



Urinary Prostacyclin ELISA kit

Catalog #: ADI-901-025

480 Well Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay Kit

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Product Manual

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Please read entire
booklet before
proceeding with the
assay.

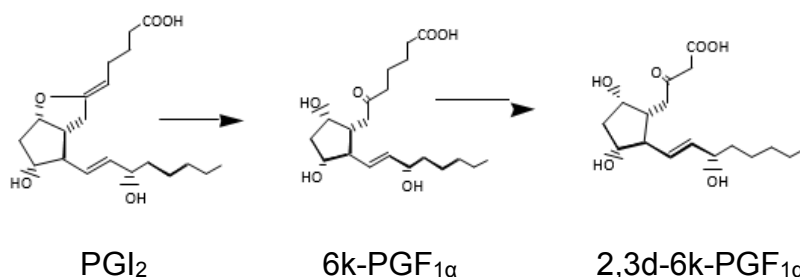
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DESCRIPTION

The Urinary Prostacyclin ELISA kit is a competitive immunoassay for the quantitative determination of Prostacyclin (PGI₂) breakdown products in urine. Please read the complete kit insert before performing this assay. The kit measures the two major breakdown products of PGI₂ in urine, 6-keto-Prostaglandin F_{1α} (6k-PGF_{1α}) and 2,3-dinor-6-keto-Prostaglandin F_{1α} (2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α}). The kit uses a polyclonal antibody that binds these two molecules with almost equal affinities. This antibody binds in a competitive manner, both the 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} in the sample, or an alkaline phosphatase molecule which has 6k-PGF_{1α} covalently attached to it. After a simultaneous incubation at room temperature the excess reagents are washed away and substrate is added. After a short incubation time the color generated is read on a microplate reader at 405nm. The intensity of the bound yellow color is inversely proportional to the total concentration of 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} in either standards or samples. The measured optical density of the 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} standards is used to calculate the concentration of both 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} in the sample. For further explanation of the principles and practice of immunoassays please see the excellent books by Chard¹ or Tijssen².

INTRODUCTION

Prostacyclin (PGI₂) is involved in platelet aggregation, vasoconstriction, and reproductive functions¹⁻³. PGI₂ has a half life of 60 minutes in plasma but only 2 to 3 minutes in buffer³. The production of PGI₂ is typically monitored by measurement of 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α}. 6-keto-PGF_{1α} is produced by the non-enzymatic hydration of PGI₂, and is further metabolized in urine to the 2,3-dinor derivative. A number of pharmaceuticals alter and/or inhibit the synthesis of PGI₂⁴. Methods to measure PGI₂ in urine typically involve HPLC⁵, gas chromatography/mass spectrometry⁶, or radioimmunoassay^{7,8} and enzyme immunoassay⁹ for 6k-PGF_{1α}. The conversion of PGI₂ into 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} is shown below.



PRECAUTIONS

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1. Some kit components contain azide, which may react with lead or copper plumbing. When disposing of reagents always flush with large volumes of water to prevent azide build-up.
2. Stop Solution is a solution of trisodium phosphate. This solution is caustic; care should be taken in use.
3. The activity of the alkaline phosphatase conjugate is dependent on the presence of Mg^{2+} and Zn^{2+} ions. The activity of the conjugate is affected by concentrations of chelators (>10 mM) such as EDTA and EGTA.
4. The Urinary Prostacyclin standard provided, Catalog No. 80-0236, is supplied in ethanolic buffer at a pH optimized to maintain integrity. Care should be taken handling this material because of the known and unknown effects of prostaglandins.

MATERIALS SUPPLIED

1. **Five 96 Well Donkey anti-Sheep IgG Plate, Component No. 80-0045**
Five plates using break-apart strips coated with donkey antibody specific to sheep IgG.
2. **Urinary Prostacyclin Conjugate, 25 mL, Component No. 80-0264**
A blue solution of alkaline phosphatase conjugated with 6-keto-PGF_{1α}.
3. **Urinary Prostacyclin Antibody, 25 mL, Component No. 80-0265**
A yellow solution of a sheep polyclonal antibody to 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α}.
4. **Assay Buffer Concentrate, 27 mL, Component No. 80-0011**
Tris buffered saline containing proteins and detergents and sodium azide as preservative.

