

LA Screen / LA Confirm

Simplified Dilute Russell's Viper Venom Test (DRVWT) for detection of Lupus Anticoagulants

INTENDED USE

LA Screen and LA Confirm are simplified DRVVT reagents for detection of Lupus Anticoagulants (LA) in one-stage clotting tests.

LA Screen

Simplified DRVVT reagent to screen for the presence of Lupus Anticoagulants.

LA Confirm

Phospholipid-rich DRVVT reagent for the specific correction of Lupus Anticoagulants.

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

Las are autoantibodies against negatively charged phospholipids or complexes of phospholipids with either beta-2-glycoprotein 1 or clotting factors such as prothrombin. They occur in various clinical conditions, especially autoimmune diseases¹ and are now considered to be a significant risk factor in patients with otherwise unexplained thrombosis and are often present in women who have recurrent fetal loss². LA have traditionally been detected using phospholipid responsive clotting tests, such as the activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT), kaolin clotting time (KCT) and DRVVT² where they have an anticoagulant effect.

The DRVVT time first became popular following the publication by Thiagarajan et al. in 1986.³ Life Diagnostics has simplified and standardized this method.⁷ According to Petri⁸ et al., thrombosis in SLE patients is more closely linked with LA detectable by DRVVT than with anticardiolipin antibodies detected by enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA).³ This observation was recently extended by Galli and Bevers⁹ who showed that the LA subtype with most effect on DRVVT tests is beta-2-glycoprotein 1 dependent and different to the prothrombin-requiring LA subtype having more prolonging effect on KCT tests.

Test principle

- Russell's viper venom present in LA Screen initiate plasma clotting by directly activating factor X. LA antibodies prolong the LA Screen clotting time.
- LA Confirm reagent is similar to LA Screen but contains a high phospholipid concentration. The extra phospholipid counteracts the LA antibody and largely corrects the clot time³.
- DRVVT tests "bypass" factor VII of the extrinsic pathway and the contact and antithrombinic factors of the intrinsic pathway. Therefore LA Screen is more specific for LA than APTTs as they are not affected by contact factor abnormalities or by factor VIII deficiencies or antibodies¹⁰. There have been a number of tests developed based on phospholipid correction¹¹ however none have been as convenient to use as LA Confirm subsequent to LA Screen.
- Mixing tests may be useful to exclude factor II, V and X deficiencies, which may prolong LA Screen and LA Confirm results. Mixing normal plasma with test plasma replenishes any factors deficient in the test plasma. If the mixing test is still prolonged, it indicates that an inhibitor (such as LA) is present in the test plasma.

REAGENT

Composition

LA Screen and LA Confirm contain Russell's viper venom, phospholipids, antiheparin agents, calcium, buffers, stabilizers, sodium azide and dyes.

Warnings and precautions

For in-vitro diagnostic use only.

When disposing of azide, always flush with large volumes of water to avoid the possibility of an explosive residue forming in metal plumbing.

Preparation for use

Reconstitute with the volume of distilled water stated on the vial. Mix well by inversion to ensure complete re-suspension of the lyophilized material.

Storage instructions

The lyophilized reagents are stable at least until the expiry date stated on the vial label when stored at 2-8°C.

Following reconstitution reagents can be stored for 8 hrs at 37°C, 24 hours at 20-25°C, 48 hrs at 2-8°C and 1 month at -20°C.

Indications of instability / deterioration

If there is no evidence of vacuum when the vial is opened and/or the reagent does not appear dry it should be returned to Life Diagnostics or your local distributor.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION

Collect and process blood in accordance with NCCLS Standard H21-A3: Collection, Transport and Processing of Blood Specimens for Coagulation Testing and General Performance of Coagulation Assays; Approved Guideline-3rd Edition (1998). Separated plasma should be stored at 2-8°C and tested within 4 hours of collection. If the samples are to be frozen before testing, the plasma must be double spun to remove platelets (below 10 x 10⁹/L)¹⁰ prior to freezing as these can shorten the LA Screen clotting time.

TEST PROCEDURE

- Pre-warm a slight excess of LA Screen or LA Confirm reagent at 37±1°C in a reagent reservoir, allowing for 200µl per test.
- Dispense 200µl of test plasma into a glass test tube and warm for 1 minute at 37°C
- Add 200µl of pre-warmed reagent to the plasma and time from the moment of reagent addition to a clotting end point.
- Repeat for duplicate test values and report the average of these as the result.

