

# Merckodia Rat C-peptide ELISA

Directions for Use

**10-1172-01**  
**REAGENTS FOR 96 DETERMINATIONS**





For Research Use Only  
Not for Use in Diagnostic Procedures

Manufactured by

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Merckodia 

## EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS USED ON LABELS

 $\Sigma = 96$	Reagents for 96 determinations
	Expiry date
	Store between 2-8°C
	Lot No.

## INTENDED USE

Mercodia Rat C-peptide ELISA provides a method for the quantitative determination of c-peptide in rat serum, EDTA-plasma and cell culture medium.

## SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION OF THE TEST

C-peptide is formed together with insulin from the cleavage of proinsulin within secretory granules in the beta-cell. In most species the insulin gene exists in a single copy. Rats and mice however, have two closely related genes which produce two nonallelic proinsulins (1). The rat proinsulins are cleaved to form two insulins (insulin I and insulin II) and two c-peptides (c-peptide I and c-peptide II): The two c-peptides differ with regard to two amino acids in the middle segment of the molecule. C-peptide is considered to have a longer half-life in circulation than insulin, and is used in humans and animal models as a marker of endogenous insulin production (2). Traditionally c-peptide has been considered to be without biological effects of its own, but in recent years it has been reported that c-peptide treatment may affect renal and nerve dysfunction in type 1 diabetes patients (3). Physiological effects of c-peptide have also been observed in animal models of diabetes (4, 5). Mercodia Rat C-peptide ELISA calibrators are made from synthetic rat C-peptide I. Both rat c-peptide I and II are measured in the assay.

## PRINCIPLE OF THE PROCEDURE

Mercodia Rat C-peptide ELISA is a solid phase two-site enzyme immunoassay.

It is based on the sandwich technique in which two monoclonal antibodies are directed against separate antigenic determinants on the c-peptide molecule. During incubation, c-peptide in the sample reacts with anti-c-peptide antibodies bound to the microtitration well. After washing, peroxidase-conjugated anti-c-peptide antibodies are added and after the second incubation and a simple washing step that removes unbound enzyme labeled antibody, the bound conjugate is detected by reaction with 3,3'-5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB). The reaction is stopped by the addition of acid, giving a colorimetric endpoint that can be read spectrophotometrically.

## WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- For Research Use only. Not for Use in Diagnostic Procedures. Not for internal or external use in humans or animals.
- The content of this kit and their residues must not be allowed to come into contact with ruminating animal or swine.
- The Stop Solution in this kit contains 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Follow routine precautions for handling hazardous chemicals.
- All patient samples should be handled as capable of transmitting infections.

### **MATERIAL REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED**

- Pipettes for 10, 50, 100, 200 and 1000  $\mu$ l (repeating pipettes preferred for addition of enzyme conjugate solution, Substrate TMB and Stop Solution)
- Beakers and cylinders for reagent preparation
- Redistilled water
- Microplate reader (450 nm filter)
- Plate shaker (The recommended velocity is 700-900 cycles per minute, orbital movement)
- Microplate washing device

## REAGENTS

Each Mercodia Rat C-peptide ELISA kit contains reagents for 96 wells, sufficient for 42 samples and one calibrator curve in duplicate. For larger series of assays, use pooled reagents from packages bearing identical lot numbers. The expiry date for the complete kit is stated on the outer label. The recommended storage temperature is 2-8°C.

<b>Coated Plate</b> (Mouse monoclonal anti Rat C-peptide)	1 plate 8-well strips	96 wells	Ready for use
For unused microtitration strips, reseal the bag using adhesive tape, store at 2-8°C and use within 6 weeks.			
<b>Calibrators 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</b> (Synthetic Rat C-peptide 1)	5 vials	1000 µl	Lyophilized, add 1000 µl re-distilled water per vial.
Concentration indicated on vial label. Color coded yellow Storage after reconstitution: 2-8°C for 4 weeks.			
<b>Calibrator 0</b>	1 vial	5 ml	Ready for use
Color coded yellow			
<b>Assay Buffer</b>	1 vial	6 ml	Ready for use
Color coded red			
<b>Enzyme Conjugate 11X</b>	1 vial	1.3 ml	Preparation, see below
(Peroxidase conjugated mouse monoclonal anti Rat C-peptide)			
<b>Enzyme Conjugate Buffer</b>	1 vial	13 ml	Ready for use
Color coded blue			
<b>Wash Buffer 21X</b>	1 bottle	40 ml	Dilute with 800 ml redistilled water to make wash buffer.
Storage after dilution: 2-8°C for 8 weeks.			
<b>Substrate TMB</b> (TMB) Colorless solution	1 bottle	22 ml	Ready for use
<i>Note! Light sensitive!</i>			
<b>Stop Solution</b>	1 vial	7 ml	Ready for use
0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>			

