

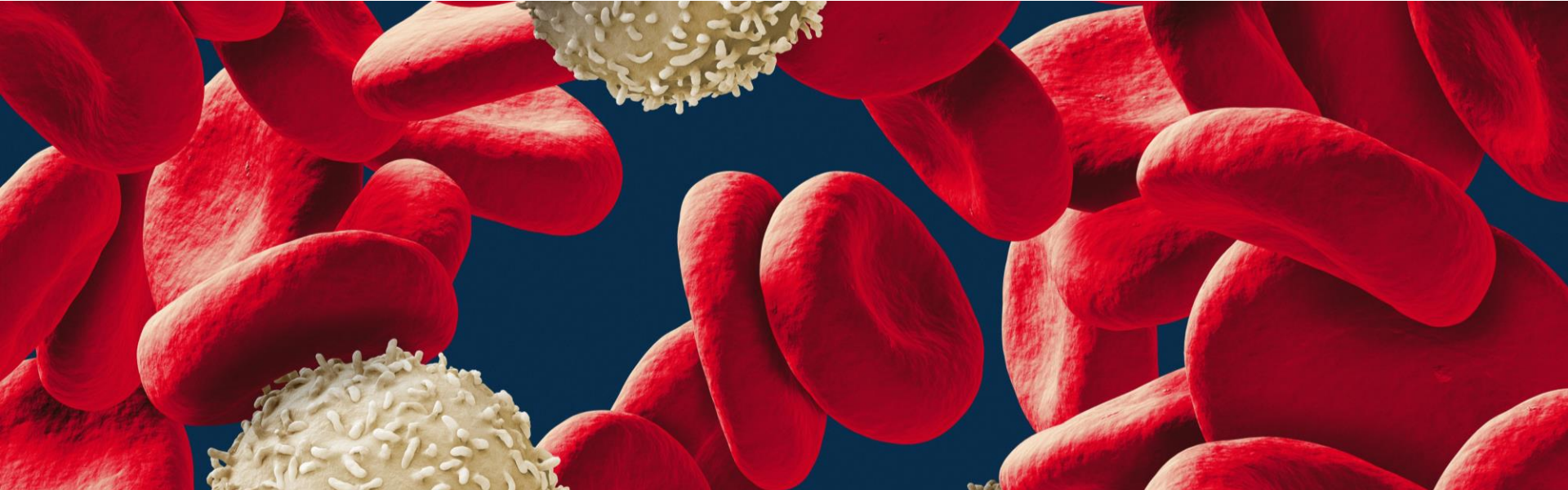
# Density-gradient-free solutions for cell isolation

## MACS<sup>®</sup> Cell Separation Technology



Kristina Kremer, Global Product Manager Cell Separation

August 2020



# Agenda

Miltenyi Biotec – pioneer in cell research and therapy

Blood products as starting material

Density-gradient centrifugation

Cell isolation of PBMCs and immune cells

Automated cell isolation

Low  
Throughput



High  
Throughput

# Empowering discovery

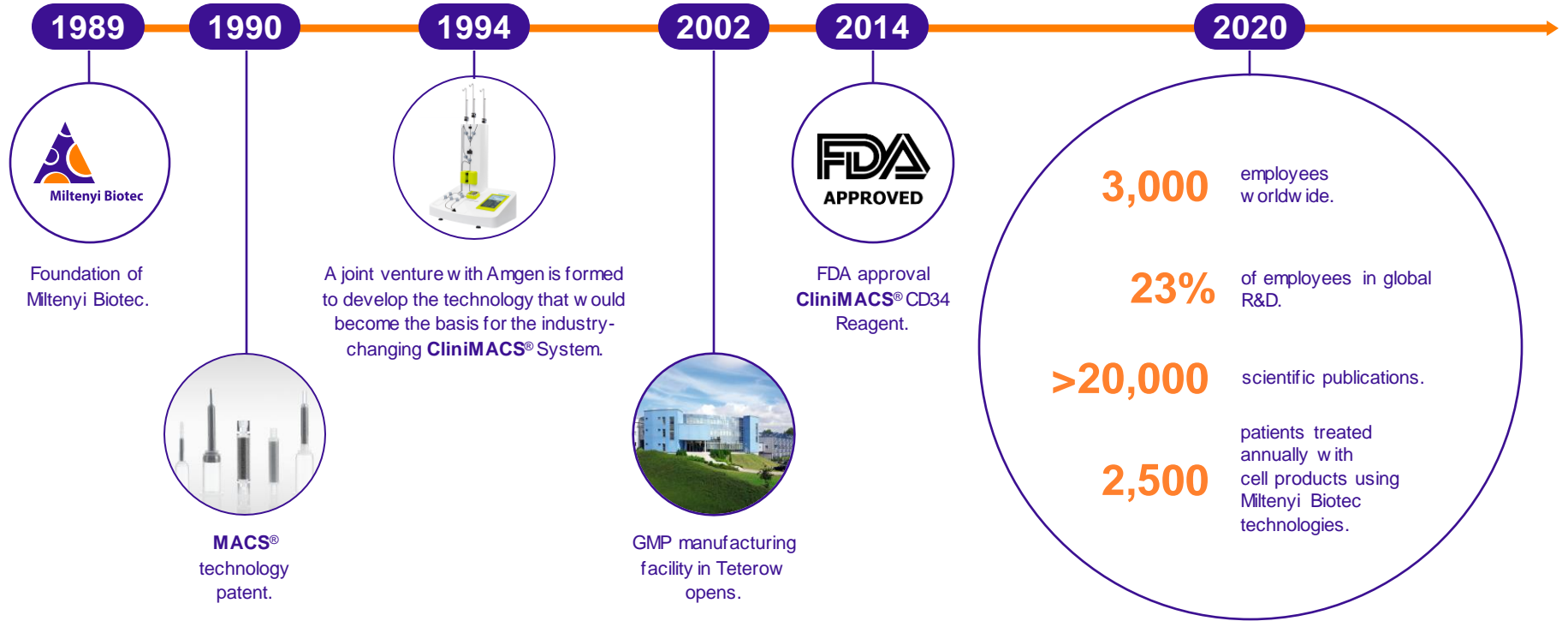
## Advancing therapy



Our mission is to advance scientific research and medicine by providing solutions for curative cell and gene therapy as well as biomedical research.

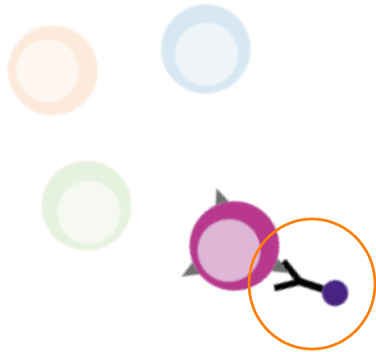


# Over three decades of expertise and Pioniergeist



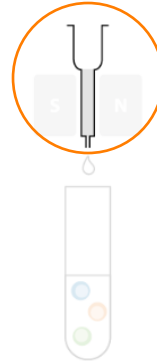
# MACS<sup>®</sup> Technology: Based on 3 components.

