



Enzyme Research Laboratories

1801 Commerce Drive
South Bend, IN U.S.A. 46628
(574) 288-2268 * Fax (574) 288-2272
Website: www.enzymeresearch.com
Email: info@enzymeresearch.com

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** REPRESENTATIVE DATA SHEETS**

Matched-Pair Antibody Set for ELISA of human Heparin Cofactor II antigen (HCII)

Sufficient reagent for **4 x 96 well** plates

Product #: HCII-EIA
Lot # SAMPLE
Expiry Date: SAMPLE

Store at 2-8°C

For Research Use Only
Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

Description of Heparin Cofactor II (HCII)

Heparin Cofactor II (HCII), also known as heparin cofactor A and dermatan sulphate cofactor, is a single chain glycoprotein produced in the liver and circulates in plasma at concentration of 50-100 ug/ml (0.8-1.5 μ M). A member of the SERPIN family of proteinase inhibitors, HCII exhibits a relatively narrow specificity and is only known to inhibit the serine proteinases thrombin and chymotrypsin. The inhibitory activity toward thrombin is accelerated up to 1000 fold in the presence of optimal concentrations of heparin. Unlike Antithrombin, thrombin inhibition by HCII is also enhanced by dermatan sulphate. HCII has an apparent molecular weight of 65,600 daltons and interaction with thrombin results in a covalent 1:1 enzyme-inhibitor complex of 102,600 daltons¹⁻³.

Principle of Sandwich-style ELISA

Affinity-purified antibody to HCII is coated onto the wells of a microtitre plate. Any remaining binding sites on the plastic wells are blocked with an excess of bovine serum albumin. The plates are washed and plasma or other fluids containing HCII are applied. The coated antibody will capture the HCII in the sample. After washing the plate to remove unbound material, a peroxidase conjugated second antibody to HCII is added to the plate to bind to the captured HCII. After washing the plate to remove unbound conjugated antibody, the peroxidase activity is expressed by incubation with o-phenylenediamine (OPD). After a fixed development time the reaction is quenched with the addition of H₂SO₄ and the colour produced is quantified using a microplate reader. The colour generated is proportional to the concentration of HCII present in the sample.

Supplied Materials:

- 1. Capture Antibody (HCII-EIA-C):** One yellow-capped vial containing 0.4 ml of polyclonal affinity purified anti-HCII antibody for coating plates.
- 2. Detecting Antibody (HCII-EIA-D):** Four neutral-capped tubes each containing 10 ml of pre-diluted peroxidase conjugated polyclonal anti-HCII antibody for detection of captured HCII.

Store reagents at 2-8°C

Materials Required but not Provided:

- 1. Coating Buffer:** 50 mM Carbonate
1.59g of Na₂CO₃ and 2.93g of NaHCO₃ up to 1 litre. Adjust pH to 9.6. Store at 2-8°C up to 1 month.
- 2. PBS:** (base for wash buffer and blocking buffer)
8.0g NaCl, 1.15g Na₂HPO₄, 0.2g KH₂PO₄ and 0.2g KCl, up to 1 litre. Adjust pH to 7.4, if necessary. Store up to 1 month at 2-8°C, discard if there is evidence of microbial growth.
- 3. Wash Buffer:** PBS-Tween (0.1%,v/v)
To 1 litre of PBS add 1.0 ml of Tween-20.
Check that the pH is 7.4. Store at 2-8°C up to 1 week.
- 4. Blocking Buffer:** PBS-BSA (1%, w/v)
Dissolve 2.5 g of Bovine Serum Albumin (Sigma-RIA grade) in 200 ml of PBS. Adjust pH to 7.4, if required, then make up to 250 ml with PBS. Aliquot and store frozen at -20°C.
- 5. Sample Diluent:** HBS-BSA-T20
5.95g HEPES (free acid), 1.46 g NaCl, 2.5 g Bovine Serum Albumin (Sigma, RIA grade) dissolved in 200 ml H₂O. Add 0.25 ml of Tween-20, check and adjust pH to 7.2 with NaOH, then make up to a final volume of 250 ml with H₂O. Aliquot and store frozen at -20°C.
- 6. Substrate Buffer:** Citrate-Phosphate buffer pH 5.0
2.6g Citric acid and 6.9g Na₂HPO₄ up to a final volume of 500 ml with purified H₂O. Store at 2-8°C up to 1 month.
- 7. OPD Substrate:** (o-Phenylenediamine.2HCl) Toxic!
(5mg tablets: Sigma # P-6912). Make up immediately before use. Dissolve 5mg OPD in 12 ml substrate buffer then add 12 μ l 30% H₂O₂. Do not store.
- 8. Stopping Solution:** 2.5 M H₂SO₄
Caution: VERY CORROSIVE! GENERATES HEAT ON DILUTION! Where stock sulphuric acid is 18 Molar, add 13.9 ml to 86 ml H₂O. Store at room temperature.
- 9. Other:**
Microplates, 96-well Immulon 4-HBX (<http://www.labsystems.fi>)
Microplate washer (optional)
Microplate reader.

Assay Procedure:

1. Coating of plates:

Dilute the capture antibody 1/100 in coating buffer (preferably in a polypropylene tube) and immediately add 100 µl to every well in the plate.

