

ab309285 – Rat RANKL SimpleStep ELISA® Kit (TNFSF11)

For the quantitative measurement of RANKL in Rat serum, plasma (heparin), plasma (EDTA), plasma (citrate), and cell culture supernatant.

For research use only - not intended for diagnostic use.

For overview, typical data and additional information please visit: www.abcam.com/ab309285

Storage and Stability: Store kit at 2-8°C immediately upon receipt. Refer to list of materials supplied for storage conditions of individual components. Observe the storage conditions for individual prepared components in the Standard Preparation and Reagent preparation sections.

Materials Supplied

Item	Quantity	Storage Condition
Rat RANKL Capture Antibody 10X	600 µL	+4°C
Rat RANKL Detector Antibody 10X	600 µL	+4°C
Rat RANKL Lyophilized Recombinant Protein	2 Vials	+4°C
Antibody Diluent 4BI	6 mL	+4°C
Sample Diluent 25BS	20 mL	+4°C
Sample Diluent NS	12 mL	+4°C
Wash Buffer PT 10X	20 mL	+4°C
TMB Development Solution	12 mL	+4°C
Stop Solution	12 mL	+4°C
SimpleStep Pre-Coated 96-Well Microplate	96 wells	+4°C
Plate Seal	1	+4°C

Sample Diluent NS is provided but not necessary for this product.

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 or 600 nm.

Deionized water.

Multi- and single-channel pipettes.

Tubes for standard dilution.

Plate shaker for all incubation steps.

Optional: Phenylmethylsulfonyl Fluoride (PMSF) (or other protease inhibitors).

Reagent Preparation

Equilibrate all reagents to room temperature (18-25°C) prior to use. The kit contains enough reagents for 96 wells. The sample volumes below are sufficient for 48 wells (6 x 8-well strips); adjust volumes as needed for the number of strips in your experiment.

Prepare only as much reagent as is needed on the day of the experiment. Capture and Detector Antibodies have only been tested for stability in the provided 10X formulations

Sample Diluent BS/BP may contain precipitate, this is normal. If precipitate is not dissolved by gentle mixing, the precipitate may be dissolved by gentle warming and mixing at 37°C for 10 minutes. If precipitate remains, gently spin down and avoid visible precipitates when pipetting.

1X Wash Buffer PT: Prepare 1X Wash Buffer PT by diluting Wash Buffer PT 10X with deionized water. To make 50 mL 1X Wash Buffer PT combine 5 mL Wash Buffer PT 10X with 45 mL deionized water. Mix thoroughly and gently.

Antibody Cocktail: Prepare Antibody Cocktail by diluting the capture and detector antibodies in Antibody Diluent 4BI. To make 3 mL of the Antibody Cocktail combine 300 µL 10X Capture Antibody and 300 µL 10X Detector Antibody with 2.4 mL Antibody Diluent 4BI. Mix thoroughly and gently.

Standard Preparation

Always prepare a fresh set of standards for every use. Discard working standard dilutions after use as they do not store well. The following section describes the preparation of a standard curve for duplicate measurements (recommended).

1. Reconstitute the RANKL standard sample by adding the volume of Sample Diluent 25BS indicated on the protein vial label. Hold at room temperature for 10 minutes. Mix thoroughly and gently. This is the 15 ng/mL **Stock Standard** Solution.
2. Label eight tubes, Standards 1– 8.
3. Add 270 µL of Sample Diluent 25BS into tube number 1 and 150 µL of Sample Diluent 25BS into numbers 2-8.
4. Use the **Stock Standard** to prepare the following dilution series. Standard #8 contains no protein and is the Blank control:

Standard #	Dilution Sample	Volume to Dilute (µL)	Volume of Diluent (µL)	Starting Conc. (pg/mL)	Final Conc. (pg/mL)
1	Stock Standard	30	270	15,000	1,500
2	Standard#1	150	150	1,500	750
3	Standard#2	150	150	750	375
4	Standard#3	150	150	375	187.5
5	Standard#4	150	150	187.5	93.75
6	Standard#5	150	150	93.75	46.88
7	Standard#6	150	150	46.88	23.44
8	Blank Control	0	150	N/A	N/A

Sample Preparation

Typical Sample Dynamic Range	
Sample Type	Range
Serum	≤50%
Plasma - Heparin	≤50%
Plasma - EDTA	≤50%
Plasma - Citrate	≤50%
Rat Splenocyte treated with concanavalin A (5µg/ml, 48hr) Cell Culture Supernatant	25 - 100%

