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PathHunter[®] β-Arrestin GPCR Assays

For Chemiluminescent Detection of Activated GPCRs

User Manual

CONTENTS NOTES:

LEGAL SECTION	PAGE 3
INTENDED USE	PAGE 4
TECHNOLOGY PRINCIPLE	PAGE 4
ASSAY OVERVIEW	PAGE 5
RECOMMENDED MATERIALS MATERIALS PROVIDED	PAGE 5 PAGE 5
ADDITIONAL MATERIALS REQUIRED (NOT PROVIDED)	PAGE 6
FROZEN CELL HANDLING PROCEDURE	PAGE 6
CELL PLATING REAGENT REQUIREMENTS	PAGE 6
SOLVENTS AND PREPARATION OF COMPOUND DILUTIONS	PAGE 7
USE OF PLASMA OR SERUM CONTAINING SAMPLES	PAGE 7
STORING & REMOVING CRYOVIALS FROM LIQUID NITROGEN	PAGE 7
CELL THAWING AND PROPAGATION	PAGE 8
CELL FREEZING PROTOCOL	PAGE 9
PREPARATION OF ASSAY PLATES	
ASSAY PROCEDURE — AGONIST DOSE RESPONSE	PAGE 10
◆PROTOCOL ◆QUICK START PROCEDURE	PAGE 13
ASSAY PROCEDURE — ANTAGONIST DOSE RESPONSE ◆PROTOCOL	PAGE 14
◆QUICK START PROCEDURE	PAGE 17
ASSAY PROCEDURE — ALLOSTERIC MODULATOR RESPONSE PROTOCOL	PAGE 18 PAGE 21
◆QUICK START PROCEDURE	TAGE 21
ASSAY PROCEDURE — NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY RESPONSE ◆PROTOCOL	PAGE 22
◆QUICK START PROCEDURE	PAGE 25
ASSAY PROCEDURE — Ca ²⁺ MOBILIZATION DOSE RESPONSE (Gq COUPLED RECEPTORS)	PAGE 26
◆PROTOCOL ◆QUICK START PROCEDURE	PAGE 30
TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE	PAGE 31
APPENDIX A: ASSAY FORMATS	PAGE 33
APPENDIX B: RELATED PRODUCTS	PAGE 33

NOTES:

LEGAL SECTION

This product and/or its use is covered by one or more of the following U.S. patents #6,342,345 B1, #7,135,325 B2, #8,101,373 B2 and/or foreign patents, patent applications, and trade secrets that are either owned by or licensed to DiscoveRx® Corporation. This product is for *in vitro* use only and in no event can this product be used in whole animals. The right to use or practice the inventions in the foregoing patents (including method of use claims) by using or propagating this product is granted solely in connection with the use of appropriate Detection Reagents (protected under trade secret) purchased from DiscoveRx® Corporation or its authorized distributors.

LIMITED USE LICENSE AGREEMENT

The cells and detection reagents (collectively Materials) purchased from DiscoveRx® are expressly restricted in their use. DiscoveRx has developed a Protein:Protein Interaction assay (Assay) that employs genetically modified cells and vectors (collectively, the "Cells"), and related detection reagents (the "Reagents") (collectively referred to as "Materials"). By purchasing and using the Materials, the Purchaser agrees to comply with the following terms and conditions of this label license and recognizes and agrees to such restrictions:

- 1. The Materials are not transferable and will be used only at the site for which they were purchased. Transfer to another site owned by Purchaser will be permitted only upon written request by Purchaser followed by subsequent written approval by DiscoveRx.
- The Reagents contain or are based upon the proprietary and valuable know-how developed by DiscoveRx, and the Reagents have been optimized by DiscoveRx to function more effectively with the Cells in performing the Assay. Purchaser will not analyze or reverse engineer the Materials nor have them analyzed on Purchaser's behalf.
- 3. In performing the Assay, Purchaser will use only Reagents supplied by DiscoveRx or an authorized DiscoveRx distributor for the Materials.

If the purchaser is not willing to accept the limitations of this limited use statement and/or has any further questions regarding the rights conferred with purchase of the Materials, please contact:

Licensing Department

DiscoveRx Corporation 42501 Albrae Street Fremont, CA 94538 USA tel | 1.510.979.1415 x104 info@discoverx.com

For some products/cell lines, certain 3rd party gene specific patents may be required to use the cell line. It is the purchaser's responsibility to determine if such patents or other intellectual property rights are required.

INTENDED USE

PathHunter[®] β-Arrestin **GPCR Assays** are whole cell, functional assays that directly measure GPCR activity by detecting the interaction of β-Arrestin with the activated GPCR. Because Arrestin recruitment occurs independent of G-protein coupling, PathHunter β-Arrestin assays offer a powerful and universal screening platform that can be used with virtually any Gi-, Gs-, or Gq-coupled receptor. This PathHunter system combines engineered clonal cell lines stably expressing the ProLinkTM (PK)-tagged GPCR of interest and the Enzyme acceptor (EA)-tagged β-Arrestin fusion proteins with optimized PathHunter Detection Reagents (Cat. #93-0001, 93-0001L and 93-0001XL). Each cell line has been characterized for appropriate GPCR pharmacology, specificity and stability in cell culture. By combining a simple, one-step addition protocol and standard chemiluminescent detection, these assays are ideally suited for 96-well, 384-well, or 1536-well compound screening.

TECHNOLOGY PRINCIPLE

PathHunter β -Arrestin cell lines monitor GPCR activity by detecting the interaction of β -Arrestin with the activated GPCR using β -galactosidase (β -gal) enzyme fragment complementation (EFC, Figure 1). In this system, the GPCR of interest is fused in frame with the small, 42 amino acid fragment of β -gal called ProLinkTM and co-expressed in cells stably expressing a fusion protein of β -Arrestin and the larger, N-terminal deletion mutant of β -gal (called enzyme acceptor or EA). Activation of the GPCR stimulates binding of β -Arrestin to the ProLink-tagged GPCR and forces complementation of the two enzyme fragments, resulting in the formation of an active β -gal enzyme. This action leads to an increase in enzyme activity that can be measured using chemiluminescent PathHunter Detection Reagents. Because arrestin recruitment occurs independent of G-protein coupling, these assays provide a direct, universal platform for measuring receptor activation.

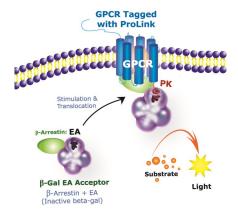


Figure 1. PathHunter β-Arrestin Assay Principle. Activation of the ProLink-tagged GPCR results in β -Arrestin recruitment and formation of a functional enzyme capable of hydrolyzing substrate and generating a chemiluminescent signal.

