Can you process fewer than 85 samples in one run?

Yes, as a SomaLogic Certified Site you can achieve a lower sample throughput on the Tecan® platform. The purchase of one kit with slides and one kit without slides enables the analysis of 37 samples + 11 controls per run. For details, please contact customer support at support@somalogic.com.

Can we process mouse samples with the SomaScan Assay 7K Kits?

Samples originating from mice can be analyzed with the SomaScan Assay 7K kits. For kit selection please contact customer support at support@somalogic.com.

Can we run our own custom panels using the platform?

Custom panels are currently available with sample processing performed at our Boulder laboratory. For additional information, visit https://somalogic.com/panels/.

What matrices does the SomaScan Assay 7K Kit support?

There are dedicated SomaScan Assay 7K Kits for human EDTA plasma, human serum, human urine, and human cerebral spinal fluid. Kits for the analysis of cell lysates, cell media, rat plasma/serum, and matrices of other origins are also available. For details, please contact customer support at support@somalogic.com.

Can we run plasma samples that contain EDTA?

Plasma samples containing EDTA are compatible with the SomaScan® Assay 7K Kit. Other chelating agents such as Citrate and Heparin are also compatible. For details, please contact customer support at support@somalogic.com.

Can the SomaScan Assay 7K Kit be used for diagnostic purposes?

The SomaScan Assay 7K Kit is designated for research use only (RUO) applications. All materials and reagents associated with the kits may only be used for their intended purpose. The SomaScan® Assay, SomaScan Assay 7K Kit, and SOMAmer® reagents are developed, designed, intended, and sold for research purposes only and not for diagnostic or patient management purposes.

Does your platform detect Metabolic Disease?

The SomaScan Assay 7K has roughly 900 analytes on the menu relevant to Metabolic Disease, over 200 more analytes compared to nearest competitors. Please visit https://menu.somalogic.com/ and filter by “Metabolic Diseases” to obtain a full list of the Metabolomics portion of our menu. SomaLogic offers a Metabolic Disease panel through our Services offering when sending your samples to our Boulder laboratory.

Does your platform detect Peptides?

The SomaScan Assay 7K does not detect peptides. SOMAmer reagents are designed to bind a specific protein epitope present in a folded protein. Please
What types of kits do you offer?

We offer SomaScan Assay 7K kits for human EDTA plasma, human serum, human urine, human cerebral spinal fluid (CSF), and a cell & tissue kit. These kits allow for the analysis of a large variety of different biological matrices.

Can you run different sample matrices on the same plate?

Yes, different sample matrices could be run on the same plate. Please contact Customer Support at support@somalogic.com for more details.

Customer Service

How are service contracts supported if there is a SomaLogic equipment issue?

SomaLogic SomaScan equipment purchases include a one-year warranty. Beyond the first year, ongoing annual support contracts are available for ongoing service needs.

Can you help our customers with study design?

We provide additional study design consulting as requested through our Production Bioinformatics Team and Scientific Engagement Teams at no additional cost.

What is the process for assay technicians to get trained and certified?

The Field Application Scientist (FAS) demonstrates the assay while the trainees observe. The next step is for the trainees to run a training assay while being observed by the FAS. Each trainee then runs one certification assay under supervision of the FAS and then needs to complete at least two or more runs without supervision. Three out of the four runs must pass for certification.

Can SomaLogic Certified Sites engage both non-profit and for-profit clients?

Yes they can engage both non-profit and for-profit clients.

Do you provide quality assurance/control services for kit runs?

We provide pass/fail assessment based on the QC and calibrator sample for each SomaScan run that is needed. We assess human serum, plasma, CSF and urine samples against an established reference population and flag samples according to acceptance criteria.

How long does it take to ship a kit from the point you get a PO?

Contracts state 30 days from the point a PO is received.

Do you have a reagent rental program?

Unfortunately, we do not provide a reagent rental program at this time.

We have three to four new employees a year. Do you charge extra for training them as they arrive?

New employees can be certified by SomaLogic FAS. Please contact customer support at support@somalogic.com for more details.

