Lonza

Limulus Amebocyte Lysate (LAL) PYROGENT®-5000



Catalog Numbers: N383, N384, N588, N688

LIMULUS AMEBOCYTE LYSATE

PYROGENT[®]-5000 U.S. License No. 1775 Catalog No. N383, N384, N588, N688

IMPORTANT Read Entire Brochure Before Performing Test

INTENDED USE

This product is intended as an *In Vitro* end-product endotoxin test for human and animal parenteral drugs, biological products, and medical devices. This product is not intended for the detection of endotoxin in clinical samples or as an aid in the diagnosis of human disease. This test utilizes a preparation of Limulus Amebocyte Lysate (LAL), in combination with an incubating photometer and appropriate software, to detect endotoxin photometrically.

In December 1987, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published the "Guideline on Validation of the Limulus Amebocyte Lysate Test As An End-product Endotoxin Test for Human and Animal Parenteral Drugs, Biological Products, and Medical Devices".⁶ This guideline outlines those procedures which the FDA considers necessary for: 1) establishing endotoxin limits for pharmaceuticals and medical devices, 2) validating the use of LAL as an end-product endotoxin test, and 3) developing a routine testing protocol.

The procedures described herein are based on those described in the FDA Guideline. Similar performance requirements for kinetic-turbidimetric assays have been published and are updated regularly in the United States Pharmacopeia.¹⁰

WARNING

For *In Vitro* Diagnostic Use Only. Not for the *In Vitro* Determination of Endotoxemia in Man. The LAL Test may be substituted for the USP Rabbit Pyrogen Test when used according to the FDA Guideline for end-product testing of human and animal parenteral drugs, biological products, and medical devices⁸.

EXPLANATION OF TEST

PYROGENT[®]-5000 is a quantitative, kinetic assay for the detection of Gram negative bacterial endotoxin. A sample is mixed with the reconstituted LAL reagent, placed in the photometer, and automatically monitored over time for the appearance of turbidity. The time required before the appearance of turbidity (Reaction Time) is inversely proportional to the amount of endotoxin present. That is, in the presence of a large amount of endotoxin the reaction occurs rapidly; in the presence of a smaller amount of endotoxin the reaction time is increased. The concentration of endotoxin in unknown samples can be calculated from a standard curve.

The use of LAL for the detection of endotoxin evolved from the observation by Bang¹ that a Gram negative infection of *Limulus polyphemus*, the horseshoe crab, resulted in fatal intravascular coagulation. Levin and Bang^{2,3} later demonstrated that this clotting was the result of a reaction between endotoxin and a clottable protein in the circulating amebocytes of *Limulus*. Following the development of a suitable anticoagulant for *Limulus* blood, Levin and Bang⁴ prepared a lysate from washed amebocytes which was an extremely sensitive indicator of the presence of endotoxin. Solum^{5,6} and Young, Levin and Prendergast⁶ have purified and characterized the clottable protein from LAL and have shown the reaction with endotoxin to be enzymatic. Teller and Kelly⁷ demonstrated that the endotoxin activation of lysate could be monitored photometrically.

PRINCIPLE

Droopzymo	Endotoxin	
FIDelizyille —	0	Coayulase
Cooquilogen	Coagulase	
obayuloyeli-		

Gram negative bacterial endotoxin catalyzes the activation of a proenzyme in the Limulus Amebocyte Lysate^a. The initial rate of activation is determined by the concentration of endotoxin present. The activated enzyme (Coagulase) hydrolyzes specific bonds within a clotting protein (Coagulogen) also present in Limulus Amebocyte Lysate. Once hydrolyzed, the resultant coagulin self-associates and forms a gelatinous clot. The turbidimetric LAL assay measures the increase in turbidity (optical density) that precedes the formation of the gel clot.

