INTENDED USE

The **Human Anti-Marburg Virus Glycoprotein (MARV GP) IgM** ELISA Kit is an immunoassay suitable for quantifying IgM antibody activity specific for Marburg virus glycoprotein in serum or plasma of vaccinated, immunized, and/or infected hosts.

This immunoassay is suitable for:

- Determining **immune status** relative to non-immune controls
- Assessing efficacy of **vaccines**, including dosage, adjuvantcy, route of immunization, and timing
- Qualifying and standardizing vaccine batches & protocols

The assay is for research use only (RUO) and is not intended nor validated for diagnosing Marburg virus disease. Reagents contain no virus or viral antigens.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Marburg virus (MARV) is a hemorrhagic fever virus of the Filoviridae family of viruses, which causes Marburg virus disease (MVD), a form of viral hemorrhagic fever (MHF), in humans and nonhuman primates. Marburg virus was first noticed in the German cities Marburg and Frankfurt. Most recent outbreaks of MVD occurred in Uganda in 2014. Old World fruit bats appear to be involved in the natural maintenance of MARV. MARV contain non-infectious, linear non-segmented, ssRNA genomes of ~19 kb that codes for 7 genes in the order 3'-UTR-NP-VP35-VP40-GP-VP30-VP24-L-5'-UTR. The genomes of the two different Marburg viruses (MARV and RAVV) differ in sequence. Like all filoviruses, Marburg virions are filamentous particles. Marburg virions consist of seven structural proteins. At the center is the helical ribonucleocapsid, which consists of the genomic RNA wrapped around a polymer of nucleoproteins (**NP**). Associated with the ribonucleoprotein is the RNA-dependent RNA **polymerase (L)** with the polymerase cofactor (**VP35**) and a transcription activator (**VP30**). The ribonucleoprotein is embedded in a matrix, formed by the major (**VP40**) and minor (**VP24**) matrix proteins. These particles are surrounded by a lipid membrane derived from the host cell membrane. The membrane anchors a glycoprotein (**GP1,2**) that projects 7 to 10 nm spikes away from its surface. While nearly identical to Ebola virions in structure, Marburg virions are antigenically distinct. Viral proteins (NP, GP, and VP40) are highly immunogenic and could individually or together constitute effective vaccines. Promising vaccine candidates include DNA vaccines or those based on adenoviruses, vesicular stomatitis Indiana virus (VSIV) or filovirus-like particles (VLPs) as all of these candidates could protect nonhuman primates from virus-induced disease.

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The Anti-MARV IgG/IgM ELISA kits are based on the binding of antibodies (IgG/IgM) in samples to the recombinant, purified MARV antigens (GP, NP or VP40) immobilized on the microwells. Bound antibody is detected by anti-human IgG or IgM-HRP conjugate. After a washing step, chromogenic substrate (TMB) is added and color is developed by the HRP substrate, which is directly proportional to the amount of anti-MARV IgG or IgM present in the sample. Stop Solution is added to terminate the reaction, and Absorbance is then measured using an ELISA reader at 450nm. The presence of antibody (IgG/IgM) in samples is determined relative to anti-MARV IgG/IgM Calibrators and Controls.

KIT CONTENTS

The microtiter well plate and all other reagents, if unopened, are stable at 2-8ºC 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 (100x) Cat. No. WB-100, 10ml	Dilute the entire volume 10ml + 990ml with distilled or deionized water into a clean stock bottle. Label as **Working Wash Solution** and store at 4ºC for long term and ambient temp. for short term.
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** and store at 2-8ºC until the kit lot expires or is used up.
Anti-Human IgM-HRP Conjugate Concentrate (100x) Part: H-HuM.2a11, 0.15ml	Peroxidase conjugated anti-human IgM in buffer with 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 100X to 2-8º C storage.

Ready For Use: Store as indicated on labels.

