

## It is highly recommended that this manual be read in its entirety before using this product. Do not use this kit beyond the expiration date.

For Research Purposes Only. Not for use in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures. Purchase does not include or carry the right to resell or transfer this product either as a stand-alone product or as a component of another product. Any use of this product other than the permitted use without the express written authorization of BioLegend is strictly prohibited.

Table of ContentsPage	age
Chapter 1: KIT DESCRIPTION	. 3
Introduction	3
Principle of the Assay	. 3
Beads Usage	. 4
Storage Information	. 6
Materials Supplied	. 6
Materials to be Provided by the End-User	. 7
Precautions	8
Chapter 2: ASSAY PREPARATION	9
Sample Collection and Handling	. 9
Reagent Preparation	. 9
Standard Preparation	. 10
Sample Dilution	11
Chapter 3: ASSAY PROCEDURE	. 11
Performing the Assay Using a Filter Plate	. 11
Performing the Assay Using a V- bottom Plate	15
Chapter 4: FLOW CYTOMETER SETUP	. 18
Chapter 5: DATA ACQUISITION AND ANALYSIS	. 18
Data Acquisition	18
Data Analysis	. 19
Chapter 6: ASSAY CHARACTERIZATION	· 20
Representative Standard Curve	20
Assay Sensitivity	· 20
Cross-Reactivity	21
Accuracy	. 22
Linearity of Dilution	. 22

LEGENDplex™ Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel	
Intra-Assay Precision	23
Inter-Assay Precision	24
Biological Samples	25
TROUBLESHOOTING	29
PLATE MAP	33

# Chapter 1: KIT DESCRIPTION

## Introduction

Cytokine release syndrome is a systemic inflammatory response syndrome caused by adverse effects of monoclonal or CAR T cell immunotherapy. CRS can also arise as a complication during infection in response to sepsis. Regardless of its initial etiology, CRS is characterized by an auto-amplifying cascade of leukocyte activation which drives the production and release of several inflammatory biomarkers.

The LEGENDplex<sup>TM</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel (13-plex) is a beadbased multiplex assay panel, using fluorescence-encoded beads suitable for use on various flow cytometers. It allows for simultaneous quantification of 13 key biomarkers involved in cytokine release syndrome such as IFN- $\gamma$ , IL-10, CCL4 (MIP-1 $\beta$ ), IFN- $\alpha$ , CXCL9 (MIG), CXCL10 (IP-10), TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-6, VEGF, IL-4, CCL3 (MIP-1 $\alpha$ ), CCL2 (MCP-1), and GM-CSF. 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 Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel 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<sup>™</sup> 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

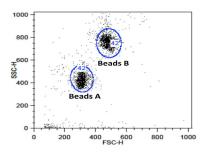
fluorescent signal quantified. The concentration of a particular analyte is determined using a standard curve generated in the same assay.

#### Bead Usage

The Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel 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 (A4, A5, A6, A7, A8, A10) and the larger B Beads consists of 7 bead populations (B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7, B9) (Figure 2-3).

Using a total of 13 bead populations distinguished by size and internal fluorescent dye, the Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel allows simultaneous detection of 13 proteins in a single sample. Each analyte is associated with a particular bead set as indicated (Figures 2-3 and Table 1).

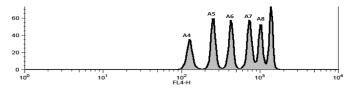
#### Figure 1. Beads Differentiated by Size



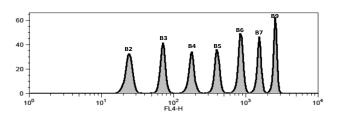
Beads A = smaller beads

Beads B = larger beads





LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel Figure 3. Beads B Classification by FL4



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

Table 1. Panel Targets and Bead ID\*

Target	Bead ID	Top Standard Concentrations
IFN-γ	A4	
IL-10	A5	
CCL4 (MIP-1B)	A6	
IFN-α	A7	Note: The top standard
CXCL9 (MIG)	A8	concentrations of
CXCL10 (IP-10)	A10	analytes in this panel were set at various
TNF-α	B2	concentrations, but may
IL-6	B3	be subject to change from lot to lot
VEGF	B4	(please visit biolegend.
IL-4	B5	com/en-us/legendplex to download
CCL3 (MIP-1a)	B6	a lot-specific certificate of analysis).
CCL2 (MCP-1)	В7	
GM-CSF	B9	

\*\*Bead ID is used to associate a bead population to a particular analyte when using the LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> data analysis software program. For further information regarding the use of the program please visit biolegend.com/en-us/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<sup>™</sup> 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.