REAGENTS SUPPLIED AND STORAGE CONDITIONS

PYROGENT®-5000 LAL Reagent

The LAL reagent contains a lysate prepared from the circulating amebocytes of the horseshoe crab, *Limulus polyphemus*. **Reconstitute before use with PYROGENT®-5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer**, per the following table:

Kit part number	PYROGENT [®] -5000 LAL Reagent	PYROGENT [®] -5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer required
N383	2 vials/kit	5.2 ml/vial
N384	2 vials/kit	10.4 ml/vial
N588	45 vials/kit	5.2 ml/vial
N688	45 vials/kit	10.4 ml/vial

Swirl gently to avoid foaming.

IMPORTANT: Prior to use, wait about two (2) minutes to allow any bubbles to

rise to the top of the vial.

Store lyophilized (unreconstituted) PYROGENT®-5000 LAL under refrigeration at 2-8°C. Avoid exposure to temperatures in excess of 25°C. Avoid exposure to bright light. Discard lysate which has turned yellow or become insoluble. Reconstituted PYROGENT®-5000 LAL is stable up to 8 hours at 2-8°C.

PYROGENT®-5000 LAL RECONSTITUTION BUFFER

This buffer must be used to rehydrate the PYROGENT®-5000 LAL Reagent. Allow buffer to warm to room temperature before use.

	PYROGENT [®] -5000 LAL
Kit part number	Reconstitution Buffer
N383	2 vials/kit
N384	2 vials/kit
N588	45 vials/kit
N688	45 vials/kit

Store PYROGENT®-5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer at 2-8°C.

E. coli O55:B5 Endotoxin

The N383 and N384 kits contain 1 vial of lyophilized endotoxin per kit; the N588 and N688 kits contain 10 vials per kit. The reconstitution volume of the vial is stated on the Certificate of Analysis, included with each kit, and is calculated to yield a solution containing 100 EU(or IU)/ml. Reconstitute with the specified volume of LAL Reagent Water. Shake vigorously for at least 15 minutes at high speed on a vortex mixer. Prior to use, a stored stock solution must be warmed to room temperature and vigorously vortexed for 15 minutes. Store lyophilized endotoxin at 2-8°C. Reconstituted endotoxin is stable up to four weeks at 2-8°C.

This endotoxin is provided for the user's convenience. Other endotoxin preparations may be used to prepare the standards; however, their performance in the turbidimetric assay relative to the Reference Standard Endotoxin (RSE) must be determined.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NOT PROVIDED

- 1. LAL Reagent Water (#W50-640 or equivalent).
- 2. Sodium hydroxide, 0.1N, or Hydrochloric acid, 0.1N, dissolved in LAL Reagent Water, for pH adjustment of sample if necessary.
- Disposable endotoxin-free glass dilution tubes (13 x 100 mm, #N207 or equivalent).
- 4. Individually wrapped measuring pipettes.
- Automatic hand-held pipettes with low endotoxin, individually wrapped or racked tips.
- 6. Disposable sterile microplates. Prior to routine use, microplates should be pre-qualified for each lysate lot by the acceptable performance of the linearity test as described under PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS.
- 7. Eight channel pipettor.
- 8. Reagent reservoirs (#25-364 or equivalent).
- 9. Microplate reader (Kinetic-QCL[®] Reader, #25-141B; ELx808[™] IU Reader, #25-315; ELx808[™] RIU Reader, #25-315R.)
- 10. WinKQCL® Software.
- 11. Timer and vortex mixer.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

Careful technique must be used to avoid microbiological or endotoxin contamination. All materials coming in contact with the specimen or test reagents must be endotoxin-free. Clean glassware and materials may be rendered endotoxin-free by heating at 250°C for 30 minutes. Appropriate precautions should be taken to protect depyrogenated materials from subsequent environmental contamination.

From experience, most sterile, individually wrapped, plastic pipettes and pipette tips are endotoxin-free. However, these materials should be tested before regular use.

