

Immunoglobulin A (IgA) is an antibody that plays a critical role in mucosal immunity. More IgA is produced in mucosal linings than all other types of antibody combined;^[1] between three and five grams are secreted into the intestinal lumen each day.^[2] This accumulates to 75% of the total immunoglobulin produced in the entire body.^[3] IgA has two subclasses (IgA1 and IgA2) and can exist in a dimeric form called secretory IgA (sIgA). In its secretory form, IgA is the main immunoglobulin found in mucous secretions, including tears, saliva, colostrum and secretions from the genitourinary tract, gastrointestinal tract, prostate and respiratory epithelium. It is also found in small amounts in blood. The secretory component of sIgA protects the immunoglobulin from being degraded by proteolytic enzymes, thus sIgA can survive in the harsh gastrointestinal tract environment and provide protection against microbes that multiply in body secretions. IgA is a poor activator of the complement system, and opsonises only weakly. Its heavy chains are of the type α . In the blood, IgA interacts with an Fc receptor called Fc α RI (or CD89), which is expressed on immune effector cells, to initiate inflammatory reactions.^[4] Ligation of FcαRI by IgA containing immune complexes causes antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity (ADCC), degranulation of eosinophils and basophils, phagocytosis by monocytes, macrophages, and neutrophils, and triggering of respiratory burst activity by polymorphonuclear leukocytes.^[4] Polymeric IgA (mainly the secretory dimer) is produced by plasma cells in the lamina propria adjacent to mucosal surfaces. It binds to the polymeric immunoglobulin receptor on the basolateral surface of epithelial cells, and is taken up into the cell via endocytosis. The receptor-IgA complex passes through the cellular compartments before being secreted on the luminal surface of the epithelial cells, still attached to the receptor. Proteolysis of the receptor occurs, and the dimeric IgA molecule, along with a portion of the receptor known as the secretory component, are free to diffuse throughout the lumen. [5] In the gut, it can bind to the mucus layer on top of the epithelial cells to form a barrier capable of neutralizing threats before they reach the cells. Decreased or absent IgA, termed selective IgA deficiency, can be a clinically significant immunodeficiency. Neisseria gonorrhæae (which causes gonorrhea), Streptococcus pneumoniae, and Haemophilus influenzae type B all releases a protease which destroys IgA.

Reference

- 1. S Fagarasan and T Honjo (2003). Nat. Rev. Immunology 3 (1): 63–72.
- 2. P. Brandtzaeg, R. Pabst (2004). Trends Immunology **25** (11): 570–577.
- 3. AJ Macpherson and E Slack. (2007). Curr Opin Gastroenterol. 23 (6): 673–678.
- 4. CS Kaetzel et al. (1991). Vet. Res. 37 (3): 455-67.
- 5. CS Kaetzel et al. (1991) Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 88 (19): 8796–8800.

PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

This is a quick ELISA assay that reduces time to 50% compared to the conventional method, and the entire assay only takes 3 hours. This assay employs the quantitative sandwich enzyme immunoassay technique and uses biotin-streptavidin chemistry to improve the performance of the assays. An antibody specific for Hamster IgA has been pre-coated onto a microplate. Standards and samples are pipetted into the wells and any IgA present is bound by the immobilized antibody. After washing away any unbound substances, a detection antibody specific for Hamster IgA is added to the wells. Following wash to remove any unbound antibody reagent, a detection reagent is added. After intensive wash a substrate solution is added to the wells and color develops in proportion to the amount of IgA bound in the initial step. The color development is stopped, and the intensity of the color is measured.

This package insert must be read in its entirety before using this product.

Storage Store at 4 °C. The kit can be used in 2 years.



MATERIALS PROVIDED

Description	Quantity	Description	Quantity	Description	Quantity
Capture Antibody	1	Detection Antibody	1	Standard	3
CoA	1	DataSheet	1		

Bring all reagents to room temperature before use.

Reagent Preparations

This ELISA MultiSet kit contains sufficient materials for 10 of 96-well plates.

Hamster IgA Capture Antibody (1 vial) – Centrifuge at 6000 x g for 1 min to bring down the material prior to open the vial. Refer to the lot-specific CoA for the amount supplied. Reconstitute the vial with 0.55 mL of PBS. Dilute in PBS without carrier protein to the working concentration indicated on the CoA. Store the vial at -20 °C after reconstitution.

Biotinylated Hamster IgA Detection Antibody (1 vial) – Centrifuge at 6000 x g for 1 min to bring down the material prior to open the vial. Refer to the lot-specific CoA for the amount supplied. Reconstitute the vial with 0.55 mL of PBS. Dilute in PBS to the working concentration indicated on the CoA. Store the vial at -20 °C after reconstitution.

