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WORKS FOR ME

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Detection of phospho IRF3 and p65 in PBMCs by flow cytometry

COMMENTS 0

This protocol is published without a DOI.

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ABSTRACT

This protocol describes a method to detect phosphorylated IRF3 and phosphorylated p65 (subunit of NFκB) in PBMCs by flow cytometry. An extracellular staining to identify different immune subsets is followed by an intracellular staining steps for the detection of phospho proteins

PROTOCOL CITATION

Andrea Bausch 2022. Detection of phospho IRF3 and p65 in PBMCs by flow cytometry. **protocols.io** <https://protocols.io/view/detection-of-phospho-irf3-and-p65-in-pbmcs-by-flow-cjm2uk8e>

KEYWORDS

pIRF3, phosphoFlow, pP65, IRF3, p65

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Before start

- 1 Prepare DC Medium and pre-warm to 37 °C : RPMI + 5% Human Serum + 1% NEAA + 1% Sodium Pyruvate
Prepare Flow Buffer and cool to 4 °C : PBS+2% heat inactivated FBS + 2mM EDTA
Put an aliquot of Methanol in the freezer and an aliquot of HistoFix and PBS in the fridge
Cool centrifuge to 4 °C

2h

Preparation and stimulation of cells

- 2 Thaw PBMCs and adjust concentration to 1.11×10^7 cells/ml in DC Medium
- 3 Seed $90 \mu\text{L}$ cell suspension in 96-well round bottom plate (1×10^6 cells per well).
- 4 Prepare a 10x stock solution of your stimulus.

Note

A $1 \mu\text{M}$ diABZi solution (final concentration in well) can be used as positive control

- 5 Add $10 \mu\text{L}$ of your prepared stimulus to your cells

- 6 Incubate at 37°C , 5% CO_2 for the desired time






Note

Maximum phosphorylation was detected after 1h for pIRF3 and after 30min for pP65 when stimulated with STING agonists


1h

Extracellular Staining

- 7 All following steps have to be performed **On ice** using ice cold buffers. All centrifugation steps need to be performed at 4°C
 Put an Aliquot of PBS, Flow Buffer and HistoFix on ice

- 8 Spin cells down  300 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant
Resuspend in 200µl Flow Buffer
Spin cells down  300 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant

- 9 Prepare Fc Block and staining mixes. Keep in the fridge until use.

- 9.1 Fc Block: Dilute 1:20 in Flow Buffer. Volume needed:  50 µL per sample

- 9.2 Master Mix:
Prepare in BrilliantStainBuffer:

Master Mix for 1 sample:

A	B	C	D	E
Fluoroch	Markers	Dilut	µl/test	µl Ab
BV421	CD3	50	1	1
BV510	CD14	20	2.5	2.5
BV605	HLA-DR	50	1	1
BV711	CD56	50	1	1
BV785	CD123	50	1	1
FITC	CD19	5	10	10
AF647	CD11c	100	0.5	0.5
eFluor78	Via eF78	500	0.1	0.1
			µl Brilliant	32.9



- 9.3 Prepare intracellular staining mix
Dilute pIRF3 or pP65 antibody 1:50 in Flow Buffer
Volume needed: 50µl per sample

- 9.4 Prepare staining mixes for controls
e.g. Viability Dye Single Staining, FMO controls

- 10 Resuspend in 50 µL FcBlock (1:20 pre-dilution in Flow Buffer)
Incubate 00:15:00 On ice 15m
- 11 300 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00 5m
Discard supernatant
- 12 Resuspend cells in 50µl MasterMix
Incubate for 00:20:00 On ice in the dark (cover with aluminum foil to protect from light) 20m
- 13 Add 150µl of Flow Buffer per well
Spin cells down 300 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00 10m
Discard supernatant
Resuspend in 200µl Flow Buffer
Spin cells down 300 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant

Fixation and permeabilization 1h 5m


- 14 Resuspend cells in 100µl of FlowBuffer
Add 100µl of ice cold 4% HistoFix
Incubate On ice for 00:10:00 in the dark 10m
- 15 Spin cells down 500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00 10m
Discard supernatant
Resuspend in 200µl ice cold PBS
Spin cells down 500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant
- 16 Resuspend cells slowly in 180µl ice cold Methanol 30m
Incubate for 00:30:00 - 60min at 4 °C in the fridge
- 17 Spin cells down 500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00 15m
Discard supernatant
Resuspend in 200µl ice cold FACS Buffer

Spin cells down  500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant
Resuspend in 200µl ice cold FACS Buffer
Spin cells down  500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant



40m

Intracellular Staining

30m

- 18 Resuspend cells in 50µl intracellular staining mix
Incubate  00:30:00 at 4C

10m

- 19 Add 150µl of Flow Buffer per well
Spin cells down  500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant
Resuspend in 200µl Flow Buffer
Spin cells down  500 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00
Discard supernatant

- 20 Resuspend in 100µl of Flow Buffer and keep at 4C protected from light until acquisition