



# WHOLE BLOOD MDSC STAIN-FLOW CYTOMETRY

Created by: Grace Teskey

Date: March 2017  
Updated: June 2019

Bowdish Lab, McMaster University  
Hamilton, ON, Canada  
[www.bowdish.ca](http://www.bowdish.ca)

## EQUIPMENT/MATERIALS

- eBioscience 1-Step fix/lyse solution (10X) (00-5333-57)
- Antibodies (See page 3)
- FACs Wash (0.5% (w/v) BSA, 5mM EDTA (pH 7.4-7.6), for 500mL 2.5g BSA, 5mL of 0.5M EDTA)
- 2mL microcentrifuge tubes
- 5mL polystyrene round bottom tubes
- 5mL polystyrene round bottom tubes with cell-strainer cap (Corning REF:352235)
- eBioscience OneComp eBeads (01-1111-41)
- CountBright™ Absolute Counting Beads (C36950)
- FlowJo software

## PROTOCOL

### Buffer Preparation

1. Prepare a 1x working solution of 1-Step Fix/Lyse buffer by mixing 1 part of 10x Fix/Lyse solution with 9 parts of distilled water.

### Cell Staining

1. Prepare lymphocyte stain in a 2mL microcentrifuge tube. Stain for 1 sample is made up to 50  $\mu$ L in FACs Wash (7.25  $\mu$ L and antibody + 42.75  $\mu$ L FACs Wash) and is in 3X working concentration. *Concentrations shown below are for 50 $\mu$ L final volume.*

Cell Surface Marker	Fluorophore	Antibody Concentration	Volume ( $\mu$ L)
CD45	BV510	1/100	0.5
CD16	PE-Cy7	1/100	0.5
CD14	BV421	1/100	0.5
CD11b	APC	1/50	1.0
HLA-DR	PerCPCy5.5	1/100	0.5
CD15	BV650	1/200	0.25
CD3	AF700	1/50	1.0
CD56	AF700	1/50	1.0
CD19	AF700	1/50	1.0
CD33	PE	1/100	0.5
CD34	FITC	1/100	0.5

**Note:** for each sample, two stains are required. One unstained control (50 $\mu$ L of FACS wash) and one complete stain as described above.

2. Add 100  $\mu$ L of whole blood that was collected in a heparinized or EDTA coated blood collection tube. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature away from light.
3. Top up 2mL microcentrifuge tube containing stain and blood with 1-Step fix/lyse solution (made to 1X in distilled water). Incubate for 10 minutes at room temp away from light with intermittent inversion. *This step is for RBC lysis as well as fixation of white blood cells.*
4. Spin down at 2000rpm for 5 minutes at 4°C.
5. Aspirate supernatant. Wash pellet with 2mL FACS Wash. Spin down at 2000rpm for 5 minutes at 4°C.
6. Aspirate supernatant and resuspend in 240  $\mu$ L of FACS Wash. *If running the sample on cytometer immediately, continue to step 7. If not, store samples at 4 °C away from light for up to 24 hours)*

7. Filter cells through 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  mesh to ensure single cell suspension and add 10  $\mu\text{L}$  of count beads to each sample if counts are needed.

**Compensation Controls-** *To be made right before running flow*

1. In a 5mL polystyrene tube, dilute 2 drops of OneComp eBeads to 2.5mL with FACs Wash and vortex. *Be sure to vortex OneComp eBeads before use.*
2. Aliquot 240 $\mu\text{L}$  of diluted eBeads into 10 polystyrene tubes.
3. Add 0.5 $\mu\text{L}$  of each antibody used in the stain into one tube (i.e. 0.5 $\mu\text{L}$  of CD45 antibody into tube 1, 0.5 $\mu\text{L}$  of CD16 antibody into tube 2, etc) leaving one tube unstained. Vortex tubes. *Only one compensation tube needed for AF700.*
4. Keep tubes away from light until needed.

**Antibody List**

Marker	Fluorophore	Company	Catalogue #
CD45	BV510	Biolegend	304036
CD14	BV421	Biolegend	301830
CD16	PE-Cy7	eBioscience	25-0168-42
HLA-DR	PerCPCy5.5	eBioscience	45-9956-42
CD19	AF700	eBioscience	56-0199-42
CD56	AF700	BD	555516
CD3	AF700	BD	557943
CD15	BV650	Biolegend	323034
CD33	PE	Biolegend	303404
CD34	FITC	Biolegend	343604
CD11b	APC	BD	550019

**Considerations:**

We have observed a significant decrease in gMDSC numbers after 2hours of collection. Collected blood should be processed within two hours to ensure accurate representation of the MDSC populations.

# MDSC Gating Strategy:

