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AccuLite
CLIA Microwells

Ferritin Test System
Product Code: 2875-300

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Intended Use: The Quantitative Determination of Circulating Ferritin Concentrations in Human Serum by a Microplate Enzyme Immunoassay, Chemiluminescence

2.0 SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION OF THE TEST

Ferritin, in circulation, as measured in serum levels is a satisfactory index of body's iron storage. The iron storage is directly measured by quantitative phlebotomy, iron absorption studies, liver biopsies and microscopic examinations of bone marrow aspirates. Iron deficiency (*Anemia*) and iron overload (*Hemochromatosis*) are conditions associated with body's iron storage or lack thereof. Measurements of total iron binding capacity (TIBC) have widely been used as aids in the determination of these conditions. However, an assay of serum *Ferritin* is simply more sensitive and reliable means of demonstration these disorders.

Ferritin is present in blood in very low concentrations. Normally, approximately 1% of plasma iron is contained in *Ferritin*. The plasma *ferritin* is in equilibrium with body stores, and variations of iron storage. The plasma concentrations of *ferritin* decline very early in anemic conditions like development of iron deficiency, long before the changes are observed in the blood hemoglobin concentration, size of the erythrocytes and TIBC. Thus measurements of serum *ferritin* can serve as an early indicator of iron deficiency that is uncomplicated by other concurrent conditions. At the same time a large number of chronic conditions can result in elevated levels of serum *ferritin*. These include chronic infections, chronic inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, heart disease and some other malignancies, especially lymphomas, leukemias, breast cancer and neuroblastoma. In patients who have these chronic disorders together with iron deficiency, serum *ferritin* levels are often normal. An increase in circulating *ferritin* is observed in patients with viral hepatitis or after a toxic liver injury as a release of ferritin from the injured liver cells. Elevated serum *ferritin* levels are found in patients with hemochromatosis and hemosiderosis.

Circulating *ferritin* levels have been used by clinicians, as an aid, in the diagnosis of several other disorders. It has proved as a valuable tool in differential diagnosis of anemia due to iron deficiency and anemias due to other disorders and, in exposing the depletion of iron reserves long before the onset of anemia. Serial determinations have been used to monitor, non-invasively, the erosion of iron storage during pregnancy and in patients undergoing dialysis. Serum *ferritin* is routinely used as a screen for iron deficiency for a variety of populations like blood donors and people who are receiving regular blood transfusions or iron replacement therapy.

In this method, *ferritin* calibrator, patient specimen or control is first added to a streptavidin coated well. Biotinylated monoclonal antibody (specific for *ferritin*) is added and the reactants mixed. Reaction results between the biotinylated *ferritin* antibody and native *ferritin* to form an immune complex that is deposited on the

streptavidin coated well. The excess serum proteins are washed away via a wash step. Another *ferritin* specific antibody, labeled with an enzyme, is added to the wells. The enzyme labeled antibody binds to the *ferritin* already immobilized on the well. Excess enzyme is washed off via a wash step. A light signal is generated by the addition of a substrate. The intensity of the light generation is directly proportional to the concentration of the *ferritin* in the sample.

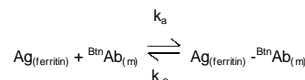
The employment of several serum references of known *ferritin* levels permits the construction of a dose response curve of activity and concentration. From comparison to the dose response curve, an unknown specimen's activity can be correlated with *ferritin* concentration.

3.0 PRINCIPLE

Immunoenzymometric sequential assay (Type 4):

The essential reagents required for an immunoenzymometric assay include high affinity and specificity antibodies (enzyme and immobilized), with different and distinct epitope recognition, in excess, and native antigen. In this procedure, the immobilization takes place during the assay at the surface of a microplate well through the interaction of streptavidin coated on the well and exogenously added biotinylated monoclonal anti-*ferritin* antibody.

