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ELISA for quantification of tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- α) in human serum or plasma.

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ABSTRACT

Tumor necrosis factor (TNF) is a cell signaling cytokine involved in systemic inflammation. It is one of the proteins that make up the acute phase reaction [1].

Reference

1. Pasquereau S, Kumar A, Herbein G. Targeting TNF and TNF Receptor Pathway in HIV-1 Infection: from Immune Activation to Viral Reservoirs. *Viruses*. 2017;9(4):64. Published 2017 Mar 30. doi:10.3390/v9040064

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- 1 An anti-human TNF- α coating antibody is adsorbed onto the microwells by incubation overnight at 4°C with carbonate-bicarbonate buffer.
- 2 Add 50 μ l of human serum or plasma. Human TNF- α present in the serum or plasma binds to antibodies adsorbed into the microwells.
- 3 The microplate is blocked with 3% non-fat milk-PBS buffer and later wash to remove unbound proteins.

- 4 Fifty (50) μ l of biotin-conjugated anti-TNF- α antibody is added. The optimal dilution must be investigated.
- 5 The microplate is rewashed with PBS-Tween 20 buffer, pH 7.4.
- 6 One hundred μ l of streptavidin-HRP conjugate is added and it binds to the biotin-conjugated anti-TNF- α antibody. The optimal dilution of this conjugate must be investigated.
- 7 The plate is washed following incubation to remove the unbound Streptavidin-HRP.
- 8 Add 100 μ l of 3',3',5',5'- tetramethylbenzidine (TMB; Sigma-Aldrich) into each well.
- 9 Incubate the microwells in the dark for 20 min.
- 10 A colored product is formed in proportion to the quantity of TNF- α present in the sample or standard.
- 11 The reaction is terminated by addition of 100 μ l 3M H₂SO₄ and the absorbance is measured at 450 nm.
- 12 A standard curve is made from 7 human TNF- α standard dilutions and the human TNF- α sample concentration is determined.
- 13 For better results place the microplate on a microplate shaker in every incubation.