

Manual

IDK[®] α₁-Antitrypsin ELISA

For the determination of α_1 -antitrypsin in stool

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IDK® α,-antitrypsin

1. INTENDED USE

This Immundiagnostik AG assay is an enzyme immunoassay intended for the quantitative determination of α ,-antitrypsin in stool.

For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

2. INTRODUCTION

In serum, α_1 -antitrypsin represents the majority of serine protease inhibitors and protects tissues from protease damages during inflammation. The protein is synthesised primarily in the liver but also to a small extent in intestinal macrophages, monocytes, and intestinal epithelial cells. Since α_1 -antitrypsin is relatively resistent against enzymatic digestion, the secreted amount in stool reflects the internal concentration of the protein. An elevated α_1 -antitrypsin stool concentration is therefore a widely recognised marker for intestinal protein loss and for an increased mucosal permeability.

3. MATERIAL SUPPLIED

Cat. No.	Label	Kit components	Quantity
KR6750	KR6750 PLATE Microtiter plate, pre-coated		12 x 8 wells
KR0001.C.100	0001.C.100 WASHBUF Wash buffer concentrate, 10 x		2 x 100 ml
KR6750	CR6750 CONJ Conjugate concentrate, (goat-anti- α_1 -antitrypsin, peroxidase-labelled)		1 x 200 μl
KR6750	KR6750 STD Standards, lyophilised (0; 3.3; 10; 30; 90 µg/l)		2 x 5 vials
KR6750	CTRL1	Control, lyophilised (see specification for range)	2 x 1 vial
KR6750	CTRL2	Control, lyophilised (see specification for range)	2 x 1 vial
KR0002.15	SUB	Substrate (tetramethylbenzidine), ready-to-use	1 x 15 ml
KR0003.15	STOP	Stop solution, ready-to-use	1 x 15 ml
KR6999.C.100	.100 IDK Extract® Extraction buffer concent IDK Extract® 2.5x		2 x 100 ml

For reorders of single components, use the catalogue number followed by the label as product number.

^{*} The used standards have been calibrated on the WHO reference material CRM 470.

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4. MATERIAL REQUIRED BUT NOT SUPPLIED

- Ultrapure water*
- Calibrated precision pipettors and 10–1000 µl single-use tips
- Foil to cover the microtiter plate
- Horizontal microtiter plate shaker
- Multi-channel pipets or repeater pipets
- Vortex
- Standard single-use laboratory glass or plastic vials, cups, etc.
- Microtiter plate reader (required filters see chapter 7)
 - * Immundiagnostik AG recommends the use of ultrapure water (water type 1; ISO 3696), which is free of undissolved and colloidal ions and organic molecules (free of particles $> 0.2 \,\mu\text{m}$) with an electrical conductivity of $0.055 \,\mu\text{S/cm}$ at $25 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($\geq 18.2 \,\text{M}\Omega\,\text{cm}$).

5. STORAGE AND PREPARATION OF REAGENTS

- To run the assay more than once, ensure that reagents are stored at the conditions stated on the label. Prepare only the appropriate amount necessary for each run. The kit can be used up to 4 times within the expiry date stated on the label.
- Reagents with a volume less than 100 μl should be centrifuged before use to avoid loss of volume.
- Preparation of the wash buffer: The wash buffer concentrate (WASHBUF) has to be diluted with ultrapure water 1:10 before use (100 ml WASHBUF + 900 ml ultrapure water), mix well. Crystals could occur due to high salt concentration in the concentrate. Before dilution, the crystals have to be redissolved at room temperature or in a water bath at 37 °C. The WASHBUF is stable at 2–8 °C until the expiry date stated on the label. Wash buffer (1:10 diluted WASHBUF) can be stored in a closed flask at 2–8 °C for 1 month.
- Preparation of the extraction buffer: The extraction buffer concentrate IDK Extract® has to be diluted with ultrapure water 1:2.5 before use (100 ml IDK Extract® + 150 ml ultrapure water), mix well. Crystals could occur due to high salt concentration in the concentrate. Before dilution, the crystals have to be redissolved at 37°C in a water bath. The IDK Extract® is stable at 2-8°C until the expiry date stated on the label. Extraction buffer (1:2.5 diluted IDK Extract®) can be stored in a closed flask at 2-8°C for 4 months.
- The lyophilised standards (STD) and controls (CTRL) are stable at 2–8°C until the expiry date stated on the label. Before use, the STD and CTRL have to be reconstituted with 500 µl of ultrapure water and mixed by gentle inversion to ensure complete reconstitution. Allow the vial content to dissolve for

