Claims

What is claimed is:

1. Method of comparing quality of two or more affinity chromatography media samples containing blood group A antigen ligands attached to a solid support, the method comprising the steps of:
    (a) for each of the media samples, providing a solution of purified HP Lectin of known concentration C1 and volume VM and an affinity chromatography media sample of volume VR;
    (b) incubating each chromatography media sample with the solution of (a);
    (c) obtaining a supernatent and measuring the concentration C2 of the purified HP Lectin in the supernatant, for each chromatography media sample;
    (d) determining the static binding capacity of each chromatography media sample for the purified Lectin, wherein the static binding capacity is measured using the equation

$$\frac{[C1-C2] \times VM}{VR}$$

    wherein the static binding capacities of the media samples correlates with their ability to remove anti-A antibodies from a sample, thereby providing a comparison of the quality of two or more different affinity chromatography media samples.
2. Method of comparing quality of two or more affinity chromatography media samples containing blood group B antigen ligands attached to a solid support, the method comprising the steps of:
    (a) for each of the media samples, providing a solution of purified GSI-B4 Lectin of known concentration C1 and volume VM and an affinity chromatography media sample of volume VR;
    (b) incubating each chromatography media sample with the solution of (a);
    (c) obtaining a supernatent and measuring the concentration C2 of the GSI-B4 Lectin in the supernatant, for each chromatography media sample;

(d) determining the static binding capacity of each chromatography media sample for the purified GSI-B4 Lectin, wherein the static binding capacity is measured using the equation

$$\frac{[C1-C2] \times VM}{VR}$$

wherein the static binding capacities of the media samples correlates with their ability to remove anti-B antibodies from a sample, thereby providing a comparison of the quality of two or more affinity chromatography media samples.

3. The method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the solid support is a porous or non-porous polymeric solid support comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyvinylether, polyvinylalcohol, polymethacrylate, polyacrylate, polystyrene, polyacrylamide, polymethacrylamide and polycarbonate.
4. The method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the solid support is a polyvinylether based porous solid support.
5. The method according to claim 3 or claim 4, wherein the solid support is in bead form.
6. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the two or more affinity chromatography media samples constitute different batches of the same media.
7. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the different affinity chromatography media samples constitute the same media at different stages of use.
8. The method according to claim 1 or claims dependent therefrom, wherein the binding capacity of the blood group A antigen ligand media for purified HP Lectin correlates with its ability to remove anti-A antibodies from a sample.
9. The method according to claim 2 or claims dependent therefrom, wherein the binding capacity of the blood group B antigen ligand media for purified GSI-B4 Lectin correlates with its ability to remove anti-B antibodies from a sample.
10. The method according to claim 8 or claim 9, wherein the sample is selected from the group consisting of blood, blood products, plasma, plasma derivatives and IVIG feed.
11. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the measurement of concentration comprises determining absorbance at 280 nm.
12. A method of assessing quality of a media following exposure to acid or alkaline conditions, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) providing a chromatography media having wither blood group A antigen ligands or blood group B antigen ligands attached to a solid support;

(b) measuring the binding capacity of the media for purified HP Lectin in case of blood group A antigen antibody or for purified GSI-B4 Lectin in case of blood group B antigen antibody;

(c) exposing the media to acid or alkaline conditions for at least 5 hours; and

(d) measuring the binding capacity of the media for purified HP Lectin in case of blood group A antigen antibody or for purified GSI-B4 Lectin in case of blood group B antigen antibody;

wherein a reduction in the binding capacity of media in (d) relative to (b) indicates that the quality of media has decreased following exposure to acid of alkaline conditions.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein a decrease in quality of media comprises a reduction in the ability of media to remove anti-A of anti-B antibodies.

14. Method of determining whether a media comprises blood group A antigen ligands or blood group B antigen ligands, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) providing a media, wherein it is unknown whether the media comprises blood group A antigen ligands or blood group B antigen ligands;

(b) measuring the binding capacity of the unknown media for purified HP Lectin and separately for purified GSI-B4 Lectin;

(c) comparing the binding capacity of the unknown media for purified HP Lectin and for purified GSI-B4 Lectin, wherein the media is determined to comprise blood group A antigen ligands, if the binding capacity of the media for HP Lectin is greater than the binding capacity for GSI-B4 Lectin, and the media is determined to comprise blood group B antigen ligands if the binding capacity of the media for GSI-B4 Lectin is greater than the binding capacity for HP Lectin.