BioLegend®

LEGENDplex™

Multi-Analyte Flow Assay Kit

Cat. No. 740610, Human HSC Panel (12-plex) with Filter Plate Cat. No. 740611, Human HSC Panel (12-plex) with V-bottom Plate

Cat. No. 740612, Human HSC Lymphoid Panel (9-plex) with Filter Plate Cat. No. 740613, Human HSC Lymphoid Panel (9-plex) with V-bottom Plate

Cat. No. 740614, Human HSC Erythroid Panel (6-plex) with Filter Plate Cat. No. 740615, Human HSC Erythroid Panel (6-plex) with V-bottom Plate

Cat. No. 740616, Human HSC Myeloid Panel (7-plex) with Filter Plate Cat. No. 740617, Human HSC Myeloid Panel (7-plex) with V-bottom Plate

Please read the entire manual before running the assay.

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Chapter 1: KIT DESCRIPTION

Introduction

Stem cells are undifferentiated cells that have the ability to differentiate into specialized cell types. Hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) are derived from mesoderm and are located in the red bone marrow. HSCs differentiate and give rise to myeloid, erythroid, and lymphoid lineages of cells which further differentiate into specialized blood cells. Differentiation of HSCs into specialized cells involves interplay between cytokines, growth factors, and chemokines which are considered as important lineage-specific markers. Lymphoid lineage-related markers such as IL-3, IL-6, IL-7, IL-11, IL-15, SCF, LIF, CXCL12 (SDF-1), and FLT3-Ligand help lymphoid progenitor cells to differentiate into B Cells, NK cells, T Cells and dendritic cells. Markers such as IL-3, IL-34, GM-CSF, M-CSF, SCF, CXCL12 (SDF-1), and FLT3-Ligand are associated with the myeloid lineage and help differentiate into monocytes, macrophages, neutrophils, eosinophils, and basophils. Differentiation of erythroid progenitor cells into erythrocytes and platelets is aided by IL-3, IL-6, IL-11, SCF, GM-CSF and CXCL12 (SDF-1). Dysregulation of these lineage-specific markers can lead to hematological conditions such as leukemias, lymphomas, myelomas, phagocyte disorders, and anemias. Quantification of these markers can help in hematopoietic stem cell research and early stage diagnosis of various disease conditions.

The LEGENDplex[™] Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel (12-plex) is a bead-based multiplex assay panel, using fluorescence-encoded beads suitable for use on various flow cytometers. It allows for simultaneous quantification of 12 key targets involved in hematopoietic stem cell differentiation and lineage specific markers including CXCL12 (SDF-1), FLT3L, GM-CSF, IL-11, IL-15, IL-3, IL-34, IL-6, IL-7, LIF, M-CSF, and SCF. This assay panel provides higher detection sensitivity and broader dynamic range than traditional ELISA methods. The panel has been validated for use on cell culture supernatant, serum, and plasma samples (for SCF, LIF, and M-CSF the preferred sample type is serum due to poor recovery and linearity in plasma).

The LEGENDplex[™] Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel is designed to allow flexible customization within the panel. It can also be divided into subpanels such as:

LEGENDplex[™] Human HSC Lymphoid Panel (9-plex) LEGENDplex[™] Human HSC Erythroid Panel (6-plex) LEGENDplex[™] Human HSC Myeloid Panel (7-plex)

Please visit www.biolegend.com/legendplex for more information on how to mix and match within the panel.

This assay is for research use only.

Principle of the Assay

BioLegend's LEGENDplexTM assays are bead-based immunoassays using the same basic principle as sandwich immunoassays.

Beads are differentiated by size and internal fluorescence intensities. Each bead set is conjugated with a specific antibody on its surface and serves as the capture beads for that particular analyte. When a selected panel of capture beads is mixed and incubated with a sample containing target analytes specific to the capture antibodies, each analyte will bind to its specific capture beads. After washing, a biotinylated detection antibody cocktail is added, and each detection antibody in the cocktail will bind to its specific analyte bound on the capture beads, thus forming capture bead-analyte-detection antibody sandwiches. Streptavidin-phycoerythrin (SA-PE) is subsequently added, which will bind to the biotinylated detection antibodies, providing fluorescent signal intensities in proportion to the amount of bound analytes.

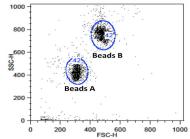
Since the beads are differentiated by size and internal fluorescence intensity on a flow cytometer, analyte-specific populations can be segregated and PE fluorescent signal quantified. The concentration of a particular analyte is determined using a standard curve generated in the same assay.

Beads Usage

The LEGENDplex[™] bead-based assay system uses two sets of beads. Each set has a unique size that can be identified based on their forward scatter (FSC) and side scatter (SSC) profiles (Beads A and Beads B, Figure 1). Each bead set can be further resolved based on their internal fluorescence intensities. The internal dye can be detected using FL3, FL4, or APC channel, depending on the type of flow cytometer used. The smaller Beads A consists of 6 bead populations and the larger Beads B consists of 7 bead populations (Figure 2-3).

Using 12 out of the 13 bead populations distinguished by size and internal fluorescent dye, the Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel allows simultaneous detection of 12 cytokines in a single sample. Each analyte is associated with a particular bead set as indicated (Figures 2-3 and Table 1).

Figure 1. Beads Differentiated by Size



Beads A = smaller beads

Beads B = larger beads

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Figure 2. Beads A Classification by FL4

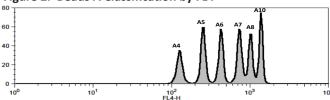
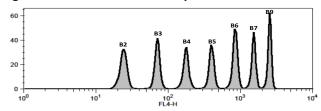


Figure 3. Beads B Classification by FL4



For Beads usage in the panel, please refer to Table 1 below:

Table 1. Panel Targets and Bead ID

Target	Bead ID	Human HSC Panel Cat No. 740610 or 740611	Human HSC Lymphoid Panel Cat. No. 740612 or 740613	Human HSC Erythroid Panel Cat. No. 740614 or 740615	Human HSC Myeloid Panel Cat. No. 740616 or 740617	Top Standard Concentrations
IL-6	A4	٧	٧	٧		
FLT3L	A5	٧	٧		٧	
GM-CSF	A6	٧		٧	٧	The top standard concentration
IL-3	A8	٧	٧	٧	٧	of each target
IL-34	A10	٧			٧	may vary and may subject to
IL-11	B2	٧	٧	٧		change from lot
SCF	В3	٧	٧	٧	٧	to lot. Please
LIF	B4	٧	٧			refer to the lot-specific
CXCL12	B5	٧	٧	٧	٧	Certificate of
IL-15	В6	٧	٧			Analysis for this information
M-CSF	В7	٧			٧	inomation
IL-7	В9	٧	٧			

Bead ID is used to associate a bead population to a particular analyte when using the LEGENDplex™ data analysis software program. For further information regarding the use of the program please visit **biolegend.com/en-us/legendplex**

Storage Information

Recommended storage for all original kit components is between 2°C and 8°C. DO NOT FREEZE Beads, Detection Antibodies or SA-PE.