Kit Components	Quantity	Volume	Part #
Setup Beads: PE Beads	1 vial	1 mL	77842
Setup Beads: Raw Beads	1 vial	1.8 mL	77844
Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel Premixed Beads	1 bottle	3.3 mL	750001061
Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel Detection Antibodies	1 bottle	3.3 mL	750001062
Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel Std Cktl, Standard	1 vial	Lyophilized	750001060
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> SA-PE	1 bottle	3.3 mL	77743
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> Assay Buffer	1 bottle	25 mL	77562
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> Wash Buffer, 20X	1 bottle	25 mL	77564
LEGENDplex <sup>™</sup> Matrix A	1 vial	Lyophilized	75306
Filter Plate* or V-bottom Plate**	1 plate		76187* or 76883**
Plate Sealers	4 sheets		78101

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

## 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.

Flow Cytometer	Reporter Channel	Reporter Emission	Classification Channel	Channel Emission	Compen- sation needed?
BD FACSCalibur™	FL2	575 nm	FL4	660 nm	No*
BD Accuri™C6	FL2	585 nm	FL4	675 nm	No*
BD FACSCanto <sup>™</sup> , BD FACSCanto <sup>™</sup> II	PE	575 nm	APC	660 nm	No*
BD <sup>™</sup> LSR, LSR II BD LSRFortessa <sup>™</sup>	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*
Guava <sup>®</sup> easyCyte	YLW	583 nm	RED2	661 nm	No*
Sony SH800	PE	585 nm	APC	665 nm	No*

#### Partial list of compatible flow cytometers:

\*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  $\mu L$  to 200  $\mu L$
- Reagent reservoirs for multichannel pipette
- Polypropylene microfuge tubes (1.5 mL)
- Micro FACS tubes, 1.1 mL (if the flow cytometer does not contain an autosampler)
- 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:

• 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.

- 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:

- Centrifuge with a swinging bucket adaptor for microtiter plates (e.g., Beckman Coulter Allegra<sup>™</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 g.
- 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, Citrate). Centrifuge for 20 minutes at 1,000 x g within 30 minutes of blood collection. \*Heparin plasma is not recommended for this panel.
- 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

Sonicate pre-mixed Beads bottle for 1 minute in a sonicator bath and then vortex for 30 seconds prior to use. If no sonicator bath is available, increase the vortexing time to 1 minute to completely resuspend the beads.

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

 Add 5.0 mL LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Assay Buffer to the bottle containing lyophilized Matrix A. Allow at least 15 minutes for complete reconstitution. Vortex to mix well. Leftover reconstituted Matrix A 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 Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel Standard with 250 μL LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Assay Buffer.
- 2. Mix and allow the vial to sit at room temperature for 15 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 (please visit biolegend.com/en-us/legendplex to download a lot-specific certificate of analysis).

- 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.
- 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
CO		75		0

## Sample Dilution

- Serum or plasma samples must be diluted 2-fold with LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Assay Buffer before being tested (e.g. dilute 50 µL of sample with 50 µL of LEG-ENDplex<sup>™</sup> Assay Buffer). If further dilution is desired, dilution should be done with Matrix A 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.

## 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>™</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.

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 A	Assay Buffer	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells	25 μL		25 μL	
Sample wells		25 μL		25 μL

\*See Sample Dilution on page 11

- 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.
- 7. 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.
- 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.

Assay Procedure Summary for V-bottom Plate

## Capture beads Analytes For serum and plasma samples, For cell culture supernatant samples, Add to the plate: Add to the plate: 25 µL Matrix A to standard wells 25 µL Assav Buffer to all wells 25 µL Assay Buffer to sample wells 25 µL diluted standard to standard wells 25 µL diluted standard to standard wells 25 µL sample to sample wells 25 µL sample to sample wells 25 µL mixed beads to all wells 25 µL mixed beads to all wells Incubate 2 hours, RT, shaking Spin down beads Wash 1 time Add 25 µL Detection Antibodies Incubate 1 hr, RT, shaking Biotinylated Detection Antibody Without washing, add 25 µL SA-PE Incubate 30 min, RT, shaking Spin down beads, remove supernatant Wash 1 time (optional) Add 150 µL of 1x Wash Buffer Read on a flow cytometer

## LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel <u>Performing the Assay Using a V-bottom Plate</u>

- 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.

