**Direct Serum Total Iron Binding Capacity (TIBC)**

**Intended Use**

Spectrum Diagnostics total iron binding capacity (TIBC) reagent is intended for the in-vitro quantitative, diagnostic determination of total iron binding capacity in human serum.

**Background**

The serum total iron-binding capacity (TIBC) represents the maximum concentration of iron that can be bound by an individual’s serum protein. Determination of TIBC is one of several commonly used assays in assessment of iron status and TIBC is highly correlated with serum transferrin (the primary serum iron transport protein) because > 95% of serum nonheme iron is bound by transferrin. Usually, only 30% of the available serum iron-binding sites are occupied, and changes in ratio of serum iron to TIBC reflect changes in the body iron stores.

**Assay Principle**

In the first step, the serum sample is added to reagent 1 (R1). R1 contains iron as ferric ion in sufficient quantity to saturate the highest anticipated TIBC in a complex with an excess of chromazurol B in acetate buffer at pH 4.8. When the serum sample is added, the serum iron is released from transferrin because of the low pH. The iron from sample then forms a complex with the remaining excess of chromazurol B, increasing the absorbance. In the second step, reagent 2 (R2) which is strongly buffered is added. The affinity of transferrin for iron increases and the transferrin extracts iron from the iron-dye complex, decreasing the absorbance. The decrease in absorbance is directly proportional to TIBC.

**Reagents**

**Reagent 1 (R1)**
- Acetate Buffer pH 4.8
- Chromazurol B
- Surfactant
- MOPs buffer pH 8.0

**Reagent 2 (R2)**
- Acetate Buffer pH 4.8
- Chromazurol B
- Surfactant

**Calibrator (C)**
- Actual concentration is stated on the vial label.

**Reagent Preparation, Storage and Stability**

Reagents are supplied ready-to-use and stable up to the expiry date labeled on the bottles when properly stored refrigerated at 2 – 8°C.

**Calibrator**

The calibrator is vacuum sealed; therefore the vial should be reconstituted carefully with exactly 1 ml of distilled water. Close the vial carefully and allow the calibrator to stand for 30 minutes swirling occasionally. Avoid foaming! Do not shake! After reconstitution divide the calibrator into several aliquots. The tightly closed calibrator can be used within 60 days at –25°C. Avoid repeated freezing and thawing.

**Precautions and Warnings**

Do not ingest or inhale. In case of contact with eyes or skin; rinse immediately with plenty of soap and water. In case of severe injuries; seek medical advice immediately.

**Calculation**

Total iron binding capacity = \( \frac{A_{\text{sample}}}{A_{\text{calibrator}}} \) x calibrator Conc.

**Quality Control**

Normal & abnormal commercial control serum of known concentrations should be analyzed with each run.

**Performance Characteristics**

**Precision**

Within run (Repeatability)

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<th>Level 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
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<td>Mean (µg/dL)</td>
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<td>SD</td>
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<tr>
<td>CV%</td>
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Run to run (Reproducibility)

<table>
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Methods Comparison
A comparison between Spectrum Diagnostics TIBC reagents and a commercial reagent of the same methodology was performed on 20 human sera. A correlation of 0.983 was obtained.

Sensitivity
When run as recommended, the sensitivity of this assay is 70 µg/dL.

Linearity
The reaction is linear up to concentration of 700 µg/dL. Specimens showing higher concentration should be diluted 1+1 using physiological saline and repeat the assay (result × 2).

Interfering Substances
Serum, plasma
Haemolysis
No interference up to haemoglobin level of 5 g/L (0.3 mmol/L) in determining serum iron and up to 1 g/L for TIBC.

Icterus
No significant interference up to a bilirubin level of 30 mg/dL.

Lipemia
Lipemic specimens are not recommended since they may cause negative bias. Lipemic specimens can be diluted before assay and the dilution factor should be considered during calculation.

Anticoagulants
Citrine, EDTA, and oxalate should be avoided.

Others
Pathological albumin levels more than 7 g/dL decrease the TIBC levels.

Expected values
TIBC
1 day : 134 – 318 µg/dL (24 – 57 µmol/L)
1 week : 190 – 324 µg/dL (34 – 58 µmol/L)
Infants : 151 – 340 µg/dL (27 – 61 µmol/L)
3 – 12 months : 262 – 497 µg/dL (47 – 89 µmol/L)
11 – 16 years : 290 – 441 µg/dL (49 – 89 µmol/L)
Adults Women : 274 – 497 µg/dL (49 – 89 µmol/L)
Men : 291 – 430 µg/dL (52 – 77 µmol/L)

Analytical Range
70 – 700 µg/dL (12.5 – 125 µmol/L).

Waste Disposal
This product is made to be used in professional laboratories. Please consult local regulations for a correct waste disposal. S56: dispose of this material and its container at hazardous or special waste collection point. S57: use appropriate container to avoid environmental contamination. S61: avoid release in environment. refer to special instructions/safety data sheets.

ORDERING INFORMATION

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References