

**Limulus Amebocyte Lysate  
PYROAGENT® 5000**  
US License No. 1775

Catalog No.: N383

Lot No.

Exp. Date:

Store at 2 - 8°C

See Package Insert for Instructions and Warnings.

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**Lonza**



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## Limulus Amebocyte Lysate (LAL) PYROAGENT® 5000

# Content

Section	Page No.	
1	Intended Use	2
1	Warning	2
1	Explanation of Test	3
2	Principle	4
2	Reagents Supplied and Storage Conditions	5
3	Materials and Equipment Not Provided	7
4	Sample Collection and Preparation	8
4	Types of PYROGENT <sup>®</sup> 5000 Assays	9
5	Reagent Preparation	12
6	Test Procedure	14

Section	Page No.	
7	Performance Characteristics	17
7	Calculation of Endotoxin Concentration	18
8	POWERCURVE™	21
9	Product Inhibition	23
9	Limitations and Indications	26
9	Turbid Samples	26
9	Archived Standard Curve	26
10	Correlation with Other Methods	28
10	A Note for Our International Customers	28
10	References	29

## Important: Read Entire Brochure Before Performing Test

### Intended Use

This product is to be used only as an *in vitro* end-product endotoxin test for human and animal parenteral drugs, biological products, and medical devices. This product is not intended for use in the detection of endotoxin in clinical samples for the diagnosis of human disease. This test utilizes a preparation of Limulus Amebocyte Lysate (LAL), in combination with an incubating microplate reader and appropriate software, to detect endotoxin photometrically.

The Pharmacopeia outlines procedures that are considered necessary for:

1. Establishing endotoxin limits for pharmaceuticals and medical devices
2. Validating the use of LAL as an end-product endotoxin test
3. Developing a routine testing protocol<sup>9</sup>.

The procedures described herein are based on the Pharmacopeial guidelines.

### Warning

For *In Vitro* Use Only. The PYROGENT® 5000 Assay is not intended to detect endotoxemia in man or animals, or for use in clinical diagnosis, patient management, or for the qualification of blood or blood products. The LAL Test may

be substituted for the USP Rabbit Pyrogen Test when used according to the Pharmacopeial guidelines for end-product testing of human and animal parenteral drugs, biological products, and medical devices<sup>9</sup>.

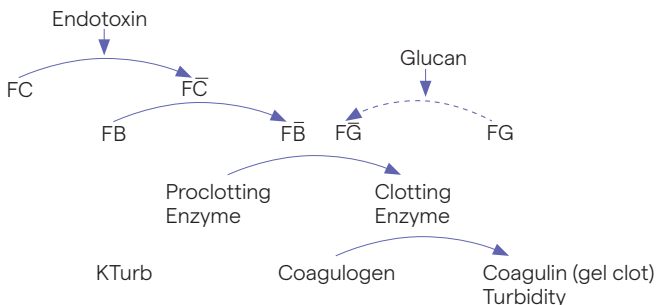
## Explanation of Test

PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 is a quantitative, kinetic assay for the detection of Gram-negative bacterial endotoxin. A sample is mixed with the reconstituted LAL reagent, placed in the incubating microplate reader, and automatically monitored over time for the appearance of turbidity. The time required before the appearance of turbidity (Reaction Time) is inversely proportional to the amount of endotoxin present. That is, in the presence of a large amount of endotoxin the reaction occurs rapidly; in the presence of a smaller amount of endotoxin the reaction time is increased. The concentration of endotoxin in unknown samples can be calculated from a standard curve.

The use of LAL for the detection of endotoxin evolved from the observation by Bang<sup>1</sup> that a Gram-negative infection of *Limulus polyphemus*, the horseshoe crab, resulted in fatal intravascular coagulation. Levin and Bang<sup>2,3</sup> later demonstrated that this clotting was the result of a reaction between endotoxin and a clottable protein in the circulating amebocytes of *Limulus*. Following the development of a suitable anti-coagulant for *Limulus* blood, Levin and Bang<sup>4</sup> prepared a lysate from washed amebocytes, which was an extremely sensitive indicator of the presence of endotoxin.

Solum<sup>5,6</sup> and Young, Levin and Prendergast<sup>8</sup> have purified and characterized the clottable protein from LAL and have shown the reaction with endotoxin to be enzymatic. Teller and Kelly<sup>7</sup> demonstrated that the endotoxin activation of lysate could be monitored photometrically.

## Principle



Factor C, the first component in the cascade, is a protease zymogen that is activated by endotoxin binding. In this pathway, Factor B (FB) is activated by Factor C. Downstream, Factor B activates a proclotting enzyme into a clotting enzyme. The turbidimetric assay (Lonza's PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 Assay, KTurb) uses the native substrate, coagulogen, which can be cleaved into coagulin. Coagulin then begins to self-associate and forms a gelatinous clot. The turbidimetric LAL assay measures the increase in turbidity (optical density) that precedes the formation of the gel clot.

## Reagents Supplied and Storage Conditions

### PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reagent

#### (T50-300, T50-600) Yellow-Labeled Vial

The LAL reagent contains a lysate prepared from the circulating amebocytes of the horseshoe crab,

*Limulus polyphemus*. **Reconstitute before use with**

**PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer**, per the following table:

PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reagent	PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer Required
T50-300	5.2 mL/vial
T50-600	10.4 mL/vial

Swirl gently to avoid foaming.

**Important:** Prior to use, wait about two (2) minutes to allow any bubbles to rise to the top of the vial.

Store lyophilized (unreconstituted) PYROGENT® 5000 LAL under refrigeration at 2 to 8°C. Avoid exposure to temperatures in excess of 37°C. Avoid exposure to bright light. Discard lysate which has turned yellow or become insoluble. Reconstituted PYROGENT® 5000 LAL is stable up to 8 hours at 2 to 8°C.

## PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer

(B50-300) **Blue-Labeled Vial**

(B50-600) **Green-Labeled Vial**

This buffer must be used to rehydrate the PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reagent. Allow buffer to warm to room temperature before use.

Store PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer at 2 to 8°C.

**Note:** Not included but required for lysate only kits.

## *E. coli* O55:B5 Endotoxin

(7460) **Red-Labeled Vial**

The reconstitution volume of the vial is stated on the Certificate of Analysis and is calculated to yield a solution containing 100.0 EU (or IU)/mL. Reconstitute with the specified volume of LAL Reagent Water. Shake vigorously for 15 to 30 minutes at high speed on a vortex mixer. Prior to subsequent use, a stored stock solution must be warmed to room temperature and vigorously vortexed for 15 to 30 minutes. This is important because the endotoxin tends to attach to glass. The COA is available at [www.lonza.com/coa](http://www.lonza.com/coa).

Store lyophilized endotoxin at 2 to 8°C. Reconstituted endotoxin is stable up to four weeks at 2 to 8°C.

**Note:** Endotoxin is not included but required for lysate only kits.



This endotoxin is provided for the user's convenience. Other endotoxin preparations may be used to prepare the standards; however, their performance in the turbidimetric assay relative to the Reference Standard Endotoxin (RSE) must be determined.

## Materials and Equipment NOT Provided

1. LAL Reagent Water #W50-640, #W50-100, #W50-500, or equivalent). LAL Reagent Water is equivalent to Water for Bacterial Endotoxins Test (BET).
2. Sodium hydroxide, 0.1N, or Hydrochloric acid, 0.1N, dissolved in LAL Reagent Water, for pH adjustment of sample if necessary.
3. Disposable endotoxin-free glass dilution tubes (13 × 100 mm, #N207 or equivalent).
4. Individually wrapped serological pipettes.
5. Automatic hand-held pipettes with sterile, individually wrapped or racked tips.
6. Disposable sterile microplates.

**Note:** Prior to routine use, micro-plates should be pre-qualified<sup>9</sup> (#00313405 or equivalent).

7. Eight channel pipettor.

8. Reagent reservoirs (#00190035 or equivalent).
9. Microplate reader (Nebula® Absorbance Reader, #25-365S; Nebula® Multimode Reader #25-375S or equivalent).
10. WinKQCL® Software.
11. Timer
12. Vortex mixer.
13. For kits without endotoxin: Endotoxin Standard (Control Standard Endotoxin that has been matched with the LAL).
14. For kits without buffer: PYROGENT® 5000 LAL Reconstitution Buffer.

## Sample Collection and Preparation

Careful technique must be used to avoid microbial or endotoxin contamination. All materials coming in contact with the sample or test reagents must be endotoxin-free. Clean glassware and materials may be rendered endotoxin-free by heating at 250°C for 30 minutes. Appropriate precautions should be taken to protect depyrogenated materials from subsequent environmental contamination.

From experience, most sterile, individually wrapped, plastic pipettes and pipette tips are endotoxin-free. However, these materials should be tested before regular use.

It may be necessary to adjust the pH of the sample to within the range 6.0 – 8.0 using endotoxin-free sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid. Always measure the pH of an aliquot of the bulk sample to avoid contamination by the pH electrode. Do not adjust unbuffered solutions.

Samples to be tested must be stored in such a way that all bacteriological activity is stopped or the endotoxin level may increase with time. For example, store samples at 2 to 8°C for less than 24 hours and frozen for periods greater than 24 hours. It is the responsibility of the end-user to validate the proper container and storage conditions for their samples.

## Types of PYROGENT® 5000 Assays

The incubating microplate reader and WinKQCL® Software are an integral part of the turbidimetric LAL assay. It is important to become familiar with the operation of the incubating microplate reader and the features of the WinKQCL® Software. Please refer to the incubating microplate reader and WinKQCL® Software Manuals or Help for more detailed information.

There are four (4) basic types of turbidimetric LAL assays, each of which is designed to perform a different aspect of LAL testing.

## 1. Routine

A Routine assay calculates the concentration of endotoxin in unknowns by comparison to the performance of a series of endotoxin standards.

As part of a Routine assay, the user has the option to include a Positive Product Control (PPC) as a monitor for product inhibition or enhancement (number 2 below). A PPC is a sample of product to which a known amount of endotoxin spike has been added. The WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software automatically calculates the amount of endotoxin recovered in the PPC, allowing for a comparison to the known amount of endotoxin spike.

## 2. Inhibition/Enhancement

The LAL reaction is enzyme mediated and, as such, has an optimal pH range and specific salt and divalent cation requirements.

Occasionally test samples may alter these optimal conditions to an extent that the lysate is rendered insensitive to endotoxin. Negative results with samples which inhibit the LAL test do not necessarily indicate the absence of endotoxin.

An Inhibition/Enhancement assay is designed to determine what level of product dilution overcomes inhibition or enhancement. Each product dilution must be accompanied by a Positive Product Control (PPC). The WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software automatically calculates the amount of endotoxin recovered in the PPC for comparison to

the known amount of endotoxin spike. In this manner it can be determined which product dilutions are non-interfering.

### 3. RSE/CSE

An RSE/CSE assay is designed to determine the potency of a Control Standard Endotoxin (CSE) in terms of the concentration units of the Reference Standard Endotoxin (RSE).

The assay requires a single series of RSE dilutions and one or more sets of dilutions of the CSE. Depending on the concentration units of the CSE, the WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software automatically computes mean potency values in terms of EU/ng or EU/mL. The user also has the option to enter units other than EU or ng.

### 4. Initial Qualification

An Initial Qualification assay is designed according to the requirements described in the Pharmacopeia<sup>9</sup>. **This assay is required as part of the validation of the LAL assay and is also to be performed with each new lot of PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000.**

The Initial Qualification assay performs a log/log linear correlation of the individual Reaction Time values for each replicate of each endotoxin standard. The other assays use the average Reaction Time of all the replicates of each standard.

The Initial Qualification assay does not provide for the inclusion of any samples.

## Reagent Preparation

Allow reagents to equilibrate to room temperature prior to use.

In order to calculate endotoxin concentrations in unknown samples each turbidimetric LAL assay must be referenced to a valid standard curve.

Because of the large concentration range over which endotoxin values can be determined, it is possible to adjust the quantitative range of any given assay by adjusting the concentration of endotoxin standards used to generate the standard curve. A minimum of three standards is required.

The PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 Assay has been optimized to be linear from 0.01 EU/mL to 100.0 EU/mL. However, the individual user may choose to truncate the standard curve depending on specific product requirements. Data indicates that truncating a turbidimetric LAL standard curve may improve the accuracy of predicted endotoxin values for test samples. It is recommended that the user be familiar with the Pharmacopeial requirements for kinetic LAL techniques prior to establishing a turbidimetric LAL standard curve range to be used for routine testing of product samples<sup>9</sup>.

The following table suggests a dilution scheme for constructing a series of endotoxin dilutions from the endotoxin supplied in the kit. Not all dilutions must be used to generate a standard curve. Alternative dilution schemes can be used as well as other endotoxins not supplied in this kit. If the endotoxin used is not supplied in the kit, an RSE/CSE test to determine the CSE potency may be required.

**Note:** Plastic tubes are not recommended for making endotoxin dilutions.

**Note:** If using PyroTec PRO<sup>®</sup> Robotic Solution, endotoxin dilutions can be mixed with an up down mixing step in lieu of a vigorous vortex.

Endotoxin Concentration (EU/mL)	Volume of LAL Reagent Water	Volume of Endotoxin Solution Added to LAL Reagent Water
10.0	0.9 mL	0.1 mL of 100.0 EU/mL solution
1.0	0.9 mL	0.1 mL of 10.0 EU/mL solution
0.10	0.9 mL	0.1 mL of 1.0 EU/mL solution
0.01	0.9 mL	0.1 mL of 0.10 EU/mL solution

1. Prepare a solution containing 10.0 EU/mL endotoxin by adding 0.1 mL of the 100.0 EU/mL endotoxin stock into 0.9 mL of LAL Reagent Water in a suitable container and label 10.0 EU/mL. This solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.
2. Transfer 0.1 mL of the 10.0 EU/mL endotoxin solution into 0.9 mL of LAL Reagent Water in a suitable container and label 1.0 EU/mL. This solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.
3. Transfer 0.1 mL of the 1.0 EU/mL endotoxin solution into 0.9 mL of LAL Reagent Water in a suitable container and label 0.10 EU/mL. This solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.
4. Transfer 0.1 mL of the 0.10 EU/mL endotoxin solution into 0.9 mL of LAL Reagent Water in a suitable container and label 0.01 EU/mL. This solution should be vigorously vortexed for at least 1 minute before proceeding.

## Test Procedure

**Important:** The reader must be located in an area free of excessive vibration (ex. centrifuges, shakers, etc.) during the actual running of the test.

Refer to the microplate reader and WinKQCL® Software Manuals for more detailed information on performing a PYROGENT® 5000 Test.



1. Create a specific **Template** for the test to be run. A Template contains the name of the analyst, type of assay, lot numbers of reagents, the number and concentration of endotoxin standards, number of replicates, and how standards and samples will be organized on the microplate.
2. The Assay Type must be set as PYROGENT® 5000. The default Template Parameters that follow should not be changed without prior qualification:

Delta t (seconds)	60
Measurement filter (nm)	340
Delta mOD	30
Number of Reads	100

3. Print the Template for use as a guide in placing standards and samples into the microplate.
4. “Run” the Template, following the WinKQCL® Software prompts.
5. Carefully dispense 100 µL of the LAL Reagent Water blank, endotoxin standards, product samples, positive product controls (see pages 23 – 25 for positive product control instructions), etc. into the appropriate wells of the microplate.  
**Note:** Bubbles must be avoided!
6. Place the filled plate in the microplate reader and close the lid.

7. Pre-incubate the plate for  $\geq 10$  minutes at  $37^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
8. Near the end of the pre-incubation period reconstitute each of the appropriate number of the PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 Reagent vials with PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 Reconstitution Buffer (5.2 mL for the T50-300 vials and 10.4 mL for the T50-600 vials). Mix gently but thoroughly. Allow any bubbles to rise to the top of the vial before use.  
**Note:** Do not vortex the lysate.
9. Pool the reagents into a reagent reservoir and mix by gently rocking the reservoir from side to side.
10. Using an eight channel pipettor dispense 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of the PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 Reagent into all wells of the microplate beginning with the first column (A1-H1) and proceeding in sequence to the last column used. Add reagent as quickly as possible.  
**Note:** Avoid causing bubbles!
11. Immediately click on the OK button in the WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software to initiate the test.  
**Note:** The PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 Assay is performed with the microplate cover removed.

## Performance Characteristics

### Linearity

The linearity of the standard curve within the concentration range used to determine endotoxin values should be verified. No less than 3 endotoxin standards, spanning the desired concentration range, and an LAL Reagent Water blank should be assayed at least in triplicate according to the test parameters of an **Initial Qualification** assay. Additional standards should be included to bracket each log interval over the range of the standard curve.

The absolute value of the correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) of the calculated standard curve should be  $\geq 0.980$ .

### Reproducibility

Replicate samples should be run in order to establish good technique and low coefficient of variation. The coefficient of variation (C.V.) equals the “sample” standard deviation of the reaction times divided by the mean and is usually expressed as a percent. The %C.V. of the reaction times for the replicates should be less than 10%. With experience, values of 3 – 4% should be attainable.

## Calculation of Endotoxin Concentration

Continuously throughout the assay, the microplate reader/ WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software monitors the absorbance at 340 nm of each well of the microplate. Using the initial absorbance reading of each well as its own blank, the reader determines the time required for the absorbance to increase 0.03 absorbance units. This time is termed **Reaction Time**. The WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software automatically performs a log/log linear correlation of the Reaction Time of each standard with its corresponding endotoxin concentration. The standard curve parameters are printed on the report printout. If the absolute value of the correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is  $\geq 0.980$ , a polynomial model can be used to construct a standard curve and in turn predict endotoxin concentrations of test samples. This polynomial curve-fitting model (POWERCURVE™) is an important feature of the WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software (see POWERCURVE™, page 21).

### Linear Regression

The information that follows is an example of how the WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software performs the log/log linear correlation and computes endotoxin concentrations in unknowns.

**It is not necessary to perform these calculations independently.** For each sample of each product, the WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software calculates the corresponding endotoxin concentration from the Reaction Time for that sample. The software automatically adjusts the final **Test Result** value to account for any product dilution.

## Linear Correlation

### Example Calculations

Standards	Concentration	Mean Reaction Time (Sec)	Log Concentration	Log Mean Reaction Time
Neg. Control	—	Unreactive	—	—
S1	0.010 EU/mL	3103	-2.00000000	3.49178178
S2	0.100 EU/mL	1484	-1.00000000	3.17143390
S3	1.000 EU/mL	808	0.00000000	2.90741136
S4	10.000 EU/mL	485	1.00000000	2.68574174
S5	100.000 EU/mL	312	2.00000000	2.49415459
Samples				
1	—	1576	—	3.19755621
2	—	943	—	2.97451169

$$\text{Slope} = \left( \frac{S_y}{S_x} \right) r$$

$$\text{Y-intercept} = \Sigma y / N - (\Sigma x / N \times \text{slope})$$

$$r = \frac{N \Sigma xy - (\Sigma x)(\Sigma y)}{N(N-1)S_x S_y}$$

$$\text{Endotoxin concentration} = \text{antilog} \left[ \frac{\log \text{ Mean Reaction Time} - \text{Y int.}}{\text{slope}} \right]$$

$x = \log_{10}$  Endotoxin concentration in EU/mL.

$y = \log_{10}$  Mean Reaction Time.

$N$  = Number of standards used.

$\Sigma x$  = Summation of  $\log_{10}$  concentration of standards used in EU/mL.

$\Sigma y$  = Summation of  $\log_{10}$  Reaction Time.

$\Sigma xy$  = Summation of the  $\log_{10}$  standard concentrations times  $\log_{10}$  Mean Reaction Time.

$$S_x = \text{Standard deviation of } x = \sqrt{\frac{N\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2}{N(N-1)}}$$

$$S_y = \text{Standard deviation of } y = \sqrt{\frac{N\sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2}{N(N-1)}}$$

## Calculations using Example Data:

$$N = 5$$

$$\sum x = 0.00000000 = (-2.00000000 - 1.00000000 + 0.00000000 + 1.00000000 + 2.00000000)$$

$$\sum y = 14.75052337 = (3.49178178 + 3.17143390 + 2.90741136 + 2.68574174 + 2.49415459)$$

$$\sum xy = -2.48094653 = (-2.00000000 \times 3.49178178) + (-1.00000000 \times 3.17143390) + (0.00000000 \times 2.90741136) + (1.00000000 \times 2.68574174) + (2.00000000 \times 2.49415459)$$

$$S_x = 1.58113883$$

$$S_y = 0.39433541$$

$$r = \frac{5(-2.48094653) - (0.00000000)(14.75052337)}{5(5-1)(1.58113883)(0.39433541)} = -0.99476760$$

$$\text{Slope} = \frac{0.39433541}{1.58113883} \times -0.99476760 = -0.248094653$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Y-intercept} &= \frac{14.75052337}{5} - \left[ \frac{0.00000000}{5} \times (-0.248094653) \right] = 2.95010467 \\ &\quad - [(0.00000000) \times (-0.24809465)] \\ &= 2.95010467 \end{aligned}$$

### Sample 1

Endotoxin Conc.

$$\text{EU/mL} = \text{antilog} \left[ \frac{3.19755621 - 2.95010467}{-0.24809465} \right]$$

$$= \text{antilog} (-0.99740779)$$

$$= 0.101 \text{ EU/mL}$$

### Sample 2

Endotoxin Conc.

$$\text{EU/mL} = \text{antilog} \left[ \frac{2.97451169 - 2.95010467}{-0.24809465} \right]$$

$$= \text{antilog} (-0.09837785)$$

$$= 0.797 \text{ EU/mL}$$

## POWERCURVE™

If the absolute value of the correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is  $\geq 0.980$ , a polynomial model can be used to construct a standard curve and predict endotoxin concentrations of test samples. It has been determined that this polynomial model (POWERCURVE™) improves the accuracy of predicting endotoxin concentrations over the entire (5-log) endotoxin range. The use of the POWERCURVE™ Model requires the use of WinKQCL® Software.

When using POWERCURVE™, a standard curve is generated using the  $\log_{10}$  Reaction Time values and their corresponding  $\log_{10}$  endotoxin concentration to define a polynomial equation. The order of the polynomial equation used to generate the regression curve is determined by the number of endotoxin standards in the assay. The order of the polynomial will always be one less than the number of endotoxin standards, with a maximum of a fourth order polynomial for assays with five or more endotoxin standards and a minimum of a second order polynomial for assays with three standards.

Finding solutions to these polynomial equations is readily accomplished using the WinKQCL® POWERCURVE™ Software. The information provided below is an example of a solution to a polynomial equation using the same set of data from the linear correlation example on page 19.

#### Polynomial (POWERCURVE™) Model

Y	=	A + BX + CX <sup>2</sup> + DX <sup>3</sup> + EX <sup>4</sup>
A	=	2.9074114
B	=	-0.2406592
C	=	0.0211055
D	=	-0.0021869
E	=	0.0000709

The standard curve parameters are printed on the report printout. The WinKQCL® POWERCURVE™ Software uses these parameters to calculate the corresponding endotoxin concentration from the Reaction Time of each sample. The software automatically adjusts the final **Test Result** value to account for any product dilution.

It is important to note that the POWERCURVE™ Polynomial model **CANNOT** be used for **Initial Qualification** assays. Linear regression must still be used in those cases. Additionally, the POWERCURVE™ Polynomial Model has only been evaluated for the Kinetic-QCL® and PYROGENT® 5000 Reagents supplied by Lonza.



## Product Inhibition

Product inhibition occurs when substances in the test sample interfere with the LAL reaction. In the turbidimetric LAL assay, this inhibition results in a longer Reaction Time, indicating lower levels of endotoxin than may actually be present in the test sample. The lack of product inhibition should be determined for each specific sample, either undiluted or at an appropriate dilution.

To verify the lack of product inhibition, an aliquot of test sample (or a dilution of test sample) is spiked with a known amount of endotoxin.

It is recommended that the endotoxin spike result in a final endotoxin concentration in the sample equal to 0.1 EU/mL. For samples which may contain a background endotoxin level >1 EU/mL, the endotoxin spike should result in a final endotoxin concentration of 1.0 EU/mL.

In an Inhibition/Enhancement assay, the spiked solution (PPC) is assayed along with the unspiked sample and their respective endotoxin concentrations, as well as the endotoxin recovered in the spiked sample are automatically calculated. The endotoxin recovered should equal the known concentration of the spike within 50% to 200%<sup>9</sup>.

A spiked aliquot of the test sample (or dilution) may be prepared as in one of the following examples:

## **Tube Method**

Transfer 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of the 10.0 EU/mL solution into 4.95 mL of test sample (or dilution). This solution contains an endotoxin concentration of 0.1 EU/mL in test sample (or dilution). This solution should be vigorously vortexed for one minute prior to use.

Transfer 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of this solution into the 96-well plate as directed by the assay template.

## **Plate Method #1**

Transfer 10  $\mu\text{L}$  of the 1.0 EU/mL solution into each of the PPC wells in the 96-well plate, as directed by the assay template. To these wells, add 0.1 mL of test sample (or dilution). Each well will now contain a 0.1 EU/mL solution. Mix gently by tapping the side of the plate.

## Plate Method #2

Place 0.1 mL of test sample (or dilution) into the PPC wells in the 96-well plate, as directed by the assay template. To these wells, add 10  $\mu$ L of the 1.0 EU/mL solution. Each well will now contain a 0.1 EU/mL solution. Mix gently by tapping the side of the plate.

If the test sample (or dilution) is found to be inhibitory to the turbidimetric LAL reaction, the sample may require further dilution until the inhibition is overcome.

### Example: Determination of a Non-Inhibitory Dilution

Sample Dilution	Endotoxin Recovered
1/10	0.015 Inhibitory
1/20	0.042 Inhibitory
1/40	0.110 Non-Inhibitory

Initially, one may want to screen for product inhibition by testing 10-fold dilutions of test sample. Once the approximate non-inhibitory dilution is determined, the exact dilution can be found by testing two-fold dilutions around this dilution.

## Limitations and Indications

The degree of inhibition or enhancement will be dependent upon the concentration of product. If several concentrations of the same product are to be assayed, it is necessary to establish performance characteristics for each independently.

Patterns of inhibition or enhancement different from those seen with the traditional LAL gelation test may be found.

It may be necessary to adjust the pH of the sample to within the range 6.0 to 8.0 using endotoxin-free sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid to overcome inhibition.

## Turbid Samples

Samples that possess significant turbidity on their own may require clarification prior to testing. Clarification may be achieved by centrifugation, filtration or dilution of sample.

## Archived Standard Curve

The WinKQCL<sup>®</sup> Software may be run using an archived standard curve. Provided that the current reagent lot numbers for the PYROGENT<sup>®</sup> 5000 Reagent, LAL Reagent Water, buffer and endotoxin as well as microplate reader parameters match those used to generate a valid archived standard curve, the archived standard curve may be used instead of placing new endotoxin standards on the 96-well plate.

If an archived standard curve is used, a single standard-control containing an endotoxin concentration equal to the mid-point, on a log basis, between the endotoxin concentration of the highest and lowest endotoxin standards in the archived standard curve should be assayed. The predicted endotoxin concentration should be within  $\pm 25\%$  of its known value.

For example, in an assay with a standard curve spanning from 100.0 to 0.01 EU/mL, a standard-control equal to 1.0 EU/mL should be assayed.

log 100.0	=	2.0
log 0.01	=	-2.0
<hr/>		
log average	=	0.0
antilog 0.0	=	1.0

In an assay with a standard curve spanning from 1.0 to 0.01 EU/mL, a standard-control equal to 0.1 EU/mL should be assayed.

log 1.0	=	0.0000
log 0.01	=	-2.0000
<hr/>		
log average	=	-1.0000
antilog -1.0000	=	0.1

## Correlation with Other Methods

The FDA regulates the official use of LAL testing in the United States. The potency of different endotoxin preparations varies in both the traditional gel test and the turbidimetric method. The endotoxin standard supplied in this kit has been compared to the USP Reference Standard Endotoxin (RSE) using the PYROGENT® 5000 Assay, and the potency is 100.0 EU/mL when reconstituted using the volume specified on the lot-specific Certificate of Analysis. The calibration curve diluted from this standard will yield a range of 0.01 to 100.0 Endotoxin Units/mL relative to the RSE. It should be remembered, however, that the traditional gel test is standardized by two-fold dilutions, so that variations will appear quite large in comparison to those in the turbidimetric LAL test where standardization is continuous and variations are minimal.

## A Note for Our International Customers

Other regulatory agencies may adopt other performance standards which will need to be satisfied in order to be in compliance in their jurisdictions.

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PN383-10 09/24

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