NEW TECHNOLOGY

diameter of 11 mm, an inner diameter of 6 mm and a height of 4 mm. The rupture membrane is a thin film (20 μ m) made of semi-transparent polycarbonate. Each cassette is loaded with 1 mg powder containing 25 μ g or less vaccine.

Immunization. BALB/c mice (female, 6 weeks old; Harlan Sprague Dawley, Indianapolis, Indiana) were used. Mice were fully anesthetized by intraperitoneal injection of ketamine and xylazine, and their abdominal skin was shaved using a hair-clipper before powder delivery. For EI, the PowderJect ND device was placed against the shaved abdominal skin of the mice and the 'actuation' button was pressed. Control mice were injected with aqueous vaccine using a 26.5-gauge needle. The subcutaneous injection was given in the scruff of the neck and the intramuscular injection was made in the upper thigh.

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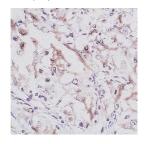
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ment of the cells allows expansion,

analysis and functional characteriza-

tion. The cytokine secretion assays

should provide useful tools for im-

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enumeration and isolation of antigen-

specific T cells for expansion and func-

tional characterization is also useful for

the determination of functional anti-

gens in disease, T-cell epitope mapping

or the analysis/cloning of the TCR

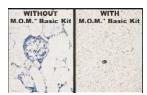
Making a mark: Beckman Coulter's IOTest Beta Mark assay for analysis of TCR V β repertoire of human T lymphocytes.

IOTest Beta Mark is Beckman Coulter's cytometry research assay for quantitative analysis of the T-cell receptor (TCR) Vβ repertoire of human T lymphocytes. The assay uses conjugated TCR VB monoclonal antibodies that correspond to 24 different specificities, covering approximately 70% of normal human TCR VB repertoire. The kit includes eight vials, each containing a mixture of three different TCR VB antibodies conjugated to fluorescein isothiocyanate and/or phycoerythrin-instead of the standard 24 single-color vials. It uses precalibrated antibodies to target the functional TCR VB antigen. Analysis of T-cell subsets may be made using multiparametric analysis with additional PC5- and ECD-conjugated T-cell subset markers. Stated applications include clonality assessment of T-cell leukemia,

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