Instruction manual

Contents

	1. Intended Use	1
	2. Clinical Applications and Principle of the Assay	1
	3. Kit Contents	2
	4. Storage and Shelf Life	2
	5. Precautions of Use	3
	6. Sample Collection, Handling and Storage	3
	7. Assay Procedure	4
	8. Quantitative and Qualitative Interpretation	5
	9. Technical Data	6
1	0. Performance Data	6-7
1	1. Literature	7
,	A : Pipetting scheme	8
	B : Test Procedure	9

002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

1. Intended Use

AESKULISA SS-A-52 is a solid phase enzyme immunoassay for the quantitative and qualitative detection of antibodies against the 52 kDa Ro/ SS-A in human serum. The assay employs recombinant human 52kDa Ro/SS-A protein. Most antibodies against 52 kDa SS-A prefer the denatured molecule. The assay is a tool in the diagnosis of Sjögren's syndrome (SS) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE).

2. Clinical Application and Principle of the Assay

SS-A is a RNA protein particle (ribonucleoprotein, RNP) ubiquitously distributed in all tissues. It is composed of two proteins (60kDa and 52kDa) associated with at least four small uridin-rich cytoplasmic RNAs (hyRNA, human cytoplasmic RNA), its function is yet unknown.

Autoantibodies against SS-A (formerly named Ro after prototype patient Robert) as well as SS-B (formerly named La after prototype patient Lane) are typical markers for Sjögren's syndrome (SS) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), both are systemic autoimmune diseases of unknown etiology and female predominance. Sjögren's syndrome is a disorder affecting exocrine glands such as lacrimal and salivary glands. Chronic inflammation dominated by plasmacells results in a proceeding loss of function of these glands, described as Sicca-syndrome. The diagnosis of SS is based on testing for loss of excretory function in eye and salivary glands and the detection of anti-SS-A and anti-SS-B antibodies.

Antibodies against both 60 kDa and 52 kDa SS-A proteins are found in 70-80% of patients with primary SS, 40-94 % of these patients display antibodies against the SS-B/La antigen, additionally. SS-A antibodies occur in 25-40% of patients with ANA-positive SLE (ANA: anti-nuclear antibodies), as well as isolated in 65% of the patients with subacute cutaneous LE. Both, anti-SS-A and anti-SS-B antibodies are associated with congenital heartblock.

Isolated detection of 52kDA SS-A antibodies, without the 60kDA antigen, is found more often in SS, as well as in ANA-negative LE and with a frequency of 95% in neonatal LE.

Principle of the test

Serum samples diluted 1:101 are incubated in the microplates coated with the specific antigen. Patient's antibodies, if present in the specimen, bind to the antigen. The unbound fraction is washed off in the following step. Afterwards anti-human immunoglobulins conjugated to horseradish peroxidase (conjugate) are incubated and react with the antigen-antibody complex of the samples in the microplates. Unbound conjugate is washed off in the following step. Addition of TMB-substrate generates an enzymatic colorimetric (blue) reaction, which is stopped by diluted acid (color changes to yellow). The rate of color formation from the chromogen is a function of the amount of conjugate bound to the antigen-antibody complex and this is proportional to the initial concentration of the respective antibodies in the patient sample.

Page 1 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

3. Kit Contents

To be reconstituted:

5x Sample Buffer 1 vial, 20 ml - 5x concentrated (capped white: yellow solution)

Containing: Tris, NaCl, BSA, sodium azide < 0.1% (preservative)

50x Wash Buffer 1 vial, 20 ml - 50x concentrated (capped white: green solution)

Containing: Tris, NaCl, Tween 20, sodium azide < 0.1% (preservative)

Ready to use:

Negative Control 1 vial, 1.5 ml (capped green: colorless solution)

Containing: Human serum (diluted), sodium azide < 0.1% (preservative)

Positive Control 1 vial, 1.5 ml (capped red: yellow solution)

Containing: Human serum (diluted), sodium azide < 0.1% (preservative)

Cut-off Calibrator 1 vial, 1.5 ml (capped blue: yellow solution)

Containing: Human serum (diluted), sodium Azide < 0.1% (preservative)

Calibrators 6 vials, 1.5 ml each 0, 3, 10, 30, 100, 300 U/ml

(color increasing with concentration: yellow solutions)

Containing: Human serum (diluted), sodium azide < 0.1% (preservative)

Conjugate 1 vial,15 ml IgG (capped blue: blue solution)

