



# The Marker



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LABORATORY

FCS Laboratory Quarterly Newsletter

First Quarter 2012

Issue 6

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## Upcoming Events:

- ◆ NW Regional Cytometry Meeting, Seattle, WA Postponed until August
- ◆ Annual AAPS Meeting Chicago, November 2012

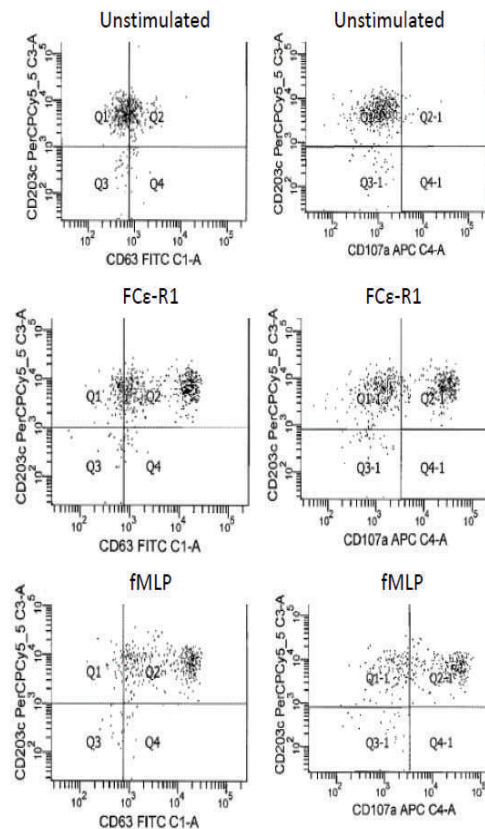


## Basophil Activation Test by Flow Cytometry

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

Flow cytometry can be used to measure basophil activity in human whole blood specimens due to allergens or antigens that may cause an allergic reaction in the body. The Flow2 Cast Kit developed by Alpco Diagnostics identifies basophils using

CCR3 and low side scatter. Basophil activation is shown by CD63 as it increases at the cell surface due to stimulation with a high affinity IgE receptor or an unspecific cell activator such as fMLP (see figure, left panel comparing top to middle and bottom cytograms). Other markers (CD203c and CD107a) also have been used to identify basophils and activation to the different stimuli (see figure, right panel comparing top to middle and bottom cytograms). Using these markers basophil activation can be monitored in humans during clinical trials. If you have any questions on these experiments please feel free to contact us.



## Reference:

Hennersdorf, et.al, 2005. Identification of CD13, CD107a, and CD164 as novel basophil-activation markers and dissection of two response patterns in time kinetics of IgE dependent up-regulation. Cell Research 15(5):325-335.

## Spring Fun in Washington

- \* The [daffodil](#) and [tulip festivals](#) are held each year March—April in Skagit Valley, WA.
- \* Kirkland and Juanita Farmer's Markets open in May.
- \* [Pike Place Market Arcade Lights](#) Celebrating Artisan Food, Beer and Wine Friday April 20. More than 60 local artisans present their hand-crafted foods and beverages.
- \* Come to the [Ballard Locks](#) for the opening day of boating, May 1st.



## FCS Laboratory First Quarter 2012 Updates

- \* The Northwest Regional Cytometry Society has been postponed until August. Stay tuned for more details.
- \* The AAPS PharmaFlow Steering Committee received programming for the Annual AAPS meeting in Chicago in November, 2012. Stayed tuned for more details about the symposium.



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