

Description

The Firefly Luciferase Lentiviruses are replication incompetent, HIV-based, VSV-G pseudotyped lentiviral particles that are ready to infect almost all types of mammalian cells, including primary and non-dividing cells. The viruses transduce firefly luciferase under the control of an EF1A promoter (Figure 1).

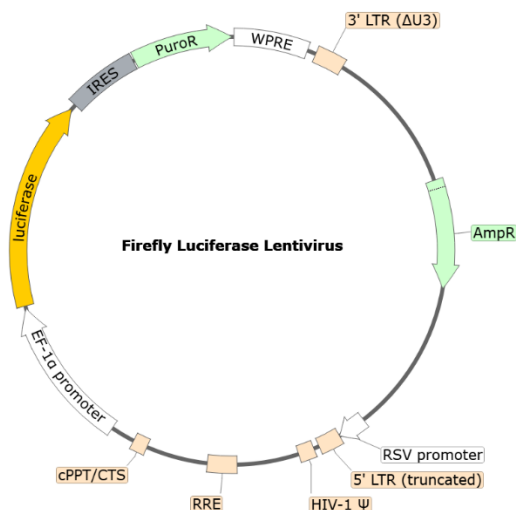


Figure 1. Schematic of the lenti-vector used to generate the Firefly Luciferase Lentivirus.

Application

- Use as a positive control for transduction.
- Optimize transduction assays.
- Generate a stable cell line expressing Firefly Luciferase with Puromycin selection.

Formulation

The lentivirus particles were produced from HEK293T cells. They are supplied in cell culture medium containing 90% DMEM + 10% FBS.

Titer

Two vials (500 μ l x 2) of lentivirus at a titer $\geq 10^7$ TU/ml. The titer will vary with each lot; the exact value is provided with each shipment.

Storage



Lentiviruses are shipped with dry ice. For long-term storage, it is recommended to store the lentiviruses at -80°C . Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Titers can drop significantly with each freeze-thaw cycle.

Biosafety



The lentiviruses are produced with a SIN (self-inactivation) lentivector which ensures self-inactivation of the lentiviral construct after transduction and after integration into the genomic DNA of the target cells. None of the HIV genes (*gag*, *pol*, *rev*) will be expressed in the transduced cells, as they are expressed from packaging plasmids lacking the packaging signal and are not present in the lentivirus particle. Although the pseudotyped lentiviruses are replication-incompetent, they require the use of a Biosafety Level 2 facility. BPS Bioscience recommends following all local federal, state, and institutional regulations and using all appropriate safety precautions.

Materials Required but Not Supplied

These materials are not supplied with this lentivirus but are necessary to follow the protocol described in the “Validation Data” section. Media and reagents used at BPS Bioscience are all validated and optimized for use with this lentivirus and are highly recommended for best results.

Name	Ordering Information
Thaw Medium 1	BPS Bioscience #60187
Polybrene	Millipore #TR-1003-G
One-Step Luciferase Assay System	BPS Bioscience #60690
96-well clear-bottom, white, tissue culture-treated assay plates	
Luminometer	

Assay Protocol

The following protocol is a general guideline for transducing HEK293 cells using the Firefly Luciferase lentivirus. The optimal transduction conditions (e.g. MOI, concentration of polybrene, time of assay development) should be optimized according to the cell type and the assay requirements. In most cell types, the expression of the target gene can be measured approximately 48-72 hours after transduction. For cell types with low transduction efficacy, it may be necessary to select the cells stably expressing the target gene with the appropriate antibiotic prior to carrying out the reporter assays.

- Day 1: Seed HEK293 cells at a density of 5,000-10,000 cells per well into a clear-bottom, white 96-well microplate in 100 µl of Thaw Medium 1 (BPS Bioscience #60187). Incubate the cells at 37°C with 5% CO₂ overnight.
- Day 2: Add 1 µl of Firefly Luciferase lentivirus into each well. Add polybrene to each well at a final concentration of 5 µg/ml. Gently swirl the plate to mix. Incubate the plate at 37°C with 5% CO₂ overnight.

Alternatively, cell seeding and transduction can be performed at the same time.

- Day 3: Remove the medium containing the lentivirus from the wells. Add 100 µl of fresh Thaw Medium 1 to each well.

If neither the polybrene nor the lentivirus adversely affects the target cells, it is not necessary to change the medium on Day 3. The target cells can be incubated with the virus for 48-72 hours before changing medium.

- Day 4-5, approximately 48-72 hours after transduction, add ONE-Step™ Luciferase reagent (BPS Bioscience #60690) to cells to measure the luciferase activity.

Notes

To generate a Firefly Luciferase reporter stable cell line, remove the growth medium 48 hours after transduction and replace it with fresh growth medium containing the appropriate amount of puromycin (as pre-determined from a killing curve) for antibiotics selection of transduced cells. Visit [Cell Line FAQs \(bpsbioscience.com\)](#) “What is a kill curve?” for more information.

Figures and Validation Data

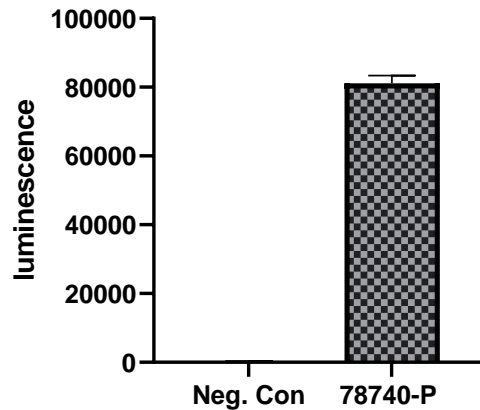


Figure 2: Luciferase activity in transduced HEK293 cells.

10,000 HEK293 cells were infected with 0.5 μ l of Firefly Luciferase lentivirus or Negative Control Lentivirus (BPS Bioscience #79902-P). After 66 hours of transduction, ONEStep™ Luciferase reagent (BPS Bioscience #60690) was added to cells to measure the luciferase activity.

Troubleshooting Guide

Visit bpsbioscience.com/lentivirus-faq for detailed troubleshooting instructions. For all further questions, please email support@bpsbioscience.com.

Related Products

Products	Catalog #	Size
Firefly Luciferase-eGFP Lentivirus	79980	500 μ l x 2
Enhanced GFP Lentivirus (G418)	78639-G	500 μ l x 2
Enhanced GFP Lentivirus (Hygro)	78639-H	500 μ l x 2
Firefly Luciferase Lentivirus	79692	500 μ l x 2
Renilla Luciferase Lentivirus	79565	500 μ l x 2