Islet Quality Assessment

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Introductory overview

Quantity and composition of islet preparations Quantitative membrane integrity measurements Oxygen consumption rate measurements

Stirred chamber

methods and characteristics prediction of transplantation outcome

Oxygen biosensor system

Islets Are Damaged During Isolation from Human Pancreas

Enzymatic Digestion and Mechanical Disruption



1-2% original pancreas volume

What Do We Want To Know?

For a given islet preparation: What is the "potency" or "dose?" Can we predict transplantation outcome?

Goals for Islet Quality Assessment

Quantity

How much tissue is there?

- Volume
- Number of cells What is the tissue composition?
 - Islet β cells, other
 - Exocrine- acinar, duct

Function

What is the insulin secretory capacity?

Viability

For (1) total tissue and (2) islets

- How much is viable?
- What fraction is viable?

What does viability mean, anyway?

- Dead
- Live
- Live now, dead later because of irreversible commitment to the cell death process

Why Are Islet Preparations So Difficult To Characterize?

- Islets are cellular aggregates.
 Variety of shapes and sizes
 Visual size estimation is
 - prone to error
 - operator dependent
 - large uncertainty
- 2. Human preparations have varying amounts of impurities. Distinguishing properties of islets/exocrine tissue difficult
- 3. The islet is a moving target. Damage occurs during
 - isolation
 - culture
 - shipment

4. Many techniques for cells are inapplicable to islets because the islets cannot be usefully dissociated into cells.



- Cells are damaged: anoikis
- Cells are lost
- Recovered cells are likely not representative of original islet

What Tools Are Available?

- Safety
- Identity
- Quantity of tissue Volume Number of Cells Composition
- Viability
 Membrane Integrity
 Mitochondrial Function
 Apoptosis
- Potency

Glucose Stimulated Insulin Release Immunodeficient Mouse Transplant

• Other

Gene Expression Profiling

Quantity of Tissue

Type of Quantity	Tissue Assayed	Parameter Measured	Method
Volume	Islet Preparation	Tissue volume	 Packed cell volume of tissue pellet Ultrasound scattering
		Islet volume	 Insulin content Dithizone (DTZ) staining Visual counting Enumeration of islet Image analysis equivalents (IEQ)
Number of Cells	Islet	Total DNA	• DNA content
	Preparation	Total intact cell nuclei	Nuclei counting
Cell Composition	Islet Preparation	Volume fraction islets Individual cell types	 DTZ staining Morphology (light microscopy) Ultrastructural analysis (electron microscopy)
	Dispersed Cells	Individual cell types	 Differential staining (laser scanning cytometry)

Viability of Tissue

Type of Assay	Tissue Assayed	Method
Cell Membrane Integrity	Islet Preparation	Live/Dead (Membrane Permeable) Fluorescein Diacetate (FDA)/Propidium Iodide (PI) SYTO 13/Ethidium Bromide (EB) All/Dead LDS 751/Sytox Orange Dead Trypan Blue Quantitative assay via Nuclei Counting- 7- AAD
Mitochondrial Function	Islet Preparation	Redox state of the cell-Tetrazolium salts MTT, MTS Oxidative phosphorylation-Oxygen consumption rate Energetic State-[ATP], [ATP]/[ADP], ATP production rate
	Dispersed Cells	Mitochondrion membrane potential (MMP)-Fluorescent dyes JC-1, TMRE (Flow Cytometry)
Apoptotic Events	Islet Preparation	Magic angle spinning 1H-NMR spectroscopy
	Disrupted Cells	Early: Signaling pathway – Caspase activation Late: Nucleosome DNA fragmentation
	Fixed Tissue or Cells	Phosphatidyl serine translocation – Annexin V DNA fragmentation – TUNEL

Viability of Tissue



Time Dependence of Cell Death and Cell Viability Assays



Membrane Integrity measurements (7-AAD) lag other measures of cell viability

How Can Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) Be Measured?

Hardware	Perfusion Systems	Stagnant Liquid Film	Stirred Tank
Measured Variables	ΔpO_2 across tissue liquid flow rate	Sensor pO_2 beneath cells	$\frac{\Delta pO_2}{\Delta t} rate of bulk \\ pO_2 decrease$
Source	custom-made	BD Oxygen Biosensor System (BD OBS)	Instech Micro Oxygen Uptake System
	The second secon		
Pros	elegant flexible research tool follow transient dynamics	simple inexpensive rapid	accurate precise rapid
	Direct measurement of OCR		Direct measurement of OCR
Cons	very complex time consuming	measurement is inaccurate	complex
		Requires mathematical model to calculate OCR	

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How C

Hardware

Measured

Variables

Source

Pros

Cons

Micro Oxygen Uptake System

he hutch FO/SY3210T was designed specifically to determine orgen con-sumption rates (OCR) of cell suspensions or organelles as well as enzyme reactions that consume or evolve oxygen in nampleasas low as 200µL. This system was designed by Instech in collaboration with Dn. Klearchos Papas and Clark Colton of the Department of Chemical Engineering at MIT.

Occurrent tennion in the namele fluid is seased fluor oractrically using a fiber optic titaniam neede probe coated at the tip with a captured fluorescent dye. Fluorescence levels are detected units the model 21.0 two-channel monitor which incorporates the excitation light source. miniature spectrometers and a high-speed A/D converter. Transum is used for the chamber body and probe since it is

inert and will not introduce drifts due to material oxidation while providing for rapid thermal equilibrium of solutions. A standard user-provided PC with USB port and the included software con-trol all monitor functions. Data is displayed on the screen and can be loused to disk and recalled for analysis.

The part number FO/SYS210T specifies a complete system including

- Two channel fiber optic oxygen monitor
- 0.062" OD titanium fiber optic oxygen prober
- 400u bifurcated fiber bundles with couplers
- Dual water jacketed micro chamber block 2.50 µL titanium chamber cup
- Glass plug/valves for 2.50 pl. chambers
- Acrylic center-fill plags for 250µL chambers
- Two channel speed controller
- Low speed notor-magnet stirring anemblics
- Glass coated 5mm stir bars Probe anal kit (25 pca)
- Them occupie thermometer

The only part not included in the FO/SYS210T system is the Haake circulating water bath, FO/C@B, described below

PartHe Decomption Dual micro scygen aptake system F0.575210F () Hallweinischich and Togen Except of your type



Titanium Fiber Optic Probes



The oxygen sensing probe is conritukted of rugged, .062" diameter titanium tube with a 600 micros central fiber that has been coated with a fluorescent dye instilled in a rol-gel coating at the tip. The tip in then overcoated with a thin layer of oxygen penneable black nilicone. This prevents ambient light interference with the measurement.

Because of the small size of these probes, it is possible to achieve low chamber volumes.

Unlike polarographic probes, these probes require neither mem-branes nor electrolytes, making for less maintenance and longer times between calibration. Once the probe tip comes into equilibrium with the surrounding oxygen concentration, no further oxygen utilization occurs. Since the probe does not commute caygen, there will be no errors due to probe uptake and no stirring artifacts. The proben are capable of gaseous measurements as well but should be calibrated in solution when making dissolved copy gen measurements. Only aqueous solutions should be used with these probes to prevent leaching out of the dye.

Part He.	Description	Uni
PO/POIET	262"tites iam fiber eptic probe with alloone overcoat	
P0/90408	400p bits mated fiber bundle with coupler	

Instach Laboratorius, Inc. - 5249 Militin Hill Bood, Physicald Herring, M. 19442-1216, 854 208-145-1227 - 618-541-6132 - 618-541-6135 fac. - any si astachda fac.org

INSTECH



NSTECH

Commercially Available from Instech Labs

http://www.instechlabs.com/Oxygen/

research tool not for routine use

accuracy is questionable limited experience



Micro Oxygen Uptake System

is general down for accurate alow speed stirring when used with fragile cells. The Instech 2060 speed controller provides accurate, reproducible rotational meeds

penature

Description

Dual 250pl. #unium chamber system

Names CC18-38 decalating water bath

The mecouple the momenter

Chamber System Replacement Parts

Description



214 Marikar	
Chanaele	2
Exitation wavelength	450em
Communication	USB (cable included)
four sure	12VDC 808Ma wal knownted adapter
Nover on respiration	2.4W
Dimensions	83/WW251/47Hz67D
Wight	19 ka

