



# TOTAL-MKK4 KITS

## PROTOCOL

### Part # 64NK4PEG & 64NK4PEH

**Test Size#:** 500 tests (64NK4PEG), 10,000 tests (64NK4PEH)

**Revision:** N°01 of July/2019

**Store at:** -60°C or below

**For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.**



## ASSAY PRINCIPLE

This assay is intended for the simple, rapid and direct detection of endogenous levels of MKK4 in cells. MKK4 is produced by cells and after lysis of the cell membrane, total-MKK4 can be detected using the kit reagents. This total protein assay is used for monitoring the steady state protein level in the cell - ideal for normalization when analysing the phosphorylation level of the corresponding protein.

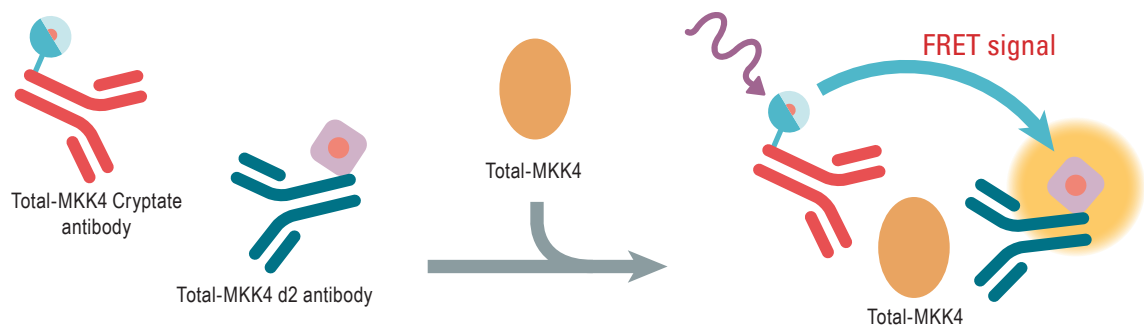


Figure 1: Principle of HTRF sandwich assay.

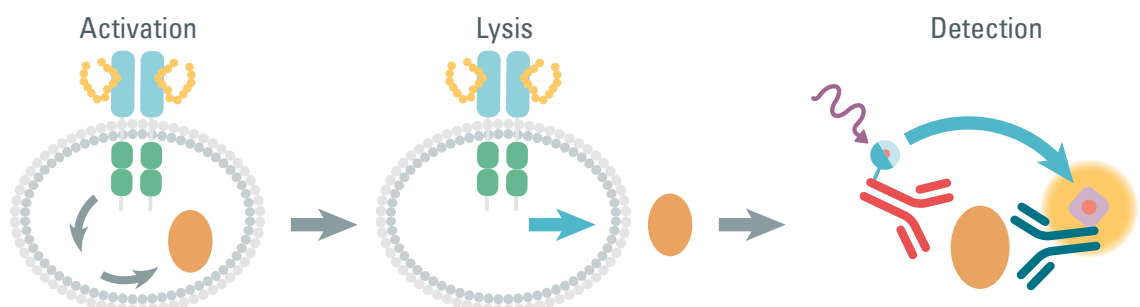
As shown here, total-MKK4 is detected in a sandwich assay format using 2 different specific antibodies, one labelled with  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ -Cryptate (donor) and the second with d2 (acceptor).

When the dyes are in close proximity, the excitation of the donor with a light source (laser or flash lamp) triggers a Fluorescence Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET) towards the acceptor, which in turn fluoresces at a specific wavelength (665 nm). The specific signal modulates positively in proportion to total-MKK4.

