



Mar 05, 2023

Protocol for staining of urinary cells for flow cytometric analysis

DOI

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.x54v9d79zg3e/v1

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DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.x54v9d79zg3e/v1>

Protocol Citation: luka.prskalo 2023. Protocol for staining of urinary cells for flow cytometric analysis. **protocols.io**
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.x54v9d79zg3e/v1>

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: January 06, 2023



Last Modified: March 05, 2023

Protocol Integer ID: 74870

Keywords: tubular epithelial cell marker, different cell population in urine sample, using flow cytometry, flow cytometry, urinary cells for flow, urinary cell, urine samples for diagnostic purpose, lymphocyte marker, cytometric analysis this protocol, presence of tubular epithelial cell, tubular epithelial cell, urine sample, cytometric analysis, cytometry, antibodies for subsequent flow, characterizing immune cell population, labeled antibody, staining procedure, different cell population, immune cell population, cell

Abstract

This protocol outlines the specific steps required to stain different cell population in urine samples using fluorescence-labeled antibodies for subsequent flow cytometric analysis. The focus of the protocol is on the T lymphocyte markers and tubular epithelial cell markers (TEC-Panel). This protocol provides detailed instructions for the preparation of the urine samples, blocking and staining procedure and analysis using flow cytometry. The successful implementation of this protocol could help researchers in characterizing immune cell populations and identifying the presence of tubular epithelial cells in urine samples for diagnostic purposes.

Materials







- PBE: phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), pH 7.2, 0.2% bovine serum albumin (BSA), and 2 mM ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA)
- BD Perm/Wash™ buffer 1:10 with distilled water
- FcRblock 1:100 with PBE or BD Perm/Wash™ buffer
- Rainbow Calibration Particles (8 peaks), 3.0 - 3.4 μm

Troubleshooting





Defrosting and sample distribution

30m

- 1 Collect urine samples that have previously been fixed and stored at -80°C . We recommend a maximum of 12 samples per run.
- 2 Quickly defrost urine sediments in  1 mL PBE and filter into small Falcon tubes using a 30 μL mesh. Flush filter with  9 mL PBE and spin the sample (600xg, 8min, 4°C). Aspirate supernatant.
- 3 Resuspend each sample in  400 μL PBE and divide them into 4 eppis with  100 μL each. Two eppis for T lymphocyte panel (A+B), and two for tubular epithelial cell (TEC) panel (C+D). A and C will serve as FMO/isotype-control and B & D as full stain.
- 4 Add  1 mL PBE to each T-cell eppi and  1 mL Permash to each TEC eppi. Spin (700xg, 5min, 4°C) and aspirate supernatant.

Fc-receptor-blocking and antibody staining

30m

- 5 Resuspend T-cell samples each in 100 μL PBE+1% FcRblock, TEC "control sample" in 120 μL Permash+1% FcR-block for unstained controls and TEC "full sample" in 100 μL Permash+1% FcR-block. Cut off 20 μL from sample C and add into separate tube for unstained control.
- 6 Incubate with FcR-block 1:100 for  00:15:00 on ice. 15m
- 7 Prepare the antibody master mix for the corresponding amount of samples to be stained. After preparation add the appropriate amount of antibodies to the corresponding tubes using optimal concentration derived by prior antibody titration.
- 8 Incubate samples  00:15:00 in the dark on ice. 15m
- 9 Add 1 ml PBE to each T-cell sample and 1 ml Permash to each TEC sample, wash (700xg, 5min, 4°C) and aspirate supernatant (approx. 30 μL left after aspiration).
- 10 Depending on size of pellet, resuspend samples with 80-150 μL PBE, transfer total volume of each sample to FACS tube. Resuspend unstained controls in 20-40 μL PBE.



- 11 Prepare additional FACS tube with 1 ml a.d. and 3-5 drops of rainbow beads.

Flow cytometric analysis

- 12 Set up machine for flow cytometric analysis according to your institutional SOPs. Make sure to carry quality control and optimal analysis speed. We recommend to measure samples at slow or medium with a max. event rate of 4000/sec. Dilute respectively.