RayBio® Label-Based (L-Series) Human cAMP/cGMP Pathway Screening Array

Patent Pending Technology
User Manual (Mar 13, 2023)

For the simultaneous detection of the relative expression of 210 Human proteins in serum, plasma, cell culture supernatants, cell/tissue lysates or other body fluids.

AAH-BLG-AMP-4 (4 Sample Kit)
AAH-BLG-AMP-8 (8 Sample Kit)

Please read manual carefully before starting experiment

RayBiotech
Empowering your proteomics

Your Provider of Excellent Protein Array Systems and Services

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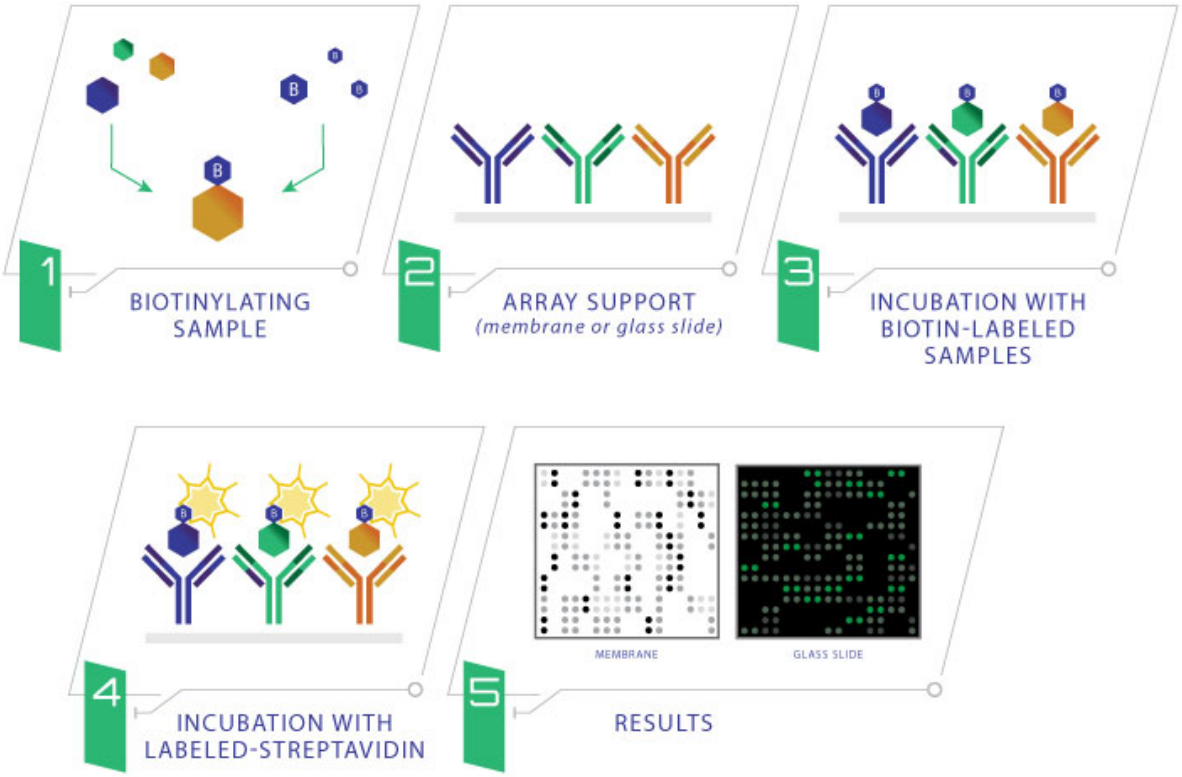
I. Introduction

The first step in using the RayBio® L-Series Antibody Array is to biotinylate the primary amine groups of the proteins in your sample (sera or plasma, cell culture supernatants, cell lysates or tissue lysates). The glass slide arrays are then blocked, just like a western blot, and the biotin-labeled sample is added onto the glass slide, which is pre-printed with capture antibodies. The slide is incubated to allow binding of target proteins. Streptavidin-conjugated fluorescent dye (Cy3 equivalent) is then applied to the array. Finally, the glass slide is dried, and laser fluorescence scanning is used to visualize the signals.



II. Materials Provided

A. Storage Recommendations

Upon receipt, the kit should be stored at -20°C until needed. It is recommended to use the kit within 6 months of the date of shipment. After initial use, remaining reagents should be stored at 4°C and may be stored for up to 3 months. Labeling Reagent (Item B) should be prepared fresh each time before use. Unused glass slides should be kept at -20°C and repeated freeze-thaw cycles should be avoided (slides may be stored for 6 months).

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	4 SAMPLE KIT	8 SAMPLE KIT
A	Spin Columns (0.5ml)	8 columns	16 columns
B	Labeling Reagent	1 vial	2 vials
D	Stop Solution	1 vial (50 µl)	1 vial (50 µl)
E	RayBio® L-Series Glass Slide*	1 slide	2 slides
F	Blocking Buffer	1 bottle (8 ml)	2 bottles (8 ml)
G	20X Wash Buffer I	1 bottle (30 ml)	1 bottle (30 ml)
H	20X Wash Buffer II	1 bottle (30 ml)	1 bottle (30 ml)
I	Cy3 equivalent-Conjugated Streptavidin	1 vial	2 vials
J	Adhesive Plastic Strips		
K	Labeling Buffer	1 bottle (30 ml)	1 bottle (30 ml)
n/a	2X Cell Lysis Buffer**	1 bottle (10 ml)	1 bottle (10 ml)
M	30 ml Centrifuge Tube	1 tube	1 tube

*Each slide contains 4 identical subarrays
**Only needed if testing cell or tissue lysates

B. Additional Materials Required

- 1 ml tube, small plastic or glass containers
- Orbital shaker or oscillating rocker
- Pipettors, pipette tips and other common lab consumables
- Laser scanner for fluorescence detection
- Aluminum foil

III. Overview and General Considerations

A. Preparation and Storage of Samples

1. Preparation of Cell Culture Supernatants
    1. Seed cells at a density of $1x10^6$ cells in 100 mm tissue culture dishes.*
    2. Culture cells in complete culture medium for ~24-48 hours.**
    3. Replenish with serum-free or low-serum medium such as 0.2% FCS/FBS serum, and then incubate cells again for ~48 hours.**,+ The membrane-based array is recommended if high serum medium such as 10% FCS/FBS is used, as high background can occur on glass slide arrays with high serum containing media samples.
    4. To collect supernatants, centrifuge at 1,000 x g for 10 minutes and store as less than or equal 1 ml aliquots at -80°C until needed.
    5. If you want to use cell mass for inter-sample normalization, measure the total wet weight of cultured cells in the pellet and/or culture dish. You may then normalize between arrays by dividing fluorescent signals by total cell mass (i.e., express results as the relative amount of protein expressed/mg total cell mass). Or you can normalize between arrays by determining cell lysate concentration using a total protein assay (BCA Protein Assay Kit, Pierce, Prod #: 23227).

    **The density of cells per dish used is dependent on the cell type. More or less cells may be required.*

    ***Optimal culture time may vary and will depend on the cell line, treatment conditions and other factors.*

    +Bovine serum proteins produce detectable signals on the RayBio® L-Series Array in media containing serum concentrations as low as 0.2%. When testing serum-containing media, we strongly recommend testing an uncultured media blank for comparison with sample results.

2. Extracting Protein from Cells
    1. Centrifuging Cells
        a. Adherent Cells:
            i. Remove supernatant from cell culture and wash cells gently twice with cold 1X PBS taking care not to disturb cell layer.
            ii. Add enough cold 1X PBS to cover cell layer and use cell scraper to detach cells.
        b. Cells in Suspension: Pellet the cells by centrifuging using a microcentrifuge at 1500 rpm for 10 minutes.
    2. Make sure to remove any remaining PBS before adding 1X Cell Lysis Buffer (2X Cell Lysis Buffer should be diluted 2-fold with ddH_2O). Solubilize the cells at $2x10^7$ cells/ml in 1X Cell Lysis Buffer.

3. Pipette up and down to resuspend cells and rock the lysates gently at 2-8°C for 30 minutes. Transfer extracts to microfuge tubes and centrifuge at 13,000 rpm for 10 minutes at 2-8°C.

   Note: If the lysates appear to be cloudy, transfer the lysates to a clean tube, centrifuge again at 13,000 rpm for 20 minutes at 2-8°C. If the lysates are still not clear, store them at -20°C for 20 minutes. Remove from the freezer and immediately centrifuge at 13,000 rpm for 20 minutes at 2-8°C.

4. Transfer lysates to a clean tube. Determining cell lysate concentrations using a total protein assay (BCA Protein Assay Kit, Pierce, Prod# 23227). Aliquot the lysates and store at -80°C.

3. Extracting Protein from Crude Tissue

   1. Transfer approximate 100 mg crude tissue into a tube with 1 ml 1X Cell Lysis Buffer (2X Cell Lysis Buffer should be diluted 2-fold with ddH_2O).
   2. Homogenize the tissue according to homogenizer manufacturer instructions.
   3. Transfer extracts to microcentrifuge tubes and centrifuge for 20 minutes at 13,000 rpm (4°C).

      Note: If the supernatant appears to be cloudy, transfer the supernatants to a clean tube, centrifuge again at 13,000 rpm for 20 minutes at 2-8°C. If the supernatant is still not clear, store the lysate at -20°C for 20 minutes. Remove from the freezer, immediately centrifuge at 13,000 rpm for 20 minutes at 2-8°C.