- Once the standards have been reconstituted, immediately transfer contents into polypropylene vials. DO NOT STORE RECONSTITUTED STAN-DARDS IN GLASS VIALS.
- Upon reconstitution, leftover standard and Matrix A should be stored at ≤-70°C for use within one month. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze-thaw cycles. Discard any leftover diluted standards.

Materials Supplied

The LEGENDplexTM kit contains reagents for 100 tests, listed in the table below. When assayed in duplicate, this is enough for an 8-point standard curve and 40 samples.

Kit Components	Quantity	Volume	Part #
Setup Beads: PE Beads	1 vial	1 mL	77842
Setup Beads: Raw Beads	1 vial	1.8 mL	77844
Capture Beads* (see tables below for more information)	varies	varies	varies*
Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel Detection Antibodies	1 bottle	3.3 mL	varies*
Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel Standard Cocktail, Lyophilized	1 vial	lyophilized	varies*
LEGENDplex™ SA-PE	1 bottle	3.3 mL	77743
LEGENDplex™ Matrix A, Lyophilized	1 vial	lyophilized	75306
Lyophilized Standard Reconstitution Buffer	1 vial	1 mL	75241
LEGENDplex [™] Assay Buffer	1 bottle	25 mL	77562
LEGENDplex™ Wash Buffer, 20X	1 bottle	25 mL	77564
Filter Plate**or V-bottom Plate***	1 plate		76187** or 76883***
Plate Sealers	4 sheets		78101

^{*} For full panel, premixed beads are provided ready-to-use. For subpanels, individual beads are provided at 13X concentration. For Standard and Detection Antibodies, full panels use part numbers and subpanels use catalog numbers (See tables below for details).

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^{**} For kit with filter plate.

^{***} For kit with V-bottom plate. Only one plate is provided for each kit.

For Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel (Full Panel):

Kit Components	Quantity	Volume	Part #
Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Premixed Beads	1 bottle	3.3 mL	75287
Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Detection Antibodies	1 bottle	3.3 mL	75302
Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel Standard Cocktail, Lyophilized	1 vial	lyophi- lized	75304

For Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Subpanels:

Kit Components	Quantity	Volume	Cat.#
LEGENDplex™ Human IL-6 Capture Bead A4, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	741242
LEGENDplex™ Human FLT3L Capture Bead A5, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740598
LEGENDplex™ Human GM-CSF Capture Bead A6, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740599
LEGENDplex™ Human IL-3 Capture Bead A8, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740601
LEGENDplex™ Human IL-34 Capture Bead A10, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740602
LEGENDplex™ Human IL-11 Capture Bead B2, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740603
LEGENDplex™ Human SCF Capture Bead B3, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740604
LEGENDplex™ Human LIF Capture Bead B4, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740605
LEGENDplex™ Human CXCL12 (SDF-1) Capture Bead B5, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740606
LEGENDplex™ Human IL-15 Capture Bead B6, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740607
LEGENDplex™ Human M-CSF Capture Bead B7, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740608
LEGENDplex™ Human IL-7 Capture Bead B9, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740609
LEGENDplex™ Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel Detection Antibodies	1 bottle	3.3 mL	740618
LEGENDplex™ Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel Standard	1 vial	lyophi- lized	740619

Please refer to Beads ID and Panel-Specific Target Selection table (Table 1, page 5), to see which capture beads are included in each panel

Materials to be Provided by the End-User

 A flow cytometer equipped with two lasers (e.g., a 488 nm blue laser or 532 nm green laser and a 633-635 nm red laser) capable of distinguishing 575 nm and 660 nm or a flow cytometer equipped with one laser (e.g., 488 nm blue laser) capable of distinguishing 575 nm and 670 nm.

Partial list of compatible flow cytometers:

Flow Cytometer	Reporter Channel	Channel Emission	Classification Channel	Channel Emission	Compensa- tion needed?
BD Accuri™ C6™	FL2	585 nm	FL4	675 nm	No*
BD FACSCanto, BD FACSCanto™II	PE	575 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
BD™ LSR, LSR II BD LSRFortessa™	PE	575 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
Gallios™	PE	575 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
CytoFLEX	PE	585 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
NovoCyte	PE	572 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
Attune™ NxT	PE	574 nm	APC	670 nm	No*

^{*}Compensation is not required for the specified flow cytometers when set up properly.

For setting up various flow cytometers, please visit: www.biolegend.com/legendplex and click on the Instrument Setup tab.

- Multichannel pipettes capable of dispensing 5 μ L to 200 μ L
- Reagent reservoirs for multichannel pipette
- Polypropylene microfuge tubes (1.5 mL)
- Laboratory vortex mixer
- Sonicator bath (e.g., Branson Ultrasonic Cleaner model #B200, or equivalent)
- Aluminum foil
- Absorbent pads or paper towels
- Plate shaker (e.g., Lab-Line Instruments model #4625, or equivalent)
- Tabletop centrifuges (e.g., Eppendorf centrifuge 5415 C, or equivalent)

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LEGENDplex™ Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel If the assay is performed in a filter plate,

- A vacuum filtration unit (Millipore MultiScreen ® HTS Vacuum Manifold, cat # MSVMHTS00 or equivalent). Instructions on how to use the vacuum manifold can be found at the supplier's website.
- A vacuum source (mini vacuum pump or line vacuum, e.g., Millipore Vacuum Pump, catalog # WP6111560, or equivalent)
- If needed, additional Filter plate can be ordered from BioLegend (Cat# 740377 or 740378)

If the assay is performed in a V-bottom plate,

- Centrifuge with a swinging bucket adaptor for microtiter plates (e.g., Beckman Coulter AllegraTM 6R Centrifuge with MICROPLUS CARRIER adaptor for GH3.8 and JS4.3 Rotors).
- If needed, additional V-bottom plate can be ordered from BioLegend (Cat# 740379)

Precautions

- All blood components and biological materials should be handled as potentially hazardous. Follow universal precautions as established by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration when handling and disposing of infectious agents.
- Sodium azide has been added to some reagents as a preservative. Although the concentrations are low, sodium azide may react with lead and copper plumbing to form highly explosive metal azides. On disposal, flush with a large volume of water to prevent azide build-up.
- Matrix A for LEGENDplex[™] kits contains components of animal origin and should be handled as potentially hazardous. Do not mix or substitute reagents from different kits or lots. Reagents from different manufacturers should not be used with this kit.
- Do not use this kit beyond its expiration date.
- SA-PE and beads are light-sensitive. Minimize light exposure.

Chapter 2: ASSAY PREPARATION

Sample Collection and Handling

Preparation of Serum Samples:

- Allow the blood to clot for at least 30 minutes and centrifuge for 20 minutes at 1,000 x q.
- Remove serum and assay immediately or aliquot and store samples at ≤-20°C. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze/thaw cycles.
- When using frozen samples, it is recommended that samples are thawed completely, mixed and centrifuged to remove particulates prior to use.

Preparation of Plasma Samples:

- Plasma collection using EDTA as an anti-coagulant is recommended. Centrifuge for 20 minutes at 1,000 x *q* within 30 minutes of blood collection.
- Remove plasma and assay immediately, or aliquot and store samples at ≤-20°C. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze/thaw cycles.
- When using frozen samples, it is recommended that samples are thawed completely, mixed well and centrifuged to remove particulates.

Preparation of Tissue Culture Supernatant:

Centrifuge the sample to remove debris and assay immediately. If not possible, aliquot and store samples at ≤-20°C. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze/thaw cycles.

Reagent Preparation

Preparation of Antibody-Immobilized Beads

• If pre-mixed beads are provided in the kit:

Sonicate pre-mixed Beads bottle for 1 minute in a sonicator bath and then vortex for 30 seconds prior to use. If no sonicator bath is available, increase the vortexing time to 1 minute to completely resuspend the beads.

• If individual beads (13X) are provided in the kit:

The individual beads (13X) should be mixed with each other and diluted to 1X final concentration with Assay Buffer prior to use. To mix the beads, follow the steps below (a 5-plex subpanel is used as an example):

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- 1. Sonicate the beads vials for 1 minute in a sonicator bath and then vortex for 30 seconds to completely resuspend the beads.
- 2. Calculate the amount of mixed and diluted beads needed for the assay. Prepare extra to compensate for pipetting loss. Each reaction needs 25 μ L of mixed and diluted beads. For 50 reactions, prepare 1.5 mL of mixed beads. For 96 reactions, prepare 3 mL of mixed beads.
- 3. To make 1.5 ml of 5-plex 1X diluted beads, transfer 115 μ L of each of the 5 individual beads (13X) to a fresh tube (total bead volume = 575 μ L) and add 925 μ L of Assay Buffer to make the final volume of 1.5 mL.

Preparation of Wash Buffer

- Bring the 20X Wash Buffer to room temperature and mix to bring all salts into solution.
- Dilute 25 mL of 20X Wash Buffer with 475 mL deionized water. Store unused portions between 2°C and 8°C for up to one month.

Preparation of Matrix A (for Serum or Plasma Samples Only)

 Add 5.0 mL LEGENDplexTM Assay Buffer to the bottle containing lyophilized Matrix A. Allow at least 15 minutes for complete reconstitution. Vortex to mix well. Leftover reconstituted Matrix A should be stored at ≤-70°C for up to one month.

Standard Preparation

- 1. Prior to use, reconstitute the lyophilized Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel Standard Cocktail, with 250 μ L Lyophilized Standard Reconstitution Buffer.
- 2. Mix and allow the vial to sit at room temperature for 15 minutes, and then transfer the standard to an appropriately labeled polypropylene microfuge tube. This will be used as the top standard C7.

Note: The top standard concentrations of analytes in this panel were set at various concentrations, but may be subject to change from lot to lot (please visit biolegend.com/en-us/legendplex to download a lot-specific certificate of analysis).

- 3. Label 6 polypropylene microfuge tubes as C6, C5, C4, C3, C2 and C1, respectively.
- 4. Add 75 μL of Assay Buffer to each of the six tubes. Prepare 1:4 dilution of the top standard by transferring 25 μL of the top standard C7 to the C6

LEGENDplex™ Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel tube and mix well. This will be the C6 standard.

5. In the same manner, perform serial 1:4 dilutions to obtain C5, C4, C3, C2 and C1 standards (see the table below using the top standard at 10,000 pg/mL as an example). Assay Buffer will be used as the 0 pg/mL standard (C0).

Tube/Standard ID	Serial Dilution	Assay Buffer to add (μL)	Standard to add	Final Conc. (pg/mL)
C7				10,000
C6	1:4	75	25 μL of C7	2,500
C5	1:16	75	25 μL of C6	625
C4	1:64	75	25 μL of C5	156.3
C3	1:256	75	25 μL of C4	39.1
C2	1:1024	75	25 μL of C3	9.8
C1	1:4096	75	25 μL of C2	2.4
C0		75		0

Sample Dilution

• Serum or plasma samples must be diluted 2-fold with Assay Buffer before being tested (e.g. dilute 50 μL of sample with 50 μL of Assay Buffer).

If further sample dilution is desired, dilution should be done with Matrix A to ensure accurate measurement.

Adding serum or plasma samples without dilution will result in low assay accuracy and possibly, clogging of the filter plate.

For cell culture supernatant samples, the levels of analyte can vary greatly
from sample to sample. While the samples can be tested without dilutions,
a preliminary experiment may be required to determine the appropriate
dilution factor.

If sample dilution is desired, dilution should be done with corresponding fresh cell culture medium or Assay Buffer to ensure accurate measurement.