## Preparation of enzyme conjugate solution

Prepare the needed volume of enzyme conjugate solution by dilution of Enzyme Conjugate 11X, (1+10) in Enzyme Conjugate Buffer or according to the table below. Mix gently.

When preparing enzyme conjugate solution for the whole plate or if the reagents are to be used within 1 week, pour all of the Enzyme Conjugate Buffer into the Enzyme Conjugate 11X vial.

Number of strips	Enzyme Conjugate 11X	Enzyme Conjugate Buffer
12 strips	1 vial	1 vial
8 strips	700 µl	7 ml
6 strips	500 µl	5 ml
4 strips	400 µl	4 ml

Storage after dilution: 2-8°C for 1 week.

## SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND HANDLING

### Serum

Collect blood by venipuncture, allow to clot and separate the serum by centrifugation.

### Plasma

Collect blood by venipuncture into tubes containing EDTA as anticoagulant, and separate the plasma fraction.

### Cell culture medium

Note that different chemicals used in cell culture media can interfere with the assay (such as sodium azide (NaN<sub>3</sub>) and beta-mercaptoethanol).

## PREPARATION OF SAMPLES

No dilution is normally required for serum or plasma. All samples containing rat c-peptide above the highest Calibrator should be diluted with Calibrator 0.

## TEST PROCEDURE

All reagents and samples must be brought to room temperature before use. Perform each determination in duplicate for calibrators and unknowns. Prepare a calibrator curve for each assay run.

1. Reconstitute Calibrator 1-5 with 1000  $\mu$ l redistilled water per vial.
2. Prepare enzyme conjugate solution (according to table on previous page) and wash buffer.
3. Prepare sufficient microplate wells to accommodate Calibrators and samples in duplicate.
4. Pipette 10  $\mu$ l each of Calibrators and samples into appropriate wells.
5. Add 50  $\mu$ l of Assay Buffer to each well.
6. Incubate on a plate shaker (700-900 rpm) for 1 hour at room temperature (18-25°C).
7. Wash the plate 6 times with 350  $\mu$ l per well.\*  
After the final wash, invert and tap the plate firmly against absorbent paper.
8. Add 100  $\mu$ l enzyme conjugate solution into each well.
9. Incubate on a plate shaker for 1 hour at room temperature (18-25°C).
10. Wash the plate 6 times with 350  $\mu$ l per well.\*  
After the final wash, invert and tap the plate firmly against absorbent paper.
11. Add 200  $\mu$ l Substrate TMB into each well.
12. Incubate for 15 minutes at room temperature (18-25°C).
13. Add 50  $\mu$ l Stop Solution to each well.  
Place the plate on the shaker for approximately 5 seconds to ensure mixing.
14. Read optical density at 450 nm and calculate results.  
Read within 30 minutes.

\* The plate can be washed with an automatic washer or manually. Do not include a soaking step in the washing procedure.

Manual washing can be performed using either a pipette or squirt (wash) bottle. Empty the reaction volume from the wells by inverting the plate over a sink. Fill the wells by pipette with 350  $\mu$ l Wash Buffer per well or use a squirt bottle to completely fill the wells with Wash Buffer. Empty the wells by inverting the plate over a sink. Repeat the procedure 5 times. After the final wash, invert and tap the plate against absorbent paper.

*Note!* To prevent contamination between the conjugate and substrate, separate pipettes are recommended.

## INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

Commercial control and/or in-house serum pools with low, intermediate and high rat c-peptide concentrations should routinely be assayed as unknowns, and results charted from day to day. It is good laboratory practice to record the following data for each assay: kit lot number; reconstitution dates of kit components; OD values for the blank, Calibrators and controls.

