

**SYNCHRON® System(s)
Chemistry Information Sheet**

**ALT-
Alanine Aminotransferase
Pyridoxal-5'-phosphate
REF (300 tests/cartridge) 467840
REF (100 tests/cartridge) 467848**

For *In Vitro* Diagnostic Use

ANNUAL REVIEW

Reviewed by:	Date	Reviewed by:	Date

PRINCIPLE

INTENDED USE

ALT- reagent, when used in conjunction with SYNCHRON LX® System(s), UniCel® DxC 600/800 System(s) and SYNCHRON® Systems Enzyme Validator Set, is intended for quantitative determination of alanine aminotransferase pyridoxal-5'-phosphate concentration in human serum or plasma. Use of this product, in conjunction with the SYNCHRON® Systems Enzyme Validator Set, will result in assay values which are compatible with the methods recommended by the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC).¹

CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Alanine aminotransferase measurements are used in the diagnosis and treatment of certain liver diseases (e.g., viral hepatitis and cirrhosis) and heart diseases.

METHODOLOGY

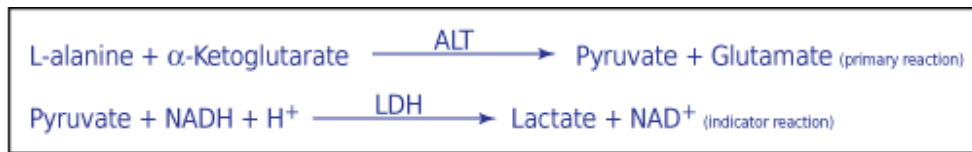
The ALT- reagent is used to measure alanine aminotransferase in serum or plasma by an enzymatic rate method.^{2,3} In the assay reaction, the ALT catalyzes the reversible transamination of L-alanine and alpha-ketoglutarate to pyruvate and L-glutamine. The pyruvate is then reduced to lactate in the presence of lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) with the concurrent oxidation of β -Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide (reduced form) (NADH) to β -Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide (NAD).

The ALT- assay is based on the IFCC standard for enzyme determination.⁴ Pyridoxal-5'-phosphate is a cofactor that is required for transaminase activity by binding to the enzyme using Schiff-base linkage.⁵

The SYNCHRON® System(s) automatically proportions the appropriate sample and reagent volumes into a cuvette. The ratio used is one part sample to 11 parts reagent. The system monitors the rate of change in absorbance at 340 nanometers over a fixed-time interval. This rate of change in absorbance is directly proportional to the activity of ALT- in the sample and is used by the System to calculate and express the ALT- activity.

One unit of enzyme activity is defined as the quantity of enzyme that catalyzes the reaction of 1 μ mol of substrate per minute at +37°C.

CHEMICAL REACTION SCHEME



E015178L.EPS

SPECIMEN

TYPE OF SPECIMEN

Biological fluid samples should be collected in the same manner routinely used for any laboratory test.⁶ Freshly drawn serum or plasma are the preferred specimens. Acceptable anticoagulants are listed in the PROCEDURAL NOTES section of this chemistry information sheet. Whole blood or urine are not recommended for use as a sample.

SPECIMEN STORAGE AND STABILITY

1. Tubes of blood are to be kept closed at all times and in a vertical position. It is recommended that the serum or plasma be physically separated from contact with cells within two hours from the time of collection.⁷
2. Separated serum or plasma should not remain at room temperature longer than 8 hours. If assays are not completed within 8 hours, serum or plasma should be stored at +2°C to +8°C. If assays are not completed within 48 hours, or the separated sample is to be stored beyond 48 hours, samples should be frozen at -15°C to -20°C. Frozen samples should be thawed only once. Analyte deterioration may occur in samples that are repeatedly frozen and thawed.⁷

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN STORAGE AND STABILITY CONDITIONS AS DESIGNATED BY THIS LABORATORY:

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SAMPLE VOLUME

The optimum volume, when using a 0.5 mL sample cup, is 0.3 mL of sample. For optimum primary sample tube volumes and minimum volumes, refer to the Primary Tube Sample Template for your system.

CRITERIA FOR UNACCEPTABLE SPECIMENS

Refer to the PROCEDURAL NOTES section of this chemistry information sheet for information on unacceptable specimens.

CRITERIA FOR SAMPLE REJECTION AS DESIGNATED BY THIS LABORATORY:

PATIENT PREPARATION

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENT PREPARATION AS DESIGNATED BY THIS LABORATORY:

SPECIMEN HANDLING

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIMEN HANDLING AS DESIGNATED BY THIS LABORATORY:

REAGENTS

CONTENTS

Each kit contains the following items:

Two Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT-) Reagent Cartridges (2 x 300 tests) or (2 x 100 tests)

VOLUMES PER TEST

Sample Volume	23 µL
ORDAC Sample Volume	3 µL
Total Reagent Volume	258 µL
Cartridge Volumes	
A	250 µL
B	8 µL
C	--

REACTIVE INGREDIENTS

REAGENT CONSTITUENTS

α -Ketoglutarate	12.0 mmol/L
NADH	0.27 mmol/L
L-Alanine	500.0 mmol/L
Lactate Dehydrogenase (porcine)	1.48 KU/L
Pyridoxal-5'-phosphate	0.25 mmol/L

Also non-reactive chemicals necessary for optimal system performance.

Avoid skin contact with reagent. Use water to wash reagent from skin.

EUROPEAN HAZARD CLASSIFICATION

Alanine Aminotransferase phosphate (Compartment B)	Pyridoxal-5'- phosphate	Xn;R22	Harmful if swallowed.
		S37/39	Wear suitable gloves and eye/face protection.

MATERIALS NEEDED BUT NOT SUPPLIED WITH REAGENT KIT

SYNCHRON® Systems Enzyme Validator Set
At least two levels of control material
Saline

REAGENT PREPARATION

Transfer all of the contents of the smallest reagent compartment (C) into the largest reagent compartment (A).

Replace the cartridge caps and gently invert the cartridge several times to ensure adequate mixing.

ACCEPTABLE REAGENT PERFORMANCE

The acceptability of a reagent is determined by ensuring that quality control results are within your facility's acceptance criteria.

REAGENT STORAGE AND STABILITY

ALT- reagent when stored unopened at +2°C to +8°C, will obtain the shelf-life indicated on the cartridge label. Once opened and prepared, the reagent is stable for 10 days when stored on the instrument at +2°C to +8°C unless the expiration date is exceeded. DO NOT FREEZE.

REAGENT STORAGE LOCATION:

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CALIBRATION

CALIBRATOR REQUIRED

SYNCHRON® Systems Enzyme Validator Set

CALIBRATOR PREPARATION

No preparation is required.

CALIBRATOR STORAGE AND STABILITY

If unopened, the SYNCHRON Enzyme Validator should be stored at -15°C to -20°C until the expiration date printed on the calibrator bottle. Opened calibrators that are resealed and stored at -15°C to -20°C are stable for 60 days unless the expiration date is exceeded.



CAUTION

Because this product is of human origin, it should be handled as though capable of transmitting infectious diseases. Each serum or plasma donor unit used in the preparation of this material was tested by United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved methods and found to be negative for antibodies to HIV and HCV and nonreactive for HbsAg. Because no test method can offer complete assurance that HIV, hepatitis B virus, and hepatitis C virus or other infectious agents are absent, this material should be handled as though capable of transmitting infectious diseases. This product may also contain other human source material for which there is no approved test. The FDA recommends such samples to be handled as specified in Centers for Disease Control's Biosafety Level 2 guidelines.⁸

CALIBRATOR STORAGE LOCATION:

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CALIBRATION INFORMATION

1. The system must have a valid calibration in memory before controls or patient samples can be run.
2. Under typical operating conditions the ALT- reagent cartridge must be calibrated every 5 days and also with certain parts replacements or maintenance procedures, as defined in the SYNCHRON LX *Maintenance Manual and Instrument Log*, or the UniCel DxH 600/800 Systems *Instructions For Use* (IFU) manual. This assay has within-lot calibration available. Refer to the SYNCHRON LX *Operations Manual*, or the UniCel DxH 600/800 Systems *Instructions For Use* (IFU) manual for information on this feature.

3. For detailed calibration instructions, refer to the SYNCHRON LX *Operations Manual*, or the UniCel DxC 600/800 System *Instructions For Use* (IFU) manual.
4. The system will automatically perform checks on the calibration and produce data at the end of calibration. In the event of a failed calibration, the data will be printed with error codes and the system will alert the operator of the failure. For information on error codes, refer to the SYNCHRON LX *Diagnostics and Troubleshooting Manual*, or the UniCel DxC 600/800 System *Instructions For Use* (IFU) manual.

