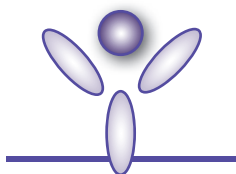




# **LEGEND MAX™**

ELISA Kit with Pre-coated Plates



## **Human IL-15**

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Cat. No. 435107 | 1 Plate  |
| 435108          | 5 Plates |

ELISA Kit for Accurate Quantitation of Human IL-15 from  
Cell Culture Supernatant, Serum, Plasma and Other  
Biological Fluids

BioLegend, Inc.  
[biolegend.com](http://biolegend.com)

***It is highly recommended that this manual be read in its entirety before using this product. Do not use this kit beyond the expiration date.***

*For Research Purposes Only. Not for use in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures. Purchase does not include or carry the right to resell or transfer this product either as a stand-alone product or as a component of another product. Any use of this product other than the permitted use without the express written authorization of BioLegend is strictly prohibited.*



| Table of Contents                             | Page |
|---|------|
| Introduction.....                             | 2    |
| Materials Provided.....                       | 2    |
| Materials to be Provided by the End-User..... | 3    |
| Storage Information.....                      | 3    |
| Health Hazard Warnings.....                   | 3    |
| Specimen Collection and Handling.....         | 4    |
| Reagent and Sample Preparation.....           | 4    |
| Assay Procedure.....                          | 5    |
| Assay Procedure Summary.....                  | 7    |
| Calculation of Results.....                   | 8    |
| Typical Data.....                             | 8    |
| Performance Characteristics.....              | 9    |
| Specificity.....                              | 9    |
| Sensitivity.....                              | 9    |
| Recovery.....                                 | 9    |
| Linearity.....                                | 9    |
| Intra-Assay Precision.....                    | 9    |
| Inter-Assay Precision.....                    | 9    |
| Biological Samples.....                       | 9    |
| Troubleshooting Guide.....                    | 10   |
| ELISA Plate Template.....                     | 12   |

## LEGEND MAX™ Human IL-15 ELISA Kit

### Introduction:

IL-15 was discovered in the supernatant from a simian kidney epithelial cell line CV-1/EBNA, as a soluble factor capable of supporting proliferation of the IL-2-dependent cell line, CTLL-2. Interleukin-15 (IL-15) is a regulatory cytokine, and it is produced by dendritic cells, epithelial cells, human stromal cell line (IMTLH), fibroblasts, and monocytes. IL-15 plays an important role in immune response and shares many functions with IL-2. In addition, IL-15 promotes the development of dendritic cells, activates human neutrophils and induces the production of proinflammatory cytokines from macrophages. IL-15 acts as a bridge between innate and adaptive immunity because of its diverse roles in the immune system. IL-15 shares with IL-2 the receptor  $\beta$ -chain and  $\gamma$ -chain. The IL-15 receptor complex also includes a specific  $\alpha$  subunit (IL-15R $\alpha$ ), distinct from the IL-2R $\alpha$  chain.

The BioLegend LEGEND MAX™ Human IL-15 ELISA Kit is a Sandwich Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) with a 96-well strip plate that is pre-coated with a capture antibody. This kit is specifically designed for the accurate quantitation of human IL-15 from cell culture supernatant, serum, plasma, and other biological fluids. This kit is analytically validated with ready-to-use reagents.

### Materials Provided:

| Description  | Quantity<br>(1 plate) | Quantity<br>(5 plates) | Volume<br>(per bottle) | Part # |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| Anti-human IL-15 Pre-coated 96-well Strip Microplate | 1 plate               | 5 plates               |                        | 78289  |
| Human IL-15 Detection Antibody                       | 1 bottle              | 5 bottles              | 12 mL                  | 78290  |
| Human IL-15 Standard                                 | 1 vial                | 5 vials                | lyophilized            | 78291  |
| Avidin-HRP A   | 1 bottle              | 5 bottles              | 12 mL                  | 79131  |
| Assay Buffer A                                       | 1 bottle              | 5 bottles              | 25 mL                  | 78232  |
| Wash Buffer (20X)                                    | 1 bottle              | 5 bottles              | 50 mL                  | 78233  |
| Substrate Solution E                                 | 1 bottle              | 5 bottles              | 12 mL                  | 78116  |
| Stop Solution  | 1 bottle              | 5 bottles              | 12 mL                  | 79133  |
| Plate Sealers  | 4 sheets              | 20 sheets              |                        | 78101  |