It may be necessary to adjust the pH of the sample to within the range 6.0-8.0 using endotoxin-free sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid. Always measure the pH of an aliquot of the bulk sample to avoid contamination by the pH electrode. Do not adjust unbuffered solutions.

Samples to be tested must be stored in such a way that all bacteriological activity is stopped or the endotoxin level may increase with time. For example, store samples at 2-8°C for less than 24 hours; samples stored longer than 24 hours should be frozen.

TYPES OF TURBIDIMETRIC LAL ASSAYS

The incubating microplate reader with the WinKQCL® Software may be used to run the turbidimetric LAL assay. It is important to become familiar with the operation of the incubating microplate reader and the features of the WinKQCL® Software. Please refer to the appropriate software manual for more detailed information.

There are four (4) basic types of turbidimetric LAL assays, each of which is designed to perform a different aspect of LAL testing.

1. <u>ROUTINE</u>

A ROUTINE assay calculates the concentration of endotoxin in unknowns by comparison to the performance of a series of endotoxin standards.

As part of a ROUTINE assay, the user has the option to include a Positive Product Control (PPC) as a monitor for product inhibition or enhancement. A PPC is a sample of product to which a known amount of endotoxin spike has been added. The WinKQCL[®] Software automatically calculates the amount of endotoxin recovered in the PPC, allowing for a comparison to the known amount of endotoxin spike.

2. INHIBITION/ENHANCEMENT (INH/ENH)

The Limulus Amebocyte Lysate reaction is enzyme mediated and, as such, has an optimal pH range and specific salt and divalent cation requirements. Occasionally test samples may alter these optimal conditions to an extent that the lysate is rendered insensitive to endotoxin. Negative results with samples which inhibit the LAL test do not necessarily indicate the absence of endotoxin.

An INHIBITION/ENHANCEMENT assay is designed to determine what level of product dilution overcomes inhibition or enhancement. Each product dilution must be accompanied by a Positive Product Control (PPC). The software calculates the amount of endotoxin recovered in the PPC for comparison to the known amount of endotoxin spike. In this manner it can be determined which product dilutions are non-inhibitory.

3. <u>RSE/CSE</u>

An RSE/CSE assay is designed to determine the potency of a Control Standard Endotoxin (CSE) in terms of the concentration units of the USP Reference Standard Endotoxin (RSE), or equivalent.

The assay requires a single series of RSE dilutions and one or more sets of dilutions of the CSE. Depending on the concentration units of the CSE, the WinKQCL[®] Software automatically computes mean potency values in terms of EU/ng or EU/ml. The user also has the option to enter units other than EU or ng.

4. INITIAL QUALIFICATION (INITIAL QUAL)

An INITIAL QUALIFICATION assay is designed according to the requirements described in the FDA's "Guideline on Validation of the Limulus Amebocyte Lysate Test as an End-Product Endotoxin Test for Human and Animal Parenteral Drugs, Biological Products, and Medical Devices".[®] This assay is required as part of the initial qualification and requalification of the laboratory analysts and is also to be performed with each new lot of PYROGENT[®]-5000.

The INITIAL QUALIFICATION assay performs a log/log correlation of the individual Reaction Time values for each replicate of each endotoxin standard. The other assays use the average Reaction Time of all the replicates of each standard.

The INITIAL QUALIFICATION assay does not provide for the inclusion of any samples.

REAGENT PREPARATION

In order to calculate endotoxin concentrations in unknown samples each turbidimetric LAL assay must be referenced to a valid standard curve.

Because of the large concentration range over which endotoxin values can be determined, it is possible to adjust the quantitative range of any given assay by adjusting the concentration of endotoxin standards used to generate the standard curve. A minimum of three standards is required.

The PYROGENT®-5000 assay has been optimized to be linear from 0.01 EU/ml to 100 EU/ml. However, the individual user may choose to truncate the standard curve depending on specific product requirements. Data indicates that truncating a turbidimetric LAL standard curve may improve the accuracy of predicted endotoxin values for test samples. It is recommended that the user be familiar with the FDA interim guidance requirements for kinetic LAL techniques prior to establishing a turbidimetric LAL standard curve range to be used for routine testing of product samples.¹¹

The table that follows suggests a dilution scheme for constructing a series of endotoxin dilutions from the endotoxin supplied in the kit. Not all dilutions must be used to generate a standard curve. Alternative dilution schemes can be used as well as other endotoxins not supplied in this kit. If the endotoxin used is not supplied in the kit, an RSE/CSE test to determine the CSE potency may be required, per the FDA Guideline.⁸

Endotoxin	Volume of	Volume of Endotoxin
Concentration	LAL Reagent	Solution added to
(EU/mI)	Water	LAL Reagent Water
10	0.9 ml	0.1 ml of 100 EU/ml solution
1	0.9 ml	0.1 ml of 10 EU/ml solution
0.10	0.9 ml	0.1 ml of 1 EU/ml solution
0.01	0.9 ml	0.1 ml of 0.10 EU/ml solution

- 1. Prepare a solution containing 10 EU/ml endotoxin by adding 0.1 ml of the 100 EU/ml endotoxin stock into 0.9 ml of LAL Reagent Water. This solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.
- Transfer 0.1 ml of the 10 EU/ml endotoxin solution into 0.9 ml of LAL Reagent Water in a suitable container and label 1 EU/ml. The solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.
- 3. Transfer 0.1 ml of the 1 EU/ml endotoxin solution into 0.9 ml of LAL Reagent Water in a suitable container and label 0.10 EU/ml. This solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.
- 4. Transfer 0.1 ml of the 0.10 EU/ml endotoxin solution into 0.9 ml of LAL Reagent Water in a suitable container and label 0.01 EU/ml. This solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.

TEST PROCEDURE

IMPORTANT: Refer to the microplate reader and WinKQCL® Software manuals for more detailed information concerning the operation of the software and reader. The reader must be located in an area free of excessive vibration (ex. centrifuges, shakers, etc.) during the actual running of the test.

Refer to the microplate reader and WinKQCL $^{\odot}$ Software manuals for more detailed information on performing a PYROGENT $^{\circ}$ -5000 test.

- 1. Create a specific TEMPLATE for the test to be run. A TEMPLATE contains the name of the analyst, type of assay, lot numbers of reagents, the number and concentration of endotoxin standards, number of replicates, and how standards and samples will be organized on the microplate.
- 2. The **Type of Assay** must be set as **PYROGENT®-5000**. The default Template Parameters that follow must not be changed:

060
340
030
100

- 3. Print the TEMPLATE for use as a guide in placing standards and samples into the microplate.
- 4. "Run" the TEMPLATE, following the WinKQCL[®] Software prompts.
- 5. Carefully dispense 100 μ l of the LAL Reagent Water blank, endotoxin standards, product samples, positive product controls (see pages 20-22 for positive product control instructions), etc. into the appropriate wells of the microplate. **Bubbles must be avoided!**
- Place the filled plate in the microplate reader and close the lid. If using the Kinetic-QCL[®] Reader, press the UP directional key on the reader to position the plate in the incubation chamber.
- 7. Pre-incubate the plate for ≥ 10 minutes at $37^{\circ}C \pm 1^{\circ}C$.
- Near the end of the pre-incubation period reconstitute each of the appropriate number of the PYROGENT®-5000 Reagent vials with PYROGENT®-5000

Reconstitution Buffer (5.2 ml for the N383 or N588 kits and 10.4 ml for the N384 and N688 kits). Mix gently but thoroughly. Allow any bubbles to rise to the top of the vial before use.

