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Data Sheet

ARE Luciferase Reporter Lentivirus
Catalog #: 79869

Product Description

The Nrf2 antioxidant response pathway plays an important role in the cellular antioxidant defense. Nrf2, a basic leucine zipper transcription factor, induces the expression of antioxidant and phase II enzymes by binding to the ARE (antioxidant response element) region of the gene promoter. Under basal conditions, Nrf2 is retained in the cytosol by binding to the cytoskeletal protein Keap1. Upon exposure to oxidative stress or other ARE activators, Nrf2 is released from Keap1 and translocates to the nucleus, where it can bind to the ARE, leading to the expression of antioxidant and phase II enzymes that protect the cell from oxidative damage.

The ARE Luciferase Reporter Lentivirus are replication incompetent, HIV-based, VSV-G pseudotyped lentiviral particles that are ready to be transduced into almost all types of mammalian cells, including primary and non-dividing cells. The particles contain a firefly luciferase gene driven by ARE located upstream of the minimal TATA promoter (Figure 1). After transduction, activation of the Nrf2 antioxidant response pathway in the target cells can be monitored by measuring the luciferase activity.

Application

- Screen for activators or inhibitors of Nrf2 antioxidant response pathway
- Generation of ARE Luciferase Reporter stable cell line

Formulation

The lentiviruses were produced from HEK293T cells in the medium containing 90% DMEM + 10% FBS.

Titer

Two vials (500 μ l x 2) of ARE luciferase reporter lentivirus at a titer 1 x 10⁷ TU/ml. The titer will vary with each lot; the exact value is provided with each shipment.

Storage

Lentiviruses are shipped with dry ice. For long term storage, it is recommended to store the virus at -80°C. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Titers can drop significantly with each freeze-thaw cycle.



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Biosafety

The lentiviruses are produced with the third generation SIN (self-inactivation) lentivector which ensures self-inactivation of the lentiviral construct after transduction and integration into the genomic DNA of the target cells. None of the HIV genes (gag, pol, rev) will be expressed in the transduced cells, as they are expressed from packaging plasmids lacking the packing signal.

Although the pseudotyped lentiviruses are replication-incompetent, they require the use of a Biosafety Level 2 facility. BPS Bioscience recommends following all local federal, state, and institutional regulations and using all appropriate safety precautions.

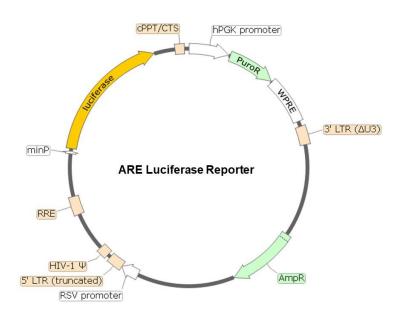


Figure 1. Schematic of the lenti-vector used to generate the ARE luciferase reporter lentivirus

Materials Required but Not Supplied

- DL-Sulforaphane (Sigma, #S4441). Prepare 10 mM stock solution in DMSO.
- HepG2 growth medium or use
 Thaw Medium 9 (BPS Bioscience #79665) (MEM medium (Hyclone #SH30024.01)
 supplemented with 10% FBS (Thermo Fisher, Cat. #26140079), 1% non-essential amino acids (Hyclone #SH30238.01), 1 mM Na pyruvate (Hyclone #SH30239.01).)
- Polybrene (Millipore, #TR-1003-G)
- 96-well tissue culture treated white clear-bottom assay plate (Corning, #3610)
- ONE-Step™ luciferase assay system (BPS Bioscience, #60690)
- Luminometer

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Assay Protocol

The following protocol is a general guideline for transducing HepG2 cells using ARE luciferase reporter lentivirus. The optimal transduction conditions (e.g. MOI, concentration of polybrene, time of assay development) should be optimized according to the cell type and the assay requirements. In most cell types, the expression of the reporter gene can be measured approximately 72 hours after transduction. For cell types with low transduction efficacy, it may be necessary to select the cells stably expressing the reporter gene with puromycin prior to carrying out the reporter assays.

- 1. Day 1: Harvest HepG2 cells from culture and seed cells at a density of 5,000-10,000 cells per well into a white opaque 96-well microplate in 50 μl of HepG2 growth medium. Incubate cells at 37°C with 5% CO₂ overnight.
- 2. Day 2: To each well add 10 μ I of ARE luciferase reporter lentivirus. Add polybrene to each well at a final concentration of 5 μ g/ml. Gently swirl the plate to mix. Incubate the plate at 37°C with 5% CO₂ for 18-24 hours.

Alternatively, seeding cells and the transduction can be performed on the same day.

- 3. Day 3: Remove the medium containing the lentivirus from the wells. Add 100 µl of fresh HepG2 growth medium to each well.
 - If neither the polybrene nor the lentivirus adversely affects the target cells, it is not necessary to change the medium on Day 3. The target cells can be incubated with the virus for 48-72 hours before changing the medium.
- 4. Day 4: Prepare diluted DL-Sulforaphane in HepG2 growth medium. Add 10 μl of diluted DL-Sulforaphane to the DL-Sulforaphane-stimulated wells. The final concentration of DMSO in each well should be ≤ 0.1%. Add 10 μl of growth medium to the unstimulated control wells (for measuring the uninduced level of ARE reporter activity).
- 5. Incubate at 37°C with 5% CO₂ for 16-24 hours.
- 6. Prepare the ONE-Step™ Luciferase reagent per recommended protocol. Add 100 µl of ONE-Step™ Luciferase Assay reagent per well. Incubate at room temperature for ~15 to 30 minutes and measure luminescence using a luminometer.

Important Notes:

1. To generate the ARE luciferase reporter stable cell line, on day 4 remove HepG2 growth medium and replaced it with fresh growth medium containing the appropriate amount of puromycin for antibiotic selection of transduced cells.

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- 2. The following Lenti Reporter Controls are also available from BPS Bioscience to meet your experimental needs:
 - Negative Control Lentivirus (BPS Bioscience, #79578): Ready-to-transduce lentiviral
 particles expressing firefly luciferase under the control of a minimal promoter. The
 negative control is important to establish the specificity of any treatments and to
 determine the background reporter activity.
 - 2) Renilla Luciferase (Rluc) Lentivirus (BPS Bioscience, #79565): Ready-to-transduce lentiviral particles expressing Renilla luciferase under the CMV promoter. The RLuc lentivirus can serve as an internal control to overcome sample-to-sample variability when performing dual-luciferase reporter assays.
 - 3) Firefly Luciferase (Fluc) Lentivirus (BPS Bioscience, #79692-G, #79692-H, #79692-P): Ready-to-transduce lentiviral particles expressing firefly luciferase under the CMV promoter. The Fluc lentivirus can serve as a positive control for transduction optimization studies.

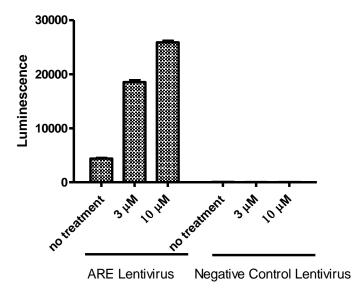


Figure 2. ARE luciferase reporter activity stimulated by DL-Sulforaphane in HepG2 cells. Approximately 10,000 HepG2 cells/well were transduced with 100,000 TU/well ARE luciferase reporter lentivirus. After 48 hours of transduction, medium was changed to HepG2 growth medium, and the cells were treated with DL-Sulforaphane (3 μ M or 10 μ M) for 18 hours. The results are shown as the raw Luminescence reading.



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