# BioTracker™ 488 Green Nuclear Dye

Live Cell Dye Cat. # SCT120

FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY.

NOT FOR USE IN DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES.

NOT FOR HUMAN OR ANIMAL CONSUMPTION.

pack size: Kit

Store at 2-8°C



**Data Sheet** 

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### **Background**

The nucleus is a membrane-enclosed organelle found in eukaryotic cells. Cell nuclei contain most of the cell's genetic material, organized as multiple long linear DNA molecules in complex with a large variety of proteins, such as histones, to form chromosomes. Traditionally, DNA stains such as DAPI and Hoechst have been used for microscopy but require fixation and cannot be used for live cell imaging.

The BioTracker™ 488 Green Nuclear Dye is a cell-membrane permeable green fluorescent DNA dye that specifically stains nuclei in live or fixed cells. It has excellent specificity for DNA without the need for a wash step, and it has low toxicity for live cell imaging. The dye is supplied with a vial of verapamil, an efflux pump inhibitor that may improve probe retention and live cell staining in certain cell types.

Note: BioTracker™ Nuclear Dyes also shows blue fluorescence in the DAPI channel, and may not be suitable for multicolor imaging with blue probes.

# **Kit Components**

- 1) 1 vial of 50µL BioTracker™ 488 Green Nuclear Dye (1000X in DMSO) (CS224594)
- 2) 1 vial of 100µL Verapamil HCL (100mM in DMSO) (CS224592)

## **Storage**

Store BioTracker™ 488 Green Nuclear Dye at 2-8°C. Protect From Light.

Note: Centrifuge vial briefly to collect contents at bottom of vial before opening.

# **Spectral Properties**

Absorbance: 500nm Emission: 515nm

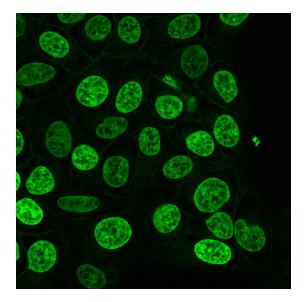


Figure 1. Hela cells stained with BioTracker <sup>™</sup> 488 Green Nuclear Dye.

## **Assay Protocol**

#### **Live Cell Staining Protocol**

1. Dilute BioTracker™ Nuclear Dye (1000X) to a final concentration of 1X in cell culture medium. For example, add 1uL of dye to 1 mL of culture medium. The optimal probe concentration may vary by cell type.

Optional: include verapamil in the staining solution to improve probe retention by live cells. The optimal concentration of verapamil may vary by cell type. We recommend testing concentrations between 10-100uM.

2. Remove medium from cells and replace with diluted BioTracker™ Nuclear Dye. Incubate at 37°C for 10 minutes or longer.

Note: BioTracker™ Nuclear Dyes do not show obvious toxicity after overnight incubation, but with longer incubation times it may stain structures other than the nucleus.

3. Image cells in the FITC channel.

Note: Washing is not necessary before imaging. Staining may decrease over time if medium is removed and replaced with fresh medium. If verapamil was added during staining, we recommend including it in the fresh medium at the same concentration if you choose to wash the cells. Cells can be fixed with formaldehyde and permeabilized with 0.1% Triton X-100 after staining, but signal may decrease.

#### **Fixed Cell Staining**

- 1. Dilute BioTracker™ Nuclear Dye (1000X) to a final concentration of 1X in PBS or other buffer. For example, add 1uL of dye to 1 mL of buffer. Optimal staining concentration may vary for different cell types.
- 2. Incubate sample with diluted BioTracker™ Nuclear Dye for 10 minutes or longer at room temperature.
- 3. Image cells in the FITC channel.

Note: Washing is not necessary before imaging. Signal may decrease over time after washing.

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