- 9. Pool the reagents into a reagent reservoir and mix by gently rocking the reservoir from side to side.
- 10. If using the Kinetic-QCL $^{\odot}$ reader, open the lid and press the DOWN directional key to remove the microplate from the incubation position.
- Using an 8 channel multipipettor dispense 100 μl of the PYROGENT[®]-5000 Reagent into all wells of the microplate beginning with the first column (A1-H1) and proceeding in sequence to the last column used. Add reagent as quickly as possible. Bubbles must be avoided!
- 12. Immediately click on the OK button in the dialog box to initiate the test.

NOTE: The $\ensuremath{\mathsf{PYROGENT}}^{\circledast}\xspace{-5000}$ assay is performed with the microplate cover removed.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Linearity

The linearity of the standard curve within the concentration range used to determine endotoxin values should be verified. No less than 3 endotoxin standards, spanning the desired concentration range, and an LAL Reagent Water blank should be assayed at least in triplicate according to the test parameters of an INI-TIAL QUALIFICATION assay. Additional standards should be included to bracket each log interval over the range of the standard curve.

The absolute value of the coefficient of correlation (r) of the calculated standard curve should be ≥ 0.980 .

Reproducibility

Replicate samples should be run in order to establish good technique and low coefficient of variation. The coefficient of variation (C.V.) equals the "sample" standard deviation of the reaction times divided by the mean and is usually expressed as a percent. The %C.V. of the reaction times for replicates of a sample should be less than 10%. With experience, values of 3-4% should be attainable.

CALCULATION OF ENDOTOXIN CONCENTRATION

Continuously throughout the assay, the microplate reader / WinKQCL[®] Software monitors the absorbance at 340 nm of each well of the microplate. Using the initial absorbance reading of each well as its own blank, the reader determines the time required for the absorbance to increase 0.03 absorbance units. This time is termed <u>Reaction Time</u>. The WinKQCL[®] Software automatically performs a log/log linear correlation of the Reaction Time of each standard with its corresponding endotoxin concentration. The standard curve parameters are printed on the report printout. If the absolute value of the correlation coefficient (r) is \geq 0.980, a polynomial model can be used to construct a standard curve and in turn predict endotoxin concentrations of test samples. This polynomial curve-fitting model (POW-ERCURVETM) requires the use of the WinKQCL[®] Software (see POWER-CURVETM, page 19).

Linear Regression

The information that follows is an example of how the the WinKQCL[®] Software performs the log/log linear correlation and computes endotoxin concentrations in unknowns. It is not necessary to perform these calculations independently. For each sample of each product, the WinKQCL[®] Software calculates the corresponding

endotoxin concentration from the Reaction Time for that sample. The software automatically adjusts the final TEST RESULT value to account for any product dilution.

LINEAR CORRELATION EXAMPLE CALCULATIONS

		Mean	Log	Log Mean
Standards	Concentration	Reaction Time (Sec)	Concentration	Reaction Time
Neg. Control		Unreactive		
S1	0.010 EU/ml	3103	-2.000	3.492
S2	0.100 EU/ml	1484	-1.000	3.171
S3	1.000 EU/ml	808	0.000	2.907
S4	10.000 EU/ml	485	1.000	2.686
S5	100.000 EU/ml	312	2.000	2.494
Samples				
1		1576		3.198
2	_	943	—	2.975

Slope =
$$\left(\frac{Sy}{Sx}\right) r$$

Y - intercept = $\Sigma y/N$ - ($\Sigma x/N x$ slope)
 $r = \frac{N\Sigma xy - (\Sigma x)(\Sigma y)}{N(N - 1)SxSy}$
Endotoxin concentration = antilog $\left[\frac{\log \text{Mean Reaction Time - Y int.}}{\text{slope}}\right]$

 $x = log_{10}$ Endotoxin concentration in EU/mI.

- y = log₁₀ Mean Reaction Time.
- N = Number of standards used.

 Σx = Summation of log₁₀ concentration of standards used in EU/ml.

- Σy = Summation of Iog₁₀ Reaction Time.
- $\sum xy =$ Summation of the log₁₀ standard concentrations times log₁₀ Mean Reaction Time.

Sx = Standard deviation of x =
$$\sqrt{\frac{N\Sigma x^2 - (\Sigma x)^2}{N(N - 1)}}$$

Sy = Standard deviation of y =
$$\sqrt{\frac{N\Sigma y^2 - (\Sigma y)^2}{N(N - 1)}}$$

Calculations using Example Data:

$$N = 5$$

$$\sum x = 0.000 = (-2.000 - 1.000 + 0.000 + 1.000 + 2.000)$$

$$\sum y = 14.75 = (3.492 + 3.171 + 2.907 + 2.686 + 2.494)$$

$$\sum xy = -2.481 = (-2.000 \times 3.492) + (-1.000 \times 3.171) + (0.000 \times 2.907) + (1.000 \times 2.686) + (2.000 \times 2.494)$$

Sx = 1.581

Sy = 0.394

$$r = \frac{5(-2.481) - (0.000)(14.75)}{5(5 - 1)(1.581)(0.394)} = -0.996$$

$$Slope = \frac{0.394}{1.581} \times -0.996 = -0.248$$

Y-intercept =
$$\frac{14.75}{5} - \left[\frac{0.000}{5} \times (-0.248)\right] = 2.950 - [(0) \times (-0.248)] = 2.950$$

Sample 1

Endotoxin Conc. EU/ml = antilog
$$\left[\frac{3.198 - 2.950}{-0.248}\right]$$

= antilog (-1.000)
= 0.100 EU/ml

Sample 2

Endotoxin Conc. EU/ml = antilog
$$\left[\frac{2.975 - 2.950}{-0.248}\right]$$

= antilog (-0.101)
= 0.793 EU/ml

POWERCURVE[™]

If the absolute value of the correlation coefficient (r) is ≥ 0.980 , a polynomial model can be used to construct a standard curve and predict endotoxin concentrations of test samples. It has been determined that this polynomial model (POW-ERCURVETM) improves the accuracy of predicting endotoxin concentrations over the entire (5 log) endotoxin range. The use of the POWERCURVETM model requires the use of WinKQCL[®] Software.

When using POWERCURVETM, a standard curve is generated using the log ¹⁰ Reaction Time values and their corresponding log¹⁰ endotoxin concentration to define a polynomial equation. The order of the polynomial equation used to generate the regression curve is determined by the number of endotoxin standards in the assay. The order of the polynomial will always be one less than the number of endotoxin standards, with a maximum of a 4th order polynomial for assays with five or more endotoxin standards and a minimum of a second order polynomial for assays with three standards.

Finding solutions to these polynomial equations is readily accomplished using the WinKQCL[®] POWERCURVE[™] Software. The information provided below is an example of a solution to a polynomial equation using the same set of data from the linear correlation example on page 15.

Polynomial (POWERCURVE[™]) Model

 $\begin{array}{l} Y = A + BX + CX^2 + DX^3 + EX^4 \\ A = 2.90741 \\ B = -0.24066 \\ C = 0.02111 \\ D = -0.00219 \\ E = 0.00007 \end{array}$

The standard curve parameters are printed on the report printout. The WinKQCL[®] POWERCURVE[™] Software uses these parameters to calculate the corresponding endotoxin concentration from the Reaction Time of each sample. The software automatically adjusts the final TEST RESULT value to account for any product dilution.

It is important to note that the POWERCURVE[™] polynomial model CANNOT be used for INITIAL QUALIFICATION assays. Linear regression must still be used in those cases to comply with the FDA Guideline. Additionally, the POWERCURVE[™] polynomial model has only been evaluated for the Kinetic-QCL[®] and PYROGENT[®]-5000 reagents supplied by Lonza.

