CA 125 II
Cancer Antigen 125

English

Please note
The measured CA 125 value of a patient’s sample can vary depending on the testing procedure used. The laboratory finding must therefore always contain a statement on the CA 125 assay method used. CA 125 values determined on patient samples by different testing procedures cannot be directly compared with one another and could be the cause of erroneous medical interpretations. If there is a change in the CA 125 assay procedure used while monitoring therapy, then the CA 125 values obtained upon changing over to the new procedure must be confirmed by parallel measurements with both methods.

Intended use
Immunocassay for the in vitro quantitative determination of OC 125 reactive determinants in human serum and plasma. These determinants are associated with a high molecular weight glycoprotein in serum and plasma of women with primary epithelial invasive ovarian cancer (excluding those with cancer of low malignant potential).

This assay is indicated for use as an aid in the detection of residual or recurrent ovarian carcinoma in patients who have undergone first-line therapy and would be considered for second-line procedures. This assay is further indicated for serial measurement of CA 125 to aid in the management of cancer patients.

This assay is also intended to be used in conjunction with the Elecsys HE4 assay as part of ROMA (Risk Of Ovarian Malignancy Algorithm) for the risk assessment of ovarian cancer in premenopausal and postmenopausal women presenting with pelvic mass.

The electrochemiluminescence immunoassay “ECLIA” is intended for use on Elecsys and cobas e immunoassay analyzers.

Summary
CA 125 belongs to the family of hybridoma-defined tumor markers. The values measured are defined by the use of the monoclonal antibody (Mab) OC 125.

The antigenic determinant CA 125 is located on a high-molecular weight glycoprotein (200-1000 kD) isolated from cell culture or serum. The antigenic determinant CA 125 has a protein structure with associated carbohydrate side-chains.

Mab OC 125 was obtained from lymphocytes from mice that had been immunized with OVCA (ovarian carcinoma cell line) 433, an adenocarcinoma cell line from the ovary. In the Elecsys test, OC 125 is used as a detection antibody. MAB M 11 is used as the capture antibody (solid-phase antibody); this has been employed in second-generation CA 125 assays since 1992.

CA 125 is found in a high percentage of non-mucinous ovarian tumors of epithelial origin and can be detected in serum. It does not occur on the surface epithelium of normal ovaries (adult and fetal). Ovarian carcinoma accounts for about 20% of gynecological tumors; the incidence is 15/100,000.

CA 125 has been found in the amniotic fluid and in the coelomic epithelium; both of these tissues are of fetal origin. In tissues of adult origin, the presence of CA 125 has been demonstrated in the epithelium of the oviduct, in the endometrium and in the endocervix.

Elevated values are sometimes found in various benign gynecological diseases such as ovarian cysts, ovarian metaplasia, endometriosis, uterus myomatosus or cervicitis. Slight elevations of this marker may also occur in early pregnancy and in various benign diseases (e.g. acute and chronic pancreatitis, benign gastrointestinal diseases, renal insufficiency, autoimmune diseases and others).Markedly elevated levels have been found in benign liver diseases such as cirrhosis and hepatitis. Extreme elevations can occur in any kind of ascites due to malignant and benign diseases. Although the highest CA 125 values occur in patients suffering from ovarian carcinoma, clearly elevated values are also observed in malignancies of the endometrium, breast, gastrointestinal tract, and various other malignancies.

Although CA 125 is a relatively unspecific marker, it is today the most important tumor marker for monitoring the therapy and progress of patients with serous ovarian carcinoma. At primary diagnosis the sensitivity of CA 125 depends on the FIGO stage (FIGO = Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics); higher tumor stages are associated with higher CA 125 levels.

The diagnostic sensitivity and specificity of the Elecsys CA 125 II test was calculated by comparing ovarian carcinoma patients at primary diagnosis (FIGO stage I to IV) with patients suffering from benign gynecological diseases. At a cutoff value of 65 U/mL, the sensitivity is 79 % (at a low specificity of 82 %). The cutoff value has to be raised if higher specificity is desired. The optimal clinical value is reached at 150 U/mL (sensitivity 69 %, specificity 93 %). If the specificity is 95 %, in accordance with the recommendations of van Dalen, et al., a sensitivity of 63 % is obtained (cutoff 190 U/mL).

Test principle
Sandwich principle. Total duration of assay: 18 minutes.

1. 1st incubation: 20 μL of sample, a biotinylated monoclonal CA 125-specific antibody, and a monoclonal CA 125-specific antibody labeled with a ruthenium complex form a sandwich complex.

2. 2nd incubation: After addition of streptavidin-coated microparticles, the complex becomes bound to the solid phase via interaction of biotin and streptavidin.

The reaction mixture is aspired into the measuring cell where the microparticles are magnetically captured onto the surface of the electrode. Unbound substances are then removed with ProCell/ProCell M. Application of a voltage to the electrode then induces chemiluminescence emission which is measured by a photomultiplier.

Results are determined via a calibration curve which is instrument-specifically generated by 2-point calibration and a master curve provided via the reagent barcode.

a) Trit(2,2'-bipyridyl)ruthenium(II)-complex (Ru(bpy)²⁺)

Reagents - working solutions
The reagent pack is labeled as CA125 II.

M Streptavidin-labeled microparticles (transparent cap), 1 bottle, 6.5 mL:
Streptavidin-coated microparticles 0.72 mg/mL; preservative.

R1 Anti-CA 125-Ab—biotin (gray cap), 1 bottle, 9 mL:
Biotinylated monoclonal anti-CA 125 antibody (M 11; mouse) 1 mg/L;
phosphate buffer 100 mmol/L, pH 7.4; preservative.

R2 Anti-CA 125-Ab—Ru(bpy)²⁺ (black cap), 1 bottle, 9 mL:
Monoclonal anti-CA 125 antibody (OC 125; mouse) labeled with ruthenium complex 1 mg/L;
phosphate buffer 100 mmol/L, pH 7.4; preservative.

Precautions and warnings
For in vitro diagnostic use. Exercise the normal precautions required for handling all laboratory reagents.

Disposal of all waste material should be in accordance with local guidelines. Safety data sheet available for professional user on request.

Avoid foam formation in all reagents and sample types (specimens, calibrators and controls).
Reagent handling
The reagents in the kit have been assembled into a ready-for-use unit that cannot be separated.
All information required for correct operation is read in from the respective reagent barcodes.

Storage and stability
Store at 2-8 °C.
Do not freeze.
Store the Elecsys reagent kit upright in order to ensure complete availability of the microparticles during automatic mixing prior to use.

Stability:
- unopened at 2-8 °C up to the stated expiration date
- after opening at 2-8 °C 12 weeks
- on the analyzers 6 weeks

Specimen collection and preparation
Only the specimens listed below were tested and found acceptable.
Serum collected using standard sampling tubes or tubes containing separating gel.
Li-heparin, K<sub>2</sub>-EDTA and K<sub>3</sub>-EDTA plasma as well as plasma tubes containing separating gel.
Criterion: Recovery within 90-110 % of serum value or slope 0.9-1.1 + intercept within ± 2x Limit of Blank (LoB) + coefficient of correlation ≥ 0.95.
Stable for 5 days at 2-8 °C, 3 months at -20 °C.¹⁵
The sample types listed were tested with a selection of sample collection tubes that were commercially available at the time of testing, i.e. not all available tubes of all manufacturers were tested. Sample collection systems from various manufacturers may contain differing materials which could affect the test results in some cases. When processing samples in primary tubes (sample collection systems), follow the instructions of the tube manufacturer.
Centrifuge samples containing precipitates before performing the assay.
Do not use heat-inactivated samples.
Do not use samples and controls stabilized with azide.
Ensure the samples, calibrators and controls are at 20-25 °C prior to measurement.
Due to possible evaporation effects, samples, calibrators and controls on the analyzers should be analyzed/measured within 2 hours.

Materials provided
See “Reagents – working solutions” section for reagents.

Materials required (but not provided)
- 07030207190, CA 125 II CalSet II, for 4 x 1 mL
- 11776452122, PreciControl Tumor Marker, for 2 x 3 mL each of PreciControl Tumor Marker 1 and 2
- 11732277122, Diluent Universal, 2 x 16 mL sample diluent or 03183833122, Diluent Universal, 2 x 36 mL sample diluent
- General laboratory equipment
- Elecsys 2010, MODULAR ANALYTICS E170 or cobas e analyzer
- For epithelial ovarian cancer risk assessment with ROMA (Risk of Ovarian Malignancy Algorithm):
  - 05950929190, HE4, 100 tests
  - 05950845190, HE4 CalSet, for 4 x 1 mL
  - 05950863190, PreciControl HE4, for 2 x 1 mL each of PreciControl HE4 1 and 2
  - 03609987190, Diluent MultiAssay, 2 x 16 mL sample diluent
- Accessories for Elecsys 2010 and cobas e 411 analyzers:
  - 11662988122, ProCell, 6 x 380 mL system buffer
  - 11662970122, CleanCell, 6 x 380 mL measuring cell cleaning solution
  - 11993364122, Elecsys SysWash, 1 x 500 mL washwater additive
  - 11993159001, Adapter for SysClean
  - 11706802001, Elecsys 2010 AssayCup, 60 x 60 reaction vessels
  - 11706799001, Elecsys 2010 AssayTip, 30 x 120 pipette tips
- Accessories for MODULAR ANALYTICS E170, cobas e 601 and cobas e 602 analyzers:
  - 04880340190, ProCell M, 2 x 2 L system buffer
  - 04880293190, CleanCell M, 2 x 2 L measuring cell cleaning solution
  - 03023141001, PC/CC-Cups, 12 cups to premix ProCell M and CleanCell M before use
  - 03005712190, ProbeWash M, 12 x 70 mL cleaning solution for run finalization and rinsing during reagent change
  - 12102137001, AssayTip/AssayCup Combimagazine M, 48 x 100 reaction vessels or pipette tips, waste bags
  - 03023150001, WasteLiner, waste bags
  - 03027651001, SysClean Adapter M
- 11298500316, ISE Cleaning Solution/Elecsys SysClean, 5 x 100 mL system cleaning solution

