



# A workflow for longitudinal biomarker discovery studies in human disease: a focus on major surgery



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# Ko wai au?



**Ko Remutaka te maunga e rū nei taku ngākau.**

The Remutaka Range is my mountain.

**Ko Te Awa Kairangi te awa e mahea nei aku māharahara.**

The Hutt River is my river.

**Nō Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai ahau. Kei Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai ahau e noho ana.**

I live in Lower Hutt.

**He Pūkenga ahau mō Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka ki Poneke.**

I work at the University of Otago, Wellington campus.

# Acknowledgements



## Surgical Immunology Research Group

- [Connor Davis](#)
- Emma Thompson
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**Connor Davis,**  
Assistant Research Fellow

## Wellington Cardiovascular Research Group

- [Ceridwyn Jones](#)
- Dr Ana Holley
- AProf Peter Larsen
- Michael Roberts



**Ceridwyn Jones,**  
PhD student



## Malaghan Institute of Medical Research

- [Kate Pilkington](#)

## Te Whatu Ora

Health New Zealand  
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley

## Te Whatu Ora – Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley

- [Dr Lupe Taumoepeau](#)
- Dr Scott Harding

## Project funding



HRC Emerging Researcher First Grant

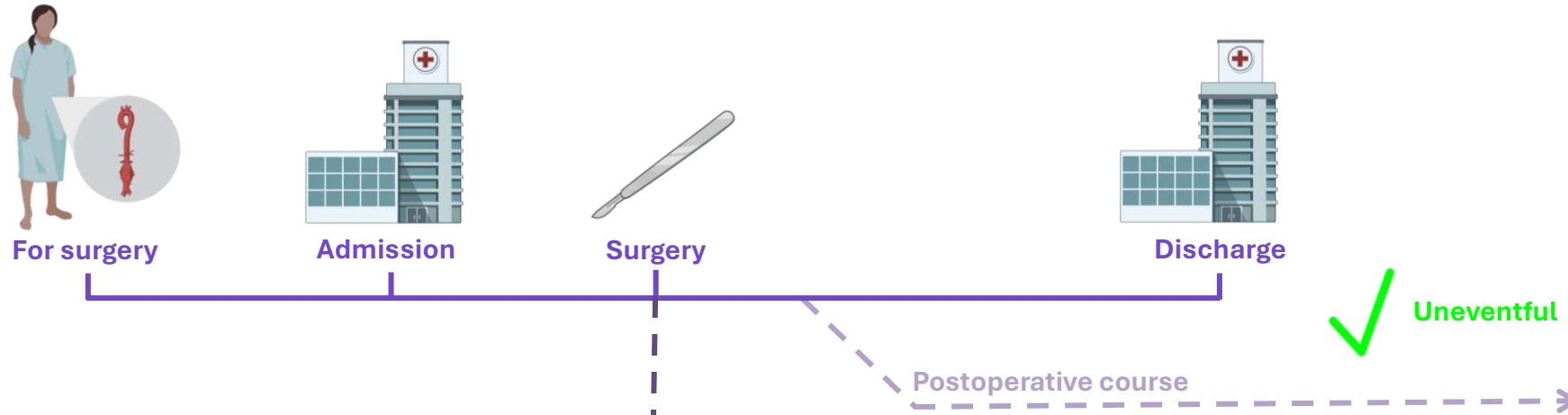


Deans Research Grant

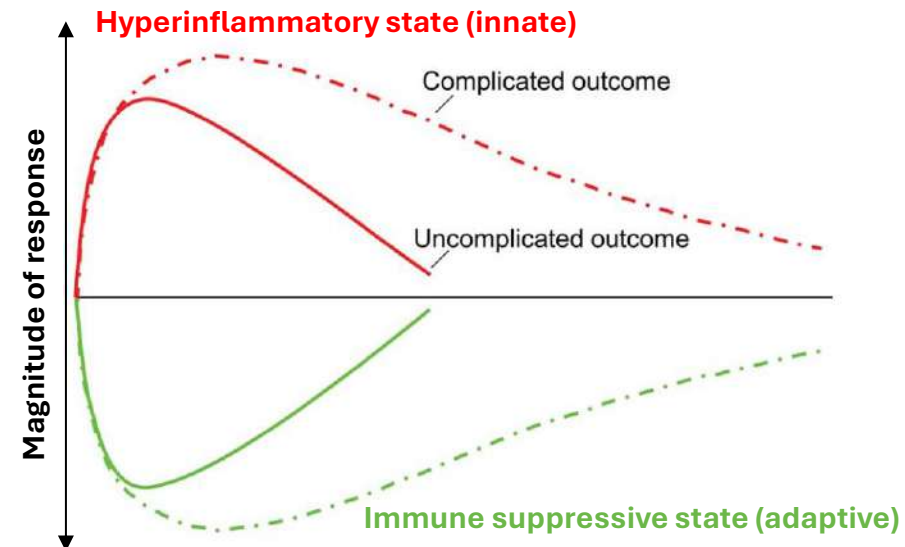
## Conference funding



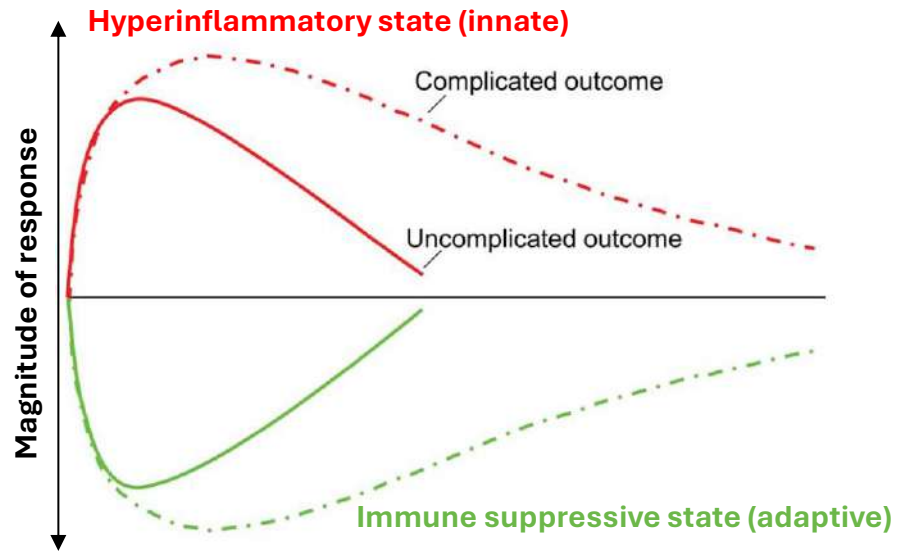
# Predicting adverse postoperative recovery



