## **ELISA (Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay)**

- 96 well plates coated with a solution containing the sample mixture
- Proteins stick non-specifically to the polystyrene surfaces of the well via Van der Waal's forces
- Next a locking protein added to bind to any bare polystyrene surfaces → to prevent non-specific binding of the antibody to the well
- Primary antibody that specifically binds to the target antigen's then added
- This is the 'immunosorbent' part of the assay → in which the detection of a specific antibody-antigen interaction occurs
- Detection of this antigen-antibody interaction's achieved using a secondary antibody
- Secondary antibody crosslinked to an enzyme → horseradish peroxidase!
- The development of colour in the wells of the plate indicates the presence of the target antigen
- Most widely used diagnostic test for HIV infections