Chapter 3: ASSAY PROCEDURE

The LEGENDplex[™] assay can be performed in a filter plate, or in a V-bottom plate.

- The in-filter plate assay procedure requires a vacuum filtration unit for washing (see Materials to be Provided by the End-User, page 8). If you have performed bead-based multiplex assays before, your lab may already have the vacuum filtration unit set up.
- If the in-filter plate assay procedure is not possible or if you prefer, the assay can be performed in a V-bottom plate.

Performing the Assay Using a Filter Plate

- Allow all reagents to warm to room temperature (20-25°C) before use.
- Set the filter plate on an inverted plate cover at all times during assay setup and incubation steps, so that the bottom of the plate does not touch any surface. Touching a surface may cause leakage.
- Keep the plate upright during the entire assay procedure, including the washing steps, to avoid losing beads.
- The plate should be placed in the dark or wrapped with aluminum foil for all incubation steps.
- Standards and samples should be run in duplicate and arranged on the
 plate in a vertical configuration convenient for data acquisition and analysis (as shown in attached PLATE MAP, page 33). Be sure to load standards
 in the first two columns. If an automation device is used for reading, the
 orientation and reading sequence should be carefully planned.
- Pre-wet the plate by adding 100 μL of LEGENDplexTM 1X Wash Buffer to each well and let it sit for 1 minute at room temperature. To remove the excess volume, place the plate on the vacuum manifold and apply vacuum. Do not exceed 10" Hg of vacuum. Vacuum until wells are drained (5-10 seconds). Blot excess Wash Buffer from the bottom of the plate by pressing the plate on a stack of clean paper towels. Place the plate on top of the inverted plate cover.

For measuring cell culture supernatant samples, load the plate as shown in the table below (in the order from left to right):

	Assay Buffer	Matrix A	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells	25 μL		25 μL	
Sample wells	25 μL			25 μL

For measuring serum or plasma samples, load the plate as shown in the table below (in the order from left to right):

	Assay Buffer	Matrix A	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells		25 μL	25 μL	
Sample wells	25 μL			25 μL

^{*}See Sample Dilution

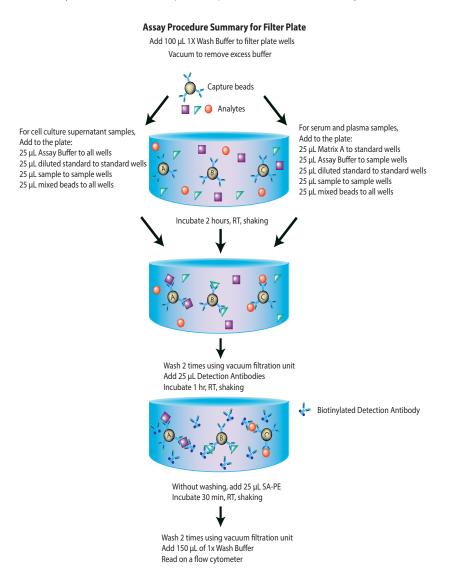
- 2. Vortex mixed beads bottle for 30 seconds. Add 25 μ L of mixed beads to each well. The volume should be 75 μ L in each well after beads addition. (Note: During addition of the beads, shake mixed beads bottle intermittently to avoid bead settling).
- 3. Seal the plate with a plate sealer. To avoid plate leaking, do not apply positive pressure to the sealer when sealing the plate. Wrap the entire plate, including the inverted plate cover, with aluminum foil. Place the plate on a plate shaker, secure it and shake at approximate 500 rpm for 2 hours at room temperature.
- 4. Do not invert the plate! Place the plate on the vacuum manifold and apply vacuum as before in Step 1. Add 200 μ L of 1X Wash Buffer to each well. Remove Wash Buffer by vacuum filtration. Blot excess Wash Buffer from the bottom of the plate with an absorbent pad or paper towels. Repeat this washing step once more.
- 5. Add 25 µL of Detection Antibodies to each well.
- 6. Seal the plate with a fresh plate sealer. Wrap the entire plate, including the inverted plate cover, with aluminum foil. Place the plate on a plate shaker and shake at approximately 500 rpm for 1 hour at room temperature.
- 7. Do not vacuum! Add 25 µL of SA-PE to each well directly.
- 8. Seal the plate with a fresh plate sealer. Wrap the entire plate, including the inverted plate cover, with aluminum foil. Place the plate on a plate shaker and shake at approximate 500 rpm for 30 minutes at room temperature.
- 9. Repeat step 4 above.
- 10. Add 150 μ L of 1X Wash Buffer to each well. Resuspend the beads on a plate shaker for 1 minute.
- 11. Read samples on a flow cytometer, preferably within the same day of the assay (Note: Prolonged sample storage can lead to reduced signal).

If the flow cytometer is equipped with an autosampler, read the plate directly using the autosampler. **Please be sure to program the autosampler**

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to resuspend beads in the well immediately before taking samples. The probe height may need to be adjusted when using an autosampler.

If an autosampler is not available, the samples can be transferred from the filter plate to micro FACS (or FACS) tubes and read manually.



Performing the Assay Using a V-bottom Plate

- Allow all reagents to warm to room temperature (20-25°C) before use.
- Keep the plate upright during the entire assay procedure, including the washing steps, to avoid losing beads.
- The plate should be placed in the dark or wrapped with aluminum foil for all incubation steps.
- Standards and samples should be run in duplicate and arranged on the
 plate in a vertical configuration convenient for data acquisition and analysis
 (as shown in attached PLATE MAP, page 33). Be sure to load standards in
 the first two columns. If an automation device is used for reading, the orientation and reading sequence should be carefully planned.
- **1. For measuring cell culture supernatant samples,** load the plate as shown in the table below (in the order from left to right):

	Assay Buffer	Matrix A	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells	25 μL		25 μL	
Sample wells	25 μL			25 μL

For measuring serum or plasma samples, load the plate as shown in the table below (in the order from left to right):

	Assay Buffer	Matrix A	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells		25 μL	25 μL	
Sample wells	25 μL			25 μL

