

# **Murine IL-13 ELISA Kit**

Instructions for use

Catalogue numbers: 1x96 tests: 660.080.096

**For research use only**

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# Murine IL-13 ELISA KIT

## 1. Intended use

The mouse IL-13 ELISA is an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for the quantitative detection of mouse IL-13. **The mouse IL-13 ELISA is for research use only. Not for diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.**

## 2. Introduction

### 2.1. Summary

Interleukin-13 (IL-13) is a Th2-type cytokine, secreted from CD4(+) T cells, mast cells, basophils and eosinophils. The IL-13 gene generates a cluster with other Th2-type cytokines such as IL-4 and IL-5. Although the homology between IL-13 and IL-4 at the amino acid level is low, the IL-13 structure determined by NMR is very similar to that of IL-4. Both cytokines share their receptors and signal pathways, giving these two cytokines similar biological properties.

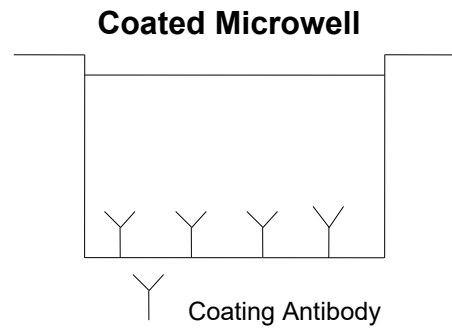
IL-13 is an immunoregulatory cytokine. It has become evident that IL-13 is a key mediator in the pathogenesis of allergic inflammation. IL-13 mediates its effects by interacting with a complex receptor system comprised of IL-4R $\alpha$  and two IL-13 binding proteins, IL-13R $\alpha$ 1 and IL-13R $\alpha$ 2. IL-13 receptors are expressed on human B cells, basophils, eosinophils, mast cells, endothelial cells, fibroblasts, monocytes, macrophages, respiratory epithelial cells, and smooth muscle cells. However, functional IL-13 receptors have not been demonstrated on human or mouse T cells. Thus unlike IL-4, IL-13 does not appear to be important in the initial differentiation of CD4 T cells into T(H)2-type cells but rather appears to be important in the effector phase of allergic inflammation.

The important role of IL-13 in the pathogenesis of bronchial asthma as well as other allergic diseases has been recognized, based mainly on analyses of mouse models. Interleukin-13 further plays a major role in various other inflammatory diseases including cancer. The IL-13R $\alpha$ 2 but not IL-13R $\alpha$ 1 chain binds IL-13 with high affinity and is over expressed in a variety of human cancer cells derived from glioma, squamous cell carcinoma of head and neck, and AIDS-associated Kaposi's sarcoma.

## 2.2. Principle of the method

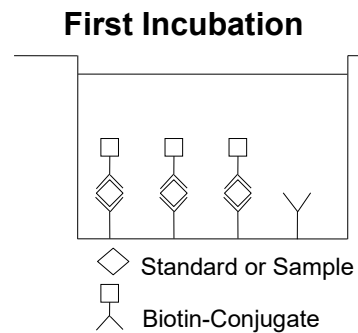
An anti-mouse IL-13 coating antibody is adsorbed onto microwells.

**Figure 1**



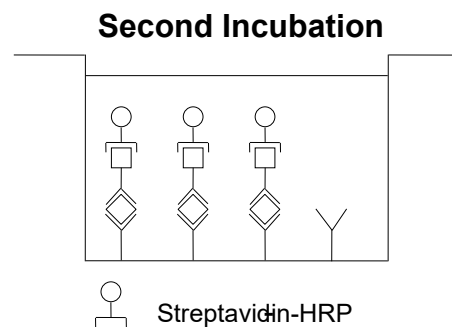
Mouse IL-13 present in the sample or standard binds to antibodies adsorbed to the microwells. A biotin-conjugated anti-mouse IL-13 antibody is added and binds to mouse IL-13 captured by the first antibody.

**Figure 2**



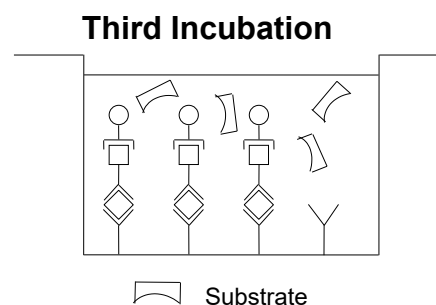
Following incubation unbound biotin-conjugated anti-mouse IL-13 antibody is removed during a wash step. Streptavidin-HRP is added and binds to the biotin-conjugated anti-mouse IL-13 antibody.

**Figure 3**



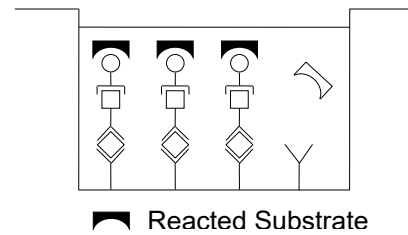
Following incubation unbound Streptavidin-HRP is removed during a wash step, and substrate solution reactive with HRP is added to the wells.

**Figure 4**



A coloured product is formed in proportion to the amount of mouse IL-13 present in the sample or standard. The reaction is terminated by addition of acid and absorbance is measured at 450 nm. A standard curve is prepared from 7 mouse IL-13 standard dilutions and mouse IL-13 sample concentration determined.

**Figure 5**



### 3. Reagents provided and reconstitution

- 1 aluminium pouch with a **Microwell Plate coated** with polyclonal antibody to mouse IL-13
- 1 vial (70 µl) **Biotin-Conjugate** anti-mouse IL-13 polyclonal antibody
- 1 vial (150 µl) **Streptavidin-HRP**
- 2 vials mouse IL-13 **Standard** lyophilized, 1 ng/ml upon reconstitution
- 1 vial (12 ml) **Sample Diluent**
- 1 vial (5 ml) **Assay Buffer Concentrate** 20x (PBS with 1% Tween 20 and 10% BSA)
- 1 bottle (50 ml) **Wash Buffer Concentrate** 20x (PBS with 1% Tween 20)
- 1 vial (15 ml) **Substrate Solution** (tetramethyl-benzidine)
- 1 vial (15 ml) **Stop Solution** (1M Phosphoric acid)
- 4 **Adhesive Films**

### 4. Materials required but not provided

- Microtitre plate reader fitted with appropriate filters (450nm required with optional 620nm reference filter)
- Microplate washer or wash bottle
- 10, 50, 100, 200 and 1,000µl adjustable single channel micropipettes with disposable tips
- 50-300µl multi-channel micropipette with disposable tips
- Multichannel micropipette reagent reservoirs
- Distilled water
- Vortex mixer
- Miscellaneous laboratory plastic and/or glass, if possible sterile

### 5. Storage Instructions

Store kit reagents between 2° and 8°C. Immediately after use remaining reagents should be returned to cold storage (2° to 8°C). Expiry of the kit and reagents is stated on labels.

Expiry of the kit components can only be guaranteed if the components are stored properly, and if, in case of repeated use of one component, this reagent is not contaminated by the first handling.

## 6. Specimen collection, processing & storage

Cell culture supernatant and serum were tested with this assay. Other body fluids might be suitable for use in the assay. Remove serum from the clot as soon as possible after clotting.

Pay attention to a possible “**Hook Effect**” due to high sample concentrations.

Samples containing a visible precipitate must be clarified prior to use in the assay. Do not use grossly hemolyzed or lipemic specimens.

Samples should be aliquoted and must be stored frozen at -20°C to avoid loss of bioactive mouse IL-13. If samples are to be run within 24 hours, they may be stored at 2° to 8°C.

Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Prior to assay, the frozen sample should be brought to room temperature slowly and mixed gently.

**Do not thaw samples in a 37°C water bath. Do not vortex or sharply agitate samples.**

## 7. Safety & precautions for use

- Handling of reagents, serum or plasma specimens should be in accordance with local safety procedures , e.g.CDC/NIH Health manual : " Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories" 1984
- Laboratory gloves should be worn at all times
- Avoid any skin contact with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and TMB. In case of contact, wash thoroughly with water
- Do not eat, drink, smoke or apply cosmetics where kit reagents are used
- Do not pipette by mouth
- When not in use, kit components should be stored refrigerated or frozen as indicated on vials or bottles labels
- All reagents should be warmed to room temperature before use. Lyophilized standards should be discarded after use
- Once the desired number of strips has been removed, immediately reseal the bag to protect the remaining strips from deterioration
- Cover or cap all reagents when not in use
- Do not mix or interchange reagents between different lots
- Do not use reagents beyond the expiration date of the kit
- Use a clean disposable plastic pipette tip for each reagent, standard, or specimen addition in order to avoid cross contamination, for the dispensing of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and substrate solution, avoid pipettes with metal parts
- Use a clean plastic container to prepare the washing solution
- Thoroughly mix the reagents and samples before use by agitation or swirling
- All residual washing liquid must be drained from the wells by efficient aspiration or by decantation followed by tapping the plate forcefully on absorbent paper. Never insert absorbent paper directly into the wells
- The TMB solution is light sensitive. Avoid prolonged exposure to light. Also, avoid contact of the TMB solution with metal to prevent colour development. Warning TMB is toxic avoid direct contact with hands. Dispose off properly
- If a dark blue colour develops within a few minutes after preparation, this indicates that the TMB solution has been contaminated and must be discarded. Read absorbance's within 1 hour after completion of the assay
- When pipetting reagents, maintain a consistent order of addition from well-to-well. This will ensure equal incubation times for all wells
- Follow incubation times described in the assay procedure
- Dispense the TMB solution within 15 min of the washing of the microtitre plate

## 8. Assay Preparation

Bring all reagents to room temperature before use

### 8.1. Assay Design

Determine the number of microwell strips required to test the desired number of samples plus appropriate number of wells needed for running zeros and standards. Each sample, standard and zero should be tested **in duplicate**. Remove sufficient Microwell Strips for testing from the aluminium pouch immediately prior to use. Return any wells not required for this assay with desiccant to the pouch. Seal tightly and return to 2-8°C storage.

**Example plate layout** (example shown for a 6 points standard curve)

	Standards		Sample Wells									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	500	500										
B	250	250										
C	125	125										
D	62.5	62.5										
E	31.3	31.3										
F	15.6	15.6										
G	Zero	Zero										
H												

*All remaining empty wells can be used to test samples in duplicate*

### 8.2. Preparation of Wash Buffer

Pour entire contents (50 ml) of the Wash Buffer Concentrate (20x) into a clean 1000 ml graduated cylinder. Bring to final volume of 1000 ml with glass-distilled or deionized water. Mix gently to avoid foaming.

Transfer to a clean wash bottle and store at 2° to 25°C. Please note that Wash Buffer (1x) is stable for 30 days.

Wash Buffer (1x) may also be prepared as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Wash Buffer Concentrate (20x) (ml)	Distilled Water (ml)
1 - 6	25	475
1 - 12	50	950

### 8.3. Preparation of Assay Buffer

Pour the entire contents (5 ml) of the **Assay Buffer Concentrate** (20x) into a clean 100 ml graduated cylinder. Bring to final volume of 100 ml with distilled water. Mix gently to avoid foaming.

Store at 2° to 8°C. Please note that the Assay Buffer (1x) is stable for 30 days.

Assay Buffer (1x) may also be prepared as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Assay Buffer Concentrate (20x) (ml)	Distilled Water (ml)
1 - 6	2.5	47.5
1 - 12	5.0	95.0

### 8.4. Preparation of Standard

Reconstitute **mouse IL-13 standard** by addition of distilled water.

Reconstitution volume is stated on the label of the standard vial. Allow the reconstituted standard to sit for 10-30 minutes. Swirl or mix gently to insure complete and homogeneous solubilization (concentration of reconstituted standard = 1000 pg/ml).

The standard has to be used immediately after reconstitution and cannot be stored.

After reconstitution Add 100 µl of Sample Diluent in duplicate to all **standard wells**. Pipette 100 µl of prepared **standard** in duplicate into well A1 and A2. Mix the contents of wells A1 and A2 by repeated aspiration and ejection (concentration of standard 1, S1 = 500 pg/ml), and transfer 100 µl to wells B1 and B2, respectively. Take care not to scratch the inner surface of the microwells. Continue this procedure 5 times, creating two rows of mouse IL-13 standard dilutions ranging from 500 to 7.8 pg/ml. Discard 100 µl of the contents from the last microwells (G1, G2) used.

Alternatively these dilutions can be performed in separate clean tubes and immediately transferred directly into the relevant wells.

### 8.5. Preparation of Biotin-Conjugate

**Please note that the Biotin-Conjugate should be used within 30 minutes after dilution.**

Make a 1:100 dilution of the concentrated **Biotin-Conjugate** solution with Assay Buffer (1x) in a clean plastic tube as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Biotin-Conjugate (ml)	Assay Buffer (1x) (ml)
1 - 6	0.03	2.97
1 - 12	0.06	5.94



## 8.6. Preparation of Streptavidin-HRP

Please note that the Streptavidin-HRP should be used within 30 minutes after dilution.

Make a 1:100 dilution of the concentrated **Streptavidin-HRP** solution with Assay Buffer (1x) in a clean plastic tube as needed according to the following table:

Number of Strips	Streptavidin-HRP (ml)	Assay Buffer (1x) (ml)
1 - 6	0.06	5.94
1 - 12	0.12	11.88

## 9. Method

We strongly recommend that every vial is mixed thoroughly without foaming prior to use except the standard vial which must be mixed gently by inversion only.

Prepare all reagents as shown in section 8.

Note: Final preparation of Biotin conjugate (section 8.5) and Streptavidin-HRP (section 8.6) should occur immediately before use.

Assay Step		Details
1.	Wash	a) Dispense 0.4 ml of <b>1x washing solution</b> into each well b) Aspirate the contents of each well c) Repeat steps a and b Do not allow wells to dry before use
2.	Addition	<b>Prepare Standard curve</b> as shown in section 8.4
3.	Addition	Add 100µl of each <b>Standard, Control (where applicable) and zero (appropriate sample diluent)</b> in duplicate to appropriate number of wells
4.	Addition	Add 50µl of <b>Sample diluent</b> and 50µl of <b>Sample</b> in duplicate to appropriate number of wells
5.	Addition	Add 50µl of diluted <b>biotin-conjugate</b> to all wells
6.	Incubation	Cover with a plastic plate cover and incubate at room temperature (18 to 25°C) for <b>2 hour(s)</b> if available on a microplate shaker set at 100 rpm
7.	Wash	Remove the cover and wash the plate as follows: a) Aspirate the liquid from each well b) Dispense 0.4 ml of <b>1x washing solution</b> into each well c) Aspirate the contents of each well d) Repeat step b and c another two times
8.	Addition	Add 100µl of <b>Streptavidin-HRP</b> solution into all wells
9.	Incubation	Cover with a plastic plate cover and incubate at room temperature (18 to 25°C) for <b>1 hour</b> if available on a microplate shaker set at 100 rpm
10.	Wash	Repeat wash step 7.
11.	Addition	Add 100µl of ready-to-use <b>TMB Substrate Solution</b> into all wells
12.	Incubation	Incubate in the dark for <b>10 minutes*</b> at room temperature. Avoid direct exposure to light by wrapping the plate in aluminium foil.
13.	Addition	Add 100µl of <b>Stop Reagent</b> into all wells
<p><b>Read the absorbance</b> value of each well (immediately after step 13.) on a spectrophotometer using 450 nm as the primary wavelength and optionally 620 nm as the reference wave length (610 nm to 650 nm is acceptable).</p>		

\*Incubation time of the substrate solution is usually determined by the ELISA reader performance. Many ELISA readers only record absorbance up to 2.0 O.D. Therefore the colour development within individual microwells must be observed by the analyst, and the substrate reaction stopped before positive wells are no longer within recordable range

**Note:** In case of incubation without shaking the obtained O.D. values may be lower than indicated below. Nevertheless the results are still valid.

## 10. Data Analysis

Calculate the average absorbance values for each set of duplicate standards and samples. Duplicates should be within 20 per cent of the mean value.

Create a standard curve by plotting the mean absorbance for each standard concentration on the ordinate against the mouse IL-13 concentration on the abscissa. Draw a best fit curve through the points of the graph (a 5-parameter curve fit is recommended).

To determine the concentration of circulating mouse IL-13 for each sample, first find the mean absorbance value on the ordinate and extend a horizontal line to the standard curve. At the point of intersection, extend a vertical line to the abscissa and read the corresponding mouse IL-13 concentration.

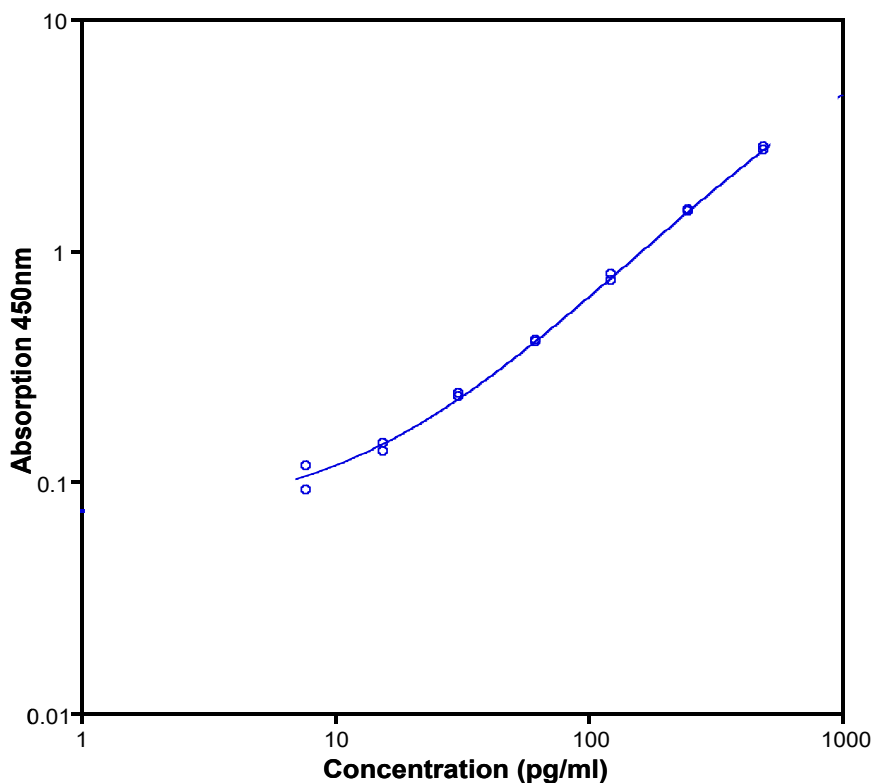
**If instructions in this protocol have been followed samples have been diluted 1:2 (50 µl sample + 50 µl Sample Diluent), the concentration read from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor (x 2).**

**Calculation of samples with a concentration exceeding standard 1 will result in incorrect, low mouse IL-13 levels (Hook Effect). Such samples require further external predilution according to expected mouse IL-13 values with Sample Diluent in order to precisely quantitate the actual mouse IL-13 level.**

It is suggested that each testing facility establishes a control sample of known mouse IL-13 concentration and runs this additional control with each assay. If the values obtained are not within the expected range of the control, the assay results may be invalid.

### Figure 6

Representative standard curve for mouse IL-13 ELISA. Mouse IL-13 was diluted in serial 2-fold steps in Sample Diluent. Do not use this standard curve to derive test results. A standard curve must be run for each group of microwell strips assayed.



**Table 1**

Typical data using the mouse IL-13 ELISA

Measuring wavelength: 450 nm

Reference wavelength: 620 nm

Standard	Mouse IL-13 Concentration (pg/ml)	O.D. at 450 nm	Mean O.D. at 450 nm	C.V. (%)
1	500.0	2.685	2.721	1.3
	500.0	2.757		
2	250.0	1.481	1.469	0.8
	250.0	1.456		
3	125.0	0.782	0.757	3.3
	125.0	0.732		
4	62.5	0.408	0.404	0.9
	62.5	0.401		
5	31.3	0.239	0.236	1.5
	31.3	0.232		
6	15.6	0.146	0.141	4.2
	15.6	0.135		
Blank	0.0	0.032	0.032	0.0
	0.0	0.032		

The OD values of the standard curve may vary according to the conditions of assay performance (e.g. operator, pipetting technique, washing technique or temperature effects). Furthermore shelf life of the kit may affect enzymatic activity and thus colour intensity. Values measured are still valid.

## 11. Assay limitations

Do not extrapolate the standard curve beyond the maximum standard curve point. The dose-response is non-linear in this region and good accuracy is difficult to obtain. Concentrated samples above the maximum standard concentration must be diluted with Standard diluent or with your own sample buffer to produce an OD value within the range of the standard curve. Following analysis of such samples always multiply results by the appropriate dilution factor to produce actual final concentration.

The influence of various drugs on end results has not been investigated. Bacterial or fungal contamination and laboratory cross-contamination may also cause irregular results.

Improper or insufficient washing at any stage of the procedure will result in either false positive or false negative results. Completely empty wells before dispensing fresh Washing Buffer, fill with Washing Buffer as indicated for each wash cycle and do not allow wells to sit uncovered or dry for extended periods.

Disposable pipette tips, flasks or glassware are preferred, reusable glassware must be washed and thoroughly rinsed of all detergents before use.

As with most biological assays conditions may vary from assay to assay therefore **a fresh standard curve must be prepared and run for every assay.**

## 12. Performance Characteristics

## 12.1. Sensitivity

The limit of detection of mouse IL-13 defined as the analyte concentration resulting in an absorbance significantly higher than that of the dilution medium (mean plus 2 standard deviations) was determined to be 2.8 pg/ml (mean of 6 independent assays).

## 12.2. Specificity

The interference of circulating factors of the immune system was evaluated by spiking these proteins at physiologically relevant concentrations into serum. There was no cross reactivity detected, notably not with the inactive IL-13/IL-13BP complex.

## 12.3. Precision

### Intra-assay

Reproducibility within the assay was evaluated in 3 independent experiments. Each assay was carried out with 6 replicates of 5 serum and plasma samples containing different concentrations of mouse IL-13. 2 standard curves were run on each plate. Data below show the mean mouse IL-13 concentration and the coefficient of variation for each sample (see Table ). **The calculated overall intra-assay coefficient of variation was 4.6%.**

**Table 2**

The mean mouse IL-13 concentration and the coefficient of variation for each sample

Sample	Experiment	Mean Mouse IL-13 Concentration (pg/ml)	Coefficient of Variation (%)
1	1	687.47	3.1
	2	701.19	3.3
	3	652.13	1.5
2	1	87.98	2.8
	2	92.79	6.9
	3	80.69	3.1
3	1	101.11	5.4
	2	99.35	4.3
	3	107.56	3.9
4	1	90.02	3.8
	2	91.84	7.4
	3	94.22	6.8
5	1	61.04	7.0
	2	69.57	6.3
	3	60.98	2.8

