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ENG

Instructions for Use:
HUMAN BETA2 MICROGLOBULIN ELISA

Catalogue number:
RCD003R

For research use only!

BioVendor R&D®

BioVendor – Laboratorní medicína a.s.

Karásek 1767/1, 621 00 Brno, Czech Republic

+420 549 124 185

info@biovendor.com

sales@biovendor.com

www.biovendor.com

HISTORY OF CHANGES

Previous version	Current version
ENG.005.A	ENG.006.A
History of changes added.	
Symbol indicating the manufacturer added.	

1. INTENDED USE

For the direct quantitative determination of β2 Microglobulin by enzyme immunoassay in human serum.
For research use only.

2. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The principle of the following enzyme immunoassay test follows the typical competitive binding scenario. Competition occurs between an unlabeled antigen (present in standards, controls and patient samples) and an enzyme-labelled antigen (conjugate) for a limited number of antibody binding sites on the microwell plate. The washing and decanting procedures remove unbound materials. After the washing step, the enzyme substrate is added. The enzymatic reaction is terminated by addition of the stopping solution. The absorbance is measured on a microtiter plate reader. The intensity of the colour formed is inversely proportional to the concentration of β_2-M in the sample. A set of standards is used to plot a standard curve from which the amount of β_2-M in patient samples and controls can be directly read.

3. INTRODUCTION

β_2-microglobulin (β_2-M) is a single polypeptide chain containing 100 amino acids and is found on the surface of nucleated cells. β_2-M is continuously secreted into the circulatory system and therefore maintains a balanced serum level.
Clinical Trends:

– Decreases in the glomerular filtration rate gives rise to increases in the level of β_2-M.
– β_2-M is a helpful marker in the diagnosis of kidney disease and active rheumatoid arthritis.
– Patients with acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) show an increased level of β_2-M.

β2-M has a low concentration in serum. We have found in a normal unselected population that in serum the highest level for β2-M is 3.8 mg/L. The total number of serum samples tested was 92, showing little differences in the normal level in males, pre- and postmenopausal females. The average for male samples = 1.582 mg/L, for premenopausal female = 1.457 mg/L, for postmenopausal female = 1.608 mg/L and finally for young people = 1.13 mg/L.

4. PROCEDURAL CAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

1. Users should have a thorough understanding of this protocol for the successful use of this kit. Reliable performance will only be attained by strict and careful adherence to the instructions provided.
2. Control materials or serum pools should be included in every run at a high and low level for assessing the reliability of results.
3. When the use of water is specified for dilution or reconstitution, use deionized or distilled water.
4. In order to reduce exposure to potentially harmful substances, gloves should be worn when handling kit reagents and human specimens.
5. All kit reagents and specimens should be brought to room temperature and mixed gently but thoroughly before use. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing of reagents and specimens.
6. A calibrator curve must be established for every run.
7. The kit controls should be included in every run and fall within established confidence limits.
8. Improper procedural techniques, imprecise pipetting, incomplete washing as well as improper reagent storage may be indicated when assay values for the controls do not reflect established ranges.
9. When reading the microplate, the presence of bubbles in the microwells will affect the optical densities (ODs). Carefully remove any bubbles before performing the reading step.
10. The substrate solution (TMB) is sensitive to light and should remain colourless if properly stored. Instability or contamination may be indicated by the development of a blue colour, in which case it should not be used.
11. When dispensing the substrate and stopping solution, do not use pipettes in which these liquids will come into contact with any metal parts.
12. To prevent contamination of reagents, use a new disposable pipette tip for dispensing each reagent, sample, standard and control.
13. Do not mix various lot numbers of kit components within a test and do not use any component beyond the expiration date printed on the label.
14. Kit reagents must be regarded as hazardous waste and disposed of according to national regulations.