^{*}See Sample Dilution

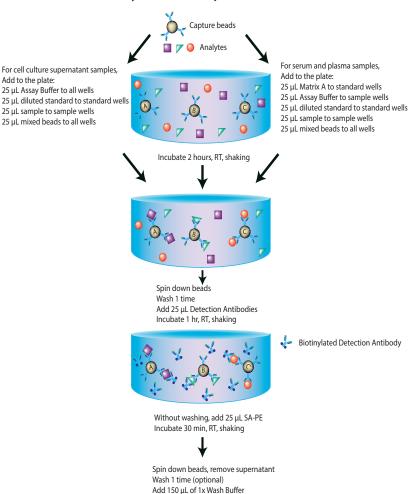
- 2. Vortex mixed beads for 30 seconds. Add 25 μ L of mixed beads to each well. The total volume should be 75 μ L in each well after beads addition. (Note: During beads addition, shake mixed beads bottle intermittently to avoid bead settling).
- 3. Seal the plate with a plate sealer. Cover the entire plate with aluminum foil to protect the plate from light. Shake at 800 rpm on a plate shaker for 2 hours at room temperature (Depending on the shaker, the speed may need to be adjusted. The optimal speed is one that is high enough to keep beads in suspension during incubation, but not too high so it causes spill from the wells).
- 4. Centrifuge the plate at 1050 rpm (~250 g) for 5 minutes, using a swinging bucket rotor (G.H 3.8) with microplate adaptor (Please refer to Materials to be Provided by the End-User, page 8). Do not use excessive centrifugation speed as it may make it harder to resuspend beads in later steps. Make

sure that the timer of the centrifuge works properly and standby to make sure the centrifuge reaches preset speed.

- 5. Immediately after centrifugation, dump the supernatant into a sink by quickly inverting and flicking the plate in one continuous and forceful motion. Do not worry about losing beads even if the pellet is not visible. The beads will stay in the tip of the well nicely. Blot the plate on a stack of clean paper towel and drain the remaining liquid from the well as much as possible. Be careful not to disturb the bead pellet.
 - Alternatively, removal of the supernatant may be completed using a multichannel pipette set at 75 μ L. Try to remove as much liquid as possible without removing any beads. Be sure to change pipette tips between each row or column.
- 6. Wash the plate by dispensing 200 μ L of 1X Wash Buffer into each well and incubate for one minute. Repeat step 4 and 5 above. A second wash is optional, but may help reduce background.
- 7. Add 25 µL of Detection Antibodies to each well.
- 8. Seal the plate with a new plate sealer. Cover the entire plate with aluminum foil to protect the plate from light. Shake at 800 rpm on a plate shaker for 1 hour at room temperature.
- **9. Do not wash the plate!** Add 25 μL of SA-PE to each well directly.
- 10. Seal the plate with a new plate sealer. Wrap the entire plate with aluminum foil and shake the plate on a plate shaker at approximate 800 rpm for 30 minutes at room temperature.
- 11. Repeat step 4 and 5.
- 12. Wash the plate by dispensing 200 μ L of 1X Wash Buffer into each well and incubate for one minute. Repeat step 4 and 5 above. This washing step is optional but it helps to reduce the background.
- 13. Add 150 μ L of 1X Wash Buffer to each well. Resuspend the beads by pipetting.
- 14. Read samples on a flow cytometer, preferably within the same day of the assay (Note: Prolonged sample storage can lead to reduced signal).
 - If the flow cytometer is equipped with an autosampler, the samples can be read directly. Please be sure to program the autosampler to resuspend beads in the well immediately before taking samples. The probe height may need to be adjusted when using an autosampler.

If an autosampler is not available, the samples can be transferred from the plate to micro FACS (or FACS) tubes and read manually.





Read on a flow cytometer

Chapter 4: FLOW CYTOMETER SETUP

In order to generate reliable data, the flow cytometer must be set up properly before data acquisition.

The setup instructions have been removed from this manual and uploaded onto our website to save paper.

To access the setup instructions, please visit: www.biolegend.com/legendplex and click on the Instrument Setup tab.

Chapter 5: DATA ACQUISITION AND ANALYSIS

Data Acquisition

- 1. Before reading samples, make sure that the flow cytometer is set up properly.
- Create a new template or open an existing template (for details on how to create a cytometer-specific template, please refer to the Flow Cytometer Setup Guide).
- 3. Vortex each sample for 5 seconds before analysis.
- 4. Set the flow rate to low. Set the number of beads to be acquired to about 300 per analyte (e.g., acquire 2,400 beads for a 8-plex assay or 4000 beads for a 13-plex assay). Do not set to acquire total events as samples may contain large amounts of debris. Instead, create a large gate to include both Beads A and Beads B (gate A+B) and set to acquire the number of events in gate A + B. This will exlude majority of the debris.

Note: Do not acquire too few or too many beads. Too few beads acquired may result in high CVs and too many beads acquired may result in slow data analysis later.

5. Read samples.

When reading samples, set the flow cytometer to setup mode first and wait until bead population is stabilized before recording or switching to acquisition mode.

To simplify data analysis using the LEGENDplex[™] Data Analysis Software, read samples in the same order as shown on the PLATE MAP attached at the end of the manual. For an in-plate assay, read column by column (A1, B1, C1...A2, B2, C2...).

When naming data files, try to use simple names with a consecutive numbering for easy data analysis (e.g. for standards, C0.001, C0.002, C1.003, C1.004, C2.005, C2.006, C3.007, C3.008, ... C7.015, C7.016; for samples, S1.017, S1.018, S2.019, S2.020, S3.021, S3.022...)

Store all FCS files in the same folder for each assay. If running multiple assays, create a separate folder for each assay.

6. Proceed to data analysis using LEGENDplex[™] Data Analysis Software when data acquisition is completed.

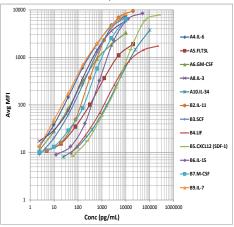
Data Analysis

The assay FCS files should be analyzed using BioLegend's LEGENDplex™
data analysis software. The program is offered free of charge with the purchase of any LEGENDplex™ assay. For further information regarding access to, and use of the program please visit biolegend.com/en-us/legendplex.

Chapter 6: ASSAY CHARACTERIZATION

Representative Standard Curve

This standard curve was generated using the LEGENDplex[™] Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel for demonstration purposes only. A standard curve must be run with each assay.