TRACEABILITY

For Traceability information refer to the Calibrator instructions for use.

QUALITY CONTROL

At least two levels of control material should be analyzed daily. In addition, these controls should be run with each new calibration, with each new reagent cartridge, and after specific maintenance or troubleshooting procedures as detailed in the appropriate system manual. More frequent use of controls or the use of additional controls is left to the discretion of the user based on good laboratory practices or laboratory accreditation requirements and applicable laws.

The following controls should be prepared and used in accordance with the package inserts. Discrepant quality control results should be evaluated by your facility.

TABLE 1 QUALITY CONTROL MATERIAL

CONTROL NAME	SAMPLE TYPE	STORAGE

TESTING PROCEDURE(S)

1. If necessary, load the reagent onto the system.
2. After reagent load is completed, calibration may be required.
3. Program samples and controls for analysis.
4. After loading samples and controls onto the system, follow the protocols for system operations.

For detailed testing procedures, refer to the SYNCHRON LX *Operations Manual*, or the UniCel DxC 600/800 System *Instructions For Use* (IFU) manual.

CALCULATIONS

The SYNCHRON® System(s) performs all calculations internally to produce the final reported result. The system will calculate the final result for sample dilutions made by the operator when the dilution factor is entered into the system during sample programming.

REPORTING RESULTS

Equivalency between the SYNCHRON LX and UniCel DxC 600/800 Systems has been established. Chemistry results between these systems are in agreement and data from representative systems may be shown.

REFERENCE INTERVALS

Each laboratory should establish its own reference intervals based upon its patient population. The preliminary upper reference intervals listed below were taken from literature.³

TABLE 2 REFERENCE INTERVALS

INTERVALS	SAMPLE TYPE	CONVENTIONAL UNITS	S. I. UNITS
Literature	Serum (Male)	45 IU/L	0.74 μ kat/L
	Serum (Female)	34 IU/L	0.56 μ kat/L

INTERVALS	SAMPLE TYPE	CONVENTIONAL UNITS	S. I. UNITS
Laboratory			

Refer to References (9,10,11) for guidelines on establishing laboratory-specific reference intervals.

ADDITIONAL REPORTING INFORMATION AS DESIGNATED BY THIS LABORATORY:

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PROCEDURAL NOTES

ANTICOAGULANT TEST RESULTS

1. If plasma is the sample of choice, the following anticoagulants were found to be compatible with this method based on a study of 20 healthy volunteers:

TABLE 3 COMPATIBLE ANTICOAGULANTS

ANTICOAGULANT	LEVEL TESTED FOR IN VITRO INTERFERENCE	AVERAGE PLASMA-SERUM BIAS (IU/L)
Ammonium Heparin	14 Units/mL	NSI ^a
Lithium Heparin	14 Units/mL	NSI
Sodium Heparin	14 Units/mL	NSI

2. The following anticoagulants were found to be incompatible with this method:

TABLE 4 INCOMPATIBLE ANTICOAGULANTS

ANTICOAGULANT	LEVEL TESTED FOR IN VITRO INTERFERENCE	PLASMA-SERUM BIAS (IU/L) ^b
Potassium Oxalate/Sodium Fluoride	2.0 / 2.5 mg/mL	-9

LIMITATIONS

Samples with extremely high enzyme activity (>12,000 IU/L or >200.04 µkat/L) may consume all of the NADH substrate before the first absorbance measurement is taken after sample addition. These samples can report either very low enzyme activities or suppress the result as "OIR LO". These samples should be diluted 1:20 with saline and rerun.

INTERFERENCES

1. The following substances were tested for interference with this methodology:

TABLE 5 INTERFERENCES

SUBSTANCE	SOURCE	LEVEL TESTED	OBSERVED EFFECT
Bilirubin (unconjugated)	Bovine	30 mg/dL	NSI ^c
Lipemia	Intralipid ^d	300 mg/dL	NSI

2. Samples showing evidence of hemolysis should not be used. Hemolysis may cause falsely elevated results.
3. Refer to References (12,13,14) for other interferences caused by drugs, disease and preanalytical variables.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS**Analytic Range**

The SYNCHRON[®] System(s) method for the determination of this analyte provides the following analytical ranges:

TABLE 6 ANALYTICAL RANGE

SAMPLE TYPE	CONVENTIONAL UNITS	S.I. UNITS
Serum or Plasma	5 – 400 IU/L	0.09 – 6.80 µkat/L
Serum or Plasma (ORDAC) ^e	350 – 2600 IU/L	5.8 – 43.0 µkat/L

Samples with activities exceeding the high end of the analytical range should be rerun with ORDAC enabled or diluted with saline and reanalyzed.

