

SEROLOGY TESTING

Because accidental and undetected viral infections can diminish the quality of research, you purchase laboratory animals that are Specific Pathogen Free. Therefore, it is critical that you routinely assess your animal colonies to expose any change in their health status. Serologic testing of laboratory animals is a simple and effective way to determine if colony health has been compromised.

As part of our diagnostic services program, Charles River Laboratories provides serology testing. Our serology laboratory performs more than 1 million assays each year on samples from animal facilities worldwide. We detect antibodies to rodent viruses, and select bacteria and protozoa in serum samples from mice, rats, guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits. Problematic pathogens are conveniently organized into profiles so that you can customize your testing program. Individual agent screening is also available.

For mouse and rat serology, our principal testing method is the multiplexed fluorometric immunoassay (MFIA), while the enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) remains the primary tool for screening guinea pig, hamster, and rabbit serum samples.

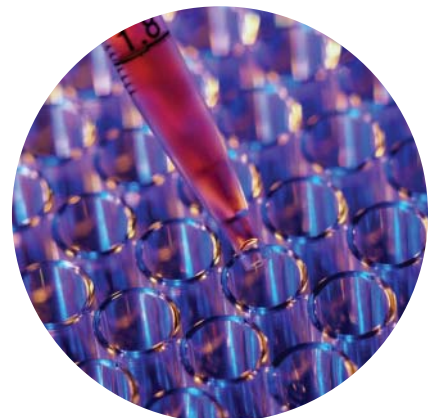
The MFIA is highly sensitive and easily automated, and the reactions are performed in a similar fashion to ELISA or indirect fluorescent antibody (IFA) testing. We complete your assays efficiently while providing consistency from one submission to the next.

Confirmatory testing is performed free of charge for samples that have inconclusive or unexpected results via alternative techniques that include the ELISA, IFA, hemagglutination inhibition (HAI) test, Western blot, and polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

Features

- MFIA is the primary testing method for mouse and rat serum samples
- ELISA is the principal screening method for guinea pig, hamster, and rabbit serum samples
- Turnaround time for standard protocols is 24 to 48 working hours
- Sample submission materials are provided at no charge
- Assistance is offered for GLP serology protocol development
- On-line access to results is available through our Internet Laboratory Information Management System (ILIMS)

For details regarding serology testing, please call Technical Services at 1-800-338-9680 or email comments@crl.com.



SEROLOGY REAGENTS

Performing in-house health monitoring on your rodent colonies is a cost-effective way to detect infections and protect the integrity of your research. Charles River Laboratories provides serology reagents for the detection of viral and bacterial antibodies. By purchasing Charles River's reagents, you can tailor your health monitoring program to meet your specific needs.

Produced at Charles River according to GLP specifications, our diagnostic reagents are used daily in our own serology laboratory as well as in other facilities performing rodent serology.

MFIA Beads - Our antigen-coupled beads have been conveniently organized into serology testing profiles and are available for mouse and rat assays. All necessary diagnostic antigens, tissue controls, and assay internal controls are included in the MFIA bead mixture, which contains enough beads for one 96-well plate.

ELISA Plates - Antigen-coated 96-well plates are available in either the fixed-well format or removable well-strips for flexible, cost-effective testing.

IFA Slides - Antigen-coated glass slides (18 wells) are available for most of the viral agents tested by ELISA.

Murine ImmunoComb™ Kit - This convenient solid-phase assay is based on ELISA and simultaneously detects antibodies to Sendai virus, rodent Coronaviruses (MHV and RCV/SDA), and *Mycoplasma pulmonis*. This kit is completely self-contained and requires no additional equipment.

Supplemental Reagents

Control Sera & Conjugate - For validation and optimization of your assay, we offer control sera and conjugates for ELISA, IFA, and MFIA.

Primary Diluent for MFIA - Used to dilute serum samples and MFIA beads, the primary diluent contains buffers and reagents that bind to nonspecific sites.

Streptavidin-R-phycoerythrin (SPE) for MFIA - SPE binds to biotin-label conjugates to detect primary antibodies and boost the signal of a reaction.

Features

- Reagents offered for several species
- Rigorous quality control testing performed at several points in the production process
- Our technical staff can assist you in setting up your in-house serological testing facility
- Training is available to your personnel, with continued support for results interpretation and troubleshooting
- Confirmation test on samples with inconclusive or unexpected results is completed free of charge

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