

## REFERENCE SPECTRA OF THE PROBES

Figure 1. Examples of fluorescence emission spectra of AChR, PyPC and NBD-Chol.

Total lipid concentration and lipid to protein molar ratio (in the AChR-containing liposomes) were 40  $\mu$ M and 500:1, respectively. Temperature = 25°C.

Conditions of spectra.

1 - AChR (0.08  $\mu$ M; Ex. 290 nm) in DOPA/DOPC/NBD-Chol (20:40:40).

2 - PyPC (2  $\mu$ M; Ex. 340 nm) in pure DOPC. The almost imperceptible excimer band is due to the homogeneous distribution of the probe in this lipid fluid system (transition temperature: -20°C). Thus, the “apparent” concentration of the probe is low.

3 - PyPC (2  $\mu$ M; Ex. 340 nm) in pure DPPC. The excimer band is more evident due to the formation of probe-enriched domains laterally segregated from the gel phase of DPPC (transition temperature: 41°C). There is an augmented “apparent” concentration of the probe reported by the excimer formation.

4 - PyPC (2  $\mu$ M; Ex. 290 nm) in DOPA/DOPC/NBD-Chol (30:30:40), showing the sum of the PyPC excimer and NBD-Chol emission bands (by FRET), beyond ~ 434 nm.

5 - NBD-Chol (16  $\mu$ M; Ex. 478 nm) in DOPA/DOPC/NBD-Chol (30:30:40).

