Protein Analysis: ELISA

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Introduction

- ELISA = Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay
- Detects and quantifies peptides, proteins, antibodies and hormones
- Performed in 96-well plate
- Combines specificity of antibodies with the sensitivity of simple enzyme assays



Figure 1. ELISA Detector https://www.news-medical.net/life-sciences

Working Mechanism: Direct ELISA

- 1. Target protein is immobilized in well
- 2. Enzyme-labeled antibody binds to target protein
- 3. Non-binding antibodies are washed away
- 4. Substrate is added and reacts with enzyme, resulting in measurable color change

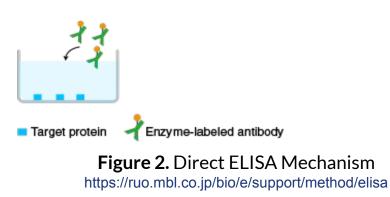
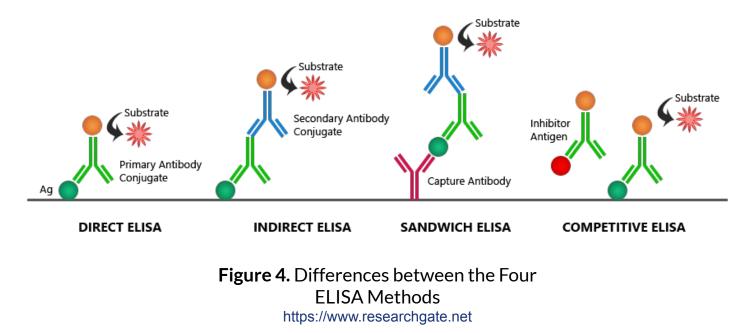




Figure 3. Results of ELISA in 96-Well Plate https://www.researchgate.net

Four Main Types



Mechanism of Sandwich ELISA

- 1. Coat well with capture antibody and incubate with target protein
- 2. Non-specific binding sites on antibody are blocked
- 3. Add enzyme-labeled antibody
- 4. Detection-specific antibody binds to target protein
- 5. Enzyme reacts with substrate and produces color change



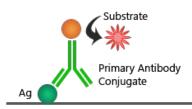
Comparing Direct and Sandwich ELISA

• Short Protocol

- Less prone to error
- Potential high background noise: antigen immobilization is not specific

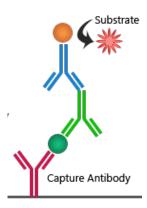
Direct

• Less flexible



Sandwich

- 2-5X more sensitive
- Suitable for complex samples
- High Specificity: requires 2 antibodies to perform capture and detection
- Flexible: can use both direct and indirect methods



Implemented Technology

Paper Title: Expression of Thymidine Phosphorylase (TP) in Primary Human Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC) by ELISA Method

- TP expression in 100 samples of RCC tissue and adjacent normal tissue analyzed with ELISA
- No previous treatments for patients with RCC
- Human tissue samples analyzed with ELISA method

Applied Use

Goal: study the expression of TP in patients with RCC (compared to normal tissue)

Methods:

- Homogenize the tissues and centrifuge to remove unwanted components (testing supernatant)
- Sandwich ELISA method:
 - Plate incubated overnight with TP monoclonal antibody (MoAb) 104B
 - Incubated with TP MoAb 232-2 MoAb in a blocking buffer for 2 hours
 - Plate is fully prepped, then incubated with a substrate solution for 5-10 minutes
 - Amount of TP sandwiched between two anti-TP antibodies was measured by absorbance



Figure 6. Scientist Performing ELISA Assay https://www.bioagilytix.com/elisa

Cell Behaviors Studied

- TP is shown to promote angiogenesis, which allows cancer cells to grow and spread to other parts of the body
- ELISA was used to detect the amount of TP enzyme expression in cells
- Studied TP expression in renal cell carcinoma(RCC) and normal adjacent tissue
- Studied the correlation between tumor venous invasion and TP expression

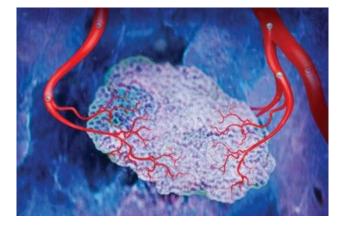


Figure 7. Blood Supply of Tumors https://www.mskcc.org/blog/what-angiogenesis

Analytical Conclusions

- To determine the amount of TP present, its absorbance was measured
- Absorbance was measured against a calibration curve from standard tissue
- Found that TP expression was 9-fold higher in RCC tissue than in normal tissue
- TP expression was higher in patients with tumor venous invasion
- Supports previous findings of TP showing angiogenic activity

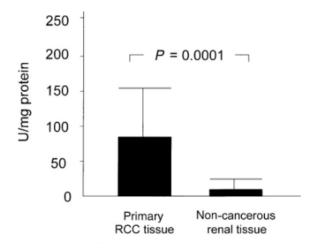


Figure 8. TP Expression in RCC Tissue and Normal Tissue https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com

References

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