What is the shelf life of the SomaScan Assay 7K Kit?

We currently guarantee three months of shelf life from date of shipment. We are working to extend shelf life and will provide you with updates as our studies conclude.
Data Analysis

**Can we apply Adapative Normalization Maximum Likelihood (ANML) or do our own normalization?**

Data for core sample types are delivered with and without ANML normalization, which allows for quantitative comparison across sample sets by removing analytes that deviate from the reference sample. You may use the ANML normalized data or use your preferred normalization strategy.

**Do you offer analysis software?**

Analytics tools are currently in development and a pilot program is scheduled for later in 2022.

**How do you process the raw data generated by the assay?**

Output files from the Agilent feature extraction process and sample import sheets are uploaded to Box. Feature extraction occurs at customer site where .tiff files from Agilent scanner are converted to .txt files. Data processing from .txt files is performed by SomaLogic where RFU for each SOMAmer reagent is returned to the customer.

**How do I analyze my data on-premises?**

Primary analysis is provided through our data standardization process. We are currently working to release an on-premises data processing workflow.

**What analysis support do you provide?**

Primary analysis is provided through our data standardization process. We are currently working to release an on-premises data processing workflow. We do not offer any secondary (clinical) analysis support.

**What is the processing time for analysis?**

Contracts guarantee seven business day turnaround, though three business days are typical. Turnaround time can vary.

**Do you offer a stand-alone solution for the software to transform the data?**

We currently offer a seven-business-day turnaround time for data analysis that is supported by SomaLogic. A user-facing analytics solution is still in development.

**How do customers transfer Agilent Microarray TIFF data to SomaLogic?**

Only text files are uploaded to Box, along with a workbook which includes a Sample Import Sheet. The .tiff images are not transferred since the feature extraction is done from the .tiff to the .txt files on site (and the .tiff files are very large). Agilent .txt feature data (one per subarray) are transferred to SomaLogic via Box.

**I’m an international customer. How do you process my data?**

Text files and Sample Import Sheet are uploaded to Box. Feature extraction occurs at customer site where .tiff files from Agilent scanner are converted to .txt files. Data processing from .txt files is performed by SomaLogic where RFU for each SOMAmer reagent is returned to the customer.
SomaScan Assay

What equipment is needed to run the SomaScan Assay 7K Kit?
The SomaScan Assay 7K Kit requires a SomaLogic custom equipment bundle. Please contact Customer Support at support@somalogic.com for a full overview of equipment requirements.

How much space is needed to run the SomaScan Assay 7K Kit system?
Customers should have 150 sq. ft lab space that is temperature-controlled. Looking for more details? Download the “Lab Installation Layout” document.

What does the assay workflow look like?
After initial sample preparation steps, the automated workflow proceeds. A SOMAmer reagent-protein binding step is followed by a series of partitioning and wash steps to convert relative epitope concentrations into measurable nucleic acid signals that are quantified using DNA hybridization microarrays. For more detailed information regarding the assay principle download our technical note.

Will the assay perform the same at sea level versus altitude?
Yes, performance will be the same at both elevations.

Can we just use multi-channel pipettors until we have enough volume for a robot?
Unfortunately, there is no manual version of the SomaScan Assay 7K Kit.

Can you offer absolute quantification?
We currently provide relative quantification as a readout. Please contact customer support at support@somalogic.com for more information regarding data analysis.

How many full-time employees do I need to run the assay?
At a minimum, one full-time employee is required to run the SomaScan Assay. We strongly suggest two full-time employees if you are running more than one assay per week.

Why are SOMAmer reagents better than antibodies?
Antibodies can result in non-specific binding, with CVs as high as 25%. SOMAmer reagents have been optimized for specificity with specific binding to target epitopes with CVs around 5%. You can learn more information about SOMAmer reagents here: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3000457/.

What is a reasonable sample throughput estimate per day or per week?
Each robot system can accommodate two assay runs per day with two groups of analysts in a 10-to-11-hour time frame. This translates to 680 samples per week.