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## 1. Description

This product is for research use only.

<b>Components</b>	50 µL DRAQ5™ Staining Solution or 200 µL DRAQ5™ Staining Solution
<b>Capacity</b>	50 µL for $2.5 \times 10^7$ total cells, up to 50 tests or 200 µL for $1 \times 10^8$ total cells, up to 200 tests
<b>Product format</b>	The ready-to-use DRAQ5 Staining Solution is supplied as aqueous solution at a concentration of 5 mM.
<b>Storage</b>	Store protected from light at 2–8 °C. Do not freeze. The expiration date is indicated on the vial label.

### 1.1 Background information

DRAQ5 is a far-red cell permeable DNA stain which intercalates double-stranded DNA (dsDNA) of living or fixed cells stoichiometrically.

The fluorescence emission maximum for dsDNA-bound DRAQ5 is 697 nm. With a broad excitation band with maxima at 600 and 646 nm it can be excited efficiently by red (635 nm) and yellow (561 nm) lasers, and suboptimally by blue (488 nm) lasers.

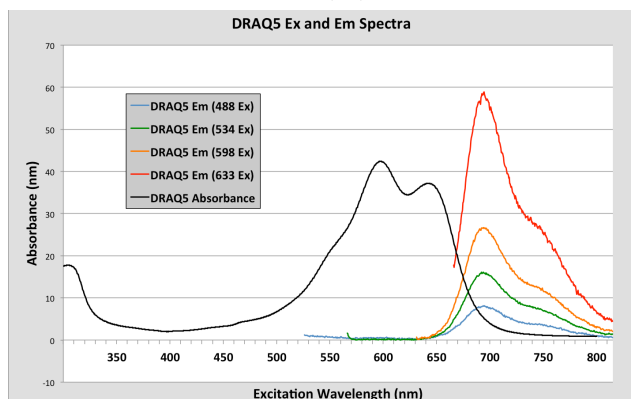


Figure 1: Spectral profile of DRAQ5 Staining Solution.

## 1.2 Applications

- Enumeration of nucleated cells.
- Nuclear counterstain in imaging and flow cytometry.
- Cell cycle analysis.
- DNA content analysis.

## 1.3 Recommended dilution

It is recommended to use DRAQ5 Staining Solution at a final concentration of 5–20 µM (1:1000 to 1:250 dilution). Since applications vary, each investigator should titrate the reagent to obtain optimal results. Incubation times may vary typically between 5–30 minutes at temperatures between room temperature and 37 °C.

For nucleated cell enumeration add 1 µL of DRAQ5 Staining Solution to  $5 \times 10^5$  cells in 1 mL buffer and incubate for 15 minutes at room temperature in the dark before analysis.

## 2. Examples of cell staining with the DRAQ5 Staining Solution

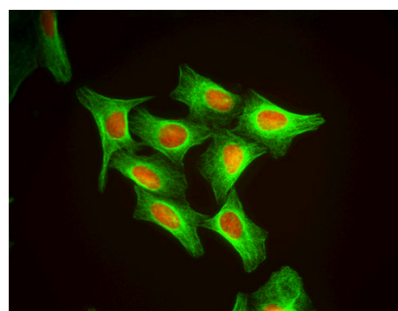


Figure 2: DRAQ5 (red) counterstaining of fixed U2OS cells. AlexaFluor 488 antibody to  $\beta$ -tubulin (green).

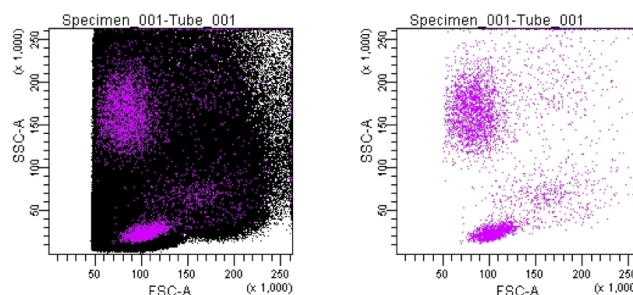


Figure 3: No lyse, no wash gating of nucleated cells from whole bone marrow gating on DRAQ5 signal (purple).

### 3. References

1. Smith, P. J. *et al.* (1999) A novel cell permeant and far red-fluorescing DNA probe, DRAQ5, for blood cell discrimination by flow cytometry. *J. Immunol. Methods* 229: 131–139.
2. Smith, P. J. *et al.* (2000) Characteristics of a novel deep red/infrared fluorescent cell-permeant DNA probe, DRAQ5, in intact human cells analyzed by flow cytometry, confocal and multiphoton microscopy. *Cytometry* 40: 280–291.
3. Smith, P. J. *et al.* (2004) DRAQ5 labeling of nuclear DNA in live and fixed cells. *Curr. Protoc. Cytom.* 7: 25.
4. Martin, R. M. *et al.* (2005) DNA labeling in living cells. *Cytometry* 67A: 45–52.

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