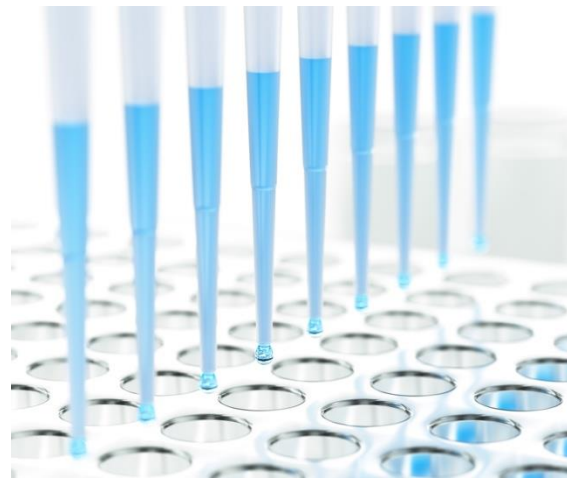
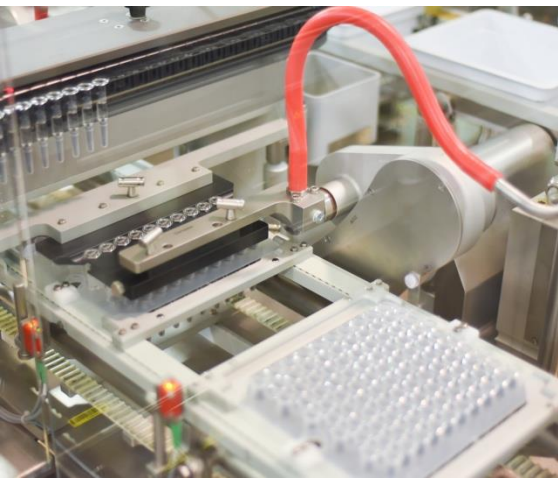




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Automating Cell- Based Assays: Reducing Variability & Time to Results



LUKE MERCER
MANAGER, BIOASSAYS

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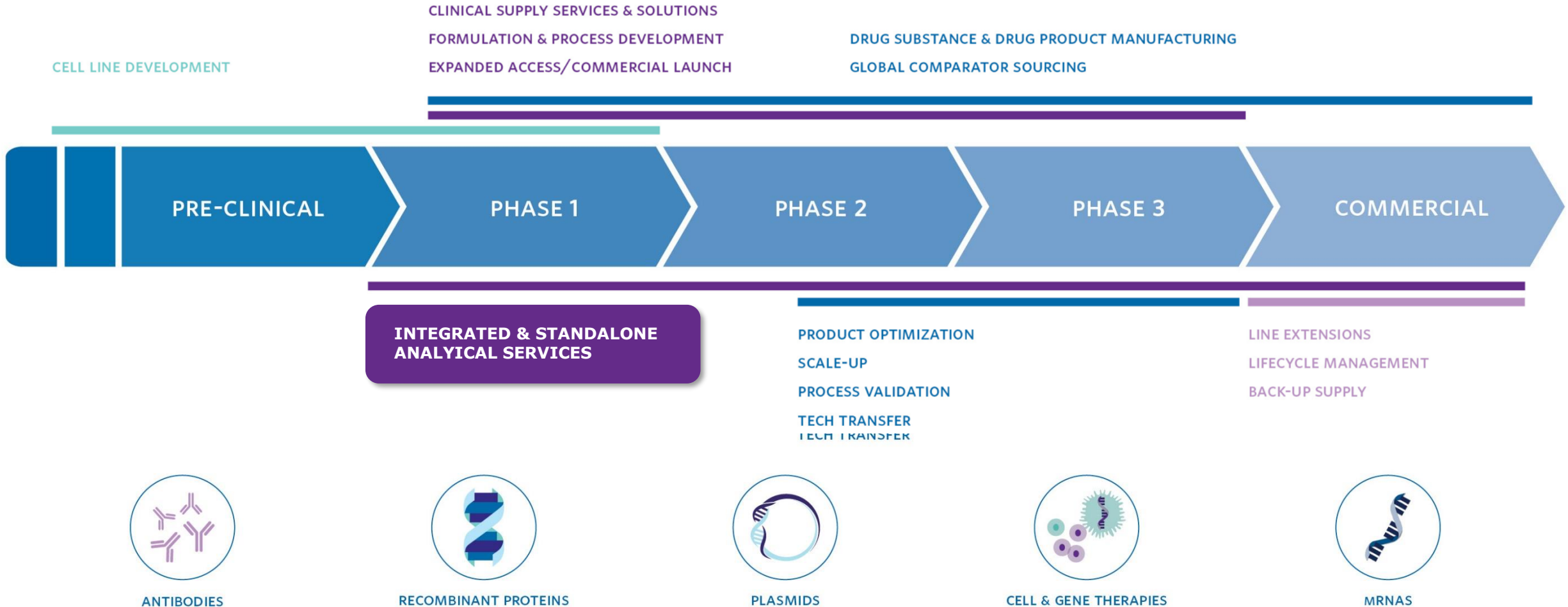
AGENDA

- 1 Introduction To Catalent**
- 2 Cell-Based Assays
Variability and Automation
- 3 HEK293 Potency Assay
- 4 Conclusion



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INTEGRATED & STANDALONE CDMO SOLUTIONS TO ACCELERATE YOUR BIOLOGIC TO MARKET



