**Overview**

Protein-protein conjugations are commonly performed with a bifunctional linker (such as the commonly used SMCC), having different reactivity on each end for linking two different proteins. One end of the crosslinker reacts (via NHS ester) with amine (-NH2) found in the amino acid lysine and N-terminus, and the other end reacts (via maleimide) with the thiol groups (-SH) found in the amino acid cysteine. However, SMCC-modified protein is extremely unstable and often self-reactive since proteins often contain both amine and thiol groups that cause significant amount of homo-crosslinking. In addition it is quite difficult and tedious to quantify the number of maleimide groups on a protein. Buccutite™ Peroxidase (HRP) Antibody Conjugation Kit is designed for preparing horseradish peroxidase (HRP) conjugates directly from proteins, peptides, and other ligands that contain a free amino group. The HRP provided in our kit has been pre-activated with our proprietary linker Buccutite™ FOL, and can be directly used for conjugation. The entire process only requires two simple mixings without further purification required. The Buccutite™ FOL-activated HRP readily reacts with Buccutite™ MTA-containing molecules under extremely mild neutral conditions without any catalyst required. Compared to commonly used SMCC and other similar technologies, our Buccutite™ bioconjugation system is much more robust and easier to use. It enables faster and quantitative conjugation of biomolecules with higher efficiencies and yields.

**At a Glance**

**Protocol Summary**

1. Add 1.25 µL Reaction Buffer (Component C) into antibody (25 µL)
2. Add 2.5 µL reconstituted Buccutite™ MTA (Component B)
3. Incubate at room temperature for 60 minutes
4. Mix with 50 µL Buccutite™ FOL-Activated HRP (Component A)
5. Incubate at room temperature for 60 minutes

**Important**

Upon receipt, store the kit at 4°C. When stored properly, the kit should be stable for six months. Alternatively Components A and B can be stored at -20°C. Do not freeze Reaction Buffer (Component C). Warm all the components and centrifuge the vials briefly before opening, and immediately prepare the required solutions before starting your conjugation. The following SOP is an example for labeling goat anti-mouse IgG antibody.

**Preparation of Working Solution**

**Antibody working solution**

For labeling 25 µg antibody (assuming the target antibody concentration is 1 mg/mL), mix 1.25 µL (5% of the total reaction volume) of Reaction Buffer (Component C) with 25 µL of the target antibody solution.

**Note**

If you have a different concentration, adjust the antibody volume accordingly to make ~25 µg antibody available for your labeling reaction.

**Note**

The antibody should be dissolved in 1X phosphate buffered saline (PBS), pH 7.2-7.4. If the antibody is dissolved in glycine buffer, it must be dialyzed against 1X PBS, pH 7.2-7.4, or use ReadiUse™ 10KDa Spin Filter (Cat. # 60502 from AAT Bioquest) to remove free amines or ammonium salts (such as ammonium sulfate and ammonium acetate) that are widely used for antibody precipitation.

**Note**

Impure antibodies or antibodies stabilized with bovine serum albumin (BSA) or gelatin will not be labeled well.

**Note**

The antibody –Buccutite™ MTA reaction efficiency is significantly reduced if the antibody concentration is less than 1 mg/mL.

**Sample Experimental Protocol**

**Run Antibody-Buccutite™ MTA reaction**

1. Add 10 µL DMSO (not provided in the kit) into the vial of Buccutite™ MTA.
2. Add 2.5 µL Buccutite™ MTA (Component B) to antibody working solution, and mix them well by repeatedly pipetting for a few times or vortex the vial for a few seconds.
3. Keep the antibody- Buccutite™ MTA reaction mixture at room temperature for 30-60 minutes. Note: The antibody-Buccutite™ MTA reaction mixture can be rotated or shaken for longer time if desired.

**Make HRP-antibody conjugation**

1. Make HRP- Buccutite™ FOL solution by adding 50 µL ddH₂O into the vial of Buccutite™ FOL-Activated HRP (Component A), mix well by repeatedly pipetting for a few times or vortex the vial for a few seconds.
2. Mix whole vial of Buccutite™ FOL-Activated HRP solution into the antibody- Buccutite™ MTA solution, mix well and rotating the mixture for 1 hour at room temperature.
3. The HRP-antibody conjugate is now ready to use. Note: For immediate use, the HRP-antibody conjugate need be diluted with the buffer of your choice.

**Note**

For longer term storage, HRP-antibody conjugate solution need be concentrated or freeze dried.

**Note**

Alternatively, add antibody- Buccutite™ MTA solution mixture to the vial of Buccutite™ FOL-Activated HRP directly.

**Storage of HRP-Antibody Conjugate**

The antibody conjugate should be stored at > 0.5 mg/mL in the presence of a carrier protein (e.g., 0.1% bovine serum albumin). For longer storage, the HRP-antibody conjugates could be lyophilized and stored at ≤ –20 °C.

**Example Data Analysis and Figures**

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**Table:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Storage</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Component A: Buccutite™ FOL-Activated HRP</td>
<td>Refrigerated (2-8 °C), Minimize light exposure</td>
<td>2 vials (lyophilized)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component B: Buccutite™ MTA</td>
<td>Refrigerated (2-8 °C), Minimize light exposure</td>
<td>2 vials (lyophilized)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component C: Reaction Buffer</td>
<td>Refrigerated (2-8 °C), Minimize light exposure</td>
<td>1 vial (20 µL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 1. Buccutite™ Peroxidase (HRP) Antibody Conjugation Kit is designed for preparing horseradish peroxidase (HRP) conjugates directly from proteins, peptides, and other ligands that contain a free amino group. The Buccutite™ FOL-activated HRP readily reacts with Buccutite™ MTA-containing molecules under extremely mild neutral conditions without any catalyst required. Compared to commonly used SMCC and other similar technologies, our Buccutite™ bioconjugation system is much more robust and easier to use. It enables faster and quantitative conjugation of biomolecules with higher efficiencies and yields.

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