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In-vitro MDR1-MDCKII permeability assay

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Nick Lynch^{1,2}

¹Curlew Research; ²ASAP Discovery Consortium

ASAP Discovery



Nick Lynch

Curlew Research, ASAP Discovery Consortium

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We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

In vitro MDR1-MDCKII permeability assays are used to assess the ability of drug candidates to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB) and to identify P-glycoprotein (P-gp) substrates and inhibitors. MDR1-MDCKII cells, which express the human P-gp protein, are grown on semi-permeable supports and used in a dual-chamber diffusion system to simulate the BBB. The assay helps determine the apparent permeability coefficient (Papp) and efflux ratios, which can be used to predict brain penetration and identify potential drug interactions with P-gp.

Safety warnings

- ⚠ Always wear appropriate PPE for this protocol
Refer to Material Safety Data Sheets for additional safety and handling information.



Summary

- 1 The MDR1-MDCKII permeability assay is performed using MDCK-MDR1 cells, cultured for 4 days to form a monolayer on 24-well PET inserts.

Sample Preparation

- 2 Integrity of monolayer confirmed with TEER > 350Ωcm² (before assay) and lucifer yellow < 1 × 10⁻⁶ cm.s⁻¹ (after assay).
- 3 The compounds are incubated at 10μM for 2hr at 37°C, on a orbital shaker to minimise the unstirred water layer effect. Volumes used are 0.4ml in the apical and 0.8ml in the basolateral.

Assay

- 4 Test compound is added to apical well (gentle agitation) and transport determined by measuring concentration in basolateral well at 2hr (A → B). 
- 4.1 At the same time as A → B incubation, a parallel incubation is also performed where test compound is added to a basolateral well and then measured in the apical well (B → A) at 2hr.
- 5 The efflux ratio is then calculated by comparing the rates of transport in both directions (B → A / A → B) to determine if test compound is an efflux transporter substrate.
- 6 Further parallel incubations performed using Pgp inhibitor (Cyclosporin A) that is co-incubated with test compound to confirm if the transporters are involved. All donor wells contain lucifer yellow. The final solvent concentration is 0.1% DMSO.
- 7 After the 2hr incubation, aliquots are removed from all apical and basolateral wells for analysis by LC-MSMS analysis with internal standard against a standard curve.

Data Analysis

- 8 For each well,

Response ratio = Test peak area / Internal standard peak area



Response ratio is compared with the standard curve to determine the concentrations in receiver and donor wells and calculate the apparent permeability. The % recovery is calculated to indicate non-specific binding of the test compound.

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The apparent permeability Papp is calculated according to

$$\text{Papp} = (V / (A \times Co)) * (dC \times dt)$$

Where

V = receiver volume (cm³)

A = transwell membrane surface area (cm²)

Co= initial donor well concentration

dC/dt= rate of concentration change on receiver side (μM.s⁻¹)

$$\text{Efflux} = \text{Papp (B to A)} / \text{Papp (A to B)}$$

$$\text{Net flux ratio} = \text{Efflux ratio with MDCK-MDR1 cells} / \text{Efflux ratio with Wild-type cell}$$

Protocol references

https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/659db4dde7f13f395f49157c/65f05dc5d8c335fad59bedfd_Concept%20Life%20Sciences_LE_MICROSO ME_AND_S9_STABILITY%202_.pdf

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