ▲▲▲ **мкл**

7.2.3. Растворы конъюгата.

Внимание! *Для работы с конъюгатом рекомендуем использовать одноразовые наконечники для пипеток.*

Приготовить концентрированный раствор конъюгата путём растворения содержимого флакона с конъюгатом в **1,0 мл РПР**.

Хранение: концентрированный раствор конъюгата при температуре (2–8) °С до 1 месяца.

Внимание! *Раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении готовить в пластиковой ванночке, входящей в состав набора, непосредственно перед использованием!*

Перед приготовлением раствора конъюгата в рабочем разведении необходимо аккуратно перемешать, не допуская вспенивания, содержимое флаконов с концентратом конъюгата и с РК.

В пластиковую ванночку отобрать необходимое количество *(см. таблицу)* концентрированного раствора конъюгата, добавить соответствующее количество РК и аккуратно перемешать пипетированием до получения равномерного окрашивания.

7.2.4. Раствор ТМБ.

Внимание! *Раствор ТМБ готов к применению.*

Необходимо исключить воздействие света на раствор ТМБ.

В пластиковую ванночку отобрать только необходимое в соответствии с числом используемых стрипов количество раствора ТМБ *(см. таблицу)*. Остатки раствора ТМБ из ванночки утилизировать *(не сливать во флакон с исходным раствором ТМБ)*.

7.3. Проведение анализа

7.3.1. Подготовить необходимое количество стрипов к работе. Оставшиеся – сразу упаковать во избежание губительного воздействия влаги. Для этого стрипы поместить в цефленовый пакет с влагопоглотителем, тщательно закрыть пакет пластиковой застёжкой. Упакованные таким образом стрипы хранить при (2–8) °С до конца срока годности набора.

Приготовить промывочный раствор *(п. 7.2.1)*, концентрированный раствор конъюгата *(п. 7.2.3)*.

Внимание! *Концентрированный раствор конъюгата должен быть приготовлен, как минимум, за 15 минут до постановки ИФА и выдержан при температуре (18–25) °С.*

7.3.2. Перед постановкой ИФА лунки стрипов промыть один раз промывочным раствором, заливая в каждую лунку по 400 мкл промывочного раствора. По истечении 5 минут

раствор аккуратно удалить в сосуд с дезинфицирующим раствором.

По окончании промывки необходимо тщательно удалить влагу из лунок, постукивая перевёрнутыми стрипами по сложенной в несколько слоёв фильтровальной бумаге. Не допускать высыхания лунок стрипов между отдельными операциями при постановке реакции.

7.3.3. Во все лунки стрипов внести по **80 мкл РС**. В одну лунку внести **20 мкл К$^{+}$**, в две другие лунки по **20 мкл К$^{-}$**, в остальные лунки – по **20 мкл исследуемых образцов**, получая таким образом, разведение 1:5. Внесение образцов должно сопровождаться аккуратным перемешиванием *(пипетирование не менее 4 раз)*. Не допускать вспенивания и касания наконечником дна и стенок лунки.

Лунки заклеить плёнкой и инкубировать при температуре (37±1) °С **30 минут**.

За 5 минут до окончания инкубации приготовить раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении.

7.3.4. По окончании инкубации содержимое лунок собрать в сосуд с дезинфицирующим раствором, промыть лунки стрипов 5 раз промывочным раствором и тщательно удалить влагу.

Внимание! *Каждую лунку при промывке необходимо заполнять полностью (**400 мкл***

***промывочного раствора**). Необходимо добиваться полного опорожнения лунок после каждого их заполнения. Время между заполнением и опорожнением лунок должно быть не менее 30 секунд.*

7.3.5. Во все лунки планшета внести по **100 мкл раствора конъюгата в рабочем разведении.**

Внимание! *Для внесения раствора конъюгата использовать пластиковую ванночку и одноразовые наконечники, входящие в состав набора.*

Заклеить лунки плёнкой и инкубировать при температуре (37±1) °С **30 минут**.

По окончании инкубации содержимое лунок собрать в сосуд с дезинфицирующим раствором, лунки промыть 5 раз промывочным раствором и удалить влагу, как описано выше.

7.3.6. Во все лунки внести по **100 мкл раствора ТМБ.**

Внимание! *Для внесения раствора ТМБ использовать пластиковую ванночку и одноразовые наконечники, входящие в состав набора.*

Стрипы поместить в защищённое от света место при температуре (18–25) °С на **30 минут**.

