

human Apelin Receptor (APJ) Cell Line

Product No.: ES-460-C

Lot No.: 3085311

Material Provided

Cells: 2 x 1 mL frozen aliquot (ES-460-CV)
Format: ~2.5 x 10⁶ cells /mL in freezing medium

Product Information

Cellular Background: CHO-K1

Cell Line Development: Our proprietary bicistronic expression plasmid containing the sequence coding for the human Apelin receptor (APJ) was transfected in CHO-K1 cells. Geneticin-resistant clones were obtained by limit dilution and compared for their response to a reference agonist in a radioligand binding assay.

DNA Sequence: Identical to coding sequence of GenBank U03642.1.

Corresponding Protein Sequence: Identical to GenBank NP_005152.1.

Receptor expression level (B_{max}): Estimated to be 9.6 pmol/mg protein, using [¹²⁵I] Apelin-13

K_d for the above radioligand: 0.7 nM

Shipping Conditions: Shipped on dry ice. Please ensure dry ice is still present in the package upon receipt or contact customer support.

Storage Conditions: Store in liquid nitrogen (vapor phase) immediately upon receipt.



Quality Control

The EC₅₀ for a reference agonist was determined in LANCE[®] *Ultra* cAMP assay performed on an EnVision[®] instrument. A mycoplasma test was performed using MycoAlert[®] (Lonza) mycoplasma detection kit. We certify that these results meet our quality release criteria.

Apelin-13 (EC₅₀): 0.09 nM

Stability: Cells were kept in continuous culture for at least 60 days and showed no decrease of receptor expression level in a saturation binding assay (stable B_{max} and K_d) and no decrease in functional response (EC₅₀, E_{max} in cAMP assay).

Mycoplasma: This cell line tested negative for mycoplasma.

Assay Procedures

We have shown for many of our GPCR cell lines that freshly thawed cells respond with the same pharmacology as cultured cells. All of our products validated in this way are available as frozen ready-to-use cells in our catalogue. This demonstrates that cells can be prepared and frozen in advance of a screening campaign simplifying assay logistics.



Recommended Cell Culture Conditions (CHO-K1)

- The recommended media catalogue number and supplier reference information are listed in this Product Technical Data Sheet (last page). Media composition is specifically defined for each cell type and receptor expression selection. The use of incorrect media or component substitutions can lead to reduced cell viability, growth issues and/or altered receptor expression.
- Cells undergo major stress upon thawing, and need to adapt to their new environment which may initially affect cell adherence and growth rates. The initial recovery of the cells, and initial doubling time, will vary from laboratory to laboratory, reflecting differences in the origin of culture media and serum, and differences in methodology used within each laboratory.
- For the initial period of cell growth (i.e. until cells have reached Log-phase, typically 4-10 days), we strongly recommend removal of the antibiotics (G418, Zeocin™, Puromycin, Blastidicin, Hygromycin, Penicillin and Streptomycin) from the culture media. Immediately after thawing, cells may be more permeable to antibiotics, and a higher intracellular antibiotic concentration may result as a consequence. Antibiotics should be re-introduced when cells have recovered from the thawing stress.

Growth Medium: Ham's F-12, 10% FBS, 0.4 mg/ml G418 (receptor expression selection).

Freezing Medium: Ham's F-12, 10% FBS with 10% DMSO, without selection agents.

Thawing Cells: Using appropriate personal protective equipment, rapidly place the frozen aliquot in a 37°C water bath (do not submerge) and agitate until its content is thawed completely. Immediately remove from water bath, spray aliquot with 70% ethanol and wipe excess. Under aseptic conditions using a sterile pipette, transfer content to a sterile centrifuge tube containing 10 mL growth medium without antibiotics, pre-warmed at 37°C, and centrifuge (150 x g, 5 min). Discard supernatant using a sterile pipette. Resuspend cell pellet in 10 mL of pre-warmed growth medium without antibiotics by pipetting up and down to break up any clumps, and transfer to an appropriate culture flask (e.g. T-25, T-75 or T-175, see recommended seeding density below). Cells are cultured as a monolayer at 37°C in a humidified atmosphere with 5% CO₂.

