

## Mouse CRH ELISA Kit

**Catalog No.:** abx054102

**Size:** 96T

**Range:** 3.3 pg/ml - 200 pg/ml

**Sensitivity:** 0.8 pg/ml

**Storage:** Store at 2-8°C for 6 months.

**Application:** For quantitative detection of CRH in Mouse Serum, Plasma, Tissue Homogenates and other biological fluids.

**Introduction:** Corticotropin-releasing hormone (CRH) also known as corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF) or corticoliberin is a peptide hormone and neurotransmitter involved in the stress response. It is a releasing hormone that belongs to corticotropin-releasing factor family. In humans, it is encoded by the CRH gene. Its main function is the stimulation of the pituitary synthesis of ACTH, as part of the HPA Axis. Corticotropin-releasing hormone (CRH) is a 41-amino acid peptide derived from a 196-amino acid preprohormone. CRH is secreted by the paraventricular nucleus (PVN) of the hypothalamus in response to stress. Increased CRH production has been observed to be associated with Alzheimer's disease and major depression, and autosomal recessive hypothalamic corticotropin deficiency has multiple and potentially fatal metabolic consequences including hypoglycemia. In addition to being produced in the hypothalamus, CRH is also synthesized in peripheral tissues, such as T lymphocytes, and is highly expressed in the placenta. In the placenta, CRH is a marker that determines the length of gestation and the timing of parturition and delivery. A rapid increase in circulating levels of CRH occurs at the onset of parturition, suggesting that, in addition to its metabolic functions, CRH may act as a trigger for parturition.

### Principle of the Assay

This kit is based on sandwich enzyme-linked immuno-sorbent assay technology. Anti-CRH antibody is pre-coated onto 96-well plates. An HRP conjugated antibody is used as detection antibody. The standards, test samples and HRP conjugate reagent are added to the wells and incubated. Unbound conjugates are washed away with wash buffer. TMB substrate is used to visualize HRP enzymatic reaction. TMB is catalyzed by HRP to produce a blue color product that changes into yellow after adding acidic stop solution. The intensity of the color yellow is proportional to the CRH amount bound on the plate. The O.D. absorbance is measured spectrophotometrically at 450nm in a microplate reader, and then the concentration of CRH can be calculated.

### Kit components

1. One pre-coated 96 well plate
2. Standard: 0.5 ml
3. Standard diluent buffer: 1.5 ml
4. Wash buffer (30×): 20 ml. Dilution: 1/30
5. Sample diluent buffer: 6 ml
6. HRP conjugate reagent: 6ml
7. Stop solution: 6 ml
8. TMB substrate A: 6 ml
9. TMB substrate B: 6 ml
10. Plate sealer: 2
11. Hermetic bag: 1

### Material Required But Not Provided

1. 37°C incubator
2. Microplate reader (wavelength: 450nm)
3. Precision pipette and disposable pipette tips
4. Automated plate washer
5. ELISA shaker
6. 1.5ml tubes to prepare standard/sample dilutions.
7. Plate cover
8. Absorbent filter papers
9. 100 ml and 1 L volume graduated cylinders

## Protocol

### A. Preparation of sample and reagents

#### 1. Sample

Isolate the test samples soon after collecting and analyze immediately (within 2 hours) or aliquot and store at -20°C or -80°C for long term storage. Avoid multiple freeze-thaw cycles.

- **Serum:** Samples should be collected into a serum separator tube. Coagulate the serum at room temperature (~2 hr) or overnight at 4°C. Centrifuge at approximately 1000 × g for 20 min. Analyze the serum immediately or aliquot and store at -20°C or -80°C.
- **Plasma:** Collect plasma using citrate or EDTA as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge for 15 minutes at 1000 × g within 30 minutes of collection. Assay immediately or aliquot and store at -20°C. Avoid hemolysis and high cholesterol samples.
- **Tissue homogenates:** The preparation of tissue homogenates will vary depending upon tissue type – this is just an example. Rinse tissues with ice-cold PBS to remove the excess of blood. Weigh before homogenization. Finely mince tissues and homogenize with a tissue homogenizer on ice in PBS and sonicate the cell suspension. Centrifuge the homogenates at 5000 × g for 5 min and collect the supernatant. Assay immediately or aliquot and store at -20°C.
- **Other biological fluids:** Centrifuge at approximately 1000 × g for 20 min to remove precipitant. Analyze immediately or aliquot and store at -20°C or -80°C.

#### Note:

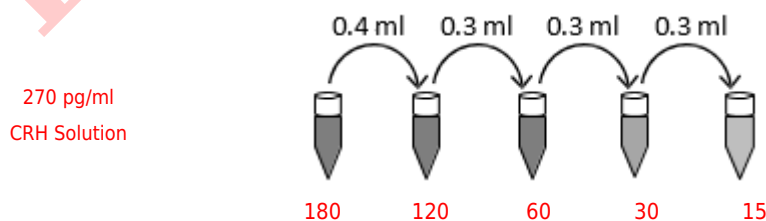
- » Samples must be diluted so that the expected concentration falls within the kit's range.
- » Fresh samples or recently obtained samples are recommended to prevent protein degradation and denaturalization that may lead to erroneous results.
- » Please bring sample slowly to room temperature. Sample hemolysis will influence the result. Hemolyzed specimen should not be used.
- » Na<sub>3</sub>N cannot be used as test sample preservative, since it inhibits HRP.

