

## **Drosophila S2 cells - a transfection protocol**

S2 cells were maintained in Schneider's medium with 5% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum. Transfections were performed by using INSECTOGENE according to supplier's recommendations. Following incubation for 24 hours at 25°C, cells were heat shocked at 37°C for 1 hour and incubated for additional 24 hours incubation at 25°C. The  $\beta$ -galactosidase activity was evaluated with ONPG assay. All transfections were performed in duplicate in at least three independent experiments.

Transfection efficiency ranged from 5% to 10%.