Human Follicle Stimulating Hormone (FSH) ELISA

For the quantitative determination of human FSH in serum

Cat. No. KT-15327

For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.
Product Information
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INTENDED USE
The kit is a sandwich enzyme immunoassay for the \textit{in vitro} quantitative measurement of human FSH in serum. For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

COMPONENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reagents</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-coated, ready to use 96-well strip plate</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calibrator – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (0, 2, 5, 10, 25, 70 mIU/mL)</td>
<td>6 x 0.5 mL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calibrator Diluent</td>
<td>1 x 20 mL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detection Reagent A</td>
<td>1 x 6 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMB Substrate</td>
<td>1 x 9 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop Solution</td>
<td>1 x 6 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wash Buffer (20X concentrate)</td>
<td>1 x 15 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plate sealer for 96 wells</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT SUPPLIED
1. Microplate reader with 450 ± 10 nm filter.
2. Precision single or multi-channel pipettes and disposable tips.
3. Eppendorf Tubes for diluting samples.
4. De-ionized or distilled water.
5. Absorbent paper for blotting the microtiter plate.
6. Container for Wash Solution.

STORAGE
The kits should be stored at 4°C upon being received. The unused strips should be kept in a sealed bag with the desiccant provided to minimize exposure to damp air. Opened test kits will remain stable until the expiration date shown, provided it is stored as prescribed above.

PRINCIPLE
The microtiter plate provided in this kit has been pre-coated with a monoclonal antibody specific to FSH. Calibrators or samples are then added to the appropriate microtiter plate wells with another HRP-conjugated monoclonal antibody preparation specific for FSH. Mix thoroughly and incubated. After washing, a TMB substrate solution is added to each well. Only those wells that contain FSH, biotin-conjugated antibody and enzyme-conjugated Avidin will exhibit a change in color. The enzyme-substrate reaction is terminated by the addition of a sulfuric acid solution and the color change is measured spectrophotometrically at a wavelength of 450 nm ± 10 nm. The concentration of FSH in the samples is then determined by comparing the O.D. of the samples to the calibration curve.

SAMPLE COLLECTION AND STORAGE
Serum
Use a serum separator tube and allow samples to clot for two hours at room temperature or overnight at 4°C before centrifugation for 20 minutes at approximately 1,000 x g. Assay freshly prepared serum immediately or store samples in aliquot at -20°C or -80°C for later use. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles.

**Note:**
1. Samples to be used within 2 days may be stored at 4°C, otherwise samples must be stored at -20°C (≤1 month) or -80°C (≤2 months) to avoid loss of bioactivity and contamination.
2. When performing the assay slowly bring samples to room temperature.
3. Sample hemolysis will influence the result, so hemolytic specimen can not be detected.

**REAGENT PREPARATION**

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

**Calibrator**
The concentration of the calibrator is as follows: 70 mIU/mL, 25 mIU/mL, 10 mIU/mL, 5 mIU/mL, 2 mIU/mL, 0 mIU/mL.

**Wash Solution**
Dilute 15 mL of Wash Solution Concentrate (20X) with 285 mL of de-ionized or distilled water to prepare 300 mL of Wash Solution (1X).

**TMB substrate**
Aspirate the needed dosage of the solution with sterilized tips and do not dump the residual solution into the vial again.

**Note:**
1. Prepare calibrator within 15 minutes before assay. Please do not dissolve the reagents at 37°C directly.
2. If crystals have formed in the Wash Solution concentrate (20X), warm to room temperature and mix gently until the crystals have completely dissolved.

**SAMPLE PREPARATION**
1. Kamiya Biomedical Company is only responsible for the kit itself, but not for the samples consumed during the assay. The user should calculate the possible amount of the samples used in the whole test. Please reserve sufficient samples in advance.
2. Please predict the concentration before assaying. If values for these are not within the range of the calibration curve, users must determine the optimal sample dilutions for their particular experiments.
3. If the samples are not indicated in the manual, a preliminary experiment to determine the validity of the kit is necessary.
4. Tissue or cell extraction samples prepared by chemical lysis buffer may cause unexpected ELISA results due to the impacts of certain chemicals.
5. Owing to the possibility of mismatching between antigen from other resource and antibody used in our kits (e.g., antibody targets conformational epitope rather than linear epitope), some native or recombinant proteins from other manufacturers may not be recognized by our products.
6. Influenced by the factors including cell viability, cell number and also sampling time, samples from cell culture supernatant may not be detected by the kit.
7. Fresh samples without long time storage is recommended for the test. Otherwise, protein degradation and denaturalization may occur in those samples and finally lead to wrong results.
ASSAY PROCEDURE

1. Determine wells for calibrator and sample. Add 50 µL each of different concentration of calibrator (read Reagent Preparation) into the appropriate wells. Add 50 µL sample into the other wells.

2. Add 50 µL of Detection Reagent A to each well, mix thoroughly. Incubate for 1 hour at 37°C after covering it with the Plate sealer.

3. Aspirate the solution and wash with 350 µL of 1X Wash Solution to each well using a squirt bottle, multi-channel pipette, manifold dispenser or autowasher, and let it sit for 1~2 minutes. Remove the remaining liquid from all wells completely by snapping the plate onto absorbent paper. Repeat 3 times. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against absorbent paper.

4. Add 90 µL of Substrate Solution to each well. Cover with a new Plate sealer. Incubate for 15 - 25 minutes at 37°C (Don’t exceed 30 minutes). Protect from light. The liquid will turn blue by the addition of Substrate Solution.