1.	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 A	Assay Buffer	Standard	Sample*
Standard Wells	25 μL		25 μL	
Sample wells		25 μL		25 μL

#### \*See Sample Dilution on page 11

- Vortex mixed beads for 30 seconds. Add 25 μL of mixed beads to each well. The total volume should be 75 μL 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 7). 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. 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.

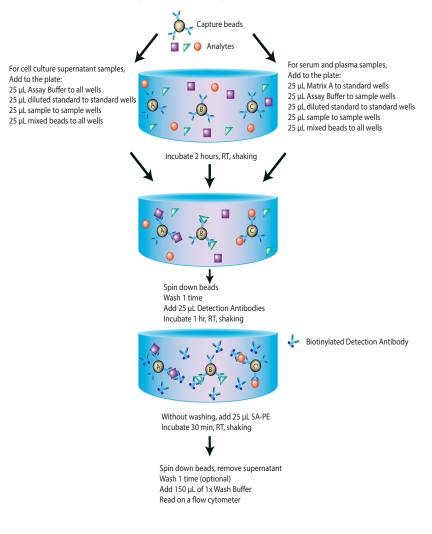
Alternatively, removal of the supernatant may be completed using a multichannel pipette set at 75  $\mu$ L. Try to remove as much liquid as possible without removing any beads. Be sure to change pipette tips between each row or column.

- Wash the plate by dispensing 200 μL 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 µL 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  $\mu\text{L}$  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



# LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel 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.
- 2. 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 2,400 beads for a 8-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 exclude the 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,

LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel 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.

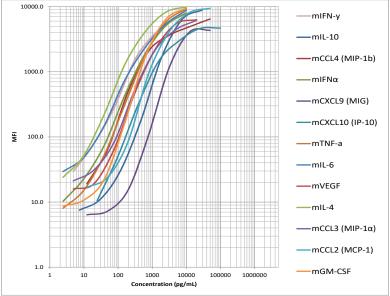
#### **Data Analysis**

 The assay FCS files should be analyzed using BioLegend's LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> data analysis software. The program is offered free of charge with the purchase of any LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> assay. For further information regarding access to, and use of the program please visit biolegend.com/en-us/legendplex.

# LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel Chapter 6: ASSAY CHARACTERIZATION

#### **Representative Standard Curve**

This standard curve was generated using the LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel 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 LEGENDplexTM Data Analysis Software by applying a 5-paramater curve fitting algorithm. Assay Sensitivity presented here is ≤Mean LOD + 2xSTDEV LOD.

Analyte	LOD in Assay Buffer (pg/mL) (n=10)	LOD in Matrix (pg/mL) (n=10)
Mouse IFN-γ	3.9	5.1
Mouse IL-10	9.3	18.9
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	12.8	16.6
Mouse IFN-α	1.9	5.2
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	28.1	63.6
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	27.3	32.0
Mouse TNF-α	1.6	3.6

Mouse IL-6	1.5	3.2
Mouse VEGF	11.8	18.2
Mouse IL-4	1.2	1.5
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	5.0	7.6
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	12.9	69.7
Mouse GM-CSF	5.0	11.8

#### **Cross-Reactivity**

Target mouse proteins were tested individually at the indicated concentrations below using the LEGENDplex<sup>™</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel, with negligible cross-reactivity observed for non-intended targets.

Analyte	Conc. (pg/mL)
Mouse IFN-γ	200,000
Mouse IL-10	300,000
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	500,000
Mouse IFN-α	100,000
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	500,000
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	1,000,000
Mouse TNF-α	100,000
Mouse IL-6	100,000
Mouse VEGF	200,000
Mouse IL-4	100,000
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	200,000
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	500,000
Mouse GM-CSF	100,000

The following recombinant proteins were tested individually at least 50 ng/mL. No or negligible cross-reactivity was found.

Mouse				
MMP-2	IL-9	CXCL11	VEGF120	
CCL10	IL-17 A/F	IFN-β1	IL-1α	
IL-7	IL-21	IL-22	IL-23	
IL-5				

Human				
IFN-γ	IL-10	CCL4	IFN-α2	
CXCL9 (MIG)	CXCL10 (IP-10)	TNF-α	IL-6	
VEGF-165	IL-4	CCL3 (MIP-1α)	CCL2	
GM-CSF				

## Accuracy (Spike Recovery)

For spike recovery in cell culture medium, serum, and plasma. Samples were spiked with target recombinant 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.

Analyte	% of Recovery in Cell Culture (N=2)	% of Recovery in Serum (N=8)	% of Recovery in Plasma (N=16)
Mouse IFN-γ	97%	74%	76%
Mouse IL-10	107%	75%	71%
Mouse CCL4 (MIP- 1β)	105%	100%	101%
Mouse IFN-α	95%	90%	95%
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	97%	106%	94%
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	93%	61%	80%
Mouse TNF-α	97%	79%	81%
Mouse IL-6	99%	85%	90%
Mouse VEGF	134%	67%	65%
Mouse IL-4	104%	79%	81%
Mouse CCL3 (MIP- 1α)	101%	92%	93%
Mouse CCL2 (MCP- 1)	112%	93%	111%
Mouse GM-CSF	98%	91%	89%

## **Linearity of Dilution**

Serum and plasma samples were initially diluted 2-fold with Assay Buffer, then serially diluted 2, 4, 8-fold still with Matrix A and assayed.

Cell culture samples were spiked with target proteins with known concentrations in the assay range, then serially diluted 2, 4, 8-fold with Assay Buffer 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.

	% Linearity			
Analyte	Cell Culture (N=2)	Serum (N=8)	Plasma (N=16)	
Mouse IFN-γ	101%	120%	107%	
Mouse IL-10	111%	136%	125%	
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	114%	104%	88%	
Mouse IFN-α	89%	96%	80%	
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	112%	126%	112%	
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	91%	177%	114%	
Mouse TNF-α	97%	104%	93%	
Mouse IL-6	101%	117%	100%	
Mouse VEGF	169%	132%	116%	
Mouse IL-4	114%	124%	109%	
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	103%	95%	85%	
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	127%	96%	86%	
Mouse GM-CSF	100%	102%	96%	

## 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
Mouse IEN v	Sample 1	73.4	6.98	10%
Mouse IFN-γ	Sample 2	346.4	19.3	6%
Mouse IL-10	Sample 1	115.9	16.46	14%
	Sample 2	450.2	32.7	7%
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	Sample 1	152.1	13.80	9%
	Sample 2	1040.6	117.7	11%

	Sample 1	39.5	4.43	11%
Mouse IFN-α	Sample 2	192.5	17.8	9%
	Sample 1	250.3	30.36	12%
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	Sample 2	677.9	64.8	10%
	Sample 1	154.1	12.20	8%
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	Sample 2	571.6	28.6	5%
	Sample 1	36.2	3.39	9%
Mouse TNF-α	Sample 2	168.0	14.5	9%
Mauralli	Sample 1	39.1	6.01	15%
Mouse IL-6	Sample 2	195.4	20.4	10%
	Sample 1	31.5	6.25	20%
Mouse VEGF	Sample 2	144.3	7.6	5%
	Sample 1	34.9	3.90	11%
Mouse IL-4	Sample 2	171.9	13.8	8%
	Sample 1	65.3	6.77	10%
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	Sample 2	314.9	26.6	8%
	Sample 1	124.7	10.59	8%
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	Sample 2	544.1	25.3	5%
	Sample 1	39.0	4.48	11%
Mouse GM-CSF	Sample 2	182.2	17.9	10%

#### **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
Mouse IEN v	Sample 1	77.5	3.4	12%
Mouse IFN-γ	Sample 2	314.1	35.1	11%
Mouse IL-10	Sample 1	122.3	19.3	16%
Mouse IL-10	Sample 2	406	46.3	11%
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	Sample 1	180.4	23.7	13%
	Sample 2	311.5	213.7	23%
Mouse IFN-α	Sample 1	45.3	5.6	12%
	Sample 2	186.2	23.2	12%

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Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	Sample 1	317.9	88.3	28%
	Sample 2	656.2	156.1	24%
	Sample 1	132.2	21	16%
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	Sample 2	478.7	70.1	15%
Mouse TNF-α	Sample 1	41	7.6	19%
wiouse την-α	Sample 2	159.8	37.5	13%
Mausall	Sample 1	46.2	3.4	20%
Mouse IL-6	Sample 2	185.6	37.5	20%
Mouse VEGF	Sample 1	32.3	7.8	24%
WOUSE VEGF	Sample 2	130.7	8.8	7%
Mouse IL-4	Sample 1	39.5	7.0	18%
WIOUSE IL-4	Sample 2	161.7	20.7	13%
	Sample 1	71.5	13.0	18%
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	Sample 2	304.1	38.6	13%
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	Sample 1	121.6	19.1	16%
	Sample 2	517.6	47.0	9%
Mouse GM-CSF	Sample 1	45.5	7.2	16%
Widuse Givi-CSF	Sample 2	177.7	19.7	11%

## **Biological Samples**

The values in this section are provided for reference only. The assays provided in this kit are intended for research use only.

