GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER ANTIGEN (CA19-9) ENZYMEIMMUNOASSAY TEST KIT

CA-19-9

Cat # 6909Z

Enzyme Immunoassay for the Quantitative Measurement of Gastrointestinal Cancer Antigen (CA19-9) in Human Serum

Intended Use
The CA19-9 assay kit is intended to be used as a monitoring and screening test. An abnormal result (i.e. an elevated serum CA19-9) suggests the need for further clinical management. This test has been found useful for patients in clinical remission, as post-operative serum CA19-9 values which fail to return to normal strongly suggest the presence of residual tumor and tumor recurrence is often accompanied by a rise of serum levels before progressive disease is clinically evident.

Introduction
A group of mucin type glycoprotein Sialosyl Lewis Antigens (SLA), such as CA19-9 and CA19-5, have come to be recognized as circulating cancer associated antigens for gastrointestinal cancer. CA19-9 represents the most important and basic carbohydrate tumor marker. The immunohistologic distribution of CA19-9 in tissues is consistent with the quantitative determination of higher CA19-9 concentrations in cancer than in normal or inflamed tissues. Recent reports indicate that the serum CA19-9 level is frequently elevated in the serum of subjects with various gastrointestinal malignancies, such as pancreatic, colorectal, gastric and hepatic carcinomas. Together with CEA, elevated CA19-9 is suggestive of gallbladder neoplasm in the setting of inflammatory gallbladder disease. This tumor-associated antigen may also be elevated in some non-malignant conditions. Research studies demonstrate that serum CA19-9 values may have utility in monitoring subjects with the above-mentioned diagnosed malignancies. It has been shown that a persistent elevation in serum CA19-9 value following treatment may be indicative of occult metastatic and/or residual disease. A persistently rising
serum CA19-9 value may be associated with progressive malignant disease and poor therapeutic response. A declining CA19-9 value may be indicative of a favorable prognosis and good response to treatment.

**Test Principle**
The CA19-9 EIA test is a solid phase two-site immunoassay. One monoclonal antibody is coated on the surface of the microtiter wells and another monoclonal antibody labeled with horseradish peroxidase is used as the tracer. The CA19-9 molecules present in the standard solution or serum are "sandwiched" between the two antibodies. Following the formation of the coated antibody-antigen-antibody-enzyme complex, the unbound antibody-enzyme labels are removed by washing. The horseradish peroxidase activity bound in the wells is then assayed by colorimetric reactions. The intensity of the color formed is proportional to the concentration of CA19-9 present in the sample.

**Materials and Components**

**Materials provided with the test kits:**
- Murine monoclonal anti-CA19-9 coated 96 well microtiter plate.
- Assay buffer; 12 ml.
- Enzyme conjugate reagent, 12 ml.
- CA19-9 reference standards (liquid, one set), containing 0, 15, 30, 60, 120, and 240 U/ml CA19-9, Ready for use.
- TMB Substrate, 12 ml.
- Stop solution, 12 ml.
- Wash Buffer(20X), 30 ml.

**Materials required but not provided:**
- Precision pipettes and tips, 0.1ml, 0.2ml,
- Distilled water.
- Vortex mixer
- Absorbent paper or paper towel
- Graph paper
- A microtiter plate reader with a bandwidth of 10nm or less and an optical density range of 0-2 OD or greater at a wavelength of 450nm

**Specimen Collection and Preparation**
1. Blood should be drawn using standard venipuncture techniques and the serum should be separated from the red blood cells as soon as practical. Avoid grossly hemolytic, lipemic or turbid samples.
2. Plasma samples collected in tubes containing EDTA, heparin, or oxalate may interfere with test procedures and should be avoided.
3. Specimens should be capped and may be stored up to 48 hours at 2-8°C, prior to assaying. Specimens held for a longer time can be frozen at -20°C. Thawed samples must be mixed prior to testing.