REPORTABLE RANGE (as determined on site):**TABLE 7 REPORTABLE RANGE**

SAMPLE TYPE	CONVENTIONAL UNITS	S.I. UNITS

SENSITIVITY

Sensitivity is defined as the lowest measurable concentration which can be distinguished from zero with 95% confidence. Sensitivity for ALT- determination is 5 IU/L (0.08 μ kat/L).

EQUIVALENCY

Equivalency was assessed by Deming regression analysis of patient samples to accepted clinical methods.

Serum (in the range of 9 to 343 IU/L):

Y (SYNCHRON LX Systems)	= 1.013X + 1.6
N	= 124
MEAN (SYNCHRON LX Systems)	= 67.1
MEAN (IFCC Formulation)	= 64.7
CORRELATION COEFFICIENT (r)	= 0.9980

Refer to References (15) for guidelines on performing equivalency testing.

PRECISION

A properly operating SYNCHRON[®] System(s) should exhibit precision values less than or equal to the following:

TABLE 8 PRECISION VALUES

TYPE OF PRECISION	SAMPLE TYPE	1 SD		CHANGEOVER VALUE ^f		% CV
		IU/L	(μ kat/L)	IU/L	(μ kat/L)	
Within-run	Serum/Plasma	3.0	0.05	85.7	1.43	3.5
	Serum/Plasma (ORDAC)	NA ^g	NA	NA	NA	10.0
Total	Serum/Plasma	4.5	0.08	85.7	1.43	5.3
	Serum/Plasma (ORDAC)	NA	NA	NA	NA	15.0

Comparative performance data for a SYNCHRON LX[®] System evaluated using the NCCLS Proposed Guideline EP5-T2 appears in the table below.¹⁶ Each laboratory should characterize their own instrument performance for comparison purposes.

TABLE 9 NCCLS EP5-T2 PRECISION ESTIMATE METHOD

TYPE OF IMPRECISION	SAMPLE TYPE		No. Systems	No. Data Points ^h	Test Mean Value (IU/L)	EP5-T2 Calculated Point Estimates	
						SD	% CV
Within-run	Serum	Control 1	1	80	15.5	1.28	8.31
	Serum	Control 2	1	80	178.8	1.99	1.11
	Serum	Control 3	1	80	341.9	1.61	0.47
Total	Serum	Control 1	1	80	15.5	2.47	15.98
	Serum	Control 2	1	80	178.8	2.31	1.29
	Serum	Control 3	1	80	341.9	2.51	0.73

NOTICE

These degrees of precision and equivalency were obtained in typical testing procedures on a SYNCHRON LX[®] System and are not intended to represent the performance specifications for this reagent.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more detailed information on SYNCHRON LX Systems or UniCel DxC Systems, refer to the appropriate system manual.

SHIPPING DAMAGE

If damaged product is received, notify your Beckman Coulter Clinical Support Center.

REFERENCES

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16. National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards, *Precision Performance of Clinical Chemistry Devices*, Tentative Guideline, 2nd Edition, NCCLS publication EP5-T2, Villanova, PA (1992).



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ENDNOTES

- a NSI = No Significant Interference (within ± 6.0 IU/L or 7%).
- b Bias is based on worst case instead of average. Plus (+) or minus (-) signs in this column signify positive or negative bias.
- c NSI = No Significant Interference (within ± 6.0 IU/L or 7%).
- d Intralipid is a registered trademark of KabiVitrum, Inc., Clayton, NC 27250.
- e Overrange Detection and Correction. Refer to the SYNCHRON LX Operations Manual, or the UniCel DxC 600/800 System Instructions For Use (IFU) manual for more details on this function.
- f When the mean of the test precision data is less than or equal to the changeover value, compare the test SD to the SD guideline given above to determine the acceptability of the precision testing. When the mean of the test precision data is greater than the changeover value, compare the test % CV to the guideline given above to determine acceptability. Changeover value = (SD guideline/CV guideline) x 100.
- g NA = Not applicable.
- h The point estimate is based on the data from one system, run for twenty days, two runs per day, two observations per run on an instrument operated and maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions.