invitrogen USER GUIDE

Monkey IL-12 (p70) ELISA Kit

Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay for quantitative detection of monkey IL-12 (p70)

Catalog Numbers BMS646 or BMS646TEN

Pub. No. MAN0016911 Rev. A.0 (30)



WARNING! Read the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) and follow the handling instructions. Wear appropriate protective eyewear, clothing, and gloves. Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) are available from **thermofisher.com/support**.

Product description

The Monkey IL-12 (p70) ELISA Kit is an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for the quantitative detection of monkey IL-12p70.

Summary

Interleukin-12 (IL-12) is a pleiotropic cytokine, formerly termed cytotoxic lymphocyte maturation factor (CLMF) or natural killer cell stimulatory factor (NKSF), which is produced primarily by stimulated macrophages. It was originally identified as a factor produced by human Epstein-Barr Virus transformed B-cell lines. Meanwhile IL-12 has been shown to be a proinflammatory cytokine produced by phagocytic cells, B-cells, and other antigen-presenting cells that modulate adaptive immune responses by favoring the generation of T-helper type 1 cells.

IL-12 is a disulfide-linked heterodimeric cytokine composed of a 35 kDa light chain (p35) and a 40 kDa heavy chain (p40) resulting in the only biologically active 70 kDa (p70) form of IL-12. The p40 subunit can also form a homodimer, which has been shown to be able to bind the IL-12 receptor and thus acts as an IL-12 antagonist.

IL-12 exerts a variety of biological effects on T- and natural killer cells. Apart from promotion of Th1 development and its ability to promote cytolytic activity, it mediates some of its physiological activities by acting as a potent inducer of interferon IFN γ production and the stimulation of other cytokines from peripheral blood - and NK-cells IFN γ , then enhances the ability of the phagocytic cells to produce IL-12 and other proinflammatory cytokines. Thus, IL-12 induced IFN γ acts in a positive feedback loop that represents an important amplifying mechanism in the inflammatory response to infections.

Its role in directing development of a Th1 type immune response from naive T-cells demonstrates its critical role in regulation of the immune response and strongly suggests its potential usefulness in cancer therapy.

For literature updates, refer to our website.

Principles of the test

An anti-monkey IL-12p70 coating antibody is adsorbed onto microwells.

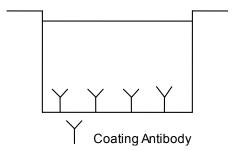


Fig. 1 Coated microwell

Monkey IL-12p70 present in the sample or standard binds to antibodies adsorbed to the microwells. A biotin-conjugated antimonkey IL-12p70 antibody is added and binds to monkey IL-12p70 captured by the first antibody.

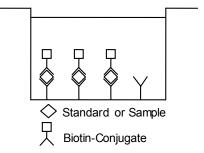


Fig. 2 First incubation

Following incubation unbound biotin-conjugated anti-monkey IL-12p70 antibody is removed during a wash step. Streptavidin-HRP is added and binds to the biotin-conjugated anti-monkey IL-12p70 antibody.

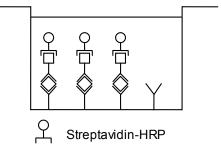


Fig. 3 Second incubation

Following incubation unbound Streptavidin-in-HRP is removed during a wash step, and substrate solution reactive with HRP is added to the wells.

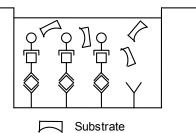


Fig. 4 Third incubation

A colored product is formed in proportion to the amount of monkey IL-12p70 present in the sample or standard. The reaction is terminated by addition of acid and absorbance is measured at 450 nm. A standard curve is prepared from 7 monkey IL-12p70 standard dilutions and monkey IL-12p70 sample concentration determined.

