

Cell death, transduction pathway and secretion tracked by flow cytometry

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I.What is Flow Cytometry?

- It is a cellular measure of several parameters
- Based on flow
- Using electronic apparatus to measure





I.Critical point

• Hydrodynamic focusing : one by one

Hydrodynamic Focusing



http://probes.invitrogen.com/resources/education/tutorials/4Intro_Flow/player.html



I.Which parameters are measured?

- Forward Scatter : FSC cell size
- Side Scatter : SSC cell granularity
- Fluorescences : probe linked to a cellular component







How ca this sca

Side Scatter Histogram

Forward Scatter Detector



http://probes.invitrogen.com/resources/education/tutorials/4Intro_Flow/player.html



I.Optical Bench

- Collects light from sample
- Separates light to have specific wavelenght







http://probes.invitrogen.com/resources/education/tutorials/4Intro_Flow/player.html http://www.coulterflow.com/bciflow/instrumentsot.php



I.From light to data



http://www.coulterflow.com/bciflow/





I.Data representation : Radar Plot



Multidimensional analysis



I.Data representation





Images were made with KaluzaTmSoftware, BeckmanCoulter



II.Cell death

- Two principal ways of death
- Apoptosis and necrosis
- Lot of modifications
- Apoptosis : Chromatin condensation, DNA fragmentation, cell size decrease, granularity increase, reduction of metabolism, mithochondrial events, caspases activation, exposition of phosphatidylserine
- Necrosis : Cell size increase due to loss of membrane integrity, and finally cell burst
- Lot of ways to measure cell death





II.Basic death analysis

• Membrane permability tests : PI, 7AAD, Sytox, Ethidium Bromide, YOPRO...







II.Basic death analysis

- Retention tests : Calcein-AM, CFDA-AM, Vital Dye
- Probe passively enters the cell, keeps in only in live cells







http://www.currentprotocols.com/protocol/cy0404 http://www.invitrogen.com



- Annexin V FITC : phosphatidylserine
- Propidium Iodide or 7-AAD : permeabilized membrane
- Jurkat cells treated by Thapsigargin, SERCA pump inhibitor (Eckstein-Ludwig U and al, 2003, *Nature* 424 (6951): 957–61)



Data collected on Cell Lab QUANTA SCTm, Beckman Coulter Images were made with KaluzaTm Software, Beckman Coulter



Untreated

Treated



Untreated

Treated





• DNA fragmentation : Sub G1 peak analysis (Propidium Iodide or 7AAD)







- DNA fragmentation : TUNEL Assay (Terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase dUTP Nick End Labeling)
- BrdU is added to DNA break by TdT, anti-BrdU-FITC/PI
- dUTP-FITC directly





Martin and al, *Current Protocols in molecular biology*; 2001

www.phoenixflow.com

www.Compucyte.com



Mitochondrial events :
 ✓ APO2.7 protein detection

 Membrane depolarisation JC-1/DiOC(6)/Mitotracker...

✓ Bax/Bad/BcI-2/BcI-xL detection

 Caspase global or specific activity



S Fulda and K-M Debatin *Oncogene,* 2006 : 25, 4798-4811



Membrane depolarisation



JC-1 monomeric form : green

JC-1 agregats : red

Changing form is dependant of mitochondrial potential

Mantena S.K and al, Mol Cancer Ther, 2006;5:296-308



- Bax/Bcl-2 expression
- Other protein expression, phosphoprotein





Difficult but precise state of proteins that really act

Images from Cell Signaling Technology/Beckman Coulter



II.Apoptosis analysis Global or specific caspase activity : FLICA (FLuorescent Inhibitor of CAspase)



Substrate reacts with all active caspases, covalently bound to caspase cystein VAD sequence specific, (DEVD 3,7; LETD 8) Reporter emits green light Non covalently bound molecules leave the cell

Image from www.invitrogen.comc

Caspase 3 specific substrate : PhiPhiLux



Arnoult D and al, *Cell Death and Differentiation*, 2003;10:1240-1252

www.PhiPhiLux.com



Active form of caspase 3





http://home.ncifcrf.gov/ccr/flowcore/caspase3.htm



- To resume :

 PS : Annexin V/7AAD or PI

 DNA fragmentation : Sub G1 peak/TUNEL

 Mitochondrial depolarisation : JC-1/DiOC(6)...

 Mitochondrial events : APO2.7/BcL-2/Bad...

 Caspase activity : FLICA/PhiPhilux

 Caspase active state : anti-cleaved caspase
- Not only one, more you have more proofs you give...



- Apoptosis is a transduction pathway
- Phospho (S70) BcL-2 more informative than BcL-2 for sensoring apoptotic death
- A lot of transduction can be monitored by flow cytometry
- Why?
- Monitoring of cell pathway more easily, and more quickly than Western Blotting
- Agonist/antagonist studies
- Pharmacological studies





Flow cytometry

Single cell analysis

individual cell

Multiparameter

simultaneously

types (i.e., DC)

Rapid and scalable

plates in parallel

and selectivity

Performed in 96-well

Ab must be validated

Ab must have high affinity

Collects data for each

Heterogeneous cell types

that is, immune cells

Complex primary samples,

Correlate multiple markers

Small number rare subsets

Direct analysis of rare cell

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Population analysis Obtain average value of multiple cells Homogeneous sample Limited to cultured or purified cells One parameter Obtain data sets individually Large number of cells Requires in vitro derived cultures of rare cells Fime consuming for large sample sets Not amenable to large screening efforts Protein size and Ab specificity Ab selectivity for target is clearly visible

Jacobberger and al, *Cytometry*, 2003;54A:75-88

Krutzik and al, *Clin. Immunol*, 2004;110:206-21

Analysis of phosphoprotein is not simple

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- Need optimisation, comparison, validation vs WB
- Flow Cytometry is the only one to provide you informations on each cell
- Multiparametric analysis cell by cell
- No need to culture, native sample
- Technique is more easy and faster
- More stats



- Accessibility to the antigen?
- Protein complex, fixator and permeabilisator effect on sample?