Automated method

Protocols for most automated clotting machines are available on request. LA Screen tests should be carried out using equal volumes of test plasma and reagent as in most thrombin time protocols.

However, observation or acquisition times should be extended to 120 seconds.

Materials provided

Each pack of LA Screen/ LA Confirm

Order code LASD-10 contains: 10 x lyoph. for 2 ml
Order code LASD-25 contains: 10 x lyoph. for 5 ml
Order code LACD-5 contains: 10 x lyoph. for 1 ml
Order code LACD-10 contains: 10 x lyoph. for 2 ml

Materials required but not provided

10mm x 75mm glass test tubes
Waterbath at constant temperature of 37 +/- 1°C

Stopwatch

200µl precision pipette

Purified water, USP or equivalent
Platelet depleted normal plasma
1,2 or 5ml pipette

Normal and Abnormal plasma for Quality Control

Quality control

Each laboratory should determine its own acceptable control values and normal range. Gradiplasma LA High (code LAHP) and Gradiplasma LA Low (code LAPL) are abnormal control plasmas manufactured by Life Diagnostics for use in quality control of LA Screen and LA Confirm assays.

Quality control plasma must be tested at the same time as patient samples.

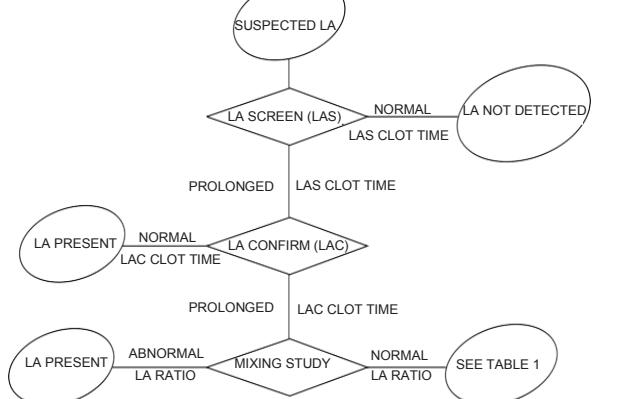
RESULTS

If the LA Screen clotting time is within the normal range no further testing for LA may be necessary. If the LA Screen clotting time result is more than 20% longer than pooled platelet depleted normal plasma the result should be considered abnormal and investigated further. (See Figure 1)

The final result is best expressed as a ratio of the clotting times of LA Screen divided by LA Confirm.

$$\text{LA Ratio} = \frac{\text{LA Screen clotting time}}{\text{LA Confirm clotting time}}$$

FIGURE 1



Mixing tests

If results are borderline, mixing studies may be used to correct for hidden defects in the sample and clarify the presence of LA. These tests should be carried out on a 50:50 mixture of test plasma and platelet depleted normal plasma using the standard test procedure.

TABLE 1: Combination of mixing and confirmatory tests

LA Screen Clotting time	LA Confirm Clotting time	Interpretation
Patient Plasma + Mix-Patient + Normal	Patient Plasma + Mix-Patient + Normal	
N N N N	LA not detected	
ABN ABN N N	LA probably present	
ABN N ABN N	Possible factor deficiency/OAT exclude by further investigation	
ABN ABN ABN N	Possible factor deficiency exclude by further investigation	
ABN ABN ABN ABN	Exclude other inhibitor by further investigation	

LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

Samples containing clots and those with abnormal hematocrit should be discarded. Jaundiced, lipemic and hemolyzed specimens should be tested by manual techniques as some photoelectric instruments give false results.

Commercially available normal quality control plasmas with unspecified levels of citrate and platelets are not recommended for use in mixing studies.

For comparative studies LA Screen and LA Confirm tests should be performed at the same time.

LA assays based on different properties appear to be more or less sensitive to certain subgroups of LAs. Therefore at least two screening assays, based on different properties, should be performed before the possibility of LA is excluded.¹⁰

Heparin levels up to 1 unit/ml have no effect due to the presence of a neutralizing agent in both LA Screen and LA Confirm.

EXPECTED VALUES

Normal ranges for LA Screen of 31-44 seconds and for LA Confirm of 30-38 were obtained using a manual tilt-tube method with samples collected from 26 healthy individuals aged 18 to 55 years.

The ratio of LA Screen / LA Confirm was in the range 0.8-1.2. These results should be used as a guide only.

Each laboratory should determine its own normal range for both manual and automated methods to overcome differences in sample collection and instrumentation.

SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Intra-laboratory and inter-laboratory precision studies were performed using both manual tilt-tube and automated methods. These studies gave coefficient of variation less than 3.5% on normal plasmas and less than 5% for abnormal samples.

