

Description

The PBMC Cytotoxicity Luciferase Assay Kit (Raji) is a kit designed to determine the cytotoxicity profile of PBMCs (Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells) towards the Firefly Luciferase Raji Cell Line. It uses the luminescence signal from the Firefly Luciferase Raji Cell Line to measure the number of live target cells within a mixed cell population of PBMC and Firefly Luciferase Raji cells. The kit contains PBMCs, Firefly Luciferase Raji Cell Line, cell culture media, recombinant human interleukin-2 for making assay medium, and One-Step™ Luciferase Assay System. In addition, this kit includes a positive control antibody.

Background

Lymphocyte-mediated cytotoxicity is a form of cellular immunity against intracellular pathogens, including viruses and certain bacteria and parasites. The most popular *in vitro* methods to monitor lymphocyte-mediated cytotoxicity on target cells are cell-mediated cytotoxicity assays such as ADCC (antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity) and TDCC (T-cell dependent cellular cytotoxicity) in which immune effector cells and target cells are co-cultured. To analyze immune effector cell cytolytic activity in such heterogeneous cell population of effector and target cells, it is important to be able to discriminate between effector and target cell populations with distinct phenotypes. The use of luciferase allows for a clear separation between the effector and the surviving target cells. The instability of firefly luciferase when released from dead target cells in cell culture gives it a half-life of approximately 2 hours, eliminating any residual luminescence signal generated from dead target cells. Cytotoxicity assays are crucial to understand the potency of CAR (chimeric antigen receptor) T and NK cells, and antibody-based immunotherapies.

The Raji line was established from a Burkitt's lymphoma patient. Raji cells constitutively express B cell antigens CD19, CD20, and CD22, and offer a physiologically relevant platform to evaluate cancer-directed immunotherapies such as Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cells. Firefly Luciferase Raji Cell Line is a Raji cell line constitutively expressing firefly (*Photinus pyralis*) luciferase under the control of a CMV promoter. These are suspension cells.

Application(s)

- Luciferase- based analysis of live and dead target cells in cytotoxicity assays.
- Test the efficacy of multi-specific immune engager molecules.
- Assess the Fc effector function of candidate antibodies.

Supplied Materials

Catalog #	Name	Amount	Storage
79059	Normal Human Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells, Frozen	4 vials at 10×10^6 cells each	Liquid Nitrogen
78622	Firefly Luciferase Raji Cell Line	2 vials at >1 million cells each	Liquid Nitrogen
60184	Thaw Medium 2	2 x 100 ml	4°C
90184-A	Human Interleukin-2 Recombinant	10 µg	-20°C
79639	Growth Medium 2D	100 ml	4°C
60690-1	ONE-Step™ Luciferase Assay System	2 x 10 ml kit	-20°C
71209	Anti-CD20 Functional Antibody	20 µg	-20°C

Materials Required but Not Supplied

- 96 Well White, Clear Bottom Plate
- T75 cell culture flask
- Luminometer

Storage Conditions

This assay kit will perform optimally for up to **6 months** from date of receipt when the materials are stored as directed.

Safety

This product is for research purposes only and not for human or therapeutic use. This product should be considered hazardous and is harmful by inhalation, in contact with skin, eyes, clothing, and if swallowed. If contact occurs, wash thoroughly.

Assay Protocol

- This protocol is a general guideline only.
- This protocol is designed to perform cytotoxicity assays in a 96-well plate. To perform the assay in different tissue culture formats, the cell number and reagent volume should be scaled appropriately.
- Human Interleukin-2 Recombinant is lyophilized. Please reconstitute it at 0.1-1.0 mg/ml in distilled water, aliquot in desired volume to avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles, and store at -80°C. This solution can then be diluted into other buffers. To maximize product collection from vial surface, vortex briefly and then spin down to recollect the liquid.
- Two vials of human PBMCs (effector cells) are sufficient for 72 wells of a 96-well plate at an effector to target cell ratio (E: T) of 20:1 (2×10^5 effector cells: 1×10^4 target cells).
- Firefly Luciferase Raji Cell Line (BPS Bioscience #78622) maintenance conditions can be found at [Firefly Luciferase Raji cell line \(bpsbioscience.com\)](https://www.bpsbioscience.com/Firefly-Luciferase-Raji-cell-line).
- The antibody dilution range should be optimized for your assay. A starting concentration of 50- 500 nM is recommended as the highest value in the preparation of 5X antibody dilutions.
- We recommend the use of the following experimental controls:
 - Control 1: No antibody control. This control contains both PBMCs and target cells without antibody. This control is used to measure the maximum luminescence signal in the assay.
 - Control 2: PBMCs cells only. This control is used to determine the background luminescence signal.
 - Control 3: Negative Antibody control. This control contains both effector and target cells in the presence of serial dilutions of a non-specific antibody (antibody of the same class and isotype as the specific antibody but unable to recognize the target).
 - Control 4: Positive control Antibody: Anti-CD20 Antibody is used as the positive control antibody in our assay. We have made it available for customers to include it in their own assays if desired.