System Specifications

PO/CE258 Classifier System	
No. of Charabert	1
Chamber material	Titasium
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Chamber plage	Glass plug/salve a racsylic centse-fill
Chamber Wedcrasterial	Nickel-Tellen coated al aminum
Weiterbathparts	RtS/16" DTygos
Siring	integ to I met a s/magnet assembly
Staring speed on stud	Model 2000 dasl speed coe triller

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Long & of needle section	125'
Convection	SMA
Dynamic ma ge	0-41.7 ppm (1-761 mmHg)
Sepone tine	30-50 and
Sephriton/# #ppm	0.005 ppm
Beachtrion # 8.5 ppm	002 gpm
Beachtrion# 40 ppm	02 ppm
Duit	<000 ppm per day

PO/CMB Circulating Water Bath

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Volence	31.	
lange (roccooling)	35 - 100°C	
lange(top vatier or eling)	20 - 100°C	
Wight	15 ks	

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Unit

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P0/P042T Riber Optic Prebe	
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Riber	Cauted 600µ
Ale wave an or peak	600am
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Sepone tine	30-50 and
Septution/##ppm	0.005 ppm
Beachtrion # 8.5 ppm	002 gpm
September 40 ppm	02ppm
Duit	<002 ppm per day

Glass plug/valve for 250pt, chamber 64 Acrylic center-fill plug for 250pt, chamber -Titanian 250µL chamber 64 -54



netic stirring system that employs high strength. neodymium iron boron magnet to came coastant coupling of the tiny stir bag even at highest speeds. The drive motor

Buik into the chamber

Partille

F0/0525#

FO/CMB

PO/CFC

Part No.

PO/CP2500

F0/CP250P

PO.02840

block is a miniature mag-

The Haske DC10-B3 circulating water bath provides temperature control when attached to the ports on the chamber block. A thermocouple thermometer is recommended to verify chamber block ten-

Summary: Where Are We?

Quantity Volume

Packed Cell Volume Insulin Content Dithizone staining IEQ enumeration Ultrasound Scattering Number of Cells DNA Nuclei Counting

Cell Composition

Dithizone Staining Morphology (Light Microscopy) Ultrastructural Analysis (Electron Microscopy) Differential Staining (Laser Scanning Cytometry)

Viability

Mitochondrial Function

Intact Islets:Redox state of the cell – Tetrazolium salts MTT, MTSOxidative phosphorylation – oxygen consumption rate (OCR)Energetic State – [ATP], [ATP]/[ADP], ATP production rateSingle Cells:Mitochondrial membrane potential (MMP) – Fluorescent dyes JC-1, TMRE

Apoptotic Events

Intact Islets

Magic angle spinning ¹H-NMR spectroscopy Disrupted Islets

Early: Signaling pathway – Caspase activation

Late: Nucleosome DNA fragmentation

Fixed Tissue or Cells

Phosphatidyl serine translocation – Annexin V

DNA fragmentation – TUNEL

Cell Membrane Integrity (Intact Islets)

Live/Dead (Membrane Permeable) Fluorescein Diacetate (FDA)/Propidium Iodide (PI) SYTO 13/Ethidium Bromide (EB) All/Dead - LDS 751/Sytox Orange Dead - Trypan Blue Quantitative assay via Nuclei Counting 7- aminoactinomycin D (7AAD)

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Quantity of Tissue



Nuclei Counting Protocol



Measured versus Calculated Nuclei Concentration



Visual Counting gives slightly high estimate because some fragments are included along with nuclei



Precision of Measurements



 Visual counting and flow cytometry follow approximately Poisson statistics For cells, N=10³, COV ≈ 3 %

 Precision with islets depends on number of islets sampled and pipette tip used
 For 125+ IEQ, COV ≤ 6 %

DNA Content* Per Cell Based on Nuclei Counting

Islet Sources: Rat and fresh human islets from Joslin Diabetes Center Shipped human islets from other centers



*DNA data obtained using CyQUANT dye. Different results obtained using PicoGreen.

