

This document is a quick protocol for the calculation of glycerol levels in biological samples. For complete protocol information, including information on standard curve preparation, see the *Glycerol-Glo™ Assay Technical Manual #TM599*, which is available online at:

**[www.promega.com/protocols/](http://www.promega.com/protocols/)**

The protocol is for a reaction with 50µl of a prepared sample and 50µl of Glycerol Detection Reagent in a 96-well plate. The assay can be adapted to other volumes provided the 1:1 ratio of Glycerol Detection Reagent volume to prepared sample volume is maintained.

## Protocol

1. Reagent Preparation:
  - a. Thaw all components in a 22°C water bath and mix to ensure homogeneous solutions prior to use. Place the Reductase Substrate and Kinetic Enhancer on ice; all other components can be held at 22°C until use.
  - b. Determine the amount of reagents necessary for the current experiment. Use reagents on the day they are prepared; do not store prepared reagents for later use.
  - c. To prepare Glycerol Detection Reagent, add 10µl of Reductase Substrate per ml of Glycerol Detection Solution and mix by inversion. Prepare this reagent 1 hour before use in order to minimize assay background. Hold at room temperature.
  - d. After 1 hour, add 10µl of Kinetic Enhancer per ml of Glycerol Detection Reagent prepared in Step c and mix by inversion.
2. Prepare samples, standards and controls:
  - a. For Medium, Serum and Homogenized Tissue Samples:
    - i. Dilute samples in Glycerol Lysis Solution to bring their glycerol concentrations below 80µM.
    - ii. Transfer 25µl of sample, standard or control to a 96-well plate.
    - iii. Add 25µl of Glycerol Lysis Solution, shake briefly and incubate 30 minutes at 37°C.
  - b. For Adherent Cells and 3D Cell Cultures:
    - i. Remove medium from cells in the 96-well plate. Wash cells twice with 100µl of PBS.
    - ii. Add 50µl of Glycerol Lysis Solution, shake briefly and incubate 30 minutes at 37°C.
    - iii. Dilute samples in Glycerol Lysis Solution to bring their glycerol concentrations below 80µM.
    - iv. If needed, dilute samples in Glycerol Lysis Solution to bring their glycerol concentrations below 80µM. Add 50µl of any diluted samples, standards or controls to empty wells in a 96-well assay plate.
3. Add 50µl of Glycerol Detection Reagent to all wells.
4. Shake the plate for 30–60 seconds by hand or using a plate shaker at a low rpm.
5. Incubate the plate at room temperature for 1 hour.
6. Record luminescence on a plate-reading luminometer.
7. Calculate glycerol concentrations by comparison of the luminescence of samples and standards prepared under the same conditions.

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Additional protocol information is in Technical Manual #TM599, available online at: **[www.promega.com](http://www.promega.com)**