

Immunocytochemistry Protocol

I. Materials & Reagents

Product	Preparation
Phosphate Buffered Saline (PBS)(MB-008)	
Triton X-100	
Hydrogen Peroxide (H ₂ O ₂)	
Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA)	
Biotinylated Secondary Antibody, HRP-Conjugated	Dilute 1:500
Streptavidin Peroxidase Conjugated (S000-03)	Dilute 1:500
3,3'-Diaminobenzidine (DAB) Substrate (DAB-10)	
Hematoxylin (Optional) and Acetic Acid (Optional) for counterstain	
UltraPure Sterile Water (MB-009-1000)	
Coverslip Solution	50% glycerol/Ultrapure water

II. Procedure

Note: This procedure is optional if detecting a membrane protein.

1. Add one drop of PBS/0.1% Triton X-100 to each well to permeabilize the cells and incubate slides for one 1 minute at room temperature.
2. Remove the liquid and wash the slides twice in PBS, 5 minutes each on the shaker.
3. Remove the liquid and place the slides onto a tray.
4. Soak slides in 1.5% H₂O₂/PBS solution for 15 minutes.
5. Wash twice in PBS for 5 minutes each on the shaker.
6. Incubate with 5% BSA into each well to block for overnight at 4°C in a humid chamber.
7. Dilute the primary antibody to the recommended concentration in 1% BSA diluent.
8. Remove BSA from the slides.
9. Add 35 µL of primary antibody to each well. Incubate for one 1 hour at room temperature.
10. Remove the primary antibody solution and wash slides 3 times in PBS, 5 minutes each on the shaker.
11. Dilute the biotinylated secondary antibody to 1:200 in a solution of 1% BSA diluent.
12. Remove the excess fluid and add one drop secondary antibody solution into each well. Incubate for one 1 hour at room temperature.
13. Wash in PBS 3 times, 5 minutes each on an orbital shaker. Remove excess fluid.
14. Add one drop streptavidin peroxidase to each well. Incubate for 30 minutes at room temperature.
15. Wash 3 times, 5 minutes in PBS on an orbital shaker. Remove excess fluid.
16. Add DAB substrate to each cell well. Once the cells start turning brown wash 2 times in PBS for 5 minutes each on the shaker.

Note: Inexperienced technicians may wish to observe cells turning brown under a microscope.
17. (Optional step for counterstain) Dip the slide rack with the slides into a staining dish of hematoxylin for 30 seconds. Remove and place into an acid bath (200 mL UltraPure water and 1-3 drops of acetic acid). Rinse with UltraPure water.
18. Add several drops of coverslip solution.
19. Place the coverslip on top of the slide.
20. Store slides at room temperature.