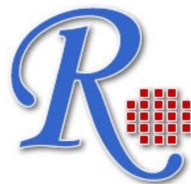
RayBio®
Human TGF-β1 ELISA Kit

User Manual
(Revised Mar 1, 2012)

RayBio® Human TGF-β1 ELISA Kit Protocol

(Cat#: ELH-TGFbeta1-001)



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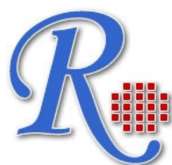

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ELISA Kit Protocol

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I. INTRODUCTION

Transforming Growth Factor Beta (TGF-β) is a stable, multifunctional polypeptide growth factor. TGF-β exists in at least five isoforms, known as TGF-β1, TGF-β2, TGF-β3, TGF-β4, TGF-β5. Their amino acid sequences display homologies on the order of 70-80%. The various TGF-β isotypes share many biological activities and their actions on cells are qualitatively similar in most cases although there are a few examples of distinct activities. TGF-β1 is the prevalent form and is found almost ubiquitously while the other isoforms are expressed in a more limited spectrum of cells and tissues. It is normally secreted as an inactive, or latent, complex.

The RayBio® Human TGF-β1 ELISA (Enzyme-Linked mmunosorbent Assay) kit is an in vitro enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for the quantitative measurement of human TGF-β1 in serum, plasma, cell culture supernatants and urine. This assay employs an antibody specific for human TGF-β1 coated on a 96-well plate. Standards and samples are pipetted into the wells and TGF-β1 present in a sample is bound to the wells by the immobilized antibody. The wells are washed and biotinylated anti-human TGF-β1 antibody is added. After washing away unbound biotinylated antibody, HRP-conjugated streptavidin is pipetted to the wells. The wells are again washed, a TMB substrate solution is added to the wells and color develops in proportion to the amount of TGF-β1 bound. The Stop Solution changes the color from blue to yellow, and the intensity of the color is measured at 450 nm.

II. REAGENTS

1. TGF-β1 Microplate (Item A): 96 wells (12 strips x 8 wells) coated with anti-human TGF-β1.
2. Wash Buffer Concentrate (20x) (Item B): 25 ml of 20x concentrated solution.
3. Standards (Item C): 2 vials, recombinant human TGF-β1.

4. Assay Diluent A (Item D): 30 ml, 0.09% sodium azide as preservative. For Standard/Sample (serum/plasma) diluent.
5. Assay Diluent B (Item E): 15 ml of 5x concentrated buffer. For Standard/Sample (cell culture supernatants/urine) diluent.
6. Detection Antibody TGF-β1 (Item F): 2 vial of biotinylated anti-human TGF-β1 (each vial is enough to assay half microplate).
7. HRP-Streptavidin Concentrate (Item G): 200 µl of 500x concentrated HRP-conjugated streptavidin.
8. TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent (Item H): 12 ml of 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) in buffered solution.
9. Stop Solution (Item I): 8 ml of 0.2 M sulfuric acid.

III. STORAGE

May be stored for up to 6 months at 2° to 8°C from the date of shipment. Standard (recombinant protein) should be stored at -20 °C or -80 °C (recommended at –80 °C) after reconstitution. Opened Microplate Wells or reagents may be store for up to 1 month at 2° to 8°C. Return unused wells to the pouch containing desiccant pack, reseal along entire edge.
Note: the kit can be used within one year if the whole kit is stored at -20 °C. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS REQUIRED

1 Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 nm.
2 Precision pipettes to deliver 2 µl to 1 ml volumes.
3 Adjustable 1-25 ml pipettes for reagent preparation.
4 100 ml and 1 liter graduated cylinders.
5 Absorbent paper.
6 Distilled or deionized water.
7 Log-log graph paper or computer and software for ELISA data analysis.
8 Tubes to prepare standard or sample dilutions.

