

# Tali<sup>®</sup> Viability Kit – Dead Cell Red

\*for use with Tali<sup>®</sup> Assays: Viability, Green + Red\*

Catalog no. A10786

Table 1 Contents and storage

Material	Amount	Concentration	Storage	Stability		
Tali® Dead Cell Red (Propidium iodide) (Component A)	100 µL	100 μg/mL in water	<ul> <li>2–25°C</li> <li>Protect from light</li> <li>Do not freeze</li> </ul>	When stored as directed, the product is stable for at least 6 months.		
Number of assays: Sufficient material is supplied for 100 assays of 100 $\mu$ L each.						
Approximate fluorescence excitation/emission maxima: Propidium iodide: 535/617 in nm, bound to DNA.						

# Introduction

The Tali<sup>®</sup> Dead Cell Red reagent is a ready-to-use solution of propidium iodide (PI), a cell-impermeant fluorogenic DNA-binding dye used for identifying necrotic cells. PI is impermeant to live cells, but easily enters dead cells and stains them with red fluorescence upon binding to nucleic acids, which enhances its fluorescence 20- to 30-fold. The Tali<sup>®</sup> Dead Cell Red reagent can be used to identify the dead cells in a population of unstained cells or in a population of cells expressing green fluorescent proteins such as GFP or stained with green fluorescent dyes such as Alexa Fluor<sup>®</sup> 488.

To determine the number and proportion of viable and dead cells in a sample using the Tali<sup>®</sup> Viability Kit – Dead Cell Red, perform the Tali<sup>®</sup> Viability or the Tali<sup>®</sup> Green + Red assay on the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer. The Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer captures up to 20 images (i.e., fields of view) per sample, automatically analyzes the images with sophisticated digital image-based cell counting and fluorescence detection algorithms, and presents the results of the analysis in the Sample tab (Figure 1, page 2). The data from the analysis, including the image files, can then be downloaded to a USB flash drive immediately after the assay and transferred to a computer for sample comparisons.

**Figure 1** Example of a Tali<sup>®</sup> Viability Assay using Tali<sup>®</sup> Viability Kit – Dead Cell Red. The Sample tab shows the concentration, the relative proportion, and the number of live and dead cells. The image window shows the captured fields of view, where the dead cells stained with red fluorescence are clearly distinguishable from the live cells that do not fluoresce. For detailed instructions on using the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer, refer to the user guide supplied in the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer USB Drive. The user guide is also available for downloading www.lifetechnologies.com/tali.



## **Before You Begin**

Materials Recommended but Not Provided	Tali <sup>®</sup> Cellular Analysis Slides (Cat. nos. T10794, T10795)
Caution	Propidium iodide is a potential mutagen; use appropriate precautions when handling this reagent.

### **Experimental Protocol**

Follow the instructions below to stain your cells with Tali<sup>®</sup> Dead Cell Red stain. For detailed instructions on using the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer, refer to the user guide supplied in the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer USB Drive. The user guide is also available for downloading at **www.lifetechnologies.com/tali**. The recommended sample concentration range for the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer is  $1 \times 10^5$  to  $1 \times 10^7$  cells/mL; however, the sample concentration does not need to be exact to perform an assay.

- 1. Harvest your cells. You may perform the staining directly in cell culture medium or you may centrifuge the cells and and wash them with PBS prior to staining.
- Transfer 100 μL of the cell the sample to a microcentrifuge tube and add 1 μL of Tali<sup>®</sup> Dead Cell Red reagent (Component A). Mix well by briefly vortexing.

- **3.** Incubate the Tali<sup>®</sup> Dead Cell Red reagent and cell mixture at room temperature in the dark for 1–5 minutes.
- **4.** Load 25 μL of the stained cells into a Tali<sup>®</sup> Cellular Analysis Slide by pipetting the sample at an angle of approximately 80° into the half moon-shaped sample loading area. The sample is loaded into the chamber through capillary action. Take care to avoid forming bubbles in the sample or to cause back splatter.
- 5. Insert the slide into the slide port of the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer until it stops. Do not forcefully push the slide any further.
- **6.** Touch **Cell Health**, and then **Viability** on the Home screen of the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer.
- 7. Name the sample series, if desired.
- **8.** Touch **Press to insert new sample**; the slide will automatically be pulled into the instrument.
- **9.** When prompted, focus your cells using the image adjustment (focus) knob on the right side of the instrument.
- **10.** Specify the number of fields of view to capture using the **# of images to capture** drop-down menu, and then touch **Press to run sample**. The Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer will automatically capture and analyze the images of your sample, and present the results of the analysis in the analysis window.

**Note:** Biological molecules found within cells fluoresce upon excitation and result in background fluorescence. Because the Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer is a highly sensitive instrument, this background fluorescence is detected and displayed as a peak closest to the 0 RFU (relative fluorescence unit) value. To eliminate the background fluorescence from your measurements, adjust the threshold to exclude this peak.

**11.** On the Sample tab, touch the appropriate **histogram thumbnail** and set the threshold by moving the blue button on the slider bar. The Tali<sup>®</sup> Image-Based Cytometer automatically re-analyzes the data and updates the results in the Sample tab. The example below shows the threshold pop-up window for PI fluorescence.



### Product List Current prices may be obtained from our website or from our Customer Service Department.

<b>Cat no.</b> A10786	<b>Product Name</b> Tali <sup>®</sup> Viability Kit – Dead Cell Red (for use with Tali <sup>®</sup> Assays: Viability, Green + Red)	<b>Unit Size</b> 100 assays
Related Prod	lucts	
A10787	Tali® Viability Kit – Dead Cell Green (for use with Tali® Assays: Green, Green + Red)	100 assays
A10788	Tali® Apoptosis Kit – Annexin V Alexa Fluor® 488 and Propidium Iodide	. 1 kit
A10794	Tali® Cellular Analysis Slides, 50 slides	1 each
A10795	Tali® Cellular Analysis Slides, 500 slides	1 each
A10798	Tali® Cell Cycle Kit	50 assays

# **Purchaser Notification**

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Additional international offices are listed at www.lifetechnologies.com

These high-quality reagents and materials must be used by, or directly under the supervision of, a technically qualified individual experienced in handling potentially hazardous chemicals. Read the Safety Data Sheet provided for each product; other regulatory considerations may apply.

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