# **BioLegend®**

# LEGENDplex™

Multi-Analyte Flow Assay Kit

Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 Mix and Match Subpanel

Please read the entire manual before running the assay.

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Table of Contents Page	•
Chapter 1: KIT DESCRIPTION	
Introduction3	
Principle of the Assay 3	
Beads Usage 4	
Storage Information 6	
Materials Supplied 6	
Materials to be Provided by the End-User 8	
Precautions9	
Chapter 2: ASSAY PREPARATION	)
Sample Collection and Handling 10	)
Reagent Preparation	)
Standard Preparation	_
Sample Dilution	)
Chapter 3: ASSAY PROCEDURE 13	•
Performing the Assay Using a Filter Plate 13	•
Performing the Assay Using a V- bottom Plate 16	ò
Chapter 4: FLOW CYTOMETER SETUP 20	)
Chapter 5: DATA ACQUISITION AND ANALYSIS20	)
Data Acquisition20	)
Data Analysis 21	_
Chapter 6: ASSAY CHARACTERIZATION 22	-
Representative Standard Curve 22	)
Assay Sensitivity 22	)
Specificity and Cross-Reactivity 23	•
Accuracy23	9
Linearity of Dilution 24	ŀ

Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 Mix and Match Subpanel	
Intra-Assay Precision	25
Inter-Assay Precision	26
Biological Samples	27
TROUBLESHOOTING	29
ΡΙ ΔΤΕ ΜΔΡ	22

2

# **Chapter 1: KIT DESCRIPTION**

#### Introduction

Angiogenesis, the development of new blood vessels, is required for many physiological processes including embryogenesis and wound healing. It also plays a key role in solid tumor formation and metastasis, as well as in chronic inflammatory diseases (e.g., inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). The process of angiogenesis is a complex network that involves both pro- and anti-angiogenic factors. The inhibition of vessel formation is an active area of cancer research given the central role angiogenesis plays in tumor growth. An integrated understanding of angiogenic factors is critical for researchers to explore new therapeutic approaches to cancer and other diseases further.

The LEGENDplex™ Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 (10-plex) V02 consists of multiplex assays using fluorescence-encoded beads, and it is suitable for measuring results by common flow cytometers. It allows simultaneous quantification of 10 key targets involved in angiogenesis including IL-6, Angiopoietin-1, Angiopoietin-2, EGF, FGF-basic, CXCL8 (IL-8), PECAM-1 (CD31), PIGF, VEGF, and TNF-α. This assay panel provides higher detection sensitivity and broader dynamic range than traditional ELISA methods. The panel has been validated for use on cell culture supernatant, serum, and plasma samples.

The Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 is designed to allow flexible customization within the panel. Please visit **www.biolegend.com/legendplex** for more information on panel design and how to mix and match within the panel.

This assay is for research use only

#### **Principle of the Assay**

BioLegend's LEGENDplex™ assays are bead-based immunoassays that use the same basic principle as sandwich immunoassays.

Beads are differentiated by size and internal fluorescence intensities. The surface of each bead set is first conjugated with specific antibodies, and then used as capture beads for that particular analyte. When a selected panel of capture beads are mixed and incubated with a sample containing target analytes, each analyte will bind to its specific capture beads. After washing, a biotinylated detection antibody cocktail is added, and each detection antibody in the cocktail will bind to its specific analyte bound on the capture beads, thus forming capture bead-analyte-detection antibody sandwiches. Streptavidin-phycoerythrin (SA-PE) is subsequently added, which will bind to the biotinylated detection antibodies, providing fluorescent signal intensities in proportion to the amount of bound analytes.

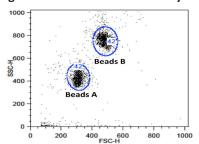
Since the beads are differentiated by size and internal fluorescence intensity on a flow cytometer, analyte-specific populations can be segregated and PE fluorescent signal quantified. The concentration of a particular analyte is determined using a standard curve generated in the same assay.

#### **Beads Usage**

The Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 VO2 uses two sets of beads. Each set has a unique size that can be identified based on their forward scatter (FSC) and side scatter (SSC) profiles (Beads A and Beads B, Figure 1). Each bead set can be further resolved based on their internal fluorescence intensities. The internal dye can be detected using either the FL3, FL4, or APC channels, depending on the type of flow cytometer used. The smaller A Beads consists of 6 bead populations (shown in Figure 2). The larger B Beads consists of 7 bead populations (shown in Figure 3). Five populations of each set of beads are used for this panel (indicated as Beads ID in Table 1).

Using a total of 10 bead populations distinguished by size and internal fluorescent dye, the Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 allows simultaneous detection of 10 proteins in a single sample. Each analyte is associated with a particular bead set as indicated (Figures 2-3 and Table 1).

Figure 1. Beads Differentiated by Size



Beads A = smaller beads

Beads B = larger beads

Figure 2. Beads A Classification by FL4

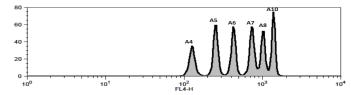
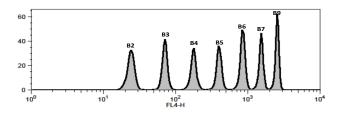


Figure 3. Beads B Classification by FL4



For Beads usage in the full panel, please refer to Table 1 below.

Table 1. Bead ID\* and Panel Target Selection

Target	Bead ID	Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 Cat. # 741214 or 741215	Mix & Match	Top Standard Concentrations
IL-6	A4	٧		
Angiopoietin-1	A5	٧		The top standard
Angiopoietin-2	A6	٧		concentration of each target
EGF	A7	٧		may vary and
FGF-basic	A10	٧		may subject to change from lot
CXCL8 (IL-8)	B2	٧		to lot. Please
PECAM-1	В3	٧		refer to the lot- specific Certifi- cate of Analysis for this
PIGF	B4	٧		
VEGF	В6	٧		information.
TNF-α	В7	٧		

<sup>\*</sup>Bead ID is used to associate a bead population to a particular analyte in the LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Data Analysis Software. The association of analyte and bead ID will be defined during the gating step of the data analysis.