APPENDIX A: ASSAY FORMATS

PathHunter® Certified Assay Format				
Plate Format	96-well	FV 384-well	LV 384-well	1536-well
Total Volume	150 μL	40 μL	20 μL	8 μL
Cell Numbers	10,000	5,000	2,500	1,250
Cell Plating Reagents*	90 μL	20 μL	10 μL	4 μL
Ligand	10 μL	5 μL	2.5 μL	1 μL
Detection Reagents	50 μL	12 μL	6 μL	3 μL

^{*}AssayComplete Cell Plating Reagent volume used to resuspend cells for assay plates

APPENDIX B: RELATED PRODUCTS

Description	Ordering Information
PathHunter® Detection Reagents	www.discoverx.com/detectionreagents
Cell Culture Kits, Reagents & Consumables	www.discoverx.com/cell-culture-kits- reagents-consumables
AssayComplete™ Cell Plating Reagents	www.discoverx.com/Cellplatingreagents
Control Ligands	www.discoverx.com/controlligands
PathHunter [®] β-Arrestin Ortholog GPCR Cell Lines	www.discoverx.com/GPCRtargets
PathHunter [®] eXpress β-Arrestin GPCR Assays	www.discoverx.com/eXpressGPCRtargets
PathHunter® β-Arrestin Orphan GPCR Cell Lines	www.discoverx.com/orphanGPCRtargets

33

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE (CONTINUED)

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
Cells growing slowly	U2OS grows slower than CHO-K1 or HEK 293	Average doubling time is 3 days, so please observe cells under microscope and monitor cell health
	Slow growing clones	Use of DiscoveRx functionally validated and optimized media and reagents improves assay performance
EC ₅₀ is right-shifted	Improper ligand handling or storage	Check ligand handling requirements
	Difference in agonist binding affinity	Confirm that the ligand used is comparable to the ligand in the Product Insert
	Problems with plate type and compound stability	Hydrophobic compounds should be tested for solubili- ty and may be diluted in buffer containing 0.1% BSA
		Non-binding surface plates may be necessary for hydrophobic compounds
High well-to-well variability in Z' study	Problems with plate type and compound solubility	Z' studies should be performed with automation
		It may be necessary to test plate types and compound stability

For additional information or technical support, please call **1.866.448.4864** (US) **+44.121.260.6142** (Europe) or email info@discoverx.com

ASSAY OVERVIEW

Please read the entire protocol completely before running the assay. The **Assay Procedure** sections and **Quick Start Guides** in this booklet contain detailed information about how to run the assays. Refer to the cell-line specific datasheet for additional information on the optimized AssayCompleteTM Cell Plating Reagent and reference ligand recommended for the assay.

Assays should be run using a fresh split of low-passage cells that have not been allowed to reach confluency for more than 24 hours. Following treatment of the cells with compound, GPCR activity is detected by adding a working solution of chemiluminescent PathHunter Detection Reagents using a simple, mix-and-read protocol.

The following steps are required to monitor GPCR activity using a PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR cell line (Figure 2).

- 1. Plate cells (page 9).
- 2. Dilute and add compounds or antibodies.
- 3. Perform functional assay in agonist (page 10), antagonist (page 13) or allosteric modulator mode (page 17).



Figure 2. Simple chemiluminescent assay protocol for monitoring GPCR activity in response to compound challenge.

MATERIALS PROVIDED

Description	Contents	Storage
PathHunter β-Arrestin GPCR Cell Line	2 vials	Liquid N ₂ (vapor phase)

^{*}Please refer to the cell line specific datasheet for detailed information on the PathHunter $\beta\textsc{-Arrestin}$ Cell Line you are testing.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

The following materials are recommended:

- CytoTracker[™] Cell Proliferation Kit (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 92-2001M)
- CytoTracker[™] LDH Quantification Kit (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 92-2002)
- CytoTracker™ Glutathione Quantification Kit (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 92-2003)
- CytoTracker[™] DNA Damage Quantification Kit (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 92-2004M)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS REQUIRED (NOT PROVIDED)

The following additional materials are required to perform PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Assays:

Equipment	Materials
Green V-Bottom PP Ligand Dilution Plates, 10 plates/pack (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92-0011) Ge-well Clear Bottom TC treated, Sterile WCB, FB w/lid, 10 plates/pack (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92-0014) 384-well Clear Bottom TC treated, Sterile WCB, FB w/lid, 10 plates/pack (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92-0013) 384-well White Bottom TC treated, Sterile w/lid, 10 plates/pack (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92-0015) Disposable Reagent Reservoir (Thermo Scientific, Cat. #8094 or similar) Hemocytometer Cryogenic Freezing Container (Nalgene, Cat. #5100-0001 or similar) Cryogenic Freezer Vials (Fisher Scientific, Cat. #375418 or similar) Multimode or luminescence plate reader Single and multi-channel pipettors and pipette tips Tissue culture disposables and plasticware (T25 and T75 flasks, etc.)	 PathHunter® Detection Kit (DiscoveRx, Cat. #93-0001, #93-0001L or #93-0001XL) AssayComplete™ Revive Media (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92-0016RM Series) AssayComplete™ Cell Culture Kit (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92- 0018/19/20/21/22G Series) AssayComplete™ Preserve Freezing Reagent (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92-0017FR Series) AssayComplete™Cell Detachment Reagent (DiscoveRx, Cat. #92-0009) AssayComplete™ Cell Plating Reagent (DiscoveRx, Cat. #93-0563R Series) Phosphate buffered saline (PBS) GPCR control agonist GPCR test compound(s) and/or antagonists

 $[\]pm$ Please refer to the cell line specific datasheet to determine catalog numbers for the media and reagent requirements for the PathHunter β -Arrestin cell line you are testing.

FROZEN CELL HANDLING PROCEDURE

To ensure maximum cell viability, thaw the vial and initiate the culture as soon as possible upon receipt. If continued storage of the frozen vials is necessary, store vials in the vapor phase of liquid nitrogen (N_2). **DO NOT** store at -80° C for extended periods as this could result in significant loss in cell viability.

CELL PLATING REAGENT REQUIREMENTS

Each PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR cell line has been validated for optimal assay performance using the recommended AssayComplete Cell Plating (CP) Reagent and control ligand as indicated in the cell line specific datasheet. For optimal performance using this PathHunter Certified System, always use the Assay-Complete CP Reagent recommended for the cell line and DO NOT substitute at any time.