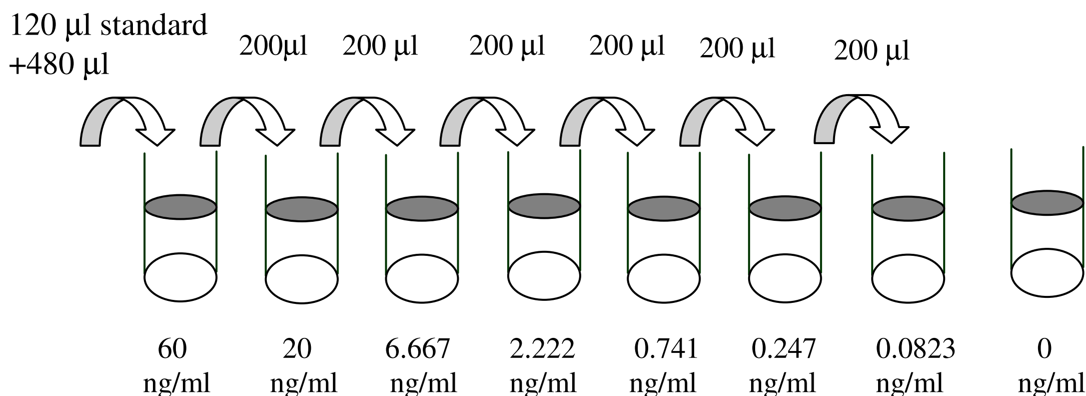
V. REAGENT PREPARATION

1. Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (18-25°C) before use.

2. Sample dilution: If your samples need to be diluted, Assay Diluent A (Item D) should be used for dilution of serum/plasma samples. 1x Assay Diluent B (Item E) should be used for dilution of culture supernatants and urine.

3. Assay Diluent B should be diluted 5-fold with deionized or distilled water.

4. Preparation of standard: **Briefly spin the vial of Item C**. Add 700 µl Assay Diluent A (Item D) (for serum/plasma) or 1x Assay Diluent B (Item E) (for cell culture supernatants/urine) to prepare a 300 ng/ml standard. Dissolve the powder thoroughly by a gentle mix. Add 120 µl TGF-β1 standard from the vial of Item C, into a tube with 480 µl Assay Diluent A or 1x Assay Diluent B to prepare a 60 ng/ml stock standard solution. Pipette 400 µl Assay Diluent A or 1x Assay Diluent B into each tube. Use the stock standard solution to produce a dilution series (shown below). Mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer. Assay Diluent A or 1x Assay Diluent B serves as the zero standard (0 ng/ml).



5. If the Wash Concentrate (20x) (Item B) contains visible crystals, warm to room temperature and mix gently until dissolved. Dilute 20 ml of Wash Buffer Concentrate into deionized or distilled water to yield 400 ml of 1x Wash Buffer.

6. Briefly spin the Detection Antibody vial (Item F) before use. Add 100 µl of 1x Assay Diluent B into the vial to prepare a detection antibody concentrate. Pipette up and down to mix gently (the concentrate can be stored at 4°C for 5 days). The detection antibody concentrate should be diluted 80-fold with 1x Assay Diluent B and used in step 4 of Part VI Assay Procedure.

7. Briefly spin the HRP-Streptavidin concentrate vial (Item G) before use. HRP-Streptavidin concentrate should be diluted 500-fold with 1x Assay Diluent B.

   For example: Briefly spin the vial (Item G) and pipette up and down to mix gently . Add 20 µl of HRP-Streptavidin concentrate into a tube with 10 ml 1x Assay Diluent B to prepare a 500-fold diluted HRP-Streptavidin solution (don't store the diluted solution for next day use). Mix well.

***Reagents to activate cell culture supernate/urine samples and Serum/Plasma samples**

1 N HCl (100 ml) – Slowly add 8.33 mL of 12 N HCl into 91.67 ml deionized water. Mix bottle.
1.2 N NaOH/0.5 M HEPES (100 ml) - Slowly add 12 ml of 10 N NaOH into 75 mL deionized water. Mix bottle. Add 11.9 g HEPES. Mix through. Bring final volume to 100 mL with deionized water.

2.5 N Acetic Acid/10 M Urea (250 ml) - Add 150.2 g of Urea into 100 mL deionized water. Mix bottle until dissolved. Slowly add 35.9 mL of Glacial Acetic Acid. Mix through. Bring final volume to 250 ml with deionized water.

