SERION ELISA classic
Toxoplasma gondii IgG/IgM

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SERION ELISA classic Toxoplasma gondii
Enzyme Immunoassay for detection of human antibodies (IgG/IgM)
For sale in the U.S. for Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

Tests evaluated: Immunomat TWINsystem / BASEplus, Dade Behring BEP ® III / BEP ® 2000, DSX, manually

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IgG-Kit (quantitative)</th>
<th>order number:</th>
<th>ESR110G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IgM-Kit (quantitative)</td>
<td>order number:</td>
<td>ESR110M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 INTENDED USE

SERION ELISA classic Toxoplasma gondii IgG/IgM are quantitative and qualitative tests for detection of human antibodies in serum or plasma against Toxoplasma gondii. Combined with SERION Toxoplasma avidity reagent (order no.: B110AVID), avidity detection of IgG antibodies is possible. For sale in the U.S. for Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

2 BACKGROUND

Toxoplasma gondii - a eucaryotic pathogen - belongs to the group of sporozoes. This obligate intracellular parasite is spread worldwide. Typical for sporocytes is the “flip-flop” between sexual (which only takes place in cats, the final host) and asexual reproduction.

After oral uptake of parasites, e.g. in contaminated food, the organism penetrates the gut and enters the reticuloendothelial system. Due to this haematogenous dissemination, Toxoplasma gondii is able to infect many different organs and tissues within the host.

The prevalence of infection with Toxoplasma gondii in the normal population is closely correlated with age. At age 50 years, nearly 50% of the population is seropositive; the seroprevalence of antibodies to Toxoplasma increases with a frequency of 10% per decade of life. Environmental and nutrition factors also play an important role and may significantly influence the seroprevalence.

About 50% of infections with Toxoplasma gondii show no clinical findings (subclinical course). The other 50% show - after an incubation period of 1-3 weeks - only non-specific symptoms like low fever, exhaustion, and headache as well as muscle and joint pain. A minority of patients suffers from high fever (up to 39°C) and swelling of cervical lymph
nodes. In 1% of infected children and young adults, complications such as myocarditis, meningitis or pneumonia have been reported.

After recovery, Toxoplasma gondii cells persist in infected tissues by forming cysts which are resistant to the attacks of the immune system. Generally, this so-called latent infection is not reactivated in immunocompetent hosts. Probably as a result of permanent stimulation of the host’s immune system by the presence of the antigens, a life-long immunity is induced.

Screening for Toxoplasma infections during pregnancy is of vital importance. The transmission of Toxoplasma gondii via the transplacental route has been observed in all stages of pregnancy, although the risk of prenatal transmission as well as the outcome of infection depends on the stage of pregnancy. The risk of an infection of the unborn child via transplacental transmission is limited to seronegative women who acquire a primary infection during pregnancy. When maternal primary infection is detected and subsequently eradicated by chemotherapy, the risk for transmission to the fetus is significantly decreased.

Immediately after birth, only 1-3% of infected newborns show clinical symptoms of toxoplasmosis. In contrast, up to 80% of subclinically infected children suffer from late damage and severe clinical manifestations. Early therapy of infected newborns can prevent later damage.

In cases of immunosuppression, activation of latent infections has been observed. In AIDS patients, Toxoplasma encephalitis is of significant importance as the final cause of death.

3 SERION ELISA classic - TEST PRINCIPLE

Microtiter wells are coated with antigens. This constitutes the solid phase. Sample is added to the wells and any antibodies specific for the antigen present will bind to the solid phase. After removal of unbound material, anti-human IgG or IgA or IgM conjugated to an enzyme (alkaline phosphatase) is allowed to react with the immune complex. After removal of excess conjugate by washing, an appropriate substrate (para-nitrophenylphosphate) is added, with which the conjugated enzyme reacts producing a coloured derivative of the substrate. The colour intensity is proportional to the level of specific antibody bound and can be quantified photometrically.
## 4 COMPONENTS OF THE KIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test components</th>
<th>amount / volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Break apart microtiter test strips each with 8 antigen coated single wells (altogether 96)</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 frame</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the coating material is inactivated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Standard serum (ready-to-use)</strong></td>
<td>2 x 2 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum in phosphate buffer with protein; negative for anti-HIV-Ab, anti-HBs-Ag (Hepatitis B-Virus-surface antigen) and anti-HCV-Ab; preservative: &lt; 0.1 % sodium azide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>colouring: Amaranth O</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Negative control serum (ready-to-use)</strong></td>
<td>2 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum in phosphate buffer with protein; negative for anti-HIV, anti-HBs (Hepatitis B-Virus-surface antigen) and anti-HCV; preservative: &lt; 0.1 % sodium azide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>colouring: Lissamin green V</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anti-human-IgG-, IgA-, IgM-conjugate (ready-to-use)</strong></td>
<td>13 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-human-IgG, -IgA, -IgM from goat (polyclonal), conjugated to alkaline phosphatase, stabilized with protein stabilization solution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preservative: 0.01 % methylisothiazolone, 0.01 % bromnitrodioxane</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Washing solution concentrate (sufficient for 1 litre)</strong></td>
<td>33.3 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium chloride solution with Tween 20, 30 mM Tris</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preservative: &lt; 0.1 % sodium azide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dilution buffer</strong></td>
<td>2 x 50 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphate buffer with protein and Tween 20;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preservative: &lt; 0.1 % sodium azide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.01 g/l Bromphenol blue sodium salt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stopping solution</strong></td>
<td>15 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 N sodium hydroxide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Substrate (ready-to-use)</strong></td>
<td>13 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Para-nitrophenylphosphate, solvent free buffer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preservative: &lt; 0.1 % sodium azide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Substrate in unopened bottle may have a slightly yellow color. This does not reduce the quality of the product!)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quality control certificate with standard curve and evaluation table</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(quantification of antibodies in IU/ml or U/ml)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5 MATERIAL REQUIRED BUT NOT SUPPLIED

- common laboratory equipment
- for the IgM-ELISA: special SERION Rf-Absorbent with control antigen (Rf-absorbent CAg, order no. T 200, 20ml)
- photometer for microtiter plates with filter, wavelength 405 nm, recommended reference wavelength 620 nm - 690 nm (e.g. 650 nm)
- incubator 37°C
- moist chamber
- distilled water

6 STORAGE AND STABILITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reagent</th>
<th>Storage</th>
<th>Stability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>microtiter strips (antigen)</td>
<td>unopened after opening at 2-8°C in closed aluminum bag with desiccant</td>
<td>see expiry date on microtiter plate minimum shelf-life 4 weeks shelf-life in case of proper use and storage until expiry date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strips which are not used must be stored in the press-seal bag of aluminum compound foil under dry and airtight conditions!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>control sera / standard sera</td>
<td>after opening at 2-8°C</td>
<td>until expiry date; 24 months from date of production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conjugate</td>
<td>ready-to-use solution, at 2-8°C</td>
<td>until expiry date 28 months from date of production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avoid contamination (sterile tips!)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dilution buffer</td>
<td>after opening at 2-8°C</td>
<td>24 months until expiry date; 36 months from date of production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discard cloudy solutions!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>washing solution</td>
<td>concentrate after opening at 2-8°C</td>
<td>until expiry date 2 weeks 1 week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>working dilution at 2-8°C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>working dilution at room temperature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bottles used for the working dilution should be cleaned regularly, discard cloudy solutions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>substrate</td>
<td>Ready-to-use solution at 2-8°C, protected from light!</td>
<td>until expiry date 24 months from date of production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avoid contamination (sterile tips!) Discard when solution turns yellow (extinction against distilled water &gt; 0.25).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stopping solution</td>
<td>after opening at room temperature</td>
<td>until expiry date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7 TEST PROCEDURE SERION ELISA *classic*

7.1 Evidence of deterioration

Only use SERION ELISA *classic* reagents for test procedure, since all reagents are matched. In particular standard and control sera are defined exclusively for the test kit to be used. Do not use them in other lots. Dilution buffer, washing solution and substrate solution can be used for all SERION ELISA *classic* kits irrespective of the lot and the test.

There are three different conjugate concentrations for each immunoglobulin class: LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH

The classification is written on each label as follows:

- e.g. IgG + lowly concentrated IgG conjugate
- IgG ++ medium concentrated IgG conjugate
- IgG +++ highly concentrated IgG conjugate

In rare cases the use of special conjugate is necessary to guarantee consistent quality for our products. Special conjugates are produced in a separate lot and do not carry the “+” sign. Therefore, special conjugates are not exchangeable with other conjugates.

**Please pay close attention to notifications on labels!**

Unopened, all components of the SERION ELISA *classic* kits may be used up to the dates given on the labels, if stored at +2°C to +8°C. Complete stability and storage data are described under “6. Storage and Stability”.