   4. Transfer supernatant to a clean tube and store at -80°C.

4. Determine the total protein concentration

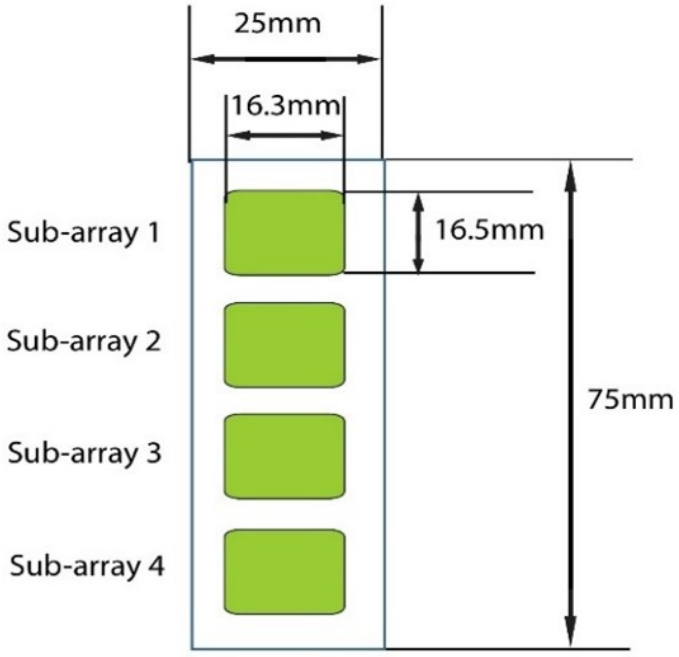
   For optimal biotin labeling, it is necessary to determine the protein concentration in the cell/tissue lysate. We recommended using a BCA total protein assay (e.g., Pierce, Catalog # 23227).

B. Handling the Glass Slides

- The microarray slides are delicate. Please do not touch the array surface with pipette tips, forceps or your fingers. Hold the slides by the edges only.
- Handle the slides with powder-free gloves and in a clean environment.
- Do not remove the glass slide from the chamber assembly until step 20, and take great care not to break the glass slide when doing so.
- Remove reagents/sample by gently applying suction with a pipette to corners of each chamber. Do not touch the printed area of the array, only the sides as seen in image below.

C. Layout of Array Slide

Four identical sub-arrays on one slide



4 printed sub-arrays per glass chip

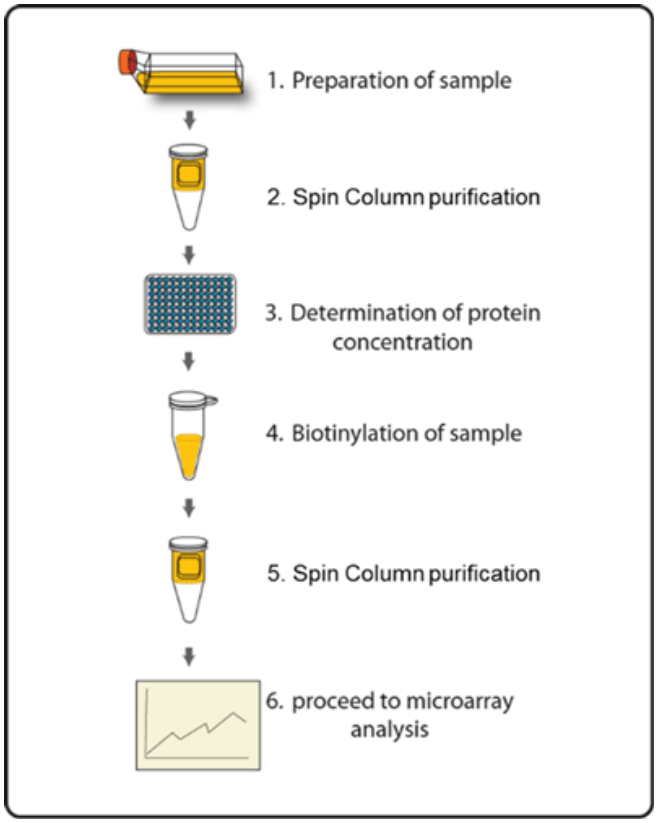
D. Incubations and Washes

- Cover incubation chamber with a Plastic Adhesive Strip (Item J) to prevent evaporation during incubation or wash steps, particularly those steps lasting 2 hours or longer.
- During incubation and wash steps avoid foaming and remove all bubbles from the sub-array surface.
- Perform all incubation and wash steps under gentle rotation or rocking motion (~0.5 to 1 cycle/sec).
- Wash steps in Wash Buffer II and all incubation steps may be performed overnight at 4°C
- Avoid cross-contamination of samples to neighboring wells. To remove Wash Buffers and other reagents from chamber wells, you may invert the Glass Slide Assembly to decant, and aspirate the remaining liquid.
- Unlike most Cy3 fluors, the streptavidin-conjugated fluor used in this kit is very stable at room temperature (RT) and resistant to photobleaching on the hybridized glass slides. However, please protect glass slides from direct, strong light and temperatures above RT.

