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Datasheet/User Guide

## **Human IL-2 ELISA Kit**

Catalog Number: E82-003

Lot Number: 250811

For Serum, Plasma, Cell Culture Supernatants

### **Introduction**

IL-2 is a protein of 133 amino acids (15.4 kDa). It is produced mainly by T-cells expressing the surface antigen CD4 following cell activation by mitogens or allogens under physiological conditions. IL-2 displays significant anti-tumor activity for a variety of tumor cell types since it supports the proliferation and clonal expansion of T-cells that specifically attack certain tumor types.

The Human IL-2 ELISA kit is an in-vitro enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for the quantitative measurement of human IL-2 in serum, plasma, and cell culture supernatants. This assay employs an antibody specific for human IL-2 coated on a 96-well plate. Standards and samples are pipetted into the wells and IL-2 present in a sample is bound to the wells by the immobilized antibody. The wells are washed and biotinylated anti-human IL-2 antibody is added. After washing away unbound biotinylated antibody, HRP-conjugated streptavidin is pipetted to the wells. The wells are again washed, a TMB substrate solution is added to the wells and color develops in proportion to the amount of IL-2 bound. The Stop Solution changes the color from blue to yellow, and the intensity of the color is measured at 450 nm.

### **Storage/Shelf Life**

2 - 8°C/6 months from date of receipt



## Reagents

| Component                      | Size / Description                                                                         | Storage / Stability After Preparation |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Human IL-2 Microplate          | 96 wells (12 strips x 8 wells) coated with anti-Human IL-2.                                | 1 month at 4°C*                       |
| Human IL-2 Standard Protein    | 2 vials of Human IL-2. 1 vial is enough to run each standard in duplicate.                 | 1 week at -80°C                       |
| Human IL-2 Detection Antibody  | 2 vials of biotinylated anti-Human IL-2. Each vial is enough to assay half the microplate. | 5 days at 4°C                         |
| Wash Buffer                    | 25 ml of 20X concentrated solution.                                                        | 1 month at 4°C                        |
| HRP-Streptavidin               | 200 µl 400X concentrated HRP-conjugated streptavidin.                                      | Do not store and reuse.               |
| TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent | 12 ml of 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) in buffer solution.                          | N/A                                   |
| Stop Solution                  | 8 ml of 0.2 M sulfuric acid.                                                               | N/A                                   |
| Assay Diluent A                | 30 ml of diluent buffer, 0.09% sodium azide as preservative.                               | N/A                                   |
| Assay Diluent B                | 15 ml of 5X concentrated buffer.                                                           | 1 month at 4°C                        |

## Additional Materials Required (but not provided)

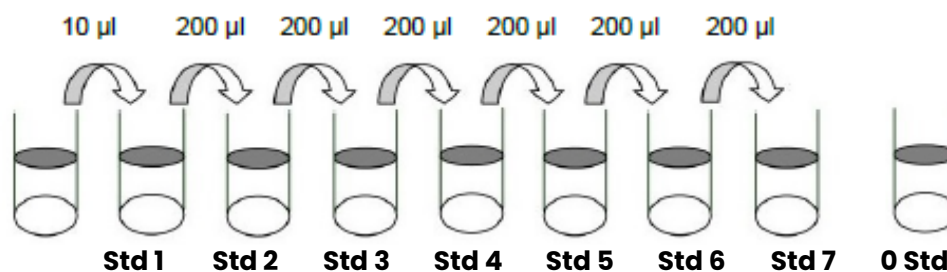
- Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 nm.
- ELISA plate shaker or platform rocker.
- Precision pipettes to deliver 2 µl to 1 ml volumes.
- Adjustable 1-25 ml pipettes for reagent preparation.
- 100 ml and 1 liter graduated cylinders.
- Absorbent paper.
- Distilled or deionized water.
- Log-log graph paper or computer and software for ELISA data analysis.
- Tubes to prepare standard or sample dilutions.

## Reagent Preparation

1. Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature before use.
2. Assay Diluent B should be diluted 5-fold with deionized or distilled water before use.
3. Sample dilution: Assay Diluent A should be used for dilution of serum and plasma samples. 1X Assay Diluent B should be used for dilution of cell culture supernatant samples. The suggested dilution for normal serum/plasma is 2-fold.

Note: Levels of IL-2 may vary between different samples. Optimal dilution factors for each sample must be determined by the investigator.

4. Preparation of standard: Briefly spin a vial of standard protein. Add 400  $\mu$ l Assay Diluent A (for serum/plasma samples) or 1X Assay Diluent B (for cell culture medium) into the Standard Protein vial to prepare a 150 ng/ml standard. Dissolve the powder thoroughly by a gentle mix. Add 10  $\mu$ l IL-2 standard from the vial of Standard Protein, into a tube with 990  $\mu$ l Assay Diluent A or 1X Assay Diluent B to prepare a 1500 pg/ml stock standard solution. Pipette 400  $\mu$ l Assay Diluent A or 1X Assay Diluent B into each tube. Use the stock standard solution to produce a dilution series (shown below). Mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer. Assay Diluent A or 1X Assay Diluent B serves as the zero standard (0 pg/ml).



| Diluent volume | Std +<br>400 $\mu$ l | 990 $\mu$ l   | 400 $\mu$ l  | 400 $\mu$ l    | 400 $\mu$ l    | 400 $\mu$ l    | 400 $\mu$ l   | 400 $\mu$ l   | 400 $\mu$ l |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Concentration  | 150<br>ng/ml         | 1500<br>pg/ml | 500<br>pg/ml | 166.7<br>pg/ml | 55.56<br>pg/ml | 18.51<br>pg/ml | 6.18<br>pg/ml | 2.07<br>pg/ml | 0<br>pg/ml  |

5. If the Wash Buffer (20X) contains visible crystals, warm to room temperature and mix gently until dissolved. Dilute 25 ml of 20X Wash Buffer into 475 ml deionized or distilled water to yield 500 ml of 1X Wash Buffer.
6. Briefly spin the Detection Antibody vial before use. Add 100 µl of 1X Assay Diluent B into the vial to prepare a detection antibody concentrate. Pipette up and down to mix gently (the concentrate can be stored at 4°C for 5 days). The detection antibody concentrate should be diluted 58-fold with 1X Assay Diluent B and used in step 5 of Assay Procedure.
7. Briefly spin the HRP-Streptavidin concentrate vial and pipette up and down to mix gently before use, as precipitates may form during storage. HRP-Streptavidin concentrate should be diluted 400-fold with 1X Assay Diluent B. For example: Add 37.5 µl of HRP-Streptavidin concentrate into a tube with 15 ml 1X Assay Diluent B to prepare a final 400-fold diluted solution. Mix well. DO NOT STORE THE DILUTED SOLUTION FOR NEXT DAY USE.

## **Assay Procedure**

1. Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature before use. It is recommended that all standards and samples be run at least in duplicate.
2. Label removable 8-well strips as appropriate for your experiment.
3. Add 100 µl of each standard (see Reagent Preparation step 4) and sample into appropriate wells. Cover wells and incubate for 2.5 hours at room temperature with gentle shaking.
4. Discard the solution and wash 4 times with 1X Wash Solution. Wash by filling each well with Wash Buffer (300 µl) using a multi-channel Pipette or autowasher. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential to good performance. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against clean paper towels.
5. Add 100 µl of 1X prepared biotinylated antibody (Reagent Preparation step 6) to each well. Incubate for 1 hour at room temperature with gentle shaking.
6. Discard the solution. Repeat the wash as in step 4.
7. Add 100 µl of prepared Streptavidin solution (see Reagent Preparation step 7) to each well. Incubate for 45 minutes at room temperature with gentle shaking.
8. Discard the solution. Repeat the wash as in step 4.
9. Add 100 µl of TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent to each well. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature in the dark with gentle shaking.
10. Add 50 µl of Stop Solution to each well. Read at 450 nm immediately.



## Assay Procedure Summary

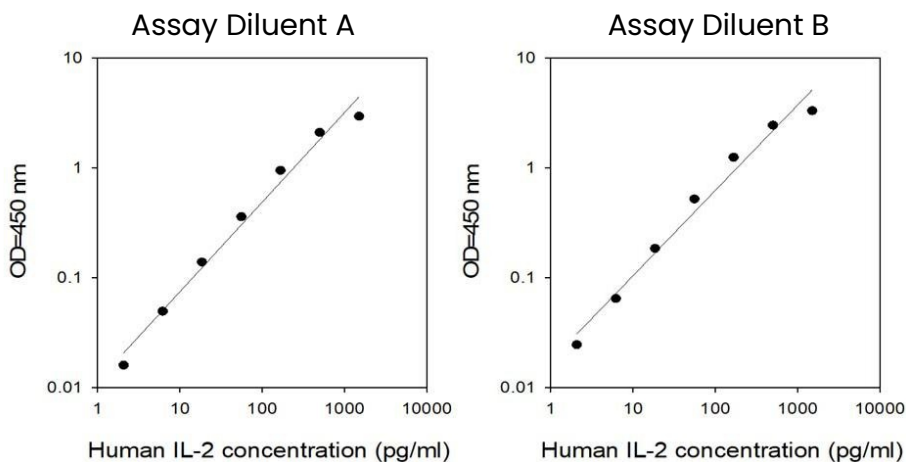
1. Prepare all reagents, samples and standards as instructed.
2. Add 100 µl standard or sample to each well. Incubate 2.5 hours at room temperature.
3. Add 100 µl prepared biotin antibody to each well. Incubate 1 hour at room temperature.
4. Add 100 µl prepared Streptavidin solution. Incubate 45 minutes at room temperature.
5. Add 100 µl TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent to each well. Incubate 30 minutes at room temperature.
6. Add 50 µl Stop Solution to each well. Read at 450 nm immediately.

