

TOXOPLASMA ANTIGEN



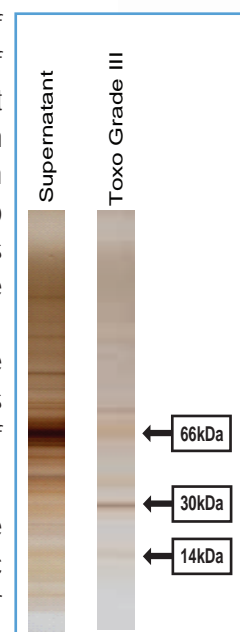
Toxoplasma Antigen is medically significant because Toxoplasmosis has a worldwide prevalence rate of $\geq 90\%$ in some areas and as low as 1% in others. The majority of infections are asymptomatic and IgG antibodies persist for life at relatively low levels. Epidemiologic studies indicate that outbreaks can trace back the common mode of transmission to undercooked meat. Toxoplasmosis is a parasitic disease caused by the protozoan *Toxoplasma gondii*. The primary host is the field cat, but the parasite can infect most warm blooded animals including humans.

PRODUCT #	DESCRIPTION	BUFFER	PROTEIN CONCENTRATION	STORAGE	PACKAGING
8122	Toxoplasma Antigen Viral Strain: RH Propagated in HeLa Cells Inactivated: Chemical Disruption	0.1M Phosphate, 0.15M NaCl pH 7.3 - 7.7	1.0mg/mL by BCA	-65°C or Below	1, 5, 10, & 100mg Aliquots Shipped on Dry Ice
*8131	Toxoplasma Antigen Grade III Viral Strain: RH Propagated in HeLa Cells Inactivated: Chemical Disruption	0.1M Phosphate, 0.15M NaCl, 0.01M EDTA, 0.1% SDS pH 7.3 - 7.7	~ 90% <i>T. gondii</i> tachyzoite proteins		

*Product in development.

Toxoplasmosis is of clinical importance due to the person-to-person transmission of Toxoplasma by blood transfusions and tissue transplantation. Since recipients of transplantations are generally immunocompromised, introduction of *T. gondii* can result in severe and fatal infections. Primary infection during the first trimester of pregnancy can have devastating effects on the fetus. Normal deliveries have been shown to be common when infection is acquired during the third trimester. However, if left untreated, this group may develop major symptoms months or years later. Toxoplasmosis with central nervous system (CNS) involvement is one of the leading causes of death in AIDS patients. The measurement of IgM antibodies is critical to the serological diagnosis of toxoplasmosis. The differentiation of acute versus chronic infection can often be determined by the presence of IgM antibody, or passively transferred antibody from the mother to the fetus can be ruled out by the presence of IgM antibody. Some indication of recency of acquisition of infection can be made by the level of IgM antibody present.¹

Toxoplasma Grade III Antigen is produced by isolation of the tachyzoite membrane followed by a detergent extraction. The resulting material has 5 to 8 times the specific activity of the Toxo-G antigen and predominantly consists of p30 antigen; however, other membrane antigens are present.



¹ Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 5th edition, American Society for Microbiology, 1991.

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