5. LIMITATIONS

1. All the reagents within the kit are calibrated for the direct determination of **β_2-M** in human serum. The kit is not calibrated for the determination of **β_2-M** in saliva, plasma or other specimens of human or animal origin.
2. Do not use grossly hemolyzed, grossly lipemic, icteric or improperly stored serum.
3. Any samples or control sera containing azide or thimerosal are not compatible with this kit, as they may lead to false results.
4. Only calibrator A may be used to dilute any high serum samples. The use of any other reagent may lead to false results.
5. The results obtained with this kit should never be used as the sole basis for a clinical diagnosis. For example, the occurrence of heterophilic antibodies in patients regularly exposed to animals or animal products has the potential of causing interferences in immunological tests. Consequently, the clinical diagnosis should include all aspects of a patient's background including the frequency of exposure to animals/products if false results are suspected.
6. Some individuals may have antibodies to mouse protein which can possibly interfere in this assay. Therefore, the results from any patients who have received preparation of mouse antibodies for diagnosis or therapy should be interpreted with caution.

6. SAFETY CAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

6.1 Potential biohazardous material

Human serum that may be used in the preparation of the standards and control has been tested and found to be non-reactive for Hepatitis B surface antigen and has also been tested for the presence of antibodies to HCV and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and found to be negative. However no test method can offer complete assurance that HIV, HCV and Hepatitis B virus or any infectious agents are absent. The reagents should be considered a potential biohazard and handled with the same precautions as applied to any blood specimen.

6.2 Chemical hazards

Avoid contact with reagents containing TMB, hydrogen peroxide and sulfuric acid. If contacted with any of these reagents, wash with plenty of water. TMB is a suspected carcinogen.

7. SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND STORAGE

Approximately 0.1 ml of serum is required per duplicate determination. Collect 4-5 ml of blood into an appropriately labelled tube and allow it to clot. Centrifuge and carefully remove the serum layer. Store at 4°C for up to 24 hours or at -10ºC or lower if the analyses are to be done at a later date. Consider all human specimens as possible biohazardous materials and take appropriate precautions when handling.

7.1 Specimen pretreatment

This assay is a direct system; no specimen pretreatment is necessary.

8. REAGENTS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED BUT NOT PROVIDED

1. Precision pipettes to dispense 20, 50, 150, 200 and 300 µl
2. Disposable pipette tips
3. Distilled or deionized water
4. Plate shaker
5. Microwell plate reader with a filter set at 450 nm and an upper OD limit of 3.0 or greater* (see assay procedure step 10).

9. REAGENTS PROVIDED

9.1   Mouse Anti-β_2-M Antibody Coated Microwell Plate-Break Apart Wells

Ready To Use.
Contents: One 96 well (12x8) monoclonal antibody-coated microwell plate in a resealable pouch with desiccant.
Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months or as indicated on label.

9.2 β_2-M-Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP) Conjugate Concentrate

Requires Preparation.
Contents: β_2-M-HRP conjugate in a protein-based buffer with a non-mercury preservative.
Volume: 0.4 ml/vial
Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months or as indicated on label.
Preparation: Dilute 1:50 in assay buffer before use (eg. 40 µl of HRP in 2 ml of assay buffer).   If the whole plate is to be used dilute 240 µl of HRP in 12 ml of assay buffer. Discard any that is left over.

9.3 β_2-M Calibrators

Ready To Use.
Contents: Six vials containing β_2-M in a protein-based buffer with a non-mercury preservative. Prepared by spiking buffer with a defined quantity of β_2-M.
*Listed below are approximate concentrations, please refer to vial labels for exact concentrations.

Calibrator	Concentration	Volume/Vial
Calibrator A	0 mg/L	2.0 ml
Calibrator B	0.2 mg/L	0.5 ml
Calibrator C	0.6 mg/L	0.5 ml
Calibrator D	1.6 mg/L	0.5 ml
Calibrator E	4 mg/L	0.5 ml
Calibrator F	10 mg/L	0.5 ml

Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months in unopened vials or as indicated on label. Once opened, the standards should be used within 14 days or aliquoted and stored frozen. Avoid multiple freezing and thawing cycles.

9.4   Controls

Ready To Use.
Contents: Two vials containing β_2-M in a protein-based buffer with a non-mercury preservative. Prepared by spiking serum with defined quantities of β_2-M. Refer to vial labels for the acceptable range.
Volume: 0.5 ml/vial
Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months in unopened vial or as indicated on label. Once opened, the controls should be used within 14 days or aliquoted and stored frozen. Avoid multiple freezing and thawing cycles.