#### Serum

Serum samples of the following strains were pooled from a minimum of ten mice each, and tested for the endogenous levels of the proteins. The concentrations are shown below (in pg/mL).

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% Detectable	Mean (pg/ mL)
Mouse IFN-γ	10.1-77.6	100%	35.6
Mouse IL-10	14.4-24.4	75%	13.6
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	13.8-93.9	100%	45.5
Mouse IFN-α	3.6-204.4	100%	61.9

Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	38.5-126.5	50%	41.3
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	133.2-1019.3	100%	572.8
Mouse TNF-α	27.5-130.8	100%	62.6
Mouse IL-6	7.8-85.5	100%	39.9
Mouse VEGF	205.1-205.1	25%	205.1
IL-4	5.8-5.8	25%	5.8
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	5.9-8.5	100%	7.3
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	132.9-683.8	100%	356.8
Mouse GM-CSF	0.8-10.8	100%	6.03

#### Plasma

Plasma samples of the following strains were pooled from a minimum of ten mice each, and tested for the endogenous levels of the proteins. The concentrations are shown below (in pg/mL).

Analyte	Range (pg/mL)	% Detectable	Mean (pg/mL)
Mouse IFN-γ	2.14-43.9	100%	16.5
Mouse IL-10	15.1-32.3	37.5%	9.8
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	8.5-64.0	100%	26.2
Mouse IFN-α	2.4-315.0	100%	50.4
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	20.6-72.7	75%	35.2
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	198.9-1238.7	100%	533.7
Mouse TNF-α	25.2-84.3	100%	43.9
Mouse IL-6	7.5-85.5	100%	54.2
Mouse VEGF	18.7-167.2	50%	148.1
Mouse IL-4	1.36-3.82	37.5%	2.3
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	4.26-6.4	100%	5.3
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	125.2-441.9	100%	243.7
Mouse GM-CSF	0.8-6.8	87.5%	2.6

#### Cell Culture Supernatant

Mouse splenocyte cells (1x10<sup>6</sup> cells/mL) were cultured under various conditions (LPS 1 µg/mL, Anti-CD3/CD28 both at 1 µg/mL, Cell Activation Cocktail (Cat# 423301), LPS+IFN- $\gamma$  primed 1 µg/mL + 100 ng/mL, R848 2 µg/mL, PHA 1 µg/mL, Poly I:C 1 µg/mL, Con A 10 µg/mL, Con A + IL-2 10 µg/mL + 10 ng/mL). Supernatants were collected after 72 hours and assayed with the LEGENDplex<sup>TM</sup> Mouse Cytokine Release Syndrome Panel.

Analyte	Control (pg/mL)	LPS (pg/mL)	<b>CD3 + CD</b> 28 (pg/mL)	PMA + LONO (pg/mL)
Mouse IFN-γ	ND	612.2	33749.2	25028.5
Mouse IL-10	ND	909.8	1205.9	170.4
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	64.7	373.5	127041.7	4156.3
Mouse IFN-α	ND	1.8	1.9	1.1
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	ND	11.1	458.2	150.2
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	ND	259.0	423.1	131.0
Mouse TNF-α	4.9	304.5	1719.4	1083.4
Mouse IL-6	ND	328.9	219.5	90.2
Mouse VEGF	ND	175.1	531.5	258.7
Mouse IL-4	ND	ND	123.1	5.3
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	14.7	371.6	32313.3	5301.1
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	ND	19.0	ND	92.4
Mouse GM-CSF	ND	29.8	10209.3	2502.2

The results (all in pg/mL) are summarized below.

