



Beyond monolayers: Promega's 3D Cell Culture and Assay Solutions

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Our Mission

Provide innovative biological reagents and integrated systems used in research and applied technology worldwide.






Supporting Science Around the World



100+
Countries

50+
Distributors

-  Headquarters
-  R&D and Manufacturing
-  Branch Office

Product Portfolio

DNA & RNA Analysis

- DNA and RNA Purification
- DNA Amplification PCR and qPCR
- Reverse Transcription and RNA protection
- Sequencing Sample Preparation
- Cloning, Enzymes and DNA Markers
- Transfection and Epigenetics

Cellular Analysis

- Cell Health (viability, cytotoxicity, apoptosis)
- Cellular Metabolism
- Cell Signaling
- Reporter Assays
- Imaging

Protein Analysis

- Mass Spectrometry
- Immunoassays
- Protein Quantification
- Protein Expression
- Protein Purification
- Protein Interaction

Genetic Identity

- Forensic and Paternity Testing
- STR Typing

Molecular Diagnostic

- cGMP Manufacturing
- Gene Analysis and Mutation Determination

Drug Development

- Biologics
- Small-Molecule Drug Discovery

Instrumentation

- Instruments for DNA and RNA Extraction and Quantification

- Luminometer, Fluorometer and Bioluminescence Imager

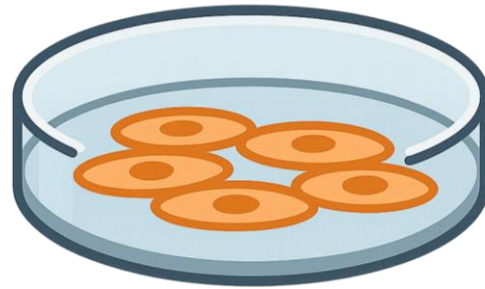
- Capillary Electrophoresis Systems



2D Cell Culture – The Foundation of In Vitro Biology

Advantages

- Simple and reproducible
- Cost-effective, scalable
- Ideal for mechanistic and screening studies



AI generated image

Disadvantages

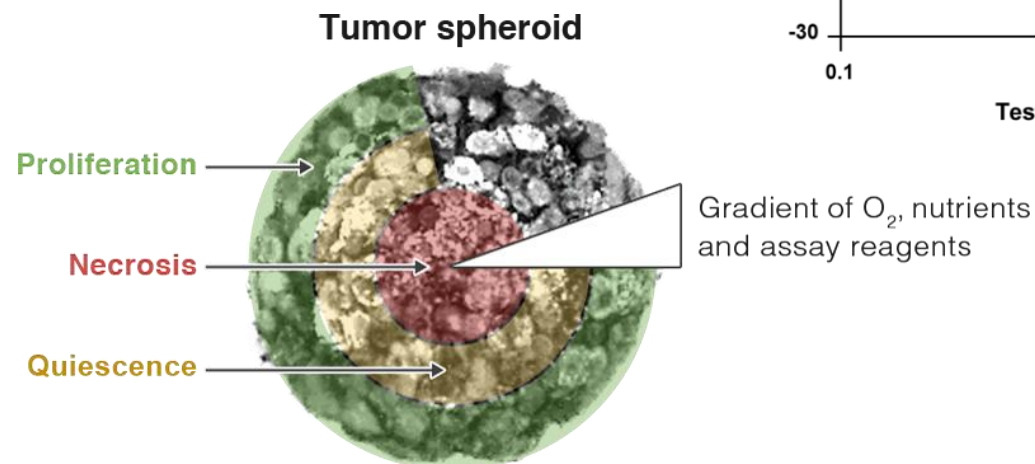
- Flat, **non-physiological growth**
- Uniform nutrients and oxygen
- Limited cell–cell and ECM interactions

The nature and importance of metabolic restriction in cancer has often been masked owing to the use of *tissue culture conditions in which both oxygen and nutrients are always in excess*.

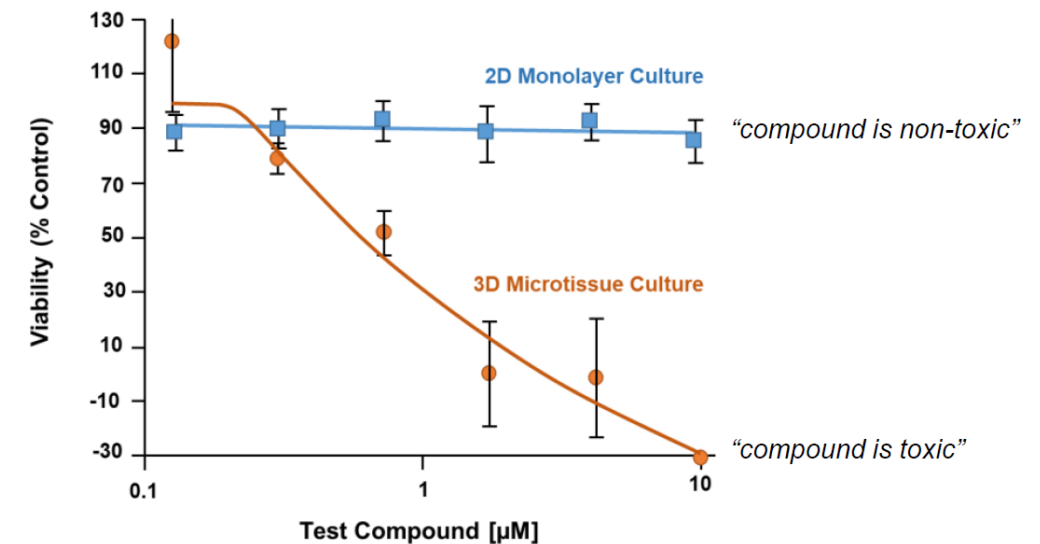
Cairns, R.A., Harris, I.S. and Mak, T., (2011) Regulation of Cancer Cell Metabolism. *Nature Reviews: Cancer* **11**, 85-95.

3D Cell Culture - Bridging the Gap to Physiological Relevance

- Mimics tissue/tumor more closely:
 - Center is more hypoxic
 - Nutrients more limiting
- Allows more natural 3D cell-to-cell contacts
- Allows more natural interactions with matrix (and matrix creation)



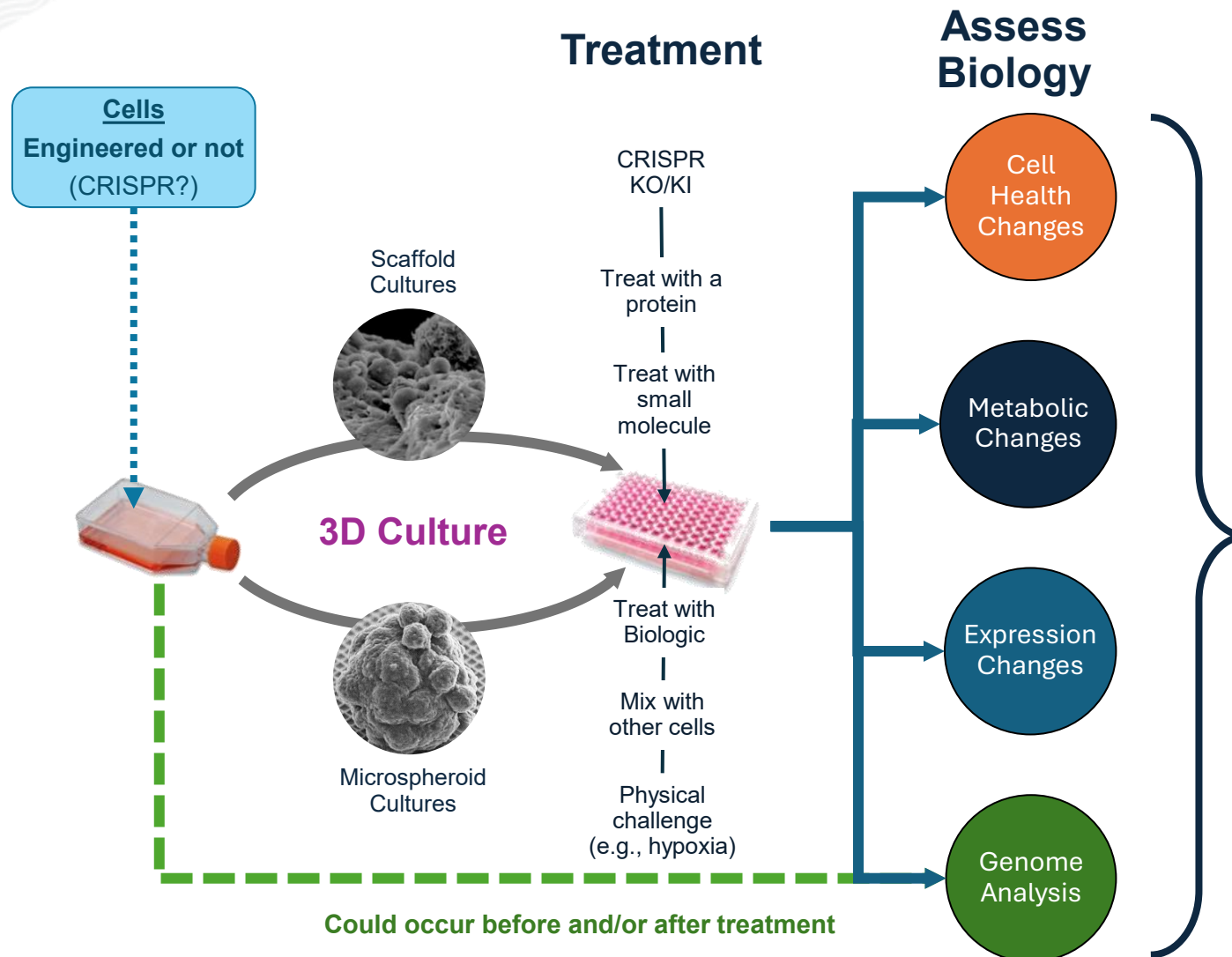
3D Culture can Reveal Dramatic Differences in Cellular Responses



How the 3D Environment Is Generated

Types	Key Principle	Examples
Scaffold-Free	Cells self-assemble into 3D aggregates without external support	Spheroids, organoids, cell sheets
Scaffold-Based	External materials mimic ECM and provide structural/mechanical support	Hydrogels (collagen, alginate, Matrigel), polymers (PLGA, PEG), decellularized ECM
Bioprinted	Cells and biomaterials are deposited layer-by-layer to build 3D structures	Cell-laden hydrogels, printed tissue strands, hybrid constructs

Goal is to measure biology following treatment...



Do you have the right tools to measure the biology?

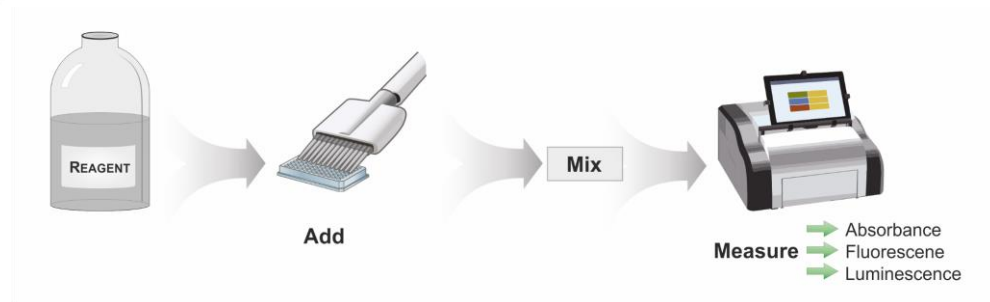
Most available cellular assays were developed with 2D monolayer cultures

Easy to lyse and release cellular contents

3D microtissue cultures challenges:

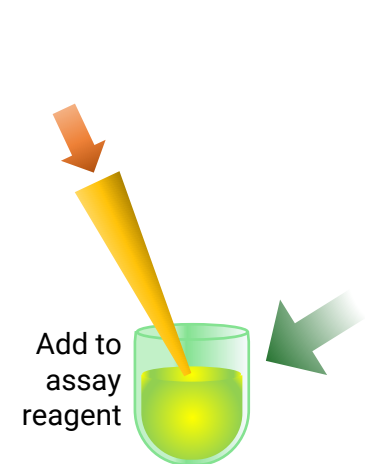
- Harder to penetrate
- Cells set down their own matrix
- Conditions for rapid lysis may destroy the enzyme you wish to measure

Promega's Cell-based Assay Portfolio



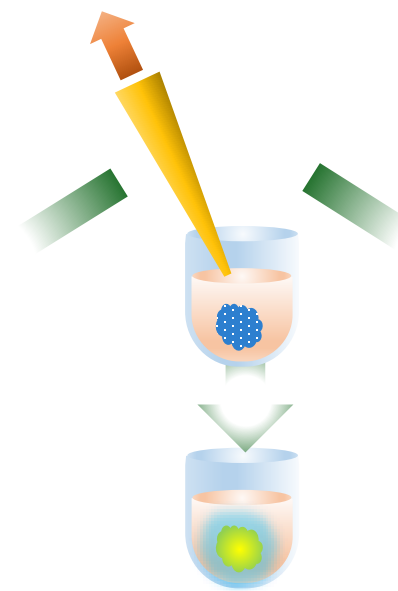
Benefits

- No cell washing
- No removal of supernatants
- Less pipetting steps
- Easy to automate
- Easy to operate
- Time saving
- HTS-compatible
- Error sources (↓)
- Reproducibility (↑)



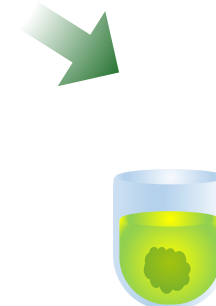
Media Sampling Non-Lytic Assays

LDH-Glo™
Cytotoxicity Assay



Live Cell Assays Non-Lytic Assays

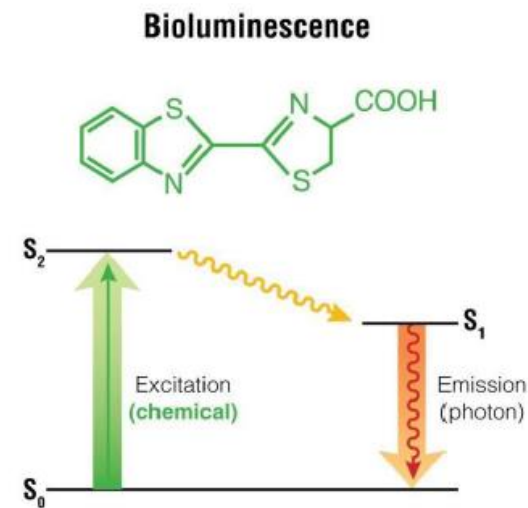
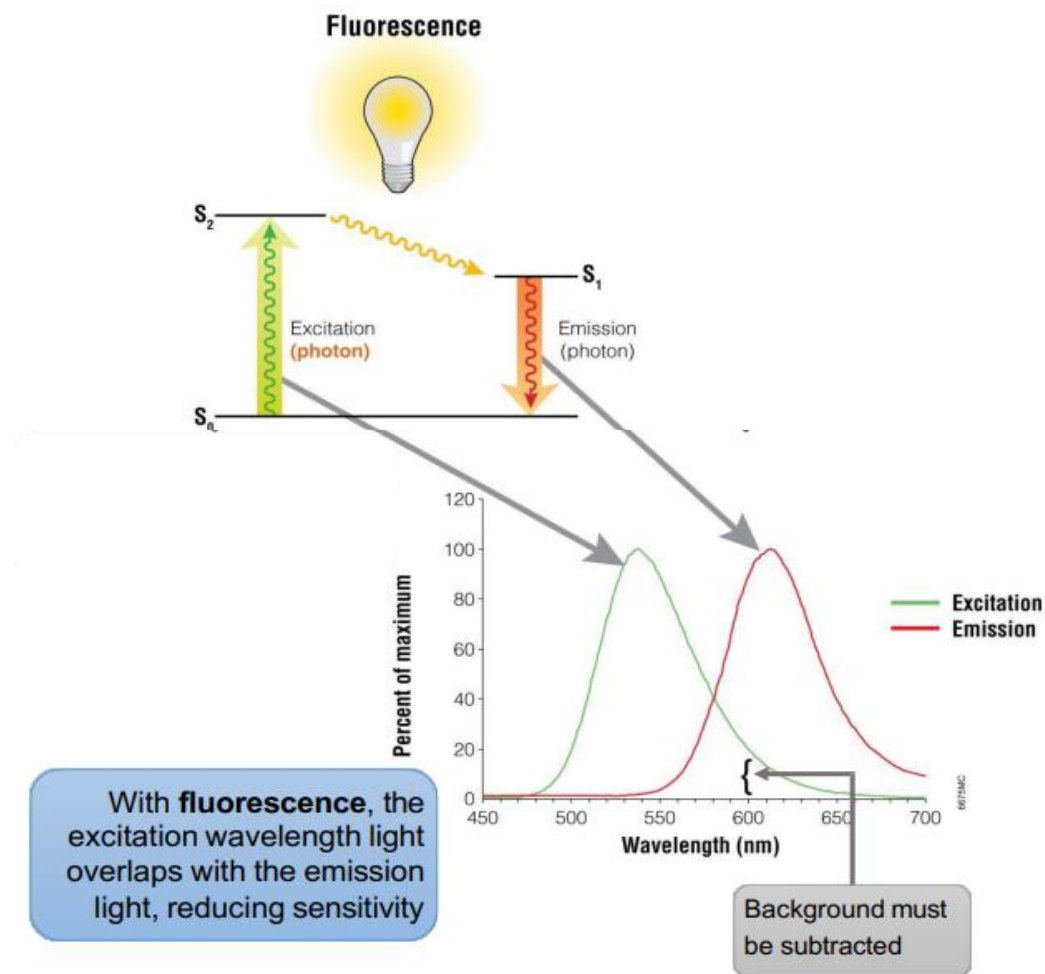
RealTime-Glo™ MT
Cell Viability Assay



End-Point Lytic Assays

CellTiter-Glo® 3D
Cell Viability Assay

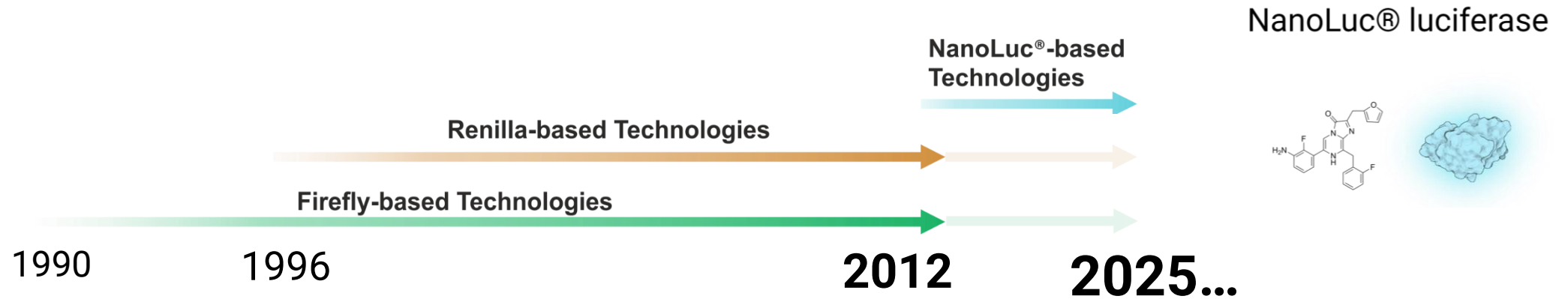
Why Bioluminescence?