Containing: Anti-human immunoglobulins conjugated to horseradish peroxidase

TMB Substrate 1 vial, 15 ml (capped black)

Containing: Stabilized TMB/H2O2

Stop Solution 1 vial, 15 ml (capped white: colorless solution)

Containing: 1M Hydrochloric Acid

Microtiterplate 12x8 well strips with breakaway microwells

Coating see paragraph 1

Material required but not provided:

Microtiter plate reader 450 nm reading filter and optional 620 nm reference filter (600-690 nm). Glass ware(cylinder 100-1000ml), test tubes for dilutions. Vortex mixer, precision pipettes (10, 100, 200, 500, 1000 μ l) or adjustable multipipette (100-1000ml). Microplate washing device (300 μ l repeating or multichannel pipette or automated system), adsorbent paper.

Our tests are designed to be used with purified water according to the definition of the United States Pharmacopeia (USP 26 - NF 21) and the European Pharmacopeia (Eur.Ph. 4th ed.).

4. Storage and Shelf Life

Store all reagents and the microplate at 2-8°C/35-46°F, in their original containers. Once prepared, reconstituted solutions are stable for 1 month at 4°C/39°F, at least. Reagents and the microplate shall be used within the expiry date indicated on each component, only. Avoid intense exposure of TMB solution to light. Store microplates in designated foil, including the desiccant, and seal tightly.

Page 2 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

5. Precautions of Use

5.1 Health hazard data

This product is for **IN VITRO DIAGNOSTIC USE** only. Thus, only staff trained and specially advised in methods of in vitro diagnostics may perform the kit. Although this product is not considered particularly toxic or dangerous in conditions of normal use, refer to the following for maximum safety:

Recommendations and precautions

This kit contains potentially hazardous components. Though kit reagents are not classified being irritant to eyes and skin we recommend to avoid contact with eyes and skin and wear disposable gloves.

WARNING! Calibrators, Controls and Buffers contain sodium azide (NaN₃) as a preservative. NaN₃ may be toxic if ingested or adsorbed by skin or eyes. NaN₃ may react with lead and copper plumbing to form highly explosive metal azides. On disposal, flush with a large volume of water to prevent azide build-up. Please refer to decontamination procedures as outlined by CDC or other local/national guidelines.

Do not smoke, eat or drink when manipulating the kit.

Do not pipette by mouth.

All human source material used for some reagents of this kit (controls, standards e.g.) has been tested by approved methods and found negative for HbsAg, Hepatitis C and HIV 1. However, no test can guarantee the absence of viral agents in such material completely. Thus handle kit controls, standards and patient samples as if capable of transmitting infectious diseases and according to national requirements.

5.2 General directions for use

Do not mix or substitute reagents or microplates from different lot numbers. This may lead to variations in the results.

Allow all components to reach room temperature (20-32°C/68-89.6°F) before use, mix well and follow the recommended incubation scheme for an optimum performance of the test.

Incubation: We recommend test performance at 30°C/86°F for automated systems.

Never expose components to higher temperature than 37°C/98.6 °F.

Always pipette substrate solution with brand new tips only. Protect this reagent from light. Never pipette conjugate with tips used with other reagents prior.

A definite clinical diagnosis should not be based on the results of the performed test only, but should be made by the physician after all clinical and laboratory findings have been evaluated. The diagnosis is to be verified using different diagnostic methods.

6. Sample Collection, Handling and Storage

Use preferentially freshly collected serum samples. Blood withdrawal must follow national requirements.

Do not use icteric, lipemic, hemolysed or bacterially contaminated samples. Sera with particles should be cleared by low speed centrifugation (<1000 x g). Blood samples should be collected in clean, dry and empty tubes. After separation, the serum samples should be used immediately, respectively stored tightly closed at $2-8^{\circ}\text{C}/35-46^{\circ}\text{F}$ up to three days, or frozen at $-20^{\circ}\text{C}/-4^{\circ}\text{F}$ for longer periods.

Page 3 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

7. Assay Procedure

7.1 Preparations prior to pipetting

Dilute concentrated reagents:

Dilute the concentrated sample buffer 1:5 with distilled water (e.g. 20 ml plus 80 ml). Dilute the concentrated wash buffer 1:50 with distilled water (e.g. 20 ml plus 980 ml).

Samples:

Dilute serum samples 1:101 with sample buffer (1x) e.g. 1000 µl sample buffer (1x) + 10 µl serum. Mix well!

