## ab169557

## Picoprobe L-Lactate

## Assay Kit

## Instructions for Use

For the sensitive and accurate measurement of $\mathrm{L}(+)$-lactate in cells and tissues, plasma, serum and other biological samples.

This product is for research use only and is not intended for diagnostic use.

PLEASE NOTE: With the acquisition of BioVision by Abcam, we have made some changes to component names and packaging to better align with our global standards as we work towards environmental-friendly and efficient growth. You are receiving the same high-quality products as always, with no changes to specifications or protocols.

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## 1. Overview

Lactate ( $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CH}(\mathrm{OH}) \mathrm{COO}$-) plays an important role in many biological processes. Abnormally high concentrations of lactate have been related to diseases such as diabetes, lactic acidosis, etc. $\mathrm{L}(+)$ Lactate is present in blood and is the major lactate stereoisomer formed in human intermediary metabolism. D-Lactate is also present but only at about $1-5 \%$ of $L(+)$-Lactate concentration. Lactate is a significant energy source for living organisms and can be used to generate cellular ATP.

Abcam's Picoprobe L-Lactate Assay Kit (ab169557) is suitable for measuring very low levels of $\mathrm{L}(+)$-lactate in a variety of samples. In this assay, $\mathrm{L}(+)$-lactate is specifically oxidized to form an intermediate that reacts with a colorless probe to generate fluorescence ( $\mathrm{Ex} / E m=535 / 587 \mathrm{~nm}$ ), which is directly proportional to the amount of lactate. This simple, rapid and high-throughput suitable assay kit is the most sensitive lactate assay kit on the market. It can detect $L(+)$-lactate less than $0.2 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in a variety of biological samples.

## 2. Protocol Summary



## 3. Kit Components

| Item | Quantity | Storage <br> upon <br> arrival | Storage after <br> use/ <br> reconstitution |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Assay Buffer XII/Lactate Assay <br> Buffer | 25 mL | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| PicoProbe I/PicoProbe Probe (in <br> DMSO) | 0.4 mL | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Enzyme Mix XV/Lactate Enzyme <br> Mix (lyophilized) | 1 vial | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Lactate Substrate Mix/Lactate <br> Substrate Mix (lyophilized) | 1 vial | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| L(+)-Lactate Standard/L(+)-Lactate <br> Standard (100 mM) | $100 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |

## 4. Storage

Store the kit at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and protect from light. Please read the entire protocol before performing the assay. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles.

Warm Assay Buffer XII/Lactate Assay Buffer to room temperature before use. Briefly centrifuge all small vials prior to opening.

## 5. Additional Materials Required

- 96-well black plate with flat bottoms
- Multi-well spectrophotometer (ELISA reader)

6. Assay Protocol
A. Reagent Preparation
7. PicoProbe I/PicoProbe ${ }^{T M}$ Probe:

Ready to use as supplied. Briefly warm at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to bring to room temperature before use.
2. Enzyme Mix XV/Lactate Enzyme Mix:

Reconstitute with $220 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ Assay Buffer XII/Lactate Assay Buffer. Pipette up and down to dissolve completely. Aliquot and store at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw. Keep on ice while in use. Use within two months
3. Lactate Substrate Mix:

Reconstitute with $220 \mu \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{dH} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. Pipette up and down to dissolve completely. Aliquot and store at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw. Keep on ice while in use. Use within two months.
B. L-Lactate Assay Protocol

## 1. Lactate Standard Curve:

Dilute Lactate Standard to $1 \mathrm{mM}(1 \mathrm{nmol} / \mu \mathrm{l})$ by adding $10 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of 100 mM Lactate Standard to $990 \mu \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{dH}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, mix well. Dilute 1 mM Lactate Standard further to $25 \mu \mathrm{M}(25 \mathrm{pmol} / \mu \mathrm{l})$ by adding $10 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of 1 mM Lactate Standard to $390 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of $\mathrm{dH}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. Add 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 and $10 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of the $25 \mu \mathrm{M}$ Lactate Standard into series of wells in 96 well plate to generate $0,50,100,150,200$, and 250 pmol/well Lactate Standards. Adjust volume to $50 \mu \mathrm{~L} /$ well with Assay Buffer XII/Lactate Assay Buffer.

## 2. Sample preparation:

Liquid samples can be measured directly. Tissue ( 10 mg ) or cells ( $1 \times 10^{6}$ ) should be rapidly homogenized with $100 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ cold Assay Buffer XII/Lactate Assay Buffer on ice. Centrifuge at 12000 rpm for 5 min . Collect the supernatant. Add 1-50 $\mu \mathrm{L}$ sample ( $1-10 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ ) into a 96 well plate and adjust the volume to 50 $\mu \mathrm{L}$ with Assay Buffer XII/Lactate Assay Buffer

Notes: For unknown samples, we suggest testing several doses of your samples to ensure the readings are within the Standard Curve range.

NADH in samples will generate background. For samples having high NADH levels, a sample background control is required to subtract the background.
Since proteins and various enzymes in samples may interfere with the assay, we recommend deproteinizing the samples using either perchloric acid/KOH protocol or using 10K spin column.