One week prior to running the assay: Target Cell Thaw and Expansion*Cell Thawing*

1. Retrieve a cell vial from liquid nitrogen storage. Keep on dry ice until ready to thaw.
2. Swirl the vial of frozen cells for approximately 60 seconds in a 37°C water bath. As soon as the cells are thawed (it may be slightly faster or slower than 60 seconds), quickly transfer the entire content of the vial to a tube containing 10 ml of pre-warmed Thaw Medium 2.

Note: Leaving the cells in the water bath at 37°C for too long will result in rapid loss of viability.

3. Immediately spin down the cells at 300 x g for 5 minutes, remove the medium and resuspend the cells in 5 ml of pre-warmed Thaw Medium 2.
4. Transfer the resuspended cells to a T25 flask or T75 flask and incubate at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ incubator.
5. After 24 hours of culture, check for cell viability. For a T25 flask, add 3-4 ml of Thaw Medium 2, and continue growing in a 5% CO₂ incubator at 37°C until the cells are ready to passage.
6. Cells should be passaged before they reach a density of 2 x 10⁶. At first passage and subsequent passages, use Growth Medium 2D.

Cell Passage

Dilute the cell suspension into new culture vessels at no less than 0.2 x 10⁶ cells/ml in Growth Medium 2D. The sub-cultivation ratio should be approximately 1:5 to 1:10 once or twice a week, so cells are maintained between 0.2 x 10⁶ cells/ml and 2 x 10⁶ cells/ml.

Day 1: PBMC Cell Preparation

1. Thaw two vials of PBMCs by swirling the vial of frozen cells for approximately 60 seconds in a 37°C water bath. As soon as the cells are thawed (it may be slightly faster or slower than 60 seconds), quickly transfer the entire content of the vial to a tube containing 10 ml of pre-warmed Thaw Medium 2.

Note: Leaving the cells in the water bath at 37°C for too long will result in rapid loss of viability.

2. Spin down at 300 x g for 5 minutes, aspirate supernatant, and resuspend cell pellet in 20 ml of Thaw Medium 2 (1 x 10⁶ cells/ml).
3. Plate cells in a T75 flask in Thaw Medium 2.
4. Incubate the flask overnight in a humidified 37°C incubator with 5% CO₂.

Note: This step will enrich the lymphocyte population by depleting adherent cells.

Day 2: Assay

- For 96-well plate assays, each well will contain a final volume of 125 µl (25 µl of 5x antibody dilution, 50 µl of PBMCs at desired E:T ratio and 50 µl of Firefly Luciferase Raji cells as target cells).
 - Prepare the Assay Medium by diluting Human Interleukin-2 Recombinant to 10 ng/ml with Thaw Medium 2.
1. Transfer 2 x 10⁶ Firefly Luciferase Raji cells to a clean 15 ml tube and centrifuge at 300 x g for 5 minutes.
 2. Aspirate supernatant and resuspend Firefly Luciferase Raji cells in 10 ml of Assay Medium (2 x 10⁵ cells/ml).
 3. Transfer cells to a solution reservoir.
 4. Using a multichannel pipette, transfer 50 µl of Firefly Luciferase Raji cell suspension (10,000 cells/well) to the Control 1, Control 3, Control 4, and Test Antibody wells.
 5. Using a multichannel pipette, transfer 50 µl of Assay Medium to the Control 2 wells.

- Keep the plate in a humidified 37°C incubator with 5% CO₂ while preparing PBMCs.
- Collect PBMCs into a 15 ml tube and count cells.

Note: Be careful to avoid detachment of the adherent cells by not shaking the T75 flask prior to or while transferring cells.

- Centrifuge PBMCs at 300 x g for 5 minutes and aspirate the supernatant.
- Dilute PBMCs in Assay Medium to 4 x 10⁶ cells/ml.

Note E:T ratio may need to be optimized in different experimental settings and cell density may need to be adjusted.

- Add 50 µl of PBMC suspension to the Control 1, Control 2, Control 3, Control 4, and Test Antibody wells .
- Keep the plate in a humidified 37°C incubator with 5% CO₂ while you are preparing antibody dilutions.
- Prepare positive and negative control antibody dilutions at 5x the final concentrations to be tested, in Assay Medium (25 µl/well), starting at 500 nM.
- Prepare test antibody dilutions at 5x the final concentrations to be tested, in Assay Medium (25 µl/well).
- Add 25 µl of the positive control antibody dilutions to the Control 4 wells.
- Add 25 µl of the negative control antibody dilutions to the Control 3 wells.
- Add 25 µl of the test antibody dilutions to the Test Antibody wells.
- Add 25 µl of Assay Medium to Control 1, and Control 2 wells.
- Incubate the assay plate for 24 hours in a humidified 37°C incubator with 5% CO₂.

Note: The incubation time may need to be optimized for your assay.