## Inter-assay

Assay to assay reproducibility within one laboratory was evaluated in 3 independent experiments. Each assay was carried out with 6 replicates of 5 serum and plasma samples containing different concentrations of mouse IL-13. 2 standard curves were run on each plate. Data below show the mean mouse IL-13 concentration and the coefficient of variation calculated on 18 determinations of each sample (see Table ). The calculated overall inter-assay coefficient of variation was 5.0%.

**Table 3**

The mean mouse IL-13 concentration and the coefficient of variation of each sample

Sample	Mean Mouse IL-13 Concentration (pg/ml)	Coefficient of Variation (%)
1	680.26	3.7
2	87.15	7.0
3	102.67	4.2
4	92.03	2.3
5	63.87	7.7

## 12.4. Expected Values

A panel of sera and plasma samples from randomly selected apparently mice was tested for mouse IL-13. The detected mouse IL-13 sera levels ranged between 2.2 and 39.2 pg/ml with a mean level of 15.8 pg/ml. The detected mouse IL-13 plasma levels ranged between 0.0 and 13.3 pg/ml with a mean level of 4.2 pg/ml.

## 12.5. Spike Recovery

The spike recovery was evaluated by spiking 4 levels of mouse IL-13 into serum and plasma samples. Recoveries were determined in 3 independent experiments with 6 replicates each.

The amount of endogenous Product in unspiked serum was subtracted from the spike values.

**The overall mean recovery of about 10%** might be due to IL-13/IL13BP complex formation. (This inactive complex is not detected by this mouse IL-13 ELISA).

## 12.6. Stability

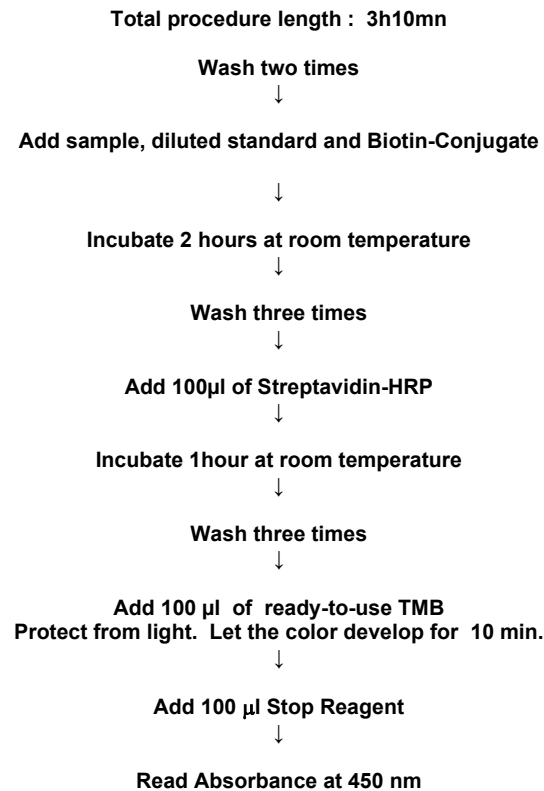
### Freeze-Thaw Stability

Aliquots of serum samples (spiked or unspiked) were stored at -20°C and thawed 5 times, and the mouse IL-13 levels determined. There was no significant loss of mouse IL-13 immunoreactivity detected by freezing and thawing.

### Storage Stability

Aliquots of serum samples (spiked or unspiked) were stored at -20°C, 2-8°C, room temperature (RT) and at 37°C, and the mouse IL-13 level determined after 24 h. There was no significant loss of mouse IL-13 immunoreactivity detected during storage under above conditions.

## 13. Assay Summary



### Supplier:

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