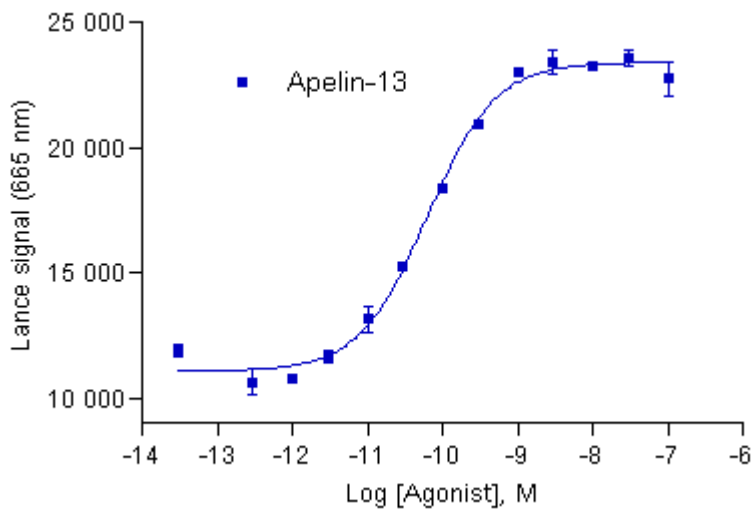
Recommended Seeding Density:	Thawing:	15,000 – 33,000 cells/cm ²
	Log-phase:	11,000 – 15,000 cells/cm ²

Troubleshooting: Initial doubling time can vary between 18 and 96 hours (Average = 25 hours). If cells are still not adhering after 48 hours or grow very slowly, we recommend maintaining the cells in culture and not replacing the media before 5-6 days (cells secrete factors that can help with adherence and growth). If confluence is still <50% after 5-6 days, it is recommended that you replace the media with fresh media (without antibiotics). Do not passage the cells until they reach 80-90% confluence (Log-phase). If cells have not recovered after 10-12 days, please contact our Technical Support.

Culture Protocol: Under aseptic conditions, cells are grown to 80% confluence (Log-phase) and trypsinized (0.05% trypsin/0.5 mM EDTA in calcium and magnesium-free PBS). See recommended seeding density for Log-phase above.

Banking Protocol: Cells are grown to 70-80% confluence (Log-phase). Under aseptic conditions, remove medium and rinse the flask with an appropriate volume of calcium and magnesium-free PBS (example 10 mL for T-175). Trypsinize (0.05% trypsin/0.5 mM EDTA in calcium and magnesium-free PBS) to detach cells (example 5 mL for T-175), let stand 5-10 min at 37°C. Add fresh, room temperature growth medium (without antibiotics) to stop trypsinization and dilute EDTA (example 10 mL for T-175). Transfer cells to a sterile centrifuge tube and centrifuge (150 x g, 5 min). Discard supernatant using a sterile pipette. Resuspend cell pellet in ice-cold freezing medium by pipetting up and down to break up any clumps. Count cells and rapidly aliquot at the selected cell density (e.g. 2.5 x 10⁶ cells/mL) in sterile polypropylene cryovials. Use appropriate material to ensure slow cooling (about -1°C/min) until -70°C. Transfer vials into a liquid nitrogen tank (vapor phase) for storage.

Typical Product Data -LANCE[®] cAMP Assay



Agonist	EC ₅₀ (M)
Apelin-13	6.3 x 10 ⁻¹¹

Figure 1. Agonist Response in LANCE[®] cAMP assay

An agonist dose-response experiment was performed in 384-well format using 2500 cells/well. Frozen cells were thawed and immediately incubated for 30-min with 10 μM Forskolin (FK) and the indicated agonist concentrations. Time-resolved fluorescence was measured on an EnVision[®] instrument. Data from a representative experiment are shown.

Typical Product Data -Radioligand Binding Assay (Filtration)

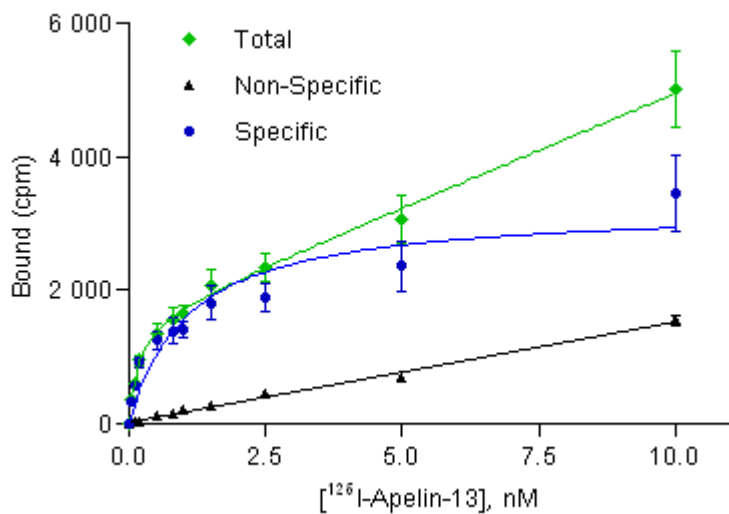
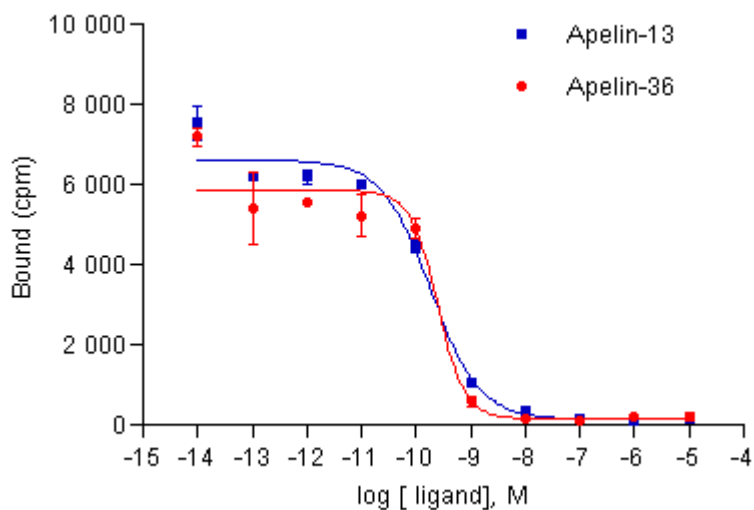


Figure 2: Saturation Binding Assay Curve (Filtration)

A saturation binding assay was performed in 96-well format using 1 µg membranes/well. Counts per minute (cpm) were measured on a TopCount® instrument. Data from a representative experiment are shown.

