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Instruction for use
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ORG 546 ENA-6-Profile

Immunometric Enzyme Immunoassay for the determination of anti-ENA-Antibodies

For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

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NAME AND INTENDED USE

ENA-4-Profile is an indirect solid phase enzyme immunometric assay (ELISA). It is designed for the determination of IgG class autoantibodies directed against the extractable nuclear antigens SS-A (Ro), SS-B (La), Sm, RNP/Sm, Scl-70 and Jo-1 in human serum or plasma. For research use only, not for use in diagnostic procedures.

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Highly purified antigens SS-A (Ro), SS-B (La), Sm, RNP/Sm, Scl-70 and Jo-1 are bound to micro-wells individually. Antibodies against these antigens, if present in diluted serum or plasma, bind to the respective antigen. Washing of the microwells removes unspecific serum and plasma components. Horseradish peroxidase (HRP) conjugated anti-human IgG immunologically detects the bound antibodies forming a conjugate/antibody/antigen complex. Washing of the microwells removes unbound conjugate. An enzyme substrate in the presence of bound conjugate hydrolyzes to form a blue colour. The addition of an acid stops the reaction forming a yellow end-product. The intensity of this yellow colour is measured photometrically at 450 nm. The amount of colour is directly proportional to the concentration of IgG anti-bodies present in the original sample.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

1. All reagents of this kit are strictly intended for research use only.
2. Do not interchange kit components from different lots.
3. 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.
4. Avoid contact with the TMB (3,3',5,5'-Tetramethyl-benzidine). If TMB comes into contact with skin, wash thoroughly with water and soap.
5. Avoid contact with the Stop Solution which is acid. If it comes into contact with skin, wash thoroughly with water and seek medical attention.
6. Some kit components (i.e. Controls, Sample buffer and Buffered Wash Solution) contain Sodium Azide as preservative. Sodium Azide (NaN_3) is highly toxic and reactive in pure form. At the product concentrations (0.09%), though not hazardous. Despite the classification as non-hazardous, we strongly recommend using prudent laboratory practices (see 8., 9., 10.)
7. Some kit components contain Proclin 300 as preservative. When disposing reagents containing Proclin 300, flush drains with copious amounts of water to dilute the components below active levels.
8. Wear disposable gloves while handling specimens or kit reagents and wash hands thoroughly afterwards.

9. Do not pipette by mouth.
10. Do not eat, drink, smoke or apply makeup in areas where specimens or kit reagents are handled.
11. Avoid contact between the buffered Peroxide Solution and easily oxidized materials; extreme temperature may initiate spontaneous combustion.

Observe the guidelines for performing quality control by assaying controls and/or pooled sera. During handling of all kit reagents, controls and serum samples observe the existing legal regulations.

CONTENTS OF THE KIT

Package size	6 x 16 determ.
Qty.1	Divisible microplate consisting of 2 modules of 8 wells each, coated with individual highly purified antigens: SS-A, SS-B, Sm, RNP/Sm, Scl-70, Jo-1. Ready to use.
	The modules are colour coded:
	SS-A red
	SS-B blue
	Sm yellow
	RNP/Sm green
	Scl-70 pink
	Jo-1 black
	Anti-ENA controls in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, NaN ₃ <0.1% (w/w)). Ready to use.
1 vial, 2ml	Positive Control (1) (100 U/ml).
1 vial, 2ml	Negative Control (2) (0 U/ml).
6 vials, 1 ml each	Cut-off Calibrators (25 U/ml), specific for each individual antigen.
1 vial, 20 ml	Sample buffer (Tris, NaN ₃ <0.1% (w/w)), yellow, concentrate (5x).
1 vial, 15 ml	Enzyme conjugate solution (PBS, Proclin 300 <0.5% (v/v)), (light red) containing polyclonal rabbit anti-human IgG, labelled with horseradish peroxidase. Ready to use.
1 vial, 15 ml	TMB substrate solution. Ready to use.
1 vial, 15 ml	Stop solution (contains acid). Ready to use.
1 vial, 20 ml	Wash solution (PBS, NaN ₃ <0.1% (w/w)), concentrate (50x).

STORAGE AND STABILITY

1. Store the kit at 2-8 °C.
2. Keep microplate wells sealed in a dry bag with desiccants.

3. The reagents are stable until expiration of the kit.
4. Do not expose test reagents to heat, sun or strong light during storage and usage.
5. Diluted sample buffer and wash buffer are stable for at least 30 days when stored at 2-8 °C.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

Equipment

- Microplate reader capable of endpoint measurements at 450 nm
- Multi-Channel Dispenser or repeatable pipette for 100 µl
- Vortex mixer
- Pipettes for 10 µl, 100 µl and 1000 µl
- Laboratory timing device
- Data reduction software

Preparation of reagents

- Distilled or deionised water
- Graduated cylinder for 100 and 1000 ml
- Plastic container for storage of the wash solution

COLLECTION, STORAGE AND HANDLING OF UNKNOWNNS

1. Collect whole blood using acceptable medical techniques to avoid hemolysis.
2. Allow blood to clot and separate the serum by centrifugation.
3. Test serum should be clear and non-hemolyzed. Contamination by hemolysis or lipemia is best avoided, but does not interfere with this assay.
4. Unknownns may be refrigerated at 2-8 °C for up to five days or stored at -20 °C up to six months.
5. Avoid repetitive freezing and thawing of serum samples. This may result in variable loss of autoantibody activity.
6. Testing of heat-inactivated sera is not recommended.

PROCEDURAL NOTES

1. Do not use kit components beyond their expiration dates.
2. Do not interchange kit components from different lots.
3. All materials must be at room temperature (20-28 °C).
4. Have all reagents and samples ready before start of the assay. Once started, the test must be performed without interruption to get the most reliable and consistent results.
5. Perform the assay steps only in the order indicated.
6. Always use fresh sample dilutions.

7. Pipette all reagents and samples into the bottom of the wells.
8. To avoid carryover contamination, change the tip between samples and different kit controls.
9. It is important to wash microwells thoroughly and remove the last droplets of wash buffer to achieve best results.
10. All incubation steps must be accurately timed.
11. Control sera or pools should routinely be assayed as unknowns to check performance of the reagents and the assay.
12. Do not re-use microplate wells.

	SS-A	SS-B	Sm	RNP/Sm	Scl-70	Jo-1
	1	2	3	4	5	6
A	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
B	CaIC	CaIC	CaIC	CaIC	CaIC	CaIC
C	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC	PC
D	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1
E	P2	P2	P2	P2	P2	P2
F	P3	P3	P3	P3	P3	P3
G	P4	P4	P4	P4	P4	P4
H	P5	P5	P5	P5	P5	P5

NC negative control
 CaIC calibration control
 PC positive control
 P1, P2 sample

For all controls, the respective concentrations are provided on the labels of each vial. Using these concentrations a calibration curve may be calculated.

PREPARATION OF REAGENTS

Preparation of sample buffer

Dilute the contents of each vial of the sample buffer concentrate (5x) with distilled or deionised water to a final volume of 100 ml prior to use. Store refrigerated: stable at 2-8 °C for _____ at _____ least 30 days after preparation or until the expiration date printed on the label.

Preparation of wash solution

Dilute the contents of each vial of the buffered wash solution concentrate (50x) with distilled or deionised water to a final volume of 1000 ml prior to use. Store refrigerated: stable at 2-8 °C for at least 30 days after preparation or until the expiration date printed on the label.

Sample preparation

Dilute all samples 1:100 with sample buffer before assay. Therefore combine 10 µl of sample with 990 µl of sample buffer in a polystyrene tube. Mix well. Controls are ready to use and need not be diluted.

TEST PROCEDURE

1. Prepare a sufficient number of microplate modules to accommodate controls and prediluted samples.
2. Pipette **100 µl** of controls and prediluted samples in duplicate into the wells.

3. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature (20-28 °C).
4. Discard the contents of the microwells and wash 3 times with **300 µl** of wash solution.
5. Dispense **100 µl** of enzyme conjugate into each well.
6. Incubate for 15 minutes at room temperature.
7. Discard the contents of the microwells and wash 3 times with **300 µl** of wash solution.
8. Dispense **100 µl** of TMB substrate solution into each well.
9. Incubate for 15 minutes at room temperature.
10. Add **100 µl** of stop solution to each well of the modules and incubate for 5 minutes at room temperature.
11. Read the optical density at 450 nm and calculate the results. Bi-chromatic measurement with a reference at 600-690 nm is recommended.

The developed colour is stable for at least 30 minutes. Read optical densities during this time.

RESULTS

Quality Control

This test is only valid if the optical density at 450 nm for Positive Control (1), Negative Control (2) and Cut-Off Calibrators complies with the respective range indicated on the Quality Control Certificate enclosed to each test kit! If any of these criteria is not fulfilled, the results are invalid and the test should be repeated.

Evaluation of the ENA-6-Profile test is carried out by direct comparison of the optical density of each sample with the optical density of the cut-off calibrator.

For detailed results, each Sample OD value can be expressed as an "Index Value". The Index Value is calculated by dividing the sample-OD by the Cut-off-OD.

$$\text{Index-Value} = \frac{\text{OD}_{\text{Sample}}}{\text{OD}_{\text{Cut - Off}}}$$

The calculation of Index Values is not influenced by variations of the sample-OD and/or Cut-off-OD. Index Values are recommended for long term validations (i.e. internal quality control samples).

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Specificity

The microplate modules are coated with the individual antigens SS-A (Ro), SS-B (La), Sm, RNP/Sm, Scl-70 and Jo-1. All antigen preparations are highly purified by affinity chromatography. The ENA-6-Profile test is specific only for autoantibodies directed to these antigens. No cross-reactivities have been observed.

Calibration

The assay system is calibrated against the internationally recognized reference sera from CDC, Atlanta USA, since no other international standards are available.

LIMITATIONS OF PROCEDURE

The ENA-6-Profile ELISA is intended for research use only.

INTERFERING SUBSTANCES

No interference has been observed with haemolytic (up to 1000 mg/dL), lipemic (up to 3 g/dL triglycerides) or bilirubin (up to 40 mg/dL) containing sera. Nor have any interfering effects been observed with the use of anticoagulants. However for practical reasons it is recommended that grossly hemolyzed or lipemic samples should be avoided.

INCUBATION SCHEME

