



Instructions for Use

Histamine ELISA

Enzyme Immunoassay for the
Quantitative Determination of
**Histamine in Heparin Plasma, EDTA-Plasma, Urine,
Heparin Whole Blood (Total Histamine) and Stool
and in Cell Culture Media (RUO)**



EA213/96



12 x 8



2 – 8 °C



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Symbols



In Vitro Diagnostic
Medical Device



EC Declaration of conformity



Content



Expiry Date



Lot Number



Store at



Manufactured by



Sufficient for ... determinations



Catalogue Number



Consult Instructions for Use

Changes to declare

Version _10: Changes to sections 2, 5.4 and pipetting scheme as highlighted in gray. All gray highlighting as in version _9 has been removed.

Version _9: The manufacturer and distributor information have been changed. Stool has been included as matrix. Extensive changes have been made and are highlighted in gray.

1 Introduction and Principle of the Test

Histamine (β -imidazole-ethylamine) a biogenic amine, is a product of the histidine metabolism. It is produced by decarboxylation of histidine.

Histamine is widely distributed in mammalian tissues. It is bound to heparin (as inactive form) and stored in the granules of basophilic leukocytes and mast cells and is actively released as required. These cells, if sensitized by IgE antibodies attached to their membranes, degranulate when exposed to the appropriate antigen.

It is involved in the defense against foreign substances and its pathological reactions lead to symptoms such as allergies and asthma. Histamine plays a major role in the initial phase of an anaphylactic reaction. The quantification of histamine in plasma after allergen administration is of clinical interest.

Histamine is part of the immune response to foreign pathogens and it increases the permeability of the capillaries to white blood cells and other proteins, in order to allow them to engage foreign invaders in the affected tissues. Responsible for the biological effects of histamine in tissue are the activation of different surface receptors, for instance H1, H2 and H3.

Histamine is involved in the regulating physiological function in the gut and acting as a neurotransmitter.

The Histamine ELISA Kit contains reagents for the quantitative determination of derivatized histamine in human EDTA- and heparin plasma, heparin whole blood (total histamine), stool, urine and for research purposes in cell culture samples. Derivatization takes place during sample preparation. In this process, histamine is quantitatively converted into N-acylhistamine by the acylating reagent.

The Histamine ELISA is a competitive enzyme immunoassay. Antigen bound to the solid phase and free antigen in solution compete for a defined number of antibody binding sites. When the system is in equilibrium, the unbound antigen-antibody complex is removed in a washing step and the correspondingly bound complex is detected using a peroxidase conjugate and determined via the conversion of tetramethylbenzidine (TMB). The TMB/POD reaction is stopped and the absorbance measured at 450 nm. The concentration of the antigen-antibody complex bound to the solid phase is inversely proportional to the concentration of the antigen in the sample.

2 Precautions

- For in vitro diagnostic use only. For professional use only.
- Before carrying out the test, the valid instructions for use, as included in this kit, should be read completely and the content understood.
- Material of human origin used in the preparation of this kit has been tested and found non-reactive for HBsAg, HCV or HIV I/II antibodies, but should non-the-less, be handled as potentially infectious.
- Material of animal origin used in the preparation of the kit have been obtained from certified healthy animals but these materials should be handled as potentially infectious.
- Individual components of different lots and test kits should not be interchanged. The expiry dates and storage conditions stated on the packaging and the labels of the individual components must be observed.
- When handling the reagents, controls and patient samples, the current laboratory safety guidelines and good laboratory practice should be observed.
- Wear protective clothing, disposable gloves, and safety goggles while performing the test.
- According to the CLP Regulation No. 1272/2008, the kit components do not have to be labelled as hazardous substances. Detailed safety information can be found in the safety data sheet.
- Avoid any actions that could result in ingestion, inhalation or injection of the reagents. Never pipette by mouth.
- Avoid contact with individual reagents.
- Dispose of waste according to state and local environmental protection regulations.
- Broken glass can cause injury. Be cautious with glass vials.
- The quality control guidelines in the medical laboratory regarding the inclusion of control samples and/or pooled samples should be observed.
- Some components contain small amounts of sodium azide as a preservative. Prevent the formation of heavy metal azides in the drain system by flushing with copious amounts of water.

3 Storage and Stability

The kit is shipped at ambient temperature. Upon arrival, store the kit at 2 – 8 °C to keep it stable until its expiry date. Once opened the kit is stable until its expiry date. The shelf life of the ready-to-use reagents is indicated on the respective bottle label. For stability of prepared reagents refer to 6.1. Reagents must equilibrate to room temperature before use and refrigerated immediately after use.

