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Staining cells with IncuCyte Cytolight Rapid Dyes for flow cytometry or fluorescent microscopy

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1 Works for me dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.73nhqme

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ABSTRACT

This protocol is for labeling cells with IncuCyte Cytolight Rapid dyes from Essen Bioscience. We optimized the dye concentration for Jurkat cells, pmel-1 T cells, and B16F10 melanoma cells.

GUIDELINES

We optimized [IncuCyte® CytoLight Rapid Green Reagent for live cell cytoplasmic labeling](#) with Jurkat cells, pmel-1 T cells, and [IncuCyte® CytoLight Rapid Red Reagent](#) with B16F10 melanoma cells. The optimal concentrations (based on minimal decrease in cell viability and highest percentage of stained cells) were:

- Jurkat: 1 μ M (green)
- pmel-1 T cells: 0.11 μ M (green)
- B16F10 cells: 0.11 μ M (red)

We visualized the stained cells by flow cytometry or on the Keyence BZ-X710 fluorescence microscope equipped with GFP and Cy5 filters.

MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
IncuCyte® CytoLight Rapid Green Reagent for live cell cytoplasmic labeling	4705	Essen Biosciences
1X PBS	75800-986	VWR Scientific
IncuCyte® CytoLight Rapid Red Reagent for live cell cytoplasmic labeling	4706	Essen Biosciences




1 Harvest cells and wash with 1X PBS

2 Centrifuge **350 x g 5 minutes**

2.1 Resuspend cells in PBS at 1 million cells per ml

3 Add IncuCyte Dye

- For pmel-1 T cells: we determined that 0.11 μ M of green dye was optimal
- We made our working stock 11 μ M (so for every 1 ml of cell suspension, we add 10 μ l of working stock of dye)
- For Jurkat cells, 1 μ M of green dye was optimal
- For B16F10 cells, 0.11 μ M of red dye was optimal

- 3.1 Incubate the cells at  **37 °C** for  **00:20:00** (we wrapped the tube in foil and placed it in a water bath).
 - invert the tube twice during incubation to mix the cells
- 3.2 Add a 6-fold volume of complete media (containing serum) to bind the excess dye.
- 3.3 Centrifuge  **350 x g 5 minutes**
- 4 Resuspend cell in complete media at the desired concentration.
 - Two different cell types can be labeled with different dyes and then co-cultured and visualized
 - Stained T cells can be visualized migrating in collagen gel
- 5 Assay the cells via flowcytometry or fluorescence microscopy.
Flow cytometry: FITC for green dye; APC for red dye
Fluorescence microscopy: FITC filter for green dye; Cy5 filter for red dye



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