



# Procalcitonin (Human) ELISA Kit

(Catalog # E4933-100, 96 assays, Store at 4°C)

## I. Introduction:

Procalcitonin (PCT) is a 116 amino acid precursor of calcitonin, a hormone synthesized by the parafollicular C cells of the thyroid and involved with calcium homeostasis. It arises due to endopeptidase mediated cleavage of preprocalcitonin. During systemic inflammation, triggers such as LPS, microbial toxins, or inflammatory mediators such as TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6 cause increased production (100-1000 fold) of PCT. On the other hand, cytokines such as IFN- $\gamma$  released during viral infections, downregulate the production of TNF- $\alpha$  and in turn decrease PCT levels. Due to this discrimination between viral and bacterial infections, PCT is routinely used as a marker to detect systemic bacterial infection and responses to antibiotic therapies. BioVision's Procalcitonin (Human) ELISA kit is based on the Sandwich principle to quantitatively measure the concentration of PCT in human serum, plasma, and other biological fluids. Test samples, Standards, and Biotinylated Detection antibody are added to the wells pre-coated with capture antibody and then washed with Wash Buffer. The HRP-Streptavidin is added and any unattached conjugates are washed off using Wash Buffer. The HRP enzymatic reaction is detected by the addition of TMB-substrate. Finally, the reaction is terminated with an acidic stop solution. The color developed is directly proportional to the concentration of PCT in the sample or standard.

## II. Features and Benefits:

- Detection range: 31.25 - 2000 pg/ml
- Sensitivity: 18.75 pg/ml
- Assay Precision: Intra-Assay CV < 8% and Inter-Assay CV < 10%
- Recovery range: 85 - 105% for normal human serum and plasma samples
- This Sandwich ELISA is highly sensitive and highly specific for the detection of PCT in human samples. There is no significant cross-reactivity or interference between PCT and analogues

## III. Sample Type:

Human Serum, Plasma, Tissue lysates and other biological fluids

## IV. Kit Contents:

Components	E4933-100	Part Number	Storage Temp.
Micro ELISA plate	8 x 12 Strips	E4933-100-1	-20°C
Standard (Lyophilized) (2000 pg)	2 vials	E4933-100-2	-20°C
Sample/Standard Dilution Buffer	20 ml	E4933-100-3	4°C
Biotin-labeled Antibody	120 $\mu$ l	E4933-100-4	4°C (Avoid light)
Antibody Dilution Buffer	10 ml	E4933-100-5	4°C
HRP-Streptavidin Conjugate (SABC)	120 $\mu$ l	E4933-100-6	4°C (Avoid light)
SABC Dilution Buffer	10 ml	E4933-100-7	4°C
TMB Substrate Solution	10 ml	E4933-100-8	4°C (Avoid light)
Stop Solution	10 ml	E4933-100-9	4°C
Wash Buffer (25X)	30 ml	E4933-100-10	4°C
Plate Sealers	5	E4933-100-11	4°C

## V. User Supplied Reagents and Equipment:

- Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 nm
- 37°C incubator
- Precision pipettes with disposable tips
- Distilled or deionized water
- Clean eppendorf tubes for preparing standards or sample dilutions
- Absorbent paper

## VI. Storage and Handling:

An unopened kit can be stored at 4°C for up to 6 months. If the kit is not used within 1 month, store the items separately according to the above-mentioned conditions once the kit is received

## VII. Reagent and Sample Preparation:

**Note:** Prepare reagents within 30 minutes before the experiment

Before using the kit, spin tubes and bring down all components to the bottom of tubes