7.3.7. Остановить реакцию добавлением в каждую лунку по **100 мкл стоп-реагента** и через 2–3 минуты измерить ОП.

Следует избегать попадания стоп-реагента на одежду и открытые участки тела. При попадании – промыть большим количеством воды.

8. РЕГИСТРАЦИЯ РЕЗУЛЬТАТОВ

Результаты ИФА регистрировать с помощью спектрофотометра, измеряя ОП в двухволновом режиме: основной фильтр – 450 нм, референс-фильтр – в диапазоне 620–650 нм. Допускается регистрация результатов только с фильтром 450 нм.

Выведение спектрофотометра на нулевой уровень *(«бланк»)* осуществлять по воздуху.

9. УЧЁТ РЕЗУЛЬТАТОВ АНАЛИЗА

9.1. Результаты исследований учитывать только при соблюдении следующих условий:

– среднее значение ОП в лунках с $К^-$ не более 0,25 ($ОП_{ср}К^- \leq 0{,}25$);

– значение ОП в лунке с $К^+$ не менее 0,6 ($ОПК^+ \geq 0{,}60$).

Вычислить **критическое значение ОП ($ОП_{крит}$)** по формуле:

$$\mathbf{ОП_{крит} = ОП_{ср}(К^-) + 0{,}25},$$

где $ОП_{ср}К^{-}$ – среднее значение ОП для отрицательного контрольного образца.

Исследуемый образец оценить как:

– **отрицательный**, т.е. не содержащий IgA к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*, если полученное для него значение $ОП_{обр} \leq ОП_{крит} - 0{,}05$;

– **положительный**, т.е. содержащий IgA к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*, если значение $ОП_{обр} \geq ОП_{крит} + 0{,}05$;

– сомнительный, если $ОП_{крит} - 0{,}05 < ОП_{обр} < ОП_{крит} + 0{,}05$.

Пациентам с сомнительными и положительными результатами рекомендуется дополнительное обследование *(выявление возбудителя, обследование парных сывороток).* Все клинические и лабораторные данные должны быть рассмотрены в совокупности.

10. УСЛОВИЯ ХРАНЕНИЯ И ЭКСПЛУАТАЦИИ НАБОРА

10.1. Транспортирование набора должно проводиться при температуре (2–8) °С. Допускается транспортирование при температуре до 25 °С не более 10 суток. Замораживание не допускается.

10.2. Хранение набора в упаковке предприятия-изготовителя должно производиться при температуре (2–8) °С. Замораживание не допускается.

10.3. Срок годности набора реагентов – 12 месяцев со дня выпуска.

По вопросам, касающимся качества набора, обращаться в ***АО «Вектор-Бест»*** *по адресу:*

630559, Новосибирская область, Новосибирский район, п. Кольцово, а/я 121;
тел.: (383) 332-92-49, 227-60-30;
тел./факс: (383) 332-94-47, 332-94-44;
E-mail: plkobtk@vector-best.ru

и в ***Институт стандартизации и контроля лекарственных средств ФГУ «НЦ ЭСМП» Росздравнадзора*** *по адресу: 117246, Москва, Научный проезд, д. 14А, тел. (495) 120-60-95; 120-60-96.*

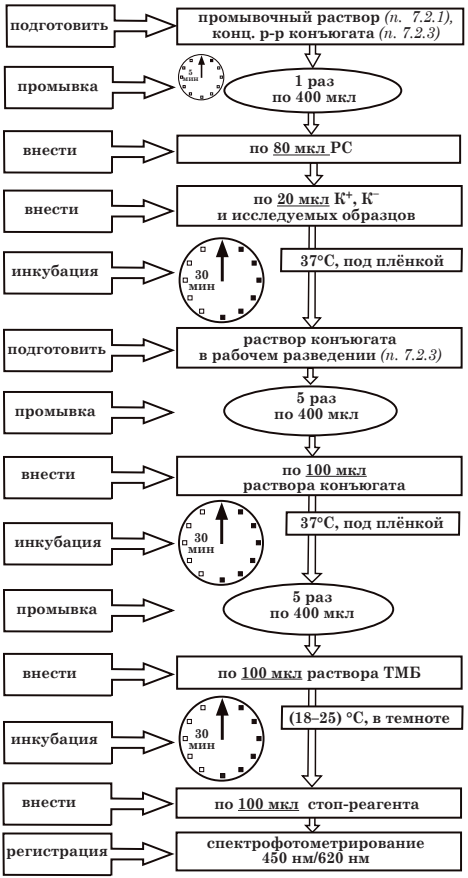
ДОПОЛНИТЕЛЬНАЯ ИНФОРМАЦИЯ ДЛЯ ПОТРЕБИТЕЛЕЙ:

– Набор реагентов предназначен для профессионального применения и должен использоваться обученным персоналом;

– При использовании набора образуются отходы классов А, Б и Г, которые классифицируются и уничтожаются *(утилизируются)* в соответствии с СанПиН 2.1.7.2790-10 «Санитарно-эпидемиологические требования к обращению с медицинскими отходами». Дезинфекцию наборов следует проводить по МУ-287-113 «Методические указания по дезинфекции, предстерилизационной очистке и стерилизации изделий медицинского назначения»;

– Требования безопасности к медицинским лабораториям приведены в ГОСТ Р 52905-2007;
– Не применять набор реагентов по назначению после окончания срока годности;
– Транспортирование должно проводиться всеми видами крытого транспорта в соответствии с правилами перевозок, действующими на транспорте данного вида.
– Производитель гарантирует соответствие выпускаемых изделий требованиям нормативной и технической документации;
– Безопасность и качество изделия гарантируются в течение всего срока годности;
– Производитель отвечает за недостатки изделия, за исключением дефектов, возникших вследствие нарушения правил пользования, условий транспортирования и хранения, либо действия третьих лиц, либо непреодолимой силы.
– Производитель обязуется за свой счёт заменить изделие, технические и функциональные характеристики *(потребительские свойства)* которого не соответствуют нормативной и технической документации, если указанные недостатки явились следствием скрытого дефекта материалов или некачественного изготовления изделия производителем.

Схема анализа D-2258



ГРАФИЧЕСКИЕ СИМВОЛЫ

REF	Номер по каталогу	IVD	Медицинское изделие для диагностики *in vitro*
Σ/n	Содержимого достаточно для проведения n количества тестов	NON STERILE	Не стерильно
LOT	Код партии		Температурный диапазон
	Дата изготовления: XXXX-XX-XX Формат даты: год-месяц-число		Изготовитель
	Использовать до: XXXX-XX-XX Формат даты: год-месяц-число		Обратитесь к Инструкции по применению
	Осторожно! Обратитесь к Инструкции по применению		

Консультацию специалиста по работе с набором можно получить по тел.: (383) 332-81-44.

20.04.16

АКЦИОНЕРНОЕ ОБЩЕСТВО
«ВЕКТОР-БЕСТ»

Международный сертификат
ISO 13485

Наш адрес: 630117, Новосибирск-117, а/я 492

Тел.: (383) 332-37-58, 332-37-10, 332-36-34,
332-67-49, 332-67-52

Тел./факс: (383) 227-73-60 (многоканальный)

E-mail: vbmarket@vector-best.ru
Internet: www.vector-best.ru

ВЕКТОР

БЕСТ

Набор реагентов для иммуноферментного выявления иммуноглобулинов класса G к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*

ИНСТРУКЦИЯ ПО ПРИМЕНЕНИЮ

Утверждена 23.10.2009
Приказом Росздравнадзора № 8458-Пр/09

Ureaplasma urealyticum – IgG – ИФА – БЕСТ

НАБОР РЕАГЕНТОВ
D-2254

1. НАЗНАЧЕНИЕ

1.1. Набор реагентов предназначен для выявления иммуноглобулинов класса G (IgG) к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* в сыворотке (плазме) крови человека и может быть использован в клинических и эпидемиологических исследованиях.

1.2. Набор реагентов рассчитан на проведение 96 анализов, включая контрольные образцы. Возможны 12 независимых постановок ИФА, при каждой из которых 3 лунки используют для постановки контролей.

2. ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ НАБОРА

2.1. Принцип действия.

Метод определения основан на твёрдофазном иммуноферментном анализе с применением рекомбинантных антигенов. Во время первой инкубации, при наличии в исследуемых образцах иммуноглобулинов класса G к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*, происходит их связывание с иммобилизованными на поверхности *лунок планшета рекомбинантными антигенами Ureaplasma urealyticum*. Не связавшийся материал удаляют отмывкой.

На второй стадии антитела к IgG человека, меченные пероксидазой хрена *(конъюгат),* свя-

зываются с комплексом «антиген-антитело». Не связавшийся конъюгат удаляют отмывкой.

