

Eckert & Ziegler ¹¹C Modular-Lab Chemistry Solution

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Introduction

The Eckert and Ziegler (E&Z) ¹¹C Modular-Lab Chemistry Solution comprises Methyl Iodide/Methyl Triflate (Mel/MeOTf) system, Methylation system and HPLC system for the synthesis and purification of ¹¹C-labeled radiopharmaceuticals. Consumable products include PharmTracer cassettes for use with the Methylation system.

The table below shows a list of ¹¹C-labeled intermediates and compounds that can be synthesized using the Modular-Lab Chemistry Solution. The systems that are required for the synthesis of each compound are indicated.

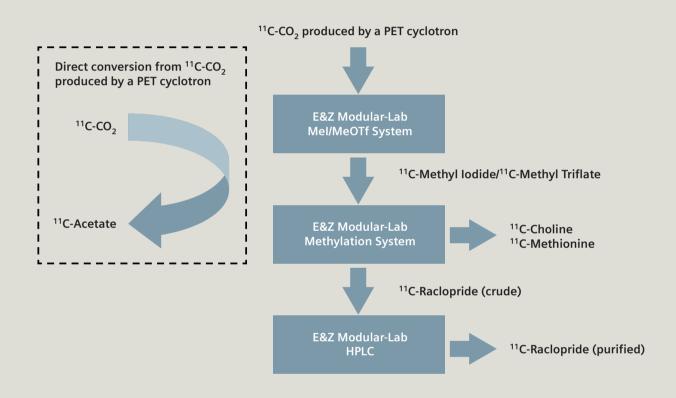
The entire E&Z ¹¹C Modular-Lab Chemistry Solution can either be installed in a single hot cell or in two mini-cells with the Modular-Lab Mel/MeOTf in one mini-cell and the Modular-Lab Methylation system and High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) system in a second mini-cell.

Biomarker*	Mel/MeOTf system	Methylation cassette system	HPLC system
¹¹ C-Methyl lodide	✓		
¹¹ C-Methyl Triflate	✓		
¹¹ C-Methionine	✓	✓	
¹¹ C-Choline	✓	✓	
¹¹ C-Acetate	✓	√	
¹¹ C-Raclopride	✓	✓	✓

^{*} These agents are not approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for routine clinical use. Check with other regulatory authorities for marketing status outside the US.

Background

The PET radioisotope ${}^{11}\text{C}$ is characterized by its relatively short half life (~20 minutes), which provides the advantage of being used for the synthesis of many short-lived imaging biomarkers, but also has a long enough half-life to support the synthesis of radiopharmaceuticals that require multiple steps. The process flow for the synthesis of various ${}^{11}\text{C}$ -labeled intermediates and compounds are depicted graphically in the schematic. The first step in the process involves the production of ${}^{11}\text{C}$ -CO₂ in a PET cyclotron using ${}^{14}\text{N}$ -N₂ gas as the starting material and the ${}^{14}\text{N}$ (p, α) ${}^{11}\text{C}$ reaction.



In the next step, ¹¹C-Methyl lodide or ¹¹C-Methyl Triflate is synthesized from ¹¹C-CO₂ produced by the cyclotron using the E&Z Modular-Lab Mel/MeOTf system. ¹¹C-Methyl lodide and ¹¹C-Methyl Triflate are the most important and frequently used secondary ¹¹C-labeling precursor used for the synthesis of a variety of compounds. Their versatility allows the synthesis of a broad variety of biologically relevant PET radiopharmaceuticals including ¹¹C-Methionine, ¹¹C-Choline and ¹¹C-Raclopride using the E&Z Modular-Lab Methylation system in the third step of the process. The crude ¹¹C-Raclopride produced is purified further in the final step of the process using the E&Z Modular-Lab HPLC system.

The E&Z Modular-Lab Methylation system can also be used for the synthesis of 11 C-Acetate directly from 11 C-CO₂ (11 C-CO₂ is trapped by Mel/MeOTf system) produced by a PET cyclotron.



E&Z Modular-Lab MeI/MeOTf System Product Description

¹¹C-Methyl lodide and ¹¹C-Methyl Triflate can be easily produced with the fully automated Modular-Lab synthesis device. The synthesis occurs via a gas-phase* approach that results in the production of labeled compounds with high radiochemical yield and specific activity.

The ¹¹C-CO₂ produced by the cyclotron is reversibly adsorbed to molecular sieves. After controlled release via heating, the adsorbed ¹¹C-CO₂ is converted into ¹¹C-Methane by hydrogenation of ¹¹C-CO₂ in a palladium oven. The resulting ¹¹C-Methane is then adsorbed and processed to ¹¹C-Methyl Bromide, which can be converted to ¹¹C-Methyl lodide using a sodium iodide oven or ¹¹C-Methyl Triflate using a silver triflate oven. The resulting products, ¹¹C-Methyl lodide or ¹¹C-Methyl Triflate, are then available for tracer synthesis.