5. **Wash Buffer Concentrate, 100 mL, Component No. 80-1287**
Tris buffered saline containing detergents.
6. **Urinary Prostacyclin Standard, 3 x 0.5 mL, Component No. 80-0236**
A solution of 100,000 pg/mL 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α}.
7. **p-Npp Substrate, 100 mL, Component No. 80-0076**
A solution of p-nitrophenyl phosphate in buffer. Ready to use.
8. **Stop Solution, 30 mL, Component No. 80-0248**
A solution of trisodium phosphate in water. Keep tightly capped. Caution: **Caustic**.
9. **Urinary Prostacyclin Assay Layout Sheet, 1 each, Component No. 30-0065**
10. **Plate Sealer, 1 each, Component No. 30-0012**

STORAGE

All components of this kit are stable at 4 °C until the kit's expiration date.

OTHER MATERIALS NEEDED

1. Deionized or distilled water.
2. Precision pipets for volumes between 5 µL and 1,000 µL.
3. Repeater pipets for dispensing 50 µL and 200 µL.
4. Disposable beaker for diluting Wash Buffer.
5. Graduated cylinders.
6. A microplate shaker.
7. Adsorbent paper for blotting.
8. Microplate reader capable of reading at 405 nm, preferably with correction between 570 and 590 nm.

SAMPLE HANDLING

The Urinary Prostacyclin ELISA kit is compatible with 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} samples in urine, tissue culture and buffer after dilution in Assay Buffer. Please refer to the Sample Recovery recommendations for details of suggested dilutions. However, the end user **must verify** that the recommended dilutions are appropriate for their samples. **Samples containing sheep IgG may interfere with the assay.**

Samples in the majority of tissue culture media, including those containing fetal bovine serum, can also be read in the assay, provided the standards have been diluted into the tissue culture media instead of Assay Buffer. There will be small change in binding associated with running the standards and samples in media. Users should only use standard curves generated in media or buffer to calculate concentrations of 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} in the appropriate matrix. For urine samples, prostaglandin synthetase inhibitors, such as, indomethacin or meclofenamic acid at concentrations up to 10 µg/mL should be added to the urine samples. Extraction may be necessary for measurement in some situations; a suitable extraction procedure is outlined below:

Materials Needed

1. Urinary Prostacyclin standard to accurately determine the extraction efficiency.
2. 2M hydrochloric acid, deionized water, ethanol, hexane and ethyl acetate.
3. 200 mg C₁₈ Reverse Phase Extraction Columns.

PROCEDURE

1. Add sufficient Urinary Prostacyclin Standard to a typical sample for the determination of extraction efficiency.
2. Acidify the sample by addition of 2M HCl to pH of 3.5. Allow to sit at 4 °C for 15 minutes. Centrifuge samples in a microcentrifuge for 2 minutes to remove any precipitate.
3. Prepare the C₁₈ reverse phase column by washing with 10 mL of ethanol followed by 10 mL of deionized water.
4. Apply the sample under a slight positive pressure to obtain a flow rate of about 0.5mL / minute. Wash the column with 10 mL of water, followed by 10 mL of 15% ethanol, and finally 10 mL hexane. Elute the sample from the column by addition of 10mL ethyl acetate.
5. If analysis is to be carried out immediately, evaporate samples under a stream of nitrogen. Reconstitute sample with at least 200 µL of Assay Buffer. If analysis is to be delayed, store samples as the eluted ethyl acetate solutions at -80 °C until the immunoassay is to be run. Prior to analysis, evaporate the organic solvent under a stream of nitrogen and reconstitute as above.

Please refer to references 12-15 for details of extraction protocols.

PROCEDURAL NOTES

1. Do not mix components from different kit lots or use reagents beyond the kit expiration date.
2. Allow all reagents to warm to room temperature for at least 30 minutes before opening.
3. Standards can be made up in either glass or plastic tubes.
4. Pre-rinse the pipet tip with reagent, use fresh pipet tips for each sample, standard and reagent.

5. Pipet standards and samples to the bottom of the wells.
6. Add the reagents to the side of the well to avoid contamination.
7. This kit uses break-apart microtiter strips, which allow the user to measure as many samples as desired. Unused wells must be kept desiccated at 4 °C in the sealed bag provided. The wells should be used in the frame provided.
8. **Care must be taken to minimize contamination by endogenous alkaline phosphatase.** Contaminating alkaline phosphatase activity, especially in the substrate solution, may lead to high blanks. Care should be taken not to touch pipet tips and other items that are used in the assay with bare hands.
9. **Prior to addition of substrate, ensure that there is no residual wash buffer in wells. Any remaining wash buffer may cause variation in assay results.**

REAGENT PREPARATION

1. Assay Buffer

Just before use, prepare the assay buffer by diluting 10 mL of the supplied Assay Buffer Concentrate with 90 mL of deionized water. Discard unused buffer or add up to 0.09% sodium azide (w/v) for storage.

2. Urinary Prostacyclin Standard

Allow the 100,000 pg/mL 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} standard solution to warm to room temperature. Label five 12 x 75 mm glass tubes #1 through #5. Pipet 1mL of standard diluent (Assay Buffer or Tissue Culture Media) into tube #1. Pipet 750 μL of standard diluent into tubes #2 through #5. Remove 20 μL of diluent from tube #1. Add 20 μL of the 100,000 pg/mL stock standard to tube #1. Vortex thoroughly. Add 250 μL of tube #1 to tube #2 and vortex thoroughly. Add 250 μL of tube #2 to tube #3 and vortex. Continue this for tubes #4 through #5.

The concentration of 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} in tubes #1 through #5 will be 2,000, 500, 125, 31.25 and 7.81 pg/mL, respectively. See Urinary Prostacyclin Assay Layout Sheet for dilution details.

Diluted standards should be used within 60 minutes of preparation.

3. Conjugate 1:10 Dilution for Total Activity Measurement

Prepare the Conjugate 1:10 Dilution by diluting 50 μL of the supplied Conjugate with 450 μL of Assay Buffer. The dilution should be used within 3 hours of preparation. **This 1:10 dilution is intended for use in the Total Activity wells ONLY.**

4. Wash Buffer

Prepare the Wash Buffer by diluting 5 mL of the supplied concentrate with 95 mL of deionized water. This can be stored at room temperature for 3 months.

ASSAY PROCEDURE

Bring all reagents to room temperature for at least 30 minutes prior to opening. All standards and samples should be run in duplicate.

1. Refer to the Assay Layout Sheet to determine the number of wells to be used and put any remaining wells with the desiccant back into the pouch and reseal the bag. Store unused wells at 4 °C.
2. Pipet 100 μL of Standard Diluent (Assay Buffer or Tissue Culture Media) into the NSB and the Bo (0 pg/mL Standard) wells.
3. Pipet 100 μL of Standards #1 through #5 into the appropriate wells.
4. Pipet 100 μL of the Samples into the appropriate wells.
5. Pipet 50 μL of Assay Buffer into the NSB wells.
6. Pipet 50 μL of blue Conjugate into each well, except the Total Activity (TA) and Blank wells.
7. Pipet 50 μL of the yellow Antibody into each well, except the Blank, TA and NSB wells.

NOTE: Every well used should be **Green** in color except the NSB wells which should be **Blue**. The Blank and TA wells are empty at this point and have no color.

8. Incubate the plate at room temperature on a plate shaker for 2 hours at ~500 rpm. The plate may be covered with the plate sealer provided, if so desired.
9. Empty the contents of the wells and wash by adding 400 μL of wash solution to every well. Repeat the wash 2 more times for a total of **3 washes**.

10. After the final wash, empty the wells and tap the plate dry on a lint free paper towel.
11. Add 5 μL of the blue Conjugate 1:10 Dilution (see step 2, Reagent Preparation) to the TA wells.
12. Add 200 μL of the p-Npp Substrate solution to every well. Incubate at room temperature for 45 minutes without shaking.
13. Add 50 μL of Stop Solution to every well. This stops the reaction and the plate should be read immediately.
14. Blank the plate reader against the Blank wells, read the optical density at 405 nm., preferably with correction between 570 and 590 nm. If the plate reader is not able to be blanked against the Blank wells, manually subtract the mean optical density of the Blank wells from all readings.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS

Several options are available for the calculation of the Urinary Prostacyclin (UP) concentration in the samples. We recommend that the data be handled by an immunoassay software package utilizing a 4 parameter logistic curve fitting program. If data reduction software is not readily available, the concentration of UP can be calculated as follows:

1. Calculate the average net Optical Density (OD) bound for each standard and sample by subtracting the average NSB OD from the Average OD bound:

$$\text{Average Net OD} = \text{Average OD} - \text{NSB OD}$$

2. Calculate the binding of each pair of standard wells as a percentage of the maximum binding wells (B_0), using the following formula:

$$\text{Percent Bound} = \frac{\text{Net OD}}{\text{Net } B_0 \text{ OD}} \times 100$$

3. Using Logit-Log paper plot Percent Bound versus Concentration of UP for the standards. Approximate a straight line through the points. The concentration of UP in the unknowns can be determined by interpolation.

TYPICAL RESULTS

The results shown below are for **illustration** only and should not be used to calculate results.

Sample	Mean OD (- Blank)	Average Net OD	Percent Bound	Urinary Prostacyclin (pg/mL)
Blank OD	(0.083)			
TA	0.100	0.099		
NSB	0.001	0.000	0.00%	
Bo	1.119	1.118	100%	0
S1	0.067	0.066	5.9%	2,000
S2	0.156	0.155	13.9%	500
S3	0.381	0.380	34.0%	125
S4	0.727	0.726	64.9%	31.25
S5	0.991	0.990	88.6%	7.81
Unknown 1	0.195	0.194	17.4%	358
Unknown 2	0.484	0.483	43.2%	81.0

The Urinary Prostacyclin ELISA kit measures both 6k-PGF_{1α} and 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} in most samples. If the levels of either 6k-PGF_{1α} or 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} are to be determined independently, then the samples should also be measured in the 6k-PGF_{1α} ELISA kit, Catalog Number ADI-900-004. This kit measures 6k-PGF_{1α} with minimal cross reactivity (3.17%) to 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α}. By measuring the same samples in both kits the levels of either 6k-PGF_{1α} or 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} can be determined if the concentrations of PGI₂ metabolites are approximately equal. The following formulas can be used to calculate the actual concentration of each analyte.

Let the actual concentration of 6k-PGF_{1α} = A. Let the actual concentration of 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} = B.

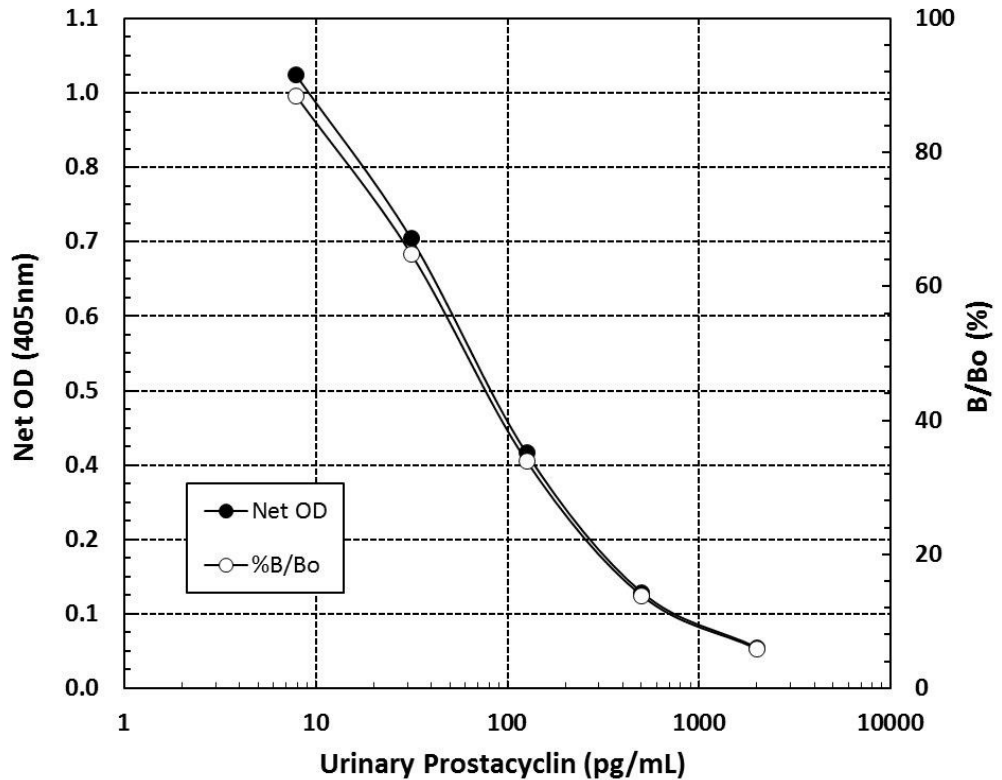
$$A = 1.029 \times [\text{Measured 6-k Conc.} - (0.0317 \times \text{Measured UP Conc.})]$$

