

**Rabbit Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated  
Receptor Delta  
(Rabbit nr1c2, PPARD, PPAR $\delta$ , PPAR $\beta$ )**

**Reporter Assay System**

**96-well Format Assays**  
Product # RB00121

▪

**Technical Manual**  
*(version 7.1)*

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## Rabbit PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay System 96-well Format Assays

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## I. Description

### ▪ The Assay System ▪

This assay utilizes proprietary non-human cells engineered to provide constitutive, high-level expression of **Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptor Delta** (nr1c2), a ligand-dependent transcription factor commonly referred to as PPAR $\delta$  or **PPAR $\delta$** .

INDIGO's Reporter Cells include the luciferase gene functionally linked to a responsive promoter. Thus, quantifying changes in luciferase expression in the treated cells provides a sensitive surrogate measure of the changes in PPAR $\delta$  activity. The principal application of this assay is in the screening of test samples to quantify functional activity, either agonist or antagonist, that they may exert against rabbit PPAR $\delta$ .

Rabbit PPAR $\delta$  Reporter Cells are prepared using INDIGO's proprietary **CryoMite™** process. This cryo-preservation method yields exceptional cell viability post-thaw, and provides the convenience of immediately dispensing healthy, division-competent cells into assay plates. There is no need for cumbersome intermediate treatment steps such as spin-and-rinse of cells, viability determinations, cell titer adjustments, or the pre-incubation of cells prior to assay setup.

INDIGO's assay kits provide all-inclusive cell-based assay systems. In addition to Rabbit PPAR $\delta$  Reporter Cells, this kit provides two optimized media for use during cell culture and in diluting the user's test samples, the reference agonist GW0742, Luciferase Detection Reagent, and a cell culture-ready assay plate.

### ▪ The Assay Chemistry ▪

INDIGO's assays capitalize on the extremely low background, high-sensitivity, and broad linear dynamic range of bio-luminescence reporter gene technology.

Reporter Cells incorporate the cDNA encoding beetle luciferase, a 62 kD protein originating from the North American firefly (*Photinus pyralis*). Luciferase catalyzes the mono-oxidation of D-luciferin in a Mg<sup>+2</sup>-dependent reaction that consumes O<sub>2</sub> and ATP as co-substrates, and yields as products oxyluciferin, AMP, PP<sub>i</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and photon emission. Luminescence intensity of the reaction is quantified using a luminometer and is reported in terms of Relative Light Units (RLU's).

INDIGO's Assays feature a luciferase detection reagent specially formulated to provide stable light emission between 5 and 90+ minutes after initiating the luciferase reaction. Incorporating a 5-minute reaction-rest period ensures that light emission profiles attain maximal stability, thereby allowing assay plates to be processed in batch. By doing so, the signal output from all sample wells, from one plate to the next, may be directly compared within an experimental set.

### ▪ Preparation of Test Compounds ▪

Small molecule test compounds are typically solvated in DMSO at high concentrations; ideally 1,000x-concentrated stocks relative to the highest desired treatment concentration in the assay. Using high-concentration stocks minimizes DMSO carry-over into the assay plates. Immediately prior to setting up an assay, the master stocks are serially diluted using one of two alternative strategies:

1.) As described in *Step 2*, and depicted in Appendix 1 for the reference agonist, **Compound Screening Medium (CSM)** may be used as the diluent to make serial dilutions of test compounds to achieve the desired final assay concentration series.

Alternatively, if test compound solubility is expected to be problematic,

2.) DMSO may be used to make serial dilutions, thereby generating 1,000x-concentrated stocks for each independent test concentration. Treatment media are then prepared using CSM to make final 1,000-fold dilutions of the prepared DMSO dilution series.

Regardless of the dilution method used, the final concentration of total DMSO (or any organic solvent) carried over into assay wells should not exceed 0.4%. DMSO-induced cytotoxicity can be expected above 0.4%.

*NOTE:* CSM is formulated to help stabilize hydrophobic test compounds in the aqueous environment of the assay mixture. Nonetheless, high concentrations of extremely hydrophobic test compounds diluted in CSM may lack long-term stability and/or solubility, especially if further stored at low temperatures. Hence, it is recommended that test compound dilutions are prepared in CSM immediately prior to assay setup and are then considered to be 'single-use' reagents.