- ✗
- Acute perioperative events
  - Deterioration in health
  - Reoperation or readmission



# Predicting adverse postoperative recovery



**Group aim: to harness the immune response to surgery for biomarker discovery**

**To design panels for monitoring the phenotype of circulating human immune cells.**

**To monitor the immune response to major surgery.**

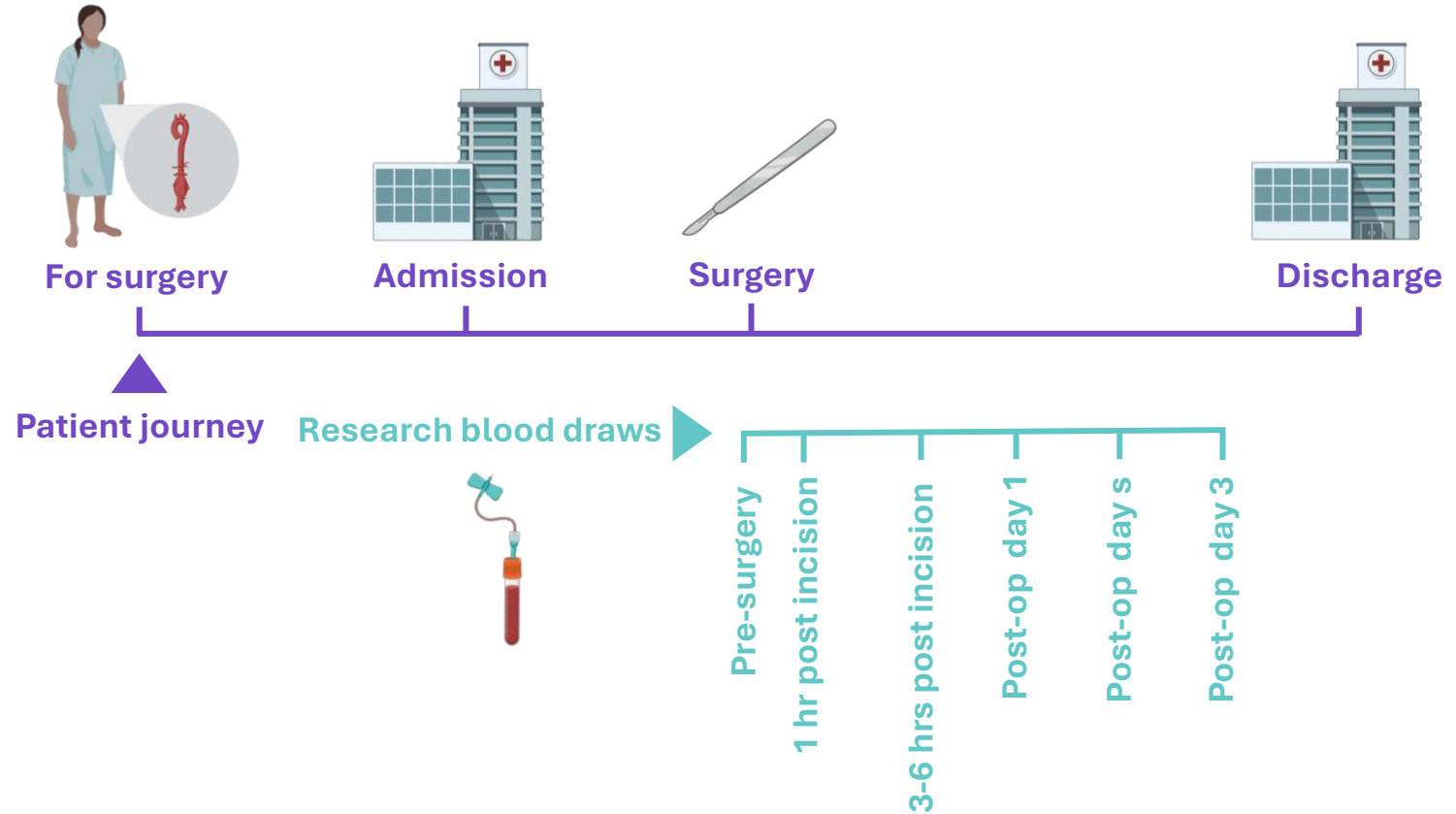
**To determine what cell phenotypes are associated with a complicated postoperative course.**

# Predicting adverse postoperative recovery



## Recruitment

To design panels for monitoring the phenotype of circulating human immune cells.