$$B = 1.029 \times [\text{Measured UP Conc.} - (0.8914 \times \text{Measured 6-k Conc.})]$$

Please Note: These calculations only apply to situations where 6k-PGF_{1α} or 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} concentrations are approximately equal in the measured samples, and the determinations of both 6k-PGF_{1α} and Urinary Prostacyclin levels occur within the accurate part of the assay standard curves.

TYPICAL STANDARD CURVE

A typical standard curve is shown below. This curve **must not** be used to calculate Urinary Prostacyclin concentrations; each user must run a standard curve for each assay.



PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

The following parameters for this kit were determined using the guidelines listed in the National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (NCCLS) Evaluation Protocols¹⁶.

Sensitivity

The sensitivity of the assay, defined as the concentration of Urinary Prostacyclin measured at 2 standard deviations from the mean of 16 zeros along the standard curve, was determined to be 6.58 pg/mL.

Linearity

A sample containing 400 pg/mL 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} was diluted 6 times 1:2 in the kit Assay Buffer and measured in the assay. The data was plotted graphically as actual 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} concentration versus measured 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} concentration.

The line obtained had a slope of 1.069 and a correlation coefficient of 0.995.

Precision

Intra-assay precision was determined by taking samples containing low, medium and high concentrations of 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} and running these samples multiple times (n=24) in the same assay. Inter-assay precision was determined by measuring three samples with low, medium and high concentrations of 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} in multiple assays (n=8).

The precision numbers listed below represent the percent coefficient of variation for the concentrations of 2,3d-6k-PGF_{1α} determined in these assays as calculated by a 4 parameter logistic curve fitting program.

	2,3d-6k-PGF _{1α} (pg/mL)	Intra-assay %CV	Inter-assay %CV
Low	23	9.1	
Medium	66	3.4	
High	200	2.9	
Low	23		9.6
Medium	72		5.4
High	223		3.4

Cross Reactivities

The cross reactivities for a number of related eicosanoid compounds were determined by dissolving the cross reactant (purity checked by N.M.R. and other analytical methods) in Assay Buffer at concentrations from 500,000 to 39 pg/mL. These samples were then measured in the UP assay, and the measured concentration at 50% B/Bo calculated. The % cross reactivity was calculated by comparison with the actual concentration of cross reactant in the sample and expressed as a percentage.

Antigen	Cross Reactivity
2,3-dinor-6-keto-PGF _{1α}	100%
6-keto-PGF _{1α}	89.14%
PGF _{1α}	13.21%
PGF _{2α}	4.99%
13,14 dihydro-PGF _{1α}	2.55%
15-keto-PGF _{2α}	0.32%
PGE ₁	0.08%
PGD ₂	0.03%
6,15-diketo-13,14 dihydro-PGF _{1α}	0.03%
PGB ₁	0.01%
PGE ₂	0.01%
PGA ₂	0.01%
TXB ₂	0.01%

SAMPLE RECOVERIES

Please refer to sections titled “Sample Handling” and “Reagent Preparation” for Sample Handling recommendations and Standard preparation, respectively.

UP concentrations were measured in tissue culture media (TCM) and urine. PGI was spiked into the undiluted samples of these media which were then diluted with the appropriate diluent and assayed in the kit. The following results were obtained:

Sample	% Recovery*	Recommended Dilution*
Tissue Culture Media	109.2	1:2
Human Urine	101.9	1:10

* See Sample Handling instructions for details.

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