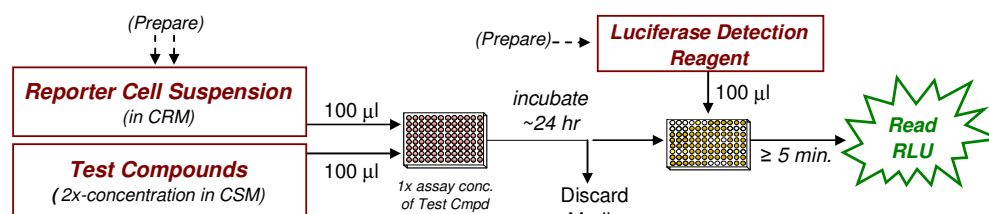
### ▪ Considerations for Automated Dispensing ▪

When processing a small number of assay plates, first carefully consider the dead volume requirement of your dispensing instrument before committing assay reagents to its setup. In essence, "dead volume" is the volume of reagent that is dedicated to the instrument; it will *not* be available for final dispensing into assay wells. The following Table provides information on reagent volume requirements, and available excesses.

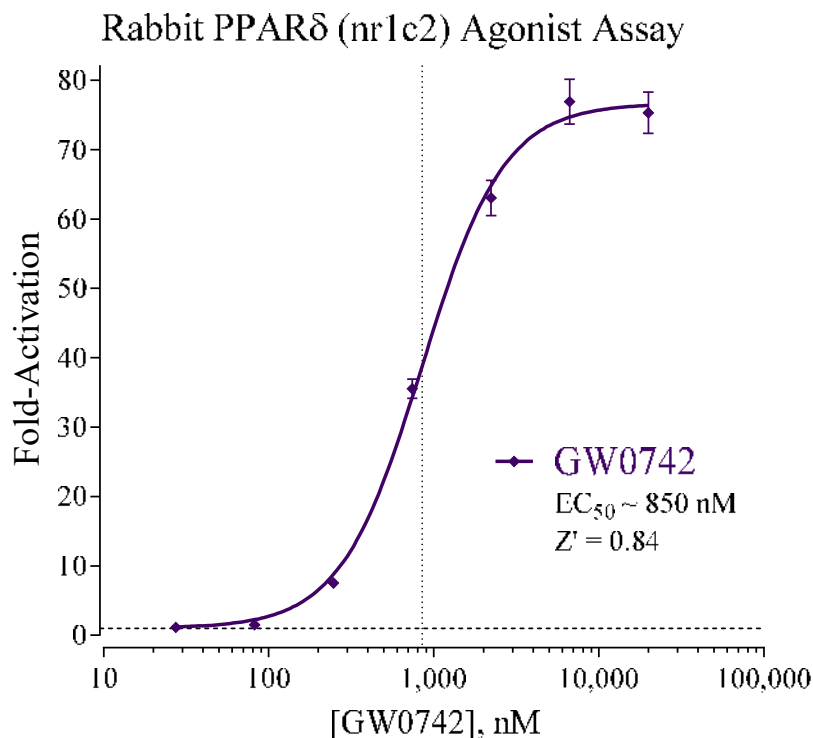
Stock Reagent & Volume provided	Volume to be Dispensed (96-well plate)	Excess rgt. volume available for instrument dead volume
<b>Reporter Cell Suspension</b> 12 ml (prepared from kit components)	100 µl / well 9.6 ml / plate	~ 2.4 ml
<b>LDR</b> 12 ml (prepared from kit components)	100 µl / well 9.6 ml / plate	~ 2.4 ml

### ▪ Assay Scheme ▪

**Figure 1.** Assay workflow. *In brief*, Reporter Cells are dispensed into wells of the assay plate and then immediately dosed with the user's test compounds. Following 22 -24 hr incubation, treatment media are discarded and prepared Luciferase Detection Reagent (LDR) is added. Light emission from each assay well is quantified using a plate-reading luminometer.



▪ Assay Performance ▪



**Figure 2. Agonist dose-response of the Rabbit PPAR $\delta$  receptor.**

The PPAR $\delta$  reference agonist GW0742 (provided) was analyzed. Average Relative Light Units (RLU) and their respective values of Standard Deviation (SD), Coefficient of Variation (CV) and Fold-Activation were calculated for each treatment concentration (n = 4 per concentration).  $Z'$  values were calculated as per Zhang, *et al.* (1999)<sup>1</sup>.

Data plots were generated and  $EC_{50}$  values determined using GraphPad Prism software. Compound concentrations were Log transformed and plotted against values of Fold-Activation using the least-squares method of non-linear regression.

The large dynamic response and  $Z'$  value confirms the robust performance of the rabbit PPAR $\delta$  agonist assay.

<sup>1</sup> Zhang JH, Chung TD, Oldenburg KR. (1999) A Simple Statistical Parameter for Use in Evaluation and Validation of High Throughput Screening Assays. *J Biomol Screen.*:4(2), 67-73.

$$Z' = 1 - [3 \cdot (SD^{\text{Reference}} + SD^{\text{Vehicle Bkg}}) / (RLU^{\text{Reference}} - RLU^{\text{Vehicle Bkg}})]$$

## II. Product Components & Storage Conditions

This Rabbit PPAR $\delta$  Assay kit contains materials to perform assays in a single 96-well assay plate.

The aliquot of Reporter Cells is provided as a single-use reagent. Once thawed, cells can NOT be refrozen or maintained in extended culture with any hope of retaining downstream assay performance. Therefore, extra volumes of these reagents should be discarded after assay setup.

Assay kits are shipped on dry ice. Upon receipt, individual kit components may be stored at the temperatures indicated on their respective labels. Alternatively, the entire kit may be further stored at -80°C.

To ensure maximal viability, "Reporter Cells" must be maintained at -80°C until immediately prior to use.

The date of product expiration is printed on the Product Qualification Insert (PQI) enclosed with each kit.

<u>Kit Components</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Storage Temp.</u>
▪ Rabbit PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Cells	1 x 2.0 mL	<b>-80°C</b>
▪ Cell Recovery Medium (CRM)	1 x 10.5 mL	-20°C
▪ Compound Screening Medium (CSM)	1 x 35 mL	-20°C
▪ GW0742, 20 mM (in DMSO) (reference agonist for PPAR $\delta$ )	1 x 30 $\mu$ L	-20°C
▪ Detection Substrate	1 x 6.0 mL	<b>-80°C</b>
▪ Detection Buffer	1 x 6.0 mL	-20°C
▪ 96-well assay plate (white, sterile, cell-culture ready)	1	ambient

## III. Materials to be Supplied by the User

The following materials must be provided by the user, and should be made ready prior to initiating the assay procedure:

### DAY 1

- dry ice bucket (*Step 3*)
- cell culture-rated laminar flow hood.
- 37°C, humidified 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator for mammalian cell culture.
- 37°C water bath.
- 70% alcohol wipes
- 8-channel electronic, repeat-dispensing pipettes & sterile tips
- disposable media basins, sterile.
- sterile multi-channel media basins (such as the Heathrow Scientific "Dual-Function Solution Basin"), *or* deep-well plates, *or* appropriate similar vessel for generating dilution series of reference compound(s) and test compound(s).
- *Optional*: antagonist reference compound.
- *Optional*: clear 96-well assay plate, sterile, cell culture treated, for viewing cells on *Day 2*.

**DAY 2** plate-reading luminometer.

## IV. Assay Protocol

Review the entire Assay Protocol before starting. Completing the assay requires an overnight incubation. *Steps 1-8* are performed on **Day 1**, requiring less than 2 hours to complete. *Steps 9-14* are performed on **Day 2** and require less than 1 hour to complete.

### ▪ A word about Antagonist-mode assay setup ▪

When setting up receptor inhibition assays the Reporter Cells are co-treated with a fixed sub-maximal concentration (typically between EC<sub>50</sub> – EC<sub>85</sub>) of the reference agonist AND varying concentrations of the test compound(s). This PPAR $\delta$  Assay kit includes a 20 mM stock solution of **GW0742**, an agonist of PPAR $\delta$  that may be used to setup antagonist-mode assays. 2  $\mu$ M GW0742 typically approximates EC<sub>80</sub> in this assay. Hence, it presents a suitable assay concentration of agonist to be used when screening test compounds for inhibitory activity.

Adding a **2x**-concentration of the reference agonist (GW0742) to the bulk suspension of Reporter Cells (*i.e.*, prior to dispensing into assay wells) is the most efficient and precise method of setting up antagonist assays, and it is the method presented in *Step 5b* of the following protocol. Recall that, in *Step 6*, 100  $\mu$ l of treatment media is combined with 100  $\mu$ l of pre-dispensed [Reporter Cells + agonist]. Consequently, one must prepare the bulk suspension of Reporter Cells to contain a **2x**-concentration (~ 4  $\mu$ M) of GW0742.

**APPENDIX 1** provides a dilution scheme that may be used as a guide when preparing a cell suspension supplemented with a desired 2x-concentration of agonist.

**DAY 1 Assay Protocol:** All steps must be performed using aseptic technique.

**1.) Remove Cell Recovery Medium (CRM) and Compound Screening Medium (CSM)** from freezer storage and thaw in a 37°C water bath.

**2.) Prepare dilutions of treatment compounds** (first see *Note 5.3*): Prepare Test Compound treatment media for *Agonist-* or *Antagonist-mode* screens.

Total DMSO carried over into assay reactions should not exceed 0.4%.

Note that, in *Step 6*, 100  $\mu$ l of the prepared treatment media is added into assay wells that have been pre-dispensed with 100  $\mu$ l of Reporter Cells. Hence, to achieve the desired *final* assay concentrations one must prepare treatment media with a 2x-concentration of the test and reference material(s). Plan dilution volumes carefully; this kit provides 35 ml of CSM.

**Preparing the positive control:** This assay kit includes a 20 mM stock solution of the reference agonist **GW0742**. The following 7-point treatment series, with concentrations prepare in 3-fold decrements, provides a complete dose-response: 20000, 6670, 2220, 741, 247, 82.3, and 27.4 nM (final assay concentrations). Always include a 'no treatment' control. **APPENDIX 1** provides an example for generating such a dilution series.

**3.) First**, retrieve the tube of **CRM** from the 37°C water bath and sanitize the outside with a 70% ethanol swab.

*Second*, retrieve **Reporter Cells** from -80°C storage and immerse in dry ice to transport the tube to a laminar flow hood. Perform a *rapid thaw* of the frozen cells by transferring a 10 ml volume of 37°C CRM into the tube of frozen cells. Recap the tube of cells and immediately place it in a 37°C water bath for 5 - 10 minutes. The resulting volume of cell suspension will be 12 ml.

**4.)** Retrieve the tube of cell suspension from the water bath and sanitize the outside surface of the tube with a 70% alcohol swab.

5.) **a. Agonist-mode assays.** Gently invert the tube of cells several times to gain a homogenous cell suspension. Without delay, dispense 100 µl of cell suspension into each well of the assay plate.

~ or ~

**b. Antagonist-mode assays.** Gently invert the tube of cells several times to gain a homogenous cell suspension. Supplement the bulk suspension of cells with the desired 2x-concentration of reference agonist (refer to "A word about antagonist-mode assay setup", pg. 7). Dispense 100 µl of cell suspension into each well of the assay plate.

*NOTE 5.1:* Take special care to prevent cells from settling during the dispensing period. Allowing cells to settle during the transfer process, and/or lack of precision in dispensing uniform volumes across the assay plate *will* cause well-to-well variation (= increased Standard Deviation) in the assay.

*NOTE 5.2:* Users sometimes wish to examine the cells using a microscope. If so, the extra volume of cell suspension provided with each kit may be dispensed (100 µl/well) into a clear 96-well cell culture treated assay plate, followed by 100 µl/well of CSM. Incubated overnight in identical manner to those cells contained in the white assay plate.

*NOTE 5.3:* For logistical reasons, some users find it more convenient to first plate the cells and then prepare their test compound dilutions. That strategy works equally well. Once plated, cells may be placed in an incubator for up to 3 hours before proceeding to *Step 6*.

*NOTE 5.4:* If well-to-well variation due to 'edge-effects' is a concern this problem *may* be mitigated by dispensing sterile liquid into the *inter-well* spaces of the assay plate. Simply remove 1 tip from the 8-channel dispenser and dispense 100 µl of sterile water into each of the seven inter-well spaces per column of wells.

6.) Dispense 100 µl of 2x-concentration treatment media into appropriate assay wells.

7.) Transfer the assay plate into a 37°C, humidified 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator for 22 - 24 hours.

*NOTE:* Ensure a high-humidity (≥70%) environment within the cell culture incubator. This is critical to prevent the onset of deleterious "edge-effects" in the assay plate.

8.) For greater convenience on *Day 2*, retrieve **Detection Substrate and Detection Buffer** from freezer storage and place them in a dark refrigerator (4°C) to thaw overnight.



**DAY 2 Assay Protocol:** Subsequent manipulations do *not* require special regard for aseptic technique and may be performed on a bench top.

9.) 30 minutes before intending to quantify receptor activity, remove **Detection Substrate** and **Detection Buffer** from the refrigerator and place them in a low-light area so that they may equilibrate to room temperature.

*NOTE:* Do NOT actively warm Detection Substrate above room temperature. If these solutions were not allowed to thaw overnight at 4°C, a room temperature water bath may be used to expedite thawing.

10.) Set the plate-reader to "luminescence" mode. Program the instrument to perform a single 5 second "plate shake" prior to reading the first assay well. Read time is set to 0.5 second (500 mSec) per well, *or less*.

11.) Immediately before proceeding to *Step 12*, prepare **Luciferase Detection Reagent (LDR)**. Combine 'Detection Buffer' and 'Detection Substrate' by pouring-over their entire volumes into a media basin; rock the basin gently to mix the reagent. The resulting volume of LDR is 12 ml.

12.) Following 22 - 24 hours of incubation discard all media contents by ejecting it into an appropriate waste container. *Gently* tap the inverted plate onto a clean absorbent paper towel to remove residual droplets. Cells will remain tightly adhered to well bottoms.

13.) Add 100 µl of **LDR** to each well of the assay plate. Allow the assay plate to rest at room temperature for 5 - 10 minutes. Do not shake the assay plate during this period.

14.) Quantify luminescence.

15.) Data analyses.

## V. Related Products

<i>Product No.</i>	<i>Product Descriptions</i>
<b>Rabbit PPAR<math>\delta</math> Assays</b>	
RB00121-32	Rabbit PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 3x 32 assays in 8-well strips (96-well plate format)
RB00121	Rabbit PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 1x 96-well format assay
<b>Cynomolgus Monkey PPAR<math>\delta</math> Assays</b>	
C00121-32	Monkey PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 3x 32 assays in 8-well strips (96-well plate format)
C00121	Monkey PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 1x 96-well format assay
<b>Dog PPAR<math>\delta</math> Assays</b>	
D00121-32	Dog PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 3x 32 assays in 8-well strips (96-well plate format)
D00121	Dog PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 1x 96-well format assay
<b>Rat PPAR<math>\delta</math> Assays</b>	
R00121-32	Rat PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 3x 32 assays in 8-well strips (96-well plate format)
R00121	Rat PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 1x 96-well format assay
<b>Mouse PPAR<math>\delta</math> Assays</b>	
M00121-32	Mouse PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 3x 32 assays in 8-well strips (96-well plate format)
M00121	Mouse PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 1x 96-well format assay
<b>Human PPAR<math>\delta</math> Assays</b>	
IB00121-32	Human PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 3x 32 assays in 8-well strips (96-well plate format)
IB00121	Human PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 1x 96-well format assay
IB00122	Human PPAR $\delta$ Reporter Assay 1x 384-well format assays
<b>Panel of Human PPARs</b>	
IB00131-32P	PANEL of Human PPAR $\gamma$ , PPAR $\alpha$ and PPAR $\delta$ Assays 32 assays each in 8-well strips (96-well plate format)

<i>Product No.</i>	<i>Product Descriptions</i>
<b>LIVE Cell Multiplex (LCM) Assay</b>	
LCM-01	Reagent volumes sufficient to perform <b>96</b> Live Cell Assays in 1x96-well, or 2x48-well, or 3x32-well assay plate formats
LCM-05	Reagent in <b>5x bulk volume</b> to perform <b>480</b> Live Cell Assays performed in 5 x 96-well assay plates
LCM-10	Reagent in <b>10x bulk volume</b> to perform <b>960</b> Live Cell Assays performed in 10 x 96-well assay plates
<b>INDIGlo Luciferase Detection Reagent</b>	
LDR-10, -25, -50, -500	INDIGlo Luciferase Detection Reagents in 10 mL, 25 mL, 50 mL, and 500 mL volumes

Please refer to INDIGO Biosciences website for updated product offerings.

**[www.indigobiosciences.com](http://www.indigobiosciences.com)**

#### ***VI. Limited Use Disclosures***

Products commercialized by INDIGO Biosciences, Inc. are for RESEARCH PURPOSES ONLY – not for therapeutic, diagnostic, or contact use in humans or animals.

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# APPENDIX 1

Example scheme for the serial dilution of GW0742 reference agonist, and the setup of a Rabbit PPAR $\delta$  dose-response assay.