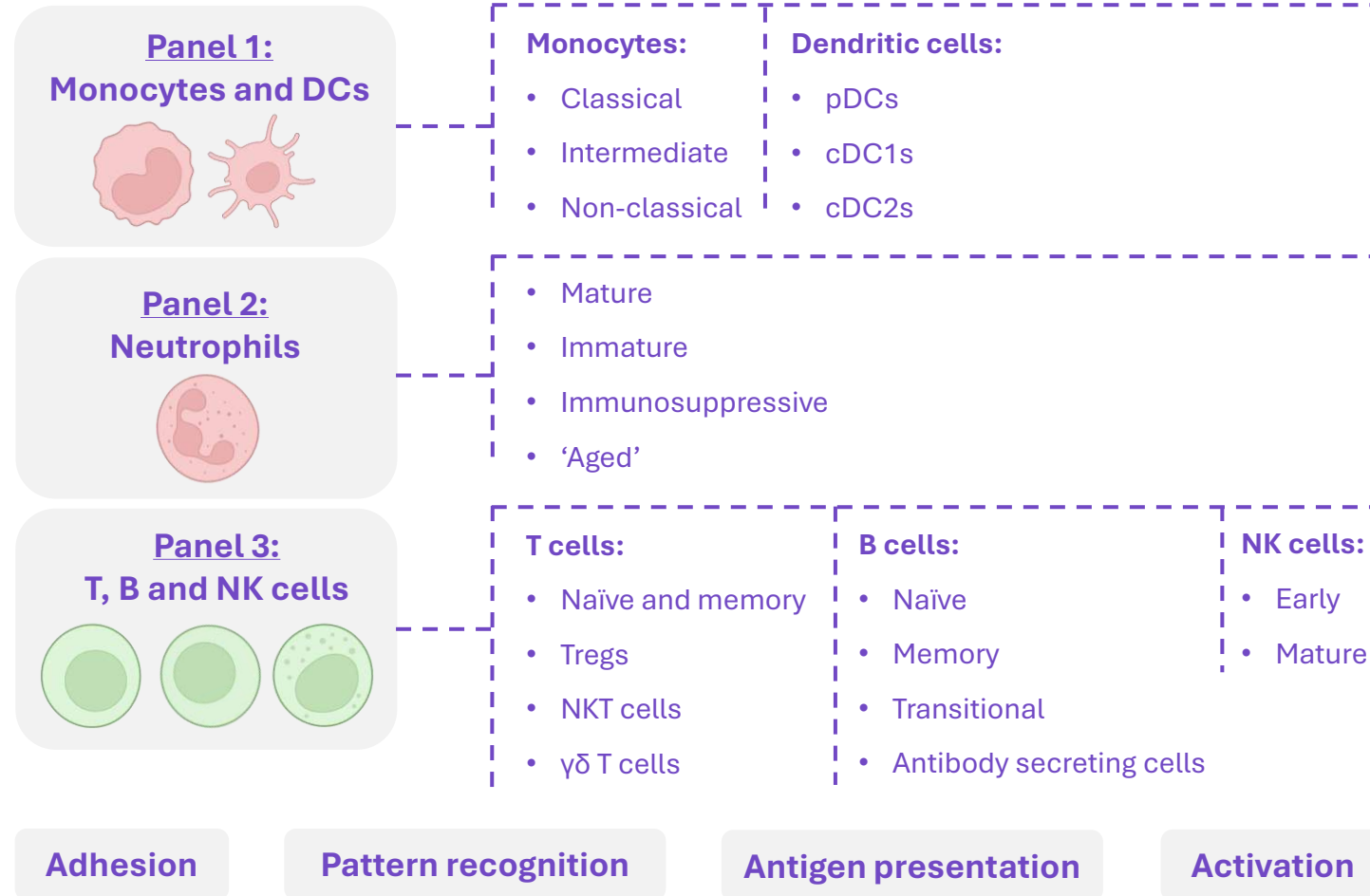


# Predicting adverse postoperative recovery



## Panel design

To design panels for monitoring the phenotype of circulating human immune cells.



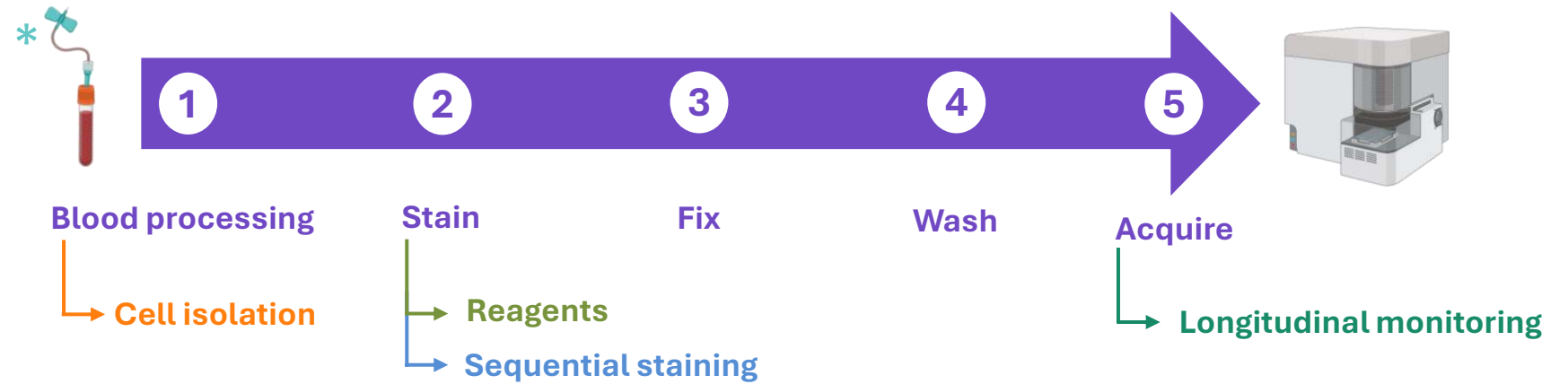
# Predicting adverse postoperative recovery



\*EDTA-anticoagulated peripheral blood

## Sample processing

To design panels for monitoring the phenotype of circulating human immune cells.