1. **Biotin-labeled Antibody working solution:** Prepare this working stock 1 hour prior to the start of the experiment. Calculate the total volume of the working solution: 0.1 ml/well x quantity of wells. Add 0.1 – 0.2 ml to the total volume. Dilute the Biotin-labeled antibody with Antibody Dilution Buffer at 1:100. Mix thoroughly.
2. **HRP-Streptavidin Conjugate (SABC):** Prepare this working stock 30 minutes prior to the start of the experiment. Calculate the total volume of the working solution: 0.1 ml/well x quantity of wells. Add 0.1 – 0.2 ml to the total volume. Dilute the SABC with SABC Dilution Buffer at 1:100. Mix thoroughly.
3. **Wash Buffer:** Dilute 25X Wash Buffer to 1X by adding 30 ml of 25X Wash Buffer and make up the volume to 750 ml with deionized/distilled water. If crystals present in the 25X Wash Buffer, warm it in water bath at 40°C. Mix it gently. The solution must be cooled to room temperature before use.
4. **Standard Preparation:**
  - Add 1 ml Sample Dilution Buffer into one Standard tube (labeled as zero tube). Keep the tube at room temperature for 10 minutes. Mix thoroughly.



- Label 7 tubes with 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32, 1/64 and blank respectively. Add 0.3 ml of the Sample Dilution Buffer into each tube. Add 0.3 ml of the above Standard solution (from zero tube) into 1<sup>st</sup> tube and mix them thoroughly.
- Transfer 0.3 ml from 1<sup>st</sup> tube to 2<sup>nd</sup> tube and mix them thoroughly. Transfer 0.3 ml from 2<sup>nd</sup> tube to 3<sup>rd</sup> tube and mix them thoroughly, and so on. **Sample Dilution Buffer** was used for the blank control. (Note: Please use Standard Solutions within 2 hours of preparation).

#### 5. Sample Preparation:

**Note:** Isolate the test samples soon after collecting, then, analyze immediately (within 2 hours). Or aliquot and store at -20°C (≤ 1 month) or -80°C (≤ 2 months). Avoid multiple freeze-thaw cycles. The hemolytic samples are not suitable for this assay.

- **Serum:** Place whole blood sample at room temperature for 2 hours or put it at 2 - 8°C overnight and centrifugation for 20 minutes at approximately 1000xg, Collect the supernatant and carry out the assay immediately. Blood collection tubes should be disposable, non-pyrogenic, and endotoxin free.
- **Plasma:** Collect plasma using EDTA-Na<sub>2</sub> or heparin as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge samples for 15 minutes at 1000xg at 2 - 8°C within 30 minutes of collection. Collect the supernatant and carry out the assay immediately. Avoid hemolysis, high cholesterol samples.
- **Tissue homogenates:** As hemolytic blood may affect the assay result, it is necessary to remove residual blood by washing tissue with pre-cooling PBS buffer (0.01 M, pH 7.4). Mince tissue after weighing it and homogenize it in PBS (the volume depends on the weight of the tissue. Normally, 9 ml PBS would be appropriate to 1 gram tissue pieces. Some protease inhibitors are recommended to add into the PBS) with a glass homogenizer on ice. To further break the cells, you can sonicate the suspension with an ultrasonic cell disrupter or subject it to freeze-thaw cycles. The homogenates are then centrifuged for 5 minutes at 5000xg to get the supernatant. The total protein concentration was determined by BCA kit and the total protein concentration of each pore sample should not exceed 0.3 mg.
- **Cell culture supernatant:** Centrifuge supernatant for 20 minutes at 1000xg at 2 - 8°C to remove insoluble impurity and cell debris. Collect the clear supernatant and carry out the assay immediately.
- **Cell Culture Lysate:** Commercial RIPA kits are recommended to follow the instructions provided. Generally, 0.5 ml RIPA lysis buffer would be appropriate to 2x10<sup>6</sup> cells, DNA must be removed. The total protein concentration was determined by BCA kit and the total protein concentration of each pore sample should not exceed 0.3 mg.
- **Other biological fluids:** Centrifuge samples for 20 minutes at 1000xg at 4°C. Collect the supernatant and carry out the assay immediately.

**Note:** End user should estimate the concentration of the target protein in the test sample first, and select a proper dilution factor to make the diluted target protein concentration fall in the optimal detection range of the kit. **The matrix components in the sample may affect the test results. Please dilute the sample ½ with Sample Dilution Buffer before testing.**

#### VIII. Assay Protocol:

**Note:** Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature 30 minutes prior to the assay.

It is recommended that all standards and samples be run at least in duplicate.

