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## 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Protocol for Unstimulated Human T Cells For 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> LV Unit

Unstimulated human T cells (small round lymphoblastoid cells) are a subpopulation of human peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC).

Important: Before performing an experiment in the 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> LV Unit it is recommended to establish optimal cell and substrate concentrations in small scale using the 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> X Unit. Conditions are transferable from the 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> X Unit to the LV Unit.

#### Example for Nucleofection of Human T Cells

Transfection efficiency and viability of human CD3<sup>+</sup> T cells 24 hours post Nucleofection. Freshly isolated, unstimulated PBMCs (3-5 x 10<sup>7</sup> cells/mL) were transfected with pmaxGFP<sup>III</sup> Vector (20 µg/mL) using programs E0-115 (for high viability/functionality) or FI-115 (for high efficiency) in 100 µL Nucleocuvette<sup>III</sup> Vessels, in 1 mL Nucleocuvette<sup>IIII</sup> Cartridges or with 10 mL in LV Nucleocuvette<sup>IIII</sup> cartridges. 24 hours post Nucleofection, transfection efficiency of CD3-positive T cells was analyzed on a FACSCalibur<sup>IIII</sup> (Becton Dickinson). Cell viability was determined via propidium iodide (PI) staining. Data represent the mean of various independent experiments with different donors.



## **Product Description**

#### Recommended Kit(s) – P3 Primary Cell 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> LV Kit

Cat No.	V4LP-3002	V4LP-3020	
Transfection volume	1 mL	1 – 20 mL	
Size [reaction]	2	1	
Nucleofector <sup>™</sup> Solution	2.25 mL	22.5 mL	
Supplement	0.5 mL	5 mL	
1 mL Nucleocuvette™ Cartridge	2	-	
LV Nucleocuvette™ Cartridge	-	1	
4D-Nucleofector™ LV Reservoir		2	

## Storage and Stability

Store Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution and Supplement at 4°C. The expiration date is printed on the solution box. Once the Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Supplement is added to the Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution, it is stable for three months at 4°C.

## Note

4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solutions can only be used with conductive polymer Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Vessels, i.e. in the 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> System, the 96-well Shuttle<sup>™</sup> System or the HT Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> System. They are not compatible with the Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> II/2b Device.

## **Required Material**

## Note

Please make sure that the entire supplement is added to the Nucleofector<sup>M</sup> Solution prior to use. For preparing aliquots, mix Nucleofector<sup>M</sup> Solution and Supplement in a ratio of 4.5 : 1 (see Table 1).

- 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> System (4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Core and LV Unit)
- Supplemented 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution at room temperature
- Supplied 1 mL Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge or LV Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge
- For loading cell suspension into 1 mL Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridges: Compatible tips, e.g. OneTouch pipet tips, 1250 µL (Sorenson<sup>™</sup> BioScience Inc., Cat. No. 10370; via VWR, Cat. No. 89082-348)
- For working with LV Nucleocuvette™ Cartridges:
- Supplied 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> LV Reservoirs (alternatively you may use bags). Additional reservoirs can be ordered separately (Lonza, Cat. No. V4LR-1001)
- Magnetic stirrer, e.g. MR Hei-Tec (Heidolph, Cat. No. 036110550)
- BD Falcon<sup>™</sup> cell strainer, 100 μm (BD, Cat. No. 352360)
- Substrate of interest, highly purified, preferably by using endotoxin-free kits; A260:A280 ratio should be at least 1.8
- Cell culture vessels of your choice
- Culture medium: Use established culture media
- Prewarm appropriate volume of culture medium to 37°C
- Appropriate number of cells/sample (see Table 2)

## 1. Pre Nucleofection

### Notes

- This protocol is designed for fresh unstimulated primary human T cells from whole PBMCs. Depending on application T cells can be further enriched
- Transfection results may be donor-dependent
- For preparation, do not perform protocols using hypo-osmolar buffers. This may lead to high cell mortality after Nucleofection
- For freshly isolated cells no cultivation is required prior to Nucleofection. For cryopreserved cells we recommend incubating the thawed cells for 1–2 hours at 37°C in culture medium before Nucleofection
- For Nucleofection of stimulated T cells, please refer to the Optimized Protocol for Stimulated Human T Cells

## **Preparation of cells**

Isolate and optionally enrich cells according to your established protocols.

## 2. Nucleofection

For Nucleofection Sample contents and recommended Nucleofector™ Program, please refer to Table 2.

#### Notes

- When working with large cell numbers consider the volume of the cell pellet before adding Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution. The total volume of cell pellet, Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution and substrate should match 1 mL (for 1 mL Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge) or up to 20 mL (for LV Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge).
- As leaving cells in Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution for extended periods of time may lead to reduced transfection efficiency and viability it is important to work as quickly as possible.
- Avoid air bubbles while pipetting.