Example of Plate Schematic:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
A	Dilu12	Dilu11	Dilu10	Dilu9	Dilu8	Dilu7	Dilu6	Dilu5	Dilu4	Dilu3	Dilu2	Dilu1	Test Antibody
B	Dilu12	Dilu11	Dilu10	Dilu9	Dilu8	Dilu7	Dilu6	Dilu5	Dilu4	Dilu3	Dilu2	Dilu1	
C	Dilu12	Dilu11	Dilu10	Dilu9	Dilu8	Dilu7	Dilu6	Dilu5	Dilu4	Dilu3	Dilu2	Dilu1	Control 3
D	Dilu12	Dilu11	Dilu10	Dilu9	Dilu8	Dilu7	Dilu6	Dilu5	Dilu4	Dilu3	Dilu2	Dilu1	
E	Dilu12	Dilu11	Dilu10	Dilu9	Dilu8	Dilu7	Dilu6	Dilu5	Dilu4	Dilu3	Dilu2	Dilu1	Control 4
F	Dilu12	Dilu11	Dilu10	Dilu9	Dilu8	Dilu7	Dilu6	Dilu5	Dilu4	Dilu3	Dilu2	Dilu1	
G	Control 1	Control 2											
H	Control 1	Control 2											

Day 3: Luciferase Analysis

1. Thaw Luciferase Reagent Buffer (Component A) by placing the reagent in a Room Temperature (RT) water bath.
2. Equilibrate the buffer to RT and mix well before use.
3. Immediately before the experiment, prepare the Luciferase Assay Working Solution by diluting Luciferase Reagent Substrate (Component B) 100-fold with Luciferase Reagent Buffer (Component A), and mix well (you will need 125 μ l/well).

Note: Avoid exposure to excessive light. Only use enough of each component for the experiment, and store the remaining Component A and Component B separately at -20°C.

4. Remove the cells from the incubator and add 125 μ l of Luciferase Assay Working Solution directly to the culture medium of each well.
5. Wrap the plate with foil and gently rock it for \geq 15 minutes at RT.
6. Measure firefly luminescence using a luminometer.

Example Results

Cytotoxicity of Firefly Luciferase Raji cell by Anti-CD20 IgG (T:E = 1:10)

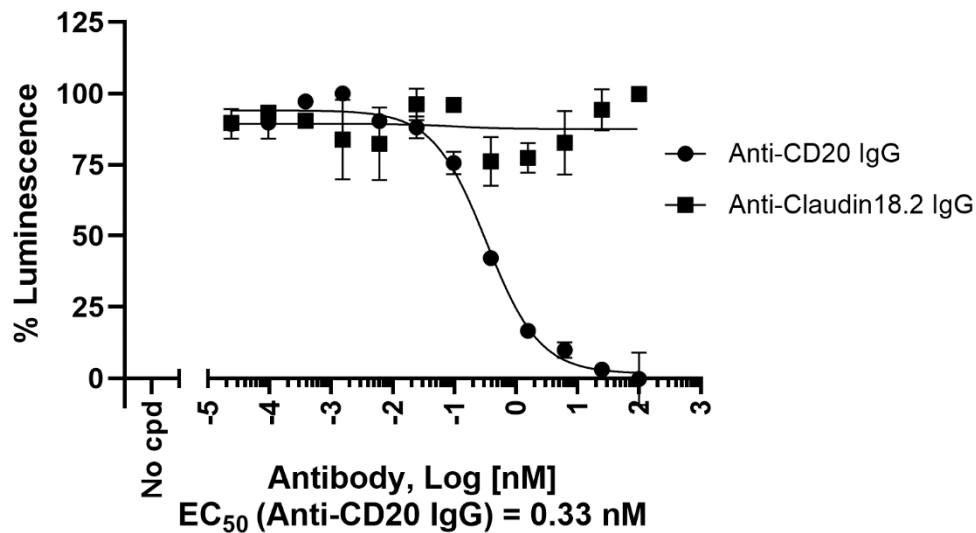


Figure 1. Cytotoxicity of the Firefly Luciferase Raji Cell Line when triggered by the Anti-CD20 antibody.

PBMCs and Firefly Luciferase Raji cells were combined at a 20:1 ratio in a 96-well white, clear bottom plate. The cells were incubated with a dilution series of Anti-CD20 Antibody (#71209) or the negative antibody control, Anti-CLDN18.2 Antibody (#101564), in a humidified 37°C incubator with 5% CO₂ for 24 hours. After incubation, luciferase activity was measured with One-Step™

Luciferase reagent. The raw luminescence data were fitted to a sigmoidal three-parameter curve using GraphPad Prism® software.

Data shown is representative. For lot-specific information, please contact BPS Bioscience, Inc. at support@bpsbioscience.com.

License Disclosure

Visit bpsbioscience.com/license for the label license and other key information about this product.

Troubleshooting Guide

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

Related Products

<i>Products</i>	<i>Catalog #</i>	<i>Size</i>
PBMC Cytotoxicity Luciferase Assay Kit (NALM6)	82174	1 kit
PBMC Cytotoxicity Luciferase Assay Kit (Ramos)	82694	1 kit
PBMC Cytotoxicity Bioassay Kit (CFSE, 7-AAD)	82173	1 kit
PBMC Cytotoxicity Luciferase Assay Kit	82214	1 kit
Human T Cell Activation Reagent	82283	1x 10 ⁸ / 1x 10 ⁹
Human T Cell Isolation Kit	82288	1x 10 ⁸

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