Biologics Analytical Services

Single Source for Integrated & Standalone Capabilities

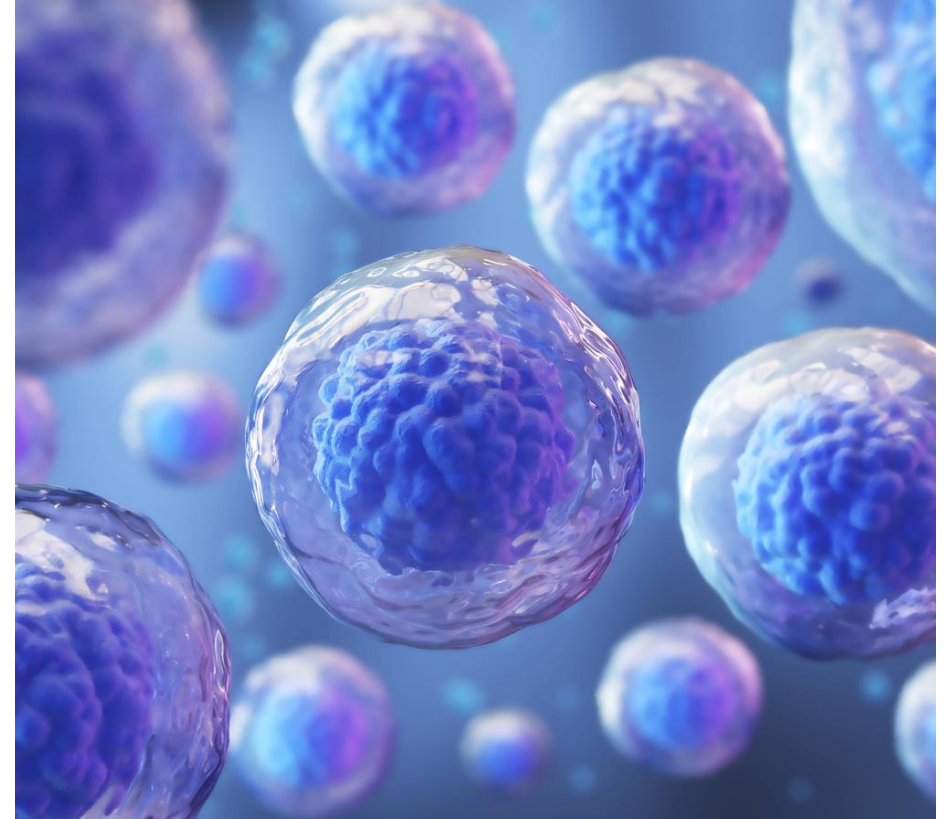
GMP Analytical Services

- Method development, transfer & optimization
- Phase-appropriate validation
- In-process, release & stability testing
- Binding & cell-based assays
- Extractables & leachables

GLP Support for Clinical Studies

Experience with broad classes of large molecules:

- Monoclonal, polyclonal & bispecific antibodies
- Bioconjugates & ADCs
- Oligonucleotides
- Recombinant proteins
- Fusion proteins
- Pegylated peptides
- Cell and gene therapies
- Aptamers
- Vaccines
- Oligosaccharides



225+ scientists
across the sites

100,000+ ft³ of
stability chambers

800+ assays/
techniques offered

300+ client
programs supported

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Cell-Based Potency Assays



Critical to show biological activity

High potential for variability

Time consuming setup and low sample throughput

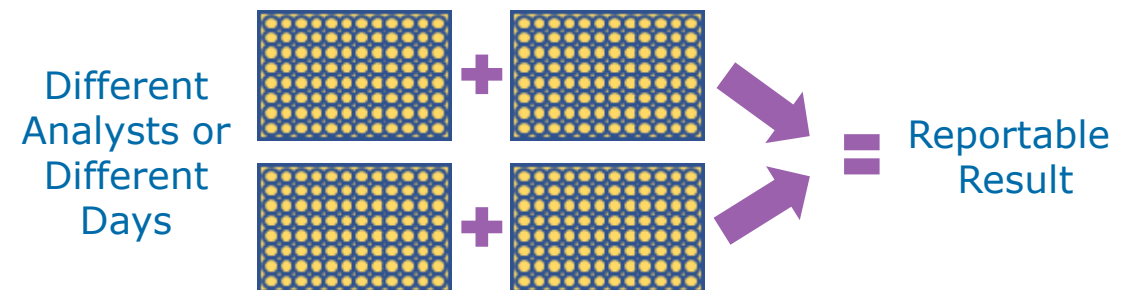
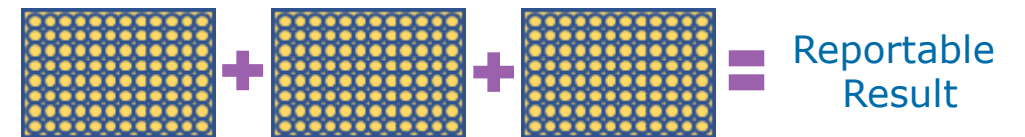
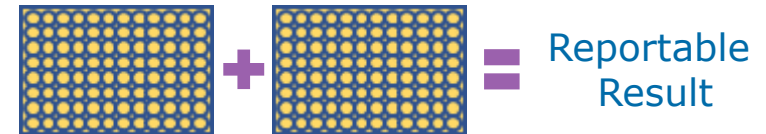
Cell-Based Potency Assays