When entering analyte and bead ID infomation during the gating step, always enter in the sequential order of the bead ID (e.g, A4, A5, A6...B2, B3, B4...). Please refer to the LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Data Analysis Software User Guide and Online Help for details (www.biolegend.com/legendplex).

#### **Storage Information**

Recommended storage for all original kit components is between 2°C and 8°C. DO NOT FREEZE Pre-mixed Beads, Detection Antibodies or SA-PE.

- Once the standards have been sufficiently reconstituted, immediately transfer contents into polypropylene vials. DO NOT STORE RECONSTITUT-ED STANDARDS IN GLASS VIALS.
- Upon reconstitution, leftover top standard should be stored at ≤-70°C for use within one month. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze-thaw cycles. Discard any leftover diluted standards.

#### Materials Supplied

The LEGENDplex™ kit contains reagents for 100 tests, listed in the table below. When assayed in duplicate, this is enough for an 8-point standard curve and 40 samples.

For the Mix and Match Subpanels, individual beads are provided at 13X concentration. The Buffer Set contains Setup Beads, all Buffers, Plate Sealers, Matrix and SA-PE

Kit Components	Quantity	Volume	Cat #
Capture Beads* (see tables below for more information)	Varies	Varies	Varies
Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 Detection Antibodies	1 bottle	3.3 mL	741216
Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 Standard	1 vial	Lyophilized	740699
LEGENDplex™ Buffer Set I1	1		741218
Filter Plate* or V-bottom Plate**	1 plate		740377* or 740379**

<sup>\*</sup> For kit with filter plate. \*\* For kit with V-bottom plate. Only one plate is provided for each kit.

#### **Capture beads for Mix and Match Subpanels**

Bead Name	Quantity	Volume	Cat #
LEGENDplex™ Human IL-6 Capture Bead A4, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	741261
LEGENDplex™ Human Angiopoietin-1 Capture Bead A5, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740701
LEGENDplex™ Human Angiopoietin-2 Capture Bead A6, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	741217
LEGENDplex™ Human EGF Capture Bead A7, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740703
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> Human FGF-basic Capture Bead A10, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740705
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> Human CXCL8 (IL-8) Capture Bead B2, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	741237
LEGENDplex™ Human PECAM-1 Capture Bead B3, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740707
LEGENDplex™ Human PIGF Capture Bead B4, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	741238
LEGENDplex™ Human VEGF Capture Bead B6, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740710
LEGENDplex™ Human TNF-α Capture Bead B7, 13X	1 vial	270 μL	740711

# LEGENDplex™ Buffer Set I1 (Cat#: 741218)

Components	Quantity	Volume	Part #
Setup Beads: PE Beads	1 vial	1 mL	77842
Setup Beads: Raw Beads	1 vial	1.8 mL	77844
LEGENDplex™ SA-PE	1 bottle	3.3 mL	77743
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> Matrix A2, Lyophilized	1 vial	Lyophilized	750002691
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> Assay Buffer	1 bottle	25 mL	77562
LEGENDplex™ Wash Buffer, 20X	1 bottle	25 mL	77564
Plate Sealers	4 sheets		78101

No plate is included in Buffer Set I1 and it should be ordered separately.

Please order the correct type of plate based on the preferred assay protocol (Cat# 740377 or 740378 for Filter Plate and Cat# 740379 for V-bottom Plate)

#### Materials to be Provided by the End-User

 A flow cytometer equipped with two lasers (e.g., a 488 nm blue laser or 532 nm green laser and a 633-635 nm red laser) capable of distinguishing 575 nm and 660 nm or a flow cytometer equipped with one laser (e.g., 488 nm blue laser) capable of distinguishing 575 nm and 670 nm.

#### Partial list of compatible flow cytometers:

Flow Cytometer	Reporter Channel	Channel Emission	Classification Channel	Channel Emission	Compen- sation needed?
BD Accuri™ C6™	FL2	585 nm	FL4	675 nm	No*
BD FACSCanto, BD FACSCanto™II	PE	575 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
BD™ LSR, LSR II BD LSRFortessa™	PE	575 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
Gallios™	PE	575 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
CytoFLEX	PE	585 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
NovoCyte	PE	572 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
Attune™ NxT	PE	574 nm	APC	670 nm	No*

<sup>\*</sup>Compensation is not required for the specified flow cytometers when set up properly.

For setting up various flow cytometers, please visit: www.biolegend.com/legendplex and click on the Instrument Setup tab.

- Multichannel pipettes capable of dispensing 5 μL to 200 μL
- Reagent reservoirs for multichannel pipette
- Polypropylene microfuge tubes (1.5 mL)
- Laboratory vortex mixer
- Sonicator bath (e.g., Branson Ultrasonic Cleaner model #B200, or equivalent)
- Aluminum foil
- Absorbent pads or paper towels
- Plate shaker (e.g., Lab-Line Instruments model #4625, or equivalent)
- Tabletop centrifuges (e.g., Eppendorf centrifuge 5415 C, or equivalent)

#### If the assay is performed in a filter plate (recommended):

 A vacuum filtration unit (Millipore MultiScreen <sup>®</sup> HTS Vacuum Manifold, cat # MSVMHTS00 or equivalent). Instructions on how to use the vacuum manifold can be found at the supplier's website.

8

- A vacuum source (mini vacuum pump or line vacuum, e.g., Millipore Vacuum Pump, catalog # WP6111560, or equivalent)
- If needed, additional Filter plates can be ordered from BioLegend (Cat# 740377 or 740378).

#### If the assay is performed in a V-bottom plate (optional):

- Centrifuge with a swinging bucket adaptor for microtiter plates (e.g., Beckman Coulter Allegra<sup>TM</sup> 6R Centrifuge with MICROPLUS CARRIER adaptor for GH3.8 and JS4.3 Rotors).
- If needed, additional V-bottom plates can be ordered from BioLegend (Cat# 740379).

#### **Precautions**

- All blood components and biological materials should be handled as potentially hazardous. Follow universal precautions as established by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration when handling and disposing of infectious agents.
- Sodium azide has been added to some reagents as a preservative. Although the concentrations are low, sodium azide may react with lead and copper plumbing to form highly explosive metal azides. On disposal, flush with a large volume of water to prevent azide build-up.
- Do not mix or substitute reagents from different kits or lots. Reagents from different manufacturers should not be used with this kit.
- Do not use this kit beyond its expiration date.
- SA-PE and beads are light-sensitive. Minimize light exposure.

## Chapter 2: ASSAY PREPARATION

#### Sample Collection and Handling

#### **Preparation of Serum Samples:**

- Allow the blood to clot for at least 30 minutes and centrifuge for 20 minutes at 1,000 x q.
- Remove serum and assay immediately or aliquot and store samples at ≤-20°C. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze/thaw cycles.
- When using frozen samples, it is recommended that samples be thawed completely, mixed and centrifuged to remove particulates prior to use.

#### **Preparation of Plasma Samples:**

- Plasma collection should be collected using an anti-coagulant (e.g., EDTA, Heparin, Citrate). Centrifuge for 20 minutes at 1,000 x g within 30 minutes of blood collection.
- Remove plasma and assay immediately, or aliquot and store samples at <-20°C. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze/thaw cycles.
- When using frozen samples, it is recommended that samples be thawed completely, mixed well and centrifuged to remove particulates.

#### **Preparation of Cell Culture Supernatant:**

• Centrifuge the sample to remove debris and assay immediately. If not possible, aliquot and store samples at ≤-20°C. Avoid multiple (>2) freeze/thaw cycles.

#### **Reagent Preparation**

#### **Preparation of Antibody-Immobilized Beads**

- 1. The individual beads (13X) need to be combined with one another and diluted with Assay Buffer to create a 1X working solution of beads prior to use.
- 2. Sonicate each bead vial for 1 minute in a sonicator bath and then vortex for 30 seconds to completely resuspend the beads.
- 3. Calculate and prepare a 1X beads working solution based on the desired number of reactions and plex-size of your assay (i.e. the number of individual bead vials) following the steps described below.

- A. Total volume ( $\mu$ L) = **30** x (number of reactions)
- B. Volume needed from each 13X beads vial ( $\mu$ L) = **2.3** x (number of reactions)
- C. Assay Buffer needed ( $\mu$ L) = A B x (number of individual beads vials to be mixed)

Note: calculations for total volume include a 20% excess to account for any loss during pipetting.

#### Example: to prepare 50 reactions for a 5-plex assay

- A. Total volume ( $\mu$ L) = **30** x 50 = 1500  $\mu$ L
- B. Volume per beads vial needed ( $\mu$ L) = **2.3** x 50 = 115  $\mu$ L
- C. Assay Buffer needed ( $\mu$ L) = A B x (number of individual beads vials) = 1500 (115 x 5) = 925  $\mu$ L

Combine 115  $\mu$ L of each beads vial (5 vials) with 925  $\mu$ L of assay buffer to get the desired final volume of 1500  $\mu$ L of 1X working solution of beads.

#### Preparation of Matrix A2 (for Serum or Plasma Samples Only)

 Add 5.0 mL LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Assay Buffer to the bottle containing lyophilized Matrix A2. Allow at least 15 minutes for complete reconstitution. Vortex to mix well. Leftover reconstituted Matrix A2 should be stored at ≤-70°C for up to one month.

#### **Preparation of Wash Buffer**

- Bring the 20X Wash Buffer to room temperature and mix to bring all salts into solution.
- Dilute 25 mL of 20X Wash Buffer with 475 mL deionized water. Store unused portions between 2°C and 8°C for up to one month.

#### **Standard Preparation**

- 1. Prior to use, reconstitute the lyophilized Human Angiogenesis Standard with 250 µL Assay Buffer.
- 2. Mix and allow the vial to sit at room temperature for 10 minutes, and then transfer the standard to an appropriately labeled polypropylene microcentrifuge tube. This will be used as the top standard C7.

Note: The top standard concentrations of analytes in this panel were set at various concentrations, but may be subject to change from lot to lot (review lot-specific CoA on our website <a href="https://www.biolegend.com/en-us/certificate-of-analysis">https://www.biolegend.com/en-us/certificate-of-analysis</a>).

- 3. Label 6 polypropylene microcentrifuge tubes as C6, C5, C4, C3, C2 and C1, respectively.
- 4. Add 75  $\mu$ L of Assay Buffer to each of the six tubes. Prepare 1:4 dilution of the top standard by transferring 25  $\mu$ L of the top standard C7 to the C6 tube and mix well. This will be the C6 standard.
- 5. In the same manner, perform serial 1:4 dilutions to obtain C5, C4, C3, C2 and C1 standards (see the table below using the top standard at 10,000 pg/mL as an example). Assay Buffer will be used as the 0 pg/mL standard (C0).

