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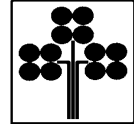
## **RAT UNACYLATED GHRELIN ENZYME IMMUNOASSAY KIT**

catalogue # A05118

96 wells

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Presentation	2
Precautions for use	2
Principle of the assay	2
Materials and equipment required	3
For sample preparation	3
For the assay	3
Sample preparation	4
General precautions	4
Blood collection	4
Sample preparation	4
Reagent preparation	4
Assay procedure	5
Plate preparation	5
Distribution of reagents and samples	5
Pipetting the reagents	5
Incubating the plate	6
Developing and reading the plate	6
Data analysis	7
Typical data	7
Example data	7
Acceptable range	7
Assay validation and characteristics	8
Assay trouble shooting	10
Bibliography	10



U.S. patent # 50 47 330  
European patent # 89 139 552

**THE ENZYME IMMUNOASSAY KIT FOR  
THE DETECTION OF RAT UNACYLATED GHRELIN HAS  
BEEN DEVELOPED AND VALIDATED  
BY SPI-BIO.**

*For research laboratory use only.  
Not for rat diagnostic use.*



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## RAT UNACYLATED GHRELIN EIA KIT

96 wells  
Storage: -20 °C  
Expiry date: stated on the package

This kit contains:

- ☞ A covered 96 wells plate, pre-coated with anti-Ghrelin mouse monoclonal antibody, ready to use
- ☞ One vial of anti-unacylated Ghrelin tracer, lyophilised
- ☞ Two vials of Rat unacylated ghrelin standard, lyophilised
- ☞ Two vials of Quality Control sample, lyophilised
- ☞ One vial of EIA buffer, lyophilised
- ☞ One vial of concentrated Wash buffer, liquid
- ☞ One vial of tween 20, liquid
- ☞ Two vials of Ellman's reagent, lyophilised
- ☞ One instruction booklet
- ☞ One template sheet
- ☞ One well cover sheet

Each kit contains sufficient reagents for 96 wells. This allows for the construction of one standard curve in duplicate and the assay of 32 samples in duplicate.

### PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

**Users are recommended to read all instructions for use before starting work.**

Each time a new pipet tip is used, aspirate a sample or reagent and dispense it back into the same vessel. Repeat this operation two or three times before distribution.

For research laboratory use only.

Not for diagnostic use.

Do not pipet liquids by mouth.

Do not use kit components beyond the expiration date.

Do not eat, drink or smoke in area in which kit reagents are handled.

Avoid splashing.

The total amount of reagents contains less than 100 µg of sodium azide. Flush the drains thoroughly to prevent the production of explosive metal azides.

### PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY

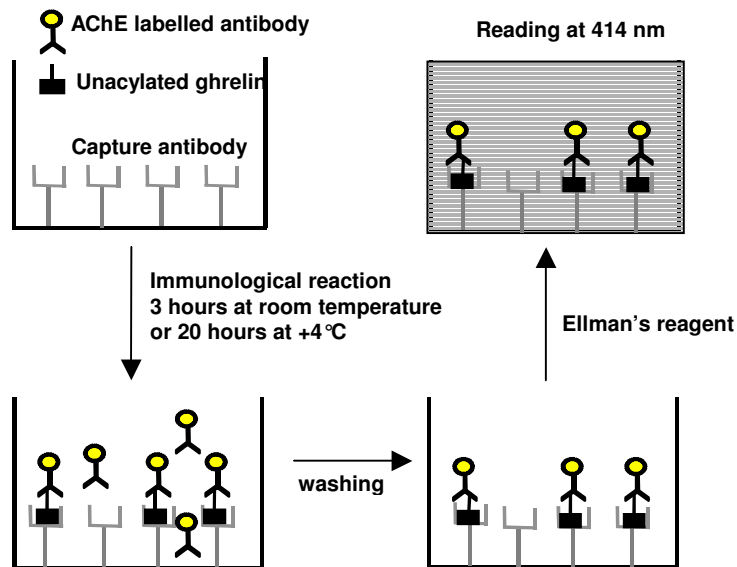
Ghrelin, an endogenous ligand for the growth hormone secretagogue receptor, is synthesized principally in the stomach. It stimulates food intake and transduces signals to hypothalamic regulatory nuclei that control energy homeostasis. The peptide consists of 28 amino acids, with a n-octanoylation of the serine-3 residue, which is necessary for the biological activity hereunder mentioned. Ghrelin is present in the peripheral circulation under two forms: acylated and non-acylated. The rat unacylated ghrelin EIA kit specifically measures the unacylated form of ghrelin.