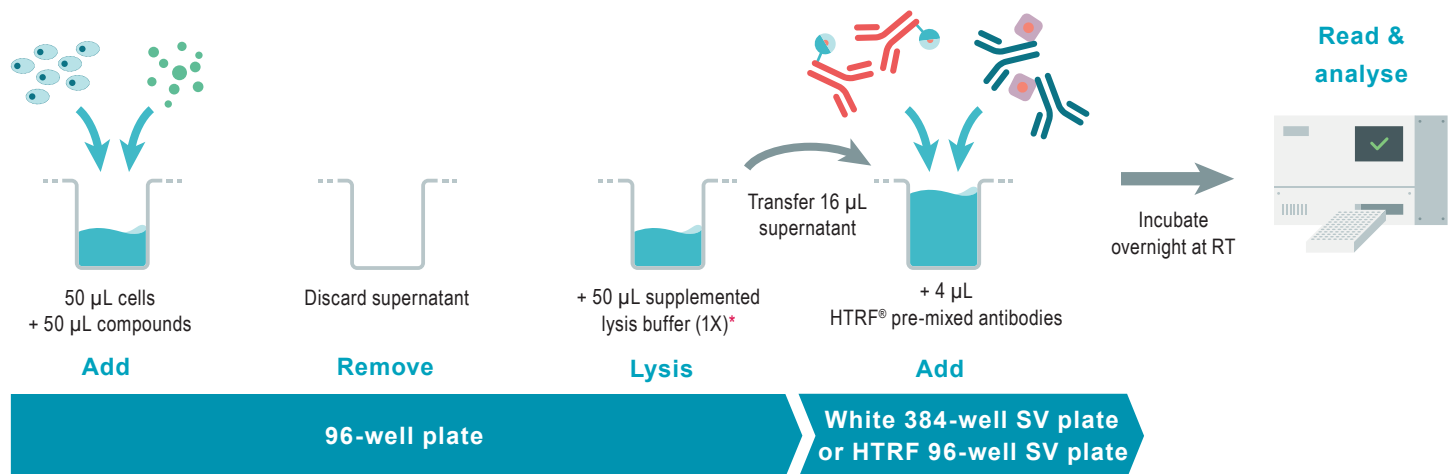
The assay can be run under a two-plate assay protocol, where cells are plated, stimulated and lysed in the same culture plate. Lysates are then transferred to the assay plate for the detection of total-MKK4 by HTRF<sup>®</sup> reagents. This protocol gives the cells viability and confluence to be monitored. It can also be further streamlined to a one-plate assay protocol. Detection of total-MKK4 with HTRF<sup>®</sup> reagents is performed in a single plate used for plating, stimulation and detection. No washing steps are required. This protocol, HTS designed, allows miniaturization while maintaining HTRF<sup>®</sup> quality.

For tissue derived samples, please refer to the technical note: "Optimize your htrf<sup>®</sup> cell signaling assays on tissues" on <http://learn.cisbio.com/lp-optimize-your-htrf-cell-signaling-assays-on-tissues>  
Technical support team can help you to set-up this protocol or another one.  
Please contact us at [www.cisbio.com/contact-us](http://www.cisbio.com/contact-us)

