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### Upcoming Events:

- ◆ ICCS Clinical Cytometry Meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, FL October 2013
- ◆ AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition in San Antonio, TX November 2013



## A Comparison of Absolute Counting Particles

By: Lynette Brown, MS, CHT and Jennifer J Stewart, PhD

Flow Cytometry can be used to measure relative percents of many leukocyte subsets. The measurement of absolute counts, of these same subsets, can be challenging if hematology data is not available. Many commercial vendors have developed particles, which when added to whole blood specimens can provide absolute counts, eliminating the need for hematology data.

In this experiment, four commercially available absolute counting particles were compared. These results showed all four particles are similar to each other, but each have advantages and disadvantages that should be carefully considered.

Some of these include:

- \* TruCount™ (orange) are purchased pre-aliquoted into the tubes so no pipetting of the particles is required. These beads are very small so increased FSC threshold can eliminate the beads.
- \* For Flow-Count™ (red), AccuCount (blue), and CountBright™ (green) beads, complete mixing of the beads is important before adding to the sample. Incomplete mixing can cause erroneous results.

### ISAC CYTO 2013 Conference Recap

- \* We had our first booth at a national meeting!
- \* Jennifer Stewart was a moderator for a workshop which focused on the challenges and value of conducting flow cytometry in regulated environments GLP/GMP/CLIA. This topic is being considering for a Pre-Congress Course next year.
- \* The FCAPC also organized a second very successful workshop which focused on the use of Receptor Occupancy Assays.

- \* All methods required precise measurement of whole blood either by special pipettes or reverse pipetting techniques.

- \* Cost of IVD vs. RUO reagents.

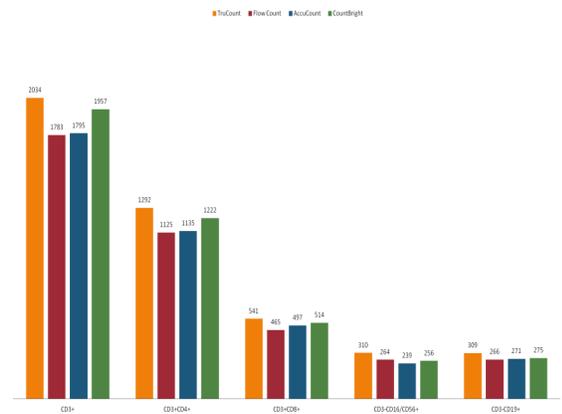


Figure 1: The comparison of absolute counting particles for measuring leukocyte subsets in a commercially available whole blood specimen.

### Fun in Washington

- \* There are several lavender festivals held in July on the Olympic Peninsula. Come sample lavender products for the home, kitchen and personal care.



Photo courtesy of 2013 Sequim Lavender Weekend.



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