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
No Response	Improper cell growth conditions	See datasheet for cell culture conditions
	High DMSO/solvent concentration	Maintain DMSO/solvent at <1% in serial dilutions of compounds.
	Improper ligand used or improper ligand incubation time	See datasheet for recom- mended ligand and assay conditions
	Improper preparation of ligand (agonist or antagonist)	Refer to vendor specific datasheet to ensure proper handling, dilution and storage of ligand
	Improper time course for induction	Optimize time course of induction with agonist and antagonist.
Decreased Response	Higher passages give reduced performance	PathHunter cells are stable up to 10 passages. Use low passage cells whenever possible
	Cells are not adherent and exhibit incorrect morphology	Confirm adherence of cells using microscopy
Low or No Signal	Improper preparation of detection reagents be prepared just prior and are sensitive to light	
	Problem with cell growth, cell viability, cell adherence or cell density	See datasheet for cell culture conditions.
	Problem with microplate reader	Microplate reader should be in luminescence mode. Read at 1 sec/well.
Experimental S:B does not match datasheet value	For cell pools, S:B may vary greatly from passage to passage or day to day	Prepare a clonal cell line or use lower passage number cells.
		Repeat the assay
		Confirm assay conditions
	Improper preparation of ligand (agonist or antagonist)	Some ligands are difficult to handle. Confirm the final concentration of ligands

6 31

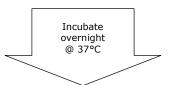
QUICK-START PROCEDURE: Ca²⁺ MOBILIZATION DOSE RESPONSE

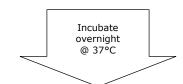
AGONIST

ANTAGONIST

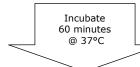
Plate 20 µL PathHunter cells per well

Plate 20 µL PathHunter cells per well





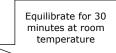
Aspirate media and add 20 µL Calcium NoWash^{PLUS} working reagent Aspirate media and add 20 μL Calcium NoWash^{PLUS} working reagent





Add 10 μL of buffer

Add 10 μL of **3X** antagonist in buffer



Equilibrate for 30 minutes at room temperature

Add 10 μL of **4X** Agonist in buffer

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Add 10 } \mu L \\ \text{of } \textbf{4X} \ EC_{80} \ \text{Agonist in buffer} \end{array}$

Scan fluorescent signal over 2 minutes

Scan fluorescent signal over 2 minutes

SOLVENTS AND PREPARATION OF COMPOUND DILUTIONS

PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR assays are routinely carried out in the presence of $\leq 1\%$ solvent (i.e. DMSO, ethanol, PBS or other). As solvents can affect assay performance, optimize the assay conditions accordingly if other solvents or solvent concentrations are required.

To validate each PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Assay, reference ligand was diluted using the AssayComplete Cell Plating (CP) Reagent recommended for the cell line (containing the appropriate solvent). For antibodies or other compounds that may be sensitive to serum and/or other assay components, dilutions can be prepared in either Hanks Buffered Salt Solution (HBSS) + 10 mM HEPES + 0.1% Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA) or OptiMEM® + 0.1% BSA without affecting assay performance.

USE OF PLASMA OR SERUM CONTAINING SAMPLES

PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Assays can be run in the presence of high levels of serum or plasma without negatively impacting assay performance. Standard curves of control ligand can be prepared in neat, heparinized plasma and added directly to the cells (without further dilution, ie. 100% plasma in the well). After ligand stimulation, the samples should be removed and replaced with fresh AssayComplete CP Reagent before the addition of the PathHunter Detection Reagents. Refer to page 21 for more information.

Note:

EDTA anti-coagulated plasma samples do not give a positive response in the assay. Therefore, the choice of anti-coagulant treatment is very important.

STORING & REMOVING CRYOVIALS FROM LIQUID NITROGEN

Cells are shipped in 2 vials on dry ice and contain approximately 1×10^6 cells per vial in 1 mL of AssayComplete Preserve Freezing Reagent. The following procedures are for safely storing and removing cryovials from liquid nitrogen storage.

- PathHunter cells must arrive in a frozen state on dry ice. If cells arrive thawed, do not proceed, contact technical support.
- 2. Frozen cells must be immediately transferred to liquid N_2 storage or thawed and put into culture upon arrival.
- 3. When removing cryovials from liquid N_2 storage, use tongs and place immediately on dry ice in a covered container. Wait at least one minute for any liquid N_2 inside the vial to evaporate.
- 4. Proceed with the thawing protocol in the following section.

SAFETY WARNING: A face shield, gloves and lab coat should be worn at all times when handling frozen vials. Some cryovials can leak when submerged in liquid N_2 . Upon thawing, the liquid N_2 present in the cryovial converts back to its gas phase which can result in the vessel exploding.

CELL THAWING AND PROPAGATION

The following procedures are for thawing, seeding and expanding the cells, and for maintaining the cultures once the cells have been expanded. Cells are free of contamination prior to shipment and care should be taken in their handling to avoid contamination.

Note:

Face shield, gloves and a lab coat should be worn during the thawing procedure.

- 1. Pre-warm 15 mL AssayComplete Revive Media in a 37°C water bath.
- 2. Place the frozen cell vials **briefly** (10 seconds to 1 min) in a 37°C water bath under sterile conditions until only small ice crystals remain and the cell pellet is almost completely thawed. Caution: Longer incubation may result in cell death.
- 3. To remove DMSO from the media, carefully transfer the thawed cells to a sterile 15 mL tube and then fill tube with 10 mL pre-warmed AssayComplete Revive Media. Centrifuge at 300 x g for 4 minutes to pellet cells.
- Remove media without disturbing cell pellet and resuspend in 5 mL of prewarmed AssayComplete Revive Media. Transfer cells to a T25 flask and incubate for 24 hours at 37°C, 5% CO₂.

Note

Cell recovery is greatly improved when selection antibiotics are omitted for the first ${\bf 24}\ hours.$

- After 24 hours, gently remove AssayComplete Revive Media (being careful not to disturb the cell monolayer) and replace with 5 mL of pre-warmed complete AssayComplete Cell Culture Media.
- 6. Once the cells become >70% confluent in the T25 flask, aspirate media and wash cells with 5 mL PBS. Aspirate PBS and dissociate cells with 0.5 mL AssayComplete Cell Detachment Reagent and resuspend in 5 mL of AssayComplete Cell Culture Media. Transfer the entire cell suspension to a T75 flask containing 15 mL of AssayComplete Cell Culture Media for continued growth.
- 7. Passage the cells every 2-3 days, based on the doubling time of the cell line, using AssayComplete Cell Detachment Reagent. For routine passaging, prepare a 1:3 dilution of cells in a total volume of 15 mL AssayComplete Cell Culture Media. Transfer 5 mL of the diluted cells to each new T75 flask.

Note:

To maintain logarithmic growth of the cells, cultures should be maintained in a subconfluent monolayer.

- 8. Each PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Cell Line has been found to be stable for at least 10 passages with no significant drop in assay window or shift in EC₅₀.
- 9. Assay performance and cellular response can be assessed by treating the cells with reference agonist. Refer to the cell line specific datasheet for the recommended control agonist for your PathHunter β-Arrestin GPCR Cell Line. For antagonist assays, cells can be pretreated with varying doses of antagonist/inhibitor compounds followed by agonist challenge, typically at an EC₈₀ concentration.