2.7 N NaOH/1 M HEPES (250 ml) - Add 67.5 ml of 10 N NaOH into 140 ml deionized water. Mix bottle. Add 59.5 g HEPES. Mix through. Bring final volume to 250 mL with deionized water.

VI. TGF-β1 SAMPLE ACTIVATION PROCEDURE

To activate latent TGF-β1 to the immunoreactive form, follow the activation procedure outlined below. Assay samples after neutralization (pH 7.0 - 7.6). Use polypropylene test tubes.

Notes: Do not activate the kit standards. The kit standards contain active rhTGF-β1.

1. Cell Culture Supernates/Urine

Add 0.1 ml 1 N HCI into 0.5 mL cell culture supernate or urine. Mix tube thoroughly. Incubate for 10 minutes at room temperature. Neutralize the acidified sample by adding 0.1 ml 1.2 N NaOH/0.5 M HEPES (PH=7.0~7.6). Mix tube thoroughly. Assay immediately. The activated sample may be diluted with 1x Assay Diluent B (for cell culture supernatants/urine). The concentration read off the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor.

2. Serum/plasma

Add 0.1 ml 2.5 N Acetic Acid/10 M Urea to 0.1 ml serum. Mix tube thoroughly. Incubate for 10 minutes at room temperature. Neutralize the acidified sample by adding 0.1 ml 2.7 N NaOH/1 M HEPES. Mix tube thoroughly. Assay immediately. The activated sample may be diluted with Assay Diluent A. The concentration read off the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor.

VII. ASSAY PROCEDURE:

1. Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (18 - 25°C) before use. It is recommended that all standards and samples be run at least in duplicate.

2. Add 100 µl of each standard (see Reagent Preparation step 2) and sample into appropriate wells. Cover well and incubate for 2.5 hours at room temperature or over night at 4°C with gentle shaking.

3. Discard the solution and wash 4 times with 1x Wash Solution. Wash by filling each well with Wash Buffer (300 µl) using a multi-channel Pipette or autowasher. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential to good performance. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against clean paper towels.

4. Add 100 µl of 1x prepared biotinylated antibody (Reagent Preparation step 6) to each well. Incubate for 1 hour at room temperature with gentle shaking.

5. Discard the solution. Repeat the wash as in step 3.

6. Add 100 µl of prepared Streptavidin solution (see Reagent Preparation step 7) to each well. Incubate for 45 minutes at room temperature with gentle shaking.

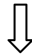
7. Discard the solution. Repeat the wash as in step 3.

8. Add 100 µl of TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent (Item H) to each well. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature in the dark with gentle shaking.

9. Add 50 µl of Stop Solution (Item I) to each well. Read at 450 nm immediately.

VIII. ASSAY PROCEDURE SUMMARY

1. Prepare all reagents, samples and standards as instructed.



2. Add 100 µl standard or sample to each well.
   Incubate 2.5 hours at room temperature or over night at 4°C.

3. Add 100 µl prepared biotin antibody to each well.
   Incubate 1 hour at room temperature.

4. Add 100 µl prepared Streptavidin solution.
   Incubate 45 minutes at room temperature.

5. Add 100 µl TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent to each well.
   Incubate 30 minutes at room temperature.

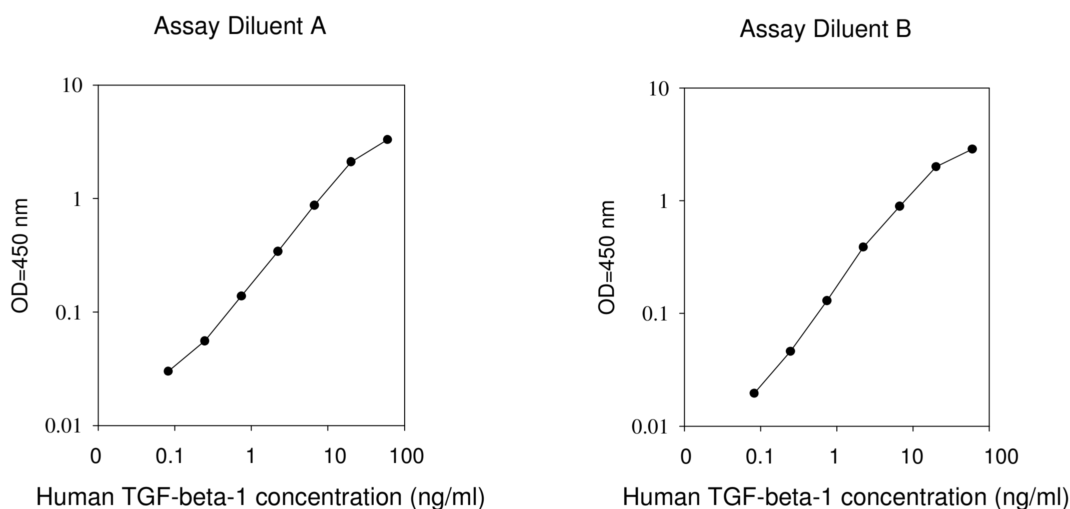
6. Add 50 µl Stop Solution to each well.
   Read at 450 nm immediately.