Upon mixing monoclonal biotinylated antibody, and a serum containing the native antigen, reaction results between the native antigen and the antibody, forming an Antibody-Antigen complex. Simultaneously the biotin attached to the antibody binds to the streptavidin coated on the microwells resulting in immobilization of the complex. The interaction is illustrated by the following equation:



$B^{in}Ab_{(m)}$ = Biotinylated Monoclonal Antibody (Excess Quantity)

$Ag_{(ferritin)}$ = Native Antigen (Variable Quantity)

$Ag_{(ferritin)} - B^{in}Ab_{(m)}$ = Antigen-Antibody complex (Variable Quan.)

k_b = Rate Constant of Association

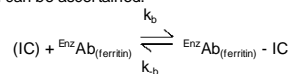
k_a = Rate Constant of Disassociation

$Ag_{(ferritin)} - B^{in}Ab_{(m)} + Streptavidin_{C.W.} \rightarrow immobilized\ complex\ (IC)$

$Streptavidin_{C.W.}$ = Streptavidin immobilized on well

Immobilized complex (IC) = Ag-Ab bound to the well

After a suitable incubation period, the antibody-antigen bound fraction is separated from unbound antigen by decantation or aspiration. Another antibody (directed at a different epitope) labeled with an enzyme is added. Another interaction occurs to form an enzyme labeled Antibody-Antigen-Biotinylated-Antibody complex on the surface of the wells. Excess enzyme is washed off via a wash step. A suitable substrate is added to produce light measurable with the use of a microplate luminometer. The enzyme activity on the well is directly proportional to the native free antigen concentration. By utilizing several different serum references of known antigen concentration, a dose response curve can be generated from which the antigen concentration of an unknown can be ascertained.



$EnzAb_{(ferritin)}$ = Enzyme labeled Antibody (Excess Quantity)

$EnzAb_{(ferritin)} - IC$ = Antigen-Antibodies Complex

k_b = Rate Constant of Association

k_a = Rate Constant of Dissociation

4.0 REAGENTS

Materials Provided:

A. Ferritin Calibrators — 1ml/vial - Icons A-F

Six (6) vials of ferritin calibrators at levels of 0(A), 10(B), 50(C), 150(D), 400(E) and 800(F) ng/ml. Store at 2-8°C. A preservative has been added.

Note: The calibrators, human serum based, were calibrated using a reference preparation, which was assayed against the WHO 3rd IS 94/572

B. Ferritin Biotin Reagent — 13ml/vial - Icon ∇

One (1) vial containing biotinylated monoclonal mouse IgG in buffer, dye, and preservative. Store at 2-8°C.

C. Ferritin Tracer Reagent — 13 ml/vial-Icon $\text{\textcircled{E}}$

One (1) vial containing Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP) labeled Anti-Ferritin IgG in buffer, dye and preservatives. Store at 2-8°C.

D. Light Reaction Wells - 96 wells - Icon ∇

One 96-well white microplate coated with streptavidin and packaged in an aluminum bag with a drying agent. Store at 2-8°C.

E. Wash Solution Concentrate - 20ml/vial - Icon ∇

One (1) vial containing a surfactant in buffered saline. A preservative has been added. Store at 2-30°C (see Reagent Preparation Section).

F. Signal Reagent A — 7ml/vial - Icon C^A

One (1) vial containing luminol in buffer. Store at 2-8°C (see Reagent Preparation Section).

G. Signal Reagent B — 7ml/vial - Icon C^B

One (1) vial containing hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) in buffer. Store at 2-8°C (see Reagent Preparation Section).

H. Product Insert

Note 1: Do not use reagents beyond the kit expiration date.

Note 2: Avoid extended exposure to heat and light. **Opened reagents are stable for sixty (60) days when stored at 2-8°C. Kit and component stability are identified on the label.**

Note 3: Above reagents are for a single 96-well microplate

4.1 Required but not provided:

- Pipette capable of delivering 0.025ml (25µl) volumes with a precision of better than 1.5%.
- Dispenser(s) for repetitive deliveries of 0.100ml (100µl) and 0.350ml (350µl) volumes with a precision of better than 1.5%.
- Microplate washers or a squeeze bottle (optional).
- Microplate Luminometer.
- Absorbent Paper for blotting the microplate wells.
- Plastic wrap or microplate cover for incubation steps.
- Vacuum aspirator (optional) for wash steps.
- Taper.
- Quality control materials.

5.0 PRECAUTIONS

For In Vitro Diagnostic Use

Not for Internal or External Use in Humans or Animals

All products that contain human serum have been found to be non-reactive for Hepatitis B Surface Antigen, HIV 1&2 and HCV Antibodies by FDA licensed reagents. Since no known test can offer complete assurance that infectious agents are absent, all human serum products should be handled as potentially hazardous and capable of transmitting disease. Good laboratory procedures for handling blood products can be found in the Center for Disease Control / National Institute of Health, "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories," 2nd Edition, 1988, HHS Publication No. (CDC) 88-8395.

Safe disposal of kit components must be according to local regulatory and statutory requirement.

6.0 SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

The specimens shall be blood, serum in type and the usual precautions in the collection of venipuncture samples should be observed. For accurate comparison to established normal values, a fasting morning serum sample should be obtained. The blood should be collected in a plain redtop venipuncture tube without additives or anti-coagulants. Allow the blood to clot. Centrifuge the specimen to separate the serum from the cells.

In patients receiving therapy with high biotin doses (i.e. >5mg/day), no sample should be taken until at least 8 hours after the last biotin administration, preferably overnight to ensure fasting sample.

Samples may be refrigerated at 2-8°C for a maximum period of five (5) days. If the specimen(s) cannot be assayed within this time, the sample(s) may be stored at temperatures of -20°C for up to 30 days. Avoid use of contaminated devices. Avoid repetitive freezing and thawing. When assayed in duplicate, 0.050ml (50µl) of the specimen is required.

7.0 QUALITY CONTROL

Each laboratory should assay controls at levels in the low, medium and high ranges of the dose response curve for monitoring assay performance. These controls should be treated as unknowns and values determined in every test procedure performed. Quality control charts should be maintained to follow the performance of the supplied reagents. Pertinent statistical methods should be employed to ascertain trends. Significant deviation from established performance can indicate unnoticed change in experimental conditions or degradation of kit reagents. Fresh reagents should be used to determine the reason for the variations.

8.0 REAGENT PREPARATION

1. Wash Buffer

Dilute contents of Wash Concentrate to 1000ml with distilled or deionized water in a suitable storage container. Store diluted buffer at 2-30°C for up to 60 days.

2. Working Signal Reagent Solution - Store at 2 - 8°C.

Determine the amount of reagent needed and prepare by mixing equal portions of Signal Reagent A and Signal Reagent B in a clean container. For example, add 1 ml of A and 1ml of B per two (2) eight well strips (A slight excess of solution is made). **Discard the unused portion if not used within 36 hours after mixing.** If complete utilization of the reagents is anticipated, within the above time constraint, pour the contents of Signal Reagent B into Signal Reagent A and label accordingly.

Note: Do not use reagents that are contaminated or have bacteria growth.

9.0 TEST PROCEDURE

Before proceeding with the assay, bring all reagents, serum reference calibrators and controls to room temperature (20-27°C). ****Test procedure should be performed by a skilled individual or trained professional****

- Format the microplates' wells for each serum reference calibrator, control and patient specimen to be assayed in duplicate. **Replace any unused microwell strips back into the aluminum bag, seal and store at 2-8°C.**
- Pipette 0.025 ml (25µl) of the appropriate serum reference calibrator, control or specimen into the assigned well.
- Add 0.100 ml (100µl) of the Ferritin Biotin Reagent to each well. **It is very important to dispense all reagents close to the bottom of the coated well.**
- Swirl the microplate gently for 20-30 seconds to mix and cover.
- Incubate 30 minutes at room temperature.
- Discard the contents of the microplate by decantation or aspiration. If decanting, tap and blot the plate dry with absorbent paper.
- Add 0.350ml (350µl) of wash buffer (see Reagent Preparation Section), decant (tap and blot) or aspirate. Repeat four (4) additional times for a total of five (5) washes. **An automatic or manual plate washer can be used. Follow the manufacturer's instruction for proper usage. If a squeeze bottle is employed, fill each well by depressing the container (avoiding air bubbles) to dispense the wash. Decant the wash and repeat four (4) additional times.**
- Add 0.100ml (100µl) of Ferritin Tracer Reagent. **It is very important to dispense all reagents close to the bottom of the coated well.**
- Incubate 30 minutes at room temperature.
- Discard the contents of the microplate by decantation or aspiration. If decanting, tap and blot the plate dry with absorbent paper.
- Add 0.350ml (350µl) of wash buffer (see Reagent Preparation Section), decant (tap and blot) or aspirate. Repeat four (4) additional times for a total of five (5) washes. **An automatic or manual plate washer can be used. Follow the manufacturer's instruction for proper usage. If a squeeze bottle is employed, fill each well by depressing the container (avoiding air bubbles) to dispense the wash. Decant the wash and repeat four (4) additional times.**
- Add 0.100 ml (100µl) of working signal reagent to all wells (see Reagent Preparation Section). **Always add reagents in the same order to minimize reaction time differences between wells.**

DO NOT SHAKE THE PLATE AFTER SIGNAL ADDITION

13. Incubate for five (5) minutes at room temperature in the dark.
 14. Read the relative light units in each well for 0.2 – 1.0 seconds.
- The results should be read within thirty (30) minutes of adding the signal solution.**

10.0 CALCULATION OF RESULTS

A dose response curve is used to ascertain the concentration of ferritin in unknown specimens.