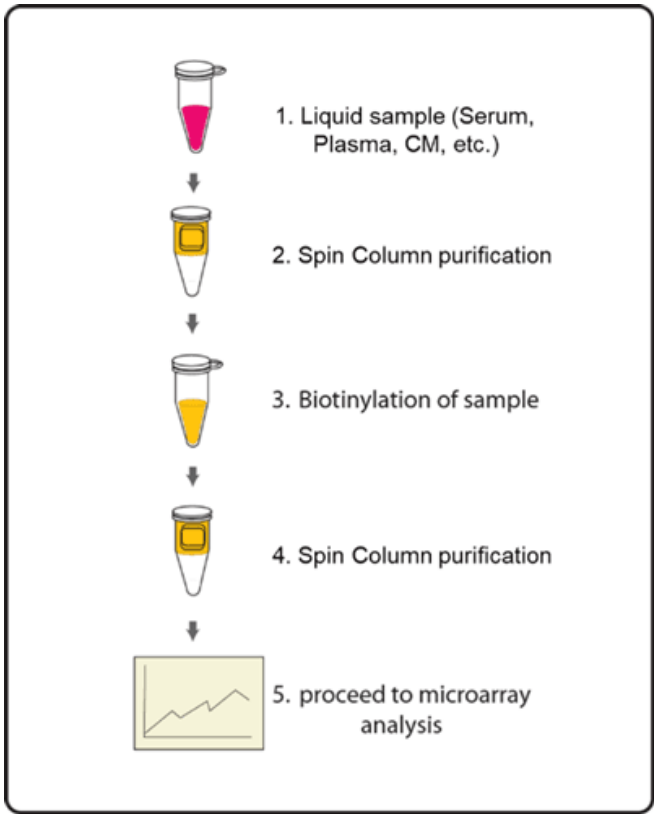
IV. Protocol

Assay Diagram

1. Cell/tissue lysates



2. Serum, plasma, or Cell culture supernatants



A. Sample Purification

Note: This step removes low molecular weight amine derivatives or unwanted buffer from samples to ensure quality biotinylation in Steps 5-7.

1. Twist to remove the bottom plug of the Spin Column and loosen the cap (do not remove).
2. Place the Spin Column into a collection tube and centrifuge at 1,500 x g for 1 minute to remove the storage buffer. Discard the flow-through.
3. Wash the Spin Column three times with 300 µl Labeling Buffer each, centrifuge at 1,500 x g for 1 minute to remove the flow-through. Discard the flow-through and blot the bottom of the column to remove excess liquid. Transfer the Spin Column to a new collection tube.
4. Apply sample on top of the resin within the next few minutes. Centrifuge at 1,500 x g for 2 minutes. Collect the flow-through that contains the sample. The recommended sample dilutions are as follows:

- *Cell culture supernatant: 120 µl neat supernatant*
- *Serum/Plasma: 2 µl serum/plasma in 100 µl Labeling Buffer*
- *Cell/tissue lysate: 20 µg lysate in 100 µl Labeling Buffer*

Note: Each labelled sample volume is enough for at least 3 arrays following the protocol below.

Note: The maximal sample volume is 130 µl for each Spin Column. Do not load over 130 µl of sample into a Spin Column.

B. Biotin Labeling the Sample

Note: Amines (e.g., Tris, glycine) and azides quench the biotinylation reaction. Avoid contaminating samples with these chemicals prior to biotinylation.

5. Immediately before use, prepare the Labeling Reagent. Briefly spin down the Labeling Reagent tube (Item B). Add 100 µl Labeling Buffer into the tube, then pipette up and down or vortex slightly to dissolve the lyophilized reagent.
6. Add Labeling Reagent to the sample tube. Incubate the reaction solution at RT with gentle rocking or shaking for 30 min. Mix the reaction solution by gently tapping the tube every 5 minutes.
   a. For labeling cell culture supernatants: Add 8 µl of Labeling Reagent into the sample tube (for 120 µl supernatant).
   b. For labeling serum or plasma: Add 8 µl of Labeling Reagent into the sample tube (for 2 µl serum/plasma *in 100 µl labeling buffer*).
   c. For labeling cell or tissue lysates: Add 4 µl of 1X Labeling Reagent into the sample tube (for 20 µg lysate *in 100 µl labeling buffer*).
   d. For all other body fluid: Add 2 µl of Labeling Reagent Solution per 100 µg sample to be labelled.

   Note: The addition of Labeling Reagent volume is based upon the sample amount used in Step 4. If the amount of sample being labelled differs from the example in Step 6, adjust this volume proportionally.
7. Add 3 µl Stop Solution (Item D) to each sample tube. Using a new spin column, repeat Steps 1-4 of section A. Sample Purification to remove the excess non-reacted biotin reagent from each sample.

   Note: Biotinylated samples can be stored at -20°C or -80°C until you are ready to proceed with the assay.

C. Drying the Glass Slide

8. Remove the package containing the Assembled Glass Slide (Item E) from the freezer. Place unopened package on the bench top for ~15 minutes, and allow the Assembled Glass Slide to equilibrate to RT.

9. Open package, and take the Assembled Glass Slide out of the sleeve. Do not disassemble the Glass Slide from the chamber assembly. Place glass slide assembly in laminar flow hood or similar clean environment for 1-2 hours at RT.

   Note: Protect the slide from dust or other contaminants.

D. Blocking and Incubations

Note: Glass slide should be completely dry before adding Blocking Buffer to wells.