10 minutes and then mix thoroughly. **Standards and controls** (reconstituted STD and CTRL) **can be stored at 2–8 °C for 4 weeks.**

- Preparation of the conjugate: Before use, the conjugate concentrate (CONJ) has to be diluted 1:101 in wash buffer (100 µl CONJ + 10 ml wash buffer). The CONJ is stable at 2–8 °C until the expiry date stated on the label. Conjugate (1:101 diluted CONJ) is not stable and cannot be stored.
- All other test reagents are ready-to-use. Test reagents are stable until the expiry date (see label) when stored at 2–8 °C.

6. STORAGE AND PREPARATION OF SAMPLES

Storage

The sample stability is as follows:

Raw stool: 3 days at room temperature (15–30 °C), 3 days at 2–8 °C or at least 4 weeks at -20 °C

Stool extracts: 9 days at room temperature, 2–8 °C or -20 °C, maximum 3 freezethaw cycles

Extraction of the stool samples

Extraction buffer (1:2.5 diluted *IDK Extract*®) is used as a sample extraction buffer. We recommend the following sample preparation:

Stool Sample Application System (SAS) (Cat. No.: KR6998SAS)

Stool sample tube – Instructions for use

Please note that the dilution factor of the final stool suspension depends on the amount of stool sample used and the volume of the buffer.

SAS with 1.5 ml sample extraction buffer:

Applied amount of stool: 15 mg
Buffer Volume: 1.5 ml
Dilution Factor: 1:100

Please follow the instructions for the preparation of stool samples using the SAS as follows:

a) The raw stool sample has to be thawed. For particularly heterogeneous samples we recommend a mechanical homogenisation using an applicator, inoculation loop or similar device.

b) Fill the **empty stool sample tube** with 1.5 ml **sample extraction buffer** (1:2.5 diluted *IDK Extract*®) before using it with the sample. **Important:** Allow the sample extraction buffer to reach room temperature.

- c) Unscrew the tube (yellow part of cap) to open. Insert the yellow dipstick into the sample. The lower part of the dipstick has notches which need to be covered completely with stool after inserting it into the sample. Place dipstick back into the tube. When putting the stick back into the tube, excess material will be stripped off, leaving 15 mg of sample to be diluted. Screw tightly to close the tube.
- d) Vortex the tube well until no stool sample remains in the notches. **Important:** Please make sure that you have a maximally homogenous suspension after shaking. Especially with more solid samples, soaking the sample in the tube with sample extraction buffer for ~ 10 minutes improves the result.
- e) Allow sample to stand for ~10 minutes until sediment has settled. Floating material like shells of grains can be neglected.
- f) Carefully unscrew the complete cap of the tube including the blue ring plus the dipstick. Discard cap and dipstick. Make sure that the sediment will not be dispersed again.

Dilution I: 1:100

Dilution of samples

The supernatant of the sample preparation procedure (dilution I) is further diluted **1:250 in wash buffer**. For example:

- 20 μl supernatant (dilution I) + 980 μl wash buffer, mix well = dilution II (1:50)
- 200 μl dilution II + 800 μl wash buffer, mix well = dilution III (1:5). This results
 in a final dilution of 1:25 000.

For analysis, pipet 100 µl of dilution III per well.

