**Total Bilirubin DMSO Colorimetric**

**INTENDED USE**
For the quantitative determination of total bilirubin concentration in human serum or plasma.

**CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE**
Bilirubin is a breakdown product of hemoglobin, insoluble in water. It is transported from the spleen to the liver and excreted into bile. Hyperbilirubinemia results from the increase of bilirubin concentrations in plasma.

**Causes of hyperbilirubinemia:**
- **Total bilirubin:** Increase hemolysis, genetic errors, neonatal jaundice, ineffective erythropoiesis, and drugs.
- **Direct bilirubin:** Hepatic cholestasis, genetic errors, hepatocellular damage.

Clinical diagnosis should not be made on a single test result; it should integrate clinical and other laboratory data.

**PRINCIPLE OF THE METHOD**
Bilirubin is converted to colored azobilirubin by diazotized sulfanilic acid and measured photometrically. Of the two fractions presents in serum, bilirubin-glucuroniomide and free bilirubin loosely bound to albumin, only the former reacts directly in aqueous solution (bilirubin direct), while free bilirubin requires solubilization with dimethylsulphoxide (DMSO) to react (bilirubin indirect). In the determination of indirect bilirubin the direct is also determined, the results correspond to total bilirubin.

The intensity of the color formed is proportional to the bilirubin concentration in the sample.

**REAGENTS**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 1</td>
<td>Sulfanilic acid</td>
<td>30 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hydrochloric acid (HCl)</td>
<td>50 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dimethylsulphoxide (DMSO)</td>
<td>7 mol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R 2</td>
<td>Sodium nitrite</td>
<td>29 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>BILIRUBIN CAL</td>
<td></td>
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**ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT**
- Spectrophotometer or colorimeter measuring at 555 nm.
- Matched cuvettes 1.0 cm light path.
- General laboratory equipment

**PRECAUTIONS**
- Dimethylsulphoxide (DMSO): Irritant to eyes and skin. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice.
- Hydrochloric acid (HCl): Irritant to eyes, respiratory system and skin. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice.

**PREPARATION**
All the reagents are ready to use.

**STORAGE AND STABILITY**
- All the components of the kit are stable until the expiration date on the label when stored tightly closed at 2-8°C, protected from light and contaminations prevented during their use.
- Do not use reagents over the expiration date.
- Signs of reagent deterioration:
  - Presence of particles and turbidity.
  - Color development in R 2.

**SAMPLES**
Serum or plasma: free of hemolysis. Protect samples from direct light. Stability: Bilirubin is stable at 2-8°C for 4 days and 2 months at –20°C.

**PROCEDURE**
1. Assay conditions:
   - Wavelength: 555 nm (530-580)
   - Cuvette: 1 cm light path
   - Temperature: 15-25°C
2. Adjust the instrument to zero with distilled water.
3. Pipette into a cuvette:
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 1 (mL)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R 2 (µL)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample /Calibrator (µL)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Mix and incubate for exactly 5 minutes at room temperature.
5. Read the absorbance (A).

**CALCULATIONS**

**With Calibrator:**
(A)Sample - (A)Sample Blank x Conc. Calibrator = mg/dL
(A) Calibrator - (A)Calibrator Blank bilirubin

**With Factor:**
(A)Sample - (A) Sample Blank x 19.1 = mg/dL bilirubin in the sample

Conversion factor: mg/dL x 17.1 = µmol/L.

**QUALITY CONTROL**
- Control sera are recommended to monitor the performance of assay procedure.
- Control values are found outside the defined range, check the instrument, reagents and calibrator for problems.
- Each laboratory should establish its own Quality Control scheme and corrective actions if controls do not meet the acceptable tolerances.

**REFERENCE VALUES**
Bilirubin Total Up to 1.10 mg/dL = Up to 18.81 µmol/L
These values are for orientation purpose; each laboratory should establish its own reference range.

**PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS**
1. Measuring range:
From detection limit of 0.00526 mg/L to linearity limit of 18 mg/dL.
If the results obtained were greater than linearity limit, dilute the sample 1/2 with NaCl 9 g/L and multiply the result by 2.

2. Precision:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Intra-assay (n=20)</th>
<th>Inter-assay (n=20)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean (mg/dL)</td>
<td>1.53</td>
<td>1.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.06</td>
<td>5.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.11</td>
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<tr>
<td>CV %</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.92</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>2.18</td>
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3. Sensitivity:
1 mg/dL = 0.05074 A.

4. Accuracy:
Results obtained using reagents (y) did not show systematic differences when compared with other commercial reagents (x). The results obtained using 50 samples were the following:
Correlation coefficient (r): 0.991.
Regression equation: y = 0.82743x - 0.0382.
The results of the performance characteristics depend on the analyzer used.

INTERFERENCES
Hemolysis causes decreased bilirubin values.
A list of drugs and other interfering substances with bilirubin has been reported.

Note
- For bilirubin determination in newborns, pipette 50 µL of sample. Multiply the result by 2.

REFERENCES