Human IL-18 ELISA KIT

Catalog Number	Size
EA100025	48 Tests

Human IL-18 ELISA KIT

For the quantitative determination of human Interleukin 18 (IL-18) concentrations in cell culture supernates, serum, and plasma. This package insert must be read in its entirety before using this product. If you have questions or experience problems with this product, please contact our Technical Support staff. Our scientists commit themselves to providing rapid and effective help.

FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY
NOT FOR USE IN DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES

INTRODUCTION

Interleukin (IL) -18 is a newly discovered cytokine, structurally similar to IL-1, with profound effects on T-cell activation.

Formerly called interferon (IFN) gamma inducing factor (IGIF), IL-18 is a novel cytokine that plays an important role in the T-cell-helper type 1 (Th1) response, primarily by its ability to induce IFN gamma production in T cells and natural killer (NK) cells.

In terms of structure, IL-18 and IL-1 beta share primary amino acid sequences of the so-called „signature sequence“ motif and are similarly folded as all beta pleated sheet molecules. Also similar to IL-1 beta, IL-18 is synthesized as a biologically inactive precursor molecule lacking a signal peptide which requires cleavage into an active, mature molecule by the intracellular cysteine protease called IL-1 beta-converting enzyme (ICE, caspase-1). Therefore inhibitors of ICE activity may limit the biologic activity of IL-18 and may be useful as Th1 immunosuppressive agents.

The activity of the mature IL-18 is closely related to that of IL-1.

IL-18 induces gene expression and synthesis of tumor necrosis factor (TNF), IL-1, Fas Ligand, and several chemokines.

IL-18 induces the differentiation of Th1 or Th2 cells depending upon cytokine milieu and genetic background.

The activity of IL-18 is via an IL-18 receptor (IL-18R) complex. This complex is made up of a binding chain termed IL-18R, a member of the IL-1 receptor family previously identified as the IL-1 receptor – related protein (IL-1Rrp), and a signaling chain, also a member of the IL-1R family.

The IL-18R complex recruits the IL-1R – activating kinase (IRAK) and TNF-R – associated factor –6 (TRAF-6) with subsequent activation of NF kappa B.

Thus based on primary structure, three-dimensional structure, receptor family, signal transduction pathways and biological effects, IL-18 appears to be a new member of the IL-1 family.

Similar to IL-1, IL-18 participates in both innate and acquired immunity.

Constitutive IL-18 expression is detected from many different cells, including macrophages, keratinocytes, and osteoblasts. Human keratinocytes have been found to be the major producers of IL-18 in unprocessed form.

An important role of IL-18 has been shown in clinical implications, in the role of IL-18 modulation in tumours, infections, and autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.

Elevated serum levels of IL-18 have been shown in patients with acute graft-versus-host disease after bone marrow transplantation.

Highly elevated IL-18 bioactivity with highly elevated serum IL-18 levels are measured in hematological malignancies as well as in sepsis.

Increased concentrations of plasma IL-18 are found in patients with hepatic

dysfunction after hepatectomy and in inflammatory liver diseases. Elevations of IL-18 levels accompany autoimmune disorders like systemic lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis.
Significant levels of circulating IL-18 are found in HIV-1 infection, and other infections, in inflammatory CNS diseases, in Crohn´s disease and in pregnancy during labour and complicated pregnancies.
IL-18 is regarded as a novel player in tumour immunotherapy.

PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

This assay employs the quantitative sandwich enzyme immunoassay technique. A monoclonal antibody specific for IL-18 has been pre-coated onto a microplate. Standards and samples are pipetted into the wells and any IL-18 present is bound by the immobilized antibody. Following incubation unbound samples are removed during a wash step, and then a detection antibody specific for IL-18 is added to the wells and binds to the combination of capture antibody- IL-18 in sample. Following a wash to remove any unbound combination, and enzyme conjugate is added to the wells. Following incubation and wash steps a substrate is added. A coloured product is formed in proportion to the amount of IL-18 present in the sample. The reaction is terminated by addition of acid and absorbance is measured at 450nm. A standard curve is prepared from seven IL-18 standard dilutions and IL-18 sample concentration determined.