Tube/Standard ID	Serial Dilution	Assay Buffer to add (μL)	Standard to add	Final Conc. (pg/mL)
C7			-	10,000
C6	1:4	75	25 μL of C7	2,500
C5	1:16	75	25 μL of C6	625
C4	1:64	75	25 μL of C5	156.25
C3	1:256	75	25 μL of C4	39.01
C2	1:1024	75	25 μL of C3	9.77
C1	1:4096	75	25 μL of C2	2.44
C0		75		0

## **Sample Dilution**

• Serum or plasma samples must be diluted 2-fold with Assay Buffer before being tested (e.g., dilute 50  $\mu$ L of sample with 50  $\mu$ L of Assay Buffer). If further dilution is desired, dilution should be done with Matrix A2 to ensure accurate measurement.

Adding serum or plasma samples without dilution will result in low assay accuracy and possibly, clogging of the filter plate.

For cell culture supernatant samples, the levels of analyte can vary greatly
from sample to sample. To test cell culture supernatant samples, a preliminary experiment may be required to determine the appropriate dilution
factor. If further dilution is desired, dilution should be done with corresponding fresh cell culture medium or Assay Buffer as a diluent to ensure
accurate measurement.

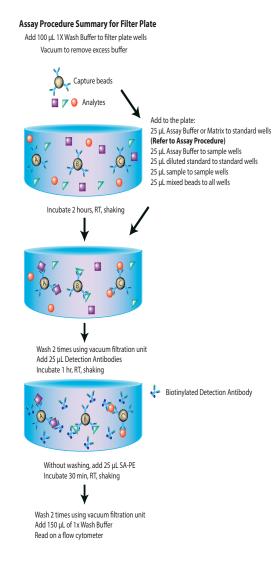
# Chapter 3: ASSAY PROCEDURE

The LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> assay can be performed in a filter plate, or in a V-bottom plate.

- The Filter plate assay procedure is recommended due to its good sample
  to sample consistency, assay robustness and ease of handling. This procedure requires a vacuum filtration unit for washing (see Materials to be
  Provided by the End-User, page 8). If you have performed bead-based
  multiplex assays before, your lab may already have the vacuum filtration
  unit set up.
- If the Filter plate assay procedure is not possible or if you prefer, the assay can be performed in a V-bottom plate.

#### Performing the Assay Using a Filter Plate

- Allow all reagents to warm to room temperature (20-25°C) before use.
- Set the filter plate on an inverted plate cover at all times during assay setup and incubation steps, so that the bottom of the plate does not touch any surface. Touching a surface may cause leakage.
- Keep the plate upright during the entire assay procedure, including the washing steps, to avoid losing beads.
- The plate should be placed in the dark or wrapped with aluminum foil for all incubation steps.
- Standards and samples should be run in duplicate and arranged on the
  plate in a vertical configuration convenient for data acquisition and
  analysis (as shown in attached PLATE MAP, page 33). Be sure to load
  standards in the first two columns. If an automation device is used
  for reading, the orientation and reading sequence should be carefully
  planned.
- Pre-wet the plate by adding 100 μL of LEGENDplex<sup>TM</sup> 1X Wash Buffer to each well and let it sit for 1 minute at room temperature. To remove the excess volume, place the plate on the vacuum manifold and apply vacuum. Do not exceed 10" Hg of vacuum. Vacuum until wells are drained (5-10 seconds). Blot excess Wash Buffer from the bottom of the plate by pressing the plate on a stack of clean paper towels. Place the plate on top of the inverted plate cover.



2. Load the plate as shown in the table below (in the order from left to right)

For measuring cell culture supernatant samples:

	Cell Culture Medium or Assay Buffer	n Standard	
Standard Wells	25 μL	25 μL	
Sample Wells	25 μL		25 μL

#### For measuring serum or plasma samples:

	Matrix A2	Assay Buffer	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells	25 μL		25 μL	
Sample Wells		25 μL		25 μL

<sup>\*</sup>See Sample Dilution on page 12

- 3. Vortex mixed beads bottle for 30 seconds. Add 25  $\mu$ L of mixed beads to each well. The volume should be 75  $\mu$ L in each well after beads addition. (Note: During addition of the beads, shake mixed beads bottle intermittently to avoid bead settling).
- 4. Seal the plate with a plate sealer. To avoid plate leaking, do not apply positive pressure to the sealer when sealing the plate. Wrap the entire plate, including the inverted plate cover, with aluminum foil. Place the plate on a plate shaker, secure it with a rubber band and shake at approximate 500 rpm for 2 hours at room temperature.
- 5. Do not invert the plate! Place the plate on the vacuum manifold and apply vacuum as before in Step 1. Add 200  $\mu$ L of 1X Wash Buffer to each well. Remove Wash Buffer by vacuum filtration. Blot excess Wash Buffer from the bottom of the plate with an absorbent pad or paper towels. Repeat this washing step once more.
- 6. Add 25  $\mu$ L of Detection Antibodies to each well.
- Seal the plate with a fresh plate sealer. Wrap the entire plate, including the inverted plate cover, with aluminum foil. Place the plate on a plate shaker and shake at approximately 500 rpm for 1 hour at room temperature.
- 8. Do not vacuum! Add 25 μL of SA-PE to each well directly.
- 9. Seal the plate with a fresh plate sealer. Wrap the entire plate, including the inverted plate cover, with aluminum foil. Place the plate on a plate shaker and shake at approximate 500 rpm for 30 minutes at room temperature.
- 10. Repeat step 5 above.
- 11. Add 150  $\mu$ L of 1X Wash Buffer to each well. Resuspend the beads on a plate shaker for 1 minute.

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12. Read samples on a flow cytometer, preferably within the same day of the assay (Note: Prolonged sample storage can lead to reduced signal).

If the flow cytometer is equipped with an autosampler, read the plate directly using the autosampler. Please be sure to program the autosampler to resuspend beads in the well immediately before taking samples. The probe height may need to be adjusted when using an autosampler.

If an autosampler is not available, the samples can be transferred from the filter plate to micro FACS (or FACS) tubes and read manually.

