RayBio® Label-Based (L-Series) Human Metabolic pathway screening array

Patent Pending Technology
User Manual (Apr 14, 2023)

For the simultaneous detection of the relative expression of 500 Human proteins in serum, plasma, cell culture supernatants, cell/tissue lysates or other body fluids.

AAH-BLG-MBP-4 (4 Sample Kit)
AAH-BLG-MBP-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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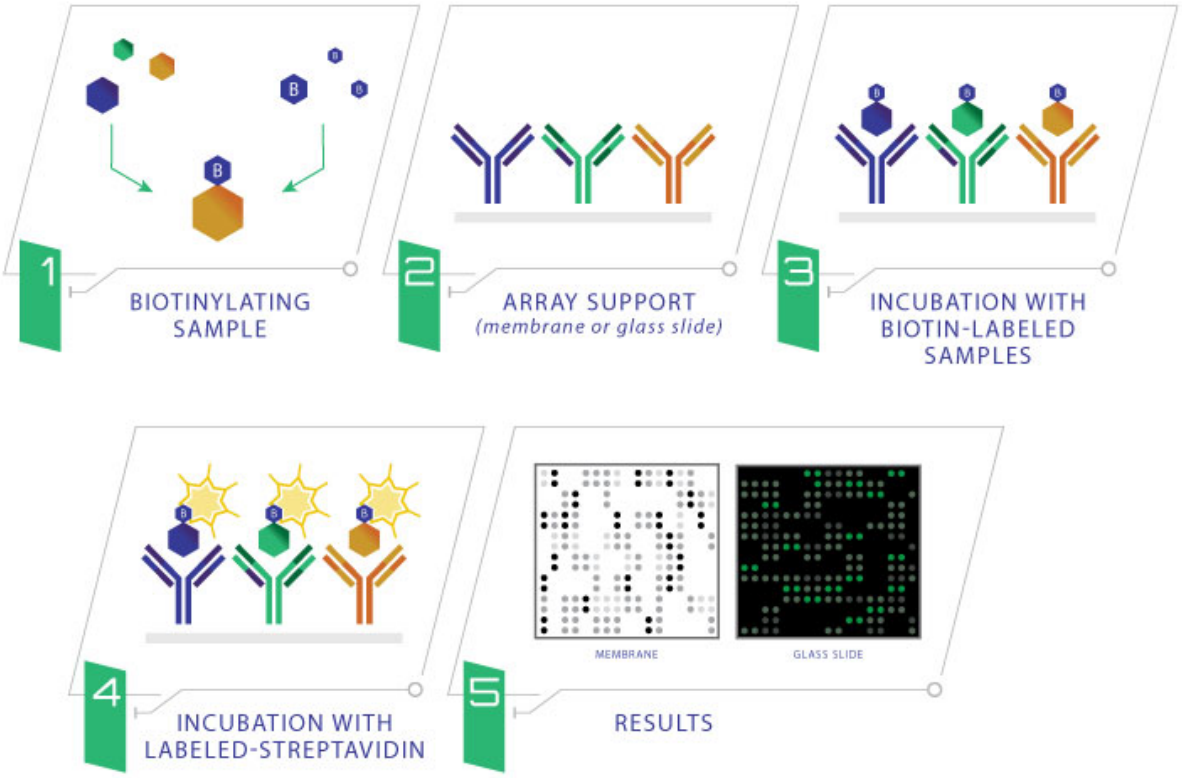
I. Introduction

Combining direct antigen-labeling technology with our vast library of array-validated antibodies, RayBiotech has created the largest commercially available antibody array to date. With the L-Series high density array platform, researchers can now detect thousands of proteins simultaneously, obtaining a broad, panoramic view of protein expression. Our newly expanded panel includes a wide variety of metabolic enzymes, structural proteins, epigenetic markers, neuroregulatory factors, in addition to our popular list of cytokines, growth factors, receptors, adipokines, proteases, and signaling proteins. Available on both glass slide and membrane formats, this array is ideally suited for biomarker discovery studies and exploratory screens.

