

10 ELISA BEST PRACTICES AND TECHNIQUES



1. ROOM TEMPERATURE

Ensure all reagents are brought to room temperature before using (unless instructed to keep them cool).



2. MOISTURE PREVENTION

If not running the entire plate, store remaining strips in the plate bag sealed to prevent moisture from degrading the plate.



3. PREPARE FOR REUSE

For standards that are not single use, aliquot the remaining standard into smaller volumes and freeze. This prevents repeated freeze-thaws.



4. USE MULTICHANNEL PIPETTES

Multichannel pipettes increase the speed of plating your standard and samples and lead to more consistent results.



5. DISPENSE LIQUID AT ANGLE

Dispense liquid with the pipette tips held at an angle and not touching the bottom of the well.



6. CHANGE PIPETTE TIPS

It is recommended that you change your pipette tips between different samples or standards to prevent contamination.



7. USE PLATE WASHER

Use of a plate washer is recommended as manual plate washing with a multichannel pipette can lead to higher backgrounds.



8. ALLOW AMPLE WASH TIME

When washing plates, either manually or with a plate washer, give the wash buffer time to work by adding a 30 second soak time in between washes.



9. MONITOR INCUBATION TIMES

Pay close attention to incubation times. The incubation time should not vary by more than +/-5 minutes per hour of incubation time.



10. AVOID PLATE STACKING

If you are running multiple assays, do not stack the plates on top of each other during incubation times. Place them individually on a flat surface.

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