Uracil-DNA Glycosylase (UDG)

Application: Treatment of 0.1 µg of uracil-containing DNA with 1 unit of UDG for 10 minutes at 37°C renders the DNA incapable of being copied by DNA polymerase. The enzyme can be 95% heat killed by incubation at 95°C for 10 minutes. Since UDG remains partially active following heat treatment at 95°C, it is recommended that uracil glycosylase inhibitor be added to prevent degradation of product DNA. Alternatively, reaction products can be immediately extracted with phenol/chloroform.

Unit Definition: One unit is defined as the amount of enzyme that catalyzes the release of 60 pmol of uracil per minute from double-stranded, uracil-containing DNA. Activity is measured by release of [³H]-uracil in a 50 µl reaction containing 0.2 µg DNA (10⁴–10⁵ cpm/µg) in 30 minutes at 37°C.

Unit Assay Conditions: 1X UDG Reaction Buffer, 1 unit of uracil DNA Glycosylase, 0.2 µg [³H]-uracil DNA (10⁴–10⁵ cpm/µg) for 30 minutes at 37°C in a total reaction volume of 50 µl.

Quality Control Assays

16-Hour Incubation: A 50 µl reaction containing 1 µg of λ phage DNA in NEBuffer 1 and 50 units of UDG showed no degradation following overnight incubation at 37°C.

Exonuclease Activity: Incubation of 50 units for 4 hours at 37°C in 50 µl of NEBuffer 1 with 1 µg [³H] DNA (10⁴ cpm/µg) released < 0.1% radioactivity.

Endonuclease Activity: Incubation of 50 units of UDG with 1 µg of λX174 RF I DNA for 4 hours at 37°C in 50 µl reaction buffer resulted in < 5% conversion to RF II.

Physical Purity: Purified to > 95% homogeneity as determined by SDS-PAGE analysis using Coomassie Blue detection. BSA is added to the enzyme for stability.

Heat Inactivation: No

Notes On Use: UDG is active over a broad pH range with an optimum at pH 8.0, does not require divalent cation, and is inhibited by high ionic strength (> 200 mM).

References: