



DBS(●)Luteinizing hormone ELISA

RUO

AL-190

INTENDED USE

The Dried Blood Spot Luteinizing hormone (LH) immunosorbent assay (ELISA) kit provides materials for the quantitative measurement of Luteinizing hormone (LH). It is intended for *research use only* as an aid in the diagnosis and monitoring of various hormonal reproductive disorders.

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The DBS LH ELISA is a quantitative three-step sandwich type immunoassay. In the first step Calibrators, Controls and unknown DBS extracted samples are added to LH antibody coated microtiter wells and incubated. After the first incubation and washing, the wells are incubated with biotinylated LH antibody solution. After the second incubation and washing, the wells are incubated with streptavidin horseradish peroxidase conjugate (SHRP) solution. After the third incubation and washing step, the wells are incubated with substrate solution (TMB) followed by an acidic stopping solution. In principle, the antibody-biotin conjugate binds to the solid phase antibody-antigen complex which in turn binds to the streptavidin-enzyme conjugate. The antibody-antigen-biotin conjugate-SHRP complex bound to the well is detected by enzyme-substrate reaction. The degree of enzymatic turnover of the substrate is determined by dual wavelength absorbance measurement at 450 nm as primary test filter and 630 nm as reference filter. The absorbance measured is directly proportional to the concentration of LH in the samples and calibrators.

MATERIALS SUPPLIED

CAL-190A DBS LH Calibrator A

One vial, 1mL, labeled A containing 0 mIU/mL of LH in protein based buffer and Pro-Clean 400. Store at 2-8°C until the expiration date.

CAL-190B - CAL-190F DBS LH Calibrators B thru F

Five vials, 1mL, labeled B-F containing concentrations of approximately 0.2-25 mIU/mL of LH in protein based buffer and Pro-Clean 400. Refer to **calibration card** for exact concentrations. Store unopened at -20°C until the expiration date. Mix well and use. Aliquot and Freeze in plastic vials for multiple use.

CTR-190-I & CTR-190-II DBS LH Controls I & II

Two vials, 1mL, labeled Levels I and II containing low and high LH concentrations in protein based buffer and Pro-Clean 400. Refer to **calibration card** for exact control ranges. Store unopened at -20°C until the expiration date. Mix well and use. Aliquot and Freeze in plastic vials for multiple use.

PLT-188 LH Coated Microtitration Strips

One strip holder, containing 12 strips and 96 microtitration wells with LH antibody immobilized to the inside wall of each well. Store at 2-8°C until expiration date in the resealable pouch with a desiccant to protect from moisture.

ASB-205 AMH/MIS Assay Buffer

One bottle, 12 mL, containing a protein-based (BSA)-buffer with a non-mercury preservative. Store at 2-8°C until expiration date.

BCR-190 DBS LH Biotin Conjugate—Ready-to-Use (RTU)

One bottle, 12 mL, containing LH Antibody-Biotin Conjugate in a protein-based buffer and a non-mercury preservative. Store undiluted at 2-8°C until expiration date.

SAR-190 DBS LH Streptavidin-Enzyme Conjugate-Ready-to-Use (RTU)

One bottle, 12 mL, containing Streptavidin-Enzyme Conjugate in a protein-based buffer and a non-mercury preservative. Store undiluted at 2-8°C until expiration date.

EXB-129 Extraction Buffer/Sample Diluent

One bottle, 45 mL, containing a protein-based (BSA)-buffer with a nonmercury preservative. Store at 2-8°C until expiration date.

Note: Additional bottles of EXB-129, DBS Extraction Buffer / Sample Diluent can be ordered if higher dilution is required.

TMB-100 TMB Chromogen Solution

One bottle, 12 mL, containing a solution of Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) in buffer with hydrogen peroxide. Store at 2-8°C until expiration date.

STP-100 Stopping Solution

One bottle, 12mL, containing 0.2 M sulfuric acid. Store at 2-30°C until expiration date.

WSH-100 Wash Concentrate A

One bottle, 60 mL, containing phosphate buffer saline solution with a nonionic detergent. Store at 2-30°C until expiration date. Dilute 25-fold with deionized water prior to use.

CRD-190 Calibration Card

One lot specific calibration card.

