ELISA

PARP/Apoptosis Colorimetric Assay Kit

Catalog Number: 4684-096-K

ELISA kit for measuring PARP activity in cell lysates before and during apoptosis.

This package insert must be read in its entirety before using this product. For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TECHNICAL HINTS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRECAUTIONS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATERIALS PROVIDED &amp; STORAGE CONDITIONS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REAGENT PREPARATION</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSAY PROTOCOL</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATA INTERPRETATION</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TROUBLESHOOTING</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFERENCES</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Manufactured and Distributed by:**

**USA** R&D Systems, Inc.
614 McKinley Place NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413
TEL: 800 343 7475   612 379 2956
FAX: 612 656 4400
E-MAIL: info@bio-techne.com

**Europe | Middle East | Africa** Bio-Techne Ltd.
19 Barton Lane, Abingdon Science Park
Abingdon OX14 3NB, UK
TEL: +44 (0)1235 529449
FAX: +44 (0)1235 533420
E-MAIL: info.emea@bio-techne.com

**China** Bio-Techne China Co., Ltd.
Unit 1901, Tower 3, Raffles City Changning Office,
1193 Changning Road, Shanghai PRC 200051
TEL: +86 (21) 52380373   (400) 821-3475
FAX: +86 (21) 52371001
E-MAIL: info.cn@bio-techne.com
INTRODUCTION
The control of apoptosis—the most intensely studied form of programmed cell death—has been a long sought after goal for the treatment of cardiovascular, neurological, autoimmune and malignant diseases (1,2). Poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP-1) becomes a mediator of cell death by triggering the translocation of apoptosis-inducing factor from the mitochondria to the nucleus (3). In experimental models, PARP-1 inhibition can prevent unwanted tissue damage following myocardial and neuronal ischemia, diabetes, septic shock, and vascular stroke (4-8). Apoptosis involves many changes in cell component structure including exposure of phosphatidylserine in the outer plasma membrane, caspase activation, cytochrome C release from the mitochondria, chromatin condensation in the nucleus, and DNA ladder formation (1). During apoptosis, PARP-1 which catalyzes the NAD-dependent addition of poly (ADP-ribose) (PAR) onto various cytoplasmic and nuclear proteins, is cleaved from about 116 kDa to 85 kDa (9,10).

PRINCIPLE OF THE ASSAY
The PARP/Apoptosis Colorimetric Assay Kit is ideal for measuring PARP activity in cell extracts prepared before and during apoptosis. This ELISA semi-quantitatively detects PAR deposited onto immobilized histone proteins in a 96-well format. An anti-PAR monoclonal antibody, goat anti-mouse IgG-HRP conjugate, and HRP substrate are used to generate a colorimetric signal. Thus, absorbance correlates with PARP activity. Etoposide is a topoisomerase II inhibitor that stabilizes this enzyme after it cleaves DNA (11), is included as a control apoptosis inducer.
LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

- FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY. NOT FOR USE IN DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES.
- The kit should not be used beyond the expiration date on the kit label.
- Do not mix or substitute reagents with those from other lots or sources.
- Variations in sample collection, processing, and storage may cause sample value differences.

TECHNICAL HINTS

- When mixing or reconstituting protein solutions, always avoid foaming.
- To avoid cross-contamination, change pipette tips between additions of each standard level, between sample additions, and between reagent additions. Also, use separate reservoirs for each reagent.
- To ensure accurate results, proper adhesion of plate sealers during incubation steps is necessary.

PRECAUTIONS

The acute and chronic effects of overexposure to reagents of this kit are unknown. Safe laboratory procedures should be followed and protective clothing should be worn when handling kit reagents.

Wear protective gloves, clothing, eye, and face protection. Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Refer to the SDS on our website prior to use.
MATERIALS PROVIDED & STORAGE CONDITIONS

Use within 3 months from date of receipt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART</th>
<th>PART #</th>
<th>AMOUNT PROVIDED</th>
<th>STORAGE OF UNOPENED MATERIAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Histone-Coated White Strip Well Plate, I-PAR</td>
<td>4684-096-P</td>
<td>1 plate (96-wells)</td>
<td>Store 2-8 °C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5X Antibody Diluent</td>
<td>4684-096-03</td>
<td>3 mL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TACS-Sapphire™</td>
<td>4822-96-08</td>
<td>10 mL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARP-HSA (10 mUnits/μL)</td>
<td>4684-096-01</td>
<td>100 μL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20X I-PAR Assay Buffer</td>
<td>4684-096-07</td>
<td>2.5 mL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 mM NAD</td>
<td>4684-096-02</td>
<td>300 μL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 mM Etoposide</td>
<td>4684-096-06</td>
<td>100 μL</td>
<td>Store at ≤ -20 °C in a manual defrost freezer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-PAR Monoclonal Antibody</td>
<td>4684-096-04</td>
<td>20 μL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat Anti-Mouse IgG-HRP</td>
<td>4684-096-05</td>
<td>20 μL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10X Activated DNA</td>
<td>4671-096-06</td>
<td>300 μL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plate Sealers</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>4 adhesive strips</td>
<td>Room temperature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Equipment:

- Pipettes and pipette tips
- Squirt bottle, manifold dispenser, or automated microplate reader
- 96-well plate reader with 450 nm filter
- Microcentrifuge
- Refrigerated centrifuge (for plate centrifugation)

Reagents:

- PARP inhibitors
- 1X PBS
- PBS + 0.1% Triton™ X-100
- Distilled water
- Phenylmethyl Sulfonyl Fluoride (PMSF) or other protease inhibitors
- Triton™ X-100
- 5M NaCl
**REAGENT PREPARATION**

**1X PBS** - Prepare 500 mL of 1X PBS in a wash bottle for washing strip wells.

**PBS + 0.1% Triton X-100 Wash Solution** - Prepare 500 mL of 1X PBS containing 0.1% Triton X-100 in a wash bottle for washing the strip wells.

**1X I-PAR Assay Buffer (contains 0.1 mg/mL BSA)** - Dilute the 20X I-PAR Assay Buffer 1:20 with distilled water to generate 1X I-PAR Assay Buffer. This buffer is used to rehydrate the histone-coated wells, dilute the PARP standard, prepare cell extracts, and set up the PARP reactions.

**PARP Substrate Cocktail** - Make a PARP Substrate Cocktail as follows (a total of 25 μL/well is required):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reaction Component</th>
<th>Volume/well</th>
<th>Volume/plate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20X I-PAR Assay Buffer</td>
<td>1.25 μL</td>
<td>125 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10X Activated DNA</td>
<td>2.50 μL</td>
<td>250 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 mM NAD</td>
<td>2.50 μL</td>
<td>250 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distilled water</td>
<td>18.75 μL</td>
<td>1875 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>25 μL</strong></td>
<td><strong>2500 μL</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PARP Standard** - The kit contains 100 μL of 10 mUnits/μL PARP-HSA enzyme. Pipette 192 μL of 1X I-PAR Assay Buffer into the 10 mUnits/25 μL tube. Pipette 100 μL or 120 μL into the remaining tubes indicated below. Use the PARP-HSA enzyme to produce a dilution series (below). Mix each tube thoroughly before the next transfer. The 10 mUnits/25μL serves as a high standard. 1X I-PAR Assay Buffer serves as the zero standard (0 mUnits/25μL). Diluted enzyme should be used immediately and any remainder discarded.
REAGENT PREPARATION CONTINUED

**Etoposide** - Etoposide is provided at 10 mM as a control apoptosis inducer. Use at a final concentration of 50-100 μM.

**1X Antibody Diluent** - Before use, dilute the 5X Antibody Diluent 1:5 using distilled water to generate 1X Antibody Diluent. For 96 wells, a suggested dilution can be achieved by adding 2.4 mL 5X Antibody Diluent to 9.6 mL distilled water.

**Anti-PAR Monoclonal Antibody** - Just before use, dilute the Anti-PAR Monoclonal Antibody 1000-fold using 1X Antibody Diluent. A total of 50 μL/well of diluted Anti-PAR Monoclonal Antibody is required in the assay. For 96 wells, a suggested 1000-fold dilution can be achieved by adding 10 μL Anti-PAR Monoclonal Antibody to 90 μL 1X Antibody Diluent, followed by adding 50 μL of the diluted antibody to 4950 μL 1X Antibody Diluent.

**Goat Anti-Mouse-IgG-HRP Conjugate** - Just before use, dilute the Goat Anti-Mouse IgG-HRP 1:1000 using 1X Antibody Diluent. A total of 50 μL/well of diluted Goat Anti-Mouse IgG-HRP Conjugate is required in the assay. For 96 wells, a suggested 1000-fold dilution can be achieved by adding 10 μL Anti-PAR Monoclonal Antibody to 90 μL 1X Antibody Diluent, followed by adding 50 μL of the diluted antibody to 4950 μL 1X Antibody Diluent.