With **luminescence**, the energy input is chemical in nature so background is minimal and, thus, more sensitive.

The added sensitivity gained from the minimal background makes bioluminescence the ideal choice for plate-based assays.

Decades of Experience with Bioluminescence

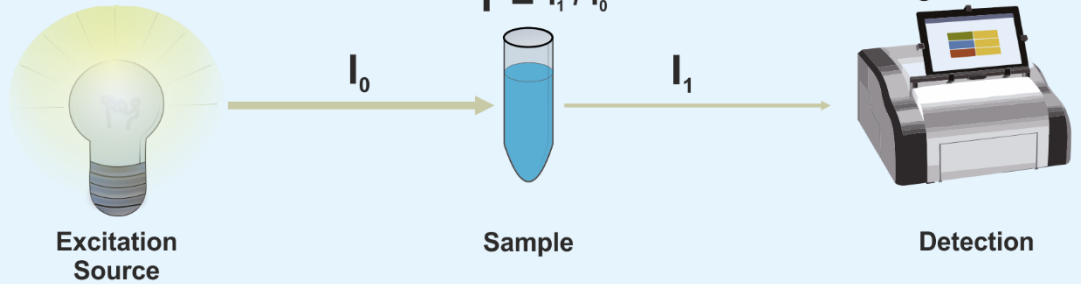


- Reporter Gene Assays
- GloSensor™ (cAMP, Protease Assays)
- GloResponse™ (Signaling Pathways)
- Rapid Response™ (Signaling Pathways)
- Cell-Health Assays
- Bioassays (ADCC, PDL1..)
- NanoBRET™ Target Engagement
- NanoBRET™ Protein:Protein Interaction
- NanoBiT® Protein:Protein Interaction
- HiBiT Protein Tagging System
- Lumit™ Immunoassays
- ...



Assays Detection Systems

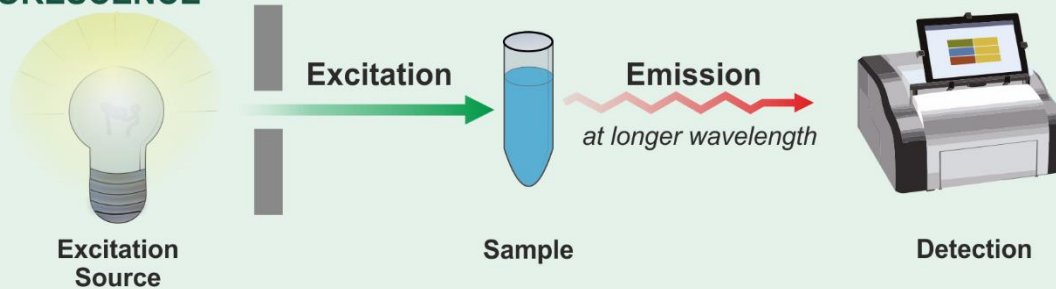
ABSORBANCE



ATTRIBUTES

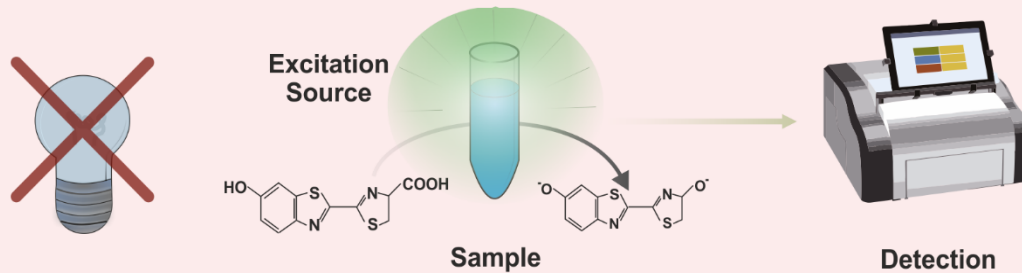
- low sensitivity
- low S/B
- low dynamic range
- no multiplexing
- inexpensive

FLUORESCENCE



- intermediate sensitivity
- intermediate S/B
- intermediate dynamic range; 4 - 5 logs
- multiplexing
- phototoxicity

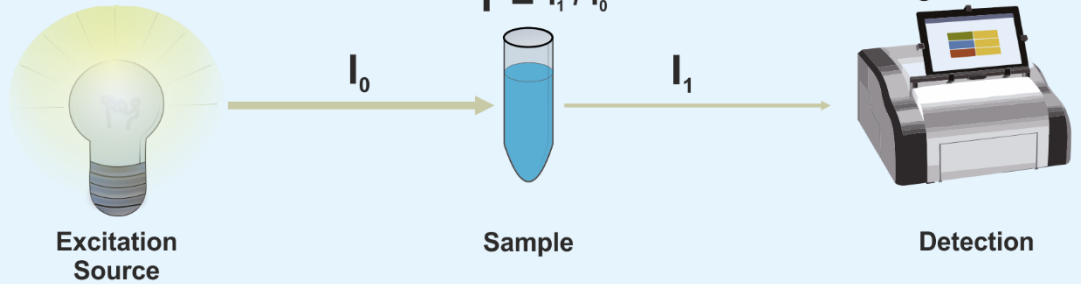
BIOLUMINESCENCE



- high sensitivity
- high S/B
- high dynamic range; 8 - 9 logs
- multiplexing
- no phototoxicity

Assays Detection Systems

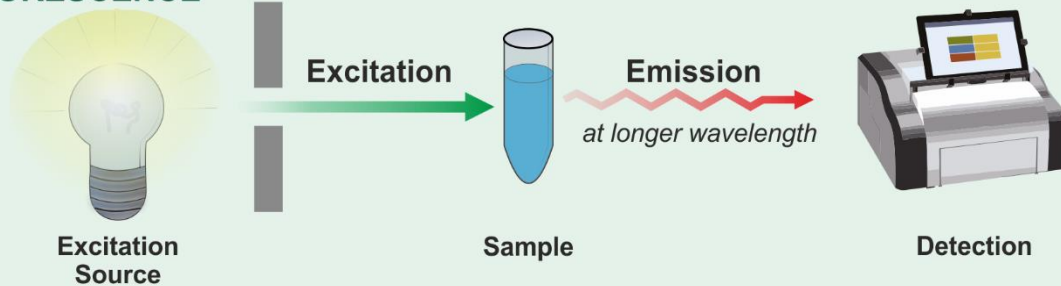
ABSORBANCE



ATTRIBUTES

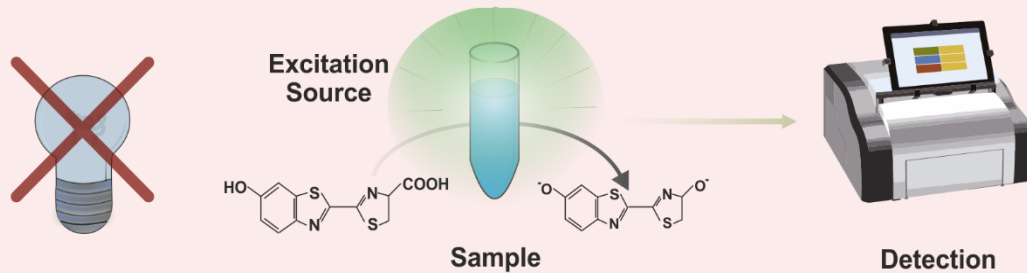
CellTiter 96®
~1.000 cells/96-well

FLUORESCENCE



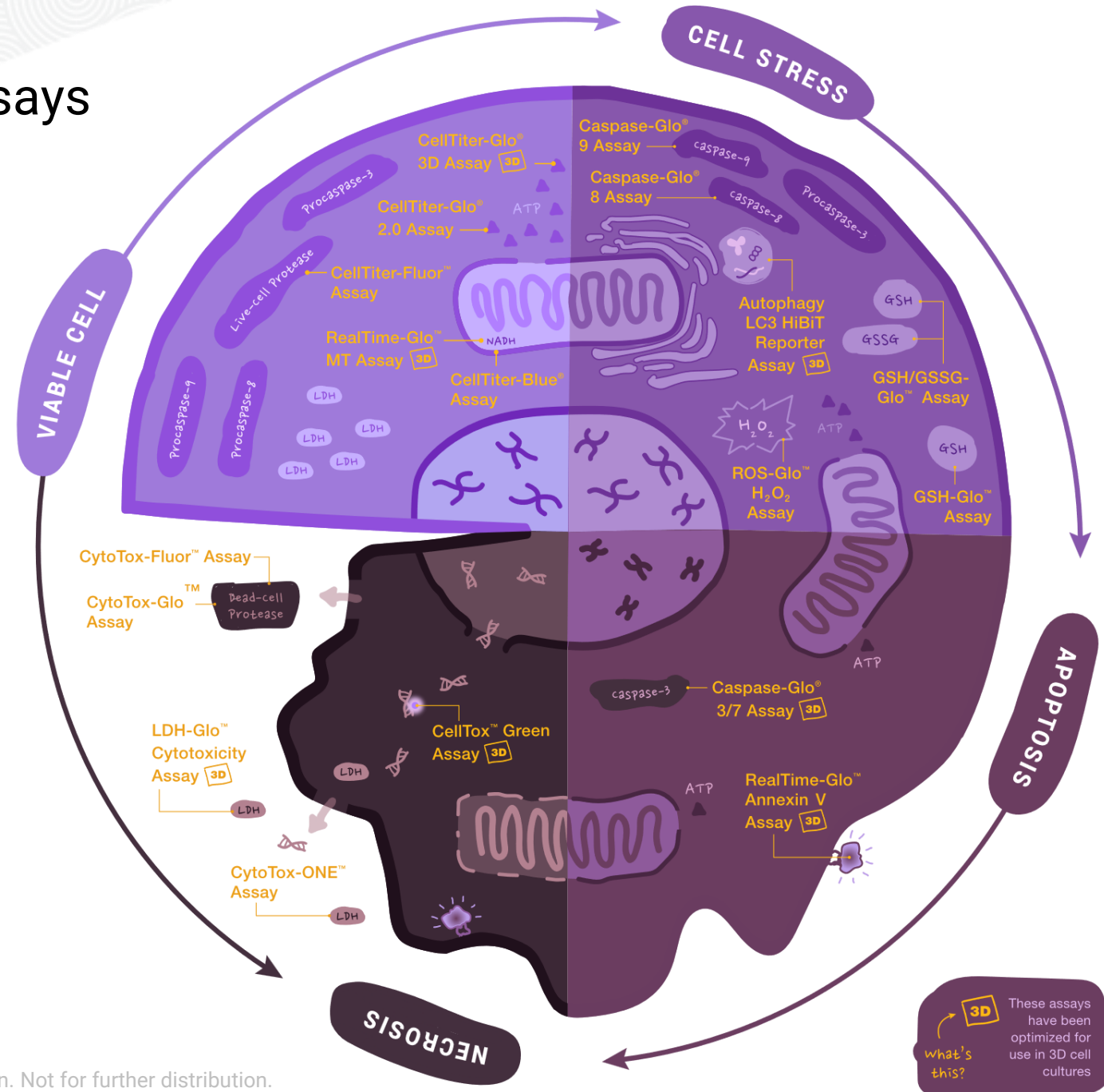
CellTiter-Blue®
~400 cells/96-well

BIOLUMINESCENCE

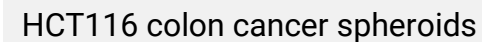


CellTiter -Glo®
~ 10 cells/96-well

Cell Health Assays



3D These assays have been optimized for use in 3D cell cultures
What's this?



B. CellTiter-Glo® 3D ATPlite™ 1Step

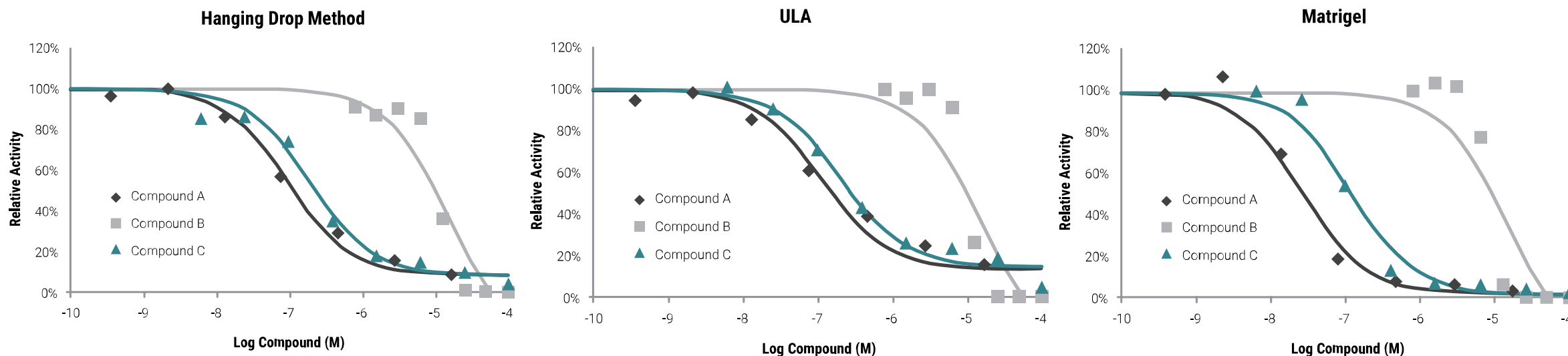


hydrogel

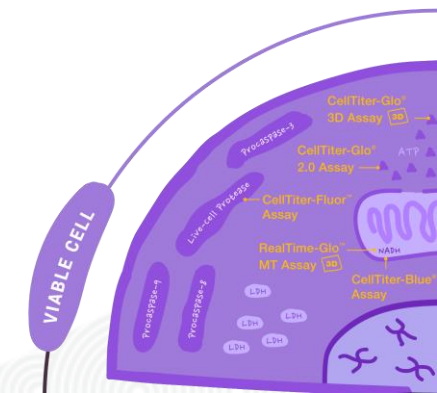
organoid

microfluidic

CellTiter-Glo® 3D Cell Viability Assay - Compatible with a Variety of 3D Culture Methods



HCT116 colon cancer cells were seeded as follows: 400 cells in hanging-drop; 1,000 cells in ULA or Matrigel®. Microtissues were grown for 4 days, treated with compounds for 48 hours, and then assayed with the CellTiter-Glo® 3D Reagent. Luminescence was recorded at 30 minutes.

