



Gene Pulser® Electroprotocols

* We recommend adapting this protocol to use the Gene Pulser electroporation buffer (catalog #165-2676, 165-2677), which increases cell viability and transfection efficiency in mammalian cell lines.

Cell Type Mammalian, adherent
Species Used Hamster, CHO -ATS49, ovary

Molecules Electroporated DNA: pAG-6 (pSV2-gpt derivative containing hamster APRT), 8.4 kB, linear.

Before the Pulse

Cell growth medium DMEM + 10% Fetal Bovine Serum + Non Essential Amino Acids (NEAA)+ Pen/Strep (GIBCO/BRL, Sigma)
Wash solution TD (analogous to Phosphate Buffered Saline)

Growth phase at harvest Log phase
Pre-pulse incubation 10 min., 4°C

The Pulse

Electroporation Temperature 4°C
Electroporation Medium* Berg buffer (HEPES Buffered Saline- see notes)
Cell Density Not given
Volume of Cells 10 (7) cells / 0.8 mls
DNA Concentration 1µg / µl
DNA Resuspension Buffer TE (10 mM Tris, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0)
Volume of DNA 20 µl

Instruments Used Gene Pulser® apparatus
Cuvette Gap 0.4 cm
Voltage 0.8 kV
Field Strength 2.0 kV/cm
Capacitor 25 µF
Resistor (Pulse Controller) Ω none
Time Constant 0.9 msec

After the Pulse

Outgrowth Medium DMEM + 10% Fetal Bovine Serum + NEAA + Pen/Strep
Outgrowth Temperature 37 °C
Length of Incubation 14 days
Selection Method or Assay Used Alanosine, Azaserine, Adenine (apt+) or HAT (gpt+)
Electroporation Efficiency 2 x10 (7) cells / 20 µg
Per Cent Survival usually high %

Relevant Publications and/or Comments

Note: exponential values designated in parentheses.

Pennington, S.L., and Wilson, J.H. (1991) Gene targeting in Chinese Hamster Ovary cells is conservative. *PNAS* **88**: 9498-9502.

HBS: 10mM HEPES, pH 7.2, 150 mM NaCl, 5 mM CaCl₂

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