This Enzyme Immunometric Assay (EIA) is based on a double-antibody sandwich technique. The wells of the plate supplied with the kit are coated with a monoclonal antibody specific to the C-terminal part of ghrelin. This antibody will bind to any ghrelin introduced in the wells (standard or sample). The acetylcholinesterase (AChE) - Fab' conjugate which recognises the N-terminal part of unacylated ghrelin is also added to the wells. This allow the two antibodies to form a sandwich by binding on different parts of the rat unacylated ghrelin.

The sandwich is immobilised on the plate so the excess reagents may be washed away. The concentration of the rat unacylated ghrelin is then determined by measuring the enzymatic activity of the immobilized AChE using the Ellman's Reagent. The AChE tracer acts on the Ellman's Reagent to form a yellow compound.

The intensity of the colour, which is determined by spectrophotometry, is proportional to the amount of the rat unacylated ghrelin present in the well during the immunological incubation.

The principle of the assay is summarised below:



## MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

In addition to standard laboratory equipment, the following material is required:

### FOR SAMPLE PREPARATION

- ☞ Ethylenediaminetetra-acetic acid (EDTA)
- ☞ Potassium Phosphate buffer 0.1 M pH 7.4

### FOR THE ASSAY

- ☞ Precision micropipettes ( 20 to 1000  $\mu$ L)
- ☞ Spectrophotometer plate reader (405 or 414 nm filter)
- ☞ Microplate washer (or wash-bottles)
- ☞ Microplate shaker
- ☞ Distilled or deionized water
- ☞ Polypropylene tubes



## SAMPLE PREPARATION

### GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

- ☞ All samples must be free of organic solvents prior to assay.
- ☞ Samples should be assayed immediately after collection or should be stored at -20°C.

### BLOOD COLLECTION

Blood samples are collected in tubes containing EDTA. Samples are centrifuged at 3,500 rpm for 10 minutes at +4°C and then, supernatants are transferred in separate tubes. Samples should be quickly assayed or stored at -20°C for later use.



For assaying the acylated ghrelin, please refer to the section "Blood collection" of the protocol of the Rat Acylated Ghrelin EIA Kit #A05117.

### SAMPLE PREPARATION

Plasma samples may be assayed directly (without any extraction procedure) after being diluted at least to 1:10 in EIA buffer in order to avoid matrix effect.

## REAGENT PREPARATION

The coated plates and reagents are provided ready to use.

- ☞ EIA buffer  
Reconstitute one vial with 50 mL of distilled or deionized water. Allow it to stand 5 minutes until completely dissolved and then mix thoroughly by gentle inversion.  
Stability at 4°C: 1 month.
- ☞ Rat unacylated ghrelin standard  
Reconstitute the vial with 1 mL of distilled or deionized water. Allow it to stand 5 minutes until completely dissolved and then mix thoroughly by gentle inversion. The concentration of the first standard is 250 pg/mL. Prepare seven propylene tubes and add 500 µL of EIA buffer into each tube. Add 500 µL of the first tube (containing the first standard) to the second tube. Continue this procedure for the other tubes. Thus, standard concentrations are: 250 (S1), 125 (S2), 62.5 (S3), 31.3 (S4), 15.6 (S5), 7.81 (S6), 3.91 (S7) and 1.96 pg/mL (S8), respectively.  
Stability at -20°C: 1 week.
- ☞ Quality Control  
Reconstitute the vial with 1 mL of distilled or deionized water. Allow it to stand 5 minutes until completely dissolved and then mix thoroughly by gentle inversion.  
Stability at -20°C: 1 week.
- ☞ Anti-unacylated Ghrelin-AChE tracer  
Reconstitute one vial with 10 mL of EIA buffer. Allow it to stand 5 minutes until completely dissolved and then mix thoroughly by gentle inversion.  
Stability at 4°C: 1 week.
- ☞ Wash buffer  
Dilute 1 mL of concentrated Wash buffer to 400 mL with distilled or deionized water. Add 200 µL of tween 20 (use a magnetic stirrer to mix the contents).  
Stability at 4°C: 1 week.
- ☞ Ellman's Reagent  
Five minutes before use, reconstitute with 49 mL of distilled or deionized water and 1 mL of concentrated Wash buffer. The tube contents should be thoroughly mixed.  
Stability at 4°C and in the dark: 1 day.



## ASSAY PROCEDURE

It is recommended to perform the assays in duplicate and to follow the instructions hereafter.