**Step 1** Magnetic labeling.



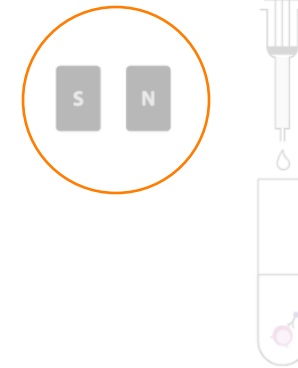
**MicroBead**

**Step 2** Magnetic separation.



**Column**

**Step 3** Elution of labeled cells.



**Magnetic separator**

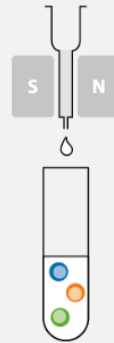
# MACS<sup>®</sup> Technology:

3 easy steps to viable cells for cell and gene therapy.

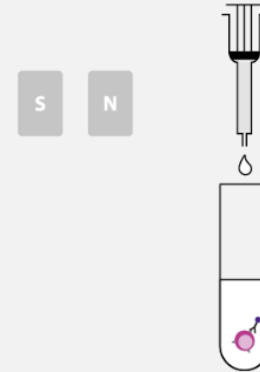
## Step 1 Magnetic labeling.



## Step 2 Magnetic separation.

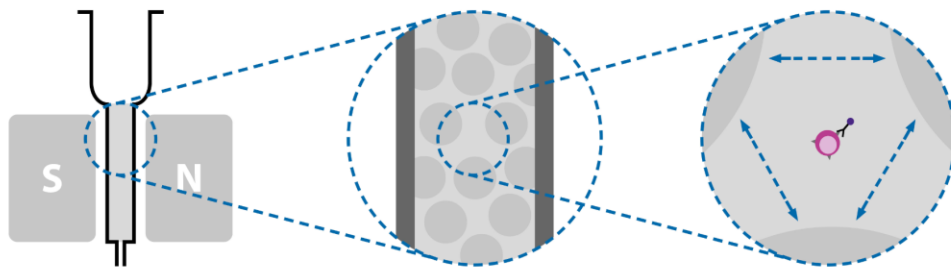


## Step 3 Elution of labeled cells.



# Why do we use MACS Columns?

**Amplification of the gradient of the magnetic force by 10,000-fold.**



**MACS Columns enable cell separation with minimal effect on cells for research and clinical applications.**

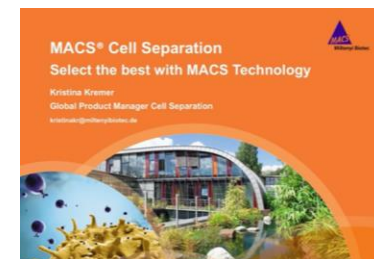
Minimal labeling with nano-sized MicroBeads (50 nm).

Free flow through.

Cell-friendly hydrophilic coating.

Thorough washing for removal of cell debris and contaminants.

*Learn more:*



# Product Portfolio.

## From benchtop to bedside.



Sample Preparation



Cell Isolation



Cell Activation/  
Expansion



Cell Culture



Cell Analysis



Imaging



Cryo-  
Preservation



Cell Analysis



Cell Culture



Cell Activation/  
Expansion



Cell Processing



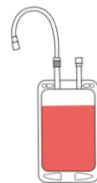
# Primary cells from blood products

Starting  
material

Sample  
preparation

MACS cell  
separation

Downstream  
application



**Blood product**

**Whole blood/  
bone marrow**

**Buffy coat**

**Leukopak®**

**LRSC**

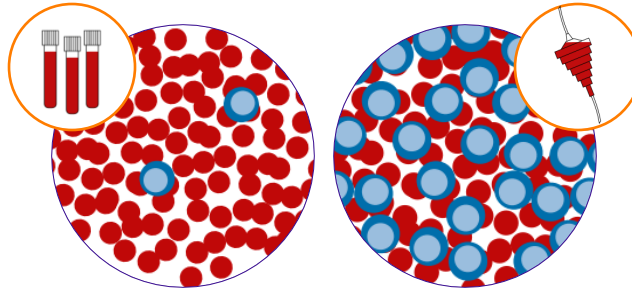
**Cord blood**

# Blood products differ depending on the processing

## Whole Blood

~ $2 \times 10^6$  PBMCs/mL  
Volume: variable

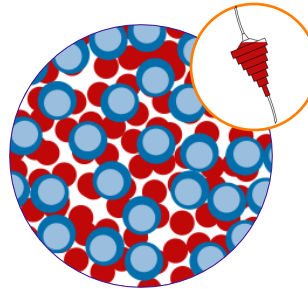
Available in different volumes  
Low PBMC concentration  
HCT ~44%



## LRSC/Buffy cone

Total PBMC ~ $1 \times 10^9$   
Volume: 10–15 mL

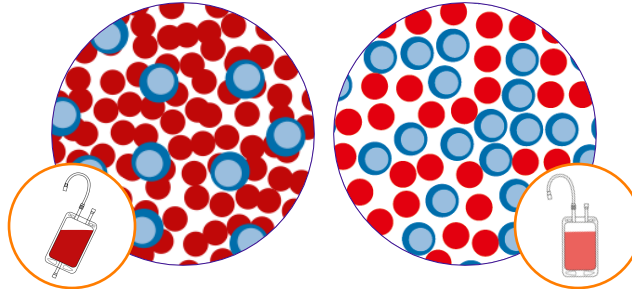
Waste product after plateletpheresis  
Higher PBMC concentration  
HCT ~4-10%



## Buffy Coat

Total PBMC ~ $5 \times 10^8$   
Volume: 30–80 mL

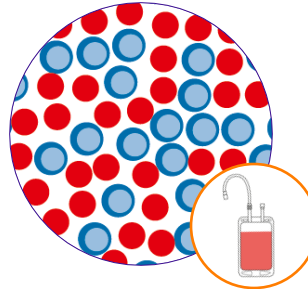
Waste product after blood donation  
Higher PBMC concentration  
HCT ~4-10%



## Leukopak<sup>®</sup>








Total PBMC ~ $1 \times 10^{10}$   
Volume: 80–200 mL

Largest number of PBMCs  
High PBMC concentration  
HCT <3%



● erythrocytes    ● leukocytes

# Q1: Which starting material do you work with primarily?

-  a) Whole blood
-  b) Bone marrow
-  c) Cord blood
-  d) Buffy coats
-  e) LRSC/Buffy cones
-  f) Leukopak<sup>®</sup>
-  g) Others: \_\_\_\_\_

