ab193655 – Human Angiogenesis Antibody Array - Membrane (43 Targets)

Instructions for Use

For the simultaneous detection of 43 Human Angiogenesis proteins in serum, plasma, cell culture media and other liquid samples types.

This product is for research use only and is not intended for diagnostic use.

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

1. BACKGROUND 2
2. ASSAY SUMMARY 4

GENERAL INFORMATION

3. PRECAUTIONS 5
4. STORAGE AND STABILITY 5
5. MATERIALS SUPPLIED 6
6. MATERIALS REQUIRED, NOT SUPPLIED 7
7. LIMITATIONS 7
8. TECHNICAL HINTS 8

ASSAY PREPARATION

9. REAGENT PREPARATION 10
10. SAMPLE PREPARATION AND STORAGE 11
11. ARRAY MAP 16

ASSAY PROCEDURE

12. ASSAY PROCEDURE 18

DATA ANALYSIS

13. CALCULATIONS 21
14. TYPICAL DATA 23

RESOURCES

16. TROUBLESHOOTING 24
17. NOTES 26

1. BACKGROUND

Abcam's Human Angiogenesis Antibody Array - Membrane (43 Targets) ab193655 can be used for simultaneous detection of 43 Human Angiogenesis proteins in serum, plasma, cell culture media, cell lysates, tissue lysates and other liquid samples types.

Targets: Angiogenin, Angiopoietin-1, Angiopoietin-2, Angiostatin, bFGF, EGF, ENA-78 (CXCL5), Endostatin, GCSF, GM-CSF, GRO alpha, GRO beta, GRO gamma, I-309 (TCA-3/CCL1), IFN-gamma, IGF-1, IL-10, IL-1 alpha (IL-1 F1), IL-1 beta (IL-1 F2), IL-2, IL-4, IL-6, IL-8 (CXCL8), I-TAC (CXCL11), Leptin, MCP-1 (CCL2), MCP-3 (MARC/CCL7), MCP-4 (CCL13), MMP-1, MMP-9, PDGF-BB, PECAM-1 (CD31), PLGF, RANTES (CCL5), TGF beta 1, Thrombopoietin (TPO), Tie-2, TIMP-1, TIMP-2, TNF alpha, uPAR, VEGF-A, VEGFR2, VEGFR3, VEGF-D.

New techniques such as cDNA microarrays have enabled us to analyze global gene expression. However, almost all cell functions are executed by proteins, which cannot be studied simply through DNA and RNA techniques. Experimental analysis clearly shows disparity can exist between the relative expression levels of mRNA and their corresponding proteins. Therefore, analysis of the proteomic profile is critical.

The conventional approach to analyzing multiple protein expression levels has been to use 2-D SDS-PAGE coupled with mass spectrometry. However, these methods are slow, expensive, labor-intensive and require specialized equipment. Thus, effective study of multiple protein expression levels can be complicated, costly and time-consuming. Moreover, these traditional methods of proteomics are not sensitive enough to detect most cytokines (typically at pg/mL concentrations).

Cytokines, broadly defined as secreted cell–cell signaling proteins distinct from classic hormones or neurotransmitters, play important roles in inflammation, innate immunity, apoptosis, angiogenesis, cell growth and differentiation. They are involved in most disease

processes, including cancer, obesity and inflammatory and cardiac diseases.

Simultaneous detection of multiple cytokines undoubtedly provides a powerful tool to study cell signaling pathways. Regulation of cellular processes by cytokines is a complex, dynamic process, often involving multiple proteins. Positive and negative feedback loops, pleiotrophic effects and redundant functions, spatial and temporal expression of or synergistic interactions between multiple cytokines, even regulation via release of soluble forms of membrane-bound receptors, all are common mechanisms modulating the effects of cytokine signaling. As such, unraveling the role of individual cytokines in physiologic or pathologic processes generally requires consideration and detection of multiple cytokines rather than of a single cytokine.

