FACE[™] PI3 Kinase p85 ELISA Kits

(version C)

Catalog Nos. 48175 & 48675 (PI3 Kinase p85) Catalog Nos. 48275 & 48775 (PI3 Kinase p85 Chemi)

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Overview

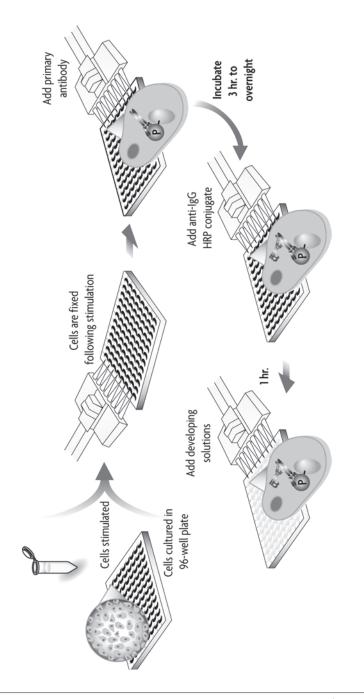
Phosphoinositide 3 Kinase (PI3 Kinase, PI3K) is an important regulator of cell proliferation, survival and growth. PI3K catalyzes the production of phosphatidylinositol-3,4,5-triphosphate by phosphorylating phosphatidylinositol (PI), phosphatidylinositol-4-phosphate (PIP) and phosphatidylinositol-4,5-biphosphate (PIP2). Growth factors and hormones are responsible for triggering this phosphorylation event and PH domain-containing signaling molecules, including various kinases and their regulators, recognize the resulting product. This activates corresponding cell signaling pathways, eventually leading to cell growth, cell cycle entry, cell migration and cell survival. Therefore, high-throughput study methods for monitoring PI3K phosphorylation are in high demand.

Fast Activated Cell-based ELISA (FACE[™])* Kits provide a simple, efficient, cell-based method to monitor proteins activated by phosphorylation. FACE PI3 Kinase p85 Kits are designed specifically to quantify activated (phosphorylated) PI3K and/or total PI3K2. In the FACE method, cells are cultured in 96-well plates and stimulated to induce the pathway of interest. Following stimulation, the cells are rapidly fixed to preserve activation-specific protein modifications. Each well is then incubated with a primary antibody that recognizes either phosphorylated PI3K p85. Subsequent incubation with secondary HRP-conjugated antibody and developing solution provides an easily quantified colorimetric or chemiluminescent readout. The relative number of cells in each well is then determined using the provided Crystal Violet solution. The 96-well plate format is suitable for high-throughput screening applications. FACE PI3 Kinase p85 Kits are available in two sizes:

product	format	catalog no.
FACE [™] PI3 Kinase p85	1 x 96 rxns	48175
	5 x 96 rxns	48675
FACE [™] PI3 Kinase p85 Chemi	1 x 96 rxns	48275
	5 x 96 rxns	48775

See Active Motif products related to PI3 Kinase in Appendix, Section B.

* Developed in collaboration with Dr. M. Peppelenbosch and Dr. H. Versteeg.



Phosphoinositide 3 Kinase

Phosphoinositide 3 Kinase (PI3 Kinase, PI3K) is a major signaling molecule that is located downstream of growth factor receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs)¹. PI3K catalyzes the production of the lipid second messenger phosphatidylinositol-3,4,5-triphosphate (PIP3) at the cell membrane. PIP3 then contributes to the recruitment and activation of a wide range of downstream targets, including the serine-threonine protein kinase AKT (PKB)³. The PI3K-AKT signaling pathway regulates many normal cellular processes including cell proliferation, survival, growth and motility-processes that are critical for tumorigenesis⁴.

PI3K is a heterodimer with a p85 regulatory subunit and p110 catalytic subunit¹. The p85 subunit has two SH2 domains, which bind to phospho-tyrosine with the consensus motif (Y*XXM), where X denotes any amino acid and Y* is phosphorylated tyrosine. This motif exists in many receptor tyrosine kinases and their substrates, such as EGFR, FGFR, IRS-1, BCAP and GAB1^{5, 6}. Activation of the P13K pathway occurs when the p85 subunit recognizes phosphorylated YXXM in signaling molecules. The small GTPase Ras can also recruit and activate P13K through direct binding to p110³.

A large number of downstream effector targets have been described for PI3K⁷. AKT/PKB is a downstream effector of PI3K γ^8 as well as p85/p110^{9, 10}. ERK1/2 MAPK is also a target of the PI3K signaling cascade^{11, 12}. Some Rho family GTPases (Rac, Cdc42) are regulated by PI3K in several systems^{13, 14}. A link between PI3K, phospholipase D activation, actin rearrangement and vesicular trafficking may also exist^{15, 16, 17}.

Traditional Kinase Assays

To date, two methods are widely used to perform kinase assays:

- 1. One method typically used is the in-gel kinase assay, which is an activity staining technique used to study protein kinases¹⁸. A given protein substrate is immobilized on a gel and phosphorylated by protein kinases, which are separated by SDS-PAGE. The bands of incorporated [³²P]phosphate are then visualized by autoradiography. While this method is sensitive, it is also cumbersome and is not suitable to high-throughput applications. In-gel kinase assays also require special precautions and equipment for handling radioactivity.
- 2. Another method used is Western blot analysis. Western blots are performed using antibodies that recognize only the phosphorylated version of the protein of interest. Although less tedious than in-gel kinase assays, Western blotting, like in-gel kinase, requires the preparation of nuclear or whole-cell extract and separation by SDS-PAGE. Furthermore, this process is expensive due to the large quantity of phospho-specific antibody required.

FACE PI3 Kinase

The role of PI3K in the regulation of cell proliferation, survival and growth has made it an interesting target for both basic and pharmaceutical research. However, these efforts have been hampered by the lack of convenient and high-throughput assays suitable for quantifying PI3K activation (phosphorylation).