Hamster IGA Standard (3 vials) – The lyophilized Hamster IgA Standard has a total of 3 vials. Each vial contains the standard sufficient for generating 15 standard curves. Refer to the lot-specific CoA for the amount supplied. Centrifuge at 6000 x g for 1 min to bring down the material prior to open the vial. Reconstitute each vial with $200 \mu L$ of Assay Buffer. Prepare $500 \mu L$ of High Standard per plate assayed at the concentration indicated on the CoA with Assay Buffer. A seven-point standard curve is generated using 2-fold serial dilutions in the Assay Buffer, vortex 20 sec for each of dilution step. Store the vial at -20 °C after reconstitution.

Other materials and solutions required but not supplied

- 1. **PBS**, pH 7.3, 137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 8.1 mM Na₂HPO₄, 1.5 mM KH₂PO₄, 0.2 μm filtered.
- 2. Assay Buffer, 0.05% Tween 20 in PBS, pH 7.3.
- 3. Reagent Diluent, 1% bovine serum albumin in PBS, pH 7.3.
- 4. Streptavidin-HRP
- 5. **Substrate Solution**, mixture of H₂O₂ and tetramethylbenzidine.
- 6. Stop Solution, 1 M H₂SO₄.
- 7. 96-well microplates with high binding.



Plate preparation

- 1. Dilute the Capture Antibody to the working concentration in PBS without carrier protein. Immediately coat a 96-well microplate with 100 μL per well of the diluted Capture Antibody and incubate for 2 hours at room temperature.
- 2. Aspirate each well and wash with 300 μL of Assay Buffer per well and remove any remaining Assay Buffer by aspiration or by inverting the plate and blotting it against clean paper towel.
- 3. Blocks plates by adding 150 μ L of Reagent Diluent to each well. Incubate for 1 hour at room temperature.
- 4. Wash the plate as shown in Step 2.

Assay Procedure

- 1. Lift the plate cover and cover the wells that are not used using the strip provided. Vortex briefly the samples prior to the assay. Add 100 μL of **sample** (such as plasma or serum) or **standards** per well and use duplicate wells for each sample. Cover the 96-well plate and incubate **1 hour** at room temperature.
- 2. Aspirate each well and wash with **Assay Buffer**, repeating the process two times for a total of three washes. Wash by filling each well with Assay Buffer (300 μL) using a multi-channel pipette, manifold dispenser or auto-washer. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential for good performance. After the last wash, remove any remaining Assay buffer by aspirating or by inverting the plate and blotting it against clean paper towels.
- 3. Add $100~\mu L$ of the working dilution of Detection Antibody to each well. Cover the plate and incubate 1 hour at room temperature.
- 4. Repeat the aspiration/wash as in step 2.
- 5. Add 100 µL of the **working dilution of Streptavidin-HRP** to each well. Cover the plate and incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature. Avoid placing the plate in direct light.
- 6. Repeat the aspiration/wash as in step 2.
- 7. Add 100 μL of Substrate Solution to each well and observe the color development every 1-2 mins. Incubate for up to 20 minutes (depending on signal. Stop the reaction when it turns to dark blue in the highest standard wells) at room temperature. Over-incubation of the substrate will result in overflow of high standard and thus should be avoided. Avoid placing the plate in direct light.
- 8. When it gets to dark blue in the highest concentration of standard wells, add 50 μL of **Stop Solution** to each well to stop the reaction. Gently tap the plate to ensure thorough mixing.
- 9. Determine the optical density of each well immediately, using a microplate reader set to 450 nm. If wavelength correction is available, set to 540 nm or 570 nm. If wavelength correction is not available, subtract readings at 540 nm or 570 nm from the readings at 450 nm. This subtraction will correct for optical imperfections in the plate. Readings made directly at 450 nm without correction may be higher and less accurate.

Precaution and Technical Notes

- 1. It is critical to follow the procedure step by step otherwise appropriate color development may not occur as expected.
- 2. A standard curve should be generated for each set of samples assayed. Thorough mixing of the standards at each step of the dilutions is critical to ensure a normal standard curve.
- 3. Plasma or serum sample should be diluted with equal volume of 1 x Standard/Sample diluent and vortex for 1 min prior to assay. If the OD value still exceeds the upper limit of the standard curve, further dilution is recommended till it falls in the detection range and the dilution factor must be used for calculation of the concentration.
- 4. It is recommended that all standards and samples be assayed in duplicate.