Specificity studies were performed on known plasma samples.

A positive ratio for LA Screen / LA Confirm of greater than 1.2 was found in known^{*}

LA plasma - 90% (26/29)

Heparinised plasma - 12% (1/8)

OAT patient plasma - 0% (0/7)

Factor deficient plasma - 0% (0/5)

Normal plasma - 2% (1/60)

*NB. "Known" LA identification with APTT + KCT mixing studies.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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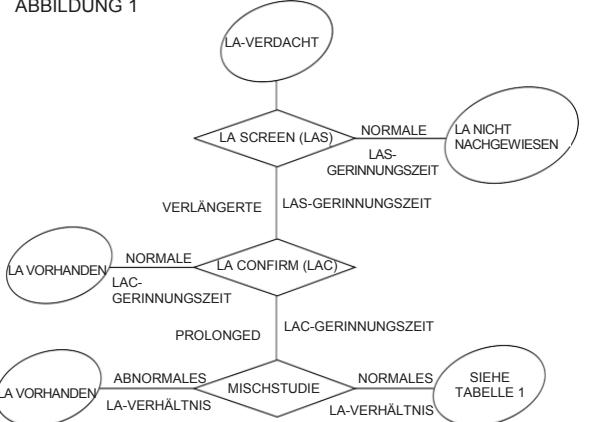
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ABBILDUNG 1



Mischstudien

Sind die Resultate grenzwertig, kann eine Mischung von Studien zur Korrektur versteckter Defekte in der Probe und zur Abklärung des Vorhandenseins von LA angewendet werden. Diese Tests sollten anhand des Standard-Testverfahrens durch Mischung von Testplasma mit blutplättchenarmes Normalplasma im Verhältnis 50:50 durchgeführt werden.

TABELLE 1: Kombination von Misch- und Bestätigungsstests

LA Screen Gerinnungszeit	LA Confirm Gerinnungszeit	Interpretation
Patienten-plasma Patienten- plasma + Normal	Patienten- plasma + Normal	Mischung Patient + Normal
N	N	LA nicht nachgewiesen
ABN	ABN	LA wahrscheinlich vorhanden
ABN	N	Potenzialer Faktormangel/OAT durch weitere Untersuchung ausschließen
ABN	ABN	Potenzialer Faktormangel durch weitere Untersuchung ausschließen
ABN	ABN	Anderer Inhibitor durch weitere Untersuchung ausschließen

EINSCHRÄNKUNGEN DES VERFAHRENS

Proben mit Gerinnseln oder abnormen Hämatokritwerten sollten verworfen werden. Ictéricas, lipämische und hämolytische Proben sollten anhand manueller Techniken getestet werden, da einige photometrische Instrumente falsche Resultate liefern.

Die Verwendung von kommerziell erhältlichen normalen Kontrollplasmen, die keine Angabe zu Citrat- und Thrombozytenkonzentrationen machen, sind für Mischstudien nicht zu empfehlen.

Für Vergleichsstudien sollten der LA Screen- und der LA Confirm-Test zur gleichen Zeit durchgeführt werden.

LA-Assays basierend auf unterschiedlichen Eigenschaften scheinen mehr oder weniger sensitiv auf gewisse LA-Untergruppen zu sein. Es sollten daher mindestens zwei Screening-Assays auf Grundlage verschiedener Eigenschaften durchgeführt werden, bevor potenzielle LA ausgeschlossen werden.¹⁰. Heparinspiegel bis zu 1 IU/ml bleiben ohne Einfluss, da sowohl LA Screen als auch LA Confirm eine neutralisierende Substanz enthalten.

ERWARTUNGSWERTE

Mit Proben von 26 gesunden Personen im Alter zwischen 18-55 Jahren wurde bei Anwendung der manuellen Kippmethode (Tilt Tube), für LA Screen ein Normalbereich von 31-44 Sekunden und für LA Confirm ein Normalbereich von 30-38 Sekunden ermittelt.

Das Verhältnis von LA Screen zu LA Confirm lag im Bereich 0,8-1,2. Diese Resultate sind nur als Anhaltspunkt zu verstehen.

Jedes Labor sollte sowohl für die manuelle als auch für die automatisierte Methode seinen eigenen Normalbereich ermitteln, um Unterschiede bei der Probenahme und Instrumentenbedienung zu eliminieren.