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Microplate reader capable of absorbance measurement at 450 nm, 405 nm and 630 nm.
2. Microplate orbital shaker.
3. Microplate washer.
4. Semi-automated/manual precision pipette to deliver 10–250 μ L.
5. Disposable 12 x 75 mm culture tubes.
6. Tight fitting 12 x 75 mm tube racks.
7. Vortex mixer.
8. Deionized water.
9. Ahlstrom 226 or Whatman 903 (Protein Saver Card)
10. 10. 5/16" (7.9) round puncher. For manual punching Punchline catalog number 53700 from McGill incorporated can be used.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

For Research Use Only.

The following precautions should be observed:

- Follow good laboratory practice.
- Use personal protective equipment. Wear lab coats and disposable gloves when handling immunoassay materials.
- Handle and dispose of all reagents and material in compliance with applicable regulations.

WARNING: Potential Biohazardous Material

This reagent may contain some human source material (e.g. serum) or materials used in conjunction with human source materials. Handle all reagents and patient samples at a Biosafety Level 2, as recommended for any potentially infectious human material in the Centers for Disease Control/National Institutes of Health manual "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories," 5th Edition, 2007¹.

WARNING: Potential Chemical Hazard

Some reagents in this kit contain Pro-Clean 400 and Sodium azide² as a preservative. Pro-Clean 400 and Sodium Azide in concentrated amounts are irritants to skin and mucous membranes.

For further information regarding hazardous substances in the kit, please refer to the MSDS.

SAMPLE COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

Dried blood spot is the recommended sample type.

For Dried Blood Spot Specimens

- Use with capillary blood samples collected and dried on filter paper according to the standard procedures established for blood collection on filter paper.
- Wipe away the first blood drop and apply surface of the first filter paper circle to the next large drop of blood, allowing the blood to fill and completely saturate the circle.
- Never use the front as well as back of the paper to fill the circle.
- Fill at least two circles and if possible all circles with blood.
- After collection, dry the blood impregnated filter papers for 2-4 hours in a horizontal position at room temperature.
- The dried filter paper blood spots should be stored in a low permeability re-sealable pouch at 2-8°C for up to 1 week or frozen at -20°C or lower for up to 3 months.
- The use of desiccant and vacuum packing to protect from moisture is highly recommended.

PROCEDURAL NOTES

- A thorough understanding of this package insert is necessary for successful use of the DBS LH ELISA assay. It is the user's responsibility to validate the assay for their purpose. Accurate results will only be obtained by using precise laboratory techniques and following the package insert.
- A calibration curve must be included with each assay.
- Bring all kit reagents to room temperature (23 ± 2°C) before use. Thoroughly mix the reagents before use by gentle inversion. Do not mix various lots of any kit component and do not use any component beyond the expiration date.
- Use a clean disposable pipette tip for each reagent, calibrator, control or sample. Avoid microbial contamination of reagents, contamination of the substrate solutions with the HRP conjugates. The enzyme used as the label is inactivated by oxygen, and is highly sensitive to microbial contamination, Sodium Azide, Hypochlorous acid and aromatic Chlorohydrocarbons often found in laboratory water supplies. Use deionized water.
- Incomplete washing will adversely affect the outcome and assay precision. To minimize potential assay drift due to variation in the

substrate incubation time, care should be taken to add the substrate solution into the wells. Avoid exposure of the reagents to excessive heat or direct sunlight during storage and incubation.

PREPARATION OF REAGENTS

- DBS LH Calibrators B-F and DBS LH Controls I & II:** Tap and reconstitute DBS LH Calibrator B-F and DBS LH Controls I & II each with 1 mL deionized water. Solubilize, mix well and use after reconstitution.
- Wash Solution:** Dilute wash concentrate 25-fold with deionized water. The wash solution is stable for one month at room temperature (23 ± 2°C) when stored in a tightly sealed bottle.
- Microtitration Wells:** Select the number of coated wells required for the assay. The remaining unused wells should be placed in the resealable pouch with a desiccant. The pouch must be resealed to protect from moisture.

DBS EXTRACTION PROCEDURE

Extraction of LH from dried blood spots should be performed on the same day prior to testing.

NOTE: All blood spots should be inspected for quality.