Во время третьей инкубации с раствором тетраметилбензидина происходит окрашивание раствора в лунках, содержащих комплексы «антиген-антитело».

Реакцию останавливают добавлением стоп-реагента. Результаты ИФА регистрируют с помощью спектрофотометра, измеряя **оптическую плотность (ОП)** в двухволновом режиме: основной фильтр – 450 нм, референс-фильтр – в диапазоне 620–650 нм. Допустима регистрация результатов только с фильтром 450 нм. Интенсивность жёлтого окрашивания пропорциональна количеству содержащихся в исследуемом образце иммуноглобулинов класса G к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*.

После измерения ОП раствора в лунках на основании рассчитанного значения $ОП_{крит}$ анализируемые образцы оцениваются как положительные, сомнительные или отрицательные.

2.2. Состав набора.

Набор содержит все необходимые для проведения анализа реагенты, кроме дистиллированной воды:

- планшет разборный с иммобилизованными рекомбинантными антигенами *Ureaplasma urealyticum* – 1 шт.;
- положительный контрольный образец ($К^+$), инактивированный – 1 фл., 0,5 мл;
- отрицательный контрольный образец ($К^-$), инактивированный – 1 фл., 1 мл;
- конъюгат – 1 фл.;
- раствор для предварительного разведения (РПР) – 1 фл., 3 мл;
- раствор для разведения конъюгата (РК) – 1 фл., 13 мл.
- разводящий буфер для сывороток (РБС) – 1 фл., 13 мл;
- концентрат фосфатно-солевого буферного раствора с твином (ФСБ-Тх25) – 1 фл., 28 мл;
- раствор тетраметилбензидина (ТМБ) – 1 фл., 13 мл;
- стоп-реагент – 1 фл., 12 мл;

Набор дополнительно комплектуется:

- плёнками для заклеивания планшета – 3 шт.;
- ванночками для реагентов – 2 шт.;
- наконечниками для пипеток на 4–200 мкл – 16 шт.

3. АНАЛИТИЧЕСКИЕ И ДИАГНОСТИЧЕСКИЕ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ

3.1. Результат качественного определения набором иммуноглобулинов класса G к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* должен соответствовать требованиям СПП *(рег. № 05-2-107 от 29.05.08)*, включающей образцы сывороток, содержащие специфические IgG к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum:* **чувствительность** по иммуноглобулинам класса G к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* – 100%.

3.2. Результат качественного определения набором иммуноглобулинов класса G к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* должен соответствовать требованиям СПП *(рег. № 05-2-107 от 29.05.08*), включающей образцы сывороток, не содержащие IgG к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*: **специфичность** по иммуноглобулинам класса G к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum* – 100%.

4. МЕРЫ ПРЕДОСТОРОЖНОСТИ

Потенциальный риск применения набора – класс 2а *(ГОСТ Р 51609-2000).*

При подготовке к проведению анализа следует соблюдать меры предосторожности, принятые при работе с потенциально инфекционным материалом:

* работать в резиновых перчатках;

* не пипетировать растворы ртом;

* все использованные материалы дезинфицировать в соответствии с требованиями с СП 1.3.2322-08 и МУ-287-113.

5. ОБОРУДОВАНИЕ И МАТЕРИАЛЫ, НЕОБХОДИМЫЕ ПРИ РАБОТЕ С НАБОРОМ:

– Спектрофотометр, позволяющий проводить измерения оптической плотности растворов в лунках планшета при длине волны 450 нм и/или в двухволновом режиме при основной длине волны 450 нм и длине волны сравнения в диапазоне 620–650 нм;

– термостат, поддерживающий температуру (37±1) °С;

– холодильник бытовой;

– пипетки полуавтоматические одноканальные с переменным или фиксированным объёмом со сменными наконечниками, позволяющие отбирать объёмы жидкости от 5 до 1000 мкл;

– пипетка полуавтоматическая многоканальная со сменными наконечниками, позволяющая отбирать объёмы жидкостей от 5 до 300 мкл;

– промывочное устройство для планшета;

– перчатки резиновые хирургические;

– бумага фильтровальная лабораторная;
– цилиндр вместимостью 1000 мл;
– вода дистиллированная;
– дезинфицирующий раствор.

6. АНАЛИЗИРУЕМЫЕ ОБРАЗЦЫ

Допускается использование образцов, хранившихся при (2–8)°С не более 5 суток, либо при минус (20±3) °С, если необходимо более длительное хранение.

