



Instruction for use

EIA EBV VCA IgM

REF VCM096



Kit for professional use



 **TestLine Clinical Diagnostics s.r.o.**
Křižíkova 68, 612 00 Brno, Czech Republic
Tel.: +420 541 248 311
FAX: +420 541 243 390
E-mail: info@testlinecd.com
www.testlinecd.cz
www.testlinecd.com

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1 Intended Use

Enzyme immunoassay for the detection of IgM antibodies to Epstein-Barr virus viral capsid antigen in human serum, plasma or cerebrospinal fluid.

2 Introduction

Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) is a member of the *Herpetoviridae* family (HHV4). An infected human is the source of infection that spreads mainly through air-borne transmission or direct contact. EBV is an etiologic agent of infectious mononucleosis (IM) and it is also related to Burkitt's lymphoma and nasopharyngeal carcinoma. 90% of people become infected with EBV during childhood. After the incubation period (1-2 month) some people develop typical symptoms of IM – fever, pharyngitis and lymphadenopathy. Symptoms of EBV infection are influenced by patient age and immune system status. EBV persists latently in the organism for the rest of the individual's life and can be reactivated.

Diagnosis of the disease is based on an anamnesis, a clinical picture and laboratory tests. Determination of specific IgA, IgG and IgM antibodies against particular EBV antigens (VCA, EBNA-1, EA-D) using ELISA method is a powerful tool for the detection and determination of stage of EBV infection.

VCA: Anti-VCA IgG antibodies have an anamnestic character and persist in infected individuals for their entire life. Seroconversion can be detected in the early phase of the primary infection. A significant rise in IgG anti-VCA antibodies indicates reinfection or reactivation. Determination of IgG antibodies avidity enables differentiation between a primary and past infection or reactivation. IgM and IgA antibody responses are typical for active infection. High levels of IgM anti-VCA are usually present in acute and convalescent phases of IM, while in EBV reactivation IgM response is low and often undetectable and IgA response is more pronounced. After recovery, both IgM and IgA antibodies may persist for several weeks or months.

EBNA-1: During the acute phase of primary infection IgM antibodies are detected, while IgG antibody response is delayed. Absence of IgG anti-EBNA with concomitant presence of IgG and IgM anti-VCA is a diagnostic marker of infectious mononucleosis. Long term absence of IgG anti-EBNA-1 antibody may indicate immune deficiency.

EA-D: IgM and IgG antibodies to EA-D antigen are additional markers of primary EBV infection. High titres of IgG anti-EA-D are typically present in late acute and convalescent phases of infectious mononucleosis.

3 Test Principle

The kit is intended for detection of specific IgM antibodies in a sample by means of a sandwich type of the EIA method (i.e. a solid phase coated with specific antigen – antibody from the analysed sample – labelled antibody). The labelled antibody (conjugate) is an animal immunoglobulin fraction to human IgM conjugated with horseradish peroxidase. Peroxidase activity is determined in the test by a substrate containing TMB. Positivity is indicated when blue colour appears; after stopping solution has been added, blue changes to yellow. The yellow colour intensity is measured by a photometer at 450 nm, and it is proportional to the concentration of specific IgM antibodies in the sample.

Antigen Used

Recombinant antigens with highly specific immunodominant epitopes of EBV VCA

4 Materials Provided

MICROPLATE		Microtitre Plate	1 pc	
		coated with antigen, 12 x 8 wells in bag with desiccant		
CONTROL	-	CAL1	Negative Control (Calibrator 1) 5 U/ml	1 × 2 ml
			Solution containing no specific human antibodies, ready to use	
CUTOFF		CAL2	CUT-OFF (Calibrator 2) 20 U/ml	1 × 3 ml
			Solution containing specific human antibodies in cut-off concentration, ready to use	
CONTROL	+	CAL3	Positive Control (Calibrator 3) 80 U/ml	1 × 2 ml
			Solution containing specific human antibodies, ready to use	
CAL4			Calibrator 4 (160 U/ml)	1 × 2 ml
			Solution containing specific human antibodies, ready to use	
CONJUGATE			Conjugate	1 × 15 ml
			Solution containing peroxidase labelled animal immunoglobulin to human IgM, ready to use	
DILUENT 11			Sample Diluent 11	1 × 105 ml
			Buffer with protein stabilisers and IgG/RF sorbent, ready to use	
SUBSTRATE 2			TMB-Complete 2	1 × 15 ml
			Chromogenic substrate solution containing TMB/H ₂ O ₂ , ready to use	
WASH 20x			Wash Solution	1 × 75 ml
			20× concentrated buffer	
STOP			Stop Solution	1 × 15 ml
			Acid solution, ready to use	
			Instructions for use	1 pc

5 Other Material Required for Manual Test Performance

Single and multichannel pipettes

Disposable tips

Microplate washer

Timer

Incubator (37°C)

Microplate reader

6 Storage and Stability

Store the kit at +2°C to +8°C. Do not freeze. If the kit is stored as described, the labelled expiration date is valid. The expiration date is indicated on the package. The opened kit should be used within three months.

Samples Preparation and Storage

The following human body liquids can be used for testing: serum, citrate plasma and cerebrospinal fluid. Anticoagulants in the plasma (except for citrate) as well as bacterially contaminated, haemolytic or chylous samples can affect the test results.

Samples can be stored at +2°C to +8°C for one week. For a longer period, store samples at -20°C. Diluted samples should be used as soon as possible.

7 Preparation of Reagents

Dilute the Wash Solution 1:20 (1 part of solution and 19 parts of distilled water); e.g. 75 ml of the concentrated Wash Solution + 1425 ml of distilled water.

Salt crystals might develop in the bottle with the concentrated Wash Solution. Prior to use, it is necessary to dissolve the crystals by warming the bottle in a water bath. The diluted Wash Solution is stable at +2°C to +8°C for one week.

The Controls (positive, negative and CUT-OFF) are ready to use, do not dilute further!

The Conjugate is ready to use, do not dilute further!

TMB-Complete is a one-component chromogenic substrate solution ready to use, do not dilute further!

Interchangeability of reagents

The Sample Diluent, TMB-Complete and the Avidity Solution are interchangeable in EIA kits of TestLine Clinical Diagnostics s.r.o., provided they have the identical numeric marking (e.g. Sample Diluent 2, Sample Diluent 3, etc.). The Stop Solution and the Wash Solution are universal in all kits.

8 Preparation of Samples

Mix gently the Sample Diluent prior to use.

Dilution of sera and plasma samples

Dilute well mixed samples 1:101 with the Sample Diluent:

e.g.: 10 µl of sample + 1 ml of the Sample Diluent

Mix well and incubate at room temperature for 10 minutes.

Dilution of cerebrospinal fluid samples (CSF)

Dilute well mixed CSF 1:3 with the Sample Diluent:

e.g.: 50 µl of CSF + 100 µl of the Sample Diluent

Mix well and incubate at room temperature for 10 minutes.

9 Assay Procedure

Allow all reagents to come to room temperature and mix well. If you do not use a whole microplate, return unnecessary strips into the bag with desiccant. Seal the bag tightly and store at +2°C to +8°C. Keep dry!

1. Dispense the controls (calibrators) and the diluted samples according to the working schedule.

Semiquantitative evaluation in Index of Positivity (IP)

- Leave A1 well empty (blank).
- Pipette 100 µl of the Negative Control (Calibrator 1) into 1 well.
- Pipette 100 µl of CUT-OFF (Calibrator 2) into 2 wells.
- Pipette 100 µl of the Positive Control (Calibrator 3) into 1 well.
- Pipette 100 µl of the diluted samples (see Chapter Preparation of Samples) into the other wells.

Quantitative evaluation in Units U/ml

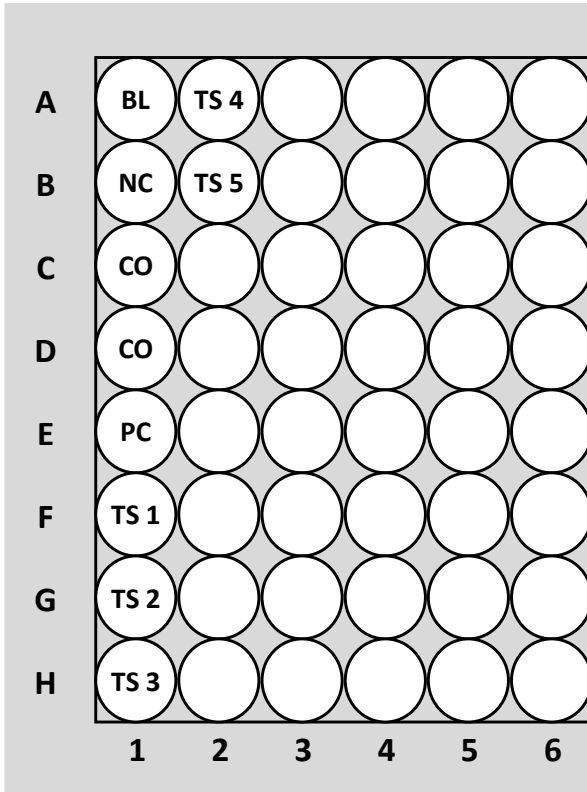
- Leave A1 well empty (blank).
- Pipette 100 µl of the Negative Control (Calibrator 1) into 1 well.
- Pipette 100 µl of CUT-OFF (Calibrator 2) into 2 wells.
- Pipette 100 µl of the Positive Control (Calibrator 3) into 2 wells.
- Pipette 100 µl of the Calibrator 4 into 2 wells.
- Pipette 100 µl of the diluted samples (see Chapter Preparation of Samples) into the other wells.

