# **BrdU** [5-Bromo-2'-deoxyuridine]

### **Ordering Information**

Storage Conditions

Product Numbers: 17030 (25 mg)

Keep at -20 °C and desiccated

## **Chemical and Physical Properties**

Molecular Weight: 307.09 Appearance: Off white Solvents: DMSO

## **Biological Applications**

5-Bromo-2-deoxyuridine (BrdU) is an analog of thymidine, and can be incorporated into the newly synthesized DNA of replicating cells (S-phase cells). BrdU is a commonly used in the detection of proliferating cells in living tissues. It works by substituting for thymidine during DNA replication and incorporating itself into the newly synthesized DNA (during S-phase). Antibodies specific for BrdU can then be used to detect the incorporated chemical, thus indicating cells that were actively replicating their DNA. Because BrdU can replace thymidine during the S phase of cell division, it can cause mutations.

#### **Sample Protocol for Staining Cells**

The following procedure can be adapted for most cell types. Growth medium, cell density, the presence of other cell types and other factors may influence the Brdu incorporation.

- 1). Make 1-10 mM DMSO stock solution. The DMSO stock solution is good for 6 months if stored at -20 °C.
- 2). Pellet cells by centrifugation and resuspend the cells in completed growth media. Adherent cells in culture may be stained *in situ* on cover slips or in the cell culture wells.
- 3). Add Brdu stain using the concentrations between 5 and 20  $\mu$ M and incubate it for 60 minutes to overnight as a guide. The optimum incubation time will depend upon cell type and the goal of the experiment.
- 4). Fix cells by with 70-80% alcohol or acid-ethanol for 20-30 min.
- 5). Wash with PBS (3 times, 2 min. each).
- 6). Proceed with immunocytochemical staining techniques.

#### References

- 1. Zeng Y, Wang Y. (2006) Sequence-dependent formation of intrastrand crosslink products from the UVB irradiation of duplex DNA containing a 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine or 5- bromo-2'-deoxycytidine. Nucleic Acids Res.
- 2. Kuwagata M, Ogawa T, Nagata T, Shioda S. (2006) The evaluation of early embryonic neurogenesis after exposure to the genotoxic agent 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine in mice. Neurotoxicology.
- 3. Sahambi SK, Hales BF. (2006) Exposure to 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine induces oxidative stress and activator protein-1 DNA binding activity in the embryo. Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol, 76, 580.

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