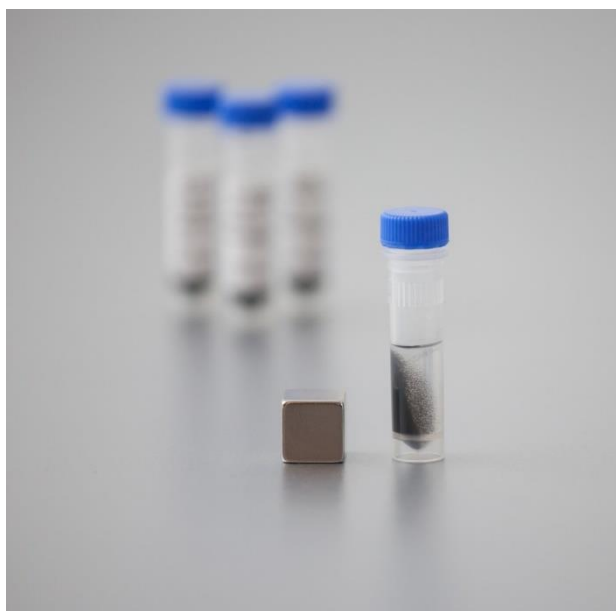


# LOABeads™ PrtA

Magnetic bead purification of antibodies  
Capacity 45 mg IgG/ml

## Product Manual



Lab on a Bead AB

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Please read through this manual carefully before using LOABeads PrtA.

### Intended use

This product is intended for purification of monoclonal antibodies from cell culture broth and ascites fluid, as well as total IgG from serum.

For research use only.

## 1. General information

LOABeads PrtA provides a simple and effective system for small to medium scale isolation of antibodies using magnetic separation techniques. The quantity of high capacity beads can easily be scaled up or down to match the antibody concentration and sample volume. The beads are suitable for separations from  $\mu\text{l}$  to high ml scale using appropriate magnetic separators, such as the LOABeads MagSep5 (Product No. 2100), LOABeads MagSep50 (Product No. 2200) and LOABeads MagSep500 (Product No. 2300).

LOABeads PrtA consists of super-paramagnetic agarose beads covalently coupled with a standard recombinant protein A ligand. This product is intended for purification of monoclonal antibodies from cell culture harvests, such as from hybridoma or CHO cells. For purification of antibodies from serum and ascites, we recommend the extra high capacity resin LOABeads SerAscA (Product No. 1200). For IgG antibodies that binds poorly to protein A, please consider using a protein G-containing bead (see Table 1 for affinities).

The LOABeads PrtA particles are magnetized using a proprietary method. The particles show outstanding magnetic behavior and are easily attracted to external magnets, allowing efficient separation. The agarose matrix enables minimal nonspecific binding of proteins due to its hydrophilic nature. The black beads are easily observed by the naked eye, making them easy to follow and collect, and they do not aggregate, which facilitates the resuspension.

The binding capacity is 45 mg of human or rabbit IgG per ml beads, but the capacity can vary among IgG isoforms from different species. The beads can be used multiple times without noticeable loss of binding selectivity and capacity.

## 2. Antibody affinity to protein A and protein G

**Table 1.** Binding strengths

		Protein A	Protein G			Protein A	Protein G	
<b>Human</b>	<b>IgG1</b>	++	++	<b>Rabbit</b>	<b>IgG</b>	++	++	
	<b>IgG2</b>	++	++		<b>Hamster</b>	<b>IgG</b>	+	++
	<b>IgG3</b>	-	++		<b>Guinea</b>	<b>IgG</b>	++	+
					<b>Pig</b>			
	<b>IgG4</b>	+	++		<b>Bovine</b>	<b>IgG</b>	+	++
	<b>IgA</b>	+	-		<b>Horse</b>	<b>IgG</b>	+	++
	<b>IgD</b>	+	-		<b>Sheep</b>	<b>IgG</b>	+/-	++
	<b>IgE</b>	+	-		<b>Goat</b>	<b>IgG</b>	+/-	++
	<b>IgM</b>	+	-		<b>Pig</b>	<b>IgG</b>	++	++
	<b>Mouse</b>	<b>IgG1</b>	+		++	<b>Chicken</b>	<b>IgY</b>	-
	<b>IgG2a</b>	++	++		<b>Antibody fragments</b>			
	<b>IgG2b</b>	++	++	<b>Human</b>	<b>Fab</b>	+	+	
	<b>IgG2c</b>	+	++		<b>F(ab')<sub>2</sub></b>	+	+	
	<b>IgM</b>	+/-	-		<b>scFv</b>	+	-	
<b>Rat</b>	<b>IgG</b>	++	++		<b>Fc</b>	+	+	
	<b>IgG1</b>	+/-	+		<b>κ</b>	-	-	
	<b>IgG2a</b>	+/-	++		<b>λ</b>	-	-	
	<b>IgG2b</b>	+/-	+					
	<b>IgG2c</b>	+/-	+					
	<b>IgM</b>	+/-	-					
		++ strong	+ moderate	- low		+/- needs evaluation		

