



# Thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) Assay

Version: 1

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**Summary:** Plasma concentrations of thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) are an index of lipid peroxidation and oxidative stress. The protocol describes how the AMDCC quantitates TBARS in the animal models.

## Reagents and Materials:

Reagent/Material	Quantity Required	Vendor	Stock Number
Thiobarbituric Acid (TBA)	ICN		190284
Trichloroacetic Acid	Sigma		490-10
Malonaldehyde bis(dimethyl acetal)	Fisher		AC 14861-1000

## Protocol:

### Reagent Preparation:

**Thiobarbituric Acid (TBA):** 67mg in 1mL DMSO then add 9mL H<sub>2</sub>O.

**10% Trichloroacetic Acid (w/v):** in H<sub>2</sub>O.

**1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane:** 4.167μL in 1mL Ethanol then add 49mL H<sub>2</sub>O. (500μM)

**Sample Preparation:****Plasma:**

- Place 100 $\mu$ L plasma into a labeled 1.5mL micro-centrifuge tube.

**Tissue:**

- Label 1 sets of 1.5mL micro-centrifuge tubes, 1 set screw top tubes and 1 set of 0.5mL tubes.
  - Weighed out ~20mg and sonicate in 200 $\mu$ L RIPA buffer + inhibitors.
  - Sonicate.
  - Centrifuged @ 3000 for 10 min @ 4<sup>o</sup>.
- Remove 10 $\mu$ L aliquot into the 0.5mL tubes for protein analysis.
  - Place 100 $\mu$ L lysate into a labeled 1.5mL micro-centrifuge tube.
  - Add 200 $\mu$ L ice cold 10% Trichloroacetic acid to precipitate protein.
  - Incubate for 15 minutes on ice.
  - Prepare standards as follows:

CONCENTRATION ( $\mu$ M)	H <sub>2</sub> O	TETRAMETHOXYPROPANE
0	500	-----
0.625	500	500 from tube 3
1.25	500	500 from tube 4
2.5	500	500 from tube 5
5.	500	500 from tube 6
10	800	200 from tube 7
50	500	500 from tube 8
100	800	200 of 500uM stock

- Centrifuge samples @ 2200 x g for 15 min. at @ 4<sup>o</sup>C.
- Place 200 $\mu$ L supernatant and standards into new labeled screw top 1.5ml tube.
- Add and equal volume of 0.67% (w/v) TBA.
- Incubate in a boiling water bath for 10 min.
- Cool. Sample is ready for assay.

**Performing Assay:**

- While samples are cooling, layout on computer and save as TBxxxxxx.sed where xxxxxx is the date in yyddmm format.
- Load 150 $\mu$ L into each standard well in duplicate.
- Load 150 $\mu$ L into each samples well in duplicate.

4. Put in plate reader and press start.

### **Reading the Plate:**

- *Record absorbance at 532nm.*
  1. Turn on Multiskan and open your saved file TBxxxxxx.sed.
  2. Place plate onto Multiskan holder and click **START**.
  3. Select Process>Curve Fit. Choose the appropriate data (usually Measure1), then click **OK**.
  4. Save Curve Fit data sheet as an Excel file into the Data folder/TBARS data folder. Use the naming convention TBxxxxxx.xls, where xxxxxx is the date in yymmdd format.