



## **Estrogen Receptor- $\alpha$ (Phospho-Ser118)**

### **Colorimetric DNA-Binding ELISA Kit**

**Catalog #: OKAG00341**

**Detection and Qualitative Analysis of Activated Transcription Factors in Nuclear and Cell Lysates.**

**Please read the provided manual entirely prior to use as suggested experimental protocols may have changed.**

**Research Purposes Only. Not Intended for Diagnostic or Clinical Procedures.**

## **CONTENTS**

## **P A G E**

---

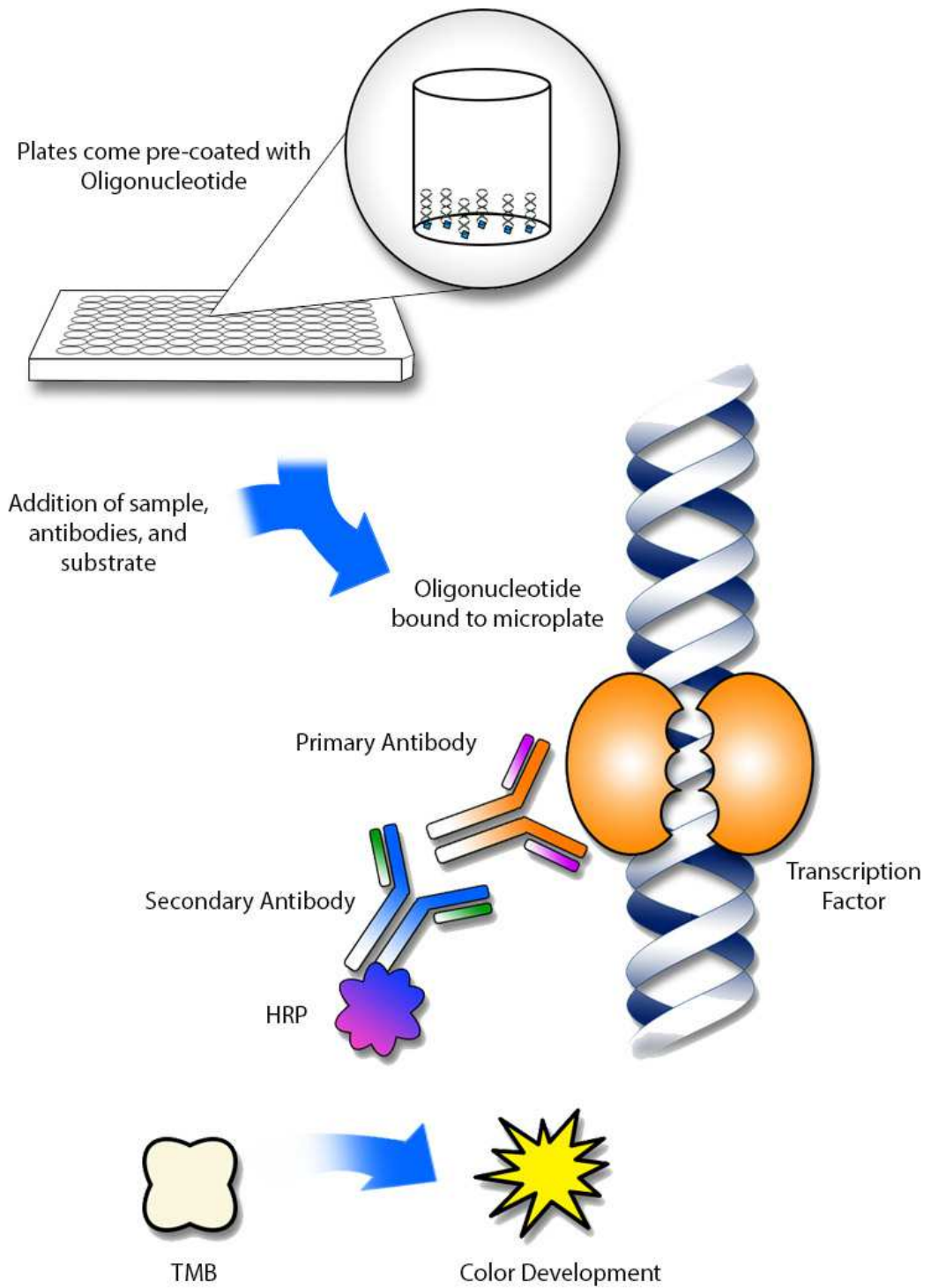
Assay Principles and Advantages.....	3
Assay Restrictions.....	5
Health and Safety Precautions.....	6
Materials Included.....	6
Storage Information.....	7
Additional Materials Required.....	8
Reagent Preparation.....	9
Sample Preparation and Storage.....	10
Nuclear Extraction Protocol.....	11
Plate Setup.....	13
Immunoassay Protocol.....	14
Data Analysis.....	19
Troubleshooting Guide .....	20
Appendix.....	21
Related Products .....	22
Technical Support.....	23
ELISA Plate Template.....	24

## **ASSAY PRINCIPLES AND ADVANTAGES**

The Aviva DNA-Binding ELISA Kit contains components necessary for detection of active transcription factors in eukaryotic nuclear or cell lysates. This particular immunoassay utilizes the qualitative technique of an indirect ELISA. Streptavidin is bound to the immunoassay plate and specific biotinylated double-stranded (dsDNA) oligonucleotides are then added to bind to the streptavidin via a high affinity biotin-streptavidin interaction. After subsequent blocking of extraneous binding sites in each well, the sample containing the target of interest can be added. Primary antibody is added to bind activated transcription factors bound to the dsDNA oligonucleotide, which has been immobilized via the plate-coated streptavidin. A HRP-conjugated secondary antibody specific for rabbit IgGs is added, which allows for specific binding to the Primary Antibody, and consequently colorimetric detection upon addition of the TMB substrate.

For color development, TMB (3, 3', 5, 5'-Tetramethylbenzidine) is added to each well. After addition of the substrate, a peroxidase catalyzed reaction will produce a blue TMB Diimine product that is proportional to the target concentration in the sample. Color development is quenched by addition of Stop Solution, or 2 N Sulfuric Acid, which turns the solution yellow. The absorbance can then be read by a spectrophotometer at 450 nm and subsequently allowing for determination of the target concentration in the sample.

Currently, the most common methods to detect transcription factor binding to DNA elements and motifs are electrophoretic mobility shift assays (EMSAs), chromatin immunoprecipitation, western blotting, and expression of fused target and reporter genes. These methods are often time consuming, complicated, and make it difficult to achieve satisfactory results. Aviva DNA-Binding ELISA Kits can significantly reduce the necessary runtime to within one day and eliminate the need for harmful radioactive labeling while maintaining high sensitivity and signal-to-noise ratio. In the past, it was strenuous and inefficient to perform high-throughput screening for hundreds of different samples or transcription factors. Today, our revolutionary Aviva DNA-Binding ELISA Kits can eliminate these challenges and help expedite the journey from research to publication or product.



## **ASSAY RESTRICTIONS**

- This ELISA kit is intended for research purposes only, NOT diagnostic or clinical procedures of any kind.
- Materials included in this kit should NOT be used past the expiration date on the kit label.
- Reagents or substrates included in this kit should NOT be mixed or substituted with reagents or substrates from any other kits.
- Variations in pipetting technique, washing technique, operator laboratory technique, kit age, incubation time or temperature may cause differences in binding affinity of the materials provided.
- The assay is designed to eliminate interference and background by other cellular macromolecules or factors present within any biological samples. However, the possibility of background noise cannot be fully excluded until all factors have been tested using the assay kit.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

- This kit and its components should be handled by those trained in laboratory techniques and used according to the principles of good laboratory practice.
- Reagents provided in this kit may be harmful if ingested, inhaled or absorbed through the skin. Please carefully review the MSDS for each reagent before conducting the experiment.

## MATERIALS INCLUDED

<b>Component</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Container</b>
<b>96-Well dsDNA Oligonucleotide Coated Microplate</b>	12 x 8-Well Microstrips	-
<b>100x Primary Antibody</b>	100 µl	Yellow
<b>100x Primary Phospho-Antibody</b>	100 µl	Orange
<b>HRP-Conjugated Anti-Rabbit IgG Antibody</b>	2x 6 ml	Amber
<b>Nuclear Lysate Positive Control</b>	Lyophilized	Red
<b>Wild-Type Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide</b>	20 µl	Green
<b>Mutant Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide</b>	20 µl	Purple
<b>15x Wash Buffer</b>	50 ml	Clear
<b>2x Binding Buffer</b>	12 ml	Clear
<b>Primary Antibody Diluent</b>	12 ml	Clear
<b>100x Protease and Phosphatase Inhibitors</b>	100 µl	Blue
<b>Nuclear Wash Buffer</b>	12 ml	Clear
<b>Cytoplasmic Extraction Buffer</b>	6 ml	Amber
<b>Nuclear Extraction Buffer</b>	6 ml	Amber
<b>Ready-to-Use Substrate</b>	12 ml	Brown
<b>Stop Solution</b>	12 ml	Clear
<b>Adhesive Plate Sealers</b>	4 Sheets	-
<b>Technical Manual</b>	1 Manual	-

