

ab108767 – Anti-Rubella virus IgG Human ELISA Kit

Instructions for Use

For the quantitative measurement of IgG class antibodies against Rubella virus in Human serum and plasma (citrate).

This product is for research use only and is not intended for diagnostic use.

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1. **BACKGROUND**

Abcam's anti-Rubella virus IgG Human *in vitro* ELISA (Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay) kit is designed for the accurate quantitative measurement of IgG class antibodies against Rubella virus in Human serum and plasma.

A 96-well plate has been precoated with Rubella virus antigens to bind cognate antibodies. Controls or test samples are added to the wells and incubated. Following washing, a horseradish peroxidase (HRP) labelled anti-Human IgG conjugate is added to the wells, which binds to the immobilized Rubella virus-specific antibodies. TMB is then catalyzed by the HRP to produce a blue color product that changes to yellow after adding an acidic stop solution. The density of yellow coloration is directly proportional to the amount of Rubella virus IgG sample captured in plate.

Rubella is an enveloped RNA virus belonging to the Togaviridae family. It has a spherical shape measuring about 50-80 nm in diameter. There appears to be only one antigenic type, and no cross-reactivity with alpha viruses or other members of the toga virus family has been found. Rubella viruses are pathogens of the respiratory tract, transmitted mainly by droplet infection. Rubella is a worldwide common contagious disease with mild symptoms and a generalized rash. In childhood, it is an inconsequential illness, but, when it occurs during pregnancy, there is a significant risk of severe damage to the foetus.

The risk of congenital rubella depends primarily on the month of pregnancy in which infection is acquired. Approximately 16% of infected foetuses will have major defects at birth following maternal rubella in the first 3 months of pregnancy. Congenital rubella infection may lead to a syndrome with single or multiple organ involvements, known as congenital rubella syndrome. In some cases infection is unapparent but results in problems such as eye defects, deafness, growth retardation, and others. Naturally acquired immunity is usually long-lasting, but reinfection is possible due to decreasing levels of circulating antibodies. For immunization, a vaccine containing live virus is used.

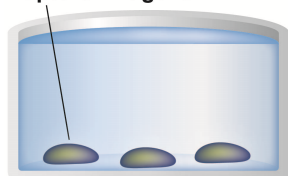
| Species | Disease | Symptoms | Mechanism of Infection |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Rubella Virus | Acquired rubella (German measles) | Generalized rash (fever, nausea) | Transmission by close person-to-person contact, spread most probably by droplets via the respiratory tract. |
| | Congenital rubella syndrome | Cardiovascular lesions, eye defects, hearing impairment, CNS involvement and others | Foetal infection: transmission in the blood during maternal viremia |

Infection may be identified by

- Detection of virus by PCR (prenatal)
- Hemagglutination inhibition (HAI), Haemolysis-in-gel test (HiG)
- Detection of antibodies by EIA, ELISA

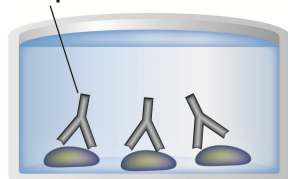
2. ASSAY SUMMARY

Capture Antigens



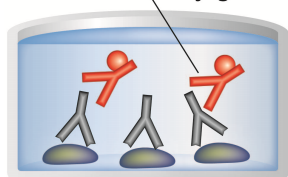
Prepare all reagents, samples and controls as instructed.

Sample



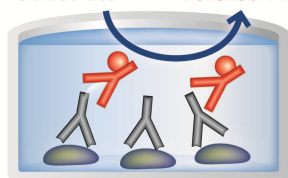
Add samples and controls to wells used. Incubate at 37°C.

Labeled HRP-Conjugate



Wash each well and add prepared labeled HRP-Conjugate. Incubate at room temperature.

Substrate Colored Product



After washing, add TMB substrate solution to each well. Incubate at room temperature. Add Stop Solution to each well. Read immediately.

3. PRECAUTIONS

Please read these instructions carefully prior to beginning the assay.

All kit components have been formulated and quality control tested to function successfully as a kit. Modifications to the kit components or procedures may result in loss of performance.

4. STORAGE AND STABILITY

Store kit at 2-8°C immediately upon receipt.

Refer to list of materials supplied for storage conditions of individual components. Observe the storage conditions for individual prepared components in section 9. Reagent Preparation.

5. MATERIALS SUPPLIED

| Item | Amount | Storage Condition (Before Preparation) |
|--|----------|--|
| Rubella virus (IgG) Coated Microplate (12 x 8 wells) | 96 Wells | 2-8°C |
| IgG Sample Diluent*** | 100 mL | 2-8°C |
| Stop Solution | 15 mL | 2-8°C |
| 20X Washing Solution* | 50 mL | 2-8°C |
| Rubella virus anti-IgG HRP Conjugate** | 20 mL | 2-8°C |
| TMB Substrate Solution | 15 mL | 2-8°C |
| Rubella virus IgG Standard A – 0 U/mL*** | 2 mL | 2-8°C |
| Rubella virus IgG Standard B – 10 U/mL*** | 2 mL | 2-8°C |
| Rubella virus IgG Standard C – 50 U/mL*** | 2 mL | 2-8°C |
| Rubella virus IgG Standard D – 100 U/mL*** | 2 mL | 2-8°C |

* Contains 0.1 % Bronidox L after dilution

** Contains 0.2 % Bronidox L

*** Contains 0.1 % Kathon

6. MATERIALS REQUIRED, NOT SUPPLIED

These materials are not included in the kit, but will be required to successfully utilize this assay:

- Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 nm or 620 nm
- Incubator at 37°C
- Multi and single channel pipettes to deliver volumes between 10 and 1,000 µL
- Optional: Automatic plate washer for rinsing wells
- Vortex tube mixer
- Deionised or (freshly) distilled water
- Disposable tubes
- Timer

7. LIMITATIONS

- ELISA kit intended for research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures
- All components of Human origin used for the production of these reagents have been tested for anti-HIV antibodies, anti-HCV antibodies and HBsAg and have been found to be non-reactive. Nevertheless, all materials should still be regarded and handled as potentially infectious
- Use only clean pipette tips, dispensers, and lab ware.
- Do not interchange screw caps of reagent vials to avoid cross-contamination
- Close reagent vials tightly immediately after use to avoid evaporation and microbial contamination
- After first opening and subsequent storage check conjugate and control vials for microbial contamination prior to further use

- To avoid cross-contamination and falsely elevated results pipette patient samples and dispense conjugate without splashing accurately to the bottom of wells

8. TECHNICAL HINTS

- Avoid foaming or bubbles when mixing or reconstituting components
- Avoid cross contamination of samples or reagents by changing tips between sample, standard and reagent additions.
- Ensure plates are properly sealed or covered during incubation steps
- Complete removal of all solutions and buffers during wash steps is necessary for accurate measurement readings
- **This kit is sold based on number of tests. A ‘test’ simply refers to a single assay well. The number of wells that contain sample, control or standard will vary by product. Review the protocol completely to confirm this kit meets your requirements. Please contact our Technical Support staff with any questions**

9. REAGENT PREPARATION

Equilibrate all reagents, samples and controls to room temperature (18-25°C) prior to use.

9.1 1X Washing Solution

Prepare 1X Washing Solution by diluting 20X Washing Solution with deionized water. To make 200 mL 1X Washing Solution combine 10 mL 20X Washing Solution with 190 mL deionized water. Mix thoroughly and gently.

- All other solutions are supplied ready to use

10. SAMPLE COLLECTION AND STORAGE

- Use Human serum or plasma (citrate) samples with this assay. If the assay is performed within 5 days of sample collection, the specimen should be kept at 2-8°C; otherwise it should be aliquoted and stored deep-frozen (-20 to -80°C). If samples are stored frozen, mix thawed samples well before testing.

Avoid repeated freezing and thawing.

Heat inactivation of samples is not recommended

11. SAMPLE PREPARATION

- Before assaying, all samples should be diluted 1:100 with IgG Sample Diluent. Add 10 µL sample to 1 mL IgG Sample Diluent to obtain a 1:100 dilution. Mix gently and thoroughly.

12. PLATE PREPARATION

- The 96 well plate strips included with this kit are supplied ready to use. It is not necessary to rinse the plate prior to adding reagents
- Unused well strips should be returned to the plate packet and stored at 4°C
- For each assay performed, a minimum of 1 well must be used as a blank, omitting sample and conjugate from well addition
- For statistical reasons, we recommend each standard and sample should be assayed with a minimum of two replicates (duplicates)

13. ASSAY PROCEDURE

- **Equilibrate all materials and prepared reagents to room temperature prior to use.**
- **Please read the test protocol carefully before performing the assay. Reliability of results depends on strict adherence to the test protocol as described.**
- **If performing the test on ELISA automatic systems we recommend increasing the washing steps from three to five and the volume of washing solution from 300 μ L to 350 μ L to avoid washing effects.**
- **Assay all standards, controls and samples in duplicate.**
 - 13.1. Prepare all reagents, standards, and samples as directed in the previous sections.
 - 13.2. Remove excess microplate strips from the plate frame, return them to the foil pouch containing the desiccant pack, reseal and return to 4°C storage.
 - 13.3. Add 100 μ L of each standard and diluted samples into appropriate wells. Leave one well for substrate blank.
 - 13.4. Cover wells with the foil supplied in the kit and incubate for 1 hour at 37°C.
 - 13.5. Remove the foil, aspirate the contents of the wells and wash each well three times with 300 μ L of 1X Washing Solution. Avoid spill over into neighboring wells. The soak time between each wash cycle should be >5 sec. After the last wash, remove the remaining 1X Washing Solution by aspiration or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against clean paper towels to remove excess liquid.

Note: Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential for good assay performance.
 - 13.6. Add 100 μ L Rubella virus anti-IgG HRP Conjugate into all wells except for the blank well. Cover with foil.
 - 13.7. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature. Do not expose to direct sunlight.

- 13.8. Repeat step 13.5.
- 13.9. Add 100 μ L TMB Substrate Solution into all wells
- 13.10. Incubate for exactly 15 minutes at room temperature in the dark.
- 13.11. Add 100 μ L Stop Solution into all wells in the same order and at the same rate as for the TMB Substrate Solution.
Note: Any blue color developed during the incubation turns into yellow.
- 13.12. Highly positive samples can cause dark precipitates of the chromogen. These precipitates have an influence when reading the optical density. Predilution of the sample with PBS for example 1:1, is recommended. Then dilute the sample 1:100 with IgG Sample Diluent and multiply the results in Standard Units by 2 (See Section 14. Calculations.)
- 13.13. Measure the absorbance of the specimen at 450 nm within 30 minutes of addition of the Stop Solution.
Dual wavelength reading using 620 nm as reference wavelength is recommended.

14. CALCULATIONS

In order for an assay to be considered valid, the following criteria must be met:

- **Substrate blank:** Absorbance value < **0.100**
- **Standard A:** Absorbance value < **0.200**
- **Standard B:** Absorbance value > **0.200**
- **Standard C:** Absorbance value > **0.700**
- **Standard D:** Absorbance value > **1.100**

Standard A < Standard B < Standard C < Standard D

If these criteria are not met, the test is not valid and must be repeated.

Calculation of Results

Calculate the mean background subtracted absorbance for each point of the standard curve and each sample. Plot the mean value of absorbance of the standards against concentration. Draw the best-fit curve through the plotted points. (e. g.: Four Parameter Logistic).

Interpolate the values of the samples on the standard curve to obtain the corresponding values of the concentrations expressed in U/mL.

Interpretation of Results

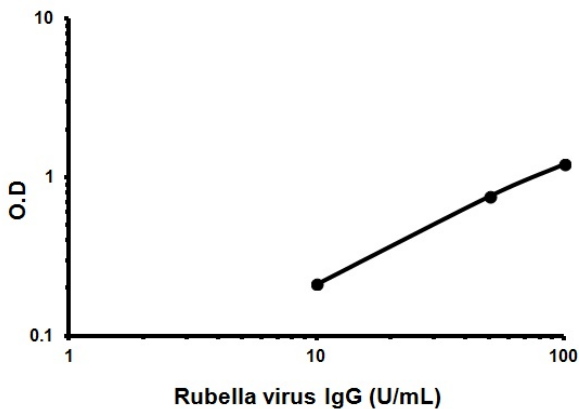
Normal value ranges for this ELISA should be established by each researcher.

