

# Mouse Growth Hormone ELISA Kit Instructions

For the quantitative determination of growth hormone in mouse serum

Catalog #80587 96 Assays

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

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#### A. Intended Use

The Mouse Growth Hormone ELISA kit is for the quantitative determination of growth hormone in mouse serum. Please read the complete kit insert before performing this assay. The kit is for RESEARCH USE ONLY. It is not intended for use in diagnostic procedures.

#### B. Introduction

Growth hormone is a peptide hormone that stimulates growth, cell reproduction and regeneration in humans and other animals.

#### C. Principle of the Assay

The Mouse Growth Hormone ELISA kit is an ELISA assay for mouse growth hormone. The 96-well plate provided is coated with anti-mouse growth hormone antibody. The mouse growth hormone levels of the samples can be measured by color intensity.

# D. Kit Storage

- Upon receipt of the Mouse Growth Hormone ELISA kit, store it at 2-8°C and avoid light exposure (do not freeze the kit or hold it at temperatures above 25°C).
- 2. The kit should not be used after the expiration date.

## E. Assay Materials

#### E.1. Materials provided

TABLE 1 Contents of the kit

Mark	Description	Amount
MIC	Antibody-coated Microplate (12 x 8)	1 pack
STD1-7	Standards	1 x 7 vials
DIL	Dilution Buffer	1 x 50 mL
CON1-2	Controls	1 x 2 vials
AB CONJ	Antibody Conjugate	1 x 12 mL
ENZ CONJ	Enzyme Conjugate	1 x 12 mL
WASH	Wash Buffer (20X Concentrate)	1 x 50 mL
SUB	Substrate Solution	1 x 12 mL
STOP	Stop Solution	1 x 12 mL
	Sealing tape for plate	3x, adhesive

#### E.2. Materials required but not provided

Micropipettes and disposable tips

Distilled or deionized water

Polypropylene microtubes

Volumetric flasks

Vortex mixer

Microplate shaker (350 rpm)

Microplate reader (capable of reading A<sub>450</sub> and A<sub>630</sub> values)

# F. Assay Precautions

- Only appropriately-trained personnel should use the kit. Laboratory personnel should wear suitable protective clothing. All chemicals and reagents should be considered potentially hazardous. Avoid ingestion and contact with skin and eyes.
- Some assay components may contain human sourced materials. Accordingly, all assay components should be handled as if potentially infectious using safe laboratory procedures.
- 3. Do not use the reagents after the expiration date.
- 4. Reagents are light sensitive and should be protected from sunlight.

# G. Maximizing Kit Performance

- 1. Given the small sample volumes required (10  $\mu$ L), pipetting should be done as carefully as possible. A high quality 10  $\mu$ L or better precision pipette should be used for such volumes. Drops of liquid adhering to the outside of the pipette tips should be removed by wiping to ensure the highest degree of accuracy.
- 2. In order to prevent the microplate wells from drying out and to get the best results, samples and reagents should be dispensed quickly into the wells.
- 3. Each calibrator and sample should be assayed in duplicate.
- 4. The same sequence of pipetting and other operations should be maintained in all procedures.
- 5. Do not mix reagents that have different lot numbers.

# H. Sample Collection

Mouse serum samples can be used. Samples should be chilled as soon as possible after sample withdrawal. For long-term storage, samples can be stored at -20°C. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles of samples. Hemolytic samples should be avoided.

#### I. Assay Procedure

## I.1. Preparation of reagents

1. Antibody-coated microplate

Provided as ready to use. Protect from moisture.

2. Standards 1-7

Standards are provided in lyophilized form with concentrations ranging from 0.025 ng/mL to 1.5 ng/mL. Dilute each standard with 1 mL of Dilution Buffer (marked "DIL"). After reconstitution, it is recommended that standards be allowed to sit for 15 mins at room temperature and then mixed thoroughly but gently with a Vortex mixer. Reconstituted standards are stable for four weeks at -20°C. Standards should be not be repeatedly thawed (at most, once), so standards should be appropriately aliquoted in appropriate volumes prior to being frozen. Standards are provided in the following concentrations: 0.025, 0.075, 0.15, 0.3, 0.6, 1.0 and 1.5 ng/mL.

3. Dilution Buffer

Provided as ready to use.

4. Controls 1-2

Controls are provided in lyophilized form with target value and ranges included on their labels. Dilute controls with 150 µL of Dilution Buffer.

Antibody Conjugate

Provided as ready to use.

6. Enzyme Conjugate

Provided as ready to use.

#### 7. Wash Buffer (20X Concentrated)

The wash buffer has to be diluted 1:20 with distilled or deionized water prior to use. For example, 50 mL of wash buffer must be diluted with 950 mL of distilled or deionized water. Wash buffer is stable for 4 weeks at 2-8°C after dilution, so dilute only as needed.

8. Substrate Solution

Provided as ready to use.

9. Stop Solution

Provided as ready to use.

# I.2. Dilution of samples and controls

- 1. Samples and controls need to be diluted with Dilution Buffer for use with the assay. Please note that this section only applies to samples and controls, not standards. A sample dilution of at least 1:10 is recommended. In most samples, a 1:22 sample dilution is suitable (ie. 10  $\mu$ L sample plus 210  $\mu$ L dilution buffer). For some mouse strains with relatively low growth hormone concentrations, a lower predilution of 1:15 (ie. 15  $\mu$ L sample plus 210  $\mu$ L dilution buffer) seems to be more suitable. In cases of lower predilution, it is recommended to use 15  $\mu$ L of sample in order to have enough diluted sample to run in duplicate (ie. > 200  $\mu$ L as each assay requires 100  $\mu$ L of diluted sample per well). As described above, a 1:22 sample dilution can be performed as follows:
  - a. Dilute 1:22 by mixing 10  $\mu$ L of sample or control with 210  $\mu$ L of Dilution Buffer.

Since mouse growth hormone levels can vary, dilution ratio may need to be adjusted as appropriate. Samples and controls must be used within 60 minutes once diluted.

# I.3. Assay procedure

Prior to running the assay, all reagents should be brought to room temperature for at least 30 minutes. Reagents should be stored at 2-8°C immediately after use. Before use, mix the reagents thoroughly by gentle agitation or swirling.

1. In each well, add 100  $\mu$ L of diluted sample or 100  $\mu$ L of standard or 100  $\mu$ L of diluted control and mix well by repeated pipetting.

**Note:** A blank using 100 µL of Dilution Buffer is recommended.

- 2. Cover the wells with sealing tape and incubate the plate for 1 hour at room temperature (shake at 350 rpm).
- 3. Aspirate well contents and wash three times using 300  $\mu$ L of Wash Buffer per well. After each wash, remove any remaining solution by inverting and tapping the plate firmly on a clean paper towel.
- 4. Add 100 μL of the Antibody Conjugate in each well.
- 5. Cover the wells with sealing tape and incubate the plate for 1 hour at room temperature (shake at 350 rpm).
- 6. Aspirate well contents and wash three times using 300  $\mu$ L of Wash Buffer per well. After each wash, remove any remaining solution by inverting and tapping the plate firmly on a clean paper towel.
- 7. Add 100 µL of the Enzyme Conjugate in each well.
- 8. Cover the wells with sealing tape and incubate the plate for 30 minutes at room temperature (shake at 350 rpm).
- 9. Aspirate well contents and wash three times using 300  $\mu$ L of Wash Buffer per well. After each wash, remove any remaining solution by inverting and tapping the plate firmly on a clean paper towel.

- 10. Add 100 µL of Substrate Solution in each well.
- 11. Incubate the plate for 30 mins in dark room at room temperature.
- 12. Stop the reaction by adding 100 µL of Stop Solution.
- 13. Measure absorbance within 30 minutes using a plate reader (measure  $A_{450}$  values and subtract  $A_{630}$  values).

#### I.4. Determining the growth hormone concentration

- Using computer software, construct the growth hormone calibration curve by
  plotting the mean change in absorbance value for each calibrator (incl. blank)
  on the Y axis versus the corresponding growth hormone concentration on the X
  axis. A higher-grade polynomial, or four parametric logistic (4-PL) curve fit or
  non-linear regression are suitable for the evaluation.
  - **Note:** A calibration curve should be plotted every time the assay is performed.
- Mouse growth hormone concentrations in the samples are interpolated using the calibration curve and mean absorbance values for each sample. For diluted samples and controls, the values obtained must be multiplied by the dilution factor to obtain the final growth hormone concentration. The growth hormone concentration is expressed in ng/mL.

**Note:** Samples with high mouse growth concentrations (ie. fall above the range of the assay) should be further diluted with the dilution buffer and rerun.

## J. Performance characteristics

#### J.1. Assay range

The Mouse Growth Hormone ELISA Kit has an assay range from 0.025 – 1.5 ng/mL.

#### J.2. Precision

The assay has a within-run and total precision of CV < 10%.

#### Warranty

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