

## ab279932 – Phospho-Smad4 (T277) and Total Smad4 ELISA Kit

Phospho-Smad4 (T277) and Total Smad4 ELISA Kit (ab279932) is a very rapid, convenient and sensitive assay kit that can monitor the activation or function of important biological pathways in human cell lysates. By determining phosphorylated Smad4 protein in your experimental model system, you can verify pathway activation in your cell lysates. You can simultaneously measure numerous different cell lysates without spending excess time and effort in performing a Western Blotting analysis.

This Sandwich ELISA kit is an *in vitro* enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for the measurement of human phospho-Smad4 and total Smad4. An anti-pan Smad4 antibody has been coated onto a 96-well plate. Samples are pipetted into the wells and Smad4 present in a sample is bound to the wells by the immobilized antibody and the wells are washed. In select wells, rabbit anti-phospho Smad4 (T277) antibody is added to detect phosphorylated Smad4. In the remaining wells, biotinylated anti-pan-Smad4 antibody is used to detect pan Smad4. After washing away unbound antibody, HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG or HRP-Streptavidin is pipetted into the wells. The wells are again washed, a TMB substrate solution is added to the wells and color develops in proportion to the amount of Smad4 (T277) or pan Smad4 bound. The Stop Solution changes the color from blue to yellow, and the intensity of the color is measured at 450 nm.

For research use only - not intended for diagnostic use.

For overview, typical data and additional information please visit:

<http://www.abcam.com/ab279932>

### Storage and Stability

The entire ELISA kit may be stored at -20°C for up to 6 months from the date of shipment. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. For extended storage, it is recommended to store at -80°C.

### Materials Supplied

Item	Quantity	Storage Condition
Pan Smad4 Coated Microplate	1 unit	-20°C
20X Wash Buffer Concentrate	25 mL	-20°C
Positive Control-treated Jurkat cell lysate	1 vial	-20°C
Rabbit anti-phospho-Smad4 (T277) antibody	1 vial	-20°C
Biotinylated anti-pan-Smad4 detection antibody	1 vial	-20°C
1000X HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG concentrate	25 µL	-20°C
300X Streptavidin-Conjugated HRP	200 µL	-20°C
TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent	12 mL	-20°C
Stop Solution	8 mL	-20°C
5X Assay Diluent	15 mL	-20°C
2X Cell Lysate Buffer	5 mL	-20°C

### Materials Required, Not Supplied

These materials are not included in the kit, but will be required to successfully utilize this assay:

- Microplate reader capable of measuring absorbance at 450 nm.
- Protease and Phosphatase inhibitors.
- Precision pipettes to deliver 2 µl to 1 ml volumes.
- Adjustable 1-25 ml pipettes for reagent preparation.
- 100 ml and 1 litre graduated cylinders.
- Distilled or deionized water.
- Log-log graph paper or computer and software for ELISA data analysis.
- Tubes to prepare the positive control or sample dilutions.

### Cell Lysate Preparation

Rinse the cells with PBS, making sure to remove any remaining PBS before adding the lysis buffer. Solubilize cells at  $4 \times 10^7$  cells/ml in prepared Cell Lysate Buffer (see Reagent Preparation section). Pipette up and down to resuspend the pellet. Incubate the lysates with shaking at 2-8°C for 30 minutes. Microcentrifuge at 13,000 rpm for 10 mins at 2-8°C and transfer the supernatants into a clean test tube. Lysates should be used immediately or aliquoted and stored at -70°C. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Thawed lysates should be kept on ice prior to use.

For the initial experiment, we recommend a serial dilution, such as a 5-fold to 50-fold dilution, for your cell lysates with prepared Assay Diluent (see Reagent Preparation section) before use.

**Δ Note:** *The fold dilution of sample used depends on the abundance of phosphorylated proteins and should be determined empirically. More of the sample can be used if signals are too weak. If signals are too strong, the sample can be diluted further.*

### Positive Control Preparation

Briefly spin the Positive Control Vial. Add 400 µl of prepared 1X Assay Diluent into the vial to prepare a Positive Control (P-1) solution. Gently mix the powder to allow it to dissolve thoroughly. If a precipitate is seen in the solution after mixing, this can be removed by a quick centrifuge of the positive control vial, and then pipetting the supernatant only for the assay. Pipette 300 µl 1X Assay Diluent into a further four tubes, label them (P-2) to (P-5). Use the Positive Control (P-1) solution to produce a dilution series, pipetting 150 µl from (P-1) into (P-2), and so on. Mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer. 1X Assay Diluent serves as the blank (P-0).

## Reagent Preparation

### 5X Assay Diluent:

Dilute 5X Assay Diluent 5-fold with deionized or distilled water before use.

### Cell Lysate Buffer:

Cell lysate buffer should be diluted 2-fold with deionized or distilled water (for cell lysate and tissue lysate). We also recommend the addition of protease and phosphatase inhibitors (not included) to the lysis buffer prior to use.

### Rabbit anti-phospho-Smad4 (T277) antibody:

Briefly spin the vial. Add 100 µl of 1X Assay Diluent into the vial to prepare a phospho detection antibody concentrate. Pipette up and down to mix gently (the concentrate can be stored at 4°C for 5 days or at -80°C for one month). The concentrate should then be diluted 55-fold with 1X Assay Diluent and used in step 5 of the Assay Procedure.

### Biotinylated anti-pan-Smad4 detection antibody:

Briefly spin the vial. Add 100 µl of 1X Assay Diluent into the vial to prepare a pan detection antibody concentrate. Pipette up and down to mix gently (the concentrate can be stored at 4°C for 5 days or at -80°C for one month). The concentrate should then be diluted 55-fold with 1X Assay Diluent and used in step 5 of the Assay Procedure.

### 20X Wash Buffer:

If the Wash Concentrate (20X) contains visible crystals, warm to room temperature and mix gently until dissolved. Dilute 20 mL of Wash Buffer Concentrate into deionized or distilled water to yield 400 mL of 1X Wash Buffer.

### HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG concentrate:

HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG should be diluted 1000-fold with 1X Assay Diluent and used in step 7 of the Assay Procedure.

**For example:** Briefly spin the vial. Add 10 µl of HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG concentrate into a tube with 10 mL 1x Assay Diluent, pipette up and down to mix gently to prepare a 1000-fold diluted HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG solution. Mix well.

### Streptavidin-Conjugated HRP:

Briefly spin the vial. HRP-Streptavidin should be diluted 300-fold with 1X Assay Diluent and used in step 7 of the Assay Procedure.

## Assay Procedure

1. Bring all reagents and samples to room temperature (18 - 25°C) before use. It is strongly recommended to run all positive controls and samples in at least duplicate. It is also recommended to run the positive controls in singlet for each of the pan and phospho-specific antibodies.
2. Label removable 8-well strips as appropriate for your experiment.
3. Add 100 µl of positive control or sample into appropriate wells. Cover the wells and incubate for 2.5 hours at room temperature or overnight at 4°C with gentle shaking.
4. Discard the solution and wash 4 times with 1X Wash Solution. Wash by filling each well with Wash Buffer (300 µl) using a multi-channel Pipette or auto washer. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential for good performance. After the last wash, remove any remaining Wash Buffer by aspirating or decanting. Invert the plate and blot it against clean paper towels.
5. Add 100 µl of prepared 1X rabbit anti-phospho-Smad4 (T277) antibody into the wells designated to detect phosphorylated protein. Add 100 µl of prepared 1X biotinylated anti-pan Smad4 antibody to the remaining wells to detect pan protein. Incubate for 1 hour at room temperature with gentle shaking.
6. Discard the solution. Repeat the wash as in step 4.
7. Add 100 µl of prepared HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG solution to the wells corresponding with rabbit anti-phospho-Smad4 (T277) in order to detect phosphorylated protein. To the remaining wells (corresponding with biotinylated anti-pan-Smad4), add 100 µl of prepared HRP-Streptavidin solution in order to detect pan protein. Incubate for 1 hour at room temperature with gentle shaking.
8. Discard the solution. Repeat the wash as in step 4.
9. Add 100 µl of TMB One-Step Substrate Reagent to each well. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature in the dark with gentle shaking.
10. Add 50 µl of Stop Solution to each well. Read at 450 nm immediately.
11. Calculate the mean absorbance for each set of duplicate positive controls and samples, and then subtract the average zero (blank) optical density.

Download our ELISA guide for technical hints, results, calculation, and troubleshooting tips:

[www.abcam.com/protocols/the-complete-elisa-guide](http://www.abcam.com/protocols/the-complete-elisa-guide)

For technical support contact information, visit: [www.abcam.com/contactus](http://www.abcam.com/contactus)