Biological systems can result in significant variability

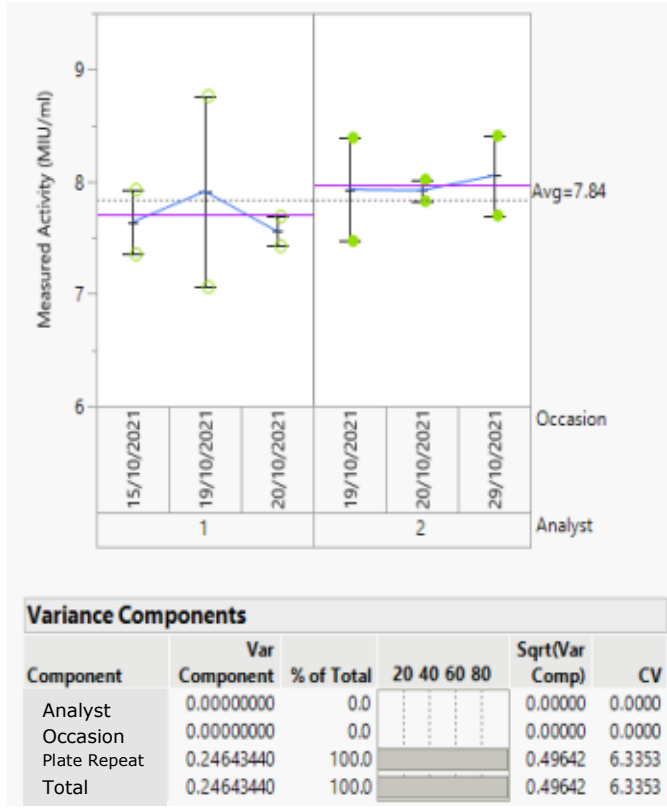
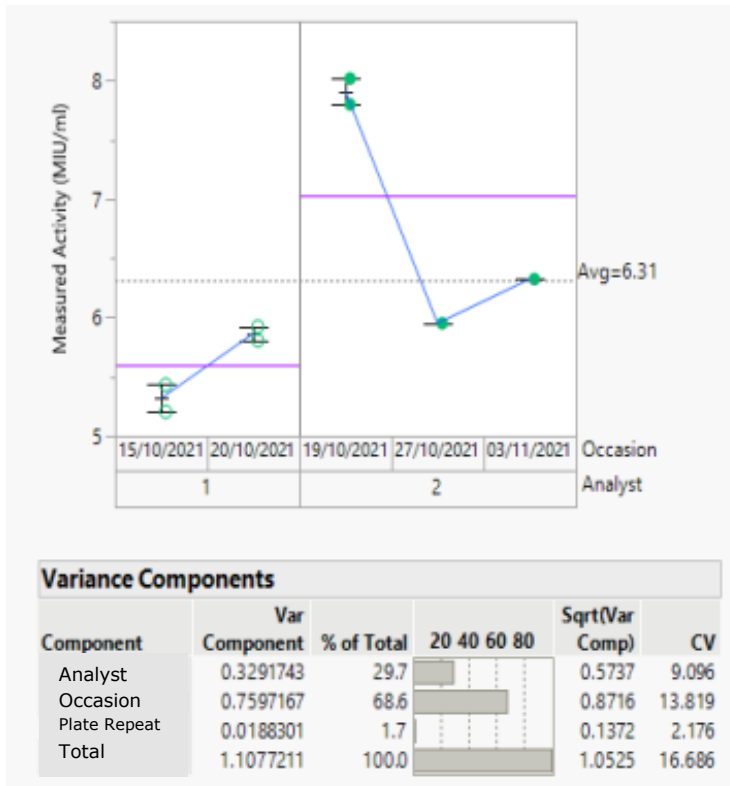
Ways to manage variability

- Properly written method
- Analyst training
- Tight control of cells
- Replication of reference and sample
- Plate replication
- Automation

Plate Replication Examples



Examples of Variability in Bioassays



- Shift in results between analysts
- Variability with test occasion
- Plate replicates within assay are close

- Analysts get similar results
- Test occasion does not change results
- Plate replicates show significant variability

Automation Advantages - Improved Safety and Efficiency

Automation of lab processes makes our workforce more efficient

- Allows analysts to multitask by reducing the time devoted to a single assay
- Hands on time reduced significantly
- Reduced ergonomic risk

