

Mar 25, 2025

Variant painting via immunostaining

DOI

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kqdg3qmepv25/v1>

Chloe Reno¹

¹University of Toronto

IGVF



Chloe Reno

University of Toronto

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.kqdg3qmepv25/v1>

Protocol Citation: Chloe Reno 2025. Variant painting via immunostaining. **protocols.io**
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kqdg3qmepv25/v1>



Manuscript citation:

Jessica Lacoste, Marzieh Haghighi, Shahan Haider, Chloe Reno, Zhen-Yuan Lin, Dmitri Segal, Wesley Wei Qian, Xueting Xiong, Tanisha Teelucksingh, Esteban Miglietta, Hamdah Shafqat-Abbasi, Pearl V. Ryder, Rebecca Senft, Beth A. Cimini, Ryan R. Murray, Chantal Nyirakanani, Tong Hao, Gregory G. McClain, Frederick P. Roth, Michael A. Calderwood, David E. Hill, Marc Vidal, S. Stephen Yi, Nidhi Sahni, Jian Peng, Anne-Claude Gingras, Shantanu Singh, Anne E. Carpenter, Mikko Taipale, Pervasive mislocalization of pathogenic coding variants underlying human disorders, *Cell*, Volume 187, Issue 23, 2024, Pages 6725-6741.e13, ISSN 0092-8674, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2024.09.003>.

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: February 24, 2025

Last Modified: March 25, 2025

Protocol Integer ID: 123268

Keywords: variation on protein localization, protein localization, protein, variant painting, coding variation, throughput imaging platform, high throughput imaging, mitochondria, additional cellular compartment, visualization

Funders Acknowledgements:

NIH IGVF

Grant ID: HG011989

Abstract

High-throughput imaging platform to assay the impact of coding variation on protein localization. Proteins are flag-tagged and immunostained for visualization, alongside additional cellular compartments including the nucleus, mitochondria, and ER.



Day 1: Cell Seeding

- 1 Seed 4,000-5,000 HeLa Kyoto Cells - 96-well format, 100 μL per well. Media is high glucose DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS, 1% penicillin-streptomycin. Incubate Overnight at 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 5% CO_2

Day 2: Transfection

2d 0h 15m

- 2 Prepare Transfection Complex Master Mix in 96-well v-bottom plates

Note

First check cells to make sure they are at optimal (50-60%) confluency for transfection.

- 2.1 Per well, mix:
 1. 10 μL of diluted DNA (200 ng total)

Note

Add DNA to wells first. Prepare a master mix of OptiMEM + X-tremeGENE 9. Vortex to mix. Make extra master mix to account for error.

2. 0.3 μL X-tremeGENE 9
3. 30 μL OptiMEM

- 2.2 Let stand at room temperature for 00:15:00

15m

- 3 Mix by pipetting up and down. Transfer transfection complex to seeded HeLa cells dropwise.

- 4 Incubate for 48:00:00 at 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 5% CO_2

2d

Day 4: Fixation & Staining

3h 55m

- 5 Stain live cells with Mitotracker:



- 5.1 Make 1mM stock of tracker dye fresh. Before opening, allow the vial to warm to room temperature and then briefly centrifuge the vial.

Note

For Mitotracker Red – add 94.1 μ L DMSO to vial.

- 5.2 Dilute the 1 mM stock solution to the final working concentration (100 nM for Mito, 1 μ M for LysoTracker) in growth medium (1xDMEM complete).

- 5.3 Add to cells and incubate for  01:00:00 in the tissue culture incubator.

1h

- 5.4 Wash cells 3 times with 1xPBS.

6 Fix cells

- 6.1 Add 30 μ L/well of 4% paraformaldehyde diluted in complete DMEM

- 6.2 Wrap the plate in foil. Incubate for  00:15:00 at room temp

15m

- 6.3 Wash cells 3 times with 1xPBS.

7 Complete intracellular staining:

- 7.1 Incubate with 50 μ L/well of 1xPBS/0.1% Triton X-100 for  00:10:00 , room temperature shaking gently for permeabilization.

10m

- 7.2 Incubate with 50 μ L/well of 1xPBS/0.1% Triton X-100/1% BSA for  00:30:00 , room temperature shaking gently for blocking.

30m



- 7.3 Incubate with primary antibody of choice diluted in 30 μ L/well blocking buffer for  01:00:00 , room temperature shaking gently (For anti-FLAG, 1:500). 1h
- 7.4 Wash three times with 1xPBS.
- 7.5 Dilute the secondary antibodies (anti-mouse 488, 1:500; Hoechst, 1:5000; Concanavalin A, 1:250) in 30 μ L/well blocking buffer. Incubate for  01:00:00 at room temperature shaking gently. 1h
- 7.6 Wash three times with 1xPBS.
- 7.7 Leave in 50 μ L 1xPBS for imaging.