10. Block sub-arrays by adding 400 µl of Blocking Buffer (Item F) into each well of Assembled Glass Slide and incubating at RT for 30 minutes. Ensure there are no bubbles on the array surfaces.
11. Dilute samples with Blocking Buffer. Recommended dilution of the biotin-labeled samples with Blocking Buffer is 10-fold for cell culture supernatants, 20-fold for serum/plasma and 100-fold for cell/tissue lysate. *Dilution for other body fluid needs to be determined by the end user. Generally, most samples can be 10-20x dilution, while tears and saliva samples may need 100x dilution.*

    Note: Optimal sample dilution factor will depend on the abundance of target proteins. If the background or antigen-specific antibody signals are too strong, the sample can be diluted further in subsequent experiments. If the signal is too weak, more concentrated samples can be used.
12. Completely remove the Blocking Buffer from each well. Add 400 µl of diluted sample into appropriate wells. Remove any bubbles on array surfaces. Incubate arrays with gentle rocking or shaking for 2 hours at RT or overnight at 4°C

    Note: Avoid the flow of sample into neighboring wells.
13. Based on number of samples and remaining protocol, calculate the amount of 1X Wash Buffer I and 1X Wash Buffer II needed to complete the experiment. Separately dilute the required amounts of 20X Wash Buffer I Concentrate (Item G) 20-fold and 20X Wash Buffer II Concentrate (Item H) with ddH_2O
14. Decant the samples from each well and wash 3 times with 800 µl of 1X Wash Buffer I at RT with gentle rocking or shaking for 5 minutes per wash.
15. Obtain a clean container (e.g., pipette tip box or slide-staining jar), place the Assembled Glass Slide into the container with enough volume of 1X Wash Buffer I to completely cover the entire assembly, and remove any bubbles in wells. Wash 2 times at RT with gentle rocking or shaking for 10 minutes per wash.
16. Decant the Wash Buffer I from each well, place the Assembled Glass Slide into the container with enough volume of 1X Wash Buffer II to completely cover the entire assembly, and remove any bubbles in wells. Wash 2 times at RT with gentle rocking or shaking for 5 minutes per wash.
17. Prepare 1X Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin:
    a. Briefly spin down tube containing the Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin (Item I) immediately before use.

b. Add 1000 µl of Blocking Buffer into the Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin tube to prepare a concentrated Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin stock solution. Pipette up and down to mix gently (do not store the stock solution for later use).

c. To prepare 1X Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin, add 200 µl of the concentrated Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin stock solution into a tube with 800 µl of Blocking Buffer. Mix gently.

18. Carefully remove Assembled Glass Slide from container. Remove all of Wash Buffer II from the wells. Add 400 µl of 1X Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin to each sub-array. Cover the incubation chamber with the plastic adhesive strips.

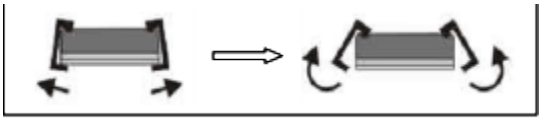
    Note: Avoid exposure to light in Steps 19-25 by covering the Glass Slide Assembly with aluminum foil or incubate in a dark room.

19. Incubate with 1X Cy3-Conjugated Streptavidin at RT for 1 hour with gentle rocking or shaking.

    Note: Incubation may be done overnight at 4°C

20. Decant the solution and disassemble the glass slide from the incubation frame and chamber. Disassemble the device by pushing clips outward from the side, as shown below. Carefully remove the glass slide from the gasket.

    Note: Be careful not to touch the printed surface of the glass slide, which is on the same side as the barcode.



21. Gently place the glass slide into 30 ml Centrifuge Tube (Item M). Add enough 1X Wash Buffer I to cover the entire glass slide (about 30 ml). Wash with gentle rocking or shaking for 10 min. Remove the wash buffer. Repeat 2 times for a total of 3 washes.

22. Add enough 1X Wash Buffer II to cover the entire glass slide (about 30 ml). Wash with gentle rocking or shaking for 5 minutes. Remove the wash buffer. Repeat one time for a total of two washes for 5 minutes per wash.

23. Finally, wash the glass slide with 30 ml of ddH_2O for 5 minutes. Remove glass slide and decant water from Centrifuge Tube.

24. Remove buffer droplets from the slide completely by one of the following ways:
    - Put the glass slide into the Slide Washer/Dryer, and dry the glass slide by centrifuge at 1,000 rpm for 3 minutes without cap.
    - Or dry the glass slide by a compressed N2 stream.
    - Or gently apply suction with a pipette to remove buffer droplets. Do not touch the array surface, only the sides.

    Note: Make sure the finished glass slide is completely dry before scanning or storage.