#### 2. Wash buffer

Dilute the concentrated Wash buffer 30-fold (1/30) with distilled water (i.e. add 20 ml of concentrated wash buffer into 580 ml of distilled water).

#### 3. Standard

Label 5 tubes with 180 pg/ml, 120 pg/ml, 60 pg/ml, 30 pg/ml and 15 pg/ml respectively. Aliquot 0.2 ml of the Standard diluent buffer into the first two tubes labeled 180 pg/ml and 120 pg/ml respectively and 0.3 ml of the Standard diluent buffer into each remaining tube. Add 0.4 ml of 270 pg/ml standard solution into 1st tube and mix thoroughly. Transfer 0.4 ml from 1st tube to 2nd tube and mix thoroughly. Transfer 0.3 ml from 2nd tube to 3rd tube and mix thoroughly, and so on. The standard solutions are best used within 2 hours. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.



### B. Assay Procedure

Equilibrate the kit components and samples to room temperature prior to use. It is recommended to plot a standard curve for each test.

1. Set standard, test sample and control (zero) wells on the pre-coated plate respectively, record their positions. It is recommended to assay standards, samples and controls in duplicate.
2. Aliquot 50 µl of the diluted standards into the standard wells.
3. Aliquot 50 µl of Standard diluent buffer into the control (zero) well. Do not add sample and HRP conjugate reagent into the control (zero) well.
4. Aliquot 50 µl of appropriately diluted sample (Mouse serum, plasma or cell culture supernatants) into the test sample wells. Add the solution at the bottom without touching the side walls of the well. Shake the plate mildly to mix the contents.
5. Seal the plate with a cover and incubate at 37°C for 30 min.
6. Remove the cover and wash the plate 5 times with one of the following methods.

**Manual Washing:** Discard the solution without touching the side walls. Tap the plate on absorbent paper or other absorbent material. Fill each well completely with wash buffer and vortex mildly on ELISA shaker for 2 min. Discard the contents and tap the plate on absorbent filter papers or other absorbent material. Repeat this procedure five times.

**Automated Washing:** Discard the solution in all wells and wash the plate five times with Wash buffer (overfilling the wells with the buffer). After the final wash invert the plate and tap on absorbent filter papers or other absorbent material. It is recommended that the washer be set for a soaking time of 1 min.

7. Aliquot 50 µl of HRP conjugate reagent into each well (except control well).
8. Seal the plate with a cover and incubate at 37°C for 30 min.
9. Remove the cover and repeat the aspiration/wash process 5 times as explained in step 6.
10. Aliquot 50 µl of TMB Substrate A into each well and 50 µl of TMB Substrate B. Vortex the plate gently on an ELISA shaker for 30 seconds (Or shake gently by hand for 30 seconds). Cover the plate and incubate at 37°C for 15 min. Avoid exposure to light.
11. Add 50 µl of Stop solution into each well. The color should change to yellow. Gently tap the plate to ensure thorough mixing.
12. Ensure that there are no fingerprints or water on the bottom of the plate, and that the fluid in the wells is free of bubbles. Measure the absorbance at 450nm immediately.

For calculation, (relative O.D.450) = (O.D.450 of each well) - (O.D.450 of Zero well). The standard curve can be plotted as the relative O.D.450 of each standard solution (Y) vs. the respective concentration of the standard solution (X). The Mouse CRH concentration of the samples can be interpolated from the standard curve.

**Note:** If the samples measured were diluted, multiply the dilution factor by the concentrations from interpolation to obtain the concentration before dilution.

## C. Precautions

1. Before using the kit, centrifuge the tubes to bring down the contents trapped in the lid.
2. Avoid foaming or bubbles when mixing or reconstituting components.
3. Wash buffer may crystallize and separate. If this happens, please warm the tube and mix gently to dissolve.
4. It is recommend to measure each standard and sample in duplicate or triplicate.

5. Do NOT let the plate dry out completely as this will inactivate the biological material on the plate.
6. Ensure plates are properly sealed or covered during incubation steps.
7. Complete removal of all solutions and buffers during wash steps is necessary for accurate measurement readings.
8. To avoid cross contamination do not reuse pipette tips and tubes.
9. Do not use expired components or components from a different kit.
10. Store the TMB substrate B in the dark and to avoid edge effect of plate incubation for temperature differences it is recommended to equilibrate the TMB substrates for 30 min at room temperature prior to use. Aspirate the dosage needed with sterilized tips and do not dump the residual solution back into the vial.

**D. Precision**

Intra-assay Precision (Precision within an assay): 3 samples with low, medium and high levels of CRH were tested 20 times on one plate, respectively.

Inter-assay Precision (Precision between assays): 3 samples with low, medium and high levels of CRH were tested on 3 different plates, 8 replicates in each plate.

CV (%) =  $SD/mean \times 100$

Intra-Assay: CV < 10%

Inter-Assay: CV < 12%

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