



Background

Circulating antibodies to intra-cellular structures especially to nuclear antigens characteristic feature represent a of systemic autoimmune diseases. Antibodies to the Sm complex are regarded as highly markers systemic specific for lupus erythematosus (SLE) where they can be detected in 5-30% of the patients. Due to the high disease specificity anti-Sm antibodies have been included as one of the American College of Rheumatology (ARC) disease criteria for the diagnosis of SLE. The Sm complex is a multiprotein complex consisting of 9 known ribonucleoproteins (RNP). Since SmBB' and U1-RNPs share cross-reactive epitopes, SmD has been proven to be the most disease specific marker autoantigen. As SmD proteins contain the modified amino acid dimethylarginine (DMA) which cannot be produced in a recombinant format, native antigens or synthetic peptides should be preferred for the detection of anti-Sm antibodies.

Intended use

The Sm ELISA is intended for the semiquantitative determination of antibodies specific for the Sm protein complex. The results of the Sm ELISA aid to the diagnosis of SLE and related systemic autoimmune diseases.

General features

- Highly purified native antigen containing symmetrical dimethylarginine
- CE marked
- User-friendly
- Colored reagents
- Ready to use reagents (except washing buffer)
- Breakapart microtiter strips

Technical information

- Assay time: < 1.5 h at RT (30 min /30 min /15 min)
- 3 µL serum or plasma per test
- Detection System: HRP/TMB (OD_{450 nm /620 nm})
- Wide measuring range
- Low detection limit

ID	Target	RU	Interpretation
CDC 1	DNA, Sm	1.9	positive
CDC 2	SS-B/La	0.3	negative
CDC 3	RNP/Sm, SS-A/Ro, SS-B/La	1.6	positive
CDC 4	U-1 RNP	0.4	negative
CDC 5	Sm	6.0	positive
CDC 6	Fibrillarin	0.3	negative
CDC 7	SS-A/Ro	0.3	negative
CDC 8	Centromere	0.3	negative
CDC 9	ScI-70	0.3	negative
CDC 10	Jo-1	0.1	negative
CDC 11	PM/ScI (PM 1)	0.4	negative
CDC 12	Rib-P	0.3	negative

Figure 1

Results of the CDC ANA reference sera. 12 reference serum samples, available from the "Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)" were tested in the Sm ELISA (REF: 25010). Sample CDC1, CDC 3, CDC 5 were positive for anti-Sm antibodies.





Assay performance

- Good correlation to reference ELISA systems
- Excellent "lot to lot" correlation R² > 0.95
- Low intra- and inter-assay variation CV% < 10
- · Excellent linearity over the entire range

ID	Diagnosis	RU	Interpretation	No. of competitors with positive result for Sm
AMLI 1	HD	0.1	negative	0
AMLI 2	SLE	3.1	positive	21/21
AMLI 3	MCTD	0.1	negative	4/21
AMLI 4	SjS	0.1	negative	0
AMLI 5	SjS	0.2	negative	0
AMLI 6	Scl	0.1	negative	0
AMLI 7	PM	0.1	negative	0
AMLI 8	CREST	0.1	negative	1/?
AMLI 9	SLE	0.3	negative	0
AMLI 10	HD	0.1	negative	0

HD = healthy donor; SLE = systemic lupus erythematosus; MCTD = mixed connective tissue disease; SjS = Sjögren Syndrome; Scl = Systemic sclerosis; CREST = (calcinosis, Raynaud phenomenon, esophageal dysmotility, sclerodactyly and telangiectasia); PM = Polymoysitis

Figure 2

Results of the AMLI reference sera. 10 reference serum samples, available from the Association of Medical Laboratory Immunologists (AMLI) were tested in the Sm ELISA (REF: 25010). Only sample AMLI 2 was found to be positive. The results show a good agreement to the findings of 21 reference laboratories.

Table 1	Prevalence of anti-Sm in different disease groups and
	healthy donors

	No. (%) pos	Max	Mean
SLE (n=89)	10 (11.2)	6.8	0.9
Controls (n=165)	2 (1.2)	2.0	1.1
RA (n=23)	1 (4.4)	2.0	0.5
Other AID (n=63)	1 (1.6)	1.8	0.5
HD (n=79)	0 (0)	0.5	1.1

HD = healthy donor; SLE = systemic lupus erythematosus; RA = rheumatoid arthritis; AID = autoimmune diseases

	Sm ELISA (25010)				
C		neg	pos		
Referenc	neg	48	4	52	
	pos	1	7	8	
		49	11	60	

Figure 3

Agreement to reference method. 60 serum samples from patients with connective tissue disease tested in the Sm ELISA (REF: 25010) and in a validated reference line immunoassay (LIA) for anti-SmD antibodies demonstrated a good agreement (91,7 %) between the two assays.

Literature

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3. Mahler M, Stinton LM, Fritzler MJ: Improved serological differentiation between systemic lupus erythematosus and mixed connective tissue disease by use of an SmD3 peptide-based immunoassay. *Clin Diagn Lab Immunol* 2005, **12**:107-113.

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