#### Performing the Assay Using a V-bottom Plate

- Allow all reagents to warm to room temperature (20-25°C) before use.
- Keep the plate upright during the entire assay procedure, including the washing steps, to avoid losing beads.
- The plate should be placed in the dark or wrapped with aluminum foil for all incubation steps.
- Standards and samples should be run in duplicate and arranged on the
  plate in a vertical configuration convenient for data acquisition and analysis
  (as shown in attached PLATE MAP, page 33). Be sure to load standards in
  the first two columns. If an automation device is used for reading, the orientation and reading sequence should be carefully planned.
- Load the plate as shown in the table below (in the order from left to right)
   For measuring cell culture supernatant samples:

	Cell Culture Medium or Assay Buffer	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells	25 μL	25 μL	
Sample Wells	25 μL		25 μL

#### For measuring serum or plasma samples:

	Matrix A2	Assay Buffer	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells	25 μL		25 μL	
Sample Wells		25 μL		25 μL

<sup>\*</sup>See Sample Dilution on page 12

2. Vortex mixed beads for 30 seconds. Add 25  $\mu$ L of mixed beads to each well. The total volume should be 75  $\mu$ L in each well after beads addition. (Note: During beads addition, shake mixed beads bottle intermittently to avoid bead settling).

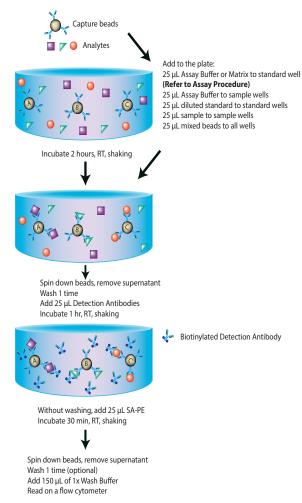
- 3. Seal the plate with a plate sealer. Cover the entire plate with aluminum foil to protect the plate from light. Shake at 800 rpm on a plate shaker for 2 hours at room temperature (Depending on the shaker, the speed may need to be adjusted. The optimal speed is one that is high enough to keep beads in suspension during incubation, but not too high that it may cause sample to spill from the wells).
- 4. Centrifuge the plate at 1050 rpm (~250 g) for 5 minutes, using a swinging bucket rotor (G.H 3.8) with microplate adaptor (Please refer to Materials to be Provided by the End-User, page 8). Do not use excessive centrifugation speed as it may make it harder to resuspend beads in later steps. Make sure the timer of the centrifuge works properly and standby to make sure the centrifuge reaches preset speed.
- 5. Immediately after centrifugation, dump the supernatant into a biohazard waste container by quickly inverting and flicking the plate in one continuous and forceful motion. The beads pellet may or may not be visible after dumping the supernatant. Loss of beads should not be a concern as the beads will stay in the tip of the well nicely. Blot the plate on a stack of clean paper towel and drain the remaining liquid from the well as much as possible. Be careful not to disturb the bead pellet.
  - Alternatively, removal of the supernatant may be completed using a multichannel pipette set at 75  $\mu$ L. Try to remove as much liquid as possible without removing any beads. Be sure to change pipette tips between each row or column.
- 6. Wash the plate by dispensing 200  $\mu$ L of 1X Wash Buffer into each well and incubate for one minute. Repeat step 4 and 5 above. A second wash is optional, but may help reduce background.
- 7. Add 25 μL of Detection Antibodies to each well.
- 8. Seal the plate with a new plate sealer. Cover the entire plate with aluminum foil to protect the plate from light. Shake at 800 rpm on a plate shaker for 1 hour at room temperature.
- 9. Do not wash the plate! Add 25  $\mu$ L of SA-PE to each well directly.
- 10. Seal the plate with a new plate sealer. Wrap the entire plate with aluminum foil and shake the plate on a plate shaker at approximate 800 rpm for 30 minutes at room temperature.
- 11. Repeat step 4, and 5.
- 12. (This washing step is optional but helps to reduce the background.) Wash the plate by dispensing 200  $\mu$ L of 1X Wash Buffer into each well and incubate for one minute. Repeat step 4 and 5 above.
- 13. Add 150  $\mu$ L of 1X Wash Buffer to each well. Resuspend the beads by pipetting.

14. Read samples on a flow cytometer, preferably within the same day of the assay (Note: Prolonged sample storage can lead to reduced signal).

If the flow cytometer is equipped with an autosampler, the samples can be read directly. Please be sure to program the autosampler to resuspend beads in the well immediately before taking samples. The probe height may need to be adjusted when using an autosampler.

If an autosampler is not available, the samples can be transferred from the plate to micro FACS (or FACS) tubes and read manually.

#### **Assay Procedure Summary for V-bottom Plate**



# **Chapter 4: FLOW CYTOMETER SETUP**

In order to generate reliable data, the flow cytometer must be set up properly before data acquisition.

The setup instructions have been removed from this manual and uploaded onto our website to save paper.

To access the setup instructions, please visit: www.biolegend.com/legendplex and click on the Instrument Setup tab.

# Chapter 5: DATA ACQUISITION AND ANALYSIS

#### **Data Acquisition**

- 1. Before reading samples, make sure that the flow cytometer is set up properly.
- Create a new template or open an existing template (for details on how to create a cytometer-specific template, please refer to the Flow Cytometer Setup Guide).
- 3. Vortex each sample for 5 seconds before analysis.
- 4. Set the flow rate to low. Set the number of beads to be acquired to about 300 per analyte (e.g., acquire 2,100 beads for a 7-plex assay or 3,000 beads for a 13-plex assay). Do not set to acquire total events as samples may contain large amounts of debris. Instead, create a large gate to include both Beads A and Beads B (gate A+B) and set to acquire the number of events in gate A + B. This will exlude majority of the debris.

Note: Do not acquire too few or too many beads. Too few beads acquired may result in high CVs and too many beads acquired may result in slow data analysis later.

5. Read samples.

When reading samples, set the flow cytometer to setup mode first and wait until bead population is stabilized before recording or switching to acquisition mode.

To simplify data analysis using the LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Data Analysis Software, read samples in the same order as shown on the PLATE MAP attached at the end of the manual. For an in-plate assay, read column by column (A1, B1, C1...A2, B2, C2...).

When naming data files, try to use simple names with a consecutive numbering for easy data analysis (e.g. for standards, C0.001, C0.002, C1.003, C1.004, C2.005, C2.006, C3.007, C3.008, ... C7.015, C7.016; for samples, S1.017, S1.018, S2.019, S2.020, S3.021, S3.022...)

Store all FCS files in the same folder for each assay. If running multiple assays, create a separate folder for each assay.

6. Proceed to data analysis using LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Data Analysis Software when data acquisition is completed.

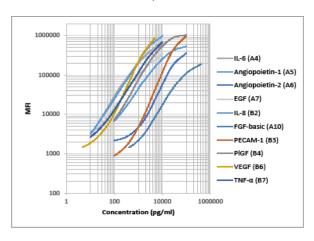
#### **Data Analysis**

 The FCS file generated on a flow cytometer should be analyzed using BioLegend's LEGENDplex™ Data Analysis Software. The LEGENDplex™ Data Analysis Software can be downloaded for free here: www.biolegend.com/ legendplex.

#### Chapter 6: ASSAY CHARACTERIZATION

#### **Representative Standard Curve**

This standard curve was generated using the LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Human Angiogenesis Panel 1 V02 for demonstration purposes only. A standard curve must be run with each assay.



#### **Assay Sensitivity**

The assay sensitivity is the theoretical limit of detection calculated using the LEGENDplex $^{\text{\tiny{M}}}$  Data Analysis Software by applying a 5-paramater curve fitting algorithm. Assay Sensitivity presented here is  $\leq$ Mean LOD + 2x STDEV LOD.

Analyte	LOD in Assay Buffer (pg/ mL) (N=17)		LOD in Matrix (pg/mL) (N=17)	
·	Mean	STDEV	Mean	STDEV
Human IL-6	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.1
Human Angiopoietin-1	3.5	1.1	13.9	15.9
Human Angiopoietin-2	22.1	17.5	22.5	20.8
Human EGF	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.5
Human FGF-basic	33.6	21.4	86.1	53.2
Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.5
Human PECAM-1	18.2	17.1	17.4	17.1
Human PIGF	3.1	1.1	3.3	1.0
Human VEGF	1.6	1.5	3.0	3.4

Human TNF-α	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.8

# **Specificity and Cross-Reactivity**

Human VEGF assay detects both VEGF121 and VEGF165 recombinant proteins; Human PIGF assay detects PIGF-1, PIGF-2, and PIGF-3 recombinant proteins equally. Both VEGF and PIGF assays detect free form of the analyte, indicated by the reduced detection in the presence of its receptors such as VEGFR1. Human FGF-basic assay detects 54.9% of Mouse FGF-basic recombinant protein.

The following recombinant proteins were tested individually at the indicated concentration. No or negligible cross-reactivity was found

Human	IL-6, EGF, CXCL8 (IL-8), and TNF-α (10 ng/m) Angiopoietin-1 and -2, HGF, PECAM-1 (100 ng/mL) G-CSF (400 ng/mL) Angiogenin, Angiostatin, Endostatin, VEGFR1, VEGFR2, VEGFR3, Thrombospondin 1, Leptin, PAI-1, Endocan, PDGF-AA, PDGF-BB, PDGF-CC, PDGF-AB, VEGF-C, TSLP, and CD255 (50 ng/mL)
Mouse	TNF-α, VEGF120, VEGF164, EPO, EGF, G-CSF, GM-CSF (50 ng/mL)
Rat	TNF-α and GM-CSF (50 ng/mL)

#### **Accuracy (Spike Recovery)**

For spike recovery in cell culture medium (n=2), RPMI or DMEM with 10% FCS were spiked with target recombinant proteins at three different levels within the assay range. For spike recovery in serum and plasma (n=8 each), samples were first diluted two-fold with Assay Buffer and spiked with target proteins at three different levels within the assay range.

The spiked samples were then assayed, and the measured concentrations were compared with the expected values.

Analyta	% of Spike Recovery			
Analyte	Serum	Plasma*	Cell Culture	
Human IL-6	83%	62%	93%	
Human Angiopoietin-1	45%	70%**	90%	
Human Angiopoietin-2	61%	116%**	113%	
Human EGF	76%	61%**	77%	

Human FGF-basic	124%**	134%	114%**
Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	60%	120%**	70%
Human PECAM-1	90%	83%	101%
Human PIGF	109%	84%	86%
Human VEGF	75%	71%	80%
Human TNF-α	80%	72%	95%

<sup>\*</sup>Serum is the preferred sample type due to more accurate %recovery than in plasma samples.

#### **Linearity of Dilution**

Cell culture samples (n=2) were spiked with target proteins with known concentrations in the assay range, then serially diluted 1:2, 1:4, 1:8 with Assay Buffer and assayed. Serum and plasma samples (n=8 each) were spiked with target proteins with known concentrations in the assay range, then serially diluted 1:2, 1:4, 1:8 with Matrix A2 and assayed.

The measured concentrations of serially diluted samples were then compared with the concentration of the lowest dilution based on serial dilution factor used.