7. ASSAY PROCEDURE

Principle of the test

This ELISA is designed for the quantitative determination of α_1 -antitrypsin in stool. The assay utilises the sandwich technique with two selected antibodies that bind to human α_1 -antitrypsin.

Standards, controls and prediluted samples which are assayed for human α_1 -antitrypsin are added into the wells of a micro plate coated with a high affine anti-human α_1 -antitrypsin antibody. During the first incubation step, α_1 -antitrypsin is bound

by the immobilised antibody. Then a peroxidase-conjugated polyclonal anti-human α_1 -antitrypsin antibody is added into each microtiter well and a sandwich of capture antibody – human α_1 -antitrypsin – peroxidase-conjugate is formed. Tetramethylbenzidine is used as peroxidase substrate. Finally, an acidic stop solution is added to terminate the reaction. The colour changes from blue to yellow. The intensity of the yellow colour is directly proportional to the concentration of α_1 -antitrypsin. A dose response curve of the absorbance unit (optical density, OD at 450 nm) vs. concentration is generated, using the values obtained from the standard. α_1 -antitrypsin present in the samples is determined directly from this curve.

Test procedure

Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (15–30 °C) and mix well.

Mark the positions of standards/controls/samples on a protocol sheet.

Take as many microtiter strips as needed from the kit. Store unused strips together with the desiccant bag in the closed aluminium packaging at $2-8^{\circ}$ C. Strips are stable until expiry date stated on the label.

For automated ELISA processors, the given protocol may need to be adjusted according to the specific features of the respective automated platform. For further details please contact your supplier or Immundiagnostik AG.

We recommend to carry out the tests in duplicate.

1.	Before use , wash the wells 5 times with 250 µl wash buffer . After the final washing step, remove residual wash buffer by firmly tapping the plate on absorbent paper.	
2.	Add each 100 µl standards/controls/diluted samples into the respective wells.	
3.	Cover the strips and incubate for 1 hour at room temperature (15–30 °C) on a horizontal shaker *.	
4.	Discard the content of each well and wash 5 times with 250 µl wash buffer . After the final washing step, remove residual wash buffer by firmly tapping the plate on absorbent paper.	
5.	Add 100 µl conjugate (diluted CONJ) into each well.	
6.	Cover the strips and incubate for 1 hour at room temperature (15–30 $^{\circ}$ C) on a horizontal shaker *.	

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7.	Discard the content of each well and wash 5 times with 250 µl wash buffer . After the final washing step, remove residual wash buffer by firmly tapping the plate on absorbent paper.	
8.	Add 100 µl substrate (SUB) into each well.	
9.	Incubate for 10–20 min** at room temperature (15–30 °C) in the dark .	
10.	Add 100 µl stop solution (STOP) into each well and mix well.	
11.	Determine absorption immediately with an ELISA reader at 450 nm against 620 nm (or 690 nm) as a reference. If no reference wavelength is available, read only at 450 nm. If the extinction of the highest standard exceeds the range of the photometer, absorption must be measured immediately at 405 nm against 620 nm as a reference.	

^{*} We recommend shaking the strips at 550 rpm with an orbit of 2 mm.

8. RESULTS

The following algorithms can be used alternatively to calculate the results. We recommend using the "4 parameter algorithm".

1. 4 parameter algorithm

It is recommended to use a linear ordinate for the optical density and a logarithmic abscissa for the concentration. When using a logarithmic abscissa, the zero standard must be specified with a value less than 1 (e.g. 0.001).

2. Point-to-point calculation

We recommend a linear ordinate for the optical density and a linear abscissa for the concentration.

3. Spline algorithm

We recommend a linear ordinate for the optical density and a linear abscissa for the concentration.

The plausibility of the duplicate values should be examined before the automatic evaluation of the results. If this option is not available with the programme used, the duplicate values should be evaluated manually.

^{**} The intensity of the colour change is temperature sensitive. We recommend observing the colour change and stopping the reaction upon good differentiation.

Stool samples

The obtained results have to be multiplied by the **dilution factor of 25 000** to get the actual concentrations.

