

Improved Electroporation Buffer for Enhanced Efficiency and Viability



Our novel electroporation buffer allows for greater transfection efficiency and improved cell viability in hard-to-transfect cell types compared to commonly-used electroporation buffers. Electroporation using the novel buffer has even been found to match or exceed the effectiveness of Nucleofection™, without the associated costs. The buffer is compatible with standard electroporation equipment and protocols.

COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY

- Compared to the Amaxa Nucleofector™, electroporation using the novel buffer resulted in equivalent or greater transfection efficiency in three out of four cell types tested
 - Equivalent: K562 chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) cells
 - Superior: Human dendritic cells, human embryonic stem cells (hESC)
- The buffer exhibited equivalent cell viability relative to Nucleofection™ in all four cell types.
- There is an attractive market for improvements in electroporation technology, as evidenced by products such as the Amaxa Nucleofector™ and improved electroporation buffers offered by BTX-Harvard, Mirus Bio and Bio-Rad.
- The cost of the Amaxa Nucleofector™ system is substantial, at approximately \$12-22,000 for the device plus \$450 for each 25-reaction reagent kit. The cost of the BTXpress™, Mirus Ingenio™ and Bio-Rad Gene Pulser™ buffers is also substantial, at approximately \$295, \$208 and \$283 (per 25 reactions), respectively.
- In sum, the novel buffer allows for the efficient transfection of a variety of target cell types with low cytotoxicity, and provides a more cost-effective alternative to existing technologies that is compatible with standard electroporation techniques and equipment.

TECHNOLOGY

Electroporation is a commonly-used technique for introducing foreign molecules into target cells. However, electroporation performs poorly on certain hard-to-transfect cell types, such as mature neurons, primary cultures and suspension cell-lines. The novel buffer promotes the efficient uptake of the target molecules while also maintaining the viability of the target cells. The buffer consists of: (i) DMEM, RPMI or MCDB-151 cell culture media; (ii) 50%(v/v) bovine serum; and (iii) 25-50 mM xylitol. The novel buffer is compatible with standard electroporation protocols and devices, and can be used to introduce a variety of target molecules, such as DNA, RNA and proteins.

PATENT

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CONTACT

Haskell Adler PhD MBA
Senior Licensing Manager
Haskell.Adler@Moffitt.org
(813) 745-6596

LICENSING OPPORTUNITY

