INTENDED USE

The Human Anti-Merozoite surface protein 1 (MSP-1) IgG ELISA Kit detects and quantifies MSP-1-specific IgG in serum or plasma of vaccinated or normal individuals. This immunoassay is suitable for:

- Determining immune status of animals
- Assessing efficacy of vaccines, including dosage, adjuvantcy, route of immunization and timing
- Qualifying and/or standardizing vaccine batches and protocols.

This kit is for research use only (RUO), and not for diagnosis, cure or prevention of the disease.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Malaria is a parasitic disease spread by mosquitoes. The causative agent is the parasitic protozoan Plasmodium. Four Plasmodium species infect humans: *P. falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. ovale* and *P. malariae*; *P. berghei* infects rodents. *P. falciparum* is the most widespread and also potentially fatal form. The life cycle of the malaria is complex, with phases both in human host and the insect vector, the female anopheline mosquito. Parasites may encode in the order of 2000 proteins, several hundred of which are antigenic. The best-characterized protein of sporozoites is circumsporozoite protein-1 (CSP-1). **RTS,S** (GSK) is the most clinically advanced malaria vaccine.

Merozoite surface protein 1 (MSP-1) is the most abundant surface protein of the invasive merozoite stage of the P. falciparum life cycle, making up 40% of the GPI-anchored surface protein coat. The molecule can be divided into 17 blocks based on sequence diversity from primary sequence alignments from different strains]. The N-terminal Block 2 region of MSP-1 is by far the most variant sequences and also a promising target for malaria vaccine development. MSP-1_{19} is the C-terminal part of MSP-1 (Block 17), highly conserved protein, cysteine rich domain. Antibodies to MSP-1_{19} can inhibit parasite invasion in vitro. Individuals with antibodies to MSP-1_{19} have reduced incidence of clinical malaria. Therefore, MSP-1 is also a promising malaria vaccine candidate.

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The Anti-MSP1 IgG ELISA kit is based on the binding of anti-MSP1 IgG in samples to MSP-1 immobilized on the microwells, and anti-MSP IgG antibody is detected by anti-IgG-HRP conjugate. After a washing step, substrate (TMB) is added and color is developed, which is directly proportional to the amount of antibody present in the sample. Stopping Solution is added to terminate the reaction, and A450nm (blur color) is measured using an ELISA reader. The activity of MSP-1 antibody in samples is calculated relative to anti-MSP1 Calibrators.

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Specificity

Purified recombinant MSP-1 (*P. falciparum*) is used as coating antigen; thus the assay is specific for antibodies directed to MSP-1. The anti-human IgG HRP conjugate reacts with human IgG antibodies that bind to MSP on the plate. IgA, IgM and IgE class antibodies would not be measured above background signals.

Assay Sensitivity

The MSP1 coating level, HRP conjugate and Low NSB Sample Diluent are optimized to differentiate anti-MSP1 IgG from background (non-antibody) signal with human serum samples diluted 1:100.

KIT CONTENTS

The microtiter well plate and all other reagents, if unopened, are stable at 2-8°C until the expiration date printed on the box label. Stabilities of the working solutions are indicated under Reagent Preparation.

To Be Reconstituted: Store as indicated.

Component	Preparation Instructions
Wash Solution Concentrate (50x) Cat. No. WB-50, 10ml	Dilute the entire volume 20ml + 980ml with distilled or deionized water into a clean stock bottle. Label as **Working Wash Solution** and store at ambient temperature until kit is used entirely.
Sample Diluent Concentrate (20x) Cat. No. SD-20T, 10ml	Dilute the entire volume, 10ml + 190ml with distilled or deionized water into a clean stock bottle. Label as **Working Sample/Conjugate Diluent** (**WSD**) and store at 2-8°C until the kit lot expires or is used up.
Anti-Human IgG - HRP Conjugate Concentrate (10x) Part RCH-G101, 1.1ml	Peroxidase conjugated anti-Human IgG in buffer with protein, detergents and antimicrobial as stabilizers. Dilute fresh as needed; 10ul of concentrate to 1ml of **Working Sample/Conjugate Diluent** is sufficient for 1 8-well strip. Use within the working day and discard. Return 10X to 2-8°C storage.

Ready For Use: Store as indicated on labels.