### References:

Richman DD, Cleveland PH, Oxman MN, and Johnson KM. (1982) The binding of *Staphylococci* protein A by the sera of different animal species. *J Immunol* **128**, 2300-2305.

Frank MB. (1997) Antibody Binding to Protein A and Protein G beads. In: *Frank MB, ed. Molecular Biology Protocols*. Oklahoma City.

### 3. Product data

**Table 2.** Characteristics for LOABeads PrtA

Matrix	Super-paramagnetic agarose
Product	LOABeads PrtA, 10% bead suspension
Ligand	Recombinant protein A
Particle size	45–165 µm
Binding capacity <sup>1</sup>	45 mg IgG/ml settled beads
Static binding capacity	>55 mg/ml
Binding conditions	Directly in cell culture media, pH 6–8
Elution conditions <sup>2</sup>	100 mM citrate pH 2.8 100 mM glycine, pH 2.8
Storage	+2 to +8°C in PBS with 20% ethanol.
Stability <sup>3</sup>	18 months
Protein A ligand leakage <sup>4</sup>	10–100 ng/mg IgG (10–100 ppm)
Reusability	Can be reused multiple times

<sup>1</sup> Binding capacity at 5 mg rabbit IgG/ml sample.

<sup>2</sup> Some antibodies may require different elution conditions.

<sup>3</sup> Data of product stability is continuously updated based on ongoing stability studies.

<sup>4</sup> Protein A ligand leakage in the acidic elution fraction with 1 minute contact time at room temperature was determined using a Protein A ELISA kit (#03-96) from Immuno System I.M.S AB, Sweden.

## 4. Materials supplied

- LOABeads PrtA supplied as a 10% bead suspension in PBS with 20% ethanol. 10 ml 10% bead suspension contains 1 ml beads.

## 5. Additional materials needed

- **Washing buffer** – For washing of beads, use PBS (137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 10 mM phosphate, pH 7.4) or similar recipe, e.g., 15 mM phosphate pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl.
- **Elution buffer** – For release of antibodies from beads, use 100 mM citrate, pH 2.8.0, 100 mM glycine, pH 2.8, or conditions optimized for a specific antibody.
- **Neutralization buffer** – To neutralize eluted antibodies, use 2 M Tris-HCl, pH 9.0.
- **Storage buffer** – Store beads in PBS containing 20% ethanol.
- **Mixer** – Mix samples during incubations using an end-over-end mixer, a benchtop shaker, or a rocking table. Manual inversion of the vial can also be applied.
- **Magnetic separator** – LOABeads MagSep5 (Product No. 2100) is suitable for separations in 0.5–5 ml volumes. For separation of volumes larger than 5 ml, use LOABeads MagSep50 (Product No. 2200) for volumes up to 50 ml, or LOABeads MagSep500 (Product No. 2300) for volumes up to 500 ml (Section 13).
- Additional vials/tubes, pipettes and pipette tips.

## 6. Handling instructions

### Dispensing the bead suspension

- The bead suspension should be well suspended before dispensing. Mix thoroughly by manual inversion or by vortexing, between each pipetting from the vial.

### Magnetic bead separation

- LOABeads MagSep5 can be used to collect the beads from liquid volumes up to 5 ml. For volumes from 5 ml up to 50 ml it is recommended to use the LOABeads MagSep50 separator. Use the LOABeads MagSep500 separator for volumes up to 500 ml (Section 13). Refer to the manual of the separators for detailed instructions.
- Use the magnetic separator to attract the magnetic agarose beads to the wall of the test tube or bottle before each liquid removal step.
- Remove liquid carefully, trying not to disturb the magnetic beads. To avoid sample loss, make sure that no beads are removed.
- Move the tube away from the magnetic field, add new liquid and resuspend the beads by mixing.