2. Cover the microplate with the lid and incubate at 37°C for 30 minutes.
3. Aspirate the content of the wells and wash 5× with the working strength Wash Solution. Fill the wells up to the edge. Finally, tap the inverted microplate thoroughly on an absorbent paper to remove solution remnants.
4. Pipette 100 µl of the Conjugate into all wells except A1 well.
5. Cover the microplate with the lid and incubate it at 37°C for 30 minutes.
6. Aspirate the content of the wells and wash 5× with the working strength Wash Solution. Fill the wells up to the edge. Finally, tap the inverted microplate thoroughly on an absorbent paper to remove solution remnants.
7. Pipette 100 µl of TMB-Complete into all wells. Avoid contamination – see Chapter Procedural Notes.
8. Cover the microplate with the lid and incubate at 37°C for 30 minutes. Keep out of light.
9. Stop the reaction by adding 100 µl of the Stop Solution in the same order and intervals as the substrate was added.
10. Read the colour intensity in wells against blank (A1 well) using photometer set to 450 nm. The absorbance should be read within 30 minutes after stopping the reaction.

10 Working Schedule

Semiquantitative evaluation

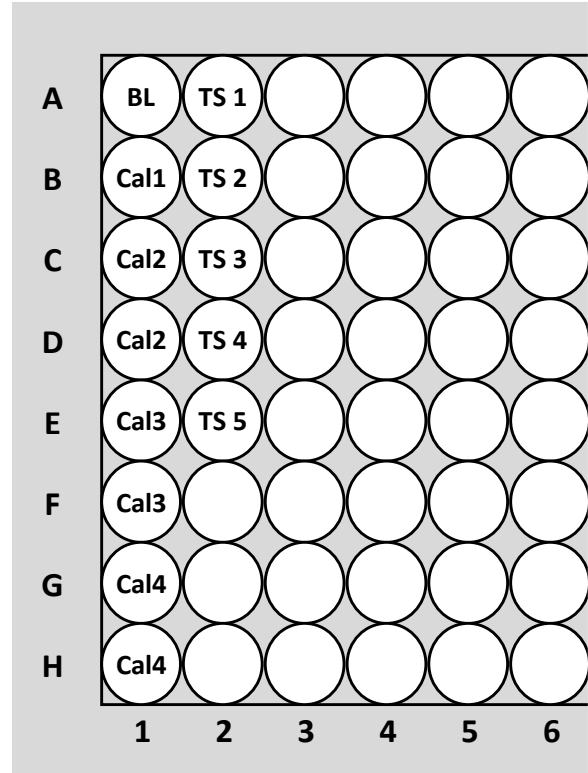
Index of Positivity (IP)



BL	Blank (empty well)			
NC	100 µl	CONTROL	-	CAL1
CO	100 µl	CUTOFF	CAL2	
PC	100 µl	CONTROL	+	CAL3
TS 1-x	100 µl	diluted tested sample		

Quantitative evaluation

Units U/ml



BL	Blank (empty well)			
Cal1	100 µl	CONTROL	-	CAL1
Cal2	100 µl	CUTOFF	CAL2	
Cal3	100 µl	CONTROL	+	CAL3
Cal4	100 µl	CAL4		
TS 1-x	100 µl	diluted tested sample		

11 Quality Control

The test is valid if:

The absorbance of blank is lower than 0.150.

$$\text{BLANK} < 0.150$$

The absorbance of the Negative Control (Calibrator 1) is lower than half of the mean absorbance of CUT-OFF (Calibrator 2).

