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Upcoming Events:

- PANWAT Conference
Woodinville, WA
September 17-18, 2015
- ICCS Conference
Denver, CO
October 10-14, 2015

Increasing Laboratory Efficiency by Streamlining Flow Cytometry Assay Processes

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

When processing specimens in high throughput laboratories, it is important to maximize efficiency while maintaining assay quality. With flow cytometry assays, some procedures require more steps and time for processing than standard surface immunophenotyping. An example of this is staining specimens for enumeration of regulatory T cells using antibodies against the FoxP3 antigen.

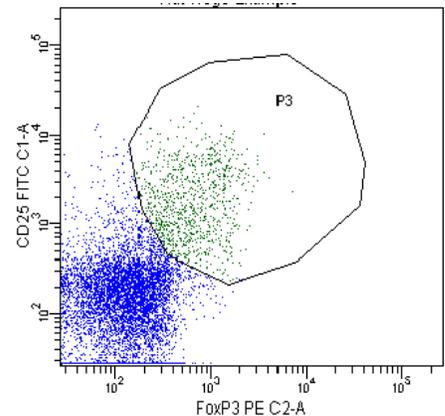
FoxP3 is an intracellular protein that requires fixing and permeabilization of the cells in order to detect positive stained cells. In the standard FoxP3 staining procedures it is common to perform staining of the surface antigens followed by fixing and permeabilization and then FoxP3 staining. Although this method works well, the washes and incubation steps involved extend the length of the assay for several hours.

At FCS Laboratory we are working to optimize the FoxP3 staining assay. The fixa-

tion, permeabilization and surface staining steps can be combined to streamline the process. By doing so eliminates many of the washing and centrifugation steps, which shortens the assay significantly without compromising the staining.

Illustration of the optimized assay staining of FoxP3 in rat specimens is shown below. For more details on this assay optimization, do not hesitate to contact us!

Optimized FoxP3 staining showing a clear T regulatory cell population.



FCS Laboratory Summer 2015 Updates

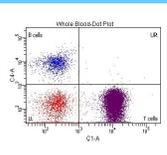
*We will be changing our Newsletter publication schedule from quarterly to semi-annually (twice a year). Be watching for our newsletter in July and December!

*Jennifer is currently serving on the ICCS programming committee to plan speakers, sessions and content for the upcoming meeting.

Summer/Fall Events in Washington State

Fall Fairs
 Evergreen State Fair Aug. 27 - Sept. 7, 2015
www.evergreenfair.org
 Washington State Fair Sept. 11th-27th 2015
www.thefair.com

Bumbershoot Sept. 5th-7th 2015
www.bumbershoot.org
 The nation's largest music and arts festival.



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