### PLATE PREPARATION

Prepare the wash buffer as indicated in the reagent preparation section. Open the plate packet and select the sufficient strips for your assay and place the unused strips back in the packet (stored at 4 °C). Rinse each well 5 times with the wash buffer (300 µL/well).

Just before distributing reagents and samples, remove the buffer from the wells by inverting the plate and dry by inversion on absorbent paper.

### DISTRIBUTION OF REAGENTS AND SAMPLES

A plate set-up is suggested on this page. The contents of each well may be recorded on the sheet provided with the kit.

### PIPETTING THE REAGENTS

Note that the first column should be left empty for blanking Ellman's reagent. All samples and reagents must reach room temperature prior performing the assay. Use different tips to pipet the buffer, standard, quality control, samples, tracer, and other reagents.

	12	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4	S5	S5	S6	S6	S7	S7	S8	S8
	3	S1	S1	S2	S2	S3	S3	S4	S4
	2	NSB	NSB	NSB	NSB	NSB	NSB	NSB	NSB
	1	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
<b>A</b>									
<b>B</b>									
<b>C</b>									
<b>D</b>									
<b>E</b>									
<b>F</b>									
<b>G</b>									
<b>H</b>									

B : Blank

NSB : Non Specific Binding

S1-S8: Standards 1-8

\* : Samples or Quality Controls

↪ EIA buffer:

Dispense 100 µL to Non Specific Binding (NSB) wells.

↪ Rat unacylated ghrelin standard:

Dispense 100 µL of each of the eight standards (S1 to S8) in duplicate to appropriate wells. Start with the lowest concentration standard (S8) and equilibrate the tip in the next higher standard before pipetting.

- ↳ Quality Control and samples:  
Dispense 100 µL in duplicate to appropriate wells. Highly concentrated samples may be diluted in EIA buffer.
- ↳ Anti-unacylated Ghrelin-AChE tracer:  
Dispense 100 µL to each well, except Blank (B) wells.

**INCUBATING THE PLATE**

Cover the plate with adhesive film and incubate for:

- ↳ 3 hours at room temperature,
- or
- ↳ 20 hours at +4 °C.

The long immunological reaction allow to increase the sensitivity for the assay: 0.6 pg/mL versus 0.8 pg/mL for short immunological reaction.

**DEVELOPING AND READING THE PLATE**

Reconstitute Ellman's Reagent as indicated in reagent preparation section. Wash each well five times with the wash buffer (300 µL/well), slightly shake the plate for 5 minutes (with the orbital shaker) and then rewash 5 times with the wash buffer (300 µL/well). Remove the liquid from the wells by inverting the plate. Dry by inversion on absorbent paper.

Dispense 200 µL of Ellman's Reagent to the 96 wells. Incubate the plate in darkness at room temperature. Optimal development is obtained using an orbital shaker. The plate should be read between 405 and 414 nm. 30 minutes for long immunological reaction (20 hours at +4 °C) and 30 to 60 minutes for short immunological reaction (3 hours at room temperature) after adding the Ellman's reagent.

Enzyme Immunoassay Protocol (Volumes are in µL)				
	Blank	Non Specific Binding	Standard	Sample
Buffer	-	100	-	-
Standard	-	-	100	-
Sample	-	-	-	100
Tracer	-	100	100	100
Cover plate, incubate at room temperature during 3 hours or at +4 °C during 20 hours				
Wash the strips 5 times, slightly shake them 5 min, rewash them 5 times and remove the liquid from the wells				
Ellman's reagent	200	200	200	200
Incubate with an orbital shaker in the dark at room temperature				
Read the plate between 405 and 414 nm				



## DATA ANALYSIS

Make sure that your plate reader has subtracted the absorbance readings of the blank well (absorbance of Ellman's reagent) from the absorbance readings of the rest of the plate. If not, do it now.

- ↳ Calculate the average absorbance for each NSB, standard and sample.
- ↳ Plot the absorbance for each standard (Y axis) versus the concentration (X axis ) using a 4-parameter logistic fitting or cubic spline fitting.
- ↳ To determine the concentration of your samples, find the absorbance value of each sample on the Y axis. Read the corresponding value on the X axis which is the concentration of your unknown sample. Take care to integrate the dilution factor of your samples (due notably to the minimal dilution for the assay 1:5).
- ↳ Samples with a concentration greater than 250 pg/mL should be re-assayed after dilution in EIA buffer.
- ↳ Most plate readers are supplied with curve-fitting software capable of graphing this type of data. If you have this type of software, we recommend using it. Refer to it for further information.