Washing:

Prepare 20 ml of diluted wash buffer (1x) per 8 wells or 200 ml for 96 wells e.g. 4 ml concentrate plus 196 ml distilled water.

Automated washing:

Consider excess volumes required for setting up the instrument and dead volume of robot pipette.

Manual washing:

Discard liquid from wells by inverting the plate. Knock the microwell frame with wells downside vigorously on clean adsorbent paper. Pipette 300 µl of diluted wash buffer into each well, wait for 20 seconds. Repeat the whole procedure twice again.

Microplates:

Calculate the number of wells required for the test. Remove unused wells from the frame, replace and store in the provided plastic bag, together with desiccant, seal tightly (2-8°C/35-46°F).

7.2 Work flow

For pipetting scheme see Annex A, for the test procedure see Annex B We recommend pipetting samples and calibrators in duplicate.

Cut-off calibrator should be used for qualitative testing only.

- Pipette 100 μl of each patient's diluted serum into the designated microwells.
- Pipette 100 µl calibrators OR cut-off calibrator and negative and positive controls into the designated wells.
- Incubate for 30 minutes at 20-32°C/68-89.6°F.
- Wash 3x with 300 μl washing buffer (diluted 1:50).
- Pipette 100 µl conjugate into each well.
- Incubate for 30 minutes at 20-32°C/68-89.6°F.
- Wash 3x with 300 µl washing buffer (diluted 1:50).
- Pipette 100 µl TMB substrate into each well.
- Incubate for 30 minutes at 20-32°C/68-89.6°F, protected from intense light.
- Pipette 100 µl stop solution into each well, using the same order as pipetting the substrate.
- Incubate 5 minutes minimum.
- Agitate plate carefully for 5 sec.
- Read absorbance at 450 nm (optionally 450/620 nm) within 30 minutes.

Page 4 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

8. Quantitative and Qualitative Interpretation

For quantitative interpretation establish the standard curve by plotting the optical density (OD) of each calibrator (y-axis) with respect to the corresponding concentration values in U/ml (x-axis). For best results we recommend log/lin coordinates and 4-Parameter Fit. From the OD of each sample, read the corresponding antibody concentrations expressed in U/ml.

Normal Range	Equivocal Range	Positive Results
< 12 U/ml	12 - 18 U/ml	>18 U/ml

Example of a standard curve

We recommend pipetting calibrators in parallel for each run.

Calibrators IgG	OD 450/620 nm	CV % (Variation)
0 U/ml	0.049	0.0
3 U/ml	0.164	2.6
10 U/ml	0.332	2.5
30 U/ml	0.675	0.9
100 U/ml	1.387	0.0
300 U/ml	2.272	0.5

Example of calculation

Patient	Replicate (OD)	Mean (OD)	Result (U/ml)
P 01	0.963/0.958	0.961	60.6
P 02	0.463/0.452	0.458	19.7

For lot specific data, see enclosed quality control leaflet. Medical laboratories might perform an inhouse Quality Control by using own controls and/or internal pooled sera, as foreseen by EU regulations.

Do not use this example for interpreting patients results!

Each laboratory should establish its own normal range based upon its own techniques, controls, equipment and patient population according to their own established procedures.

For qualitative interpretation read the optical density of the cut-off calibrator and the patient samples. Compare patient'sOD with the OD of the cut-off calibrator. For qualitative interpretation we recommend to consider sera within a range of 20% around the cut-off value as equivocal. All samples with higher ODs are considered positive, samples with lower ODs are considered negative.

Negative: OD patient < 0.8 x OD cut-off

Equivocal: $0.8 \times OD_{cut-off} \le OD_{patient} \le 1.2 \times OD_{cut-off}$

Positive OD patient > 1.2 x OD cut-off

Page 5 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

9. Technical Data

Sample material: serum

Sample volume: 10 μl of sample diluted 1:101 with 1x sample buffer

Total incubation time: 90 minutes at 20-32°C/68-89.6°F

Calibration range: 0-300 U/ml

Analytical sensitivity: 1.0 U/ml

Storage: at 2-8°C/35-46°F use original vials, only

Number of determinations: 96 tests

10. Performance Data

10.1 Analytical sensitivity

Testing sample buffer 30 times on AESKULISA SS-A-52 gave an analytical sensivity of 1.0 U/ml.

10.2 Specificity and sensitivity

The microplates are coated with *recombinant human 52 kDa SS-A*. No crossreactivities to other autoantigens have been found. Antibodies against SS-A 52 occur in different diseases which are shown in the table below.

Disease	prevalence
primary SS	60-75%
SLE	40-50%

10.3 Linearity

Chosen sera have been tested with this kit and found to dilute linearly. However, due to the heterogeneous nature of human autoantibodies there might be samples that do not follow this rule.

		measured	expected	
Sample	Dilution	concentration	concentration	Recovery
No.	Factor	(U/ml)	(U/ml)	(%)
1	1 / 100	125.0	130.0	96.2
	1 / 200	75.5	75.0	100.7
	1 / 400	36.4	37.5	97.1
	1 / 800	18.1	18.8	96.3
2	1 / 100	76.2	77.0	99.0
	1 / 200	37.1	38.5	96.4
	1 / 400	18.9	19.3	97.9
	1 / 800	9.2	9.6	95.8

Page 6 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

10.4 Precision

To determine the precision of the assay, the variability (intra and inter-assay) was assessed by examining its reproducibility on three serum samples selected to represent a range over the standard curve.

In	tra-Assa	ay
Sample	Mean	CV
No.	(U/ml)	(%)
1	132.0	3.4
2	71.0	3.9
3	28.0	2.1

In	ter-Assa	ay
Sample	Mean	CV
No.	(U/ml)	(%)
1	129.0	3.1
2	69.0	3.6
3	31.0	2.0

10.5 Calibration

Due the lack of international reference calibration this assay is calibrated in arbitary units (U/ml).

11. Literature

1. Itoh Y and Reichlin M (1992).

Autoantibodies to the Ro/SS-A autoantigen are conformation dependent. Anti-60 kDa antibodies are mainly directed to the native protein; anti-52 kDa antibodies are mainly directed to the denatured protein.

Autoimmunity; 14: 57-65.

2. Kalden JR (1988).

Sjögren-Syndrom In Kalden JR (Hersg).

Klinische Rheumatologie, S. 374-379; Springer-Verlag, Berlin.

3. Harley JB (1998).

Autoantibodies in Sjögren's syndrome.

J. Autoimmun 2: 383-394.

4. Slobbe RL, Pruijn GJM, Damen WGM et al. (1991).

Detection and occurrence of the 60 kDa and 52 kDa (Ro (SS-A) antigens and of autoantibodies against these proteins.

Clin Exp Immunol 86: 99-105.

Page 7 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

ANNEX A: Pipetting scheme

We suggest pipetting calibrators, controls and samples as follows:

For **quantitative interpretation** use calibrators to establish a standard curve.

For qualitative interpretation use cut-off calibrator.

			ive inte	•			for qualitative interpretation use cut- off calibrator				cut-	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Α	CalA	CalE	P1				NC	P2				
В	CalA	CalE	P1				NC	P2				
С	CalB	CalF	P2				CC	P3				
D	CalB	CalF	P2				CC	P3				
E	CalC	PC	P3				PC					
F	CalC	PC	P3				PC					
G	CalD	NC					P1					
Н	CalD	NC					P1					

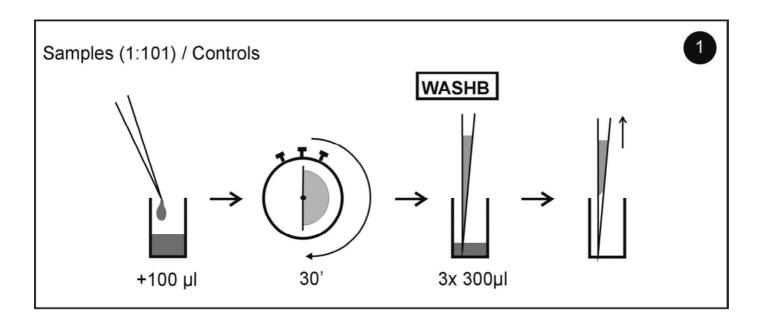
CalA: calibrator A, CalB: calibrator B, CalC: calibrator C, CalD: calibrator D, CalE: calibrator E,