1. Record the RLU's (Relative Light Units) obtained from the printout of the luminometer as outlined in Example 1.
2. Plot the RLU's for each duplicate serum reference versus the corresponding Ferritin concentration in ng/ml on linear graph paper.
3. Draw the best-fit curve through the plotted points.
4. To determine the concentration of Ferritin for an unknown, locate the average RLU's for each unknown on the vertical axis of the graph, find the intersecting point on the curve, and read the concentration (in ng/ml) from the horizontal axis of the graph (the duplicates of the unknown may be averaged as indicated). In the following example, the average RLU's (36573) of the unknown intersects the calibration curve at (73ng/ml) Ferritin concentration (See Figure 1)*.

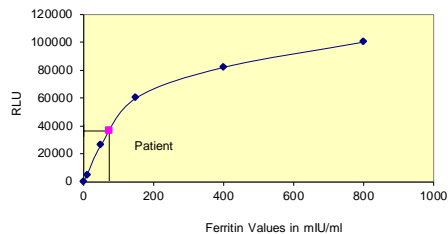
Note 1: Computer data reduction software designed for chemiluminescence assays may also be used for the data reduction. **If such software is utilized, the validation of the software should be ascertained.**

EXAMPLE 1

Sample I.D.	Well Position	RLU (A)	Mean RLU (B)	Values (ng/ml)
Cal A	A1	162	175	0
	B1	187		
Cal B	C1	4794	4862	10
	D1	4930		
Cal C	E1	26319	26259	50
	F1	26198		
Cal D	G1	60003	59896	150
	H1	59788		
Cal E	A2	82368	81875	400
	B2	81381		
Cal F	C2	99571	100000	800
	D2	100429		
Control 1	E2	6994	6594	13
	F2	6195		
Control 2	G2	50230	50250	114
	H2	50270		
Sample	A3	37647	36573	73
	B3	35499		

* The data presented in Example 1 and Figure 1 is for illustration only and **should not** be used in lieu of a dose response curve prepared with each assay. In addition, the RLU's of the calibrators have been normalized to 100,000 RLU's for the F calibrator (greatest light output). This conversion minimizes differences caused by efficiency of the various instruments that can be used to measure light output.

Figure 1



11.0 Q.C. PARAMETERS

In order for the assay results to be considered valid the following criteria should be met:

1. The Dose Response Curve should be within established parameters.
2. Four out of six quality control pools should be within the established ranges.

12.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The MSDS form for this product is available on request from Monobind Inc.

12.1 Assay Performance

1. It is important that the time of reaction in each well is held constant to achieve reproducible results.
2. Pipetting of samples should not extend beyond ten (10) minutes to avoid assay drift.
3. Highly lipemic, hemolyzed or grossly contaminated specimen(s) should not be used.
4. If more than one (1) plate is used, it is recommended to repeat the dose response curve.
5. The addition of signal reagent initiates a kinetic reaction, therefore the signal reagent(s) should be added in the same sequence to eliminate any time-deviation during reaction.
6. Failure to remove adhering solution adequately in the aspiration or decantation wash step(s) may result in poor replication and spurious results.
7. Use components from the same lot. No intermixing of reagents from different batches.
8. Accurate and precise pipetting, as well as following the exact time and temperature requirements prescribed are essential. Any deviation from Monobind IFU may yield inaccurate results.
9. All applicable national standards, regulations and laws, including, but not limited to, good laboratory procedures, must be strictly followed to ensure compliance and proper device usage.
10. It is important to calibrate all the equipment e.g. Pipettes, Readers, Washers and/or the automated instruments used with this device, and to perform routine preventative maintenance.
11. Risk Analysis- as required by CE Mark IVD Directive 98/79/EC - for this and other devices, made by Monobind, can be requested via email from Monobind@monobind.com.

