Screen Quest™ Rhod-4 No Wash Calcium Assay Kit *Medium Removal*

Catalog number: 36330, 36331, 36332
Unit size: 1 Plate, 10 Plates, 100 Plates

Component	Storage	Amount (Cat No. 36330)	Amount (Cat No. 36331)	Amount (Cat No. 36332)
Component A: Rhod-4 NW	Freeze (< -15 °C), Minimize light exposure	1 vial, lyophilized	1 vial, lyophilized	10 vials, lyophilized
Component B: 10X Pluronic® F127 Plus	Freeze (< -15 °C), Minimize light exposure	1 bottle (1 mL/bottle)	10 bottles (1 mL/bottle)	10 bottles (10 mL/bottle)
Component C: HHBS (Hanks' buffer with 20 mM Hepes)	Freeze (< -15 °C), Minimize light exposure	1 bottle (9 mL)	1 bottle (100 mL)	Not included

OVERVIEW

Calcium flux assays are preferred methods in drug discovery for screening G protein coupled receptors (GPCR). Screen Quest™ Rhod-4 NW Calcium Assay Kit provides a homogeneous fluorescence-based assay for detecting the intracellular calcium mobilization. Cells expressing a GPCR of interest that signals through calcium are pre-loaded with our proprietary Rhod-4 NW which can cross cell membrane. Rhod-4 is the brightest red calcium indicator available for HTS screening. Once inside the cell, the lipophilic blocking groups of Rhod-4™ are cleaved by non-specific cell esterase, resulting in a negatively charged fluorescent dye that stays inside cells, and its fluorescence is greatly enhanced upon binding to calcium. When cells stimulated with screening compounds, the receptor signals release of intracellular calcium, which greatly increase the fluorescence of Rhod-4. The characteristics of its long wavelength, high sensitivity, and >250 times fluorescence increases (when it forms complexes with calcium) make Rhod-4™ an ideal indicator for measurement of cellular calcium. This Screen Quest Rhod-4 NW Calcium Assay Kit provides an optimized assay method for monitoring G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) and calcium channels. The assay can be performed in a convenient 96-well or 384-well microtiter-plate format and easily adapted to automation.

AT A GLANCE

Protocol Summary

1. Prepare cells
2. Remove the growth medium
3. Add Rhod-4 NW dye-loading solution (100 µL/well for 96-well plate or 25 µL/well for 384-well plate)
4. Incubate at room temperature for 1 hour
5. Monitor fluorescence intensity at Ex/Em = 540/590 nm

Important Note

Do not add additional probenecid. Thaw 1 vial of Rhod-4 NW (Component A), 1 bottle of 10X Pluronic® F127 Plus (Component B), and 1 bottle of HHBS (Component C) at room temperature before use.

CELL PREPARATION

For guidelines on cell sample preparation, please visit https://www.aatbio.com/resources/guides/cell-sample-preparation.html

PREPARATION OF STOCK SOLUTIONS

Unless otherwise noted, all unused stock solutions should be divided into single-use aliquots and stored at -20 °C after preparation. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles

Rhod-4 NW stock solution

Add 100 µL of DMSO into the vial of Rhod-4 NW (Component A) and mix well. Protect from light. *Note: 10 µL of Rhod-4 NW stock solution is enough for one plate.*

Assay Buffer (1X)

a) For **Cat. #36330 (1 plate kit) and # 36331 (10 plates kit)** , make 1X Assay Buffer by adding 9 mL of HHBS (Component C) into 10X Pluronic® F127 Plus (1 mL, Component B), and mix them well.b) For **Cat. # 36332 (100 plates kit)**, make 1X Assay Buffer by adding 90 mL of HHBS (Not included) into 10X Pluronic® F127 Plus (10 mL, Component B), and mix them well. *Note: 10 mL of 1X assay buffer is enough for one plate. Aliquot and store un-used 1X assay buffer at ≤ -20 °C. Protect from light and avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.*

PREPARATION OF WORKING SOLUTION

Rhod-4 NW dye-loading solution

Add 10 µL of Rhod-4 NW stock solution into 10 mL of 1X assay buffer, and mix them well. *Note: This working solution is stable for at least 2 hours at room temperature.*

SAMPLE EXPERIMENTAL PROTOCOL

1. Remove the growth medium from the cell plate. Note: It is important to remove the growth medium in order to minimize background fluorescence, and compound interference with serum or culture media. Alternatively, grow the cells in growth medium with 1 - 5% FBS to avoid medium removal step. In this case, 2X dye loading solution in HHBS buffer is needed. [We offer 2 separate no wash calcium assay kits (Cat. #36334 and Cat. #36335) for those who use 0.5 - 1% FBS in growth medium to avoid the medium removal step].
2. Add 100 µL/well (96-well plate) or 25 µL/well (384-well plate) of Rhod-4 NW dye-loading solution into the cell plates.
3. Incubate the dye-loading plate in a cell incubator for 30 minutes, then incubate the plate at room temperature for another 30 minutes. Note: If the assay requires 37°C, perform the experiment immediately without further room temperature incubation. If the cells can function well at room temperature for longer time, incubate the cell plate at room temperature for 1 - 2 hours.
4. Prepare the compound plate with HHBS or the desired buffer.
5. Run the calcium flux assay by monitoring the fluorescence intensity at Ex/Em = 540/590 nm.

EXAMPLE DATA ANALYSIS AND FIGURES

Placeholder for image details

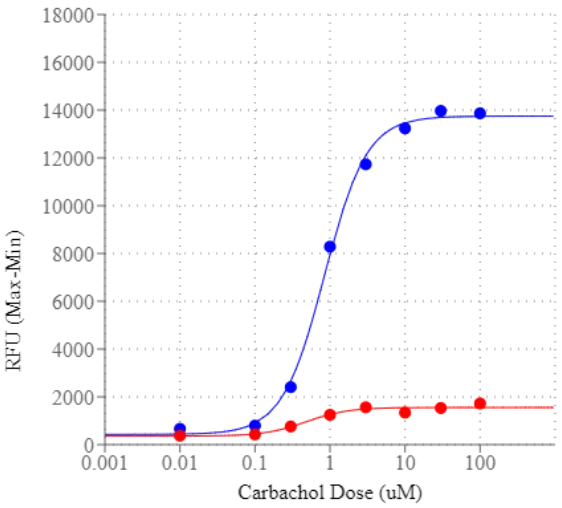

Figure 1. Carbachol Dose Response was measured in HEK-293 cells with Screen Quest™ Rhod-4 NW Assay kit and Rhod-2 AM. HEK-293 cells were seeded overnight at 40,000 cells/100 µL/well in a Costar black wall/clear bottom 96-well plate. The growth medium was removed, and the cells were incubated with 100 µL of dye loading solution using the Screen Quest™ Rhod-4 NW calcium assay kit, or 100 µL of Rhod-2 AM solution (5 µM) for 1 hour at room temperature. Carbachol (25 µL/well) was added by NOVOstar (BMG Labtech) to achieve the final indicated concentrations. The EC50 of Cabachol by using Rhod-4 NW is about 0.8 µM.

DISCLAIMER

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