Abcam's Human Angiogenesis Antibody Array - Membrane (43 Targets) has several advantages over detection of cytokines using single-target ELISA kits:

1. More Data, Same or Less Sample: Antibody arrays provide high-content screening using about the same sample volume as traditional ELISA.

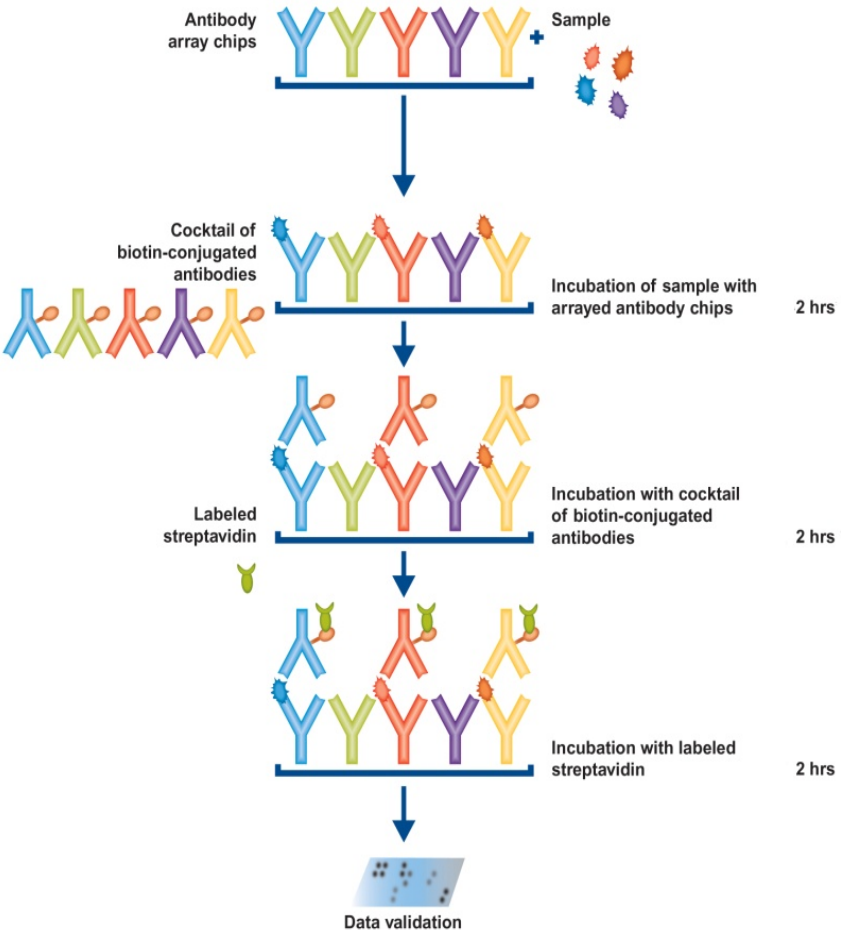
2. Global View of Cytokine Expression: Antibody array screening improves the chances for discovering key factors, disease mechanisms, or biomarkers related to cytokine signaling.

3. Similar (sometimes better) Sensitivity: As little as 4 pg/mL of MCP-1 can be detected using the Membrane array format. In contrast, our similar MCP-1 ELISA assay has a sensitivity of 40 pg/mL of MCP-1.

4. Increased Range of Detection: ELISA assays typically detect a concentration range of 100- to 1000-fold, however, Abcam's arrays can detect IL-2 at concentrations of 25 to 250,000 pg/mL, a range of 10,000-fold.

5. Better Precision: As determined by densitometry, the inter-array Coefficient of Variation (CV) of spot signal intensities is 5-10%, comparing favorably with ELISA testing (CV = 10-15%).

2. ASSAY SUMMARY



3. PRECAUTIONS

Please read these instructions carefully prior to beginning the assay.

All kit components have been formulated and quality control tested to function successfully as a kit. Modifications to the kit components or procedures may result in loss of performance.

4. STORAGE AND STABILITY

Store kit at -20ºC immediately upon receipt.

Once thawed, for short-term storage, store array membranes and 1X Blocking Buffer at ≤ -20°C, and all other component at 2-8°C.