## Calculation of Results

Calculate the mean absorbance for each set of duplicate standards, controls and samples, and subtract the average zero standard optical density. Plot the standard curve on log-log graph paper or using Sigma plot software, with standard concentration on the x-axis and absorbance on the y-axis. Draw the best-fit straight line through the standard points.

## Typical Data

The typical standard curve was generated using the Human IL-2 ELISA kit protocol. The standard curves are for demonstration only. A standard curve must be generated for each assay.



## Sensitivity

The minimum detectable dose of Human IL-2 was determined to be 4 pg/ml.

Minimum detectable dose is defined as the analyte concentration resulting in an absorbance that is 2 standard deviations higher than that of the blank (diluent buffer.)



## Spiking & Recovery

Recovery was determined by spiking various levels of Human IL-2 into the sample types listed below. Mean recoveries are as follows:

| Sample Type        | Average % Recovery | Range (%) |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Serum              | 94.7               | 82-102    |
| Plasma             | 95.5               | 83-103    |
| Cell culture media | 96.3               | 84-103    |

## Linearity

| Sample Type                                    | Serum        | Plasma       | Cell culture media |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 1:2 dilution<br>Avg % of Expected<br>Range (%) | 96<br>85-103 | 95<br>82-102 | 93<br>84-103       |
| 1:4 dilution<br>Avg % of Expected<br>Range (%) | 97<br>83-102 | 96<br>84-104 | 95<br>85-104       |

## Reproducibility

Intra-Assay CV%: <10%

Inter-Assay CV%: <12%

## Specificity

This ELISA kit shows no cross-reactivity with any of the cytokines tested: Human Angiogenin, BDNF, BLC, ENA-78, FGF-4, IL-1 alpha, IL-1 beta, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-11, IL-12 p70, IL-12 p40, IL-13, IL-15, I-309, IP-10, G-CSF, GM-CSF, IFN-gamma, MCP-1, MCP-2, MCP-3, MDC, MIP-1 alpha, MIP-1 beta, MIP-1 delta, PARC, PDGF, RANTES, SCF, TARC, TGF-beta, TIMP-1, TIMP-2, TNF-alpha, TNF-beta, TPO, VEGF.



## Troubleshooting Guide

| Problem             | Potential Cause                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Solution                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Poor Standard Curve | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Inaccurate pipetting</li> <li>◦ Improper standard dilution</li> </ul>                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Check pipettes</li> <li>◦ Briefly centrifuge the standard protein and dissolve the powder thoroughly by gently mixing</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Low Signal          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Improper preparation of standard and/or biotinylated antibody</li> <li>◦ Too brief incubation times</li> <li>◦ Inadequate reagent volumes or improper dilution</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Briefly spin down vials before opening</li> <li>◦ Ensure sufficient incubation times are followed. Standard/sample incubation step may be done overnight at 4°C with gentle shaking (may increase overall signal, including background)</li> <li>◦ Check pipettes and ensure correct preparation</li> </ul> |
| Large CV            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Inaccurate pipetting</li> <li>◦ Air bubbles in wells</li> </ul>                                                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Check pipettes</li> <li>◦ Carefully remove air bubbles</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| High Background     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Plate is insufficiently washed</li> <li>◦ Contaminated wash buffer</li> </ul>                                                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Review protocol for proper wash steps. If using a plate washer, ensure all ports are unobstructed.</li> <li>◦ Make fresh wash buffer</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                             |
| Low Sensitivity     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Improper storage of the kit</li> <li>◦ Stop Solution issue</li> </ul>                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Store the standard at -70°C after reconstitution, others at 2-8 °C. Keep substrate solution protected from light</li> <li>◦ Add stop solution to each well before reading plate</li> </ul>                                                                                                                  |

## Warranty

Products are warranted by Bethyl Laboratories, Inc. to meet stated product specifications and to conform to label descriptions when used, handled and stored according to instructions. Unless otherwise stated, this warranty is limited to six months from date of receipt. Bethyl Laboratories sole liability for the product is limited to replacement of the product or refund of the purchase price. Bethyl Laboratories products are supplied for research applications. They are not intended for medicinal, diagnostic or therapeutic use. The products may not be resold, modified for resale or used to manufacture commercial products without prior written approval from Bethyl Laboratories, Inc. For more information, go to our website: <https://www.fortislife.com/sales-terms>