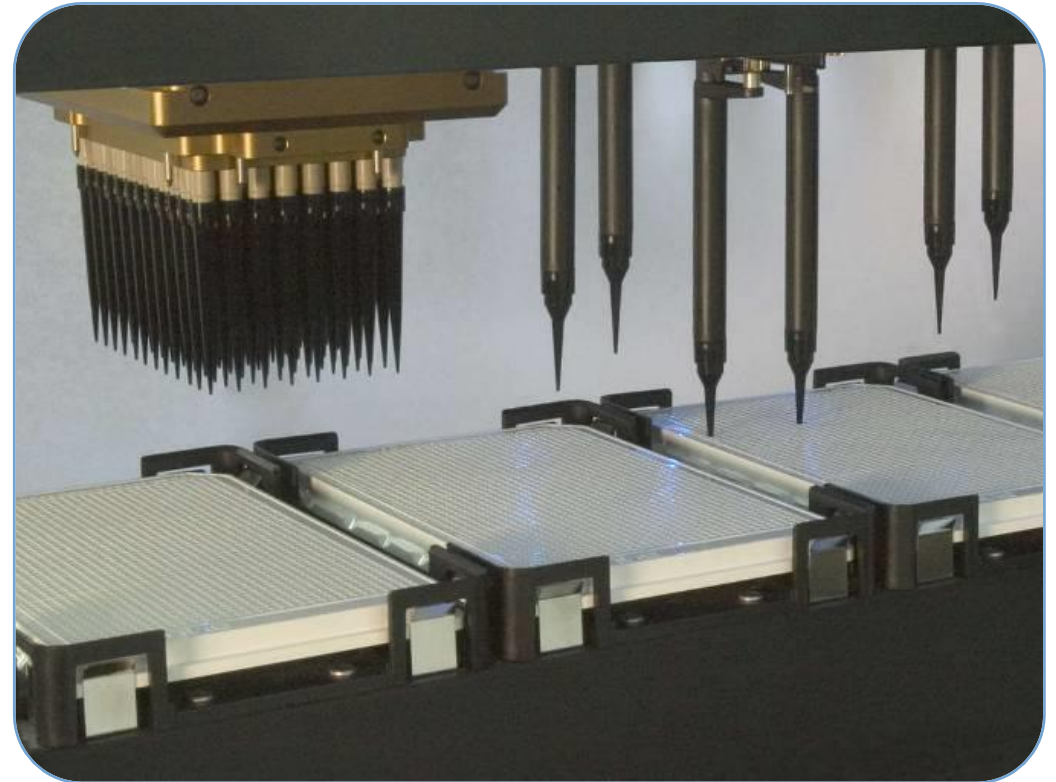
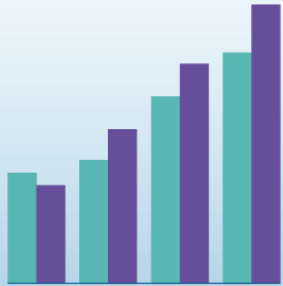


Image used with permission from Hamilton

Automated Advantages - Reliable, Accurate, and Precise



- Removes person-to-person and day-to-day variability
 - Does not get fatigued or distracted
-
- Reduces assay development time
 - Faster turnaround time
-
- Consistent performance
 - Increased reproducibility

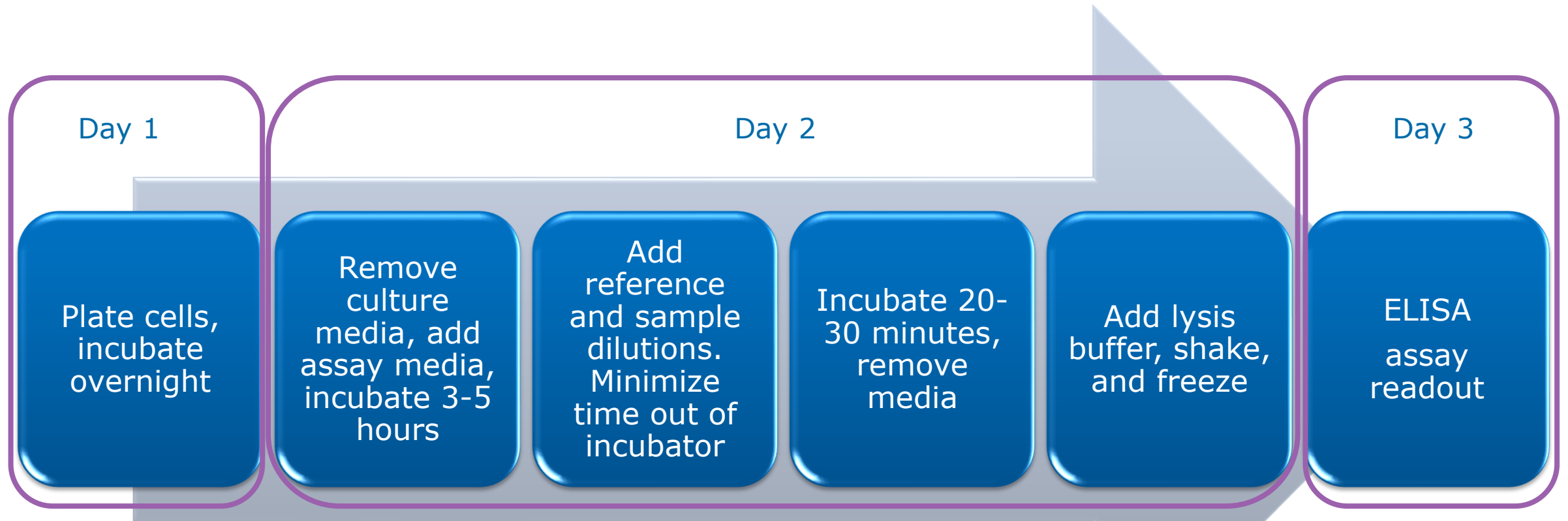
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HEK293 Cell-Based Assay



HEK293 Cell-Based Assay

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A												
B	CNTL	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	CNTL
C	CNTL	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	CNTL
D	CNTL	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	CNTL
E	CNTL	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	CNTL
F	CNTL	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	CNTL
G	CNTL	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	CNTL
H												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A												
B	CNTL	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	CNTL
C	CNTL	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	CNTL
D	CNTL	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	CNTL
E	CNTL	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	CNTL
F	CNTL	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	Ref	CNTL
G	CNTL	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	Sam	CNTL
H												

- Two plate assay – 1 sample
- 3 10-point serial dilutions per plate
- Varied sample and reference pattern

Assay Challenges

Complete media removal twice

Three additions to all wells

Speed needed - minimize time out of incubator

Step with 20-30 minute incubation limits number of plates

HEK293 Cell-based Assay: What Have We Found With This Assay

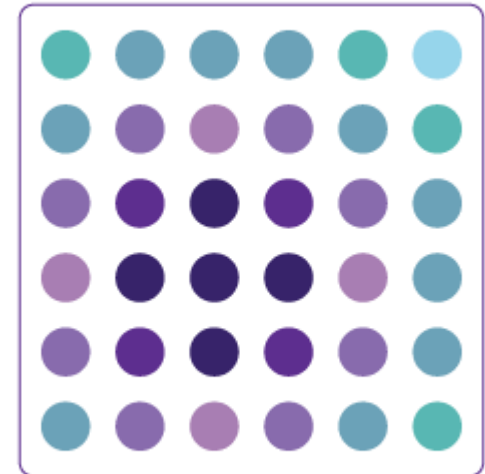
Complex processing and short incubation times limit setup to 4 plates (2 samples)

Multiple aspirate and dispense steps along with semi-adherence of HEK293 cells can lead to variability due to cell loss

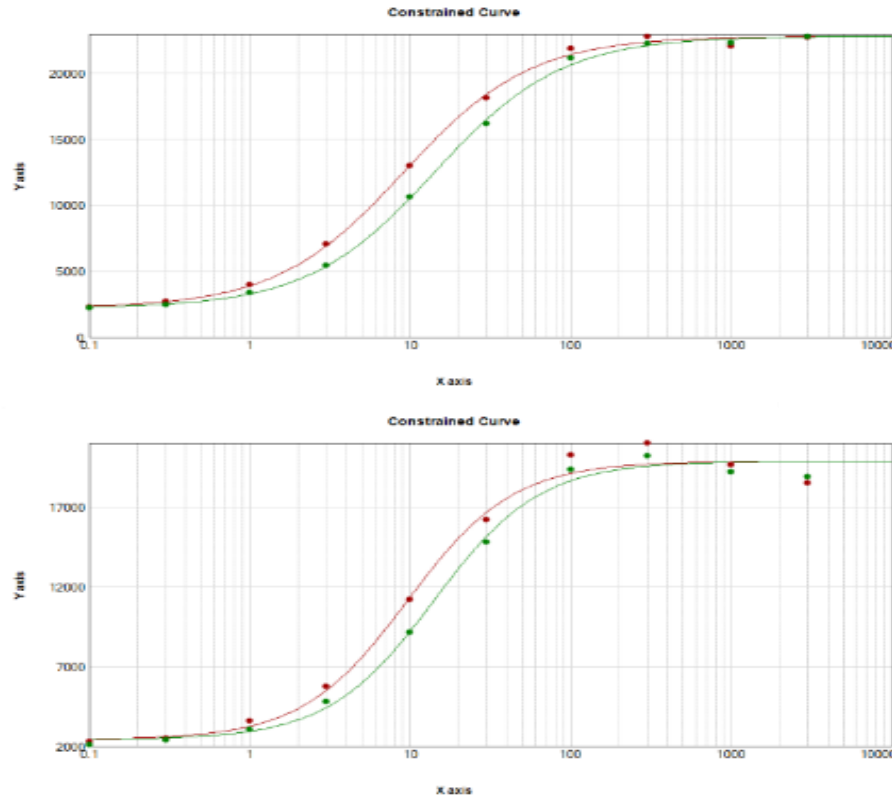
Analysts require significant training to be able to perform

Most common assay failure is high CV between the replicate plates

Following cell-based portion analyst performs ELISAs on all plates

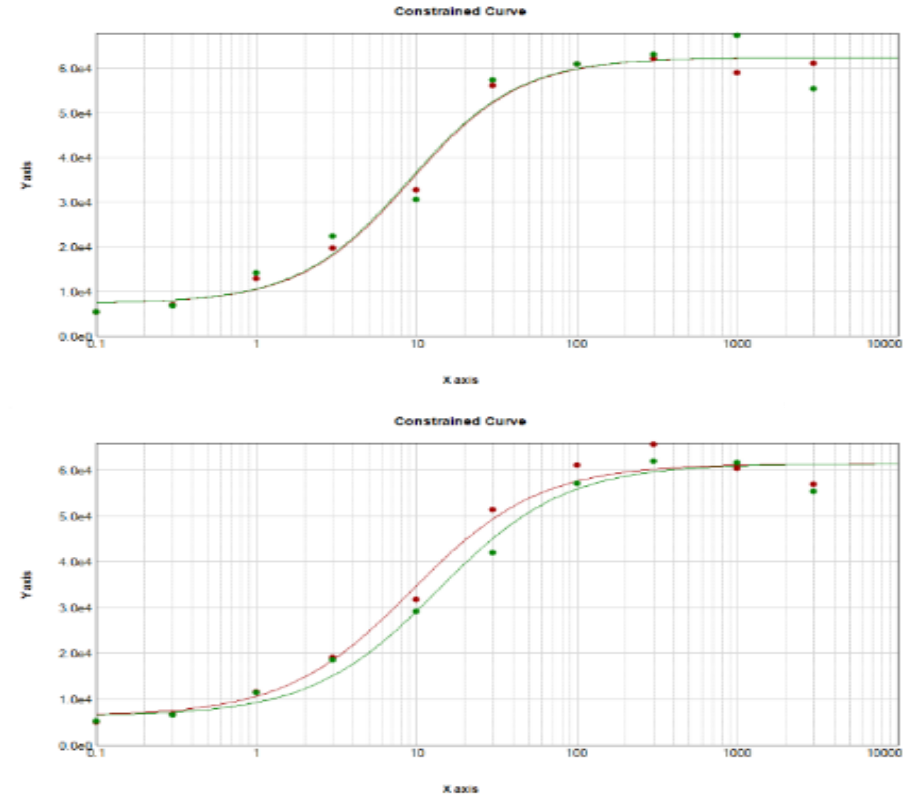


HEK293 Cell-Based Assay



Both plates were run at a nominal potency of 60%.
Relative potencies for Plate 1 and Plate 2 were **64.2%** and **68.5%**, respectively.

