

overnight fixation in 4% PFA/PBST rinse - 4X 5min in PBST - Put through MeOH series to store at -20C in 100%.

Day 1

reverse MeOH series, wash in PBST

digest with 10 ug/ml ProK for 1hr at RT rinse 3X in PBST (could try trypsin instead)

1hr block 10% NBCS PBST

overnight in 1:500 anti-col2a(II-II6B3) and 1:500 anti-sarcomere (MF20) in 10% NBCS PBST

Day 2

rinse 4X 30min in PBST

1hr block 10% NBCS PBST

overnight in 1:500 anti-IgG1/HRP (II-II6B3 is this type of monoclonal) and 1:500 anti-sarcomere (MF20) in 10% NBCS PBST

Day 3

rinse 4X 30min in PBST

the following steps should be done avoiding bright light (I use an empty Vectashield box)

incubate in 0.5ml staining solution (fluorescein) for 30min at RT - invert every 10min

rinse 6X10min PBST

incubate 10min in 0.1M HCl

rinse 3X5 min PBST

fix 30min RT - rinse 4X 5min in PBST

1hr block 10% NBCS PBST

overnight in 1:500 anti-IgG2B/HRP (MF20 is this type of monoclonal) in 10% NBCS PBST

Day 4

rinse 4X 30min in PBST

incubate in 0.5ml staining solution (cyanine-3) for 30min at RT - invert every 10min

rinse 6X10min PBST

fix 4% PFA/PBST 30min RT - rinse 2X 5min in PBST

transfer to Vectashield

Staining solution: use substrate at concentration recommended by manufacturer – dilute in 0.5ml PBST then add 1ul of 3%H₂O₂

Mix, use immediately (can use less per sample)

Should be able to stain for 15min, this may reduce background

Antibodies: II-II6B3 and MF20 are from Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank

Goat antiIgG1(#1070-05) and IgG2B(#1090-05) are from Biozol (Southern Biotechnology). HRP substrates are from NEN. Vectashield is from Vector

Substrates: SAT705A001EA/CY5 SAT701001EA/Fluorescein SAT704A001EA/CY3 all from Perkin Elmer. Molecular probes sells Alexa conjugates, you can also make your own:

<http://www.jhc.org/cgi/content/full/46/6/771>

Storage notes: Antibodies at 4C, HRP substrates at 4C or -20C, make sure H₂O₂ is not too old (store at 4C in dark), store fixed embryos in MeOH at -20C for months, store stained larvae for months in Vectashield at 4C and dark.

Other notes:

- 1) Cii-C1, anti-col2 also works and is IgG 2a (conditions not optimized).
- 2) Alternatively you could probably use normal fluorescent secondaries also from Southern(not HRP conjugates). Using this HRP protocol the fluorescence is really strong but also expensive.
- 3) A4.1025 (anti-myosin) also works for muscle and is an IgG 2a
- 4) 1ul Toto 3 in 300ul Vectashield will stain nuclei in the CY5 channel (can photograph in this).
- 5) Use sequential scanning to avoid bleed through

