

# **Technical Manual**

**ChromaDazzle Malate Dehydrogenase Activity Assay Kit** 

**Catalogue Code: BA0131** 

Pack Size: 100 assays

**Research Use Only** 



#### **DESCRIPTION**

MALATE DEHYDROGENASE (MDH) (EC 1.1.1.37) is an enzyme which reversibly catalyzes the oxidation of L-malate to oxaloacetate in the presence of NAD. There are 2 isoforms in eukaryotic cells: MDH1 and MDH2. MDH1 found in the cytoplasm and plays a key part in the malate-aspartate shuttle for transporting malate into the mitochondria. MDH2 is a mitochondrial enzyme which participates in the TCA cycle that reversibly converts L-malate into oxaloacetate. Higher MDH activities are found in some neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease.

The Assay Genie non-radioactive, colorimetric ChromaDazzle Malate Dehydrogenase Activity Assay Kit is based on the reduction of the tetrazolium salt MTT in a NADH-coupled enzymatic reaction to a reduced form of MTT which exhibits an absorption maximum at 565 nm. The increase in absorbance at 565 nm is proportional to the enzyme activity.

#### **KEY FEATURES**

Fast and sensitive. Linear detection range (20 μL sample): 0.5 to 65 U/L for 20 min reaction at 37°C.

**Convenient and high-throughput**. Homogeneous "mix-incubate-measure" type assay. Can be readily automated on HTS liquid handling systems for processing thousands of samples per day.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

MDH activity determination in biological samples (e.g. plasma, serum, erythrocytes, tissue and culture media.)

#### **KIT CONTENTS (100 TESTS IN 96-WELL PLATES)**

Assay Buffer: 10 mL Enzyme A:  $120 \text{ }\mu\text{L}$  NAD/MTT: 1 mL Enzyme B:  $120 \text{ }\mu\text{L}$  Substrate:  $600 \text{ }\mu\text{L}$  Calibrator: 1.5 mL

**Storage conditions**. The kit is shipped on ice. Store all components at -20°C upon receiving. Shelf life: 6 months after receipt.

**Precautions**: reagents are for research use only. Normal precautions for laboratory reagents should be exercised while using the reagents. Please refer to Material Safety Data Sheet for detailed information.

#### **PROCEDURES**

This assay is based on a kinetic reaction. To ensure identical incubation time, addition of Working Reagent to samples should be quick and mixing should be brief but thorough. Use of a multi-channel pipettor is recommended. Assays can be executed at any desired temperature (e.g. 25°C or 37°C).

Sample Preparation: Serum and plasma are assayed directly.

*Tissue*: prior to dissection, rinse tissue in phosphate buffered saline (pH 7.4) to remove blood. Homogenize tissue (50 mg) in ~200  $\mu$ L cold 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5. Centrifuge at 14,000  $\times$  g for 10 min at 4°C. Remove supernatant for assay.

*Cell Lysate*: collect cells by centrifugation at 2,000 x g for 5 min at 4°C. For adherent cells, do not harvest cells using proteolytic enzymes; rather use a rubber policeman. Homogenize or sonicate cells in an appropriate volume of cold buffer containing 50 mM potassium phosphate (pH 7.5). Centrifuge at 14,000 × g for 10 min at 4°C. Remove supernatant for assay.

All samples can be stored at -20 to -80°C for at least one month.

**Reagent Preparation:** Equilibrate reagents to desired reaction temperature (37°C is recommended). Briefly centrifuge tubes before use.

#### **Assay Procedure:**

1. Transfer 100 µL H₂O (OD<sub>H2O</sub>) and 100 µL Calibrator (OD<sub>CAL</sub>) solution into wells of a clear flat bottom 96-well plate.



- 2. Transfer 20 μL H<sub>2</sub>O into one well, this will be the blank. Transfer 20 μL of each sample into separate wells.
- 3. Prepare enough Working Reagent (WR) for all reaction wells by mixing, for each 96-well assay, 74 μL Assay Buffer, 8 μL NAD/MTT, 5 μL Substrate, 1 μL Enzyme A, 1 μL Enzyme B.

Add 80 µL WR to all samples and blank wells. Tap plate briefly to mix.

4. Read OD<sub>565nm</sub> at time 10 min (OD<sub>10</sub>) and time 30 min (OD<sub>30</sub>) on a plate reader.

#### **CALCULATION**

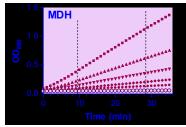
Subtract the  $OD_{10}$  from  $OD_{30}$  for each sample to compute the  $\Delta OD_S$  values, do the same for the blank to compute  $\Delta OD_B$ . MDH activity can then be calculated as follows:

MDH Activity = 
$$\frac{\Delta OD_{S} - \Delta OD_{B}}{\epsilon_{mtt} \cdot l} \times \frac{\text{Reaction Vol (}\mu\text{L})}{t \text{ (min)}} \cdot \text{Sample Vol (}\mu\text{L})$$
$$= \frac{273}{t \text{ (min)}} \times \frac{\Delta OD_{S} - \Delta OD_{B}}{OD_{CAL} - OD_{H2O}} \times n \quad (U/L)$$

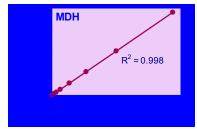
where  $\varepsilon_{\rm mtt}$  is the molar absorption coefficient of reduced MTT. I is the light path length which is calculated from the calibrator. OD<sub>CAL</sub> and OD<sub>H20</sub> are OD<sub>565nm</sub> (OD<sub>10</sub>) values of the Calibrator and water. t is the difference in time between readings (20 min is the recommended time at 37°C). Reaction Vol and Sample Vol are 100  $\mu$ L and 20  $\mu$ L, respectively. n is the dilution factor if the sample needed to be diluted.

Unit definition: 1 Unit (U) of MDH will catalyze the conversion of 1  $\mu$ mole of oxaloacetate and NADH per minute at pH 7.5.

Note: If sample MDH activity exceeds 65 U/L, dilute samples in water and repeat the assay. For samples with MDH activity < 1 U/L, the incubation time can be extended to 2 hours.



Raw Kinetic Data



MDH Activity (20 min, 37 °C)

### MATERIALS REQUIRED, BUT NOT PROVIDED

Pipetting devices and accessories (e.g. multi-channel pipettor), clear flat- bottom 96-well plates (e.g. VWR cat# 82050-760), centrifuge tubes and plate reader.

#### **LITERATURE**

- 1. Musrati, R. A., et al. (1998) Malate dehydrogenase: distribution, function and properties. General Physiology and Biophysics. 17: 193-210.
- 2. Luo, C., et.al. (2006) An NADH-tetrazolium-coupled sensitive assay for malate dehydrogenase in mitochondria and crude tissue homogenates. J. Biochem. Biophys. Methods 68: 101–111.
- 3. Bubber, P., Haroutunian, V., Fisch, G., Blass, J. P. and Gibson, G. E. (2005), Mitochondrial abnormalities in Alzheimer brain: Mechanistic implications. Ann Neurol., 57: 695–703.



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