SPEZIFISCHE LEISTUNGSCHARAKTERISTIKA

Laborinterne und laborübergreifende Präzisionsstudien wurden sowohl anhand der manuellen Kippmethode als auch anhand der automatisierten Methode vorgenommen. Diese Studien ergaben Schwankungskoeffizienten von weniger als 3,5 % für Normalplasmen und weniger als 5 % für abnormale Proben.

Spezifitätsstudien wurden an bekannten Plasmaproben vorgenommen.

Ein über 1,2 liegendes positives Verhältnis für LA Screen / LA Confirm wurde gefunden in bekanntem*

LA-Plasma - 90 % (26/29)

Heparinisiertes Plasma - 12 % (1/8)

OAT-Patientenplasma - 0 % (0/7)

Plasmen mit Faktormangel - 0 % (0/5)

Normalplasma - 2 % (1/60)

*NB: „bekannt“ LA-Identifizierung durch APTT + KCT-Mischstudien.

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LA Screen / LA Confirm

Prueba de veneno de víbora de Russel diluido (DRVVT) simplificado para la detección de anticoagulantes lúpicos

USO INDICADO
LA Screen y LA Confirm son reactivos para la DRVVT simplificada para la detección de anticoagulantes lúpicos (Lupus Anticoagulants, LA) en pruebas de coagulación de un solo paso.

LA Screen
Reactivos DRVVT simplificado para detectar la presencia de anticoagulantes lúpicos.

LA Confirm
Reactivos DRVVT rico en fosfolípidos para la corrección específica de anticoagulantes lúpicos.

RESUMEN Y EXPLICACIÓN
Los anticoagulantes lúpicos son autoanticuerpos contra fosfolípidos cargados negativamente o complejos de fosfolípidos con beta-2-glicoproteína-1 o factores de coagulación, tal como prothrombina. Se producen en varias enfermedades, especialmente en las autoinmunitarias y ahora se consideran un importante factor de riesgo en pacientes con trombosis inexplicables y con frecuencia se presentan en mujeres que han tenido abortos recurrentes.¹⁰ Los LA se han detectado tradicionalmente mediante pruebas

de coagulación con respuesta a fosfolípidos, tal como el tiempo de tromboplastina parcial activada (TTPA), el tiempo de coagulación del caolín (TCC) y el DRVVT² donde tienen un efecto anticoagulante.

El tiempo de DRVVT se hizo popular en un principio después de la publicación de Thiagarajan et cols. en 1986.⁶ Life Diagnostics ha simplificado y estandarizado este método.⁷ Conforme a Petri y cols., la trombosis en pacientes con LES está más relacionada con el LA detectable mediante DRVVT que con los anticuerpos anticardiolipina detectados mediante ensayos de inmunoadsorción enzimática (ELISA)⁸. Esta observación ha sido recientemente ampliada por Galli y Bevers⁹ que demostraron que el subtipo de LA con mayor efecto sobre las pruebas de DRVVT es la beta-2-glicoproteína-1 dependiente y diferente al subtipo de LA que requiere prothrombina que tiene un efecto más prolongado sobre las pruebas del TTC.

PRINCIPIO DE LA PRUEBA

1. El veneno de la víbora de Russell existente en LA Screen inicia la coagulación del plasma activando directamente el factor X. Los anticuerpos LA prolongan el tiempo de coagulación de LA Screen.

2. El reactivo LA Confirm es similar al reactivo LA Screen pero contiene una concentración alta de fosfolípidos. Los fosfolípidos extra contrastan los anticuerpos LA y corrigen en gran medida el tiempo de coagulación³.

3. Las pruebas DRVVT "circunvaladas" el factor VII de la vía extrínseca y el contacto y los factores antihemofílicos de la vía intrínseca. Por tanto, LA Screen es más específico para el LA que el TTPA ya que no se ve afectado por anomalías del factor de contacto ni por anticuerpos o deficiencias en el factor VII.⁶ Se han desarrollado diversas pruebas basadas en la corrección de los fosfolípidos⁹, sin embargo, ninguna ha sido tan conveniente de usar como LA Confirm después de LA Screen.

4. La mezcla de pruebas podría ser útil para excluir deficiencias en los factores II, V y X, que pueden prolongar los resultados de LA Screen y LA Confirm. La mezcla de plasmas normales con plasmas para análisis repone cualquier factor deficiente en el plasma para análisis. Si la prueba de la mezcla todavía es prolongada, indica la existencia de un inhibidor (tal como LA) en el plasma para análisis.

REACTIVO

Composición

LA Screen y LA Confirm contienen veneno de víbora de Russell, fosfolípidos, agentes antiheparinicos, calcio, soluciones amortiguadoras, estabilizantes, azida sólida y colorantes.

