INSULIN [^{125}I] IRMA KIT

(REF: RK-400CT)

The insulin [^{125}I] assay system provides the quantitative determination of insulin in human serum. Insulin can be assayed in the range 0-500 µIU/ml (0-17.5 ng/ml). Each kit contains materials sufficient for 100 assay tubes, permitting the construction of one standard curve and assay of 42 unknowns and 1 control in duplicate.

Introduction

The insulin is a light polypeptide hormone with molecular weight 6000. It is synthesized in the beta cells of the pancreas from the precursor proinsulin. Proinsulin enzymatically splits into insulin and C-peptide that are stored in the pancreas and release from there in equimolar quantitiest into the blood system. Insulin consists of two polypeptide chains: A (21 amino acids) and B (30 amino acids) connected to each other by two disulphid bridges. While in the amino acid sequence of C-peptide great differences can be observed in the case of various mammalis, in insulin these differences are insignificant: e.g. porcine and bovine insulin only differ from human insulin in one and three amino acids, respectively.
Insulin is an important metabolic hormone that has several direct and indirect effects on the organism. Its general influence is that it stimulates the synthesis and accumulation of macromolecules playing role in energy supply and in the regulation of metabolic processes. Insulin increases the rate of glucose transport trough the cell membranes, helps the admission of other monosacharides, amino acids, potassium and magnesium ions into the cells.
Insulin promotes the utilization and oxidation of glucose, glycogenesis, lipogenesis, as well as the formation of ATP, DNA and RNA. Insulin stimulates these processes in the muscles, the liver and fatty tissues, but not in blood cells and the brain, does not stimulate glucose reabsorption in renal tubules and on the intestinal mucosa. The symptoms of diabetes mellitus can be attributed to the inappropriate insulin response to glucose concentration. While in the case of unambiguous diabetes reduced insulin response is observed, in various early stages of diabetes the insulin level of the patients may be normal or even high, and increase of various degrees can be found in stimulation tests. The fasting hyperglycaemia of not overweight patients is usually accompanied by normal circulatory insulin level, while in obese patients this level is high, in proportion of overweight.

Principle of method

The technology uses two high affinity monoclonal antibodies in an immunoradiometric assay (IRMA) system.
The ^{125}I labeled signal-antibody binds to an epitope of the Insulin molecule spatially different from that recognized by the biotin-capture-antibody. The two antibodies react simultaneously with the antigen present in standards or samples, which leads to the formation of a capture antibody - antigen - signal antibody complex, also referred to as a "sandwich".
During a 2-hour incubation period immuno-complex is immobilized to the reactive surface of streptavidin-coated test tubes. Reaction mixture is then discarded, test tubes washed exhaustively, and the radioactivity is measured in a gamma counter.
The concentration of antigen is directly proportional to the radioactivity measured in test tubes. By constructing a calibration curve plotting binding values against a series of calibrators containing known amount of Insulin, the unknown concentration of Insulin in patient samples can determined.

Contents of the kit

1. 1 bottle TRACER, Ready to use. 21 ml per vial, containing < 980 kBq ^{125}I-signal and capture antibody in buffer with red dye and 0.1 % NaN_3.
2. 6 vials STANDARD(S0-S5), lyophilised. 0.5 ml serum, containing 0.1% NaN_3.
Conc.(S0-S5): 0, 5, 15, 50, 150, 500 µIU/ml
3. 1 vial CONTROL SERUM, lyophilized 0.5 ml human serum, containing 0.1% NaN3. The concentration of control sera are specified in the quality certificate enclosed.
4. 2 boxes COATED TUBE, Ready to use. 2x50 reactive test tubes, 12x75 mm, packed in plastic boxes.
5. 1 bottle WASH BUFFER CONCENTRATE (20 ml), containing 0.1% NaN_3. See *Preparation of reagents.*
Quality certificate
Pack leaflet

Materials, tools and equipment required

Round bottom polystyrene or polypropylene assay tubes, about 12 x 75 mm, precision pipettes (50 µl, 100 µl and 500 µl), vortex mixer, orbital shaker >400 RPM, gamma counter
Recommended tools and equipment
repeating pipette

Specimen collection and storage

Serum samples can be prepared according to common procedures used routinely in clinical laboratory practice. Samples can be stored at 2-8 °C if the assay is carried out within 48 hours, otherwise aliquots should be prepared and stored deep frozen (-20°C). Frozen samples should be thawed and thoroughly mixed before assaying. Repeated freezing and thawing should be avoided. Do not use lipemic, hemolyzed or turbid specimens.

Preparation of reagents, storage

Store the reagents between 2-8°C after opening. At this temperature each reagent (except reconstituted standard and control) is stable until expiry date. The actual expiry date is given on the package label and in the quality certificate.
Add the wash buffer concentrate (20 ml) to 1000 ml distilled water to obtain 1020 ml wash solution. Upon dilution store at 2-8°C until expiration.
Add 0.5 ml distilled water to the *lyophilised standard and control serum*, and mix gently with shaking or vortexing (foaming should be avoided). Ensure that complete dissolution is achieved, and allow the solution to equilibrate at room temperature for at least 20 minutes. For repeated use the rest of reagent can be stored at -20 °C for two months.
CAUTION!
Equilibrate all reagents and serum samples to room temperature. Mix all reagents and samples thoroughly before use. Avoid excessive foaming.

Assay procedure

(For a quick guide , refer to Table 1.)

1. Equilibrate reagents & samples to room temperature before use.
2. Label coated tubes in duplicate for each standard, control serum & samples.
3. Homogenize all reagents & samples by gentle mixing to avoid foaming.
4. Pipette 100 µl of standards, control & samples into the properly labeled tubes. Use rack to hold the tubes. Do not touch or scratch the inner bottom of the tubes with pipette tip.
5. Pipette 200 µl of tracer into each tube. (Set aside 2 tubes for total counts.)
6. Fix the test tube rack firmly onto the shaker plate. Turn on the shaker and adjust an adequate speed so that liquid is constantly rotating or shaking in each tube.
7. Incubate tubes for 2 hours, shaking at room temperature.
8. Add 2.0 ml of diluted wash buffer to each tube. Decant the supernatant from all tubes by the inversion of the rack. In the upside down position place the rack on an absorbent paper for 2 minutes.
9. Return the tube-rack to an upright position, and repeat step-8 two more times.
10. Count each tube for at least 60 seconds in a gamma counter.
11. Calculate the Insulin concentrations.

Table 1. Assay Protocol, Pipetting Guide
(all volumes in microlitres)

Tubes	Total	Standard	Control	Sample
Standard		**100**		
Control			**100**	
Sample				**100**
Tracer	**(200)**	**200**	**200**	**200**
Shake for 2 hours at room temperature				
Wash b.		**2000**	**2000**	**2000**
Decant the fluid & blot on filter paper				
Wash b.		**2000**	**2000**	**2000**
Decant the fluid & blot on filter paper				
Wash b.		**2000**	**2000**	**2000**
Decant the fluid & blot on filter paper				
Count radioactivity (60 sec/tube)				
Calculate the results				

Calculation of results

The calculation is illustrated using representative data. The assay data collected should be similar to those shown in Table 2.

Calculate the average count per minute (cpm) for each pair of assay tubes. Calculate the normalized percent binding for each standard, control & sample respectively by using the following equation:

$$B/T\ (\%) = \frac{\text{Std, Cntrl, Sample (cpm)}}{\text{T (cpm)}} \times 100$$

Using logarithmic graph paper plot B/T (%) for each standard versus the corresponding concentration of Insulin.

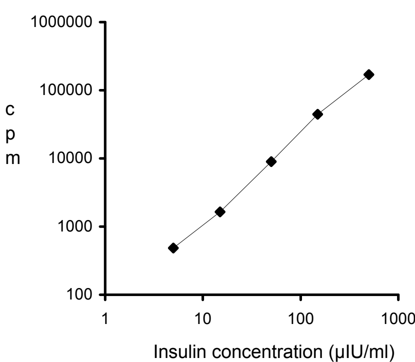
Determine the Insulin concentration of the control & unknown samples by interpolation from the standard curve.

Automated data processing systems are also applicable.

Table 2.Typical assay data

Tubes	Count cpm	Mean cpm	B/T %	μIU/ ml
T	384407 380750 379270	381475		
S0	141 114 117	124	0	
S1	497 470 483	484	0.1	
S2	1663 1662 1624	1650	0.4	
S3	9028 8961 8975	8988	2.4	
S4	44420 43739 44724	44294	11.6	
S5	173001 167052 167520	169191	44.4	
C	6708 6601 6724	6678		40.1

Typical standard curve



Characterization of assay

Calibration

Standards are calibrated against the international reference standard NIBSC 66/304

Expected values

It is recommended that each laboratory establish its own reference intervals.

As a quide, 6 – 44 μIU/ml was obtained from normal patients on an empty stomach.

The results obtained should only be interpreted in the context of the overall clinical picture. None of in vitro diagnostic kits can be used as the one and only proof of any disease or disorder.

Conversion of SI units can be performed according to the following formula**:**

1 μIU/ml = 5.99 pmol/l

1 ng/ml = 28.7 μIU/ml

Performance charachteristics

Crossreaction

Proinsulin: 40.0 %

Bovin insulin: 50.3 %

Rat insulin: 49.0 %

Analytical sensitivity

The analitycal sensitivity of this assay is 0.6 μIU/ml calculated from the 2xSD value at zero std and from the slope of the curve at zero dose.

Intra-assay precision

code	mean μIU/ml	CV %	no.
9	5.4	4.2	15
10	13.8	2.4	15
13	45	0.8	15
16	89	4.4	15
4	149	0.8	15

Inter-assay precision

code	mean μIU/ml	CV %	no.
1	4.7	17.1	16
2	20.9	4.5	16
3	40.5	2.4	16
4	65.0	2.4	16
5	102.1	3.2	16
6	152.6	3.2	16

High Dose Hook Effect

No high dose Hoof-effect was observed up to insulin concentration as high as 2500 μIU/ml.

Recovery

Recovery values were found to be between 72.0 and 101.5 %.

Linearity

After two times dilution with zero standard matrix linearity values were found to be between 73.5 and 105.3 %.

Additional information

Components from various lots or from kits of different manufacturers should not be mixed

Precaution

Radioactivity

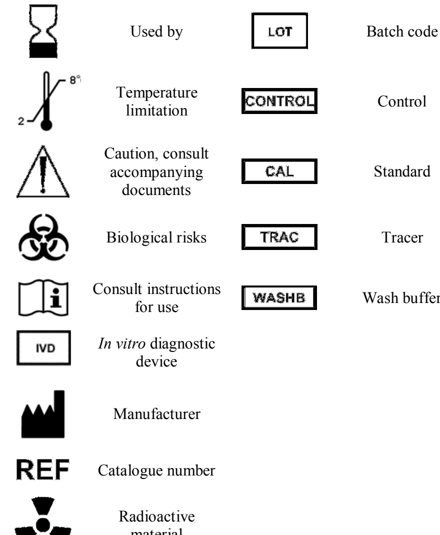
This product contains radioactive material. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that local regulations or code of practice related to the handling of radioactive materials are satisfied.

Biohazard

Human blood products used in the kit have been obtained from healthy human donors. They were tested individually by using approved methods (EIA, enzyme immunoassay), and were found to be negative, for the presence of both Human Immunodeficiency Virus antibody (Anti-HIV-1) and Hepatitis B surface Antigen (HBsAg). Care should always be taken when handling human specimens to be tested with diagnostic kits. Even if the subject has been tested, no method can offer complete assurance that Hepatitis B Virus, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1), or other infectious agents are absent. Human blood samples should therefore be handled as *potentially infectious materials*.

Chemical hazard

Components contain sodium azide as an antimicrobial agent. Dispose of waste by flushing with copious amount of water to avoid build-up of explosive metallic azides in copper and lead plumbing. The total azide present in each pack is 45 mg.



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