Component	Part	Amt	Contents
MARV GP Coated Strip Plate	322621	8-well strips (12)	Coated with purified recombinant MARV GP, and post-coated with stabilizers.
Anti-MARV GP Calibrators			
1 U/ml 2.5 U/ml 5 U/ml 10 U/ml	322622B 322622C 322622D 322622E	0.65 ml 0.65 ml 0.65 ml 0.65 ml	Four (4) vials, each containing anti-MARV GP; in buffer with antimicrobial as stabilizers.
Anti-MARV GP Positive Control	322622-PC	0.65 ml	Serum with anti-MARV GP reactivity; [Value range on label]
Low NSB Sample Diluent Reduces non-specific binding	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.
- Disposable glass or plastic 5-15ml tubes for diluting samples and Anti-Human IgM HRP Concentrate.
- Stock bottle to store diluted Wash Solution; 0.2 to 1L.
- ELISA plate reader at 450 nm wavelength and ELISA plate washer

ASSAY DESIGN AND SET-UP

Sample Collection and Handling

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. If samples will not be assayed immediately, store refrigerated for up to a few weeks or frozen for long-term storage.

Sample/Antibody Stability & Dilution

Initial dilution of serum into **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 **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 (1/5): **10**ul serum + **40**ul WSD [or 0.1ml + 0.4ml]
Further (1/50): **10**ul initial (1/5) + **90**ul LNSD (1/50)

Assay Design

Review Interpretation of Results (p. 5-7) 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 lower than the **1 U/ml Calibrator**. This is usually 1:200 or greater dilution for human serum with normal levels of IgG and IgM.
- Run the **Anti-MARV GP Positive Control**; the value range is on the label.
- 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. Blank OD should be <0.3.
- Run a set of **Calibrators** which validate that the assay was performed to specifications: **10 U/ml** should give a high signal (>1.5 OD); **1 U/ml** should give a low signal which can be used to discriminate at the Positive/Negative threshold (see Interpretation of Results, p. 5).

Plate Set-up

Bring all reagents to room temperature (18-30ºC) 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 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 1-5 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 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 Anti-Human IgM HRP to each well.
- Incubate for 30 minutes.
- Wash wells 5 times as in step 1.

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.

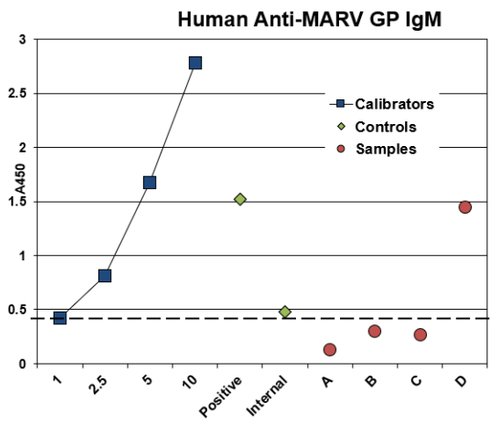
INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Method A. Antibody Activity Threshold Index

Compare Samples to **1 U/ml Calibrator** or **Internal Control**

= Positive/Negative Cut-off.

Example:



Results

The **sensitivity** of the assay to detect anti-GP IgM, from either natural infection or vaccination, is controlled so that the **1 U/ml Calibrator** represents a threshold OD for most true positives in human serum diluted to 1:500 or greater. Visual inspection of the data in the above graph shows the following:

Calibrators – dilution curve of an anti-MARV GP antibody, derived from GP immunization, shows the OD range of the assay; high value indicates optimal sensitivity of the assay.
1 U/ml: a 'Cut-off' line has been drawn to indicate a threshold distinguishing between **Positive/Negative**. **Note**: This is not a clear-cut threshold, rather a low OD area that could represent either low positives or high background negatives.

Positive Control – antibody reactive to MARV GP; value range is on the label. This Control may be used to assess reproducibility and/or to normalize between-assay variation.

Internal Control – a true positive from an immune host that represents the investigator's experience in distinguishing low positive from negative samples (not in kit). This should be run in each assay to supplement the 1 U/ml Calibrator for Positive/Negative discrimination purposes.

Samples A,B,C,D – 3 samples (A, B, C) are negative: below the threshold; 1 sample (D) is positive: clearly above the threshold.