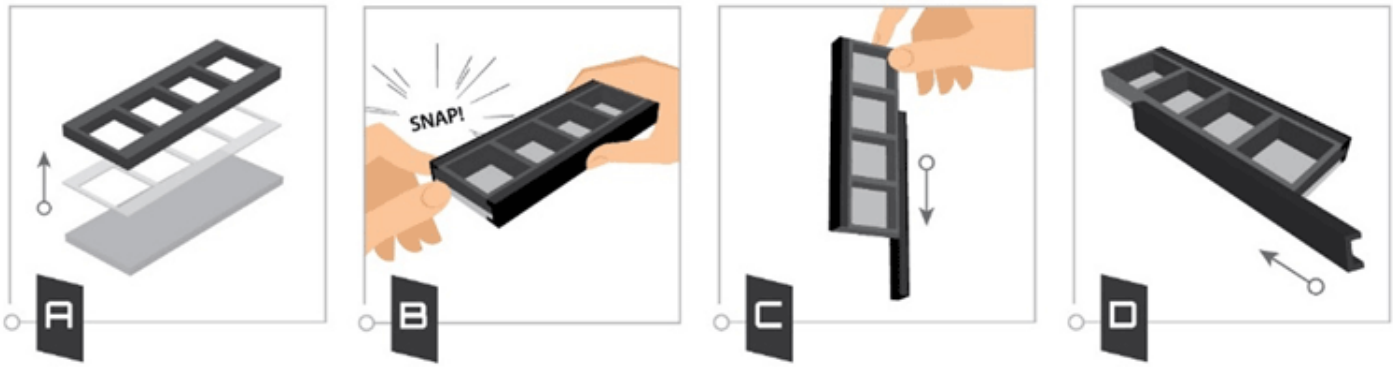
E. Fluorescence Detection

25. You may proceed immediately to scanning or you may store the slide at -20°C in the Centrifuge Tube provided or at RT to scan at a later time.

    Note: Please protect the finished glass slides from temperatures above RT and store them in the dark. Do not expose glass slide to strong light, such as sunlight or a UV lamp.

    Note: If you need to repeat any of the incubation steps after finishing the experiment, you must first re-assemble the glass slide into the incubation chamber by following the steps as described below. To avoid breaking the printed glass slide, you may first want to practice assembling the device with a blank glass slide.

    1. *Apply slide to incubation chamber barcode facing upward (image A).*
    2. *Gently snap one edge of a snap-on side (image B).*
    3. *Gently press other of side against lab bench and push in lengthwise direction (image C).*
    4. *Repeat with the other side (image D)*



V. Antibody Array Map

cAMP/cGMP signal pathway array map

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	POS1	POS1	POS2	POS2	POS3	POS3	Neg	Neg	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	11
2	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	21	21	22	22	23	23	24	24	25	25	26	26
3	27	27	28	28	29	29	30	30	31	31	32	32	33	33	34	34	35	35	36	36	37	37	38	38	39	39	40	40	41	41
4	42	42	43	43	44	44	45	45	46	46	47	47	48	48	49	49	50	50	51	51	52	52	53	53	54	54	55	55	56	56
5	57	57	58	58	59	59	60	60	61	61	62	62	63	63	64	64	65	65	66	66	67	67	68	68	69	69	70	70	71	71
6	72	72	73	73	74	74	75	75	76	76	77	77	78	78	79	79	80	80	81	81	82	82	83	83	84	84	85	85	86	86
7	87	87	88	88	89	89	90	90	91	91	92	92	93	93	94	94	95	95	96	96	97	97	98	98	99	99	100	100	101	101
8	102	102	103	103	104	104	105	105	106	106	107	107	108	108	109	109	110	110	111	111	112	112	113	113	114	114	115	115	116	116
9	117	117	118	118	119	119	120	120	121	121	122	122	123	123	124	124	125	125	126	126	127	127	128	128	129	129	130	130	131	131
10	132	132	133	133	134	134	135	135	136	136	137	137	138	138	139	139	140	140	141	141	142	142	143	143	144	144	145	145	146	146
11	147	147	148	148	149	149	150	150	151	151	152	152	153	153	154	154	155	155	156	156	157	157	158	158	159	159	160	160	161	161
12	162	162	163	163	164	164	165	165	166	166	167	167	168	168	169	169	170	170	171	171	172	172	173	173	174	174	175	175	176	176
13	177	177	178	178	179	179	180	180	181	181	182	182	183	183	184	184	185	185	186	186	187	187	188	188	189	189	190	190	191	191
14	192	192	193	193	194	194	195	195	196	196	197	197	198	198	199	199	200	200	201	201	202	202	203	203	204	204	205	205	206	206
15	207	207	208	208	209	209	210	210	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	POS3	POS3	POS2	POS2	POS1	POS1

