

Sheep Cor(Cortisol) ELISA Kit

Cat: ELK8817

For research use only. Not intended for diagnostic use.

Sensitivity: 0.93 ng/mL

Detection Range: 3.13-200 ng/mL

Specificity: This assay has high sensitivity and excellent specificity for detection of Sheep Cor. No significant cross-reactivity or interference between Sheep Cor and analogues was observed.

Please refer to the outer packaging label of the kit for the specific shelf life.

KIT Components

Reagents	Quantity		Storage Condition	
neagents	48T	96T	Storage Condition	
Pre-Coated Microplate	6 strips x 8 wells	12 strips x 8 wells	4°C/-20°C	
Standard (Lyophilized)	1 vial	2 vials	4°C/-20°C	
Biotinylated-Conjugate (100×)	30 μL	60 μL	4°C/-20°C	
Streptavidin-HRP (100×)	60 μL	120 μL	4°C/-20°C	
Standard/Sample Diluent Buffer	10 mL	20 mL	4°C/-20°C	
Biotinylated-Conjugate Diluent	5 mL	10 mL	4°C/-20°C	
HRP Diluent	6 mL	12 mL	4°C/-20°C	
Wash Buffer (25×)	10 mL	20 mL	4°C/-20°C	
TMB Substrate Solution	6 mL	10 mL	4°C/-20°C (store in dark)	
Stop Reagent	3 mL	6 mL	4°C/-20°C	
Plate Covers	1 piece	2 pieces	RT	



- 1. *If the kit is opened, Store the whole kit at 4°C. If the kit is not used up in 1 week. Store the Pre-Coated Microplate, Standard ,Biotinylated-Conjugate and Streptavidin-HRP at -20°C, the rest reagents at 4°C, please used up within 6 months.
 - *If the kit is not opened, store the whole kit: 4°C(short time storage, valid for 6 months); -20°C (long-term storage, valid for 1 year). Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles
- 2. Do not use the kit beyond the expiration date.
- 3. If the whole kit is stored at -20°C, place the kit at 4°C the day before the experiment.
- 4. After opening the package, please check that all components are complete.
- 5. The cap must be tightened to prevent evaporation and microbial contamination. The reagents volume is slightly more than the volume marked on labels, please use accurate measuring equipment and do not pour directly into the vial.

All kit components have been formulated and quality control tested to function successfully. Do not mix or substitute reagents or materials from other kits, detection effect of the kit will not be guaranteed if utilized separately or substituted.

Materials Required, Not Supplied

- 1. Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 ± 10 nm.
- 2. High-speed centrifuge.
- 3. Electro-heating standing-temperature cultivator.
- 4. Absorbent paper.
- 5. Double distilled water or deionized water.
- 6. Single or multi-channel pipettes with high precision and disposable tips.
- 7. Precision pipettes to deliver 2 μL to 1 mL volumes.

Safety Notes

- 1. This kit is only used for lab research and development and should not be used for human or animals.
- Reagents should be regarded as hazardous substances and should be handled carefully and correctly.
- 3. Gloves, lab coats, and goggles should always be worn to avoid skin and eyes coming into contact with Stop Reagent and TMB. In case of contact, wash thoroughly with water.



This assay employs the competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay technique. The microtiter plate provided in this kit has been pre-coated with Sheep Cor protein. Standards or samples are added to the appropriate microtiter plate wells then with a biotin-conjugated antibody specific to Sheep Cor. Next, Avidin conjugated to Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP) is added to each microplate well and incubated. After TMB substrate solution is added. The enzyme-substrate reaction is terminated by the addition of sulphuric acid solution and the color change is measured spectrophotometrically at a wavelength of 450nm ± 10nm. The concentration of Sheep Cor in the samples is then determined by comparing the OD of the samples to the standard curve.



Sample Collection and Storage

Serum - Samples should be collected into a serum separator tube. After clotting for 2 hours at room temperature or overnight at 4° C, and then centrifuging at $1000 \times g$ for 20 minutes. Assay freshly prepared serum immediately or store samples in aliquot at -20° C or -80° C for later use. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Plasma - Collect plasma using EDTA or heparin as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge samples at $1000 \times g$ and $2-8^{\circ}C$ for 15 minutes within 30 minutes of collection. Remove plasma and assay immediately or store samples in aliquot at $-20^{\circ}C$ or $-80^{\circ}C$ for later use. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Tissue homogenates - The preparation of tissue homogenates will vary depending upon tissue type.