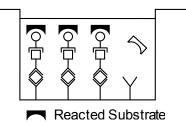


Fig. 5 Stop reaction

Reagents provided

Reagents for monkey IL-12p70 ELISA BMS646 (96 tests)

1 aluminum pouch with a Microwell Plate (12 strips of 8 wells each) coated with monoclonal antibody to monkey IL-12p70

1 vial (70 μ L) Biotin-Conjugate anti-monkey IL-12p70 monoclonal antibody

1 vial (150 μL) Streptavidin-HRP

2 vials monkey IL-12p70 Standard lyophilized, $500~\mathrm{U/mL}$ upon reconstitution

1 vial (12 mL) Sample Diluent

Note: In some, very rare cases, an insoluble precipitate of stabilizing protein has been seen in the Sample Diluent vial. This precipitate does not interfere in any way with the performance of the test and can thus be ignored.

1 vial (5 mL) Assay Buffer Concentrate 20x (PBS with 1% Tween → 20, 10% BSA)

1 bottle (50 mL) Wash Buffer Concentrate 20x (PBS with 1% Tween [™] 20)

1 vial (15 mL) Substrate Solution (tetramethyl-benzidine)

1 vial (15 mL) Stop Solution (1M Phosphoric acid)

4 Adhesive Films

Reagents for monkey IL-12p70 ELISA BMS646TEN (10x96 tests)

 $10~{\rm aluminum}$ pouches with a Microwell Plate (12 strips of 8 wells each) coated with monoclonal antibody to monkey IL-12p70

10 vials (70 $\mu\text{L})$ Biotin-Conjugate anti-monkey IL-12p70 monoclonal antibody

10 vials (150 µL) Streptavidin-HRP

10 vials monkey IL-12p70 Standard lyophilized, 500 U/mL upon reconstitution

7 vials (12 mL) Sample Diluent

Note: In some, very rare cases, an insoluble precipitate of stabilizing protein has been seen in the Sample Diluent vials. This precipitate does not interfere in any way with the performance of the test and can thus be ignored.

2 vials (5 mL) Assay Buffer Concentrate 20x (PBS with 1% Tween $^{\text{\tiny TM}}$ 20, 10% BSA)

5 bottles (50 mL) Wash Buffer Concentrate 20x (PBS with 1% Tween[™] 20)

 $10\ vials\ (15\ mL)\ Substrate\ Solution\ (tetramethyl-benzidine)$

1 vial (100 mL) Stop Solution (1M Phosphoric acid)

20 Adhesive Films

Storage instructions - ELISA kit

Store kit reagents between 2°C and 8°C. Immediately after use remaining reagents should be returned to cold storage (2°C to 8°C). Expiry of the kit and reagents is stated on labels.

Expiry of the kit components can only be guaranteed if the components are stored properly, and if, in case of repeated use of one component, this reagent is not contaminated by the first handling.

Sample collection and storage instructions

Cell culture supernatant and serum (baboon) were tested with this assay. Other biological samples might be suitable for use in the assay. Remove serum from the clot as soon as possible after clotting.

Samples containing a visible precipitate must be clarified prior to use in the assay. Do not use grossly hemolyzed or lipemic specimens.

Samples should be aliquoted and must be stored frozen at -20°C to avoid loss of bioactive monkey IL-12p70. If samples are to be run within 24 hours, they may be stored at 2°C to 8°C (refer to "Sample stability" on page 5).

Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Prior to assay, the frozen sample should be brought to room temperature slowly and mixed gently.

Materials required but not provided

- 5 mL and 10 mL graduated pipettes
- 5 µL to 1000 µL adjustable single channel micropipettes with disposable tips
- 50 μL to 300 μL adjustable multichannel micropipette with disposable tips
- Multichannel micropipette reservoir
- Beakers, flasks, cylinders necessary for preparation of reagents
- Device for delivery of wash solution (multichannel wash bottle or automatic wash system)
- Microwell strip reader capable of reading at 450 nm (620 nm as optional reference wave length)
- Glass-distilled or deionized water
- Statistical calculator with program to perform regression analysis

Precautions for use

- All chemicals should be considered as potentially hazardous. We
 therefore recommend that this product is handled only by those
 persons who have been trained in laboratory techniques and that it
 is used in accordance with the principles of good laboratory
 practice. Wear suitable protective clothing such as laboratory
 overalls, safety glasses, and gloves. Care should be taken to avoid
 contact with skin or eyes. In the case of contact with skin or eyes
 wash immediately with water. See material safety data sheet(s)
 and/or safety statement(s) for specific advice.
- Reagents are intended for research use only and are not for use in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.
- Do not mix or substitute reagents with those from other lots or other sources.
- Do not use kit reagents beyond expiration date on label.
- Do not expose kit reagents to strong light during storage or incubation.
- Do not pipet by mouth.
- Do not eat or smoke in areas where kit reagents or samples are handled.
- Avoid contact of skin or mucous membranes with kit reagents or samples.
- Rubber or disposable latex gloves should be worn while handling kit reagents or samples.

- Avoid contact of substrate solution with oxidizing agents and metal
- · Avoid splashing or generation of aerosols.
- To avoid microbial contamination or cross-contamination of reagents or samples that may invalidate the test, use disposable pipette tips and/or pipettes.
- Use clean, dedicated reagent trays for dispensing the conjugate and substrate reagent.
- Exposure to acid inactivates the conjugate.
- Glass-distilled water or deionized water must be used for reagent preparation.
- Substrate solution must be at room temperature prior to use.
- Decontaminate and dispose samples and all potentially contaminated materials as if they could contain infectious agents. The preferred method of decontamination is autoclaving for a minimum of 1 hour at 121.5°C.
- Liquid wastes not containing acid and neutralized waste may be mixed with sodium hypochlorite in volumes such that the final mixture contains 1.0% sodium hypochlorite. Allow 30 minutes for effective decontamination. Liquid waste containing acid must be neutralized prior to the addition of sodium hypochlorite.

Preparation of reagents

- Buffer Concentrates should be brought to room temperature and should be diluted before starting the test procedure.
- 2. If crystals have formed in the Buffer Concentrates, warm them gently until they have completely dissolved.

Wash buffer (1x)

- Pour entire contents (50 mL) of the Wash Buffer Concentrate (20x) into a clean 1000 mL graduated cylinder. Bring to final volume of 1000 mL with glass-distilled or deionized water.
- 2. Mix gently to avoid foaming.
- **3.** Transfer to a clean wash bottle and store at 2°C to 25°C. Please note that Wash Buffer (1x) is stable for 30 days.
- 4. Wash Buffer (1x) may also be prepared as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Wash Buffer Concentrate (20x) (mL)	Distilled Water (mL)
1 - 6	25	475
1 - 12	50	950

Assay buffer (1x)

- Pour the entire contents (5 mL) of the Assay Buffer Concentrate (20x) into a clean 100 mL graduated cylinder. Bring to final volume of 100 mL with distilled water. Mix gently to avoid foaming.
- Store at 2°C to 8°C. Please note that the Assay Buffer (1x) is stable for 30 days.
- Assay Buffer (1x) may also be prepared as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Assay Buffer Concentrate (20x) (mL)	Distilled Water (mL)
1 - 6	2.5	47.5
1 - 12	5.0	95.0

Biotin-Conjugate

Note: The Biotin-Conjugate should be used within 30 minutes after dilution.

Make a 1:100 dilution of the concentrated Biotin-Conjugate solution with Assay Buffer (1x) in a clean plastic tube as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Biotin-Conjugate (mL)	Assay Buffer (1x) (mL)
1 - 6	0.03	2.97
1 - 12	0.06	5.94

Streptavidin-HRP

 $\mbox{{\bf Note:}}$ The Streptavidin-HRP should be used within 30 minutes after dilution.

Make a 1:200 dilution of the concentrated Streptavidin-HRP solution with Assay Buffer (1x) in a clean plastic tube as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Streptavidin-HRP (mL)	Assay Buffer (1x) (mL)
1 - 6	0.03	5.97
1 - 12	0.06	11.94

Monkey IL-12p70 standard

- Reconstitute monkey IL-12p70 standard by addition of distilled water.
- Reconstitution volume is stated on the label of the standard vial.
 Allow reconstituted standard to sit for 10-30 minutes. Swirl or mix gently to insure complete and homogeneous solubilization (concentration of reconstituted standard = 500 U/mL).