REPRESENTATIVE DATA

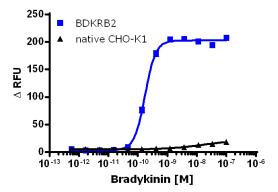


Figure 10. PathHunter® CHO-K1 BDKRB2 β-Arrestin Cells (93-0189C2). Cells were plated in a 384-well plate at 10,000 cells/well. Target cells and native parental cells were then stimulated with the known agonist Bradykinin (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 92-1053). Calcium mobilization was detected using the Calcium NoWash^{PLUS} Detection Kit according to the recommended protocol. The EC $_{50}$ for agonist was estimated at 0.17 nM.

DAY 2: AGONIST COMPOUND ADDITION AND SIGNAL DETECTION

- 1. Aspirate media from cells and replace with 20 μL Ca NW^{PLUS} working reagent.
- 2. Incubate cells for 1 hour at 37°C, 5% CO₂.
- 3. Add 10 μL of HBSS/20 mM HEPES and equilibrate assay plate for 30 minutes at room temperature.
- Prepare serial dilutions of the compound for a 12-point dose response curve. We recommend that the highest final concentration be **50X** the expected EC₅₀ of the compound.
- 5. Add 10 uL of **4X** agonist in HBSS/20 mM HEPES.
- 6. Measure compound activity using fluorescence reader with appropriate settings (excitation at 494 nM and emission at 516 nM). Signal is monitored over 2 minutes at 2 second intervals. We recommend that you pre-read the assay plates for 5 seconds prior to agonist addition.

ANTAGONIST COMPOUND ADDITION AND SIGNAL DETECTION

- 1. Aspirate media from cells and replace with 20 μL Ca NW^{PLUS} working reagent.
- 2. Incubate cells for 1 hour at 37°C, 5% CO₂.
- 3. Prepare serial dilutions of the compound for a 12-point dose response curve. We recommend that the highest final concentration be ${\bf 50X}$ the expected ${\bf IC}_{50}$ for the compound.
- 4. Add 10 μ L of **3X** antagonist in HBSS/20 mM HEPES, and equilibrate assay plate for 30 minutes at room temperature.
- 5. Add 10 μL **4X** EC₈₀ agonist in HBSS/20 mM HEPES.
- 6. Measure compound activity using fluorescence reader with appropriate settings (excitation at 494 nM and emission at 516 nM). Signal is monitored over 2 minutes at 2 second intervals. We recommend that you pre-read the assay plates for 5 seconds prior to agonist addition.

DATA ANALYSIS

- Dose curves in the presence and absence of compound are plotted using GraphPad Prism or Activity Base.
- For agonist mode assays, percentage activity is calculated using the following formula:
 - % Activity = 100% x (Mean RLU of test sample Mean RLU of vehicle control) / (Mean MAX RLU control ligand Mean RLU of vehicle control)
- 3. For antagonist mode assays, percentage inhibition is calculated using the following formula:
 - % Inhibition = 100% x (1 (Mean RLU of test sample Mean RLU of vehicle control) / (Mean RLU of EC₈₀ control Mean RLU of vehicle control)

CELL FREEZING PROTOCOL

The following procedures are for freezing cells from confluent T225 flasks. If smaller flasks are used, adjust the volumes accordingly. Care should be taken in handling to avoid contamination.

- 1. Remove T225 flasks from incubator and place in the tissue culture hood. Aspirate the media from the flasks.
- Add 10 mL PBS into each T225 flask and swirl to rinse the cells. Aspirate PBS from flask.
- 3. Add 5 mL of AssayComplete Cell Detachment Reagent to the flask. Rock the flask back and forth gently to ensure the surface of the flask is covered. Incubate at 37° C, 5% CO₂ for 2–5 minutes or until the cells have detached.
- 4. Remove the flask from the incubator and view under a microscope to confirm that the cells have detached. If necessary, tap the edge of the flask to detach cells from the surface.
- 5. Add 8-10 mL of AssayComplete Revive Media to each T225 flask. Rinse the cells from the surface of the flask using the added media. Remove the cells from the flask and transfer to a 50 mL conical tube. (If necessary, add an additional 5 mL of media to the flask and rinse to collect the remaining cells and transfer the additional volume to the 50 mL conical tube). Remove 0.5 mL of the resuspended cells and count the cells using a hemocytometer.
- 6. Centrifuge the collected cells at 300 x g for 4 minutes.
- 7. After centrifugation, discard the supernatant. Resuspend the cell pellet in AssayComplete Preserve Freezing Reagent. Based on the cell number obtained from Step 5, dilute the resuspended cells to a concentration of 1.2×10^6 cells/mL using AssayComplete Preserve Freezing Reagent.
- 8. Transfer 1 mL cells to each 2 mL cryogenic tube. (Keep cells on ice during this process and transfer to a cryogenic container pre-chilled at 4°C).
- 9. Transfer tubes to $-80^{\circ}C$ and store overnight. Transfer tubes into the vapor phase of a liquid N_2 tank for long-term storage.

PREPARATION OF ASSAY PLATES

Each PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Assay has been validated for optimal assay performance using the specific AssayComplete Cell Plating Reagent. Always use the AssayComplete CP Reagent recommended for the cell line and DO NOT substitute at any time.

- Harvest the cells as follows from a confluent T25 or T75 flask using Assay-Complete Cell Detachment Reagent. Do not use Trypsin.
 - a) Remove AssayComplete Cell Culture Media.
 - b) Gently wash cells with 5 mL PBS and aspirate.
 - Add 0.5 mL AssayComplete Cell Detachment Reagent to each T25 flask, or 1 mL to each T75 flask.
 - d) Place the flask in the incubator for 5 minutes or until cells have detached.
 - e) Add 3 mL of CP Reagent and transfer to a 15 mL conical tube.

- 2. Determine the cell density using a hemocytometer. Centrifuge the cells at $300 \times q$ for 4 minutes to pellet cells. Remove supernatant.
- 3. Resuspend cells in AssayComplete CP Reagent at a concentration of 250,000 cells/mL (5,000 cells/20 μ L). Transfer 20 μ L of the cell suspension to each well of a 384-well microplate. Please refer to Appendix A for cell numbers and volumes for alternate formats.
- 4. Incubate the plate overnight at 37°C, 5% CO₂.

ASSAY PROCEDURE — AGONIST DOSE RESPONSE CURVE

The steps outlined below provide the assay volumes and procedures for performing GPCR agonist assays using the PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Cell Lines and PathHunter Detection Reagents in a 384-well format. Refer to Appendix A for cell numbers and volumes for alternate formats. Although plate layouts and experimental designs may vary, we recommend performing a 12-point dose curve for each compound using at least duplicate wells for each dilution.

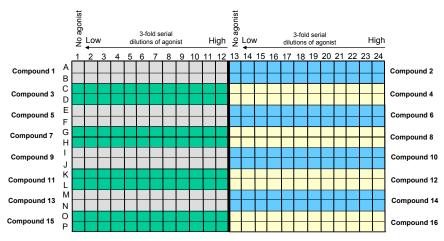


Figure 3. This plate map shows 12-point dose curves with 2 data points at each concentration. Plate map allows 16 compounds to be tested in duplicate per 384-well plate.

DAY 1: PREPARATION OF ASSAY PLATES

Plate PathHunter cells in the appropriate number of wells in a 384-well plate as described in the "Preparation of Assay Plates" section on page 8. Allow cells to incubate overnight.

- To prepare working reagent for one microplate, combine the following components and mix well:
 - a) 9 mL of Dye Loading Buffer.
 - b) 1 mL of Additive A.

Note:

Add Additive A before the dye.

- c) $10 \mu L$ of reconstituted Ca NW^{PLUS} Dve.
- d) 100 μL of freshly prepared 250 mM probenecid solution.
- Working reagent is stable for 24 hours at room temperature. Total signal may drop over longer time periods. Prepare Ca NW^{PLUS} working reagent as needed.

DAY 1: PREPARATION OF ASSAY PLATES

Each PathHunter GPCR Assay has been validated for optimal assay performance using the specific AssayComplete Cell Plating (CP) Reagent. Always use the AssayComplete CP Reagent recommended for the cell line and DO NOT substitute at any time.

- Harvest the cells as follows from a confluent T25 or T75 flask using Assay-Complete Cell Detachment Reagent. Do not use Trypsin.
 - a) Remove AssayComplete Cell Culture Media.
 - b) Gently wash cells with 5 mL PBS and aspirate.
 - Add 0.5 mL AssayComplete Cell Detachment Reagent to each T25 flask, or 1 mL to each T75 flask.
 - d) Place the flask in the incubator for 5 minutes or until cells have detached.
 - e) Add 3 mL of AssayComplete CP Reagent and transfer to a 15 mL conical tube.
- 2. Determine the cell density using a hemocytometer. Centrifuge the cells at 300 x g for 4 minutes to pellet cells. Remove supernatant.
- 3. Resuspend cells in AssayComplete CP Reagent at a concentration of 500,000 cells/mL (10,000 cells/20 μ L). Transfer 20 μ L of the cell suspension to each well of a black 384-well microplate (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 92-0024). If using 96-well plate seed 50,000 cells/100 μ L in each well.
- 4. Incubate the plate overnight at 37°C, 5% CO₂.

ASSAY PROCEDURE — Ca^{2+} MOBILIZATION DOSE RESPONSE (Gq COUPLED RECEPTORS)

The steps outlined below provide the assay volumes and procedures for performing Ca^{2^+} mobilization assays using the PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Cell Lines and Calcium No WashPLUS (CaNWPLUS) Detection Kit (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 90-0091). Although plate layouts and experimental designs may vary, we recommend performing a 12-point dose curve for each compound using at least *duplicate* wells for each dilution. Signal is measured on a fluorescent plate reader equipped with fluidic handling, capable of detecting rapid changes in fluorescence upon compound stimulation.

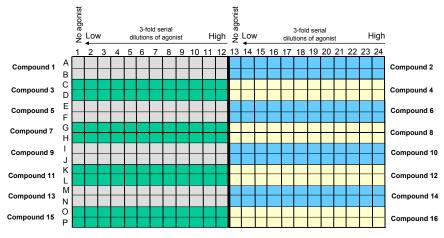


Figure 9. This plate map shows 12-point dose curves with 2 data points at each concentration. Plate map allows 16 compounds to be tested in duplicate per 384-well plate.

PREPARATION OF REAGENTS

Preparation of Ca NWPlus Working Reagent:

- 1. Thaw reagents to room temperature and mix gently.
- 2. Add 110 μ L **anhydrous** DMSO to 500 μ g Ca NW^{PLUS} Dye tube and vortex to reconstitute dye. Allowing the pellet to soak in DMSO will facilitate reconstitution. It is very important to ensure that the dye goes completely into solution (solution should be dark yellow).
 - a) Store reconstituted dye at -20°C.
 - b) This reconstituted dye in DMSO reagent can be frozen and thawed up to 3 times without loss in performance.
 - c) Aliquot if necessary.

DAY 2: AGONIST COMPOUND PREPARATION AND ADDITION

- Dissolve agonist compound in the vehicle of choice (DMSO, ethanol, PBS or other) at the desired stock concentration.
- 2. Prepare a series of twelve 3-fold serial dilutions of agonist compound in Assay-Complete CP Reagent containing the appropriate solvent (DMSO, ethanol, PBS or other) as described below. The concentration of each dilution should be prepared at $\bf 5X$ of the final screening concentration (i.e. $\bf 5~\mu L$ compound $\bf + 20~\mu L$ of cells). For each dilution, the final concentration of solvent should remain constant.

<u>To prepare the 12-point dose curve serial dilutions</u>, we recommend starting with a concentration that is **50X** the expected EC_{50} value for the compound (e.g. **250X** EC_{50} would be the final working concentration).

Example: If the expected EC_{50} is 10 nM, prepare the highest starting concentration of the corresponding dilution at 2.5 μ M. This is the working concentration.

- a) For each compound tested, label the wells of a 384-well dilution plate #1 through #12.
- b) Add 20 μ L of AssayComplete CP Reagent containing appropriate solvent to wells #1-11.
- c) Prepare a working concentration of agonist compound in the appropriate AssayComplete CP Reagent.
- d) Add 30 µL of the working concentration of agonist compound to well #12.
- e) Remove 10 μ L of compound from well #12, add it to well #11 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard pipet tip.
- f) With a clean pipet tip, remove 10 μL of diluted compound from well #11, add it to well #10 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard the pipet tip.
- g) Repeat this process 8 more times in succession to prepare serial dilutions for the remaining wells, from right to left across the plate.
 - **DO NOT add agonist compound to well #1.** This sample serves as the no agonist control and completes the dose curve.
- h) Repeat this process for each additional agonist compound to be tested.
- i) Set compounds aside until agonist compounds are ready to be added.
- 3. Remove PathHunter cells from the incubator (previously plated on day 1).

Note:

93-0203C7 PathHunter® C2C12 CXCR4 β -Arrestin Cell Line uses an additional media exchange step. Please refer cell line specific datasheet.

- 4. Transfer 5 μ L from wells #1–12 to duplicate wells according to the plate map shown on page 9.
- 5. Incubate for 90 minutes @ 37°C.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION AND ADDITION

Prepare PathHunter Detection Reagent by combining 1 part Substrate Reagent
 with 5 parts Substrate Reagent 1, and 19 parts of Cell Assay Buffer.

Component	Entire Plate (384 wells)
Cell Assay Buffer	4.75 mL
Substrate Reagent 1	1.25 mL
Substrate Reagent 2	0.25 mL

Note:

The working solution is stable for up to 8 hours at room temperature.

- 2. Add 12 μL of prepared detection reagent to the appropriate wells. **DO NOT** pipet up and down in the well to mix or vortex/shake plates.
- 3. Incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature (23°C).
- 4. Read samples on any standard luminescence plate reader.
- 5. Use GraphPad Prism® or other comparable program to plot your agonist dose response. See the example shown in Figure 4.

REPRESENTATIVE DATA AND DATA ANALYSIS

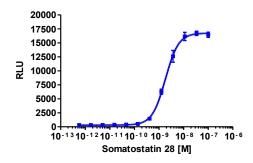
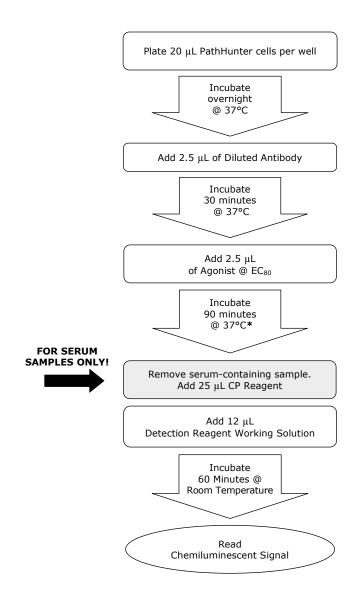


Figure 4. PathHunter® CHO-K1 SSTR2 β-Arrestin Cells (93-0181C2). Cells were plated in a 384-well plate at 5,000 cells/well and stimulated with the known agonist Somatostatin 28 (DiscoveRx, Cat. # 92-1068) for 90 minutes. Signal was detected using the PathHunter Detection Kit (93-0001) according to the recommended protocol. An assay window of 52.4-fold S:B was achieved in this example, and the EC $_{50}$ for agonist was estimated at 1.8 nM.

QUICK-START PROCEDURE: NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY DOSE RESPONSE



^{*}Please refer to the cell line specific datasheet any variations in assay conditions.

ATTENTION! PLASMA OR SERUM-CONTAINING SAMPLES ONLY

- 5. After incubation is complete, gently aspirate the plasma or serum-containing samples from the well. Be careful to remove as much sample as possible without disturbing the cell monolayer.
- 6. Immediately add 25 μL of fresh CP Reagent to each well. Proceed with substrate preparation and addition.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION AND ADDITION

 Prepare PathHunter Detection Reagent by combining 1 part Substrate Reagent 2 with 5 parts Substrate Reagent 1, and 19 parts of Cell Assay Buffer.

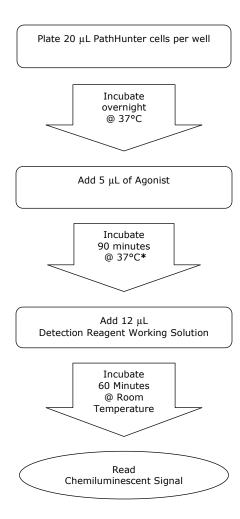
Component	Entire Plate (384 wells)
Cell Assay Buffer	4.75 mL
Substrate Reagent 1	1.25 mL
Substrate Reagent 2	0.25 mL

Note

The working solution is stable for up to 8 hours at room temperature.

- 2. Add 12 μ L of prepared detection reagent to the appropriate wells and incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature (23°C). **DO NOT pipette up and down in the well to mix or vortex/shake plates.**
- 3. Incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature (23°C).
- 4. Read samples on any standard luminescence plate reader.
- 5. Use GraphPad Prism® or other comparable program to plot your dose response.

QUICK-START PROCEDURE: AGONIST DOSE RESPONSE



^{*}Please refer to the cell line specific datasheet for any variations in assay conditions.

ASSAY PROCEDURE — ANTAGONIST DOSE RESPONSE CURVE

The steps outlined below provide the assay volumes and procedures for performing GPCR antagonist assays using the PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Cell Lines and PathHunter Detection Reagents in a 384-well format. Refer to Appendix A for cell numbers and volumes for alternate formats. Although plate layouts and experimental designs may vary, we recommend performing a 11-point dose curve for each compound using at least *duplicate* wells for each dilution. The protocol and volumes described below are designed for a complete 384-well plate.

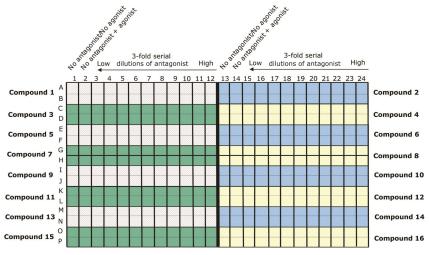


Figure 5. This plate map shows 11-point dose curves with 2 data points at each concentration. Plate map allows 16 compounds to be tested in duplicate per 384-well plate.

DAY 1: PREPARATION OF ASSAY PLATES

Plate PathHunter cells in the appropriate number of wells in a 384-well plate as described in the "Preparation of Assay Plates" section on page 9. Allow cells to incubate overnight.

DAY 2: ANTAGONIST COMPOUND PREPARATION AND ADDITION

- Dissolve your antagonist compound in the vehicle of choice (DMSO, ethanol, PBS or other) at the desired stock concentration.
- 2. Prepare a series of eleven 3-fold serial dilutions of antagonist compound in CP Reagent containing the appropriate solvent (DMSO, ethanol, PBS or other) as described below. The concentration of each dilution should be prepared at 10X the final screening concentration (i.e. $2.5~\mu L$ antagonist compound will be used in a final volume of $25~\mu L$). For each dilution, the final concentration of solvent

<u>To prepare the 11-point dose curve serial dilutions</u>, we recommend starting with a concentration that is **50X** the expected IC_{50} value for the compound (e.g. **500X** IC_{50} would be the final working concentration).

Example: If the expected IC_{50} is 10 nM, prepare the highest starting concentration of the corresponding dilution at 5 μ M. This is the working concentration.

- a) For each antibody tested, label the wells of a 384-well dilution plate #1 through #12.
- b) Add 20 μL of AssayComplete CP Reagent containing appropriate solvent to wells #1-11.
- Prepare a working concentration of antibody in the appropriate Assay-Complete CP Reagent.
- d) Add 30 µL of the working concentration of antibody to well #12.
- e) Remove 10 μ L of antibody from well #12, add it to well #11 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard pipet tip.
- f) With a clean pipet tip, remove 10 μL of diluted antibody from well #11, add it to well #10 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard the pipet tip.
- g) Repeat this process 7 more times in succession to prepare serial dilutions for the remaining wells, from right to left across the plate. **DO NOT add** antibody to wells #1 and 2. This sample serves as the no antibody control and completes the dose curve.
- h) Repeat this process for each additional antibody to be tested.
- i) Set antibodies aside until they are ready to be added.
- 3. Remove PathHunter cells from the incubator (previously plated on day 1).
- Transfer 2.5 μL from wells #1–12 to duplicate wells according to the plate map shown on page 21.
- 5. Incubate for 30 minutes @ 37°C.

AGONIST COMPOUND PREPARATION AND ADDITION

- 1. During the antibody incubation, determine the EC_{80} concentration of the agonist to be used in the assay. Prepare a **10X** EC_{80} concentration of agonist compound as shown below:
 - **Example:** If the expected EC_{80} of the agonist compound is 10 nM, prepare a stock at 100 nM.
- 2. Add 2.5 μ L of agonist to each well. Add 2.5 μ L of CP Reagent containing appropriate solvent to the no agonist wells (columns 1 & 13 in figure 8).
- 3. Incubate for 90 minutes @ 37°C.
- If samples do not contain plasma or serum, omit steps 5 and 6 and proceed directly to the substrate preparation and addition.

ASSAY PROCEDURE — NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY DOSE RESPONSE

The steps outlined below provide the assay volumes and procedure for performing detection of anti-GPCR neutralizing antibodies using the PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Cell Lines and PathHunter Detection Reagents in a 384-well format. Refer to Appendix A for cell numbers and volumes for alternate formats. Although plate layouts and experimental designs may vary, we recommend performing an 11-point dose curve for each compound using at least *duplicate* wells for each dilution. The protocol and volumes described below are designed for a complete 384-well plate.

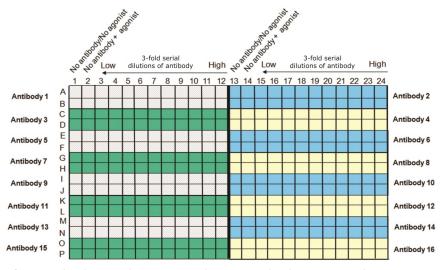


Figure 8. This plate map shows a 11-point dose curves with 2 data points at each concentration. Plate layout allows 16 antibodies to be tested in duplicate per 384-well plate.

DAY 1: PREPARATION OF ASSAY PLATES

Plate PathHunter cells in the appropriate number of wells in a 384-well plate as described in the "Preparation of Assay Plates" section on page 9. Allow cells to incubate overnight.

DAY 2: ANTIBODY PREPARATION AND ADDITION

- Dissolve antibody in the vehicle of choice (PBS, water or other) at the desired stock concentration.
- 2. Prepare a series of eleven 3-fold serial dilutions of antibody in Cell Plating Reagent containing the appropriate solvent (PBS, water or other). The concentration of each dilution should be prepared at 10 X of the final screening concentration (i.e. 2.5 μL antibody will be used in a final volume of 25 μL). For each dilution, the final concentration of solvent should remain constant.

should remain constant. To prepare the 11-point dose curve serial dilutions, we recommend starting with a concentration that is 50X the expected IC₅₀ value for the compound (e.g. 500X IC₅₀ would be the final working concentration).

Example: If the expected IC_{50} is 10 nM, prepare the highest starting concentration of the corresponding dilution at 5 μ M. This is the working concentration.

- a) For each compound tested, label the wells of a 384-well dilution plate #1 through #12.
- b) Add 20 μL of AssayComplete CP Reagent containing appropriate solvent to wells #1-11.
- Prepare a working concentration of antagonist compound in the appropriate AssavComplete CP Reagent.
- d) Add 30 µL of the working concentration of antagonist compound to well #12.
- e) Remove 10 μ L of compound from well #12, add it to well #11 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard the pipet tip.
- f) With a clean pipet tip, remove 10 μ L of diluted compound from well #11, add it to well #10 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard the pipet tip.
- g) Repeat this process 7 more times in succession to prepare serial dilutions for the remaining wells, or from right to left across the plate. **DO NOT** add antagonist compound to tubes #1 and 2. These samples serve as the no antagonist controls and complete the dose curve.
- h) Repeat process for any additional antagonist compounds to be tested.
- i) Set compounds aside until you are ready to add them to the cells.
- 3. Remove PathHunter cells from the incubator (previously plated on day 1).
- Transfer 2.5 μL from wells #1–12 to duplicate wells according to the plate map on page 13.
- 5. Incubate cells with antagonist compounds for 30 minutes @ 37°C.

AGONIST COMPOUND PREPARATION AND ADDITION

1. During the antagonist incubation, determine the EC_{80} concentration of the agonist from the agonist dose response curve (described on pages 10-12). Prepare a **10X** EC_{80} concentration of agonist compound in the appropriate CP Reagent/solvent as shown below:

Example: If the expected EC_{80} of the agonist compound is 10 nM, prepare a stock at 100 nM.

- 2. When the antagonist incubation is complete, add 2.5 μ L of agonist compound to wells #2–12. Add 2.5 μ L of CP Reagent containing appropriate solvent to the "No antagonist/No agonist" wells (columns 1 & 13 in Figure 5).
- 3. Incubate for 90 minutes @ 37°C.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION AND ADDITION

 Prepare PathHunter Detection Reagent by combining 1 part Substrate Reagent 2 with 5 parts Substrate Reagent 1, and 19 parts of Cell Assay Buffer.

Component	Entire Plate (384 wells)
Cell Assay Buffer	4.75 mL
Substrate Reagent 1	1.25 mL
Substrate Reagent 2	0.25 mL

NOTE

The working solution is stable for up to 8 hours at room temperature.

- 2. Add 12 μL of prepared detection reagent to the appropriate wells. **DO NOT** pipet up and down in the well to mix or vortex/shake plates.
- 3. Incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature (23°C).
- 4. Read samples on any standard luminescence plate reader.
- Use GraphPad Prism[®] or other comparable program to plot your antagonist dose response.