## Materials to be Provided by the End-User:

- Microplate reader able to measure absorbance at 450 nm
- Adjustable pipettes to measure volumes ranging from 1 µL to 1,000 µL
- Deionized water
- Wash bottle or automated microplate washer
- Log-Log graph paper or software for data analysis
- Tubes to prepare standard dilutions
- Timer
- Plate Shaker
- Polypropylene vials

## Storage Information:

Store unopened kit components at 4°C. Do not use this kit beyond its expiration date.

| Opened or Reconstituted Components |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Microplate wells                   | If not all microplate strips are used, remove the excess strips by pressing up from underneath each strip. Place excess strips back in the foil pouch with the included desiccant pack and reseal. Store at 4°C for up to one month. |
| Standard                           | The remaining reconstituted standard stock solution can be aliquoted into polypropylene vials and stored at -70°C for up to one month. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.  |
| Detection Antibody                 | Store opened reagents at 4°C and use within one month.   |
| Avidin-HRP A                       |  |
| Assay Buffer A                     |  |
| Wash Buffer (20X)                  |  |
| Substrate Solution E               |  |
| Stop Solution                      |  |

## Health Hazard Warnings:

1. Reagents that contain preservatives may be harmful if ingested, inhaled or absorbed through the skin. Refer to the MSDS online at BioLegend's website for details ([www.biolegend.com/msds](http://www.biolegend.com/msds)).
2. Substrate Solution E is harmful if inhaled or ingested. Avoid skin, eye and clothing contact.
3. To reduce the likelihood of blood-borne transmission of infectious agents,

## LEGEND MAX™ Human IL-15 ELISA Kit

handle all serum, plasma and other biological fluids in accordance with NCCLS regulations.

4. Stop Solution contains strong acid. *Wear eye, hand, and face protection.*
5. Before disposing of the plate, rinse it with an excess amount of tap water.

### Specimen Collection and Handling:

Specimens should be clear and non-hemolyzed. If possible, unknown samples should be run at a number of dilutions to determine the optimal dilution factor that will ensure accurate quantitation.

Cell Culture Supernatant: If necessary, centrifuge all samples to remove debris prior to analysis. It is recommended that samples be stored at  $< -70^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Serum: Use a serum separator tube and allow clotting for at least 30 minutes, then centrifuge for 10 minutes at  $1,000 \times g$ . Remove serum layer and assay immediately or store serum samples at  $< -70^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Plasma: Collect blood samples in citrate, heparin or EDTA containing tubes. Centrifuge for 10 minutes at  $1,000 \times g$  within 30 minutes of collection. Assay immediately or store plasma samples at  $< -70^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

### Reagent and Sample Preparation:

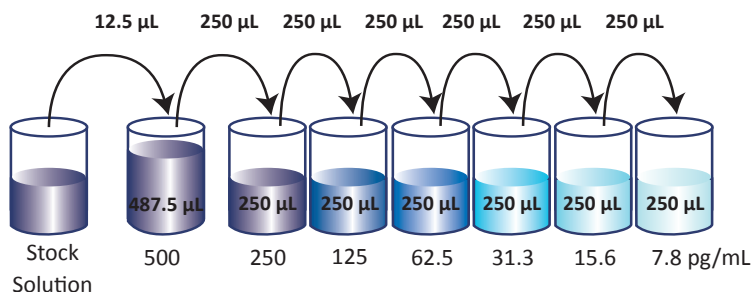
Note: All reagents should be diluted immediately prior to use.

1. Dilute the 20X Wash Buffer to 1X with deionized water. For example, make 1 liter of 1X Wash Buffer by adding 50 mL of 20X Wash Buffer to 950 mL of deionized water. If crystals have formed in the 20X Wash Buffer, bring to room temperature and vortex until dissolved.
2. Reconstitute the lyophilized Human IL-15 Standard by adding the volume of Assay Buffer A indicated on the vial label to make the 20 ng/mL standard stock solution. Allow the reconstituted standard to sit at room temperature for 15-20 minutes, then briefly vortex to mix completely.
3. In general, samples are analyzed without dilutions. However, if dilutions are required, use Assay Buffer A as the sample diluent.

## Assay Procedure:

Note: Do not mix reagents from different kits or lots. Reagents and/or antibodies from different manufacturers should not be used with this kit.

1. Bring all reagents to room temperature prior to use. It is strongly recommended that all standards and samples be run in duplicate or triplicate. A standard curve is required for each assay.
2. If not all microplate strips will be used, remove the excess strips by pressing up from underneath each strip. Place excess strips back in the foil pouch with the included desiccant pack and reseal.
3. Prepare 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of the 500 pg/mL top standard by diluting 12.5  $\mu\text{L}$  of the standard stock solution in 487.5  $\mu\text{L}$  of Assay Buffer A. Perform six two-fold serial dilutions of the 500 pg/mL top standard in separate tubes using Assay Buffer A as the diluent. Thus, the human IL-15 standard concentrations in the tubes are 500 pg/mL, 250 pg/mL, 125 pg/mL, 62.5 pg/mL, 31.3 pg/mL, 15.6 pg/mL and 7.8 pg/mL, respectively. Assay Buffer A serves as the zero standard (0 pg/mL).



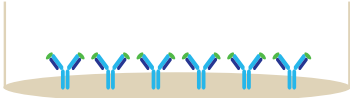

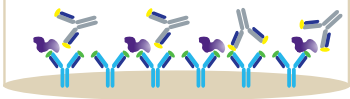
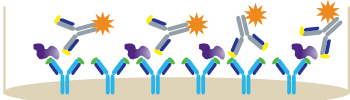
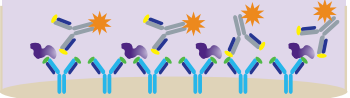

4. Wash the plate 4 times with at least 300  $\mu\text{L}$  of 1X Wash Buffer per well and blot any residual buffer by firmly tapping the plate upside down on absorbent paper. All subsequent washes should be performed similarly.
5. Add 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of Assay Buffer A to each well that will contain either standard dilutions or samples.
6. Add 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of standard dilutions or samples to the appropriate wells
7. Seal the plate with a Plate Sealer included in the kit and incubate the plate at room temperature for 2 hours while shaking at 200 rpm.
8. Discard the contents of the plate into a sink, then wash the plate 4 times with 1X Wash Buffer as in step 4.
9. Add 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of Human IL-15 Detection Antibody solution to each well, seal the plate and incubate at room temperature for 1 hour while shaking.

## LEGEND MAX™ Human IL-15 ELISA Kit

10. Discard the contents of the plate into a sink, then wash the plate 4 times with 1X Wash Buffer as in step 4.
11. Add 100  $\mu$ L of Avidin-HRP A solution to each well, seal the plate and incubate at room temperature for 30 minutes while shaking.
12. Discard the contents of the plate into a sink, then wash the plate 5 times with 1X Wash Buffer as in step 4. For this final wash, soak wells in 1X Wash Buffer for 30 seconds to 1 minute for each wash. This will help minimize background.
13. Add 100  $\mu$ L of Substrate Solution E to each well and incubate for 15 minutes in the dark. Wells containing human IL-15 should turn blue in color with an intensity proportional to its concentration. It is not necessary to seal the plate during this step.
14. Stop the reaction by adding 100  $\mu$ L of Stop Solution to each well. The solution color should change from blue to yellow.
15. Read absorbance at 450 nm within 30 minutes. If the reader is capable of reading at 570 nm, the absorbance at 570 nm can be subtracted from the absorbance at 450 nm.



