INTENDED USE

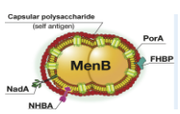
The **Mouse anti-Meningitis serogroup B (Men-B) fHbp IgG** ELISA Kit is an immunoassay suitable for detecting and quantifying IgG antibody activity specific for fHbp antigen in serum or plasma of vaccinated, immunized, and/or infected hosts. This immunoassay is suitable for:

- Determining **immune status** of mice relative to non-immune controls
- Assessing efficacy of **vaccines**, including dosage, adjuvantcy, route of immunization, and timing
- Qualifying and standardizing vaccine batches & protocols.

The assay is for research use only (RUO) and is not intended nor validated for diagnosing Meningitis B disease. Reagents contain no virus or viral antigens.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Meningococcal meningitis, a form of meningococcal disease and a serious bacterial infection, is caused by a bacteria called **Nisseria meningitidis (also known as meningococcus)**. N. meningitidis has 13 clinically significant serogroups classified according to the antigenic structure of their polysaccharide capsule. Six serogroups (A, B, C, Y, W135, and X) are responsible for virtually all cases of the disease in humans. Disease caused by N. meningitides remains a major worldwide cause of morbidity and mortality even after the development of vaccines to protect against several meningococcal serogroup.



The **Men B vaccine** contains the genome derived antigens **GNA2132** (Neisserial Heparin Binding Antigen or **NHBA**), **GNA1870** (factor H binding protein or **fHbp),** and **GNA1994** (Neisseria adhesin A or **NadA**). Two additional antigens, **GNA2091** and **GNA1030**, were also selected because they induced protective immunity but only in some of the assays. The antigens were combined in a **multi component vaccine** with the aim of inducing better and broader protection.

PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The Mouse Anti-**Men-B fHbp IgG** ELISA kit is based on the binding of mouse anti- **Men-B fHbp** IgG in samples to the **Men-B fHbp** antigen coated on the microwells. Bound antibody is detected by anti-mouse-IgG-HRP conjugate. After a washing step, substrate (TMB) is added and color (blue) is developed which is directly proportional to the amount of anti-Men B fHbp IgG present in the sample. Stopping Solution is added to terminate the reaction and convert blue to yellow color. Absorbance is measured at 450nm using an ELISA reader. The presence of mouse anti-**Men-B fHbp IgG** antibody in samples is determined relative to Calibrators.

KIT CONTENTS

The microtiter well plate and all other reagents, if unopened, are stable at 2-8°C until the expiration date printed on the box label. Stabilities of the working solutions are indicated under Reagent Preparation.

To Be Reconstituted: Store as indicated.

Component	Preparation Instructions
Wash Solution Concentrate (100x) Cat. No. WB-100, 10ml	Dilute the entire volume 10ml + 990ml with distilled or deionized water into a clean stock bottle. Label as **Working Wash Solution** and store at 4°C for long term and room temperature for short term.
Sample Diluent Concentrate (20x) Cat. No. SD-20T, 10ml	Dilute the entire volume, 10ml + 190ml with distilled or deionized water into a clean stock bottle. Label as **Working Sample/Conjugate Diluent (WSD)** and store at 2-8°C until the kit lot expires or is used up.
Anti-Mouse IgG-HRP Conjugate Concentrate (100x) Part: H-MsG.2a11, 0.15ml	Peroxidase conjugated with anti-mouse IgG in buffer with detergents and antimicrobial. Dilute fresh as needed; 10ul of concentrate to 1ml of **Working Sample/Conjugate Diluent** is sufficient for 1 8-well strip. Use within the working day and discard. Return 100X to 2-8°C storage.

Ready For Use: Store as indicated on labels.

Component	Part	Amt	Contents
Men-B fHbp Coated Strip Plate	600-911	8-well strips (12)	Coated with purified fHbp protein and post-coated with stabilizers.
Anti-Men-B fHbp IgG Calibrators			
1 U/ml 2.5 U/ml 5 U/ml 10 U/ml	600-912B 600-912C 600-912D 600-912E	0.65 ml 0.65 ml 0.65 ml 0.65 ml	Four (4) vials, each containing anti-Men-B proteins in a buffer with antimicrobial.
Anti- Men B fHbp Positive Control	600-912PC	0.65 ml	Anti-men B fHbp diluted in buffer with protein, detergents, and antimicrobial. [Value range on label]
Low NSB Sample Diluent (LNSD) Reduces non-specific binding	TBTm **Not** for HRP Conjugate dilution	30 ml	Buffer with protein, detergents, and antimicrobial. Use as is for sample dilution. See **Assay Design**, page 3.
TMB Substrate	80091	12 ml	Chromogenic substrate for HRP containing TMB and peroxide.
Stop Solution	80101	12 ml	Diluted sulfuric acid.

Materials Required But Not Provided:

- Pipettors and pipettes that deliver 100ul and 1-10ml.
- Disposable glass or plastic 5-15ml tubes
- Stock bottle to store diluted Wash Solution; 0.2 to 1L.
- Distilled or deionized water to dilute reagent concentrates.
- ELISA reader at 450 nm and ELISA plate washer

ASSAY DESIGN AND SET-UP

Sample Collection and Handling

Serum and other biological fluids may be used as samples with proper dilution to avoid solution matrix interference. For **serum**, collect blood by venipuncture, allow clotting, and separate the serum by centrifugation at room temperature. If samples will not be assayed immediately, store refrigerated for up to a few weeks or frozen for long-term storage.

Antibody Stability & Dilution

Initial dilution of serum into **Working Sample Diluent** (WSD) is recommended to stabilize antibody activity. This enhances reproducible sampling, and stabilizes the antibody activity for years, stored refrigerated or frozen. Further dilution into **Low NSB Sample Diluent** (LNSD), which provides the lowest assay background, should be at least 10 times the initial dilution and performed the same day as the assay.

Example: Initial (1:5): **10**ul serum + **40**ul WSD [or 0.1ml + 0.4ml]
Further (1:50): **10**ul initial (1:5) + **90**ul LNSD (1:50)

Assay Design

Review Interpretation of Results (p. 5-7) before proceeding:

- Select the proper sample dilutions accounting for expected potency of positives and minimizing non-specific binding (NSB) and other matrix effects; for example, net signal for non-immune samples should be lower than the **1 U/ml Calibrator**. This is usually 1:50 or greater dilution for mouse serum with normal levels of IgG and IgM.
- Run the **Anti-Men B fHbp Positive Control**; value range is on the vial label.
- Run a Sample Diluent **Blank**. This signal is an indicator of proper assay performance, especially of washing efficacy, and is used for net OD calculations if required. Blank OD should be <0.3.
- Run a set of **Calibrators** which validate that the assay was performed to specifications: **10 U/ml** should give a high signal (>1.5 OD); **1 U/ml** should give a low signal which can be used to discriminate at the Positive/Negative threshold (see Interpretation of Results, p. 5).
- Run a range of sample dilutions for expected higher positives that allows calculation of antibody **Titer** (when specific titer is at least 4-fold higher than non-immune)**. See Method C.**
- Run samples in duplicate if used for quantitation; non-immunes that are significantly lower than immunes may be run in singlicate. The Calibrators that are used for quantitation, e.g., for between-assay normalization, should be run in duplicate. When determining titer from a dilution curve, singlicates can be run if more than two dilution points are used for titer calculations.

Plate Set-up

Bring all reagents to room temperature (18-30°C) equilibration (at least 30 minutes).

- Determine the number of wells for the assay run. Duplicates are recommended, including 8 Calibrator wells and 2 wells for each sample control to be assayed.
- Remove the appropriate number of microwell strips from the pouch and return unused strips to the pouch. Reseal the pouch and store refrigerated.
- Add 200-300ul Working Wash Solution to each well and let stand for about 1-5 minutes. Aspirate or dump the liquid and pat dry on a paper towel before sample addition.

Assay Procedure

ALL STEPS ARE PERFORMED AT ROOM TEMPERATURE. After each reagent addition, gently tap the plate to mix the well contents prior to beginning incubation.

1. 1st Incubation [100ul – 60 min; 4 washes]

- Add 100ul of Low NSB sample diluent (blank), calibrators, samples, and controls each to pre-determined wells.
- Tap the plate gently to mix reagents and incubate for 60 minutes.
- Wash wells 4 times and pat dry on fresh paper towels. As an alternative, an automatic plate washer may be used. Improper washes may lead to falsely elevated signals and poor reproducibility.

2. 2nd Incubation [100ul – 30 min; 5 washes]

- Add 100ul of diluted Anti-Mouse IgG HRP to each well.
- Incubate for 30 minutes.
- Wash wells 5 times as in step 1.

3. Substrate Incubation [100ul – 15 min]

- Add 100ul TMB Substrate to each well. The liquid in the wells will begin to turn blue.
- Incubate for 15 minutes in the dark, e.g., place in a drawer or closet.

Note: If your microplate reader does not register optical density (OD) above 2.0, incubate for less time, or read OD at 405-410 nm (results are valid).

4. Stop Step [Stop: 100ul]

- Add 100ul of Stop Solution to each well.
- Tap gently to mix. The enzyme reaction will stop; liquid in the wells will turn yellow.

5. Absorbance Reading

- Use any commercial microplate reader capable of reading at 450nm wavelength. Use a program suitable for obtaining OD readings, and data calculations if available.
- Read absorbance of the entire plate at 450nm using a single wavelength within 15 minutes after Stop Solution addition. If available, program to subtract OD at 630nm to normalize well background.

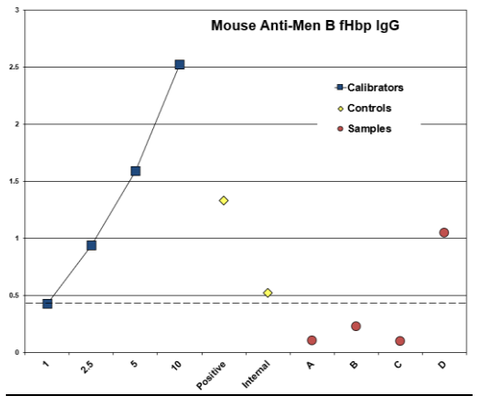
INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

A. Antibody Activity Threshold Index

Compare Samples to **1 U/ml Calibrator** or **Internal Control**

= Positive/Negative Cut-off.

Example:



Results

The **sensitivity** of the assay to detect anti-Men B fHbp IgG, from either natural exposure or vaccination, is controlled so that the **1 U/ml Calibrator** represents a threshold OD for most true positives in mouse serum diluted to 1:50 or greater. Visual inspection of the data in the above graph shows the following:

Calibrators – dilution curve of an anti- Men B fHbp antibody, derived from Men B fHbp immunization, shows the OD range of the assay; high value indicates optimal sensitivity of the assay.

1 U/ml: a 'Cut-off' line has been drawn to indicate a threshold distinguishing between **Positive/Negative**. This is not a clear-cut threshold, rather a low OD area that could represent either low positives or high background negatives.

Positive Control – antiserum reactive to Men B fHbp; value range is on the vial label. This Control can be used to assess reproducibility and to normalize between-assay variation.

Internal Control – a true positive from an immune mouse that represents the investigator's experience in distinguishing low positive from negative samples (not in kit). This should be run in each assay to supplement the 1 U/ml Calibrator for Positive/Negative discrimination purposes.

Samples A,B,C,D – 3 samples (A,B, C) are negative: below the threshold; 1 sample (D) is positive: clearly above the threshold.

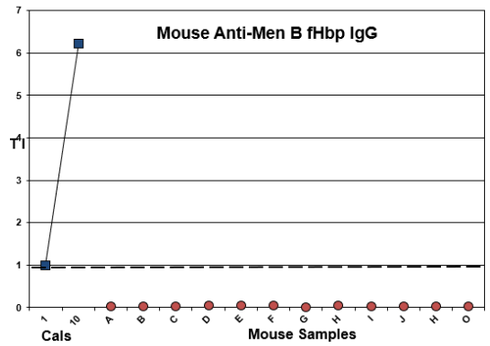
The **1 U/ml** Calibrator can be used to calculate a **Threshold Index** that numerically discriminates Positive/Negative (see p.6):

- Divide each Sample net OD by the 1 U/ml Calibrator net OD. Values above 1.0 are a measure of **Positive** Antibody Activity; below 1.0 is **Negative** for antibody.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS (cont)

Example:

Mouse Serum/Plasma IgG
A panel of sera from laboratory mice was tested for anti-Men B fHbp IgG (1:100 dilution in Low NSB Sample Diluent). **Threshold Index** was calculated using the **1** U/ml **Cal**.



Results

Anti-Men B fHbp IgG: all 12 samples were negative (below the 1.0 threshold.

Notes:

1. **Positives** may be due to prior encounter with the microbe or non-Men B fHbp proteins with common epitopes; or may be an aspect of the innate immune repertoire.
2. When the **Positive Index** is **above 5.0**, using a dilution curve to calculate titer is a more accurate quantitation method (see Method C).
3. The **sensitivity** of the assay may be adjusted by changing the sample dilutions: a) increase dilution (e.g., 1:200) to lower the signals of borderline positives to negative; b) decrease dilution (e.g., 1:50) to convert borderline samples to positive. With the latter, the values of negatives may increase, so an alternative threshold should be considered using known negatives to develop a **Positive Index (**see below) or use an **Internal Control** (Page 5).

B. Positive Index
Experimental sample values may be expressed relative to the values of Control or Non-immune samples, by calculation of a **Positive Index**. One typical method is as follows:

1. Calculate the net OD mean + 2 SD of the Control/Non-immune samples = **Positive Index**.
2. Divide each sample net OD by the Positive Index. Values above 1.0 are a measure of **Positive** Antibody Activity; below 1.0 is **Negative** for antibody.

A sample value would be **Positive** if significantly above the value of the pre-immune serum sample or a suitably determined non-immune panel or pool of samples, tested at the same sample dilution.
This calculation also **quantifies** the positive Antibody Activity level, assigning a higher value to samples with higher Antibody Activity, and vice versa.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS (cont)

Method C. Titers from Sample Dilution Curves
The titer of elevated antibody activity calculated from a dilution curve of each sample is recommended as the most accurate quantitative method. Best precision can be obtained using the following guidelines:

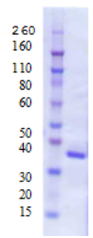
1. Use an OD value Index in the mid-range of the assay (2.0 – 0.5 OD); this provides the best sensitivity and reproducibility for comparing experimental groups and replicates. An arbitrary 1.0 OD is commonly used.
2. Prepare serial dilutions of each sample to provide a series that will produce signals higher and lower than the selected index. With accurate diluting, duplicates may not be required if at least 4 dilutions are run per sample.
3. A 5-fold dilution scheme is useful to efficiently cover a wide range which produces ODs both above and below 1.0 OD. The dilution scheme can be tightened to 3-fold or 2-fold for more precise comparative data.
4. The Calibrator values can be used to normalize inter-assay values.

Calculations

1. On a log scale of inverse of Sample Dilution as the x-axis, plot the OD values of the two dilutions of each positive sample having ODs above and below the OD value of the Index (arbitrary or selected Calibrator).
2. From a point-to-point line drawn between the two sample ODs, read the dilution value (x-axis) corresponding to the OD of the selected Index

= IgG Antibody Activity Units

Antigen Specificity



Highly purified recombinant Men B fHbp protein (full length, 320-aa, ~35 kda, >95%, his-tag) was used as antigen. Factor H-binding protein, fHbp [Neisseria meningitides MC58/NMB1870] is quite conserved in various N. meningitis strains: H44/76 (100%), alpha522 (98%), alpha533 (94%), WUE2594 (92%. The fHbp/lipoprotein sequence conservations is 93-100% in various strains.

PRECAUTIONS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS (SDS)

Calibrators, Sample Diluent, and Antibody HRP contain bromonitrodioxane (BND: 0.05%, w/v). Stop Solution contains dilute sulfuric acid. Follow good laboratory practices and avoid ingestion or contact of any reagent with skin, eyes, or mucous membranes. All reagents may be disposed of down a drain with copious amounts of water. MSDS for TMB, sulfuric acid, and BND can be requested or obtained from the ADI website.

Instruction Manual No. M-600-915-MFG

Mouse Anti-Meningitis B factor H binding protein (fHbp) IgG ELISA Kit

Cat. #600-915-MFG, 96 Tests

For the Quantitation of IgG Antibodies to the Men-B proteins (fHbp) in Mouse Serum or Plasma

For Research Use only (RUO)

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ELISA Kit Components	Amount	Part #
Men B fHbp Coated Strip Plate	8-well strips (12)	600-911
Anti-Men B fHbp Positive Control	0.65 ml	600-912PC
Anti-Men B fHbp Calibrator 1 U/ml	0.65 ml	600-912B
Anti-Men B fHbp Calibrator 2.5 U/ml	0.65 ml	600-912C
Anti-Men B fHbp Calibrator 5 U/ml	0.65 ml	600-912D
Anti-Men B fHbp Calibrator 10 U/ml	0.65 ml	600-912E
Anti-Mouse IgG HRP Conjugate (100X)	0.15 ml	H-MsG.2a11
Sample Diluent (20x)	10 ml	SD20T
Low NSB Sample Diluent	30 ml	TBTm
Wash Solution Concentrate (100X)	10 ml	WB-100
TMB Substrate	12 ml	80091
Stop Solution	12 ml	80101
Product Manual	1 ea	M-600-915-MFG