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Please use only the valid version of the package insert provided with the kit.

NAME AND INTENDED USE

Anti-TPO is an indirect solid phase enzyme immunoassay (ELISA) for the quantitative measurement of IgG class autoantibodies against thyroid peroxidase (TPO) in human serum or plasma.

The assay is intended for in vitro use only as an aid in the diagnosis of Hashimoto's Thyroiditis.

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION OF THE TEST

Thyroid disorders are the most prevalent of all autoimmune diseases. Thyroid autoimmune diseases are associated with the occurrence of differentiated autoantibodies and are thought to be related to a genetical pre-disposition. These autoantibodies are directed against membrane-located and/or extracellular antigens of the thyroid cells:

- Thyroglobulin (hTg), a water soluble glycoprotein with a molecular weight of approx. 660.000 Dalton, is the principal constituent of the thyroidal colloid sharing about 75 % of its mass. Synthesis of the thyroid hormones T3 and T4 is based on the oxidative iodination of thyrosine residues of the thyroglobulin molecule. Within the cell thyroglobulin is trans-ported by the microsomes. Together with the secretion of T3 and T4 also small amounts of hTg are liberated into circulation.
- The microsomal antigen of the thyroid is an integral membrane protein of the microsomes. It has been characterized as the enzyme Thyroid Peroxidase (TPO) with a molecular weight of nearly 110.000 Dalton.
- The TSH-Receptor is a regulatory protein enbedded into the thyroid cell membrane effecting synthesis and release of the thyroid hormones as well as cellular growth.
- The so-called Colloid-Antigen 2 CA2.

Besides these antibodies to functional antigens, antibodies directed against the circulating thyroid hormones T3 und T4 may occur. In Graves' Diseases, an immunogenetic form of hyperthyroidism often additional antibodies occur, which are directed against eye muscle antigens. They cause the endocrine ophalmopathy.

Autoantibodies are found in inflammatory disaeses as well as in thyroid autoimmune disorders. Various symptoms of thyroid diseases, like goiter, thyroid pain, hyperthyroidism and hypothyroidism may be caused by immunogenetic processes and the occurrence of organ specific antibodies. This underlines the clinical relevance for autoantibody determination for the assessment of thyroid diseases. Most important autoimmune diseases of the thyroid gland are:

Hashimoto's Thyroiditis

Primary Myxedema

Graves' disease (often associated with endocrine ophtalmopathy)

and other asymptomatic, for example postpartum thyroiditis.

The occurrence of Anti-TG and Anti-TPO autoantibodies at the same time seem to be related to their functional association. Thyrosine amino acid residues of the thyroglobulin molecule, as primary protein for the synthesis of the thyroid hormones T3 and T4, are actively iodinated in association with the thyroid peroxidase (TPO). TSH acts in stimulating synthesis and release of thyroid hormones in close cooperation of all the proteins. This makes the simultaneous appearance of all these antibodies plausible.

Persisting inhibition of the peroxidase activity by specific autoantibodies (Anti-TPO Ab's) causes a decrease in the synthesis of thyroid hormones and thus hypothyroidism. Especially at the end of pregnancy, determination of thyroid antibodies may be a helpful diagnostic tool in the early diagnosis of an onset of post-partum hypothyroidism (Hashimoto's post partum depression).





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Hashimoto diseases are often associated with highly elevated titers of thyroid autoantibodies. The concentration of antibodies against thyroglobulin exceeds the titer of Anti-TPO antibodies, whereas in Graves' disease the opposite situation is found, with a stronger elevation of the Anti-TPO antibodies. Additionally, also high concentration of TSH receptor antibodies is characteristic for both diseases.

Disease (simplified)	Anti-TPO	Anti-TG	Anti TSH Receptor
Hashimoto Thyroiditis	XXX	XXX	Х
Graves' disease (immunogen)	XX	Х	XXX
Endocrine Orbitopathy	Х	Х	XX
Dissiminated Autonomy (non immunogen)	Х	(X)	
Regional Autonomy (autonom Adenoma)	Х	(X)	

The following table summarizes the distribution of autoantibodies in thyroid autoimmune diseases.

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

Highly purified human thyroid peroxidase (TPO) is bound to microwells. Antibodies against this antigen, if present in diluted serum or plasma, bind to the respective antigen. Washing of the microwells removes unspecific serum and plasma components. Horseradish peroxidise (HRP) conjugated anti-human IgG immunologically detects the bound patient antibodies forming a conjugate/antibody/antigen complex. Washing of the microwells removes unbound conjugate. An enzyme substrate in the presence of bound conjugate hydrolyzes to form a blue color. The addition of an acid stops the reaction forming a yellow end-product. The intensity of this yellow color is measured photometrically at 450 nm. The amount of colour is directly proportional to the concentration of IgG antibodies present in the original sample..

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- 1. All reagents of this kit are strictly intended for in vitro use only.
- 2. Do not interchange kit components from different lots.
- 3. Components containing human serum were tested and found negative for HBsAg, HCV, HIV1 and HIV2 by FDA approved methods. No test can guarantee the absence of HBsAg, HCV, HIV1 or HIV2, and so all human serum based reagents in this kit must be handled as though capable of transmitting infection.
- 4. Avoid contact with the TMB (3,3',5,5'-Tetramethyl-benzidine). If TMB comes into contact with skin, wash thoroughly with water and soap.
- 5. Avoid contact with the Stop Solution which is acid. If it comes into contact with skin, wash thoroughly with water and seek medical attention.
- 6. Some kit components (i.e. Controls, Sample buffer and Buffered Wash Solution) contain Sodium Azide as preservative. Sodium Azide (NaN₃) is highly toxic and reactive in pure form. At the product concentrations, (0.09%), though not hazardous. Despite the classification as non-hazardous, we strongly recommend using prudent laboratory practices (see 8., 9., 10.)
- 7. Some kit components contain Proclin 300 as preservative. When disposing reagents containing Proclin 300, flush drains with copious amounts of water to dilute the components below active levels.









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- 8. Wear disposable gloves while handling specimens or kit reagents and wash hands thoroughly afterwards.
- 9. Do not pipette by mouth.
- 10. Do not eat, drink, smoke or apply makeup in areas where specimens or kit reagents are handled.
- 11. Avoid contact between the buffered Peroxide Solution and easily oxidized materials; extreme temperature may initiate spontaneous combustion.

Observe the guidelines for performing quality control in medical laboratories by assaying controls and/or pooled sera. During handling of all kit reagents, controls and serum samples observe the existing legal regulations.

CONTENTS OF THE KIT

Package size	96 determ.
Qty.1	Divisible microplate consisting of 12 modules of 8 wells each, coated with highly purified
	human thyroid peroxidase (TPO). Ready to use.
6 vials, 1.5 mL each	combined Calibrators with IgG class Anti-TPO antibodies (A-F) in a serum/buffer matrix
	$(PBS, BSA, NaN_3 < 0.1\% (w/w))$
	containing: IgG: 0; 33; 100; 330; 1000; 3000 IU/mL. Ready to use
2 vials, 1.5 mL each	Anti-TPO Controls in a serum/buffer matrix (PBS, BSA, NaN ₃ <0.1% (w/w)) positive (1) and
	negative (2), for the respective concentrations see the enclosed QC insert. Ready to use
1 vial, 20 ml	Sample buffer (Tris,NaN ₃ <0,1% (w/w)), yellow, concentrate (5x).
1 vial, 15 mL	Enzyme conjugate solution (PBS, Proclin 300 <0.5% (v/v)), (light red) containing polyclonal
	rabbit anti-human IgG; labelled with horseradish peroxidase. Ready to use
1 vial, 15 mL	TMB substrate solution. Ready to use
1 vial, 15 mL	Stop solution (1 M hydrochloric acid). Ready to use
1 vial, 20 mL	Wash solution (PBS, $NaN_3 < 0.1\%$ (w/w)), concentrate (50x)

STORAGE AND STABILITY

- 1. Store the kit at 2 °C to 8 °C.
- 2. Keep microplate wells sealed in a dry bag with desiccants.
- 3. The reagents are stable until expiration of the kit.
- 4. Do not expose test reagents to heat, sun or strong light during storage and usage.
- 5. Diluted sample buffer and wash buffer are stable for at least 30 days when stored at 2 °C to 8 °C.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

Equipment

- Microplate reader capable of endpoint measurements at 450 nm
- Multi-Channel Dispenser or repeatable pipet for 100 μL
- Vortex mixer
- Pipets for 10 μ L, 100 μ L and 1000 μ L
- Laboratory timing device









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Data reduction software

Preparation of reagents

- Distilled or deionized water
- Graduated cylinder for 100 and 1000 mL
- Plastic container for storage of the wash solution

SPECIMEN COLLECTION, STORAGE AND HANDLING

- 1. Collect whole blood specimens using acceptable medical techniques to avoid hemolysis
- 2. Allow blood to clot and separate the serum by centrifugation
- 3. Test serum should be clear and non-hemolyzed. Contamination by hemolysis or lipemia is best avoided, but does not interfere with this assay.
- 4. Specimens may be refrigerated at 2-8 °C for up to five days or stored at -20 °C up to six months.
- 5. Avoid repetitive freezing and thawing of serum samples. This may result in variable loss of autoantibody activity
- 6. Testing of heat-inactivated sera is not recommended

PROCEDURAL NOTES

- 1. Do not use kit components beyond their expiration dates
- 2. Do not interchange kit components from different lots
- 3. All materials must be at room temperature (20 °C to 28 °C)
- 4. Have all reagents and samples ready before start of the assay. Once started, the test must be performed without interruption to get the most reliable and consistent results.
- 5. Perform the assay steps only in the order indicated
- 6. Always use fresh sample dilutions
- 7. Pipette all reagents and samples into the bottom of the wells
- 8. To avoid carryover contamination change the tip between samples and different kit controls
- 9. It is important to wash microwells thoroughly and remove the last droplets of wash buffer to achieve best results.
- 10. All incubation steps must be accurately timed
- 11. Control sera or pools should routinely be assayed as unknowns to check performance of the reagents and the assay.
- 12. Do not re-use microplate wells

For all controls, the respective concentrations are provided on the labels of each vial. Using these concentrations a calibration curve may be calculated to read off the patient results semi-quantitatively.







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Preparation of sample buffer

Dilute the contents of each vial of the sample buffer concentrate (5x) with distilled or deionized water to a final volume of 100 mL prior to use. Store refrigerated: stable at 2-8°C for at least 30 days after preparation or until the expiration date printed on the label.

Preparation of wash solution

Dilute the contents of each vial of the buffered wash solution concentrate (50x) with distilled or deionized water to a final volume of 1000 mL prior to use. Store refrigerated: stable at 2-8°C for at least 30 days after preparation or until the expiration date printed on the label.

Sample preparation

Dilute all patient samples **1:100** with sample buffer before assay. Therefore combine 10 μ L of sample with 990 μ L of sample buffer in a polystyrene tube. Mix well. Controls are ready to use and need not be diluted.

TEST PROCEDURE

- 1. Prepare a sufficient number of microplate modules to accommodate controls and prediluted patient samples.
- 2. Pipet 100 µL of calibrators, controls and prediluted patient samples in duplicate into the wells.
- 3. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature (20-28°C)
- 4. Discard the contents of the microwells and wash 3 times with $300 \,\mu$ L of wash solution.
- 5. Dispense 100 µL of Enzyme Conjugate into each well
- 6. Incubate for 15 minutes at room temperature
- 7. Discard the contents of the microwells and wash 3 times with 300 μ L of wash solution
- 8. Dispense 100 µL of TMB Substrate Solution into each well
- 9. Incubate for 15 minutes at room temperature
- 10. Add 100 µL of Stop Solution to each well of the modules and incubate for 5 minutes at room temperature
- 11. Read the optical density at 450 nm and calculate the results. Bi-chromatic measurement with a reference at 600-690 nm is recommended.

The developed colour is stable for at least 30 minutes. Read optical densities during this time.

Automation

The Anti-TPO ELISA is suitable for use on open automated ELISA processors. The test procedure detailed above is appropriate for use with or without automation.









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INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Quality Control

This test is only valid if the optical density at 450 nm for Positive Control (1) and Negative Control (2) as well as for the Calibrator A and F complies with the respective range indicated on the Quality Control Certificate enclosed to each test kit ! If any of these criteria is not met, the results are invalid and the test should be repeated.