Refer to list of materials supplied for storage conditions of individual components. Observe the storage conditions for individual prepared components in the Reagent Preparation section.

5. MATERIALS SUPPLIED

Item	Quantity		Storage Condition (Before Preparation)
	4X Membranes	8X Membranes	
Human Angiogenesis Antibody Array membranes (C1)	4X C1 Membranes	8X C1 Membranes	-20ºC
Human Angiogenesis Antibody Array membranes (C2)	4X C2 Membranes	8X C2 Membranes	-20ºC
Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail (C1)	2X C1 Vials	4X C1 Vials	-20ºC
Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail (C2)	2X C2 Vials	4X C2 Vials	-20ºC
1000X HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin	1X 50 µL	2X 50 µL	-20ºC
1X Blocking Buffer	2X 25 mL	4X 25 mL	-20ºC
20X Wash Buffer I	1X 20 mL	2X 20 mL	-20ºC
20X Wash Buffer II	1X 20 mL	2X 20 mL	-20ºC
2X Cell Lysis Buffer Concentrate	1X 16 mL	2X 16 mL	-20ºC
Detection Buffer C	1X 2.5 mL	2X 2.5 mL	-20ºC
Detection Buffer D	1X 2.5 mL	2X 2.5 mL	-20ºC
8-Well Plastic Tray	1 Unit	2 Unit	-20ºC

The kit also includes Plastic Sheets, Array Map Template and User Manual.

6. MATERIALS REQUIRED, NOT SUPPLIED

These materials are not included in the kit, but will be required to successfully utilize this assay:

- Pipettors, pipet tips and other common lab consumables
- Orbital shaker or oscillating rocker
- Tissue paper, blotting paper or chromatography paper
- Adhesive tape or plastic wrap
- Distilled or de-ionized water
- A chemiluminescent blot documentation system:

  CCD Camera

  X-Ray Film and a suitable film processor

  Gel documentation system

  Or another chemiluminescent detection system capable of imaging a western blot

7. LIMITATIONS

- Assay kit intended for research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures
- Do not mix or substitute reagents or materials from other kit lots or vendors. Kits are QC tested as a set of components and performance cannot be guaranteed if utilized separately or substituted.

8. TECHNICAL HINTS

Handling Array Membranes

- Array membranes are fragile when dry. Handle with care.
- Wet or dry, grasp membranes by the edges using forceps.
- Do not allow membranes to dry out during experiments.
- The printed side of each membrane is denoted by a dash mark (-) or array number in the upper left corner.
- Unused membranes should be stored at ≤ -20°C.
- Completed membranes may be stored up to 5 days in 1X Wash Buffer II or 1X Blocking Buffer at 2-8°C. Be sure to cover container to prevent evaporation during storage.
- For longer term storage of completed membranes, place wetted membranes between 2 plastic sheets (provided in kit), wrap in plastic wrap and store at -20°C.

Incubation and Washes

- Perform all incubation and wash steps under gentle rotation or rocking motion (~0.5 to 1 cycle/sec) to ensure complete and even solution coverage as well as to avoid foaming or bubbles from appearing on the membrane surface.
- All washes and incubations (except for detection buffers incubation step) should be performed using the 8-Well Incubation Tray provided in the kit.
- Cover the 8-Well Incubation Tray with the lid for all incubation steps to avoid evaporation.
- Completely cover the membranes with sample or reagent during each incubation. Avoid forceful pipetting directly onto the membrane, instead gently pipette in a corner of each well.
- Aspirate samples and reagents completely after each steop by suctioning off excess liquid with a pipette. Tilting the tray so the liquid moves to a corner and then pipetting is an effective method.

- The sample, Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail and HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin incubation steps may be performed overnight at 2-8°C. Overnight incubations are the most effective method of increasing spot intensities but may also increase background noise. Complete liquid removal and washing is critical.
- If you perform overnight sample incubations, we recommend adding the optional “Large Volume Wash” described in Step 12.5 to minimize background signals.

