

COMPONENTS

Kit Component	Amount
96-well plate pre-coated with anti-mouse IL-23 antibody	1 Plate
Protein Standard: Lyophilized recombinant mouse IL-23	2 tubes, 10 ng/tube
Sample Diluent Buffer	30 ml
Biotinylated Antibody (Anti-mouse IL-23)	130 µl (100x)
Antibody Diluent Buffer	12ml
Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) Solution	130 µl (100x)
ABC Diluent Buffer	12 ml
Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) Color Developing Agent	10 ml
TMB Stop Solution	10 ml

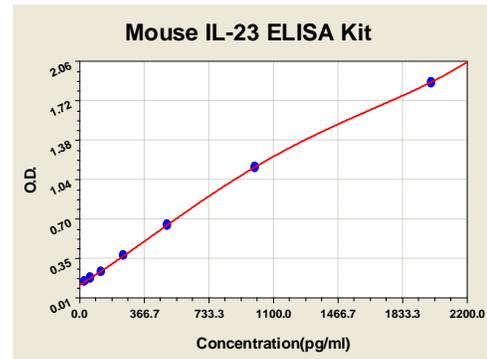
Washing Buffer (not provided): TBS or PBS

0.01M TBS: Add 1.2g Tris, 8.5g NaCl; 450µl of purified acetic acid or 700µl of concentrated hydrochloric acid to 900ml H₂O and adjust pH to 7.2-7.6. Adjust the total volume to 1L.

0.01M PBS: Add 8.5g sodium chloride, 1.4g Na₂HPO₄ and 0.2g NaH₂PO₄ to 900ml distilled H₂O and adjust pH to 7.2-7.6. Adjust the total volume to 1L.

Storage

Store at 4°C. Cell Applications, Inc. recommends using the kit within 6 months of order.



X	pg/ml	0.0	31.2	62.5	125	250	500	1000	2000
Y	O.D.450	0.125	0.159	0.193	0.239	0.382	0.647	1.150	1.885

Figure 1: IL-23 Standard Curve. Using the Mouse IL-23 ELISA Kit, O.D. data was graphed against IL-23 protein concentration. The TMB reaction was incubated at 37°C for 28 min.

BACKGROUND

Interleukin (IL)-23, belonging to the growing family of IL-12 related cytokines which also including IL-27, is a heterodimeric cytokine with many similarities to IL-12, has recently been identified as a factor linking tumor-associated inflammation and a lack of tumor immune surveillance. IL-23 comprises a p19 subunit that associates with the IL-12p40 subunit, whereas IL-12 is a combination of IL-12p35 and the same IL-12p40 subunit. Furthermore, IL-23p19 is a molecule structurally related to not only IL-6, but also G-CSF, and the p35 subunit of IL-12. Although p19 is expressed in various tissues and cell types, it lacks biological activity and only becomes biologically active when complexed with p40, which is normally secreted by activated macrophages and dendritic cells (DCs). IL-23 uses many of the same signal-transduction components as IL-12, including the IL-12 receptor (R) β1 subunit (IL-12Rβ1), Janus kinase (Jak)2, Tyk2, signal transducer and activator of transcription (Stat)1, Stat3, Stat4, and Stat5. IL-23R, composed of the IL-12Rβ1 and the IL-23R subunit, is also expressed in DCs, macrophages, and T cells. Consistent with the structural and biological similarities of IL-12 and IL-23, the IL-23R complex shares a subunit with that of IL-12 (IL-12Rβ1); however, it does not use or detectably bind to IL-12Rβ2. The ability of cells to respond to either IL-12 or IL-23 is determined by expression of IL-12Rβ2 or IL-23R, respectively. Additionally, both cytokines promote the T helper cell type 1 (Th1) costimulatory function of antigen-presenting cells. However, IL-23 does differ from IL-12 in the T cell subsets that it targets. IL-12 acts on naive CD4+ T cells, whereas IL-23 preferentially acts on memory CD4+ T cells. Mouse memory T-cells (CD4(+) CD45 Rb(low)) proliferate in response to IL23 but not in response to IL12.¹

It has been reported that IL-12 has potent antitumor activity in a variety of murine tumor models. However, it was also demonstrated that IL-23 up-regulates the growth and cell proliferation of oral cancer by promoting the nuclear transactivation of RelA.² Human IL-23 has been shown to stimulate the production of IFN-gamma by PHA blast T-cells and memory T-cells. It also induces proliferation of both cell types. Expression of p19 in transgenic mice leads to runting, systemic inflammation, infertility, and death before 3 months of age. It was also shown that IL23 plays a prominent role in the regulation of granulopoiesis and the prevalence of neutrophil-regulatory T-cells.³

References

1. Yen, D. et al: J. Clin. Invest. 116:1310-16, 2006
2. Fukuda, M. et al: Int. J. Oncol. 36:1355-65, 2010
3. Smith, E. et al: J. Immunol. 179:8274-9, 2007

ELISA OVERVIEW

Cell Applications ELISA Kits are based on standard sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay technology. Freshly prepared standards, samples, and solutions are recommended for best results.

1. Prepare test samples.
2. Prepare a protein standard of the target protein.
3. Add test samples and standards to the pre-coated 96-well plate. Do not wash.
4. Add biotinylated detection antibodies. Wash.
5. Add Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) Solution. Wash.
6. Add Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) Color Developing Agent, containing HRP substrate.
7. Add TMB Stop Solution
8. Subject the plate to analysis.

NOTES:

- Before using the kit, quick spin tubes to bring down all solution to the bottom of tube.
- Duplicate assay wells are recommended for both standard and sample testing.
- Do not let the 96-well plate dry, this will lead to inactivation of plate components.
- When diluting samples and reagents, ensure that they are mixed completely and evenly.
- Pre-warm diluted ABC and TMB solutions at 37°C for 30 min before use to avoid variable temperature effects.
- For washes, use TBS or PBS. Do not touch well walls.
- A protein standard is included in the kit. A protein standard detection curve should be generated with each experiment, no more than 2 hours prior to the experiment.
- The user will determine sample dilution fold by estimation of target protein amount in samples.

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PROTOCOL

I. Plate Washing

Discard the solution in the plate without touching the side walls. Blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. Soak each well with at least 0.3 ml PBS or TBS buffer for 1–2 minutes. Repeat this process two additional times for a total of three washes.

II. Preparation of Test Samples

Test Sample Processing

- **Cell culture supernate, tissue lysate or body fluids:** Remove particulates by centrifugation.
- **Serum:** Allow the serum to clot in a serum separator tube (about 2 hours) at room temperature. Centrifuge at approximately 1000 X g for 10 min.
- **Plasma:** Collect plasma using heparin, EDTA, citrate as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge for 15 min at 2-8°C at 1000 x g within 30 min of collection. For eliminating the platelet effect, suggesting that further centrifugation for 10 min at 2-8°C at 10000 x g. Analyze immediately or aliquot and store frozen at -20°C.

Sample Dilution Guideline

Estimate the concentration of the target protein in the sample and select a proper dilution factor such that the diluted target protein concentration falls within the standard curve range. Depending on the sample, several trial dilutions may be necessary. Dilute the sample using the provided diluent buffer, mixing well. Suggested working dilutions of samples are as follows:

Target Protein Concentration Range	Sample Working Dilution	Sample Vol.	Diluent Buffer Vol.
20-200 ng/ml	1:100	1 µl	99 µl
2-20 ng/ml	1:10	10 µl	90 µl
31.2-2000 pg/ml	1:2	50 µl	50 µl
≤31.2 pg/ml	n/a	100µl	n/a

If samples will be assayed within 24 hours, store at 2-8°C. For long-term storage, aliquot and freeze samples at -20°C. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

III. Preparation of Reagents

Reconstitution of the Standard

The standard solutions should be prepared no more than 2 hours prior to the experiment. Two tubes of the standard are included in each kit. Use one tube for each experiment.

1. 10,000pg/ml of mouse IL-23 standard solution: Add 1 ml sample diluent buffer into one tube, keep the tube at room temperature for 10 min and mix thoroughly.
2. 2000pg/ml of mouse IL-23 standard solution: Add 0.2 ml of the above 10ng/ml IL-23 standard solution into 0.8 ml sample diluent buffer and mix thoroughly.
3. 1000pg/ml→31.2pg/ml of mouse IL-23 standard solutions: Label 6 Eppendorf tubes with 1000pg/ml, 500pg/ml, 250pg/ml, 125pg/ml, 62.5pg/ml, 31.2pg/ml, respectively. Aliquot 0.3 ml of the sample diluent buffer into each tube. Add 0.3 ml of the above 2000pg/ml IL-23 standard solution into 1st tube and mix. Transfer 0.3 ml from 1st tube to 2nd tube and mix. Transfer 0.3 ml from 2nd tube to 3rd tube and mix, and so on.

Preparation of Biotinylated Antibody Working Solution

The solution should be prepared no more than 2 hours prior to the experiment.

1. The total volume should be: 0.1ml/well x (the number of wells). (Allowing 0.1-0.2 ml more than total volume)
2. Biotinylated antibody should be diluted in 1:100 with the antibody diluent buffer and mixed thoroughly.

Preparation of the Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) Working Solution

The solution should be prepared no more than 1 hour prior to the experiment.

1. The total volume should be: 0.1ml/well x (the number of wells). (Allowing 0.1-0.2 ml more than total volume)
2. Avidin- Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) should be diluted in 1:100 with the ABC dilution buffer and mixed thoroughly.

IV. ELISA

The ABC working solution and TMB color developing agent must be kept warm at 37°C for 30 min before use. When diluting samples and reagents, they must be mixed completely and evenly. A standard detection curve should be prepared for each experiment. The user will decide sample dilution fold by crude estimation of target protein amount in samples.

1. Aliquot 0.1ml per well of the 2000pg/ml, 1000pg/ml, 500pg/ml, 250pg/ml, 125pg/ml, 62.5pg/ml, 31.2pg/ml mouse IL-23 standard solutions into the precoated 96-well plate. Add 0.1ml of the sample diluent buffer into the control well (Blank well). Add 0.1ml of each properly diluted sample of mouse sera, plasma, body fluids, tissue lysates or cell culture supernatants to each empty well. See “Sample Dilution Guideline” for details. We recommend that each mouse IL-23 standard solution and each sample is measured in duplicate.
2. Seal the plate with the cover and incubate at 37°C for 90 min.
3. Remove the cover, discard plate content, and blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. Do NOT let the wells completely dry at any time.
4. Add 0.1ml of biotinylated anti-mouse IL-23 antibody working solution into each well and incubate the plate at 37°C for 60 min.
5. Wash plate 3 times with 0.01M TBS or 0.01M PBS, and each time let washing buffer stay in the wells for 1 min. Discard the washing buffer and blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. (**Plate Washing Method:** Discard the solution in the plate without touching the side walls. Blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. Soak each well with at least 0.3 ml PBS or TBS buffer for 1–2 minutes. Repeat this process two additional times for a total of THREE washes. Note: For automated washing, aspirate all wells and wash THREE times with PBS or TBS buffer, overfilling wells with PBS or TBS buffer. Blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material.)
6. Add 0.1ml of prepared ABC working solution into each well and incubate the plate at 37°C for 30 min.
7. Wash plate 5 times with 0.01M TBS or 0.01M PBS, and each time let washing buffer stay in the wells for 1-2 min. Discard the washing buffer and blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. (See Step 5 for plate washing method).
8. Add 90 µl of prepared TMB color developing agent into each well and incubate plate at 37°C in dark for 25-30 min (**Note:** For reference only, the optimal incubation time should be determined by end user. And the shades of blue can be seen in the wells with the four most concentrated mouse IL-23 standard solutions; the other wells show no obvious color).
9. Add 0.1ml of prepared TMB stop solution into each well. The color changes into yellow immediately.
10. Read the O.D. absorbance at 450nm in a microplate reader within 30 min after adding the stop solution.

V. Calculating Protein Concentration

- For all wells, determine O.D.450(Relative):

$$\text{O.D.450(Relative)} = \text{O.D.450(Reading)} - \text{O.D.450(Blank)}$$
- Plot the standard curve:
 Plot O.D.450(Relative) of each standard solution (Y) vs. the respective concentration of the standard solution (X). See **Figure 1** for a typical standard curve.
- The target protein concentration in samples can be interpolated from the standard curve. Multiply the interpolated concentration by the dilution factor to obtain the target protein concentration in the sample.

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