Assay Sensitivity

The assay sensitivity is the theoretical limit of detection calculated using the LEGENDplexTM Data Analysis Software by applying a 5-paramater curve fitting algorithm. Assay Sensitivity presented here is \leq Mean LOD + 2x STDEV LOD.

Analyte	LOD in Assay Buffer (pg/mL)	LOD in Matrix (pg/mL)
Human IL-6	1.36	1.40
Human FLT3L	8.00	8.30
Human GM-CSF	3.00	2.10
Human IL-3	4.20	8.00
Human IL-34	30.40	53.28
Human IL-11	8.40	11.91
Human SCF	2.30	1.40
Human LIF	24.70	50.30
Human CXCL12(SDF-1)	35,1	39.90
Human IL-15	8.80	90.40

Human M-CSF	2.60	8.60
Human IL-7	1.30	2.00

Cross-Reactivity

The following human recombinant proteins were tested at 50 ng/mL using the LEGENDplexTM Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel. Human CXCL12 (SDF-1) assay detects both Human SDF-1 α and Human SDF-1 β and cross reacts with Mouse SDF-1 α and Mouse SDF-1 β . No or negligible cross-reactivity was found for all the other tested analytes.

CCL17 (TARC)	CXCL9 (MIG)	CXCL10 (IP-10)	CXCL11 (ITAC)	CXCL13 (BCA-1)	EPO
FLT3L	G-CSF	GM-CSF	SDF-1α	SDF-1β	IL-10
IL-11	IL-13	IL-15	IL-1α	IL-1β	IL-2
IL-21	IL-22	IL-23	IL-27	IL-3	IL-33
IL-34	IL-4	IL-5	IL-6	IL-7	IL-8
LIF	M-CSF	PDGF-BB	SCF	TGF-α	TGF-β1
TGF-β2	TGF-β3	TNF-α	TSLP	VEGF	

Accuracy (Spike Recovery)

For spike recovery in serum, target proteins with known concentrations were spiked into human serum at three different levels within the assay range. The spiked samples were then assayed, and the measured concentrations were compared with the expected values.

Analyte	% of Recovery in Serum (N = 10)	% of Recovery in Plasma* (N = 6)	% of Recovery in Cell Culture (N=2)
Human IL-6	90%	74%	102%
Human FLT3L	98%	95%	96%
Human GM-CSF	88%	68%	105%
Human IL-3	56%	81%	96%
Human IL-34	84%	107%	93%
Human IL-11	98%	48%	100%
Human SCF	101%	35%	96%
Human LIF	80%	20%	95%

Human CXCL12 (SDF-1)	147%	86%	171%
Human IL-15	133%	59%	84%
Human M-CSF	80%	16%	72%
Human IL-7	93%	57%	95%

^{*}Note: Recovery in plasma is poor for some analytes. Serum is the preferred sample type.

Linearity of Dilution

For testing linearity of dilution, serum and plasma samples were first diluted two-fold with Assay Buffer and spiked with target proteins at known concentrations. The spiked samples were then serially diluted 1:2, 1:4, 1:8 with Matrix A and assayed. For testing linearity of dilution, cell culture samples were spiked with target proteins at known concentrations and serially diluted 1:2, 1:4, 1:8 with Assay Buffer. The measured concentrations of serially diluted samples were then compared with that of the two-fold diluted samples and neat samples, respectively.

Analyte	Linearity of Dilution (Serum) (N = 4)	Linearity of Dilution (Plasma) (N = 6)	Linearity of Dilution (Cell Culture) (N = 2)
Human IL-6	107%	132%	105%
Human FLT3L	114%	112%	107%
Human GM-CSF	129%	120%	101%
Human IL-3	127%	113%	114%
Human IL-34	126%	115%	102%
Human IL-11	102%	155%	110%
Human SCF	102%	220%	120%
Human LIF	117%	365%	104%
Human CXCL12 (SDF-1)	84%	137%	90%
Human IL-15	90%	151%	119%
Human M-CSF	111%	205%	126%
Human IL-7	106%	149%	101%

^{*}Note: Linearity in plasma is poor for some analytes. Serum is the preferred sample type.

Intra-Assay Precision

Two samples with different concentrations of target proteins were analyzed in one assay with 16 replicates for each sample. The intra-assay precision was calculated as below.

Analyte	Sample	Mean (pg/mL)	STDEV	%CV
Human IL-6	Sample 1	53.8	3.6	6.7%
Hulliali IL-0	Sample 2	232.3	9.5	4.1%
Human FLT3L	Sample 1	110.9	9.3	8.4%
Human FLI3L	Sample 2	418.5	26.0	6.2%
Human GM-CSF	Sample 1	52.8	2.9	5.5%
Human Givi-CSF	Sample 2	202.5	7.7	3.8%
Human IL-3	Sample 1	53.2	4.7	8.8%
Human IL-3	Sample 2	221.2	14.0	6.4%
Human II 24	Sample 1	629.4	41.7	6.6%
Human IL-34	Sample 2	2775.3	96.9	3.5%
Human IL-11	Sample 1	102.6	5.9	5.8%
Human IL-11	Sample 2	409.4	15.4	3.8%
Human SCF	Sample 1	58.5	3.0	5.2%
Hullian SCF	Sample 2	211.5	8.3	3.9%
Human LIF	Sample 1	1018.7	71.2	7.0%
Human Lif	Sample 2	4094.5	149.7	3.7%
Human CXCL12	Sample 1	939.7	111.2	11.8%
(SDF-1)	Sample 2	5151.9	192.9	3.7%
Human IL-15	Sample 1	237.2	7.3	3.1%
Hulliali IL-15	Sample 2	922.2	26.9	2.9%
Human M-CSF	Sample 1	49.0	3.7	7.5%
Hulliali ivi-CSF	Sample 2	188.7	6.6	3.5%
Human IL-7	Sample 1	55.3	3.5	6.3%
Tiuilidii iL-7	Sample 2	252.8	6.6	2.6%

Inter-Assay Precision

Two samples with different concentrations of target proteins were analyzed in three independent assays with 3 replicates for each sample. The inter-assay precision was calculated as below.

Analyte	Sample	Mean (pg/mL)	STDEV	%CV
Human IL-6	Sample 1	48.6	3.4	7.0%
Human it-6	Sample 2	220.8	30.6	13.8%
Human FLT3L	Sample 1	89.7	6.5	7.2%
Human FLI3L	Sample 2	394.4	46.8	11.9%
Human GM-CSF	Sample 1	42.5	2.9	6.8%
Human Givi-CSF	Sample 2	180.9	14.5	8.0%
	Sample 1	49.5	3.0	6.0%
Human IL-3	Sample 2	198.6	19.2	9.7%
Human II 24	Sample 1	548.3	56.7	10.4%
Human IL-34	Sample 2	2619.7	262.2	10.0%
Livers on II 44	Sample 1	102.9	7.3	7.1%
Human IL-11	Sample 2	400.8	37.5	9.4%
Lluman CCE	Sample 1	46.4	3.8	8.2%
Human SCF	Sample 2	185.9	17.0	9.1%
Lluman IIF	Sample 1	902.5	47.5	5.3%
Human LIF	Sample 2	3727.4	272.3	7.3%
Human CXCL12	Sample 1	626.3	121.3	19.4%
(SDF-1)	Sample 2	4303.4	747.3	17.4%
Human IL-15	Sample 1	200.9	8.9	4.4%
Human IL-15	Sample 2	858.9	26.6	3.1%
Human M-CSF	Sample 1	42.3	3.1	7.4%
nuillall IVI-CSF	Sample 2	159.4	11.9	7.5%
Human IL-7	Sample 1	48.7	1.8	3.6%
Hullidii IL-7	Sample 2	218.8	9.8	4.5%

Biological Samples

Serum and Plasma (Samples are paired)

Normal human serum samples (n=20) were tested for endogenous levels of the Hematopoietic Stem Cell related cytokines. The concentrations measured are shown below.

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% of Detectable	Median (pg/mL)
Human IL-6	1.6 - 68.3	100%	3.8
Human FLT3L	21.3 - 218.0	100%	30.5
Human GM-CSF	1.5 - 174.9	100%	3.4
Human IL-3	ND - 135.3	60%	4.8
Human IL-34	23.9 - 238.8	100%	35.9
Human IL-11	ND - 1314.7	60%	158.9
Human SCF	36.5 - 890.8	100%	91.8
Human LIF	ND - 25797.1	95%	912.4
Human CXCL12 (SDF-1)	3686.4 - 29067.8	100%	5004.2
Human IL-15	36.9 - 5747.9	100%	138.7
Human M-CSF	27.3 - 957.6	100%	89.0
Human IL-7	12.9 - 62.4	100%	20.8

ND = Non-detectable

Normal human plasma samples (n=20) were tested for endogenous levels of the Hematopoietic Stem Cell related cytokines. The concentrations measured are shown below.

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% of Detectable	Median (pg/mL)
Human IL-6	2.1 - 70.5	100%	4.4
Human FLT3L	15.9 - 113.7	100%	31.2
Human GM-CSF	2.4 - 186.9	100%	4.9
Human IL-3	8.1 - 157.9	100%	41.8

Human IL-34	114.6 - 1832.2	100%	560.4
Human IL-11	ND - 1005.0	35%	133.3
Human SCF	6.6 - 1755.6	100%	19.4
Human LIF	ND - 2032.2	75%	247.6
Human CXCL12 (SDF-1)	1154.5 - 46981.3	100%	2838.9
Human IL-15	ND - 8597.1	65%	153.8
Human M-CSF	ND - 3125.6	80%	40.9
Human IL-7	3.1 - 696.7	100%	5.4

ND = Non-detectable

Rheumatoid Arthritis Patient Samples

Rheumatoid arthritis patient serum samples (n=7) were purchased from a commercial source and tested for endogenous levels of the Hematopoietic Stem Cell related cytokines. The concentrations measured are shown below.

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% of Detectable	Median (pg/mL)
Human IL-6	385.0 - 5611.2	100%	900.5
Human FLT3L	ND - 1510.7	57%	1073.9
Human GM-CSF	ND - 8.4	29%	7.4
Human IL-3	ND - 2.6	43%	2.0
Human IL-34	ND - 233.3	86%	27.5
Human IL-11	4.0 - 2064.1	100%	38.6
Human SCF	53.5 - 540.8	100%	116.6
Human LIF	ND - 12314.9	71%	746.1
Human CXCL12 (SDF-1)	ND - 984.2	86%	292.8
Human IL-15	ND - 605.6	57%	334.5
Human M-CSF	12.9 - 481.1	100%	180.4
Human IL-7	1.9 - 8.7	100%	3.8

Rheumatoid arthritis patient synovial fluid samples (n=9) were purchased from a commercial source and tested for endogenous levels of the Hematopoietic Stem Cell related cytokines. The concentrations measured are shown below.

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% of Detectable	Median (pg/mL)
Human IL-6	ND - 20.4	78%	3.6
Human FLT3L	34.5 - 1010.9	100%	159.9
Human GM-CSF	ND - 0.7	22%	0.7
Human IL-3	ND	0%	0.0
Human IL-34	ND - 44.7	44%	24.8
Human IL-11	ND - 5.7	11%	5.7
Human SCF	80.0 - 971.7	100%	382.5
Human LIF	ND - 14303.5	89%	1403.8
Human CXCL12 (SDF-1)	728.4 - 1574.0	100%	1393.1
Human IL-15	ND - 352.4	56%	191.0
Human M-CSF	ND - 170.9	89%	18.9
Human IL-7	5.4 - 37.4	100%	13.3

ND = Non-detectable

Cell Culture Supernatant

Human PBMCs (1 x 10^6 cells/mL) were cultured unstimulated and stimulated for 3 days. The stimulation conditions were CD3 (1 μ g/mL; platecoated); and CD28 (1 μ g/mL; soluble) Supernatants were collected after 72 hours of culturing and assayed with LEGENDplexTM Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel. The results (all in pg/mL) are summarized below.

Human A549 lung carcinoma cells were cultured unstimulated and stimulated (2.5 ng/mL IL-1 α) for 24 hours. Supernatents were collected after 24 hours of culturing and assayed with LEGENDplexTM Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel. The results (all in pg/mL) are summarized below.