# Primary cells

Starting  
material

Sample  
preparation

MACS cell  
separation

Downstream  
application

## Blood product

Whole blood/  
bone marrow

Buffy coat

Leukopak<sup>®</sup>

LRSC

Cord blood

## Density-gradient centrifugation



# Primary cells

Starting material

Sample preparation

MACS cell separation

Downstream application

## Blood product

Whole blood/  
bone marrow

Buffy coat

Leukopak®

LRSC

Cord blood

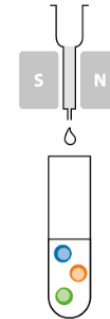
## Density gradient centrifugation



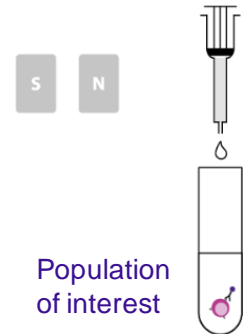
## 1. Magnetic labeling



## 2. Magnetic separation



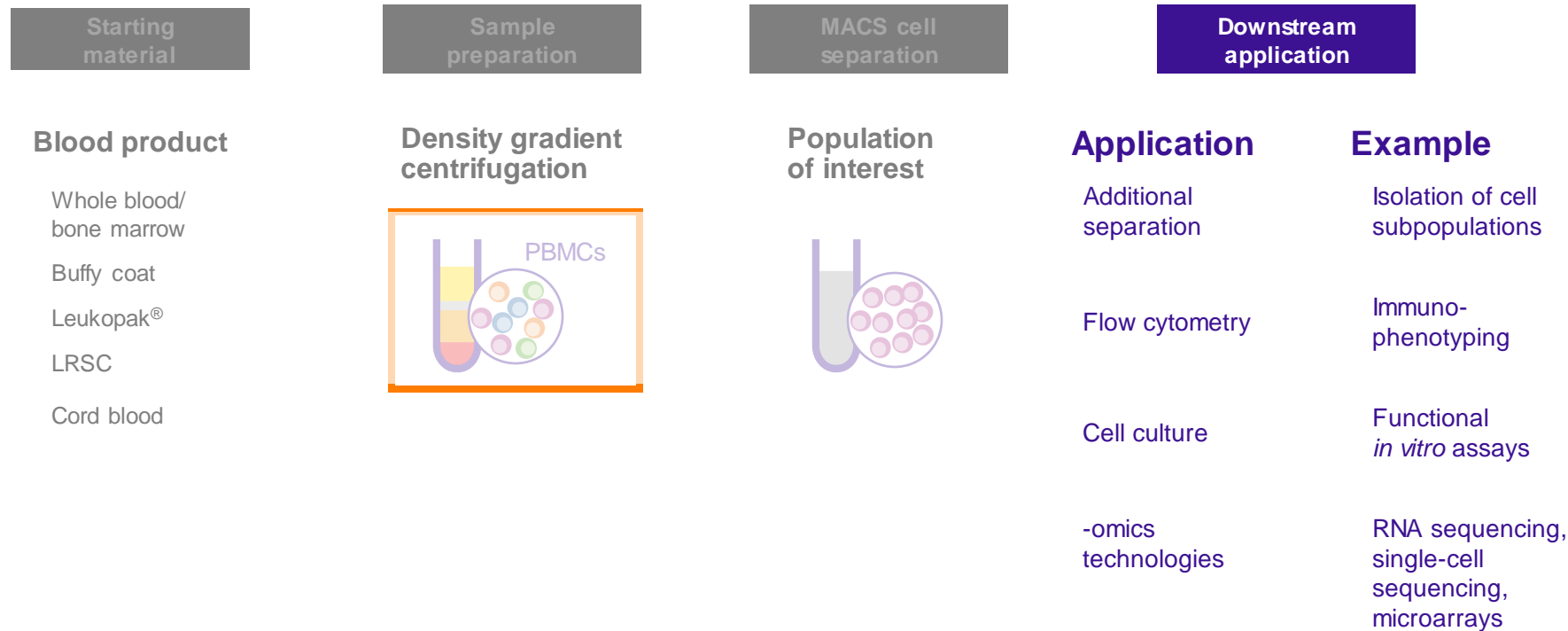
## 3. Elution of labeled cells



## Select for downstream application:

- Positive vs. untouched isolation
- With/without Ficoll™/lysis
- Direct vs. Indirect
- Parallel vs. sequential
- Immediate vs. delayed

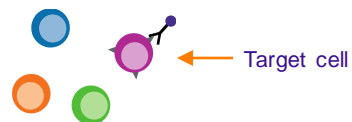
# Primary cells



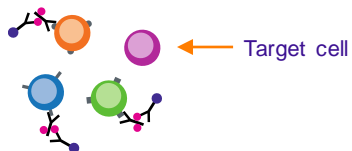
# Two ways of human blood cell separation



Positive isolation:  
MACS® MicroBeads

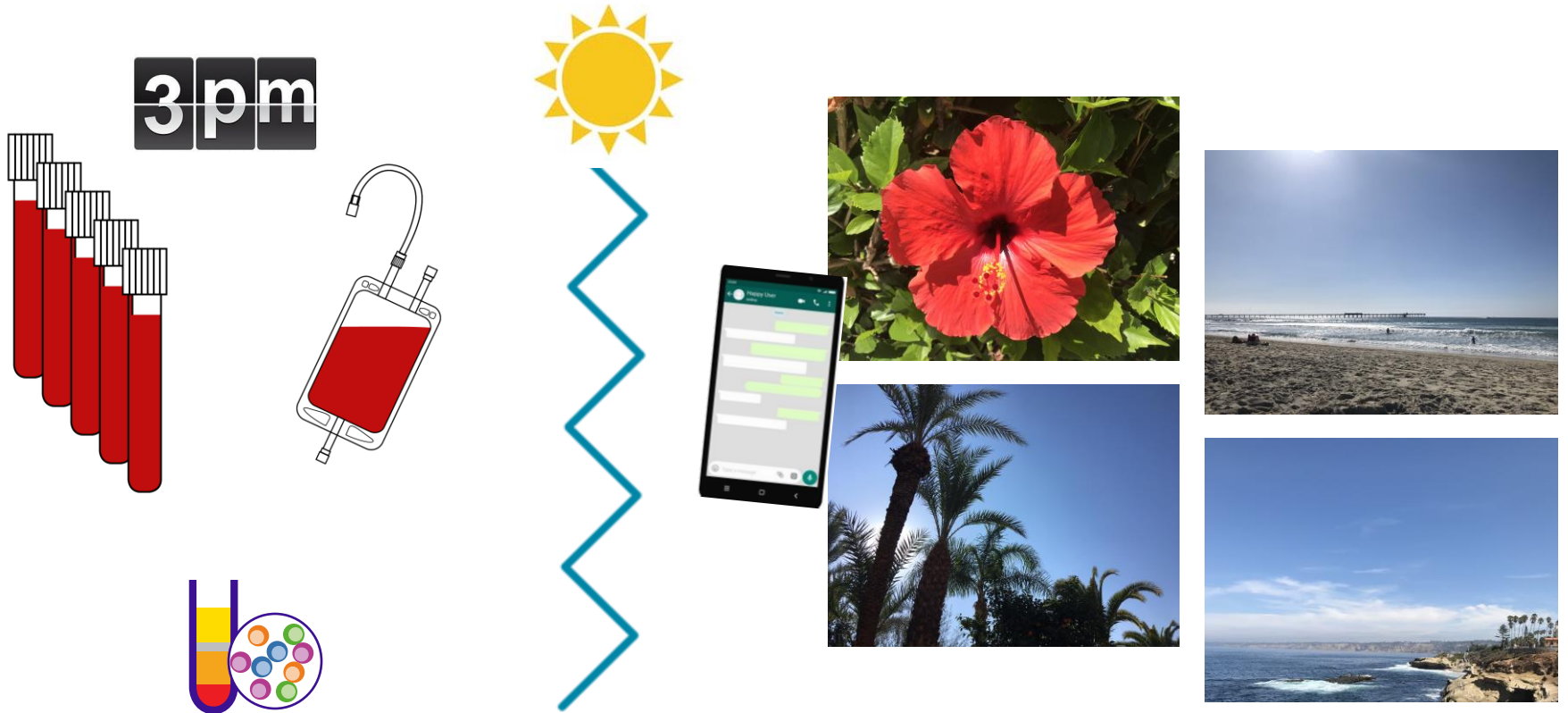


Untouched isolation:  
MACS® Isolation Kits



Sample to PBMC via  
density-gradient centrifugation

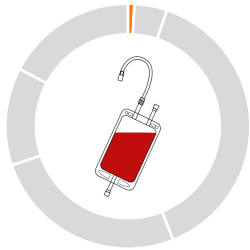
# Let's do a quick experiment





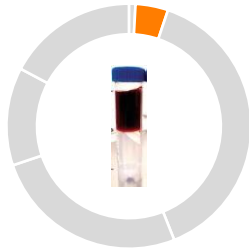
# Density-gradient centrifugation Protocol