IX. CALCULATION OF RESULTS

Calculate the mean absorbance for each set of duplicate standards, controls and samples, and subtract the average zero standard optical density. Plot the standard curve on log-log graph paper or using Sigma plot software, with standard concentration on the x-axis and absorbance on the y-axis. Draw the best-fit straight line through the standard points.

A. TYPICAL DATA

These standard curves are for demonstration only. A standard curve must be run with each assay.



B. SENSITIVITY

The minimum detectable dose of TGF-β1 is typically less than 80 pg/ml.

C. RECOVERY

Recovery was determined by spiking various levels of human TGF-β1 into human serum, plasma and cell culture media. Mean recoveries are as follows:

Sample Type	Average % Recovery	Range (%)
Serum	94.46	82-102
Plasma	95.78	93-103
Cell culture media	97.87	85-104

D. LINEARITY

Sample Type		Serum	Plasma	Cell culture media
1:2	Average % of Expected Range (%)	92 82-103	95 83-104	95 84-104
1:4	Average % of Expected Range (%)	93 83-105	94 84-105	94 83-104

E. REPRODUCIBILITY

Intra-Assay: CV<10%
Inter-Assay: CV<12%

X. SPECIFICITY

Cross Reactivity: This ELISA kit shows no cross-reactivity with any of the cytokines tested (*e.g*., human ANG, CD23, Eotaxin, GCSF, GM-CSF, GRO-α, GRO-β, GRO-γ, I-309, IFN-γ, IL-1α, IL-1β, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7,

IL-8, IL-10, IL-12 (p40), IL-12 (p70), IL-15, IL-16, IP-10, MCP-1, MCP-2, MCP-3, MCP-4, MCSF, MIG, MIP-1α, MIP-1β, NAP-2, PDGF, PF-4, PARC, SCF, SDF-1α, TIMP-1, TIMP-2, TNFβ, TGFβ2, TGFβ3, VEGF).

XI. REFERENCES

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2. Lebman DA et al. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science (USA)* 87: 3962-6 (1990).

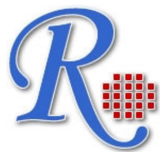
3. Ahuja SS et al. *Journal of Immunology*, 150: 3109-18 (1993).

4. Gleizes, P-E. et al. Stem Cells **15**:190 (1997).

XII. TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

Problem	Cause	Solution
1. Poor standard curve	1. Inaccurate pipetting	1. Check pipettes
	2. Improper standard dilution	2. Ensure briefly spin the vial of Item C and dissolve the powder thoroughly by a gentle mix.
2. Low signal	1.Too brief incubation times	1. Ensure sufficient incubation time; assay procedure step 2 change to over night
	2. Inadequate reagent volumes or improper dilution	2. Check pipettes and ensure correct preparation
3. Large CV	1. Inaccurate pipetting	1. Check pipettes
4. High background	1. Plate is insufficiently washed	1. Review the manual for proper wash. If using an a plate washer, check that all ports are unobstructed.
	2. Contaminated wash buffer	2. Make fresh wash buffer
5. Low sensitivity	1. Improper storage of the ELISA kit	1. Store your standard at<-20°C after reconstitution, others at 4 °C. Keep substrate solution protected from light
	2. Stop solution	2. Stop solution should be added to each well before measure

This product is for research use only.



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