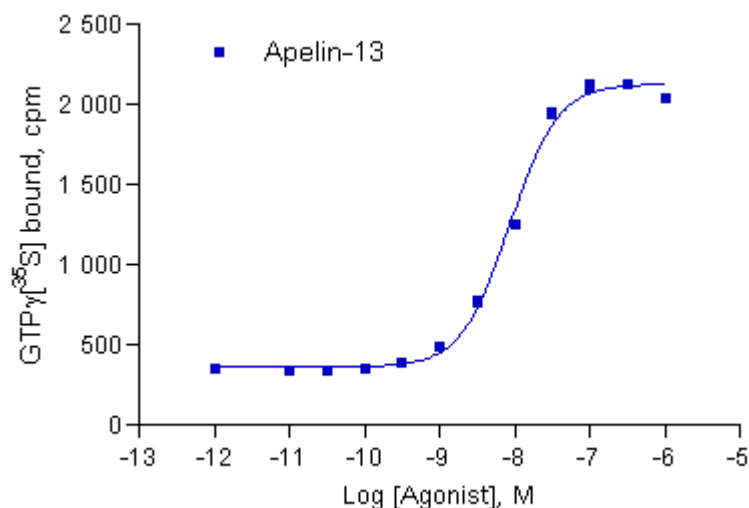


Agonist / Antagonist	IC ₅₀ (M)
Apelin 13	1.9 x 10 ⁻¹⁰
Apelin 36	2.5 x 10 ⁻¹⁰

Figure 3: Competition Binding Assay Curve (Filtration)

A competition binding assay was performed in 96-well format using 1 µg membranes/well. Displacement of 0.07 nM [¹²⁵I]-Apelin 13 was used. Counts per minute (cpm) were measured on a TopCount® instrument. Data from a representative experiment are shown.

Typical Product Data - GTP γ S - FlashPlate[®] Assay

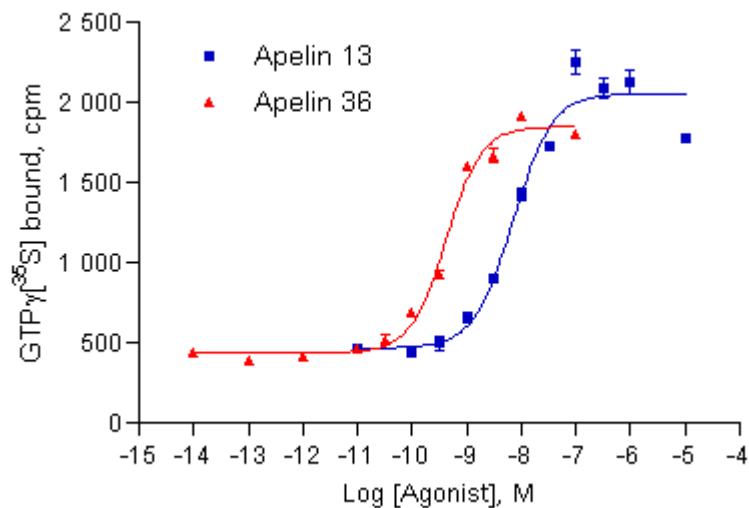


Agonist	EC ₅₀ (M)
Apelin-13	8.6 x 10 ⁻⁹

Figure 4. Agonist Response in GTP γ S - FlashPlate[®] assay

An agonist dose-response scintillation proximity assay (FlashPlate) was performed in 96-well format using 2.5 μ g membranes/well. Counts per minute (cpm) were measured on a TopCount[®] instrument. Data from a representative experiment are shown.

Typical Product Data - GTP γ S - SPA[®] Assay



Agonist	EC ₅₀ (M)
Apelin-13	7.0 x 10 ⁻⁹
Apelin-36	4.2 x 10 ⁻¹⁰

Figure 5. Agonist Response in GTP γ S - SPA[®] assay

An agonist dose-response scintillation proximity assay (SPA) was performed in 96-well format using 5 μ g membranes/well. Counts per minute (cpm) were measured on a TopCount[®] instrument. Data from a representative experiment are shown.



LANCE® Ultra cAMP Assay Procedure

Stimulation Buffer: HBSS, 5 mM HEPES, 0.1 % Protease-free BSA, 0.5 mM IBMX, pH 7.4.