VI. Antibody Array Target List

cAMP/cGMP signal pathway array

Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name
1	ACOX1	46	CALM2	91	GRIN2B	136	ORAI1	181	RAP1B
2	ACOX3	47	CALML3	92	GRIN2C	137	OXT	182	RELA
3	ADCY1	48	CALML5	93	GRIN2D	138	PAK1	183	RHOA
4	ADCY2	49	CAMK2A	94	HCAR2	139	PDE2A	184	ROCK1
5	ADCY3	50	CAMK2B	95	HCN4	140	PDE4C	185	ROCK2
6	ADCY4	51	CAMK2D	96	HTR1B	141	PDE4D	186	RRAS2
7	ADCY5	52	CAMK4	97	HTR1D	142	PIK3CA	187	RYR2
8	ADCY6	53	CFTR	98	HTR4	143	PIK3CB	188	SLC25A31
9	ADCY7	54	CGA	99	HTR6	144	PIK3CD	189	SLC25A4
10	ADCY8	55	CHRM1	100	INS	145	PIK3CG	190	SLC25A5
11	ADCY9	56	CHRM2	101	INSR	146	PIK3R1	191	SLC25A6
12	ADCYAP1R1	57	CREB1	102	IRS1	147	PIK3R2	192	SLC8A1
13	ADORA2A	58	CREB3L1	103	IRS2	148	PIK3R3	193	SLC8A3
14	ADRA1A	59	CREB3L2	104	JUN	149	PIK3R5	194	SLC9A1
15	ADRA1B	60	CREBBP	105	KCNMA1	150	PIK3R6	195	SOX9
16	ADRA2A	61	DRD1	106	KNG1	151	PLCB1	196	SST
17	ADRA2B	62	DRD2	107	LHB	152	PLCB2	197	SSTR2
18	ADRB1	63	DRD5	108	LIPE	153	PLCB3	198	SSTR5
19	ADRB2	64	EDN1	109	MAP2K1	154	PLCB4	199	TIAM1
20	ADRB3	65	EDN3	110	MAP2K2	155	PLD1	200	TRPC6
21	AFDN	66	EDNRA	111	MAPK1	156	PLD2	201	TSHB
22	AGTR1	67	EDNRB	112	MAPK3	157	PLN	202	TSHR
23	AKT1	68	EP300	113	MAPK8	158	POMC	203	VASP
24	AKT2	69	F2R	114	MAPK9	159	PPARA	204	VAV1
25	AKT3	70	FFAR2	115	MEF2A	160	PPIF	205	VAV2
26	AMH	71	FOS	116	MEF2C	161	PPP1CA	206	VAV3
27	ATF2	72	FSHB	117	MEF2D	162	PPP1CC	207	VDAC1
28	ATF4	73	FSHR	118	MYH6	163	PPP1R1B	208	VDAC2
29	ATP1A1	74	FXYD2	119	MYH7	164	PPP3CA	209	VIP
30	ATP1A2	75	GABBR1	120	MYLK	165	PPP3CB	210	VIPR2
31	ATP1A3	76	GATA4	121	MYLK4	166	PPP3R1		
32	ATP1B1	77	GCG	122	NFATC1	167	PPP3R2		
33	ATP1B2	78	GHRL	123	NFATC2	168	PRKACA		
34	ATP1B3	79	GHSR	124	NFATC3	169	PRKACB		
35	ATP1B4	80	GIP	125	NFATC4	170	PRKACG		
36	ATP2A1	81	GIPR	126	NFKB1	171	PRKCE		
37	ATP2A3	82	GLI3	127	NFKBIA	172	PRKG2		
38	ATP2B1	83	GLP1R	128	NOS3	173	PTCH1		
39	BAD	84	GNAI1	129	NPPA	174	PTGER2		
40	BDKRB2	85	GNAI2	130	NPPB	175	PTGER3		
41	BDNF	86	GNAI3	131	NPPC	176	RAC1		
42	BRAF	87	GRIA1	132	NPR1	177	RAC2		
43	CACNA1C	88	GRIA2	133	NPR2	178	RAC3		
44	CACNA1S	89	GRIN1	134	NPY	179	RAF1		
45	CALM1	90	GRIN2A	135	NPY1R	180	RAP1A		