## STORAGE INFORMATION

**Note:** After receiving the kit, please open and store the kit components at the temperature indicated in the table below. If used frequently, reagents may be stored at 4°C. Reconstituted Nuclear Lysate Positive Control must be aliquoted and stored at -80°C.

Component	Storage	Temperature
96-Well dsDNA Oligonucleotide Coated Microplate	6 Months	4°C
100x Primary Antibody	6 Months	4°C
100x Primary Phospho-Antibody	6 Months	4°C
HRP-Conjugated Anti-Rabbit IgG Antibody	6 Months	4°C
Nuclear Lysate Positive Control	Lyophilized: 1 Year	4°C
	Reconstituted: 6 Months	-80°C
Wild-Type Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide	6 Months	-20°C
Mutant Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide	6 Months	-20°C
15x Wash Buffer	6 Months	4°C
2x Binding Buffer	6 Months	-20°C
Primary Antibody Diluent	6 Months	4°C
100x Protease and Phosphatase Inhibitors	6 Months	-20°C
Nuclear Wash Buffer	6 Months	-20°C
Cytoplasmic Extraction Buffer	6 Months	-20°C
Nuclear Extraction Buffer	6 Months	-20°C
Ready-to-Use Substrate	6 Months	4°C
Stop Solution	6 Months	4°C
Adhesive Plate Sealers	-	-
Technical Manual	-	-

## **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS REQUIRED**

The following materials and/or equipment are NOT provided in this kit but are necessary to successfully conduct the experiment:

- Microplate reader able to measure absorbance at 450 nm (with correction wavelength set to 540 nm or 570 nm)
- Micropipettes capable of measuring volumes from 1  $\mu$ l to 1 ml
- Deionized or sterile water (ddH<sub>2</sub>O)
- Sterile 1x PBS and 5 M NaCl for nuclear lysate preparation
- Squirt bottle, manifold dispenser, multichannel pipette reservoir, or automated microplate washer
- Graph paper or computer software capable of generating or displaying logarithmic functions
- Absorbent paper or vacuum aspirator
- Test tubes or microfuge tubes capable of storing  $\geq$ 1 ml
- Bench-top centrifuge (optional)
- Bench-top vortex (optional)
- Orbital shaker (optional)



## REAGENT PREPARATION

The following reagents will need to be prepared prior to start of the assay:

### **1x Wash Buffer**

The Wash Buffer is provided at 15x concentration. To prepare 1x Wash Buffer, add 50 ml of 15x Wash Buffer into 700 ml of ddH<sub>2</sub>O for a final volume of 750 ml of 1x Wash Buffer.

### **Nuclear Lysate Positive Control**

The Binding Buffer is provided at 2x concentration. It is recommended to make fresh 1x Binding Buffer for the reconstitution of Nuclear Lysate Positive Control. Add 60 µl of 2x Binding Buffer to 60 µl ddH<sub>2</sub>O to make 120 µl of 1x Binding Buffer. Add 100 µl of 1x Binding Buffer into the Nuclear Lysate Positive Control tube. The Nuclear Lysate Positive Control should be kept on ice at all times. Aliquot and store at -80°C (long term storage) and avoid freeze/thaw cycles if not immediately used.

### **1x Primary Antibody and 1x Primary Phospho-Antibody**

The Primary Antibody and Primary Phospho-Antibody are provided at 100x concentration. It is recommended to make a fresh 1x Antibody solutions. Add 100 µl of 100x Primary Antibody or Primary Phospho-Antibody into 9.9 ml of Primary Antibody Diluent to make enough 1x Primary Antibody or 1x Primary Phospho-Antibody solution for one 96-well microplate.

### **Aliquoting of Buffers and Reagents**

If you do not plan on using the whole kit in one sitting, it is recommended to aliquot the buffers and reagents, reconstituted Nuclear Lysate Positive Control, 2x Binding Buffer, 100x Protease and Phosphatase Inhibitors, Cytoplasmic Extraction Buffer, Nuclear Wash Buffer, Nuclear Extraction Buffer, etc. and store them at the temperatures indicated in the table on the page 8.