Cells/well: For compounds not tested herein we recommend titrating the cells for optimal performance, i.e. 500-3000 cells per assay point.

cAMP measurements can be performed with the LANCE® Ultra cAMP 384 Kit (Revvity # TRF0262), according to the manufacturer instructions. Briefly:

Protocols for a 384-well white Optiplate (total assay volume of 20 µL):

cAMP Standard curve	G _s Agonist	G _s Antagonist	G _i Forskolin titration	G _i Agonist	G _i Antagonist
5 µL cAMP Standard	5 µL cell suspension	5 µL cell suspension	5 µL cell suspension	5 µL cell suspension	5 µL cell suspension
5 µL Stimulation Buffer	5 µL Agonist	2.5 µL Antagonist	5 µL Forskolin	2.5 µL Agonist	2.5 µL Antagonist
-	-	2.5 µL Agonist	-	2.5 µL Forskolin	2.5 µL Forskolin/Agonist
Incubate 30 min at room temperature (optional step for cAMP Standard curve)					
5 µL 4X Eu-cAMP Tracer Working Solution					
5 µL 4X ULight-anti-cAMP Working Solution					
Incubate 1 h at room temperature					
Read on an EnVision® instrument. Remove microplate seal prior to reading					

1. Cells in mid-log phase, grown in media without antibiotics for 18 hours prior to the experiment, are detached by gentle flushing with PBS-EDTA, recovered by centrifugation and resuspended in stimulation buffer e.g. at the concentration of 6.0×10^5 cells/mL (for 3000 cells/well).
2. Prepare the 4X Tracer Working Solution by making a 1/50 dilution of the Eu-cAMP stock solution in the cAMP Detection Buffer.
3. Prepare an ULight-anti-cAMP Intermediate Solution by making a 1/10 dilution of the ULight-anti-cAMP stock solution in cAMP Detection Buffer. Prepare the 4X ULight-anti-cAMP Working Solution by making a 1/30 dilution of the ULight-anti-cAMP intermediate solution in the cAMP Detection Buffer.

Notes:

For 96- and 1536-well formats, adjust proportionally the volume of each assay component in order to maintain the volume ratios for the 384-well format. Do not modify the Eu-cAMP and/or the ULight-anti-cAMP concentrations.



LANCE[®] cAMP Assay Procedure

- Stimulation Buffer: HBSS, 5 mM HEPES, 0.1 % Protease-free BSA, 0.5 mM IBMX, pH 7.4.
- Cells/well: 2500. For compounds not tested herein we recommend titrating the cells for optimal performance, i.e. 1000-10000 cells per assay point.
- Antagonist Pre-incubation: Simultaneous addition of antagonists with reference agonist.
- Agonist Stimulation: 30 min at room temperature (22°C).

cAMP measurements were performed with the LANCE[®] cAMP 384 Kit (Revvity # AD0262), according to the manufacturer instructions. Briefly:

1. Compounds (6 μ L/well) were dispensed into a 384-well white Optiplate:

	G α s and G α i assay modes		G α s assay mode		G α i assay mode	
	Basal	Forskolin	Agonist Assay	Antagonist Assay	Agonist Assay	Antagonist Assay
Buffer	6 μ L	-	-	-	-	-
Antagonist	-	-	-	3 μ L of 4x final conc.	-	3 μ L of 4x final conc.
Agonist	-	-	6 μ L of 2x final conc.	3 μ L of 4x final conc.	6 μ L of 2x final conc. in 2x final FK conc.	3 μ L of 4x final conc. in 4x final FK conc.
Forskolin	-	6 μ L of 2x final conc.	-	-		

2. Cells in mid-log phase, grown in media without antibiotics for 18 hours prior to the experiment, were detached by gentle flushing with PBS-EDTA, recovered by centrifugation and resuspended in stimulation buffer at the concentration of 4.2×10^5 cells/mL.
3. The Alexa Fluor[®] 647-anti cAMP antibody was added 1/100 (vol/vol) to the cell suspension.
4. 6 μ L/well of cell and antibody suspension (2500 cells/well) were dispensed on top of the compounds prepared in the 384 well Optiplate.
5. After incubation for 30 min at room temperature the reaction was stopped by addition of 12 μ L of Detection Mix.
6. The plate was incubated for 60 min at room temperature and read on an EnVision[®].