The standard has to be used immediately after reconstitution and cannot be stored.

External standard dilution

- 1. Label 7 tubes, one for each standard point: S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7
- 2. Then prepare 1:2 serial dilutions for the standard curve as follows: Pipette 225 μL of Sample Diluent into each tube.
- 3. Pipette 225 μ L of reconstituted standard (concentration = 500 U/mL) into the first tube, labeled S1, and mix (concentration of standard 1 = 250 U/mL).
- 4. Pipette 225 μ L of this dilution into the second tube, labeled S2, and mix thoroughly before the next transfer.
- 5. Repeat serial dilutions 5 more times thus creating the points of the standard curve (see Figure 6).

Sample Diluent serves as blank.

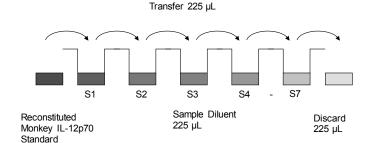


Fig. 6 Dilute standards - tubes

Test protocol

- Determine the number of microwell strips required to test the desired number of samples plus appropriate number of wells needed for running blanks and standards. Each sample, standard, blank and optional control sample should be assayed in duplicate. Remove extra microwell strips from holder and store in foil bag with the desiccant provided at 2°C to 8°C sealed tightly.
- 2. Wash the microwell strips twice with approximately $400~\mu$ L Wash Buffer per well with thorough aspiration of microwell contents between washes. Allow the Wash Buffer to sit in the wells for about 10-15 seconds before aspiration. Take care not to scratch the surface of the microwells.
 - After the last wash step, empty wells and tap microwell strips on absorbent pad or paper towel to remove excess Wash Buffer. Use the microwell strips immediately after washing. Alternatively microwell strips can be placed upside down on a wet absorbent paper for not longer than 15 minutes. Do not allow wells to dry.
- 3. Standard dilution on the microwell plate (Alternatively the standard dilution can be prepared in tubes see "External standard dilution" on page 3): Add 100 μL of Sample Diluent in duplicate to all standard wells. Pipette 100 μL of prepared standard (see "Monkey IL-12p70 standard" on page 3, concentration = 500 U/mL) in duplicate into well A1 and A2 (see Table 1). Mix the contents of wells A1 and A2 by repeated aspiration and ejection (concentration of standard 1, S1 = 250 U/mL), and transfer 100 μL to wells B1 and B2, respectively (see Figure 7). Take care not to scratch the inner surface of the microwells. Continue this procedure 5 times, creating two rows of monkey IL-12p70 standard dilutions ranging from 250.0 to 3.9 U/mL. Discard 100 μL of the contents from the last microwells (G1, G2) used.

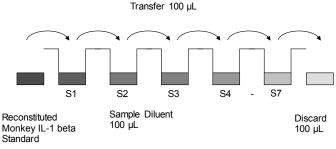


Fig. 7 Dilute standards - microwell plate

Table 1 Example of the arrangement of blanks, standards and samples in the microwell strips.

	1	2	3	4
А	Standard 1 250.0 U/mL	Standard 1 250.0 U/mL	Sample 1	Sample 1
В	Standard 2 125.0 U/mL	Standard 2 125.0 U/mL	Sample 2	Sample 2
С	Standard 3 62.5 U/mL	Standard 3 62.5 U/mL	Sample 3	Sample 3
D	Standard 4 31.3 U/mL	Standard 4 31.3 U/mL	Sample 4	Sample 4
Е	Standard 5 15.6 U/mL	Standard 5 15.6 U/mL	Sample 5	Sample 5
F	Standard 6 7.8 U/mL	Standard 6 7.8 U/mL	Sample 6	Sample 6
G	Standard 7 3.9 U/mL	Standard 7 3.9 U/mL	Sample 7	Sample 7
Н	Blank	Blank	Sample 8	Sample 8

In case of an external standard dilution (see "External standard dilution" on page 3), pipette 100 μL of these standard dilutions (S1 - S7) in the standard wells according to Table 1.