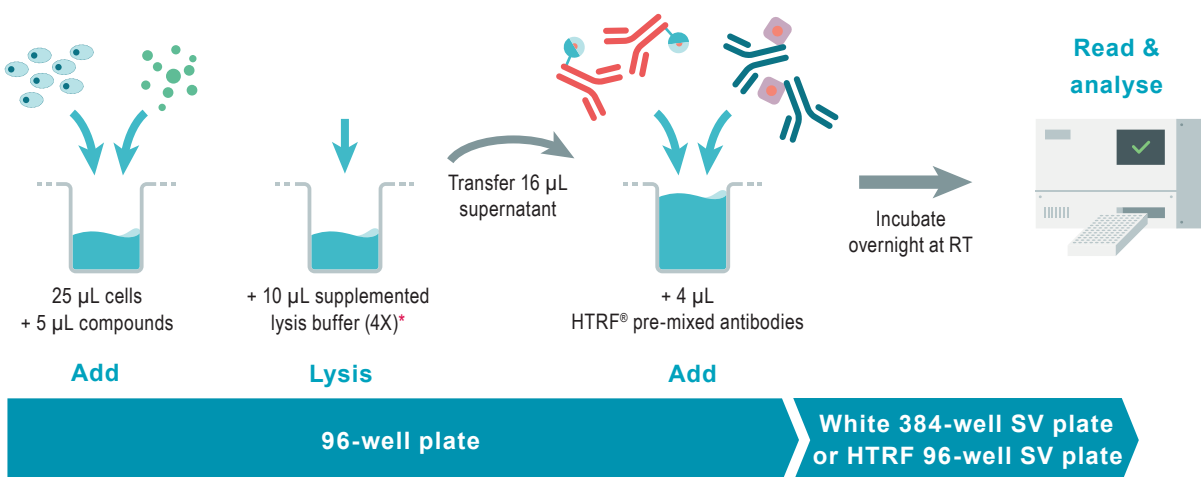
## PROTOCOL AT A GLANCE



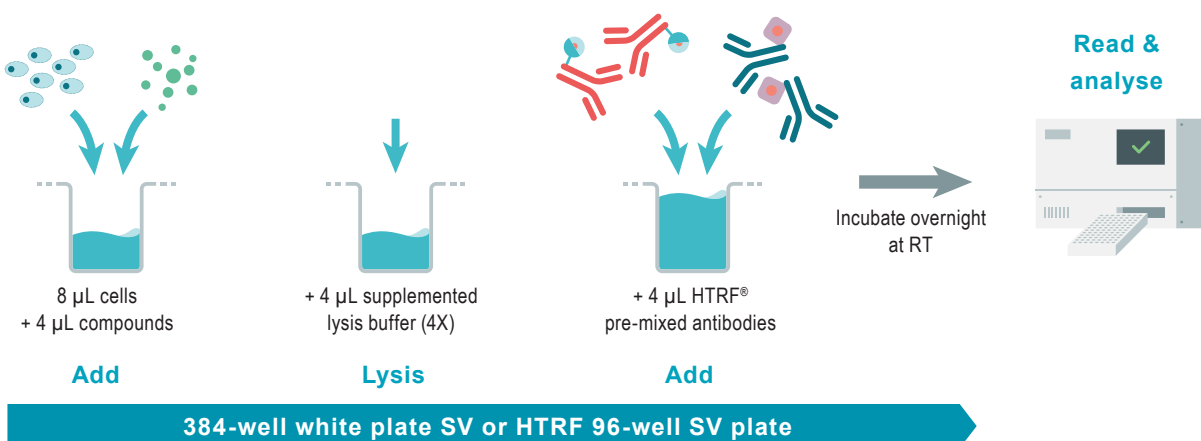
### ▶ TWO-PLATE ASSAY PROTOCOL FOR ADHERENT CELLS:



### ▶ TWO-PLATE ASSAY PROTOCOL FOR SUSPENSION CELLS:



### ▶ ONE-PLATE ASSAY PROTOCOL:















\* Depending on cell lines used, volume of lysis should be optimized.

Depending on cell lines used, it can be necessary to dilute the cell lysate to ensure samples are within the assay linear range

### ▶ FOR HTRF CERTIFIED READER

For more information about HTRF® compatible readers and for set-up recommendations, please visit our website at:  
[www.cisbio.com/htrf-compatible-readers](http://www.cisbio.com/htrf-compatible-readers)

**MATERIALS PROVIDED:**

KIT COMPONENTS	STORAGE	500 TESTS CAT# 64NK4PEG		10,000 TESTS CAT# 64NK4PEH		REF# (WHEN AVAILABLE SEPARATELY)
Control lysate (ready-to-use)	-60°C or below	 green cap	1 vial - 150 µL	 green cap	2 vials - 150 µL	64NK4TDA
Total-MKK4 Cryptate antibody	-16°C or below	 red cap	1 vial - 50 µL	 red cap	1 vial - 1 mL	
Total-MKK4 d2 antibody	-16°C or below	 blue cap	1 vial - 50 µL	 blue cap	1 vial - 1 mL	
Blocking reagent* (stock solution 100X)	-16°C or below	 purple cap	1 vial - 300 µL	 purple cap	3 vials - 2 mL	64KB1AAC (2 mL)
Lysis buffer* # 1 (stock solution 4X)	-16°C or below	 transparent cap	4 vials - 2 mL	 white cap	1 vial - 130 mL	64KL1FDF (130 mL)
Detection buffer** (ready-to-use)	-16°C or below	 orange cap	2 vials - 2 mL	 red cap	1 vial - 50 mL	

\* Amounts of reagents provided are sufficient for generating 50 µL of cell lysate per well. For higher volumes, extra vials can be ordered separately.

\*\* The Detection Buffer is used to prepare working solutions of acceptor and donor reagents.

**► PURCHASE SEPARATELY**

Small volume (SV) detection plate): HTRF® 96-well low volume plate Ref# 66PL96001

Small volume (SV) detection plate): HTRF® 384-well low volume plate Ref# 66PL384025

**STORAGE AND STABILITY**

Antibodies, control lysate and buffers should be stored frozen until used.