- Do not use spots if the circle is not filled and impregnated with blood.
 - Do not use irregular shaped spots, spots that are not impregnated throughout, or spots with multiple spotting.
 - Do not use spots that have not been properly dried.
- Label two 12 x 75 culture tubes for each unknown dried blood sample.
 - Punch out **two filter paper discs (7.9 mm)**, impregnated with the unknown dried blood specimen, onto a clean surface and transfer the discs using clean tweezers into the corresponding tube.
 - Alternatively, punch out the paper disc directly into the culture tube using the commercially available automated punchers.
 - Add **450 µL of the Extraction Buffer** to each tube, vortex well.
 - Place the tubes in a tight-fitting tube rack and incubate the tubes, shaking at a slow speed (500 - 600 rpm) at room temperature for 60 minutes.
 - Transfer the liquid from one tube into the corresponding second labeled tube. Leave the blood spot in the initial tube.
 - The blood extract is now ready for analysis.
 - The extracted sample (without the extracted blood spot) is stable for up to 7 days at -20°C.
 - Use the **calibrator assignment for two spots** as mentioned in the calibration card for plotting the calibration curve.
Note: In case only one spot is available, add one disc in step 2 of DBS extraction procedure and follow the same steps 1-7. Use the calibrator assignment for one spot as mentioned in the calibration card for plotting the calibration curve. Do not alter the procedure (volume of extraction buffer) to extract the dried blood spots.

ASSAY PROCEDURE

Allow all specimens and reagents to reach room temperature (23 ± 2°C) and mix thoroughly by gentle inversion before use. Calibrators, controls, and unknowns should be assayed in duplicate.

NOTE: All DBS samples reading higher than the highest calibrator should be mixed and diluted in the DBS Extraction Buffer / Sample Diluent prior to assay.

- Label the microtitration strips to be used.
- Pipette **10 µL** of the reconstituted Calibrators and Controls to the appropriate wells and add **100 µL** of the AMH/MIS Assay Buffer to calibrators and controls wells using a repeater pipette.
- Pipette **60 µL** of the extracted DBS samples (see DBS extraction procedure) to the appropriate wells and add **50 µL** of the AMH/MIS Assay Buffer to extracted DBS samples wells using a repeater pipette.
- Incubate the plate, shaking at a fast speed (**600-800 rpm**) on an orbital microplate shaker, for **60 minutes** at room temperature (23 ± 2°C).

- Aspirate and wash each strip **5 times** with Washing Solution (**350 μL /per well**) using an automatic microplate washer.
- Add **100 μL** of the DBS LH Biotin conjugate RTU solution to each well using a repeater pipette.
- Incubate the wells, shaking at 600–800 rpm on an orbital microplate shaker, for **60 minutes** at room temperature ($23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$).
- Aspirate and wash each well 5 times (350 μL per well) with the wash solution using an automatic microplate washer.
- Add **100 μL** of the Streptavidin-Enzyme Conjugate-RTU to each well using a repeater pipette.
- Incubate the wells, shaking at 600–800 rpm on an orbital microplate shaker, for **30 minutes** at room temperature ($23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$).
- Aspirate and wash each well 5 times (350 μL per well) with the wash solution using an automatic microplate washer.
- Add **100 μL** of the TMB chromogen solution to each well using a repeater pipette. Avoid direct exposure to heat and sunlight.
- Incubate the wells, shaking at 600–800 rpm on an orbital microplate shaker, for **8-12 min** at room temperature ($23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$).
NOTE: Visually monitor the color development to optimize the incubation time.
- Add **100 μL** of the Stopping solution to each well using a repeater pipette.
- Read the absorbance of the solution in the wells within 20 minutes, using a microplate reader set to 450 nm.

NOTE: Zero calibrator should be programmed as “Blank” while reading the optical density. If instrument has a wavelength correction, set the instrument to dual wavelength measurement at **450 nm** with background wavelength correction at **630 nm**.

RESULTS

NOTE: The results in this package insert were calculated by plotting the **log optical density (OD) data on the y-axis and log LH concentration on X-axis** using a cubic regression curve-fit. Alternatively, **log vs. log quadratic regression curve-fit** can be used. Other data reduction methods may give slightly different results.

- Optimum results can be obtained at incubation temperature of **$23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$** .
- Calculate the mean OD for each calibrator, control, or Unknown.
- Plot the log of the mean OD readings for each of the Calibrators along the y-axis versus log of the LH concentrations in mIU/mL along the x-axis, using a cubic regression curve-fit.
- Determine the LH concentrations of the Controls and unknowns from the calibration curve by matching their mean OD readings with the corresponding LH concentrations.
- Any sample reading higher than the highest Calibrator should be appropriately diluted with the DBS Extraction Buffer / Sample Diluent and re-assayed.
- Any sample reading lower than the analytical sensitivity should be reported as such.
- Multiply the specimen concentration obtained in the assay by a dilution factor, if required.