$$\boxed{\text{CONTROL}} \text{ - } \boxed{\text{CAL1}} < 0.5 \times \boxed{\text{CUTOFF}} \boxed{\text{CAL2}}$$

The mean absorbance of CUT-OFF (Calibrator 2) is within a range of 0.150 – 0.900.

$$0.150 < \boxed{\text{CUTOFF}} \boxed{\text{CAL2}} < 0.900$$

The absorbance of the Positive Control (Calibrator 3) is 1.5-fold higher than the mean absorbance of CUT-OFF (Calibrator 2).

$$\boxed{\text{CONTROL}} \text{ + } \boxed{\text{CAL3}} > 1.5 \times \boxed{\text{CUTOFF}} \boxed{\text{CAL2}}$$

The absorbance of the Calibrator 4 is higher than the absorbance of the Positive Control (Calibrator 3).

$$\boxed{\text{CAL4}} > \boxed{\text{CONTROL}} \text{ + } \boxed{\text{CAL3}}$$

12 Results Interpretation

Calculation of Index of Positivity (IP)

Divide the absorbance of a tested sample by the mean absorbance of CUT-OFF measured in the same test run:

$$\text{IP} = \frac{\text{Absorbance of sample}}{\text{Mean absorbance of CUT-OFF}}$$

Interpretation of the test results is described in the table (Table 1).

Table 1 Interpretation of test results

Index of Positivity (IP)	Evaluation
lower than 0.9	negative
0.9 to 1.1	borderline
higher than 1.1	positive

Examination of borderline samples, i.e. samples with Index of Positivity from 0.9 to 1.1, should be repeated from a new sample collected after 2 to 6 weeks regarding to the disease specifics.

Quantitative evaluation in Units (U/ml)

Construct a calibration curve by plotting the concentration (X) of the calibrators in U/ml against the corresponding absorbance (Y). Construct the calibration curve by single point cross connection. Read the values of antibody level (U/ml) in samples from the calibration curve. Interpretation of the quantitative test results is described in the table (Table 2).

Table 2 Quantitative interpretation in Units (U/ml)

Antibody level (U/ml)	Evaluation
lower than 18	negative
18 to 22	borderline
higher than 22	positive

Examination of borderline samples should be repeated from a new sample collected after 2 to 6 weeks regarding to the disease specifics.

Serological finding can be interpreted only in the context of results of other laboratory tests and patient clinical picture.

13 Test Performance

13.1 Specificity and Sensitivity

Diagnostic specificity was determined in the panel of negative sera. Diagnostic sensitivity was determined in the panel of positive sera. The number of sera tested and the results obtained are described in the table (Table 3).

13.2 Reproducibility

Reference control samples were tested in a statistically significant number of replicates, either in one or several analyzes. Acquired data was used for Intra assay and Precision within the laboratory. The obtained results are described in the table (Table 3).

13.3 Analytical Sensitivity – maximum threshold sensitivity

The analytical sensitivity is the maximum binary dilution of CUT-OFF-like or low positive sample, possibly international recognized standards, giving absorbance significantly different from the background. The value is expressed in units of U/ml. This value is a minimum limit of detection and quantification. The obtained results are described in the table (Table 3).

13.4 Intra-homogeneity

The intra-homogeneity is expressed as the amount of agreement among 100 replicates of CUT OFF-like or low positive serum in one analyze. The value is expressed as a coefficient of variation. The obtained results are described in the table (Table 3).

13.5 Measuring range of the kits

The measuring range of each kit lies between the values of the lowest and the highest calibrators.

Table 3 Test Performance

Parameter	Value
Specificity (n 72)	98.61%
Sensitivity (n 64)	98.44%
Intra-assay	3.03%
Within-laboratory precision	7.90%
Analytical sensitivity limit	0.63 U/ml
Analytical sensitivity limit – index of positivity (IP)	0.03
Intra-homogeneity	5.08%

13.6 Interference

Two samples (one negative plasma pool and one positive plasma pool) were spiked with potentially interfering endogenous substances. Results of interference testing are shown in the table (Table 4).

Table 4 Interference Results

Interfering substance	The result was not affected up to concentration:
Bilirubin	0.4 mg/ml
Triacylglycerols	20 mg/ml
Hemoglobin	5 mg/ml

13.7 Cross-reactivity

The assay was evaluated for potential cross-reactivity using samples positive for selected pathogens and factors. Results of testing are shown in the table (Table 5).