Component	Part	Amt	Contents
MSP-1 Ag Microwell Strip Plate	970-361	8-well strips (12)	Coated with recombinant MSP-1, and post-coated with stabilizers.
Anti-MSP Calibrators			
3 U/ml 10 U/ml 30 U/ml 90 U/ml	970-362A 970-362B 970-362C 970-362D	1 ml 1 ml 1 ml 1 ml	Four (4) vials, each containing anti-MSP1 IgG levels in arbitrary activity Units; diluted in buffer with protein, detergents and antimicrobial as stabilizers.
Human Anti-MSP1 Positive Control	970-363PC	1 ml	Human serum reactive with MSP1. Net OD > **0.5**
Low NSB Sample Diluent (LNSD)	TBTm **Not** for HRP Conjugate dilution.	30 ml	Buffer with protein, detergents and antimicrobial as stabilizers. Use as is for sample dilution. See **Assay Design**, page 3.
TMB Substrate	80091	12 ml	Chromogenic substrate for HRP containing TMB and peroxide.
Stop Solution	80101	12 ml	Dilute sulfuric acid.

Materials Required But Not Provided:

- Pipettors and pipettes that deliver 100ul and 1-10ml. A multi-channel pipettor is recommended.
- Disposable glass or plastic 5-15ml tubes for diluting samples and Antibody IgG HRP Concentrate.
- Stock bottle to store diluted Wash Solution; 200ml to 1L.
- Distilled or deionized water to dilute reagent concentrates.
- Microwell plate reader at 450 nm wavelength.

ASSAY DESIGN AND SET-UP

Sample Collection and Handling

Culture medium, serum and other biological fluids may be used as samples with proper dilution to avoid solution matrix interference. For **serum**, collect blood by venipuncture, allow clotting, and separate the serum by centrifugation at room temperature. For other samples, including **tissue culture media**, clarify the sample by centrifugation and/or filtration prior to dilution in Sample Diluent. If samples will not be assayed immediately, store refrigerated for up to a few weeks, or frozen for long-term storage.

Sample Dilutions and testing

Initial dilution of serum into 1X **Working Sample Diluent** (WSD) is recommended to stabilize antibody activity. This enhances reproducible sampling, and stabilizes the antibody activity for years, stored refrigerated or frozen. Further dilution into the green **Low NSB Sample Diluent** (**LNSD**), which provides the lowest assay background, should be at least 5 times the initial dilution and performed the same day as the assay.

Example:
Initial (1/10): **10**ul serum + **90** ul WSD [or 0.1ml + 0.4ml]
Further (1/100): **25**ul initial (1/10) + 225 ul LNSD (1/100)
Or Further (1/200): **12** ul initial (1/10) + 228 ul LNSD (1/100)

Prepare at least 225-250 ul of the final dilution for testing at 100 ul in duplicate.

Assay Design

Review Calculation of Results (p5-7) and Limits of the Assay (above) before proceeding:

- Select the proper sample dilutions accounting for expected potency of positives and minimizing non-specific binding (NSB) and other matrix effects; for example, net signal for non-immune samples should be <0.5 OD. This is usually 1/100 or greater dilution for human sera with normal levels of IgG and IgM. **Note:** normal human sera may contain anti- MSP-1 activity from prior exposure to the organisms.
- Run a Sample Diluent **Blank**. This signal is an indicator of proper assay performance, especially of washing efficacy, and is used for net OD calculations, if required (**See Method A,B)**. Blank OD should be <0.3.
- Run the Human Anti-MSP-1 **Positive Control**; net OD > **0.5.**
- Run a set of **Calibrators**. Calibrators validate that the assay was performed to specifications; results can be used to normalize between-assay variation for enhanced precision. Reading values off a Calibrator curve, **Method C**, has limitations. See Limits of the Assay (above).
- Run a range of sample dilutions for expected higher positives that allows calculation of antibody **Titer** (when specific titer is at least 4-fold higher than non-immune)**. See Method D.**
- Run samples in duplicate if used for quantitation; non-immunes that are significantly lower than immunes may be run in singlicate. The Calibrators that are used for quantitation, e.g., for between-assay normalization, should be run in duplicate. When determining titer from a dilution curve, singlicates can be run if more than two dilution points are used for titer calculations.