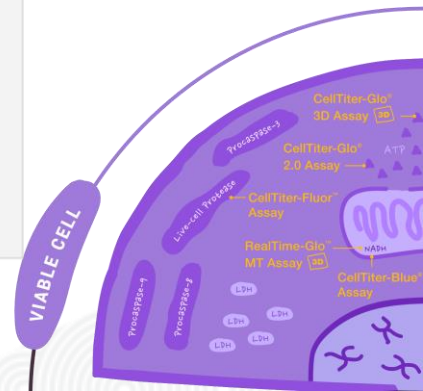
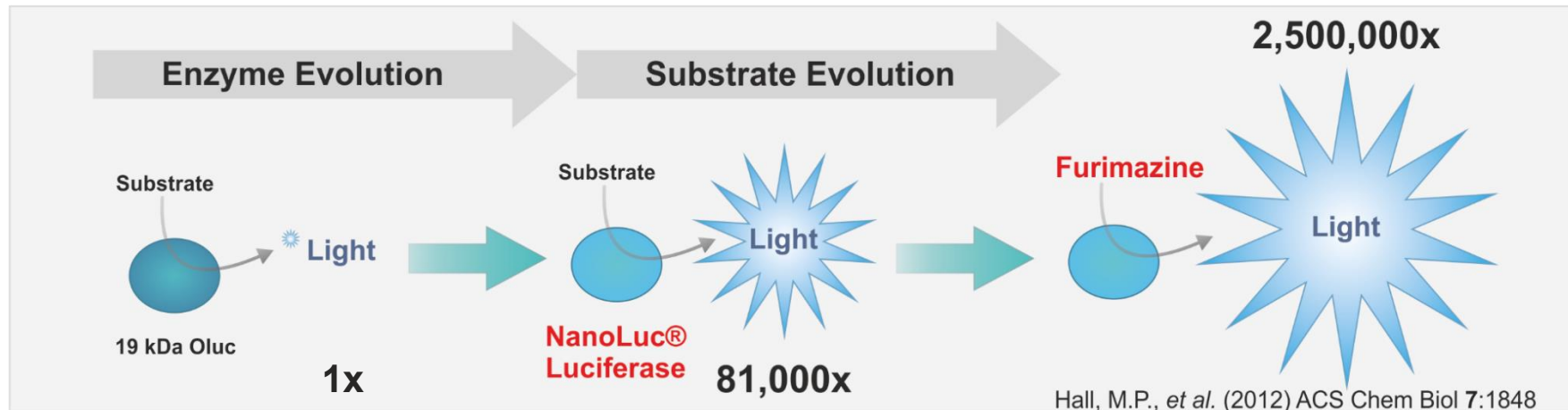
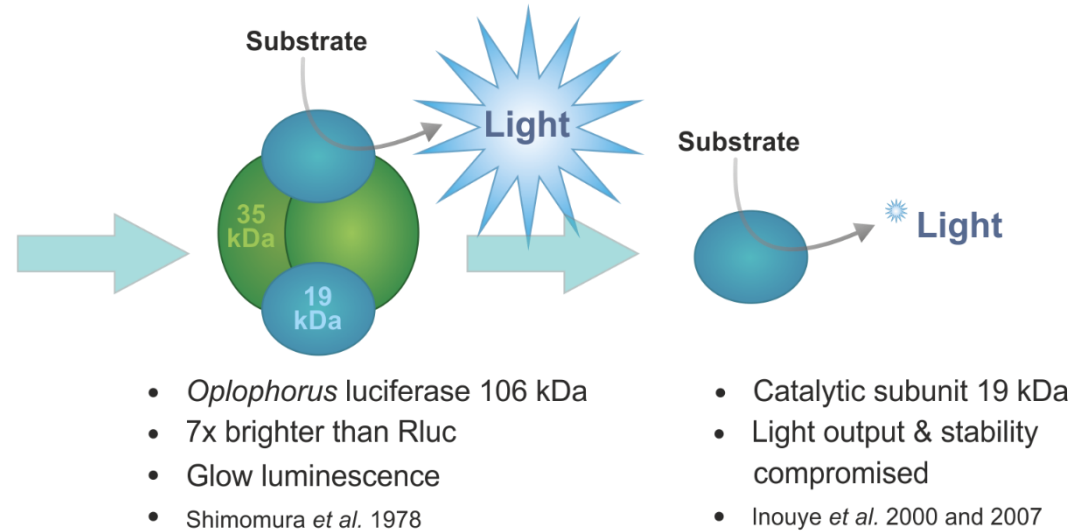


NanoLuc® Luciferase: A Bright and Small Reporter

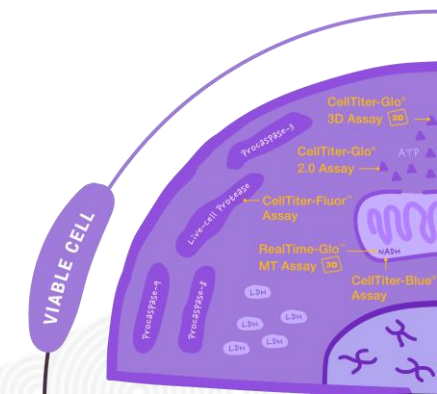
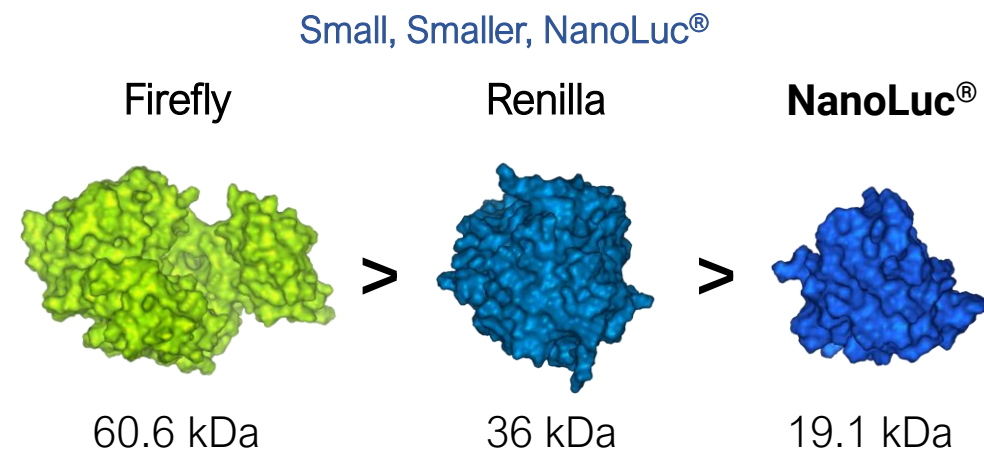
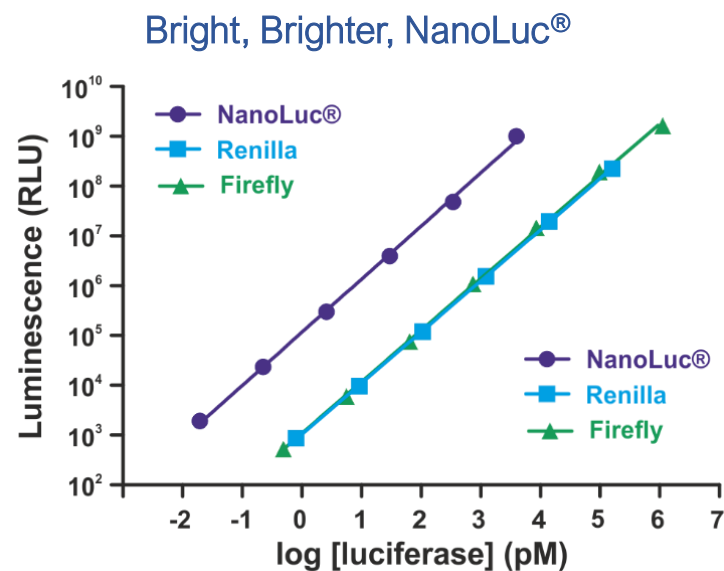


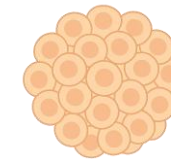
Wang *et al.* 2015

Oplophorus gracilirostris

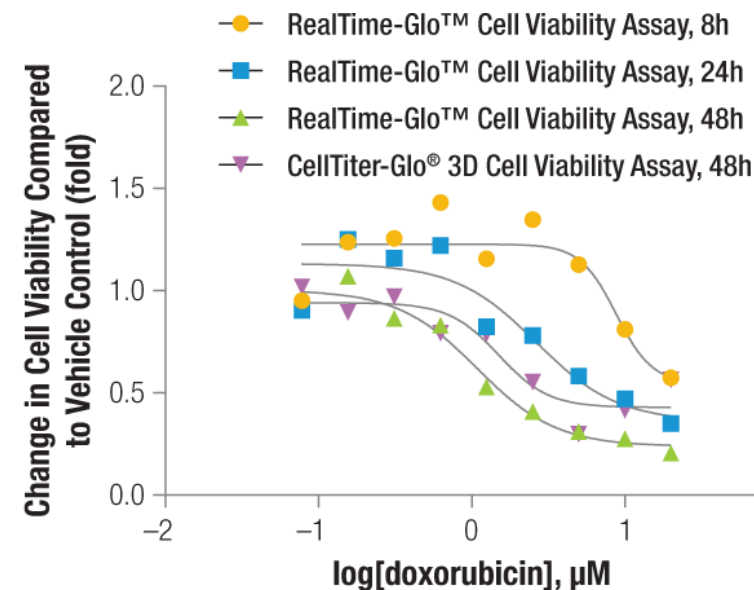
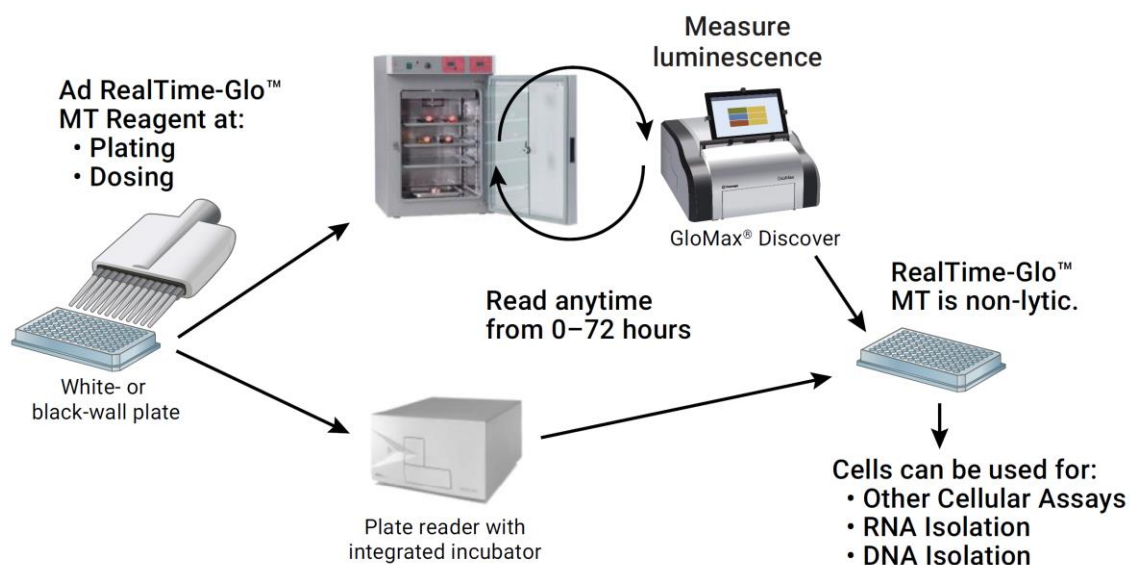
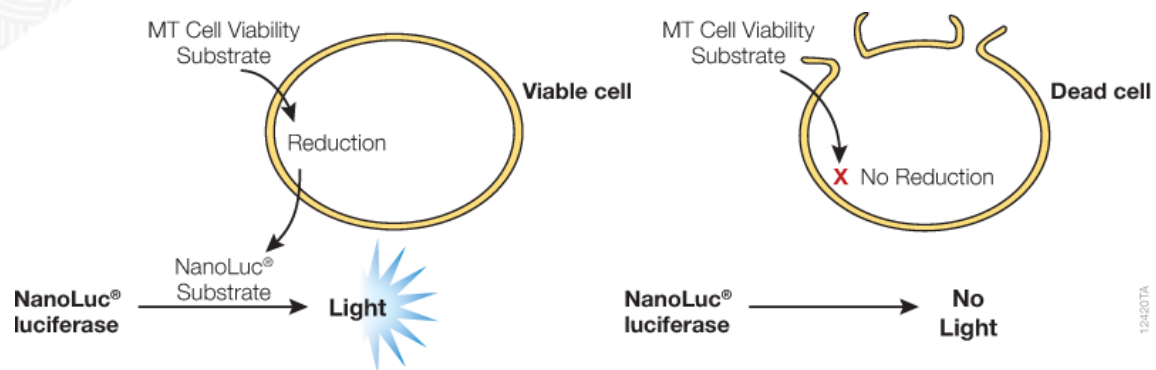


NanoLuc® Luciferase: A Bright and Small Reporter



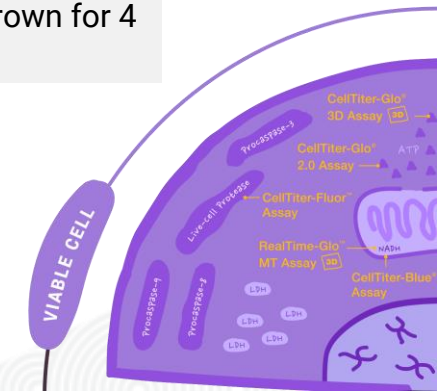


RealTime-Glo™ MT Cell Viability Assay

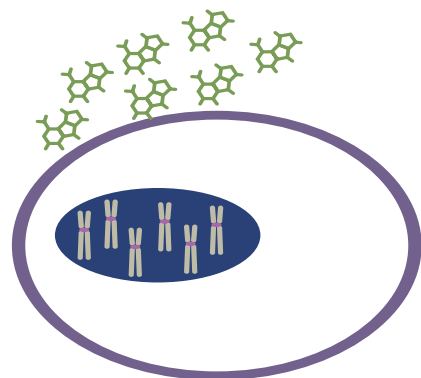
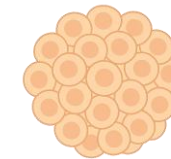


	RealTime-Glo™ Assay at 8 hours	RealTime-Glo™ Assay at 24 hours	RealTime-Glo™ Assay at 48 hours	CellTiter-Glo® Assay at 48 hours
EC ₅₀ Value (µM)	8.77	2.65	1.09	1.50

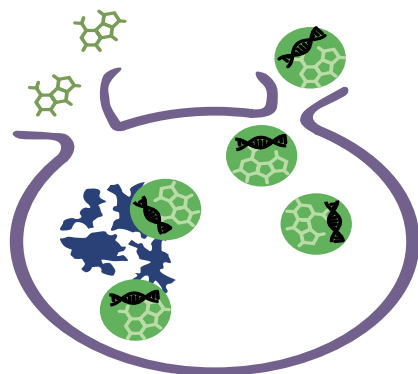
HCT116 colon cancer spheroids were grown for 4 days in a 96-well hanging drop plate



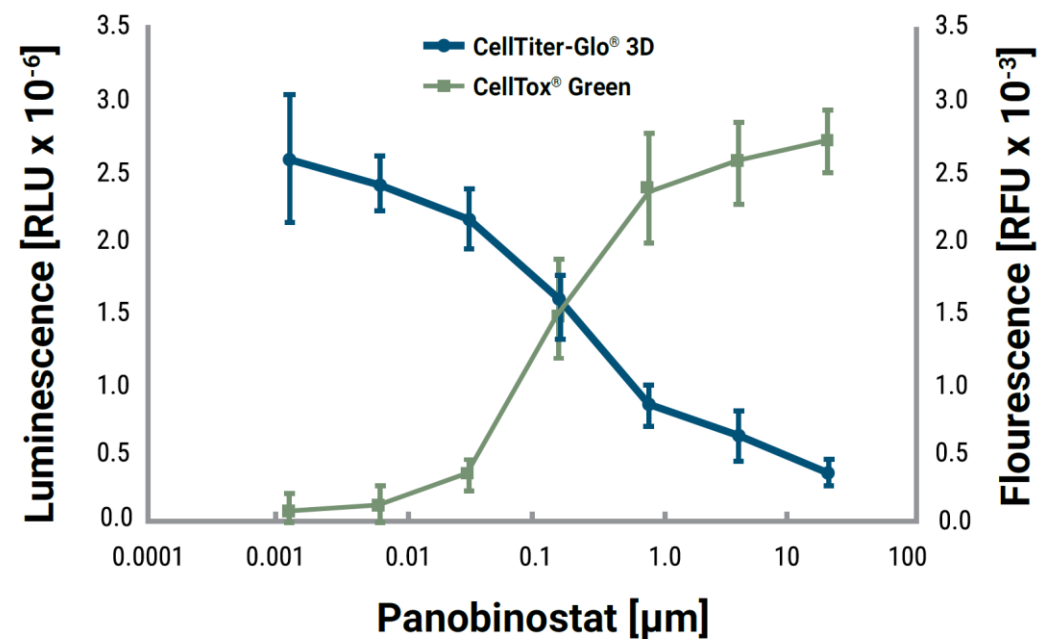
CellTox™ Green Cytotoxicity Assay



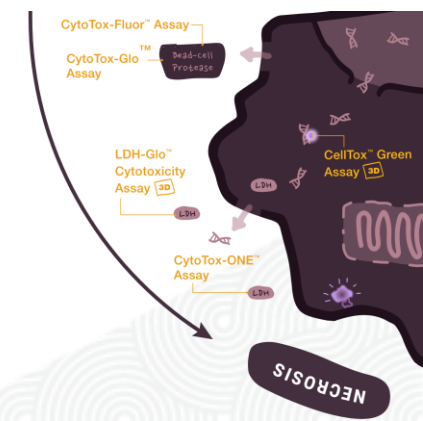
**Low Fluorescence
Viable Cells**



**High Fluorescence
Nonviable Cells**



HCT116 colon cancer spheroids were grown for 4 days in a 96-well hanging drop plate



[spheroid](#)



[hydrogel](#)

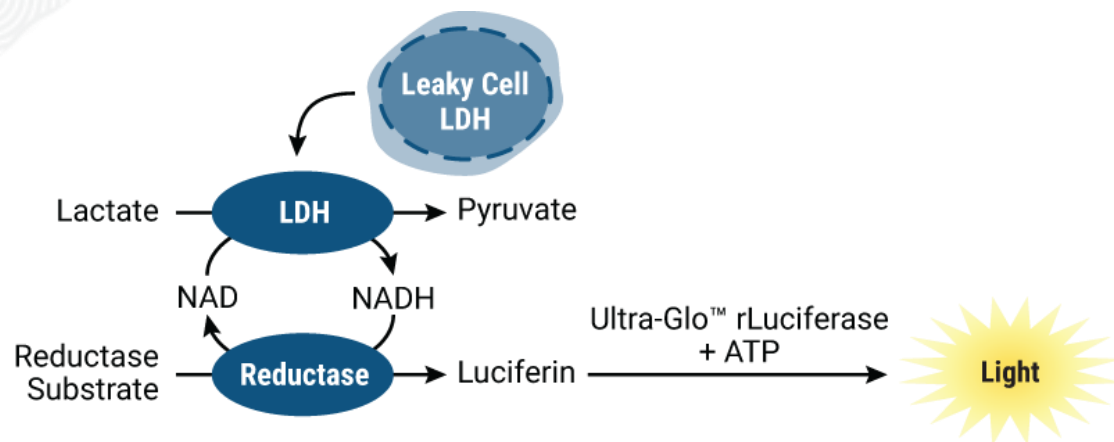


[organoid](#)

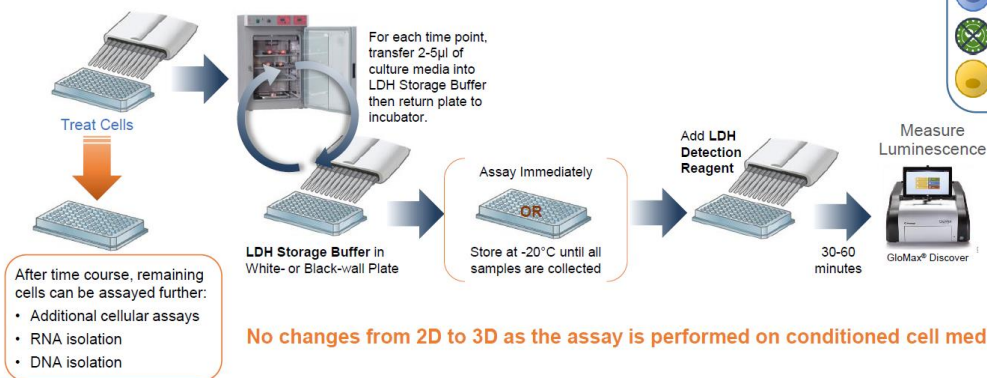


[microfluidic](#)

LDH-Glo™ Cytotoxicity Assay



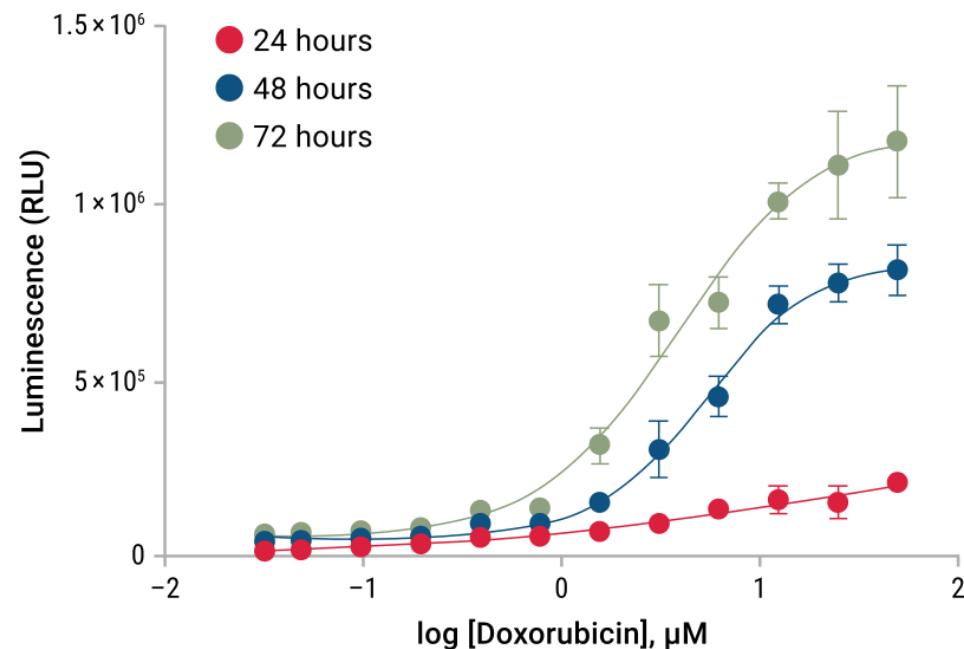
Adaptable Workflow



No changes from 2D to 3D as the assay is performed on conditioned cell media.

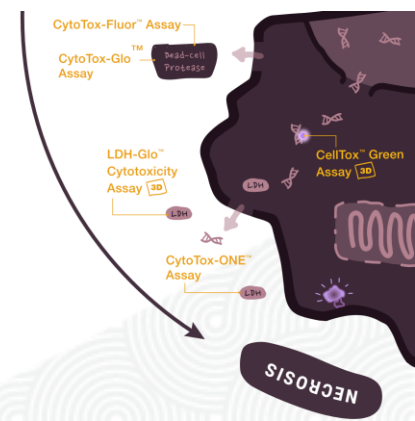
Assay Summary:

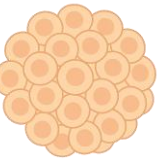
- Non-Lytic Assay
- No Cellular Engineering Required
- RNA/DNA Isolation from same well



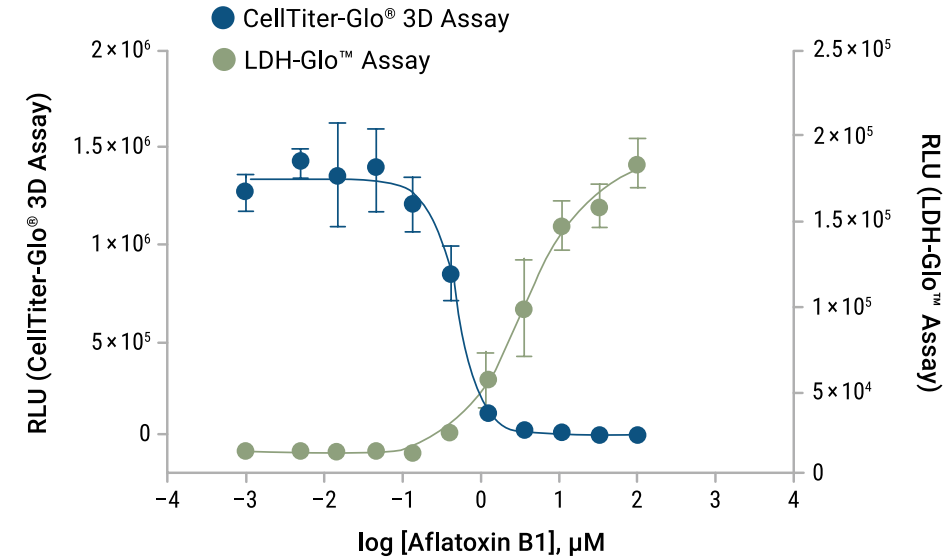
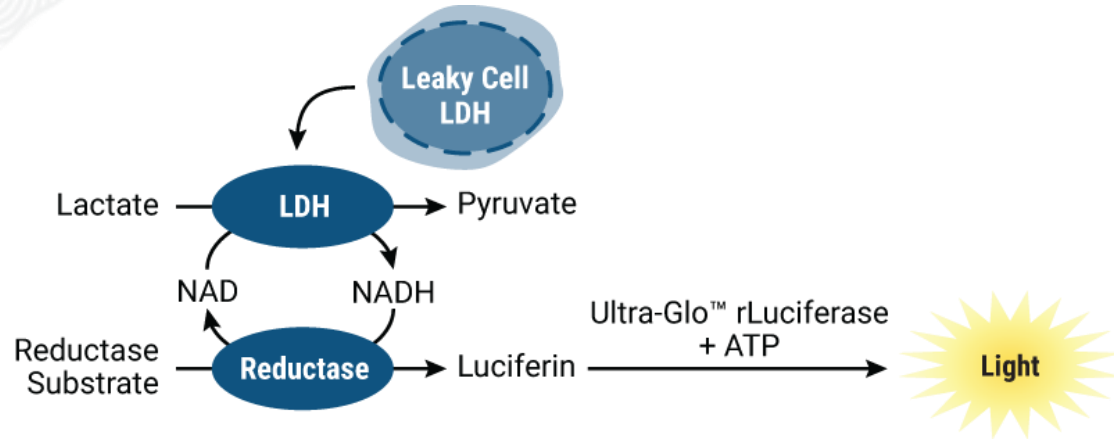
	24 hours	48 hours	72 hours
EC50	17.09	5.474	3.844

HCT116 cells were grown as spheroids in 384-well ULA plates (Corning) and treated with doxorubicin



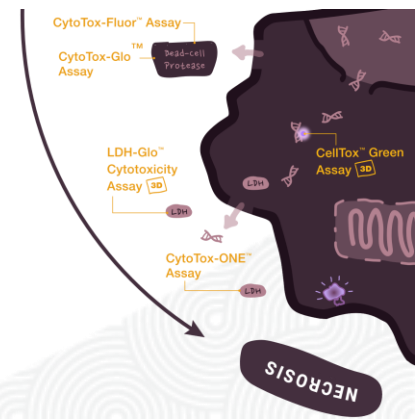


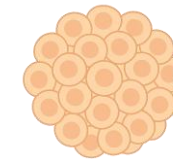
LDH-Glo™ Cytotoxicity Assay



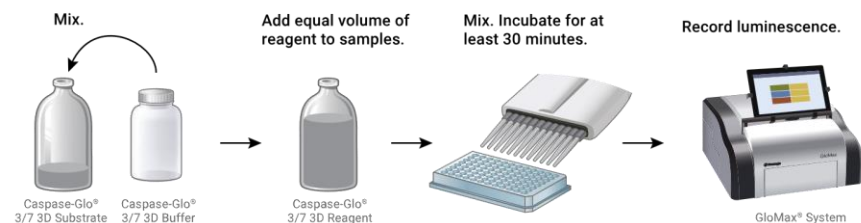
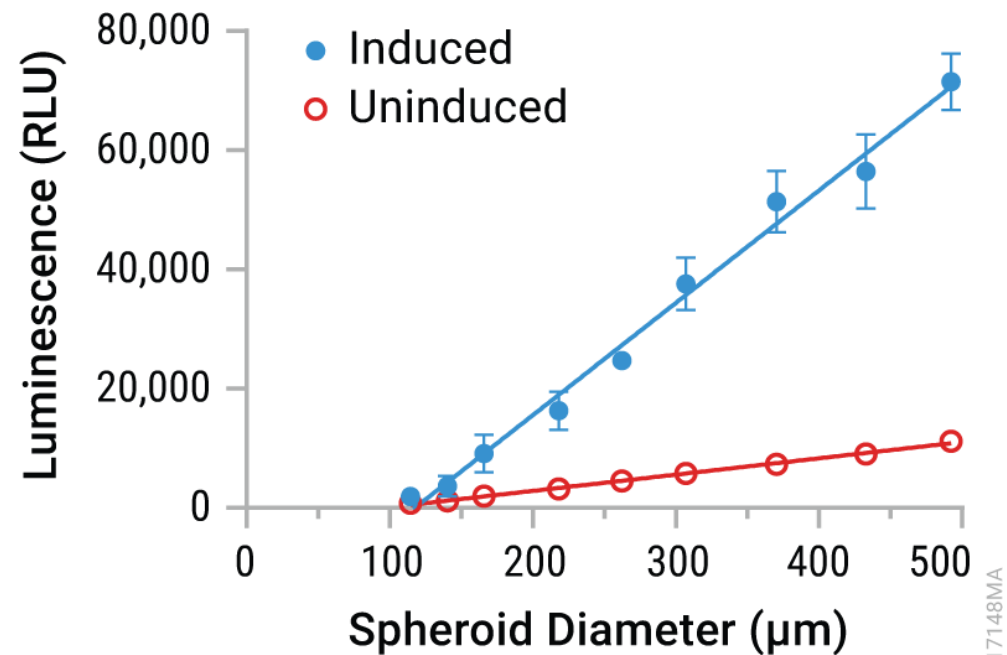
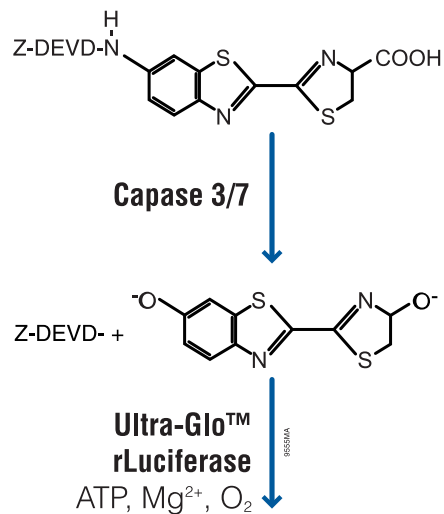
	LDH Assay	CTG 3D Assay
EC50	3.52	0.4999

Human liver microtissue spheroids were treated with aflatoxin B1 for 48 hours.

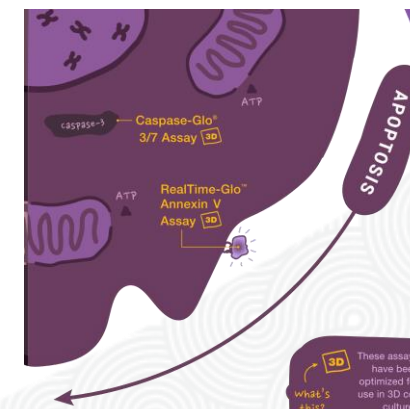




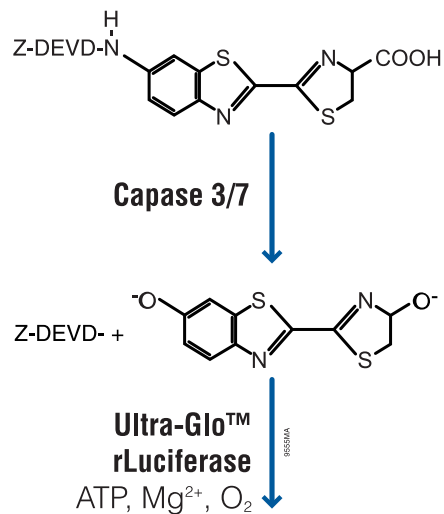
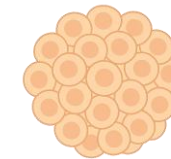
Caspase-Glo® 3/7 3D Assay



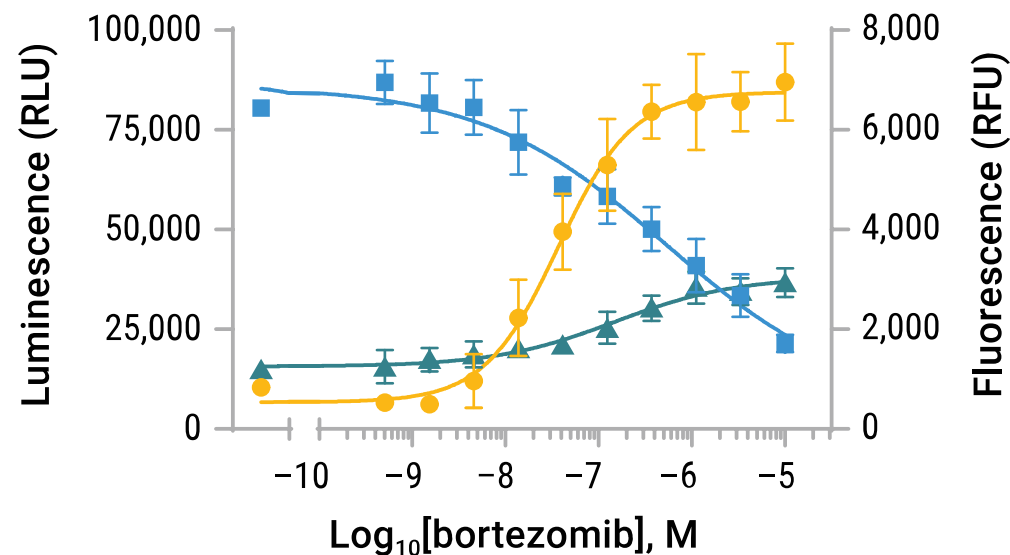
HCT116 cells were grown as spheroids in 96-well ULA plates (Corning)



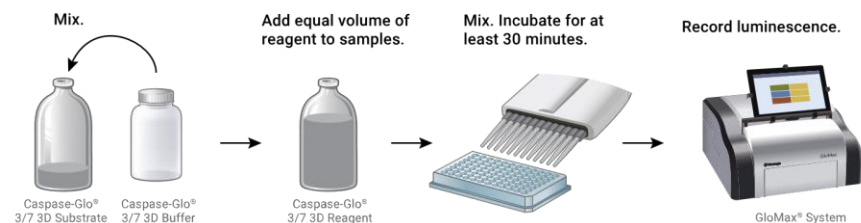
Caspase-Glo® 3/7 3D Assay



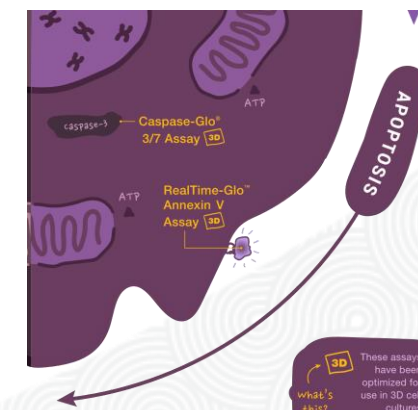
Lytic Assay



● Caspase-Glo® 3/7 3D ■ CellTiter-Fluor™ ▲ CellTox™ Green



A549 spheroids (average diameter of 450µm)



NanoLuc® Binary Technology (NanoBiT®)



NanoLuc®

Protein:Protein
Interactions

Small tag Size
minimal influence on
fusion partner



1.3 kDa

18 kDa

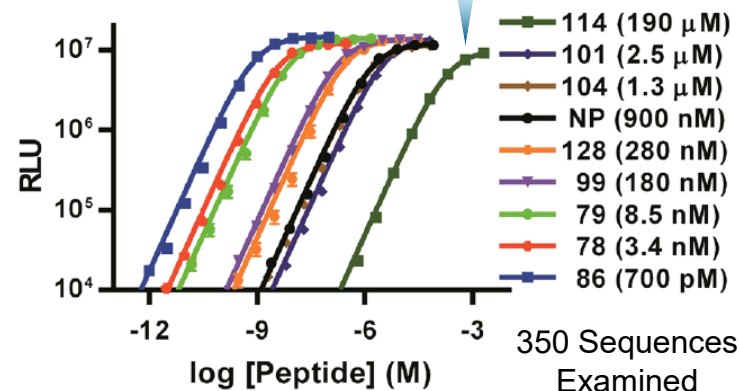
NanoBiT®
Luciferase

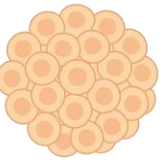
LgBiT

Assisted
Complementation

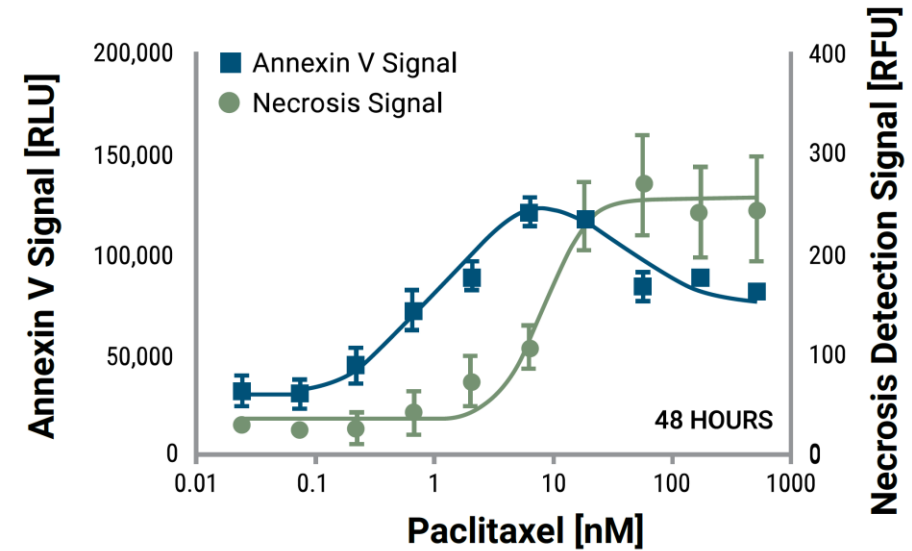
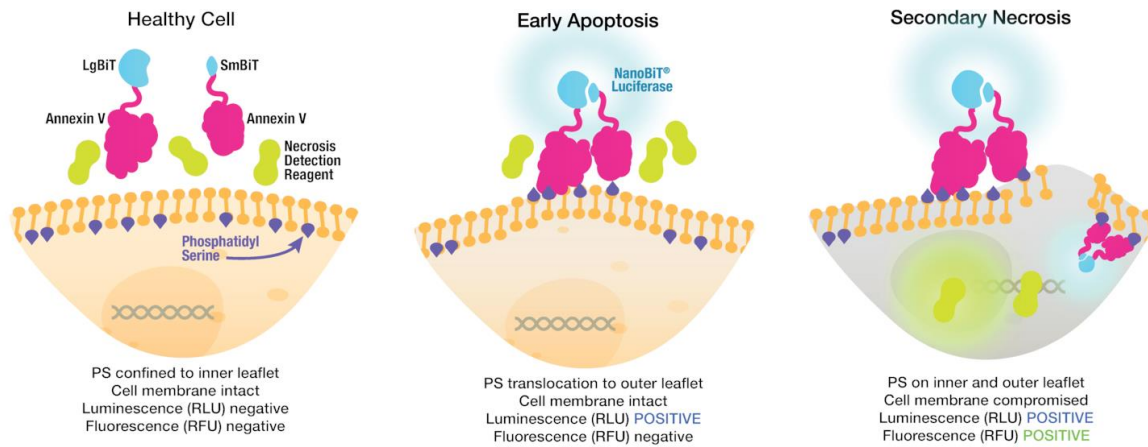
**Bright signal upon
complementation**
enables low
expression levels

SmBiT
Low-Affinity Subunit

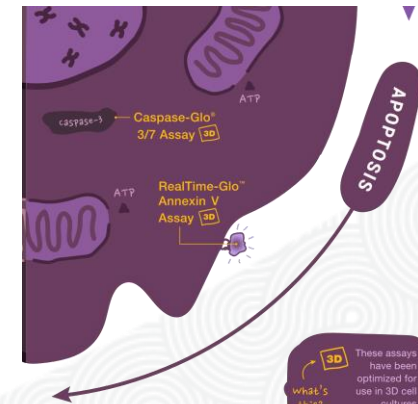




RealTime-Glo® Annexin V Apoptosis and Necrosis Assay

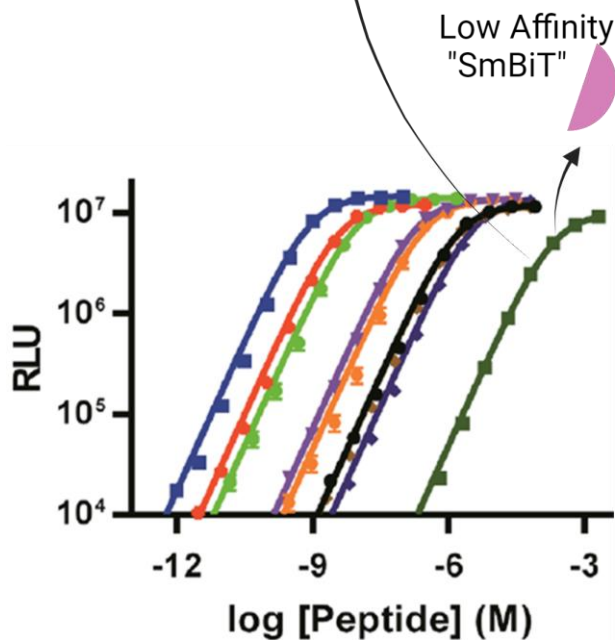
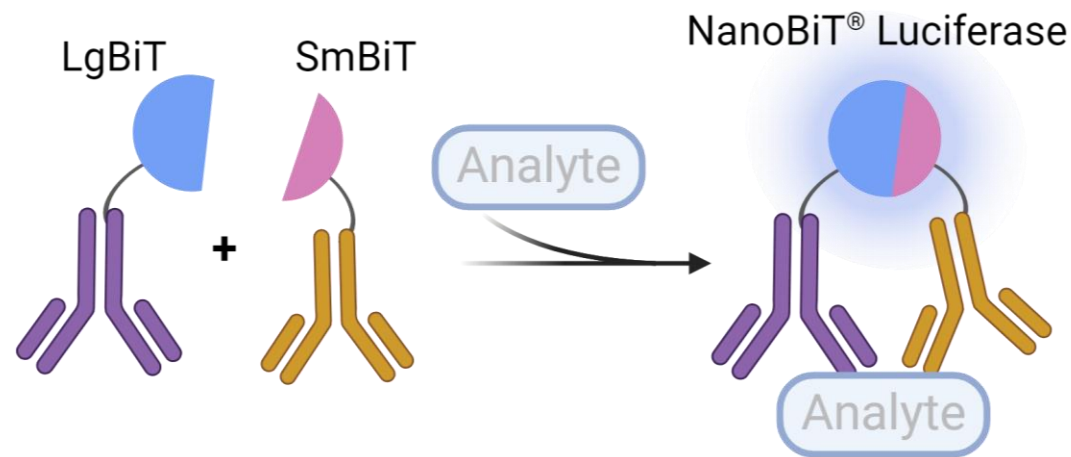
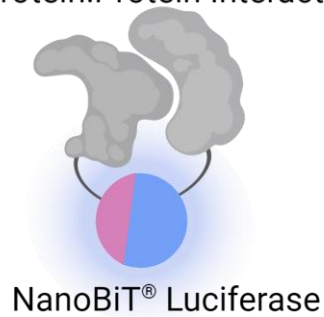


HepG2 spheroids were treated for 48 hours with different concentrations of paclitaxel



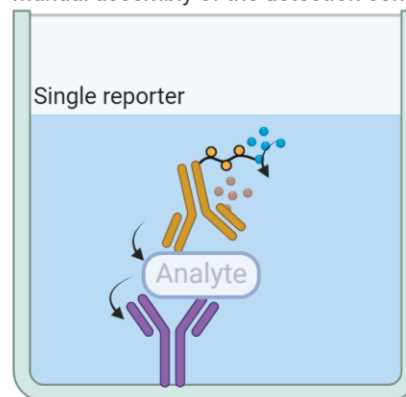
Lumit® Immunoassays: Detect Analytes and Molecular Interactions

Assisted Complementation
Protein:Protein Interaction



ELISA

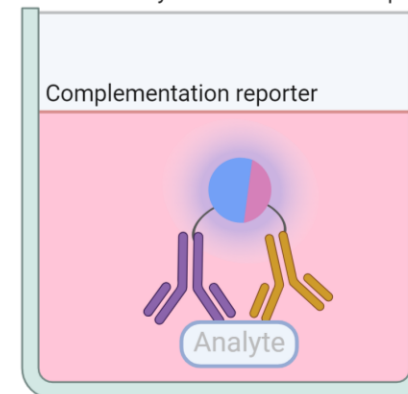
Manual assembly of the detection complex



ELISA plate
Transfer, immobilization and washes

Lumit® Immunoassays

Self-assembly of the detection complex

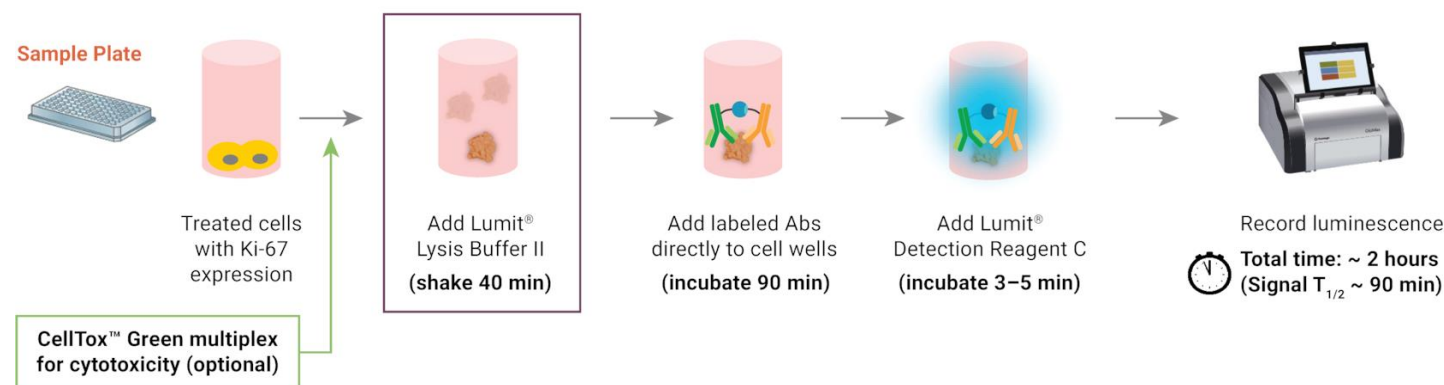
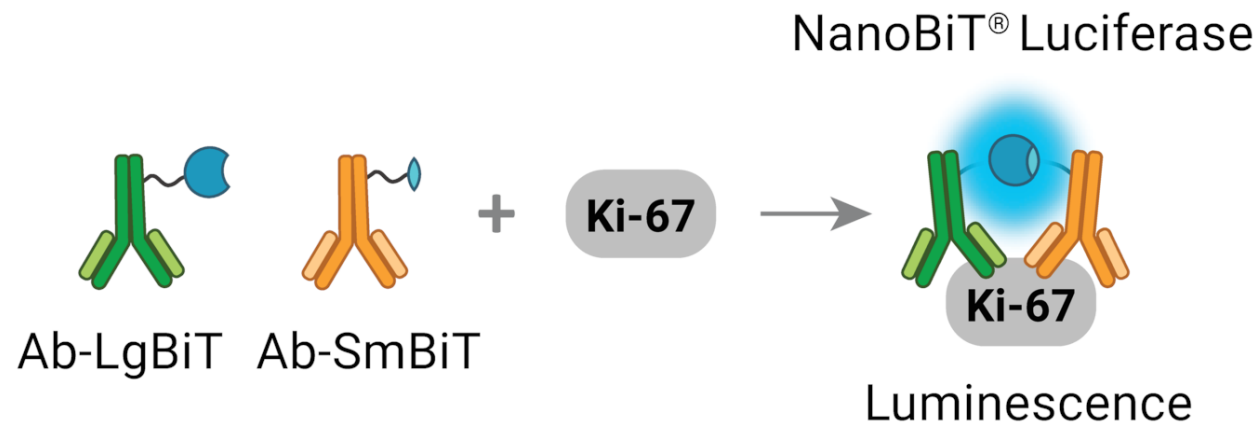
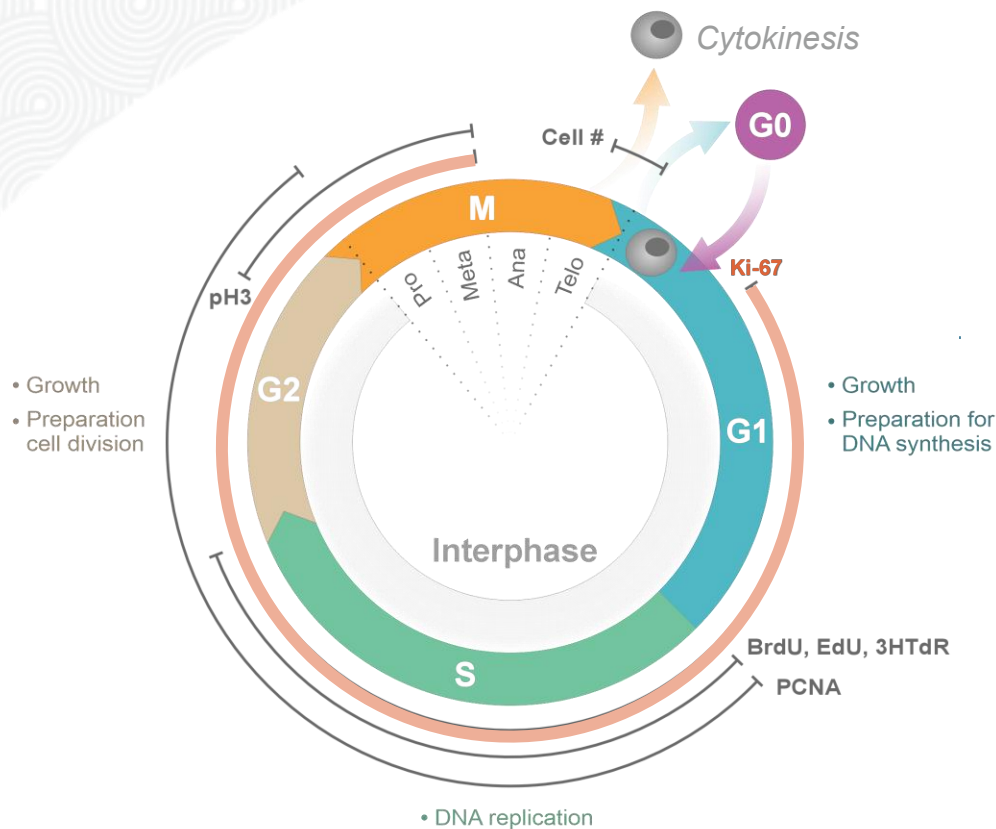


Cell culture plate
Direct detection in media, no washes

Lumit™ is a platform technology.
Learn more in this eBook:

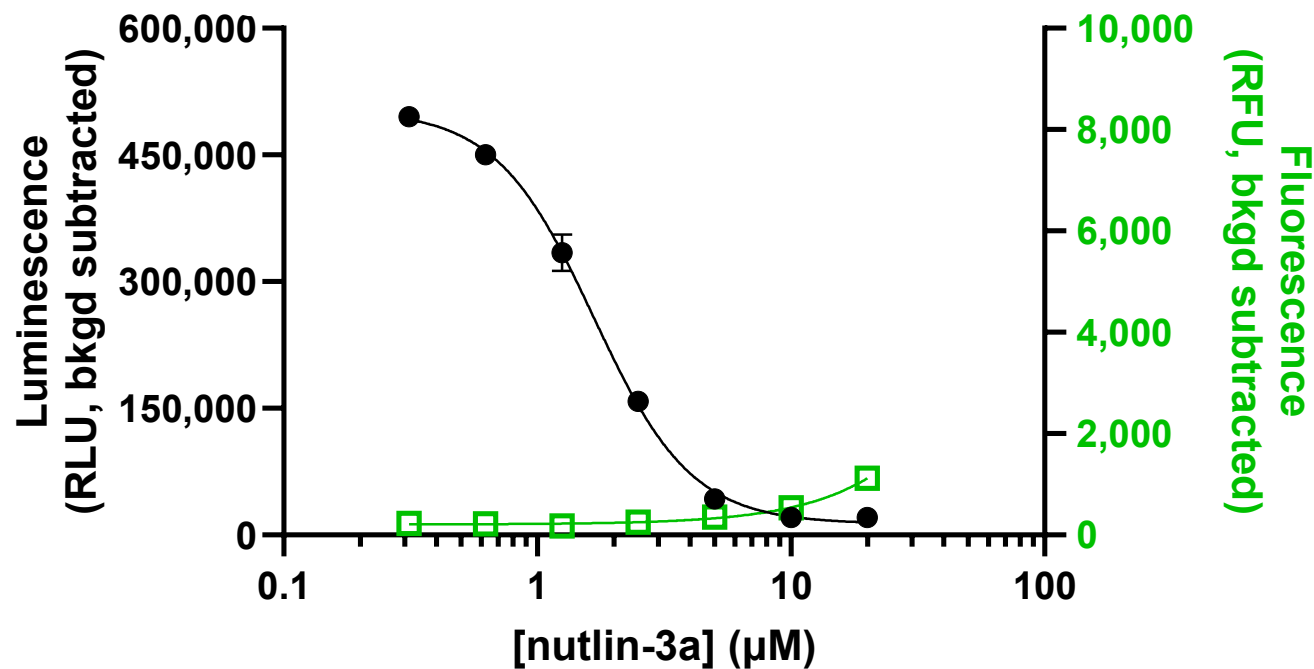


Lumit® hKi-67 Immunoassay for Cell Proliferation



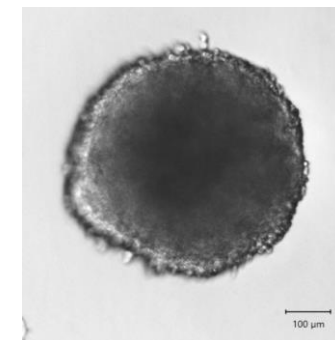
- Expressed in proliferating cells
 - Expressed in G1, S, G2 and M cell cycle phases
 - Ramps up from G1 until peaks early in M phase
- Absent in resting, non-dividing cells (G0) (quiescent, senescent, or terminally differentiated)

Lumit® hKi-67 Immunoassay for Cell Proliferation

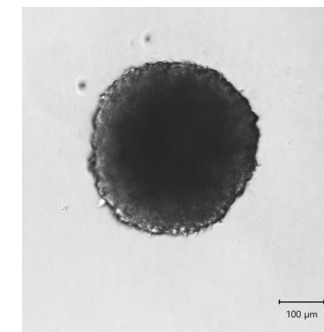


HCT116 cells (1000/well) were plated cultured 72h to form **spheroids** (~400μm), then treated 48h with increasing concentrations of **nutlin-3a** before assay.