Thawed lysis buffer and detection buffer can be stored at 2-8°C in your premises. Thawed antibodies are stable 48 hours at 2-8°C; they can be refrozen (at -16°C or below) and thawed at least one more time.

Control lysate must be stored frozen at -60°C or below. Thawed control lysate can be refrozen (at -60°C or below) and thawed one more time

Allow all reagents to thaw before use. We recommend centrifuging the vials gently after thawing, before pipeting the stock solutions.

Prepare the working solutions from stock solutions by following the instructions below.

**TO PREPARE WORKING CONTROL LYSATE SOLUTION**

The control lysate is only provided as an internal assay control to check the quality of the results obtained. The window between control lysate and negative control should be greater than 2.

Thaw the control lysate. Mix gently, the control lysate is ready to use.

**TO PREPARE WORKING ANTIBODY SOLUTIONS:**

HTRF® reagent concentrations have been set for optimal assay performances. Note that any dilution or improper use of the d2 and Cryptate-antibodies will impair the assay’s quality. Be careful, as working solution preparation for antibodies may differ between the 500 and 10,000 tests data point kit.

Antibody working solutions are stable for 2 days at 2-8°C. Dilute the antibodies with detection buffer. In practice:

500 TESTS KIT 64NK4PEG		10,000 TESTS KIT 64NK4PEH	
<b>Total-MKK4 Cryptate antibody</b>			
<p>1 volume Cryptate- antibody</p> <p>19 volumes detection buffer</p>	<p>1 volume Cryptate- antibody</p> <p>19 volumes detection buffer</p>	<p>Dilute 20-fold the frozen stock solution with detection buffer e.g add 0.95 ml of detection buffer to the 0.05 ml of Cryptate-antibody stock solution.</p>	
<b>Total-MKK4 d2 antibody</b>			
<p>1 volume d2 antibody</p> <p>19 volumes detection buffer</p>	<p>1 volume d2 antibody</p> <p>19 volumes detection buffer</p>	<p>Dilute 20-fold the frozen stock solution with detection buffer e.g add 0.95 ml of detection buffer to the 0.05 ml of d2-antibody stock solution.</p>	
<b>Antibody mix</b>			
<p>It is possible to pre-mix the two ready-to-use antibody solutions just prior to dispensing the reagents by adding 1 volume of d2-antibody solution to 1 volume of Cryptate-antibody solution.</p>		<p>It is possible to pre-mix the two ready-to-use antibody solutions just prior to dispensing the reagents by adding 1 volume of d2-antibody solution to 1 volume of Cryptate-antibody solution.</p>	

## TO PREPARE SUPPLEMENTED LYSIS BUFFER:

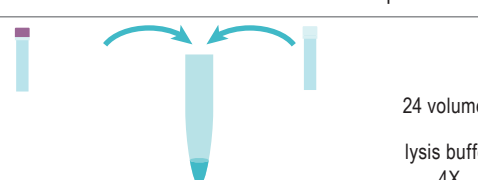
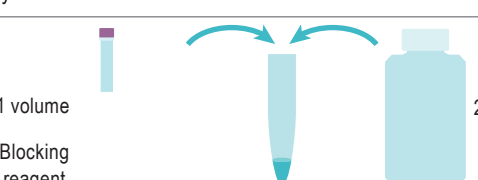
Make sure that the lysate has been generated by using the kit reagents.

Supplemented lysis buffer differs between the protocols. Make sure to use the appropriate supplemented lysis buffer depending on the chosen protocol's specification.

Prepare the required amount of supplement lysis buffer before running the assay, working solutions are stable for 2 days at 2-8°C.