The following values should be considered as a guideline only.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Reactive | > 15 U/mL |
| Inconclusive (grey zone): | 10 - 15 U/mL |
| Non reactive: | < 10 U/mL |

15. TYPICAL DATA

TYPICAL STANDARD CURVE – Data provided for demonstration purposes only. A new standard curve must be generated for each assay performed.



| Conc. (U/mL) | O.D |
|-----------------|-------|
| 0 | 0.066 |
| 10 | 0.212 |
| 50 | 0.756 |
| 100 | 1.200 |

16. TYPICAL SAMPLE VALUES

PRECISION –

| | Intra-Assay | | |
|----------|-------------|------|------|
| Standard | B | C | D |
| n= | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Mean | 0.54 | 1.73 | 2.34 |
| %CV | 7.9 | 3.4 | 2.5 |

| | Inter-Assay | | |
|----------|-------------|------|------|
| Standard | B | C | D |
| n= | 8 | 6 | 6 |
| Mean | 0.50 | 1.64 | 2.19 |
| %CV | 7.6 | 4.6 | 6.3 |

17. ASSAY ANALYTICAL SPECS

SPECIFICITY -

The specificity is > 98 % and is defined as the probability of the assay scoring negative in the absence of the specific analyte.

SENSITIVITY -

The sensitivity is > 98 % and is defined as the probability of the assay scoring positive in the presence of the specific analyte.

The concentration of the analyte that can be distinguished from the zero calibrator is 1 U/mL.

18. INTERFERENCES

Interferences with hemolytic, lipemic or icteric sera are not observed up to a concentration of 10 mg/mL hemoglobin, 5 mg/mL triglycerides and 0.5 mg/mL bilirubin.

19. TROUBLESHOOTING

| Problem | Cause | Solution |
|------------|--|--|
| Low signal | Incubation time too short | Try overnight incubation at 4 °C |
| | Precipitate can form in wells upon substrate addition when concentration of target is too high | Increase dilution factor of sample |
| | Using incompatible sample type (e.g. serum vs. cell extract) | Detection may be reduced or absent in untested sample types |
| | Sample prepared incorrectly | Ensure proper sample preparation/dilution |
| Large CV | Bubbles in wells | Ensure no bubbles present prior to reading plate |
| | All wells not washed equally/thoroughly | Check that all ports of plate washer are unobstructed/wash wells as recommended |
| | Incomplete reagent mixing | Ensure all reagents/master mixes are mixed thoroughly |
| | Inconsistent pipetting | Use calibrated pipettes & ensure accurate pipetting |
| | Inconsistent sample preparation or storage | Ensure consistent sample preparation and optimal sample storage conditions (e.g. minimize freeze/thaws cycles) |

RESOURCES

| Problem | Cause | Solution |
|-----------------|--|--|
| High background | Wells are insufficiently washed | Wash wells as per protocol recommendations |
| | Contaminated wash buffer | Make fresh wash buffer |
| | Waiting too long to read plate after adding stop solution | Read plate immediately after adding stop solution |
| Low sensitivity | Improper storage of ELISA kit | Store all reagents as recommended. Please note all reagents may not have identical storage requirements. |
| | Using incompatible sample type (e.g. Serum vs. cell extract) | Detection may be reduced or absent in untested sample types |

20. NOTES

UK, EU and ROW

Email: technical@abcam.com | Tel: +44-(0)1223-696000

Austria

Email: wissenschaftlicherdienst@abcam.com | Tel: 019-288-259

France

Email: supportscientifique@abcam.com | Tel: 01-46-94-62-96

Germany

Email: wissenschaftlicherdienst@abcam.com | Tel: 030-896-779-154

Spain

Email: soportecientifico@abcam.com | Tel: 911-146-554

Switzerland

Email: technical@abcam.com

Tel (Deutsch): 0435-016-424 | Tel (Français): 0615-000-530

US and Latin America

Email: us.technical@abcam.com | Tel: 888-77-ABCAM (22226)

Canada

Email: ca.technical@abcam.com | Tel: 877-749-8807

China and Asia Pacific

Email: hk.technical@abcam.com | Tel: 400 921 0189 / +86 21 2070 0500

Japan

Email: technical@abcam.co.jp | Tel: +81-(0)3-6231-0940

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