- **4.** Add 100 μL of Sample Diluent in duplicate to the blank wells.
- 5. Add $50 \mu L$ of Sample Diluent to the sample wells.
- **6.** Add $50 \mu L$ of each sample in duplicate to the sample wells.

- 7. Prepare Biotin-Conjugate (see "Biotin-Conjugate" on page 3).
- **8.** Add 50 μ L of Biotin-Conjugate to all wells.
- 9. Cover with an adhesive film and incubate at room temperature (18°C to 25°C) for 2 hours on a microplate shaker.
- **10.** Prepare Streptavidin-HRP (refer to "Streptavidin-HRP" on page 3).
- 11. Remove adhesive film and empty wells. Wash microwell strips 4 times according to point 2. of the test protocol. Proceed immediately to the next step.
- 12. Add 100 μ L of diluted Streptavidin-HRP to all wells, including the blank wells.
- 13. Cover with an adhesive film and incubate at room temperature (18°C to 25°C) for 1 hour on a microplate shaker.
- 14. Remove adhesive film and empty wells. Wash microwell strips 4 times according to point 2. of the test protocol. Proceed immediately to the next step.
- 15. Pipette 100 µL of TMB Substrate Solution to all wells.
- **16.** Incubate the microwell strips at room temperature (18°C to 25°C) for about 10 minutes. Avoid direct exposure to intense light.

The color development on the plate should be monitored and the substrate reaction stopped (see next point of this protocol) before positive wells are no longer properly recordable. Determination of the ideal time period for color development has to be done individually for each assay.

It is recommended to add the stop solution when the highest standard has developed a dark blue color. Alternatively the color development can be monitored by the ELISA reader at 620 nm. The substrate reaction should be stopped as soon as Standard 1 has reached an OD of 0.9-0.95.

- 17. Stop the enzyme reaction by quickly pipetting $100~\mu L$ of Stop Solution into each well. It is important that the Stop Solution is spread quickly and uniformly throughout the microwells to completely inactivate the enzyme. Results must be read immediately after the Stop Solution is added or within one hour if the microwell strips are stored at $2^{\circ}C$ to $8^{\circ}C$ in the dark.
- 18. Read absorbance of each microwell on a spectro-photometer using 450 nm as the primary wave length (optionally 620 nm as the reference wave length; 610 nm to 650 nm is acceptable). Blank the plate reader according to the manufacturer's instructions by using the blank wells. Determine the absorbance of both the samples and the standards.

Note: In case of incubation without shaking the obtained O.D. values may be lower than indicated below. Nevertheless the results are still valid.

Calculation of results

- Calculate the average absorbance values for each set of duplicate standards and samples. Duplicates should be within 20% of the mean value.
- Create a standard curve by plotting the mean absorbance for each standard concentration on the ordinate against the monkey IL-12p70 concentration on the abscissa. Draw a best fit curve through the points of the graph (a 5-parameter curve fit is recommended).
- To determine the concentration of circulating monkey IL-12p70 for each sample, first find the mean absorbance value on the ordinate and extend a horizontal line to the standard curve. At the point of intersection, extend a vertical line to the abscissa and read the corresponding monkey IL-12p70 concentration.
- If instructions in this protocol have been followed, samples have been diluted 1:2 and the concentration read from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor (x 2).
- Calculation of samples with a concentration exceeding standard 1
 may result in incorrect, low monkey IL-12p70 levels. Such
 samples require further external predilution according to
 expected monkey IL-12p70 values with Sample Diluent in order
 to precisely quantitate the actual monkey IL-12p70 level.

- It is suggested that each testing facility establishes a control sample of known monkey IL-12p70 concentration and runs this additional control with each assay. If the values obtained are not within the expected range of the control, the assay results may be invalid.
- A representative standard curve is shown in Figure 8. This curve cannot be used to derive test results. Each laboratory must prepare a standard curve for each group of microwell strips assayed.