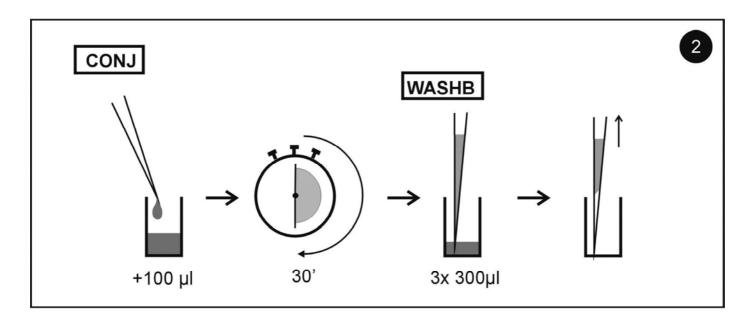
CalF: calibrator F PC: positive control NC: negative control CC: Cut-off calibrator

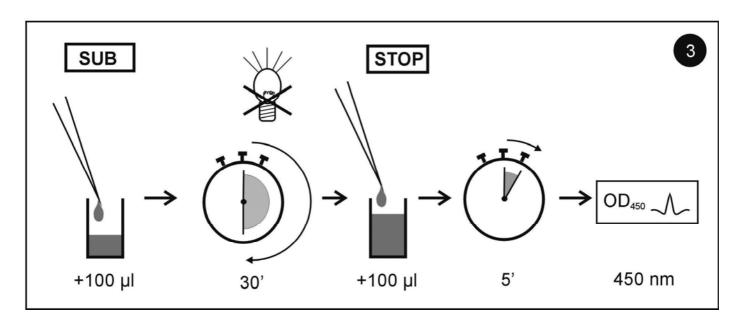
P1: patient 1 P2: patient 2 P3: patient 3

Page 8 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

Annex B: Test Procedure







Page 9 of 9 002 : 2007-08-28 REF 3109 SS-A-52

3	ssay/Test:	Ę			Incubation / Inkub. :	nkub. :	,	.uu .		Date/	Date/ Datum:		
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11							<i>3.</i>	uiu 					
		1	2	3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12