Сыворотки, содержащие взвешенные частицы, могут дать неправильный результат. Такие образцы перед использованием следует центрифугировать при 3000 об/мин 10–15 минут.

Нельзя использовать проросшие, гемолизированные, гиперлипидные сыворотки или подвергавшиеся многократному замораживанию и оттаиванию.

7. ПРОВЕДЕНИЕ ИММУНОФЕРМЕНТНОГО АНАЛИЗА

7.1. **ВНИМАНИЕ! Тщательное соблюдение описанных ниже требований позволит избежать искажения результатов ИФА.**

– Перед постановкой реакции все компоненты набора необходимо выдержать при температуре (18–25) °С не менее 30 минут.

– Для приготовления растворов и проведения ИФА следует использовать чистую мерную посуду и автоматические пипетки с погрешностью измерения объёмов не более 5%.

– Лиофилизированные компоненты должны быть восстановлены, как минимум, за 15 минут до их использования.

– После отбора необходимого количества стрипов оставшиеся сразу упаковать в пакет с осушителем. Упакованные стрипы, плотно закрытые флаконы с исходными компонентами хранить при (2–8) °С.

– Раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении готовить непосредственно перед использованием.

– Раствор ТМБ готов для использования. Необходимо исключить воздействие прямого света на раствор ТМБ.

– При промывке лунки *(стрипа, планшета)* заполнять полностью, не допуская переливания промывочного раствора через края лунок, и не касаясь лунок наконечником пипетки. Время между заполнением и опорожнением лунок должно быть не менее 30 секунд.
– При использовании автоматического или ручного промывателя необходимо следить за состоянием ёмкости для промывочного раствора и соединительных шлангов: в них не должно быть «заростов». Раз в неделю желательно ёмкость для промывочного раствора и шланги промывать 70% спиртом.
– Не допускать высыхания лунок планшета между отдельными операциями.
– При постановке ИФА нельзя использовать компоненты из наборов разных серий или смешивать их при приготовлении растворов, кроме неспецифических компонентов *(ФСБ-Т×25, раствор ТМБ, стоп-реагент),* которые взаимозаменяемы в наборах АО «Вектор-Бест».
– При приготовлении растворов и проведении ИФА следует использовать **одноразовые** наконечники для дозаторов.
– Посуду *(ванночки)*, используемые для работы с растворами конъюгата и ТМБ, не обрабаты-

вать дезинфицирующими растворами и моющими средствами.

– В случае повторного использования посуду *(ванночки)* для раствора конъюгата промыть проточной водой и тщательно ополоснуть дистиллированной водой, посуду *(ванночки)* для раствора ТМБ сразу после работы необходимо промыть 50% раствором этилового спирта, а затем дистиллированной водой.
– Для дезинфекции посуды и материалов, контактирующих с исследуемыми и контрольными образцами, рекомендуем использовать дезинфицирующие средства, не оказывающие негативного воздействия на качество ИФА, не содержащие активный кислород и хлор, например, комбинированные средства на основе ЧАС *(четвертичных аммониевых соединений)*, спиртов, третичных аминов.
– Пипетки и рабочие поверхности обрабатывать только 70% раствором этилового спирта. Не использовать перекись водорода, хлорамин и т.д.

7.2. Приготовление реагентов.

7.2.1. Промывочный раствор.

Взболтать содержимое флакона с ФСБ-Т×25. При выпадении осадка солей в концентрате прогреть его перед разведением до полного растворения осадка.

Таблица расхода реагентов

	Количество используемых стрипов											
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
Промывочный раствор												
ФСБ-Т×25, мл	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Дистиллированная вода, мл	до 50	до 100	до 150	до 200	до 250	до 300	до 350	до 400	до 450	до 500	до 550	до 600
Раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении												
Конъюгат (концентрат), мкл	α*	2×α	3×α	4×α	5×α	6×α	7×α	8×α	9×α	10×α	11×α	12×α
РК, мл	1,0	2,0	3,0	4,0	5,0	6,0	7,0	8,0	9,0	10,0	11,0	12,0
Раствор ТМБ												
Раствор ТМБ, мл	1,0	2,0	3,0	4,0	5,0	6,0	7,0	8,0	9,0	10,0	11,0	12,0

α = ▲▲▲ **мкл**

В соответствии с числом используемых стрипов отобрать необходимое количество ФСБ-Т×25 *(см. таблицу)* и развести дистиллированной водой до указанного в таблице объёма или содержимое 1 флакона – до **700 мл**.