Chemiluminescence Detection

- Trying multiple exposure times is recommended to obtain optimum results. Anywhere from a few seconds to 10 minutes is common with 30 seconds to 1 minute being suitable for most samples.
- If the signals are too weak, increase exposure time (e.g. 2-10 minutes). If the signals are too strong, reduce exposure time (e.g. 3-30 seconds).
- Beginning with adding the detection buffers and ending with exposing membranes should take no more than 10-15 minutes as the chemiluminescent signals may start to fade at this point.
- Blot documentation systems that use CCD cameras to detect chemiluminescence are ideal for imaging Abcam array membranes. They can easily be programmed to take multiple exposures, and the dynamic range of these detectors tends to be 2-3 orders of magnitude greater than that of X-ray film or and much more sensitive to chemiluminescence than phosphoimaging systems.

9. REAGENT PREPARATION

Thaw all reagents to room temperature immediately before use.
Reagents should only be used in their 1X working concentration.

9.1 **1X Wash Buffer I**

Wash Buffer I is supplied as 20X Concentrate and must be diluted 1/20 with distilled or deionized water (1 part buffer concentrate, 19 parts dH_2O). Crystal formation in the concentrate is not uncommon when storage temperatures are low, warm to room temperature and mix gently until dissolved. The 1X Wash Buffer is stable for at least one month from the date of preparation when stored at 2-8°C.

9.2 **1X Wash Buffer II**

Wash Buffer II is supplied as 20X Concentrate and must be diluted 1/20 with distilled or deionized water (1 part buffer concentrate, 19 parts dH_2O). Crystal formation in the concentrate is not uncommon when storage temperatures are low, warm to room temperature and mix gently until dissolved. The 1X Wash Buffer is stable for at least one month from the date of preparation when stored at 2-8°C.

9.3 **1X Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail**

Briefly centrifuge each vial (1 vial is enough to test 2 membranes) and reconstitute by adding 2 mL of 1X Blocking Buffer. Mix thoroughly and gently.

9.4 **1X HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin**

HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin is supplied as a 1000X concentrate and must be diluted 1/1000 with Blocking Buffer (1 part HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin to 999 parts Blocking Buffer). Briefly centrifuge each vial and dilute to prepare the 1X working concentration.

1X Blocking Buffer and Detection Buffers C and D are supplied at working concentrations.

10. SAMPLE PREPARATION AND STORAGE

10.1 General Considerations

- Freeze samples as soon as possible after collection.
- Avoid multiple freeze-thaw cycles. If possible, sub-aliquot your samples prior to initial storage.
- Spin samples hard (5-10 minutes at 10,000 to 15,000 RPM) immediately prior to incubation of samples with array.
- Optimal sample concentrations may need to be determined empirically based on the signal intensities of spots and background signals obtained with each sample.
- If spot intensities are weak, increase sample concentration in subsequent experiments.
- If background or spot intensities are too strong, decrease sample concentration in subsequent experiments.
- Most samples will not need to be concentrated. If concentration is required, we recommend using a spin-column concentrator with a chilled centrifuge.
- Unless otherwise noted, dilute all samples using the same dilution factor in 1X Blocking Buffer.

10.2 Recommended Sample Volumes and Dilution Factors

NOTE: All sample dilutions should be made using the 1X Blocking Buffer provided in this kit. For all sample types, final sample volume = 1.0 mL per membrane.

- **Cell Cultured Media**: Neat (no dilution needed).
- **Serum & Plasma**: 2-fold to 10-fold dilution.
- **Cell and Tissue Lysates**: Minimum 5-fold through 10 fold to equal concentrations of total protein in lysate. Optimal sample concentration of cell and tissue lysates should be determined empirically. For more details, please see below (Cell and Tissue Lysates/Homogenates) below.

- **Other Liquid Sample Types:** Most often Neat or 2-fold to 5-fold. However, optimal dilutions should be determined empirically. For more details, please see Other Liquid Samples section below.