9.5   Wash Buffer Concentrate

Requires Preparation.
Contents: One bottle containing buffer with a non-ionic detergent and a non-mercury preservative.
Volume: 50 ml/bottle
Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months or as indicated on label.
Preparation: Dilute 1:10 in distilled or deionized water before use. If the whole plate is to be used dilute 50 ml of the wash buffer concentrate in 450 ml of water.

9.6   Assay Buffer

Ready To Use.
Contents: One bottle containing a protein-based buffer with a non-mercury preservative.
Volume: 15 ml/bottle
Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months or as indicated on label.

9.7   TMB Substrate

Ready To Use.
Contents: One bottle containing tetramethylbenzidine and hydrogen peroxide in a non-DMF or DMSO containing buffer.
Volume: 16 ml/bottle
Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months or as indicated on label.

9.8   Stopping Solution

Ready To Use.
Contents: One bottle containing 1M sulfuric acid.
Volume: 6 ml/bottle
Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C
Stability: 12 months or as indicated on label.

10. ASSAY PROCEDURE

All reagents must reach room temperature before use. Calibrators, controls and specimen samples should be assayed in duplicate. Once the procedure has been started, all steps should be completed without interruption.

1. Prepare working solutions of the β2-M-HRP conjugate and wash buffer.
2. Remove the required number of microwell strips. Reseal the bag and return any unused strips to the refrigerator.
3. Pipette 20 µl of each calibrator, control and specimen sample into correspondingly labelled wells in duplicate.
4. Pipette 100 µl of the conjugate working solution into each well (We recommend using a multichannel pipette).
5. Incubate on a plate shaker (approximately 200 rpm) for 1 hour at room temperature.
6. Wash the wells 3 times with 300 µl of diluted wash buffer per well and tap the plate firmly against absorbent paper to ensure that it is dry
(The use of a washer is recommended).
7. Pipette 150 µl of TMB substrate into each well at timed intervals.
8. Incubate on a plate shaker for 15-20 minutes at room temperature (or until calibrator A attains dark blue colour for desired OD).
9. Pipette 50 µl of stopping solution into each well at the same timed intervals as in step 7.
10. Read the plate on a microwell plate reader at 450 nm within 20 minutes after addition of the stopping solution.

*If the OD exceeds the upper limit of detection or if a 450 nm filter is unavailable, a 405 or 415 nm filter may be substituted. The optical densities will be lower, however, this will not affect the results of patient/control samples.
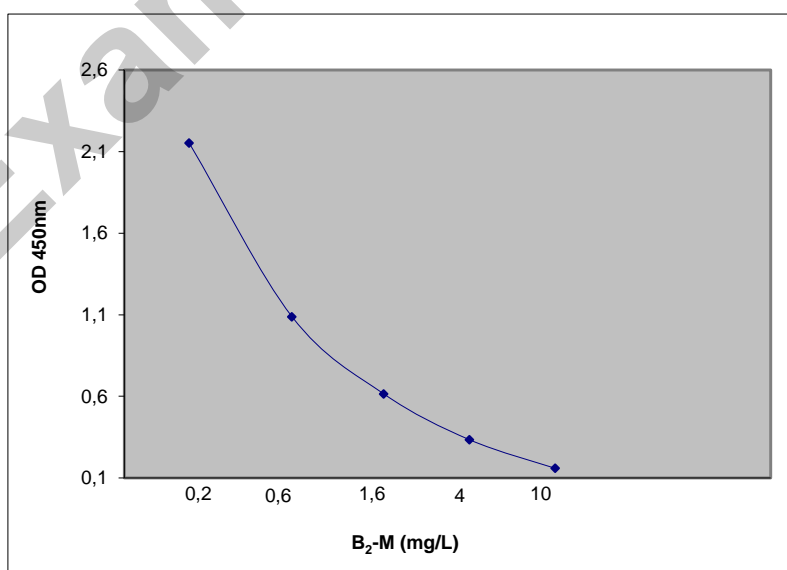
11. CALCULATIONS

1. Calculate the mean optical density of each calibrator duplicate.
2. Draw a calibrator curve on semi-log paper with the mean optical densities on the Y-axis and the calibrator concentrations on the X-axis. If immunoassay software is being used, a 4-parameter or 5-parameter curve is recommended.
3. Calculate the mean optical density of each unknown duplicate.
4. Read the values of the unknowns directly off the calibrator curve.
5. If a sample reads more than 10 mg/L then dilute it with calibrator A at a dilution of no more than 1:20. The result obtained should be multiplied by the dilution factor.

