

Immunocytochemistry Followed by FISH (Version 1)

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***We present multiple versions of the Immunocytochemistry / FISH protocols because the conditions under which each antibody and DNA probe work can be different and must be determined empirically.**

Reagents

Antifade (1,4-phenylene-diamine)

Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA)

Boehringer Mannheim Biochemicals (BMB), Cat. 100 350

Cot-1 DNA (Human)

Gibco BRL, Cat. 15279-011

Cot-I DNA (Mouse)

Gibco BRL, Cat. 18440-016

DAPI

BMB, Cat. 236 276

Dextran sulfate (50%)

Intergen, S4030

Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)

EGTA

Sigma, Cat. E3889

Ethylene glycol bis(succinimidyl succinate)

Sigma, Cat. E3257

EM glutaraldehyde, 25% EM grade

Polysciences, Inc., Cat. 01909

Formamide

FLUKA BioChemica, Cat. 47670

Formamide, deionized

Ambion, Cat. 9342

Goat anti-mouse-FITC (FISH 2° Ab)

BMB, Cat. 605 240

Goat anti-rabbit-TRITC (ICC 2° Ab)

Sigma, Cat. T-5268

Normal Goat Serum

Sigma, Cat. G6767

HCl, 1M

Magnesium chloride (MgCl₂) 2M
 Quality Biological, Inc., Cat. 340-034-060
Mouse anti-biotin-FITC (FISH 1° Ab)
 Sigma, Cat. F4024
1X Phosphate Buffered Saline, pH 7.4
 Gibco/BRL, Cat. 10010-023
Potassium chloride (KCl)
 Mallinckrodt, Cat. 6858
Potassium phosphate, monobasic (KH₂PO₄)
 Sigma, Cat. P5379
Rabbit polyclonal antibodies (ICC 1° Ab)
 Specific for desired protein
RNaseA
 BMB, Cat. 109 169
20X SSC
Salmon testes DNA
 Sigma, Cat. D-7657
Sodium borohydride (NaBH₄)
 Sigma, Cat. S9125
Sodium chloride (NaCl)
 Mallinckrodt, Cat. 7581
Sodium hydroxide (NaOH)
Triton X-100
 Calbiochem, Cat. 648462
Tween 20

Preparation

Fixation Permeabilization Buffer

KH ₂ PO ₄	54 mg	f.c. [20mM]
NaCl	152 mg	f.c. [130mM]
KCl	30 mg	f.c. [20mM]
0.5M EGTA	400 µl	f.c. [10mM]
2M MgCl ₂	100 µl	f.c. [10mM]
10% Triton X-100	200 µl	f.c. [0.1%]
25% EM glutaraldehyde	120 µl	f.c. [0.15%]

*Bring to 20 ml with sterile distilled water

0.1% Sodium Borohydride solution

Prepared fresh 1mg/ml in 1X PBS

Blocking Solution I (5% NGS/ 5% BSA/1X PBS)

NGS 500 μ l
BSA 0.5 g
1X PBS 10 ml

Store at 4°C

Antibody Solution I (1% NGS/1% BSA/1X PBS)

Blocking Solution I 200 μ l
1X PBS 800 μ l

Ethylene glycol bis(succinimidyl succinate) (EGS) Solution

Weigh volume of EGS powder [i.e., 100 μ l powder] in eppendorf tube
Add equal volume of DMSO [i.e., 100 μ l DMSO]
Incubate at 37°C until dissolved and re-determine volume
Calculate concentration based on weight of EGS used, molecular weight of EGS, and final volume of solution (should be ~ 500-650 mM)
Store at RT <1 month
Dilute stock into 1X PBS immediately prior to use for final conc. 50 mM,
discard unused portion

RNase A (DNase-free)

20mg/ml in sterile water
Boil 15', cool to RT, aliquot and store at -20°C

Master Mix

Dextran sulfate, 50% 40 ml
20X SSC, pH 7.0 10 ml
Sterile dH₂O 50 ml

Vortex solution and place tube on a shaking platform overnight to insure proper mixing.

Aliquot, and store at -20°C.