Plate Set-up

Bring all reagents to room temperature (18-30° C) equilibration (at least 30 minutes).

- Determine the number of wells for the assay run. Duplicates are recommended, including 8 Calibrator wells and 2 wells for each sample and control to be assayed.
- Remove the appropriate number of microwell strips from the pouch and return unused strips to the pouch. Reseal the pouch and store refrigerated.
- Add 200-300ul Working Wash Solution to each well and let stand for about 5 minutes. Aspirate or dump the liquid and pat dry on a paper towel before sample addition.

Assay Procedure

ALL STEPS ARE PERFORMED AT ROOM TEMPERATURE. After each reagent addition, gently tap the plate to mix the well contents prior to beginning incubation.

1. 1st Incubation [100ul – 60 min; 4 washes]

- Add 100ul of sample diluent (blank) calibrators, samples and controls each to pre-determined wells.
- Tap the plate gently to mix reagents and incubate for 60 minutes.
- Wash wells 4 times and pat dry on fresh paper towels. As an alternative, an automatic plate washer may be used. Improper washes may lead to falsely elevated signals and poor reproducibility.

2. 2nd Incubation [100ul – 30 min; 5 washes]

- Add 100ul of diluted Antibody-HRP to each well.
- Incubate for 30 minutes.
- Wash wells 5 times as in step 2.

3. Substrate Incubation [100ul – 15 min]

- Add 100ul TMB Substrate to each well. The liquid in the wells will begin to turn blue.
- Incubate for 15 minutes in the dark, e.g., place in a drawer or closet.

Note: If your microplate reader does not register optical density (OD) above 2.0, incubate for less time, or read OD at 405-410 nm (results are valid).

4. Stop Step [Stop: 100ul]

- Add 100ul of Stop Solution to each well.
- Tap gently to mix. The enzyme reaction will stop; liquid in the wells will turn yellow.

5. Absorbance Reading

- Use any commercially available microplate reader capable of reading at 450nm wavelength. Use a program suitable for obtaining OD readings, and data calculations if available.
- Read absorbance of the entire plate at 450nm using a single wavelength within 30 minutes after Stop Solution addition. If available, program to subtract OD at 630nm to normalize well background.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Calculation of Results

Consider several data reduction methods to best represent the relationships among experimental and control groups, to determine **Positive Immune** and **Negative Non-immune**, and to **Quantitate** positive antibody levels.

Method A. Antibody Activity

[ELISA Signal & Sample Dilution]

Represent data as net OD units (A450 signal; blank subtracted) ÷ dilution = **Total Activity Units**.

A Calibrator value in the mid-OD range (e.g., 1 U/ml) can be used to normalize inter-assay values.

Method B. Use of a Calibrator Curve

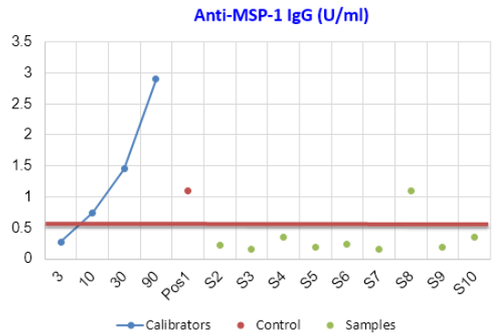
When the dilution curves of samples are parallel to the Calibrator curve (see Limits of the Assay), the Anti-MSP-1 activity units may be determined by interpolation from the Calibrator curve. The results may be calculated using any immunoassay software package. If software is not available, Anti-MSP-1 activity concentrations may be determined as follows:

1. Calculate the mean OD of duplicate samples.
2. On graph paper plot the mean OD of the calibrators (y-axis) against the concentration (U/ml) of Anti-MSP-1 (x-axis). Draw the best fit curve through these points to construct the calibrator curve. A point-to-point construction is most common and reliable.
3. The Anti-MSP-1 activity concentrations in unknown samples and controls can be determined by interpolation from the calibrator curve.
4. Multiply the values obtained for the samples by the dilution factor of each sample.
5. Samples producing signals higher than the 10 U/ml calibrator should be further diluted and re-assayed.