## TYPICAL DATA

### EXAMPLE DATA

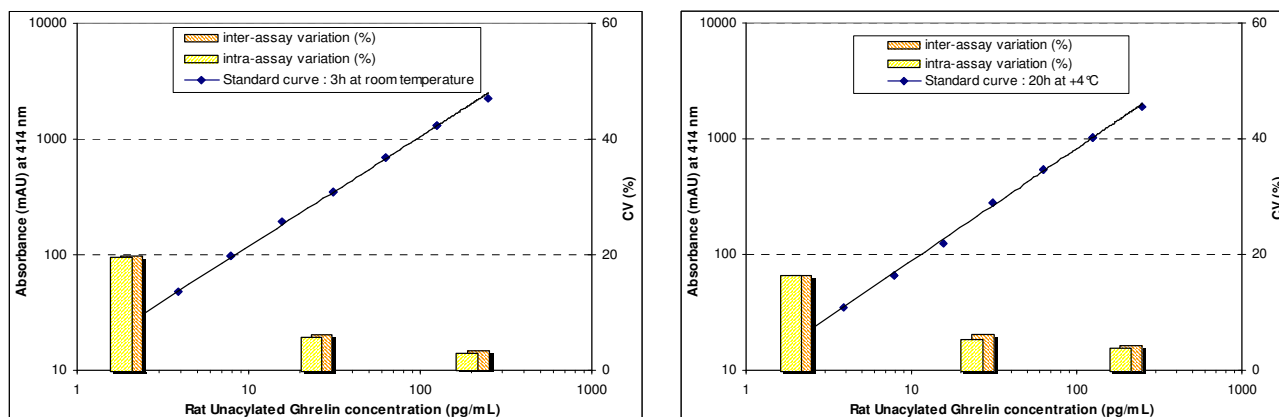
The following data are for demonstration purpose only. Your data may be different and still correct. These data were obtained using all reagents as supplied in this kit under the following conditions: 30 minutes developing at room temperature for long immunological reaction (20h at +4 °C) and 60 minutes developing for short immunological reaction (3h at RT), reading at 414 nm. A 4-parameter logistic fitting was used to determine the concentrations.

Ghrelin standard (pg/mL)	Absorbances (mAU)	
	Short immunological reaction (3h RT)	Long immunological reaction (20h +4 °C)
250	2220	1888
125	1307	1033
62.5	697	548
31.3	351	277
15.6	195	126
7.81	97	66
3.91	48	35
1.95	22	19

### ACCEPTABLE RANGE

- ↳ Non Specific Binding < 50 mAU
- ↳ Limit of detection in the sample before dilution: 6 pg/mL for long immunological reaction and 8 pg/mL for short immunological reaction.
- ↳ Limit of quantification in the sample before dilution: 20 pg/mL.

## RAT UNACYLATED GHRELIN STANDARD CURVE



## ASSAY VALIDATION AND CHARACTERISTICS

The Enzyme Immunometric Assay of rat unacylated ghrelin has been validated for its use in buffer and in plasma (without extraction but diluted at least 1:10). A sigmoidal 4-parameter logistic fitting was used to determine the concentrations.

☞ The limit of detection, calculated as the concentration of unacylated ghrelin corresponding to the NSB average ( $n = 8$ ) plus three standard deviations is 0.6 pg/mL and 0.8 pg/mL respectively for long and short immunological reaction. Due to the minimal plasma dilution (1:10), the limit of detection in the samples are 6 pg/mL (20h at +4°C) and 8 pg/mL (3h at RT), respectively.

☞ Intra-assay & inter-assay variations and recovery:

QC levels	Theoretical concentrations in diluted QC (pg/mL)	Mean of observed concentrations (pg/mL)	Intra-assay (CV%)	Inter-assay (CV%)	Recovery (%)	Confidence intervale ( $\alpha = 0.05$ )
Incubation 20 hours at +4°C						
QC1	2	2.4	15.9	15.9	120	120 ± 7.3
QC2	25	22.8	4.80	5.50	91.2	91.2 ± 2.6
QC3	200	187	4.00	4.30	93.3	93.3 ± 1.9
Incubation 3 hours at room temperature						
QC1	2	2.34	19.5	19.8	117	117 ± 9.3
QC2	25	22.7	5.20	5.50	90.6	90.6 ± 2.1
QC3	200	184	2.90	3.30	91.8	91.8 ± 1.6

The intra-assay and inter-assay variations were studied on 30 rat plasma (free of ghrelin) spiked samples for each level of QC. QC were prepared ten times concentrated from a pool of rat plasma and then diluted to 1:10 in EIA buffer before assay. Replicate samples ( $n=6$ ) at each of the three validation levels were analysed along with the calibration curve for a total of 5 independent runs.