5. Add 50 µL of Stop Solution to each well. The liquid will turn yellow by the addition of Stop solution. Mix the liquid by tapping the side of the plate. If color change does not appear uniform, gently tap the plate to ensure thorough mixing.

6. Remove any drop of water and fingerprint on the bottom of the plate and confirm there is no bubble on the surface of the liquid. Then, run the microplate reader and conduct measurement at 450 nm immediately.

Note:

1. **Assay preparation:** Keep appropriate numbers of strips for 1 experiment and remove extra strips from microtiter plate. Removed strips should be resealed and stored at -20°C until the kit expiration date.

2. **Samples or reagents addition:** Please use the freshly prepared Calibrator. Please carefully add samples to wells and mix gently to avoid foaming. Do not touch the well wall as possible. For each step in the procedure, total dispensing time for addition of reagents or samples to the assay plate should not exceed 10 minutes. This will ensure equal elapsed time for each pipetting step, without interruption. Duplication of all calibrators and specimens, although not required, is recommended. To avoid cross-contamination, change pipette tips between additions of each calibrator level, between sample additions, and between reagent additions. Also, use separate reservoirs for each reagent.

3. **Incubation:** To ensure accurate results, proper adhesion of plate sealers during incubation steps is necessary. Do not allow wells to sit uncovered for extended periods between incubation steps. Once reagents have been added to the well strips, DO NOT let the strips DRY at any time during the assay. Incubation time and temperature must be observed.

4. **Washing:** The wash procedure is critical. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential to good performance. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Solution by aspirating or decanting and remove any drop of water and fingerprint on the bottom of the plate. Insufficient washing will result in poor precision and falsely elevated absorbance reading.

5. **Controlling of reaction time:** Observe the change of color after adding TMB Substrate (e.g. observation once every 10 minutes), if the color is too deep, add Stop Solution in advance to avoid excessively strong reaction which will result in inaccurate absorbance reading.

6. **TMB Substrate** is easily contaminated. Please protect it from light.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS

Average the duplicate readings for each calibrator, control, and samples and subtract the average zero calibrator optical density. Create a calibration curve on log-log graph paper, with FSH concentration on the y-axis and absorbance on the x-axis. Draw the best fit straight line through the calibrator points and it can be determined by regression analysis. Using some plot software is also recommended. If samples
have been diluted, the concentration read from the calibration curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor.

**PERFORMANCE**

**Detection Range**

2 – 70 mIU/mL.

The calibration curve concentrations used for the ELISA’s were 70 mIU/mL, 25 mIU/mL, 10 mIU/mL, 5 mIU/mL, 2 mIU/mL.

**Sensitivity**

The minimum detectable dose of human FSH is typically less than 0.8 mIU/mL. The sensitivity of this assay, or Lower Limit of Detection (LLD) was defined as the lowest protein concentration that could be differentiated from zero. It was determined the mean O.D. value of 20 replicates of the zero calibrator plus three standard deviations.

**Specificity**

This assay has high sensitivity and excellent specificity for detection of human FSH. No significant cross-reactivity or interference between human FSH and analogues was observed.

Note: Limited by current skills and knowledge, it is impossible for us to complete the cross-reactivity detection between human FSH and all the analogues, therefore, cross reaction may still exist.

**ASSAY PROCEDURE SUMMARY**

1. Prepare all reagents, samples and calibrators;
2. Add 50 µL calibrator or sample to each well.
3. Add 50 µL prepared Detection Reagent A. Incubate 1 hour at 37°C;
4. Aspirate and wash 3 times;
5. Add 90 µL Substrate Solution. Incubate 15-25 minutes at 37°C;
6. Add 50 µL Stop Solution. Read at 450 nm immediately.

**IMPORTANT NOTES**

1. The final experimental results will be closely related to operation skills of the end users and the experimental environments. Please make sure that sufficient samples are available.
2. Kits from different batches may be a little different in detection range, sensitivity and color developing time. Please perform the experiment exactly according to the instruction attached in kit while electronic ones from our website (www.k-assay.com) is only for information.
3. Do not mix or substitute reagents from one kit lot to another. Use only the reagents supplied by manufacturer.
4. Protect all reagents from strong light during storage and incubation. All the bottle caps of reagents should be covered tightly to prevent the evaporation and contamination of microorganism.
5. There may be some foggy substance in the wells when the plate is opened at the first time. It will not have any effect on the final assay results. Do not remove microtiter plate from the storage bag until needed.
6. Wrong operations during the reagents preparation and loading, as well as incorrect parameter setting for the plate reader may lead to incorrect results. A microplate plate reader with a bandwidth of 10 nm or less and an optical density range of 0-3 O.D. or greater at 450 ± 10 nm wavelength is acceptable for use in absorbance measurement. Please read the instruction carefully and adjust the instrument prior to the experiment.
7. Even the same operator might get different results in two separate experiments. In order to get better reproducible results, the operation of every step in the assay should be controlled. Furthermore, a preliminary experiment before assay for each batch is recommended.
8. Each kit has been strictly passed Q.C. test. However, results from end users might be inconsistent with our in-house data due to some unexpected transportation conditions or different lab equipments. Intra-assay variance among kits from different batches might arise from above factors, too.
9. Kits from different manufacturers for the same item might produce different results, since we haven’t compared our products with other manufacturers.
10. The Stop Solution suggested for use with this kit is an acid solution. Wear eye, hand, face, and clothing protection when using this material.

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