ND = Non-detectable

Analyte	LPS + IFNy stm (pg/mL)	<b>R848 stm</b> (pg/mL)	PHA stm (pg/mL)	Poly I:C stm (pg/mL)
Mouse IFN-γ	28823.8	195.2	ND	6.9
Mouse IL-10	945.1	1417.8	ND	38.9
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	146.2	835.8	147.1	785.6
Mouse IFN-α	4.6	1.1	ND	5.9
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	78.5	38.6	ND	16.4

Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	3537.3	148.0	19.2	418.9
Mouse TNF-α	595.8	380.8	29.7	50.5
Mouse IL-6	351.2	598.0	2.1	14.0
Mouse VEGF	88.1	138.6	0.0	ND
Mouse IL-4	ND	ND	ND	ND
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	71.4	549.3	86.8	435.3
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	19.0	85.5	9.7	0.0
Mouse GM-CSF	202.3	7.8	ND	1.9

ND = Non-detectable

Analyte	<b>Control</b> (pg/mL)	ConA stm (pg/mL)	ConA + IL-2 stm (pg/mL)
Mouse IFN-γ	ND	516.0	8149.5
Mouse IL-10	ND	32.6	74.1
Mouse CCL4 (MIP-1β)	161.4	1386.5	1245.7
Mouse IFN-α	ND	ND	0.7
Mouse CXCL9 (MIG)	ND	48.2	94.6
Mouse CXCL10 (IP-10)	ND	154.2	267.7
Mouse TNF-α	8.0	165.3	330.2
Mouse IL-6	0.7	63.6	61.6
Mouse VEGF	6.3	16.2	27.6
Mouse IL-4	ND	93.3	115.7
Mouse CCL3 (MIP-1α)	68.9	1105.0	1285.4
Mouse CCL2 (MCP-1)	10.3	698.6	163.2
Mouse GM-CSF	2.6	201.3	856.4

ND = Non-detectable

# TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Bead popula- tion shifting upward or downward dur- ing acquisition	The strong PE signal from high concentra- tion samples or stan- dards 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 wash- ing, 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 un- derside 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 intermit- tently 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 visu- ally check the pellet (beads are in light blue or blue color). Be very careful when removing supernatant during washing.
	Probe might be par- tially 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.
	Liquid present on the underside 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 chang- ing tips between pipetting when perform- ing 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 solu- tion.	Centrifuge samples before analyzing samples. Remove platelet as much as possible.

	1	
	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 incuba- tion 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 re- porter 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 re- porter 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 ag- gregate.	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.

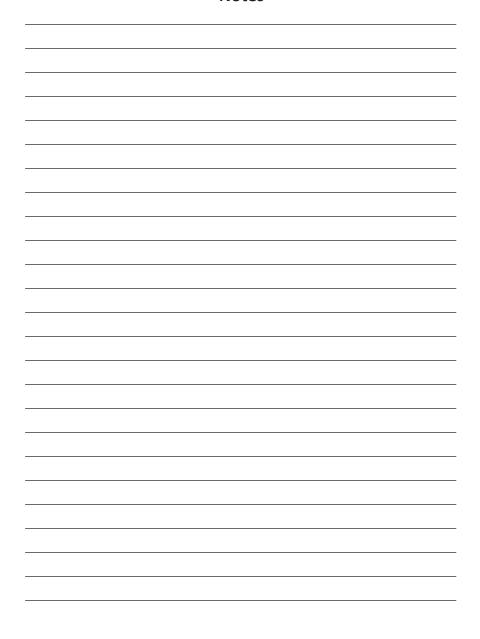


PLATE MAP (for in-plate assay)

	1	2	3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12
А	CO	C4	Sample1	Sample5	Sample 9	Sample 13	Sample 17	Sample 21	Sample 25	Sample 29	Sample 33	Sample 37
В	CO	C4	Sample1	Sample5	Sample 9	Sample 13	Sample 17	Sample 21	Sample 25	Sample 29	Sample 33	Sample 37
U	CI	C5	Sample2	Sample6	Sample 10	Sample 14	Sample 18	Sample 22	Sample 26	Sample 30	Sample 34	Sample 38
۵	CI	CS	Sample2	Sample6	Sample 10	Sample 14	Sample 18	Sample 22	Sample 26	Sample 30	Sample 34	Sample 38
ш	<b>C</b> 2	CG	Sample3	Sample7	Sample 11	Sample 15	Sample 19	Sample 23	Sample 27	Sample 31	Sample 35	Sample 39
Ľ.	3	C6	Sample3	Sample7	Sample 11	Sample 15	Sample 19	Sample 23	Sample 27	Sample 31	Sample 35	Sample 39
U	ប	C7	Sample4	Sample8	Sample 12	Sample 16	Sample 20	Sample 24	Sample 28	Sample 32	Sample 36	Sample 40
т	ប	C7	Sample4	Sample8	Sample 12	Sample 16	Sample 20	Sample 24	Sample 28	Sample 32	Sample 36	Sample 40



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