

Updated: September 25, 2019

For research use only

# GlycoGREEN<sup>™</sup>-βGal

Table 1. Product information

Catalog no.	Product name	Amount	Storage upon receipt	Stability
GC611	GlycoGREEN™-βGal	30 nmol × 5	<−20°C, keep desiccated and protected from light.	1 year (when unopened and stored as described.)

# 1. About GlycoGREEN™-βGal

GlycoGREEN<sup>m</sup>- $\beta$ Gal is a fluorescent probe that can detect  $\beta$ -galactosidase ( $\beta$ Gal) activity by green fluorescence. This probe is suitable for live cell imaging, screening using a microplate reader, flow cytometry analyses, and detection of  $\beta$ Gal activity in fixed cells. It can be also used for the detection of increase in the  $\beta$ Gal activity in senescent cells or in cancer cells.



**Figure 1.** (*left*) Absorbance and fluorescence spectra of GlycoGREEN<sup>TM</sup>- $\beta$ Gal. (*right*) Fluorescent spectra before and after the reaction with  $\beta$ Gal. Fluorescence increases >200-fold upon reaction with  $\beta$ Gal.

## Storage of the reagent

The reagent is shipped as a dried powder in a nitrogen gas filled tube. Upon receipt, store at  $\leq$ -20°C, keep desiccated and protected from light. Dissolve the reagents to DMSO just before the use. We provide no warranty for the reagents which was stored as a solution.

## Preparation of the reagent

- 1. GlycoGREEN<sup>™</sup>-βGal is a colorless powder. Centrifuge the tube before opening the cap because a part of the powder might be adhered on the cap.
- Warm the vial to the room temperature before opening the cap. Add 30 µl of DMSO to one vial to prepare 1 mM stock solution. Dissolve the powder completely by careful pipetting. Solution should also be a colorless liquid.



# 2. Examples of live cell imaging

- Cell imaging example 1—Detection of LacZ gene expression in HEK293 cells
- Prepare HEK293 cells with and without expressing LacZ gene (LacZ+/-) on glass bottom dishes. Culture cells in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 8% FBS, penicillin and streptomycin at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for overnight.
- ② Dilute GlycoGREEN<sup>™</sup>-βGal with the culture medium to be 1  $\mu$ M (cell staining solution).
- ③ Remove the culture medium in the glass bottom dishes, add the cell staining solution, and incubate at 37°C for 15 minutes.
- ④ Remove the cell staining solution, rinse the cells with HBSS. Observe cells in HBSS or in other observation buffer/medium without phenol red, which may increase fluorescence backgrounds.
  - X Instead of the above step 4, cells can be observed after fixation. For fixation, remove the medium, rinse the cells with culture medium, and fix cells with 3% paraformaldehyde in PBS for 15 minutes.
  - X Optimal concentration of GlycoGREEN<sup>™</sup>-βGal and reaction time may vary on cell types and conditions.

## <u>Cell imaging example 2—Staining after cell fixation</u>

- Prepare HEK293 LacZ+/- cells in glass bottom dishes and culture in DMEM + 8% FBS at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for overnight.
- ② Remove the medium, rinse the cells with culture medium, and fix cells with 3% paraformaldehyde in PBS for 15 minutes.
- 3 Remove the staining solution and rinse cells with PBS for 3 times.
- ④ Dilute GlycoGREEN<sup>™</sup>-βGal with HBSS to prepare 1 µM solution (cell staining solution). Replace the buffer to this solution and incubate at 37°C for 15 minutes.
- ⑤ Remove the culture medium and rinse cells with PBS or HBSS 2 times. Observe cells with fluorescence microscopy.
  - X Longer fixation or higher concentration of aldehyde decrease the enzyme activity and reactivity of the reagent.

## Cell imaging example 3—Distinguishing cancer cell lines and non-tumor cells

- ① Culture non-tumor cells (ex. HUVEC cells) and a cancer cell line (ex. OVCAR5, HeLa, HepG2) in glass bottom dishes to reach 50-70% confluent.
- ② Dilute GlycoGREEN<sup>™</sup>- $\beta$ Gal with the culture medium to be 1  $\mu$ M (cell staining solution).
- ③ Remove the medium from each dish, add cell staining solution, and incubate at 37°C for 2 hours.
- ④ Remove the cell staining solution, rinse cells with HBSS. Observe cells by fluorescence microscopy.
  ※ Optimizations of the dye concentration and the incubation time may be required because expression level of β-galactosidase varies depending on the cell lines. Usage of poly-L-lysine or other coating
  - materials is recommended.

## ■ Flow cytometric analysis

- ① Prepare HEK293 LacZ+/- cells in glass bottom dishes and culture in DMEM + 8% FBS at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for overnight
- ② Dilute GlycoGREEN<sup>™</sup>-βGal with the culture medium to 1  $\mu$ M (cell staining solution).
- ③ Remove the culture medium in the glass bottom dishes, add the cell staining solution, and incubate at 37°C for 15 minutes.



- ④ Remove the cell staining solution and rinse the cells with PBS. Remove PBS and add Trypsin/EDTA to each dish and incubate until the cells have become detached.
- (5) Transfer cell suspension to a sterile centrifuge tube and centrifuge at 600×g, 5 minutes to collect cells. Remove the media and resuspend to PBS.
- ⑥ Pass cells through a cell strainer to eliminate clumps and debris. Analyze by flow cytometry by following the instruction of the system.

 $\otimes$  Optimizations of the dye concentration and the incubation time may be required because expression level of  $\beta$ -galactosidase varies depending on the cell lines.

#### ■ Fluorescent observation

For excitation, 488 nm laser such as argon laser is appropriate. In fluorescence microscope, blue excitation filter cube such as B-2A, FITC (NIKON), U-FBW, U-FBWA (OLYMPUS), or filters for FITC/GFP can be used. For flow cytometry, filter set for FITC is appropriate.

#### References

D. Asanuma, M. Sakabe, M. Kamiya, K. Yamamoto, J. Hiratake, M. Ogawa, N. Kosaka, P. L. Choyke, T. Nagano, H. Kobayashi & Y. Urano (2015) *Nature Communications* **6**:6463

#### Table 2. Related Products

Catalog no.	Product name	Major applications
GC601	GlycoYELLOW™-βGal	Detection of $\beta$ -galactosidase activity by yellow fluorescence. For live cell imaging and high content screening.
SK4001-01	TokyoGreen <sup>®</sup> -βGal	For screening of $\beta$ -galactosidase activity by microplate reader.
SK4002-01	TokyoGreen <sup>®</sup> -βGlu	For screening of $\beta$ -glucosidase activity by microplate reader.
SK4003-01	TokyoGreen <sup>®</sup> -βGlcU	For screening of $\beta$ -glucuronidase activity by microplate reader.