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1. Description

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Components | 2 mL CD138 MicroBeads, mouse: MicroBeads conjugated to monoclonal rat anti-mouse CD138 antibodies (rat IgG2a). |
| Capacity | For 2×10^9 total cells, up to 200 separations. |
| Product format | CD138 MicroBeads are supplied in buffer containing stabilizer and 0.05% sodium azide. |
| Storage | Store protected from light at 2–8 °C. Do not freeze. The expiration date is indicated on the vial label. |

1.1 Principle of the MACS® Separation

First, the CD138⁺ cells are magnetically labeled with CD138 MicroBeads. Then, the cell suspension is loaded onto a MACS® Column, which is placed in the magnetic field of a MACS Separator. The magnetically labeled CD138⁺ cells are retained within the column. The unlabeled cells run through; this cell fraction is thus depleted of CD138⁺ cells. After removing the column from the magnetic field, the magnetically retained CD138⁺ cells can be eluted as the positively selected cell fraction. To increase the purity, the positively selected cell fraction containing the CD138⁺ cells must be separated over a second column.

1.2 Background information

CD138 MicroBeads have been developed for the separation of mouse cells based on the expression of the CD138 antigen. CD138 is expressed on plasma cells and B cell precursors.

1.3 Applications

- Positive enrichment or depletion of CD138⁺ and CD138⁺⁺ cells from mouse bone marrow and spleen.

1.4 Reagent and instrument requirements

- Buffer: Prepare a solution containing phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), pH 7.2, 0.5% bovine serum albumin (BSA), and 2 mM EDTA by diluting MACS BSA Stock Solution (# 130-091-376) 1:20 with autoMACS® Rinsing Solution (# 130-091-222). Keep buffer cold (2–8 °C). Degas buffer before use, as air bubbles could block the column.

▲ **Note:** EDTA can be replaced by other supplements such as anticoagulant citrate dextrose formula-A (ACD-A) or citrate phosphate dextrose (CPD). BSA can be replaced by other proteins such as mouse serum albumin, mouse serum, or fetal bovine serum (FBS). Buffers or media containing Ca²⁺ or Mg²⁺ are not recommended for use.

- MACS Columns and MACS Separators: CD138⁺ cells can be enriched by using MS or LS Columns. Positive selection can also be performed by using the autoMACS Pro or the autoMACS Separator.

| Column | Max. number of labeled cells | Max. number of total cells | Separator |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Positive selection | | | |
| MS | 10 ⁷ | 2 × 10 ⁸ | MiniMACS, OctoMACS, VarioMACS, SuperMACS II |
| LS | 10 ⁸ | 2 × 10 ⁹ | MidiMACS, QuadroMACS, VarioMACS, SuperMACS II |
| autoMACS | 2 × 10 ⁸ | 4 × 10 ⁹ | autoMACS Pro, autoMACS |

▲ **Note:** Column adapters are required to insert certain columns into the VarioMACS™ or SuperMACS™ II Separators. For details refer to the respective MACS Separator data sheet.

- (Optional) Fluorochrome-conjugated CD19 and CD138 antibodies for flow cytometric analysis, e.g., CD19-APC (# 130-092-039) and CD138-PE (# 130-098-482). For more information about antibodies refer to www.miltenyibiotec.com/antibodies.
- (Optional) FcR Blocking Reagent, mouse (# 130-092-575) to avoid Fc receptor-mediated antibody labeling.
- (Optional) Propidium Iodide Solution (# 130-093-233) or 7-AAD for flow cytometric exclusion of dead cells.
- (Optional) Dead Cell Removal Kit (# 130-090-101) for the depletion of dead cells.
- (Optional) Pre-Separation Filters, 30 μm (# 130-041-407) to remove cell clumps.

2. Protocol

2.1 Sample preparation

Prepare a single-cell suspension from lymphoid organs using standard methods.

▲ Dead cells may bind non-specifically to MACS MicroBeads. To remove dead cells, we recommend using density gradient centrifugation or the Dead Cell Removal Kit (# 130-090-101).



2.2 Magnetic labeling

▲ Work fast, keep cells cold, and use pre-cooled solutions. This will prevent capping of antibodies on the cell surface and non-specific cell labeling.

▲ Volumes for magnetic labeling given below are for up to 10^7 total cells. When working with fewer than 10^7 cells, use the same volumes as indicated. When working with higher cell numbers, scale up all reagent volumes and total volumes accordingly (e.g. for 2×10^7 total cells, use twice the volume of all indicated reagent volumes and total volumes).

▲ For optimal performance it is important to obtain a single-cell suspension before magnetic labeling. Pass cells through 30 μm nylon mesh (Pre-Separation Filters, 30 μm # 130-041-407) to remove cell clumps which may clog the column. Moisten filter with buffer before use.

▲ The recommended incubation temperature is 2–8 °C. Higher temperatures and/or longer incubation times may lead to non-specific cell labeling. Working on ice may require increased incubation times.

1. Determine cell number.
2. Centrifuge cell suspension at 300 \times g for 10 minutes. Aspirate supernatant completely.
3. Resuspend cell pellet in 40 μL of buffer per 10^7 total cells.
4. Add 10 μL of CD138 MicroBeads per 10^7 total cells.
▲ **Note:** Resuspending the cell pellet in 90 μL of buffer and adding 10 μL of CD138 MicroBeads per 10^7 total cells will increase purity, but decrease recovery.
5. Mix well and incubate for 15 minutes in the refrigerator (2–8 °C).
6. (Optional) Add staining antibodies, e.g., 5 μL of CD19-APC (# 130-092-039), and incubate for 5 minutes in the dark in the refrigerator (2–8 °C).
7. Wash cells by adding 1–2 mL of buffer per 10^7 cells and centrifuge at 300 \times g for 10 minutes. Aspirate supernatant completely.
8. Resuspend up to 10^8 cells in 500 μL of buffer.
▲ **Note:** For higher cell numbers, scale up buffer volume accordingly.
9. Proceed to magnetic separation (2.3).