**Storage of test kits and instrumentation**
1. Unopened test kits should be stored at 2-8°C upon receipt and the microtiter plate should be kept in a sealed bag with desiccants to minimize exposure to damp air. The test kit may be used throughout the expiration date of the kit (One year from the date of manufacture). Refer to the package label for the expiration date.
2. Opened test kits will remain stable until the expiring date shown, provided it is stored as prescribed above.
3. A microtiter plate reader with a bandwidth of 10nm or less and an optical density range of 0-2 OD or greater at 450nm wavelength is acceptable for use in absorbance measurement.
Reagent Preparation
1. All reagents should be brought to room temperature (18-22°C) before use. All reagents should be mixed by gently inverting or swirling prior to use. Do not induce foaming.
2. Dilute 0.5 volume of Wash Buffer (20x) with 9.5 volumes of distilled water. For example, Dilute 15 ml of Wash Buffer (20x) into distilled water to prepare 300 ml of wash buffer(1x). Mix well before use.

Assay Procedure
1. Secure the desired number of coated wells in the holder. Dispense 50 µL of CA19-9 standards, specimens, and controls into appropriate wells.
2. Dispense 100 µL of Assay Buffer to each well. Mix gently for 30 seconds.
3. Incubate at 37°C for 60 minutes.
4. Remove the incubation mixture by emptying the plate content into a waste container. Rinse and empty the microtiter plate 5 times with distilled water. Strike the microtiter plate sharply onto absorbent paper or paper towels to remove all residual water droplets.
5. Dispense 100 µL of enzyme conjugate reagent into each well. Mix well.
6. Incubate at 37°C for another 60 minutes.
7. At the end of the 60 min. incubation, remove the contents and wash the wells as described in step 4 above.
8. Dispense 100 µL of the TMB substrate reagent into each well. Gently mix for 10 seconds.
9. Incubate at room temperature in the dark for 20 minutes without shaking.
10. Stop the reaction by adding 100 µL of Stop Solution to each well. Gently mix for 10 seconds. It is very important that the blue color completely changes to yellow.
11. Read the optical density at 450nm with a microtiter plate reader within 15 minutes.

Important Note:
1. The wash procedure is critical. Insufficient washing will result in poor precision and falsely elevated absorbance readings.
2. It is recommended that no more than 32 wells be used for each assay run, if manual pipetting is used, since pipetting of all standards, specimens and controls should be completed within 5 minutes. A full plate of 96 wells may be used if automated pipetting is available.
3. Duplication of all standards and specimens, although not required, is recommended.

Calculation of Results
Calculate the mean absorbance value for each set of CA19-9 reference standards, specimens and controls. Construct a standard curve by plotting the mean absorbance obtained from each reference standard against its concentration in units per ml on linear graph paper, with absorbance values on the vertical or Y-axis and concentrations on the horizontal or X-axis. Use the mean absorbance values for each specimen to determine the corresponding concentration of CA19-9 in units per ml from the standard curve. Any diluted specimens must be corrected by the appropriate dilution factor.

Example of Standard Curve
Results of typical standard run with optical density reading at 450nm shown in the Y axis against CA19-9 concentrations shown in the X axis.
This standard curve is for the purpose of illustration only, and should not be used to calculate unknowns. Each user should obtain his or her own standard curve and data.

**Expected Values and Sensitivity**

Healthy women are expected to have CA19-9 assay values below 35 U/ml. The minimum detectable concentration of CA19-9 in this assay is estimated to be 5 U/ml.

**Limitations of the Procedure**

1. Reliable and reproducible results will be obtained when the assay procedure is carried out with a complete understanding of the package insert instructions and with adherence to good laboratory practice.
2. The wash procedure is critical. Insufficient washing will result in poor precision and falsely elevated absorbance readings.
3. Heterophilic antibodies such as human anti-mouse antibodies (HAMA) are frequently found in the serum of human subjects. Those antibodies can cause severe interference in many immunodiagnostic procedures. This assay has been designed to minimize that kinds of interference. Nevertheless, complete elimination of this interference from all patient specimens cannot be guaranteed. A test result that is inconsistent with the clinical picture and patient history should be interpreted with caution.
References