PRODUCT INHIBITION

Product inhibition occurs when substances in the test sample interfere with the LAL reaction. In the turbidimetric LAL assay, this inhibition results in a longer Reaction Time, indicating lower levels of endotoxin than may actually be present in the test sample. The lack of product inhibition should be determined for each specific sample, either undiluted or at an appropriate dilution.

To verify the lack of product inhibition, an aliquot of test sample (or a dilution of test sample) is spiked with a known amount of endotoxin.

It is recommended that the endotoxin spike result in a final endotoxin concentration in the sample equal to 0.1 EU/ml. For samples which may contain a background endotoxin level >1 EU/ml, the endotoxin spike should result in a final endotoxin concentration of 1.0 EU/ml.

In an INHIBITION/ENHANCEMENT assay, the spiked solution (PPC) is assayed along with the unspiked sample and their respective endotoxin concentrations, as well as the endotoxin recovered in the spiked sample are automatically calculated. The endotoxin recovered should equal the known concentration of the spike within 50% to 200%.10

A spiked aliquot of the test sample (or dilution) may be prepared as in one of the following examples:

Tube method:

Transfer 50 μl of the 10 EU/ml solution into 4.95 ml of test sample (or dilution). This solution contains an endotoxin concentration of 0.1 EU/ml in test sample (or dilution). This solution should be vigorously vortexed for one minute prior to use.

Plate method #1:

Transfer 10 μ l of the 1 EU/ml solution into each of the PPC wells in the 96well plate, as directed by the assay template. To these wells add 0.1 ml of test sample (or dilution). Each well will now contain a 0.1 EU/ml solution. Mix gently.

Plate method #2:

Place 0.1 ml of test sample (or dilution) into the PPC wells in the 96-well plate, as directed by the assay template. To these wells, add 10 μl of the 1 EU/ml solution. Each well will now contain a 0.1 EU/ml solution. Mix gently.

If the test sample (or dilution) is found to be inhibitory to the turbidimetric LAL reaction, the sample may require further dilution until the inhibition is overcome.

Example: Determination of a Non-Inhibitory Dilution

Sample Dilution 1/10	Endotoxin Recovered 0.015 Inhibitory
1/20	0.042 Inhibitory
1/40	0.110 Non-Inhibitory

Initially, one may want to screen for product inhibition by testing 10-fold dilutions of test sample. Once the approximate non-inhibitory dilution is determined, the exact dilution can be found by testing two-fold dilutions around this dilution.

LIMITATIONS AND INDICATIONS

The degree of inhibition or enhancement will be dependent upon the concentration of product. If several concentrations of the same product are to be assayed, it is necessary to establish performance characteristics for each independently.

Patterns of inhibition or enhancement different from those seen with the traditional LAL gelation test may be found.

It may be necessary to adjust the pH of the sample to within the range 6.0 to 8.0 using endotoxin-free sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid to overcome inhibition.

TURBID SAMPLES

Samples that possess significant turbidity on their own may require clarification prior to testing. Clarification may be achieved by centrifugation, filtration or dilution of sample.

ARCHIVED STANDARD CURVE

The WinKQCL[®] Software may be run using an archived standard curve. Provided that the current reagent lot numbers for the PYROGENT[®]-5000 LAL Reagent, LAL Reagent Water, and Endotoxin as well as microplate reader parameters match those used to generate a valid archived standard curve, the archived standard curve may be used instead of placing new endotoxin standards on the microplate.

If an archived standard curve is used, a single standard-control containing an endotoxin concentration equal to the mid-point, on a log basis, between the endotoxin concentration of the highest and lowest endotoxin standards in the archived standard curve should be assayed. The predicted endotoxin concentration should be within \pm 25% of its known value.

For example, in an assay with a standard curve spanning from 100 to 0.01 EU/ml, a standard-control equal to 1.0 EU/ml should be assayed.

log 100	=	2.0
log 0.01	=	-2.0
log average	=	0.0
antilog 0.0	=	1.0

In an assay with a standard curve spanning from 1 to 0.01 EU/ml, a standardcontrol equal to 0.1 EU/ml should be assayed.

log 1.0	=	0.0000
log 0.01	=	-2.0000
log average	=	-1.0000
antilog -1.0000	=	0.1

CORRELATION WITH OTHER METHODS

The FDA regulates the official use of LAL testing in the United States. The FDA has official LAL and endotoxin preparations which have been of great assistance in standardizing LAL testing. The FDA reference LAL is not the LAL used in this test since it has not been formulated for the turbidimetric LAL method. However, the official endotoxin has been used to standardize the endotoxin in this kit. The potency of different endotoxin preparations varies in both the traditional gel test and the turbidimetric method. The endotoxin standard supplied in this kit has been compared to the FDA Reference Standard Endotoxin (RSE) using the PYRO-GENT[®]-5000 assay, and the potency is 100 EU/ml when reconstituted using the volume specified on the enclosed Certificate of Analysis. The calibration curve diluted from this standard will yield a range of 0.01 to 100 Endotoxin Units/ml relative to the RSE. It should be remembered, however, that the traditional gel test is standardized by two-fold dilutions, so that variations will appear quite large in comparison to those in the turbidimetric LAL test where standardization is continuous and variations are minimal.

A NOTE FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMERS

Other regulatory agencies may adopt other performance standards which will need to be satisfied in order to be in compliance in their jurisdictions.

REFERENCES

- 1. Bang, F.B. A bacterial disease of *Limulus polyphemus*. Bull. Johns Hopkins Hosp. 98:325 (1956).
- Levin, J. and F.B. Bang. The role of endotoxin in the extracellular coagulation of *Limulus* blood. Bull. Johns Hopkins Hosp. 115:265 (1964).
- 3. Levin, J. and F.B. Bang. A description of cellular coagulation in the *Limulus*. Bull. Johns Hopkins Hosp. 115:337 (1964).
- Levin, J. and F.B. Bang. Clottable protein in *Limulus*: its localization and kinetics of its coagulation by endotoxin. Thromb. Diath. Haemorrh. 19:186 (1968).
- 5. Solum, N.O. Some characteristics of the clottable protein of *Limulus polyphemus* blood cells. Thromb. Diath. Haemorrh. 23:170 (1970).
- Solum, N.O. The coagulogen of *Limulus polyphemus* hemocytes. A comparison of the clotted and non-clotted forms of the molecule. Thromb. Res. 2:55 (1973).
- Teller, J.D. and K.M. Kelly. A turbidimetric Limulus amebocyte assay for the quantitative determination of Gram negative bacterial endotoxin. In Biomedical Applications of the Horseshoe Crab (Limulidae), Cohen, E., Ed., A.R. Liss, Inc., New York, N.Y. p. 423 (1979).
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration, "Guideline on Validation of the Limulus Amebocyte Lysate Test As An End-product Endotoxin Test for Human and Animal Parenteral Drugs, Biological Products, and Medical Devices" (1987).

- Young, N.S., J. Levin, and R.A. Prendergast. An invertebrate coagulation system activated by endotoxin: Evidence for enzymatic mechanism. J. Clin. Invest. 51:1790 (1972).
- 10. Chapter <85> Bacterial Endotoxins. Rockville, MD: United States Pharmacopeia.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration, "Interim Guidance for Human and Veterinary Drug Products and Biologics" (1991).

PATENT INFORMATION

Various components of this kit are protected under U.S. Patent 4322217.

TRADEMARKS

The ELx808[™] is a trademark of BioTek Instruments, Inc. Unless otherwise noted, all trademarks herein are marks of the Lonza Group or its affiliates.

NOTES

Lonza

8830 Biggs Ford Road | Walkersville, MD 21793 301-898-7025 | www.lonza.com

08295 PN383-5 12/07