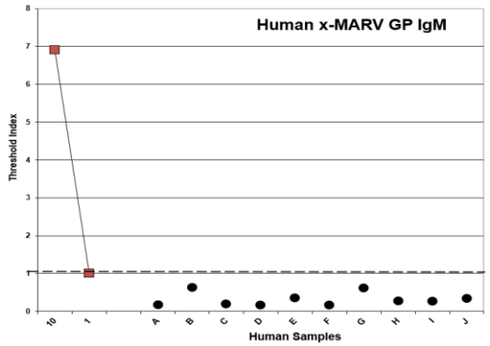
The **1 U/ml** Calibrator can be used to calculate a **Threshold Index** that numerically discriminates Positive/Negative (see p.6):

- Divide each Sample net OD by the 1 U/ml Calibrator net OD. Values above 1.0 are a measure of **Positive** Antibody Activity; below 1.0 are **Negative** for antibody.

ASSAY PERFORMANCE

Example:

Human Serum/Plasma IgM
A panel of human serum/plasma of unknown history was tested for anti-MARV GP IgM (1:500 dilution). **Threshold Index** was calculated using the **1** U/ml **Cal**.



Results

Anti-MARV GP IgM: all samples were negative (below 1.0 threshold) at 1:500 dilution.

Notes:

1. **Positives** may be due to prior encounter with the virus or non-MARV proteins with common epitopes to GP, or may be an aspect of the innate immune repertoire.
2. The **sensitivity** of the assay may be adjusted by changing the sample dilutions:
   a) **increase dilution** (e.g., 1:1000) to lower the signals of borderline positives to negative
   b) **decrease dilution** (e.g., 1:200) to convert borderline samples to positive. With the latter, the values of negatives may increase, so an alternative threshold should be considered using known negatives to develop a **Positive Index (**see below) or use an **Internal Control** (Page 5).

B. Positive Index
Experimental sample values may be expressed relative to the values of Control or Non-immune samples, by calculation of a **Positive Index**. One typical method is as follows:

1. Calculate the net OD mean + 2 SD of the Control/Non-immune samples = **Positive Index**.

2. Divide each sample net OD by the Positive Index. Values above 1.0 are a measure of **Positive** Antibody Activity; below 1.0 are **Negative** for antibody.

A sample value would be **Positive** if significantly above the value of the pre-immune serum sample or a suitably determined non-immune panel or pool of samples, tested at the same sample dilution.

This calculation also **quantifies** the positive Antibody Activity level, assigning a higher value to samples with higher Antibody Activity, and vice versa.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS (cont)

Method C. Titers from Sample Dilution Curves

The titer of elevated 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. The Positive and Sensitivity Control values 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

= IgM Antibody Activity Units

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Specificity

Coated antigen is purified, recombinant, baculovirus (sf9) expressed MARV GP (Angola/2005, minus TM domain/rGPdTM, His-tag). The GP protein sequence is highly conserved in various isolates for MARV. The Anti-Human IgM HRP conjugate is specific for IgM, with no reactivity with IgG, IgA or IgE class antibodies.

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 or obtained from the ADI website.

Instruction Manual No. M-AE-322630-1

Recombivirus™ Human Anti-Marburg Virus Glycoprotein (MARV GP) IgM ELISA Kit

Cat. #AE-322630-1

For the Detection of Anti-MARV GP IgM in Human Serum or Plasma

For research use only, not for diagnostic or therapeutic use.

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ELISA Kit Components	Amount	Part
MARV GP Coated Strip Plate	8-well strips (12)	322621
Anti- MARV GP Positive Control	0.65 ml	322622-PC
Anti- MARV GP Calibrator 1 U/ml	0.65 ml	322622B
Anti- MARV GP Calibrator 2.5 U/ml	0.65 ml	322622C
Anti- MARV GP Calibrator 5 U/ml	0.65 ml	322622D
Anti- MARV GP Calibrator 10 U/ml	0.65 ml	322622E
Anti-Human IgM HRP Conjugate (100X)	0.15 ml	H-HuM.2a11
Sample Diluent (20x)	10 ml	SD20T
Low NSB Sample Diluent	30 ml	TBTm
Wash Solution Concentrate (100X)	10 ml	WB-100
TMB Substrate	12 ml	80091
Stop Solution	12 ml	80101
Product Manual	1 ea	AE-322630-1