**TACS-Sapphire** - Pre-warm TACS-Sapphire to room temperature before use. TACS-Sapphire is a colorimetric substrate that turns blue in the presence of Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP). The addition of an equal volume of 0.2 M HCl or 5% Phosphoric Acid stops the reaction to generate a yellow color stable for up to 60 minutes that can be read at 450 nm.

**Cell Extraction Buffer** - Prepare 10 mL of the following cell extraction buffer and store at 2-8 °C (a total of 100 μL/well is required):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reaction Component</th>
<th>Volume/well</th>
<th>Volume/plate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20X I-PAR Assay Buffer</td>
<td>5.0 μL</td>
<td>500 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 M NaCl</td>
<td>8.0 μL</td>
<td>800 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% Triton X-100</td>
<td>4.50 μL</td>
<td>450 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 mM PMSF</td>
<td>0.20 μL</td>
<td>20 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distilled water</td>
<td>82.3 μL</td>
<td>8230 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 μL</td>
<td>10 mL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASSAY PROTOCOL
MONITORING PARP ACTIVITY BEFORE AND DURING APOPTOSIS

It is recommended that all standards, controls, and samples be assayed in triplicate.

PARP, expressed endogenously in all cells, undergoes transient activation following DNA damage, followed by inactivation due to autoribosylation and cleavage by Caspase 3 during apoptosis. PARP/Apoptosis Colorimetric Assay Kit is sufficiently sensitive to capture these events in a small number of cells per test and can, therefore, monitor the extent of apoptosis under a variety of experimental conditions. The following suggested protocol will help you to set up these types of experiments:

1. On Day 0, seed actively-growing cells: 5 x 10³-5 x 10⁴ cells/200 μL fresh medium/well in a 96 well flat-bottom plate for adherent cells, or a V-bottom plate for non-adherent cells. Be sure to set aside triplicate wells containing healthy cells for controls. For less than 5 x 10⁴ cells, centrifugation of the lysates is usually not required. For 1 x 10⁵ or more cells, microcentrifuge the disrupted cell suspension at 10,000 x g for 10 minutes at 2-8 °C to remove insoluble material. Recover the supernatant to a fresh tube pre-chilled on ice. Alternatively, remove the highly viscous pellet with a pipette tip.

2. Early on Day 1, add 1.0 μL of 10 mM Etoposide, and/or other apoptosis-inducing agents to triplicate wells, for 50 μM final concentration, and incubate overnight at 37 °C/5% CO₂. These wells will be the 6-8 hour time points.

3. Continue as indicated in Step 2, (add 1.0 μL of 10 mM Etoposide, and/or other agents to triplicate wells) to set up the wells for the 4 hour and 2 hour and remaining time points.

4. Prepare extracts directly in the wells:

   **Non-adherent cells:** Centrifuge the V-bottom plate at 1,000 x g for 5 minutes at 2-8 °C, and carefully aspirate off the supernatants. Wash the cell pellets twice with 200 μL/well ice cold 1X PBS. Add 100-200 μL Cell Extraction Buffer, and incubate lysates on ice (or in the cold room) with periodic mixing for 30 minutes.

   **Adherent cells:** Carefully aspirate the medium from the wells and wash the cells twice with 1X PBS (200 μL/well). Centrifugation may be necessary to avoid loss of apoptotic cells. Add 100 μL/well Cell Extraction Buffer. Incubate the cell lysates on ice (or in the cold room) with periodic mixing for 30 minutes.

5. Determine the protein concentration of the extracts, and adjust for at least 200 ng protein/25 μL test volume. Note: 1X I-PAR Assay Buffer contains 0.1 mg/mL BSA.

6. Assay immediately, or snap-freeze the extracts in plates (using plate sealers) or small aliquots and store at ≤ -70 °C. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing of the extracts.
**ASSAY PROTOCOL CONTINUED**

**RIBOSYLATION REACTION**

**Note:** Do not premix cell extracts with the PARP Substrate Cocktail, because PARP will autoribosylate in the presence of NAD.

1. Remove the strip wells from the bag and add 50 μL/well of 1X I-PAR Assay Buffer to rehydrate the histones, cover with an adhesive strip and incubate at room temperature for 30 minutes. Prepare the PARP Standard as directed in the Reagent Preparation section. The assay is sufficiently sensitive to measure PARP activity in as little as 500 Jurkat cells. The amount of protein derived from less cells may not be measurable. In this case, adjust the volume of your extract so that 25 μL are theoretically derived from 1,000-5,000 cells. We recommend that you start with 200 ng protein/25 μL test volume.

**Note:** It may be necessary to make serial dilutions of your extract down to 10 ng/25 μL test volume to obtain signals within the standard curve.