Хранение: при температуре (2–8) °С 72 часа.

7.2.2. Контрольные образцы.

Контрольные образцы *($К^+$ и $К^-$)* готовы к использованию.

Хранение: при температуре (2–8) °С в течение всего срока годности набора.

7.2.3. Растворы конъюгата.

Внимание! *Для работы с конъюгатом рекомендуем использовать одноразовые наконечники для пипеток.*

Приготовить концентрированный раствор конъюгата путём растворения содержимого флакона с конъюгатом в **1,0 мл РПР.**

Хранение: концентрированный раствор конъюгата – при температуре (2–8) °С до 1 месяца.

Внимание! *Раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении готовить в пластиковой ванночке, входящей в состав набора, непосредственно перед использованием!*

Перед приготовлением раствора конъюгата в рабочем разведении необходимо аккуратно перемешать, не допуская вспенивания, содержимое флаконов с концентратом конъюгата и с РК.

В пластиковую ванночку отобрать необходимое количество *(см. таблицу)* концентрированного раствора конъюгата, добавить соответствующее количество РК и аккуратно перемешать пипетированием до получения равномерного окрашивания.

7.2.4. Раствор ТМБ.

Внимание! *Раствор ТМБ готов к применению.*

Необходимо исключить воздействие света на раствор ТМБ.

В пластиковую ванночку отобрать только необходимое в соответствии с числом используемых стрипов количество раствора ТМБ *(см. таблицу)*. Остатки раствора ТМБ из ванночки утилизировать *(не сливать во флакон с исходным раствором ТМБ)*.

7.3. Проведение анализа.

7.3.1. Подготовить необходимое количество стрипов к работе. Оставшиеся – сразу упаковать во избежание губительного воздействия влаги. Для этого стрипы поместить в цефленовый пакет с влагопоглотителем, тщательно закрыть

пакет пластиковой застёжкой. *Упакованные таким образом стрипы хранить при (2–8)°С до конца срока годности набора.*

Приготовить промывочный раствор *(п. 7.2.1)*, концентрированный раствор конъюгата *(п. 7.2.3)*.

Внимание! *Концентрированный раствор конъюгата должен быть приготовлен, как минимум, за 15 минут до постановки ИФА и выдержан при температуре (18–25) °С.*

7.3.2. Перед постановкой ИФА лунки стрипов промыть один раз промывочным раствором, заливая в каждую лунку по 400 мкл промывочного раствора. По истечении 5 минут раствор аккуратно удалить в сосуд с дезинфицирующим раствором.

По окончании промывки необходимо тщательно удалить влагу из лунок, постукивая перевернутыми стрипами по сложенной в несколько слоёв фильтровальной бумаге. Не допускать высыхания лунок стрипов между отдельными операциями при постановке реакции.

7.3.3. Во все лунки стрипов внести по **80 мкл РБС**. В одну лунку внести **20 мкл $К^+$,** в две другие лунки по **20 мкл $К^-$**, в остальные лунки – по **20 мкл исследуемых образцов**, получая таким образом, разведение 1:5. Внесение образцов должно сопровождаться аккуратным

перемешиванием *(пипетирование не менее 4 раз)*. Не допускать вспенивания и касания наконечником дна и стенок лунки.

Лунки заклеить плёнкой и инкубировать при температуре (37±1) °С **30 минут**.

За 5 минут до окончания инкубации приготовить раствор конъюгата в рабочем разведении.

7.3.4. По окончании инкубации содержимое лунок собрать в сосуд с дезинфицирующим раствором, промыть лунки стрипов 5 раз промывочным раствором и тщательно удалить влагу.

Внимание*! Каждую лунку при промывке необходимо заполнять полностью* ***(400 мкл промывочного раствора)****. Необходимо добиваться полного опорожнения лунок после каждого их заполнения. Время между заполнением и опорожнением лунок должно быть не менее 30 секунд.*

7.3.5. Во все лунки планшета внести по **100 мкл раствора конъюгата в рабочем разведении**.

Внимание! *Для внесения раствора конъюгата использовать пластиковую ванночку и одноразовые наконечники, входящие в состав набора.*

Заклеить лунки плёнкой и инкубировать при температуре (37±1) °С **30 минут**.

По окончании инкубации содержимое лунок собрать в сосуд с дезинфицирующим раствором, лунки промыть 5 раз промывочным раствором и удалить влагу, как описано выше.

7.3.6. Во все лунки внести по **100 мкл раствора ТМБ.**

Внимание! *Для внесения раствора ТМБ использовать пластиковую ванночку и одноразовые наконечники, входящие в состав набора.*

Стрипы поместить в защищённое от света место при температуре (18–25) °С на **30 минут**.

7.3.7. Остановить реакцию добавлением в каждую лунку по **100 мкл стоп-реагента** и через 2–3 минуты измерить ОП.

Следует избегать попадания стоп-реагента на одежду и открытые участки тела. При попадании – промыть большим количеством воды.

8. РЕГИСТРАЦИЯ РЕЗУЛЬТАТОВ

Результаты ИФА регистрировать с помощью спектрофотометра, измеряя ОП в двухволновом режиме: основной фильтр – 450 нм, референс-фильтр – в диапазоне 620–650 нм. Допускается регистрация результатов только с фильтром 450 нм.

Выведение спектрофотометра на нулевой уровень *(«бланк»)* осуществлять по воздуху.

9. УЧЁТ РЕЗУЛЬТАТОВ АНАЛИЗА

9.1. Результаты исследований учитывать только при соблюдении следующих условий:

– среднее значение ОП в лунках с К$^-$ не более 0,25 ($ОП_{ср}К^- \leq 0,25$);

– значение ОП в лунке с К$^+$ не менее 0,6 ($ОПК^+ \geq 0,60$).

Вычислить **критическое значение ОП ($ОП_{крит}$)** по формуле:

$$\mathbf{ОП_{крит} = ОП_{ср}\ К^- + 0,25},$$

где $ОП_{ср}\ К^-$ – среднее значение ОП для К–.

Исследуемый образец оценить как:

– отрицательный, т.е. не содержащий IgG к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*, если полученное для него значение $ОП_{обр} \leq О\ ОП_{крит} - 0,05$;

– положительный, т.е. содержащий IgG к антигенам *Ureaplasma urealyticum*, если значение $ОП_{обр} \geq ОП_{крит} + 0,05$;

– сомнительный, если ОПкрит – 0,05 < $ОП_{обр} < ОП_{крит} + 0,05$.

9.2. Интерпретация результатов.

ОП сыворотки	Результат	Титр IgG
$\mathbf{ОП_{обр}} \leq ОП_{крит} - 0{,}05$	отрицательный	–
$ОП_{крит} - 0{,}05 < \mathbf{ОП_{обр}} < ОП_{крит} + 0{,}05$	сомнительный	–
$ОП_{крит} + 0{,}05 \leq \mathbf{ОП_{обр}} \leq 1{,}5 \times ОП_{крит}$	слабоположительный	1:5
$1{,}5 \times ОП_{крит} < \mathbf{ОП_{обр}} \leq 2 \times ОП_{крит}$	положительный	1:10
$2 \times ОП_{крит} < \mathbf{ОП_{обр}} \leq 3 \times ОП_{крит}$	сильноположительный	1:20
$3 \times ОП_{крит} < \mathbf{ОП_{обр}} \leq 4 \times ОП_{крит}$	сильноположительный	1:40
$\mathbf{ОП_{обр}} > 4 \times ОП_{крит}$	сильноположительный	1:80

Пациентам с сомнительными и положительными результатами рекомендуется дополнительное обследование (выявление возбудителя, обследование парных сывороток). Все клинические и лабораторные данные должны быть рассмотрены в совокупности.

10. УСЛОВИЯ ХРАНЕНИЯ И ЭКСПЛУАТАЦИИ НАБОРА

10.1. Транспортирование набора должно проводиться при температуре (2–8) °С. Допускается транспортирование при температуре до 25 °С не более 10 суток. Замораживание не допускается.

10.2. Хранение набора в упаковке предприятия-изготовителя должно производиться при температуре (2–8) °С. Замораживание не допускается.

10.3. Срок годности набора реагентов – 12 месяцев со дня выпуска.