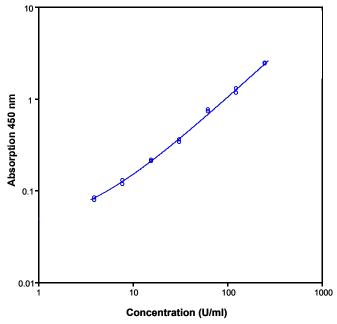


Fig. 8 Representative standard curve for monkey IL-12p70 ELISA. Monkey IL-12p70 was diluted in serial 2-fold steps in Sample Diluent. Do not use this standard curve to derive test results. A standard curve must be run for each group of microwell strips assayed.

Table 2 Typical data using the monkey IL-12p70 ELISA Measuring wavelength: 450 nm
Reference wavelength: 620 nm

Standard	Monkey IL-12p70 Concen tration (U/mL)	0.D. at 450 nm	Mean O.D. at 450 nm	C.V. (%)
1	250.0	2.396 2.426	2.411	0.6
2	125.0	1.293 1.154	1.223	5.7
3	62.5	0.718 0.762	0.740	3.0
4	31.3	0.336 0.354	0.345	2.7
5	15.6	0.208 0.212	0.210	0.9
6	7.8	0.117 0.127	0.122	4.2
7	3.9	0.083 0.078	0.081	3.3
Blank	0.0	0.023 0.023	0.023	0.0

The OD values of the standard curve may vary according to the conditions of assay performance (e.g. operator, pipetting technique, washing technique or temperature effects). Furthermore shelf life of the kit may affect enzymatic activity and thus color intensity. Values measured are still valid.

Limitations

- Since exact conditions may vary from assay to assay, a standard curve must be established for every run.
- Bacterial or fungal contamination of either screen samples or reagents or cross-contamination between reagents may cause erroneous results.
- Disposable pipette tips, flasks or glassware are preferred, reusable glassware must be washed and thoroughly rinsed of all detergents before use.
- Improper or insufficient washing at any stage of the procedure will
 result in either false positive or false negative results. Empty wells
 completely before dispensing fresh wash solution, fill with Wash
 Buffer as indicated for each wash cycle and do not allow wells to
 sit uncovered or dry for extended periods.

Performance characteristics

Sensitivity

The limit of detection of monkey IL-12p70 defined as the analyte concentration resulting in an absorbance significantly higher than that of the dilution medium (mean plus 2 standard deviations) was determined to be 2.6 U/mL (mean of 6 independent assays).

Reproducibility

Intra-assay

Reproducibility within the assay was evaluated in 3 independent experiments. Each assay was carried out with 6 replicates of 4 serum samples containing different concentrations of monkey IL-12p70. Two standard curves were run on each plate. The calculated overall intraassay coefficient of variation was < 5%.

Inter-assay

Assay to assay reproducibility within one laboratory was evaluated in 3 independent experiments. Each assay was carried out with 6 replicates of 4 serum samples containing different concentrations of monkey IL-12p70. Two standard curves were run on each plate. The calculated overall inter-assay coefficient of variation was 4.8%.

Spike recovery

The spike recovery was evaluated by spiking 4 levels of monkey IL-12p70 into 3 pooled normal monkey serum samples. Recoveries were determined in 3 independent experiments with 4 replicates each. The amount of endogenous monkey IL-12p70 in unspiked serum was subtracted from the spike values.

The overall mean recovery was 105%.

Dilution parallelism

 $4\ serum\ samples$ with different levels of monkey IL-12p70 were analyzed at serial 2-fold dilutions with $4\ replicates\ each.$

The overall mean recovery was 103%.

Sample stability

Freeze-Thaw stability

Aliquots of serum and cell culture supernatant samples (spiked or unspiked) were stored at -20°C and thawed 5 times, and the monkey IL-12p70 levels determined. There was no significant loss of monkey IL-12p70 immunoreactivity detected by freezing and thawing up to 3 freeze/thaw cycles.