Calculation of results

For Anti-TPO IgG a 4-Parameter-Fit with lin-log coordinates for optical density and concentration is the data reduction method of choice.

Recommended Lin-Log Plot

First calculate the averaged optical densities for each calibrator well. Use lin-log graph paper and plot the averaged optical density of each calibrator versus the concentration. Draw the best fitting curve approximating the path of all calibrator points. The calibrator points may also be connected with straight line segments. The concentration of unknowns may then be estimated from the calibration curve by interpolation.

Calculation example

The figures below show typical results for Anti-TPO ELISA. These data are intended for illustration only and should not be used to calculate results from another run.

Calibi	rators								
No	Position	OD 1	OD 2	Mean	Conc. 1	Conc. 2	Mean	decl. Conc.	CV %
STA	A 1/B 1	0.053	0.054	0.054	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.0	1
STB	C 1/D 1	0.220	0.232	0.226	25.9	28.3	27.1	33	4
STC	E 1/F 1	0.487	0.475	0.461	95.2	91.5	93.4	100	2
STD	G 1/H 1	0.922	1.045	0.984	283.4	360.0	321.7	300	8
STE	A 2/B 2	1.686	1.693	1.689	1103	1117	1110	1000	0
STF	C 2/D 2	2.188	2.153	2.171	2905	2686	2797	3000	1

Interpretation of results

In a normal range study with serum samples from healthy blood donors the following ranges have been established with the Anti-TPO test kit:

	Anti-TPO (IU/mL)
normal:	< 50
borderline:	50 - 75
elevated:	> 75



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Positive results should be verified concerning the entire clinical status of the patient. Also every decision for therapy should be taken individually.

It is recommended that each laboratory establishes its own normal and pathological ranges of serum Anti-TPO. The values above should be regarded as guidelines only.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Parallelism

In dilution experiments sera with high IgG-antibody concentrations were diluted with sample buffer and assayed in the Anti-TPO kit.

Anti-TPO	Sample	Dilution	ution Observed [U/mL] Expected [U/mL]		O/E
IgG	1	1:400	505.3		
		1:800	231.8	252.7	92 %
		1:1600	105.0	126.3	83 %
		1:3200	53.3	63.2	84 %
IgG	2	1:400	973.1		
		1:800	515.6	486.6	106 %
		1:1600	259.5	243.3	107 %
		1:3200	126.9	121.6	104 %

Precision (Reproducibility)

Statistics for coefficients of variation (CV) were calculated for each of three samples from the results of 24 determinations in a single run for Intra-Assay precision. Run-to-run precision was calculated from the results of 5 different runs with 6 determinations of each sample:

Intra-Assay					Inter-Assay	
Sample No	Mean (IU/mL)	CV (%)		Sample No	Mean (IU/mL)	CV (%)
1	377	3.1		1	324	1.6
2	835	3.5		2	761	2.9
3	2287	9.7		3	2173	1.5

Sensitivity

The lower detection limit for Anti-TPO ELISA was determined at 5 IU/mL.







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Specificity

The microplate is coated with antigen, isolated from human thyroid tissue and highly purified by affinity chromatography. The Anti-TPO is a specific test kit for the quantitation of IgG-class autoantibodies directed against human thyroid peroxidase (TPO). The antigen used in the test kit is purified to exhibit high activity of thyroid peroxidase.

Calibration

The quantitative assay system is calibrated against the WHO reference preparation MRC 66/387 for Anti-TPO antibodies. WHO MRC 66/387 is determined as 1000 IU/mL Anti-TPO.

LIMITATIONS OF PROCEDURE

Not all Hashimoto's Throiditis patients are positive for autoantibodies against TPO.

The Anti-TPO ELISA is a diagnostic aid and by itself is not diagnostic. A definite clinical diagnosis should not be based on the results of a single test, but should be made by the physician after all clinical and laboratory findings have been evaluated.

INTERFERING SUBSTANCES

No interference has been observed with haemolytic (up to 1000 mg/dL), lipemic (up to 3 g/dL triglycerides) or bilirubin (up to 40 mg/dL) containing sera. Nor have any interfering effects been observed with the use of anticoagulants. However for practical reasons it is recommended that grossly hemolyzed or lipemic samples be avoided.

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DRG[®] Anti-TPO Ab (EIA-3561)

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