

Turbilatex®

Pancreatic elastase: a non-invasive biomarker of pancreatic exocrine function



Pancreatic elastase is an enzyme produced by the acinar cells of the pancreas and released into the gastrointestinal tract as part of pancreatic function. **Reduced levels of pancreatic elastase in the gastrointestinal tract are associated with pancreatic insufficiency**, which may occur as a consequence of progressive pancreatic damage related to several pathological conditions.

Human pancreatic elastase 1 (E1) **remains largely undegraded during intestinal transit**, allowing its concentration to be assessed in faecal samples. This characteristic makes faecal pancreatic elastase a suitable non-invasive biomarker for the evaluation of pancreatic function.

Unlike invasive procedures, faecal pancreatic elastase measurement provides information on pancreatic function through a simple stool sample. Decreased faecal pancreatic elastase levels can therefore help reveal pancreatic insufficiency and support the assessment of patients in whom impaired pancreatic function is suspected.

Pancreatic Elastase Turbilatex® provides a quantitative faecal determination based on monoclonal antibody detection. The assay is supplied as a liquid, ready-to-use format, offers a long shelf-life and can be adapted to different analysers.

These characteristics make faecal pancreatic elastase determination a practical, non-invasive approach for assessing pancreatic function, combining the biological stability of pancreatic elastase during intestinal transit with the advantages of quantitative automated testing.

Clinical significance & applications

- Faecal pancreatic elastase-1 (FE-1) is widely used as a **non-invasive marker of exocrine pancreatic function** and as an initial test when pancreatic exocrine insufficiency (PEI) is suspected.
- Reduced FE-1 levels are associated with conditions such as **chronic pancreatitis, cystic fibrosis, pancreatic cancer and pancreatic surgery**, supporting the assessment of pancreatic exocrine function in routine clinical practice.



CAUSE

- Reduced pancreatic enzyme secretion due to impaired exocrine pancreatic function.
- Pancreatic elastase remains stable during intestinal transit.
- Progressive pancreatic damage may lead to reduced faecal elastase levels.



EFFECT / CLINICAL RELEVANCE

- Low faecal pancreatic elastase is associated with pancreatic exocrine insufficiency (PEI).
- Non-invasive assessment of exocrine pancreatic function.
- Normal elastase levels make significant PEI less likely.

Your Laboratory Solutions for Pancreatic Elastase

Turbidimetric Pancreatic Elastase Assay (PETIA - Particle-Enhanced Turbidimetric Immunoassay)

A particle-enhanced turbidimetric immunoassay (PETIA) for the quantitative determination of pancreatic elastase in human faeces, suitable for open-channel chemistry analysers:

- ✓ Cost-efficient option for labs already equipped with turbidimetric platforms.
- ✓ Good throughput and precision, offering quantitative measurement of pancreatic elastase.
- ✓ Provides flexible access to pancreatic elastase testing without exclusive immunoassay equipment.
- ✓ Compatible with existing automated analyser platforms and integrates into gastrointestinal testing panels/workflows.
- ✓ Other complementary assays available using the same stool sample tube: Calprotectin, FOB-FIT, and Transferrin.

Pancreatic Elastase Turbilatex® Combo is a non-invasive immunological assay which quantifies pancreatic elastase present in human faeces. This simple test provides information about pancreatic exocrine function and supports the assessment of pancreatic insufficiency.

Product specifications

Sensitivity (%)	89.1 ⁽¹⁾
Specificity (%)	98.4 ⁽¹⁾
Cut-off value (in dilution)	2 µg/mL
Cut-off value (in faeces)	200 µg/g
Main interferences	None ⁽²⁾

Cut-off value can be modified according to laboratory needs.

⁽¹⁾ Results obtained by comparison with similar products available on the market.

⁽²⁾ None identified in the analyses performed.

Pancreatic exocrine function based on faecal elastase levels:

≥ 200 µg/g: Normal
100 – < 200 µg/g: Reduced
< 100 µg/g: Severely reduced



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Quantification of faecal pancreatic elastase is one of the parameters used in the assessment of pancreatic exocrine function and the detection of pancreatic insufficiency.

References	Description
TL-022EL100ED	Pancreatic Elastase Turbilatex® Combo (kit 100 det.) ⁽³⁾
TL-022EL200ED	Pancreatic Elastase Turbilatex® Combo (kit 200 det.) ⁽³⁾
TL-022EL400ED	Pancreatic Elastase Turbilatex® Combo (kit 400 det.) ⁽³⁾
TL-022EL800ED	Pancreatic Elastase Turbilatex® Combo (kit 800 det.) ⁽³⁾
MST-0019UR	Universal Turbilatex® Sample Collection Vial.

⁽³⁾ The number of determinations may vary depending on the analyser used. Optimized value for Biolis 24i.

 Non-invasive diagnostic	 All included. No proprietary analyser required	 Low operational costs	 Ease of use and interpretation	 Immediate results
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Certest Biotec, S.L.
Pol. Industrial Río Gállego II · Calle J, N°1
50840, San Mateo de Gállego, Zaragoza (Spain)

Tel. (+34) 976 520 354
sales@certest.es
www.certest.es

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