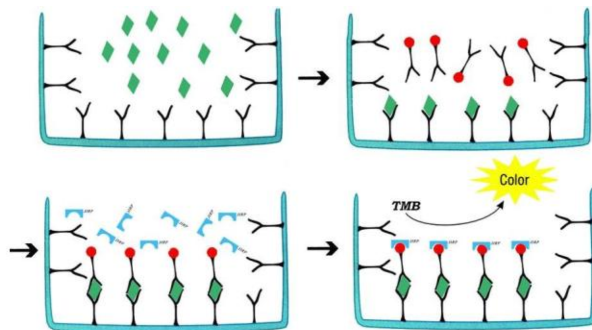

Figure 1:Schematic diagram of the assay

REAGENTS

1. Aluminium pouches with a Microwell Plate coated with antibody to human IL-18 (8X12)
2. 2 vials human IL-18 Standard lyophilized, 2500pg/ml upon reconstitution
3. 2 vials concentrated Biotin-Conjugate anti-human IL-18 antibody

4. 2 vials Streptavidin-HRP solution
5. 1 bottle Standard /sample Diluent
6. 1 bottle Biotin-Conjugate antibody Diluent
7. 1 bottle Streptavidin-HRP Diluent
8. 1 bottle Wash Buffer Concentrate 20x (PBS with 1% Tween-20)
9. 1 vial Substrate Solution
10. 1 vial Stop Solution
11. 4 pieces Adhesive Films
12. Package insert

NOTE: [96 Tests]

STORAGE

Table 1: Storage of the kit

<table>
<tr><td>Unopened Kit</td><td colspan="2">Store at 2 – 8℃. Do not use past kit expiration date.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="10">Opened/ Reconstituted Reagents</td><td>Standard /sample Diluent</td><td rowspan="8">May be stored for up to 1 month at 2 – 8℃.**</td></tr>
<tr><td>Concentrated Biotin-Conjugate</td></tr>
<tr><td>Streptavidin-HRP solution</td></tr>
<tr><td>Biotin-Conjugate antibody Diluent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Streptavidin-HRP Diluent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Wash Buffer Concentrate 20x</td></tr>
<tr><td>Substrate Solution</td></tr>
<tr><td>Stop Solution</td></tr>
<tr><td>Standard</td><td>Aliquot and store for up to 1 month at -20℃.
Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Diluted standard shall not be reused.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Microplate Wells</td><td>Return unused wells to the foil pouch containing the desiccant pack, reseal along entire edge of zip-seal. May be stored for up to 1 month at 2 – 8℃.**</td></tr>
</table>

**Provided this is within the expiration date of the kit

THE REQUIRED ITEMS (not provided, but can help to buy):

1. Microplate reader (450nm).
2. Micro-pipette and tips: 0.5-10, 2-20, 20-200, 200-1000μL.
3. 37 ℃ incubator, double-distilled water or deionized water, coordinate paper, graduated cylinder.

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

1. Store kit regents between 2℃ and 8℃. After use all reagents should be immediately returned to cold storage (2℃ to 8℃).
2. Please perform simple centrifugation to collect the liquid before use.
3. To avoid cross contamination, please use disposable pipette tips.
4. The Stop Solution suggested for use with this kit is an acid solution. Wear eye, hand, face, and clothing protection when using this material. Avoid contact of skin or mucous membranes with kit reagents or specimens. In the case of contact with skin or eyes wash immediately with water.
5. Use clean, dedicated reagent trays for dispensing the washing liquid, conjugate and substrate reagent. Mix all reagents and samples well before use.
6. After washing microtiter plate should be fully pat dried. Do not use absorbent paper directly into the enzyme reaction wells.
7. Do not mix or substitute reagents with those from other lots or other sources. Do not use kit reagents beyond expiration date on label.
8. Each sample, standard, blank and optional control samples should be assayed in duplicate or triplicate.
9. Adequate mixing is very important for good result. Use a mini-vortexer at the lowest frequency or Shake by hand at 10min interval when there is no vortexer.
10. Avoid microtiter plates drying during the operation.
11. Dilute samples at the appropriate multiple, and make the sample values fall within the standard curve. If samples generate values higher than the highest standard, dilute the samples and repeat the assay.
12. Any variation in standard diluent, operator, pipetting technique, washing technique, incubation time and temperature, and kit age can cause

variation in binding.