☞ Matrix variability:

Matrix	Theoretical concentration (pg/mL)	Unacylated ghrelin measured (pg/mL)	Recovery (%)	Mean of recovery (%)
1	25	25.9	104	103
2		27.3	109	
3		25.8	103	
4		24.7	98.8	
5		24.7	98.8	

Five individual lots of rat plasma samples were tested. Validation samples (n=3) were prepared ten times concentrated in each matrix and then diluted to 1:10 in order to obtain a final concentration of 25 pg/mL. QC were analysed against a calibration curve derived from a pool of rat plasmas.

☞ Dilution test:

Samples	Dilution factor	Unacylated ghrelin measured (pg/mL)	Corrected concentrations (pg/mL)	Recovery (%)	Mean of recovery (%)
1	1:10	79.2	792	-	104
	1:20	41.0	820	104	
	1:50	17.0	850	107	
	1:100	7.84	784	99	
	1:200	4.14	828	105	
2	1:10	86.8	241	-	105
	1:20	44.1	244	101	
	1:50	18.1	252	105	
	1:100	8.58	255	106	
	1:200	4.33	259	107	
3	1:10	83.6	836	-	96.7
	1:20	42.7	854	102	
	1:50	16.7	835	100	
	1:100	7.74	774	92.6	
	1:200	3.86	772	92.3	

Three rat plasma samples were diluted to 1:10. Afterwards, four independent dilutions (n=3) were performed and analysed against a calibration curve.

☞ Stability test (freezing/thawing):

Samples	Reference value (pg/mL)	1 cycle (pg/mL)	2 cycles (pg/mL)	3 cycles (pg/mL)	Mean of recovery (%)
1	771	803	820	727	101.6
2	617	602	632	563	97.1
3	668	616	642	597	92.6
4	749	689	700	660	91.2
5	838	784	722	715	88.3

Five rat plasma samples (n=3) were analysed just after collection and dilution to 1:10 before the assay (reference value) and after 1, 2 and 3 freeze/thaw cycles.

☞ Cross-reactivity:

- Ghrelin (Des-Octanoyl-Ser <sup>3</sup> ) (Human):	100 %
- Ghrelin (Octanoyl-Ser <sup>3</sup> ) (Rat, Mouse):	<0.001 %
- Ghrelin (Octanoyl-Ser <sup>3</sup> ) (Human):	<0.001 %
- Ghrelin (1-11) (Rat):	<0.001 %
- Ghrelin (1-14) (Human):	<0.001 %
- Ghrelin (17-28) (Human, Rat):	<0.001 %
- GHRF (Rat):	<0.001 %
- Insulin (Rat):	<0.001 %
- Motiline:	<0.001 %
- Leptin (Rat):	<0.001 %
- Somatostatine:	<0.001 %
- CRF (Human, Rat):	<0.001 %
- Glucagon (Human, Rat):	<0.001 %

### ASSAY TROUBLE SHOOTING

- ☞ Absorbance values too low: incubation in wrong conditions (time or temperature) or reading time too short or Rat unacylated ghrelin standard, or anti-unacylated Ghrelin tracer or Ellman's reagent have not been dispensed.
- ☞ NSB value too high: contamination of NSB wells with Rat unacylated ghrelin standard, or inefficient washing.
- ☞ High dispersion of duplicates: poor pipetting technique or irregular plate washing.

These are a few examples of trouble shooting that may occur. If you need further explanation, SPI-BIO will be happy to answer any questions or information about this assay. Please feel free to contact our technical support staff by letter, phone (33 (0)1 39 30 62 60), fax (33 (0)1 39 30 62 99) or E-mail (sales@spibio.com), and be sure to indicate the batch number of the kit (see outside the box).

SPI-BIO proposes a training workshop in EIA practice & theory. This workshop is given twice a year. For further information, please contact our Customer Relation Representative (33 (0)1 39 30 62 60).

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- ☞ **Grassi J. & Pradelles Ph.**  
 Compounds labelled by the acetylcholinesterase of *Electrophorus Electricus*. Its preparation process and its use as a tracer or marker in enzyme-immunological determinations.  
*United States patent, N° 1,047,330. September 10, 1991*