**Storage and Stability**

Kit can be stored unopened at 4°C for up to six months. Reconstituted detector enzyme conjugate is unstable and should be used immediately. If you wish to run less than a full plate, it should be stored as frozen aliquots at -80°C. Aliquots must be thawed immediately before use. After one thaw, any unused detector enzyme conjugate must be discarded. TMB solution should be protected from light.

**Background**

Heparan sulfate (HS) is a sulfated polysaccharide that is found on the surface of most cells as part of proteoglycans. Heparan sulfate is also present in the extracellular matrix. The polysaccharide mediates the interactions between a number of different proteins.

The HS ELISA, product number K-5800, is a quantitative enzyme-linked assay designed for the *in vitro* measurement HS levels in buffer or urine. This assay measures HS directly using a HS binding protein which has been conjugated to HRP.

The HS ELISA is a competitive assay in which the colorimetric signal is inversely proportional to the amount of HS present in the sample. Samples to be assayed are first mixed with the detector-enzyme conjugate in wells of the coated plate. HS in the sample competes with HS bound to the plate for binding of the detector-enzyme conjugate. The concentration of HS in the sample is determined using a standard curve of known amounts of HS.

**Crossreactivity**

Other endogenous glycosaminoglycans such as hyaluronic acid, keratan sulfate and chondroitin sulfate cross-react less than 1%.

**Reagent Preparation**

Heparan Sulfate Standards: Prepare standards using Tris Buffered Saline (TBS) pH 7.5 (10mM Tris, 150mM NaCl) and your HS to obtain standards of 0.1, 0.3, 1.0, 3.0, 10 and 30.0 μg/mL. **Standardization should be performed using HS that is the same HS type contained in your unknowns.**
Working Detector-Enzyme Conjugate: Measure exactly 9.1mL of conjugate diluent and add to a clean tube. Perform a ‘clean transfer’ of the tube of the Detector-Enzyme Conjugate into the 9.1 mL of conjugate diluent. This can be done by adding 500 microliters of the measured Diluent to reconstitute the Detector-Enzyme. Wait a minute to allow the lyophilized material to dissolve and then add the liquid back to the tube. Repeat this step two more times to be sure all the Detector-Enzyme Conjugate has been transferred from the vial to the tube. Reconstituted Detector-Enzyme Conjugate is unstable in the Conjugate Diluent and should be used immediately. If you wish to perform less than a full plate, the reconstituted Detector-Enzyme Conjugate must be stored as aliquots at -80°C. Aliquots must be thawed immediately before use. After one thaw, any unused detector enzyme conjugate must be discarded.

1X Wash Buffer: Make a 1:10 dilution of 10X Wash Buffer in distilled or deionized water.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standards</th>
<th>Samples</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Zero std</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. 0.1 μg/mL</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. 0.3 μg/mL</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. 1.0 μg/mL</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. 3.0 μg/mL</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>F. 10.0 μg/mL</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. 30.0 μg/mL</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Blank</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Heparan Sulfate Plate" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assay Procedure

1. Set up the ELISA plate as illustrated above. We suggest the standard dilution series be run in triplicate for best results. Add 50 μL of Standards and samples into corresponding wells. Add 50 μL of Working Detector-Enzyme Conjugate to all wells except the Blank wells. Mix well. Cover plate and incubate for one hour at room temperature. A rotator is recommended if available as constant mixing significantly improves precision.

2. Discard the solution and wash the wells four times with 300 μL per well of 1X Wash Buffer. An automated plate washer is recommended if available. After washing, immediately proceed to the next step. Do not delay in removing wash buffer from the wells. Do not allow plate to dry.

3. Add 100 μL TMB Solution to each well. Incubate the plate in the dark at room temperature for 4-60 minutes waiting for the zero wells to develop to a medium to dark blue color. Watch for color development and DO NOT overdevelop.

4. Add 50 μL Stop solution which will change the color from blue to yellow.

5. Immediately measure the absorbance of each well at 450 nm.

6. Calculate the binding percentage for each sample using the formula:

   \[
   \frac{[A_{450}(\text{Sample}) - A_{450}(\text{Blank})]}{[A_{450}(\text{Zero Heparan Sulfate})-A_{450}(\text{Blank})]} \times 100 = \% \text{ Binding}
   \]

   Using linear or nonlinear regression, plot a standard curve of percent binding versus concentration of standards. Determine levels of unknowns by comparing their percentage of binding relative to the standard curve. Concentrations can be estimated by comparing the values from the wells containing unknowns to the values in the standard curve.

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