Each reagent has been calibrated and optimized for the test. Dilution or alteration of these reagents may result in a loss of sensitivity.

Avoid exposure of reagents to strong light during storage and incubation. Reagents must be tightly closed to avoid evaporation and contamination with microorganisms since incorrect test results could occur due to interference from proteolytic enzymes.

To open the press-seal bag please cut off the top of the marked side, only. Do not use the strips if the aluminum bag is damaged or if the press-seal bag with remaining strips and desiccant was not properly closed.
Bring all reagents to room temperature before testing.

Use aseptic techniques for removing aliquots from the reagent tubes to avoid contamination. To avoid false positive results ensure not to contact or sprinkle the top-walls of wells while pipetting conjugate. Take care not to mix the caps of the bottles and/or vials.

Reproducibility is dependent on thorough mixing of the reagents. Shake the flasks containing control sera before use and also all samples after dilution (e.g. by using a vortex mixer).

Be sure to pipette carefully and comply with the given incubation times and temperatures. Significant time differences between pipetting the first and last well of the microtiter plate when filling samples/control sera, conjugate or substrate may result in different “pre incubation” times, which may influence the precision and reproducibility of the results.

Optimum results can only be achieved if SERION ELISA classic instructions are followed strictly.

The test is not valid, if the lot-specific validation criteria on the quality control certificate are not fulfilled.

Inadequate washing will affect the test results:

The washing procedure should be carried out carefully. If the washing procedure is carried out automatically follow the instruction manual of the respective washer. Flat bottom wells are used for SERION ELISA classic. All wells should be filled with equal volumes of washing buffer. At the end of the procedure ensure that the wells are free of all washing buffer by tapping the inverted microtest plate on a paper towel. Avoid foam! Do not scratch coated wells during washing and aspiration. If using an automated washer, ensure it is operating correctly.

7.2 Sample preparation and storage

Lipaemic, hemolytic or icteric samples should only be tested with reservations although in our testing no negative influence has been found. Obviously contaminated samples (serum or plasma) should not be tested due to the risk of wrong results.

Serum or Plasma (EDTA, citrate, heparin) collected according to standard laboratory methods are suitable samples.

Samples must not be thermally inactivated.
Before running the test, samples must be diluted in dilution buffer ($V_1 + V_2$) as follows:

**SERION ELISA *classic* Toxoplasma gondii IgG**

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
V_1 + V_2 &=& 1+100 \\
& & \text{add} \\
& & 10 \mu l \\
& & \text{sample} \\
& & \text{each to} \\
& & 1000 \mu l \\
& & \text{dilution buffer}
\end{array}
\]

After dilution and before pipetting into the microtiter plate the samples must be mixed thoroughly to prepare a homogenous solution.

**SERION ELISA *classic* Toxoplasma gondii IgM**

Rheumatoid factors are **autoantibodies mainly of the IgM-class**, which preferably bind to IgG-immune-complexes. The presence of non-specific IgM-antibodies (rheumatoid factors) can lead to **false-positive** results in the IgM-assay. Furthermore, the possibility exists, that weak-binding pathogen-specific IgM-antibodies are displaced by stronger-binding IgG-antibodies. In this case, IgM-detection can lead to **false-negative** results. Therefore it is necessary to pretreat samples with rheumatoid factor-absorbent prior to IgM detection (SERION Rheumatoid Factor-Absorbent, Order-No. Z200 (20 ml/100 tests)).

**A special rheumatoid factor (Rf)-absorbent** (order no. T200, 20 ml) including anti-human-IgG antibodies and a defined amount of control antigen, simultaneously binds rheumatoid factors and antibodies, which are directed against membrane components of the host cell. Therefore, an extra test procedure in wells, which are coated with control antigen, is not necessary.

This Rf-absorbent has to be ordered separately for the following SERION ELISA *classic* IgM-Tests:

- Cytomegalovirus, Herpes Simplex Virus, Measles Virus, Parotitis Virus, Rubella Virus, Toxoplasma gondii, Varicella-Zoster Virus.

Before running the test, rheumatoid factor-absorbent (Rf-absorbent/CAg) ($V_1$) must be diluted 1+4 in dilution buffer ($V_2$).

