

DRUG-SELECTION KILLING CURVE

For stable cell line generation, it is important that stably-transfected/transduced cells are selected by the addition of antibiotic drugs to the culture medium, if the expression system carries a drug resistance gene. Generation of a selection-drug killing curve will help determine the minimum amount of the selection-drug required to kill non-transfected/transduced cells.

Protocol

To determine a drug killing curve:

- 1. Plate cells into a 6-well plate with the density around 2×10^5 cell per well.
- 2. Prepare medium containing a range of antibiotics (ie. $0-15\mu g/ml$ puromycin; 0.1-1.5mg/ml G418). On day 2 replace the growth media with media containing the dilutions of the antibiotic into the wells.
- 3. Feed cells every 2-3 days with freshly prepared selection media.
- 4. Monitor the cells daily and observe for cell death. Optimum effectiveness should be reached in 1-4 days with puromycin, and 7-14 days with G418.
- 5. Choose the concentration which shows complete cell death as the minimum antibiotic concentration to use for selection.

Drug selection:

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After 48 hours post-transfection/viral transduction, replace the growth media with fresh growth media containing the appropriate antibiotic concentration.

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