## **Islet Quality Assessment**

Clark K. Colton

Department of Chemical Engineering Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, MA

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  $\beta$ 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	<ul> <li>Packed cell volume of tissue pellet</li> <li>Ultrasound scattering</li> </ul>
		Islet volume	<ul> <li>Insulin content</li> <li>Dithizone (DTZ) staining Visual counting Enumeration of islet Image analysis equivalents (IEQ)</li> </ul>
Number of Cells	Islet Preparation	Total DNA Total intact cell nuclei	<ul> <li>DNA content</li> <li>Nuclei counting</li> </ul>
Cell Composition	Islet Preparation	Volume fraction islets Individual cell types	<ul> <li>DTZ staining</li> <li>Morphology (light microscopy)</li> <li>Ultrastructural analysis (electron microscopy)</li> </ul>
	Dispersed Cells	Individual cell types	<ul> <li>Differential staining (laser scanning cytometry)</li> </ul>

## 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	∆pO <sub>2</sub> across tissue liquid flow rate	Sensor pO <sub>2</sub> beneath cells	$\begin{array}{c c} \underline{\Delta pO_2} \\ \underline{\Delta t} \end{array} \text{ rate of bulk} \\ pO_2 \text{ decrease} \end{array}$
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	

### How Can Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) be Measured?



### How Can Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) Be Measured?

Hardware	Perfusion Systems	Stagnant Liquid Film	Stirred Tank
Measured Variables	∆pO <sub>2</sub> across tissue liquid flow rate	Sensor pO <sub>2</sub> beneath cells	$\begin{array}{c c} \underline{\Delta pO_2} \\ \underline{\Delta t} \end{array} \text{ rate of bulk} \\ pO_2 \text{ decrease} \end{array}$
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	

### How Can Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) be Measured?



### How Can Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) Be Measured?

Hardware	Perfusion Systems	Stagnant Liquid Film	Stirred Tank
Measured Variables	∆pO <sub>2</sub> across tissue liquid flow rate	Sensor pO <sub>2</sub> beneath cells	$\begin{array}{c c} \underline{\Delta pO_2} \\ \underline{\Delta t} \end{array} \text{ rate of bulk} \\ pO_2 \text{ decrease} \end{array}$
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	



### How Can Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) Be Measured?

Hardware	Perfusion Systems	Stagnant Liquid Film	Stirred Tank
Measured Variables	∆pO <sub>2</sub> across tissue liquid flow rate	Sensor pO <sub>2</sub> beneath cells	$\begin{array}{c c} \underline{\Delta pO_2} \\ \underline{\Delta t} \end{array} \text{ rate of bulk} \\ pO_2 \text{ decrease} \end{array}$
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	

### How C

Hardware

Measured

Variables

Source

#### Micro Oxygen Uptake System

he hutech 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 nample 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

Instach Laboratorius, Inc. - 5249 Militin Hill Bood, Physicald Herring, M. 19442-1216, 854 208-145-1227 - 618-041-0132 - 618-041-0131 fac. - any si astachda fac.org



#### Titanium Fiber Optic Probes



Unit

-

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-sel 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.	Denziptice	Unit
PO/POIZT	262"titan iam fiber spitic probe with alloone overcoat	
F0/90408	400p bits mated fiber bundle with coupler	

Micro Oxygen Uptake System

#### Buik into the chamber block is a miniature magnetic stirring system that employs high strength. neodymium iron boron magnet to came coastant coupling of the tiny stir bag even at highest

Partitle

F0/0525#

FO/CMB

PO/CFC

Part No.

PO/CP2500

F0/CP250P

B0.07250

CO FRS and

P0.0340

PO/CP1404P

PO/CC1408

PO.COM25K

PO/0233

PO.02840

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

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

Description

Dual 250pl. #unium chamber system

Names CC18-38 decalating water bath

The mecouple the momenter

Chamber System Replacement Parts

Titanian 250µL chamber

Titaniam 500µL chamber

Titaniam 1000gl. chamber

Glass covered Smith stirbars

Two channel stirting speed costsolle

Probeneoul Att

Glass plug/valve for 250pt, chamber

Acrylic center-fill plug for 250pt, chamber

Actylic center-fill plug for 580pL chamber

Acrylic center-fill plug for 1800µL chamber

Description



11eè

50

60

-

Unit

50

-

64

-

64

-

plg of 25

plig of 3

- 14

#### System Specifications

214 Hender	
Characele	2
Doitation wavelength	450em
Com a eniorite a	USB (cable induded)
Forwards	12VDC 808Ms wal knownted adapter
Now on any fin	2 AW
Discontions	83/87W x 51/47H x 67D
Weight	19 ku

PO/CE258 Classifier System	
No. of Charabert	3
Overslow material	Titanium
Charabervelane	250pt. Included (500p L and 1000pt. we field
Chamber plage	Glass plug/salve a ractylic centre-fill
Charaber Medkrasterial	Nickel-Telle a coated al antinum
Weierbathparts	PttS/16" IDTygon
Siring	integral mets s/magnet assembly
Stiring quest or steel	Model 2000 dual speed controller

Natorial of acordio	Titanium
Riber	Crasted 600µ
An www.amce.peak	600am
OD of a sedimention	0.0625*
Long & of needle rection	125'
Coervection	SMA
Dyranic mage	0-41.7 ppm (1-761 mmHg)
lepoze ine	33-50 and
September 1 ppm	0.005 ppm
Beachtrion # 8.5 ppm	0.02 ppm
Septution # 40 ppm	02 ppm
Duit	<000 ppm per day

#### reasons of a linear state and

to an an an and a set of					
Асальсу	±002°C				
Volence	31.				
lange (roccooling)	35 - 109°C				
Range (top water or elling)	20 - 100°C				
Weight	16 ku				

INSTECH

Commercially Available from Instech Labs

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

In stack Laboratories, Inc. - 5209 Militia Hill Read, Hymeuth Masting, PA 19462-1216, USA 405-413-4227 - 610-411-4132 - 610-911-0134 fax - www.in.tech.bbc.com

#### NSTECH



Pros

research tool not for routine use accuracy is questionable limited experience

\_\_\_\_ lable) \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

sive

ase

gen

### 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 <sup>1</sup>H-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)

### 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)<br/>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 <sup>1</sup>H-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 Quatitative assay via Nuclei Counting 7- aminoactinomycin D (7AAD)

### **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=10<sup>3</sup>, 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**



-	Fra	Fraction Islets (%) N <sub>Total</sub> N <sub>Islets</sub> IEQ		N <sub>Islets</sub> =f <sub>L</sub> · N <sub>Total</sub>					
Preparation	Light f <sub>L</sub>	EM f <sub>E</sub>	DTZ f <sub>DTZ</sub>	$\frac{\overline{f_{L+E}}}{\overline{f_{DTZ}}}$	10 <sup>6</sup>	cells	Nuclei Counting	Conventional Method*	$IEQ = \frac{N_{Islets}}{2000}$
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	Tissue Assayed	Parameter Measured	Method	
Volume	Islet Preparation	Tissue volume	<ul> <li>Packed cell volume of tissue pellet</li> <li>Ultrasound scattering</li> </ul>	
		Islet volume	<ul> <li>Insulin content</li> <li>Dithizone (DTZ) staining Visual counting Enumeration of islet Image analysis equivalents (IEQ)</li> </ul>	



### USPD Reflected Power versus Tissue Concentration



## 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-	
		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?

Hardware	Perfusion Systems	Stagnant Liquid Film	Stirred Tank
Measured Variables	∆pO <sub>2</sub> across tissue liquid flow rate	Sensor pO <sub>2</sub> beneath cells	$\begin{array}{c c} \underline{\Delta pO_2} \\ \underline{\Delta t} \end{array} \text{ rate of bulk} \\ pO_2 \text{ decrease} \end{array}$
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	
Instech Stirred Chamber for OCR Measurements Schematic Diagram



Water jacketed titanium chamber with fluorescence-quenched O<sub>2</sub> sensor

## **Characteristics of OCR Measuring Chamber**

```
Chamber volume (µl):
```

MIT cap	1 20	0 ± 3, 198 ± 2
cap	2 17	7 ± 3, 175 ± 2
Joslin	20	5 ± 1, 210 ± 3

Stirrer rotational speed:



Temperature equilibration: Complete in 15 seconds

O<sub>2</sub> 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<sup>+</sup>+  $6O_2 \rightarrow 6CO_2$ +  $42H_2O$ +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	
OCR	Number of viable cells Volume of viable tissue	Amount of good 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) <sub>v</sub>	= 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	$1.49 \pm 0.30$	
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  $\mu$ 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

 $\alpha$  = 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  $\mu$ 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 50 per test	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*<sub>2</sub> 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  $\mu$ 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  $\mu$ 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 pO<sub>2</sub> (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 pO<sub>2</sub> Values (using Fick's Law)

100,000 Jurkat cells in 100 μl of culture medium



#### Transient Sensor pO<sub>2</sub> Response Step change from 0 to 160 mm Hg, no cells present



Immobilization of water with 0.5% agarose dramatically reduces the rate of O<sub>2</sub> 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 pO<sub>2</sub> 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.

# Acknowledgements

#### **MIT/University of Minnesota**

Klearchos K. Papas

#### MIT

Anna Pisania Daryl E. Powers Michael J. Rappel Haiyan Wu Efstathios S. Avgoustiniatos Amy S. Lewis

#### **Massachusetts General Hospital**

Maria Koulmanda Hugh Auchincloss Andy Kipo

#### University of Minnesota

Bernhard J. Hering

#### **Joslin Diabetes Center**

Susan Bonner-Weir Gordon Weir Abdulkadir Omer Vaja Tchipasvilli Gaurav Chandra Christopher Cahill

Becton Dickson Mark Timmins

NIH Grants: 1 R43-DK063727-01 Prodyne R01-DK063108-01A1 NCRR ICR U4Z 16606 NIDDK SBIR Contract N44-DK-3-2535 Giner, Inc JDRF Center for Islet Transplantation at Harvard Medical School

# **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)