Note: Assays can also be miniaturized into 1536-well format.



Membrane Radioligand Binding Assay Procedure (Filtration)

Note: The following are recommended assay conditions and may differ from the conditions used to generate the typical data shown in the above section.

Assay Buffer: 25 mM Hepes pH 7.4, 10 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM CaCl₂, 0.5% BSA

Wash Buffer: 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4

Radioligand: [¹²⁵I]-Apelin 13 (Revvity # NEX393)

Filters: Unifilter 96 GF/C (Revvity # 6055690)

Membrane Binding Protocol:

Binding assays were performed in 200 µL total volume according to the following conditions. All dilutions are performed in assay buffer:

1. Membrane dilution:	1 µg of membranes per well, diluted in order to dispense 150µL/well. Keep on ice.
2. Assembly on ice (in 96 Deep well plate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 25 µL of assay buffer or of unlabeled ligand (Apelin-13, 2 µM final) for determination of non specific binding• 25 µL of radioligand at increasing concentrations (see figure 2)• 150 µL of diluted membranes
Saturation Binding:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 25 µL competitor ligand at increasing concentrations (see figure 3)• 25 µL of radioligand (0.025 nM final)• 150 µL of diluted membranes
Competition Binding:	
3. Incubation:	30 min at 27°C.
4. Filters preparation:	GF/C filters were presoaked in 0.5 % PEI at room temperature for at least 30 min.
5. Filtration:	Aspirate and wash 9 x 500 µL with ice cold wash buffer using a FilterMate Harvester.
6. Counting:	Add 30 µL/well of MicroScint™-O (Revvity # 6013611), cover filter with a TopSeal-A PLUS (Revvity # 6050185) and read on a TopCount®.



GTP γ S - FlashPlate[®] Assay Procedure

Assay Buffer:	20 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 100 mM NaCl
Saponine concentration:	10 μ g/mL saponine (final). A stock solution (1mg/mL) is stored at -20°C. On the day of the experiment, prepare a 10x solution in assay buffer.
MgCl ₂ concentration:	1 mM MgCl ₂ (final). Prepare a 10x solution. Store at 4°C.
GDP concentration:	3 μ M GDP (final). Prepare a 10x solution. Store at -20°C.
FlashPlates:	96-wells Basic FlashPlate (Revvity # SMP200)
Radioligand:	0.1 nM GTP γ S, [³⁵ S] (final)- (Revvity # NEG030H). Prepare a 10x solution (1 nM).
Membranes:	2.5 μ g/well. Dilute membranes in order to dispense 100 μ L/well. Keep on ice.
Format:	96-well
Final volume:	200 μ L/well

GTP γ S-FlashPlate assays were performed in 200 μ L total volume according to the following conditions. All dilutions are performed in assay buffer:

1. Membranes saturation	In each well of the FlashPlate [®] , add:	
	Agonist Assay	Antagonist Assay
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 20 μL of 10x MgCl₂ ○ 20 μL of 10x GDP ○ 20 μL of 10x saponin ○ 100 μL of membrane suspension 	
	Add 20 μ L of buffer (control wells) or 10x agonist Place Top Seal and shake for 1 min Incubate for 15 min at 30°C.	Add 10 μ L of buffer (control wells) or 20x antagonist Place Top Seal and shake for 1 min Incubate for 15 min at 30°C. Add 10 μ L of buffer (control wells) or 20x reference agonist Place Top Seal and shake for 1 min Incubate for 15 min at 30°C.
2. GTP γ S, [³⁵ S] - addition:	Add 20 μ L of 10x GTP γ S, [³⁵ S]	
3. Incubation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover plate with a TopSeal • Shake on an orbital shaker for 1 min • Incubate for 30 min at 30°C • Centrifuge the plate for 10 min at 2000 rpm • Aspirate the supernatant 	
4. Counting	Count for 1 min on a TopCount [®]	