**HRP-Conjugated Anti-Rabbit IgG Secondary Antibody, Ready-to-Use Substrate, Stop Solution, Primary Antibody Diluent, Wild-Type (WT) Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide, Mutant (MT) Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide, Nuclear Wash Buffer, Cytoplasmic Extraction Buffer, Nuclear Extraction Buffer are ready-to-use.**

## **SAMPLE PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

The Aviva DNA-Binding ELISA Kit allows for the detection and qualitative analysis of endogenous levels of activated transcription factors in a variety of nuclear and cell lysates. All preparations of experimental samples should maintain the natural and active form of the target transcription factor. In this kit, all necessary buffers and reagents are provided for nuclear extraction from cell culture.

Tissue homogenates and heterogeneous mixtures may contain contaminants which interfere with the assay, hence it is best to test for interference by using at least two different dilutions of the sample. If testing demonstrates good correlation between concentration/dilution factor and OD reading, purification may not be required. However, if good correlation is not achieved or seen, further purification is advised. Moreover, if samples contain any visible precipitate, they must be centrifuged for 10 minutes at  $\geq 10,000 \times g$  prior to use in the assay.

It is always recommended to make several dilutions to obtain the best OD reading. Ideal OD readings will fall within the detectable range of the assay, which is dependent on the spectrophotometer used. It is up to the investigator to determine an appropriate dilution factor and recommended to run each dilution in duplicates. A minimum of 100  $\mu\text{l}$  of sample or diluted sample is required for each well; please adjust dilution volumes accordingly.

If samples are ready to be used within 24 hours, aliquot and store at 4°C. If samples are to be saved for future or long term use, aliquot into multiple tubes and store at -80°C. Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles to prevent loss of biological activity of transcription factors in experimental samples.

If a sample contains any visible precipitate or pellet, it must be clarified prior to use in the assay.

## NUCLEAR EXTRACTION PROTOCOL

The Aviva DNA-Binding ELISA Kit contains the necessary buffers and inhibitors for nuclear extraction from cultured cells. A transcription factor's expression profile may vary between different tissues, cell types, and even different stages of cell growth. Many transcription factors may not be readily expressed in normal cell culture, therefore cell stimulation is often necessary to increase target expression. Common cell stimulation methods are listed in the appendix of the manual.

1. For suspension cells, collect cells by centrifuging at 500 x g for 5 minutes, wash once with 1x PBS, and proceed step 5. For adherent cells, wash plates twice with cold 1x PBS.
2. Prepare 1x Protease and Phosphatase Inhibitors (PPI) by taking 100x PPI and diluting it to 1x PPI using 1x PBS. Add 0.5 ml cold 1x PPI to each plate, dislodge cells with cell scraper, and collect in 50 ml tube.

Wash plates once more with cold 1x PPI to collect remaining cells and put into the same 50 ml tube.

3. Centrifuge cell suspension at 500 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C.
4. Re-suspend pellet in 5x pellet volume of Cytoplasmic Extraction Buffer, transfer to pre-chilled 2 ml tube and keep on ice for 5 minutes.
5. Centrifuge at 3000 x g for 4 minutes at 4°C, transfer supernatant to new pre-chilled 2 ml tube. This is the cytoplasmic lysate (add glycerol until a final concentration of 10%, save at -80°C or discard.)
6. Wash pellet twice by re-suspending pellet in 1 ml to 2 ml of Nuclear Wash Buffer, centrifuge at 3000 x g for 4 minutes and discard supernatant. Prepare 2x pellet volume of Nuclear Extraction Buffer by adding enough 100x PPI to make a 1x working solution. Re-suspend pellet in Nuclear Extraction Buffer.
7. If volume changes significantly after re-suspension, add 1/10<sup>th</sup> pellet volume of 5 M NaCl. Incubate tube for 30 minutes on a shaking platform at 4°C.

8. Centrifuge at maximum speed for 10 minutes at 4°C. The supernatant is the nuclear extract.
9. Determine the concentration of the nuclear lysate by using a Bradford Assay or other methods.
10. Aliquot and store at -80°C and avoid freeze/thaw cycles if lysates are not used within 24 hours.