CellTox Green followed by **Lumit hKi-67**

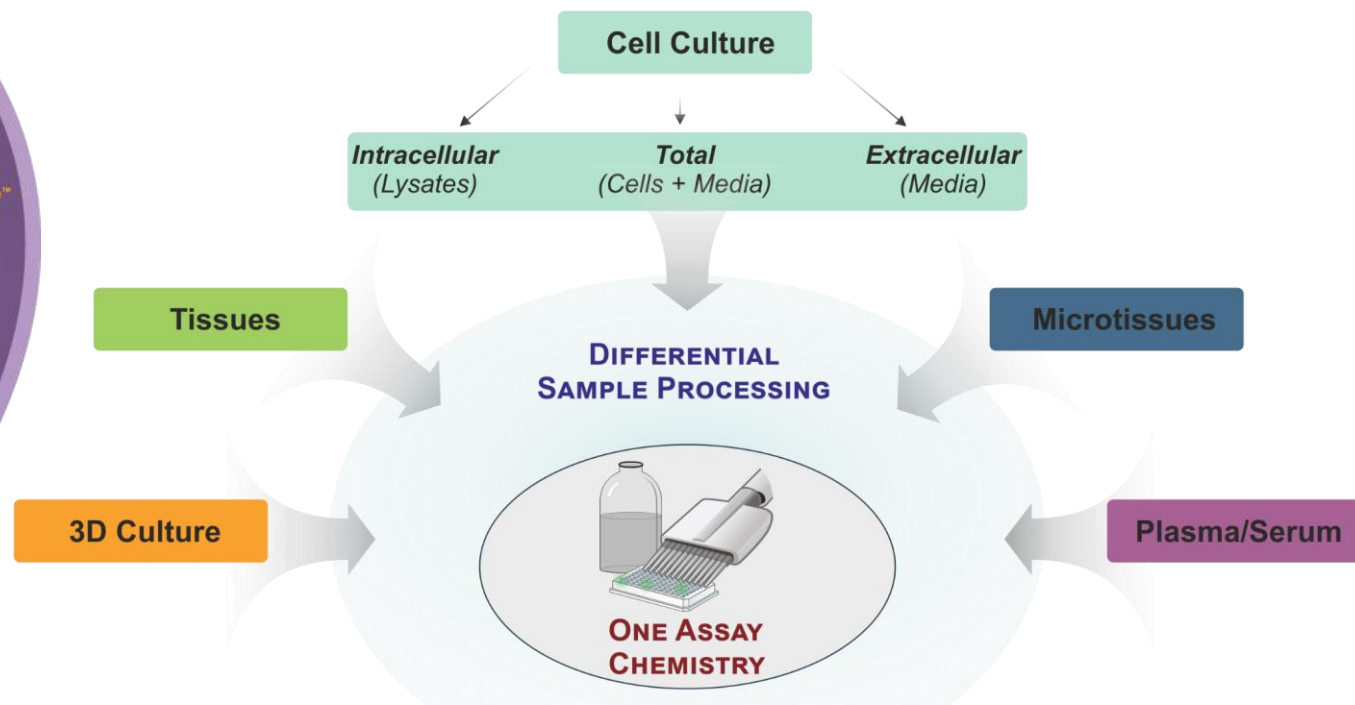
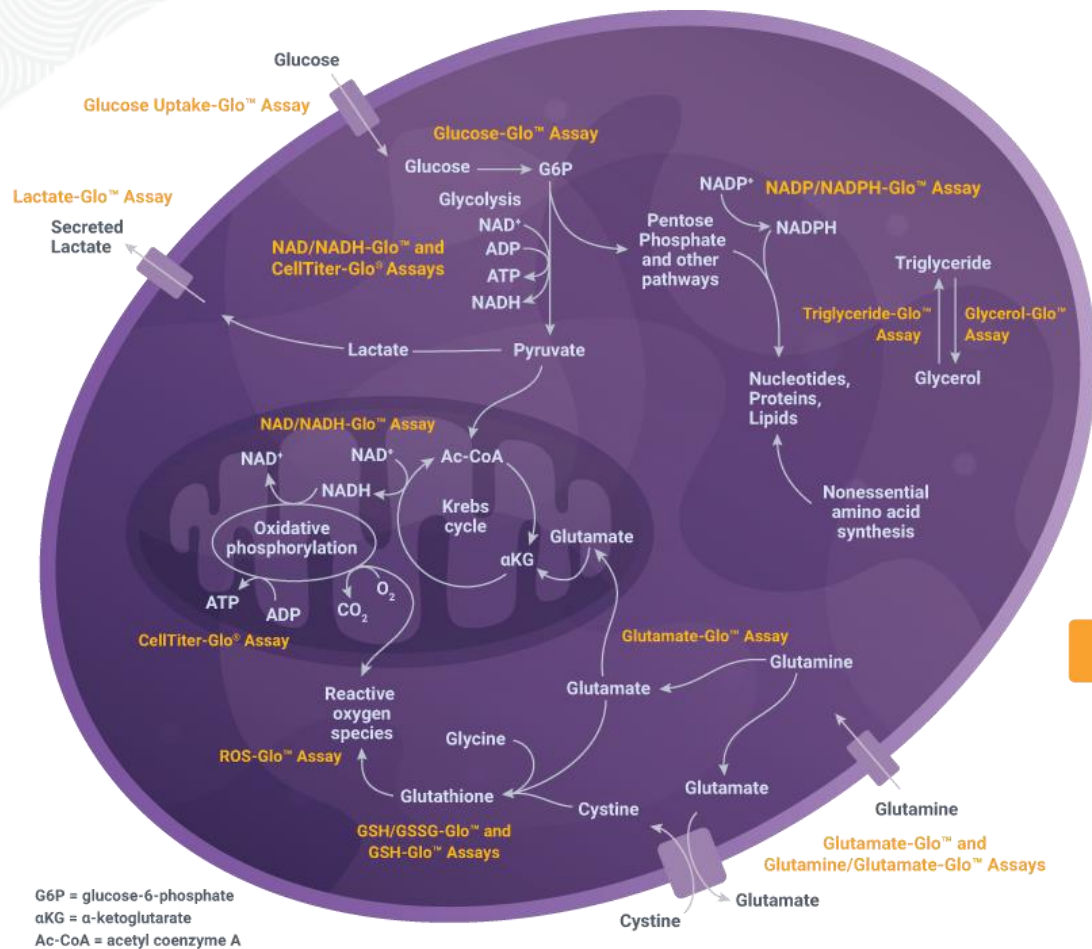


Untreated

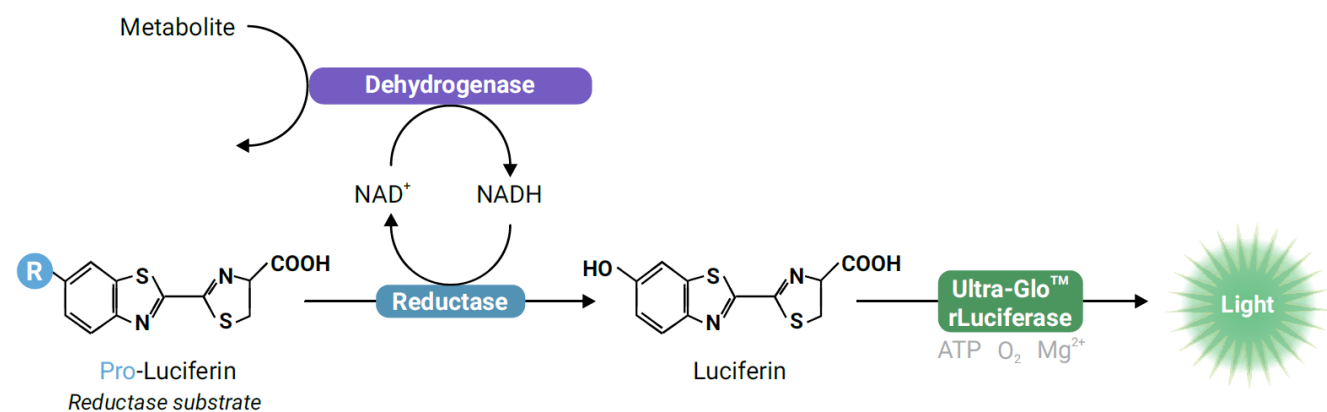


Nutlin-3a
(20μM, 48h)

Cell Energy Metabolism

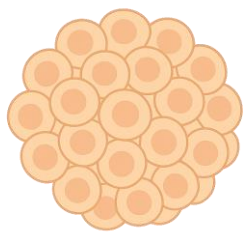


Metabolite Assays – One Reaction to Rule Them All



Glucose Metabolism	Amino Acid Metabolism	Lipid Metabolism	Mitochondrial Function	Cofactors	Oxidative Stress
Glucose-Glo™	Glutamate-Glo™	Triglyceride-Glo™	ATP	NAD/NADH-Glo™	ROS-Glo™
Lactate-Glo™	Glutamine/Glutamate-Glo™	Glycerol-Glo™	Pyruvate-Glo™	NADP/NADPH-Glo™	GSH-Glo™
Glucose Uptake-Glo™ (2DG6P)	BCAA-Glo™	Cholesterol/Cholesterol Ester-Glo™	Malate-Glo™	NAD(P)H-Glo™	GSH/GSSG-Glo™
Glycogen-Glo™		BHB-Glo™			

Downstream Applications



Spheroid

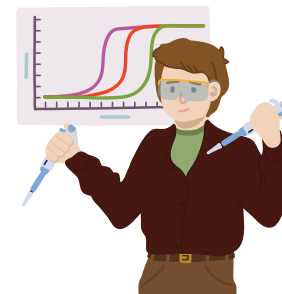


Microplate readers or Bioluminescent Imager



Manual or automatic nucleic acid isolation

qPCR or qRT-PCR



Capillary Electrophoresis



Promega Bioluminescence Instrument Portfolio



MyGlo™ Reagent Reader

- ✓ Luminescence with limited assays



GloMax® Navigator

- ✓ Luminescence
- ✓ +Injectors



GloMax® Explorer

- ✓ Luminescence
- ✓ Fluorescence
- ✓ Vis Absorbance
- ✓ Heating
- ✓ Shaking



GloMax® Discover

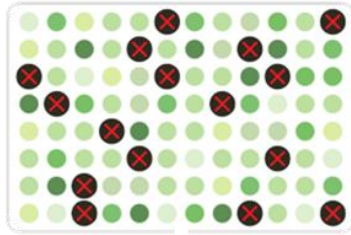
- ✓ Luminescence
- ✓ Fluorescence
- ✓ UV/Vis Absorbance
- ✓ BRET / FRET
- ✓ Heating
- ✓ Shaking



GloMax® Galaxy

- ✓ NanoLuc Technology based Bioluminescence Imager

Common Problems that Users Encounter

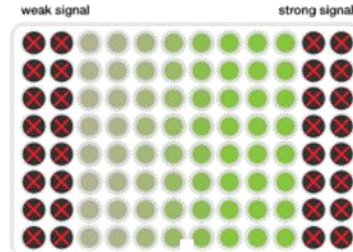


"I can't detect samples below X # of cells"



Poor sensitivity leads to assay limitations; false negatives

[PubHub article](#)

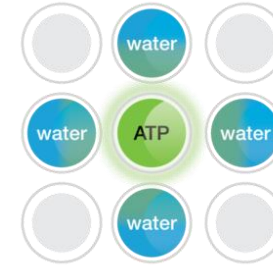


"The signals from my cells are too close to background"



Narrow detection range limits usable range of your assay

[PubHub article](#)



"I get higher signals that I expect from certain wells. Are these real?"



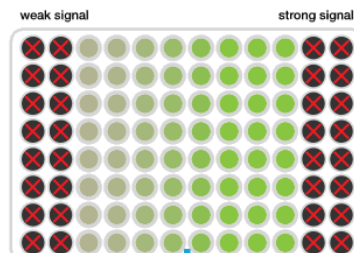
High cross-talk create misleading results; careful plate layout

[PubHub article](#)

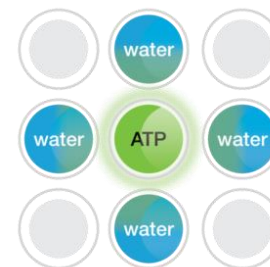
Luminometer Choice Does Make a Difference!



Superior sensitivity so you don't miss hits



Broad detection range so you don't limit your experiments



Masking so crosstalk doesn't mislead your results



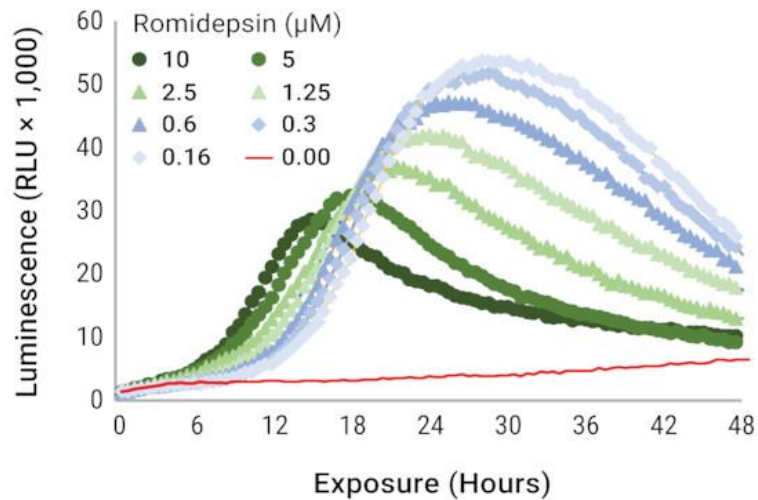
GloMax® Systems

Live Cell Microscopy

Plate Reader



Live Cell Microscopy

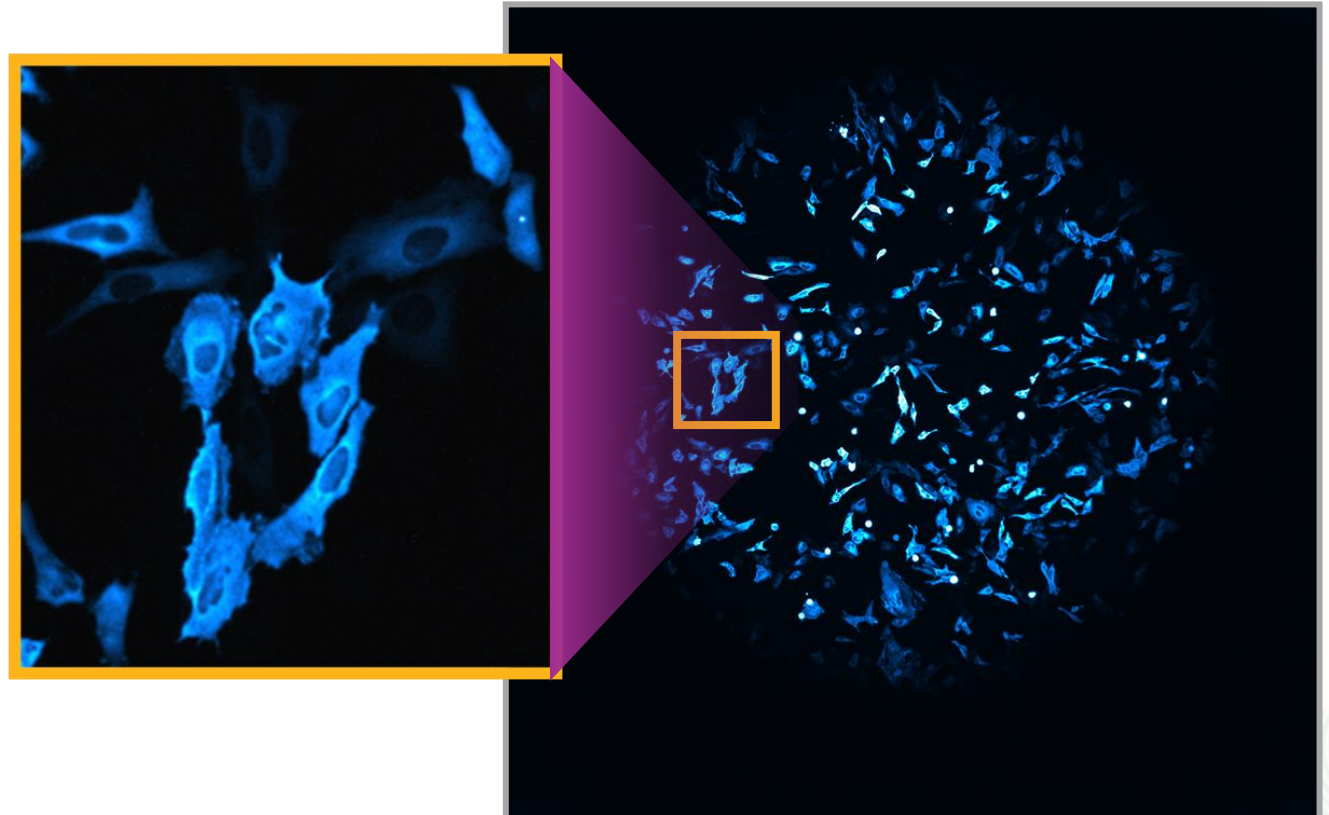


"Is the response occurring in all cells?"