10.3 Preparing Serum and Plasma Samples

- Prepare samples according to established protocols or collection tube manufacturer's instructions. Sub-aliquot into plastic tubes. Store at ≤ –20°C.
- We do not recommend comparing results between serum and plasma samples or between plasma prepared using different anticoagulants.
- For most applications, you may test plasma samples prepared using any anticoagulant (ie, Heparin, EDTA or Citrate). However, EDTA-prepared plasma may interfere with optimal detection of MMPs and other metal-binding proteins.
- If possible, avoid testing hemolyzed Serum or Plasma samples, as these samples may generate anomalous cytokine expression patterns and/or high background signals.

10.4 Preparing Cell-Cultured Media

- Expression of proteins in cell culture may depend on many variables, including cell type, starting cell number, media composition and growth conditions.
- To start, we recommend seeding ≥1 x 10^6 cells in a 100 mm culture dish. However, you should consult the scientific literature for tips on how to cultivate your particular cell type.
- Cell type and experimental protocols can profoundly influence cytokine expression. Please consult the scientific literature for details on the effectiveness of various treatments to elicit a desired response, optimal timeframes for growing cells prior to treatment, optimal concentrations and exposure times for treatments and the timing of sample collection

- If possible, use media that is free of recombinant or purified growth factors. If you must add them, we strongly recommend testing an uncultured media aliquot as a sample “blank” to assess baseline signal response for comparison with cultured media samples.
- Serum-containing media rarely produce a baseline signal response with this product. Nevertheless, an ideal experimental design would be to test uncultured media as a sample “blank” to assess baseline signal responses.

a. **Preparing Cell and Tissue Lysates/Homogenates**

IMPORTANT: Lysate sample volumes required must be determined empirically and will depend upon the total protein concentration of each lysate and the intensity of background signals for each sample.

- You must determine the total protein concentration of each lysate/homogenate. We recommend using the BCA method, as it is insensitive to detergents commonly found in lysis buffers.
- Minimum Recommended Total Lysate Protein Concentration (prior to sample dilution) = 1.0 µg/µL
- Minimum Recommended Dilution of Lysates (prior to sample incubation): 5 to 10 fold with 1X Blocking Buffer. Dilute all lysate samples to the same final concentration of total lysate protein in 1X Blocking Buffer to 1 mL final volume.
- For your first experiment, we recommend using 200-250 µg of total protein in 1 mL of 1X Blocking Buffer (final volume) for each array membrane.
- Optimal amounts of total lysate protein may range from 50-1000 µg per array membrane. Based upon the signal intensities of background and spots obtained with each sample, you may need to increase or decrease the volume of lysate used in subsequent experiments.

- We recommend preparing cell or tissue lysates using 2X Cell Lysis Buffer which is provided. Be sure to properly dilute Cell Lysis Buffer (1:1 with deionized H_2O) prior to use.
- Other lysis buffers can be used if they are non-denaturing, non-reducing, total salt concentration ≤700 mM), contain ≤2% total detergent (v/v) and are free of sodium azide (NaN_3).
- We strongly recommend adding protease inhibitors to your cell lysis buffer. Any broad-spectrum protease inhibitor cocktail intended for preparation of mammalian cell/tissue lysates should be sufficient, but please consult the scientific literature before deciding upon the exact composition of cocktail to use.
- Optimal protocols for mechanical disruption vary for different cell and tissue types. Please consult the scientific literature for examples of successful detection of proteins using ELISA or multiplex ELISA techniques in lysates made from cell or tissue samples similar to yours.
- CAUTION. Sonication can quickly heat volumes of 1 mL or less and denature proteins in your samples!
- After extraction, clarify your lysates by centrifugation and save the supernatant for your experiment. Preparing sub-aliquots is strongly recommended.

b. **Other Liquid Samples**

- Abcam's Human Angiogenesis Array is compatible with most liquid samples, including extracts, perfusates and lavages, as well as body fluids, such as CSF, Sputum, Saliva, Tears, and Urine.
- Be sure to measure the total protein concentrations of these samples prior to sample incubation.
- For samples that have fairly consistent concentrations of total protein between samples (CV ≤20%), dilute samples using equal volumes for each sample (ie, use the same dilution factor, v/v).

- For samples exhibiting wider ranges of total protein content, dilute to equal concentrations of total protein (eg, 200 µg of total protein) in 1X Blocking Buffer to a final volume of 1 mL.

11. ARRAY MAP

POS – Positive Control
NEG – Negative Control
BLANK – No Antibody

Array Map for Human Angiogenesis Antibody Array – Membrane C1 (43 Targets) ab193655

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	POS	POS	NEG	NEG	ANG	EGF	ENA-78	bFGF
2	POS	POS	NEG	NEG	ANG	EGF	ENA-78	bFGF
3	GRO	IFN gamma	IGF-1	IL-6	IL-8	Leptin	MCP-1	PDGF-BB
4	GRO	IFN gamma	IGF-1	IL-6	IL-8	Leptin	MCP-1	PDGF-BB
5	PLGF	RANTES	TGF beta1	TIMP-1	TIMP-2	THPO	VEGF	VEGF-D
6	PLGF	RANTES	TGF beta1	TIMP-1	TIMP-2	THPO	VEGF	VEGF-D
7	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	NEG	POS
8	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	NEG	POS

Array Map for Human Angiogenesis Antibody Array – Membrane C2 (43 Targets) ab193655

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	POS	POS	NEG	NEG	ANGPT1	ANGPT2	PLG	Endostatin
2	POS	POS	NEG	NEG	ANGPT1	ANGPT2	PLG	Endostatin
3	G-CSF	GM-CSF	I-309	IL-10	IL-1 alpha	IL-1 beta	IL-2	IL-4
4	G-CSF	GM-CSF	I-309	IL-10	IL-1 alpha	IL-1 beta	IL-2	IL-4
5	I-TAC	MCP-3	MCP-4	MMP-1	MMP-9	PECAM-1	TIE-2	TNF alpha
6	I-TAC	MCP-3	MCP-4	MMP-1	MMP-9	PECAM-1	TIE-2	TNF alpha
7	uPAR	VEGF R2	VEGF R3	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	NEG	POS
8	uPAR	VEGF R2	VEGF R3	BLANK	BLANK	BLANK	NEG	POS

12. ASSAY PROCEDURE

Please prepare all reagents immediately prior to use. All incubations and washes must be performed under gentle rotation/rocking (0.5-1 cycle/sec). Ensure that bubbles do not appear on or between the membranes to ensure even incubations.

12.1. Place each membrane printed side up into the 8-well tray provided in the kit.

12.2. Block membranes by incubating with 2 mL 1X Blocking Buffer at room temperature (RT) for 30 minutes.

12.3. Aspirate 1X Blocking Buffer from each well.

12.4. Pipette 1 mL of diluted or undiluted sample into each well and incubate for 1.5 - 5 hours at room temperature (RT).

NOTE: When trying the protocol for the first time or when the signal is low, we strongly recommend incubating samples overnight at 2-8ºC.

12.5. Aspirate samples from each well.

NOTE: After the overnight incubation, we strongly recommend an additional step with Large Volume Wash: After step 12.4, place membranes into clean container(s). Add 20-30 mL of Wash Buffer I per membrane, and wash at RT with gentle shaking or rocking for 30-45 minutes. Return membranes to the 8-well tray.

12.6. Pipette 2 mL of 1X Wash Buffer I into each well and incubate for 5 minutes at room temperature (RT). Repeat this 2 more times for a total of 3 washes using fresh buffer and aspirating each time.

12.7. Pipette 2 mL of 1X Wash Buffer II into each well and incubate for 5 minutes at room temperature (RT). Repeat this 1 more time for a total of 2 washes using fresh buffer and aspirating each time.

12.8. Pipette 1 mL of 1X Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail into each well and incubate for 1.5 - 2 hours at room temperature (RT) or overnight at 2-8°C.

12.9. Aspirate 1X Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail from each well.

12.10. Wash membranes as directed in Steps 12.6 and 12.7.

12.11. Pipette 2 mL of 1X HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin into each well and incubate for 2 hours at room temperature (RT) or overnight at 2-8°C.

12.12. Aspirate 1X HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin from each well.

12.13. Wash membranes as directed in Steps 12.6 and 12.7.

12.14. Transfer and place each membrane printed side up onto a sheet of chromatography paper, tissue paper, or blotting paper lying on a flat surface, such as a benchtop.

12.15. Remove any excess wash buffer by blotting the membrane edges with another piece of chromatography, blotting, or tissue paper.

12.16. Transfer and place the membranes, printed side up, onto plastic sheet (provided) lying on a flat surface.

12.17. Into a single, clean tube, pipette equal volumes (1:1) of Detection Buffer C and Detection Buffer D. For 1 membrane add 250 µL of Detection Buffer C and 250 µL of Detection Buffer D into tube. Mix well.

12.18. Gently pipette 500 µL of the Detection Buffers mixture onto each membrane (e.g. 500 µL = 250 µL of Detection Buffer C and 250 µL of Detection Buffer D) and incubate for 2 minutes at room temperature (**Do not rock or shake**). Immediately afterwards, proceed to Step 12.19.

NOTE: Exposure should ideally start within 5 minutes after finishing Step 12.18 and completed within 20 minutes as chemiluminescence signals will fade over time.

12.19. Place another plastic sheet on top by starting at one end and gently “rolling” the flexible plastic across the surface to the opposite end to smooth out any air bubbles. The

membranes should now be “sandwiched” between two plastic sheets.

NOTE: Avoid sliding the plastic sheet along the membranes’ printed surface.

12.20. Transfer the sandwiched membranes to the imaging system such as a CCD camera (recommended) and expose. (See tips for obtaining array images in Section 8).

12.21. Try multiple exposures to obtain an image with low background and strong positive control signal spots that do not bleed into one another. Typical exposure times are between few seconds to 2 minutes.

12.22. To store, without direct pressure, gently sandwich the membranes between 2 plastic sheets (if not already), tape the sheets together or wrap in plastic wrap to secure them, and store at -≤20°C.

13. CALCULATIONS

Obtaining Densitometry Data:

Visual comparison of array images may be sufficient to see differences in relative protein expression. However, most researchers will want to perform numerical comparisons of the signal intensities (or more precisely, signal *densities*), using 2-D densitometry. Gel/Blot documentation systems and other chemiluminescent or phosphorescent detection systems are usually sold as a package with compatible densitometry software.

To obtain densitometry data from an X-ray film, one must first scan the film to obtain a digitized image using an ordinary office scanner with resolution of 300 dpi or greater. Any densitometry software should be sufficient to obtain spot signal densities from your scanned images. One such software program, ImageJ, is available for free from the NIH (for more info, visit http://rsbweb.nih.gov/ij/).

We suggest using the following guidelines when extracting densitometry data from our array images:

- For each array membrane, identify a single exposure that the exhibits low background signal intensity and strong Positive Control signals that do not “bleed” into one another. Exposure times do not need to be identical for each array, but Positive Control signals on each image should have similar intensities.
- Measure the density of each spot using a circle that is roughly the size of one of the largest spots. Be sure to use the same circle (area and shape) for measuring the signal densities on every array for which you wish to compare the results.
- For each spot, use the summed signal density across the entire circle (i.e. total signal density per unit area)

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

Background Subtraction:

On each array, several “Negative Control” and/or “Blank” spots will be included. Blank spots are literally blank; nothing has been printed there. Negative Control spots are printed with the same buffer used to dilute antibodies printed on the array. Thus, the signal intensities of the Negative Controls represent the background plus non-specific binding to the printed spots. We recommend subtracting the mean of 4 or more Negative Control spots for background correction.

Normalization of Array Data:

The amount of biotin-conjugated IgG protein printed for each Positive Control spot is consistent from array to array. As such the intensity of these Positive Control signals can be used to normalize signal responses for comparison of results across multiple arrays, much like housekeeping genes and proteins are used to normalize results of PCR gels and Western Blots, respectively.

To normalize array data, one array is defined as "reference" to which the other arrays are normalized. This choice can be arbitrary. You can calculate the normalized values as follows:

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

Where:

P1 = mean signal density of Positive Control spots on reference array

P(y) = mean signal density of Positive Control spots on Array "y"

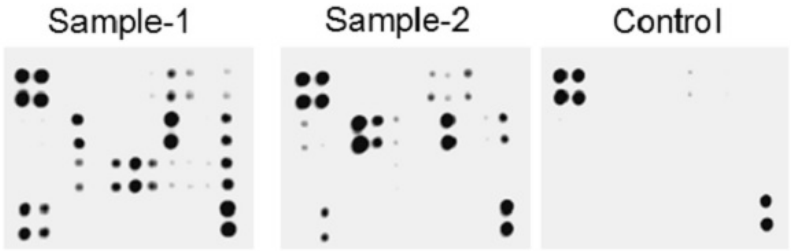
X(y) = mean signal density for spot "X" on Array for sample "y"

X(Ny) = normalized signal intensity for spot "X" on Array "y"

After normalization to Positive Control signal intensities, you can compare the relative expression levels, analyte-by-analyte, among or between your samples or groups. By comparing these signal intensities, one can determine relative differences of expression in each sample.

14. TYPICAL DATA

Typical results obtained with Abcam Antibody Arrays:



The preceding figure presents typical images obtained with Abcam's Cytokine Antibody Membrane Array. These membranes were probed with conditioned media from two different cell lines. Membranes were exposed to film at room temperature for 1 minute.

Note: the strong signals of the Positive Control spots, provided by Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail printed directly onto the array membrane in the upper-left and lower-right corners. These Positive Control spots are useful for proper orientation of the array image.

The signal intensity for each antigen-specific antibody spot is proportional to the relative concentration of the antigen in that sample. Comparison of signal intensities for individual antigen-specific antibody spots between and among array images can be used to determine relative differences in expression levels of each analyte sample-to-sample or group-to-group.

15. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Cause	Recommendation
No signal for any spots, including Positive Controls	Chemiluminescent imager is not working properly	Contact image manufacturer
	Too Short Exposure	Expose the membranes longer
	Degradation of components due to improper storage	Store entire kit at ≤ - 20°C. Do not use kit after expiration date. See storage guidelines.
	Improper preparation or dilution of the HRP-Conjugated Streptavidin	Centrifuge vial briefly before use, mix well, and do not dilute more than 1000-fold
	Waiting too long before exposing	The entire detection process should be completed in 10-15 minutes
Positive controls spots signals visible but no other spots	Low sample protein levels	Decrease sample dilution, concentrate samples, or load more protein initially
	Skipped Sample Incubation Step	Samples must be loaded after the blocking step
	Too Short of Incubations	Ensure the incubations are performed for the appropriate time or try the optional overnight incubation(s)

Uneven signal or background	Bubbles present on or below membrane	Don't rock/rotate the tray too vigorously or pipette the sample or reagent with excessive force
	Insufficient sample or reagent volume	Load enough sample and reagent to completely cover the membrane
	Insufficient mixing of reagents	Gently mix all reagents before loading onto the membrane, especially the HRP-Streptavidin and Biotin Antibody Cocktail
	Rocking/Rotating on an uneven surface while incubating	Rock/rotate on a flat surface or the sample or reagent can "pool" to one side
High background signals or all spots visible	Too much HRP-Streptavidin or Biotinylated Antibody Cocktail	Prepare these signal enhancing components precisely as instructed
	Membranes dried out	Do not let the membranes dry out during the experiment. Cover the incubation tray with the lid to minimize evaporation
	Too High of Sample Protein Concentration	Increase dilution of the sample or load less protein
	Exposed Too Long	Decrease exposure time
	Insufficient Washing	Ensure all the wash steps are carried out and the wash buffer is removed completely after each wash step
	Non-specific binding	Ensure the blocking buffer is stored and used properly.

16. NOTES

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