Serum Samples should be collected into a serum separator tube. After clot formation, centrifuge samples at 2,000 x g for 10 minutes and collect serum. Dilute samples at least 1:2 into Sample Diluent 25BS and assay. Store un-diluted serum at -20°C or below. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Plasma Collect plasma using citrate, EDTA or heparin. Centrifuge samples at 2,000 x g for 10 minutes. Dilute samples at least 1:2 into Sample Diluent 25BS and assay. Store un-diluted plasma samples at -20°C or below for up to 3 months. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Cell Culture Supernatants Centrifuge cell culture media at 2,000 x g for 10 minutes to remove debris. Collect supernatants and assay or further dilute as necessary into Sample Diluent 25BS and assay. Store un-diluted samples at -20°C or below. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Plate Preparation

The 96 well plate strips included with this kit are supplied ready to use. It is not necessary to rinse the plate prior to adding reagents.

Unused plate strips should be immediately returned to the foil pouch containing the desiccant pack, resealed and stored at 4°C.

For each assay performed, a minimum of two wells must be used as the zero control.

For statistical reasons, we recommend each sample should be assayed with a minimum of two replicates (duplicates).

Differences in well absorbance or "edge effects" have not been observed with this assay.

Assay Procedure

Equilibrate all materials and prepared reagents to room temperature prior to use.

We recommend that you assay all standards, controls and samples in duplicate

1. Prepare all reagents, working standards, and samples as directed in the previous sections.
2. Remove excess microplate strips from the plate frame, return them to the foil pouch containing the desiccant pack, resealed and return to 4°C storage.
3. Add 50 µL of all sample or standard to appropriate wells.
4. Add 50 µL of the Antibody Cocktail to each well.
5. Seal the plate and incubate for 1 hour at room temperature on a plate shaker set to 400 rpm.
6. Wash each well with 3 x 350 µL 1X Wash Buffer PT. Wash by aspirating or decanting from wells then dispensing 350 µL 1X Wash Buffer PT into each well. Wash Buffer PT should remain in wells for at least 10 seconds. Complete removal of liquid at each step is essential for good performance. After the last wash invert the plate and tap gently against clean paper towels to remove excess liquid.
7. Add 100 µL of TMB Development Solution to each well and incubate for 10 minutes in the dark on a plate shaker set to 400 rpm.

Given variability in laboratory environmental conditions, optimal incubation time may vary between 5 and 20 minutes.

Note: The addition of Stop Solution will change the color from blue to yellow and enhance the signal intensity about 3X. To avoid signal saturation, proceed to the next step before the high concentration of the standard reaches a blue color of O.D.600 equal to 1.0.

8. Add 100 µL of Stop Solution to each well. Shake plate on a plate shaker for 1 minute to mix. Record the OD at 450 nm. This is an endpoint reading.
9. Alternative to step 8: Instead of the endpoint reading at 450 nm, record the development of TMB Substrate kinetically. Immediately after addition of TMB Development Solution begin recording the blue color development with elapsed time in the microplate reader prepared with the following settings:

Mode	Kinetic
Wavelength:	600 nm
Time:	up to 20 min
Interval:	20 sec - 1 min
Shaking:	Shake between readings

Note that an endpoint reading can also be recorded at the completion of the kinetic read by adding 100 µL Stop Solution to each well and recording the OD at 450 nm.

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

www.abcam.com/protocols/the-complete-elisa-guide

For technical support contact information, visit: www.abcam.com/contactus

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Additional information

ASSAY SPECIFICITY

This kit is designed for the quantification of Rat RANKL.

The standard protein in this kit is the soluble form of Rat RANKL.

Native signal was detected in serum, plasma (heparin), plasma (EDTA), and plasma (citrate), and cell culture supernatant.

Spiked protein experiments were used to validate serum, plasma (heparin), plasma (EDTA), and plasma (citrate) sample types.

Saliva, urine, milk, CSF, cell extract, and tissue extract samples have not been tested with this kit.

SPECIES REACTIVITY

Other species reactivity was determined by measuring 100% Mouse serum samples, interpolating the protein concentrations from the Rat standard curve, and expressing the interpolated concentrations as a percentage of the protein concentration in Rat serum assayed at the same dilution.

Reactivity of 47% was determined for the following species: Mouse

Other species reactivity not determined.