Quantity of Tissue



Cell Composition of Human Islet Preparations



	Fraction Islets (%)				N _{Total}	N _{Islets}		IEQ	N _{Islets} =f _L ·N _{Tota}
Preparation	Light f _L	EM f _E	DTZ f _{DTZ}	$\overline{f_{L+E}}$ $\overline{f_{DTZ}}$	10 ⁶	cells	Nuclei Counting	Conventional Method*	IFO= N _{Islets}
1	0.60 ± 0.10	0.49	0.85	0.64	-	-	-	-	2000
2	0.56 ± 0.01	0.62	0.90	0.66	-	-	-	-	
3	0.66 ± 0	0.68	0.80	0.84	-	-	-	-	
4	0.86 ± 0	-	0.95	0.91	10.8	9.3	47,000	100,000	
5	0.64 ± 0.01	-	0.80	0.80	6.4	4.1	21,000	55,000	

* Reported by the isolation center

Quantity of Tissue

Type of Quantity	I issue Assayed	Parameter <u>Measured</u>	Method		
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USPD Reflected Power versus Tissue Concentration



Viability of Tissue

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		aminoactinomycin D

Quantitative Membrane Integrity Protocol



Procedure for Validating New Test



Comparison of 7-AAD Sequential Staining with MTT assay with Islets



Nuclei Counting: Conclusions

Nuclei counting provides rapid, accurate, and precise quantitative measurements that can be used advantageously

1. Nuclei counting can measure the number of cells in an islet preparation. Combination with microscopic observations (Light and/or EM) gives a reliable, quantitative estimate of the number of islet cells (IEQs) in impure islet preparations.

2. Sequential staining of nuclei with 7-AAD before and after cell disruption, followed by nuclei counting with a flow cytometer, provides an estimate of the fraction of cells that have compromised membrane integrity

Viability of Tissue



How Can Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) Be Measured?

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Instech Stirred Chamber for OCR Measurements Schematic Diagram



Water jacketed titanium chamber with fluorescence-quenched O₂ sensor

Characteristics of OCR Measuring Chamber

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Chamber volume (µl):
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MIT	cap 1	200 ± 3, 198 ± 2
	cap 2	177 ± 3, 175 ± 2
Joslin		205 ± 1, 210 ± 3

Stirrer rotational speed:



Temperature equilibration: Complete in 15 seconds

O₂ leakage rate: 0-0.2 mmHg/min mmHg (cap dependent)

Recovery of tissue after OCR measurement: 1.003 ± 0.043

Sensor Calibration: 0 and 160 mmHg

Flow Visualization in Transparent Model





Chamber diameter is about 6 mm Stirring bar length is about 3 mm

Islets suspension is stirred at the minimum speed to suspend the islets

Measurement of Oxygen Consumption Rate



OCR Chamber Troubleshooting

Problems

Suggestions

Bubble Formation

Chipped or defective sealing cap Incomplete filling Low temperature of suspension

Inadequate Passivation

Inadequate Stirring

Decrease in sensor sensitivity

Use undamaged caps (no chipping) Use excess tissue suspension Let tissue suspension warm in chamber before sealing Passivate

Check stirring bar is rotating occasionally

Recoat sensor every 6 months

Reproducibility: Typical Triplicate Measurements with Fresh Samples



Precision of Measurements



Stirring Speed Effects on Islet Membrane Integrity



0 3 6 9 Stirring Speed Setting

Curvature is Indicator of Dying Islets

Measurements made 4 hr after isolation of rat islets



Curvature is Present Immediately After Isolation in Otherwise Viable Islets



Interpretation of Oxygen Consumption Rate Parameters

1. Oxidative Phosphorylation

Glucose +36ADP+ $36P_i$ +36 H⁺+ $6O_2 \rightarrow 6CO_2$ + $42H_2O$ +36ATP ATP Production Rate = 6 x Oxygen Consumption Rate

2. Assume the average OCR per viable cell under standard conditions, 37°C, DMEM, no serum is the same for all islet batches

Parameter	Proportional To	Measure of Amount of good tissue	
OCR	Number of viable cells Volume of viable tissue		
DNA	Number of cells Total tissue volume	Total amount of tissue	
OCR DNA	Viable tissue volume	Quality of the tissue	
OCR/DNA (OCR/DNA) _v	= Fractional Viability		

OCR/cell in Rat Islets



OCR/cell in Human Islets



Distribution of OCR/DNA and Comparison with FDA/PI



Typical Responses to Rat and Porcine Islet Transplants in Diabetic Balb/C Mice (Anti-CD4)



- **A** Blood glucose \leq 100 mg/dl for \geq 7 days-Rapid normalization (1 2 days)
- B Blood glucose 100 200 mg/dl-Some with delayed normalization
- C Blood glucose > 200 mg/dl (usually > 300 mg/dl)

Response to Rat Islet Transplants in Diabetic Balb/C Mice (Anti-CD4)



OCR Measurements Can Predict Transplantation Outcome

Rat islets transplanted into kidney capsule of immunosuppressed diabetic BalbC mice



Response to Human Islet Transplants in Diabetic Immunodeficient Mice Human islets were taken from the highest purity fraction (>90% by DTZ)



Stimulation of OCR by Exogenous Substrates

Stimulated OCR: PBS 37°C after the addition of glucose Basal OCR: PBS 37°C, no glucose

			Stimulated OCR
			Basal OCR
Tissue	Species	n	Glucose 20 mM
Islets	Rat	9	1.58 ± 0.14
	Human	6	1.48 ± 0.13
	Porcine	3	1.49 ± 0.30
Exocrine	Rat	1	1.0
	Human	3	0.90 ± 0.10
	Porcine	2	1.0

Similar measurements in DMEM, no serum

Islets Rat 5 1.16*

* Entire increase occurred between 0 and 3 mM glucose

Stimulation Ratio in Prepared Islet and Exocrine Mixtures

Basal conditions: PBS, 37°C, no exogenous substrates



OCR Measurements with Instech Stirred Chamber

Conclusions

- 1. The Instech stirred tank system provides rapid, accurate, and precise measurement of the OCR of islet preparations.
- It has been used reliably in our laboratory by about 10 technical staff for over 500 measurements with about 100 islet preparations.
- 3. OCR measurements obtained with the Instech system are predictive of transplantation outcome in immunodeficient diabetic mice transplanted with rat islets and high purity (>90% DTZ) human islet preparations.

Schematic Representation of BD OBS Well Containing Islets



From: Wang W, Upshaw L, Strong DM, Robertson RP, and Reems J., "Increased oxygen consumption rates in response to high glucose detected by a novel oxygen biosensor system in non-human primate and human islets," *J. Endocrinology*, **185**, 445-455 (2005).

Development of Oxygen Profiles in BD OBS

250,000 Jurkat cells in 100 μ l of culture medium within an idealized OBS well (OCR/cell = 0.84 fmol/min cell)



Calculation of OCR at steady state

$$OCR = \frac{D \cdot \alpha \cdot A}{L} \cdot (\Delta pO_2)$$

D = Diffusivity of oxygen in water

 α = Bunsen solubility coefficient of oxygen in water

L = Height of liquid

 $\Delta pO_2 = pO_2$ (ambient) - pO_2 (surface, x=0)

Theoretical Prediction of Sensor Oxygen Partial Pressure in Idealized Well

Jurkat cells in 100 μ l of culture medium (OCR/cell = 0.84 fmol/min cell)



OCR Measurement with Human Islets in BD OBS



Comparison of Initial OCR Values Obtained with the Stirred Tank and BD OBS*

OCR (fmol/min cell)

Cell type	Stirred tank	OBS	Ratio
Jurkat (human lymphocyte)	0.84	0.38	2.2
INS-1 (rat insulinoma)	3.0	1.3	2.3
Human islets	5.3	3.0	1.8
100 per test		1.9	2.9

*Approximately followed procedure of Guarino et al., 2004

Why are the Results Different?

Stirred vessel directly measures of oxygen *consumption*

OBS plate directly measures *average pO*₂ at a surface

- Determination of oxygen consumption rate requires use of the integrated form of Fick's law of diffusion applicable at steady state
- Application of Fick's law invokes many assumptions
- Results are only as good as the assumptions that are made

Assumptions Required for OCR Determination with OBS Plate at Steady State

Idealized Well (assumed)

Actual Well



Inner 65% of area read by plate reader

Theoretical Prediction of Sensor Oxygen Partial Pressure in Actual Well

Jurkat cells in 100 μ l of culture medium (OCR/cell = 0.84 fmol/min cell)



Theoretical Prediction of Sensor Oxygen Partial Pressure in Actual Well

Jurkat cells in 100 μ l of culture medium (OCR/cell = 0.84 fmol/min cell)



Computer Simulation of Ideal and Real Wells

100,000 Jurkat cells (doubling time = 1 day) in oxygenated medium placed in each well at time = 0



Transient Response in OBS Well

100,000 Jurkat cells in 100 µl of culture medium 160 Theory assuming real Sensor pO₂ (mm Hg) 150 system Assuming ideal system 140 130 120 110 60 120 180 240 300 0 Time (min)

Transient Response in OBS Well



Transient Response in OBS Well



Computed OCR/cell from pO₂ Values (using Fick's Law)

100,000 Jurkat cells in 100 µl of culture medium



Transient Sensor pO₂ Response Step change from 0 to 160 mm Hg, no cells present



Immobilization of water with 0.5% agarose dramatically reduces the rate of O₂ transport
Comparison of OCR Calculated Various ways using the BD OBS



Comparison of OCR/cell measured with Stirred Tank and BD OBS at Different Total OCR values



OCR estimated from steady-state pO₂ reading for all runs shown

Effect of Glucose Concentration on Islet OCR

All measurements in CMRL, one batch of islets, 5 wells *Procedure of Guarino et al. (2004)

**Continuous reading (20 min)



No OCR stimulation was observed at any glucose concentration in CMRL

Major Findings with BD OBS

- 1. Plate reader-induced mixing leads to high sensor pO_2 and lower estimated OCR.
- 2. High solubility of polystyrene walls and silicone rubber causes long transient period.
- 3. Additional error is incurred by use of a round well instead of a flat well.

Requirements for Accurate OBS Results

Operating conditions, design, and materials that lead to significant nonideal conditions should be eliminated

- 1. Mixing of the liquid in the plate must be avoided
 - movement in the plate reader
 - transport from incubator to plate reader
 - use of agarose may be beneficial

2. If transient data are to be employed, walls should be made of material with much lower O_2 permeability than polystyrene, and the volume of silicone rubber must be reduced. Otherwise, sufficient time must be allotted for the system to reach steady state (quasi-steady state if cells grow).

3. The well geometry should be flat.

4. Sensor pO_2 must be high enough, and/or cell loading must be low enough, so that islet cells do not become oxygen starved

Summary

- 1. Improvement in islet quality assessment requires development of meaningful, quantitative assays.
- 2. Nuclei counting combined with microscopy has promise for accurate enumeration of islets.
- 3. Oxygen consumption rate, which is a measure of oxidative phosphorylation, is a direct measurement of mitochondrial function.
- 4. OCR measurements made with a stirred chamber using the most purified human islet fraction are predictive of transplantation outcome in mice.
- 5. The BD OBS is attractive because of its apparent simplicity, but further improvements are needed to ensure meaningful data.

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Extra Slides

Response to Rat Islet Transplants in Diabetic Balb/C Mice (Anti-CD4)



Response to Human Islet Transplants in Diabetic Immunodeficient Mice

Human islets were taken from the highest purity fraction (>90% by DTZ)