# Comparing platelet aggregation across isolations

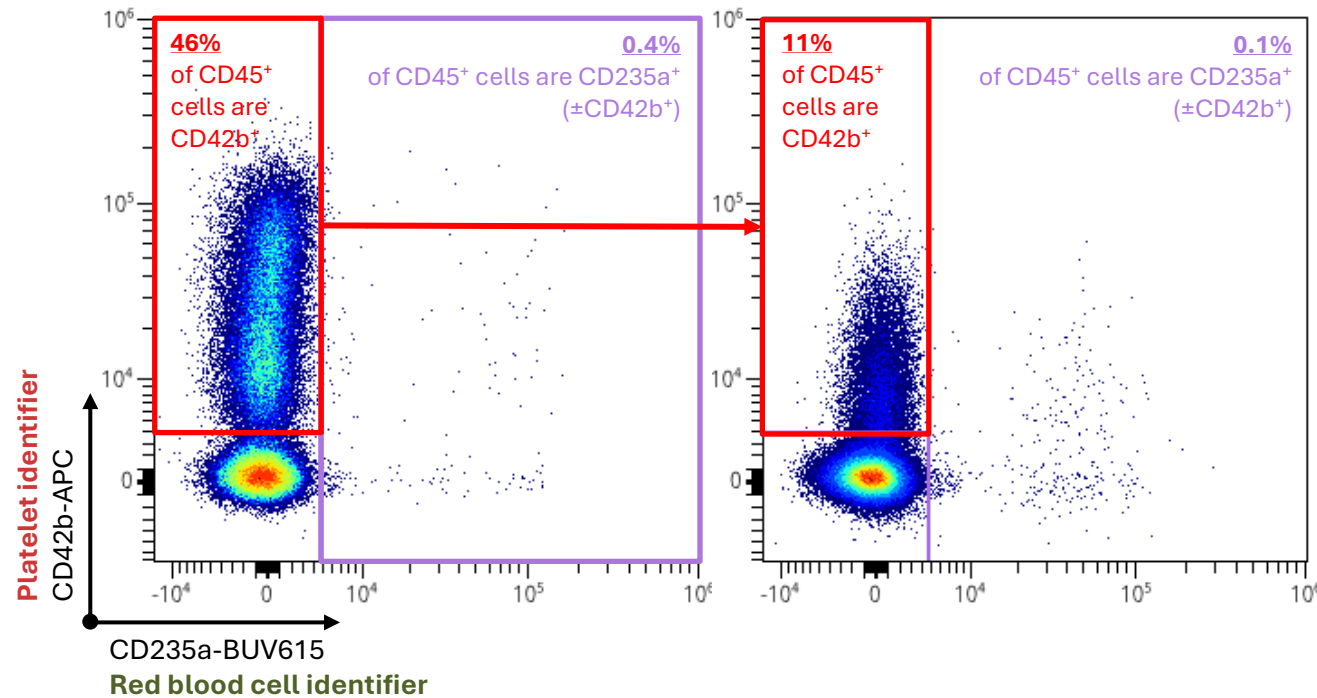
Considerations for: **cell isolation**



\*EDTA-anticoagulated peripheral blood

**Density isolation**

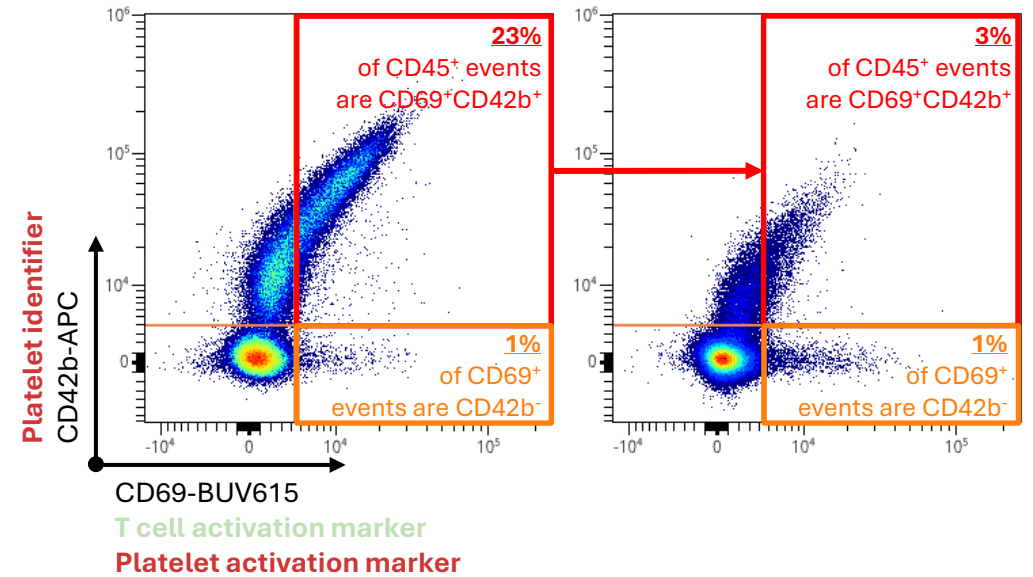
**Magnetic isolation**



“False” expression of markers co-expressed on platelets

**Density isolation**

**Magnetic isolation**

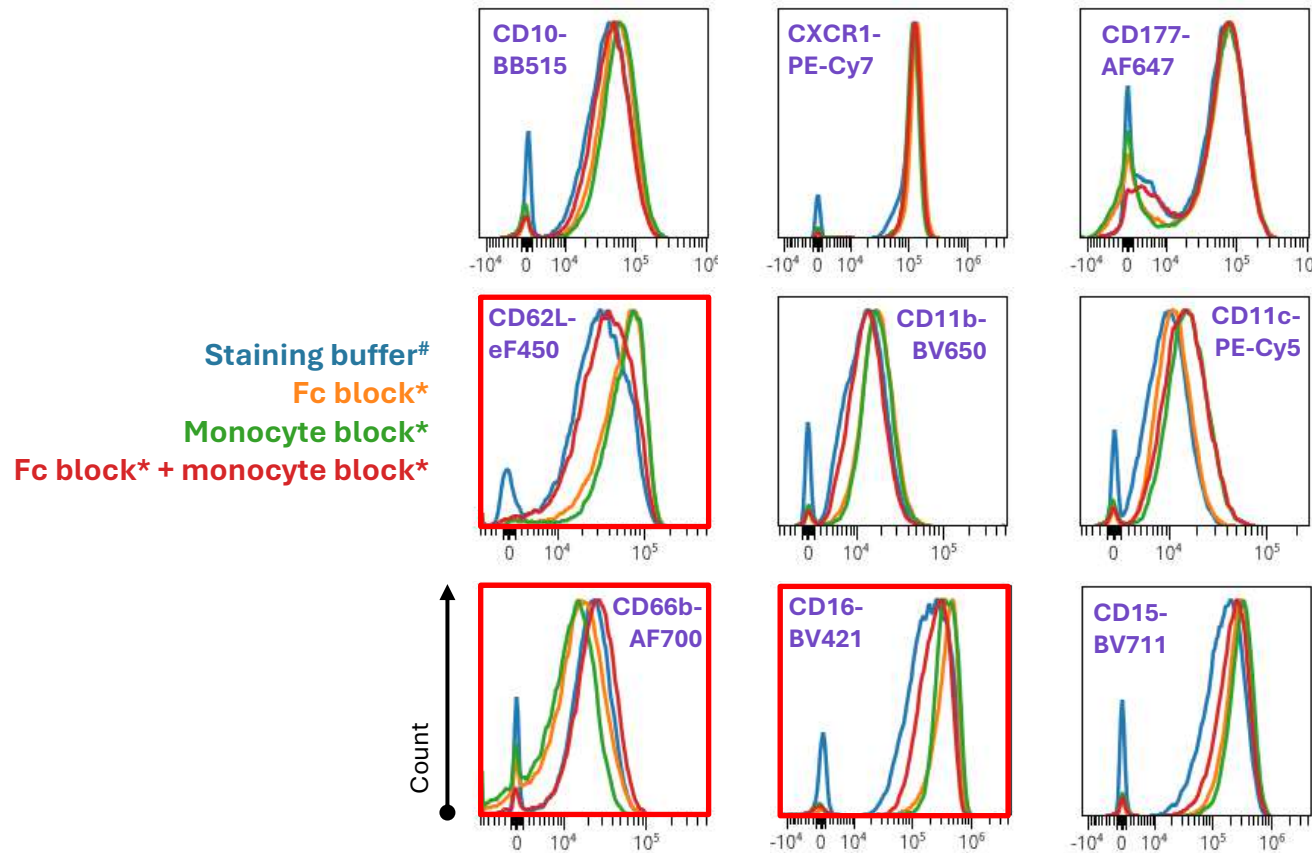


Panel 3: T, B and NK cells



# Staining and blocking agents

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents**



#Is Fc blocking during magnetic isolation sufficient for staining?

