

ab324414 – Human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 SimpleStep ELISA® Kit (CRTAC1) – Extracellular

For the quantitative measurement of Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 in human serum, plasma (citrate), plasma (EDTA), plasma (heparin), cell culture supernatant, and CSF.
For research use only - not intended for diagnostic use.

For overview, typical data and additional information please visit: www.abcam.com/ab324414

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 1 x 96 tests	Quantity 10 x 96 tests	Storage Condition
Human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 Capture Antibody 10X	600 µL	10 x 600 µL	+4°C
Human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 Detector Antibody 10X	600 µL	10 x 600 µL	+4°C
Human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 Lyophilized Recombinant Protein	2 Vials	10 x 2 Vials	+4°C
Antibody Diluent CPR2	6 mL	10 x 6 mL	+4°C
Sample Diluent NS	50 mL	2 x 250 mL	+4°C
Wash Buffer PT 10X	20 mL	200 mL	+4°C
TMB Development Solution	12 mL	120 mL	+4°C
Stop Solution	12 mL	120 mL	+4°C
SimpleStep Pre-Coated 96-Well Microplate	96 wells	10 x 96 wells	+4°C
Plate Seal	1	10	+4°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 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.

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 CPR2. 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 CPR2. 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 Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 standard sample by adding the volume of Sample Diluent NS indicated on the protein vial label. Hold at room temperature for 10 minutes. Mix thoroughly and gently. This is the 15,000 pg/mL **Stock Standard** Solution.
2. Label eight tubes, Standards 1–8.
3. Add 364 µL of Sample Diluent NS into tube number 1 and 150 µL of Sample Diluent NS 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	56	364	15,000	2,000
2	Standard#1	150	150	2,000	1,000
3	Standard#2	150	150	1,000	500
4	Standard#3	150	150	500	250
5	Standard#4	150	150	250	125
6	Standard#5	150	150	125	62.5
7	Standard#6	150	150	62.5	31.25
8	Blank Control	0	150	0	0

Sample Preparation

Typical Sample Dynamic Range	
Sample Type	Range
Serum	1:1,600 - 1:100
Plasma – Citrate	1:1,600 - 1:200
Plasma – EDTA	1:1,600 - 1:100
Plasma – Heparin	1:1,600 - 1:100
Cell Culture Media (without FBS)	≤ 50%
Cerebrospinal Fluid	1:1,280 – 1:80

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 1:100 into Sample Diluent NS 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 plasma (citrate) samples at least 1:200 and plasma (EDTA and heparin) samples at least 1:100 into Sample Diluent NS 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. Dilute samples at least 1:2 into Sample Diluent NS and assay. Store un-diluted samples at -20°C or below. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. **Note:** Due to reactivity with bovine serum, FBS should be avoided into culture media.

Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) Dilute samples at least 1:80 into Sample Diluent NS 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 7 – 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 human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1.

The standard protein in this kit is an N-terminal fragment representing approximately 82% of the full-length mass of mature human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1.

Native signal was detected in serum, plasma (citrate), plasma (EDTA), plasma (heparin), and CSF sample types.

Spiked protein experiments were used to validate cell culture supernatant sample types.

Urine, saliva, and milk samples have not been tested with this kit.

This kit is incompatible with supernatants containing fetal bovine serum, due to high cross-reactivity.

For the measurement of Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 in cell extract and tissue extract sample types, use Human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 ELISA kit ab324415.

SPECIES REACTIVITY

Other species reactivity was determined by measuring 1:800 serum samples of various species, interpolating the protein concentrations from the human standard curve, and expressing the interpolated concentrations as a percentage of the protein concentration in human serum assayed at the same dilution.

Reactivity < 3% was determined for the following species: Mouse, Rat

Reactivity was determined for the following species: Monkey (173%), Cow (12%)

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.
Δ 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 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	0.044	0.047	0.045
31.25	0.087	0.100	0.094
62.5	0.146	0.161	0.153
125	0.289	0.228	0.259
250	0.499	0.521	0.510
500	0.970	0.972	0.971
1,000	1.805	1.772	1.789
2,000	3.356	3.375	3.365

Table 1. Example of human Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 standard curve in Sample Diluent NS. The Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 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 9.19 pg/mL. The MDD was determined by calculating the mean of zero standard replicates (n=24) and adding 2 standard deviations then extrapolating the corresponding concentration.

Recovery

Three concentrations of Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 were spiked into the indicated biological matrix to evaluate signal recovery in the working range of the assay.

Sample Type	Average % Recovery	Range (%)
1:800 Serum	102	87 - 112
1:800 Plasma – Citrate	107	100 - 112
1:200 Plasma – EDTA	99	89 - 109
1:800 Plasma – Heparin	110	101 - 117
50% Cell Culture Media	94	85 - 102
0.5% Cerebrospinal Fluid	96	81 - 109

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 Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 was measured in the following biological samples in a 2-fold dilution series. Sample dilutions are made in Sample Diluent NS.

Dilution Factor	Interpolated value	1:100 Human Serum	1:200 Human Plasma (Citrate)	1:100 Human Plasma (EDTA)	1:100 Human Plasma (Heparin)
Undiluted	pg/mL	1,951.6	1,481.8	596.3	1,556.2
	% Expected value	100	100	100	100
2	pg/mL	979.0	730.3	318.3	787.9
	% Expected value	100	99	107	101
4	pg/mL	516.8	389.3	167.3	401.1
	% Expected value	106	105	112	103
8	pg/mL	287.9	185.7	86.8	227.3
	% Expected value	118	100	116	117
16	pg/mL	132.2	NL	40.0	112.9
	% Expected value	108	NL	107	116

NL – Non-Linear

Native Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 was measured in the following biological samples in a 2-fold dilution series. Sample dilutions are made in Sample Diluent NS.

Dilution Factor	Interpolated value	1:80 Cerebrospinal Fluid
Undiluted	pg/mL	882.6
	% Expected value	100
2	pg/mL	440.6
	% Expected value	100
4	pg/mL	205.5
	% Expected value	93
8	pg/mL	128.4
	% Expected value	116
16	pg/mL	66.1
	% Expected value	120

Recombinant Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 was spiked into the following biological samples and then diluted in a 2-fold dilution series. Sample dilutions are made in Sample Diluent NS.

Dilution Factor	Interpolated value	50% Cell Culture Media (without FBS)
Undiluted	pg/mL	976.5
	% Expected value	100
2	pg/mL	586.0
	% Expected value	120
4	pg/mL	267.0
	% Expected value	109
8	pg/mL	140.4
	% Expected value	115
16	pg/mL	69.6
	% Expected value	114

Precision

Mean coefficient of variations of interpolated values of Cartilage Acidic Protein 1 from a single concentration of serum within the working range of the assay.

	Intra-assay	Inter-assay
N=	8	3
CV (%)	3.0	8.0

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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