

Oct 13, 2025

Immunofluorescence staining

 Forked from [Immunofluorescence staining](#)

DOI

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5jyl8e5p8l2w/v1>

Devin Fuller¹, Yumei Wu¹, Florian Schueder¹, Burha Rasool¹, Shanta Nag¹, Justin L. Korfhage¹,
Rolando Garcia-Milian¹, Katerina D. Melnyk¹, Joerg Bewersdorf¹, Pietro De Camilli¹, Thomas Melia¹

¹Yale University



Devin M. Fuller

Yale University

Create & collaborate more with a free account

Edit and publish protocols, collaborate in communities, share insights through comments, and track progress with run records.

Create free account

OPEN  ACCESS



DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5jyl8e5p8l2w/v1>

Protocol Citation: Devin Fuller, Yumei Wu, Florian Schueder, Burha Rasool, Shanta Nag, Justin L. Korfhage, Rolando Garcia-Milian, Katerina D. Melnyk, Joerg Bewersdorf, Pietro De Camilli, Thomas Melia 2025. Immunofluorescence staining. **protocols.io**
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5jyl8e5p8l2w/v1>

Manuscript citation:

Fuller Devin M, Wu Yumei, Schueder Florian, Rasool Burha, Nag Shanta, Korfhage Justin L, Garcia-Milian Rolando, Melnyk Katerina D, Bewersdorf Joerg, De Camilli Pietro, Melia Thomas J (2025) ATG2A engages RAB1A and ARFGAP1 positive membranes during autophagosome biogenesis eLife 14:RP107316

<https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.107316.1>

License: This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the **Creative Commons Attribution License**, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited

Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: April 07, 2025

Last Modified: October 13, 2025

Protocol Integer ID: 126304

Keywords: Fixation of the cells, HEK cells, neurons, Blocking and permeabilization, immunofluorescence Staining, ASAPCRN, immunofluorescence, cell

Funders Acknowledgements:

National Institutes of Health

Grant ID: R01 GM100930

National Institutes of Health

Grant ID: R35 GM153482

National Institutes of Health

Grant ID: DA018343

National Institutes of Health

Grant ID: F31 AG079606

National Institutes of Health

Grant ID: F31 DK136246

Aligning Science Across Parkinson's

Grant ID: ASAP-025173

Human Frontier Science Program

Grant ID: LT000056/2020-C

Abstract

This protocol describes the immunofluorescence staining of cells.



Materials

Cell culture materials:

DMEM (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 11965-092)

FBS (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 16140-071)

Penicillin/Streptomycin (10,000 U/mL; Thermo Fisher Scientific, 15140122)

PBS (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 10010023)

Earle's Balanced Salt Solution (EBSS; Thermo Fisher Scientific, 24010043)

16% Paraformaldehyde (Electron Microscopy Sciences, 15710)

Bovine serum albumin (BSA; Sigma-Aldrich, A9647)

Saponin (Sigma-Aldrich, 47036-50G)

Fluoromount-G (SouthernBiotech, 0100-01)



Fixation of HEK293 cells in 24 well plate

35m

- 1 Remove medium and add 4% PFA to the cells.



Note

Note: For a coverslip in a 24 well plate use at least  300 μ L /well.

- 2 Incubate  00:20:00 at  Room temperature . For cells expressing light sensitive fluorescent proteins, cover the 24 well plate with aluminum foil to block out ambient light.

20m



- 3 Collect PFA.

- 4 Perform the following washes with 1× PBS:



- 4.1 Wash with 1× PBS for  00:05:00 at  Room temperature . (1/3)

5m

- 4.2 Wash with 1× PBS for  00:05:00 at  Room temperature . (2/3)

5m

- 4.3 Wash with 1× PBS for  00:05:00 at  Room temperature . (3/3)

5m

Blocking and permeabilization

15m

- 5 Remove 1X PBS.

- 6 Add  300 μ L /well of blocking solution.



Note

Blocking solution: 5% BSA [Bovine Serum Albumin] in 1× PBS + 0.1% Saponin



7 Incubate at least  00:15:00 at  Room temperature .

15m



Staining: Day 1

25m

8 Prepare primary antibody in blocking solution (typically 1:500, but can vary based on antibody staining).

9 Put a drop ( 50 μL) of Primary antibody solution on the parafilm surface.

10 Remove the coverslips from the plate and gently put it upside-down on the antibody drop.

11 Alternatively, leave the coverslips in the well and add ( 250 μL) of the primary antibody solution to each well.

12 Incubate  Overnight at  4 °C .

1h



Staining: Day 2

25m

13 Perform the following washes:



13.1 Wash for  00:05:00 in blocking solution (1/3)

5m

13.2 Wash for  00:05:00 in blocking solution. (2/3)

5m

13.3 Wash for  00:05:00 in blocking solution. (3/3)

5m

14 Prepare secondary antibody in blocking solution (typically 1:500, but can vary based on antibody staining).



Note

Note: Keep in the dark. Keep the plate covered in aluminum foil if not doing so previously.

- 15 Put a drop ( 50 μL) of secondary antibody solution on the parafilm.
- 16 Take the coverslips and put it upside-down on the antibody drop.
- 17 Alternatively, leave the coverslips in the well and add ( 250 μL) of the secondary antibody solution to each well.
- 18 Incubate  01:00:00 at  Room temperature in the dark (covered in foil).
- 19 Perform the following washes:
 - 19.1 Wash for  00:05:00 in blocking solution (1/3)
 - 19.2 Wash for  00:05:00 in blocking solution. (2/3)
 - 19.3 Wash for  00:05:00 in blocking solution. (3/3)
- 20 Mount the slides:
 - 20.1 Put a drop ( 10 μL) of Fluoromount-G on the slide.
 - 20.2 Take out the coverslip from the plate.
 - 20.3 Dry it by gently tapping the coverslip's edge on a kimwipe.

1h





- 20.4 Gently put the coverslips upside-down on the Fluoromount-G drop.
- 20.5 Leave it dry ( 24:00:00 , DARK,  Room temperature). 1d
- 20.6 Apply clear nail polish around the coverslips to ensure rigidity of the mount.
- 21 Store in a slide-box at  4 °C .

Acknowledgements

This work was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health (R01 GM100930 and R35 GM153482 to TJM; R01 GM151829 to JB; DA018343 to PDC), F31 AG079606 to DMF and F31 DK136246 to JLK. This research was also funded in part through Aligning Science Across Parkinson's (ASAP-025173 to TJM and PDC) through the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF) and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI; PDC). FS acknowledges support from the Human Frontier Science Program (LT000056/2020-C). JB acknowledges support by the Wellcome Leap Foundation. Imaging was supported by the Yale Center for Cellular and Molecular Imaging (both the fluorescence and electron microscopy facilities). We also thank the MS & Proteomics Resource at Yale University for providing the necessary mass spectrometers and the accompany biotechnology tools funded in part by the Yale School of Medicine and by the Office of The Director, National Institutes of Health (S10OD02365101A1, S10OD019967, and S10OD018034). The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.