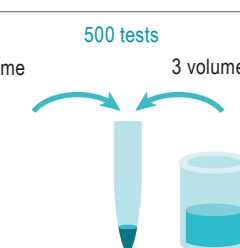
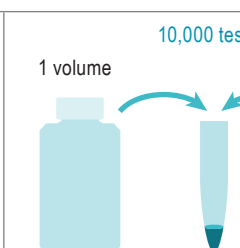
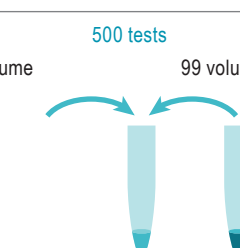
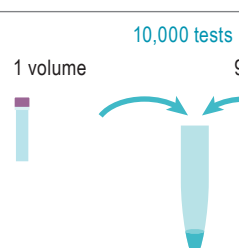
### ► *Supplemented Lysis buffer 4X for two-plate assay protocol on suspension cells & one-plate assay protocol*

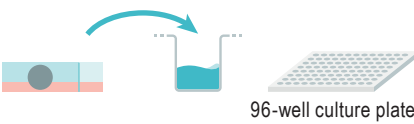
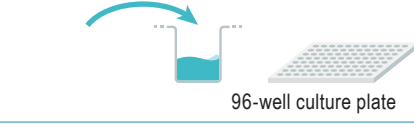



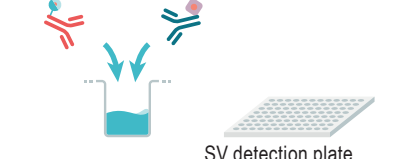
Determine the amount of supplemented lysis buffer needed for the experiment. Each well requires 4 µL of supplemented lysis buffer for one-plate assay protocol and 10 µL for two-plate assay protocol on suspension cells. Dilute the blocking reagent stock solution 25-fold with lysis buffer 4X. In practice:

TWO-PLATE PROTOCOL ON SUSPENSION CELL & ONE-PLATE ASSAY PROTOCOL	
500 TESTS KIT 64NK4PEG	10,000 TESTS KIT 64NK4PEH
Preparation of Supplemented Lysis buffer 4X	
 <p>1 volume Blocking reagent</p> <p>24 volumes lysis buffer 4X</p>	 <p>1 volume Blocking reagent</p> <p>24 volumes lysis buffer 4X</p>
<p>Dilute the "blocking reagent stock solution" 25-fold with "lysis buffer 4X" e.g take 0.1 ml of "Blocking reagent stock solution" and add it to 2.4 ml of lysis buffer 4X. Mix gently.</p>	

### ► *Supplemented Lysis buffer 1X for two-plate assay protocol on adherent cells*






Determine the amount of supplemented lysis buffer needed for the experiment. Each well requires generally 50 µL of supplemented lysis buffer. Prepare a lysis buffer solution 1X and then dilute the blocking reagent stock solution 100-fold with this lysis buffer 1X. In practice:

TWO-PLATE ASSAY PROTOCOL ON ADHERENT CELLS			
500 TESTS KIT 64NK4PEG & 10,000 TESTS KIT 64NK4PEH			
Preparation of lysis buffer 1X		Preparation of supplemented Lysis buffer 1X	
 <p>500 tests</p> <p>1 volume lysis buffer 4X</p> <p>3 volumes distilled water</p>	 <p>10,000 tests</p> <p>1 volume lysis buffer 4X</p> <p>3 volumes distilled water</p>	 <p>500 tests</p> <p>1 volume blocking reagent</p> <p>99 volumes lysis buffer 1X</p>	 <p>10,000 tests</p> <p>1 volume blocking reagent</p> <p>99 volumes lysis buffer 1X</p>
<p>Dilute the "lysis buffer 4X" 4-fold with distilled water to prepare lysis buffer 1X. e.g. take 1.25 mL of lysis buffer 4X and add it to 3.75 mL of distilled water. Mix gently.</p>		<p>Dilute the "blocking reagent" 100-fold with "Lysis buffer 1X". e.g. take 0.05 mL of "Blocking reagent stock solution" and add it to 4.95 mL of lysis buffer 1X. Mix gently.</p>	