- 5. This kit should not be used beyond the expiration date on the label.
- 6. A thorough and consistent wash technique is essential for proper assay performance. Assay buffer should be dispensed forcefully and removed completely from the wells by aspiration or decanting. Remove any remaining Assay buffer by aspiration or by inverting the plate and blotting it against clean paper towels.
- 7. Use a fresh reagent reservoir and pipette tips for each step.
- 8. Avoid microbial contamination of reagents and buffers. This may interfere with the sensitivity of the assay.

Calculation of Results

Average the duplicate readings for each standard, control, and sample and subtract the average zero (blank) standard optical density.

Create a standard curve by reducing the data using computer software capable of generating a four-parameter logistic (4-PL) curve-fit. As an alternative, construct a standard curve by plotting the mean absorbance for each standard on the y-axis against the concentration on the x-axis and draw a best fit curve through the points on the graph. The data may be linearized by plotting the log of the IGA concentrations versus the log of the O.D. and the best fit line can be determined by regression analysis. This procedure will produce an adequate but less precise fit of the data. If samples have been diluted, the concentration read from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor.

The Standard Curve

The graph below represents typical data generated when using this Hamster IGA ELISA Kit. The standard curve was calculated using a computer generated 4-PL curve-fit. For this case, a Bio-Rad iMarkTM Microplate Reader and a Microplate Manager 6 Software were used to generate this curve. The correlation coefficient (r²) is 0.999-1.000.

Specificity

The following recombinant Hamster proteins prepared at 10 ng/ml were tested and exhibited no cross-reactivity or interference.

BMP1, BMP2, BMP3, BMP4, IL-2, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IFNγ, TGFβ1, TGFβ2, TGFβ3, TLR1, TLR2, TLR3, TNF-α.

Calibration

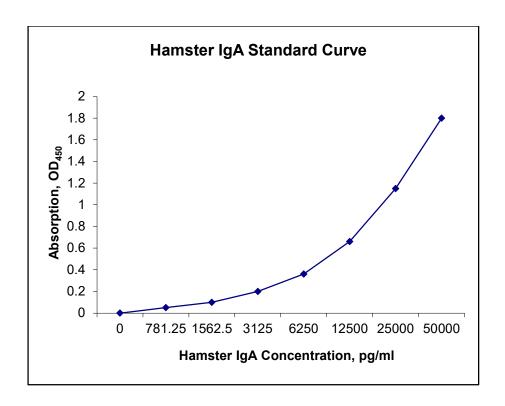
This kit is calibrated against a highly-purified yeast-expressed recombinant Hamster IgA.

Detection Range 0.78-50 ng/ml

Assay Sensitivity 150 pg/ml

Assay Precision Intra-Assay %CV: 7; Inter-Assay %CV: 10





DECLARATION

THIS REAGENT IS FOR IN VITRO LABORATORY TESTING AND RESEARCH USE ONLY. DO NOT USE IT FOR CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS. DO NOT USE OR INJECT IT IN HUMAN AND ANIMALS.

FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY NOT FOR USE IN HUMANS AND ANIMALS



Troubleshooting Guide

Problem Problem	Possible causes	Solution
Poor standard curve	 Inaccurate pipetting Improper standard curve OD₄₅₀ too high for the high standard point 	 Check pipettes Check and use the correct dilution buffer Vortex 30 sec for each of standard dilution steps and vortex again (10 sec) before pipetting to the 96-well plate. Reduce substrate incubation time
Low signal	 Improper preparation of standard, samples, detection antibody, and/or HRP Conjugate Too brief incubation times Inadequate reagent volume or improper dilution 	 Briefly spin down vials before opening. Reconstitute the powder thoroughly. Ensure sufficient incubation time including substrate incubation. Check pipettes and ensure correct preparation.
Overflow in the standards	Substrate incubation too long	 Reduce substrate incubation time. Observe the color development every 1-2 mins. Stop the reaction by adding 50 µl of Stop Solution when it turns to dark blue in the highest concentration of standard wells.
Large CV	 Inaccurate pipetting and mixing Improper standard/sample dilutions. Air bubbles in wells. 	 Check pipettes and ensure thorough mixing. Use the correct dilution buffers Remove bubbles in wells.
High background	Plate is insufficiently washed.Contaminated wash buffer	 Review the datasheet for proper wash. If using a plate washer, ensure that all ports are unobstructed. Make fresh wash buffer
No signal detected	The procedure was misconducted.	 Ensure the step-by-step protocol was correctly followed and no misstep was conducted.
Low sensitivity	 Improper storage of the ELISA kit Stop solution 	 Store standards and detection antibody at -20°C after reconstitution, others at 4°C. Keep substrate protected from light. Adding stop solution to each well before reading plate