2.3 Magnetic separation

▲ Choose an appropriate MACS Column and MACS Separator according to the number of total cells and the number of CD138⁺ cells. For details refer to the table in section 1.4.

▲ Always wait until the column reservoir is empty before proceeding to the next step.

Magnetic separation with MS or LS Columns

1. Place column in the magnetic field of a suitable MACS Separator. For details refer to the respective MACS Column data sheet.

2. Prepare column by rinsing with the appropriate amount of buffer:

MS: 500 μL LS: 3 mL

3. Apply cell suspension onto the column. Collect flow-through containing unlabeled cells.

4. Wash column with the appropriate amount of buffer. Collect unlabeled cells that pass through and combine with the flow-through from step 3.

MS: 3 \times 500 μL LS: 3 \times 3 mL

▲ **Note:** Perform washing steps by adding buffer aliquots only when the column reservoir is empty.

5. Remove column from the separator and place it on a suitable collection tube.

6. Pipette the appropriate amount of buffer onto the column. Immediately flush out the magnetically labeled cells by firmly pushing the plunger into the column.

MS: 1 mL LS: 5 mL

7. To increase the purity of CD138⁺ cells, the eluted fraction must be enriched over a second MS Column. Repeat the magnetic separation procedure as described in steps 1 to 6 by using a new column.

Magnetic separation with the autoMACS[®] Pro Separator or the autoMACS[®] Separator

▲ Refer to the respective user manual for instructions on how to use the autoMACS[®] Pro Separator or the autoMACS Separator.

▲ Buffers used for operating the autoMACS Pro Separator or the autoMACS Separator should have a temperature of ≥ 10 °C.

Magnetic separation with the autoMACS[®] Pro Separator

1. Prepare and prime the instrument.
2. Apply tube containing the sample and provide tubes for collecting the labeled and unlabeled cell fractions. Place sample tube in row A of the tube rack and the fraction collection tubes in rows B and C.
3. For a standard separation choose the following program:

Positive selection: Posseld2

Collect positive fraction in row C of the tube rack.

Magnetic separation with the autoMACS[®] Separator

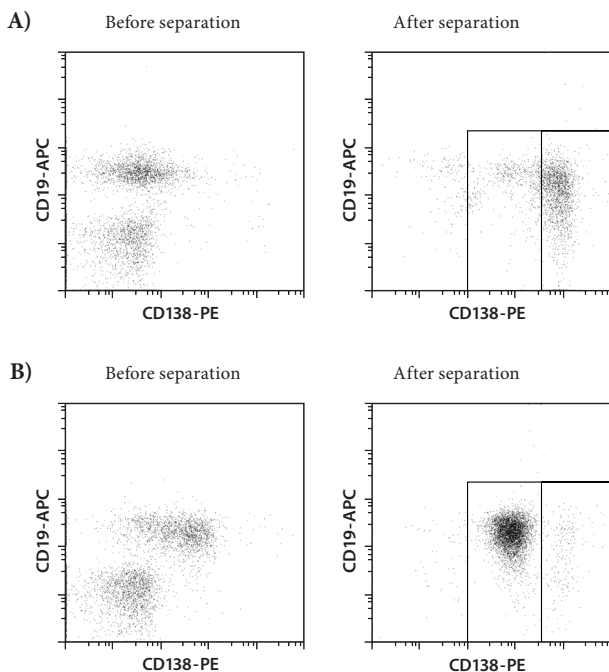
1. Prepare and prime the instrument.
2. Apply tube containing the sample and provide tubes for collecting the labeled and unlabeled cell fractions. Place sample tube at the uptake port and the fraction collection tubes at port neg1 and pos2.
3. For a standard separation choose one of the following programs:

Positive selection: Posseld2

Collect positive fraction from port pos2.

3. Example of a separation using CD138 MicroBeads

Plasma cells were isolated from mouse spleen (A) or mouse bone marrow (B) using CD138 MicroBeads, two MS Columns per separation, and a MiniMACS™ Separator. Cells were fluorescently stained with CD19-APC (# 130-092-039) and CD138-PE and analyzed by flow cytometry using the MACSQuant® Analyzer. Cell debris and dead cells were excluded from the analysis based on scatter signals and propidium iodide fluorescence. Note that CD138⁺⁺ cells represent the plasma cell fraction in both tissues. CD138⁺ cells in bone marrow are B cell precursors.



4. References

1. Wehrli, N. *et al.* (2001) Changing responsiveness to chemokines allows medullary plasmablasts to leave lymph nodes. *Eur. J. Immunol.* 13: 609–616.
2. Kim, C.W. *et al.* (1994) Members of the syndecan family of heparan sulfate proteoglycans are expressed in distinct cell-, tissue-, and development-specific patterns. *Mol. Biol. Cell* 5: 797–805.
3. Sanderson, R.D. *et al.* (1989) B lymphocytes express and lose syndecan at specific stages of differentiation. *Cell Regulation* 1: 27–35.

Refer to www.miltenyibiotec.com for all data sheets and protocols. Miltenyi Biotec provides technical support worldwide. Visit www.miltenyibiotec.com/local to find your nearest Miltenyi Biotec contact.

Warnings

Reagents contain sodium azide. Under acidic conditions sodium azide yields hydrazoic acid, which is extremely toxic. Azide compounds should be diluted with running water before discarding. These precautions are recommended to avoid deposits in plumbing where explosive conditions may develop.

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