1 minute



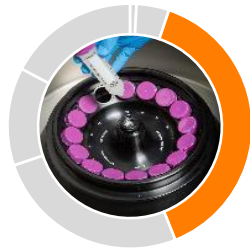
Transfer  
and dilute  
sample

5 minutes



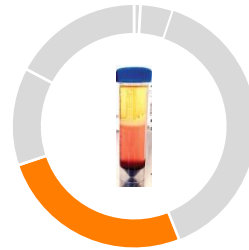
Layer density  
gradient  
medium

45 minutes



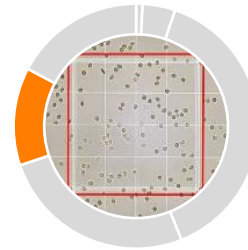
Density  
gradient  
centrifugation  
without brake

30 minutes



PBMC  
separation and  
wash

15 minutes



Cell count

20 minutes



Magnetic labeling  
and cell  
separation

2+ hours

# Density-gradient centrifugation

## Drawbacks

### You may have experienced:



**RBC, platelet and/or granulocyte contamination** in separated cells or PBMCs.



**Toxicity of Ficoll™** to White Blood Cells (WBCs).



**Ficoll™ is cumbersome, laborious** and takes a lot of time.










**Low recovery** of separated cells or PBMCs.



**Intra- and interoperator variation** in the harvesting of the Ficoll™ interface.

**No automation options.**

## Q2: Which of the described difficulties with density gradients would you like to see solved?

-  a) RBC, platelet and/or granulocyte contamination.
-  b) Cumbersome, laborious, time-consuming process.
-  c) Inconsistency and lack of reproducibility.
-  d) Operator related variation.
-  e) Low recovery of PBMCs.
-  f) No automation available.
-  g) Others: \_\_\_\_\_

# Introducing:

## Cell isolations directly from your starting material

### Isolate PBMCs and primary cells with all the benefits:



**No density-gradient centrifugation** – Ficoll™-free isolations and no cell counting.



**Short, easy protocols** with few simple steps.



**Positive and untouched isolation strategies** for full flexibility.



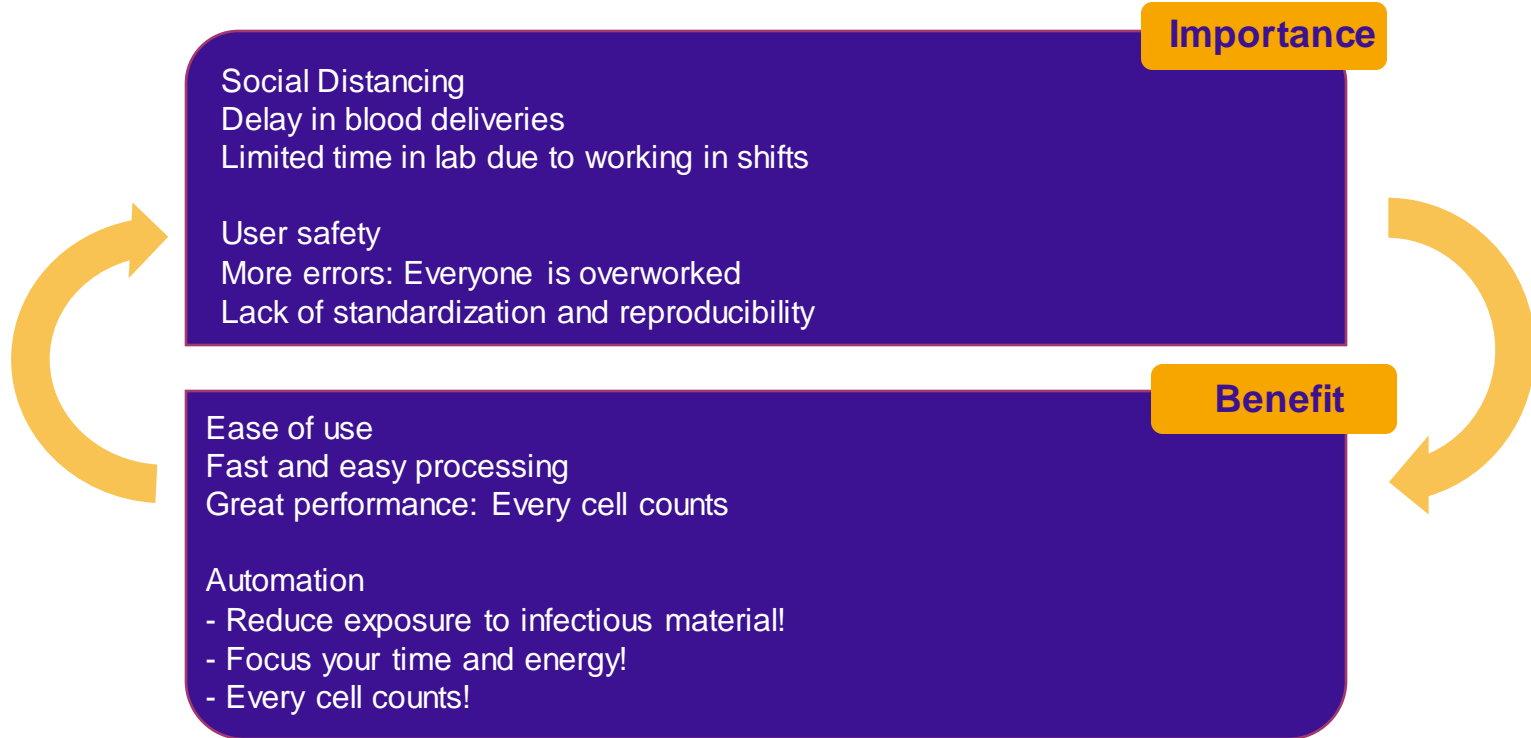
**Fastest available workflows for target cells** from whole blood, buffy coat, LRSCs and Leukopaks®.



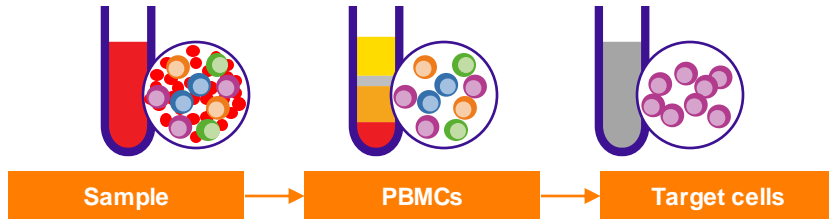
**Automation available for all protocols** – little hands-on, high standardization and reproducibility.

# Benefits in a nutshell

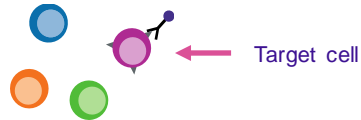
## Covid-19 conditions



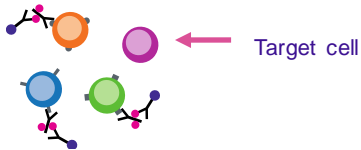
# Two ways of human blood cell separation



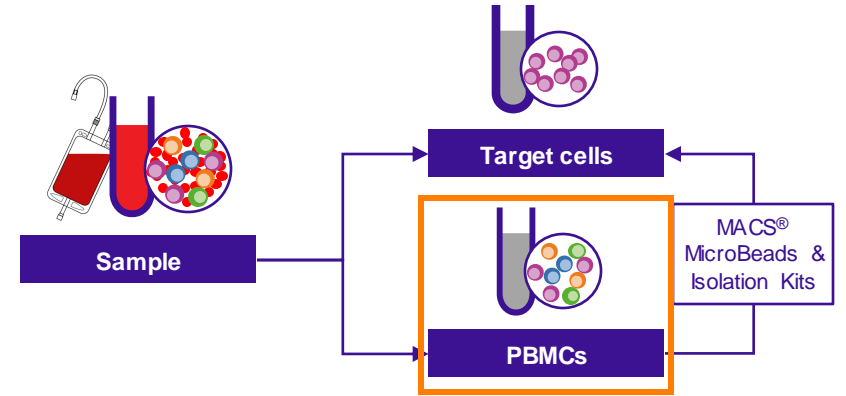
**Positive isolation:**  
MACS® MicroBeads



**Untouched isolation:**  
MACS® Isolation Kits



Sample to PBMC via density-gradient centrifugation



**Positive or untouched isolation from**

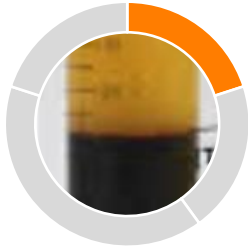
- Whole blood
- Buffy Coat
- LRSC
- Leukopak®

Directly from sample to PBMCs or target cells

# Untouched PBMC isolation from blood products

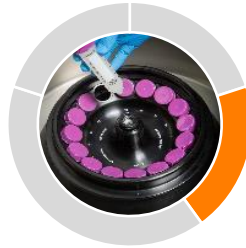
## Protocol

5 minutes



Sediment  
erythrocytes

5 minutes



Spin  
supernatant

10 minutes



Add reagents,  
incubation at 4–8°C

5-20 minutes



Separation on  
autoMACS® or  
MultiMACS™

**25-40 minutes**  
From blood to untouched PBMCs





# Untouched PBMC isolation from buffy coats

## Time comparison

PBMC generation by density-gradient centrifugation from whole blood, buffy coat or Leukopak®






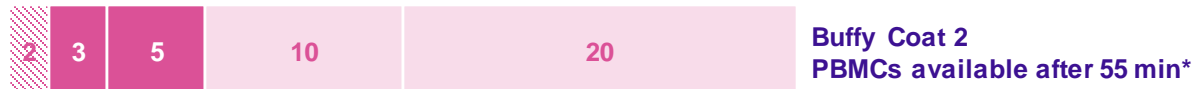
New PBMC generation method from 1 buffy coat or buffy cone



PBMC Isolation Kit



-  Preparation
-  Sedimentation
-  Fully automated incubation and separation



\*PBMCs are available after 15 min; run time includes a 5-min wash program at the end of the run

# Untouched PBMC isolation from whole blood

## Exemplary data

### PBMC cell type composition (in %)

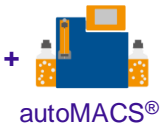
Singlets		
Viable Cells	7-AAD-	
Debris Exclusion	7-AAD-	
Leukocytes	7-AAD- CD45+	17.34
Monocytes	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+	0.00
- Non-Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+ CD16+	4.84
- Intermediate	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16+	6.39
- Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16-	5.12
B Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19+	3.60
Eosinophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16-	0.00
Neutrophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16+	7.28
NK Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3- CD56+	17.99
CD3+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+	48.85
- NKT Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD56+	4.61
- CD8+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4- CD8+	19.36
- CD4+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4+ CD8-	27.71

Ficoll™

No variation in cell composition!

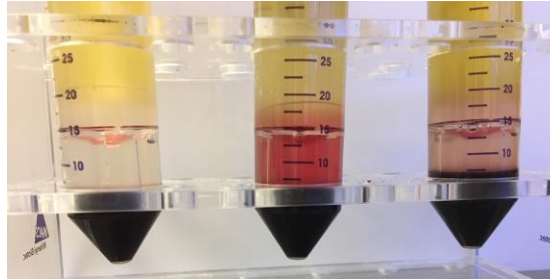
Singlets		
Viable Cells	7-AAD-	
Debris Exclusion	7-AAD-	
Leukocytes	7-AAD- CD45+	16.42
Monocytes	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+	4.10
- Non-Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+ CD16+	6.78
- Intermediate	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16+	4.62
- Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16-	4.62
B Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19+	3.63
Eosinophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16-	0.13
Neutrophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16+	0.06
NK Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3- CD56+	18.51
CD3+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+	55.83
- NKT Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD56+	6.38
- CD8+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4- CD8+	20.89
- CD4+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4+ CD8-	32.39

Sedimentation +



# Untouched PBMC isolation from whole blood

## Performance comparison



Ficoll™

	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
<b>Granulocytes</b>	4,90%	2,41%	1,58%
<b>Erythrocytes</b>	2,59%	37,81%	21,94%
<b>Platelets</b>	62,11%	45,34%	57,50%

Ficoll™

	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
<b>Granulocytes</b>	0,27%	0,29%	0,20%
<b>Erythrocytes</b>	0,12%	0,06%	0,06%
<b>Platelets</b>	66,44%	43,89%	61,01%

Sedimentation +



# Untouched PBMC isolation from buffy coats

## Performance comparison

Population	Phenotype	Frequency % among leukocytes
Singlets		
Viable Cells	7-AAD-	
Debris Exclusion	7-AAD-	
Leukocytes	7-AAD- CD45+	
Monocytes	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+	22.88
- Non-Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+ CD16+	2.10
- Intermediate	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16+	8.19
- Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16-	11.92
B Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19+	7.01
Eosinophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16-	0.13
Neutrophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16+	6.65
NK Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3- CD56+	5.51
CD3+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+	54.55
- NKT Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD56+	14.76
- CD8+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4- CD8+	27.12
- CD4+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4+ CD8-	25.46

Population	Phenotype	Frequency % among leukocytes
Singlets		
Viable Cells	7-AAD-	
Debris Exclusion	7-AAD-	
Leukocytes	7-AAD- CD45+	
Monocytes	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+	21.96
- Non-Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14+ CD16+	2.18
- Intermediate	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16+	8.90
- Classical	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14++ CD16-	10.32
B Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19+	6.00
Eosinophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16-	1.13
Neutrophils	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC hi CD16+	0.01
NK Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3- CD56+	5.91
CD3+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+	61.71
- NKT Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD56+	17.44
- CD8+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4- CD8+	32.34
- CD4+ T Cells	7-AAD- CD45+ CD14- CD19- SSC lo CD3+ CD4+ CD8-	27.05

### Ficoll™

Cell type	%-T	Count/mL	Calc Tot
Viable Leukos	63.10	7.84e+05	1.57e+08
Platelets	30.26	3.76e+05	7.52e+07
RBCs	4.07	5.06e+04	1.01e+07
Grans	5.26	6.53e+04	1.31e+07

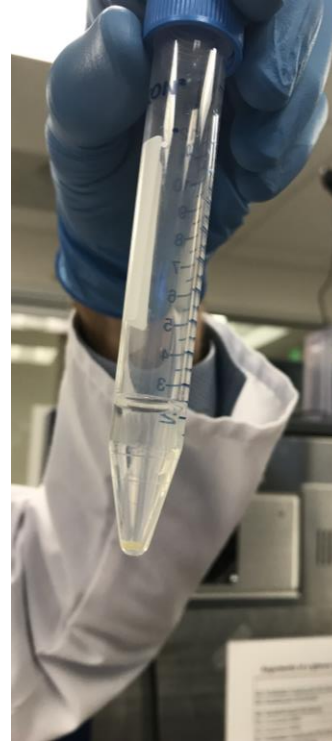
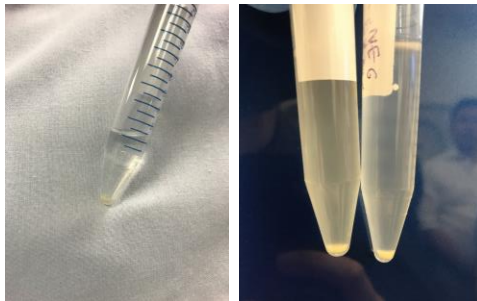
### Sedimentation +



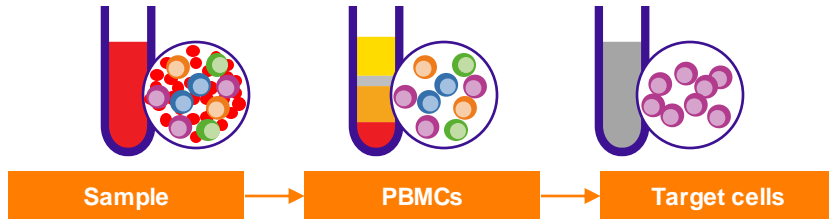
Cell type	%-T	Count/mL	Calc Tot
Viable Leukos	88.57	6.24e+05	1.25e+08
Platelets	9.15	6.45e+04	1.29e+07
RBCs	0.01	6.58e+01	1.32e+04
Grans	0.04	3.14e+02	6.28e+04

# A picture is worth a thousand words

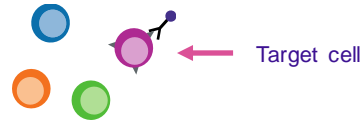
## This is what our customers say



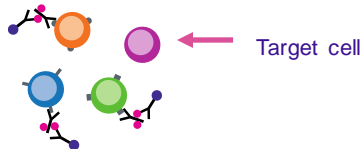
# Two ways of human blood cell separation



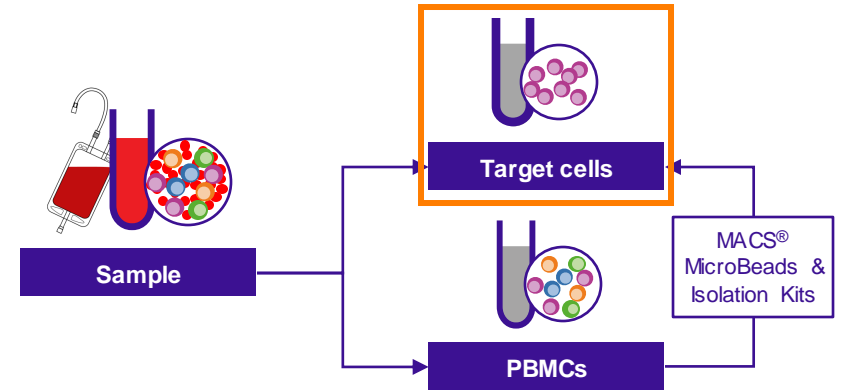
**Positive isolation:**  
MACS® MicroBeads



**Untouched isolation:**  
MACS® Isolation Kits



Sample to PBMC via density-gradient centrifugation



**Positive or untouched isolation from**

- Whole blood
- Buffy Coat
- LRSC
- Leukopak®

Directly from sample to PBMCs or target cells

# StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> MicroBead Kits Protocol

1 minute



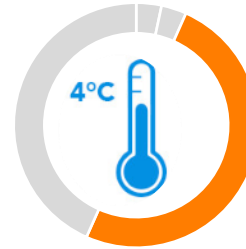
Fill blood sample into  
collection tube

1 minute



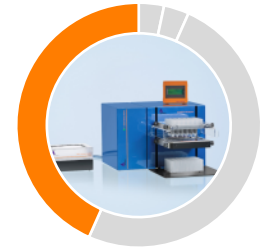
Add StraightFrom<sup>®</sup>  
MicroBeads

15 minutes



Incubation at 4–8°C

13 minutes



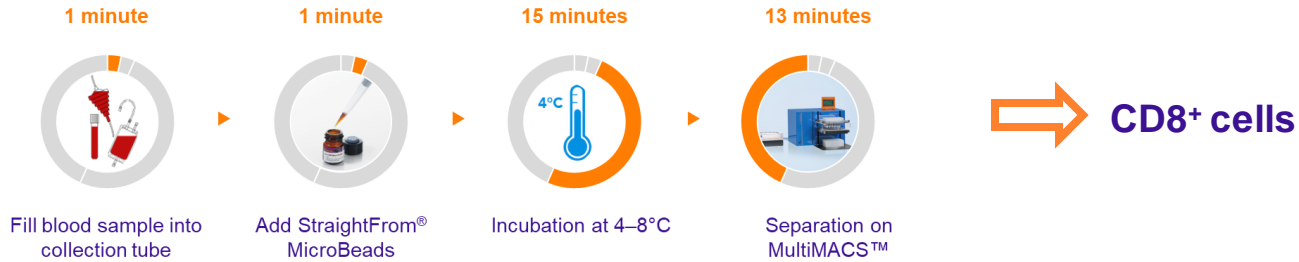
Separation on  
MultiMACS<sup>™</sup>  
(or autoMACS<sup>®</sup>)

**30 minutes**

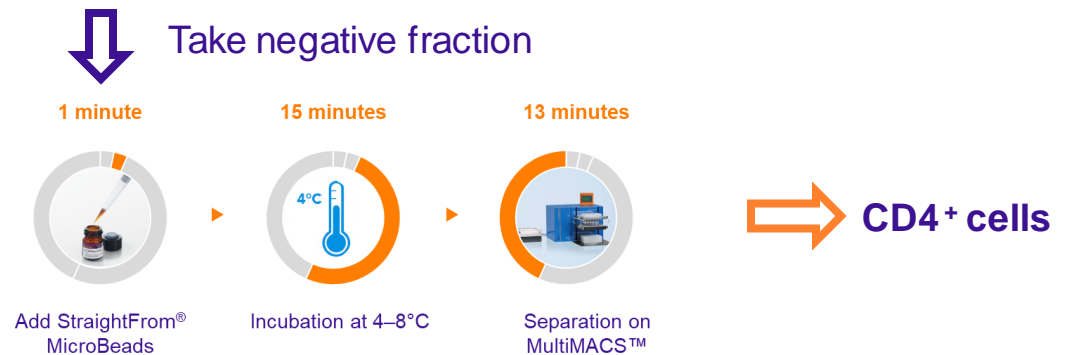
From blood product to target cells

# StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> MicroBead Kits

## Protocol for staggering



## StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> Leukopak<sup>®</sup> CD8 MicroBeads



## StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> Leukopak<sup>®</sup> CD4 MicroBeads



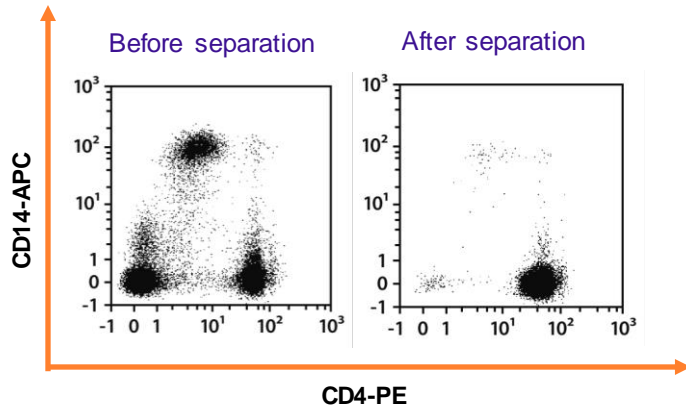
# StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> MicroBead Kits

