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FERRITIN

REF: L-9560T B-9460T

Product for In Vitro Diagnostic use. The product should be used for the quantitative determination of ferritin in human serum by the immunoturbidimetric procedure.

Diagnostic Relevance

Ferritin is a macromolecule with a molecular weight of at least 440 kD and is formed of apoferritin and an iron core of about 2500 Fe+3 ions. It has been found a direct correlation between the plasma ferritin concentration and the quantity of available iron stored in the body so that its determination is used for diagnosis and monitoring of iron deficiency and iron overload. Additional parameters (transferrin, transferrin saturation, and haematological investigations) could be required for the diagnosis disturbances of distribution. In a comparison of parameters available for the various determination of the body's iron stores, plasma ferritin was the most efficient parameter, demonstrating a sensitivity of 80 %, and a specificity of 96 %. The serum concentrations of ferritin are found to be elevated in patients with infections, inflammation or in hepatic or chronic renal diseases. The determination of ferritin is particularly useful in the diagnosis of iron therapy, for the determination of iron reserves in high-risk groups, and in the differential diagnosis of anaemia.

Principle

The Ferritin test is based upon the reactions between Ferritin in the sample and latex-covalently bound antibodies against human Ferritin. Ferritin values are determined turbidimetrically using fixed-time measurement with sample blank correction. The relationship between absorbance and concentration permits a multipoint calibration with a measuring range between 0 and 500 μ g/L. The measuring temperature is 37°C. The assay can be performed on different instruments allowing turbidimetric measurements at 500 to 600 nm.

Reagents

Buffer - phosphate buffer (pH 6.5), containing protein stabilizers and < 0.1 % sodium azide as preservative.

Latex reagent -suspension of latex microparticules covalently bound anti-ferritin

antibodies suspended in a neutral aqueous solution, with 0,09 % sodium azide as preservative.

Precautions

For in vitro diagnostic use only. Do not pipette by mouth. Reagents containing sodium azide must be handled with precaution. Sodium azide can form explosive azides with lead and copper plumbing. Since absence of infectious agents cannot be proven, all specimens and reagents obtained from human blood should always be handled with precaution using established good laboratory practices. Disposal of all waste material should be in accordance with local guidelines. As with other diagnostic tests, results should be interpreted considering all other test results and the clinical situation of the patient.

Materials required

Automatic analyzer. Saline solution. Calibrator. Controls.

Storage and Stability

Reagents are ready to use. Shake the latex reagent gently before dispensing its content into the appropriate plastic vials. Reagents in the original bottle are stable to the expiration date indicated on the label when capped and stored at +2...+8°C. Do not freeze. The Ferritin buffer reagent should be clear and colourless. Any turbidity may be sign of deterioration and reagent should be discarted. The Ferritin latex reagent should have a white, turbid appearance free of granular particulate. Visible agglutination or precipitation may be a sign of deterioration, and the reagent should be discarted.

Specimens

Fresh or deep frozen serum. Ferritin remains stable for 7 days at +2 to +8°C. If the test should be performed later, it is recommended to freeze the serum. Any additional clotting which due precipitation. occurs to freeze/thaw cycle, should be removed by centrifugation prior to assay. Very lipemic specimens, or turbid frozen specimens after thawing, must be clarified before the assay by high-speed centrifugation (15 min at approx. 15.000 rpm).

Procedure

The reagents are ready to use as supplied. Latex reagent should be gently shaken (invert the recipient 3-4 times) before each use.

Volume R1/working reagent:	Volume R2/start reagent:	Volume sample:
200 μΙ	75 μl	25 μΙ
Step 1: mix R1 and R2, add sample and read 1st reading immediately after mixing.		
Step 2: 4 min after read 2nd reading.		
Wavelength: 600 nm Incubation Time at 37° C: 4 min		

^{*} Volume, time and wavelength are recommended. Adjust them depending of analyser features.

This reagent is intended to be used in clinical chemistry analysers. Adaptations for some of them are available.

Calibration. Quality Control

Standardization: use Biolatex Calibrator or other suitable calibrator material. The method was standardized against the WHO 80/578 international standard.

For quality control use Biolatex Control or other suitable control material. The control intervals and limits must be adapted to the individual laboratory requirements. Values obtained should fall within established limits. Each laboratory should establish corrective measures to be taken if values fall outside the limits. Control must be assayed and evaluated as for patient samples.

Calculation

The turbidimetric analysers automatically calculate the Ferritin concentration of each sample. Conversion: $ng/ml = \mu g/l$.

Reference Values

The determination of reference ranges for ferritin concentrations of clinically healthy individuals is very difficult. Ferritin concentrations are age- and sex- dependent and exhibit a wide range of distribution.

Children:	
Cord blood contains	100 to 250 μg/l
In the first two months of life	there is a rise of up to: 600 µg/l
Followed by a fall of down to	1 μg/l (Hb-neosynthesis)
Children and adolescents	15 - 120 μg/l.
(6 weeks to 18 years of age)	
Men	30 - 300 μg/l
Women (Pre-menopausal)	10 - 160 μg/l
Women (Post-menopausal)	30 - 300 μg/l

These data are to be interpreted as a guide. Each laboratory should establish its own reference intervals.

Automatic Analyzer

This product is performed for use it in turbidimetric automatic analysers or in manual procedures.

Specific Performance Characteristics*

As is well known, the analytical characteristics of a clinical chemistry reagent depend on both the reagents and the instrument used. Multicenter studies indicate important differences in analytical characteristics among similar instruments. Therefore, this data must be calculated by each instrument.

(*) Analytical characteristics obtained in a single experiment in a Cobas-Mira plus analyser could be provided under demand.

Literature

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