По вопросам, касающимся качества набора, обращаться в ***АО «Вектор-Бест»*** *по адресу:*
630559, п. Кольцово, Новосибирской обл, Новосибирского района, а/я 121,
тел.: (383) 332-92-49, 227-60-30;
тел./факс: (383), 332-94-47, 332-94-44.;
E-mail: plkobtk@vector-best.ru

и в ***Институт стандартизации и контроля лекарственных средств ФГУ «НЦ ЭСМП» Росздравнадзора*** *по адресу: 117246, Москва, Научный проезд, д.14А, тел.: (495) 120-60-95, 120-60-96.*

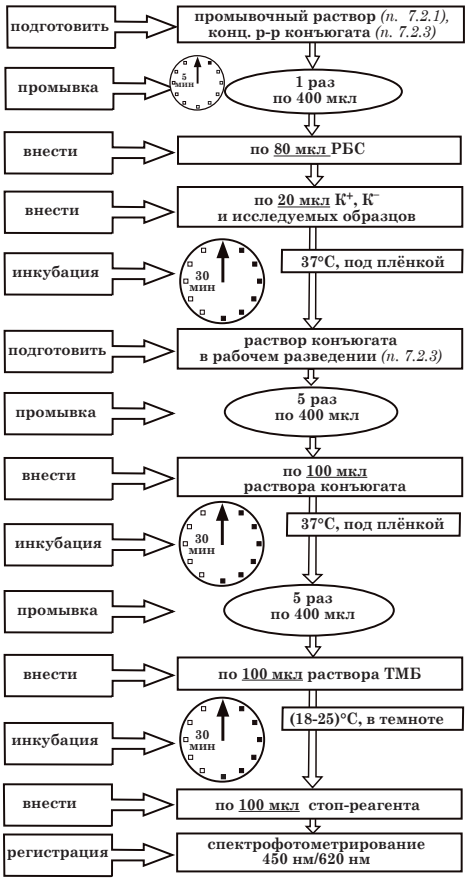
ДОПОЛНИТЕЛЬНАЯ ИНФОРМАЦИЯ ДЛЯ ПОТРЕБИТЕЛЕЙ:

– Набор реагентов предназначен для профессионального применения и должен использоваться обученным персоналом;
– При использовании набора образуются отходы классов А, Б и Г, которые классифицируются и уничтожаются *(утилизируются)* в соответствии с

СанПиН 2.1.7.2790-10 «Санитарно-эпидемиологические требования к обращению с медицинскими отходами». Дезинфекцию наборов следует проводить по МУ-287-113 «Методические указания по дезинфекции, предстерилизационной очистке и стерилизации изделий медицинского назначения»;

– Требования безопасности к медицинским лабораториям приведены в ГОСТ Р 52905-2007;
– Не применять набор реагентов по назначению после окончания срока годности;
– Транспортирование должно проводиться всеми видами крытого транспорта в соответствии с правилами перевозок, действующими на транспорте данного вида.
– Производитель гарантирует соответствие выпускаемых изделий требованиям нормативной и технической документации;
– Безопасность и качество изделия гарантируются в течение всего срока годности;
– Производитель отвечает за недостатки изделия, за исключением дефектов, возникших вследствие нарушения правил пользования, условий транспортирования и хранения, либо действия третьих лиц, либо непреодолимой силы.
– Производитель обязуется за свой счёт заменить изделие, технические и функциональные характеристики *(потребительские свойства)* которого не соответствуют нормативной и технической документации, если указанные недостатки явились следствием скрытого дефекта материалов или некачественного изготовления изделия производителем.

Схема анализа D-2254



ГРАФИЧЕСКИЕ СИМВОЛЫ

REF	Номер по каталогу	IVD	Медицинское изделие для диагностики *in vitro*
Σ n	Содержимого достаточно для проведения n количества тестов	NON STERILE	Не стерильно
LOT	Код партии		Температурный диапазон
	Дата изготовления: XXXX-XX-XX Формат даты: год-месяц-число		Изготовитель
	Использовать до: XXXX-XX-XX Формат даты: год-месяц-число		Обратитесь к Инструкции по применению
	Осторожно! Обратитесь к Инструкции по применению		

Консультацию специалиста по работе с набором можно получить по тел.: (383) 332-81-44.

20.04.16

АКЦИОНЕРНОЕ ОБЩЕСТВО
«ВЕКТОР-БЕСТ»

Международный сертификат
ISO 13485

Наш адрес: 630117, Новосибирск-117, а/я 492

Тел.: (383) 332-37-58, 332-37-10, 332-36-34,
332-67-49, 332-67-52

Тел./факс: (383) 227-73-60 (многоканальный)

E-mail: vbmarket@vector-best.ru
Internet: www.vector-best.ru