## Positive isolation directly from blood products

### Simple and fast

- No density-gradient centrifugation
- No cell counting
- No washing after labeling

### StraightFrom Leukopak<sup>®</sup> CD4 MicroBead Kit



### StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> Buffy Coat MicroBeads – Exemplary data

Marker*	Purity (%)
CD3	97
CD4/CD8	98
CD4	96
CD8	95
CD14	98
CD19	95
CD56	96
...	...

\*Long list of markers available on [website](#) and continuously new releases

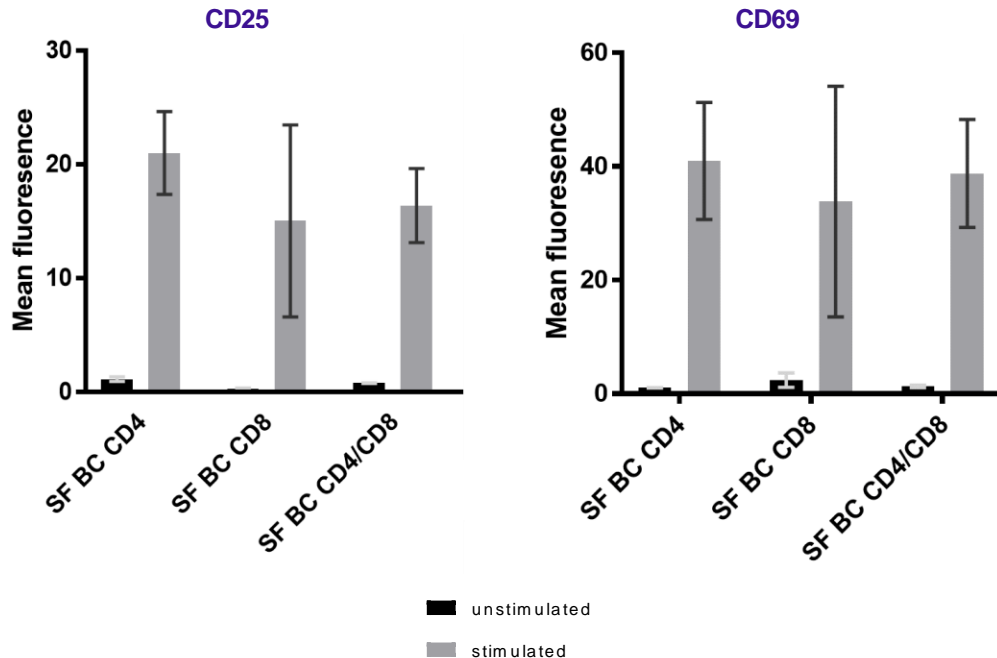
NEW

StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> Buffy Coat REAlease<sup>®</sup>  
MicroBead Kits, human

# StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> MicroBead Kits

## Performance data – activation marker analysis

### StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> Buffy Coat CD4, CD8, CD4/CD8 MicroBeads



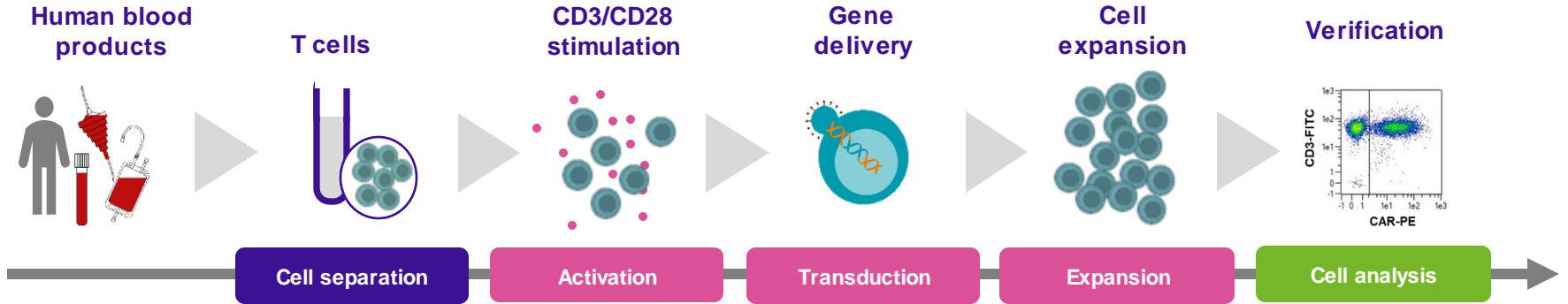
- Cells show no upregulation of activation markers
  - No activation after separation
- Successful activation upon stimulation with TransAct

*Learn more:*



# CAR T cell engineering workflow with StraightFrom<sup>®</sup>

## Application highlight



# CAR T cell engineering workflow with StraightFrom®

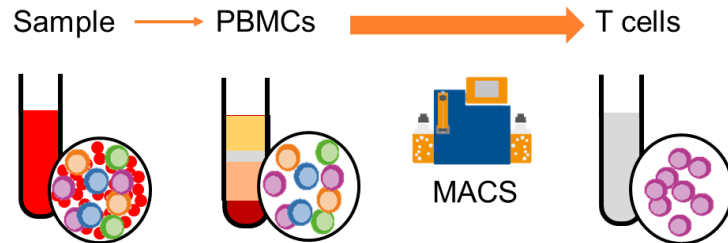
## Isolation of T cells from blood products



## MACS® MicroBeads versus StraightFrom® MicroBeads: same results, much faster

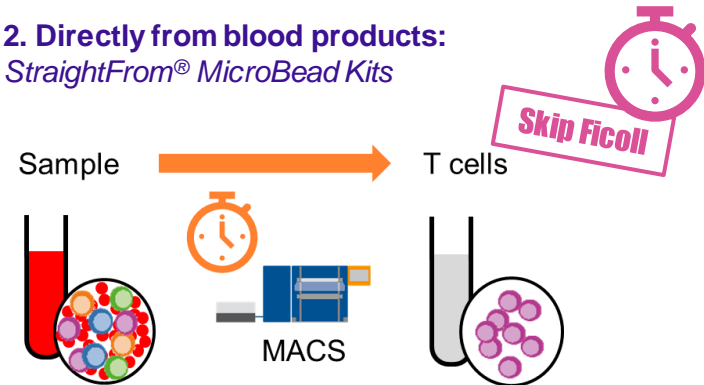
### 1. From PBMCs:

MACS® MicroBeads (or Isolation Kits)