REPRESENTATIVE DATA AND DATA ANALYSIS

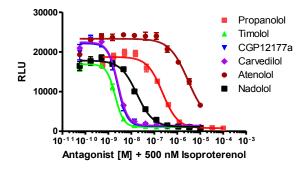
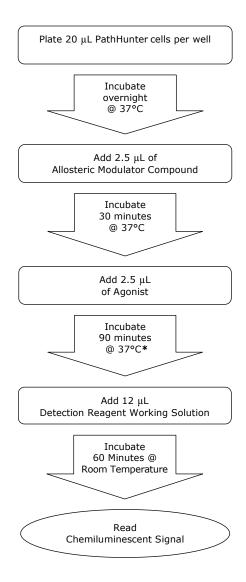


Figure 6. PathHunter® CHO-K1 ADRB2 β-Arrestin Cells (93-0182C2). Cells were plated in a 384-well plate at 5,000 cells/well and levels of β-Arrestin recruitment was measured after 30 minutes of pre-incubation with the indicated concentrations of antagonist compounds followed by a 90 minute incubation with a single EC80 concentration of isoproterenol (DiscoveRx; 92-1119). Signal was detected using the PathHunter Detection Kit (93-0001) according to the recommended protocol.

QUICK-START PROCEDURE: ALLOSTERIC MODULATOR DOSE RESPONSE



^{*}Please refer to the cell line specific datasheet for any variations in assay conditions.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION AND ADDITION

 Prepare PathHunter Detection Reagent by combining 1 part Substrate Reagent 2 with 5 parts Substrate Reagent 1, and 19 parts of Cell Assay Buffer.

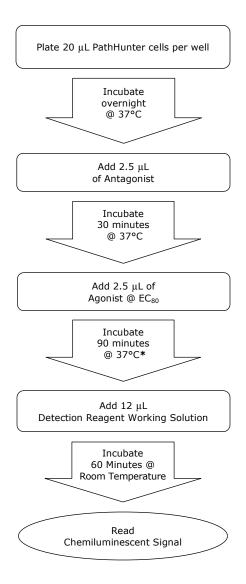
Component	Entire Plate (384 wells)
Cell Assay Buffer	4.75 mL
Substrate Reagent 1	1.25 mL
Substrate Reagent 2	0.25 mL

NOTE

The working solution is stable for up to 8 hours at room temperature.

- Add 12 μL of prepared detection reagent to the appropriate wells and incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature (23°C). DO NOT pipette up and down in the well to mix or vortex/shake plates.
- 3. Incubate for 60 minutes at room temperature (23°C).
- 4. Read samples on any standard luminescence plate reader.
- 5. Use GraphPad Prism[®] or other comparable program to plot your allosteric modulator dose response.

QUICK-START PROCEDURE: ANTAGONIST DOSE RESPONSE



^{*}Please refer to the cell line specific datasheet for any variations in assay conditions.

ASSAY PROCEDURE — ALLOSTERIC MODULATOR DOSE RESPONSE

The steps outlined below provide the assay volumes and procedure for performing allosteric modulator assays using PathHunter β -Arrestin GPCR Cell Lines and PathHunter Detection Reagents in a 384-well format. Refer to Appendix A for cell numbers and volumes for alternate formats. Although plate layouts and experimental designs may vary, we recommend performing a 11-point dose curve for each compound using at least *duplicate* wells for each dilution. The protocol and volumes described below are designed for a complete 384-well plate.

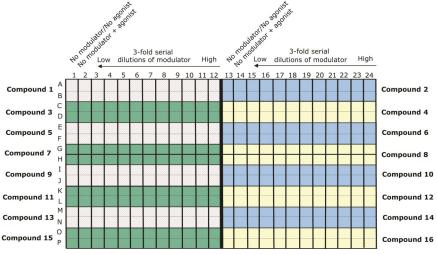


Figure 7. This plate map shows 11-point dose curves with 2 data points at each concentration. Plate map allows 16 modulator compounds to be tested in duplicate per 384-well plate.

DAY 1: PREPARATION OF ASSAY PLATES

Plate PathHunter cells in the appropriate number of wells in a 384-well plate as described in the "Preparation of Assay Plates" section on page 9. Allow cells to incubate overnight.

DAY 2: MODULATOR COMPOUND PREPARATION AND ADDITION

- Dissolve your allosteric modulator compound in the vehicle of choice (DMSO, ethanol, PBS or other) at the desired stock concentration.
- 2. Prepare a series of eleven 3-fold serial dilutions of modulator compound in CP Reagent containing the appropriate solvent (DMSO, ethanol, PBS or other) as described below. The concentration of each dilution should be prepared at 10X the final screening concentration (i.e. $2.5~\mu L$ modulator compound will be used in a final volume of $25~\mu L$). For each dilution, the final concentration of solvent should remain constant. To prepare the 11-point dose curve serial dilutions,

we recommend starting with a concentration that is $\mathbf{50X}$ the expected IC₅₀ value for the compound (e.g. $\mathbf{500X}$ IC₅₀ would be the final working concentration).

Example: If the expected IC_{50} is 10 nM, prepare the highest starting concentration of the corresponding dilution at 5 μ M. This is the working concentration.

- a) For each compound tested, label the wells of a 384-well dilution plate #1 through #12.
- b) Add 20 μ L of AssayComplete CP Reagent containing appropriate solvent to wells #1-11.
- Prepare a working concentration of modulator compound in the appropriate AssayComplete CP Reagent.
- d) Add 30 µL of the working concentration of modulator compound to well #12.
- e) Remove 10 μ L of compound from well #12, add it to well #11 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard the pipet tip.
- f) With a clean pipet tip, remove 10 μL of diluted compound from well #11, add it to well #10 and mix gently by pipetting up and down. Discard the pipet tip.
- g) Repeat this process 7 more times in succession to prepare serial dilutions for the remaining wells, or from right to left across the plate. **DO NOT add modulator compound to wells #1 and 2**. These samples serve as the no modulator controls and complete the dose curve.
- h) Repeat this process for any additional modulator compounds to be tested.
- i) Set compounds aside until you are ready to add them to the cells.
- 3. Remove PathHunter cells from the incubator (previously plated on day 1).
- 4. Transfer 2.5 μ L from wells #1–12 to duplicate wells according to the plate map on page 17.
- 5. Incubate cells with modulator compounds for 30 minutes @ 37°C.

AGONIST COMPOUND PREPARATION AND ADDITION

- During the modulator compound incubation, determine the EC₁₀/EC₉₀ concentration of the agonist from the agonist dose response curve (described on page 10-12). Prepare a **10X** EC₁₀ concentration (PAM) or **10X** EC₉₀ concentration (NAM) of agonist compound in the appropriate CP Reagent/solvent as shown below:
 - **Example:** If the expected EC_{10}/EC_{90} of the agonist compound is 10 nM, prepare a stock at 100 nM.
- 2. When the modulator incubation is complete, add 2.5 μ L of agonist compound to well #2-12. Add 2.5 μ L of CP Reagent containing appropriate solvent to the "No modulator/No agonist" wells (columns 1 & 13 in Figure 7).
- 3. Incubate for 90 minutes @ 37°C.