

TECHNICAL MANUAL

# Lumit<sup>™</sup> Glucagon Immunoassay

Instructions for Use of Products **W8020** and **W8022** 



## Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Glucagon Immunoassay

All technical literature is available at: www.promega.com/protocols/ Visit the web site to verify that you are using the most current version of this Technical Manual. E-mail Promega Technical Services if you have questions on use of this system: techserv@promega.com

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#### 1. Description

The Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay<sup>(a,b)</sup> is a homogeneous, bioluminescent assay for detecting glucagon in solution without the need for wash steps. This immunoassay has been developed for use with cell culture samples to measure glucagon secreted from cell lines or islets. The assay has a range of 2pM−2nM glucagon and is compatible with samples from human, mouse and rat cells. (See representative data in Section 6.)

Insulin and glucagon are small peptide hormones crucial for glucose homeostasis. Glucagon is synthesized by pancreatic islet alpha cells and also by intestinal and neuronal cells (1). It is processed from a longer proglucagon peptide into the mature 29 amino acid form. Glucagon functions to restore glucose levels in the blood stream by acting on the liver to induce gluconeogenesis and reduce glycogen synthesis. Though diabetes research has historically focused on insulin, it is increasingly recognized that glucagon has a role in diabetes as well (2).

## **Assay Principle**

The Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay is based on NanoLuc® Binary Technology (NanoBiT®). NanoBiT is a luminescent structural complementation system designed for biomolecular interaction studies (3,4). The system is composed of two subunits, Large BiT (LgBiT; 18kDa) and Small BiT (SmBiT; 11 amino acid peptide), that were optimized for stability and minimal spontaneous association. In this assay, a sample is incubated with a pair of anti-glucagon monoclonal antibodies covalently labeled with SmBiT or LgBiT. When the labeled antibodies bind to glucagon, the complementary LgBiT and SmBiT are brought into proximity, thereby reconstituting NanoBiT® enzyme and generating luminescence in the presence of the Lumit™ substrate. The luminescent signal is directly proportional to the amount of glucagon present in the sample (Figure 1).

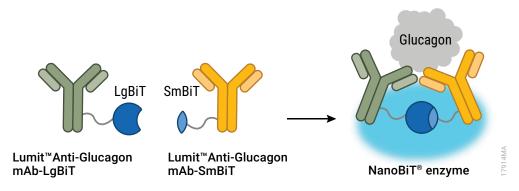
#### **Assay Format**

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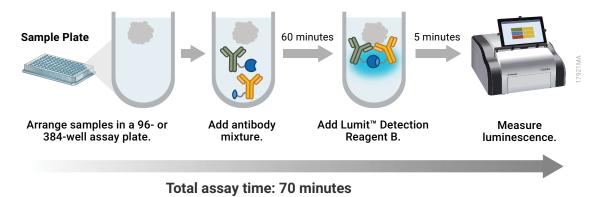
The no-wash, in-solution protocol for this immunoassay (Figure 2) offers flexibility in terms of both the number of data points that can be assayed in an experiment and the volume of sample that can be used. It is compatible with various multiwell formats (e.g., 96- and 384-well) and multiple sample volumes (i.e.,  $5-100\mu$ l).

Customize the assay format to your needs, provided you maintain the ratio of sample to reagent volume. The number of data points that can be collected using several sample volumes are listed in Table 1. For example, one kit (Cat.# W8020, 100-400 assays) is enough for 100 assays in 96-well plates ( $50\mu$ l sample volume) or 400 assays in 384-well plates ( $12.5\mu$ l sample volume).





**Figure 1. Assay principle.** Primary monoclonal antibodies to glucagon are labeled with SmBiT and LgBiT. In the presence of glucagon, SmBiT and LgBiT are brought into proximity, forming active NanoBiT<sup>®</sup> enzyme. When Lumit™ Detection Reagent B is added, a bright luminescent signal is generated.



**Figure 2. Assay protocol.** The Lumit<sup>™</sup> Glucagon Immunoassay is performed using samples containing glucagon in a 96- or 384-well assay plate. The Lumit<sup>™</sup> Immunoassay protocol does not require wash steps and is complete in 70 minutes.



#### 1. Description (continued)

Table 1. Multiwell Assay Formats.

|   | Glucagon<br>Sample<br>Volume | Anti-Glucagon<br>Antibody Mix<br>Volume | Lumit™ Detection Reagent B Volume | Total<br>Reaction<br>Volume | Recommended<br>Multiwell Plate | Cat.# W8020<br>Number of<br>Assays | Cat.# W8022<br>Number of<br>Assays |
|---|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|   | 100μl                        | 100μl                                   | 50µl                              | 250µl                       | 96-well                        | 50                                 | 250                                |
| * | 50µl                         | 50µl                                    | 25µl                              | 125µl                       | 96-well                        | 100                                | 500                                |
|   | 25µl                         | 25μl                                    | 12.5µl                            | 62.5µl                      | 96-well half area              | 200                                | 1,000                              |
| * | 12.5µl                       | 12.5µl                                  | 6.25µl                            | 31.1µl                      | 96-well half area<br>384-well  | 400                                | 2,000                              |
|   | 10μl                         | 10μl                                    | 5μl                               | 25μl                        | 96-well half area<br>384-well  | 500                                | 2,500                              |
|   | 5μl                          | 5μl                                     | 2.5µl                             | 12.5μl                      | 384-well, low<br>volume        | 1,000                              | 5,000                              |

**Note:** In addition to the formats specified in the kit description (\* rows), the assay setup is highly flexible and can be scaled up or down. The assay can be adapted to many sample volumes provided the 1:1:0.5 ratio of Sample Volume:Anti-Glucagon Antibody Mix:Lumit™ Detection Reagent B is maintained. See Section 8.A for more information about multiwell plates.

### 2. Product Components and Storage Conditions

| Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay | 100-400 assays | W8020 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------|
| PRODUCT                     | SIZE           | CAT.# |

Sufficient for 100 assays in 96-well plates or 400 assays in 384-well plates. Includes:

- 15μl Lumit™ Anti-Glucagon mAb-SmBiT, 400X
- 15µl Lumit™ Anti-Glucagon mAb-LgBiT, 400X
- 5.5ml Lumit™ Antibody Dilution Buffer B
- 25µl Glucagon Positive Control
- 160µl Lumit™ Detection Substrate B
- 3.2ml Lumit™ Detection Buffer B



PRODUCT SIZE CAT.#

#### Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay

500-2,000 assays

W8022

Sufficient for 500 assays in 96-well plates or 2,000 assays in 384-well plates. Includes:

- 5 × 15μl Lumit<sup>™</sup> Anti-Glucagon mAb-SmBiT, 400X
- 5 × 15µl Lumit<sup>™</sup> Anti-Glucagon mAb-LgBiT, 400X
- 5 × 5.5ml Lumit<sup>™</sup> Antibody Dilution Buffer B
- 5 × 25µl Glucagon Positive Control
- 5 × 160µl Lumit™ Detection Substrate B
- 5 × 3.2ml Lumit™ Detection Buffer B

**Storage Conditions:** Store all components at  $-30^{\circ}$ C to  $-10^{\circ}$ C, with the following exceptions. After thawing, the Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Antibody Dilution Buffer B can be stored at  $+2^{\circ}$ C to  $+10^{\circ}$ C and the Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Buffer B can be stored at  $+15^{\circ}$ C to  $+30^{\circ}$ C. Do not freeze-thaw any components more than three times.

### 3. Before You Begin

#### **Reagent Preparation**

The Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Antibody Dilution Buffer B and Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Buffer B must be thawed and equilibrated to room temperature for the experiment. The Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Buffer B can be thawed overnight at room temperature and stored at room temperature once opened. The Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Antibody Dilution Buffer can be thawed overnight at  $4^{\circ}$ C and then equilibrated to room temperature on the day of the experiment. It can be stored at either  $4^{\circ}$ C or  $-20^{\circ}$ C once opened. Please note that the Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Antibody Dilution Buffer B is sensitive to contamination; be careful to maintain reagent sterility.

To conserve components, prepare only the amount of anti-glucagon antibody mixture and Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Reagent B needed for the number of reactions in the experiment. When calculating the amount of anti-glucagon antibody mixture and Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Reagent B needed for the number of samples that will be tested, add some extra (e.g., one to two assays) to compensate for pipetting variability. Also include glucagon positive and negative control samples in your calculations. For negative controls, use wells containing only buffer that can be used to measure assay background (background controls).

Prepare the anti-glucagon antibody mixture, Lumit™ Detection Reagent B and Glucagon Positive Control dilutions fresh on the day of use. Do not store and reuse these preparations.



#### 3. Before You Begin (continued)

#### **Sample Buffer Considerations**

The assay is compatible with commonly used PBS and Krebs-Ringer Bicarbonate (KRB) Buffer formulations. KRB often forms the basis for buffers used to collect secreted insulin and glucagon samples in glucose-stimulated insulin secretion (GSIS) or pancreatic islet secretion experiments. These sample buffers typically include BSA. To avoid interference with Lumit $^{\text{TM}}$  Immunoassay chemistry, the recommended BSA concentrations are 0.1–0.4%, with 0.1% BSA being the preferred concentration. An example sample buffer formulation can be found in Section 8.A.

As the exact buffer composition and BSA concentration will affect the absolute value of the relative light units (RLU), all samples and dilutions of the Glucagon Positive Control should be prepared in the same buffer.



Use personal protective equipment and follow your institution's safety guidelines and disposal requirements when working with biohazardous materials such as cells and cell culture reagents.

#### Materials to Be Supplied by the User

- white, multiwell assay plates compatible with a luminometer (solid white or white with clear bottom; also see Section 8.A.)
- multichannel pipette
- pipette tips, preferably with aerosol filters
- multichamber, dilution reservoir (e.g., Dilux® D-1002) or tubes for dilutions
- reagent reservoir trays (e.g., Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat.# 8095)
- plate shaker for mixing multiwell plates
- luminometer capable of reading multiwell plates (e.g., GloMax® Discover Microplate Reader, Cat.# GM3000)

#### 4. Protocol for Measuring Glucagon

This protocol describes the assay of samples containing glucagon in multiwell assay plates based on a glucagon sample volume of  $50\mu$ l assayed in a 96-well plate. For this sample volume, the reaction includes:  $50\mu$ l of glucagon sample +  $50\mu$ l of antibody mixture +  $25\mu$ l of Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Reagent B.

However, other sample volumes and plates can be used if the 1:1:0.5 volume ratio of glucagon sample:antibody mixture:Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Reagent B is maintained, e.g.,  $12.5\mu l + 12.5\mu l + 6.25\mu l$  in 384-well plates. The volumes of antibody mixture and Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Reagent B needed for additional sample volumes can be found in Table 1.

#### 4.A. Preparing Samples

This assay has been developed for use with cell culture samples to measure glucagon secretion from cell lines or islets.

Assay performance with additional sample types must be determined by the user.

- 1. Collect glucagon samples in a buffer compatible with the assay (see Sample Buffer Considerations above).
- 2. Dilute samples into the assay range (2pM-2nM) if needed.



#### 4.B. Diluting the Glucagon Positive Control

A Glucagon Positive Control ( $500\mu M$ ) is provided with the immunoassay. This positive control can be used to assess the assay performance as well as measure the glucagon amount in samples.

Wells containing only buffer should be included in all experiments as background controls. These wells are used to measure the assay background signal and to calculate the signal-to-background and signal-to-noise ratios.

To measure the amount of glucagon in samples, prepare a titration curve using the provided Glucagon Positive Control. The Glucagon Positive Control provided with the kit is a  $500\mu M$  stock of glucagon (synthetic glucagon). It should be diluted to at least 2nM to establish the upper limit of the titration curve. Two- or threefold serial dilutions can then be prepared for an 8- or 12-point curve. This protocol is for generating a 12-point curve with twofold serial dilutions. Representative data are shown in Figure 4 and Table 2.

As different buffers and their components, such as BSA, can affect light output, it is important that the glucagon dilutions be prepared in the same buffer as the samples.

- 1. Thaw the Glucagon Positive Control immediately before use.
- 2. Briefly centrifuge the tube to collect all contents at the bottom of the tube before opening.
- 3. Mix by gently vortexing.
- 4. Prepare an initial concentration of  $5\mu M$  glucagon by diluting the Glucagon Positive Control 100-fold into the same buffer solution as the test samples. Follow this with an additional 100-fold dilution and 25-fold dilution. Recommended volumes are below (see Figure 3).
  - Prepare 5µM glucagon by adding 10µl of Glucagon Positive Control to 990µl of buffer.
  - Prepare 50nM glucagon by adding 10μl of 5μM glucagon to 990μl of buffer.
  - Prepare 2nM glucagon by adding 40µl of 50nM glucagon to 960µl of buffer.

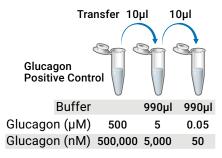
**Note:** Mix thoroughly after each dilution. Change pipette tips between each dilution to avoid glucagon carryover and use aerosol filter tips. The range of the assay is large, so carryover from high to low concentrations can compromise the dilution series linearity.

5. Continue to prepare 10 twofold serial dilutions of the insulin in tubes or a multichamber dilution reservoir. The last tube or chamber should contain only buffer for the background control.

**Note:** Mix each dilution thoroughly before moving to the next tube or chamber. Be careful not to contaminate the background control with glucagon.



#### 4.B. Diluting the Glucagon Positive Control (continued)



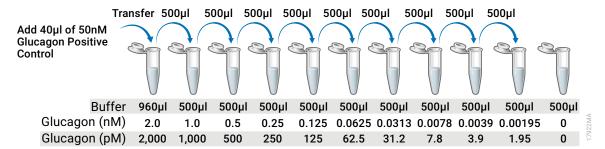


Figure 3. Glucagon Positive Control dilution series.

#### 4.C. Adding the Samples

- 1. Add 50µl of each glucagon experimental sample to the wells of a 96-well plate.
- Add 50µl of each Glucagon Positive Control dilution and background control to the wells of the 96-well plate.
   Note: We recommend assaying each sample, dilution and background control in duplicate or triplicate. If possible, assay samples and controls on the same plate.

#### 4.D. Adding the Anti-Glucagon Antibody Mixture

After adding samples and controls to the assay plate, prepare the anti-glucagon antibody mixture.

- Use the Lumit<sup>™</sup> Antibody Dilution Buffer B that has been thawed and equilibrated to room temperature (see Section 3, Reagent Preparation).
- 2. Remove the Lumit<sup>™</sup> Anti-Glucagon mAb-SmBiT and Lumit<sup>™</sup> Anti-Glucagon mAb-LgBiT antibodies from -30°C to -10°C immediately before use and hold on ice.
- 3. Briefly centrifuge the tubes to collect all contents at the bottom of the tube before opening.
- 4. Gently vortex the tubes to mix.

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5. Immediately prior to use, prepare the anti-glucagon antibody mixture by diluting both antibodies into the Lumit™ Antibody Dilution Buffer B. Calculate the amount needed using the table below. The dilution ratio is 2.5µl of each antibody to 1ml of Lumit™ Antibody Dilution Buffer B.

|   | Volume per   | Volume per |
|---|--------------|------------|
| Reagent                                       | Well         | 100 Wells  |
| Lumit <sup>™</sup> Antibody Dilution Buffer B | 50µl         | 5ml        |
| Lumit™ Anti-Glucagon mAb-SmBiT                | $0.125\mu l$ | 12.5μl     |
| Lumit™ Anti-Glucagon mAb-LgBiT                | 0.125µl      | 12.5μl     |

- 6. Thoroughly mix the anti-glucagon antibody mixture by gently vortexing.
- Add 50μl of the antibody mixture to the wells containing glucagon test samples, background controls and positive controls.
- 8. Gently shake the plate to mix. **Optional:** Briefly mix with a plate shaker (e.g., 20 seconds at 250–350 rpm).
- 9. Incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature.

#### **4.E.** Adding Lumit™ Detection Reagent B

Prepare the Lumit™ Detection Reagent B while the samples are incubating with the anti-glucagon antibody mixture (Section 4.D). Begin preparations approximately 10 minutes before the end of the incubation period.

- Use the Lumit<sup>™</sup> Detection Buffer B that has been thawed and equilibrated to room temperature (see Section 3, Reagent Preparation).
- 2. Remove the Lumit<sup>™</sup> Detection Substrate B from -30°C to -10°C storage, mix and briefly centrifuge.
- 3. Prepare Lumit™ Detection Reagent B by making a 20-fold dilution of Lumit™ Detection Substrate B in Lumit™ Detection Buffer B. Prepare enough volume of Lumit™ Detection Reagent B for the number of wells to be assayed.

|   | Volume per  | Volume per |
|---|-------------|------------|
| Reagent   | Well        | 100 Wells  |
| Lumit™ Detection Buffer B                               | 23.75μl     | 2.375ml    |
| $Lumit^{\scriptscriptstyleTM}\ Detection\ Substrate\ B$ | $1.25\mu l$ | 125µl      |
| Total Volume  | 25µl        | 2.5ml      |

**Note:** Prepare the reagent just before needed. Once reconstituted, Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Detection Reagent B will lose 10% activity in approximately 3 hours at  $+10^{\circ}$ C to  $+30^{\circ}$ C.

- 4. Transfer the Lumit™ Detection Reagent B to a reagent reservoir tray for easy pipetting.
- 5. Add 25µl of Lumit™ Detection Reagent B to each well.

**Note:** Work quickly and efficiently using a multichannel pipette to minimize variability from well-to-well and across the plate.



#### **4.E.** Adding Lumit<sup>™</sup> Detection Reagent B (continued)

- 6. Gently shake the plate to mix.
  - **Optional:** Briefly mix with a plate shaker (e.g., 20 seconds at 250–350 rpm).
- 7. Incubate 3–5 minutes at room temperature.
- 8. Read luminescence.

**Note:** If there is more than one plate in the experiment, add the Lumit<sup>™</sup> Detection Reagent B to the first plate and read that plate, before adding reagent to the second plate. Continue in this way until all plates have been read. For more information, see Signal Stability in Section 8.A, General Considerations.

#### 5. Assay Controls and Data Analysis

The Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay contains a Glucagon Positive Control that can be used to assess assay performance and determine glucagon concentrations in experimental samples.

Assay performance can be evaluated using positive controls prepared from the Glucagon Positive Control and negative background controls consisting of wells containing buffer only. For this analysis, a glucagon dilution series is prepared and each concentration assayed in duplicate or triplicate. The data from replicate wells is averaged and plotted. The data are used to define the linear range of the assay and calculate parameters such as signal-to-background ratios, signal-to-noise ratios and sensitivity.

When signals from experimental samples fall within the linear range of the assay, there is a linear relationship between RLU and glucagon concentration, and samples can be directly compared. Results can be described simply in terms of RLU or a sample-to-sample ratio, such as "fold increased glucagon secretion" calculated from a treated and untreated sample. When working with signals close to the background control, first subtract the background control signal from all samples.

Glucagon concentration in experimental samples can be calculated using the linear equation generated by plotting the titration curve of the Glucagon Positive Control. When planning the dilution series, select concentrations that encompass the range of your experimental samples. Each dilution should be assayed in duplicate or triplicate. The signals from replicate wells are averaged and plotted. The graph can then be used to estimate glucagon concentration in experimental samples.



#### 6. Representative Data

#### 6.A. Assay Performance

#### **Titration of Glucagon Positive Control**

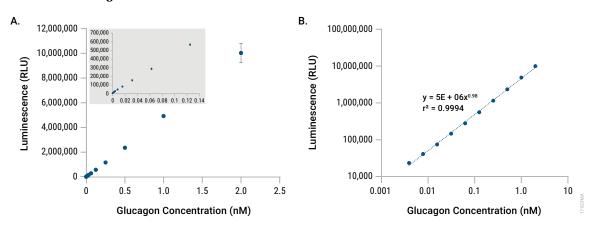


Figure 4. Titration curve for the Lumit<sup>TM</sup> Glucagon Immunoassay. The Glucagon Positive Control was serially diluted in PBS Buffer + 0.1% BSA. Fifty microliters of each concentration was assayed in triplicate in 96-well plates. The luminescence (RLU) was recorded using a GloMax® Discover System. The average RLU values are in Table 2. Error bars are  $\pm 1$  standard deviation. Panel A. Linear-linear plot; the gray inset graph is an expanded view of the points close to 0. Panel B. Log-Log plot with background-subtracted RLU.

**Note:** These are representative titration curves. Absolute RLU values vary based on many experimental factors. Therefore, they should not be used for interpolation of unknowns. Generate a titration curve for each experiment to interpolate experimental samples.



#### 6.A. Assay Performance (continued)

Table 2. Titration Curve for the Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay.

|    | Glucagon<br>(nM) | Glucagon (pM) | Glucagon<br>pg/ml <sup>a</sup> | Average<br>RLU | Standard<br>Deviation | Percent<br>CV | Signal-to-<br>Noise <sup>b</sup> | Signal-to-<br>Background <sup>c</sup> |
|----|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1  | 2                | 2,000         | 6,960                          | 10,019,750     | 780,410               | 7.8           | 20,600                           | 1,198                                 |
| 2  | 1                | 1,000         | 3,480                          | 4,921,250      | 88,808                | 1.8           | 10,109                           | 588                                   |
| 3  | 0.5              | 500           | 1,740                          | 2,357,000      | 57,695                | 2.4           | 4,833                            | 282                                   |
| 4  | 0.25             | 250           | 870                            | 1,165,500      | 27,197                | 2.3           | 2,381                            | 139                                   |
| 5  | 0.125            | 125           | 435                            | 567,600        | 10,231                | 1.8           | 1,151                            | 68                                    |
| 6  | 0.0625           | 63            | 218                            | 288,275        | 5,200                 | 1.8           | 576                              | 34                                    |
| 7  | 0.0313           | 31            | 109                            | 155,150        | 2,977                 | 1.9           | 302                              | 19                                    |
| 8  | 0.0156           | 16            | 54                             | 83,132         | 1,251                 | 1.5           | 154                              | 10                                    |
| 9  | 0.00781          | 8             | 27                             | 49,512         | 1,023                 | 2.1           | 85                               | 6                                     |
| 10 | 0.00391          | 4             | 14                             | 31,895         | 447                   | 1.4           | 48                               | 4                                     |
| 11 | 0.00195          | 2             | 7                              | 20,370         | 324                   | 1.6           | 25                               | 2                                     |
| 12 | 0                | 0             | 0                              | 8,366          | 486                   | 5.8           | 0                                | 1                                     |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Calculated using a value of 1nM = 3,480pg/ml.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>Signal divided by signal of the background control (0nM sample).

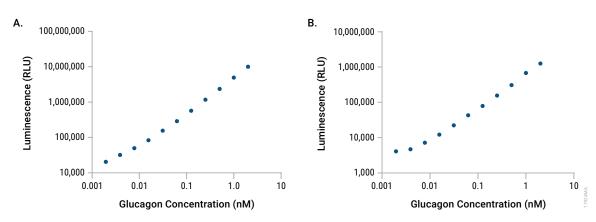


Figure 5. Titration curve for the Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay using lower assay volumes. The Glucagon Positive Control was serially diluted in PBS Buffer + 0.1% BSA and assayed in quadruplicate in either 96- or 384-well plates. Panel A. Assayed 50µl of each dilution in 96-well plates. Panel B. Assayed 12.5µl of each dilution in 384-well plates. The luminescence (RLU) was recorded using a GloMax® Discover System. Error bars are ±1 standard deviation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>The signal-to-noise ratios were calculated using the formula: (average signal – average signal of the background control)/ standard deviation of the background control.



#### **6.B** Example Data with Islets

#### **Perifusion of Mouse Islets**

Perifusion is a powerful method for studying insulin and glucagon secretion over time and in response to sequential treatments. The time-resolved data provides important insights into the islet function. Samples are collected frequently (e.g., every minute) over an extended time (e.g., >1 hour). To obtain the most useful information from the data set, assay all samples. However, the large sample number can make this prohibitive when using traditional ELISA methods. The Lumit™ Immunoassay solution-based approach can facilitate analysis. Many samples can be assayed quickly and in 384-well formats. In addition, because minimal sample volumes are needed, collected samples can be split into two wells to assay for both insulin and glucagon using the Lumit™ Insulin and Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay, respectively. For more information on Lumit™ Immunoassays, see www.promega.com/products/immunoassay-elisa/lumitimmunoassays/metabolic-target-research-with-lumit-immunoassays/

An example of using Lumit™ Insulin and Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassays to test mouse islet perifusion samples is shown in Figure 6. The same samples were analyzed for both hormones, allowing the two data sets to be superimposed.



#### 6.B Example Data with Islets (continued)

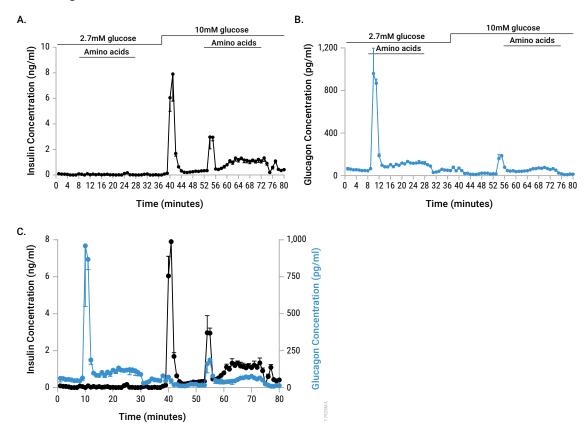


Figure 6. Perifusion experiments: Measuring insulin and glucagon. Insulin and glucagon secretion were measured in samples collected during perifusion experiments. This data was kindly provided by Drs. Hannah Foster and Matthew Merrins, University of Wisconsin VA Hospital, Madison, WI. The samples were collected according to published protocols (5). Briefly, 80 mouse islets were placed in triplicate chambers of a perifusion instrument (Biorep, Miami Lakes, Florida). The islets were treated with 2.7mM glucose and then 10mM glucose, in a combination with an amino acid mixture. Perifusate (100µl) was collected every minute. Ten microliters of each sample were transferred into wells of a 384-well plate and assayed for either insulin (Panel A) or glucagon (Panel B). Panel C. The superimposed data sets. The data is the average of triplicate chambers and the error bars are plus or minus 1 standard deviation.



## 7. Troubleshooting

For questions not addressed here, please contact your local Promega Branch Office or Distributor. Contact information available at: www.promega.com. E-mail: techserv@promega.com

| Symptom  | Causes and Comments   |
|--|---|
| RLUs are not identical to those in this Technical Manual   | Bioluminescent signal intensity, i.e., absolute RLU, will vary between laboratories due to several factors, such as specific experimental conditions (buffers, volumes), as well as plates and plate readers. Establish the assay performance in your lab with the sample buffer, plates and instruments you will be using. The Glucagon Positive Control provided in the kit can be used to generate a titration curve that will help establish the parameters expected in your lab. Range and signal-to-background ratio are some parameters that can be noted. |
| Luminescence for the titration curve is variable   | There may be some variation in absolute RLU due to experimental conditions, such as specific buffers used, temperature, etc. Include a titration curve for each experiment, run under the same conditions as the test samples, to measure glucagon concentrations. Though the RLU may vary, the assay range and signal-to-background should still be as previously observed.  |
| The glucagon titration curve is not linear   | Mix each dilution thoroughly before moving on to the next tube or chamber. The dilutions should be carefully prepared, avoiding carryover from a higher concentration. The sensitivity of the assay and the broad range (~3 logs) means that any carryover will compromise the linearity of the dilution series. We recommend changing pipette tips after each dilution step. Also, make sure that no glucagon contaminates the background control.   |
| Dilutions at higher concentrations have lower light units than dilutions at lower concentrations | The dilutions at higher concentrations are above the range of the assay and need to be further diluted. This is due to the Hook Effect, which occurs when excess antigen prevents both antibodies from binding to a single antigen thereby preventing the LgBiT and SmBiT from complementing each other.  |
| High background observed   | Background can be increased by the spurious association of the antibodies over time. Another cause of high background is glucagon contamination of the buffer or background control wells. Avoid contamination by changing tips often and preparing the glucagon dilution series separately from the Anti-Glucagon Antibody Mixture. Do not create the antibody mixture too far in advance to prevent elevated background.  |



#### 8. Appendix

#### 8.A. General Considerations

#### **Sample Buffer Formulations**

An example of a sample buffer that is compatible with the Lumit™ Glucagon Immunoassay has the following composition:

136mM NaCl

4.7mM KCl

1.2mM MgSO

1mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>

1.2mM KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>

5mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub>

10mM HEPES pH 7.5

0.1% BSA

#### **Species Specificity**

These antibodies recognize human, mouse and rat glucagon.

#### **Cross-Reactivity**

Cross-reactivity with GLP-1 and oxyntomodulin were determined. All were tested at a range of concentrations up to 2nM and the percent of glucagon light signal was calculated.

| Peptide       | Glucagon Signal Percent        |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| GLP-1         | not detectable over background |
| Oxyntomodulin | 6%                             |

#### **Signal Stability**

After the addition of the Lumit™ Detection Reagent B, the light signal is stable with a half-life of approximately 1 hour.

There are two approaches to read multiple assay plates to allow for plate-to-plate light signal comparisons.

One approach is to add the Lumit<sup>™</sup> Detection Reagent B to one assay plate at a time and read after 3–5 minutes. In this way, the light units will be consistent from plate to plate.

The second approach is to add the Lumit™ Detection Reagent B to all assay plates at once. The 1 hour signal half-life is compatible with this batch processing of multiple plates. To control for any decrease in light signal during the time it takes to read multiple plates, we recommend incorporating positive controls on each assay plate for normalization.



#### **Temperature**

The intensity and stability of the luminescent signal is temperature sensitive. For consistent results, equilibrate sample buffers, Lumit™ Antibody Dilution Buffer and Lumit™ Detection Buffer B to room temperature before use. Insufficient equilibration may result in increased well-to-well variability across the plate.

#### **Assay Plates and Equipment**

Use **opaque**, **white-walled multiwell plates** for the bioluminescent assay. Light signal is diminished in black plates. Increased well-to-well crosstalk is observed in clear plates.

The assay is compatible with various multiwell plate formats (96- and 384-well; Table 1) and multiple sample volumes (5–100µl; Table 1). Examples of plates are below. Choose plates that are compatible with your luminometer.

All standard plate readers capable of reading luminescence are suitable for this assay. An integration time of 0.25–1 second per well should be suitable. Some instruments might require optimizing the gain settings to achieve sensitivity and dynamic range. Consult the instrument manual for instrument settings.

The GloMax® Discover Microplate Reader has a pre-installed "Lumit Immunoassay" protocol under the 'Luminescence Protocols' tab that can be used. It has a 0.5 second integration time.

Note: The light signal values will vary depending on the specific plates and luminometers used to generate the data.

| Plate Format             | Plate Catalog Numbers |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 96-well                  | Corning# 3912         |
| 96-well, half-area       | Corning# 3693         |
| 384-well, regular volume | Corning# 3572         |
| 384-well, low volume     | Corning# 4512         |

#### 8.B. References

- 1. Müller, T.D. et al. (2017) The new biology and pharmacology of glucagon. Physiol. Rev. 97, 721–66.
- 2. Ojha, A. *et al.* (2019) Current perspective on the role of insulin and glucagon in the pathogenesis and treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus. *Clin. Pharmacol.* **11**, 57–65.
- 3. Dixon, A.S. *et al.* (2016) NanoLuc complementation reporter optimized for accurate measurement of protein interactions in cells. *ACS Chem. Biol.* **11**, 400–8.
- 4. Hwang, B. *et al.* (2020) A homogeneous bioluminescent immunoassay to probe cellular signaling pathway regulation. *Commun. Biol.* **3.** 8.
- 5. Lewandowski, S.L. *et al.* (2020) Pyruvate kinase controls signal strength in the insulin secretory pathway. *Cell Metab.* **32**, 736–50.



#### 8.C. Related Products

## **Energy Metabolism Assays**

| Product                                  | Size | Cat.# |
|--|------|-------|
| Glucose Uptake-Glo™ Assay                | 5ml  | J1341 |
| Lactate-Glo™ Assay                       | 5ml  | J5021 |
| Glucose-Glo™ Assay                       | 5ml  | J6021 |
| Glutamine/Glutamate-Glo™ Assay           | 5ml  | J8021 |
| Glycerol-Glo™ Assay                      | 5ml  | J3150 |
| Triglyceride-Glo™ Assay                  | 5ml  | J3160 |
| Cholesterol/Cholesterol Ester-Glo™ Assay | 5ml  | J3190 |
| Additional sizes available.              |      |       |

## **Oxidative Stress Assays**

| Product                                      | Size | Cat.# |
|--|------|-------|
| NAD/NADH-Glo™ Assay                          | 10ml | G9071 |
| NADP/NADPH-Glo™ Assay                        | 10ml | G9081 |
| ROS-Glo™ H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Assay | 10ml | G8820 |
| GSH/GSSG-Glo™ Assay                          | 10ml | V6611 |
| Additional sizes available.                  |      |       |

## **Inflammation Assays**

| Product                                | Size       | Cat.#  |
|--|------------|--------|
| Lumit™ Human IL-1β Immunoassay*        | 100 assays | W6010  |
| Lumit™ Mouse IL-1β Immunoassay*        | 100 assays | W7010  |
| Lumit™ (Human) IL-2 Immunoassay*       | 100 assays | W6020  |
| Lumit™ (Human) IL-6 Immunoassay*       | 100 assays | W6030  |
| Lumit™ (Human) IL-4 Immunoassay*       | 100 assays | W6060  |
| Lumit™ (Human) IL-10 Immunoassay*      | 100 assays | W6070  |
| Lumit™ (Human) IFN-γ Immunoassay*      | 100 assays | W6040  |
| Lumit™ (Human) TNF-α Immunoassay*      | 100 assays | W6050  |
| Caspase-Glo® 1 Inflammasome Assay      | 10ml       | G9951  |
| RealTime-Glo™ Extracellular ATP Assay* | 200 assays | GA5010 |

<sup>\*</sup>Additional sizes available.



## Lumit<sup>™</sup> Immunoassay Reagents

| Product   | Size       | Cat.#  |
|---|------------|--------|
| Lumit™ Immunoassay Labeling Kit                 | 1 each     | VB2500 |
| Lumit™ Detection Reagent B*                     | 100 assays | VB4050 |
| Lumit™ Immunoassay Cellular Systems-Starter Kit | 200 assays | W1220  |

<sup>\*</sup>Additional sizes available.

## **Cell Viability Assays**

| Product                                 | Size          | Cat.# |
|---|---------------|-------|
| CellTiter-Glo® 3D Cell Viability Assay  | 10ml          | G9681 |
| CellTiter-Glo® 2.0 Cell Viability Assay | 10ml          | G9241 |
| RealTime-Glo™ MT Cell Viability Assay   | 100 reactions | G9711 |
| CellTiter-Fluor™ Cell Viability Assay   | 10ml          | G6080 |
| A J J'a'1 -!!1-1.1-                     |               |       |

Additional sizes available.

## **Cytotoxicity Assays**

| Product                           | Size | Cat.# |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------|
| LDH-Glo™ Cytotoxicity Assay       | 10ml | J2380 |
| CytoTox-Glo™ Cytotoxicity Assay   | 10ml | G9290 |
| CellTox™ Green Cytotoxicity Assay | 10ml | G8741 |
| Additional sizes available.       |      |       |

## Apoptosis Assays

| Product  | Size       | Cat.#  |
|--|------------|--------|
| Caspase-Glo® 3/7 Assay System                        | 2.5ml      | G8090  |
| Caspase-Glo® 8 Assay System                          | 2.5ml      | G8200  |
| Caspase-Glo® 9 Assay System                          | 2.5ml      | G8210  |
| RealTime-Glo™ Annexin V Apoptosis and Necrosis Assay | 100 assays | JA1011 |

Additional sizes available.



(a) U.S. Pat. Nos. 9,797,889; 9,797,890; 10,107,800; 10,648,971; and other patents and patents pending.

(b) U.S. Pat. No. 8,809,529, European Pat. No. 2635582, and other patents and patents pending.

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