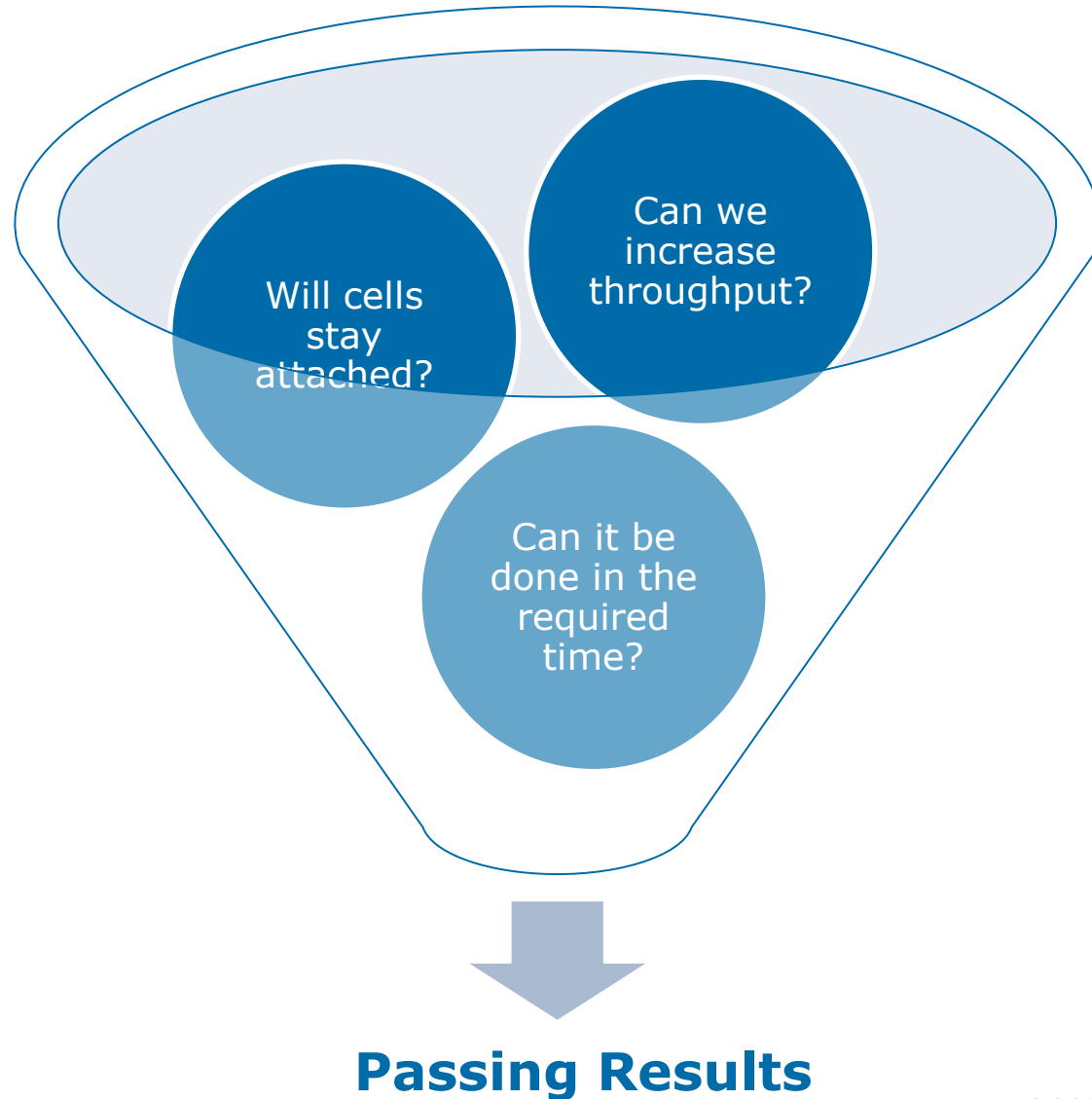
Reportable value: **66.4**
SD: **3.0**
%CV between RPs: **4.6**