"What is the subcellular origin?"

"Are there responders and non-responders?"

"Is there an impact on cell morphology?"



GloMax® Galaxy Bioluminescent Imager



LUMINESCENCE

Protein dynamics
& localization

FLUORESCENCE

Cellular reference
markers

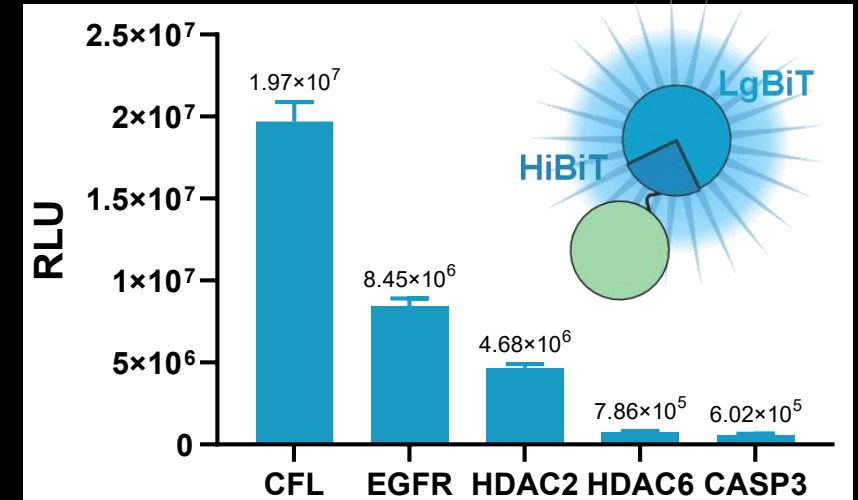
BRIGHTFIELD

Cell
Morphology

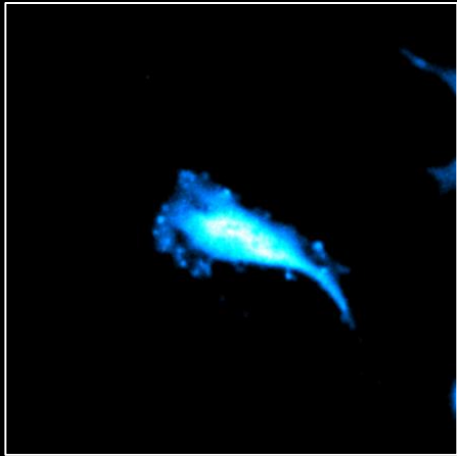
Dimensions (W x H x D)	14.8 inches x 18.8 inches x 21.0 inches (37.3cm x 47.7cm x 53.3cm)
Weight	Approximately 62lb (25kg)
Power Requirements	100–240V AC, 50/60Hz
Camera	Retiga E7 (CMOS), 4.5 x 4.5µm pixel size, 12-bit (0–4,095 gray scale)
Wavelength Range	400–750nm
Optics	Nikon CFI Plan Apochromat Lambda D 20X/0.75 NA Custom 100mm focal length Tube Lens (~10.35X System Magnification)
Image pixel size	1 pixel = 0.435µm

Imaging Low Abundance Endogenous Proteins

- HiBiT-encoding sequence was inserted to genomic locus via CRISPR/Cas9 in HeLa cells
- Tagged proteins are expressed under control of native promoter
- NanoBiT[®] luciferase is formed by ectopic LgBiT expression
- Detection with the Nano-Glo[®] Live Cell Assay System

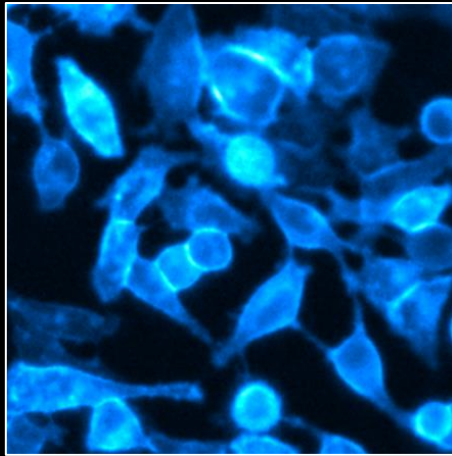


Cofilin



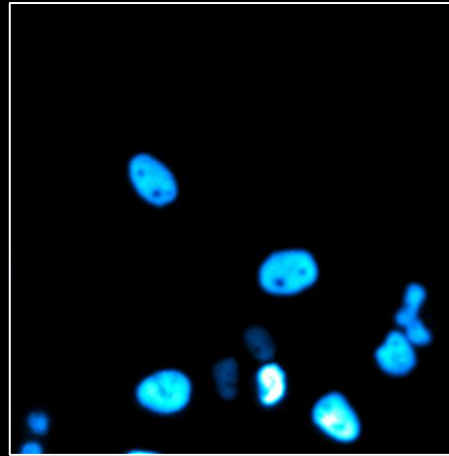
1-minute exposure

EGFR



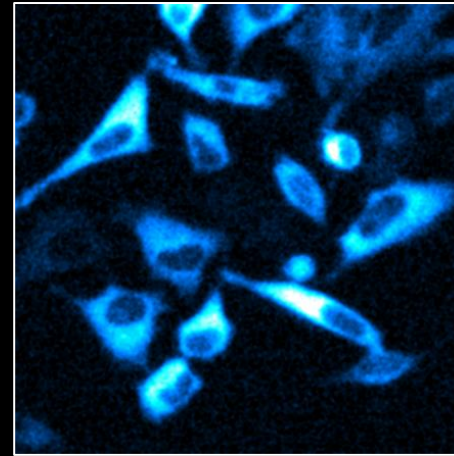
1-minute exposure

HDAC2



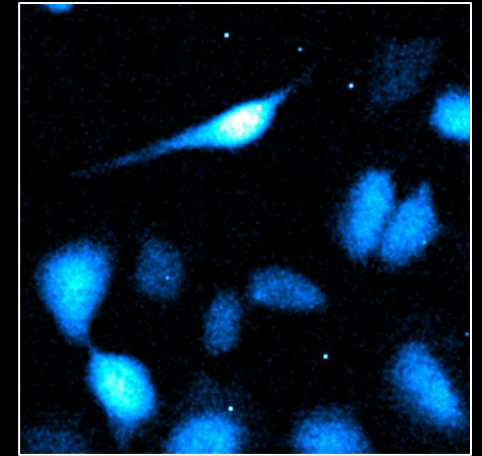
1-minute exposure

HDAC6



Low Expression
~3-minute exposure

CASP3



Very Low expression
~5-minute exposure

Chemotherapy treatment of patient-derived CRC organoids

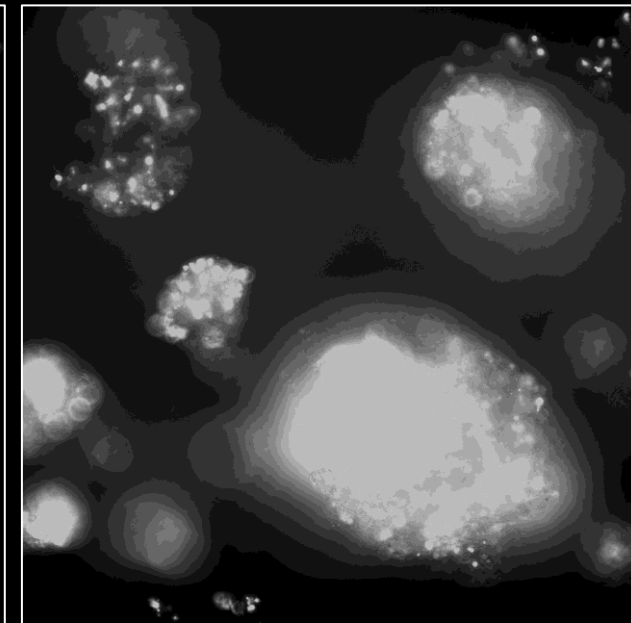
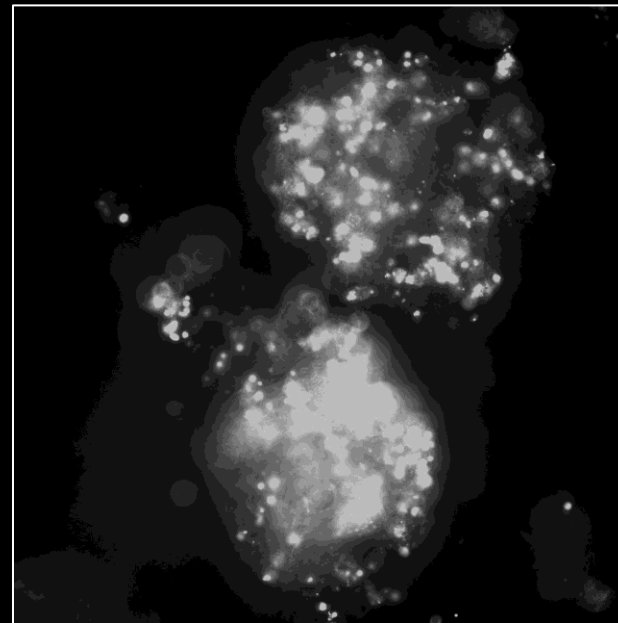
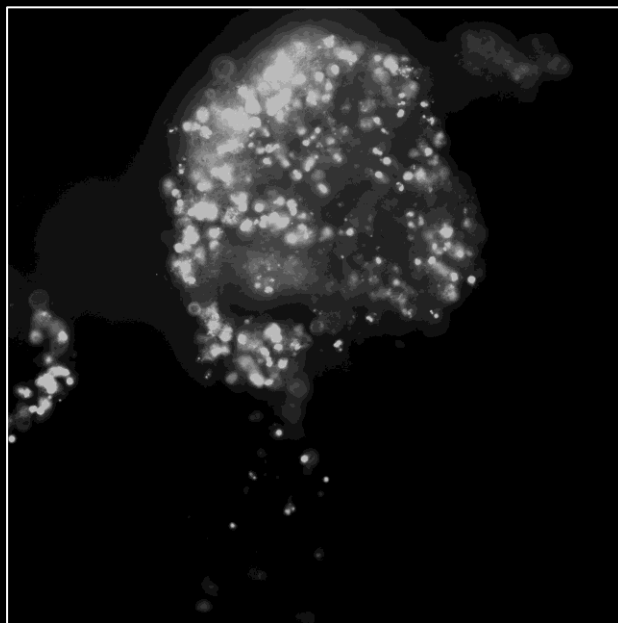
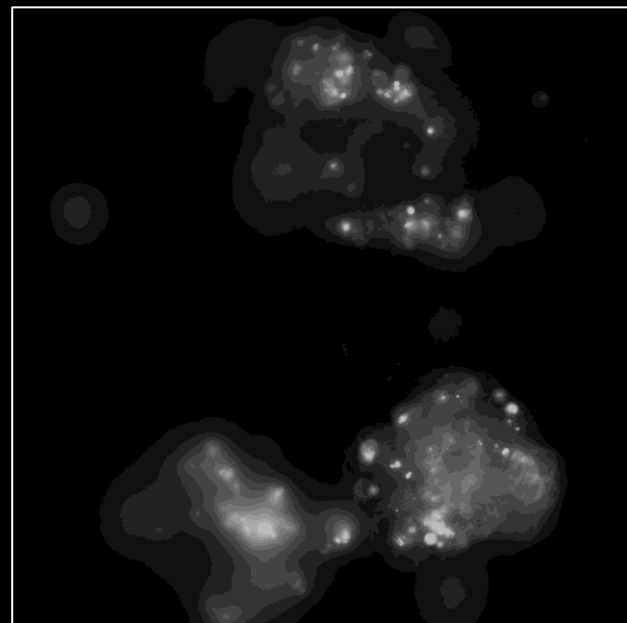
Imaging of CellTox-Green (Fluorescence) after 3 days of treatment (DNA dye labels necrotic cells)

Control

10nM

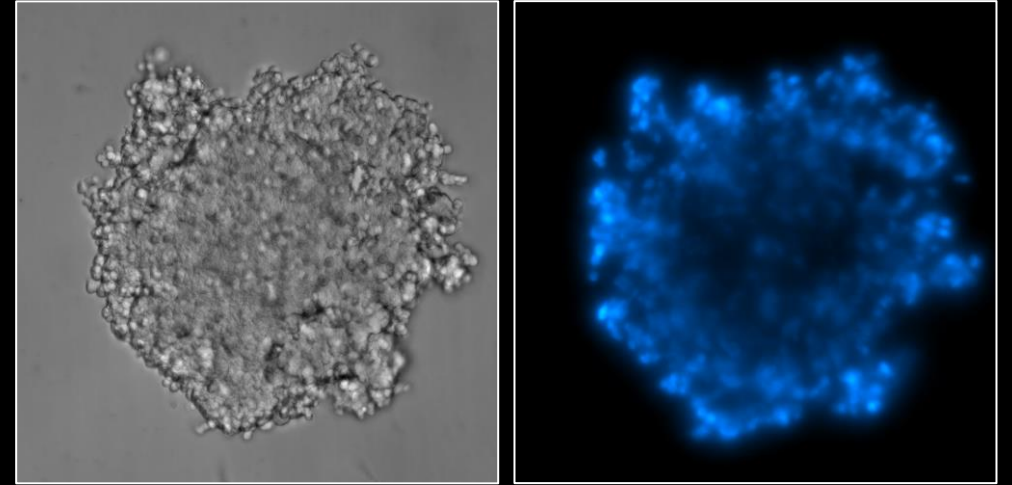
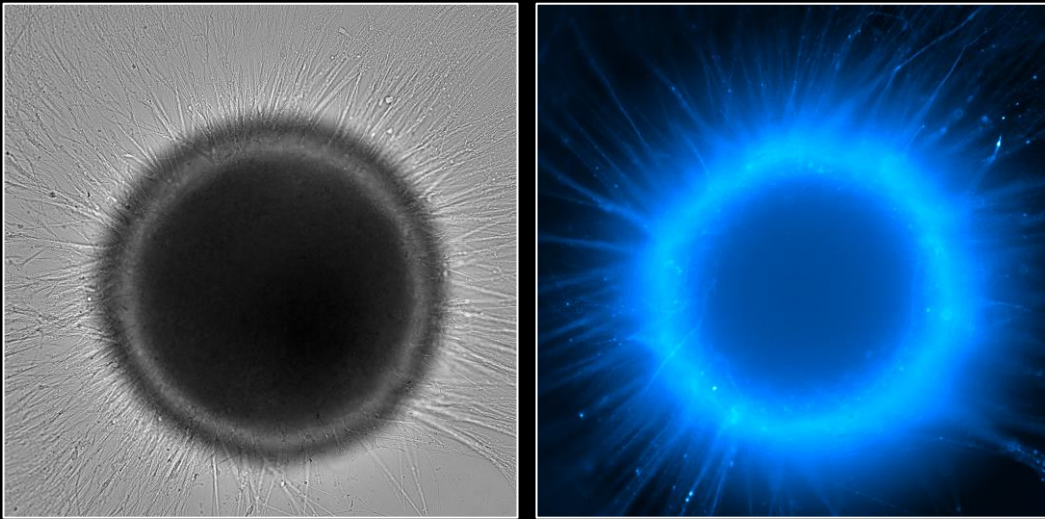
25nM

50nM



Imaging 3D models on the GloMax[®] Galaxy

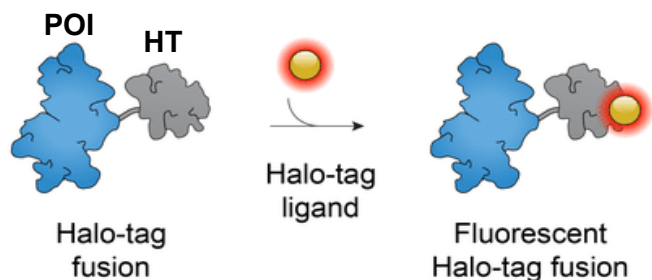
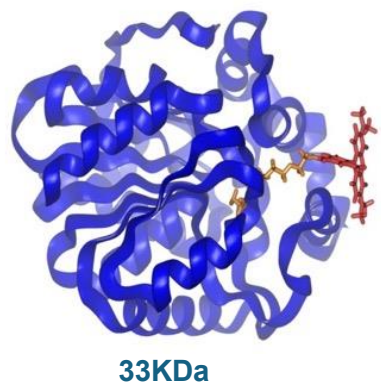
- Neuropile visible extending from neurosphere, imaged on day 13 after culturing
- NanoGlo[®] Live Cell Substrate
- 5 second exposure