50% FA/SSC

20X SSC 30 ml
dH₂O 120 ml
Formamide 150 ml
Adjust pH to 7-7.5 with 1M HCl

*Pre-warm to 45°C

0.1X SSC

20X SSC 2.5 ml
dH₂O 498 ml

*Pre-warm to 60°C

4X SSC/Tween 20

20X SSC 200 ml

dH₂O 799 ml

Tween 20 1 ml

*Pre-warm to 45°C

Blocking Solution II (3% BSA/4X SSC/Tween 20)

BSA 0.3 g

4X SSC/Tween 20 10 ml

Store at 4°C

Antibody Solution II (1% BSA/4X SSC/Tween 20)

Blocking Solution II 333 µl

4X SSC/Tween 20 666 µl

DAPI (stock solution)

DAPI 2 mg

dH₂O 10 ml

Aliquot and store at -80°C

DAPI (staining solution)

DAPI stock solution 40 µl

2X SSC 100 ml

Antifade (1,4-phenylene-diamine)

See Antifade preparation procedure in CGH Protocols

Procedure

1. Grow adherent cells on coverslips or cytopsin suspension cells onto poly-L-lysine coated coverslips.
2. Fix cells in Fixation Permeabilization Buffer for 30 min at RT.
3. Wash 3 x 5 min 1X PBS at RT.
4. Wash 2 x 15 min fresh 0.1% sodium borohydride solution.

5. Block coverslips with 25µl blocking solution I in hybridization chamber 30 min at 37°C.
6. Incubate with rabbit polyclonal (ICC 1° Ab) in 25 µl antibody solution I in hybridization chamber at 37°C for 60 min.
7. Wash 3 x 5 min with 1X PBS at RT.
8. Incubate with ICC 2° Ab [goat anti-rabbit-TRITC; 1:200 in 25 µl antibody solution I] in hybridization chamber at 37°C for 60 min.
9. Wash 3 x 5 min with 1X PBS at RT.
10. Incubate with 25 µl EGS solution [dilute stock to 50 mM in 1X PBS prior to use and mix well (will be turbid)] in hybridization chamber at 37°C for 30 min to allow postfixation cross-linking of the Ab to the target protein.
11. Wash 3 x 5 min with 1X PBS at RT.
12. Incubate with RNaseA (1:200 in 1X PBS) in hybridization chamber 60 min at 37°C.
13. Wash 3 x 5 min 1X PBS.
14. Denature chromosomal DNA by inverting coverslips (18 mm x 18 mm) onto 25 µl drop of NaOH (pH 13.0 - ~0.1M) for exactly 2 min.
15. Rinse immediately in cold 1X PBS
16. Hybridize denatured/pre-annealed biotin-labeled probe (as per standard FISH Protocol in 50% deionized Formamide/Master Mix at 80°C 8 min and pre-annealed if necessary at 37°C in the presence of Cot-I DNA for 60-90 min) to coverslip
17. Seal with rubber cement and incubate in hybridization chamber at 37°C overnight.
18. Remove rubber cement.
19. Wash coverslips 3 x 5 min in FA/SSC (pre-warmed to 45°C), shaking.
20. Wash coverslips 3 x 5 min in 0.1X SSC (pre-warmed to 60°C), shaking.

21. Dip slides in 4X SSC/Tween 20 (pre-warmed to 45°C); do not let dry.
22. Block with 25 µl blocking solution II in hybridization chamber 30 min at 37°C.
23. Dip slides in 4X SSC/Tween20; do not let dry.

Note: Centrifuge all fluorescent-conjugated Ab for 3 min at 13,000 rpm.

24. Incubate with FISH 1° Ab [mouse anti-biotin-FITC, 1:200 in 25 µl antibody solution II] in hybridization chamber 45 min at 37°C.
25. Wash coverslips 3 x 5 min in 4X SSC/Tween20 (pre-warmed to 45°C), shaking.
26. Incubate with FISH 2° Ab [goat anti-mouse-FITC, 1:200 in 25 µl antibody solution II] in hybridization chamber 45 min at 37°C.
27. Wash coverslips 3 x 5 min in 4X SSC/Tween20 (pre-warmed to 45°C), shaking.
28. Stain for 2 min with DAPI.
29. Wash in 1X PBS for 10 min, shaking.
30. Mount coverslip with antifade on microscope slide.