Typical Results:

Wells	Calibrators & Samples		A450 nm
A1,2		**Diluent Blank**	0.08
B1,2	3 U/ml	**Calibrator**	0.27
C1,2	10 U/ml	**Calibrator**	0.74
D1,2	30 U/ml	**Calibrator**	1.45
E1,2	90 U/ml	**Calibrator**	2.90
F1,2	**Positive**	**Control**	1.4

Positive Control Result: **29.5** U/ml



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Calibrator Values

The calibrators are dilutions of antibody reactive to MSP1. Values are assigned as arbitrary anti-MSP1 activity units.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS (continued)

Method C. Titers from Sample Dilution Curves

The titer of antibody activity calculated from a dilution curve of each sample is recommended as the most accurate quantitative method. Best precision can be obtained using the following guidelines:

1. Use an OD value Index in the mid-range of the assay (2.0 – 0.5 OD); this provides the best sensitivity and reproducibility for comparing experimental groups and replicates. An arbitrary 1.0 OD is commonly used.

2. Prepare serial dilutions of each sample to provide a series that will produce signals higher and lower than the selected index. With accurate diluting, duplicates may not be required if at least 4 dilutions are run per sample.

3. A 5-fold dilution scheme is useful to efficiently cover a wide range which produces ODs both above and below 1.0 OD. The dilution scheme can be tightened to 3-fold or 2-fold for more precise comparative data.

4. A Calibrator value in the mid-OD range (e.g., 1 U/ml) can be used to normalize inter-assay values.

Calculations

1. On a log scale of inverse of Sample Dilution as the x-axis, plot the OD values of the two dilutions of each positive sample having ODs above and below the OD value of the Index (arbitrary or selected Calibrator).

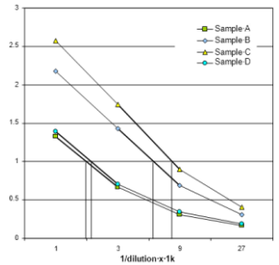
2. From a point-to-point line drawn between the two sample ODs, read the dilution value (x-axis) corresponding to the OD of the selected Index
   = **IgG Antibody Activity Units**

Method D: Antibody titer by dilution

Titer is defined as the sample dilution that gives A450=1.00 in ELISA. Higher the titer, higher the antibody concn.

Example:

II. A **1.0 OD** Index was used to determine titer of 4 antibodies.



Titer Values

Sample A = 1.72 kU **Sample B = 5.70 kU**
Sample C = 1.85 kU **Sample D = 7.90 kU**

Antibody specificity & animal crossreacvity

This kit detects IgG antibodies to MSP-1 protein in human samples only. It cannot be used for the detection of antibodies in other species. ADI has other kits for mouse, rat, and monkey samples etc.

PRECAUTIONS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Calibrators, Sample Diluent, and Antibody HRP contain bromonitrodioxane (BND: 0.05%, w/v). Stop Solution contains dilute sulfuric acid. Follow good laboratory practices, and avoid ingestion or contact of any reagent with skin, eyes or mucous membranes. All reagents may be disposed of down a drain with copious amounts of water. MSDS for TMB, sulfuric acid and BND can be requested.

LIMITATIONS OF THE ASSAY

Quantitation of Antibody in a Sample

The ELISA measures anti-MSP-1 activity, a combination of antibody concentration and avidity for the MSP-1 antigen. Antibodies with substantially different total IgG concentrations may display similar anti- MSP-1 activities, due to differences in avidity. The quantitation or activity of the samples is, therefore, appropriately expressed in activity Units (titer), rather than mass units of IgG (e.g., ug/ml).

Calibrator Curve Quantitation

To quantitate antibody activity from a calibrator curve (such as provided with the kit), the dilution curve of the samples must be parallel to the calibrator curve, to avoid different values being obtained from different regions of the curve. Antibodies that are not matched in anti-MSP-1 avidity will often have non-parallel dilution curves. In these cases, antibody activity is best expressed as a titer relative to a reference positive such as the 1 U/ml Calibrator, or another Calibrator in the kit (see Calculation of Results).

Instruction Manual No. M-970-300-MMG

Human Anti- Merozoite surface protein 1 (MSP-1) (MSP-1) IgG ELISA Kit

Cat. #970-360-HMG

For Quantitation of Anti-MSP-1 IgG in Serum or plasma

For in vitro research use only (RUO), not for therapeutic or diagnostic use.

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