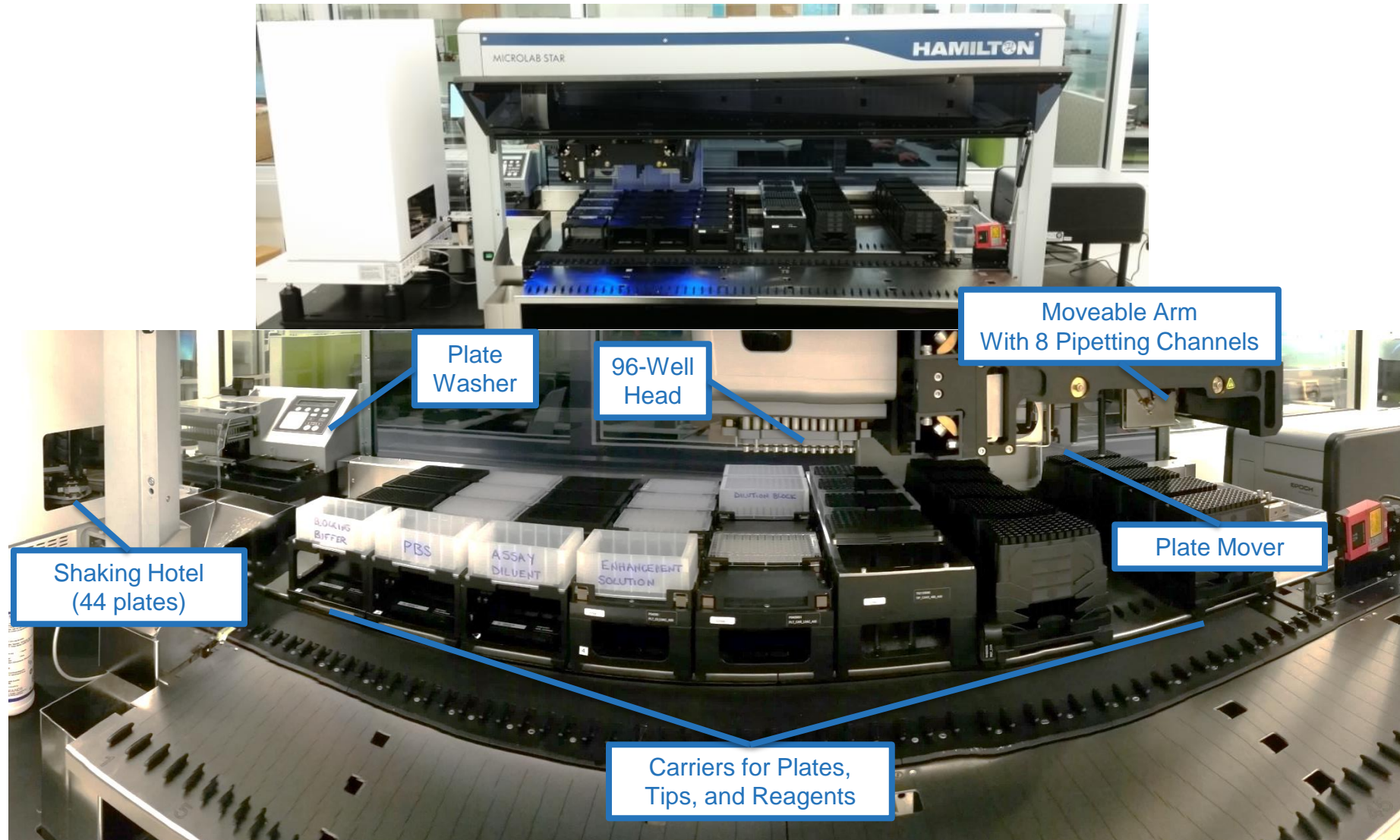
Both plates were run at a nominal potency of 100%.
Relative potencies for Plate 1 and Plate 2 were **102.6%** and **69.0%**, respectively.

Reportable value: **85.8**
SD: **27.8**
%CV between RPs: **27.7**

Can We Automate This Assay?



The Bioassay Robot – HAMILTON® Microlab STAR™



Automating the Assay – Build the Deck



Labware

Carriers

Location

Automating the Assay – Setup the Steps

Same process as running yourself; you just don't think about many of the steps anymore

Method Step

Transfer 100 uL from Tube A to well A01 of plate 1

Put tip on pipette

Put tip into Tube A and aspirate 100 uL

Move pipette & put tip in well A01 of plate 1 and dispense

Eject tip in waste container

Transfers, dilutions, mix, move plates, loops, timers, etc.

Automating the Assay – Simulations and Water Runs

Simulation Runs

Aspirate more volume than tips allows

Too much volume in wells

No tips or already have tips

Moving labware where something already is



Water Runs

Add water to plates, tubes, reservoirs to volumes according to method

Are steps at proper location?

How long do steps take?



Double check volumes for all pipetting steps

Automating the Assay – Assay

Run the assay and adjust

Are aspirate/dispense speeds appropriate?

What height should we aspirate/dispense?

Should we aspirate/dispense in the center of well or offset?

Is there enough time to process the plates?

Automating the Assay – Lessons Learned

1. Initial media change manually and start incubation

2. Reference and Sample dilutions

- Formulation has some viscosity - reduce aspirate/dispense speeds, minimize depth of tips in liquid, follow liquid level

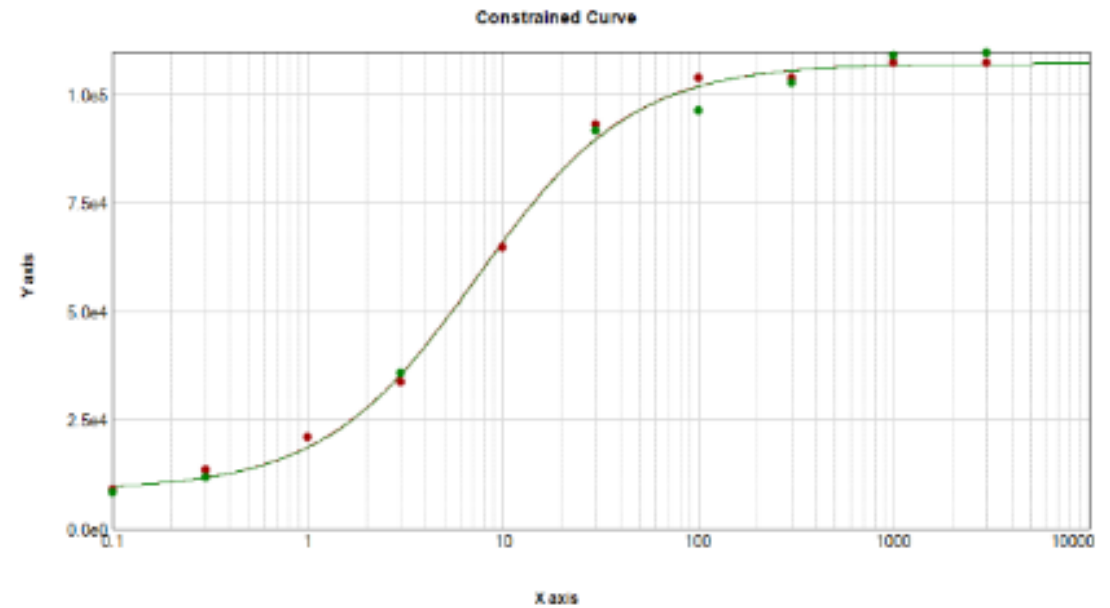
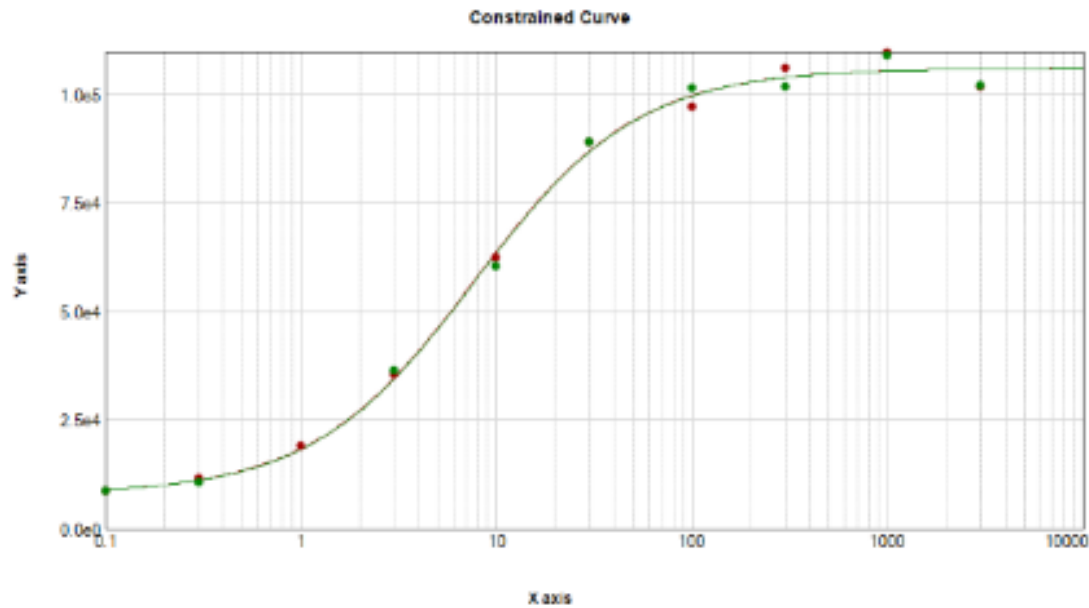
3. Cell plates

- Disruption of cells – reduce aspirate/dispense speeds, moved pipetting close to edge of wells

4. Throughput

- Set up 8 plates and start 3-5 hour step, after 3 hours process 4 and then process second 4 plates

HAMILTON® Microlab STAR™ Assay Run



Both plates were run at a nominal potency of 100%. Relative potencies for Plate 1 and Plate 2 were **98.6%** and **98.8%**, respectively.

Reportable value: **98.7**

SD: **0.1**

%CV between RPs: **0.1**

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Bioassay Automation Summary

Overview

- Advantages: safety, performance, quality

Comparisons

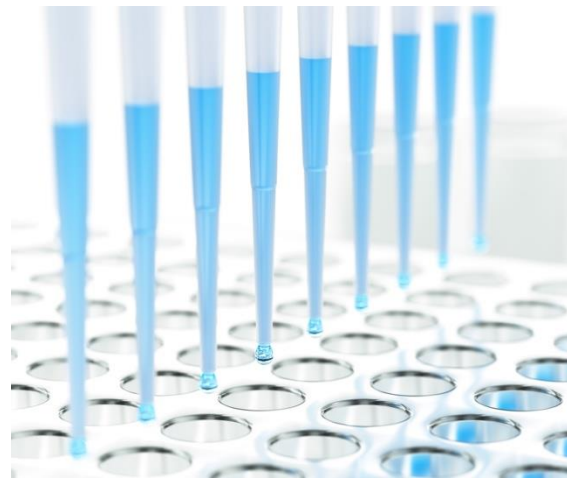
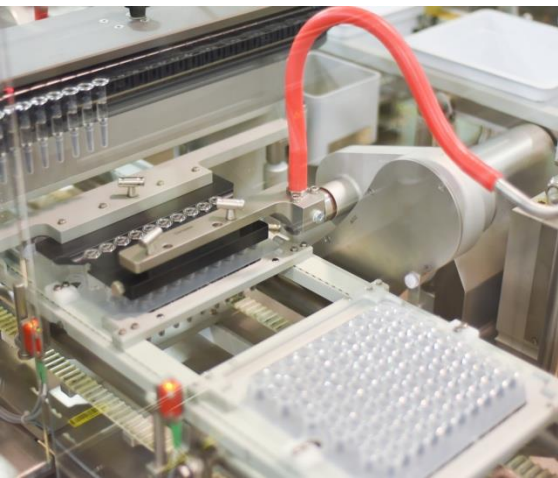
- Manual vs. automation

Adapting to automated

- Complex steps possible



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**THANK YOU
STOP BY BOOTH 24**



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