



Protocol Booklet

Product Code(s)	HB13384
Product Name(s)	ICR-1 AM
Purpose	Measurement of intracellular Ca ²⁺ in cultured cells

Please note: This product is for RESEARCH USE ONLY and is not intended for therapeutic or diagnostic use. Not for human or veterinary use



Contents

Product Overview	3
Components & Storage	3
Protocol	3
Recipes	4
ICR-1 Loading Solution	4
HEPES-buffered Hank's Balanced Salt Solution (Assay Buffer)	4
Guidelines, precautions, troubleshooting	4
Contact	4
For customers in the UK, Europe and Rest of the World	4
For customers in the USA, Canada and South America	4



Product Overview

ICR-1 AM is a red fluorescent (Excitation 580nm, Emission 660nm) calcium indicator for measurement of intracellular Ca^{2+} . ICR-1 has a red-shifted emission wavelength and a large Stokes shift which reduces the contribution of autofluorescence to the final signal, making ICR-1 AM optimal for cellular and tissue imaging applications. ICR-1 can also be multiplexed with GFP-labeled cells or other green fluorophores commonly used in experiments. Unlike some other red fluorescent Ca^{2+} indicators, ICR-1 does not accumulate in the mitochondria. Data supporting fluorescence lifetime imaging and multiphoton imaging capabilities have also been demonstrated.

This protocol recommends enough reagents to make 10 mL of working solution, enough for one 96-well or 384-well plate. The actual number of assays will vary according to optimal dye concentrations for your application.

Components & Storage

ICR-1 AM is provided as:

SKU	Component	Quantity	Storage Temperature
HB13384	ICR-1 AM	500µg	-20°C

This protocol additionally requires:

Component	Quantity	Storage Temperature
DMSO	25µl	RT
Pluronic F-127	10mg	4°C
Probenecid	7.7mg	4°C
Assay Buffer (HEPES-buffered Hank's Balanced Salt Solution (pH = 7.3))*	10ml	RT

* Please see recipe at the end of this protocol book.

Protocol

The following protocol provides general guidelines for using ICR-1 AM to measure intracellular calcium in cultured cells. All loading conditions (dye concentration, temperature, and time) should be optimized for your specific assay, application, and instrumentation.

1. Culture cells following standard protocols to approximately 80-100% confluence.
2. Prepare the loading solution freshly following the below table, vortex well and use within 2 hours.
3. Remove the cell culture medium, briefly wash in plain media (without serum), then add dye loading solution. Recommend volumes are:
 - a. 35mm dish / 6-well plate - 1.5 mL/well,
 - b. 96 well plate - 100 µL/well,
 - c. 384 well plate - 20 µL/well,
4. Incubate in a cell culture incubator at 37°C for 4 hours.
5. Read fluorescence using a plate reader (Excitation: 585nm, Emission 645nm) or image using a fluorescence microscope using a compatible filter set (e.g. Texas Red).
 - a. If carrying out drug treatments, then carry out a 20 second baseline before adding the test compounds and measuring for a further 90 seconds.



Recipes

ICR-1 Loading Solution

Component	Concentration	Quantity	Notes
ICR-1 AM	10µM	100µg	Dissolve in DMSO then aliquot and store any unused dye at -20°C
Assay Buffer	1X	10ml	Normally HEPES buffered HBSS but other buffers have been also successfully used.
Pluronic F-127	0.1%	10mg	Surfactant that helps the dissolution of dye therefore ensuring even dye distribution and cellular loading.
Probenecid	2.7mM	7.7mg	Anion transport inhibitor that improves intracellular dye retention. Not required for all cell types, it is recommended in most cases to optimize assay performance.

Please note: Combine components then vortex thoroughly. Use within 2 hours of creation. Do not freeze.

HEPES-buffered Hank's Balanced Salt Solution (Assay Buffer)

Component	MW (g/mol)	g/L	Concentration (mM)
Calcium Chloride	110.98	0.14	1.26
Magnesium Chloride Hexahydrate	203.30	0.1	0.49
Magnesium Sulfate Heptahydrate	246.47	0.1	0.41
Potassium Chloride	74.55	0.4	5.33
Potassium Phosphate Monobasic	136.09	0.06	0.44
Sodium Bicarbonate	84.01	0.35	4.17
Sodium Chloride	58.44	8	138.00
Sodium Phosphate Dibasic	141.96	0.048	0.34
D-Glucose (Dextrose)	180.16	1	5.56
HEPES	238.30	4.76	20.00

Please note: Add all components to dH₂O, mix well then adjust to pH 7.3

Guidelines, precautions, troubleshooting

Please contact our technical support team at technicalhelp@hellobio.com for advice on how to resolve any problems encountered when using this product. Observe safe laboratory practice and consult the safety datasheet. Please see the datasheet on our website for general guidelines, precautions, limitations on the use of the product.

Contact

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