Analuta	% Linearity			
Analyte	Serum	Plasma	Cell Culture	
Human IL-6	106%	123%	105%	
Human Angiopoietin-1	118%	168%	97%	
Human Angiopoietin-2	98%	183%	100%	
Human EGF	88%	124%	98%	
Human FGF-basic	52%	80%	80%	
Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	126%	196%	112%	
Human PECAM-1	90%	117%	105%	
Human PIGF	92%	101%	103%	
Human VEGF	134%	92%	106%	
Human TNF-α	114%	109%	105%	

<sup>\*\*</sup>Recovery was tested using from natural sources.

### **Intra-Assay Precision**

Two samples with different concentrations of each target protein were analyzed in one assay with 16 replicates per sample. The intra-assay precision is shown below.

Analyte	Sample	Mean (pg/mL)	STDEV	%CV
Human II -6	Sample 1	29.5	4.3	15%
Human IL-6	Sample 2	127.9	10.4	8%
III	Sample 1	288.3	29.6	10%
Human Angiopoietin-1	Sample 2	1235.6	77.2	6%
Home Andrewsiation 2	Sample 1	1086.6	124.2	11%
Human Angiopoietin-2	Sample 2	3824.8	213.3	6%
	Sample 1	30.8	2.6	9%
Human EGF	Sample 2	138.1	13.9	10%
Umana ECE hanta	Sample 1	945.2	100.7	11%
Human FGF-basic	Sample 2	4483.7	644.1	14%
Liverage CVCLQ (II Q)	Sample 1	44.5	5.7	13%
Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	Sample 2	170.6	15.8	9%
Lluman DECAMA 1	Sample 1	288.3	23.1	8%
Human PECAM-1	Sample 2	1294.2	82.9	6%
Lluman DICE	Sample 1	288.3	23.1	8%
Human PIGF	Sample 2	1294.2	82.9	6%
Harrage MEGE	Sample 1	16.1	2.0	12%
Human VEGF	Sample 2	81.0	10.0	12%
II TNF	Sample 1	39.3	3.8	10%
Human TNF-α	Sample 2	163.0	9.9	6%

### **Inter-Assay Precision**

Two samples with different concentrations of each target protein were analyzed in ten independent assays with four replicates per sample. The inter-assay precision is shown below.

Analyte	Sample	Mean (pg/mL)	STDEV	%CV
Human IL-6	Sample 1	40	7	18%
Human IL-6	Sample 2	165	21	13%
Lluman Angianaistin 1	Sample 1	428	105	25%
Human Angiopoietin-1	Sample 2	1675	207	12%
Lluman Angionaiatin 2	Sample 1	1454	230	16%
Human Angiopoietin-2	Sample 2	4532	327	7%
Lluman FCF	Sample 1	45	10	23%
Human EGF	Sample 2	179	26	14%
Illumana FCF hasia	Sample 1	1272	337	26%
Human FGF-basic	Sample 2	5474	963	18%
Liveran CVCI 9 (II. 9)	Sample 1	58	11	18%
Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	Sample 2	219	23	10%
Liver on DECANA 1	Sample 1	437	75	17%
Human PECAM-1	Sample 2	1780	232	13%
Human PIGF	Sample 1	413	77	19%
Human PIGF	Sample 2	1627	197	12%
Lluman MFCF	Sample 1	23	3	14%
Human VEGF	Sample 2	94	14	15%
Home on TMF or	Sample 1	56	8	15%
Human TNF-α	Sample 2	217	21	10%

### **Biological Samples**

#### Serum

Normal human serum samples (n=20) were tested for endogenous levels of the proteins. The concentrations are shown below.

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% Detectable	Mean (pg/mL)
Human IL-6	ND - 30	95%	3.3
Human Angiopoietin-1	2045.9 - 14887.4	100%	5536.4
Human Angiopoietin-2	1452.5 - 4453.1	100%	2656.7
Human EGF	27.3 - 255.2	100%	106.4
Human FGF-basic	ND - 4213.6	70%	642.9
Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	1.1 - 78.0	100%	12.8
Human PECAM-1	5405.0 - 15372.0	100%	9764.8
Human PIGF	5.5 - 159.8	100%	36.3
Human VEGF	74.1 - 313.0	100%	187.2
Human TNF-α	1.5 - 176.7	100%	25.7

ND = Non-detectable

#### Plasma

Normal human plasma samples (n=20) were tested for endogenous levels of the proteins. The concentrations are shown below.

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% Detectable	Mean (pg/mL)
Human IL-6	ND - 18.1	95%	3.0
Human Angiopoietin-1	ND - 831.9	70%	220.7
Human Angiopoietin-2	203.0 - 1769.9	100%	670.1
Human EGF	0.8 - 57.3	100%	10.5
Human FGF-basic	ND - 2524.1	70%	399.2

Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	0.6 - 35.9	100%	4.7
Human PECAM-1	5062.9 - 22787.5	100%	11792.6
Human PIGF	4.2 - 765.6	100%	189.9
Human VEGF	10.9 - 648.4	100%	213.0
Human TNF-α	2.9 - 616.1	100%	155.4

ND = Non-detectable

#### **Cell Culture Supernatant**

Human HUVEC cells were cultured under various conditions (IFN- $\gamma$  at 50 ng/mL and TNF- $\alpha$  at 200 ng/mL; LPS at 1 µg/mL) with unstimulated cells as a control. Cell Culture supernatants were collected 24 hour after stimulation and assayed. The results (all pg/mL) are summarized below.