\*BioLegend TruStain FcX blocker and True-Stain Monocyte Blocker

Panel 2: Neutrophils

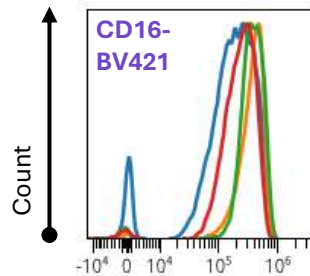
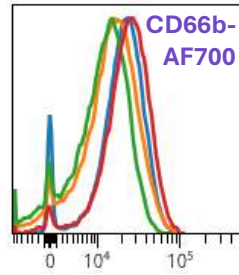
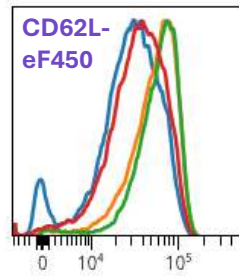


Connor Davis,  
Assistant Research Fellow

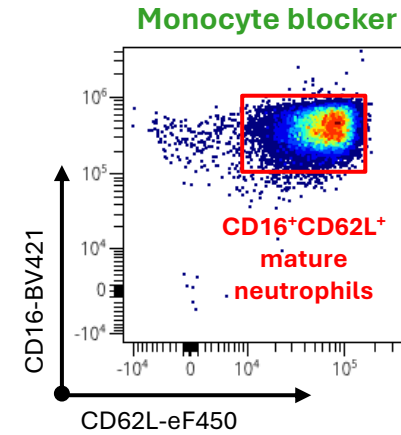


# Staining and blocking agents

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents**



Staining buffer#  
Fc block\*  
Monocyte block\*  
Fc block\* + monocyte block\*



#Is Fc blocking during magnetic isolation sufficient for staining?  
\*BioLegend TruStain FcX blocker and True-Stain Monocyte Blocker

Panel 2: Neutrophils

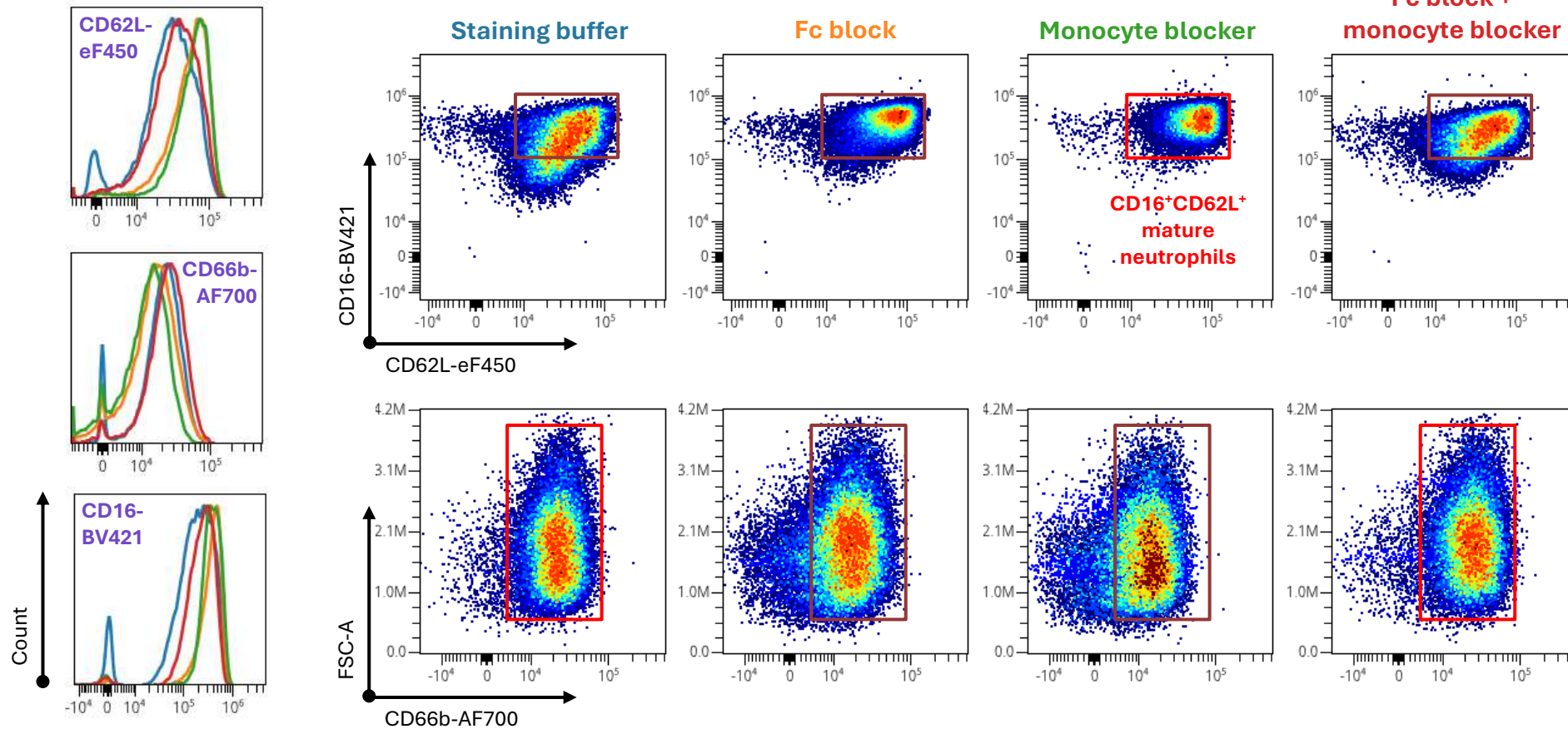


Connor Davis,  
Assistant Research Fellow



# Staining and blocking agents

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents**



#Is Fc blocking during magnetic isolation sufficient for staining?

