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Version 1

## Phenocycler-Fusion Staining Protocol For FFPE Tissue V.1

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

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## Abstract

This protocol describes the method for antibody staining of FFPE tissues on slides using CODEX barcoded antibodies. The Akoya Phenocycler-Fusion user manual was modified to include photobleaching steps. Included are the stepwise protocols for pre-staining, deparaffinization, antigen retrieval, photobleaching, antibody staining and post-fixation.

## Guidelines

- Use positively charged slides.
- Keep tissue sections from drying during transfer steps

## Materials

Sample Kit for PhenoCycler-Fusion (Akoya PN: 7000017)

## Troubleshooting



## Tissue Pre-treatment

1h 5m

- 1 Bake sample slide/s in an incubator at 65°C for 1-3 hours until paraffin thoroughly melts. 1h
- 2 Cool sample slide/s at room temperature for 5 minutes to allow the sample slide/s to cool to room temperature. 5m

## Tissue Deparaffinization and Hydration

50m

- 3 Immerse sample slide/s in a coplin jar containing the following reagents for 5 minutes each: 50m
  - a.Histochoice
  - b.Histochoice
  - c.100% Ethanol
  - d.100% Ethanol
  - e.90% Ethanol
  - f.70% Ethanol
  - g.50% Ethanol
  - h.30% Ethanol
  - i.ddH2O
  - j.ddH2O

## Antigen Retrieval

45m

- 4 In a coplin jar, prepare 50 mls of a 1x citrate buffer. Dilute 10x citrate buffer pH6.0 to 1X citrate buffer in ddH2O.
- 5 Immerse sample slide/s in the coplin jar containing the 1x Citrate buffer and cover the coplin jar with aluminum foil.
- 6 Fill the pressure cooker with 1200 mls of ddH2O. Place the aluminum foil covered coplin jar containing sample slide/s in the pressure cooker.
- 7 Set the pressure cooker to the high-pressure protocol and let the tissue incubate for 20 minutes. 30m
- 8 After incubation in the pressure cooker, release the pressure and carefully remove the coplin jar from the pressure cooker and allow to cool at room temperature for 30 15m



minutes.

## Wash Tissue

6m

- 9 Place sample slide/s in a coplin jar containing 50 mls of ddH<sub>2</sub>O for 2 minutes. All volumes for coplin jar incubations will be 50 mls henceforth in this protocol. 

2m
- 10 Place sample slide/s in a second coplin jar filled with ddH<sub>2</sub>O and incubate for 2 minutes. 

2m
- 11 Place sample slide/s in a third coplin jar filled with 1X PBS and incubate for 2 minutes. 

2m

## Photobleach Tissue

1h 30m

- 12 Submerge the sample slide/s in a 150 mm petri dish containing 50 mls of 4.5% (w/v) H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and 20mM NaOH in PBS (bleaching solution).
- 13 Sandwich the petri dish between two broad-spectrum LED light sources for 45 minutes at 4°C. 

45m
- 14 After 45 minutes move the sample coverslip(s) into a new petri dish with fresh bleaching solution and photobleach for another 45 minutes at 4°C. 

45m

## Wash Tissue

10m

- 15 Wash the sample slide/s three times for 2 minutes each in coplin jars containing 1X PBS. 

6m
- 16 Immerse the sample slide/s in a coplin jar containing 50 mls of CODEX® Hydration Buffer and incubate for 2 minutes. 

2m
- 17 Move sample slide/s to a second coplin jar containing CODEX® Hydration Buffer and incubate for another 2 minutes. 

2m

## Equilibrate Tissue in Staining Buffer

20m

- 18 Move sample slide/s to a coplin jar containing 50 mls of CODEX® Staining Buffer and incubate for 20-30 minutes. 

20m



## Preparation of the Antibody Cocktail Solution

- 19 Prepare a stock solution of CODEX® Blocking Buffer to be used for the Antibody Cocktail.

	A	B
	CODEX® Blocking Buffer	1 Sample
	Staining Buffer [μL]	181
	N Blocker [μL]	4.75
	G2 Blocker [μL]	4.75
	J Blocker [μL]	4.75
	S Blocker [μL]	4.75
	Total [μL]	200

- 20 Add CODEX® Blocking Buffer to a tube designated for Antibody Cocktail Staining Solution. The volume of CODEX® Blocking Buffer to be prepared for each sample slide/s can vary depending on the titer and corresponding volume of each antibody. Adjust volume of CODEX® Blocking Buffer so that the final volume of the Antibody Cocktail Staining Solution is a total of 200 μL per tissue.
- 21 Add the appropriate volume of each CODEX antibody to the Antibody Cocktail Solution.
- 22 Pipette to mix and briefly spin down the tube.

## Tissue Staining

16h

- 23 Remove sample slide/s from the coplin jar containing Staining Buffer and place it on the tray of a humidity chamber.
- 24 Add 190 μL of the Antibody Cocktail to each of the sample slide(s) and ensure that the liquid covers the entire tissue.
- 25 Incubate overnight in the humidity chamber at 4°C.

16h



## Wash Tissue

4m

- 26 After overnight antibody incubation, immerse the sample slide/s in a coplin jar containing 50 mls of CODEX® Staining Buffer for 2 minutes. 2m
- 27 Place sample slide/s in a second coplin jar containing CODEX® Staining Buffer for 2 minutes. 2m

## Fix Tissue

10m

- 28 Place sample slide/s in a coplin jar containing 50 mls of 1.6% PFA in CODEX® Storage Buffer and incubate for 10 minutes. 10m

## Wash Tissue

1m

- 29 Transfer sample slide/s to a coplin jar containing 50 mls of 1X PBS. Lift and immerse the sample slide/s 2-3 times.
- 30 Transfer sample slide/s to a second coplin jar of 1X PBS and immerse sample slide/s 2-3 times.
- 31 Transfer sample slide/s to a third coplin jar of 1X PBS and immerse sample slide/s 2-3 times.

## Ice-cold Methanol Incubation

5m

- 32 Transfer sample slide/s to a coplin jar containing Ice cold methanol and incubate for 5 minutes on ice. 5m

## Wash Tissue

1m

- 33 Place a coplin jar of 1x PBS next to the methanol coplin jar containing the sample slide/s. Quickly transfer the sample slide/s from methanol to the coplin jar of 1x PBS and immerse sample slide/s 2-3 times.
- 34 Transfer the sample slide/s to a second coplin jar of 1x PBS and immerse sample slide/s 2-3 times.



- 35 Transfer the sample coverslip to a third coplin jar of 1x PBS and immerse sample slide/s 2-3 times.

## Fix Tissue

20m

- 36 Prepare the Final Fixative Solution by diluting 20  $\mu$ l of the CODEX® Fixative Reagent in 1 ml of 1x PBS (Final Fixative Solution).
- 37 Remove sample slide/s from the coplin jar and place it on the tray of a humidity chamber.
- 38 Add 200  $\mu$ L of Final Fixative Solution to each of the sample slide/s and ensure that the entire tissue is covered in fixative solution.
- 39 Incubate for 20 mins.

20m

## Wash Tissue

1m

- 40 Remove the sample slide/s from the humidity chamber and place in a coplin jar containing 1x PBS. Lift and immerse the sample slide/s 2-3 times.
- 41 Move the sample slide/s to a second coplin jar containing 1x PBS and immerse sample slide/s 2-3 times.
- 42 Move the sample slide/s to a third coplin jar containing 1x PBS and immerse sample slide/s 2-3 times.

## Store Tissue

- 43 Transfer sample slide/s to a coplin jar containing 50 mls of CODEX® Storage Buffer and store at 4°C until imaging.