### 2. Directly from blood products:

StraightFrom® MicroBead Kits



- ✓ Skip density gradient centrifugation
- ✓ From blood to highly pure T cells within 30 min.
- ✓ Whole blood, buffy coat, LRSC, Leukopak®

# CAR T cell engineering workflow with StraightFrom<sup>®</sup>

## Isolation of T cells from blood products

Cell separation

Activation

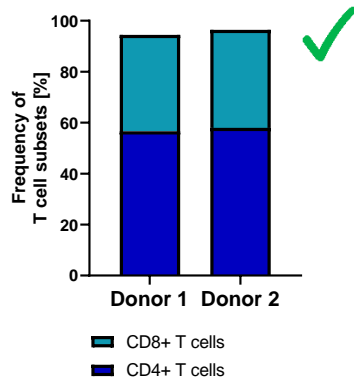
Transduction

Expansion

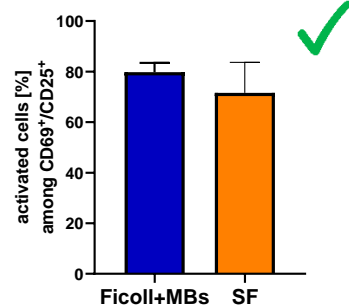
Cell analysis

## MACS<sup>®</sup> MicroBeads versus StraightFrom<sup>®</sup> MicroBeads: same results, much faster

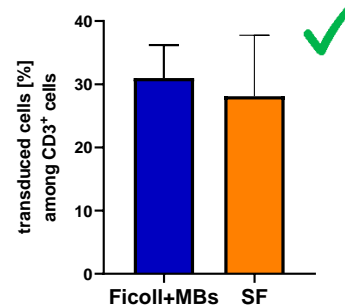
### T cell enrichment



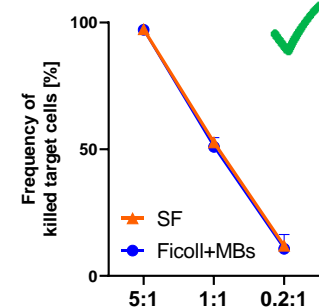
### T cell activation



### Transduction efficiency



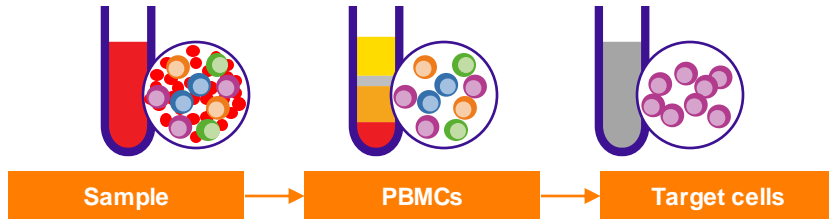
### Target cell killing



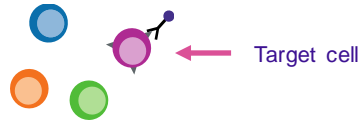
Learn more:



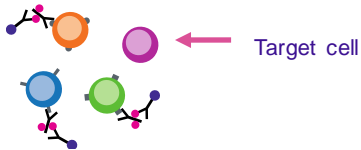
# Two ways of human blood cell separation



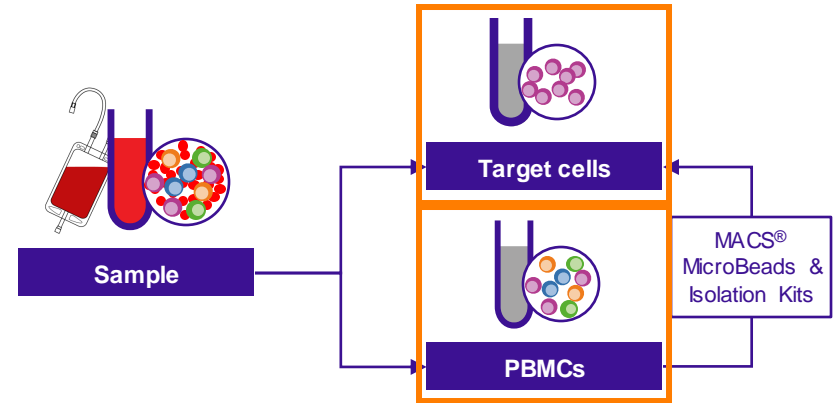
**Positive isolation:**  
MACS® MicroBeads



**Untouched isolation:**  
MACS® Isolation Kits



Sample to PBMC via density-gradient centrifugation



**Positive or untouched isolation from**

- Whole blood
- Buffy Coat
- LRSC
- Leukopak®

Directly from sample to PBMCs or target cells

# Automated high quality cell separation

## Automation improves efficiency in everyday cell processing:

- **Standardization** – no user variability or human errors
- **Reproducibility** – the same protocol, the same results, same performance every time
- **Efficiency** – less hands-on time allows you to work on more important tasks
- **User safety** – reduce contaminations and employee exposure to samples

Run fewer redundant experiments,  
focus your time and energy where it matters

Low  
Throughput



High  
Throughput

# autoMACS<sup>®</sup> Pro Separator

## Intuitive and easy-to-use automation for a multi-user lab

- Sequential separation of 1–6 samples per run
- Re-usable columns reduce costs and allow larger samples to be processed in one run
- Perfect fit for automated isolation of PBMCs from whole blood and buffy coats
- Perfect match to isolate target cells from PBMCs





# MultIMACS™ Cell24 Separator Plus

## Parallel cell separation of large sample numbers and high sample volumes

- Semi-automated cell separation
- Scalable sample throughput fits every workflow: 1-24 samples in one run
- Compatible with manual columns and Multi-24 Column Block
- Use the 24 magnets as individual magnets for small samples, or as one for large-volume samples such as buffy coats and Leukopaks®
- Tailored programs for isolations of cell subpopulations directly from blood products



# MultiMACS™ X

## Fully automated cell isolation for the demanding high-throughput cell processing laboratory

- Full automation of all relevant cell isolation workflows – PBMC and cell subpopulation isolation from Leukopaks®, Buffy Coats, Whole Blood and LRSCs
- Fully automated sample and buffer handling, magnetic labeling and separation
- Tailored programs ensure the perfect fit into your protocols, including preparation of downstream applications



# Automated solutions for every blood product



## autoMACS® Pro Separator

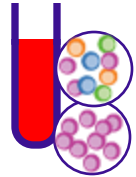


- 1-6 samples/run
- Sample volume
- Level of automation

PBMC generation from whole blood & buffy coat

Isolation of cell subsets from whole blood samples

Low throughput cell subsets from PBMC aliquots



## MultiMACS™ X



- 1-24 samples/run
- Sample volume
- Level of automation

PBMC generation from Leukopaks®

Isolation of cell subsets from buffy coat and Leukopak® samples

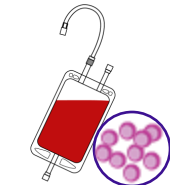


## MultiMACS™ Cell24 Separator Plus



- 1-24 samples/run
- Sample volume
- Level of automation

High throughput cell subsets from PBMC aliquots



# Summary

- Reliable assay results depend on the right cell preparation steps and isolation strategies
- Automated solutions and Ficoll™-free protocols reduce human error and improve efficiency
- With Miltenyi Biotec's new density-gradient-free solutions you can isolate target cells or PBMCs directly from blood products in as little as 25 min

Low  
Throughput



High  
Throughput

# Disclaimer

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# Thank you!



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