\*BioLegend TruStain FcX blocker and True-Stain Monocyte Blocker

Panel 2: Neutrophils

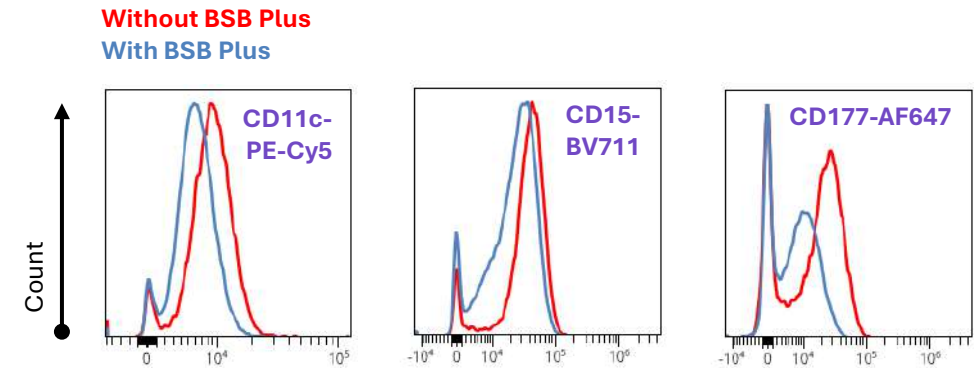
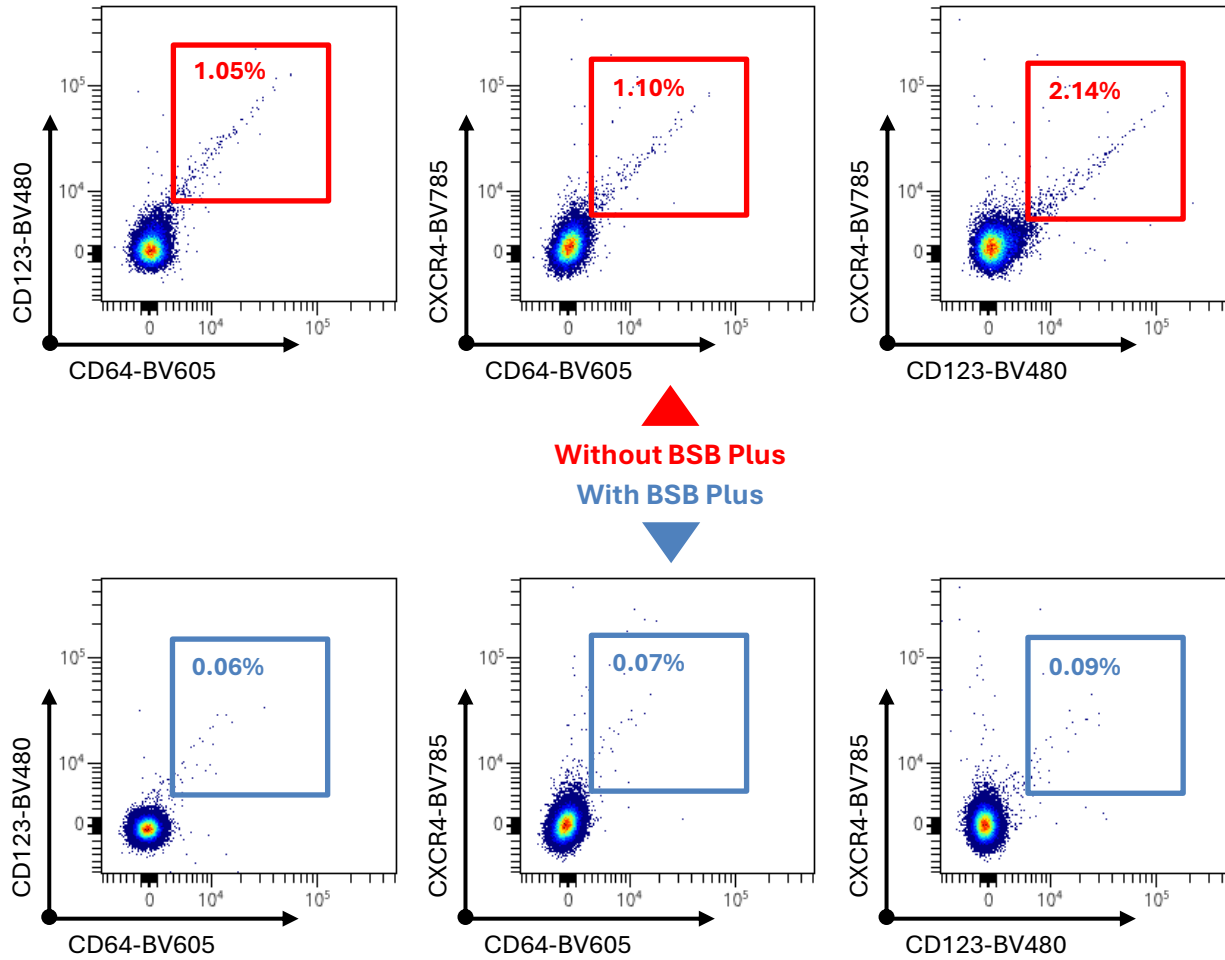


**Connor Davis,**  
Assistant Research Fellow



# Staining and blocking agents

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents**



Panel 2: Neutrophils



Ceridwyn Jones,  
PhD student



# Improving marker resolution with sequential staining

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents** → **sequential staining**