- 36-hour old HTC-116 spheroid stably expressing NLuc generated via Lentiviral transduction
- 10% of cells expressing NLuc provides clean images with distinguishable individual cells
- Spheroids incubated with 20 μ M furimazine for 15-20 min prior to imaging
- 30 second exposure

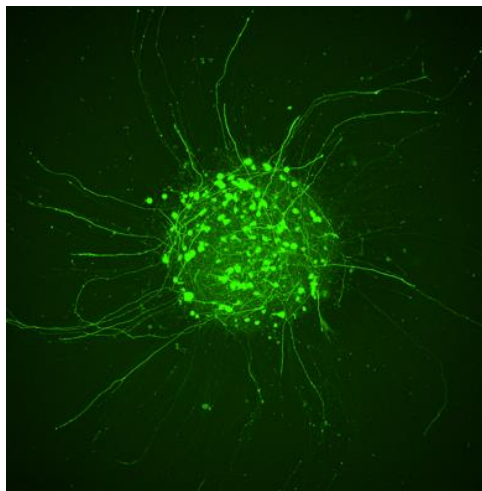
Non-Destructive Methods for Monitoring 3D Cultures in Real-Time HaloTag

HaloTag- Fluorescent

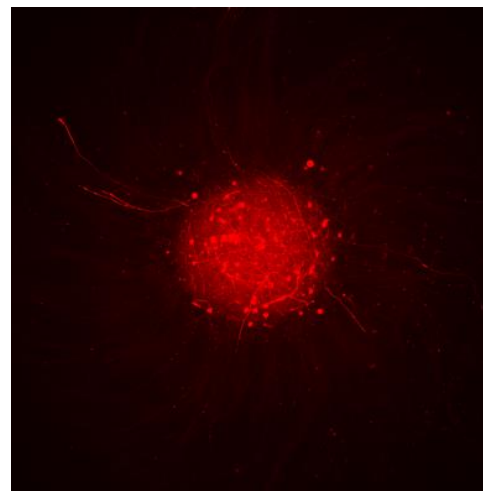


- Monomeric protein, 33KDa
- ***HaloTag ligands***: available in different colours on the spectrum with increase photostability, brightness and flurogenicity
- Live cell imaging, protein purification, PPI, TPD

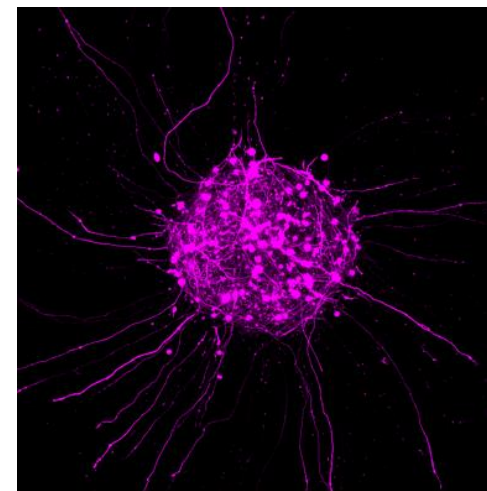
JF503



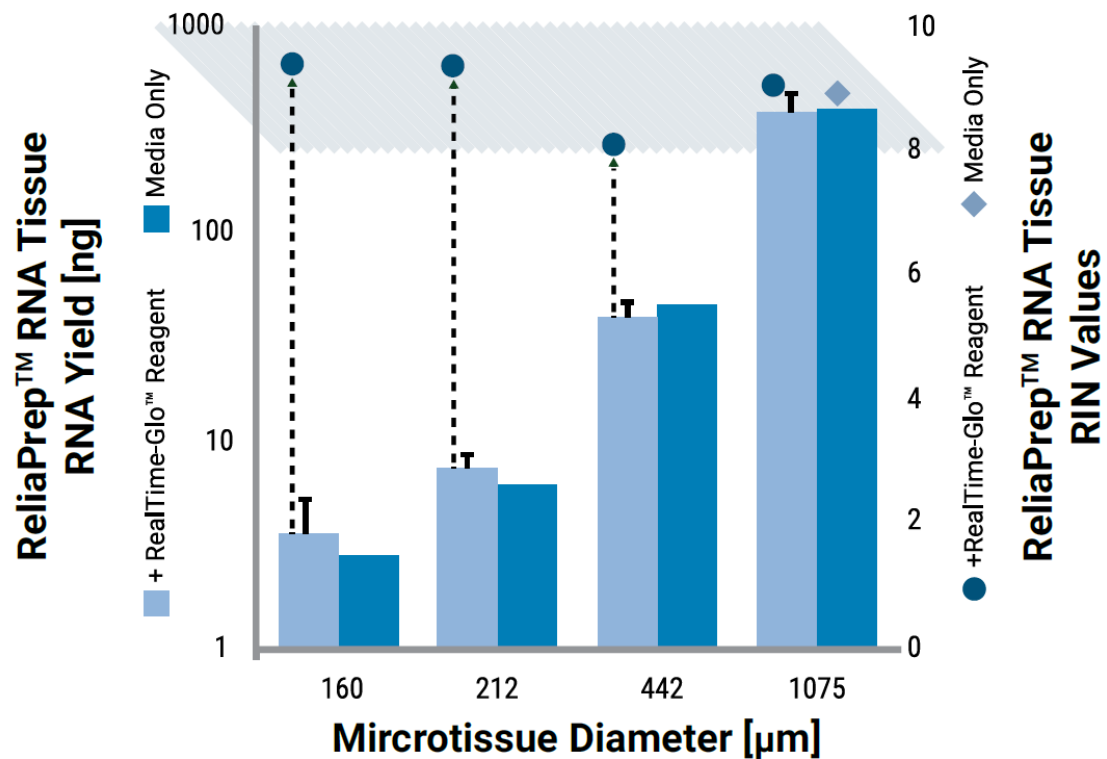
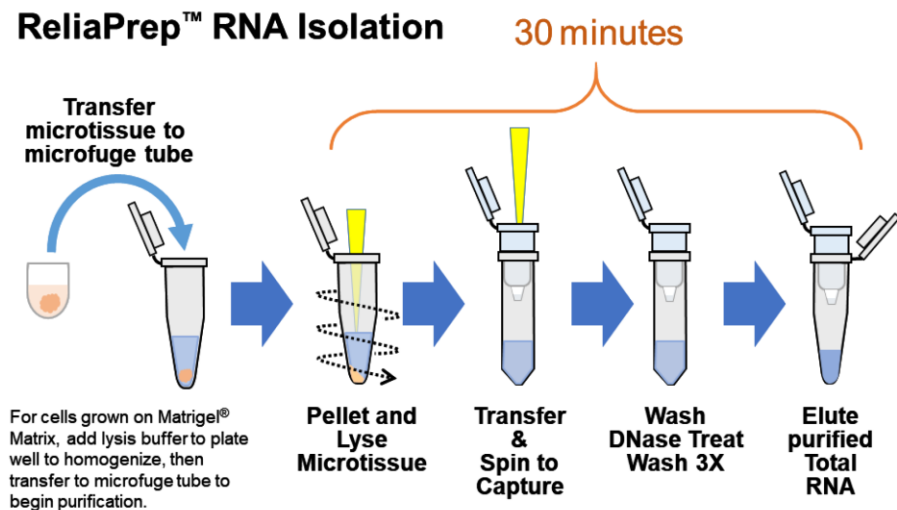
JF549



JF646

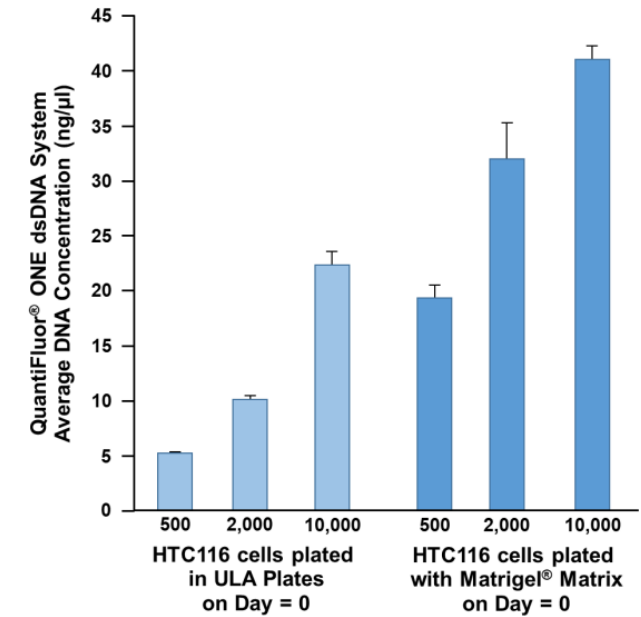


Manual RNA Isolation from 3D Cultured Cells



Maxwell® RSC Systems – Automate Your Workflow

- Suitable for various downstream applications
- Purification from multiple sample types
- Prefilled cartridges and preinstalled methods
- Up to 48 samples per run in 25-60 minutes
- Integrated UV decontamination

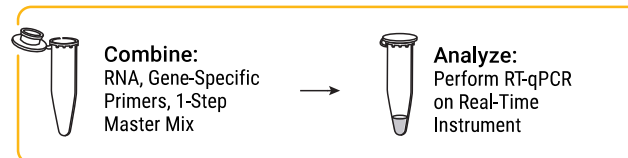


DNA was isolated from HTC116 cells grown in Ultra-Low Attachment (ULA) plates (Corning) or Matrigel® Matrix using the Maxwell® RSC Tissue DNA Kit.

Promega's qPCR Chemistries

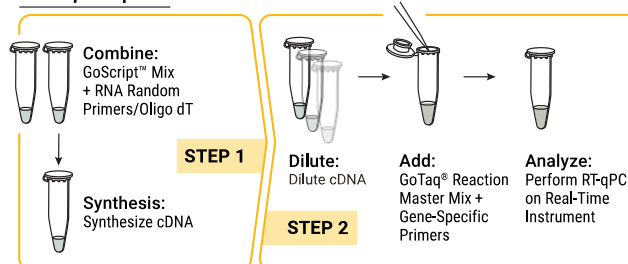
	Dye-based qPCR	Probe-based qPCR
Genomic DNA / cDNA	GoTaq® qPCR Master Mix	GoTaq® Probe qPCR Master Mix
RNA	GoTaq® 1-Step RT-qPCR	GoTaq® Probe 1-Step RT-qPCR
	GoTaq® 2-Step RT-qPCR	GoTaq® Probe 2-Step RT-qPCR

1-Step RT-qPCR





























- Low chances of cross contamination
- Faster results
- No need to store the cDNA

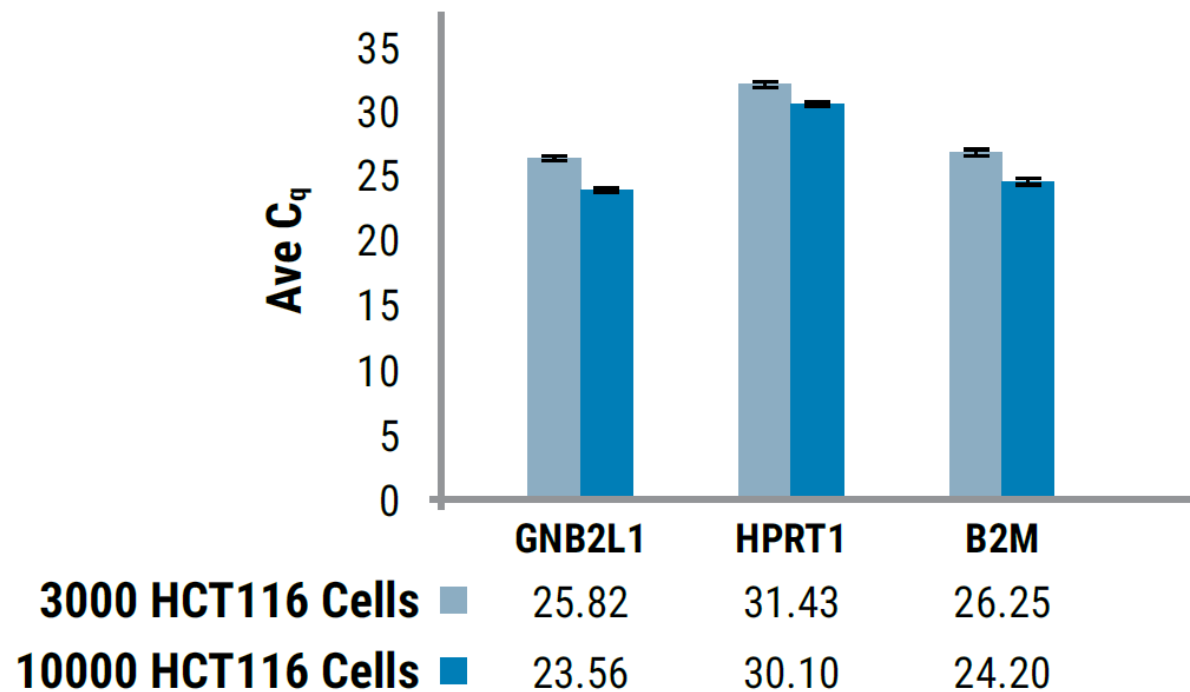
2-Step RT-qPCR



- Optimized performance of both RT and PCR steps
- cDNA available for other procedure
- Many targets per sample

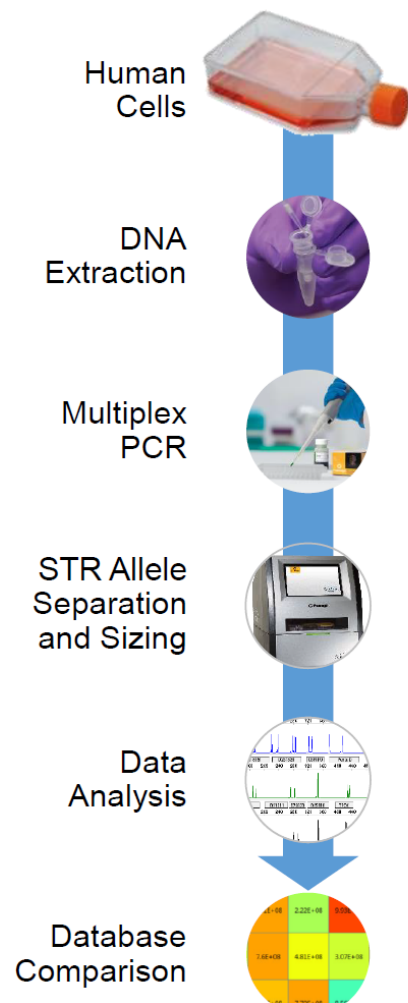
GoTaq® Probe 	GoTaq® Enviro 	GoTaq® Endure 
Broad spectrum of applications	Specifically for environmental samples	Specially developed for very high inhibitor concentrations
  	    	     
Compatible with variety of samples.	Tested samples like water, soil and biological material	Tested for blood, bacteria, viruses, feces, soil, plants and food samples
Tested for inhibitors, but only up to a certain concentration (e.g. up to 50 µM hematin, see Endure: 500 µM hematin)	Tested for inhibitors such as humic and tannic acid.	Tested for inhibitors such as EDTA, EtOH, Humaic acid, Hematin (500 µM), Heparin, Sodium Citrate but not tested for tannic acid
For general use rather than extreme conditions		Fewer reaction failures and optimizations → Saves time and costs
Multiplexing capability 	Multiplexing capability 	Multiplexing capability 
Probe-based 	Probe-based 	Probe-based 
Fast-Cycling 	Fast-Cycling 	Fast-Cycling 

GoTaq™ qPCR Family



HCT116 cells were seeded at two different densities on GravityPLUS™ hanging drop 96-well plates to form spheroids

STR Profiling Workflow



All or part of this workflow offered by CLA service providers which could include Genetic Core facilities.

[Learn More](#)



Product	Cat. #	Size
GenePrint® 10 System	B9510	50 rxns
GenePrint® 24 System	B1870	100 rxns

Both Systems are compatible with the Spectrum Compact CE System and with the Applied Biosystems® Genetic Analyzers.

Panels and bins text files are required for automatic assignment of genotypes using the GeneMapper® and GeneMarker® software and are available for download. Please contact Promega Technical Services if you need assistance.



Bring *GenePrint®* 10 or 24 System analysis to your own lab with the [Spectrum Compact CE Instrument](#)

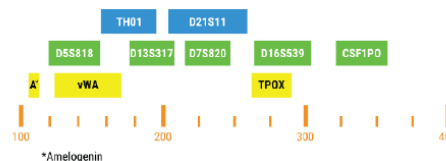
Recommended for patient-derived cell lines and meets the ASN-0002-2011 Guidelines

The *GenePrint®* 24 System allows co-amplification and five-color detection of 24 loci



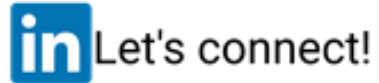
Generally sufficient for established cell lines

GenePrint® 10 provides co-amplification and four-color detection of 10 loci



Questions?

For additional questions please contact:
kerem.yildirim@promega.com



Your main contact for products & sales relevant information:

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vojtech.andrle@eastport.cz

vojtech.ledvina@eastport.cz

ondrej.ptacek@eastport.cz



THANK YOU