

Product Information

N-ACETYL-ASP-GLN-MET-ASP-7-AMIDO-4-TRIFLUOROMETHYLCOUMARIN

Product Number **A 5595**

Storage Temperature -20°C

(Ac-DQMD-AFC)

Product Description

Appearance: White Powder

Formula Weight: 760

Purity: =90 % by HPLC.

Fluorescent substrate for caspase 3.

- Fluorometric detection when AFC is cleaved from the peptide (excitation wavelength = 400 nm emission wavelength = 505 nm)
- Molar Extinction coefficient = 12,600 at pH 7.2, 380 nm
- Spectrophotometric detection of AFC at 380 nm
- AFC is highly soluble in DMF or DMSO
- Sensitivity of enzyme assay is equal to AMC in purified systems which have no background blue fluorescence
- Amino acid derivatives of AFC are blue in fluorescence microscopy
- AFC has been shown to be a nonmutagenic chemical by the Ames Test

Preparation Instructions

Soluble in DMSO/DMF at 20 mM.

Storage/Stability

Store tightly sealed and desiccated at -20°C . Allow powder to reach room temperature before opening vial. May be stored desiccated in solid form at room temperature for one year. Store DMSO/DMF solutions at -20°C for up to 6 months.

Procedure

Fluorometric Enzyme Assay

- Buffer: 100 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 20 % (v/v) glycerol, 5 mM DTT, 0.5 mM EDTA
- Substrate: 20 mM stock solution of Ac-DQMD-AFC in DMSO
- Enzyme: Cell lysate or purified enzyme solution (~15 nanograms enzyme)
- Fluorescence Standard: 80 μM of free AFC (Product Number A 8401) in DMSO

1. Add 10 μl of enzyme to 470 μl buffer. Mix. Incubate at 30°C for 30 minutes.
2. With fluorometer adjusted to 400 nm excitation and 505 nm emission, add 20 μl of substrate to enzyme solution.
3. Record increase in fluorescence (FLU) per minute from T_0 to T_{end} where the fluorescence generated at T_{end} is significantly different from that of T_0 .
4. Calculate the ? FLU/min. from the linear portion of the curve.
5. Record fluorescence units (FLU) generated by 10 μl , 20 μl , and 30 μl free AFC and 490 μl (1.6 μM), 480 μl (3.2 μM), and 470 μl (4.8 μM) buffer solution, respectively. These solution contain 0.8, 1.6 and 2.4 nanomoles, respectively, of free AFC product 0.5 ml of standard solution.
6. Graph the fluorescence units (FLU) vs. μM the amount of free AFC (nanomoles). The standard curve is the best line connecting the data points. Determine the value of fluorescent units per nanomole (FLU/nmole) of free AFC from the standard curve.
7. Calculate activity as follows:

1 unit of activity = $(\text{?FLU}/\text{min}) \times (\text{dilution factor of sample})$
(nmole/ml/min) $\quad (\text{FLU}/\text{nmole}) \times (\text{reaction volume})$

Note: Multiplying by the dilution factor is only necessary if you further dilute the enzyme sample, and want to compare to the original solution. Very low and very high levels of enzyme may give abnormal results. It is recommended to test the enzyme at several concentrations.

References:

1. Xue, D., and Horvitz, H.R., Inhibition of the *Caenorhabditis elegans* cell-death protease CED-3 by a CED-3 cleavage site in baculovirus p35 protein. *Nature*, **377**, 248-251 (1995).
2. Bump, N.J., et al., Inhibition of ICE family proteases by baculovirus antiapoptotic protein p35. *Science*, **269**, 1885-1888 (1995).

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