



# AssayMax Human C-Reactive Protein (CRP) ELISA Kit

Catalog # EC1001-1

Lot #

## Introduction

C-Reactive Protein (CRP) is a liver protein composed of five identical nonglycosylated subunits, with a total molecular weight of 105 kDa. CRP has a variety of powerful effects related to immunology, inflammation, and coagulation. As a marker of low-level inflammation, CRP appears to predict future cardiovascular disease events among apparently healthy individuals. High plasma concentration of CRP was associated with increased risk of stroke, myocardial infarction, and peripheral vascular disease (1, 2, 3). CRP has also been associated with increased risks of fatal coronary events among high-risk male smokers and incident coronary disease among the elderly (4, 5). Studies have established the prognostic usefulness of CRP in the setting of angina (6). Originally used as a marker of acute inflammation, CRP has become a leading candidate as the measure of choice for estimating the inflammatory component of cardiovascular disease risk.

## Principal of the Assay

The AssayMax Human C-Reactive Protein ELISA kit is designed for detection of human CRP in plasma, serum and cell culture supernatants. This assay employs a quantitative sandwich enzyme immunoassay technique that measures CRP in 3.5 hours. A murine antibody specific for CRP has been pre-coated onto a microplate. CRP in standards and samples is sandwiched by the immobilized antibody and biotinylated polyclonal antibody specific for CRP, which is recognized by a streptavidin-peroxidase conjugate. All unbound material is then washed away and a peroxidase enzyme substrate is added. The color development is stopped and the intensity of the color is measured.

## Caution and Warning

- This kit is for research use only.
- The kit should not be used beyond the expiration date.
- The Stop Solution is an acid solution.

## Reagents

- **CRP Microplate:** A 96-well polystyrene microplate (12 strips of 8 wells) coated with a murine antibody against CRP.

- **Sealing Tapes:** Each kit contains 3 pre-cut, pressure-sensitive sealing tapes that can be cut to fit the format of the individual assay.
- **CRP Standard:** Human CRP in a buffered protein base (24 ng, lyophilized).
- **Biotinylated CRP Antibody (100x):** A 100-fold biotinylated polyclonal antibody against CRP (80  $\mu$ l).
- **Streptavidin-Peroxidase Conjugate (SP Conjugate):** A 100-fold concentrate (120  $\mu$ l).
- **EIA Diluent Concentrate (10x):** A 10-fold concentrated buffered protein base (30 ml).
- **Wash Buffer Concentrate (10x):** A 10-fold concentrated buffered surfactant (2 x 30 ml).
- **Chromogen Substrate:** A ready-to-use stabilized peroxidase chromogen substrate tetramethylbenzidine (8 ml).
- **Stop Solution:** A 0.5 N hydroxychloric acid (12 ml) to stop the chromogen substrate reaction.

## Storage Condition

- Store unopened kit at 2 - 8<sup>0</sup>C up to expiration date.
- Opened reagents may be stored for up to 1 month at 2 - 8<sup>0</sup>C. Store reconstituted standard at -20<sup>0</sup>C or below.
- Opened unused strip wells may return to the foil pouch with the desiccant pack, reseal along zip-seal. May be stored for up to 1 month in a vacuum desiccator.

## Other Supplies Required

- Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 nm.
- Pipettes (1-20  $\mu$ l, 20-200  $\mu$ l, and multiple channel).
- Deionized or distilled reagent grade water.

## Sample Collection and Storage

- **Plasma:** Collect plasma using one-tenth volume of 0.1 M sodium citrate as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge samples at 2,000x g for 10 minutes and assay. Dilute samples 1:800 initially into EIA Diluent as follows: add 20  $\mu$ l of sample to 380  $\mu$ l of EIA Diluent (1:20) to make Solution A; then add 20  $\mu$ l of Solution A to 780  $\mu$ l of EIA Diluent (1:40) to make a final working solution (1:800). The undiluted samples can be stored at -20<sup>0</sup>C or below for up to 3 months. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.
- **Serum:** Samples should be collected into a serum separator tube. After clot formation, centrifuge samples at 2,000x g for 10 minutes. Remove serum and assay. Dilute samples 1:800 initially into EIA Diluent as above. The undiluted samples can be stored at -20<sup>0</sup>C or below for up to 3 months. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.
- **Cell Culture Supernatants:** Centrifuge cell culture media at 2,000x g for 10 minutes to remove debris. Collect supernatants and assay. The samples can be stored at -20<sup>0</sup>C or below. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

## Reagent Preparation

- Freshly dilute all reagents and bring all reagents to room temperature before use. If crystals have formed in the concentrate, mix gently until the crystals have completely dissolved.