Assay
For optimum performance of the assay follow the directions given in this document for the analyzer concerned. Refer to the appropriate operator’s manual for analyzer-specific assay instructions.
Resuspension of the microparticles takes place automatically prior to use.
Read in the test-specific parameters via the reagent barcode. If in exceptional cases the barcode cannot be read, enter the 15-digit sequence of numbers.
Bring the cooled reagents to approximately 20 °C and place on the reagent disk (20 °C) of the analyzer. Avoid foam formation. The system automatically regulates the temperature of the reagents and the opening/closing of the bottles.

Calibration
Tracability: This method has been standardized against the Enzymun-Test CA 125 II method. This in turn has been standardized against the CA 125 II RIA from Fujirebio Diagnostics.
Every Elecsys reagent set has a barcoded label containing specific information for calibration of the particular reagent lot. The predefined master curve is adapted to the analyzer using the relevant CalSet.
Calibration frequency: Calibration must be performed once per reagent lot using fresh reagent (i.e. not more than 24 hours since the reagent kit was registered on the analyzer). Renewed calibration is recommended as follows:
  - after 8 weeks when using the same reagent lot
  - after 7 days (when using the same reagent kit on the analyzer)
  - as required: e.g. quality control findings outside the defined limits

Quality control
For quality control, use PreciControl Tumor Marker.
In addition, other suitable control material can be used.
Controls for the various concentration ranges should be run individually at least once every 24 hours when the test is in use, once per reagent kit, and following each calibration.
The control intervals and limits should be adapted to each laboratory’s individual requirements. Values obtained should fall within the defined limits. Each laboratory should establish corrective measures to be taken if values fall outside the defined limits. Follow the applicable government regulations and local guidelines for quality control.

Calculation
The analyzer automatically calculates the analyte concentration of each sample (either in U/mL, U/L or kU/L).
Cancer Antigen 125

**Limitations - interference**
The assay is unaffected by icterus (bilirubin < 1129 μmol/L or < 66 mg/dL), hemolysis (Hb < 2.0 mmol/L or < 3.2 g/dL), lipemia (Intralipid < 2000 mg/dL) and biotin (< 143 mmol/L or < 35 ng/mL).

Criterion: Recovery within ± 10 % of initial value.

Samples should not be taken from patients receiving therapy with high biotin doses (i.e. > 5 mg/day) until at least 8 hours following the last biotin injection.

No interference was observed from rheumatoid factors up to a concentration of 1200 U/mL.

There is no high-dose hook effect at CA 125 concentrations up to 50000 U/mL.

In vitro tests were performed on 27 commonly used pharmaceuticals. No interference with the assay was found.

In rare cases, interference due to extremely high titers of antibodies to analyte-specific antibodies, streptavidin or ruthenium can occur. These effects are minimized by suitable test design.

For diagnostic purposes, the results should always be assessed in conjunction with the patient’s medical history, clinical examination and other findings.

**Limits and ranges**

**Measuring range**

0.6-5000 U/mL (defined by the Limit of Blank and the maximum of the master curve). Values below the Limit of Blank are reported as < 0.6 U/mL. Values above the measuring range are reported as > 5000 U/mL (or up to 25000 U/mL for 5-fold diluted samples).

**Lower limits of measurement**

- **Limit of Blank (LoB)**
  - Limit of Blank = 0.6 U/mL
- **Limit of Detection (LoD)**
  - Limit of Detection = 3.2 U/mL
- **Limit of Quantitation (LoQ)**
  - Limit of Quantitation = 2.0 U/mL with a total allowable error of ≤ 20 %.