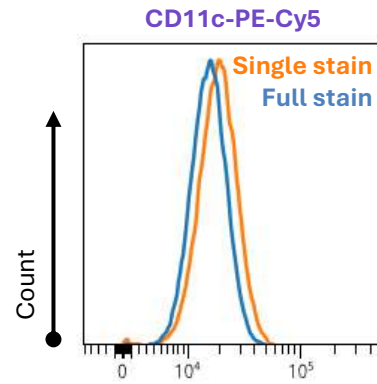
Step 1  
30 minutes

Step 2  
30 minutes

1

CD11c-PE-Cy5  
CD62L-eF450  
CXCR4-BV785  
CXCR1-PE-Cy7

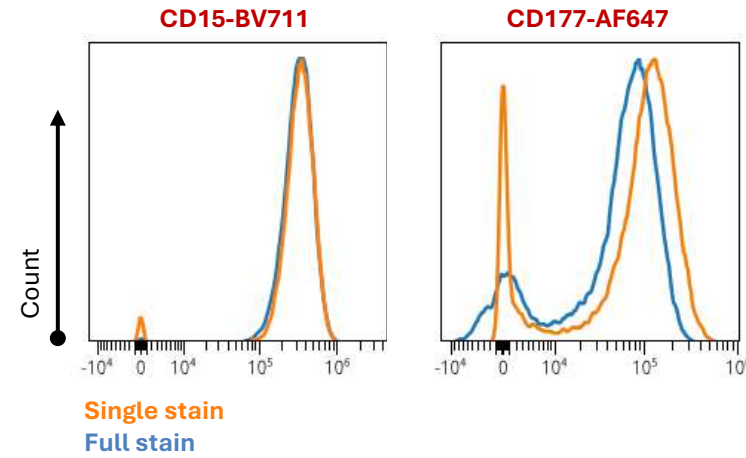
All other antibodies



2

CD11c-PE-Cy5  
CD15-BV711  
CD177-AF647  
CD62L-eF450  
CXCR4-BV785  
CXCR1-PE-Cy7

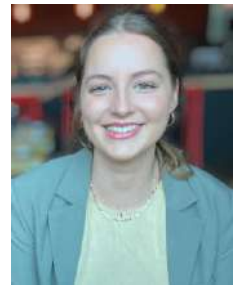
All other antibodies



Panel 2: Neutrophils



Ceridwyn Jones,  
PhD student



# Improving marker resolution with sequential staining

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents** → **sequential staining**



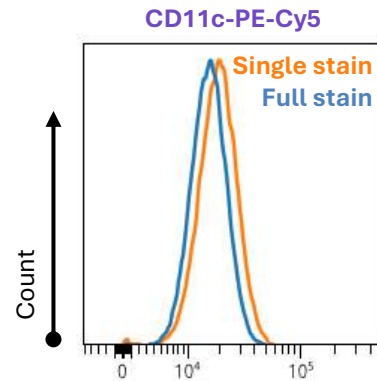
Step 1  
30 minutes

Step 2  
30 minutes

1

CD11c-PE-Cy5  
CD62L-eF450  
CXCR4-BV785  
CXCR1-PE-Cy7

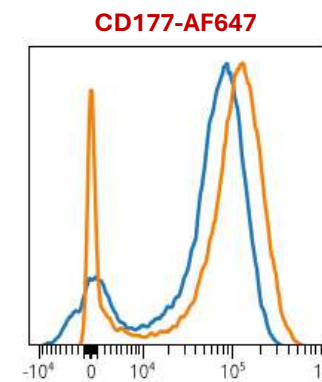
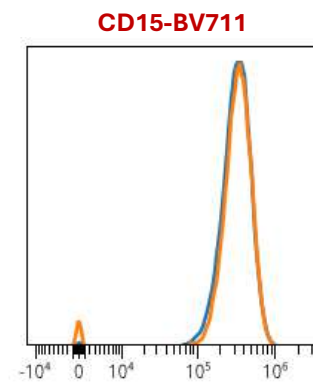
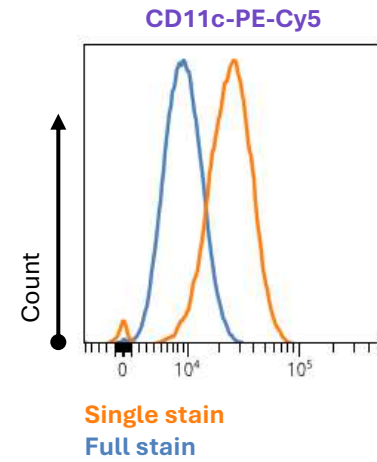
All other antibodies



2

CD11c-PE-Cy5  
CD15-BV711  
CD177-AF647  
CD62L-eF450  
CXCR4-BV785  
CXCR1-PE-Cy7

All other antibodies



Panel 2: Neutrophils



Ceridwyn Jones,  
PhD student

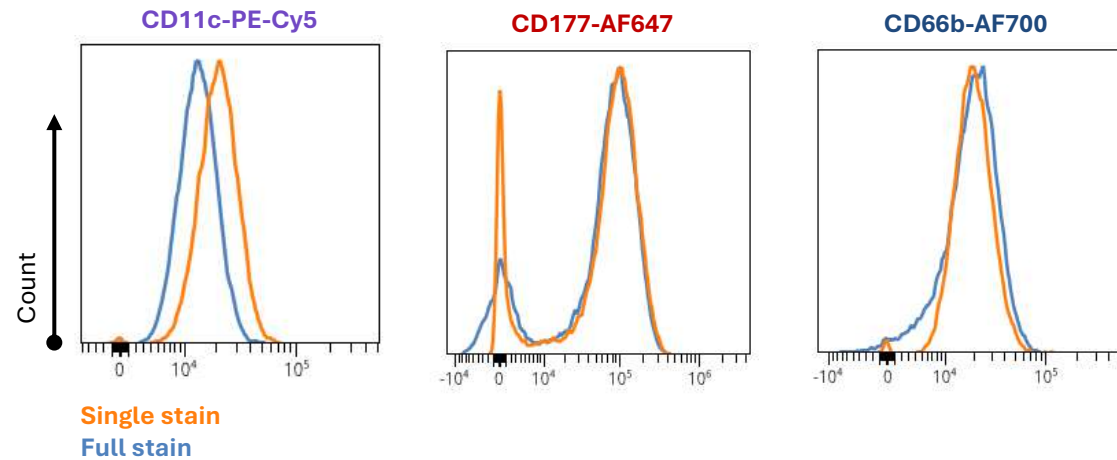


# Improving marker resolution with sequential staining

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents** → **sequential staining**



	Step 1 10 minutes	Step 2 30 minutes	Step 3 30 minutes
3	<b>CD11c-PE-Cy5</b> <b>CD177-AF647</b> CD66b-AF700	CD62L-eF450 <b>CD15-BV711</b> CXCR4-BV785 CXCR1-PE-Cy7	All other antibodies