12.2 Interpretation

1. **Measurements and interpretation of results must be performed by a skilled individual or trained professional.**
2. Laboratory results alone are only one aspect for determining patient care and should not be the sole basis for therapy, particularly if the results conflict with other determinants.
3. The reagents for the test system have been formulated to eliminate maximal interference; however, potential interaction between rare serum specimens and test reagents can cause erroneous results. Heterophilic antibodies often cause these interactions and have been known to be problems for all kinds of immunoassays (Boscato LM, Stuart MC. 'Heterophilic antibodies: a problem for all immunoassays' Clin. Chem. 1988;34:27-33). For diagnostic purposes, the results from this assay should be in combination with clinical examination, patient history and all other clinical findings.
4. For valid test results, adequate controls and other parameters must be within the listed ranges and assay requirements.
5. If test kits are altered, such as by mixing parts of different kits, which could produce false test results, or if results are incorrectly interpreted, **Monobind shall have no liability.**
6. If computer controlled data reduction is used to interpret the results of the test, it is imperative that the predicted values for the calibrators fall within 10% of the assigned concentrations.
7. Serum ferritin contains 20-25% iron: its concentration is a good measure of iron stores in normal persons and individuals with iron deficiency. Ferritin levels <10 ng/ml usually indicate iron deficiency anemia. Levels over 250 ng/ml would normally indicate hemochromatosis caused by certain liver diseases. Fasting, acute leukemia, inflammatory diseases, regular heavy alcohol intake and some other liver inflammations would cause elevated plasma ferritin levels as well.

13.0 EXPECTED RANGES OF VALUES

Approximate reference ranges for normal males and female adults were established by using 200 normal sera with Monobind Ferritin AccuLite® CLIA procedure.

Male's	15 - 230 ng/ml
Female's	10 - 126 ng/ml

It is important to keep in mind that establishment of a range of values which can be expected to be found by a given method for a population of "normal"-persons is dependent upon a multiplicity of factors: the specificity of the method, the population tested and the precision of the method in the hands of the analyst. For these reasons each laboratory should depend upon the range of expected values established by the Manufacturer only until an in-house range can be determined by the analysts using the method with a population indigenous to the area in which the laboratory is located.

14.0 PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

14.1 Precision

The within and between assay precision of this method were determined by analyses on three different levels of control sera. The number, mean value, standard deviation and coefficient of variation for each of these control sera are presented in Table 2 and Table 3.

TABLE 2
Within Assay Precision (Values in ng/ml)

Sample	N	X	σ	C.V.
Level 1	20	54.4	2.9	5.3%
Level 2	20	107.1	8.7	8.1%
Level 3	20	310.2	18.5	6.0%

TABLE 3
Between Assay Precision* (Values in ng/ml)

Sample	N	X	σ	C.V.
Level 1	10	52.4	2.3	4.4%
Level 2	10	112.8	9.4	8.3%
Level 3	10	301.5	21.2	7.0%

*As measured in ten experiments in duplicate.

14.2 Sensitivity

The sensitivity (detection limit) was ascertained by determining the variability of the 0mlU/ml serum calibrator and using the 2σ (95% certainty) statistic to calculate the minimum dose. It was determined to be 0.011 ng/ml.

14.3 Accuracy

The Ferritin AccuLite® CLIA test system was compared with a reference method. Biological specimens from low, normal, and elevated concentrations were assayed. The total number of such specimens was 126. The least square regression equation and the correlation coefficient were computed for this method in comparison with the reference method. The data obtained is displayed in Table 4.

TABLE 4

Method	Mean (x)	Least Square Regression Analysis	Correlation Coefficient
Monobind(Y)	56.2	y = -0.2028 + 0.989x	0.994
Reference(X)	55.3		

Only slight amounts of bias between Ferritin AccuLite® CLIA test system and the reference method are indicated by the closeness of the mean values. The least square regression equation and correlation coefficient indicates excellent method agreement.

14.4 Specificity

The cross-reactivity of the Ferritin AccuLite® CLIA test system to selected substances was evaluated by adding the interfering substance to a serum matrix at various concentrations. The cross-reactivity was calculated by deriving a ratio between doses of interfering substance to dose of ferritin needed to produce the same light intensity.

Substance	Cross Reactivity
Liver Ferritin	100%
Spleen Ferritin	100%
Human Heart Ferritin	<1.0%
Hemoglobin	<0.1%

14.5 High Dose Hook-Effect

Since the assay is sequential in design, high levels of Ferritin do not show the hook effect. Samples with concentrations over 10,000ng/ml demonstrated extremely high levels of light intensity

15.0 REFERENCES

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Glossary of Symbols
(EN 980/ISO 15223)