12. TYPICAL TABULATED DATA

Calibrator	OD 1	OD 2	Mean OD	Value (mg/L)
A	2.542	2.588	2.550	0
B	2.037	2.043	2.040	0.2
C	1.006	1.021	1.014	0.6
D	0.447	0.441	0.444	1.6
E	0.206	0.212	0.209	4
F	0.116	0.112	0.114	10
Unknown	0.469	0.456	0.453	1.57

13. TYPICAL CALIBRATOR CURVE

Sample curve only. **Do not** use to calculate results.

14. PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

14.1 Sensitivity

The lower detection limit is calculated from the standard curve by determining the resulting concentration of the mean OD of Calibrator A (based on 10 replicate analyses) minus 2 SD. Therefore, the sensitivity of the Biovendor Direct β_2-M ELISA kit is **0.1 mg/L.**

14.2 Specificity (Cross-Reactivity)

The following compounds were tested for cross-reactivity with the Direct β_2-M ELISA kit with β_2-M cross-reacting at 100%.

Compound	%Cross-Reactivity
β_2-Microglobulin	100
Human IgG	<0.00001

14.3 Precision

Intra-Assay

Three samples were assayed ten times each on the same calibrator curve. The results (in mg/L) are tabulated below:

Sample	Mean	SD	CV%
1	0.78	0.08	5.5
2	3.43	0.03	6.4
3	15.63	0.01	2.9

Inter-Assay

Two samples were assayed ten times over a period of four weeks. The results (in mg/L) are tabulated below:

Sample	Mean	SD	CV%
1	0.92	0.09	9.5
2	3.64	0.14	3.8

14.4 Recovery

Spiked samples were prepared by adding defined amounts of β_2-M to two patient serum samples (1:1). The results (in mg/L) are tabulated below:

Sample	Obs.Result	Exp.Result	Recovery%
1 Unspiked	1.70	-	-
+4	3.21	2.85	112.6
+12	7.94	6.85	115.9
+32	17.05	16.85	101.2
2 Unspiked	2.51	-	-
+4	3.25	3.26	99.7
+12	8.14	7.26	112.1
+32	17.69	17.26	102.5

14.5   Linearity

Two patient serum samples were diluted with calibrator A. The results (in mg/L) are tabulated below:

Sample	Obs.Result	Exp.Result	Recovery%
1	15.96	-	-
1:5	3.14	3.19	98.4
1:10	1.57	1.60	98.1
1:20	0.77	0.80	96.3
2	17.71	-	-
1:5	3.63	3.54	102.5
1:10	1.94	1.77	109.6
1:20	1.00	0.89	112.4

15. EXPECTED NORMAL VALUES
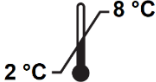
As for all clinical assays each laboratory should collect data and establish their own range of expected normal values.

Group	N	Mean (mg/L)	Range (mg/L)
Males (Age 24-70)	46	1.58	1.15-3.85
Females (Age 19-45)	25	1.46	0.73-3.56
Postmenopausal Females	14	1.61	1.28-2.34
Young Males and Females (Age 3-17)	7	1.13	0.89-1.36

ENG.006.A

16. REFERENCES

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17. EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

REF	Catalogue number
LOT	Batch code
⚠	Caution
⧗	Use by date
2 °C – 8 °C	Temperature limit
🏭	Manufacturer
📖 www.biovendor.com	Read electronic instructions for use - eIFU
Σ 96	The content is sufficient for 96 tests
☣	Biological risks

ENG.006.A

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A												
B												
C												
D												
E												
F												
G												
H												

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Karásek 1767/1, 621 00 Brno, Czech Republic

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