To overcome this, Active Motif has introduced its FACE[™] (Fast Activated Cell-based ELISA) Kits. These are highly sensitive 96-well assays designed for detecting activated proteins within mammalian cells. Unlike Western blot, FACE assays do not require cell extracts, electrophoresis or membrane blotting. And, unlike typical kinase assays, FACE assays are non-radioactive and simple to perform. Each FACE PI3 Kinase Kit contains two 96-well plates and two primary antibodies. The phospho-PI3K p85 antibody recognizes peptides and proteins containing p85 PI 3-Kinase phospho-tyrosine 467 (alpha) or 199 (gamma). No cross-reactivity is observed with corresponding non-phosphorylated sequences or with other phospho-tyrosine-containing motifs. The total-PI3K p85 antibody recognizes the total level of PI3K p85 proteins regardless of the phosphorylation state. Each antibody is provided in a quantity sufficient for one 96-well assay.

FACE PI3 Kinase Kits can be used to study phosphorylated PI3K relative to cell number. In this application, cells are cultured in the wells of one of the provided 96-well plates, treated as desired and then assayed using the FACE protocol with only the phospho-PI3K antibody. The relative number of cells in each well is then determined through use of the Crystal Violet reagent. In this application, the second 96-well plate can be kept on reserve in case of culturing problems or two 48-well assays can be performed.

FACE PI3 Kinase Kits can also be used to determine PI3K phosphorylation relative to the total PI3K protein found in the cells. In this application, the two 96-well plates are cultured as replicates, with the wells within each plate treated with reagents that may affect the phosphorylation state of PI3K. After the cells are fixed, one plate is studied with the phospho-PI3K antibody, while the other plate is studied with the total-PI3K antibody. The relative number of cells in each well is then determined through use of the Crystal Violet reagent. Once the phospho-PI3K and total-PI3K signals have been normalized for cell number, a comparison of the ratio of phosphorylated PI3K to total PI3K for each of the cell growth conditions can be made.

In the FACE PI3 Kinase assay, the provided total-PI3K antibody can be used as a positive control to demonstrate that the cells contain PI3K, the kit reagents are functional and that the protocol is performed correctly. Also, because fixed cells are stable for several weeks, you can prepare many plates simultaneously and then perform the FACE assay when desired. Fixed cells should be stored refrigerated in a zip-lock or heat-sealed bag with the formaldehyde solution in the wells.

Kit Performance and Benefits

FACE PI3 Kinase Kits are for research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

Antibody specificity: The phospho-PI3K p85 antibody preferentially recognizes peptides and proteins containing p85 PI 3-Kinase phospho-tyrosine 467 (alpha) or 199 (gamma). No cross-reactivity is observed with corresponding non-phosphorylated sequences or with other phospho-tyrosinecontaining motifs. The total-PI3K p85 antibody recognizes the total level of PI3K p85 proteins regardless of the phosphorylation state.

Cross-reactivity: FACE PI3 Kinase Kits detect phosphorylated PI3K p85 from all species and total PI3K p85 from human, mouse and rat origin.

Assay time: < 3 hours of hands-on time.

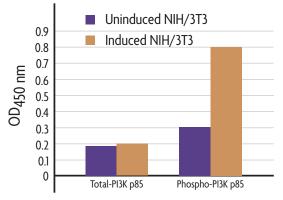


Figure 1: Measurement of phosphorylated and total PI3 Kinase.

NIH/3T3 cells were cultured in 96-well plates and serum-starved for 16 hours. Cells were then treated with 50 ng/ml of PDGF for 5 minutes and fixed. Total and phospho PI3K p85 were each assayed in triplicate using the phospho and total PI3K p85 antibodies included in the FACE PI3 Kinase Kit. Data was plotted after correction for cell number (performed through use of Crystal Violet).

Note on data interpretation

The phospho-PI3K and total-PI3K antibodies can be used on equivalent cell cultures to determine the effects of various cell treatments on the ratio of phosphorylated PI3K to total PI3K. However, if the signals obtained with the phospho-PI3K antibody and the total-PI3K antibody are identical, one cannot conclude that the treatment resulted in phosphorylation of 100% of the PI3K.

FACE PI3 Kinase Experimental Design

The FACE PI3 Kinase assay is a high-throughput method for quantifying cellular levels of PI3K and phosphorylated PI3K. It should be used with cell types that have been shown to contain readily detectable levels of PI3K and, under appropriate induction conditions, phosphorylated PI3K.

Before starting a FACE assay, it is necessary to determine the experimental conditions for each well of the 96-well plate to maximize the information obtained.

Points to consider:

- 1. Are you working with adherent or non-adherent cells? Protocol modifications for use of non-adherent cells are given after the protocol for adherent cells.
- 2. Do you want to compare phosphorylated PI3K to total PI3K? If so, replicate wells must be cultured so that the two different antibodies can be used on equivalently grown cells.
- 3 Which wells will be used as positive controls (*e.g.* incubated with the total-PI3K antibody) and which will be used as negative controls (*e.g.* incubated with secondary antibody alone)?
- 4 Each experimental condition should be performed in duplicate or in triplicate to control for possible errors.
- 5 FACE assays are most easily performed when all 96 wells of the assay plate are used. This makes it possible to perform washing steps by "flicking" liquid from the plate into a sink. The inverted plate is then tapped gently onto several layers of paper towel to remove the remaining liquid. See "Kit Components" section if you need additional 96-well plates.
- 6. Fixed cells are stable for several weeks, so you can prepare many plates simultaneously and then perform the FACE assay when desired. Fixed cells should be stored with the formaldehyde solution in the wells and then sealed in a zip-lock bag or, preferably, a heat-sealed bag and refrigerated.

After planning the experiment, determine the amount of each buffer/reagent required and prepare according to the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers. Multi-channel pipettors and pipettor reservoirs should be used when appropriate. The volumes given are appropriate for multi-channel pipetting if the assay is performed on 48 wells or more. Volumes may need to be adjusted if the assay is performed on less than 48 wells.

Kit Components and Storage – Colorimetric Assay

FACE Colorimetric Kit components can be stored at -20°C prior to first use. Then, we recommend storing each component at the temperature indicated in the table below.

Reagents	Quantity (1 plate / 5 plates)	Storage / Stability
Phospho-PI3K p85 antibody	9 µl / 45 µl	-20°C for 6 months
Total-PI3K p85 antibody	9 µl / 45 µl	-20°C for 6 months
Anti-rabbit HRP-conjugated IgG	22 µl / 110 µl	4°C for 6 months
1X Antibody Blocking Buffer	22 ml / 110 ml	-20°C for 6 months
1X Antibody Dilution Buffer	30 ml / 150 ml	-20°C for 6 months
10X PBS	120 ml / 600 ml	Room temperature for 6 months
10% Triton X-100	7 ml / 35 ml	Room temperature for 6 months
Crystal Violet Solution	22 ml / 110 ml	4°C for 6 months
Developing Solution	22 ml / 110 ml	4°C for 6 months
Stop Solution	22 ml / 110 ml	4°C for 6 months
1% SDS Solution	22 ml / 110 ml	Room temperature for 6 months
96-well tissue culture plate*	2 / 10	
Plate sealing tape	2 / 10	

* Suitable tissue culture plates are Greiner Catalog No. 655180 and Corning Costar Catalog No. 3596

Additional materials required

- Multi-channel pipettor and multi-channel pipettor reservoirs
- Rocking platform
- Parafilm
- Microplate spectrophotometer capable of reading at 595 nm and at 450 nm (655 as optional reference wavelength)
- Fresh 10% hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) in dH₂O (3 ml are required)
- 10 µg/ml poly-L-Lysine (if using non-adherent cells)
- 10% Sodium Azide (NaN₃) in dH₂O (250 µl are required)
- 37% Formaldehyde (2.5 ml are required for adherent cells; 5.0 ml for non-adherent cells)

WARNING: Sodium Azide and Formaldehyde are highly toxic chemicals. Appropriate safety precautions (gloves and eye protection) should be used. In addition, formaldehyde is highly toxic by inhalation and should be used only in a ventilated hood.

Kit Components and Storage – Chemiluminescent Assay

FACE Chemi Kit components can be stored at -20°C prior to first use. Then, we recommend storing each component at the temperature indicated in the table below.

Reagents	Quantity (1 plate / 5 plates)	Storage / Stability
Phospho-PI3K p85 antibody	9 μl / 45 μl	-20°C for 6 months
Total-PI3K p85 antibody	9 μl / 45 μl	-20°C for 6 months
Anti-rabbit HRP-conjugated IgG	22 µl / 110 µl	4°C for 6 months
1X Antibody Blocking Buffer	22 ml / 110 ml	-20°C for 6 months
1X Antibody Dilution Buffer	30 ml / 150 ml	-20°C for 6 months
10X PBS	120 ml / 600 ml	Room temperature for 6 months
10% Triton X-100	7 ml / 35 ml	Room temperature for 6 months
Crystal Violet Solution	22 ml / 110 ml	4°C for 6 months
Chemiluminescent Reagent	4 ml / 20 ml	4°C for 6 months
Reaction Buffer	8 ml / 40 ml	4°C for 6 months
1% SDS Solution	22 ml / 110 ml	Room temperature for 6 months
96-well tissue culture plate*	2 / 10	
Plate sealing tape	2 / 10	

* Suitable tissue culture plates are Greiner Catalog No. 655180 and Corning Costar Catalog No. 3596

Additional materials required

- Multi-channel pipettor and multi-channel pipettor reservoirs
- Rocking platform
- Parafilm
- Microplate spectrophotometer capable of reading at 595 nm for Crystal Violet staining
- Microplate luminometer or CCD camera-coupled imaging system for chemiluminescent detection
- Fresh 10% hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) in dH₂O (3 ml are required)
- 10 µg/ml poly-L-Lysine (if using non-adherent cells)
- 10% Sodium Azide (NaN₃) in dH₂O (250 µl are required)
- 37% Formaldehyde (2.5 ml are required for adherent cells; 5.0 ml for non-adherent cells)

WARNING: Sodium Azide and Formaldehyde are highly toxic chemicals. Appropriate safety precautions (gloves and eye protection) should be used. In addition, formaldehyde is highly toxic by inhalation and should be used only in a ventilated hood.

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE PROTOCOL BEFORE STARTING!

A. Buffer Preparation and Recommendations

We provide an excess of buffer components in order to perform one 96-well FACE assay with the phospho-PI3K antibody and one 96-well FACE assay with the total-PI3K antibody. Required reagents that are not supplied are listed on the previous page. Please review the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section prior to preparing the assay buffers.

Preparation of 1X PBS

1X PBS is the basis of several buffers used in the FACE protocol. 1X PBS is also used in several of the wash steps in the protocol (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers). It is prepared by adding 1 volume of 10X PBS (pH 7.4) to 9 volumes of dH,O and mixing thoroughly.

Preparation of Fixing Buffer (4% or 8% Formaldehyde in PBS)

Fixing Buffer is used to fix cells after cell culturing. It is prepared by adding formaldehyde to 1X PBS and mixing well. 4% formaldehyde is used with adherent cells, 8% formaldehyde is used with non-adherent cells. The recipe in the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers is written for use with a stock solution of 37% formaldehyde.

Preparation of Wash Buffer (0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS)

Wash Buffer is used throughout the FACE protocol and is prepared by adding the provided 10% Triton X-100 solution to 1X PBS and mixing thoroughly.

Quenching Buffer (Wash Buffer containing 1% H,O, and 0.1% Azide)

Quenching Buffer is used to inactivate the cells' endogenous peroxidase activity. It is prepared by adding fresh Sodium Azide and fresh hydrogen peroxide to the Wash Buffer.

Blocking Buffer

This is supplied ready-to-use. A small amount of white precipitate may form if thawed in a warm water bath. This does not interfere with buffer function.

Antibody Dilution Buffer

This is supplied ready-to-use. A small amount of white precipitate may form if thawed in a warm water bath. This does not interfere with buffer function.

