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          BglII   SacI   PstI
          |-----|-----|
          End of DD-tag   Eco47III   XhoI   EcoRI
912   AAA CCG GAA GCT AGC GCT ACC GGA CTC AGA TCT CGA GCT CAA GCT TCG AAT TCT
          |-----|-----|-----|-----|
          AccI/SalI   SacII   BamHI
          PstI   |-----|-----|
          GCA GTC GAC GGT ACC GCG GGC CCG GGA TCC GCC CC
    
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**pTuner IRES2 Vector Map and Multiple Cloning Site (MCS).**

**Description**

pTuner IRES2 is a bicistronic expression vector that allows you to precisely regulate the amount of your protein of interest in mammalian cells. The vector encodes a 12 kDa, FKBP (L106P) destabilization domain (DD; 1) that is expressed as an N-terminal tag on your protein of interest; this domain causes the rapid degradation of any protein to which it is fused. Once expressed, the amount of DD-tagged protein present in the cell can be rapidly increased by the addition of Shield1 stabilizing ligand to the medium. Shield1 is a membrane permeable molecule that binds to the DD tag, 'shielding' the fusion protein from proteasomal degradation. pTuner IRES2 allows the simultaneous expression of your DD-tagged protein of interest and AcGFP1 fluorescent protein from the same bicistronic mRNA transcript. Because AcGFP1 is unaffected by the DD tag, it can be used as an indicator of transfection efficiency, as well as a marker for selection and cell sorting.

AcGFP1 is a human codon-optimized variant of the *Aequorea coerulescens* green fluorescent protein, AcGFP. Bicistronic expression of AcGFP1 and the DD-tagged protein of interest is facilitated by the encephalomyocarditis virus (EMCV) internal ribosome entry site 2 (IRES2). This IRES allows cap-independent translation of AcGFP1 from an internal start site at the IRES/AcGFP1 junction (2, 3). Expression of the bicistronic transcript is driven by the constitutively active human cytomegalovirus immediate early promoter ( $P_{CMV IE}$ ) located just upstream of the DD tag sequence.

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pPTuner IRES2 contains an SV40 origin for replication in mammalian cells expressing the SV40 T antigen. The vector also contains a neomycin/kanamycin resistance cassette that allows G418 selection of stably transfected eukaryotic cells (4). In addition, a bacterial promoter located upstream of this cassette allows kanamycin resistance in *E. coli*. The vector also provides a pUC origin of replication for propagation in *E. coli* and an f1 origin for single-stranded DNA production.

## Use

pPTuner IRES2 is available in the ProteoTuner Shield System N (w/ AcGFP1) [Cat. No. 632168]. It is designed to co-express your DD-tagged protein of interest and AcGFP1 in mammalian cells. In order to create your DD-tagged protein of interest, your gene of interest must be cloned into the MCS in the same reading frame as the DD tag sequence, and it must contain a stop codon at the end of its coding sequence. The simultaneous expression of AcGFP1 allows the selection of transfectants by flow cytometry (or other detection methods) with standard FITC filter sets (AcGFP1 has an excitation maximum of 475 nm and an emission maximum of 505 nm).

When cells expressing a DD-tagged protein of interest are grown in medium containing Shield1, the ligand binds to the DD tag and protects the fusion protein from degradation. As a result, the protein quickly accumulates inside the cells in amounts that are directly proportional to the concentration of Shield1 in the medium. If the cells are subsequently grown in medium lacking Shield1, the DD tag is no longer stabilized, and the fusion protein is rapidly degraded. Because the effects of Shield1 are concentration-dependent and reversible, it is possible to fine-tune the amount of fusion protein present in the cells simply by adjusting the concentration of Shield1 in the medium (1).

## Location of Features

- $P_{CMVIE}$  (human cytomegalovirus immediate early promoter): 1–589
- DD (FKBP-L106P destabilization domain): 597–920
- MCS (multiple cloning site): 924–995
- IRES 2 (EMCV): 996–1580
- AcGFP1 (*Aequorea coerulea* green fluorescent protein): 1584–2303
- SV40 poly A<sup>+</sup> signal: 2456–2506
- f1 origin of replication (allows the production of single-stranded DNA): 2553–3008 (complementary)
- $P_{Kan^r}$  (Bacterial promoter for Kan<sup>r</sup> gene expression): 3070–3105
- $P_{SV40e}$  (SV40 early promoter and enhancer): 3182–3411
- SV40 origin of replication: 3349–3484
- Kan<sup>r</sup>/Neo<sup>r</sup> (Tn5 kanamycin/neomycin resistance gene ): 3533–4327
- HSVTK poly A<sup>+</sup> (herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase poly A<sup>+</sup> signal): 4563–4581
- pUC origin of replication: 4912–5555

## Selection of Stable Transfectants

- Selectable marker: plasmid confers resistance to G418.

## Propagation in *E. coli*

- Suitable host strains: Stellar™ Competent Cells. Single-stranded DNA production requires a host containing an F plasmid, such as JM101 or XL1-Blue.
- Selectable marker: plasmid confers resistance to kanamycin (50 µg/ml) in *E. coli* hosts.
- *E. coli* replication origin: pUC
- Copy number: high

## References

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