Incubate 2 hrs @ 22°C or overnight @ 4°C.

2. Blocking:

Empty contents of plate and add 150 µl of blocking buffer to every well and incubate for a minimum of 90 minutes @ 22°C. Wash plate X 3 with wash buffer.

3. Samples:

Reference plasma is diluted 1/500 (100%) then serial 1/2's down to 1/16000 (3.13%). Sample plasmas are diluted 1/1000, 1/2000 & 1/4000. All dilutions are made in HBS-BSA-T20 sample diluent. Apply 100 µl/well and incubate plate @ 22°C for 60 minutes. Wash plate X 3 with wash buffer.

4. Detecting Antibody:

Apply the pre-diluted detecting antibody, 100 µl to each well. Incubate plate @ 22°C for 60 minutes.

Wash plate X 3 with wash buffer.

5. OPD Substrate:

Apply 100 µl of freshly prepared OPD substrate to every well. Allow colour to develop for 10-15 minutes then stop colour reaction with the addition of 50 µl/well of 2.5 M H₂SO₄. The plate can be read at wavelength of 490 nm.

Calculation of Results:

The construction of a proper reference curve is of no less importance than any other aspect of the assay. A reference curve should be constructed by plotting the known concentration of standards versus absorbance. This can be done manually using graph paper, or by using curve-fitting computer software. In our experience, the dose response curves of most immunoassays tend to be sigmoid in shape. Although linear regions can be identified within the curve, the best overall fit is often obtained using an algorithm that provides a weighted theoretical model of fit throughout the entire curve, such as a 4-parameter or 5-parameter logistic curve fit models^{4,5}. In general, the simplest model that defines the concentration-response relationship should be used⁶.

The "back-fit" test is a simple and reliable method to determine if a curve-fitting method is appropriate. In this test, the apparent concentrations for the absorbance values of each standard point are read from the reference curve. The derived values are compared to the assigned values. An appropriate curve fitting method will produce derived values that closely match assigned values throughout the range of the curve, within user-defined limits⁶. The coefficient of determination (R^2) is a valuable indicator of the overall fit, but should not be used by itself in the selection of a curve fitting method, as a poor fit in a particular region of the curve may not be evident from this value alone^{5,6}.

In the quality control of this product we have determined that under the conditions described above, a reference curve that is constructed using serial dilutions of normal pooled plasma, will produce a correlation coefficient (R^2) of at least 0.980 using a semi-log fit, and an R^2 of at least 0.990 using a 4-parameter logistic curve fit algorithm. However, the performance characteristics of in-house assays developed using this product in other laboratories may vary slightly from ours. Different curve fitting methods may be employed but we recommend that the back-fit test be applied as evidence that the fitting method is appropriate.

Technical Notes:

- This paired antibody product is intended to facilitate the end user in establishing an in-house immunoassay for research purposes only. It must not be used for diagnostic applications. Assay validation is the responsibility of the end user and should be done according to user-defined protocols.
- Reference calibrators should be of the same matrix and anticoagulant as the samples to be tested (example serum or plasma, citrate or EDTA)
- The optimal colour development time should be determined empirically as the time required to obtain an absorbance of at least 1.000 at 490 nm for the 100% reference point, not to exceed 20 minutes.
- Do not use samples diluted less than 1/20, as falsely high readings may result.
- Rheumatoid factor in samples may interfere in ELISA by binding to the capture and/or detecting antibodies.
- The wells should not be allowed to become dry. Keep plate covered or in a humid chamber during incubations.
- The capture antibody is supplied in a microcentrifuge tube and can be centrifuged to gather residual reagent from the cap and walls of the tube.

References:

1. Tollefsen DM, Majerus DW, Blank MK; Heparin Cofactor II; JBC 257:5, p2162-2169, 1982
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3. Griffith MJ, Noyes CM, Church FC; Reactive Site Peptide Structural Similarity between Heparin Cofactor II and Antithrombin III; JBC:260, pp 2218-2225, 1985
4. Nix,B, Wild D, in Immunoassays, A Practical Approach, editor J.P. Gosling, pp. 239-261, Oxford University Press, 2000.
5. NCCLS. Evaluation of the Linearity of Quantitative Analytical Methods; Proposed Guideline – Second Edition. NCCLS Document EP6-P2 (ISBN 1-56238-446-5, NCCLS, Wayne, Pennsylvania USA, 2001
6. FDA Guidance for Industry. Bioanalytical Method Validation; May 2001, available on the internet: www.fda.gov/cder/guidance/index.htm

Related Products:

Cat. # GAHC2-IG:	Goat anti-HCII, whole IgG from antiserum
Cat. # GAHC2-AP:	Goat anti-HCII, affinity purified IgG (APIgG)
Cat. # GAHC2-APHRP:	Goat anti-HCII, APIgG-peroxidase labelled
Cat. # SAHC2-IG:	Sheep anti-HCII, whole IgG from antiserum
Cat. # THCII-EIA:	Antibody set for ELISA of thrombin-HCII complexes
Cat. # HCII-DP:	Human HCII-deficient plasma, immune depleted
Cat. # ATHC-DP:	Human ATIII & HCII def plasma, immune depleted