Analyte	Control	IFN-γ + TNF-α	LPS
Human IL-6	108	3443.8	346
Human Angiopoietin-1	9	ND	8
Human Angiopoietin-2	10280	367.3	29491
Human EGF	15339	32568.3	4846
Human FGF-basic	8334	43408.6	3877
Human CXCL8 (IL-8)	926	12859.4	2544
Human PECAM-1	2172	4254.2	870
Human PIGF	21	ND	110
Human VEGF	4	2.2	8
Human TNF-α	1	Saturated	2

ND = Non-detectable

# **TROUBLESHOOTING**

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Bead popula- tion shifting upward or downward dur- ing acquisition	The strong PE signal from high concentration samples or standards may spill over to classification Channel (e.g., FL3/FL4/APC) and mess up the bead separation.	Optimize instrument settings using Kit Setup Beads, and make appropriate com- pensation between channels.
	Vacuum pressure is insufficient or vacuum manifold does not seal properly.	Increase vacuum pressure such that 0.2 mL buffer can be suctioned in 3-5 seconds. Clean the vacuum manifold and make sure no debris on the manifold. Press down the plate on the manifold to make a good seal.
		Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
Filter plate will		If some wells are still clogged during washing, try the following:
not vacuum or some wells clogged	Samples have insoluble particles or sample is too viscous (e.g., serum	1). Add buffer to all the wells, pipette up and down the clogged wells and vacuum again.
	and plasma samples)	2). Use a piece of clean wipe, wipe the under side of the clogged wells and vacuum again.
		3). Take a thin needle (e.g., insulin needle), while holding the plate upward, poke the little hole under each of the clogged wells and vacuum again. Do not poke too hard or too deep as it may damage the filter and cause leaking.
	Filter plate was used without pre-wet.	Pre-wet plate with wash buffer before run- ning the assay.

	Beads inappropriately prepared	Sonicate bead vials and vortex just prior to addition. Agitate mixed beads intermittently in reservoir while pipetting this into the plate.
Insufficient bead count or	Samples cause beads aggregation due to particulate matter or viscosity.	Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
slow reading	Beads were lost during washing for in-tube assay	Make sure beads are spun down by visually check the pellet (beads are in light blue or blue color). Be very careful when removing supernatant during washing.
	Probe might be partially clogged.	Sample probe may need to be cleaned, or if needed, probe should be removed and sonicated.
	Vacuum pressure set too high	Adjust vacuum pressure such that 0.2 mL buffer can be suctioned in 3-5 seconds. Do not exceed 10" Hg of vacuum.
Plate leaked	Plate set directly on table or absorbent tow- els during incubations or reagent additions	Set plate on plate holder or raised edge so bottom of filter is not touching any surface.
, tale seases	Liquid present on the under side of the plate after vacuum	After washing, press down plate firmly on a stack of clean paper towels to dry the underside of the plate.
	Pipette touching and damaged plate filter during additions.	Pipette to the side of wells.
High Back-	Background wells were contaminated	Avoid cross-well contamination by changing tips between pipetting when performing the assay using a multichannel pipette.
ground	Insufficient washes	The background may be due to non- specific binding of SA-PE. Increase number of washes.
Debris (FSC/ SSC) during sample acquisi- tion	Debris or platelet may exist in sample solution.	Centrifuge samples before analyzing samples. Remove platelet as much as possible.

	I	
	Beads aggregation	Sonicate and vortex the Beads prior to use.
Variation be-	Multichannel pipette may not be calibrated or inconsistent pipet- ting	Calibrate Pipette. Ensure good pipetting practice. Prime pipette before use may help.
tween duplicate samples	Plate washing was not uniform	Make sure all reagents are vacuumed out completely in all wash steps.
	Samples may contain particulate matters.	Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
Low or poor standard curve	The standard was in- correctly reconstituted, stored or diluted	Follow the protocol to reconstitute, store and dilute standard. Double check your calculation.
signal	Wrong or short incubation time	Ensure the time of all incubations was appropriate.
Signals too high, standard curves satu-	PMT value for FL2/PE set too high	Make sure the PMT setting for the reporter channel is appropriate
rated	Plate incubation time was too long	Use shorter incubation time.
	Samples contain no or below detectable levels of analyte	Make sure the experiment to generate the samples worked. Use proper positive controls.
Sample read- ings are out of range	Samples concentrations higher than highest standard point.	Dilute samples and analyze again.
	Standard curve was saturated at higher end of curve.	Make sure the PMT setting for the reporter channel is appropriate. Use shorter incubation time if incubation time was too long
Missed beads populations during reading, or distribution	Sample may cause some beads to aggregate.	Centrifuge samples just prior to assay setup and use supernatant. If high lipid content is present, remove lipid layer after centrifugation. Sample may need dilution if too viscous.
is unequal	Beads populations are not mixed properly	Make sure all bead populations are mixed. and in similar numbers.

32

# PLATE MAP (for in-plate assay)

						•	•					
	1	2	3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12
A	СО	C4	Sample1	Sample5	Sample 9	Sample 13	Sample 17	Sample 21	Sample 25	Sample 29	Sample 33	Sample 37
В	СО	25	Sample1	Sample5	Sample 9	Sample 13	Sample 17	Sample 21	Sample 25	Sample 29	Sample 33	Sample 37
С	C1	CS	Sample2	Sample6	Sample 10	Sample 14	Sample 18	Sample 22	Sample 26	Sample 30	Sample 34	Sample 38
D	C1	CS	Sample2	Sample6	Sample 10	Sample 14	Sample 18	Sample 22	Sample 26	Sample 30	Sample 34	Sample 38
Е	C2	92	Sample3	Sample7	Sample 11	Sample 15	Sample 19	Sample 23	Sample 27	Sample 31	Sample 35	Sample 39
н	C2	CG	Sample3	Sample7	Sample 11	Sample 15	Sample 19	Sample 23	Sample 27	Sample 31	Sample 35	Sample 39
ŋ	3	7	Sample4	Sample8	Sample 12	Sample 16	Sample 20	Sample 24	Sample 28	Sample 32	Sample 36	Sample 40
I	ខ	72	Sample4	Sample8	Sample 12	Sample 16	Sample 20	Sample 24	Sample 28	Sample 32	Sample 36	Sample 40



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