## CALCULATION OF RESULTS

### Computerized calculation

The concentration of rat c-peptide is obtained by computerized data reduction of the absorbance for the Calibrators, except Calibrator 0, versus the concentration using cubic spline regression.

### Manual calculation

1. Plot the absorbance values obtained for the Calibrators, except Calibrator 0, against the rat c-peptide concentration on a log-log paper and construct a calibrator curve.
2. Read the concentration of the unknown samples from the calibrator curve.

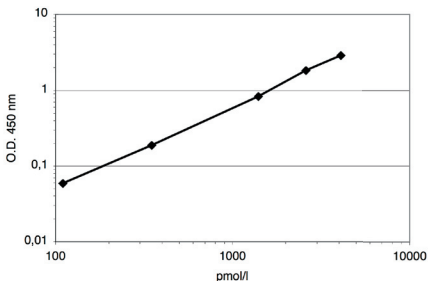
### Example of results

Wells	Identity	A <sub>450</sub>	Mean conc. pmol/l
1A-B	Calibrator 0	0,114/0,113	
1C-D	Calibrator 1 (110 pmol/l)*	0,176/0,168	
1E-F	Calibrator 2 (350 pmol/l)*	0,301/0,301	
1G-H	Calibrator 3 (1400 pmol/l)*	0,969/0,923	
2A-B	Calibrator 4 (2600 pmol/l)*	1,958/1,936	
2C-D	Calibrator 5 (4100 pmol/l)*	2,983/2,991	
2E-F	Unknown 1	0,275/0,276	303,0
2G-H	Unknown 2	1,086/1,100	1557,2
3A-B	Unknown 3	2,134/2,120	2840,6

\*Exact concentration indicated on vial label.

### Example of calibrator curve

A typical calibrator curve is shown here. Do not use this curve to determine actual assay results.



## LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

Grossly lipemic, icteric or haemolyzed samples do not interfere in the assay.

## EXPECTED VALUES

Good practice dictates that each laboratory establishes its own expected range of values.

## PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

### Detection limit

Detection limit is defined as the Capability of Detection according to ISO11843-Part 1. Capability of Detection should be seen as part of a method validation, rather than the lowest concentration that can be measured.

The detection limit is lower than the concentration of Calibrator 1 determined with the methodology described in ISO11843-Part 4. Concentration of samples with absorbance below Calibrator 1 should not be calculated, instead expressed as less or equal to ( $\leq$ ) the concentration indicated on the vial for Calibrator 1.

### Recovery

Recovery upon addition is 97-100% (mean 98%).

Recovery upon dilution is 91-105% (mean 100%).

### Hook effect

Samples with a concentration of up to 400 000 pmol/l have been tested without giving falsely low results.

### Precision

Each sample was analyzed in four replicates on 24 different occasions.

Sample	Mean value (pmol/l)	Coefficient of variation		
		within assay %	between assay %	total assay %
1	335	4,2	7,2	7,5
2	1432	2,5	3,9	4,1
3	2831	2,0	2,2	2,4

## Specificity

The following cross reaction have been found:

Rat Insulin	<0,01%
Rat Proinsulin	4,55%
Human C-Peptide	<0,001%

## CALIBRATION

Mercodia Rat C-peptide ELISA is calibrated against an in-house reference preparation of Rat C-peptide I.

## WARRANTY

The performance data presented here was obtained using the procedure indicated. Any change or modification in the procedure not recommended by Mercodia AB may affect the results, in which event Mercodia AB disclaims all warranties expressed, implied or statutory, including the implied warranty of merchantability and fitness for use. Mercodia AB and its authorized distributors, in such event, shall not be liable for damages indirect of consequential.

## REFERENCES

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## SUMMARY OF PROTOCOL SHEET

Add Calibrators, controls and samples	10 $\mu$ l
Add Assay Buffer	50 $\mu$ l
Incubate	1 hour at 18-25°C on a plate shaker
Wash plate with wash buffer	6 times
Add enzyme conjugate solution	100 $\mu$ l
Incubate	1 hour at 18-25°C on a plate shaker
Wash plate with wash buffer	6 times
Add Substrate TMB	200 $\mu$ l
Incubate	15 minutes at 18-25°C
Add Stop Solution	50 $\mu$ l Shake for 5 seconds to ensure mixing
Measure A450	Evaluate results