2. Remove the 1X I-PAR Assay Buffer from the wells by tapping the strip wells on paper towels. Add 25 μL in triplicate of the PARP Standard and the cell lysates directly from the tissue culture plate.

3. **Negative Control:** Include wells without PARP or cell extract to provide the background absorbance that will be subtracted from the experimental sample values.

4. Distribute 25 μL of the PARP Substrate Cocktail into each well using a multichannel pipettor.

5. The final reaction volume in each well is 50 μL:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reaction Component</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Order of Addition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell Extract, PARP Standard, or 1X I-PAR Buffer</td>
<td>25 μL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1X PARP Substrate Cocktail</td>
<td>25 μL</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Volume</strong></td>
<td>50 μL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Incubate the strip wells at room temperature for 30 minutes.
DETECTION

1. Wash strip wells 2 times with 1X PBS + 0.1% Triton X-100 (200 μL/well) followed by 2 washes with 1X PBS. Ensure that all the liquid is removed following each wash by tapping strip wells onto paper towels.

2. Add 50 μL per well of diluted Anti-PAR Monoclonal Antibody. Cover with a new adhesive strip and incubate at room temperature for 30 minutes.

3. Repeat the wash as in Step 1.

4. Add 50 μL per well of Goat Anti-Mouse IgG-HRP Conjugate. Cover with a new adhesive strip and incubate at room temperature for 30 minutes.

5. Repeat the wash as in Step 1.

6. Add 50 μL per well of pre-warmed TACS-Sapphire colorimetric substrate and incubate, in the dark, for 15 minutes at room temperature. Stop the reactions by adding 50 μL per well of 0.2 M HCl or 5% Phosphoric Acid and read the absorbance at 450 nm.
Figure 1. Cleavage of PARP in Jurkat Cells Exposed to Etoposide. Western Blot of a time course of Jurkat T cells treated with 50 μM Etoposide for the indicated time periods. The amount of extract theoretically derived from 100,000 cells were resolved, per lane, on an 8-16% SDS-PAGE gel and analyzed by immunoblotting for PARP-1 using the monoclonal antibody C2-10. The loss of PARP activity in Jurkat cells correlates with PARP cleavage during apoptosis.
Figure 2. Etoposide reduces PARP Activity in Jurkat Cells. PARP activity in Jurkat cells exposed to 50 μM etoposide decreases as a function of time. Each point represents the mean value from triplicate determinations and each reading represents the equivalent of PARP activity in 250 and 500 cells.

A typical Chemiluminescent PARP standard curve is graphically represented in Figure 3. Determine the PARP Activity in your cell extract from a standard curve. Use of a standard curve allows for expression of the results in mUnits PARP/ng protein, or Units PARP/10^6 cells, or μUnits PARP/cell depending upon your preference.

Figure 3. Example Chemiluminescent PARP Assay Standard Curve. Each point represents the mean value from triplicate determinations. Determine the PARP Activity in your cell extract from a standard curve. Use of a standard curve allows for expression of the results in mUnits PARP/ng protein, or Units PARP/10^6 cells, or μUnits PARP/cell depending upon your preference.
DATA INTERPRETATION  CONTINUED

Some investigators may wish to express results as a percent inhibition relative to the untreated control. The inhibition of PARP caused by caspase-mediated cleavage will be reflected as a decrease in the observed absorbance readings relative to that observed in the absence of apoptosis induction. Subtract the mean background absorbance (mean negative control value) from those of all the experimental wells.

\[
C = \text{Net Relative Light Units in the absence of induced apoptosis}
\]

\[
D = \text{Net Relative Light Units determined during apoptosis}
\]

\[
\% \text{ Inhibition of PARP} = \frac{(C - D)}{C} \times 100
\]

TROUBLESHOOTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROBLEM</th>
<th>CAUSE</th>
<th>SOLUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No light output in wells with PARP alone.</td>
<td>Active PARP enzyme was not added.</td>
<td>Order fresh PARP-HSA and add 10 mUnits of PARP-HSA to each positive control well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light output in wells containing cell or tissue extracts too high or above that obtained for the PARP standard curve.</td>
<td>PARP expression in cells and tissues can be very high.</td>
<td>Extend serial dilutions of extract down to 10 ng of protein or equivalent to 500–1000 cells/well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High background in wells with no PARP.</td>
<td>Poor washing.</td>
<td>Increase the number of washes with 1X PBS + 0.1% Triton X-100 after the ribosylation reaction and after incubation with antibodies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REFERENCES


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