Krutzik and al, Clin. Immunol, 2004;110:206-21



- What i need? Best separation between neg and pos populations
 FS CD3-PE PERK-AIR
- Scatters? FSC and SSC?
- Gating marker? Depends of your question...









Samples and staining are stable

Table 1 Alexa 647 Antibody Conjugates Give Larger Fold Cbanges Tban Alexa 488 Conjugates			
	Fold change ^a		
	Alexa 488	Alexa 647	
PERK	4.6 ± 0.9^{b}	5.5 ± 1.2	
pp38	8.1 ± 1.3	$17.1 \pm 3.0^{\circ}$	
pStat1	12.4 ± 2.5	$42 \pm 7.8^{\circ}$	
pStat5	3.3 ± 0.2	5.7 ± 1.5	
pStat6	4.7 ± 0.6	6.8 ± 0.4	



- Increasing fixation is not need
- Fix Temp room or 37 ℃ : same
- Storage @ -20 ℃ up to 5 weeks
- Staining time : 15 min
- Alexa Fluor 647 better, but depends of F/P ratio and cytometer characterisitcs

Krutzik and al, Clin. Immunol, 2004;110:206-21





- Differents methods For/Saponine, For/MeOH
- Good, but not the best
- For (2-4%)/Triton X-100 (0,1%) best for fresh blood samples : Best separation, good gating, scatters maintened

Shankey et col, *Cytometry*, 2006;70B:259-69





Monocytes Stimulated by LPS for different times

 Stained with anti-CD14, fixed, permeabilized and stained for phospho ERK, SAP-JNK and p38







 Evaluation of cancer cells sensitivity to chemotherapy

- Appreciate cytokines effects
- Titration of an agonist





Table 3

Clinical applications of phospho-specific flow cytometry

Immune system characterization

- Immune cell development: monitoring phospho-signature of developing T, B, or other lineage specific cells to correlate intracellular activities with stages of cellular differentiation.
- Disease state profiling: combining tetramer staining with intracellular signal assessment to study antigen-specific T cells in viral or bacterial infections. This offers the potential to monitor lymphocyte subsets for responses under acute and chronic infections.
- Monitoring lymphocyte populations in disease murine models or patients, such as blood borne leukemias, or autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis, to correlate phospho-signatures with disease manifestation.
- Biochemical signatures of rare cell populations (dendritic cells, naive and memory effector cells, stem cells) that cannot be analyzed by conventional biochemical techniques.
- Multidimensional assessment of cell signaling networks to understand cell function. Identification of signaling thresholds and connections among disparate signaling cascades.
- Monitoring virally infected cells for altered function and intracellular signaling.
- Characterizing immune cell response patterns to cytokines and extracellular stimuli.

Pharmacodynamic monitoring and drug screening

- Intracellular kinase screens for rapid identification of specific inhibitors or modulators of target kinases.
- Drug screening in primary cells to determine subset-specific efficacy and side effects.
- Target validation of compound specificity by analyzing multiple intracellular pathways simultaneously.
- Clinical trials: monitoring particular compounds for their effects during drug treatment on cellular populations of interest.
- Identification of phospho-epitopes on kinases as diagnostic indicators of disease progression by correlating intracellular biochemical differences with additional clinical parameters.
- Phospho-epitope analysis during vaccination protocols to monitor efficacy at the cellular level.

Krutzik and al, Clin. Immunol, 2004;110:206-21

- Immunology : Following activation of cells after stimulation with cytokines, GF, tetramers, vaccination trial
- Hematology/pharmacology : Following activation status of cancer cells, pathological cells (auto-immune disease), treatment effectiveness
- Discovery of signaling pathways
- Discovery of pathway blocking or activating molecules
- Prognostic marker in disease

• Limits :

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- No localization informations unlike fluorescence microscopy
- ✓ Accessibility to the antigen depends of protocol
- ✓ Sensitivity is higher than WB, no enzyme amplification
- Quantity of data, need time to analyse



- Combine with results from ELISA in supernatant : bulk
- Have a result cell by cell / type by type





- How to do it?
- Stimulate cells or not
- Block secretion pathway : Brefeldin A...
- Stain membrane marker(s)
- Fix and permeabilise cells : For/MeOH or Triton X-100
- Stain intracellular cytokine/phosphoprotein/intracellular protein
- Acquire on flow cytometer



- Exemple : Effect of polluant on T cells?
- Th17 cells are T cells CD3+ CD4+ IL17+ RORγt+ CCR6+ Ouyang W and al, Eur J Immunol, 2009;39:634-675
- Express the AHR Kimura and al, Proc Natl Acad Sci USA, 2008;28:9721-26











How AhR works?



Inhibition of pStat1

Kimura and al, Proc Natl Acad Sci USA, 2008;28:9721-26



V.Conclusion

- Flow cytometry is a powerfull analytical tool, polyvalent
- Cell death
- Transduction pathway
- Secretions
- All you want if you have liquid sample monodispersed elements, which emit light...