### Incubation

- Incubations should be performed with continuous mixing, using either an end-over-end apparatus, a bench-top shaker, or a rocking table. Short incubations, e.g., for elution, can be performed by using manual mixing/inversion of the test tube or bottle.
- Binding and elution can be performed at room temperature, as well as in a cold room.
- Generally, the time for adsorption is increased when purifying antibodies of low concentrations. As an alternative, the amount of beads can be increased to accelerate the binding (Section 8).

## 7. Product operation

### Intended use

- This product is intended for purification of antibodies from cell culture media.

### Bead input

- The amount of beads and the binding time strongly depends on the antibody concentration in the starting material. See Section 8 for advice.

### Binding

- The LOABeads PrtA bind immunoglobulins with various affinity (Table 1), in the range pH 6–8.
- Purification can be performed directly in cell culture media, without diluting the sample. However, the pH must be within the given range. Always check the pH of the sample and, if necessary, adjust accordingly by using a suitable high molar Tris-buffer.

### Washing

- In most applications, it is sufficient to wash the beads with PBS (137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 10 mM phosphate, pH 7.4).
- In some cases, a more stringent wash using high salt, e.g., 0.5–1 M NaCl, or the addition of a suitable detergent, e.g., 0.1–1.0% Tween® 20, can be beneficial.

### Elution

- The recommended elution buffer is 100 mM citrate, pH 2.8, or 100 mM glycine, pH 2.8, for most antibodies.
- The adsorbed antibodies are generally eluted within 1 min of mixing with elution buffer.
- For neutralization of eluted antibodies, add, e.g., 1/10 fraction volume of 2 M Tris-HCl, pH 9.0, to each elution fraction (Table 3).

**Table 3:** Final pH after addition of various volumes of 2 M Tris-HCl, pH 9.0 to 60 mM citrate, pH 3.0 (in-house data)

Vol Tris-HCl (ml)	Vol citrate (ml)	Final pH
0.1	1	7.2
0.15	1	8.1
0.2	1	8.4

- Normally, 88% of bound material is found in the first fraction, 10% in the second, and 2% in the third (in-house data for human and rabbit IgG using 10 bead volume elution fractions).



- Balance the number of elutions with regards to total yield and possibly concentration issues in the final total elution volume. Pooling elution fractions gives a higher yield in a larger volume, but at a lower concentration.
- If needed, concentrate the neutralized and/or desalted antibody using a suitable technique.
- Always analyze the elution efficiency by estimating the ratio between eluted and adsorbed antibody and perform a functional characterization of the eluted and desalted antibody.

**Note:** Bead volume is the volume of settled beads, i.e., 10% of the delivered bead suspension volume. 500 µl bead suspension corresponds to 50 µl bead volume.

### Optimizing elution

- The elution buffer may need optimization, as different immunoglobulins elute at different pH values depending on species and subclass. Some immunoglobulins are also more sensitive (acid-labile) towards low pH. Optimized elution buffers include, e.g., 60–200 mM citrate with pH 2.6–3.4 or 100 mM glycine with pH 2.8. For high pH options, consult current literature and/or ready-made elution buffers from other commercial sources.
- If the purified monoclonal antibody tends to precipitate, the pH of the solution might be close to the pI of the antibody; a common cause of precipitation for many proteins. If working with a recombinant antibody, the pI can be calculated (look for online resources, e.g., <http://web.expasy.org/protparam/>), since the primary amino acid residue sequence can be derived from the corresponding cDNA sequence. Change to a buffer with a pH at least 0.5–1.0 units away from the pI. When the pI is unknown, such as from monoclonal antibodies produced in hybridoma, optimize by testing different buffer pH.

### Regeneration of magnetic beads

- The beads can normally be used multiple times without loss in binding capacity and selectivity.
- To regenerate the beads, wash a minimum of three times with 10 bead volumes elution buffer and twice with 10 bead volumes PBS.
- When reusing beads, it is recommended to use the particles for purification of the same antibody to avoid potential cross-contamination between different antibodies.

## Cleaning

- In some samples, strongly bound substances are not fully released and washed away by regeneration. Further cleaning can be evaluated, e.g., using 10 bead volumes of 3 M NaCl for 15 min or 10 bead volumes of 6 M urea for 10 min.
- Use only cleaning agents with a pH of 2–11.

## Storage

- The LOABeads PrtA should be stored as a 10% bead suspension at +2 to +8°C in PBS containing 20% ethanol.

## Optimization

The general recommendations in this manual are suitable for most antibodies and sample types. However, optimization may be needed to obtain maximum recovery. Parameters that may require optimization are:

- Binding time
- Amount of beads
- Buffers (washing and elution buffer)
- Number of washes
- Elution time

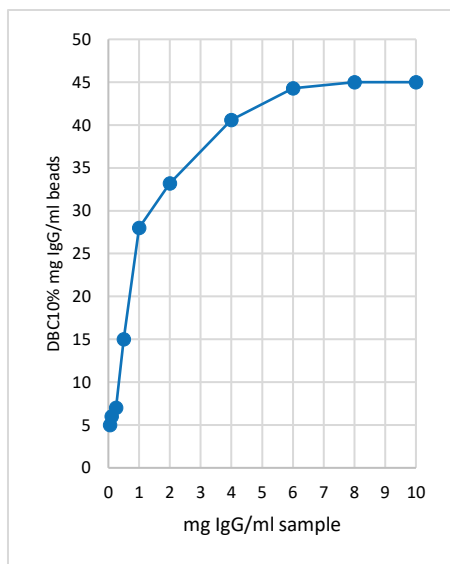
## 8. Bead input and binding time

- The binding kinetics between protein A-beads and antibody depends on the concentration of antibodies in the sample. Variation in  $K_d$ , as between antibodies from different species and isotypes, but also between different monoclonal antibodies of the same isotype and species, also affect kinetics. Optimization of binding conditions for a specific antibody can be performed on small sample volumes, in the range of 1–10 ml cell culture media, depending on the antibody concentration. Scaling up to larger sample volumes with the same concentration, usually do not affect purity and yield negatively.
- Figure 1 and Table 4, demonstrates the practical binding capacity for LOABeads PrtA at different concentrations of rabbit IgG antibodies, as set to 90% adsorption for 1 ml beads and 2 hours incubation.
- Following provided data, in a sample of 50 ml CHO-cell broth with an antibody titer of 1 mg IgG/ml, the amount of beads to use to obtain >90% adsorption after 2 hours, would be 1.79 ml beads (see below).

The diagram illustrates the calculation of bead volume. It starts with two inputs: 'Size of sample' (50 ml) and 'Concentration of sample' (1 mg IgG/ml). These are multiplied together to get the total amount of IgG in the sample. This total is then divided by the 'Capacity of bead at IgG concentration 1 mg/ml' (28 mg IgG/ml bead) to determine the required volume of beads, which is 1.79 ml.

$$\frac{50 \text{ ml} \times 1 \text{ mg IgG/ml}}{28 \text{ mg IgG/ml bead}} = 1.79 \text{ ml beads}$$

- To obtain higher than 90% adsorption, either more beads should be used or an extended incubation time. To shorten the incubation time, at a given IgG concentration, and to maintain a high adsorption level, more beads needs to be added.
- Be aware that a near complete complete adsorption at lower IgG antibody concentrations is difficult with beads in suspension, and at 0.01 mg IgG/ml very difficult.



**Fig 1.** Practical binding capacity for LOABeads PrtA varies with different concentrations of antibody. Sample points show 90% adsorption at 2 hours incubation per ml of beads.

**Table 4:** Practical binding capacity at different concentrations of rabbit IgG antibody per ml of LOABeads PrtA, at 2 hours adsorption.

Rabbit IgG (mg/ml sample)	Binding capacity (mg IgG/ml beads)
0.05	5
0.1	6
0.25	7
0.5	15
1	28
2	33.2
4	40.6
6	44.3
8	45
10	45

## 9. Antibody purification protocol

### Intended use

The product is intended for purification of antibodies from cell culture media. Beforehand, verify the affinity of each individual antibody to protein A (Table 1). If using the LOABeads MagSep50 and/or LOABeads MagSep500 separators, please read the product manuals for those for further instructions.

### Bead pre-treatment

1. Calculate the amount of beads to use for your specific purification, using Section 8 as guidance.
2. Mix bead suspension thoroughly.
3. Dispense the required amount of 10% bead suspension in a suitable tube or bottle.
4. Remove liquid by magnetic separation.
5. Resuspend beads in 10 bead volumes PBS.
6. Remove the liquid.

### Sample application

7. Adjust pH of sample if necessary. pH should be in the range 6–8.
8. Resuspend beads with as small amount sample media and transfer to the main sample container.
9. Incubate with continuous mixing during the adsorption step.
10. Remove the liquid after the set adsorption time. Save unbound fraction for SDS-PAGE if required.

### Washing

11. Add 10 bead volumes binding buffer, resuspend the beads, and mix for 1 min.
12. Remove the liquid.
13. Perform steps 11 and 12 at least three times.

### Elution

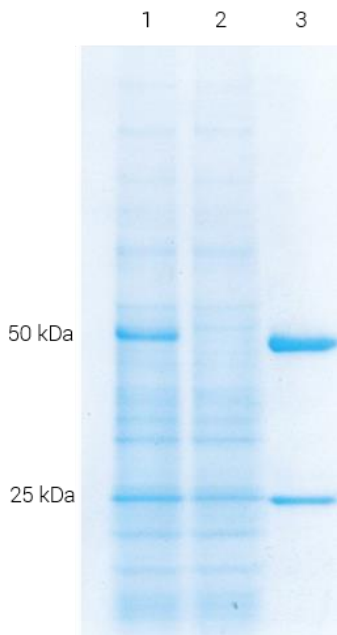
14. Add 5–10 bead volumes of elution buffer.
15. Resuspend the beads and mix for 1 min.
16. Remove and collect the elution fraction. Generally, ~90% of bound antibody is found in the first elution fraction, when eluting with 10 bead volumes. If beads have been accidentally transferred with the collected elution fraction, a second separation can be performed, and the eluted fraction transferred to yet another new tube.
17. Repeat elution step if necessary.
18. Regenerate beads and resuspend in storage solution (Section 7).

**Note:** 1 ml bead suspension corresponds to 0.1 ml bead volume. 0.1 ml bead volume is the same as 0.1 ml settled beads.

## 10. Practical notes

- Beads caught in the lid or on the walls of the reaction vial can be recovered by washing with solution using a pipette or removed with a quick spin in a microcentrifuge.
- If low amount of antibody is recovered, increase the amount of magnetic beads and/or increase the time of incubation.
- It is recommended to optimize the coupling time of antibodies to beads depending on sample source and antibody concentration.
- If foam has been developed during the adsorption step of the cell culture media, it will usually be removed during the subsequent wash step with PBS.
- If the antibody is sensitive to the low pH during elution, optimize elution conditions to identify the highest pH needed for efficient elution. Always neutralize and/or desalt the eluted fraction. Keep exposure of the antibody to extreme pH to a minimum.
- At an unexpected low yield, verify that the IgG isotype indeed binds protein A (Table 1), analyze elution efficiency by estimating the ratio between eluted and adsorbed antibody, or elute the beads with 8 M urea and perform an SDS-PAGE to visually confirm possible non-eluting antibodies.
- When reusing beads, it is recommended to use the beads for purification of the same antibody to avoid any cross-contamination between purification runs.
- A low ppm level leakage of protein A from beads occurs during storage of the product. It is therefore recommended to perform a blank run of the beads before first time use or after long term storage, i.e., several months. The following procedure may be used: Wash with 10 bead volumes of PBS, wash for 15 min with 10 bead volumes of elution buffer, and finally wash with 10 bead volumes of PBS.

## 11. Performance



**Fig 2.** Example of purification at low concentrations. A 20 ml CHO cell culture harvest, with a human IgG titer at 0.02–0.025 mg/ml, was calculated to contain 0.5 mg IgG. The capacity at 7 mg IgG/ml beads for LOABeads PrtA, at 0.25 mg IgG/ml sample, were obtained from Table 4. The amount of beads to use were calculated:  $(0.5 \text{ mg IgG}) / (7 \text{ mg/ml bead}) = 83 \text{ } \mu\text{l}$ . Since this is a low IgG concentration, 0.1 ml magnetic beads were used for a 2 hours adsorption. Thereafter, beads were washed and eluted. 410  $\mu\text{g}$  purified IgG antibody were obtained. Purity was visualized with SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions. Harvest input (lane 1), harvest unbound (lane 2), and 3  $\mu\text{g}$  purified IgG antibody (lane 3). The light and heavy chain of IgG migrates at 25 and 50 kDa, respectively

## 12. Disclaimer

The product is not fully tested. For research use only.

LOABeads is a trademark of Lab on a Bead AB  
Tween is a registered trademark of Croda Americas LLC



## 13. Ordering information

Products	Quantity	Product No.
LOABeads PrtA	5 ml beads	1101
LOABeads PrtA	10 ml beads	1102
LOABeads PrtA	25 ml beads	1103

Related products	Product No.
LOABeads SerAscA	1200
LOABeads AffiActive	1300
LOABeads IP-A	1400
LOABeads AlkaliA	1500
LOABeads PrtG	1600
LOABeads IP-G	1700
LOABeads MagSep5	2100
LOABeads MagSep50	2200
LOABeads MagSep500	2300

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