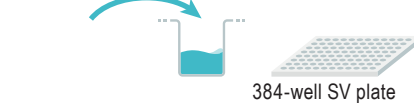

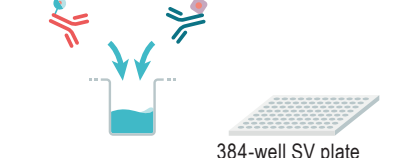
	FOR ADHERENT CELLS	FOR SUSPENSION CELLS	
1	Plate 50 µL of cells in 96-well tissue-culture treated plate in appropriate growth medium and incubate overnight, at 37°C in CO2 atmosphere. Cell seeding densities of 100 K cells/well are generally sufficient for most cell lines, but optimization of cell seeding densities is recommended. Depending on receptor a starving step with serum-free medium could be essential.	Plate 25 µL of cells in 96 half-well plate in HBSS* or other appropriate medium.	
2	Dispense 50 µL of compound (2X) diluted in cell culture serum-free medium For most compound, incubation time is between 30 and 60 minutes at 37°C. We recommend a time course study to determine the optimal stimulation time.	Dispense 5 µL of compound (6X), diluted in HBSS or other appropriate medium.	
3	Remove carefully cell supernatant either by aspirating supernatant or by flicking the plate.	Do not remove HBSS or other appropriate medium.	Discard supernatant (for adherent cells) 
4	Immediately add 50 µL of supplemented lysis buffer (1X) and incubate for at least 30 minutes at room temperature under shaking. Use the appropriate supplemented lysis buffer and incubate at room temperature with shaking. Lysis incubation time may be optimized. Lysis volume can be decreased down to 25 µL.	Immediately add 10 µL of supplemented lysis buffer (4X) and incubate for at least 30 minutes at room temperature under shaking.	
5	After homogenization by pipeting up and down, transfer 16 µL of cell lysate from the 96-well cell-culture plate to a 384-well small volume white plate. Depending on cell lines used, it can be necessary to dilute the cell lysate to ensure samples are within the assay linear range		
6	Add 4 µL of premixed antibody solutions (vol/vol) prepared in the detection buffer. Cover the plate with a plate sealer. Incubate overnight at room temperature. Set up your reader for Eu <sup>3+</sup> Cryptate and read the fluorescence emission at two different wavelengths (665nm and 620nm) on a compatible HTRF <sup>®</sup> reader.		

\* If the suspension cells have to be treated for more than 30min, replace HBSS by cell culture medium without phenol red.

► Standard protocol for two-plate assay protocol in 20 µL final volume (after lysis step)








	NON TREATED CELL LYSATE	TREATED CELL LYSATE	CONTROL LYSATE	NEGATIVE CONTROL
Step 1 	Dispense 16 µL of non treated cell lysate	Dispense 16 µL of treated cell lysate	Dispense 16 µL of control lysate	Dispense 16 µL of supplemented lysis buffer(1X)
Step 2 	Add 2 µL of Total-MKK4 d2 antibody working solution to all wells			
Step 3 	Add 2 µL of Total-MKK4 Cryptate antibody working solution to all wells			
Step 4 	Cover the plate with a plate sealer. Incubate overnight at room temperature.			
Step 5 	Remove the plate sealer and read on an HTRF compatible reader			

The Negative control is used to check the non-specific signal. The ratio between control lysate signal / non-specific signal should be greater than 2.

1	<p>Plate 8 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> of cells in a 384-well small volume white plate in HBSS* or other appropriate medium.                  Cell seeding densities of 33 K cells/well are generally sufficient for most cell lines, but optimization of cell seeding densities is recommended.                  Depending on receptor a starving step with serum-free medium can be included.</p>	 <p>384-well SV plate</p>
2	<p>Dispense 4 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> of compounds (3X) diluted in HBSS or other appropriate medium.                  For most compound, incubation time is between 30 and 60 minutes at 37°C.                  We recommend a time course study to determine the optimal stimulation time.</p>	 <p>384-well SV plate</p>
3	<p>Add 4 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> of supplemented lysis buffer (4X).                  Use the appropriate supplemented lysis buffer and incubate for at least 30 minutes at room temperature under shaking.                  Lysis incubation time may be optimized.</p>	 <p>384-well SV plate</p>
4	<p>Add 4 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> of premixed antibody solutions (vol/vol) prepared in the detection buffer.                  Cover the plate with a plate sealer.                  Incubate overnight at room temperature.                  Set up your reader for Eu<sup>3+</sup> Cryptate and read the fluorescence emission at two different wavelengths (665nm and 620nm) on a compatible HTRF® reader.</p>	 <p>384-well SV plate</p>

\* If the suspension cells have to be treated for more than 30min, replace HBSS by cell culture medium without phenol red.