Panel 2: Neutrophils



Ceridwyn Jones,  
PhD student



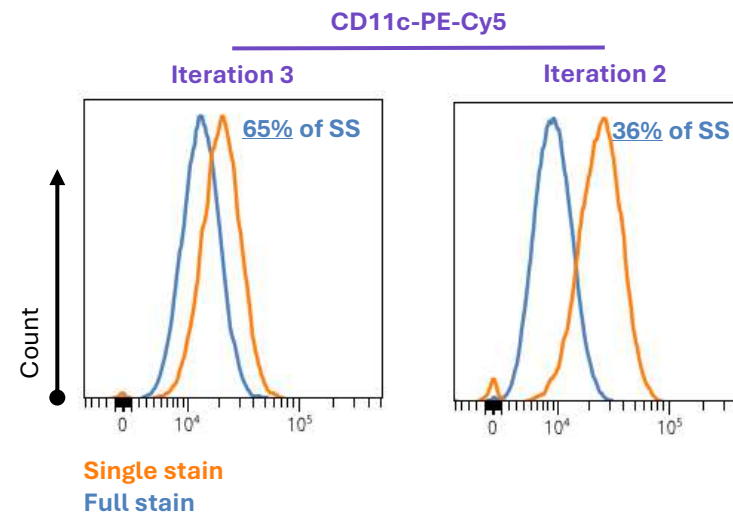


# Improving marker resolution with sequential staining

Considerations for: **cell isolation** → **reagents** → **sequential staining**



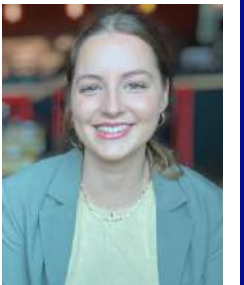
	Step 1 10 minutes	Step 2 30 minutes	Step 3 30 minutes
3	<b>CD11c-PE-Cy5</b> <b>CD177-AF647</b> CD66b-AF700	CD62L-eF450 <b>CD15-BV711</b> CXCR4-BV785 CXCR1-PE-Cy7	All other antibodies



Panel 2: Neutrophils



Ceridwyn Jones,  
PhD student

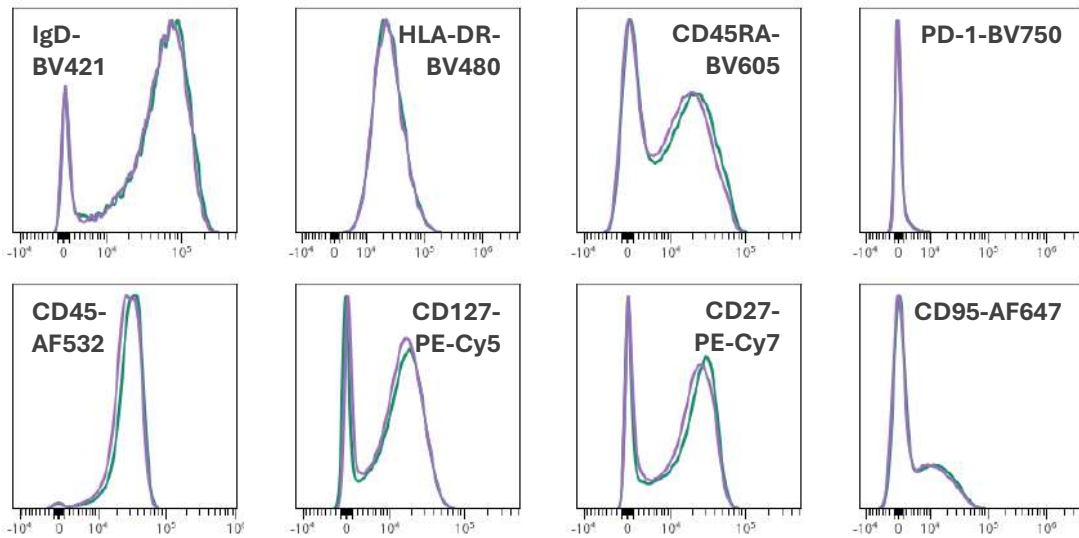


# Validating batch preparation of the antibody cocktails

Considerations for: cell isolation → reagents → sequential staining → longitudinal monitoring

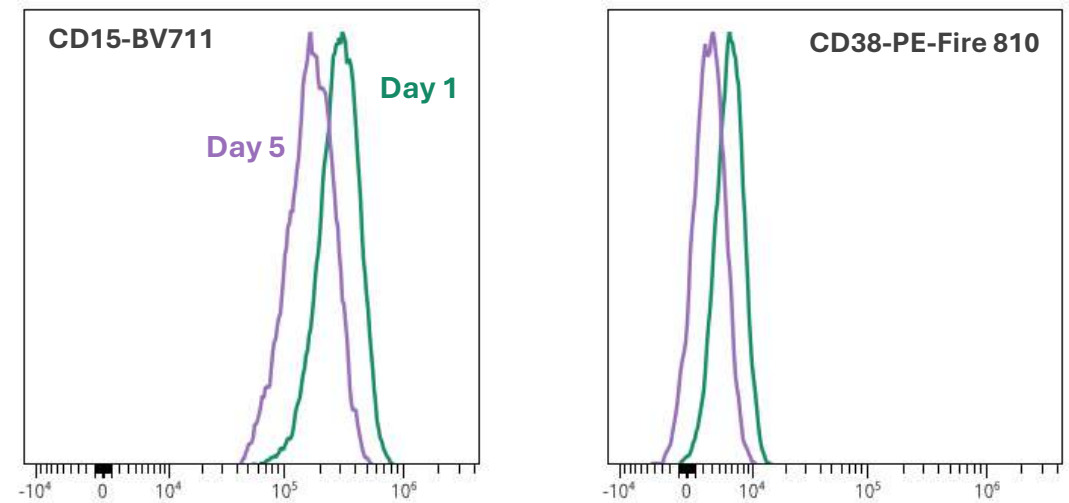


Acceptable after storage



Day 1  
Day 5

Added 'fresh' for each sample



Panel 3: T, B and NK cells



Panel 2: Neutrophils



Connor Davis,  
Assistant Research Fellow



# To conclude



To design panels for monitoring the phenotyping circulating human immune cells.

To monitor the immune response to major surgery.

To determine what cell phenotypes are associated with a complicated course.

Tracking postoperative course

- **Panel 1: Monocytes and DCs** 
- **Panel 2: Neutrophils** 
- **Panel 3: T, B and NK cells** 

→ **Considerations for:**

- **Cell isolation**
- **Reagents**
- **Sequential staining**
- **Longitudinal monitoring**

