

# AlerTox® Sticks

## Rapid Egg Allergen Detection

Limit of detection: 1.25 ppm

Pack size: 5, 10 or 25 tests



## Intended use

AlerTox Sticks Egg is a rapid immunochromatographic test for the qualitative detection of ovalbumin in food, kitchens and production facilities.

## Introduction

Egg protein is considered one of the major food allergens. Egg allergies often cause severe and even fatal immune reactions including anaphylaxis, acute bronchial asthma, severe atopic dermatitis and gastroenterocolitis. Eggs are widely used in food products such as ice cream, noodles, pasta, dressings and wine. Egg traces may remain on surfaces used for food processing. Furthermore, some vaccines may also contain trace amounts of egg proteins, posing a hazard when injected to allergic individuals. In 2004, the Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act (FALCPA) required mandatory labeling of potential presence of egg allergen in foods.

## Test sensitivity and specificity

AlerTox Sticks Egg is based on a lateral flow immunoassay and uses antibodies specific to ovalbumin. This test is able to detect ovalbumin residues in a large variety of food matrices and also in environmental samples.

Considering the dilution of the sample in the provided extraction solution, a sample should contain more than 1.25 ppm of ovalbumin to obtain a positive result.

Samples that are very viscous, dense or with a high fat content can migrate incorrectly along the chromatography membrane, affecting the assay result (attenuation or disappearance of test and control lines).

AlerTox Sticks Egg is designed to detect low concentrations of the analyte. When testing samples with a high content of the analyte, the test can present a hook effect, which can appear as a negative result or a test line with reduced intensity. If a false negative due to hook effect is suspected, repeat the test on a diluted sample.

AlerTox Sticks Egg is not capable of detecting ovalbumin in heat-treated matrices (i.e. over 100 °C / 212 °F for over 30 min).

AlerTox Sticks Egg is a qualitative assay. If you need to quantify the amount of antigen, please contact your supplier or acquire AlerTox ELISA Egg (KT-5904/KIT3046) or AlerTox ELISA Ovalbumin (KT-5759/KIT3045).

## Kit contents

Component	KT-5898 KIT3026	KT-5899 KIT3025
Sealed container containing ovalbumin immunochromatographic sticks	1 (25 sticks)	1 (10 sticks)
Bottle containing 60 mL of extraction solution, ready to use	3	1
Small yellow pipettes 1 mL	25	10
Large transparent pipettes 3 mL	25	10
Empty tubes for extraction procedure	25	10
Microtiter 8-well strips	4	2
Microtiter tray	1	1
Swabs for surface sampling	25	10

## Other materials not supplied

- Grinder, mortar or any other manual or automatic homogenization system to crush the sample.
- Vortex mixer/shaker (recommended, not required).
- Pipette or syringe to take 0.5 mL (only for liquid samples).
- Scissors (only for surface sampling).
- Digital scale to weigh 0.5 g (sensitive to 0.1 g).

## Precautions

- All components should be stored at a temperature between 2 - 25 °C (36 - 77 °F).
- All components should be stored inside their original package until the time of use.
- Do not touch the white end of the stick.
- Do not use the stick if it is broken or damaged.
- All the components of the test kit are disposable; do not reuse them.
- Do not use the test sticks beyond the expiration date.

## Validation

AlerTox Sticks Egg has been validated for the following matrices:

- Biscuits
- Cereals
- Soy drinks
- Dehydrated food
- Baked products
- Chocolate cookies
- Chocolate cereals
- Chocolate
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Sauces
- Cereal products
- Snacks