

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH SERVICE, UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

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Iron Assay Kit (Cat #: A-127)

COMPONENTS: Iron Assay Solution: 20 ml, store at 4°C (~150 wells; **avoid light exposure**)
Iron Probe: 50 mg, store at room temperature (RT)
Ascorbic Acid: 200 mg, store at room temperature (RT)
1 mM FeCl₃: 1 ml, store at room temperature (RT)

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION: The Iron Assay Kit is based on a modified ferene probing method and is suitable for analysis of iron present in cells/tissues and biological fluids such as serum/plasma, saliva, urine, and culture medium. The ferene-iron complex exhibits an absorbance max at 593-595 nm. The assay kit has a detection limit of 1-10 µM iron. Kit components are stable for several years if stored and handled properly.

FeCl₃ Standard Set:

Dilute 1 mM FeCl₃ 10-fold to 0.1 mM (100 µM), e.g., 0.1 ml 1 mM FeCl₃ + 0.9 ml dH₂O. Perform 1:1 serial dilution with dH₂O to obtain 50 µM, 25 µM, and 12.5 µM FeCl₃.

Sample preparation:

Serum/plasma: Mix 0.2 ml serum/plasma and 0.8 ml chloroform and vigorously vortex solution to ensure thorough mixing. Clarify solution by centrifugation at ~13,000 rpm for 10 min. Collect supernatant (top layer) for assay.

Cells/tissues: Freeze-thawed cells/tissues are mechanically homogenized in ice-cold dH₂O followed by centrifugation at ~13,000 rpm for 5 min to remove insoluble materials. Collect supernatant for assay.

Preparation of fresh ascorbic acid solution:

Prepare a fresh ascorbic acid solution by dissolving 20 mg Ascorbic Acid per ml of Iron Assay Solution. Each iron standard and sample require 20 µl and 40 µl ascorbic acid solution, respectively. Calculate the volume of ascorbic acid solution required for each assay. Use the solution immediately.

Preparation of fresh reaction solution:

Prepare a fresh reaction solution by dissolving 3 mg Iron Probe per ml of Iron Assay Solution. Each iron standard, each sample, and the H₂O well require 50 µl reaction solution. Calculate the volume of reaction solution required for assay. Use the solution immediately.

Iron assay:

1. Use a plain (uncoated) 96-well plate for the assay. Add 50 µl dH₂O to a well. Add 50 µl of each iron standard to a set of wells. Add 50 µl of each sample to duplicate wells serving as sample control and sample reaction wells.
2. Add 20 µl ascorbic acid solution to each well set up above. Agitate plate to mix contents briefly. Cover and incubate plate in a 37°C incubator for 30 min. *Do not use CO₂ incubator.*
3. Remove plate from incubator. Add 50 µl Iron Assay Solution to each sample control well. Add 50 µl reaction solution to the dH₂O well, each iron standard well, and each sample reaction well. Cover and incubate plate in a 37°C incubator for 10 min.
4. Read absorbance (O.D.) at 595 nm using a plate reader. Subtract dH₂O well reading from each iron standard well reading. Use the subtracted readings to generate an iron standard plot (see graph below; x= iron concentration in µM, y= O.D._{595 nm}).
5. Subtract sample control well reading from sample reaction well reading for each sample. Use the subtracted readings for calculation of sample iron concentration as derived from the trend line equation of the standard plot.

NOTE:

- Samples should not contain the following chemicals: EDTA, sodium citrate, sodium fluoride, or oxalate.
- Please visit the product webpage or contact us for SDS information on acetic acid, NaOH, sodium acetate, ferene, and thiourea.