## Assay Procedure Summary

1. Wash 4 times  
Add 50  $\mu$ L Assay Buffer A  

2. Add 50  $\mu$ L diluted standards or samples  
Incubate 2 hr, RT, shaking  

3. Wash 4 times  
Add 100  $\mu$ L Detection Antibody solution  
Incubate 1 hr, RT, shaking  

4. Wash 4 times  
Add 100  $\mu$ L Avidin-HRP A solution  
Incubate 30 min, RT, shaking  

5. Wash 5 times  
Add 100  $\mu$ L Substrate Solution E  
Incubate 15 min, RT, in the dark  

6. Add 100  $\mu$ L Stop Solution  

7. Read absorbance at 450 nm and 570 nm

# LEGEND MAX™ Human IL-15 ELISA Kit

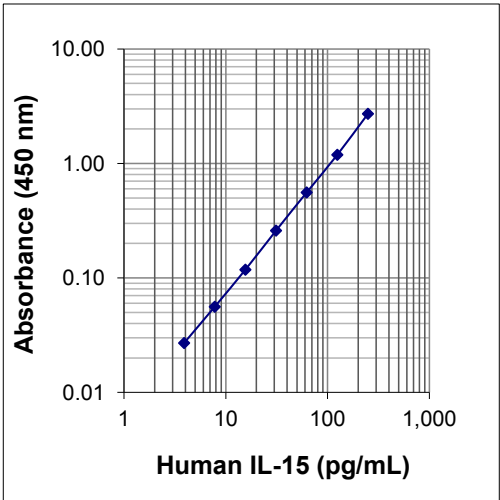
## Calculation of Results:

The data can be best calculated with computer-based curve-fitting software using a 5- or 4-parameter logistics curve-fitting algorithm. If an appropriate software is not available, use log-log graph paper to determine sample concentrations. Determine the mean absorbance for each set of duplicate or triplicate standards, controls, and samples. Plot the standard curve on log-log graph paper with cytokine concentration on the X-axis and absorbance on the Y-axis. Draw a best fit line through the standard points. To determine the unknown cytokine concentrations, find the mean absorbance value of the unknown concentration on the Y-axis and draw a horizontal line to the standard curve. At the point of intersection, draw a vertical line to the X-axis and read the cytokine concentration.

If samples were diluted, multiply the concentration by the appropriate dilution factor. If a test sample's absorbance value falls outside the linear portion of the standard curve, the test sample needs to be re-analyzed at a higher (or lower) dilution as appropriate.

## Typical Data:

This standard curve was generated at BioLegend for demonstration purposes only. A standard curve must be run with each assay.



**Performance Characteristics:**

**Specificity:** No cross reactivity was observed when this kit was used to analyze the following recombinant cytokines/chemokines at up to 50 ng/mL.

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| Human | IL-1 $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-11, IL-12/IL-23 (p40), IL-12 (p70), IL-13, IL-17A, IL-17A/F, IL-17E, IL-22, IL-23, IL-27, FGF-basic, G-CSF, IFN- $\gamma$ , MCP-1/CCL2, RANTES/CCL5, SDF-1 $\alpha$ , TGF- $\beta$ 1, TNF- $\alpha$ , TNF- $\beta$ , TWEAK, VEGF-165 |
|-------|--|

**Sensitivity:** The minimum detectable concentration of IL-15 is 2 pg/mL.

**Recovery:** Recombinant IL-15 (250, 62.5 and 15.6 pg/mL) was spiked into 6 human serum samples, and then analyzed with the LEGEND MAX™ Human IL-15 ELISA Kit. On average, 104 % of the cytokine was recovered from serum samples

**Linearity:** Three human serum samples with high concentrations of IL-15 were diluted 1:2, 1:4, 1:8 with Assay Buffer A to produce samples with concentrations within the dynamic range and then assayed. On average, 103 % of the expected cytokine was detected from serum samples.

**Intra-Assay Statistics:** Sixteen replicates each of two samples containing different IL-15 concentrations were tested in one plate.

| Concentration              | Sample 1 | Sample 2 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Number of Replicates       | 16       | 16       |
| Mean Concentration (pg/mL) | 291.2    | 49.5     |
| Standard Deviation         | 8.3      | 4.2      |
| % CV                       | 2.9      | 8.6      |

**Inter-Assay Statistics:** Two samples containing different concentrations of IL-15 were tested in four independent assays.

| Concentration              | Sample 1 | Sample 2 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Number of Assays           | 4        | 4        |
| Mean Concentration (pg/mL) | 242.6    | 51.5     |
| Standard Deviation         | 13.8     | 5.3      |
| % CV                       | 5.7      | 10.3     |

**Biological Samples:** Human PBMC ( $1 \times 10^6$  cells/mL) were stimulated with 100 ng/mL LPS at 37°C for 2 days. Cell culture supernatants were collected and assayed for the levels of natural human IL-15. IL-15 concentration is 51.2 pg/mL in LPS-stimulated samples and 3.9 pg/mL in unstimulated samples.