13. This method can effectively eliminate the interference of the soluble receptors, binding proteins and other factors in biological samples.

SAMPLE COLLECTION AND STORAGE

1. **Cell Culture Supernates** - Remove particulates by centrifugation.
2. **Serum** - Use a serum separator tube (SST) and allow samples to clot for 30 minutes before centrifugation for 15 minutes at approximately 1000 x g. Remove serum, avoid hemolysis and high blood lipid samples.
3. **Plasma** - Recommended EDTA as an anticoagulant in plasma. Centrifuge for 15 minutes at 1000 x g within 30 minutes of collection.
4. Assay immediately or aliquot and store samples at -20℃. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.
5. Dilute samples at the appropriate multiple (recommended to do pre-test to determine the dilution factor).
   Note: The normal human serum or plasma samples are suggested to make a 1:2 dilution.

REAGENT PREPARATION

1. Bring all reagents to room temperature before use.
2. **Wash Buffer** - Dilute 10mL of Wash Buffer Concentrate into deionized or distilled water to prepare 200mL of Wash Buffer. If crystals have formed in the concentrate Wash Buffer, warm to room temperature and mix gently until the crystals have completely dissolved.
3. **Standard** - Reconstitute the Standard with 0.5mL of Standard /sample Diluent. This reconstitution produces a stock solution of 5000 pg /mL. Allow the standard to sit for a minimum of 15 minutes with gentle agitation prior to making dilutions.

   Pipette 250μL of Standard/sample Diluent into the 5000 pg/mL tube and the remaining tubes. Use the stock solution to produce a 2-fold dilution series (below). Mix each tube thoroughly and change pipette tips between each transfer. The 5000 pg/mL standard serves as the high standard. The Standard/ sample Diluent serves as the zero standard (0 pg/mL).

   If you do not run out of re-melting standard, store it at -20℃. Diluted

standard shall not be reused.

4. Working solution of Biotin-Conjugate anti-human IL-18 antibody:
   Make a 1:100 dilution of the concentrated Biotin-Conjugate solution with the Biotin-Conjugate antibody Diluent in a clean plastic tube.

   The working solution should be used within one day after dilution.

5. Working solution of Streptavidin-HRP: Make a 1:100 dilution of the concentrated Streptavidin-HRP solution with the Streptavidin-HRP Diluent in a clean plastic tube.

   The working solution should be used within one day after dilution.

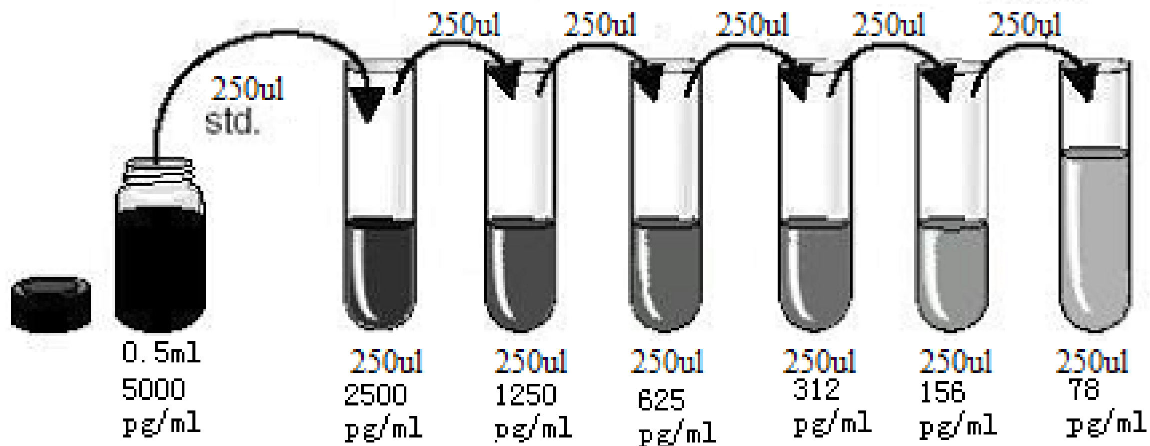

Figure 2: Preparation of IL-18 standard dilutions

GENERAL ELISA PROTOCOL

1. Prepare all reagents and working standards as directed in the previous sections.
2. Determine the number of microwell strips required to test the desired number of samples plus appropriate number of wells needed for running blanks and standards. Remove extra microwell strips from holder and store in foil bag with the desiccant provided at 2-8℃ sealed tightly.
3. Add 100µL of Standard, control, or sample, per well, then add 50µL of the working solution of Biotin-Conjugate to each well. Cover with the adhesive strip provided and incubate 2 hours at RT. Adequate mixing is very important for good result. Use a mini-vortexer at the lowest frequency.