Diluted phospho-PI3 Kinase antibody

The phospho-PI3K antibody is specific for the phosphorylated Tyr p85 subunit. The supplied antibody will be diluted 1/500 in Antibody Dilution Buffer (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section).

Diluted total-PI3 Kinase antibody

The total-PI3K antibody recognizes both the non-phosphorylated and the phosphorylated forms of PI3K p85 proteins. The supplied antibody will be diluted 1/500 in Antibody Dilution Buffer (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section).

Diluted HRP-conjugated secondary antibody

HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG is used as the secondary antibody to detect bound primary antibodies. The supplied antibody will be diluted 1/1000 in Antibody Dilution Buffer. (See the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section).

1% SDS Solution

1% SDS Solution is used in the Crystal Violet counting procedure to solubilize cells and release the dye for subsequent quantification at 595 nm. This buffer is supplied ready-to-use.

Crystal Violet Solution

This is supplied ready-to-use. Crystal Violet is used to determine the relative number of cells in each well. This stain binds to cell nuclei and gives an OD₅₉₅ reading that is proportional to cell number.

Developing Solution

The Developing Solution must be warmed to room temperature before use. This solution is light sensitive, therefore, we recommend avoiding direct exposure to intense light during storage. The Developing Solution may develop a yellow hue over time. This does not affect product performance. A blue color present in the solution indicates that it has been contaminated and must be discarded. Prior to use, transfer the amount of Developing Solution required for the assay into a secondary container (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section), avoid direct exposure to intense light and leave at room temperature for at least 1 hour. After use, discard any remaining solution that was transferred into the secondary container.

Stop Solution

Prior to use, transfer the amount of Stop Solution required for the assay into a secondary container (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section). After use, discard any remaining Stop Solution that was transferred into the secondary container.

WARNING: The Stop Solution is corrosive. Wear personal protective equipment when handling, *i.e.* labcoat, gloves and eye protection.

Regents to prepare	Components	1 well	48 wells	96 wells	192 wells
Fixing Buffer for	1X PBS	98 µl	4.7 ml	9.41 ml	18.82 ml
adherent cells	37% Formaldehyde	12 µl	576 µl	1.15 ml	2.30 ml
	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
Fixing Buffer for	1X PBS	86 µl	4.13 ml	8.26 ml	16.51 ml
non-adherent cells	37% Formaldehyde	24 µl	1.15 ml	2.30 ml	4.61 ml
	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
Wash Buffer	1X PBS	3.376 ml	162 ml	310 ml	620 ml
	10% Triton X-100	31.4 µl	1.64 ml	3.13 ml	6.26 ml
	TOTAL REQUIRED	3.41 ml	163.7 ml	313 ml	626 ml
Quenching Buffer	Wash Buffer	97.9 µl	4.7 ml	9.40 ml	18.80 ml
	10% H ₂ O ₂	11 µl	528 µl	1.06 ml	2.11 ml
	10% Azide	1.1 µl	52.8 µl	106 µl	211 µl
	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
Blocking Buffer	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
Diluted total-PI3K	Antibody Dilution Buffer	45 µl	2080 µl	4160 µl	-
antibody	Total-PI3K antibody	0.09 µl	4.16 µl	8.32 µl	-
	TOTAL REQUIRED	45.09 µl	2084.16 µl	4168.32 µl	-
Diluted phospho-PI3K	Antibody Dilution Buffer	45 µl	2080 µl	4160 µl	-
antibody	Phospho-PI3K antibody	0.09 µl	4.16 µl	8.32 µl	-
	TOTAL REQUIRED	45.09 µl	2084.16 µl	4168.32 µl	-
Diluted HRP-conjugated	Antibody Dilution Buffer	110 µl	5280 µl	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
secondary antibody	HRP-conjugated secondary ab	0.11 µl	5.28 µl	10.56 µl	21.12 µl
	TOTAL REQUIRED	110.1 µl	5285.28 µl	10.57 ml	21.14 ml
1X PBS (for wash steps)	10X PBS	154 µl	7.39 ml	14.11 ml	28.22 ml
	dH ₂ O	1.39 ml	66.53 ml	127.01 ml	254.02 ml
	TOTAL REQUIRED	1.54 ml	73.92 ml	141.12 ml	282.24 ml
1% SDS Solution	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
Developing Solution	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
Stop Solution	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml
Crystal Violet Solution	TOTAL REQUIRED	110 µl	5.28 ml	10.56 ml	21.12 ml

B. Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers – Colorimetric Assay

C. Adherent Cell Protocol – Colorimetric Assay

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE PROTOCOL BEFORE STARTING

Step 1: Culture, fix and block cells

- Seed cells in the 96-well plate so that they will be approximately 80% confluent at the time of fixing, after they have been treated as desired. The growth area in each well of the 96-well plate is 0.32 cm². The provided plates are sterile and treated for tissue culture.
- 2. Grow and treat cells as desired.
- 3. Fix cells by replacing the growth medium with 100 μ l of 4% formaldehyde in PBS. To minimize the escape of formaldehyde vapors, place a 10 cm x 17 cm piece of parafilm over the plate and then cover the plate with the lid. The covered plate can also be placed in a zip-lock bag. Incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature.

WARNING: Formaldehyde is highly toxic. Confine vapors to a chemical hood and wear appropriate gloves and eye protection when using this chemical.

- Remove formaldehyde solution and wash cells 3 times with 200 μl Wash Buffer. Each wash step should be performed for 5 minutes with gentle shaking.
- 5. Remove Wash Buffer, add 100 μl Quenching Buffer and incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature.
- 6. Remove Quenching Buffer and wash cells 2 times for 5 minutes each with 200 μl Wash Buffer.
- 7. Remove Wash Buffer, add 100 μl Antibody Blocking Buffer and incubate 1 hour at room temperature.

Step 2: Binding of primary and secondary antibodies

- NOTE:Depending on experiment design, some wells may be incubated with diluted
phospho antibody, some with total antibody and some with secondary antibody
alone (negative controls). For negative control wells, incubate with
40 μl Antibody Dilution Buffer during the primary antibody incubation step.
- 1. Remove Antibody Blocking Buffer and wash cells 2 times with 200 µl Wash Buffer.
- 2. Remove Wash Buffer, add 40 µl of diluted primary antibody (or Antibody Dilution Buffer for negative control wells) and seal plate with sealing tape. Place a 10 cm x 17 cm piece of parafilm over the plate, cover with lid and incubate overnight at 4°C. Be sure that the plate is level and that each well is tightly sealed with the sealing tape to prevent evaporation.
 - **NOTE:** In cells known to generate high amounts of phosphorylated-PI3K, a three-hour primary antibody incubation is sufficient. For maximum sensitivity, an overnight incubation is recommended.
- 3. Remove primary antibody, wash cells 3 times for 5 minutes each with 200 µl Wash Buffer.

- 4. Remove Wash Buffer, add 100 µl diluted secondary antibody, cover plate with tissue culture plate lid or sealing tape, and incubate 1 hour at room temperature.
- 5. During this incubation, transfer the amount of Developing Solution required for the assay into a secondary container and leave at room temperature for at least an hour (avoid light).

Step 3: Colorimetric reaction

- 1. Remove secondary antibody, wash cells 3 times for 5 minutes with 200 μl Wash Buffer and then 2 times for 5 minutes with 200 μl IX PBS.
- 2. Remove PBS from plate wells and add 100 μl Developing Solution to each well (from the secondary container to which it had been transferred in the Step 2. No. 5 above).
- Incubate 2-20 minutes at room temperature protected from direct light. Monitor the blue color development until the darkest-staining wells are medium- to dark-blue. Do not allow to overdevelop.
- 4. Add 100 μl Stop Solution. This acidic solution turns the blue color to yellow. Take care with pipetting to ensure that each well is developed for the same amount of time.

WARNING: The Stop Solution is corrosive. Wear personal protective equipment when handling, *i.e.* labcoat, gloves and eye protection.

5. Read absorbance on a spectrophotometer within 5 minutes at 450 nm with an optional reference wavelength of 655 nm.

OPTIONAL – Crystal Violet cell staining

Crystal Violet is an intense stain that binds to the cell nuclei and gives an OD₅₉₅ reading that is proportional to cell number. If you wish to normalize your readings from above simply follow the steps below.

- After reading at 450 nm is complete, wash wells twice with 200 μl Wash Buffer and 2 times with 200 μl 1X PBS. Tap plates onto paper towels to remove excess liquid from wells and air-dry at room temperature for 5 minutes.
- Add 100 µl Crystal Violet solution to each well and incubate 30 minutes at room temperature.
 WARNING: Crystal Violet is an intense stain. Avoid contact with skin and clothing.
- 3. Wash wells 3 times with 200 µl 1X PBS for 5 minutes each.
- 4. Add 100 μl of 1% SDS Solution to each well and incubate on shaker for 1 hour at room temperature.
- Read absorbance on a spectrophotometer at 595 nm. If the signals obtained are greater than the range of your spectrophotometer, the signal can be reduced by removing some (*e.g.* 50 μl) of the liquid from each well and replacing with an equivalent volume of dH₂O.
- 6. The measured OD_{450} readings are corrected for cell number by dividing the OD_{450} reading for a given well by the OD_{595} reading for that well.

D. Non-adherent Cell Protocol – Colorimetric Assay

The protocol given above can be modified for use with non-adherent cells by culturing and fixing the cells as follows:

- Treat the 96-well culture plate with 10 μg/ml poly-L-Lysine for 30 minutes at 37°C. Wash twice for 5 minutes with PBS.
- 2. Seed 17,000 cells/well, or whatever amount is appropriate for your particular cell line.
- 3. Grow and treat cells as desired.
- 4. Fix cells by replacing the growth medium with 100 μl of 8% formaldehyde in PBS. Incubate 20 minutes at room temperature.
- 5. Continue with Step 1, No. 4 of the Adherent Cell Protocol above.

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE PROTOCOL BEFORE STARTING!

E. Buffer Preparation and Recommendations

We provide an excess of buffer components in order to perform one 96-well FACE assay with the phospho-PI3K antibody and one 96-well FACE assay with the total-PI3K antibody. Required reagents that are not supplied are listed on the previous page. Please review the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section prior to preparing the assay buffers.

Preparation of 1X PBS

1X PBS is the basis of several buffers used in the FACE protocol. 1X PBS is also used in several of the wash steps in the protocol (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers). It is prepared by adding 1 volume of 10X PBS (pH 7.4) to 9 volumes of dH,O and mixing thoroughly.

Preparation of Fixing Buffer (4% or 8% Formaldehyde in PBS)

Fixing Buffer is used to fix cells after cell culturing. It is prepared by adding formaldehyde to 1X PBS and mixing well. 4% formaldehyde is used with adherent cells, 8% formaldehyde is used with non-adherent cells. The recipe in the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers is written for use with a stock solution of 37% formaldehyde.

Preparation of Wash Buffer (0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS)

Wash Buffer is used throughout the FACE protocol and is prepared by adding the provided 10% Triton X-100 solution to 1X PBS and mixing thoroughly.

Quenching Buffer (Wash Buffer containing 1% H,O, and 0.1% Azide)

Quenching Buffer is used to inactivate the cells' endogenous peroxidase activity. It is prepared by adding fresh Sodium Azide and fresh hydrogen peroxide to the Wash Buffer.

Blocking Buffer

This is supplied ready-to-use. A small amount of white precipitate may form if thawed in a warm water bath. This does not interfere with buffer function.

Antibody Dilution Buffer

This is supplied ready-to-use. A small amount of white precipitate may form if thawed in a warm water bath. This does not interfere with buffer function.

Diluted phospho-PI3 Kinase antibody

The phospho-PI3K antibody is specific for the phosphorylated Tyr p85 subunit. The supplied antibody will be diluted 1/500 in Antibody Dilution Buffer (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section).

Diluted total-PI3 Kinase antibody

The total-PI3K antibody recognizes both the non-phosphorylated and the phosphorylated forms of PI3K p85 proteins. The supplied antibody will be diluted 1/500 in Antibody Dilution Buffer (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section).

Diluted HRP-conjugated secondary antibody

HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG is used as the secondary antibody to detect bound primary antibodies. The supplied antibody will be diluted 1/1000 in Antibody Dilution Buffer. (See the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section).

Preparation of Chemiluminescent Working Solution

The Chemiluminescent Reagent and Reaction Buffer should be warmed to room temperature before use. These components are light sensitive, therefore, we recommend avoiding direct exposure to intense light during storage. Prior to use, place the Chemiluminescent Reagent and Reaction Buffer at room temperature for at least 1 hour. In a separate container, mix 1 volume of Chemiluminescent Reagent with 2 volumes of Reaction Buffer to prepare the Chemiluminescent Working Solution (see the Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers in this section). The Chemiluminescent Working Solution is stable for several hours. After the Chemiluminescent Working Solution is aliquoted into the wells, discard the remaining solution.

1% SDS Solution

1% SDS Solution is used in the Crystal Violet counting procedure to solubilize cells and release the dye for subsequent quantification at 595 nm. This buffer is supplied ready-to-use.

Crystal Violet Solution

This is supplied ready-to-use. Crystal Violet is used to estimate the relative number of cells in each well. This stain binds to cell nuclei and gives an OD_{see} reading that is proportional to cell number.

1 well 96 wells 192 wells Regents to prepare Components 48 wells Fixing Buffer for 18.82 ml 1X PBS 4.7 ml 9.41 ml 98 µl adherent cells 37% Formaldehyde 12 µl 576 µl 1.15 ml 2.30 ml TOTAL REQUIRED 110 µl 5.28 ml 10.56 ml 21.12 ml Fixing Buffer for 1X PBS 86 µl 4.13 ml 8.26 ml 16.51 ml non-adherent cells 37% Formaldehyde 24 µl 1.15 ml 2.30 ml 4.61 ml TOTAL REQUIRED 110 µl 5.28 ml 10.56 ml 21.12 ml Wash Buffer 1X PBS 3.376 ml 162 ml 310 ml 620 ml 10% Triton X-100 31.4 µl 1.64 ml 3.13 ml 6.26 ml TOTAL REQUIRED 3.41 ml 163.7 ml 313 ml 626 ml **Quenching Buffer** Wash Buffer 97.9 µl 4.7 ml 9.40 ml 18.80 ml 1.06 ml 2.11 ml 10% H,O, 11 µl 528 µl 10% Azide 52.8 µl 106 µl 211 µl 1.1 µl TOTAL REQUIRED 110 µl 5.28 ml 10.56 ml 21.12 ml **Blocking Buffer** TOTAL REQUIRED 110 µl 5.28 ml 10.56 ml 21.12 ml Diluted total-PI3K Antibody Dilution Buffer 2080 µl 4160 µl 45 µl antibody Total-PI3K antibody 0.09 µl 4.16 µl 8.32 µl TOTAL REQUIRED 45.09 µl 2084.16 µl 4168.32 µl Diluted phospho-PI3K Antibody Dilution Buffer 45 µl 2080 µl 4160 µl _ antibody Phospho-PI3K antibody 0.09 µl 4.16 µl 8.32 µl TOTAL REQUIRED 45.09 µl 2084.16 µl 4168.32 µl Diluted HRP-conjugated Antibody Dilution Buffer 110 µl 5280 µl 10.56 ml 21.12 ml secondary antibody HRP-conjugated secondary ab 0.11 µl 5.28 µl 10.56 µl 21.12 µl TOTAL REQUIRED 110.1 µl 5285.28 µl 10.57 ml 21.14 ml 1X PBS (for wash steps) 10X PBS 154 µl 7.39 ml 14.11 ml 28.22 ml dH_O 1.39 ml 66.53 ml 127.01 ml 254.02 ml TOTAL REQUIRED 1.54 ml 73.92 ml 141.12 ml 282.24 ml Chemiluminescent Reagent Chemiluminescent 18 µl 864 µl 1.728 ml 3.46 ml Working Solution Reaction Buffer 36 µl 1.728 ml 3.456 ul 6.91 ul 5.184 ml 10.37 ml TOTAL REOUIRED 54 µl 2.592 ml 1% SDS Solution TOTAL REOUIRED 110 µl 5.28 ml 10.56 ml 21.12 ml 10.56 ml **Crystal Violet Solution** TOTAL REQUIRED 21.12 ml 110 µl 5.28 ml

F. Quick Chart for Preparing Buffers – Chemiluminescent Assay

G. Adherent Cell Protocol – Chemiluminescent Assay

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE PROTOCOL BEFORE STARTING

Step 1: Culture, fix and block cells

- Seed cells in the 96-well plate so that they will be approximately 80% confluent at the time of fixing, after they have been treated as desired. The growth area in each well of the 96-well plate is 0.32 cm². The provided plates are sterile and treated for tissue culture.
- 2. Grow and treat cells as desired.
- 3. Fix cells by replacing the growth medium with 100 μ l of 4% formaldehyde in PBS. To minimize the escape of formaldehyde vapors, place a 10 cm x 17 cm piece of parafilm over the plate and then cover the plate with the lid. The covered plate can also be placed in a zip-lock bag. Incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature.

WARNING: Formaldehyde is highly toxic. Confine vapors to a chemical hood and wear appropriate gloves and eye protection when using this chemical.

- Remove formaldehyde solution and wash cells 3 times with 200 μl Wash Buffer. Each wash step should be performed for 5 minutes with gentle shaking.
- 5. Remove Wash Buffer, add 100 μl Quenching Buffer and incubate for 20 minutes at room temperature.
- 6. Remove Quenching Buffer and wash cells 2 times for 5 minutes each with 200 μl Wash Buffer.
- 7. Remove Wash Buffer, add 100 μl Antibody Blocking Buffer and incubate 1 hour at room temperature.

Step 2: Binding of primary and secondary antibodies

- NOTE:Depending on experiment design, some wells may be incubated with diluted
phospho antibody, some with total antibody and some with secondary antibody
alone (negative controls). For negative control wells, incubate with
40 μl Antibody Dilution Buffer during the primary antibody incubation step.
- 1. Remove Antibody Blocking Buffer and wash cells 2 times with 200 µl Wash Buffer.
- 2. Remove Wash Buffer, add 40 μl of diluted primary antibody (or Antibody Dilution Buffer for negative control wells) and seal plate with sealing tape. Place a 10 cm x 17 cm piece of parafilm over the plate, cover with lid and incubate overnight at 4°C. Be sure that the plate is level and that each well is tightly sealed with the sealing tape to prevent evaporation.
 - **NOTE:** In cells known to generate high amounts of phosphorylated-PI3K, a three-hour primary antibody incubation is sufficient. For maximum sensitivity, an overnight incubation is recommended.
- 3. Remove primary antibody, wash cells 3 times for 5 minutes each with 200 µl Wash Buffer.

- 4. Remove Wash Buffer, add 100 μl diluted secondary antibody, cover plate with tissue culture plate lid or sealing tape, and incubate 1 hour at room temperature.
- 5. During this incubation, place the Chemiluminescent Reagent and Reaction Buffer at room temperature.

Step 3: Chemiluminescent detection

- 1. Remove secondary antibody, wash cells 3 times for 5 minutes with 200 µl Wash Buffer and then 2 times for 5 minutes with 200 µl IX PBS.
- Remove PBS from plate wells and add 50 µl room temperature Chemiluminescent Working Solution to each well.
- 3. Read chemiluminescence using a luminometer or CCD camera system. Readings should be taken within 10 minutes to minimize changes in signal intensity.

OPTIONAL – Crystal Violet cell staining

Crystal Violet is an intense stain that binds to the cell nuclei and gives an OD₅₉₅ reading that is proportional to cell number. If you wish to normalize your readings from above simply follow the steps below.

- After reading chemiluminescence, wash wells twice with 200 μl Wash Buffer and 2 times with 200 μl 1X PBS. Tap plates onto paper towels to remove excess liquid from wells and air-dry at room temperature for 5 minutes.
- Add 100 µl Crystal Violet solution to each well and incubate 30 minutes at room temperature.
 WARNING: Crystal Violet is an intense stain. Avoid contact with skin and clothing.
- 3. Wash wells 3 times with 200 µl 1X PBS for 5 minutes each.
- 4. Add 100 μ l of 1% SDS Solution to each well and incubate on shaker for 1 hour at room temperature.
- Read absorbance on a spectrophotometer at 595 nm. If the signals obtained are greater than the range of your spectrophotometer, the signal can be reduced by removing some (e.g. 50 µl) of the liquid from each well and replacing with an equivalent volume of dH,O.
- 6. The measured OD₅₉₅ readings indicate the relative number of cells in each well. This relative cell number is then used to normalize each reading from Step 3.

H. Non-adherent Cell Protocol – Chemiluminescent Assay

The protocol given above can be modified for use with non-adherent cells by culturing and fixing the cells as follows:

- Treat the 96-well culture plate with 10 μg/ml poly-L-Lysine for 30 minutes at 37°C. Wash twice for 5 minutes with PBS.
- 2. Seed 17,000 cells/well, or whatever amount is appropriate for your particular cell line.
- 3. Grow and treat cells as desired.
- Fix cells by replacing the growth medium with 100 μl of 8% formaldehyde in PBS. Incubate 20 minutes at room temperature.
- 5. Continue with Step 1, No. 4 of the Adherent Cell Protocol above.

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Section A. Troubleshooting Guide

Problem/question	Possible Cause	Recommendation
No signal or weak signal in wells incubated with	Omission of key reagent	Check that all reagents have been added in the correct order
either phospho-PI3K antibody or total-PI3K antibody	Substrate or conjugate is no longer active	Test conjugate and substrate for activity
	Enzyme inhibitor present	Sodium azide will inhibit the peroxidase reac- tion; follow our recommendations to prepare buffers
	Plate reader or CCD camera settings not optimal	Verify the wavelength (measurement mode) and filter settings in the plate reader
	Developing Solution was cold	Ensure that the Developing Solution is at room temperature when it is added
	Inadequate volume of Developing Solution	Check to make sure that correct volume is delivered by pipette
	Cells do not contain detectable levels of phospho PI3K and/or total PI3K	Use Western blotting to confirm that cells con- tain detectable levels of protein(s) of interest. If you do not require all of the included antibodies for FACE assays, they can be used in Colorimetric Western blotting at a 1:400 dilution for the total and a 1:1000 for the phospho antibody
	Insufficient number of cells were plated	Plate cells so that they are 80% confluent at time of fixing
	Cells did not adhere correctly to plate	Follow protocol for use of non-adherent cells
	Cells are not from correct origin	Refer to cross reactivity information on page 5
	Excessive washing	Wash steps should be 5 minutes each
	Incubation of secondary antibody was too long	Incubate secondary antibody for 1 hour
High background in all wells	Developing time too long (Colorimetric Assay)	Stop enzymatic reaction as soon as the positive wells turn medium-dark blue
	Measurement time too long (Chemiluminescent Assay)	Reduce integration time or exposure time on luminometer or CCD camera
	Concentration of antibodies too high	Perform antibody titration to determine optimal working concentration. Start using 1:500 for the phospho- and the total-antibody and 1:1000 for the secondary antibody. The sensitivity of the assay will be decreased
	Inadequate washing	Ensure all wells are filled with Wash Buffer and follow washing recommendations
	Inadequate quenching or blocking	Ensure that quenching and blocking steps were performed according to the protocol
Uneven color development	Incomplete washing of wells	Ensure all wells are filled with Wash Buffer and follow washing recommendations
	Well cross-contamination	Follow washing recommendations

