The cell line is seeded into the two plates, after which it incubates until time $t'_1$, which usually is 24 hours after.

The measured absorbance is proportional to the average cell count throughout incubation time with MTS. Thus, the centre of this time interval is used, i.e. $t_1 = t'_1 + \frac{t_{inc}}{2}$.

The MTS assay is added to plate 2. For the screens NC160, JFCR-39, and the current B-Cell this is 48 hours after the addition of drug, whereas it is 72 hours after for the screen CMT1000.

Plate 2 incubates for $t_{inc}$ hours, after which the cell count is determined colourmetrically.