- **CRP Standard:** Reconstitute the 24 ng of human CRP Standard with 3 ml of EIA Diluent to generate an 8 ng/ml of stock solution. Allow the standard to sit for 10 minutes with gentle agitation prior to making dilutions. Prepare triplicate standard points by serially diluting the Standard solution (8 ng/ml) twofold with equal volume of EIA Diluent to produce 4, 2, 1, 0.5, 0.25, and 0.125 ng/ml. EIA Diluent serves as the zero standard (0 ng/ml).

Standard Point	Dilution	[CRP] (ng/ml)
P1	1 part Standard (8 ng/ml) + 1 part EIA Diluent	4.000
P2	1 part P1 + 1 part EIA Diluent	2.000
P3	1 part P2 + 1 part EIA Diluent	1.000
P4	1 part P3 + 1 part EIA Diluent	0.500
P5	1 part P4 + 1 part EIA Diluent	0.250
P6	1 part P5 + 1 part EIA Diluent	0.125
P7	EIA Diluent	0.000

- **Biotinylated CRP Antibody (100x):** Spin down the antibody briefly and dilute the desired amount of the antibody 1:100 with EIA Diluent.
- **EIA Diluent Concentrate (10x):** Dilute the EIA Diluent 1:10 with reagent grade water.
- **Wash Buffer Concentrate (10x):** Dilute the Wash Buffer Concentrate 1:10 with reagent grade water.
- **SP Conjugate (100x):** Spin down the SP Conjugate briefly and dilute the desired amount of the conjugate 1:100 with EIA Diluent.

## Assay Procedure

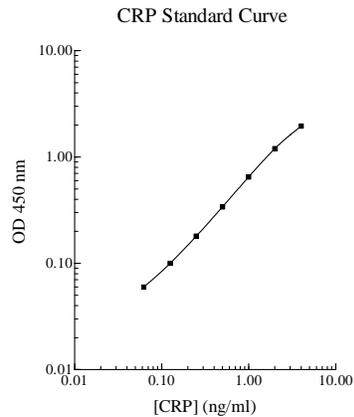
- Prepare all reagents, working standards and samples as instructed. Bring all reagents to room temperature before use. The assay is performed at room temperature (20-30°C).
- Remove excess microplate strips from the plate frame and return them immediately to the foil pouch with desiccant inside. Reseal the pouch securely to minimize exposure to water vapor and store in a vacuum desiccator.
- Add 50 µl of Standard or sample per well. Cover wells and incubate for 2 hours. Start the timer after the last sample addition.
- Wash five times with 200 µl of Wash Buffer. Invert the plate and decant the contents, and hit it 4-5 times on absorbent paper towel to completely remove liquid at each step.
- Add 50 µl of Biotinylated CRP Antibody to each well and incubate for 30 minutes.
- Wash five times with 200 µl of Wash Buffer as above.
- Add 50 µl of Streptavidin-Peroxidase Conjugate per well and incubate for 30 minutes. Turn on the microplate reader and set up the program in advance.
- Wash five times with 200 µl of Wash Buffer as above.
- Add 50 µl of Chromogen Substrate per well and incubate for about 10 minutes or till the optimal color density develops. Gently tap the plate to ensure thorough mixing and break the bubbles in the well with pipette tip.
- Add 50 µl of Stop Solution to each well. The color will change from blue to yellow.
- Read the absorbance on a microplate reader at a wavelength of 450 nm **immediately**. Please note that some unstable black particles may be generated at high concentration points after stopping the reaction for about 10 minutes, which will reduce the readings.

## Data Analysis

- Calculate the mean value of the triplicate readings for each standard and sample.
- To generate a Standard Curve, plot the graph using the standard concentrations on the x-axis and the corresponding mean 450 nm absorbance on the y-axis. The best-fit line can be determined by regression analysis using 4-parameter or log-log curve fit.
- Determine the unknown sample concentration from the Standard Curve and multiply the plasma or serum sample value by the dilution factor of 800.

## Standard Curve

- The curve is provided for illustration only. A standard curve should be generated each time the assay is performed.



## Performance Characteristics

- The minimum detectable dose of CRP is typically less than 100 pg/ml.
- Intra-assay and inter-assay coefficients of variation were 5.9 % and 7.6% respectively.
- No significant cross-reactivity or interference was observed.

## References

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2. Ridker, P.M. *et al.* (1998) *Circulation* 98: 731
3. Ridker, P.M. *et al.* (1998) *Circulation* 97: 425
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