## 3. Reaction Mix:

Mix enough reagents for the number of samples and standards to be performed. For each well, prepare a total $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ Reaction Mix containing:

|  | Reaction Mix | Background <br> Control Mix |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Assay Buffer <br> XII/Lactate Assay | $44 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ | $46 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ |
| Buffer |  |  |
| PicoProbe I/PicoProbe <br> Enzyme Mix | $2 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ | $2 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ |
| XV/Lactate Enzyme <br> Mix | $2 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ | - |
| Lactate Substrate Mix | $2 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ | $2 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ |
| Add $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of the Reaction Mix to each well containing the |  |  |
| standard, test samples and background controls, mix well. |  |  |

## 4. Measurement

Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature, protected from light. Measure fluorescence at $\mathrm{Ex} / \mathrm{Em}=535 / 587 \mathrm{~nm}$ in a micro plate reader.

## 7. Data Analysis

Calculation: Subtract 0 Lactate Standard reading from all readings. Plot the Lactate Standard curve. If sample background control reading is significantly high, subtract background control reading from sample reading. Apply corrected sample reading to the Lactate Standard Curve to get B pmol of Lactate amount in the samples.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Sample lactate } \\
\text { concentration (C) }
\end{gathered}=\frac{B}{V} \times \underset{\text { Factor }}{\text { Dilution }}=\mathrm{pmol} / \mu \mathrm{L}=\mathrm{nmol} / \mathrm{mL}
$$

Where:
$\mathbf{B}$ is the amount of Lactate from the standard curve (pmol).
$\mathbf{V}$ is the sample volume used in the reaction well ( mL ).
Lactate molecular weight: $90.08 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mol}$.
Lactate in samples can also be expressed in pmol/mg of protein or other desired method.
(a)

(b)


Figure 1: (a) Lactate standard curve (b) Measurement of Lactate levels in rat liver $(1.2 \mu \mathrm{~g})$, kidney $(0.7 \mu \mathrm{~g})$, and muscle $(0.45 \mu \mathrm{~g})$ and in human serum ( $0.5 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ from 1:10 diluted serum). Assays were performed following kit protocol.

## 8. Troubleshooting

| Problem | Reason | Solution |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Assay not working | Assay buffer at wrong temperature | Assay buffer must not be chilled - needs to be at RT |
|  | Protocol step missed | Re-read and follow the protocol exactly |
|  | Plate read at incorrect wavelength | Ensure you are using appropriate reader and filter settings (refer to datasheet) |
|  | Unsuitable microtiter plate for assay | Fluorescence: Black plates (clear bottoms); <br> Luminescence: White plates; Colorimetry: Clear plates. If critical, datasheet will indicate whether to use flat- or U-shaped wells |
| Unexpected results | Measured at wrong wavelength | Use appropriate reader and filter settings described in datasheet |
|  | Samples contain impeding substances | Troubleshoot and also consider deproteinizing samples |
|  | Unsuitable sample type | Use recommended samples types as listed on the datasheet |
|  | Sample readings are outside linear range | Concentrate/ dilute samples to be in linear range |
| Samples with inconsistent readings | Unsuitable sample type | Refer to datasheet for details about incompatible samples |
|  | Samples prepared in the wrong buffer | Use the assay buffer provided (or refer to datasheet for instructions) |


| Problem | Reason | Solution |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Cell/ tissue samples not sufficiently homogenized | Increase sonication time/ number of strokes with the Dounce homogenizer |
|  | Too many freezethaw cycles | Aliquot samples to reduce the number of freeze-thaw cycles |
|  | Samples contain impeding substances | Troubleshoot and also consider deproteinizing samples |
|  | Samples are too old or incorrectly stored | Use freshly made samples and store at recommended temperature until use |
| Lower/ Higher readings in samples and standards | Not fully thawed kit components | Wait for components to thaw completely and gently mix prior use |
|  | Out-of-date kit or incorrectly stored reagents | Always check expiry date and store kit components as recommended on the datasheet |
|  | Reagents sitting for extended periods on ice | Try to prepare a fresh reaction mix prior to each use |
|  | Incorrect incubation time/ temperature | Refer to datasheet for recommended incubation time and/ or temperature |
|  | Incorrect amounts used | Check pipette is calibrated correctly (always use smallest volume pipette that can pipette entire volume) |
| Standard curve is not linear | Not fully thawed kit components | Wait for components to thaw completely and gently mix prior use |
|  | Pipetting errors when setting up the standard curve | Try not to pipette too small volumes |
|  | Incorrect pipetting when preparing the reaction mix | Always prepare a master mix |


| Problem | Reason | Solution |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Air bubbles in wells | Air bubbles will interfere with <br> readings; try to avoid producing <br> air bubbles and always remove <br> bubbles prior to reading plates |
|  | Concentration of <br> standard stock <br> incorrect | Recheck datasheet for <br> recommended concentrations of <br> standard stocks |
|  | Errors in standard <br> curve calculations | Refer to datasheet and re-check <br> the calculations |
|  | Use of other <br> reagents than those <br> provided with the kit | Use fresh components from the <br> same kit |

## Technical Support

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