



TOSOH BIOSCIENCE, INC.

Tosoh Bioscience Launches the ST AIA-PACK Homocysteine (HCY) Assay

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Tosoh Bioscience, Inc. introduces the ST AIA-PACK Homocysteine (HCY) assay for use on Tosoh automated immunoassay analyzers including the AIA-360, AIA-600 II, AIA-1800, AIA-2000 and the latest AIA-900. Homocysteine measurements are used in the diagnosis and treatment of hyperhomocysteinemia or homocysteinuria.

Utilizing Tosoh's unit dose test cup reagent technology, ST AIA-PACK Homocysteine has an assay time of approximately 50 minutes. Single, unitized test cups require no pre-mixing, no pre-measuring and no on-board refrigeration. Dry reagent format ensures 90-day calibration stability for minimal waste and cost effective testing. Test cups are bar-coded for easy identification and inventory management.

ST AIA-PACK Homocysteine is designed for In Vitro Diagnostic Use Only for the quantitative measurement of Homocysteine (HCY) in human serum, heparinized or EDTA plasma.

Homocysteine is an amino acid that is chemically transformed in our bodies into methionine and cysteine by folic acid, vitamin B12 & vitamin B6 with the help of certain enzymes. Therefore, insufficient amounts of these vitamins or enzymes in the body can hamper the natural breakdown of homocysteine causing elevated levels.

Elevated levels of homocysteine (homocysteinemia) in the blood may be associated with atherosclerosis (hardening and narrowing of the arteries) as well as an increased risk of heart attacks, strokes, blood clot formation, and possibly Alzheimer's disease.

In the genetic condition called homocystinuria, there is a deficiency of enzymes in the homocysteine breakdown pathway. This leads to severely elevated levels of homocysteine.

The ST AIA-PACK Homocysteine has an assay range of 0.5 to 50 umol/L. The 90 days calibration stability makes it feasible to run this test even with low volumes.

Homocysteine is often measured along with folic acid, vitamins B12 and B6.

Tosoh Bioscience, Inc. (TBI) provides highly sophisticated diagnostic systems for immunoassay and HPLC testing to doctor's offices, hospitals and reference laboratories throughout the Americas. Based in South San Francisco, CA, TBI is a U.S. subsidiary of Tosoh Corporation which is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan. TBI is part of Tosoh Corporation's Bioscience Division.

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