**Typically about 500 µl nuclear lysate at 2-4 mg/ml is expected from 10 Petri Dishes (100 mm) of Hela cells with 90% – 100% confluence.**

## PLATE SET UP

The 96-well microplate provided with this kit is ready to use and coated with streptavidin bound to biotinylated oligonucleotides, which will allow activated transcription factor binding. It is not necessary to rinse plates prior to assay. It is recommended to assay all unknown samples and controls in duplicates. If not all the strips are used at once, keep unused strips sealed and store at 4°C.

A number of controls are included to ensure kit and data quality. It is recommended to run the Nuclear Lysate Positive Control (NLPC) as well as to perform a Primary Antibody negative control to determine background noise. The Wild-Type Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide (WT Oligo) and Mutant Consensus dsDNA Oligonucleotide (MT Oligo) controls are optional and used to determine binding specificity of activated transcription factors in samples. The following is an example of a setup that can be used.

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	...
<b>A</b>	+ 1:10 NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ 1:10 NLPC, + Primary pAb	+ WT Oligo, + NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary Ab	...
<b>B</b>	+ 1:20 NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ 1:20 NLPC, + Primary pAb	+ WT Oligo, + NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary Ab	...
<b>C</b>	+ 1:40 NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ 1:40 NLPC, + Primary pAb	+ WT Oligo, + NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary Ab	...
<b>D</b>	- NLPC, + Primary Ab	- NLPC, + Primary pAb	+ WT Oligo, - NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary Ab	...
<b>E</b>	+ 1:10 NLPC, - Primary Ab	+ 1:10 NLPC, - Primary pAb	+ MT Oligo, + NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary pAb	...
<b>F</b>	+ 1:20 NLPC, - Primary Ab	+ 1:20 NLPC, - Primary pAb	+ MT Oligo, + NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary pAb	...
<b>G</b>	+ 1:40 NLPC, - Primary Ab	+ 1:40 NLPC, - Primary pAb	+ MT Oligo, + NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary pAb	...
<b>H</b>	- NLPC, - Primary Ab	- NLPC, - Primary pAb	+ MT Oligo, - NLPC, + Primary Ab	+ Sample, - Primary pAb	...

## IMMUNOASSAY PROTOCOL

If possible, all incubation steps should be performed on an orbital shaker to allow added solutions to equilibrate and mix properly. Aside from the Nuclear Lysate Positive Control, all provided solutions should be brought to ambient temperature prior to use.

Ensure all 1x Wash Buffer is removed at end of each wash step by blotting a dry towel. DO NOT leave any 1x Wash Buffer in the wells prior to proceeding to the next steps as it may affect assay results.

### Nuclear Lysate Positive Control (NLPC)

1. The Nuclear Lysate Positive Control is lyophilized; reconstitute by adding 100  $\mu$ l of 1x Binding Buffer. It is advised to run the positive control in duplicate or triplicate. The suggested dilutions for Nuclear Lysate Positive Control in 1x Binding Buffer are 1:10, 1:20, 1:40, and Blank.

Dilution	2x Binding Buffer	ddH <sub>2</sub> O	Nuclear Lysate Positive Control	Total Volume
1:10	105 $\mu$ l	84 $\mu$ l	21 $\mu$ l	210 $\mu$ l
1:20	105 $\mu$ l	94.5 $\mu$ l	10.5 $\mu$ l	210 $\mu$ l
1:40	105 $\mu$ l	99.75 $\mu$ l	6.25 $\mu$ l	210 $\mu$ l
Blank	105 $\mu$ l	105 $\mu$ l	0 $\mu$ l	210 $\mu$ l

2. Add 100  $\mu$ l of Nuclear Lysate Positive Control dilutions to the appropriate wells. For the negative Nuclear Lysate Positive Control well, add 100  $\mu$ l of 1x Binding Buffer.

### Primary Antibody/Phospho-Antibody Negative Controls (-Primary Ab/pAb)

1. In the Primary Antibody and Primary Phospho-Antibody negative controls, the Primary Antibody and Primary Phospho-Antibody are left out to correct for any background noise. The Primary Antibody negative controls should be performed for both the Nuclear Lysate Positive Control and samples. Follow the volumes below for Primary Antibody negative controls for the Nuclear Lysate Positive Controls.

Dilution	2x Binding Buffer	ddH <sub>2</sub> O	Nuclear Lysate Positive Control	Total Volume
1:10	105 µl	84 µl	21 µl	210 µl
1:20	105 µl	94.5 µl	10.5 µl	210 µl
1:40	105 µl	99.75 µl	6.25 µl	210 µl
Blank	105 µl	105 µl	0 µl	210 µl

2. Add 100 µl of Nuclear Lysate Positive Control dilutions or Sample dilutions to the appropriate Primary Antibody or Primary Phospho-Antibody negative control wells. For the negative Nuclear Lysate Positive Control and negative Sample wells, add 100 µl of 1x Binding Buffer.

### Wild-Type and Mutant Consensus Oligonucleotides (WT/MT Oligo) (Optional)

The Wild-Type Oligonucleotide and Mutant Oligonucleotide controls are optional and used to determine binding specificity of active transcription factors in samples. If active transcription factors in samples are binding specifically to the Wild-Type sequence, there will be a reduction in signal in the Wild-Type control but not in the Mutant control. If they are binding non-specifically, there will be reduced signal from both Wild-Type and Mutant Oligonucleotide controls.

1. We recommend a final concentration of 0.5 nmol of Wild-Type (WT Oligo) or Mutant (MT Oligo) Oligonucleotide in each well. The suggested dilutions for the Wild-Type Oligonucleotide Control follow the recommended positive control with addition of 2 µl of WT Oligo in each Nuclear Lysate Positive Control working solution.

Dilution	2x Binding Buffer	ddH <sub>2</sub> O	Nuclear Lysate	WT Oligo	Total Volume
1:10	105 µl	81.9 µl	21 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl
1:20	105 µl	92.4 µl	10.5 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl
1:40	105 µl	97.25 µl	5.25 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl
Blank	105 µl	102.9 µl	0 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl

2. Add 100 µl of WT Oligo Control Dilution into the appropriate WT Oligo Control wells.
3. The suggested dilutions for the MT Oligo Control follow the recommended positive control with addition of 2 µl of MT Oligo in each positive control.

Dilution	2x Binding Buffer	ddH <sub>2</sub> O	Nuclear Lysate	MT Oligo	Total Volume
1:10	105 µl	81.9 µl	21 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl
1:20	105 µl	92.4 µl	10.5 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl
1:40	105 µl	97.25 µl	5.25 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl
Blank	105 µl	102.9 µl	0 µl	2.1 µl	210 µl

1. Add 100 µl of MT Oligo Control Dilution into the appropriate MT Oligo Control wells.

### Unknown Sample

Transcription Factors are expressed differently across various tissues, cell types, growth stages, and culture conditions. Carefully determine the amount of sample used; we recommend 5 µg or more of cell lysate per well. If the sample concentrations are unknown, create several dilutions. It is recommended to perform a Primary Antibody negative control for sample wells to determine background noise. It is also recommended to run your samples in duplicates or triplicates.

1. Determine the volume and dilution necessary for your application. Using 2x Binding Buffer, add appropriate volume so that the final working Sample Dilution contains 1x Binding Buffer.

Total Working Volume = 100 µl x Number of Sample Wells x 2



2. Add 100 µl of diluted samples to corresponding wells. For negative sample wells, add 100 µl of 1x Binding Buffer. Incubate plate on orbital shaker at room temperature for 2 hours.
3. Wash 3 times with 1x Wash Buffer with gentle shaking in-between.

### **Primary Antibody/Phospho-Antibody (Primary Ab/pAb)**

1. The Primary Antibody and Phospho-Antibody are provided at 100x concentration. Calculate the total volume of antibody needed by:

Total Working Volume = 100 µl x Number of Wells Using Primary Ab/pAb

To prepare working Primary Antibody or Primary Phospho-Antibody working solution, divide the total working volume by 100 and add that volume of provided Primary Antibody or Primary Phospho-Antibody to the calculated total volume of Primary Antibody Diluent. Mix thoroughly by inverting several times.

2. Add 100 µl of working Primary Antibody or Primary Phospho-Antibody solution to every well that is being used except the Primary Antibody or Primary Phospho-Antibody negative controls for Nuclear Lysate Positive Controls and samples. For the Primary Antibody or Primary Phospho-Antibody negative controls, add 100 µl of Primary Antibody Diluent. Leave the on orbital shaker at room temperature for 2 hours.
3. Wash 3 times with 1x Wash Buffer with gentle shaking in-between.

### **HRP-Conjugated Anti-Rabbit IgG Antibody**

1. The HRP-Conjugated Anti-Rabbit IgG Antibody is ready to use. Calculate the total volume of antibody needed by:

Total Working Volume = 100 µl x Number of Total Wells Used

2. Add 100 µl of HRP-Conjugated Anti-Rabbit IgG Antibody to each well that is being used. Incubate on orbital shaker at room temperature for 1 hour.