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

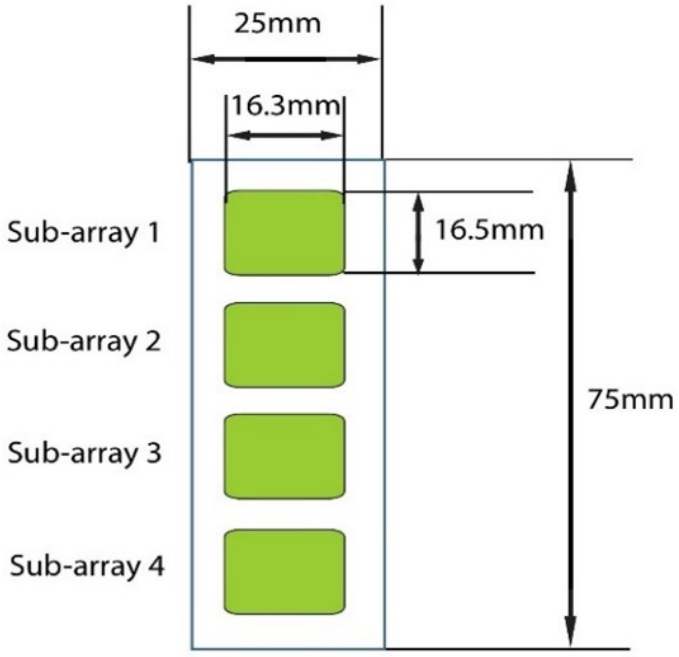
   For optimal biotin labeling, it is necessary to determine the protein concentration in the cell/tissue lysate. We recommended using a BCA total protein assay (e.g., Pierce, Catalog # 23227).

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

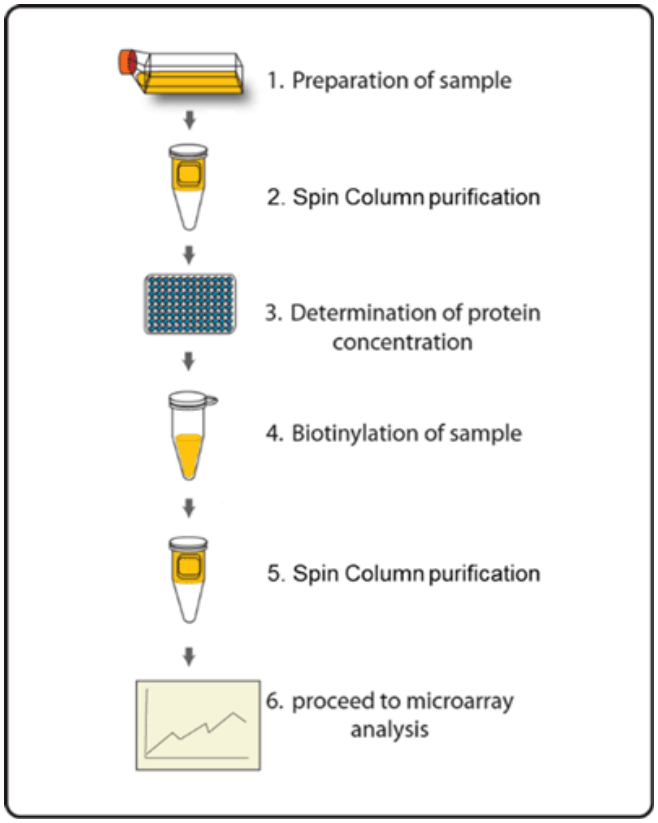
D. Incubations and Washes

- 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.

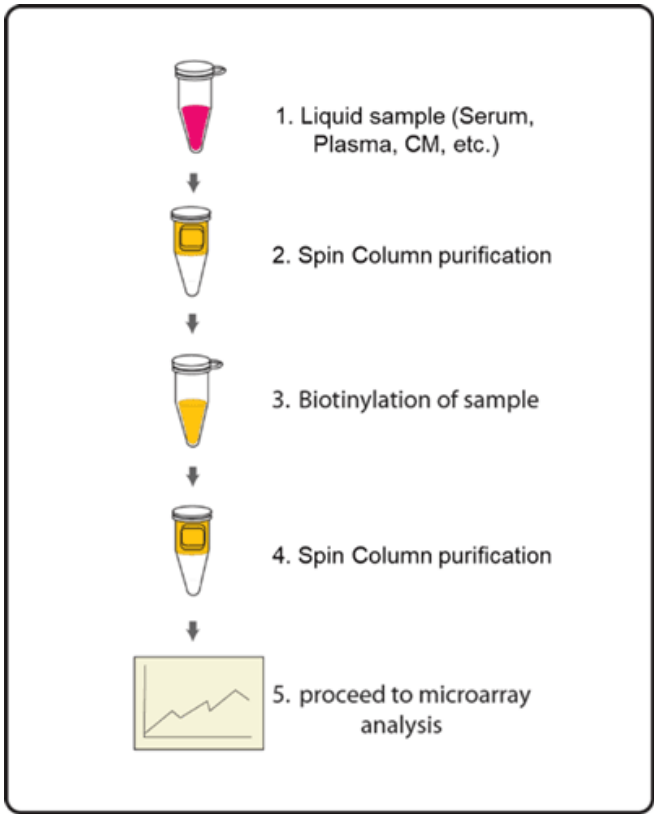
IV. Protocol

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.

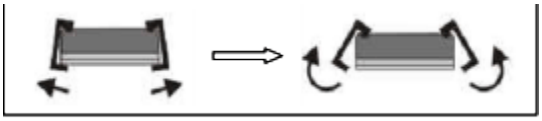
    Note: Avoid exposure to light in Steps 19-25 by covering the Glass Slide Assembly with aluminum foil or incubate in a dark room.

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.

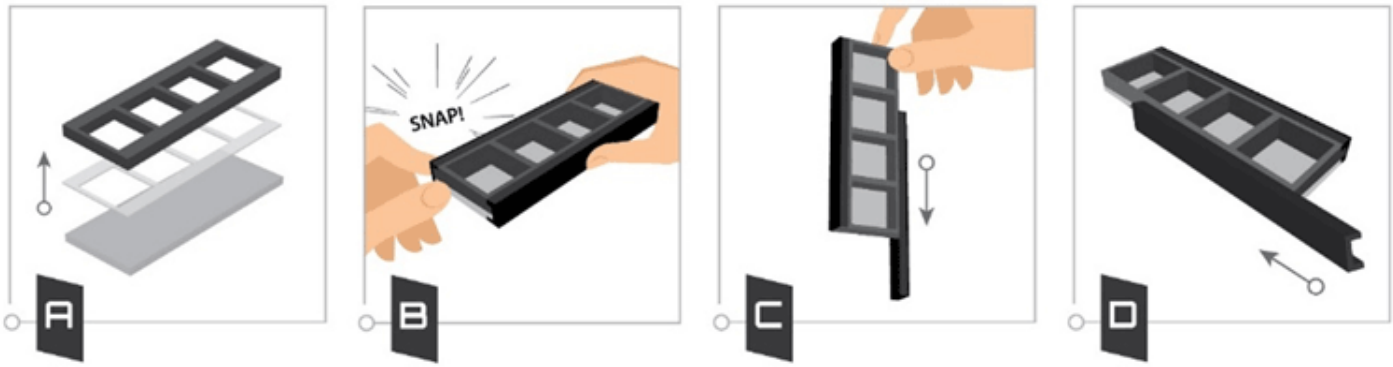
E. Fluorescence Detection

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

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VI. Antibody Array Target List

Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name	Number	Name
1	A4GALT	73	ARSB	145	COASY	217	FUT4	289	HEXB	361	NOS2	433	PTGES2
2	AACS	74	ASAH2	146	COMT	218	FUT7	290	HIBCH	362	NPR1	434	PTGIS
3	AADAT	75	ASPA	147	COQ2	219	FUT8	291	HLCS	363	NQO1	435	PTGS1
4	ACACA	76	ASS1	148	COQ7	220	FUT9	292	HMBS	364	NSDHL	436	PTGS2
5	ACADL	77	ATIC	149	COX10	221	GAA	293	HMGCL	365	NT5C1A	437	PTS
6	ACADS	78	ATP12A	150	COX11	222	GALE	294	HMGCS1	366	NT5E	438	QDPR
7	ACADSB	79	ATP5D	151	COX17	223	GALK1	295	HMOX1	367	NUDT12	439	RFK
8	ACADVL	80	ATP6AP1	152	CRYL1	224	GALM	296	HMOX2	368	NUDT2	440	RRM1
9	ACLY	81	ATP6V0A1	153	CSAD	225	GALNS	297	HNMT	369	NUDT5	441	RRM2B
10	ACO2	82	ATP6V0A2	154	CSGALNACT2	226	GALNT1	298	HSD11B1	370	NUDT9	442	SACM1L
11	ACOT1	83	ATP6V0A4	155	CYP19A1	227	GALNT10	299	HSD11B2	371	OLAH	443	SCD
12	ACOT2	84	ATP6V0C	156	CYP21A2	228	GALNT12	300	HSD17B1	372	OXCT1	444	SCLY
13	ACOX1	85	ATP6V0D1	157	CYP24A1	229	GALNT2	301	HSD17B4	373	OXSM	445	SEPHS2
14	ACP1	86	ATP6V0E2	158	CYP3A4	230	GALNT3	302	HSD3B1	374	PC	446	SETD1B
15	ACP5	87	ATP6V1A	159	CYP7A1	231	GALNT4	303	HYI	375	PCBD2	447	SETD2
16	ACSBG1	88	ATP6V1B1	160	DAO	232	GALNT7	304	IDH1	376	PCYT1A	448	SETD7
17	ACSL1	89	ATP6V1B2	161	DCTD	233	GAPDH	305	IDH2	377	PDE1A	449	SGPL1
18	ACSL4	90	ATP6V1C1	162	DCTPP1	234	GAPDHS	306	IDH3G	378	PDE1C	450	SHMT1
19	ACSL5	91	ATP6V1C2	163	DCXR	235	GART	307	IDO1	379	PDE2A	451	SHPK
20	ACSS3	92	ATP6V1D	164	DDC	236	GBA	308	IDO2	380	PDE4C	452	SIRT1
21	ACY1	93	ATP6V1E1	165	DDOST	237	GBA3	309	IDS	381	PDE4D	453	SIRT2
22	ACYP1	94	ATP6V1E2	166	DGAT2	238	GCAT	310	IDUA	382	PDE7B	454	SIRT3
23	ACYP2	95	ATP6V1F	167	DGKB	239	GCDH	311	IL4I1	383	PDE8A	455	SIRT4
24	ADA	96	ATP6V1G1	168	DGKD	240	GCLM	312	IMPA1	384	PDE8B	456	SIRT5
25	ADCY1	97	ATP6V1G2	169	DGKE	241	GCNT1	313	IMPDH1	385	PDE9A	457	SIRT6
26	ADCY2	98	ATP6V1G3	170	DGKG	242	GGCT	314	IMPDH2	386	PDHA1	458	SMPD1
27	ADCY3	99	ATP6V1H	171	DGKI	243	GGCX	315	INPPL1	387	PFKFB3	459	SMPD2
28	ADCY4	100	AUH	172	DGKQ	244	GGPS1	316	IVD	388	PFKM	460	SMPD3
29	ADCY5	101	B3GAT1	173	DGKZ	245	GGT5	317	KHK	389	PFKP	461	SMYD1
30	ADCY6	102	B3GAT3	174	DHCR24	246	GGT7	318	KL	390	PGK1	462	SMYD2
31	ADCY7	103	B3GNT2	175	DHDH	247	GLA	319	KMO	391	PGK2	463	SORD
32	ADCY8	104	B3GNT3	176	DHFR	248	GLB1	320	KYNU	392	PGM2	464	SPHK1
33	ADCY9	105	B4GALNT1	177	DHRS3	249	GLO1	321	LDHA	393	PGM2L1	465	SQLE
34	ADK	106	B4GALNT3	178	DHRS4	250	GLUD2	322	LDHB	394	PGS1	466	SRR
35	ADSL	107	B4GALT1	179	DHRS9	251	GLUL	323	LIAS	395	PHGDH	467	ST3GAL1
36	AGXT2	108	BBOX1	180	DHTKD1	252	GLYAT	324	LPCAT2	396	PHOSPHO1	468	ST3GAL2
37	AHCY	109	BCKDHA	181	DLAT	253	GMPPA	325	LPIN1	397	PI4K2B	469	ST3GAL4
38	AHCYL1	110	BLVRB	182	DNMT1	254	GMPR	326	LPIN2	398	PIGK	470	ST6GAL1
39	AHCYL2	111	BST1	183	DNMT3A	255	GMPR2	327	LTA4H	399	PIGP	471	ST6GAL2
40	AK1	112	BTD	184	DNMT3B	256	GNMT	328	LTC4S	400	PIK3C2B	472	ST6GALNAC5
41	AKR1A1	113	C12orf5	185	DOT1L	257	GNPDA1	329	MAN1A2	401	PIK3C3	473	ST8SIA1
42	AKR1B1	114	CA1	186	DPM1	258	GNPDA2	330	MAN2A2	402	PIK3CG	474	SUCLA2
43	AKR1B10	115	CA12	187	DPM2	259	GNPNAT1	331	MAOA	403	PIP5K1B	475	SUCLG2
44	AKR1C3	116	CA13	188	DTYMK	260	GNS	332	MAOB	404	PIPOX	476	SUV39H2
45	AKR1C4	117	CA14	189	DUT	261	GPHN	333	MAT1A	405	PLA2G10	477	TCIRG1
46	ALAS2	118	CA2	190	EBP	262	GPT2	334	MCCC2	406	PLA2G16	478	TDO2
47	ALDH18A1	119	CA3	191	EHMT1	263	GPX1	335	MGAT4A	407	PLA2G1B	479	TH
48	ALDH1A1	120	CA4	192	EHMT2	264	GPX2	336	MGAT5	408	PLA2G2A	480	THTPA
49	ALDH1A2	121	CA5A	193	ELOVL5	265	GPX3	337	MGST1	409	PLA2G4A	481	TKTL1
50	ALDH2	122	CA5B	194	ENO2	266	GPX4	338	MGST2	410	PLA2G4F	482	TMLHE
51	ALDH3A1	123	CA6	195	ENOPH1	267	GPX5	339	MIF	411	PLA2G7	483	TPH1
52	ALDH3A2	124	CA7	196	ENOSF1	268	GPX7	340	MIOX	412	PLCZ1	484	TST

VII. Interpretation of Results

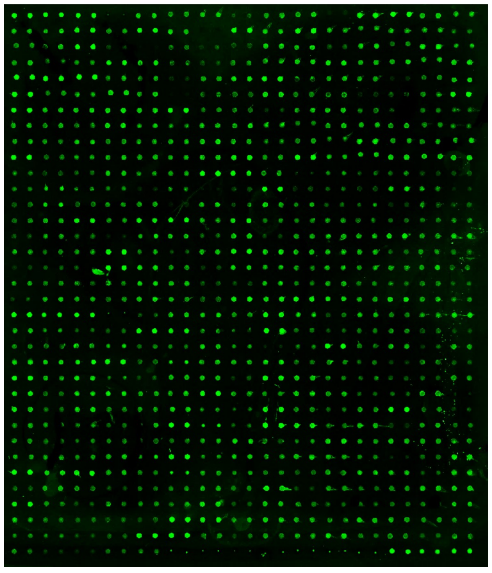
A. Explanation of Controls Spots

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.

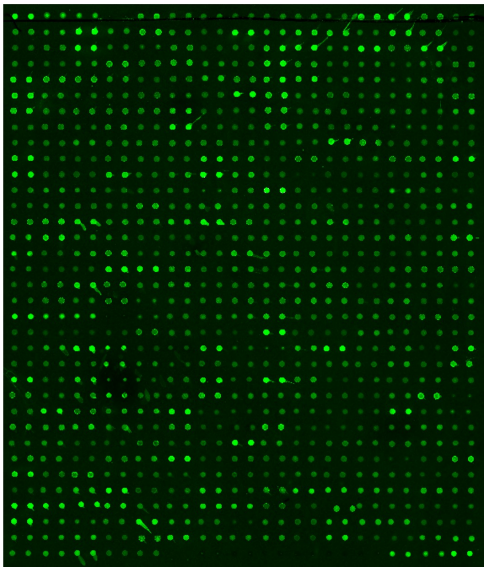
B. Typical Results

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.

Serum



Plasma



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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