# LEGEND MAX™ Human IL-15 ELISA Kit

## Troubleshooting Guide:

| Problem                           | Probable Cause   | Solution  |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| High Background                   | Background wells were contaminated   | Avoid cross-well contamination by using the provided plate sealers.<br>Use multichannel pipettes and change tips between pipetting samples and reagents.        |
|                                   | Insufficient washes  | Increase number of washes.<br>Increase soaking time between washes prior to addition of substrate solution.   |
|                                   | TMB Substrate Solution was contaminated  | TMB Substrate Solution should be clear and colorless prior to addition to wells.<br>Use a clean container prior to pipetting substrate solution into wells.     |
| No or poor signal                 | Detection Antibody, Avidin-HRP or Substrate solution were NOT added                | Rerun the assay and follow the protocol.  |
|                                   | Wrong reagent or reagents were added in wrong sequential order                     |   |
|                                   | Insufficient plate agitation   | The plate should be agitated during all incubation steps using a plate shaker at a speed where solutions in wells are within constant motion without splashing. |
|                                   | The wash buffer contains Sodium Azide (NaN <sub>3</sub> )                          | Avoid Sodium Azide contamination in the wash buffer as it inhibits HRP activity.  |
|                                   | Incubations were done at an inappropriate temperature, timing or without agitation | Rerun the assay and follow the protocol.  |
| Low or poor standard curve signal | The standard was incorrectly reconstituted or diluted                              | Adjust the calculations and follow the protocol.  |
|                                   | Standard was inappropriately stored  | Store the reconstituted standard stock solution in polypropylene vials at -70°C.<br>Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.  |
|                                   | Reagents added to wells with incorrect concentrations                              | Check for pipetting errors and the correct reagent volume.  |

| Problem   | Probable Cause  | Solution  |
|---|---|---|
| Signal is high, standard curves have saturated signal | Standard reconstituted with less volume than required   | Reconstitute new lyophilized standard with the correct volume of solution recommended in the protocol.  |
|   | Standards/samples, detection antibody, Avidin-HRP or substrate solution were incubated for too long | Rerun the assay and follow the protocol.  |
| Sample readings are out of range                      | Samples contain no or below detectable levels of the analyte  | If samples are below detectable levels, it may be possible to use a larger sample volume. Contact technical support for appropriate protocol modifications. |
|   | Samples contain analyte concentrations greater than highest standard point                          | Samples may require dilution and analysis.  |
| High variation in samples and/or standards            | Multichannel pipette errors   | Confirm that pipette calibrations are accurate.   |
|   | Plate washing was not adequate or uniform   | Ensure pipette tips are tightly secured.<br>Ensure uniformity in all wash steps.  |
|   | Non-homogenous samples  | Thoroughly mix samples before assaying.   |
|   | Samples may have high particulate matter  | Remove particulate matter by centrifugation.  |
|   | Cross-well contamination  | Do not reuse plate sealers.<br><br>Always change tips for reagent additions. Ensure that pipette tips do not touch the reagents on the plate.               |

| ELISA Plate Template |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-------|
|                      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 12 |
| A                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
| B                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
| C                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
| D                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
| E                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
| F                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
| G                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |
| H                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |       |

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



The path to legendary discovery™

LEGEND MAX™ Kits are manufactured by **BioLegend Inc.**

9727 Pacific Heights Blvd.

San Diego, CA 92121

Tel: 1.858.768.5800

Tel: US & Canada Toll-Free: 1.877.Bio-Legend (1.877.246.5343)

Fax: 1.877.455.9587

Email: [info@biolegend.com](mailto:info@biolegend.com)

[biolegend.com](http://biolegend.com)

For a complete list of world-wide BioLegend offices and distributors,  
please visit our website at: [biolegend.com](http://biolegend.com)