Problem/question	Possible Cause	Recommendation
No signal or weak signal in wells incubated with phospho-PI3K antibody	Cell culture conditions did not induce phosphorylation of PI3K	Perform Western blot with phospho-PI3K antibody to confirm that cells contain detectable levels of phosphorylated PI3K
Antibody solution evapo- rates from well during overnight incubation with primary antibody	Sealing tape was incorrectly applied	Ensure that each well is sealed when sealing tape is applied and ensure that the parafilm sheet covers the plate completely before the lid is placed on the plate. The plate can also be placed in a zip-lock or heat-sealed bag
Insufficient sensitivity	Antibody concentration incorrect	If the cells being studied have very low levels of the protein of interest, the sensitivity of detection may be improved by increasing the concentration of primary antibody used and by minimizing the incubation volume. It is possible to perform the overnight incubation in as little as 25 µl, however, this will make multichannel pipetting difficult and requires the plate be carefully sealed and incubated on a level surface. Alternatively, if the cells have easily detectable levels of the phosphorylated protein and the detection of small changes in phosphorylation is desired, sensitivity of the assay may be improved by decreasing the concentration of the phospho antibody used
Poor precision	Cross-well read through	The 96-well plates provided are designed to minimize signal cross-well contamination. If pos- sible, do not use the phospho and total antibod- ies in adjoining wells. If this is not possible, use the total antibody at a higher dilution

Section B. Related Products

In-cell Phospho-specific ELISAs	Format	Colorimetric Kit Catalog No.	Chemiluminescent Kit Catalog No.
		0	<u>_</u>
FACE [™] AKT	1 x 96 rxns	48120	48220
FACE [™] ATF-2	1 x 96 rxns	48115	48215
FACE [™] Bad	1 x 96 rxns	48165	48265
FACE [™] c-Jun (S63)	1 x 96 rxns	48125	48225
FACE [™] c-Jun (S73)	1 x 96 rxns	48135	48235
FACE [™] c-Src	1 x 96 rxns	48155	48255
FACE [™] EGFR (Y845)	1 x 96 rxns	48340	48440
FACE [™] EGFR (Y992)	1 x 96 rxns	48150	48250
FACE [™] EGFR (Y1173)	1 x 96 rxns	48190	48290
FACE [™] ErbB-2 (Y877)	1 x 96 rxns	48130	48230
FACE [™] ErbB-2 (Y1248)	1 x 96 rxns	48105	48205
FACE [™] ERK1/2	1 x 96 rxns	48140	48240
FACE [™] FAK	1 x 96 rxns	48145	48245
FACE [™] FKHR (FOXO1)	1 x 96 rxns	48160	48260
FACE [™] HSP27	1 x 96 rxns	48350	48450
FACE [™] JAK1	1 x 96 rxns	48185	48285
FACE [™] JNK	1 x 96 rxns	48110	48210
FACE [™] MEK1/2	1 x 96 rxns	48180	48280
FACE [™] NF𝔅B p65 Profiler	3 x 96 rxns	48300	48400

In-cell Phospho-specific ELISA	ls (cont.) Format	Colorimetric Kit Catalog No.	Chemiluminescent Kit Catalog No.
FACE [™] p38	1 x 96 rxns	48100	48200
FACE [™] PI3 Kinase p85	1 x 96 rxns	48175	48275
FACE [™] STAT2	1 x 96 rxns	48310	48410
FACE [™] STAT4	1 x 96 rxns	48320	48420
FACE [™] STAT6	1 x 96 rxns	48330	48430
FACE [™] Maker	1 x 96 rxns	48000	48050
Suspension Cell FACE™	2 x 96 rxns	48305	48405
For a complete, up-to-date list of available FACE [™] Kits, please visit www.activemotif.com/face			ivemotif.com/face

Transcription Factor ELISAs	Format	Catalog No.
TransAM [™] AML-1/Runx1	1 x 96-well plate	47396
TransAM [™] AML-3/Runx2	1 x 96-well plate	44496
TransAM [™] AP-1 Family	2 x 96-well plates	44296
TransAM [™] AP-1 c-Fos	1 x 96-well plate	44096
TransAM™ AP-1 c-Jun	1 x 96-well plate	46096
TransAM [™] AP-1 FosB	1 x 96-well plate	45096
TransAM [™] AP-1 JunD	1 x 96-well plate	43496
TransAM [™] ATF-2	1 x 96-well plate	42396
TransAM [™] c-Myc	1 x 96-well plate	43396
TransAM [™] C/EBP α/β	1 x 96-well plate	44196
TransAM [™] CREB	1 x 96-well plate	42096
TransAM [™] pCREB	1 x 96-well plate	43096
TransAM [™] Elk-1	1 x 96-well plate	44396
TransAM [™] ER	1 x 96-well plate	41396
TransAM [™] FKHR (FOXO1/4)	1 x 96-well plate	46396
TransAM [™] GATA Family	2 x 96-well plates	48296
TransAM [™] GATA-4	1 x 96-well plate	46496
TransAM [™] GR	1 x 96-well plate	45496
TransAM [™] HIF-1	1 x 96-well plate	47096
TransAM [™] HNF Family	2 x 96-well plates	46296
TransAM [™] HNF-1	1 x 96-well plate	46196
TransAM [™] IRF-3 (Human)	1 x 96-well plate	48396
TransAM [™] IRF-7	1 x 96-well plate	50196
TransAM [™] MAPK Family	2 x 96-well plates	47296
TransAM [™] MEF2	1 x 96-well plate	43196
TransAM [™] MyoD	1 x 96-well plate	47196
TransAM [™] NF-YA	1 x 96-well plate	40396
TransAM [™] NFATc1	1 x 96-well plate	40296
TransAM [™] NF _K B Family	2 x 96-well plates	43296
TransAM [™] NFκB p50	1 x 96-well plate	41096
TransAM [™] NFκB p52	1 x 96-well plate	48196
TransAM [™] NFκB p65	1 x 96-well plate	40096
TransAM [™] Nrf2	1 x 96-well plate	50296
TransAM [™] Oct-4	1 x 96-well plate	42496
TransAM [™] p53	1 x 96-well plate	41196
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