A significant decrease of monkey IL-12p70 immunoreactivity was detected by further freeze/thaw cycles.

Storage stability

Aliquots of serum and cell culture supernatant samples (spiked or unspiked) were stored at -20° C, 2° C to 8° C, room temperature, and at 37°C, and the monkey IL-12p70 level determined after 24 hours. There was no significant loss of monkey IL-12p70 immunoreactivity detected during storage at -20° C, 2° C to 8° C, and room temperature. A significant loss of monkey IL-12p70 immunoreactivity was detected during storage at 37°C after 24 hours.

Specificity

The interference of circulating factors of the immune system was evaluated by spiking these proteins at physiologically relevant concentrations into a monkey IL-12p70 positive serum.

There was no crossreactivity detected.

Reagent preparation summary

Wash buffer (1x)

Add Wash Buffer Concentrate 20x (50 mL) to 950 mL distilled water.

Number of Strips	Wash Buffer Concentrate (mL)	Distilled Water (mL)
1 - 6	25	475
1 - 12	50	950

Assay buffer (1x)

Add Assay Buffer Concentrate 20x (5 mL) to 95 mL distilled water.

Number of Strips	Assay Buffer Concentrate (mL)	Distilled Water (mL)
1 - 6	2.5	47.5
1 - 12	5.0	95.0

Biotin-Conjugate

Make a 1:100 dilution of Biotin-Conjugate in Assay Buffer (1x):

Number of Strips	Biotin-Conjugate (mL)	Assay Buffer (1x) (mL)
1 - 6	0.03	2.97
1 - 12	0.06	5.94

Streptavidin-HRP

Make a 1:200 dilution of Streptavidin-HRP in Assay Buffer (1x):

Number of Strips	Streptavidin-HRP (mL)	Assay Buffer (1x) (mL)
1 - 6	0.03	5.97
1 - 12	0.06	11.94

Monkey IL-12p70 standard

Reconstitute lyophilized monkey IL-12p70 standard distilled water. (Reconstitution volume is stated on the label of the standard vial.)

Test protocol summary

- 1. Determine the number of microwell strips required.
- 2. Wash microwell strips twice with Wash Buffer.
- 3. Standard dilution on the microwell plate: Add 100 μ L Sample Diluent, in duplicate, to all standard wells. Pipette 100 μ L prepared standard into the first wells and create standard dilutions by transferring 100 μ L from well to well. Discard 100 μ L from the last wells.

Alternatively external standard dilution in tubes (see "External standard dilution" on page 3): Pipette 100 μL of these standard dilutions in the microwell strips.

- 4. Add 100 μL Sample Diluent, in duplicate, to the blank wells.
- 5. Add $50 \mu L$ Sample Diluent to sample wells.
- **6.** Add $50 \mu L$ sample in duplicate, to designated sample wells.
- 7. Prepare Biotin-Conjugate.
- 8. Add 50 μL Biotin-Conjugate to all wells.
- 9. Cover microwell strips and incubate 2 hours at room temperature (18°C to 25°C).
- 10. Prepare Streptavidin-HRP.
- 11. Empty and wash microwell strips 4 times with Wash Buffer.
- 12. Add $100 \mu L$ diluted Streptavidin-HRP to all wells.
- **13.** Cover microwell strips and incubate 1 hour at room temperature (18°C to 25°C).
- 14. Empty and wash microwell strips 4 times with Wash Buffer.
- **15.** Add 100 μL of TMB Substrate Solution to all wells.
- **16.** Incubate the microwell strips for about 10 minutes at room temperature (18°C to 25°C).
- 17. Add 100 µL Stop Solution to all wells.
- 18. Blank microwell reader and measure color intensity at 450 nm.

Note: If instructions in this protocol have been followed, samples have been diluted 1:2 and the concentration read from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor (x 2).

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Note: For SDSs for reagents and chemicals from other manufacturers, contact the manufacturer.

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