The Limit of Blank, Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantitation were determined in accordance with the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute) EP17-A2 requirements.

The Limit of Blank is the 95th percentile value from n ≥ 60 measurements of analyte-free samples over several independent series. The Limit of Blank corresponds to the concentration below which analyte-free samples are found with a probability of 95 %.

The Limit of Detection is determined based on the Limit of Blank and the standard deviation of low concentration samples. The Limit of Detection corresponds to the lowest analyte concentration which can be detected (value above the Limit of Blank with a probability of 95 %).

The Limit of Quantitation is defined as the lowest amount of analyte in a sample that can be accurately quantitated with a total allowable relative error of ≤ 20 %.

A study was performed based on guidance from the CLSI protocol EP17-A2 using 5 diluted human serum samples each for LoB and LoD respectively. The samples were tested in 6 runs over 3 days on 2 analyzers resulting in n = 60 values. For LoQ 3 human serum samples were diluted and measured in 6 runs over ≥ 3 days on 2 analyzers with a total allowable relative error of ≤ 20 %. LoB, LoD and LoQ were calculated to be the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Elecsys 2010 and cobas e 411 analyzers</th>
<th>MODULAR ANALYTICS E170, cobas e 601 and cobas e 602 analyzers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LoB (U/mL)</td>
<td>0.600</td>
<td>0.449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LoD (U/mL)</td>
<td>0.697</td>
<td>0.548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LoQ (U/mL)</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>1.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dilution**

Samples with CA 125 concentrations above the measuring range can be diluted with Diluent Universal. The recommended dilution is 1:5 (either automatically by the MODULAR ANALYTICS E170, Elecsys 2010 or cobas e analyzers or manually). The concentration of the diluted sample must be > 1000 U/mL.

After manual dilution, multiply the result by the dilution factor.

After dilution by the analyzers, the MODULAR ANALYTICS E170, Elecsys 2010 and cobas e software automatically takes the dilution into account when calculating the sample concentration.

*Note:* In rare cases, sample-dependent non-linearity upon dilution is seen with samples having analyte levels beyond the measuring range.

**Expected values**

Studies using the Elecsys CA 125 II assay in 593 samples from healthy females (pre- and postmenopausal) yielded a value of 35 U/mL (95% percentile). Values > 35 U/mL indicate an increased probability for residual or recurrent ovarian carcinoma in patients treated for primary epithelial invasive ovarian cancer.

Each laboratory should investigate the transferability of the expected values to its own patient population and if necessary determine its own reference ranges.

**Risk estimation in patients with pelvic mass**

For risk estimation with ROMA see package insert of the Elecsys HE4 assay.

**Specific performance data**

Representative performance data on the analyzers are given below. Results obtained in individual laboratories may differ.

**Precision**

Precision was determined using Elecsys reagents, samples and controls in a protocol (EPS-A2) of the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute): 2 runs per day in duplication each for 21 days (n = 84). The following results were obtained:

**ELECSYS 2010 and COBAS e 411 analyzers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Mean U/mL</th>
<th>SD U/mL</th>
<th>CV %</th>
<th>SD U/mL</th>
<th>CV %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 1</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>0.423</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>0.591</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 2</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>0.090</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>0.148</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 3</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td>60.1</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>82.0</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 4</td>
<td>4950</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 5</td>
<td>35.2</td>
<td>0.686</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PreciControl TM®H</td>
<td>31.1</td>
<td>0.327</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.790</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PreciControl TM2</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>0.864</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>3.98</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MODULAR ANALYTICS E170, COBAS e 601 and COBAS e 602 analyzers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Mean U/mL</th>
<th>SD U/mL</th>
<th>CV %</th>
<th>SD U/mL</th>
<th>CV %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 1</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>0.121</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.326</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 2</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>0.099</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>0.208</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 3</td>
<td>2480</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 4</td>
<td>4790</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human serum 5</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>0.301</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.710</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PreciControl TM1</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>0.201</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PreciControl TM2</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>0.762</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method comparison**

A comparison of the Elecsys CA 125 II assay (y) with Fujirebio Diagnostics CA 125 II RIA (x) using clinical samples gave the following correlations.
The sample concentrations were between approximately 4 and 500 U/mL.

**Analytical specificity**
The Elecsys CA 125 II tumor marker assay is based on the monoclonal M 11 and OC 125 antibodies which are only available from Fujirebio Diagnostics, its licenses and its representatives. The performance characteristics of test procedures using these antibodies cannot be assumed for test methods using other antibodies.

**References**

For further information, please refer to the appropriate operator’s manual for the analyzer concerned, the respective application sheets, the product information and the Method Sheets of all necessary components (if available in your country).