► Standard protocol for one-plate assay protocol in 20  $\mu\text{L}$  final volume

	NON TREATED CELL LYSATE	TREATED CELL LYSATE	NEGATIVE CONTROL	CONTROL LYSATE
<p>Step 1</p> 	<p>Dispense 8 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> of cells</p>			<p>-</p>
<p>Step 2</p> 	<p>Add 4 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> HBSS or appropriate medium</p>	<p>Add 4 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> compound (3X)</p>	<p>Add 12 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> HBSS or appropriate medium</p>	<p>Dispense 16 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> control lysate</p>
<p>Step 3</p> 	<p>Add 4 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> supplemented lysis buffer (4X) - 30 min/RT.</p>			<p>-</p>
<p>Step 4</p> 	<p>Add 2 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> of Total-MKK4 d2 antibody solution to all wells</p>			
<p>Step 5</p> 	<p>Add 2 <math>\mu\text{L}</math> of Total-MKK4 Cryptate antibody solution to all wells</p>			
<p>Step 6</p> 	<p>Cover the plate with a plate sealer. Incubate overnight at room temperature.</p>			
<p>Step 7</p> 	<p>Remove the plate sealer and read on an HTRF compatible reader</p>			

The Negative control is used to check the non-specific signal. The ratio between control lysate signal / non-specific signal should be greater than 2.

1. Calculate the ratio of the acceptor and donor emission signals for each individual well.

$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{\text{Signal 665 nm}}{\text{Signal 620 nm}} \times 10^4$$

2. Calculate the % CVs. The mean and standard deviation can then be worked out from ratio replicates.

$$\text{CV (\%)} = \frac{\text{Standard deviation}}{\text{Mean Ratio}} \times 100$$

For more information about data reduction, please visit [www.cisbio.com/htrf-ratio-and-data-reduction](http://www.cisbio.com/htrf-ratio-and-data-reduction)

## RESULTS

These data should be considered only as an example (readings on PHERAstarFS with flash lamp). Results may vary from one HTRF® compatible reader to another.

The curves are drawn up by plotting HTRF® Ratio versus the log [compound] concentrations.

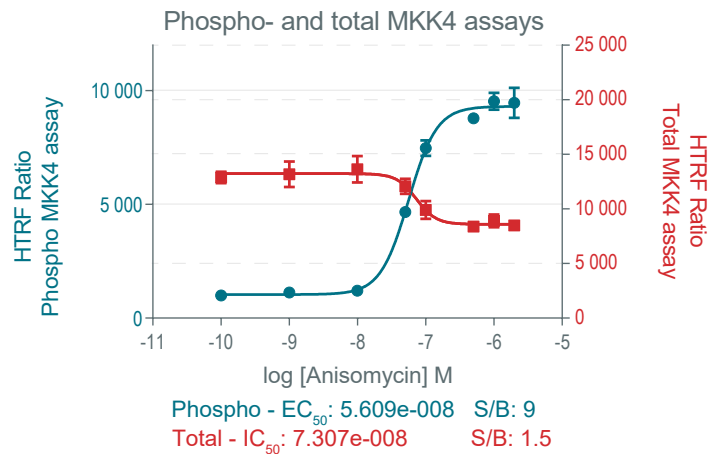
The signal linearity is dependent both on the cell line and on the total protein detected. A cell density experiment is highly recommended to ensure working in optimal conditions.

Results on HepG2 cells (100,000 cells/well), using the two-plate assay protocol for adherent cells.

Cells were treated with increasing concentrations of anisomycin for 45 minutes and then lysed with supplemented lysis buffer #1 for 30 minutes at room temperature.

16 µL of lysates were transferred in a first plate to detect total-MKK4, and 16 µL of lysates were transferred in a second plate to detect phospho-MKK4 using the HTRF phospho-MKK4 assay - Cat # 64MK4PEG, 64MK4PEH

[Anisomycin] (nM)	Log [Anisomycin] (M)	Phospho-MKK4 (Ser257)		Total MKK4	
		Mean HTRF Ratio	CV%	Mean HTRF Ratio	CV%
2000	-5.7	9469	7.0%	8497	3.7%
1000	-6.0	9537	3.9%	8899	6.7%
500.0	-6.3	8782	2.2%	8389	2.8%
100.0	-7.0	7471	4.6%	9910	8.3%
50.0	-7.3	4667	4.7%	12083	5.8%
10.0	-8.0	1207	2.2%	13636	8.8%
1.000	-9.0	1121	3.6%	13180	8.9%
0.000	-10.0	997	0.6%	12889	4.1%
Negative		703	6.8%	668	1.8%
Control lysate		7797	1.0%	6507	2.0%