Key features

- Fully automated synthesis process with no user intervention necessary
- Fully automated cleaning routine after each process to help ensure minimum chemical contamination of the system
- Traceability of the complete process, including documentation of all process parameters and functions
- Short synthesis and pre-preparation time
- Turnaround time between successive batches of ¹¹C-Methyl lodide: 20 to 30 minutes
- Computer for system control
- Modular-Lab Software Professional GMP, GAMP5 and 21 CFR part 11 compliant
- Trapping of ¹¹C-CO₂ and controlled release for ¹¹C-Acetate

Benefits

- Higher yields and higher specific activity compared to the liquid-phase method
- Multiple batches (>6 runs per day) without need for apparatus replacement or setup
- No liquid nitrogen necessary for the process
- No air and moisture sensitive chemicals necessary

Onsite installation and training are provided by Eckert & Ziegler.

^{*}The gas-phase ¹¹C-Methyl lodide setup was developed and validated in close cooperation with Bruce H. Mock Ph.D., Associate Professor of Radiology at Indiana University (USA).



E&Z Modular-Lab Methylation System Product Description

The Modular-Lab Methylation system that is based upon the Modular-Lab PharmTracer synthesis technology allows for the easy and fully automated synthesis of ¹¹C-Methionine, ¹¹C-Choline, ¹¹C-Acetate and ¹¹C-Raclopride, as well as other radiopharmaceuticals, using disposable single-use cassettes. These cassettes guarantee a sterile fluid path and eliminate cross-contamination.

Key features

Modular-Lab Methylation system features

- Modular-Lab PharmTracer system 4 fold cassette
- Heater module (Max 220°C + with air cooling)
- Syringe module with holder for 20 ml BD syringe
- Activity detector plug (activity max 5-Ci)
- Operates off the same computer as Mel/MeOTf system

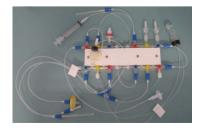
Onsite installation and training are provided by Eckert & Ziegler.

Modular-Lab PharmTracer cassettes

- Cassettes are assembled under GMPcompliant clean room conditions, sterilized with gamma-radiation and double vacuumpacked.
- All consumables used are chemical resistant and have been tested for their suitability with the specific syntheses. All materials are free of animal-derived ingredients.
- A shelf life of 12 months can be guaranteed. Due to the cassettes one-time use, no reconditioning and cleaning or sanitation routines are necessary.
- Sterile cassettes are available for ¹¹C-Choline, ¹¹C-Methione, ¹¹C-Raclopride and ¹¹C-Acetate

A vacuum-packed cassette unit consists of three components:

- Bag A with sterile cassette
- Bag B with sterile vials
- Bag C with sterile accessories (syringes, needles, etc.)







Bag A Bag B

Bag C



E&Z Modular-Lab HPLC System Product Description

The Modular-Lab HPLC system is designed to purify the reaction product of a radiopharmaceutical synthesis by semi-preparative HPLC (needed for ¹¹C-Raclopride). The system comprises integrated parts that include injection valve, a sample loop, a fluid detector and an activity detector.

Key features

- Knauer HPLC pump (10 ml pump head)
- Knauer HPLC UV-Detector (fixed wavelength)
- Analytical Flow Cell
- Operates off the same computer as Mel/MeOTf system

Onsite installation and training are provided by Eckert & Ziegler.

E&Z ¹¹C Modular-Lab Chemistry Solution

Synthesis Time

System Specifications

Compound	(minutes)	Corrected Yield	Yield	Purity	
¹¹ C-Methyl Iodide*	15	>67%	>40%	>95%	
¹¹ C-Methyl Triflate*	15	>60%	>30%	>95%	
¹¹ C-L-Methionine [†]	25	>35%	>21%	>95%	
¹¹ C-Choline [†]	25	>61%	>26%	>98%	
¹¹ C-Raclopride	35 + 20 min HPLC purification	>10%	>5%	>85%	
¹¹ C-Acetate*	17	>57%	>27%	>95%	
Modular-Lab Mel/MeOTf System					
Dimensions					
Product Dimensions	19.7 in (50 cm) wide \times 20.1 in (51 cm) high \times 19.7 in (50 cm) deep				
External support equipment					
Electrical Cabinet	11.8 in (30 cm) wide \times 15.7 in (40 cm) high \times 7.9 in (20 cm) deep; 11.8 in (30 cm) clearance at front, 5.9 in (15 cm) clearance above				
Heat Exchanger	10.2 in (26 cm) wide \times 14.6 in (37 cm) high \times 14.2 in (36 cm) deep; 5.9 in (15 cm) clearance at back; should not be installed more than 1 meter height difference from system				
Power Supply	115 or 230 VAC, 1000 W				
Modular-Lab Methylation System and Modular-Lab HPLC System					
Dimensions					
Product Dimensions	15.7 in (40 cm) wide \times 18.5 in (47 cm) high \times 14.6 in (37 cm) deep				
External support equipment (only with HPLC System)					
HPLC Pump	4.7 in (12 cm) wide \times 3.9 in (10 cm) high \times 8.7 in (22 cm) deep				
UV Detector	8.9 in (22.6 cm) wide \times 16.1 in (41 cm) high \times 5.3 in (13.5 cm) deep, 6 kg				

Decay

Uncorrected

Radiochemical

All modules are supplied with a one year manufacturer's warranty from Eckert & Ziegler.

115 or 230 VAC, 1000 W

Service and support are provided by Eckert & Ziegler.

Power Supply

Extended service contracts and additional consumables such as the synthesis cassettes can be purchased from Eckert & Ziegler.

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