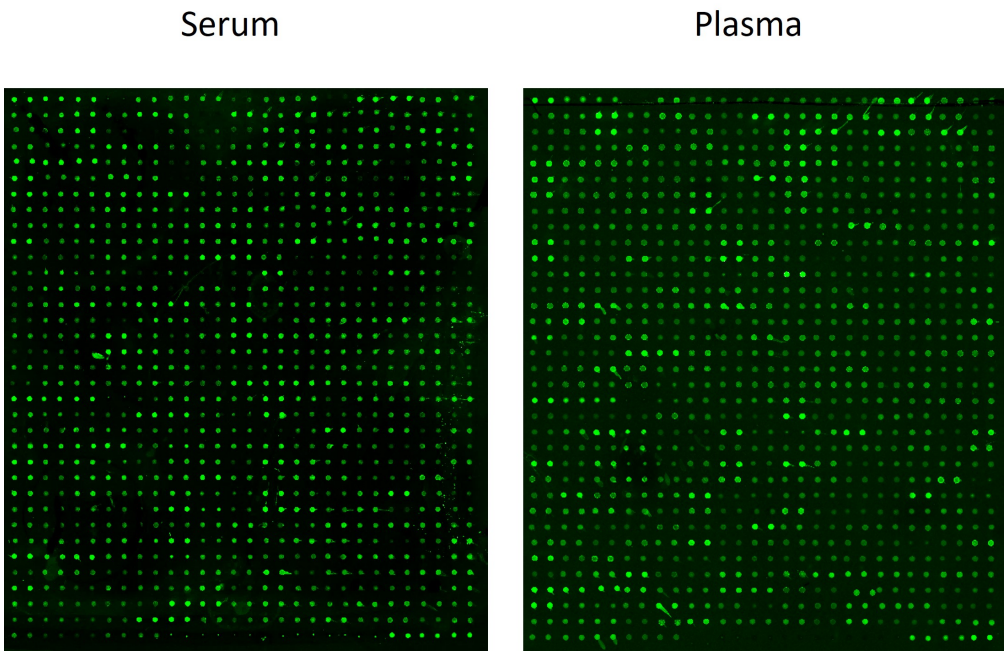
VII. Interpretation of Results

A. Explanation of Controls Spots

There are three Positive Controls (POS1, POS2, POS3) in each array. These are three levels of standardized biotinylated IgG. All other variables being equal, the Positive Control intensities will be the same for each sub-array. This allows for normalization based upon the relative fluorescence signal responses to a known control, much as "housekeeping" genes or proteins are used to normalize results in PCR or Western blots, respectively.

B. Typical Results

The following figure shows the typical result of this array probed with sample(s). The images were captured using an Axon GenePix laser scanner. The Positive control signals in the upper left and lower right corners of each array can be used to identify the orientation and help normalize the results between arrays.



Note: In the absence of an external standard curve for each protein detected, there is no means of assessing absolute or relative concentrations of different proteins in the same sample using immunoassays. If you wish to obtain quantitative data (i.e., concentrations of the various analytes in your samples), try using our Quantibody® Arrays as a targeted follow-up experiment.

C. Background Subtraction

Once you have obtained fluorescence intensity data, you should subtract the background and normalize to the Positive Control signals before proceeding to analysis.

Most laser fluorescence scanners' software has an option to automatically measure the local background around each spot. For best results, we recommend comparing signal intensities representing the MEAN signals minus local background. If your resulting fluorescence signal intensity reports do not include these values (e.g., a column labeled as "F532 Mean - B532"), you may need to subtract the background manually or change the default settings on your scanner's data report menu.

D. Normalization of Array Data

To normalize signal intensity data, one sub-array is defined as "reference" to which the other arrays are normalized. This choice is arbitrary. For example, in our Analysis Tool Software (described below), the array represented by data entered in the left-most column each worksheet is the default "reference array."

You can calculate the normalized values as follows:

$X(Ny) = X(y) * P1/P(y)$

Where:
P1 = mean signal intensity of POS spots on reference array
P(y) = mean signal intensity of POS spots on Array "y"
X(y) = mean signal intensity for spot "X" on Array "y"
X(Ny) = normalized signal intensity for spot "X" on Array "y"

The RayBio® Analysis Tool software is freely available for use with data obtained using RayBio® Biotin Label-based Antibody Arrays. You can copy and paste your signal intensity data (with and without background) into the Analysis Tool, and it will automatically normalize signal intensities to the Positive Controls. Analysis Tool software can be downloaded from the product page on the RayBiotech website.

E. Threshold of Significant Difference

After subtracting background signals and normalization to Positive Controls, comparison of signal intensities between and among array images can be used to determine relative differences in expression levels of each protein between samples or groups.

Any greater than or equal to 1.5-fold increase or less than or equal to 0.65-fold decrease in signal intensity for a single analyte between samples or groups may be considered a measurable and significant difference in expression, provided that both sets of signals are well above background (Mean background + 2 standard deviations, accuracy is around 95%).

VIII. Troubleshooting Guide

Problem	Cause	Recommendation
Weak Signal	Inadequate detection	Increase laser power and PMT parameters
	Inadequate reagent volumes or improper dilution	Check pipettes and ensure correct preparation
	Short incubation time	Ensure sufficient incubation time and change sample incubation step to overnight
	Too low protein concentration in sample	Dilute starting sample less or concentrate sample
	Improper storage of kit	Store kit as suggested temperature. Don't freeze/thaw the slide.
Uneven Signal	Bubble formed during incubation	Handle and pipette solutions more gently; De-gas solutions prior to use
	Arrays are not completed covered by reagent	Prepare more reagent and completely cover arrays with solution
	Reagent evaporation	Cover the incubation chamber with adhesive film during incubation
General	Cross-contamination from neighboring wells	Avoid overflowing wash buffer between wells
	Comet tail formation	Air dry the slide for at least 1 hour before usage
	Inadequate detection	Increase laser power so the highest standard concentration for each cytokine receives the highest possible reading yet remains unsaturated
High Background	Overexposure	Lower the laser power
	Dark spots	Completely remove wash buffer in each wash step
	Insufficient wash	Increase wash time and use more wash buffer
	Dust	Minimize dust in work environment before starting experiment
	Slide is allowed to dry out	Take additional precautions to prevent slides from dying out during experiment

IX. Selected References

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RayBio® L-series Antibody Arrays are patent-pending technology developed by RayBiotech.

This product is for research use only.