4 Contents of the Kit

MT-Strips

STRIPS

12 strips

8 wells each, break apart, precoated with
N-acyl-histamine

Standards 1 – 6

CAL 1 - 6

6 vials

each 4 ml, ready for use, Concentrations:

Standard	1	2	3	4	5	6
ng/ml	0	0.3	1	3	10	30
nmol/l	0	2.7	9.0	27	90	270

Control 1 & 2

CON 1 & 2

2 vials

Each 4 ml, ready for use
Range: see QC certificate

Acylation Reagent

ACYL-REAG

3 vials

3 ml lyoph.,
dissolve content in SOLVENT

Acylation Buffer

ACYL-BUFF

1 vial

14 ml, ready for use, colour coded blue

Solvent 11 ml, ready for use, colour coded yellow	SOLVENT	1 vial
Antiserum 6 ml, ready for use, colour coded yellow, rabbit-anti-N-acyl-histamine	AS	1 vial
Enzyme Conjugate 13 ml, ready for use, anti-rabbit-IgG- peroxidase	CONJ	1 vial
Wash Buffer 20 ml, 50 x concentrated	WASH	1 vial
Substrate 13 ml, TMB solution, ready for use	SUB	1 vial
Stop Solution 13 ml, ready for use, contains 0.3 M sulphuric acid	STOP	1 vial
Acylation Plate For sample preparation (acylation)	ACYL-PLATE	2 plates
Equalizing Reagent lyoph., dissolve contents with 6 ml Acylation Buffer	EQUA-REAG	1 vial
Releasebuffer 21 ml, ready for use	RELEASE-BUFF	2 vials
Adhesive Foil 21 ml, ready for use	FOIL	2 pieces

Additional materials and equipment required but not provided:

- Pipettes for 10, 50 and 100 µl
- Multipipette
- Orbital shaker
- Vortex mixer and roll mixer
- Multichannel pipette or Microplate washing device
- Microplate photometer (450 nm)
- Distilled water
- Centrifuge
- Paper towels, pipette tips, timer
- Heating block or water bath and 1.5 ml reaction tubes (see 5.3)
- Stool collection tubes (s. 5.4)

5 Specimen Collection and Storage

Repeated freezing and thawing of samples should be avoided.

5.1 Plasma

EDTA- or heparin plasma can be used. However, as Histamine concentrations have been found to be lower in EDTA-plasma, it is recommended to use heparin plasma. Haemolytic, lipaemic and icteric samples should not be used.

The samples can be stored up to 6 hours at 2 – 8 °C. For a longer storage (up to 6 months) the samples must be frozen at -20 °C.

5.2 Urine

Spontaneous urine can be used for this test as well as collected urine. In the case of collected urine, the total volume of urine excreted during a 24-hours period should be collected and mixed in a single bottle containing 10 – 15 ml of 6 M hydrochloric acid as preservative. Avoid exposure to direct sun light. Determine the total volume and take an aliquot for the measurement. For patients with suspected kidney disorders the creatinine concentration should be determined in addition. Urine samples can be stored at -20 °C for at least 6 months.

Before use, mix urine and centrifuge.

5.3 Total Histamine

To determine total histamine, heparin whole blood must be used. Collect whole blood in a blood vial containing heparin as anticoagulant (e.g. LH-Monvette™) and mix carefully.

The samples can be stored up to 24 hours at 20 – 25 °C. Do not store at 2 - 8 °C, as this will lead to agglutination of leukocytes. Avoid exposure to direct sun light.

Equilibrate release buffer to room temperature. Determinations in duplicate are recommended.

1. Pipette **20 µl** of heparin whole blood into a reaction tube.
2. Add **500 µl** release buffer **RELEASE BUFF**, close tube and mix.
3. Incubate in heating block or water bath for 10 min at 90 °C.
4. Incubate in water bath (room temperature) for 10 min.
5. Centrifuge for 10 min at 2,000 x g at room temperature.
6. Use 50 µl of supernatant for sample preparation (acylation) according to section 6.2.

5.4 Stool

Stool collection tubes are required for specimen collection and must be used according to the instructions for use included. Stool collection tubes must be ordered separately.

The extracted samples can be stored in the stool collection tubes at room temperature for up to 2 days.

Before use in this assay, invert stool collection tubes several times or vortex. After mixing, allow to stand upright and settle for several minutes or centrifuge for 5 min at 2,000 x g at room temperature. Remove adhesive tape and twist off blue sleeve to pipette 50 µl of the supernatant for sample preparation (acylation), see 6.2.

For storage, the supernatant must be frozen at ≤ -20 °C.

5.5 Cell Culture Media

Cell culture media such as DMEM and RPMI can be used in this assay. Other media must be validated by the user.

6 Preparation of Reagents and Samples

6.1 Preparation of Reagents

6.1.1 Equalizing Reagent

Dissolve the contents of **EQUA-REAG** by pipetting 6 ml of **ACYL-BUFF** into the vial. Mix shortly on a vortex mixer and leave on a roll mixer for at least 20 minutes until dissolved completely. Thereby, avoid excessive formation of foam. The reconstituted Equalizing Reagent should be stored at -20 °C and is stable until expiry date printed on vial label.

6.1.2 Wash Buffer

Dilute the contents of the 20 ml concentrated (50x) wash buffer **WASH** with dist. water to a total volume of 1000 ml.

The diluted wash buffer can be stored at 2 – 8 °C for a maximum period of 4 weeks. For longer storage freeze at -20 °C.

Should the kit be used in several runs, then prepare only the required amount of wash buffer for each run.

6.1.3 Acylation Reagent

Remove the required amount of vials of acylation reagent **ACYL-REAG** from the foil pouch, leave the remaining vials in the foil pouch together with the desiccant and close it carefully.

Dissolve the content of one bottle in 3 ml **SOLVENT** and shake for 5 minutes on a roll mixer or similar mixer. The Acylation Reagent must always be prepared immediately before performing the assay and is stable for approximately 3 hours. After use discard leftovers of the acylation reagent.

The second and third vial allows a second and third run of the test, respectively. If the whole kit is to be used in one run it is recommended to pool the dissolved contents of the two vials of Acylation Reagent.

All other reagents are ready for use.

6.2 Preparation of Samples (Acylation)

Equilibrate reagents and samples to room temperature. Determinations in duplicates are recommended. As wells of the reaction plate **ACYL-PLATE** can be used only once, it is recommended to mark the respective wells.

1. Pipette

50 µl standard 1 – 6 **CAL 1-6**

50 µl control 1 & 2 **CON 1 & 2**

50 µl of extracted heparin whole blood (diluted 1:26 in release buffer and heated, see 5.3)

50 µl extracted stool sample

50 µl cell culture media sample

10 µl urine sample

50 µl EDTA-plasma

50 µl heparin plasma

into the required amount of wells of the reaction plate **ACYL-PLATE**.

2. Pipette **50 µl of dist. water** into each well containing **urine**.
3. Pipette **50 µl dissolved Equalizing Reagent** **EQUA-REAG** into each well containing **standards, controls and heparin whole blood, stool, cell culture media or urine**.
Do not add Equalizing Reagent to wells with EDTA-plasma or heparin plasma. However, pipette **50 µl Acylation Buffer** **ACYL-BUFF** into each well containing **EDTA-plasma or heparin plasma**.
4. Shake for 10 seconds on a horizontal shaker.
5. Pipette **50 µl dissolved Acylation Reagent** **ACYL-REAG** into each well and proceed with the next step, immediately.
6. Incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature on an orbital shaker at medium frequency.
7. Pipette **50 µl Antiserum** **AS** into each well.
8. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature on an orbital shaker at medium frequency.

Take 50 µl each for the ELISA.

7 Test Procedure ELISA

Allow reagents and samples to reach room temperature.

1. Transfer **50 µl** each of **acylated Standards 1 to 6, Controls 1 & 2** and **Samples** from the Acylation Plate into the respective wells of the coated microtiter strips **STRIPS**. Leave strips, which are not needed, in the bag with the desiccant and close it thoroughly.
2. Cover strips with adhesive foil **FOIL**.
Incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature (20 – 25 °C) on an orbital shaker at medium frequency.
3. Discard or aspirate the contents of the wells, pipette **300 µl diluted Wash Buffer** **WASH** into each well and again discard or aspirate the contents of the wells. Remove residual liquid by tapping the inverted plate on clean absorbent paper.
Repeat the washing procedure 4 times.
Alternatively, a washing device may be used.
4. Pipette **100 µl Enzyme Conjugate** **CONJ** into each well.
5. Incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature on an orbital shaker at medium frequency.
6. Washing: Repeat step 3.
7. Pipette **100 µl Substrate** **SUB** into each well.
8. Shake for 10 seconds on an orbital shaker.
Incubate for 20 ± 5 minutes at room temperature (20 – 25 °C) on the table without shaking. Cover with a large box.
9. Pipette **100 µl Stop Solution** **STOP** into each well.
Shake for 10 seconds on an orbital shaker.
10. Read the optical density at 450 nm (reference wavelength between 570 nm and 650 nm) in a microplate photometer within 15 minutes.

8 Calculation of the Results

On a semi logarithmic graph paper the concentration of the standards (x-axis, logarithmic) are plotted against their corresponding optical density (y-axis, linear). When using analysing software, it is recommended to use the Four Parameter Logistic (4PL) Regression (alternatively: cubic-spline or logit-log).

Alternatively, the optical density of each standard and sample can be related to the optical density of the zero standard, expressed as the ratio OD/OD_{max} , and then plotted on the y-axis. When using analysing software, it is recommended to use the Four Parameter Logistic (4PL) Regression (alternatively: cubic-spline).

The concentration of the controls and EDTA-plasma, heparin plasma and cell culture media samples in ng/ml can be read directly from the standard curve.

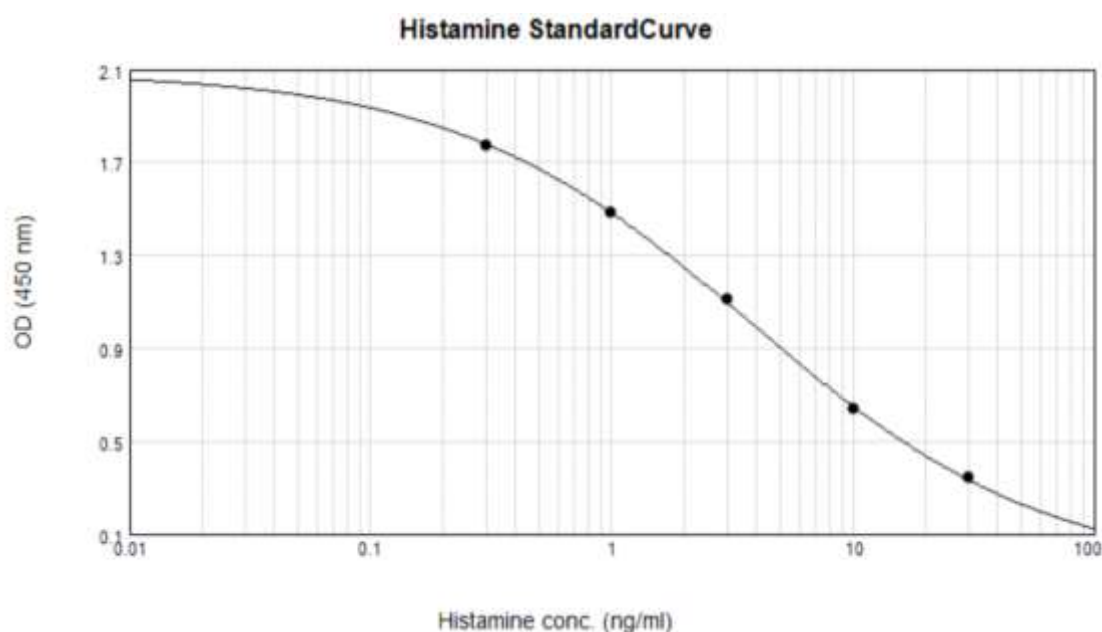
The read concentration of urine samples in ng/ml must be multiplied by a factor of 5.

The read concentration of the heparin whole blood samples in ng/ml must be multiplied by a factor of 26.

The read concentration of the stool samples must be multiplied by a factor of 150, which accounts for the amount stool used in the assay. The result is expressed as ng/g.

Conversion: Histamine: 1 ng/ml corresponds to 9.0 nmol/l

Typical standard curve:



Quality Control: The results are only valid, when the kit controls are within the range indicated on the QC certificate. Otherwise, the test must be repeated.

9 Assay Characteristics

9.1 Normal Range

Matrix	Reference Range
EDTA Plasma	< 1 ng/ml
Heparin Plasma	< 4.5 ng/ml
Heparin whole blood	10 - 100 ng/ml
Urine	< 45 µg/day
Stool	< 600 ng/g

The reference range given below should only be taken as a guideline. It is recommended that each laboratory should establish its own normal values.

9.2 Sensitivity

Matrix	Lower Detection Limit	Calculation
EDTA Plasma, Heparin Plasma	0.09 ng/ml	OD _{Cal1} - 2xSD
Heparin whole blood	2.3 ng/ml	OD _{Cal1} - 2xSD
Urine	0.45 ng/ml	OD _{Cal1} - 2xSD
Stool	13.4 ng/ml	OD _{Cal1} - 2xSD
Cell Culture Media	0.09 ng/ml	OD _{Cal1} - 2xSD

9.3 Specificity (Cross Reactivity)

Substance	Cross Reactivity (%)
Histamine	100
1-methyl histamine	< 0.05
3-methyl histamine	0.1
1-methyl-4-imidazol-acetic acid	< 0.0002
Imidazol-4-acetic acid	< 0.0005
L-histidine	< 0.0002

9.4 Recovery after spiking

Matrix	Range (ng/ml)	Mean (%)	Range (%)
EDTA Plasma	0.78 – 12.6	98	96 - 102
Heparin Plasma	1.8 – 13.0	105	94 - 111
Heparin whole blood	57 – 157	104	99 - 111
Urine	14 – 109	101	93 - 107
Stool	206 – 1773	103	92 - 109

9.5 Linearity

Matrix	Range(ng/ml)	Highest Dilution	Mean (%)	Range (%)
EDTA-Plasma	3.1 – 14.2	1 : 5 Equalizing Reagent	107	102 - 110
Heparin Plasma	3.2 – 16.0	1 : 5 Equalizing Reagent	96	89 - 101
H. whole blood	27 – 389	1 : 15 dist. water	100	96 - 103
Urine	6.8 - 78	1 : 10 dist. water	94	87 - 102
Stool	210 – 2052	1 : 10 dist. water	97	88 - 102

9.6 Reproducibility

Matrix	Range (ng/ml)	Intra-Assay-cv (%)
EDTA-Plasma	1.7 – 9.1	10.5 – 7.0 %
Heparin Plasma	1.6 – 9.9	11.1 – 5.5 %
H. whole blood	54 – 158	9.8 – 8.4 %
Urine	13 – 64	8.9 – 9.4 %
Stool	179 – 1096	10.6 – 8.7 %

9.7 Comparison of methods

Matrix	Method	Correlation
EDTA-Plasma	LC/MS	$Y = 0.87 \times \text{LC/MS} - 0.06$; $R = 0.979$; $N = 13$
Heparin Plasma	LC/MS	$Y = 1.01 \times \text{LC/MS} + 0.089$; $R = 0.973$; $N = 28$
H. whole blood	Elisa A	$Y = 1.11 \times \text{ELISA A} - 4.71$; $R = 0.994$; $N = 21$
Urine	LC/MS	$Y = 1.05 \times \text{LC/MS} + 3.2$; $R = 0.964$; $N = 32$
Stool	Elisa A	$Y = 0.87 \times \text{ELISA A} + 63$; $R = 0.961$; $N = 51$

9.8 Calibration

The calibration is carried out by weighing the pure substance. The correctness of the method was determined by comparing the methods (9.7).

9.9 Limitation of Method

The result of the Histamine-Elisa is to be seen in connection with other diagnostic procedures and the anamnesis and the resulting questions.

Samples measured above the highest standard must be diluted with the appropriate medium (see 9.5) and determined again. The values of diluted samples must be multiplied by the appropriate dilution factor.

9.10 Interferences

Hemolytic, lipemic and icteric specimens should not be used. Do not use non-acidified urine collection.

10 Literature

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Pipetting Scheme - Sample Preparation

		Stand.	Controls	EDTA- & Heparin Plasma	Stool	Urine	H. whole blood	Cell Culture Medium
ACYL-PLATE:								
CAL 1 - 6	µl	50						
CON 1 & 2	µl		50					
EDTA- & Heparin Plasma	µl			50				
Stool					50			
Urine	µl					10		
H. whole blood (dil. 1:26*)	µl						50	
Cell Culture Medium	µl							50
Dist. Water	µl					50		
EQUA-REAG	µl	50	50		50	50	50	50
ACYL-BUFF	µl			50				

* see section 5

Shake for 10 seconds

ACYL-REAG	µl	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
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Immediately, shake for 20 minutes at room temperature

AS	µl	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
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Shake for 30 minutes at room temperature

Pipetting Scheme - ELISA

		Acyl. Standards	Acyl. Controls	Acyl. Sample
STRIPS:				
Transfer from ACYL-PLATE to STRIPS	µl	50	50	50

Cover with **FOIL**

Shake for 1 hour at room temperature

4 x washing

CONJ	µl	100	100	100
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Shake for 20 minutes at room temperature

4 x washing

SUB	µl	100	100	100
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Shake for 10 seconds

Incubate for 20 ± 5 minutes at room temperature, covered with large box, no shaking

STOP	µl	100	100	100
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Shake for 10 seconds and determine absorbance at 450 nm (ref 570 – 650 nm)