## 2.1 Working with 1 mL Nucleocuvette™ Cartridges

- Please ensure that the entire supplement is added to the Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution
- Start 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> System and select respective vessel type (1 mL Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge)
- 3. Create or upload experimental parameter file (for details see device manual)
- Prepare cell culture vessels with desired volume of recommended culture media and pre-incubate vessels in a cell culture incubator
- 5. Prepare required amount of substrate (see Table 2)
- 6. Select the appropriate Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Program (see Table 2)
- 7. Count an aliquot of the cells and determine cell density

- Centrifuge the required number of cells (see Table 2) at 90xg for 10 minutes at room temperature. Remove supernatant completely
- 9. Resuspend the cell pellet carefully in room temperature 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution (see Table 2)
- 10. Add required amount of substrate (e.g. plasmid DNA, mRNA) to the sample. Ensure that the volume of substrate solution added to each sample does not exceed 10% of the total reaction volume (i.e.  $100 \ \mu L$  for a 1 mL reaction)
- Transfer cell suspension supplemented with substrate into 1 mL Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge using a 1mL pipette
- 12. Insert Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge into the 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> LV Unit. Ensure the Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge is correctly inserted
- Start Nucleofection process by pressing "Start" on the display of the 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Core Unit (for details, please refer to the device manual)
- 14. After run completion, carefully remove the Nucleocuvette™ Cartridge from the slot
- 15. Remove sample from Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge using a 1 mL pipette
- 16. Pipet sample into culture vessel containing pre-warmed medium

## 2.2 Working with LV Nucleocuvette™ Cartridges:

Before preparing the cells mount an LV Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge into the 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> LV Unit (for details, please refer to the device manual).

- 1. Please ensure that the entire supplement is added to the Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution
- Start 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> System and select respective vessel type (LV Nucleocuvette<sup>™</sup> Cartridge)

- Create or upload experimental parameter file (for details see device manual) and select the appropriate Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution and Program (see Table 2)
- Prepare cell culture vessels with desired volume of recommended culture media and pre-incubate vessels in a cell culture incubator
- 5. Prepare required amount of substrate (see Table 2)
- 6. Preparing the cells:
- 7. For adherent cells: Harvest the cells by trypsinization
- 8. Count an aliquot of the cells and determine cell density
- 9. Centrifuge the required number of cells (see Table 2) at 90xg for 10 minutes at room temperature. A higher centrifugation velocity may be required when using larger centrifugation vessels (e.g. 300xg for 500 mL). Ensure the cells are pelleted within 10 minutes.
- 10. Remove supernatant completely
- 11. Resuspend the cell pellet carefully in room temperature 4D-Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution (see Table 2)
- 12. Loading the inlet reservoir(s):
  - a. When working with one inlet reservoir: Add required amount of substrate (e.g. plasmid DNA, mRNA) to the cell suspension; ensure that the volume of substrate solution added to each sample does not exceed 10% of the total reaction volume (i.e. 1 mL for a 10 mL reaction) to avoid significant dilution of the Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution by substrate buffer
  - b. When working with two separate inlet reservoirs: Keep substrate separately and optionally dilute it in Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution. The ratio of cell suspension to substrate should be kept between 1:1 to 10:1 to allow proper mixing. For ratios other than 1:10, please dilute substrate in Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Solution

### Table 1: Volumes required for a single reaction

	1 mL reaction
Volume of Nucleofector™ Solution	820 µL
Volume of Supplement	180 µL

## Table 2: Contents of one Nucleofection Sample and Recommended Program

		Per 1 mL Reaction	Notes
Cells		1 x 10 <sup>7 - 5</sup> x 10 <sup>7</sup>	Lower or higher cell numbers may influence transfection results
Substrate*	pmaxGFP™ Vector	20 µg	Volume of substrate added should not exceed 10% of total reaction volume to avoid significant dilution of the Nucleofector™ Solution by substrate buffer. Alternatively, the substrate might be diluted in Nucleofector™ Solution.
or	plasmid DNA (in H <sub>2</sub> 0 or TE)	10 – 40 µg	
or	siRNA	Titrate optimal amount	
P3 4D-Nucleofector™ LV Solution		1 mL	
Program		FI-115 (for high efficiency) or E0-115 (for high unctionality)	

- Mount the inlet reservoir(s) or bag(s) into the reservoir holder(s)
- 14. Immediately start stirring the cell suspension at ~300 rpm to prevent cell sedimentation. *Ensure that the magnet is truly stirring*
- 15. Remove red caps from the Spiros connectors on the inlet tubes of the cartridge and the blue caps from the reservoir tubes and connect the tubes
- 16. Start Nucleofection process by pressing "Start" on the display of the 4D-Nucleofector™ Core Unit (for details, please refer to the device manual)
- 17. After run completion, carefully disconnect the outlet reservoir and transfer the cells in the culture system of your choice

## 3. Post Nucleofection

Until analysis, culture cells as usual in a cell culture incubator

## 4. Additional Information

For an up-to-date list of all Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> References, please refer to: www.lonza.com/nucleofection-citations

For more technical assistance, contact our Scientific Support Team:

#### USA /Canada

Phone: 800 521 0390 (toll-free) Fax: 301 845 8338 E-mail: scientific.support@lonza.com

#### Europe and Rest of World

Phone: +49 221 99199 400 Fax: +49 221 99199 499 E-mail: scientific.support.eu@lonza.com Lonza Cologne GmbH 50829 Cologne, Germany

Please note that the Nucleofector<sup>™</sup> Technology is not intended to be used for diagnostic purposes or for testing or treatment in humans.

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