LIMITATIONS

The reagents supplied in this kit are optimized to measure LH levels in human DBS. If there is evidence of microbial contamination or excessive turbidity in a reagent, discard the vial. For assays employing antibodies, the possibility exists for interference by heterophile antibodies in the samples⁴.

The DBS LH ELISA results should be interpreted with respect to the total clinical presentation of the patient, including: symptoms, clinical history, data from additional tests, and other appropriate patient examination information.

QUALITY CONTROL

- Each laboratory should establish mean values and acceptable ranges to assure proper performance.
- DBS LH ELISA controls or other commercial controls should fall within established confidence limits.
- The confidence limits for LH controls are printed on the **Calibration card**.
- A full calibration curve, low and high-level controls, should be included in each assay.
- TMB should be colorless. Development of any color may indicate reagent contamination or instability.

REPRESENTATIVE CALIBRATION CURVE DATA

Well Number	Well Contents	Mean OD	Conc (mIU/mL)
Calibrators			
A1, A2	A	0.029 (Blank)	0
B1, B2	B	0.059	0.32
C1, C2	C	0.16	0.96
D1, D2	D	0.58	3.84
E1, E2	E	1.64	11.52
F1, F2	F	3.5	28.16

CAUTION: The above data must not be employed in lieu of data obtained by the user in the laboratory.

ANALYTICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Analytical Sensitivity:

The analytical sensitivity in the assay as calculated by the interpolation of mean plus two standard deviation of 16 replicates of calibrator A (0 mIU/mL) and calibrator B (0.32 mIU/mL) is 0.02 mIU/mL.

Linearity:

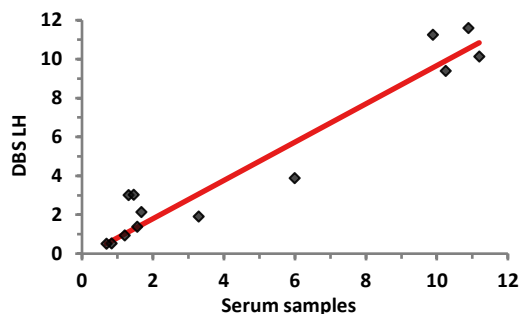
Calibrator F and three serum samples containing various LH levels were diluted with calibrator A. The % recovery on individual samples is represented in the following table.

Sample ID	Dilution factor	Expected Value in mIU/mL	Observed Value in mIU/mL	%Recovery
Cal F	NEAT VALUE	8.8	NA	NA
	2	4.4	4.21	96%
	4	2.2	2.13	97%
	8	1.1	1.07	97%
	16	0.55	0.52	95%
	32	0.28	0.28	100%
1	NEAT VALUE	8.62	NA	NA
	2	4.31	4.54	105%
	4	2.15	2.31	107%
	8	1.08	1.15	107%
	16	0.54	0.58	108%
	32	0.27	0.29	107%
2	2	7.78	NA	NA
	4	3.89	3.85	99%
	8	1.95	1.97	101%
	16	0.97	0.99	101%
	32	0.49	0.49	100%
	64	0.24	0.25	103%
3	2	5.63	NA	NA
	4	2.82	2.78	99%
	8	1.41	1.041	100%
	8	0.70	0.72	102%
	16	0.35	0.35	100%
	32	0.18	0.17	97%

Sample Type:

Fourteen matched serum specimens in range of 0.7-11 mIU/mL were compared with dried blood spot in LH ELISA Assay (AL-190).

Passing-Bablok analysis of the results yielded the following regression: DBS LH = 0.984 (Serum Sample) – 0.169, $r = 0.98$.

**REFERENCES**

1. HHS Publication, 5th ed., 2007. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories. Available <http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmbl5/BMML5>
2. DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 78-127, August 1976. Current Intelligence Bulletin 13 - Explosive Azide Hazard. Available <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh>.
3. Approved Guideline – Procedures for the Handling and Processing of Blood Specimens, H18-A3. 2004. Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute.
4. Kricka L. Interferences in immunoassays – still a threat. Clin Chem 2000; 46: 1037–1038.

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