- Rinse the tissues in pre-cooled PBS to completely remove excess blood, and weigh them before homogenization.
- 2. Mince the tissues to small pieces and homogenize them in fresh lysis buffer (different lysis buffer needs to be chosen based on subcellular location of the target protein) (PBS can be used as the lysis buffer of most tissues) (w:v = 1:9, e.g. 900 μL lysis buffer is added in 100 mg tissue sample) with a glass homogenizer on ice (micro tissue grinders, too).
- 3. Ultrasound the obtained suspension with an ultrasonic cell disrupter until the solution is clear.
- 4. Then, centrifuge the homogenates for 5 minutes at $10000 \times g$ and collect the supernatant and assay immediately or store in aliquots at $\leq -20^{\circ}C$.

*Note: Tissue homogenates are recommended to be tested for protein concentration at the same time to obtain a more accurate concentration of the test substance per mg of protein. For protein detection, you can purchase our product: **BC016, BCA Protein concentration determination kit**.

Cell lysates - Cells need to be lysed before assaying according to the following directions.

- Adherent cells should be washed by pre-cooled PBS gently, and then be detached with trypsin, and collect them by centrifugation at 1000 × g for 5 minutes (suspension cells can be collected by centrifugation directly).
- 2. Wash cells 3 times in pre-cooled PBS.
- 3. Then, resuspend the cells in fresh lysis buffer with concentration of 10⁷ cells/mL. If it is necessary, the cells could be subjected to ultrasonication until the solution is clear.
- 4. Centrifuge at $1500 \times g$ for 10 minutes at $2-8^{\circ}C$ to remove cellular debris. Assay immediately or store in aliquots at $\leq -20^{\circ}C$.



Urine - Collect the first urine of the day (mid-stream) and discharge it directly into a sterile container.

Centrifuge to remove particulate matter, assay immediately or aliquot and store at ≤ -20°C. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Saliva - Collect saliva using a collection device or equivalent. Centrifuge samples at $1000 \times g$ at $2-8^{\circ}C$ for 15 minutes. Remove particulates and assay immediately or store samples in aliquot at $\leq -20^{\circ}C$. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

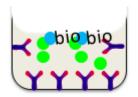
Cell culture supernatants and other biological fluids - Centrifuge samples at $1000 \times g$ for 20 minutes. Collect the supernatant and assay immediately or store samples in aliquot at -20° C or -80° C for later use. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Notes

- Samples to be used within 5 days may be stored at 4°C, otherwise samples must be stored at -20°C (≤ 1 month) or -80°C (≤ 2 months) to avoid loss of bio-activity and contamination. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.
- 2. Sample hemolysis will influence the result, so it should not be used.
- 3. When performing the assay, bring samples to room temperature.
- 4. If the concentration of the test material in your sample is higher than that of the Standard product, please make the appropriate multiple dilutions according to the actual situation (it is recommended to do preliminary experiment to determine the dilution ratio.



Summary



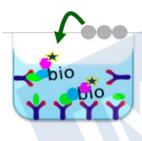
1. After the kit is equilibrated at room temperature, add 50 μ L of Standard Working Solution (gradually dilution refers to Reagent Preparation) or 50 μ L of sample to each well, immediately add 50 μ L of 1× Biotinylated-Conjugate Working Solution to each well, mix well, incubate at 37°C for 60 minutes.





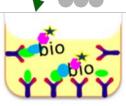
2. Discard the liquid in the plate, add 200 μ L 1× Wash Buffer to each well, and wash the plate 3 times. After pat it dry against clean absorbent paper, add 100 μ L 1× Streptavidin-HRP Working Solution to each well, incubate at 37°C for 60 minutes.





3. Discard the liquid in the plate, add 200 μ L 1× Wash Buffer to each well, and wash the plate 5 times. After pat it dry against clean absorbent paper, add 90 μ L TMB Substrate Solution to each well, incubate at 37°C for 20 minutes in the dark .

