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## 🌐 Immunostaining

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### ABSTRACT

This is a protocol that describes how to use antibody staining to detect cellular epitopes by immunofluorescence microscopy.

### ATTACHMENTS

[260-2491.docx](#)

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#### DOI:

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**protocols.io**

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**Protocol status:** Working

We use this protocol and it's working

**Created:** Jan 16, 2024

PROTOCOL integer ID: 93738

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Cell culture

25-50% confluent wells of cells growing on coverslips in 24-well plates.

Equipment

- Platform shaker
- Microcentrifuge

Buffers & Reagents

- 4% paraformaldehyde (diluted from  
Pierce&trade; 16% Formaldehyde (w/v), Methanol-free Thermo  
Fisher Catalog #28908  
) in 1X PBS (diluted from  
PBS (10X), pH 7.4 Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #70011051 )
- 1X PBS
- 0.1 % Triton X-100 in PBS
- Blocking Buffer:

A	B
Milk powder (Sucofin)	5%
Triton X-100	0.1%
PBS	pH 7.4

- 2 drops/ml  
NucBlue&trade; Fixed Cell ReadyProbes&trade; Reagent Thermo  
Fisher Catalog #R37606
- Fluorescence Mounting Medium Agilent Technologies Catalog #S302380-2
- Appropriate primary and fluorophore-conjugated secondary antibodies
- Microscope slides

## Fixation

1 Aspirate media and gently wash each well with 1X PBS.




2 Aspirate PBS and place  500  $\mu$ L of 4% paraformaldehyde onto each well.



3 Fix at  Room temperature for  00:10:00 .

10m

4 Remove 4% paraformaldehyde and add  1 mL 1X PBS.






### Note

At this point, the plate can be stored for several months at  4 °C .

## Immunostaining

2h 40m

5 Permeabilize  1 mL 0.1% Triton X-100 and gently shake at  Room temperature for  00:05:00 .


5m



6 Block in  1 mL Blocking Buffer for  01:00:00 .

1h



7 Dilute primary antibodies into Blocking Buffer and add  300  $\mu$ L of diluted antibodies to each well.



8

Shake at 4 °C Overnight .

1h



9

Wash 3x with 1 mL PBS, gently shaking at Room temperature each time for 00:05:00 .

5m



10

During washes, centrifuge tubes of secondary antibodies at 16000 x g for 00:10:00 at 4 °C 10m



11

Dilute secondary antibodies into Blocking Buffer 1:500.



12

Incubate coverslips in 300 µL diluted secondary antibody for 2-3 hr at Room temperature with gentle shaking, protected from light.





13



Wash with 1 mL PBS for 00:05:00 with gentle shaking.

5m




14 Add  1 mL diluted NucBlue and incubate with gentle shaking for  00:05:00 , protected from light. 5m



15 Wash 2x with  1 mL PBS for  00:05:00 with gentle shaking. 5m




16 Allow fluorescence mounting medium to come to  Room temperature .

17 Add one drop of fluorescence mounting medium onto microscope slides for each coverslip.



18 Mount coverslips onto slides.

19 Let slides cure at  Room temperature  Overnight , protected from light. 5m