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	Diagnosi in vitro	♦ For in vitro diagnostic use
ן איז ו	Pour diagnostic in vitro	♦ Para uso diagnóstico in vitro
ועט	♦ In Vitro Diagnostikum	♦ In Vitro Διαγνωστικό μέσο
	Para uso Diagnóstico in vitro	
	♦ Numero d'ordine	◆ Cataloge number
REF	◆ Référence Catalogue	♦ Numéro de catálogo
1/41	♦ Bestellnummer	◆ Αριθμός παραγγελίας
	♦ Número de catálogo	
	◆ Descrizione lotto	♦ Lot
LOT	♦ Lot	♦ Lote
	◆ Chargen Bezeichnung	★ Χαρακτηρισμός παρτίδας
	♦ Lote	
	 ◆ Conformità europea 	◆ EC Declaration of Conformity
(€	 Déclaration CE de Conformité 	 Declaración CE de Conformidad
	 Europäische Konformität 	◆ Ευρωπαϊκή συμφωνία
	♦ Déclaração CE de Conformidade	
	 ◆ 96 determinazioni 	♦ 96 tests
\96/	♦ 96 tests	♦ 96 pruebas
	 ◆ 96 Bestimmungen 	96 προσδιορισμοί
	♦ 96 Testes	
	♦ Rispettare le istruzioni per l'uso	♦ See instructions for use
\sim	◆ Voir les instructions d'utilisation	♦ Ver las instrucciones de uso
1	Gebrauchsanweisung beachten	 Λάβετε υπόψη τις οδηγίες χρήσης
	◆ Ver as instrucões de uso	VE.I
	Da utilizzarsi entro	♦ Use by
[]	◆ Utilise avant le	♦ Utilizar antes de
24	Verwendbar bis	 Χρήση μέχρι
	◆ Utilizar antes de	
		▲ Store at 2.9°C (25.46°E)
∩ ~+8°C	◆ Conservare a 2-8°C ◆ Conservare à 2-8°C	◆ Store at 2-8°C (35-46°F) ▲ Consequer 2.2.8°C
+2°C-/11	♦ Conserver à 2-8°C	♦ Conservar a 2-8°C
	◆ Lagerung bei 2-8°C ◆ Consequence antro 2-8°C	◆ Φυλάσσεται στους 2-8°C
	♦ Conservar entre 2-8°C	
_	♦ Prodotto da	♦ Manufactured by
	♦ Fabriqué par	♦ Fabricado por
	♦ Hergestellt von	◆ Κατασκευάζεται από
	◆ Fabricado por	
	◆ Calibratore cut-off	◆ Cut off Calibrator
CO-CVI	◆ Etalon Seuil	◆ Calibrador de cut-off
OO-OAL	◆ Grenzwert Kalibrator	 Οριακός ορός Αντιδραστήριο βαθμονόμησης
	◆ Calibrador de cut-off	
	◆ Controllo positivo	◆ Positive Control
CUN +	◆ Contrôle Positif	◆ Control Positivo
CONT	◆ Positiv Kontrolle	 Θετικός ορός ελέγχου
	◆ Controlo positivo	
	◆ Controllo negativo	♦ Negative Control
CON	◆ Contrôle Négatif	◆ Control Negativo
CON -	♦ Negativ Kontrolle	 Αρνητικός ορός ελέγχου
	◆ Controlo negativo	<u></u>
	◆ Calibratore	◆ Calibrator
CAL	♦ Etalon	♦ Calibrador
CAL	♦ Kalibrator	 Αντιδραστήριο βαθμονόμησης
	◆ Calibrador	
	♦ Recupero	♦ Recovery
	◆ Corrélation	◆ Recuperado
I RC	◆ Wiederfindung	Ανάκτηση
	◆ Recuperacão	
	◆ Coniugato	◆ Conjugate
20111	◆ Conjugé	◆ Conjugate ◆ Conjugado
CONJ	★ Conjuge ★ Konjugat	Σύζευγμα
	◆ Conjugato	0,001140
	Micropiastra rivestita	◆ Coated microtiter plate
[]	•	•
MP	 Microplaque sensibilisée ◆ Beschichtete Mikrotiterplatte 	 Microplaca sensibilizada € Επικαλυμμένη μικροπλάκα
	Beschichtete Mikrotiterplatte Microplaca revestida	▼ Επικαλομμενη μικροπλακα
		A Control ninulate
	Piastra ad aghi rivestita Diaglete consibilitée	◆ Coated pinplate
PINP	◆ Pinplate sensibilisée	◆ Pinplate sensibilizada
THAT	Beschichtete Pinplatte Binplate revestide	◆ Επικαλυμμένη πλάκα Pin
	◆ Pinplate revestida	
	◆ Tampone di lavaggio	♦ Wash buffer
WASHB 50x	◆ Tampon de Lavage	♦ Solución de lavado
אספן טו ופראאן	◆ Waschpuffer	◆ Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα πλύσης
	♦ Solução de lavagem	
	▲ Tampana substrata	♦ Substrate buffer
	◆ Tampone substrato	Cubotrate buner
CUD	◆ Substrat	◆ Tampón sustrato
SUB	•	
SUB	◆ Substrat	◆ Tampón sustrato
SUB	◆ Substrat ◆ Substratpuffer	◆ Tampón sustrato
SUB	◆ Substrat ◆ Substratpuffer ◆ Substrato	♦ Tampón sustrato ♦ Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα υποστρώματος
SUB	Substrat Substratpuffer Substrato Reagente bloccante Solution d'Arrêt	 Tampón sustrato Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα υποστρώματος Stop solution Solución de parada
SUB	Substrat Substratpuffer Substrato Reagente bloccante Solution d'Arrêt Stopreagenz	 Tampón sustrato Φ Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα υποστρώματος Stop solution
SUB	Substrat Substratpuffer Substrato Reagente bloccante Solution d'Arrêt Stopreagenz Solucão de paragem	 Ταπρόn sustrato Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα υποστρώματος Stop solution Solución de parada Αντιδραστήριο διακοπής αντίδρασης
STOP	Substrat Substratpuffer Substrato Reagente bloccante Solution d'Arrêt Stopreagenz Solucão de paragem Tampone campione	 Tampón sustrato Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα υποστρώματος Stop solution Solución de parada Αντιδραστήριο διακοπής αντίδρασης Sample buffer
STOP	Substrat Substratpuffer Substrato Reagente bloccante Solution d'Arrêt Stopreagenz Solucão de paragem Tampone campione Tampon Echantillons	 Tampón sustrato Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα υποστρώματος Stop solution Solución de parada Αντιδραστήριο διακοπής αντίδρασης Sample buffer Tampón Muestras
SUB STOP SB 5x	Substrat Substratpuffer Substrato Reagente bloccante Solution d'Arrêt Stopreagenz Solucão de paragem Tampone campione	 Tampón sustrato Ρυθμιστικό διάλυμα υποστρώματος Stop solution Solución de parada Αντιδραστήριο διακοπής αντίδρασης Sample buffer