CALCULATION

- Calculate the average absorbance value for the blank control (zero) standards. Subtract the average blank control standard absorbance value from all other absorbance values.
- Create a standard curve by plotting the average blank control subtracted absorbance value for each standard concentration (y-axis) against the target protein concentration (x-axis) of the standard. Use graphing software to draw the best smooth curve through these points to construct the standard curve.

△ Note: Most microplate reader software or graphing software will plot these values and fit a curve to the data. A four parameter curve fit (4PL) is often the best choice; however, other algorithms (e.g. linear, semi-log, log/log, 4 parameter logistic) can also be tested to determine if it provides a better curve fit to the standard values.
- Determine the concentration of the target protein in the sample by interpolating the blank control subtracted absorbance values against the standard curve. Multiply the resulting value by the appropriate sample dilution factor, if used, to obtain the concentration of target protein in the sample.
- Samples generating absorbance values greater than that of the highest standard should be further diluted and reanalyzed. Similarly, samples which measure at an absorbance values less than that of the lowest standard should be retested in a less dilute form.

TYPICAL DATA

Typical standard curve – data provided for demonstration purposes only. A new standard curve must be generated for each assay performed

Standard Curve Measurements			
Concentration (pg/mL)	O.D 450 nm		Mean O.D
	1	2	
0.000	0.058	0.058	0.058
23.438	0.118	0.130	0.124
46.875	0.161	0.162	0.161
93.75	0.261	0.264	0.263
187.5	0.427	0.427	0.427
375	0.798	0.805	0.802
750	1.395	1.413	1.404
1,500	2.831	2.785	2.808

Table 1. Example of Rat RANKL standard curve in Sample Diluent 25BS. The RANKL standard curve was prepared as described in the Standard Preparation section. The table shows raw data values.

TYPICAL SAMPLE VALUES

Sensitivity:

The calculated minimal detectable dose (MDD) is 3 pg/mL. The MDD was determined by calculating the mean of zero standard replicates (n=16) and adding 2 standard deviations then extrapolating the corresponding concentration.

Recovery

A single concentration of RANKL was spiked in duplicate to the indicated biological matrix to evaluate signal recovery in the working range of the assay.

Sample Type	Average % Recovery	Range (%)
50% Serum	102	95 - 109
50% Plasma - Heparin	102	99 - 105
50% Plasma - Citrate	109	105 - 114
50% Plasma - EDTA	93	86 - 102
100% Cell Culture Supernatant	107	100 - 119

Linearity of Dilution

Linearity of dilution is determined based on interpolated values from the standard curve. Linearity of dilution defines a sample concentration interval in which interpolated target concentrations are directly proportional to sample dilution.

Native RANKL was measured in the following biological samples in a 2-fold dilution series. Sample dilutions are made in Sample Diluent 25BS.

Dilution Factor	Interpolated value	50% Rat Serum	50% Rat Plasma (Citrate)	50% Rat Plasma (EDTA)	50% Rat Plasma (Heparin)	100% Stim Splen Sup	100% Unstim Splen Sup
Undiluted	pg/mL	97.7	111.4	107.1	114.8	186.4	79
	% Expected value	100	100	100	100	100	100
2	pg/mL	46.9	48.6	50.6	55	91.9	32.3
	% Expected value	96	87	95	96	99	82
4	pg/mL	25.2	30.8	31.1	NL	78.8	ND
	% Expected value	103	111	116	NL	89	ND

NL – Non-Linear

ND – Not Detected – below product dynamic range

Recombinant RANKL was spiked in in the following biological samples in a 2-fold dilution series. Sample dilutions are made in Sample Diluent 25BS.

Dilution Factor	Interpolated value	50% Rat Serum	50% Rat Plasma (Citrate)	50% Rat Plasma (EDTA)	50% Rat Plasma (Heparin)
Undiluted	pg/mL	1333.5	1445.8	1550	1536.4
	% Expected value	100	100	100	100
2	pg/mL	702.5	755.4	755.9	763.8
	% Expected value	105	104	98	99
4	pg/mL	353.2	366.3	364.3	366.9
	% Expected value	106	101	94	96
8	pg/mL	177.2	180	182	191
	% Expected value	106	100	94	99
16	pg/mL	85.3	91.6	87.2	94.2
	% Expected value	106	101	90	98

Precision

Mean coefficient of variations of interpolated values of RANKL from three concentrations of rat serum within the working range of the assay.

	Intra-assay	Inter-assay
N=	8	3
CV (%)	3.9	3.9

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

www.abcam.com/protocols/the-complete-elisa-guide

For technical support contact information, visit: www.abcam.com/contactus

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Version 1a | 2023-04-14