In case **another dilution factor** has been used, multiply the obtained result by the dilution factor used.

9. LIMITATIONS

Samples with concentrations above the measurement range (see definition below) can be further diluted and re-assayed. Please consider this higher dilution when calculating the results.

Samples with concentrations lower than the measurement range (see definition below) cannot be clearly quantified.

The upper limit of the measurement range can be calculated as:

highest concentration of the standard curve × sample dilution factor to be used

The lower limit of the measurement range can be calculated as:

 $LoB \times sample dilution factor to be used$

LoB see chapter "Performance Characteristics".

10. QUALITY CONTROL

Immundiagnostik AG recommends the use of external controls for internal quality control, if possible.

Control samples should be analysed with each run. Results, generated from the analysis of control samples, should be evaluated for acceptability using appropriate statistical methods. The results for the samples may not be valid if within the same assay one or more values of the quality control sample are outside the acceptable limits.

Reference range

We recommend each laboratory to establish its own reference range.

11. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Accuracy – Precision

Repeatability (Intra-Assay); n = 35

The repeatability was assessed with 2 stool samples under **constant** parameters (same operator, instrument, day and kit lot).

Sample	Mean value [μg/l]	CV [%]
1	11.97	5.4
2	32.36	9.1

Reproducibility (Inter-Assay); n = 20

The reproducibility was assessed with 2 stool samples under **varying** parameters (different operators, instruments, days and kit lots).

Sample	Mean value [μg/l]	CV [%]
1	13.36	9.6
2	41.99	11.9

Analytical sensitivity

The following values have been estimated based on the concentrations of the standard without considering possibly used sample dilution factors.

Limit of blank, LoB 0.359 µg/l

12. PRECAUTIONS

- All reagents in the kit package are for research use only.
- Human materials used in kit components were tested and found to be negative for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. However, for safety reasons, all kit components should be treated as potentially infectious.
- Kit reagents contain sodium azide or ProClin as bactericides. Sodium azide or ProClin are hazardous to health and the environment. Substrates for enzymatic colour reactions may also cause skin and/or respiratory irritation. Any contact with the substances must be avoided. Further safety information can be found in the safety data sheet, which is available from Immundiagnostik AG on request.

 The 10x Wash buffer concentrate (WASHBUF) contains surfactants which may cause severe eye irritation in case of eye contact.

- **Warning:** Causes serious eye irritation. **IF IN EYES:** Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. If eye irritation persists: get medical Advice/attention.
- The stop solution consists of diluted sulphuric acid, a strong acid. Although diluted, it still must be handled with care. It can cause burns and should be handled with gloves, eye protection, and appropriate protective clothing. Any spill should be wiped up immediately with copious quantities of water. Do not breath vapour and avoid inhalation.

13. TECHNICAL HINTS

- Do not interchange different lot numbers of any kit component within the same assay. Furthermore we recommend not assembling wells of different microtiter plates for analysis, even if they are of the same batch.
- Control samples should be analysed with each run.
- Reagents should not be used beyond the expiration date stated on kit label.
- Substrate solution should remain colourless until use.
- To ensure accurate results, proper adhesion of plate sealers during incubation steps is necessary.
- · Avoid foaming when mixing reagents.
- Do not mix plugs and caps from different reagents.
- The assay should always be performed according to the enclosed manual.

14. GENERAL NOTES ON THE TEST AND TEST PROCEDURE

- The guidelines for laboratories should be followed.
- *IDK*[®] and *IDK* Extract[®] are trademarks of Immundiagnostik AG.
- Incubation time, incubation temperature and pipetting volumes of the components are defined by the producer. Any variation of the test procedure, which is not coordinated with the producer, may influence the results of the test. Immundiagnostik AG can therefore not be held responsible for any damage resulting from incorrect use.

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 Warranty claims and complaints regarding deficiencies must be logged within 14 days after receipt of the product. The product should be send to Immundiagnostik AG along with a written complaint.

15. REFERENCES

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