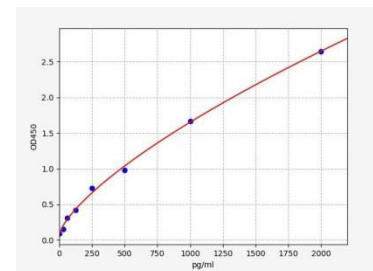
A standard curve should be run for each assay.

1. Prepare all reagents, samples (**diluted ½ with Sample Dilution Buffer**) and standards as instructed in section VII.
2. Wash plate 2 times with **1X Wash Buffer** before adding standard, sample (**diluted ½ with Sample Dilution Buffer**) and control wells.
3. Add 100 µl of each **standards** or **samples** into appropriate wells. Cover well and incubate for 1.5 hours at 37°C.
4. Remove the cover and discard the plate content. Wash the plate 2 times with **1X Wash Buffer** without letting the wells completely dry.
5. Add 0.1 ml of **Biotin-Detection antibody** work solution into the above wells. Seal the plate and incubate at 37°C for 60 minutes.
6. Discard the solution and wash 3 times with **1X Wash Buffer**. Wash by filling each well with Wash Buffer (350 µl) using a multi-channel pipette or autowasher. Let it soak for 1-2 minutes, and then remove all residual wash-liquid from the wells by aspiration. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Tap the plate on absorbent filter papers or other absorbent materials.
7. Add 0.1 ml of **SABC working solution** into each well, cover the plate and incubate at 37°C for 30 minutes.
8. Discard the solution and wash 5 times with **1X Wash Buffer** as step 6.
9. Add 90 µl of **TMB substrate** into each well, cover the plate and incubate at 37 °C in dark within 10-20 minutes. (Note: The reaction time can be shortened or extended according to the actual color change, but not more than 30 minutes. The reaction can be terminated when apparent gradient appeared in standard wells).
10. Add 50 µl of **Stop Solution** to each well. Read result at 450 nm within 20 minutes.

#### IX. Calculation:

For calculation, (the relative O.D.450) = (the O.D.450 of each well) – (the O.D.450 of Zero well). The standard curve can be plotted as the relative O.D.450 of each standard solution (Y) vs. the respective concentration of the standard solution (X). The target concentration of the samples can be interpolated from the standard curve. If the samples measured were diluted, multiply the dilution factor to the concentrations from interpolation to obtain the concentration before dilution.

**Figure:** Typical Standard Curve and OD values: These standard curves are for demonstration only. A standard curve must be run with each assay.





STD. (pg/ml)	OD-1	OD-2	Average	Corrected
0	0.089	0.091	0.09	0.000
31.25	0.153	0.157	0.155	0.065
62.5	0.31	0.318	0.314	0.224
125	0.417	0.429	0.423	0.333
250	0.717	0.737	0.727	0.637
500	0.968	0.996	0.982	0.892
1000	1.644	1.692	1.668	1.578
2000	2.61	2.686	2.648	2.558

**X. Recovery:**

Matrices mentioned below were spiked with certain level of PCT and the recovery rates were calculated by comparing the measured value to the expected amount of PCT in samples

Matrix	Recovery Range (%)	Average (%)
Serum (n=5)	89-98	91
EDTA Plasma (n=5)	93-101	96
Heparin Plasma (n=5)	87-104	96

**XI. Linearity:**

Linearity of the assay kit was determined by spiking samples and their serial dilutions with appropriate concentration of PCT. The results are represented as percentage of calculated concentration to the expected value.

Sample	1:2	1:4	1:8
Serum (n=5)	89-104%	90-104%	86-104%
EDTA Plasma (n=5)	85-96%	83-97%	82-98%
Heparin Plasma (n=5)	83-99%	80-91%	84-100%

**XII. Related Products:**

- Calcitonin (Human) ELISA Kit (E4743)
- IL-6 (human) ELISA Kit (K4143)
- IL-1 $\alpha$  (Human) ELISA Kit (E4802)
- TNF-alpha (Human) ELISA Kit (E4603)
- IFN-gamma (Human) ELISA Kit (E4825)