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# Protein extraction and Western blotting

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Shiyi Wang<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Duke University

ASAP Collaborative Rese...



### Shiyi Wang

**Duke University** 

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#### Abstract

Protein extraction and Western blotting



- \*\*Prepare Membrane Solubilization Buffer\*\* 25 mM Tris (pH 7.4) 150 mM NaCl 1 mM CaCl2
   1 mM MgCl2 0.5% NP-40 Protease inhibitors
- 2 \*\*Wash Cultured Astrocytes\*\* Wash cultured rat astrocytes twice with ice-cold TBS containing 1 mM CaCl2 and 1 mM MgCl2.
- 3 \*\*Extract Protein\*\* Incubate astrocytes on ice in membrane solubilization buffer for 20 minutes with occasional agitation.
- 4 \*\*Collect Cell Lysates\*\* Vortex briefly. Centrifuge at 4°C at high speed for 10 minutes to pellet non-solubilized material.
- 5 \*\*Store Supernatant\*\* Collect the supernatant and store at -80°C.
- 6 \*\*Determine Protein Concentration\*\* Use the Pierce BSA Protein Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher).
- 7 \*\*Prepare Protein Samples\*\* Mix lysates with 4x Pierce™ Reducing Sample Buffer (Thermo Scientific). Incubate at 45°C for 45 minutes to denature proteins.
- \*\*Load Protein into Gels\*\* Load 7-10 µg of protein (cultured astrocyte lysates) into Bolt™ 4–
  12% Bis-Tris Plus gels (Thermo Scientific). Run at 150 V for 1 hour.
- 9 \*\*Transfer Proteins to Membrane\*\* Transfer proteins at 100 V to PVDF membrane (Millipore) for 1.5 hours.
- 10 \*\*Block Membrane\*\* Block in 5% BSA in TBST (137 mM NaCl, 2.68 mM KCl, 24.7 mM Tris-Base, 0.1% (w/v) Tween 20) for 1 hour.
- \*\*Incubate with Primary Antibodies\*\* Incubate overnight at 4°C with the following primary antibodies: Anti-LRRK2 (Rabbit, 1:500; ab133474, Abcam) GAPDH (Mouse, 1:5000; ab8245, Abcam) β-actin (Mouse, 1:5000; A5441, Millipore Sigma)
- 12 \*\*Wash Membranes\*\* Wash membranes with TBST.
- 13 \*\*Incubate with Secondary Antibodies\*\* Incubate in HRP secondary antibodies (Thermo Fisher Scientific) for 2 hours.



- 14 \*\*Wash and Image Membranes\*\* - Wash membranes in TBST. - Image on a Biorad Gel Doc imaging system.
- 15 \*\*Quantify Protein Levels\*\* - Quantify protein levels using FIJI software.