



# Total Polyamine Assay Kit (Fluorometric)

4/17

(Catalog # K475-100; 100 assays; Store at -20°C)

## I. Introduction:

Polyamines are small organic molecules bearing two or more primary amine moieties. Biogenic polyamines such as spermidine, putrescine and spermine function as transcellular signaling molecules and are involved in diverse biological processes. Although small amounts of polyamines are synthesized in cells, larger quantities are often encountered as a result of putrefaction and decay, as they are the direct product of decarboxylation of amino acids such as methionine, lysine and arginine. The enzyme ornithine decarboxylase generates the polyamine putrescine, which is not only responsible for repulsive odor but is also implicated in cancer. Intracellular polyamines readily bind DNA and are critical to preventing oxidative DNA damage and directing DNA double-strand break repair pathways. Polyamine levels decline with age and dietary supplementation of the polyamine spermidine has recently been shown to reduce age-related oxidative stress and extend lifespan in mouse models of aging. BioVision's Total Polyamine Detection Kit enables the rapid determination of polyamine concentration in biological samples. A selective enzyme mix acts on polyamines, generating hydrogen peroxide that is then reacted with a fluorometric probe (Ex/Em = 535/587 nm) to yield a signal proportional to the amount of polyamine present. The kit includes a proprietary Sample Clean-Up reagent for pre-treating samples in order to eliminate common metabolites found in biological samples that may interfere with the assay or increase sample background. The assay is rapid, simple, and high throughput compatible, and can detect polyamine concentrations as low as 0.1  $\mu\text{M}$  in tissue lysates and other samples such as saliva.



## II. Applications:

- Measurement of polyamine content of various tissues/cell extracts
- Determination of polyamine concentration in biological fluids

## III. Sample Type:

- Animal tissues (e.g. intestine, lung)
- Biological fluids (e.g. saliva)

## IV. Kit Contents:

Components	K475-100	Cap Code	Part Number
Polyamine Assay Buffer	25 ml	WM	K475-100-1
Polyamine Probe (in DMSO)	200 $\mu\text{l}$	Red	K475-100-2
Polyamine Enzyme Mix	1 vial	Purple	K475-100-3
Polyamine Developer	1 vial	Green	K475-100-4
Sample Clean-Up Mix	1 vial	Blue	K475-100-5
Polyamine Standard	1 vial	Yellow	K475-100-6

## V. User Supplied Reagents and Equipment:

- Black 96-well plate with flat bottom
- Multi-well spectrophotometer
- 10 kDa Spin Column (Cat. # 1997 or equivalent)

## VI. Storage Conditions and Reagent Preparation:

Store kit at -20°C, protected from light. Briefly centrifuge small vials prior to opening. Read entire protocol before performing the assay.

- **Polyamine Assay Buffer:** Allow to warm to room temperature prior to use. Store at 4°C, protected from light.
- **Polyamine Probe:** Provided as a solution in DMSO. Divide into aliquots and store at -20°C, protected from light. Prior to use, warm solution to room temperature. After use, promptly retighten cap to minimize adsorption of airborne moisture.
- **Polyamine Enzyme Mix and Polyamine Developer, and Sample Clean-Up Mix:** Reconstitute each vial with 220  $\mu\text{l}$  Polyamine Assay Buffer. Aliquot and store at -20°C. Keep on ice while in use and use reconstituted aliquots within two months.
- **Polyamine Standard:** Reconstitute with 100  $\mu\text{l}$  ddH<sub>2</sub>O and mix thoroughly to generate a 100 mM Polyamine Standard solution. Aliquot and store at -20°C. Use within two months.

## VII. Polyamine Assay Protocol:

1. **Sample Preparation:** For tissues and cultured cells: add 50  $\mu\text{l}$  of ice-cold Polyamine Assay Buffer per 10 mg of sample (wet weight) or  $\sim 1 \times 10^6$  pelleted cells. Homogenize samples on ice using a Dounce homogenizer (Cat. # 1998). Centrifuge at 10,000  $\times g$  for 5 min at 4°C. Collect the supernatant. Add 2  $\mu\text{l}$  Sample Clean-Up Mix per 100  $\mu\text{l}$  lysate (or saliva) and incubate for 30 min at RT. Transfer sample to a 10 kD MWCO filter (Cat. # 1997) and filter by centrifugation at 10,000  $\times g$  for 10 min. Collect the resultant filtrate and add 2-20  $\mu\text{l}$  to desired wells of a black 96-well plate. Adjust the volume to 50  $\mu\text{l}$  per well with Polyamine Assay Buffer. For each sample, prepare identical background control reactions in separate wells.

### Notes:

- Once treated with Sample Cleanup Mix and filtered, cell and tissue lysates can be stored at -80°C for future experiments.
  - For unknown samples, we recommend doing a pilot experiment testing several doses to ensure that readings are within the range of the standard curve.
2. **Standard Curve Preparation:** Dilute the 100 mM Polyamine Standard by combining 10  $\mu\text{l}$  with 990  $\mu\text{l}$  dH<sub>2</sub>O to generate a 1 mM solution. Further dilute the 1 mM solution by adding 50  $\mu\text{l}$  to 950  $\mu\text{l}$  dH<sub>2</sub>O, yielding a 50  $\mu\text{M}$  Polyamine Standard working solution. Add 0,

