

Sep 16, 2024

## Brain infiltrating leukocytes (BILs) extraction

DOI

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.n2bvjnmzbgk5/v1>

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**Protocol Citation:** Alexandra Kazanova, Nathalia Oliveira, samantha.gruenheid 2024. Brain infiltrating leukocytes (BILs) extraction. **protocols.io** <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.n2bvjnmzbgk5/v1>

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**Protocol status:** Working

**We use this protocol and it's working**

**Created:** September 11, 2024

**Last Modified:** September 17, 2024

**Protocol Integer ID:** 107439

**Keywords:** ASAPCRN, extraction of brain, infiltrating leukocyte, extraction, bil, extraction this protocol detail, brain

**Funders Acknowledgements:**

Aligning Science Across Parkinson's (ASAP)

Grant ID: ASAP 000525

## Abstract

This protocol details the extraction of brain infiltrating leukocytes (BILs).



## Materials

### Reagents:

- RPMI 1640 Medium, GlutaMAX<sup>®</sup>; Supplement **Thermo Fisher Catalog #61870036**
- Liberase<sup>™</sup> TL **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #05401020001**
- DNAase I (Roche, Cat#04416728001)
- CaCl<sub>2</sub>
- 090-150- FBS, Premium Canadian Origin, 500mL **Wisent Bioproducts Catalog #090-150** (Heat inactivated 56 °C - 00:30:00 )
- UltraPure 0.5M EDTA, pH 8.0 **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #15575-038**
- Percoll<sup>®</sup> **Cytiva Catalog #17-0891-02**
- 811-410 FL- DPBS, 10X, with Calcium & Magnesium, 4L Not Sterile **Wisent Bioproducts Catalog #811-410 FL**
- Trypan Blue

### Solutions:

#### 1) Ammonium Chloride Potassium Red Cell Lysis buffer :

|  | A                  | B       |
|--|--------------------|---------|
|  | NH <sub>4</sub> Cl | 8.29g   |
|  | KHCO <sub>3</sub>  | 1g      |
|  | EDTA               | 0.0367g |
|  | distilled water    | to 1L   |

#### 2) CD45-FITC IP solution ( 25 µg/ml 200 µL per mouse)

CD45-FITC 50 µL of 0.5 mg/ml

950 µL PBS

#### 3) Digestion enzyme buffer ( 1 mL of 1x enzymes, per brain prepared right before the digestion)

- RPMI No FBS + Liberase TL to 10 µg/ml (4 µl of stock Liberase TL 2.5 mg/ml per 1 ml of RPMI)
- DNAase to 40 µg/ml (4 µl of stock 10 mg/ml per 1 ml of Digestion buffer)
- Ca Cl<sub>2</sub> 1.5-3 mM (of 100 mM stock take 1.5 µl per 1 ml of digestion buffer)

**Note**

! Liberase cannot be freeze-thawed.

**4) FACS buffer (  5 mL )**

2% FBS (  10 mL ) in PBS 1 mM EDTA (  1 mL of stock 0.5 M EDTA)

**5) Gradient solution - 37% Percoll solution (  10 mL per brain)**

 3.7 mL Percoll with  6.3 mL HBSS Room temperature (HBSS with Ca<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> or D-PBS with Ca<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>)

**Note**

!! Needs Calcium

**Plastics:**

- 1) Cut 1 ml pipette tips (2-3 per brain)
- 2) 15ml conical tubes (per brain 1 -collection; 1- gradient centrifugation)
- 3) 50 ml conical tubes (per brain 1- for meshing through the strainer; 1- after gradient centrifugation)
- 4) 70 µm cell strainers (1 per brain)
- 5) Small petri dishes (1 per brain)
- 6) 3 ml syringes (plungers 1 per brain)
- 7) Black PP 96 well conical plates for FACS staining.
- 8) Scissors
- 9) Spatula
- 10) 1ml Insulin syringes with 27 G needles (1 per 5 mice)
- 11) Hemocytometer

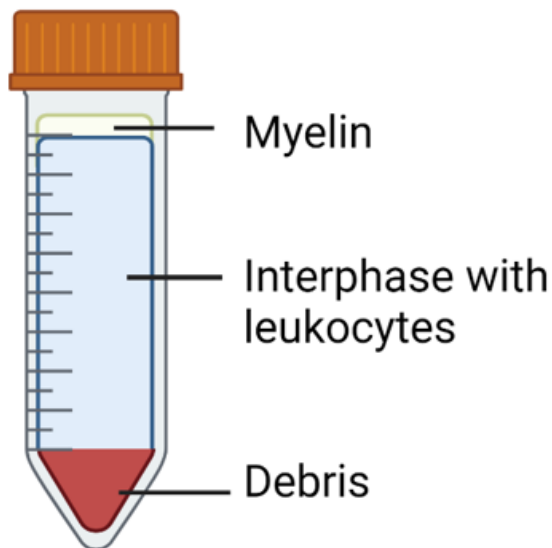
**Procedure (work as fast and as gentle as possible):**

20m

- 1 Prior to sacking the mice, prepare 15 mL conical tubes with  3 mL RPMI and weigh each tube.
- 2 Inject mice with  200  $\mu$ L of aCD45-FITC solution IP.
- 3 Sac mice exactly at  00:20:00 post injection by cervical dislocation. 20m
- 4 Carefully collect the brain with spatula to the 15 ml conical tube containing 3 ml RPMI and place  On ice .
- 5 Weigh tube to calculate the weight of the brains.
- 6 Add brain into the petri dish, cut in small pieces with scissors.
- 7 Collect the brain pieces back to the collection 15 ml tube using a cut 1mL tip.
- 8 Spin down the contents at  1500 rpm, 4°C,  00:05:00 . While spinning prepare Digestion enzyme mix. 5m  
 
- 9 Add  3 mL of RT digestion enzyme mix (1x) to each tube, mix gently (can be done using the vortex).  
- 10 Incubate the tubes at  37 °C  00:35:00 with gentle shaking at  00:15:00 and  00:30:00 . 1h 20m  
 
- 11 After the digestion, put the tube immediately  On ice . Add  5 mL of PBS (with 2mM EDTA and 10% FBS) to neutralize the enzymes.  
- 12 Prime cell strainers on top of the 50 ml tube with  10 mL FACS buffer.



- 13 Add the digested brain through the strainer. Add another  5 mL FACS to flush the strainer.
- 14 Add digested brain and push it with 3ml syringe plunger through the strainer, keep pouring FACS buffer to flush the strainer and the tube for digestion (up to 50mL).
- 15 Spin cells at  300 x g, Room temperature, 00:05:00 . 
- 16 Prepare RT gradient (For each brain prepare  3.7 mL of Percoll and  5.3 mL D-**PBS** containing calcium and magnesium). 
- 17 Discard supernatant after centrifugation and resuspend very gently the cell pellet in  1 mL of D-**PBS**. Transfer the pellet to the 15ml conical tube containing  9 mL of gradient solution. (Total gradient solution = 10mL).  
- 18 Centrifuge at  500 x g, Room temperature, 00:20:00 **No Brake**.   
- Note**
- It is essential that this step is done at RT. Make sure the centrifuge is set to RT early.
- 19 Collect and add the upper laye of myelin, using the cut 1 ml tips. 



20 Collect the interphase up to the lowest red cell containing sediment and transfer it to the 50 ml tube (around 7mL).



21 Add ice cold PBS to the top and spin down at 400 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00 **with brake**. Discard the supernatant.

5m



22 **If any of the pellets are contaminated with RBC/debris then:**

5m 30s

Add 1 mL ACK lysis buffer and mix with the pipette and leave for for 00:00:30 and block the buffer with 4 mL of 10% FBS in PBS. Spin down at 400 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00 **with brake**. Discard the supernatant.



23 Resuspend the pellet in 200  $\mu$ L of FACS buffer, take a small aliquot to stain trypan blue and count (from a UI mouse you expect to get  $0.5-1 \times 10^6$  cells).



24 Adjust cell number and proceed to FACS staining.