Table 5 Results of Cross-Reacting Pathogens or Factors

Category	n	Positive Result
VZV	5	0
CMV	4	0
Toxoplasma gondii	10	0
HSV 1+2	7	0
Measles virus	3	0
Rubella virus	6	0
Mumps virus	4	0
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	11	0
Chlamydia pneumoniae	2	1
Borrelia ssp.	10	0
TBEV	6	0
RF	10	0
Total	78	1

14 Safety Precautions

The kit is intended for in vitro diagnostic use only.

The sera used for controls were tested and found to be negative for HIV 1 and HIV 2, HBsAg, HCV, TPHA. In spite of this fact, they still need to be handled as potentially infectious materials.

Some reagents contain sodium azide, which is a toxic compound. Avoid contact with skin.

The Stop Solution contains diluted acid solution. Avoid contact with eyes and skin.

It is necessary to observe the local safety rules and regulations.

First aid

In case of contact with eyes, flush with copious amount of water and seek medical assistance. In case of contact with skin and clothing, remove all the contaminated clothes. Wash the skin with soap and plenty of running water. In case of contact with solutions containing plasma or clinical samples, disinfect the skin. In case of accidental ingestion, flush the mouth with drinking water and seek medical assistance.

Remnants disposal

All the materials used for performing the test must be treated as potentially infectious due to the contact with biological materials. Therefore they need to be disposed together with biological waste.

Expired kit disposal

Disassemble the kit and dispose the components as biological material. Discard the packaging material as required by local regulations.

15 Procedural Notes

In order to obtain reliable results, it is necessary to **strictly follow the Instructions for Use**. Always use clean preferably disposable tips and glassware.

Microtitre Plate – in order to prevent water condensation on the surface of the microplate, always allow the bag with the microplate to warm up to room temperature before opening.

Wash Solution – use high quality distilled water for preparing the working strength Wash Solution.

Washing procedure – keep to the prescribed number of wash cycles and fill the wells to the upper edge. The soak time (i.e. interval between two different wash cycles during which the wells stay filled up with the Wash Solution) should be approx. 30-60 seconds.

TMB-Complete – the vessel used for multichannel pipetting should not be used for other reagents. Do not return the surplus TMB-Complete from the pipetting vessel into the vial.

Non-reproducible results might be caused by improper methodology as following:

- insufficient mixing of reagents and samples before use
- improper replacement of vial caps
- using the same tip for pipetting different reagents
- reagent exposure to excessive temperature; bacterial or chemical contamination
- insufficient washing or filling of the wells (the wells should be filled to the upper edge), improper aspiration of Wash Solution remnants
- contamination of the well edges with Conjugate or samples
- using reagents from different kit lots
- contact of reagents with oxidants, heavy metals and their salts

The kit might be used for sequential examinations. When preparing working strength solutions, use only the amount of reagents needed for the analysis.

The kit might be used in all types of automatic EIA analysers.

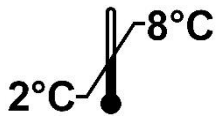
If necessary, TestLine Clinical Diagnostics s.r.o. can offer a certified modification of the Instructions for Use for the specific type of analyser.

The producer cannot guarantee that the kit will function properly if the assay procedure instructions are not strictly adhered to.

16 References

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17 IFU Symbols



Temperature limitation



Keep dry



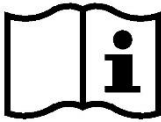
Expiry date



Lot number



Manufactured by



Consult instructions



Catalogue number















Number of tests



In vitro diagnostic medical device

Notes

Summary of EIA EBV VCA IgM Protocol

Step No.	Symbol	Test steps
1		Dilute samples serum/plasma 1:101 (10 µl + 1 ml) cerebrospinal fluids 1:3 (50 µl + 100 µl)
2		Incubate at laboratory temperature for 10 min
3		Pipette Controls and diluted samples Blank = empty well
4		Incubate at 37°C for 30 min
5		Aspirate and wash the wells 5×
6		Pipette Conjugate – 100 µl Blank = empty well
7		Incubate at 37°C for 30 min
8		Aspirate and wash the wells 5×
9		Pipette Substrate (TMB-Complete) – 100 µl Including blank
10		Incubate at 37°C for 30 min
11		Pipette Stop Solution – 100 µl Including blank
12		Read colour intensity at 450 nm