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CHO Protein Free Media HCP ELISA kit
Catalog # CM015
Validation Summary
Report dated April 3, 2001

The data summarized below was generated by *Cygnus Technologies* to establish the performance parameters and validity of this kit to measure CHO Host Cell Proteins (HCPs). This data is intended to supplement and not replace user generated validation data. The data is representative of what a laboratory can expect to achieve when following the kit insert recommended protocols. Significant differences in these performance parameters may be indicative of problems with reagents, laboratory equipment, or technique and should be investigated before reporting results.

It is recommended that a user validation study include at least the following experiments to validate this kit for use with their product: (1) Each user should perform intra and inter assay precision experiments to establish their procedural proficiency. (2) Each user should perform recovery experiments using their test sample matrices. Such a study can be performed by adding known amounts of the 200ng/mL standard provided with this kit to the final product or any intermediate samples, which are to be tested. Ideally these test sample matrices should be devoid of any CHO proteins or have very low levels (<2ng/mL) determined prior to adding the 200ng/mL standard. Such an experiment will establish the degree of sample matrix interference in the recovery of HCPs. (3) Laboratories should also perform dilutional recovery experiments on their actual samples. This experiment assumes that at least some of the test samples from the purification process will have significant levels of HCPs. Such samples will be serially diluted by some appropriate diluent previously shown to give acceptable recovery. When diluted, samples should give essentially the same value at each dilution when multiplied by the appropriate dilution factor. This experiment establishes the condition of antibody excess for accurate quantitation and determines that typical process samples do not have HCPs in the “Hook Region” of the concentration response curve.

Materials: Kit lots 27041, 26021, 25050

Methods: Assay protocol as specified in kit product insert.

Precision: Precision is defined as the percent coefficient of variation (%CV). This is calculated by dividing the mean by the standard deviation for a number of replicate determinations of three different control samples in the low, medium and high concentration range of the assay. While actual precision may vary from laboratory to laboratory and technician to technician it is recommended that all operators achieve acceptable precision before reporting results.

Intra-assay			Inter-assay		
# of tests	Mean ng/mL	%CV	# of assays	Mean ng/mL	%CV
10	1.6	14.4	5	1.8	13.0
10	5.9	7.2	5	6.4	7.7
10	60.5	5.5	5	69.2	6.2

Recovery/Matrix Interference: The same CHO HCP preparation used for the standards was spiked into various “sample buffers” to demonstrate the potential for matrix interference. HCPs were added at 8 and 75ng/mL and tested in duplicate. The average % recovery is reported in the last column. In all cases the zero for each sample buffer was within the limit of detection for the assay, and thus the buffers themselves were considered to contribute 0 ng/mL of HCPs. Acceptable recovery should be specified by the user, but in general we recommend that recoveries be within plus or minus 20% of the added HCP value. These data serve as examples of certain buffers or buffer components, which may or may not give matrix interference. Matrix interference can be either positive (false increase in HCPs) or negative (false decrease in HCPs). This assay has been designed to minimize matrix interference but it is strongly recommended that users test their sample matrices for recovery in a similar experiment.

Sample Buffer Matrix	Average % Recovery (assayed/added x100)
0.05M TBS with 10mg/mL BSA, pH 7.2	101
0.05M TBS with 3 mg/mL human IgG pH 7.2	93
0.05M PBS pH 7.2 with 10mg/mL BSA	96
Citrate/Phosphate with 1 mg/mL human IgG, pH 6.0	102
0.1M Acetate, 10mg/mL human IgG, 1% Triton, pH5.0	97

Sensitivity: The CHO HCP concentration corresponding to a signal 2 standard deviations above the mean of the zero standard is defined as the limit of detection (LOD). This was determined from 10 replicates of the zero standard. The mean signal of the zero standard plus 2 SD yielded a LOD of ~660pg/mL. The limit of quantitation (LOQ) is defined as the lowest concentration for which the CV is <20%. This is determined by performing a precision profile for the assay at several low concentration points and then interpolating that concentration which typically corresponds to a 20% CV. The LOQ was 1ng/mL.

Specificity: The antibodies used in this kit demonstrate by Western Blot that they recognize more than 40 distinct bands from CHO cells on one dimensional SDS electrophoresis under reducing conditions. The antibodies were generated against CHO HCPs recovered from protein free media conditioned with a K1 strain of CHO. Other strains of CHO have been shown to give a high degree of homology with these antibodies, however the user may want to perform a Western Blot with the antibodies used in this kit to establish that they are sufficiently reactive to HCPs found from their process and product. *Cygnus* sells a Western Blot kit, Cat. #CM060 which utilizes the same antibodies as in this ELISA kit. Cross reactivity has not been extensively evaluated with this kit. It is possible that some of the antibodies will cross react to conserved proteins from other animals. Apparent immunological cross reactivity should be distinguished from non-specific binding (NSB). Consult with *Cygnus Technologies* technical service department for advice on how to assess cross reactivity versus NSB.

Hook Capacity: Very high concentrations of HCPs (>200 ng/mL) were evaluated for the hook effect. At concentrations exceeding 20,000ng/mL, the apparent concentration of CHO HCPs may read less than the 200ng/mL standard. Samples yielding signals above the 200ng/mL standard or suspected of having concentrations in excess of 20,000ng/mL should be assayed diluted.