Rituximab mAb-based ELISA Assay Kit

Catalog Number:
IG-AB106 (1 x 96 wells)
For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.
v. 1.0

Eagle Biosciences, Inc.
20A Northwest Blvd., Suite 112, Nashua, NH 03063
Phone: 617-419-2019 Fax: 617-419-1110
www.EagleBio.com

Introduction

The drug Rituximab (trade name Rituxan® and Mabthera®) is a genetically engineered chimeric murine/human monoclonal antibody directed against the CD20 antigen found on the surface of normal and malignant B lymphocytes. The antibody is a glycosylated IgG1 kappa immunoglobulin containing murine light and heavy-chain variable region sequences (Fab domain) and human constant region sequences (Fc domain). Rituximab is composed of 1,328 amino acids and has an approximate molecular weight of 144 kD. Rituximab has a high binding affinity for the CD20 antigen.
The specificity of this test system is achieved by using a monoclonal antibody (clon 9D5b) for the coating of the microtiter plate. This antibody is specific for Rituximab only (regardless whether Rituxan® and Mabthera®) and does not cross react with other CD20 catchers.

Intended Use

Enzyme immunoassay for the specific and quantitative determination of free Rituximab in serum and plasma.

Assay Principle

This ELISA is based on Rituximab-specific mouse monoclonal antibody (catcher Ab, *ImmunoGuide* clone IG-9D5b). Diluted standards and samples are incubated in the microtiter plate coated with IG-9D5b mAb. After incubation, the wells are washed. A horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-conjugated anti-human IgG monoclonal antibody is added and binds to the Fc part of Rituximab. Following incubation, wells are washed and the bound enzymatic activity is detected by addition of chromogen-substrate. The colour developed is proportional to the amount of Rituximab in the sample or standard. Results of samples can be determined by using the standard curve. Binding of Rituximab to the solid phase, pre-coated with 9D5b, is inhibited by recombinant human CD20 protein. Therefore, the *ImmunoGuide* Rituximab ELISA (mAb-Based) measures the free form of Rituximab.

Warnings and Precautions

1. Before starting the assay, read the instructions completely and carefully. Use the valid version of the package insert provided with the kit. Be sure that everything is understood. For further information (clinical background, test performance, automation protocols, alternative applications, literature, etc.) please refer to the local distributor.

2. In case of severe damage of the kit package, please contact *Eagle Biosciences* or your supplier in writing, latest one week after receiving the kit. Do not use damaged components in test runs but keep safe for complaint related issues.

3. Obey lot number and expiry date. Do not mix reagents of different lots. Do not use expired reagents.

4. Follow good laboratory practice and safety guidelines. Wear lab coats, disposable latex gloves and protective glasses where necessary.

5. Reagents of this kit containing hazardous material may cause eye and skin irritations. See MATERIALS SUPPLIED and labels for details.

6. Chemicals and prepared or used reagents have to be treated as hazardous waste according the national biohazard safety guidelines or regulations.

7. Avoid contact with Stop solution. It may cause skin irritations and burns.

8. If any component of this kit contains human serum or plasma it is indicated and if so, it has been tested and were found to be negative for HIV I/II, HBsAg and HCV. However, the presence of these or other infectious agents cannot be excluded absolutely and therefore reagents should be treated as potential biohazards in use and for disposal.

9. Some reagents contain preservatives. In case of contact with eyes or skin, flush immediately with water.

Storage and Stability

The kit is shipped at ambient temperature and should be stored at 2-8°C. Keep away from heat or direct sun light. The storage and stability of specimen and prepared reagents is stated in the corresponding chapters. The microtiter strips are stable up to the expiry date of the kit in the broken, but tightly closed bag when stored at 2–8°C.

Kit Components/Materials Provided

Part	Description	Quantity
Microtiter ELISA Plate	Break apart strips coated with anti-Rituximab monoclonal antibody.	1x12x8
Rituximab Standards A-E, Concentrate (10X)	2000; 600; 200; 60; and 0 ng/mL Used for construction of the standard curve. Contains Rituximab, proteins, preservative, stabilizer.	5x0.5 mL
Assay Buffer	Blue colored. Ready to use. Contains proteins, preservative.	1x12 mL
Dilution Buffer, Concentrate (5X)	Contains orange dye, proteins, preservative.	1x60 mL
Enzyme Conjugate	Red colored. Ready to use. Contains horseradish peroxidase(HRP)-conjugated anti-human IgG mouse monoclonal antibody, Proclin® and stabilizers.	1x12 mL
TMB Substrate Solution	Ready to use. Contains 3,3',5,5'-Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB).	1x12 mL
Stop Solution	Ready to use. 1 N Hydrochloric acid (HCl).	1x12 mL
Wash Buffer, Concentrate (20x)	Contains buffer, Tween® 20 and Kathon™.	1x50 mL
Adhesive Seal	For sealing microtiter plate during incubation.	2x1

Required Materials that are not supplied

1. Micropipettes (< 3% CV) and tips to deliver 5-1000 µL.
2. Bidistilled or deionised water and calibrated glasswares (e.g. flasks orcylinders).
3. Wash bottle, automated or semi-automated microtiter plate washing system.
4. Microtiter plate reader capable of reading absorbance at 450 nm (reference wavelength at 600-650 nm is optional).
5. Absorbent paper towels, standard laboratory glass or plastic vials, and a timer.

Handling/Storage
The usual precautions for venipuncture should be observed. It is important to preserve the chemical integrity of a blood specimen from the moment it is collected until it is assayed. Do not use grossly hemolytic, icteric or grossly lipemic specimens. Samples appearing turbid should be centrifuged before testing to remove any particulate material.
Storage: 2-8°C, Stability: 3d
Keep away from heat or direct sun light Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles

Procedural Notes
1. Any improper handling of samples or modification of the test procedure may influence the results. The indicated pipetting volumes, incubation times, temperatures and pre-treatment steps have to be performed strictly according to the instructions. Use calibrated pipettes and devices only.
2. Once the test has been started, all steps should be completed without tinterruption. Make sure that required reagents, materials and devices are prepared readily at the appropriate time. Allow all reagents and specimens to reach room temperature (20-25 °C) and gently swirl each vial of liquid reagent and sample before use. Mix reagents without foaming.
3. Avoid contamination of reagents, pipettes and wells/tubes. Use new disposable plastic pipette tips for each reagent, standard or specimen. Do not interchange the caps of vials. Always cap not used vials. Do not reuse wells or reagents.
4. Use a pipetting scheme to verify an appropriate plate layout.
5. Incubation time affects results. All wells should be handled in the same order and time sequences. It is recommended to use an 8-channel Micropipettor for pipetting of solutions in all wells.
6. Microplate washing is important. Improperly washed wells will give erroneous results. It is recommended to use a multichannel pipette or an automatic microplate washing system. Do not allow the wells to dry between incubations. Do not scratch coated wells during rinsing and aspiration. Rinse and fill all reagents with care. While rinsing, check that all wells are filled precisely with Wash Buffer, and that there are no residues in the wells.
7. Humidity affects the coated wells. Do not open the pouch until it reaches room temperature. Unused wells should be returned immediately to the resealed pouch including the desiccant.

Preparation of Components

Dilute/ dissolve	Component		Diluent	Relation	Remarks	Storage	Stability
10 mL	Wash Buffer	up to 200 mL	Distilled Water	1:20	Warm up at 37°C to dissolve crystals. Mix vigorously.	2-8 °C	4 w
10 mL	Dilution Buffer	up to 50 mL	Distilled Water	1:5		2-8 °C	4 w

Dilutions of Standards and Samples

The dilutions depicted below are examples of how to obtain final dilutions for standards and samples. Standards and samples should be properly diluted as homogenous mixture before starting the assay procedure. It is recommended mixing the standards and samples well to homogenous solution at each dilution step. We are recommending that each laboratory determines the best initial dilution for their samples in order to minimize retesting.

1. 10 µL of standard or sample added to 90 µL of 1X dilution buffer, giving the total volume of 100 µL and a dilution of 1:10.
2. 10 µL of 1:10 diluted sample added to 1990 µL of 1X dilution buffer, giving the total volume of 2000 µL and a final dilution of 1:2000. This 2nd dilution step should not been done with the standards!
3. Samples with a drug concentration above the measuring range should be rated as ">highest standard". The result should not be extrapolated. The sample in question should be further diluted with 1X Dilution Buffer and then retested.

Test Procedure

- Before performing the assay, samples and assay kit should be brought to room temperature (about 30 minutes beforehand) and ensure the homogeneity of the solution.

- All Standards should be run with each series of unknown samples.

- Standards should be subject to the same manipulations and incubation times as the samples being tested.

- All steps of the test should be completed without interruption.

- Use new disposable plastic pipette tips for each reagent, standard or specimen in order to avoid cross contamination.

- The total pipetting time needed for dispensing all samples into the wells should not exceed 5 minutes. If this is difficult to achieve the samples should be pre-dispensed in a separate neutral polypropylene microplate and then transferred into the reaction ELISA plate by a multi channel pipette.

Assay Procedure

1. Pipette **100 µl** of **Assay Buffer** into each of the wells to be used

2. Pipette **75 µL** of each **1:10 Diluted Standard, and 1:2000 Diluted Samples** into the respective wells of the microtiter plate. Bubble formation during the pipetting of standards and samples must be avoided.

Wells	
A1	Standard A
B1	Standard B
C1	Standard C
D1	Standard D
E1	Standard E
F1 and so on	Samples (Serum/Plasma)

3. Cover the plate with adhesive seal. Shake plate carefully by tapping several times. **Incubate the plate on a bench top for 60 min** at **room temperature (RT, 20- 25°C)**.

4. Remove adhesive seal. Aspirate or decant the incubation solution. Wash the plate **5 X 350 µL** of **Diluted Wash Buffer** per well. Remove excess solution by tapping the inverted plate on a paper towel.

5. Pipette **100 µL** of **Enzyme Conjugate** (HRP-anti human IgG mAb) into each well.

6. Cover plate with adhesive seal. Shake plate carefully by tapping several times. **Incubate the plate on a bench top for 30 min** at RT.

7. Remove adhesive seal. Aspirate or decant the incubation solution. Wash the plate **5 X 350 µL** of **Diluted Wash Buffer** per well. Remove excess solution by tapping the inverted plate on a paper towel.

8. Pipette **100 µL** of Ready-to-Use **TMB** Substrate Solution into each well.

9. **Incubate 10 min** at RT. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight.

10. Stop the substrate reaction by adding **100 µL** of **Stop Solution** into each well. Briefly mix contents by gently shaking the plate. Color changes from blue to yellow.

11. Measure optical density (OD) with a photometer at **450 nm** (Reference at OD620 nm is optional) within **15 min** after pipetting the Stop Solution.

Quality Control
The test results are only valid if the test has been performed following the instructions. Moreover the user must strictly adhere to the rules of GLP (Good Laboratory Practice) or other applicable standards/laws. All standards/controls must be found within the acceptable ranges as stated above and/or label. If the criteria are not met, the run is not valid and should be repeated. In case of any deviation, the following technical issues should be reviewed: Expiration dates of (prepared) reagents, storage conditions, pipettes, devices, incubation conditions and washing methods.

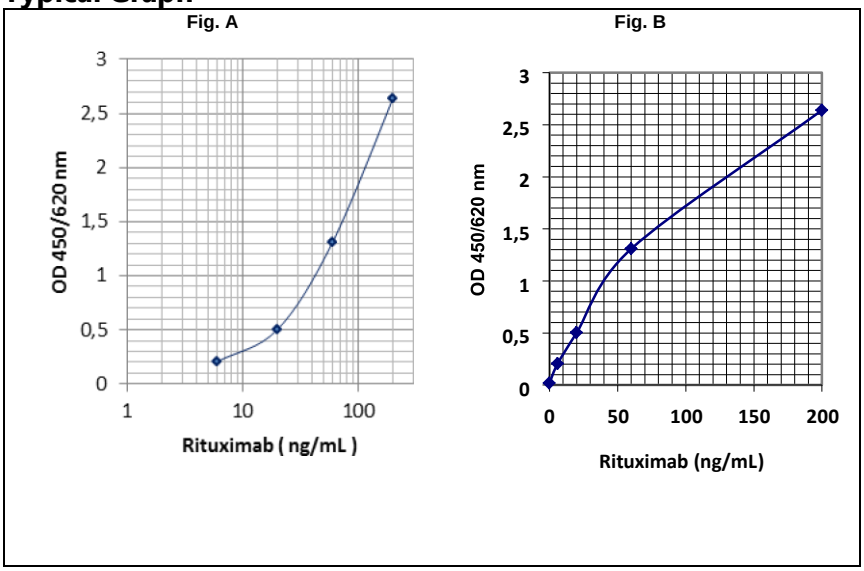
Calculations of Results

A standard curve should be constructed using the standard concentration (X-axis) versus the OD450 (or OD450/620) values (Y-axis). This can be done manually using graph paper or with a computer program. Concerning the data regression by computer, it is recommended to primarily use the "4 Parameter Logistic (4PL)" or alternatively the "point-to-point calculation". In case of manual plot there are 2 options: Semilog graph (see Fig. A) or linear graph (see Fig. B). Semilog graph paper is available at http://www.papersnake.com/logarithmic/semilogarithmic/. The concentration of the samples can be read from this standard curve as follows. Using the absorbance value for each sample, determine the corresponding concentration of the drug from the standard curve. This value always has to be multiplied by the individual dilution factor (usually 2000). If any diluted sample is reading greater than the highest standard, it should be further diluted appropriately with 1X Dilution Buffer and retested. Also this second dilution has to be used for calculation of the final result. We are recommending that each laboratory determines the best initial dilution for their samples in order to minimize retesting.

Typical Calibration Curve
(All steps were performed at 23°C. Just an example. Do not use it for calculation!)

1:10 Diluted Standard	A	B	C	D	E
Concentration (ng/mL)	200	60	20	6	0
Mean OD450/620 nm	2.640	1.308	0.502	0.204	0.018

Typical Graph



Assay Characteristics

Specificity:
There is no cross reaction with any other proteins present in native human serum. A screening test was performed with 48 different native human sera. All produced OD450/620 nm values less than the mean OD (0.204) of standard D (6 ng/mL). In addition, binding of Rituximab is inhibited by recombinant human CD20 protein. Therefore, the *ImmunoGuide* Rituximab ELISA (mAb-Based) measures the biologically active free form of Rituximab, i.e. not pre-occupied by human CD20 antigen. No cross reaction was observed with sera spiked with the other therapeutic antibodies including Infliximab, Adalimumab, Golimumab, Etanercept, Bevacizumab and Trastuzumab at concentrations up to 500 µg/mL.

Sensitivity:
The lowest detectable level that can be clearly distinguished from the zero standard is 2 ng/mL (zero standard +2SD read from the curve) under the abovedescribed conditions. Analytical sensitivity is 2 ng/mL, and corresponding to the detection limit (limit of quantification) of 4 µg/mL for undiluted clinical samples because the serum or plasma samples are instructed to be diluted at 1:2000 before starting the assay.

Precision:
Intra-assay CV: <10%.
Inter-assay CV: <10%.

Recovery:
Recovery rate was found to be >95% with native human serum and plasma samples when spiked with exogenous Rituximab.

Automation

The *ImmunoGuide* Trastuzumab ELISA (mAb-based) is suitable also for being used by an automated ELISA processor.

References

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