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Protein analyses and immunoblotting

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

This protocol describes the complete workflow for Western blotting, including cell lysis, protein quantification, SDS-PAGE, protein transfer, antibody incubation, and detection . The method allows for the detection and quantification of target proteins.



Cell Lysis

- 1 Prepare **1X lysis buffer**:
 - 50mM HEPES pH: 7.4
 - 40mM NaCl
 - 2mM EDTA
 - 1% Triton X
 - 1.5 mM NaVo₄
 - 300mM NaF
 - 10mM Napyrophosphate
 - 10mM NaBetaGlycerophosphateStore lysis buffer at 4C.

- 2 Add:
 - Add 1 tablet cOmplete™ Mini Protease Inhibitor Cocktail for 10 ml lysis buffer
 - Add 1 tablet PhosSTOP™ Phosphatase Inhibitor for 10 ml lysis buffer

- 3 Partial cell use:
 - Trypsinize and harvest cells into tubes on ice
 - Centrifuge at  1000 x g, 4°C , 2 min
 - Resuspend in 100–200 µL lysis buffer (6-well) or 300–500 µL (10 cm dish)Use all cells:
 - Place plate on ice, aspirate media, and wash with cold PBS
 - Add 100–200 µL lysis buffer per well, scrape, and collect in tubes on ice

- 4
 - Incubate on shaker at 4°C for 15–30 min
 - Centrifuge at max speed, 4°C, 10 min
 - Transfer supernatant and normalize protein concentration

SDS-PAGE

- 5
 - Select gel percentage based on protein size (e.g., 8% for >100 kDa, 12% for >20 kDa)
 - Prepare 1× SDS running buffer and rinse tank
 - Load 5 µL ladder and up to 30 µL of each sample (5 to 30µg proteins)
 - Run at 120 V for ~150 min.

Gel Transfer

- 6
 - Prepare transfer buffer and soak PVDF membrane (0.45 µm) in ethanol, then transfer buffer.



- Assemble membrane-gel sandwich in cassette
- Place in tank filled with transfer buffer
- Transfer at 40 V for 2 hours at room temperature

Blocking and Antibody Incubation

- 7
- Block membranes in 5% bovine serum albumin (BSA) in TBS-T (Tris-buffered saline with Tween-20) for 30–60 min
 - Incubate with primary antibody in 5% BSA overnight at 4°C.
 - Wash membranes 3× with TBST
 - Incubate with secondary antibody (1:3000 in 5% milk) for 1–1.5 h
 - Wash 3× for a total of 30 min.

Detection

- 8
- Mix equal parts of ECL reagents (Pierce)
 - Incubate membrane in reagent for 1–10 min
 - Visualize membrane with any Chemidoc imaging system.

Buffers:

- 9
- To make 10 L of SDS running buffer:**
- 300g Tris base
 - 1440g Glycine
 - 100g SDS

Recipe for 10x TBS-T

- 20L of 10x TBS-T
- 1.37 M NaCl, 200mM Tris, 1% Tween, pH 7.6
- 1,601.26 g NaCl
- 501.2 g Tris HCl
- 200 gTris Base
- 200 mL Tween

Transfer buffer:

- 15 NaOH pellets (americanbio #AB1916-01000)
- 8.8g CAPS (Sigma #C6070-1KG)
- 400 mL ethanol
- 3600 mL deionized water

1X lysis buffer:

- 50mM HEPES pH: 7.4



- 40mM NaCl
- 2mM EDTA
- 1% Triton X
- 1.5 mM NaVo₄
- 300mM NaF
- 10mM Napyrophosphate
- 10mM NaBetaGlycerophosphate

Store lysis buffer at 4C.