GTP γ S - SPA[®] Assay Procedure

Assay Buffer:	20 mM HEPES pH 7.4; 100 mM NaCl, 10 μ g/ml saponine, 1 mM MgCl ₂
GDP concentration:	3 μ M GDP (final)
SPA Beads:	PVT-WGA (Revvity # RPNQ0001), 0.5 mg/well
Radioligand:	GTP γ S, [³⁵ S] - (Revvity # NEG030H)
Membranes:	5 μ g/well
Format:	96-well
Final volume:	100 μ L/well

GTP γ S-SPA assays were performed in 100 μ L total volume according to the following conditions. All dilutions are performed in assay buffer:

1. Membrane Dilution:	5 μ g of membranes per well, diluted in order to dispense 20 μ L/well. Keep on ice.
2. GDP preparation:	Prepare a 5-fold concentrated GDP solution (i.e. 15 μ M).
3. GTP γ S, [³⁵ S] - dilution:	Dilute GTP γ S, [³⁵ S] - to give ~25,000 dpm/20 μ L
4. Beads:	Dilute beads to 25 mg/mL (0.5 mg/20 μ L)
5. Assembly (in Optiplate [™]), Agonist Assay:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 μL of 5x GDP dilution • 20 μL of 5x agonist dilutions at increasing concentrations • 20 μL of diluted membranes
Antagonist Assay:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 μL of 5x GDP dilution • 20 μL of a 5x antagonist at increasing concentrations: 5x reference agonist dilution (to reach a final concentration corresponding to its EC₈₀) • 20 μL of diluted membranes
6. Pre-incubation:	Incubate for 15 min at room temperature (RT)
7. Assemble (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 μL of the GTPγS, [³⁵S] - dilution • 20 μL of the SPA Beads dilution
8. Incubation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover plate with a TopSeal, • Shake on an orbital shaker for 2 min, • Incubate for 1h at RT • Centrifuge the plate for 10 min. at 2000 rpm, • Incubate for 0h to 1h at RT
9. Counting	Count for 1 min on a TopCount [®]

References

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Materials and Instrumentation

The following tables provide the references of compounds and reagents used or recommended for the characterization of the human Apelin receptor (APJ) ValiScreen® cell line, as well as some advice on how to use these compounds:

Table 1. References of compounds used for functional characterization and binding assays

Name	Provider	Cat no	Working Stock Solution
Apelin-13	Sigma	A6469	1 mM in PBS + 0.1% protease-free BSA
Apelin-36	Bachem	H-4896	100 µM in PBS + 0.1% protease-free BSA
[¹²⁵ I]-Apelin 13 (Apelin-13 [Glp ⁶⁵ , Nle ⁷⁵ , Tyr ⁷⁷] [¹²⁵ I])	Revvity	NEX393	N/A

Table 2. References of cell culture media and assay buffers

Name	Provider	Cat no
HAM's F-12	Hyclone	SH30026.02
DMEM	Hyclone	SH30022.02
Advanced DMEM/F12 (serotonin receptors)	Invitrogen	12634-010
EMEM	BioWitthaker	06-174G
EX-CELL DHFR ⁺ media (DHFR deficient cell lines)	Sigma	C8862
FBS	Wisent	80150
FBS dialyzed	Wisent	80950
G418 (geneticin)	Wisent	400-130-IG
Zeocin	Invitrogen	R25005
Blasticidin	invitrogen	R210-01
Puromycin	Wisent	400-160-EM
Standard HBSS (with CaCl ₂ and MgCl ₂)	GIBCO	14025
HEPES	MP Biomedicals, LLC	101926
BSA, Protease-free	Sigma	A-3059
PEI	Sigma	P3143
Trypsin-EDTA	Hyclone	SH30236.02
Sodium Pyruvate	GIBCO	11360
L-Glutamine	GIBCO	25030
NEAA (non-essential amino acids)	GIBCO	11140
Forskolin	Sigma	F6886

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