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
V_1 + V_2 &=& 1 + 4 \\
& & \text{add} \\
& & 200 \mu l \\
& & \text{Rf-absorbent/CAg} \\
& & \text{each to} \\
& & 800 \mu l \\
& & \text{dilution buffer}
\end{array}
\]

Samples ($V_4$) must be diluted in this Rf-dilution buffer ($V_3$).
After dilution and before pipetting into the microtiter plate the samples must be mixed thoroughly to prepare a homogenous solution.

**Sample storage**

The stoppered samples can be stored in a refrigerator up to 7 days at 2-8°C. Extended storage is possible at ≤ -20°C.

Avoid repeated freezing and thawing of samples.

Diluted samples can be stored at 2-8°C for one week.

**7.3 Preparation of kit reagents**

**Microtest strips**

Microtest strips in frame are packed with desiccant in an aluminum bag. Take unrequired cavities out of the frame and put them back into the press-seal bag. Close press-seal bag carefully to ensure airtight conditions.

**Control sera / standard sera**

Control and standard sera are ready-to-use and must not be diluted any further. They can be used directly for the test run.

For each test run and for each test system - independent of the number of microtest strips to be used - control and standard sera must be included. The cut-off-control should be set up in duplicate. With the quantitative tests the standard serum should also be set up in duplicate.

Do not treat control sera with Rf-absorbent.
Anti-human-IgG-, IgM- or IgA-AP-conjugate (ready-to-use)

Conjugates with the same concentration and within the same immunoglobulin class are exchangeable (see description in 7.1). Avoid contamination of ready-to-use conjugates (please pour sufficient for test into a secondary container to avoid repeatedly pipetting from the original bottle).

Washing solution

Dilute washing buffer concentrate \((V_1)\) 1:30 with distilled water to a final volume of \(V_2\).

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>buffer concentrate ((V_1))</th>
<th>final volume ((V_2))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33.3 ml</td>
<td>1000 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 ml</td>
<td>30 ml</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dilution buffer for samples (ready-to-use)

Substrate (ready-to-use)

For pipetting substrate solution use sterile tips only!

Stopping solution (ready-to-use)
7.4 Overview - test procedure

*Toxoplasma gondii*

*IgG/IgM quantitative*

in case of IgM-detection absorption of rheumatoid factor, see No. 7.2.1;
incubate 15 minutes at room temperature or over night at 4°C

sample dilution

1 + 100

Pipette diluted samples and ready-to-use control sera / standard sera into the microtest wells (100 µl)

\[\begin{align*}
\text{INCUBATION 60 min./37°C moist chamber} \\
\text{WASH (4 x 300µl DIL [WASH])^2} \\
\text{Pipette conjugate solution [APC] (100 µl)} \\
\text{INCUBATION 30 min./37°C moist chamber} \\
\text{WASH (4 x 300µl DIL [WASH])^2} \\
\text{Pipette substrate solution [pNPP] (100 µl)} \\
\text{INCUBATION 30 min./37°C moist chamber} \\
\text{Pipette stopping solution [STOP] (100 µl)} \\
\text{READ EXTINCTION AT 405 nm}
\end{align*}\]

^1special dilution buffer for the following test kits: Borrelia IgG & IgM, EBV EA IgG, Parvovirus B19 IgM

^2for manual use: at the end of the procedure tap plate on paper towel
7.5 Test procedure

1. Place the required number of cavities in the frame and prepare a protocol sheet.

2. Add each 100 µl of diluted sample or ready-to-use controls into the appropriate wells of microtest strips. Spare one well for substrate blank, e.g.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IgG/IgM/IgA quantitative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>well A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>well B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>well C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>well D1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>well E1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Sample incubation for 60 minutes (+/- 5 min) at 37°C (+/- 1°C) in moist chamber

4. After incubation wash all wells with washing solution (by automated washer or manually):
   - aspirate or shake out the incubation solution
   - fill each well with 300 µl washing solution
   - aspirate or shake out the washing buffer
   - repeat the washing procedure 3 times (altogether 4 times!)
   - dry by tapping the microtest plate on a paper towel

5. Addition of conjugate
   Add 100 µl of IgG-/IgM-/IgA-conjugate (ready-to-use) to the appropriate well (except substrate blank)

6. Conjugate incubation for 30 minutes (+/- 1 min) * at 37°C (+/- 1°C) in moist chamber.

7. After incubation wash all wells with washing solution (see above)

8. Addition of substrate
   Add 100 µl substrate solution (ready-to-use) to each well (including well for substrate blank!)

9. Substrate incubation for 30 minutes (+/- 1 min) * at 37°C (+/- 1°C) in moist chamber.

* Please note, that under special working-conditions internal laboratory adaptations of the incubation times could be necessary.
10. **Stopping of the reaction**  
   Add 100 µl stopping solution to each well, shake microtest plate gently to mix.

11. **Read optical density**  
   Read OD within 60 minutes at 405 nm against substrate blank, reference wave length between 620 nm and 690 nm (e.g. 650 nm).

### 8 TEST EVALUATION SERION

**ELISA classic** *Toxoplasma gondii* IgG/IgM

#### 8.1 Single-point quantification with the 4PL method

Optimized assignment of extinction signals to quantitative values is guaranteed by using non-linear functions, which adjust a sigmoide curve without any further transformation to OD-values.

Determination of antibody concentrations with the SERION ELISA *classic* is carried out by the **logistic-log-model (4 PL; 4 parameter)** which is ideal for exact curve-fitting. It is based on the formula:

\[
OD = A + \frac{D - A}{1 + e^{B \cdot (C - \ln \text{conc.})}}
\]

The parameters A, B, C, and D are representative for the exact shape of the curve:

- 1. lower asymptote \(\Leftrightarrow\) parameter A
- 2. slope of the curve \(\Leftrightarrow\) parameter B
- 3. turning point \(\Leftrightarrow\) parameter C
- 4. upper asymptote \(\Leftrightarrow\) parameter D

For each lot the standard curve is evaluated by Institut Virion\Serion GmbH (Würzburg, Germany) in several repeated test runs under optimal conditions. Time consuming and cost intensive construction of the standard curve by the user is not necessary.

For evaluation of antibody concentrations a lot specific standard curve as well as a lot specific evaluation table is included with each test kit. Appropriate evaluation software is available on request.
To compensate for normal test variations and also for test run control a standard serum is used in each individual test run. For this control serum a “reference value” with a validity range is determined by the quality control of the producer. Within this range a correct quantification of antibody concentration is ensured. Since the standard serum is not necessarily a positive control, the value of the standard serum may be borderline or negative in some ELISA tests.

### 8.2 Criteria of validity

- the substrate blank must be OD < 0.25
- the negative control must be negative
- quantitative ELISA: the mean OD-value of the standard serum must be within the validity range, which is given on the lot specific quality control certificate of the kit (after subtraction of the substrate blank!)
- qualitative ELISA: the mean OD-value of the positive control must be within the validity range, which is given on the lot specific quality control certificate of the kit (after subtraction of the substrate blank!)
- the variation of OD-values may not be higher than 20%.

If these criteria are not met, the test is not valid and must be repeated.
8.3 Calculation SERION ELISA *classic*

The antibody activity is given in IU/ml and correlates to the 2nd International Standard for Toxoplasma gondii (1980) with 2000 international Units per vial for the SERION ELISA *classic* Toxoplasma gondii IgG. The quantification of the SERION ELISA *classic* Toxoplasma gondii IgM is based on the 3rd International Standard Toxoplasma gondii (1994), which also gives an IgM antibody concentration (3000 Units per vial). This international standard has not been accepted yet, since it was not possible to set a general standard for the determination of IgM antibodies until now. Therefore the test results from SERION ELISA *classic* Toxoplasma gondii IgM assays are given in U/ml.

**Non-automated evaluation**

For the test evaluation a standard curve and an evaluation table are included in the test kit so that the obtained OD-values may be assigned to the corresponding antibody activity. The reference value and the validity range of the standard serum is given on the evaluation table (quality control certificate).

**The blank (A1) must be subtracted from all OD-values prior to the evaluation.**

**Method 1:** Qualitative Evaluation

To fix the cut-off ranges please multiply the mean value of the measured standard-OD with the numerical data of the certificate of quality control (see special case formulas), e.g.:

**OD = 0.502 x MW (STD)** with upper cut-off

**OD = 0.352 x MW (STD)** with lower cut-off

If the measured mean absorbance value of the standard serum is 0.64, the range of the cut-off is in between 0.225-0.321.

**Method 2:**

Continuous determination of antibody activities using the standard curve.

So called *interassay variations* (day to day deviations and laboratory to laboratory deviations) are compensated by multiplication of the current measured value obtained with a sample with the *correction factor F*. This factor is calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F =</th>
<th>OD-reference value (of standard serum)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OD-current value (of standard sera)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The procedure is necessary to adjust the current level of the test of the user with the lot-specific standard curve.
First, daily deviations have to be corrected by calculating a factor (correction factor F):

1. The mean of the two OD-values of the standard serum has to be calculated and checked that it is within the given validity range.

2. Calculation of the factor "F": the given reference value is divided by the mean of the extinction of the standard serum:
   \[ F = \frac{\text{reference value extinction standard serum}}{\text{mean value extinction standard serum}} \]

3. All measured values of samples are multiplied by "F".

4. Antibody activities in IU/ml or U/ml can be determined from the standard curve with the corrected values.

**Automatic test evaluation with**

**SERION easy base 4PL-Software/SERION evaluate-Software**

After input of the 4 parameters and the reference value of the standard serum, antibody activities are calculated online. If the optical density of the standard is out of the valid range, the following message will appear:

**SERION easy base 4PL-Software:**

“Standards are not in tolerance range” and/or “Distance between standards is greater than 20 %.”

**SERION evaluate-Software:**

“Standard values out of ranges in following groups: Group 1-24. Standard value differ more than 20% in following groups: Group 1-24.”

In these cases the test run is invalid and should be repeated.

Parameters and reference value need to be changed only if there is a change of lot (evaluation table shows parameters and reference values). Correct input of the lot specific data can be checked on the basis of the IU/ml or U/ml assigned to the standard serum. The calculated mean value of the units has to correspond to the unit value indicated on the lot specific certificate. There is an automatic correction of the measured values. In the standard version the printout displays the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sample code</th>
<th>OD-value</th>
<th>IU/ml or U/ml</th>
<th>evaluation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9 AVIDITY DETECTION OF TOXOPLASMA GONDII IgG ANTIBODIES

Test performance:
For avidity detection of Toxoplasma gondii IgG antibodies, SERION Toxoplasma gondii avidity reagent (order no. B110AVID) is needed in addition to SERION ELISA classic Toxoplasma gondii IgG.

Avidity reagents are lyophilized. They are lowly viscous and therefore suitable for automated performance, they are non-corrosive and not hazardous. One test pack contains a 2 ml flask (sufficient for 13 samples).

The diluted samples are pipetted in dual application on the Toxoplasma gondii IgG ELISA microtiter plate. Compared to regular ELISA tests the performance of avidity tests is only different after the regular sample incubation (60 Minutes, 37°C). The wells are emptied by tapping the microtater plate on paper towel or extraction by suction. **Afterwards one well is filled with 150µl of washingbuffer and the other one with 150µl of avidity reagent. After incubation for 8 minutes at 37°C the regular washing steps follow.**

Avidity detection with SERION Toxoplasma gondii avidity reagent is based on determined OD-values, with a formula that includes the influence of each concentration on specific antibodies for each single sample in the calculation of corrected avidity indices.

A comparison of the SERION evaluation technique with quantification based on antibody concentration (PRINCE-WILSTON Method) the SERION method shows better precision.

For the calculation of corrected avidity indices with high- or low-avid evaluation, an Excel based evaluation spread sheet is available on demand. This SERION evaluation spread sheet also determines Toxoplasma gondii IgG antibody levels of each sample. Furthermore, avidity indices are based on antibody level, which makes a comparison to other commercially available Toxoplasma avidity tests possible.

You will find more information on Toxoplasma avidity tests in the instructions for use of the SERION Toxoplasma gondii avidity reagent.
10 STATEMENTS OF WARNING

10.1 Statements of warning

The SERION ELISA classic is only designed for qualified personnel who are familiar with good laboratory practice.

All kit reagents and human specimens should be handled carefully, using established good laboratory practice.

- This kit contains human blood components. Although all control- and cut-off-sera have been tested and found negative for HBs-Ag-, HCV- and HIV-antibodies, they should be considered potentially infectious.
- Do not pipette by mouth.
- Do not smoke, eat or drink in areas in which specimens or kit reagents are handled.
- Wear disposable gloves, laboratory coat and safety glasses while handling kit reagents or specimens. Wash hands thoroughly afterwards.
- Samples and other potentially infectious material should be decontaminated after the test run.
- Reagents should be stored safely and be unaccessible to unauthorized access e.g. children.
- Stopping solution: corrosive (C); causes acid burn (R34) use safety glasses, gloves and laboratory coat while handling!

10.2 Disposal

Please observe the relevant statutory requirements!
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