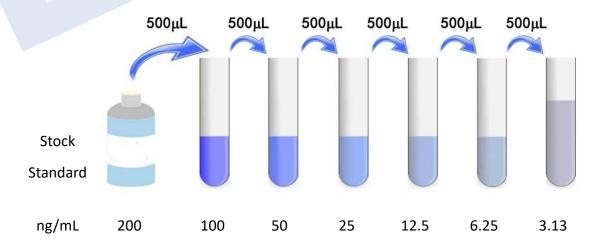




4. Add 50 μ L Stop Reagent to each well, shake plate on a plate shaker for 1 minute to mix. Record the OD at 450 nm immediately, calculation of the results.



- Bring all kit components and samples to room temperature (18-25°C) before use. Make sure all components are dissolved and mixed well before using the kit.
- 2. If the kit will not be used up in 1 time, please only take out strips and reagents for present experiment, and save the remaining strips and reagents as specified.
- 3. Dilute the 25× Wash Buffer into 1× Wash Buffer with double distilled water.
- 4. **Standard Working Solution** Centrifuge the Standard at 1000 × g for 1 minute. Reconstitute the Standard with 1.0 mL of Standard Diluent Buffer, kept for about 10 minutes at room temperature, shake gently (not to foam). The concentration of the standard in the stock solution is 200 ng/mL. Please prepare 7 tubes containing 0.5 mL Standard Diluent Buffer and use the Diluted Standard to produce a double dilution series according to the picture shown below. To mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer, pipette the solution up and down several times. Set up 7 points of Diluted Standard such as 200 ng/mL, 100 ng/mL, 50 ng/mL, 25 ng/mL, 12.5 ng/mL, 6.25 ng/mL, 3.13 ng/mL, and the last EP tubes with Standard Diluent is the **Blank** as 0 ng/mL. In order to guarantee the experimental results validity, please use the new Standard Solution for each experiment. When diluting the Standard from high concentration to low concentration, replace the pipette tip for each dilution. Note: the last tube is regarded as the **Blank** and **do not** pipette solution into it from the former tube.



- 5. $1 \times$ Biotinylated-Conjugate and $1 \times$ Streptavidin-HRP Working Solution Briefly spin or centrifuge the stock Biotinylated-Conjugate and Streptavidin-HRP before use. Dilute them to the working concentration 100-fold with Biotinylated-Conjugate Diluent and HRP Diluent, respectively. For example, 10 μ L of Streptavidin-HRP with 990 μ L of HRP Diluent.
- 6. **TMB Substrate Solution** Aspirate the needed dosage of the solution with sterilized tips and **do not**



Notes

- 1. After receive the kit, please store the reagents according to the instructions. The plates can be disassembled to single strips. Please use it in batches on demands.
- 2. The test tubes, pipette tips and reagents used in the experiment are all disposable and are strictly prohibited from being reused; otherwise the experiment results will be affected. Kit reagents of different batches cannot be mixed (except TMB, Washing Buffer and Stop Reagent).
- 3. Lyophilized Standards, Biotinylated-Conjugate, and Streptavidin-HRP are small in volume and may be scattered in various parts of the tube during transportation. Please centrifuge at 1000 × g for 1 minute before use. Then, carefully pipette 4-5 times to mix the Solution. Please configure the Standard, 1× Biotinylated-Conjugate and 1× Streptavidin-HRP Working Solution according to the required amount, and use the corresponding Dilution Solution, cannot be mixed used.
- 4. Bring all reagents to room temperature (18-25°C) before use. If crystals form in the concentrate (25×), it is a normal phenomenon. Heat it to room temperature (the heating temperature should not exceed 40°C), gently Mix until crystals are completely dissolved.
- 5. Prepare to dissolve Standard within 15 minutes before the test. This Standard Working Solution can only be used once. If the dissolved Standard is not used up, please discard it. The sample addition needs to be rapid. Each sample addition should preferably be controlled within 10 minutes. To ensure experimental accuracy, it is recommended to test duplicate wells, and when pipetting reagents, keep a consistent order of additions from 1 well to another, this will ensure the same incubation time for all wells.
- 6. During the washing process, the residual washing liquid in the reaction well should be patted dry on absorbent paper. Do not put the paper directly into the reaction well to absorb water. Before reading, pay attention to remove the residual liquid and fingerprints at the bottom, so as not to affect the microplate reader reading.
- 7. TMB Substrate Solution is light-sensitive, avoid prolonged exposure to light. Dispense the TMB Substrate Solution within 15 minutes following the washing of the microtiter plate. In addition, avoid contact between TMB Substrate Solution and metal to prevent color development. TMB is contaminated if it turns blue color before use and should be discarded. TMB is toxic, avoid direct contact with hands.



 Bacterial or fungal contamination of either samples or reagents or cross-contamination, between reagents may cause erroneous results.

Samples Preparation

- 1. Equilibrate all materials and prepared reagents to room temperature prior to use. Prior to use, mix all reagents thoroughly taking care not to create any foam within the vials.
- 2. The user should calculate the possible amount of the samples used in the whole test. Please reserve sufficient samples in advance.
- 3. Please predict the concentration before assaying. If values for these are not within the range of the standard curve, users must determine the optimal sample dilutions for their particular experiments.

Assay Procedure

- 1. Determine wells for Diluted Standard, Blank and Sample. Prepare 7 wells for Standard, 1 well for Blank. Add 50 μL of Standard Working Solution (please refer to **Reagent Preparation**) or Sample into each well (**Blank** is Standard Diluent). Then, add 50 μL of Biotinylated-Conjugate (1×) to each well immediately. Mix well, cover with the Plate Cover. Incubate for 1 hour at 37°C. Note: solutions should be added to the bottom of the micro ELISA plate well, avoid touching the inside wall and causing foaming as much as possible.
- 2. Pour out the liquid of each well. Aspirate the solution and wash with 200 μL of 1× Wash Solution to each well and let it sit for 1-2 minutes. After the liquid has been decanted, completely remove the remaining liquid from all wells by snapping the plate onto absorbent paper. Totally wash 3 times. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential for good performance. After the last wash invert the plate and blot it against clean paper towels to remove excess liquid.
 - Notes: (a) When adding Washing Solution, the pipette tip should not touch the wall of the wells to a void contamination.
 - (b) Pay attention to pouring the washing liquid directly to ensure that the washing liquid does not contaminate other wells.
- 3. Add 100 μ L of Streptavidin-HRP Woking Solution (1×) to each well, cover the wells with the Plate Cover and incubate at 37°C for 60 minutes.
- 4. Repeat the aspiration, wash process for total 5 times as conducted in step 2.
- 5. Add 90 μL of TMB Substrate Solution to each well. Cover with a new Plate Cover. Incubate for 20



TMB Substrate Solution. Preheat the Microplate Reader for about 15 minutes before OD measurement. Avoid placing the plate in direct light.

- 6. Add 50 μ L of Stop Reagent to each well. The liquid will turn yellow by the addition of Stop Reagent. Mix the liquid by tapping the side of the plate. The insertion order of the Stop Reagent should be the same as that of the TMB Substrate Solution.
- 7. Wipe off any drop of water and fingerprint on the bottom of the plate and confirm there is no bubble on the surface of the liquid. Then, run the microplate reader and conduct measurement at 450 nm immediately.

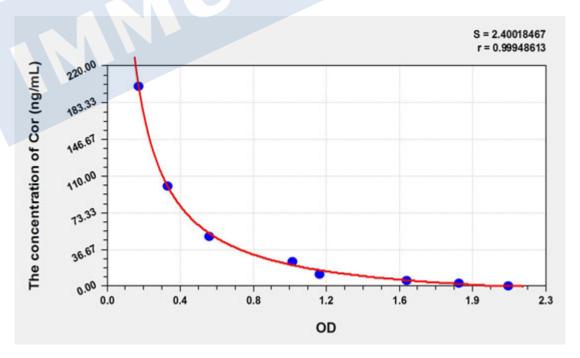
Note: Samples may require dilution (please refer to Sample Preparation section).



This assay employs the competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay technique, so there is an inverse correlation between Sheep Cor concentration in the sample and the assay signal intensity.

Average the duplicate readings for each standard, control, and samples. Create a standard curve with the Sheep Cor concentration on the y-axis and absorbance on the x-axis. Draw the best fit straight line through the standard points and it can be determined by regression analysis. If samples have been diluted, the concentration read from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor. Using some plot software, for instance, curve expert.

Concentration (ng/mL)	OD
200	0.182
100	0.336
50	0.557
25	0.993
12.5	1.139
6.25	1.596
3.13	1.871
0	2.132



Note: this graph is for reference only



Intra-assay Precision (Precision within an assay): CV%<8%

Three samples of known concentration were tested twenty times on one plate to assess intra-assay precision.

Inter-assay Precision (Precision between assays): CV%<10%

Three samples of known concentration were tested in forty separate assays to assess inter-assay precision.

Recovery

Matrices listed below were spiked with certain level of recombinant Sheep Cor and the recovery rates were calculated by comparing the measured value to the expected amount of Sheep Cor in samples.

Matrix	Recovery range	Average
Serum (<i>n</i> = 5)	86-99%	92%
EDTA plasma (n = 5)	82-97%	89%
Heparin plasma (n = 5)	80-95%	93%

Linearity

The linearity of the kit was assayed by testing samples spiked with appropriate concentration of Sheep Cor and their serial dilutions. The results were demonstrated by the percentage of calculated concentration to the expected.

Sample	1:2	1:4	1:8	1:16
Serum (<i>n</i> = 5)	84-99%	84-98%	95-102%	91-105%
EDTA plasma (n = 5)	86-105%	84-98%	95-102%	88-106%
Heparin plasma (n = 5)	93-102%	97-103%	91-99%	90-98%



- 1. The kit may not be suitable for special experimental samples where the validity of the experiment itself is uncertain, such as gene knockout experiments.
- 2. Certain natural or recombinant proteins, including prokaryotic and eukaryotic recombinant proteins, may not be detected because they do not match the detection antibody and capture antibody used in this product.
- 3. This kit is not compared with similar kits from other manufacturers or products with different methods to detect the same object, so inconsistent test results cannot be ruled out.

Analysis of Common Problems and Causes of ELISA Experiment

High background/Non-specific staining

Description of results	Possible reason	Recommendations and precautions
After termination, the whole plate results show a uniform yellow	The yellowing of the whole plate may be caused by wrong addition of other reagents ELISA plate was not washed sufficiently Incubation time too long Streptavidin-HRP contaminates the	Check the components and lot numbers of the reagents before the experiment, and confirm that all components belong to the corresponding kit. Reagents from different kits or different lot numbers cannot be mixed. Make sure that the same amount of Washing Solution is added to each microwell during the washing process. After washing, press the ELISA plate firmly on the absorbent paper to remove the residual buffer. Please strictly follow the steps of the manual When absorbing different reagents, the tips
or light color; or the Standard curve is linear but the background is	tip and TMB container or positive control contaminates the Pre-coated Microplate	should be replaced. When configuring different reagent components, different storage vessels should be used. Please use a pipette during operation.
too high	Biotinylated-Conjugate or Streptavidin-HRP concentration too high	Check whether the concentration calculation is correct or use after further dilution.
	Substrate exposure or contamination prior to use Color development time is too long The wrong filter was used when the	Store in the dark at all times before adding substrate. Please strictly follow the steps of the manual. When TMB is used as the substrate, the
	absorbance value was read	absorbance should be read at 450 nm.



Description of results	Possible reason	Recommendations and precautions
	Mixed use of component reagents	Please read labels clearly when preparing or using
After the color development step, all wells of the ELISA plate are colorless; the positive control is not obvious	In the process of plate washing and sample addition, the enzyme marker is contaminated and inactivated, and loses its ability to catalyze the color developing agent	Confirm that the container holding the ELISA plate does not contain enzyme inhibitors (such as NaN ₃ , etc.), and confirm that the container for preparing the Wash Solution has been washed.
	Missing a reagent or a step	Review the manual in detail and strictly follow the operating steps

Light color

Description of results	Possible reason	Recommendations and precautions
	The sample uses NaN ₃	Samples cannot use NaN ₃
	preservative, which inhibits the	
	reaction of the enzyme	
The Standard is normal, the	The sample to be tested may	In case of doubt, please test again.
color of the sample is light	The standard is normal, the	
	color of the sample is lightnot	
	contain strong positive	
	samples, so the result may be	
	normal	
The visual result is normal,	Wrong filter used for	When TMB is used as the substrate, the
but the reading value of the	absorbance reading	absorbance should be read at 450 nm.
microplate reader is low		



Description of results	Possible reason	Recommendations and precautions
	Insufficient incubation time	Timer accurate timing
	Insufficient color reaction	Usually 15 - 30 minutes
	The number of washings	Reduce the impact of washing, dilute the
	increases, and the dilution ratio	concentrated lotion and washing time according to
	of the concentrated lotion does	the manual, and accurately record the washing
	not meet the requirements	times and dosage.
	Distilled water quality problem	The prepared lotion must be tested to see if the pH
		value is neutral.
	In the process of plate washing	Confirm that the container holding the ELISA plate
	and sample addition, the	does not contain enzyme inhibitors (such as NaN ₃ ,
	enzyme marker is contaminated	etc.), confirm that the container for preparing the
All wells, including	and inactivated, and loses its	Washing Solution has been washed, and confirm
Standard and	ability to catalyze the color	that the purified water for preparing the Washing
Samples, are	developing agent.	Solution meets the requirements and is not
lighter in color		contaminated.
IIgricer iii color	The kit has expired or been	Please use it within the expiration and store it in
	improperly stored	accordance with the storage conditions
		recommended in the manual to avoid
		contamination.
	Reagents and samples are not	All reagents and samples should be equilibrated at
	equilibrated before use	room temperature for about 30 minutes.
	Insufficient suction volume of	To calibrate the pipette, the tips should be
	the pipette, too fast discharge	matched, each time the tips should fit tightly, the
	of pipetting suction, too much	pipetting should not be too fast, and the discharge
	liquid hanging on the inner wall	should be complete. The inner wall of the tips
	of the tip or the inner wall is	should be clean, and it is best to use it once.
	not clean.	



Description of results	Possible reason	Recommendations and precautions
	Incubation temperature	Keep the temperature constant to avoid the local
	constant temperature	temperature being too high or too low
	effect is not good	
	When adding liquid, too	When adding liquid, the tip should try to add liquid
	much remains on the	along the bottom of the medial wall of wells without
	medial wall of wells	touching the bottom of the hole.
	Reuse of consumables	The tips should be replaced when different reagents
Poor repeatability		are drawn, and different storage vessels should be
Poor repeatability		used when configuring different reagent components.
	The bottom of the	Be careful when operating, be careful not to touch the
	microwell is scratched or	bottom and wipe the bottom of the microplate to
	there is dirt	remove dirt or fingerprints.
		Technical repetition of the same sample for 3 times,
		including more than 2 approximate values.
	Cross-contamination	Try to avoid cross-contamination when adding samples
	during sample addition	
	Cross-contamination	When washing the plates by hand, the first 3 injections
	from manual plate	of the lotion should be discarded immediately, and the
	washing	soaking time should be set for the next few times to
The color of plate is		reduce cross-contamination.
chaotic and irregular	Cross-contamination	Use a suitable absorbent paper towel when clapping
	when clapping	the plate, do not pat irrelevant substances into the well
		of the plate, and try not to pat in the same position to
		avoid cross-contamination.



Description of results	Possible reason	Recommendations and precautions
	The liquid filling head of the plate washer is blocked, resulting in unsatisfactory liquid addition or large residual amount of liquid suction, resulting in the color of plate is chaotic and irregular	Unblock the liquid addition head, so that each well is filled with washing liquid when washing the plate and the residual amount should be small when aspirating liquid.
The color of plate is chaotic and irregular	Incomplete centrifugation of the sample, resulting in coagulation in the reaction well or interference of sediment or residual cellular components	Serum plasma should be fully centrifuged at 3000 rpm for more than 6 minutes
	The sample is stored for too long time, resulting in contamination.	Samples should be kept fresh or stored at low temperature to prevent contamination
	Incorrect preparation of Washing Solution or direct misuse of concentrated Washing Solution	Please configure according to the manual