3. Wash 3 times with 1x Wash Buffer with gentle shaking in-between.

### **Developing Plate**

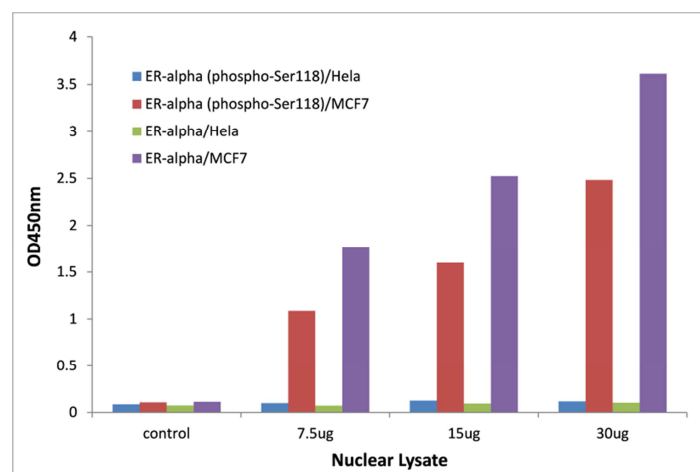
TMB (3, 3', 5, 5'-Tetramethylbenzidine), the reagent in Ready-to-Use Substrate is provided as a ready-to-use solution. Warm to room temperature before use. Stop Solution is also provided as a ready-to-use solution.

1. Add 50  $\mu$ l of Ready-to-Use Substrate to every well that is being used. Keep those wells away from light and leave on orbital shaker for 10 to 30 minutes until there is distinctive blue color development from the wells. Closely monitor color development as some wells may develop faster than others. The reaction should be terminated when the well with greatest blue color ceases to continue developing.
2. When color development is sufficient, add 100  $\mu$ l of Stop Solution to each well that is being used. Leave on orbital shaker for 1 minute or shake by hand to ensure color development is completely stopped. There will be a noticeable color change from blue to yellow.
3. The plate is now ready to read. Within 30 minutes of adding Stop Solution, determine the optical density or absorbance of each well by reading on a microplate reader set to 450 nm. If wavelength correction is available, set to 540 nm or 570 nm. If wavelength correction is not available, subtract readings at 540 nm or 570 nm from readings at 450 nm

**NOTE:** *Readings directly at 450 nm without correction may be higher than actual reading, giving less accurate data for concentration determination.*

## DATA ANALYSIS

1. Average the readings for each set of Nuclear Lysate Positive Control, Primary Antibody negative control, Sample, and Primary Antibody negative control for Sample. Subtract the average Primary Antibody negative control values from the Nuclear Lysate Positive Controls of the same dilutions and subtract Primary Antibody negative controls for Sample from the Sample Dilutions of the same dilutions to correct for background noise.
2. The OD values from Primary Antibody negative control wells and wells without Nuclear Lysate Positive Control should be lower than 0.2. The OD values for the Nuclear Lysate Positive Control dilutions should generate a gradient for qualitative analysis for your Sample dilutions.
3. Relative Sample concentration can then be determined by comparing to positive control data or between samples. Make sure to account for any dilutions. **Note:** This assay is not meant to allow for quantitative analysis.



The Aviva Estrogen Receptor- $\alpha$  (Phospho-Ser118) DNA-Binding ELISA kit detects active Estrogen Receptor- $\alpha$  (Phospho-Ser118) in MCF7 and HeLa Nuclear Extract. The MCF7 and HeLa cells were grown 3 days in DMEM with 10% FBS and harvested for nuclear extract.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

<b>Problem/Question</b>	<b>Possible Cause</b>	<b>Possible Solution</b>
<b>No Signal or Weak Signal</b>	Incorrect nuclear lysate	Choose different cell line
	Incorrect lysate preparation or storage	Add protease and phosphatase inhibitors, keep everything on ice, and store at -80°C and avoid freeze/thaw cycles
	Key reagents missing	Consult manual and ensure all steps are followed
	Incorrect volume of reagents added	Consult manual and ensure all steps are followed
	Incorrect storage of plate and/or reagents	Keep everything at specific temperature
<b>High Background</b>	Inadequate washing between steps	Ensure the proper volume of wash buffer and steps
	Too much primary or secondary antibody	Reduce concentration
	Buffer/Reagent contamination	Ensure sterile techniques are used to maintain quality of reagents
	Too much nuclear lysate	Use higher dilutions
	Too much substrate	Reduce substrate used
	Substrate Reagent incubation time is too long	Reduce incubation time until adequate color development
<b>Uneven Color Development</b>	Inadequate washing between steps	Ensure the proper volume of wash buffer and steps
	Incorrect order or location in addition of reagents steps	Use template provided and ensure protocol is strictly followed
	Cross contamination	Use sterile technique
	Uneven reagent addition or washing of wells	Ensure multi-channel pipette or plate washer is calibrated and not clogged

## **APPENDIX**

### **Common Cell Stimulation Methods**

#### **UV Irradiation**

1. Grow cells to 90% confluence.
2. Wash cells once by using basic media (without FBS).
3. Add 3 ml basic media each petri dish (diameter: 100mm).
4. Open the petri dish in the UV crosslinker and set 10 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> and push start button.
5. Put dish back into incubator and incubate 0.5 to 3 hours at 37°C.
6. Harvest for cell lysate.

#### **Phorbol 12-Myristate 13-Acetate (PMA) Stimulation**

1. Grow cells to 90% confluence.
2. Wash cells once by using basic media (without FBS) and starve cells 18-24 hours in 5 ml basic media at 37°C.
3. Wash cells once by using basic medium and add 3 ml basic media for each petri dish.
4. Add PMA to final concentration of 200 nM.
5. Put dish back into incubator and incubate 0.5 to 3 hours at 37°C.
6. Harvest for cell lysate.

#### **Serum Stimulation**

1. Grow cells to 90% confluence.
2. Wash cells once by using basic media (without FBS) and starve cells 18-24 hours in 5 ml basic media at 37°C.
3. Wash cells once by using basic medium and add 3 ml basic media with 20% FBS for each petri dish.
4. Put dish back into incubator and incubate 1 to 6 hours at 37°C.
5. Harvest for cell lysate.

#### **H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> Stimulation**

1. Grow cells to 90% confluence.
2. Wash cells once by using basic media (without FBS).
3. Add 3 ml basic media to each petri dish.
4. Add H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> to final concentration of 400 nM.
5. Put dish back into incubator and incubate 10 to 30 minutes at 37°C.
6. Harvest for cell lysate.

## RELATED PRODUCTS

<b>Catalog No.</b>	<b>DNA-Binding ELISA</b>
OKAG00345	Aviva Smad1 (Phospho-Ser465) DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00458	Aviva Retinoid X Receptor $\gamma$ DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00376	Aviva ELF1 DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00379	Aviva ERF DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00438	Aviva RFX2 DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00360	Aviva Fra-2 DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00336	Aviva MEF2C (Phospho-Ser396) DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00348	Aviva SOX-9 (Phospho-Ser181) DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00463	Aviva CEBPB DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00394	Aviva FOXO1A DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00471	Aviva MYSM1 DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00384	Aviva SPI1 DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00442	Aviva SP1 DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00411	Aviva HSF1 DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00461	Aviva Estrogen Receptor- $\alpha$ DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00314	Aviva GATA4 (Phospho-Ser105) DNA Binding ELISA
OKAG00356	Aviva AML1 DNA Binding ELISA

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Technical Support:

For optimal service please be prepared to supply the lot number of the kit used.

USA

Aviva Systems Biology, Corp.  
5754 Pacific Center Blvd, Suite 201  
San Diego, CA 92121

Phone: 858-552-6979  
Toll Free: 888-880-0001  
Fax: 858-552-6975

Technical support: [techsupport@avivasysbio.com](mailto:techsupport@avivasysbio.com)

China

Beijing AVIVA Systems Biology  
6th Floor, B Building, Kaichi Tower  
#A-2 Jinfu Road.  
Daxing Industrial Development Zone  
Beijing, 102600, CHINA

Phone: (86)10-60214720  
Fax: (86)10-60214722  
E-mail: [support@avivasysbio.com.cn](mailto:support@avivasysbio.com.cn)

中国地址: 北京大兴工业开发区金辅路甲 2 号凯驰大厦 B 座 6 层 (102600)  
电话: 010-60214720/21  
传真: 010-60214722

产品售前咨询及销售: [sales@avivasysbio.com.cn](mailto:sales@avivasysbio.com.cn)  
售后及技术支持: [support@avivasysbio.com.cn](mailto:support@avivasysbio.com.cn)

**ELISA PLATE TEMPLATE**

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