4. Aspirate each well and wash, repeating the process three times for a total of four washes. Wash by filling each well with Wash Buffer (350 µL) using a squirt bottle, manifold dispenser or auto-washer. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential to good performance. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against clean paper towels.
5. Add 100µL of the working solution of Streptavidin-HRP to each well. Cover with a new adhesive strip and incubate for 1 hour at RT Avoid placing the plate in direct light.
6. Repeat the aspiration/wash as in step 3.
7. Add 100µL of Substrate Solution to each well. Incubate for 10-20 minutes at RT. Avoid placing the plate in direct light.
8. Add 100µL of Stop Solution to each well. Gently tap the plate to ensure thorough mixing.
9. Determine the optical density of each well immediately, using a microplate reader set to 450 nm. (Optionally 650nm as the reference wave length; 610-650nm is acceptable)

ASSAY PROCEDURE SUMMARY

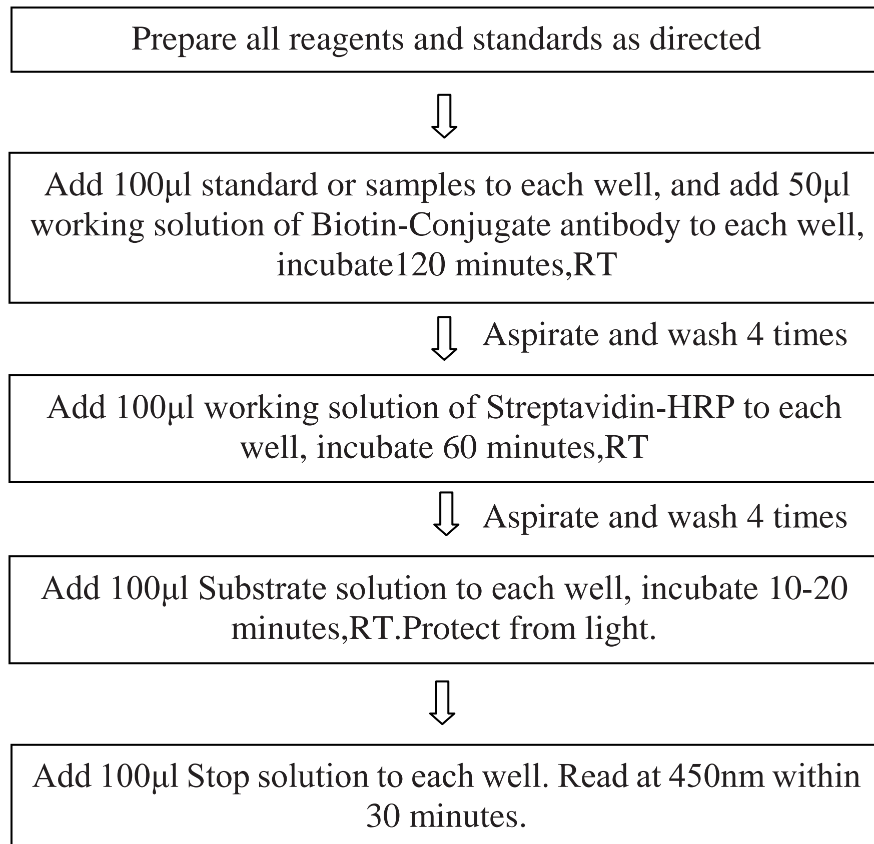

Figure 3: Assay procedure summary

TECHNICAL HINTS

1. When mixing or reconstituting protein solutions, always avoid foaming.
2. To avoid cross-contamination, change pipette tips between additions of each standard level, between sample additions, and between reagent additions. Also, use separate reservoirs for each reagent.
3. To ensure accurate results, proper adhesion of plate sealers during incubation steps is necessary.
4. Substrate Solution should remain colorless until added to the plate. Stop Solution should be added to the plate in the same order as the Substrate

Solution. Keep Substrate Solution protected from light. Substrate Solution should change from colorless to gradations of blue.

5. A standard curve should be generated for each set of samples assayed. According to the content of tested factors in the sample, appropriate diluted or concentrated samples, it is best to do pre-experiment.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS

1. Average the duplicate readings for each standard, control, and sample and subtract the average zero standard optical density.
2. Create a standard curve by reducing the data using computer software capable of generating a four parameter logistic (4-PL) curve-fit. As an alternative, construct a standard curve by plotting the mean absorbance for each standard on the y-axis against the concentration on the x-axis and draw a best fit curve through the points on the graph.
3. The data may be linearized by plotting the log of the IL-18 concentrations versus the log of the O.D. and the best fit line can be determined by regression analysis. This procedure will produce an adequate but less precise fit of the data. If samples have been diluted, the concentration read from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor.
4. This standard curve is provided for demonstration only. A standard curve should be generated for each set of samples assayed.

Table 2:Typical data using the IL-18 ELISA (Measuring wavelength: 450nm; Reference wavelength: 650nm)

Standard (pg/ml)	OD.	OD.	Average	Corrected
0	0.145	0.142	0.144	——
78	0.242	0.240	0.241	0.097
156.25	0.337	0.340	0.339	0.195
312.5	0.521	0.514	0.518	0.374
625	0.819	0.808	0.814	0.670
1250	1.214	1.208	1.211	1.067
2500	1.521	1.513	1.517	1.373
5000	2.356	2.298	2.327	2.183

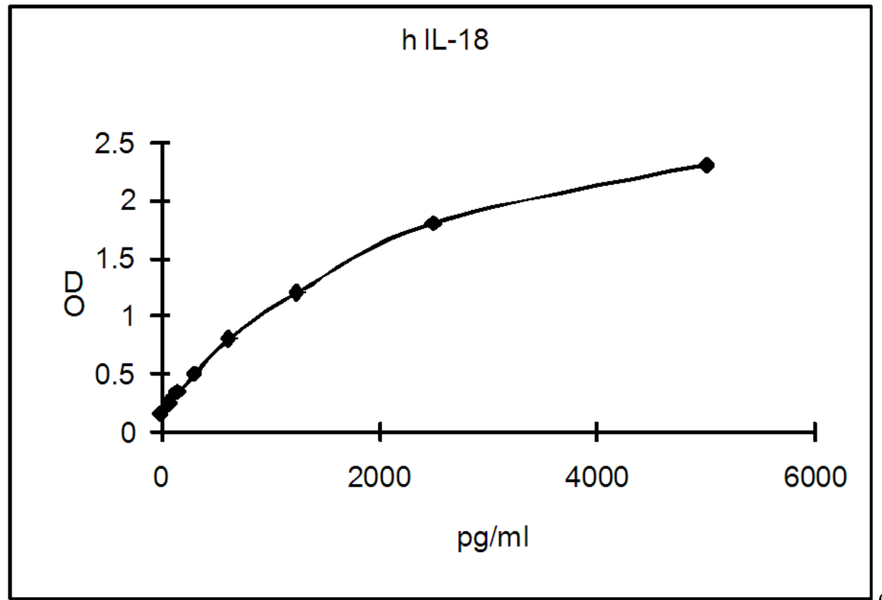

Figure 4:Representative standard curve for IL-18 ELISA. IL-18 was diluted in serial two-fold steps in Sample Diluent.

Do not use this standard curve to derive test results. A standard curve must be run for each group of microwell strips assayed.

SENSITIVITY, SPECIFICITY AND REPEATABILITY

1. **REPEATABILITY**: The coefficient of variation of both intra-assay and inter-assay were less than 10%.
2. **SENSITIVITY**: The minimum detectable dose was 20pg/mL.
3. **SPECIFICITY:** The interference of circulating factors of the immune system was evaluated by spiking these proteins at physiologically relevant concentrations into a human IL-18 positive serum. There was no crossreactivity detected, namely not with IL-18 precursor protein (pro-IL-18).

REFERENCES

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If you have any questions, please tell us!