Advertencias y precauciones

Para uso exclusivo en diagnóstico *in vitro*.

Cuando se desecha la azida, enjuague siempre con gran cantidad de agua para evitar la posibilidad de que se forme un residuo explosivo en las tuberías de metal.

Preparación para usar

Reconstituir con el volumen de agua destilada que se indica en la etiqueta del vial. Mezcle bien mediante inversión para asegurar la resuspensión total del material líofilitizado.

Instrucciones de conservación

Los reactivos líofilitizados son estables al menos hasta la fecha de caducidad que se indica en la etiqueta del vial cuando se conservan a 2-8 °C.

Después de reconstituir, los reactivos se pueden conservar durante 8 horas a 37 °C, 24 horas a 20-25 °C, 48 horas a 2-8 °C y 1 mes a -20 °C.

Indicación de instabilidad/deterioramiento

No se detecta ningún signo de vicio al abrir la vial o el reactivo no parece estar seco, el kit se debe devolver a Life Diagnostics o su distribuidor local.

OBTENCIÓN Y PREPARACIÓN DE LAS MUESTRAS

Recoge y procesa la sangre conforme a la norma H21-A3 del Comité Nacional de Normas de Laboratorio Clínico (National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards, NCCLS); Collection, Transport and Processing of Blood Specimens for Coagulation Testing and General Performance of Coagulation Assays: Approved Guideline-3rd Edition (1998). Los plasmas separados se deben conservar a 2-8 °C y analizar en las 4 horas siguientes a su obtención. Si las muestras se van a congelar antes de analizarlas, el plasma se debe centrifugar dos veces para eliminar las plaquetas (hasta niveles inferiores a 10 x 10⁹/L)¹⁰ antes de la congelación ya que estas pueden acortar el tiempo de coagulación de LA Screen.

CARACTERÍSTICAS ESPECÍFICAS DE RENDIMIENTO

Se realizaron estudios de precisión intralaboratorio y entre-laboratorios utilizando métodos manuales y automáticos de tubo inclinado. Estos estudios dieron un coeficiente de variación inferior al 3,5 % en plasmas normales e inferior al 5 % en muestras anormales. Se realizaron estudios de especificidad en muestras conocidas de plasma. Se encontró un cociente positivo para LA Screen/LA Confirm superior a 1 en plasma con LA conocido - 90 % (26/29) Plasma heparinizado - 12 % (1/8) Plasma de paciente con OAT - 0 % (0/7) Plasmas deficientes en factor - 0 % (0/5) Plasma normal - 2 % (1/60) *N.B. Identificación de LA "conocido" con estudios mixtos de TTPA + TTC.

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Detailed description of the reagent: LA Screen/LA Confirm. Códice de pedido LASD-10 contiene: 10 x liof. para 2 ml Códice de pedido LASD-25 contiene: 10 x liof. para 5 ml Códice de pedido LACD-5 contiene: 10 x liof. para 1 ml Códice de pedido LACD-10 contiene: 10 x liof. para 2 ml

Materiales necesarios pero no suministrados

Tubos de ensayo de vidrio de 10 mm x 75 mm Baño de agua a temperatura constante de 37 +/- 1 °C Cronómetro

Pipeta de precisión de 200 µl Agua purificada de grado USP o equivalente

Plasma normal sin plaquetas

Pipeta de 1,2 o 5 ml

Plasma normal y anormal para control de calidad

Control de calidad

Cada laboratorio debe determinar sus propios valores de control aceptables e intervalo normal. Gradiplasma LA High (código LAHP) y Gradiplasma LA Low (código LALP) son plasmas de control anormales fabricados por Life Diagnostics para usar en el control de calidad de los ensayos LA Screen y LA Confirm. El plasma de control de calidad se debe analizar al mismo tiempo que las muestras de los pacientes.

RESULTADOS

Si el tiempo de coagulación de LA Screen está dentro del intervalo normal, no se requiere más análisis para LA. Si el resultado del tiempo de coagulación de LA Screen es más de un 20 % más largo que el del grupo de plasmas normales sin plaquetas, el resultado se debe considerar anormal e investigar más. (Véase la Figura 1) El resultado final se expresa mejor como el cociente de los tiempos de coagulación de LA Screen dividido por los de LA Confirm.

Cociente de LA = $\frac{\text{Tiempo de coagulación de LA Screen}}{\text{Tiempo de coagulación de LA Confirm}}$

FIGURA 1