LEGENDplex™ Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell Panel

Analyte	PBMC Control	PBMC + CD3 + CD28	A549 Control	A549 + IL-1 α
Human IL-6	15.2	11012.4	7.4	1137.7
Human FLT3L	ND	ND	ND	ND
Human GM-CSF	1.3	1797.6	ND	82.5
Human IL-3	10.1	1245.5	2.2	1.8
Human IL-34	ND	ND	12.4	19.1
Human IL-11	7.7	31.4	214.8	774.2
Human SCF	ND	ND	17.4	18.8
Human LIF	ND	6076.3	201.6	905.6
Human CXCL12 (SDF-1)	125.9	118.2	542.0	556.6
Human IL-15	19.2	ND	ND	32.6
Human M-CSF	ND	1656.8	109.2	405.6
Human IL-7	ND	0.8	1.1	2.6

ND = Non-detectable

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Bead popula- tion shifting upward or downward dur- ing acquisition	The strong PE signal from high concentration samples or standards may spill over to classification Channel (e.g., FL3/FL4/APC) and mess up the bead separation.	Optimize instrument settings using Kit Setup Beads, and make appropriate com- pensation between channels.
	Vacuum pressure is insufficient or vacuum manifold does not seal properly.	Increase vacuum pressure such that 0.2 mL buffer can be suctioned in 3-5 seconds. Clean the vacuum manifold and make sure no debris on the manifold. Press down the plate on the manifold to make a good seal.
		Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
Filter plate will		If some wells are still clogged during washing, try the following:
not vacuum or some wells clogged	Samples have insoluble particles or sample is too viscous (e.g., serum	1). Add buffer to all the wells, pipette up and down the clogged wells and vacuum again.
	and plasma samples)	2). Use a piece of clean wipe, wipe the under side of the clogged wells and vacuum again.
		3). Take a thin needle (e.g., insulin needle), while holding the plate upward, poke the little hole under each of the clogged wells and vacuum again. Do not poke too hard or too deep as it may damage the filter and cause leaking.
	Filter plate was used without pre-wet.	Pre-wet plate with wash buffer before running the assay.

	Beads inappropriately prepared	Sonicate bead vials and vortex just prior to addition. Agitate mixed beads intermittently in reservoir while pipetting this into the plate.
Insufficient bead count or slow reading	Samples cause beads aggregation due to particulate matter or viscosity.	Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
Slow reading	Beads were lost during washing for in-tube assay	Make sure beads are spun down by visually check the pellet (beads are in light blue or blue color). Be very careful when removing supernatant during washing.
	Probe might be partially clogged.	Sample probe may need to be cleaned, or if needed, probe should be removed and sonicated.
	Vacuum pressure set too high	Adjust vacuum pressure such that 0.2 mL buffer can be suctioned in 3-5 seconds. Do not exceed 10" Hg of vacuum.
Plate leaked	Plate set directly on table or absorbent tow- els during incubations or reagent additions	Set plate on plate holder or raised edge so bottom of filter is not touching any surface.
Trace rearies	Liquid present on the under side of the plate after vacuum	After washing, press down plate firmly on a stack of clean paper towels to dry the underside of the plate.
	Pipette touching and damaged plate filter during additions.	Pipette to the side of wells.
High Back-	Background wells were contaminated	Avoid cross-well contamination by changing tips between pipetting when performing the assay using a multichannel pipette.
ground	Insufficient washes	The background may be due to non- specific binding of SA-PE. Increase number of washes.
Debris (FSC/ SSC) during sample acquisi- tion	Debris or platelet may exist in sample solution.	Centrifuge samples before analyzing samples. Remove platelet as much as possible.

	Beads aggregation	Sonicate and vortex the Beads prior to use.
Variation be-	Multichannel pipette may not be calibrated or inconsistent pipet- ting	Calibrate Pipette. Ensure good pipetting practice. Prime pipette before use may help.
tween duplicate samples	Plate washing was not uniform	Make sure all reagents are vacuumed out completely in all wash steps.
	Samples may contain particulate matters.	Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
Low or poor standard curve	The standard was in- correctly reconstituted, stored or diluted	Follow the protocol to reconstitute, store and dilute standard. Double check your calculation.
signal	Wrong or short incubation time	Ensure the time of all incubations was appropriate.
Signals too high, standard curves satu-	PMT value for FL2/PE set too high	Make sure the PMT setting for the reporter channel is appropriate
rated	Plate incubation time was too long	Use shorter incubation time.
	Samples contain no or below detectable levels of analyte	Make sure the experiment to generate the samples worked. Use proper positive controls.
Sample read- ings are out of range	Samples concentrations higher than highest standard point.	Dilute samples and analyze again.
	Standard curve was saturated at higher end of curve.	Make sure the PMT setting for the reporter channel is appropriate. Use shorter incubation time if incubation time was too long
Missed beads populations during reading, or distribution	Sample may cause some beads to aggregate.	Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
is unequal	Beads populations are not mixed properly	Make sure all bead populations are mixed. and in similar numbers.
	not mixed property	and in similar numbers.

PLATE MAP (for in-plate assay)

	Ī											
	1	2	8	4	2	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
Ö	00	C4	Sample1	Sample5	Sample 9	Sample 13	Sample 17	Sample 21	Sample 25	Sample 29	Sample 33	Sample 37
O	00	C4	Sample1	Sample5	Sample 9	Sample 13	Sample 17	Sample 21	Sample 25	Sample 29	Sample 33	Sample 37
0	C1	CS	Sample2	Sample6	Sample 10	Sample 14	Sample 18	Sample 22	Sample 26	Sample 30	Sample 34	Sample 38
0	C1	S	Sample2	Sample6	Sample 10	Sample 14	Sample 18	Sample 22	Sample 26	Sample 30	Sample 34	Sample 38
O	2	99	Sample3	Sample7	Sample 11	Sample 15	Sample 19	Sample 23	Sample 27	Sample 31	Sample 35	Sample 39
0	C2	CG	Sample3	Sample7	Sample 11	Sample 15	Sample 19	Sample 23	Sample 27	Sample 31	Sample 35	Sample 39
J	 	72	Sample4	Sample8	Sample 12	Sample 16	Sample 20	Sample 24	Sample 28	Sample 32	Sample 36	Sample 40
0	3	<i>C</i> 7	Sample4	Sample8	Sample 12	Sample 16	Sample 20	Sample 24	Sample 28	Sample 32	Sample 36	Sample 40



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