Using adherent cells, allow time for your cells to recover after plating	Allow cells to regain full signaling capacity by plating them at least 6 hours before starting the pharmacological treatment.
Depending on the pathway, a serum starving step could be essential to reduce the basal level activity. This step should be optimized case-by-case.	For adherent cells Before treating the cells with compounds, remove culture media from the plate and replace it with serum-free media before incubating from 2 hours up to overnight at 37°C. For suspension cells Starvation step should be carried out in the flask. Harvest cells by centrifugation and re-suspend cells at a suitable cell density in serum-free media, incubate from 2 hours up to overnight at 37°C.
Generation of lysates	Ensure that the lysates used for the assay have been generated by using the HTRF® lysis buffer supplemented with the HTRF® blocking reagent, provided in the kit. Lysates generated with HTRF® buffers can be used in other technologies, like Western-blot. The blocking reagent contains only phosphatase inhibitors that prevent dephosphorylation of phosphorylated proteins from active serine/threonine and tyrosine phosphatases The lysis buffer is effective for creating cell extract under non denaturing conditions from both plated cells and cells pelleted from suspension cultures.
Using the two-plate assay protocol, a low signal can often be improved by adjusting lysis volumes.	In most cases, a typical adherent cell line grown in 96-well plates is readily detected in a lysis volume of 50µL. However, the lysis volume can be adjusted from 25 µL to 200 µL.
Using an improper cell density can induce poor sensitivity and low signal	Check that the cell density is correct. Too high or low cell numbers can affect assay performances
Parameters such as cell density, stimulation time and lysis incubation time should be optimized for each cell line used.	The assay can be used for many adherent and non-adherent cell types, including transfected cell lines and primary cells. However, the expression and phosphorylation of the readout of interest can vary from one cell line to another. Depending on the type of treatment, and the temperature, the stimulation time can vary widely. Because of this, we recommend a time course study to determine the optimal compound incubation time. Depending of the nature of your cells, lysis time may vary from 30' to 1h. Because of this, we also recommend determination of the optimal time.
Fluorescence reading	Using an inappropriate set-up may seriously impair the results. For information about HTRF® compatible readers and for set-up recommendations, please visit our website at: <a href="http://www.cisbio.com/htrf-compatible-readers">www.cisbio.com/htrf-compatible-readers</a>
Assaying for multiple targets from a single lysate.	The two-plate assay protocol indicates the use of 16µL of lysate per well, whereas the 96-well cell culture microplate would generate 50µL (or more) of lysate. Therefore, a typical cell lysate can be assayed for many targets, given that temporal and expression level constraints can vary from one target to another.
Batch production of cell lysates example of T175 flask	Day1: Dispense 8 million cells in T175cm2, add 25 mL of cell culture complete medium and incubate 2 days at 37°C, 5% CO2. Day3: cell stimulation Remove cell culture medium by aspiration, wash once with PBS (do not detach the cells), add 5 mL of agonist (1x) diluted in FCS free medium and incubate at 37 ° C, 5% CO2, for the optimized time . Day3: cell lysis Remove stimulation medium, wash once with PBS(do not detach the cells), add 3 ml of 1X HTRF® lysis buffer supplemented with the HTRF® blocking reagent for 30 min at Room Temperature under orbital shaking. Transfer the cell lysate to a 15 mL vial, centrifuge 10 min, 2400 rcf at RT, recover cell lysate supernatant and store aliquots at -80°C. For long term conservation, aliquots should be stored in liquid nitrogen.

REACH European regulations and compliance

This product and/or some of its components include a Triton concentration of 0.1% or more and as such, it is concerned by the REACH European regulations. We recommend researchers using this product to act in compliance with REACH and in particular: to only use the product for in vitro research in appropriate and controlled premises by qualified researchers, ii) to ensure the collection and the treatment of subsequent waste, and iii) to make sure that the total amount of Triton handled does not exceed 1 ton per year.

This product contains material of biologic origin. Use for research purposes only. Do not use in humans or for diagnostic purposes. The purchaser assumes all risk and responsibility concerning reception, handling and storage.

The use of the cell line will be done with appropriate safety and handling precautions to minimize health and environmental impact. .

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