

# Imaging Flow Cytometry and Leukaemia



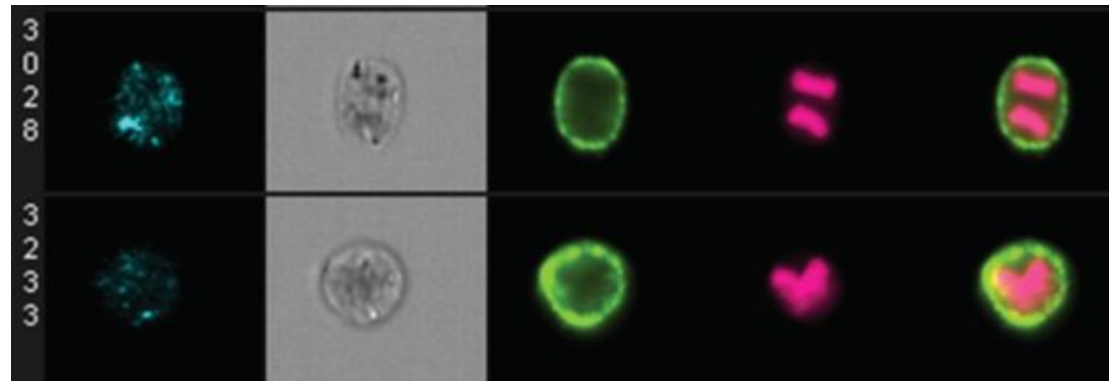
Kathy Fuller  
Wendy Erber

# Outline

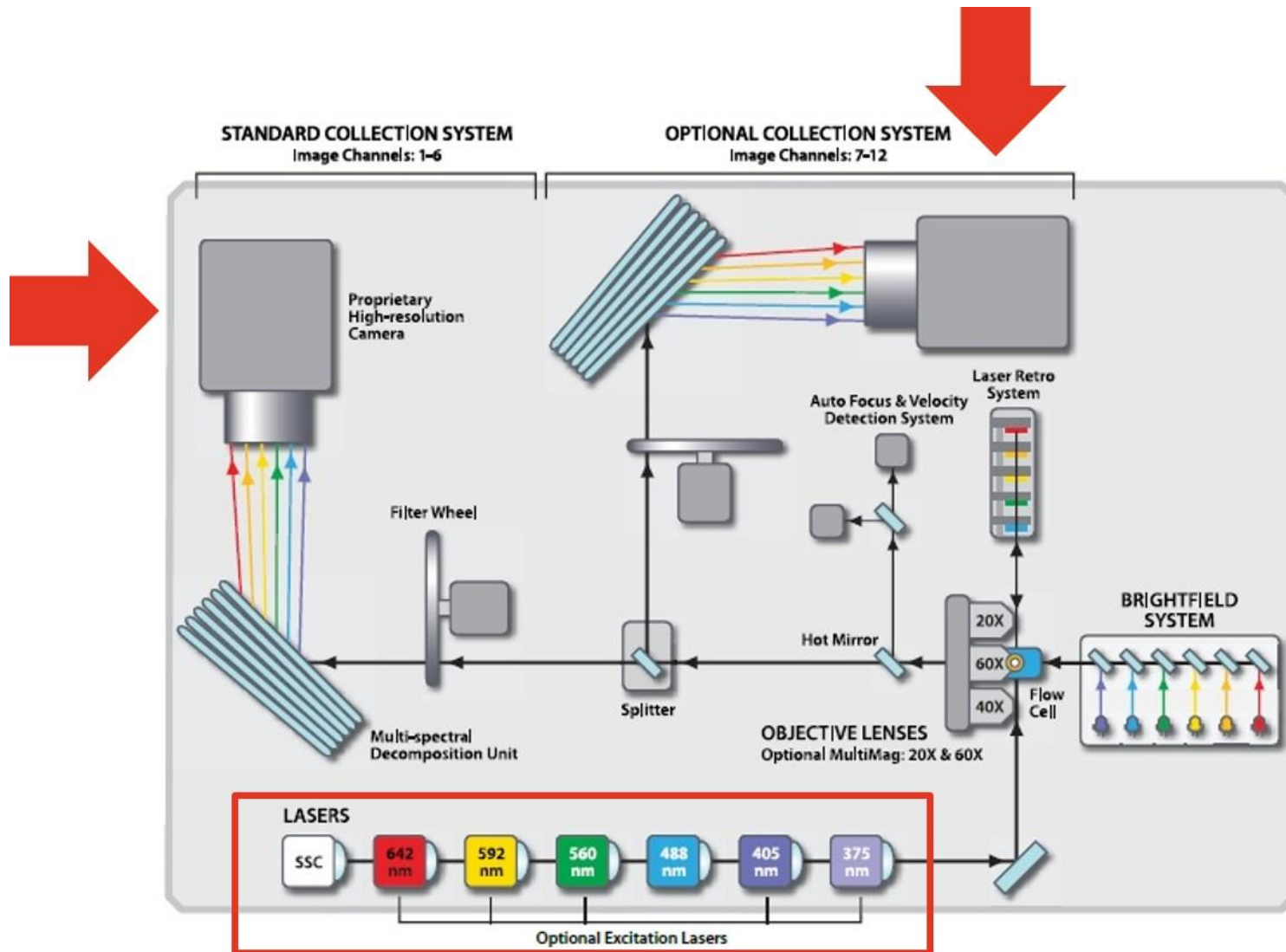
1. Imaging flow cytometry: introduction
2. Applications for leukaemia
3. “Immuno-flowFISH”: introduction
4. Technical aspects
5. Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
6. Plasma cell myeloma
7. Summary

# 1. Imaging Flow Cytometry

- Standard high-throughput flow cytometry with imagery
- Brightfield, darkfield (SSC) & 10 fluorescent markers
- Magnification: x20, x40, x60 objectives; EDF
- Imagery: photographs all events (cells)
- Direct visualisation of cell features & analysis software
- AMNIS ImageStream Mark II



# Inside the Box



## 2. Applications for Leukaemia

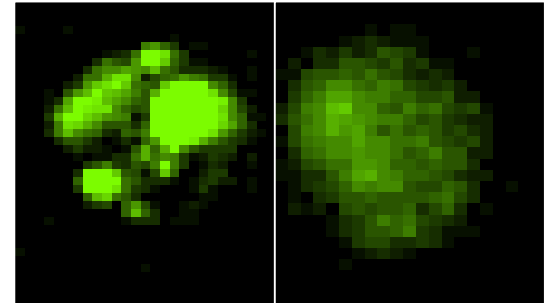
1. Surrogate markers of chromosome abnormalities in leukaemia:
  - a) Pattern of expression of a molecule: PML
  - b) Cellular localisation of a molecule: NPM
2. Fluorescent *in situ* hybridisation
3. Immunophenotyping and fluorescent *in situ* hybridisation (“Immuno-flowFISH”)



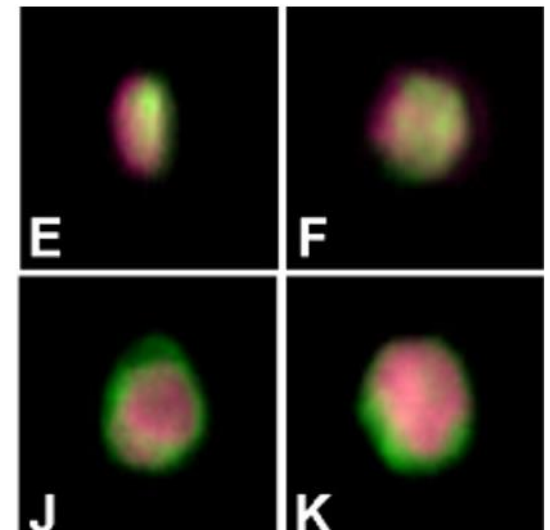
# Localisation of Molecules (AML)

- Localise cellular molecules:
  - Membrane; cytoplasmic; nuclear
- Normal vs abnormal pattern
  - E.g. PML bodies
  - E.g. cytoplasmic vs nuclear NPM
- Analysis:
  - Images give visual assessment
  - Numerical data
  - IDEAS software
  - Count, pattern, percent etc

PML bodies

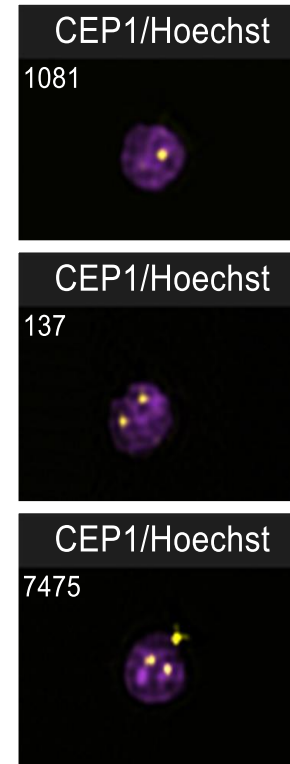
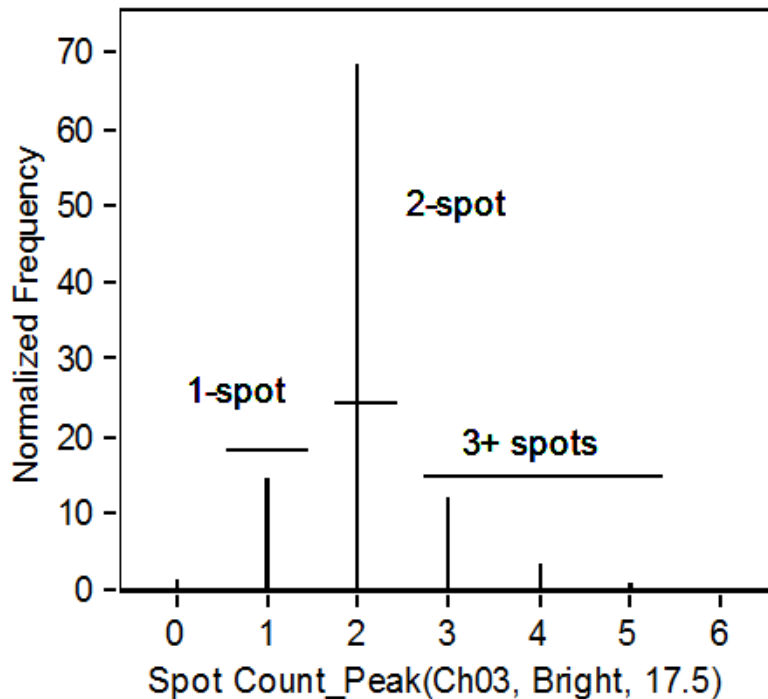


NPM: nuclear vs cytoplasmic



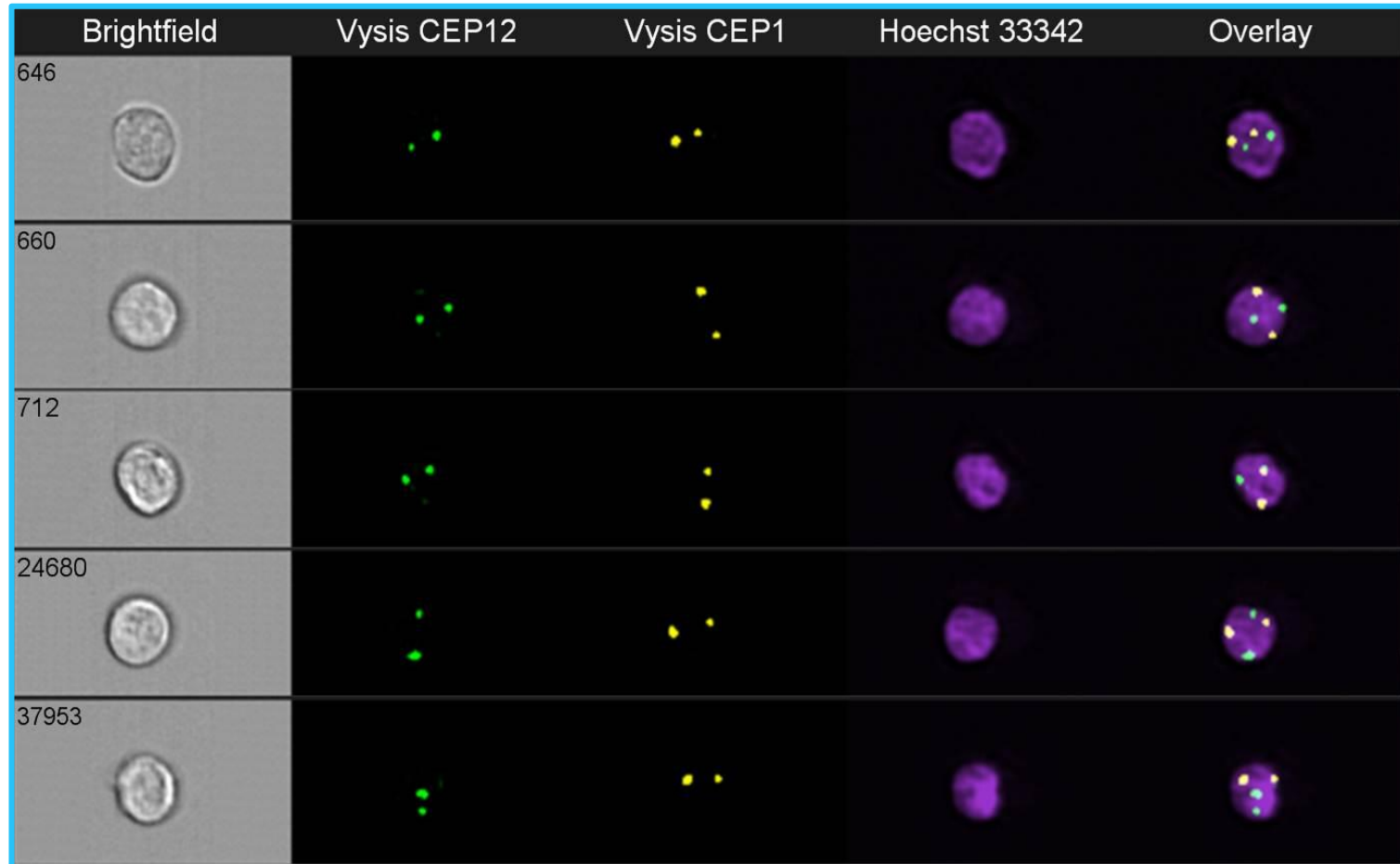
# Chromosomal Analysis of Leukaemia

- Flow cytometry for fluorescent *in situ* hybridisation (FISH)
- FISH of cells in suspension; +8 AML Minderman et al. 2012;  
Maguire et al. 2016
- CEP1-SpectrumOrange probe and Hoechst nuclear stain
- “Spot” recognition using EDF (with nuclear stain)



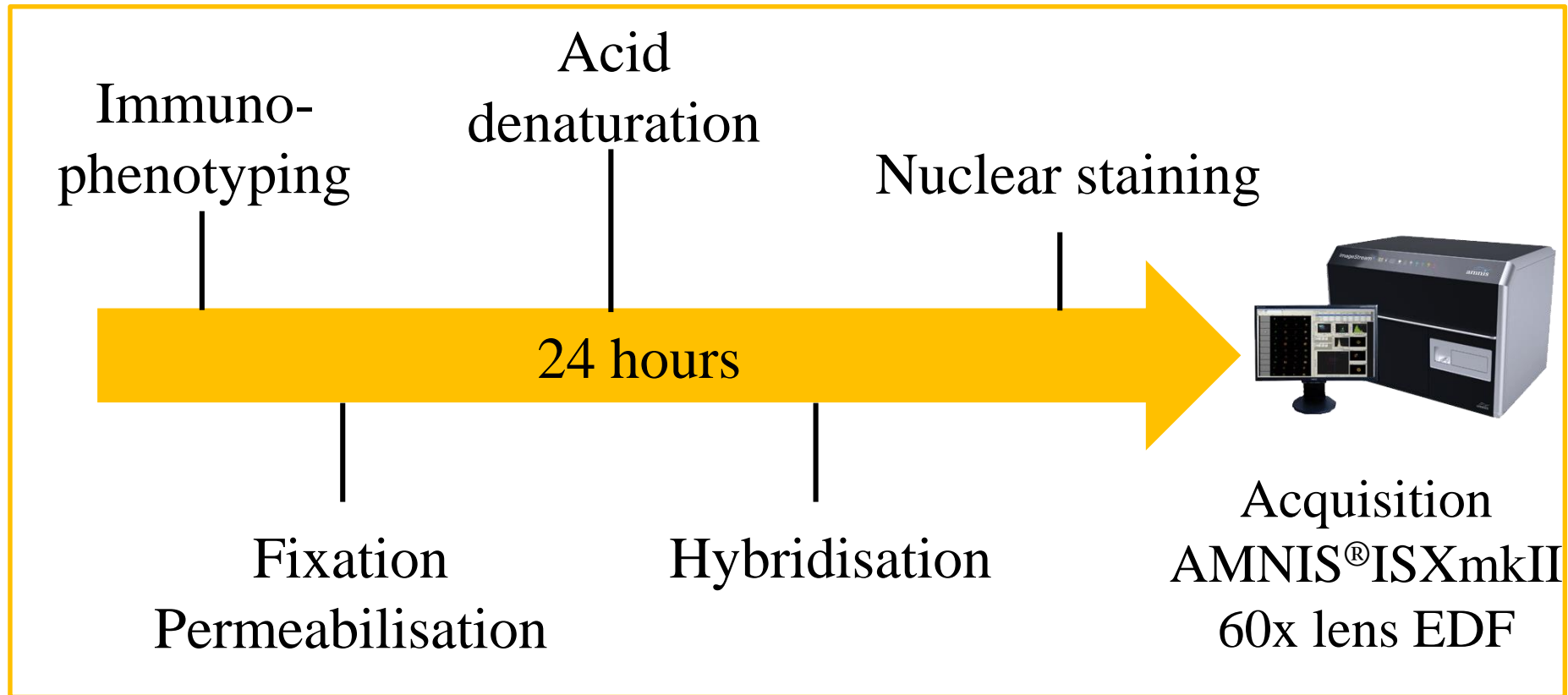
# Dual FISH probe analysis

Normal blood: **CEP1** / **CEP12** + **Hoechst** nuclear stain



### 3. “Immuno-flowFISH”

Imaging flow cytometry for FISH chromosomal analysis on immunophenotyped cells in suspension



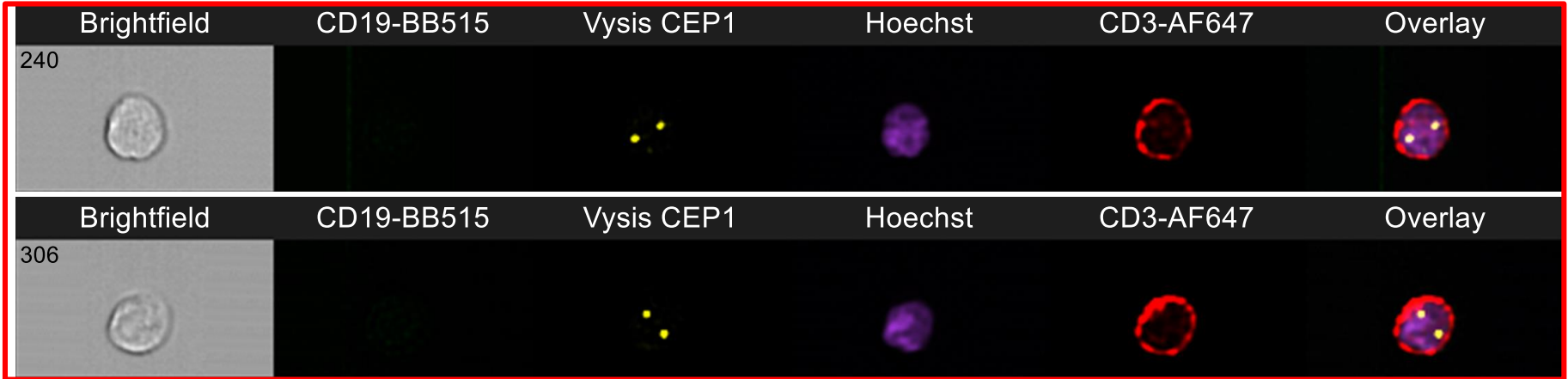
Hui et al. *Methods* 2018  
Hui et al. *Cytometry A* 2019

*Australian patent filed. October 2017*  
*International patent filed, April 2020*

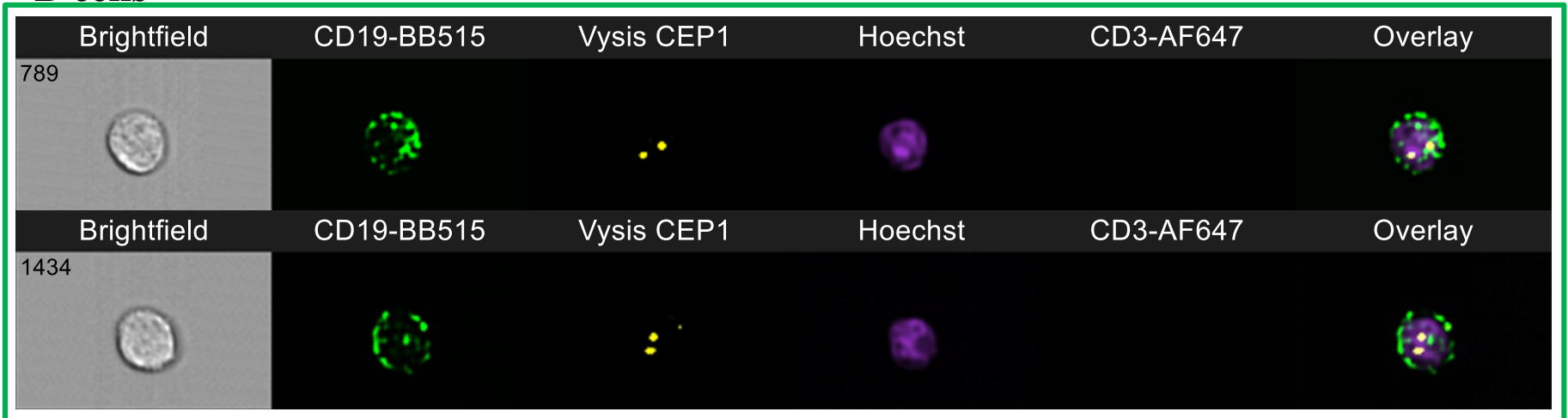
# Normal Blood: T and B cells

Two (CD3 CD19) antibodies, one probe (CEP1)

## T cells

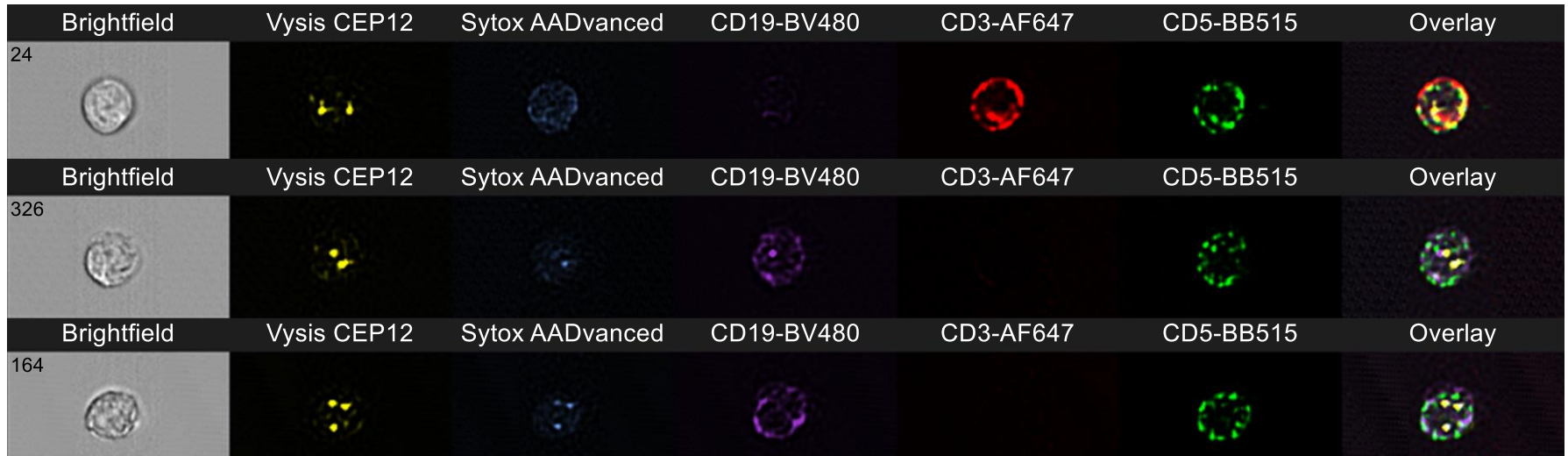


## B cells



# 4. Technical Aspects

- Sample type: fresh cells or biobanked?
- Immunophenotyping: antibody clone and fluorophore
- FISH probe: size (CEP, LSI) and fluorophore
- FISH probe specificity: nuclear localisation
- IDEAS<sup>®</sup> software analysis: “spot” detection, count accuracy

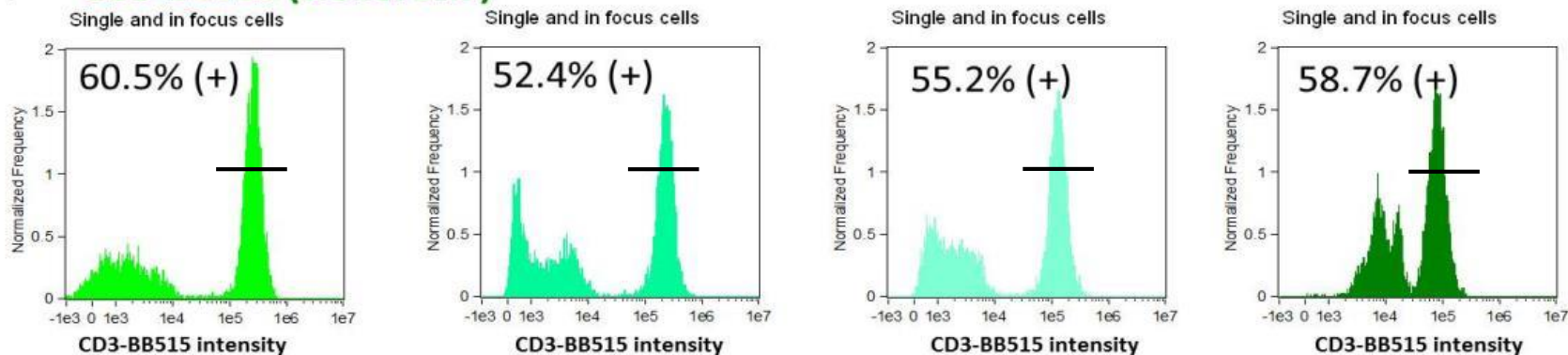


# Immunophenotyping

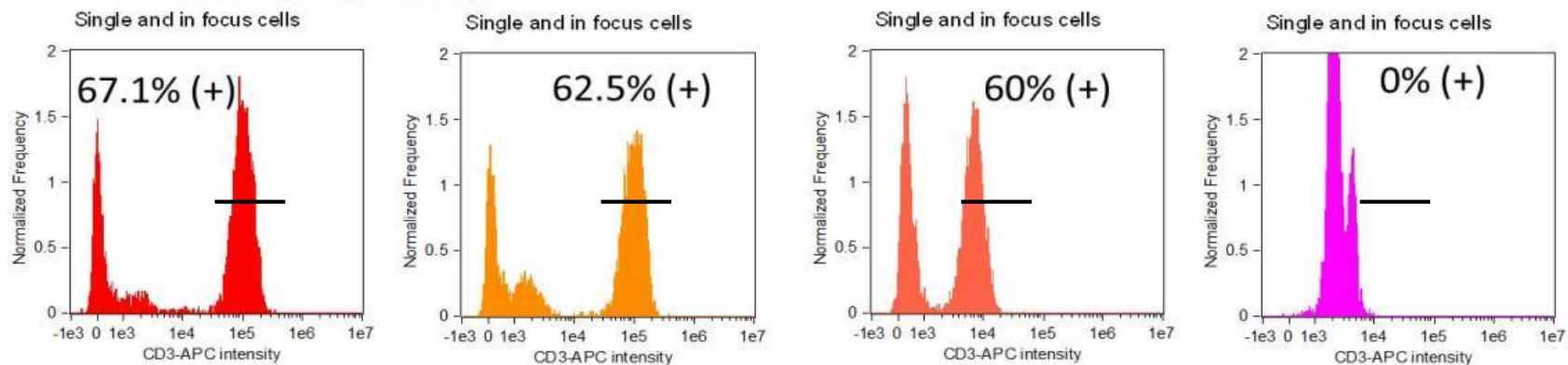
## CD3 (SK7 clone)

*Unfixed* → *Post-fix/perm* → *Post-HCL* → *Post-Hyb*

### A CD3-BB515 (clone: SK7)

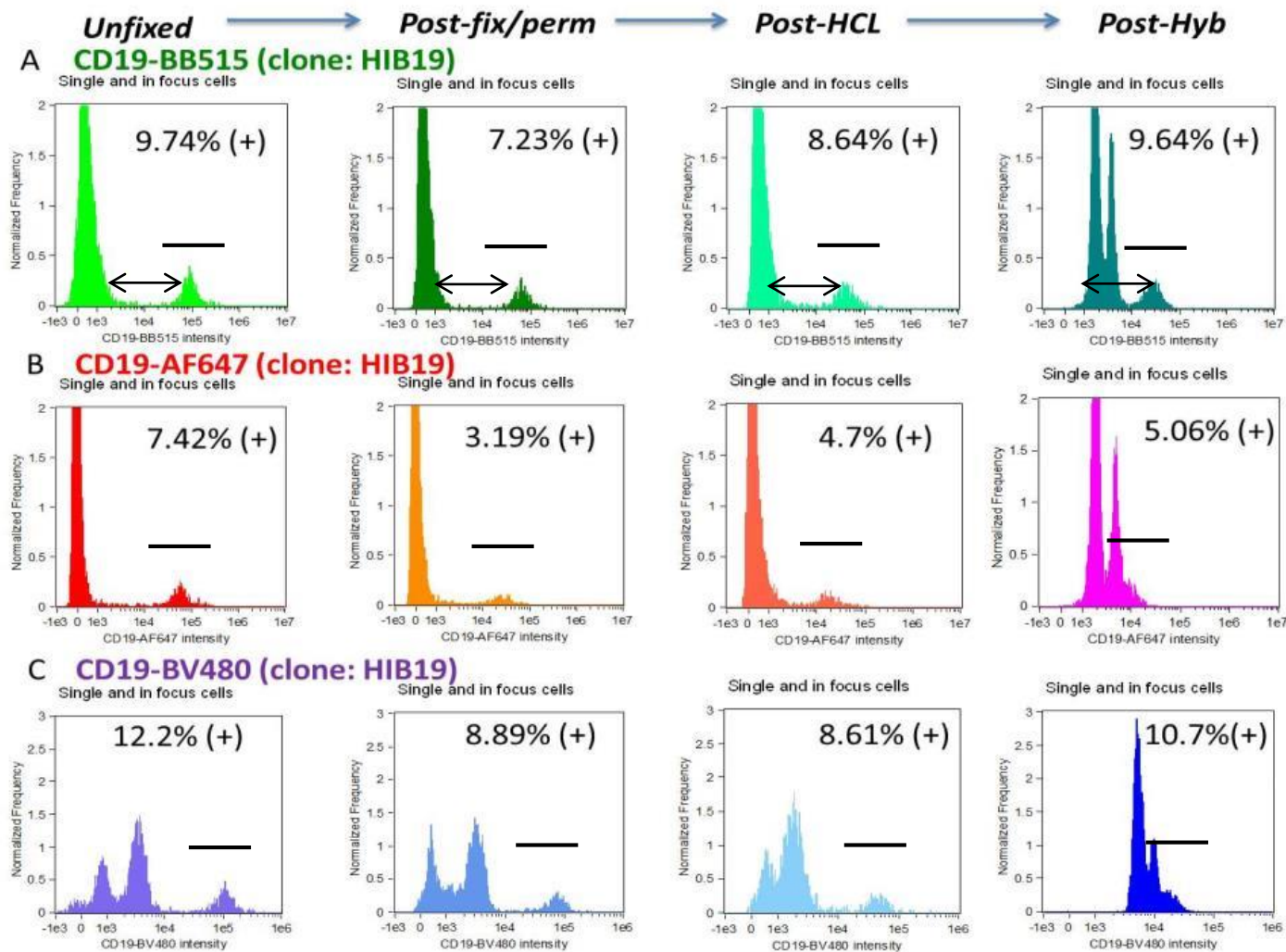


### B CD3-APC (clone: SK7)



# Immunophenotyping

## CD19 (HIB19 clone)



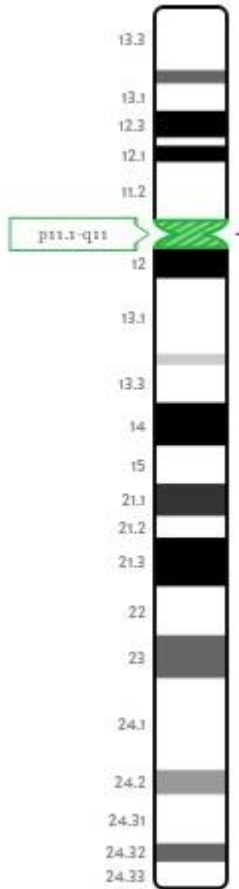
# Fluorophore Overview

Fluorophore	Post stain	Post fix	Post acid denaturation	Post hybridisation
<b>FITC</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
BB515	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>PE</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No
<b>PerCP-Cy5.5</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No
<b>PE-Cy7</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No
BV421	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
BV480	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
BV510	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
BV605	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>APC</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
AF647	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>APC-Cy7</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Human CD4 Fluorochrome Evaluation Kit (SK3 clone aka Leu3a) BD Biosciences

# FISH Probes

## Chromosome Enumeration (CEP) and Locus Specific (LSI)

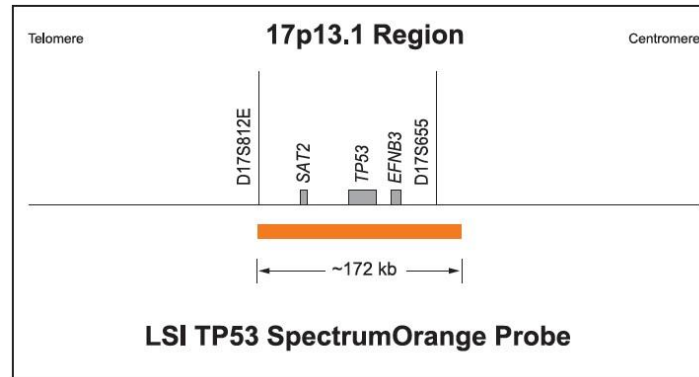


Vysis CEP12-SpectrumGreen

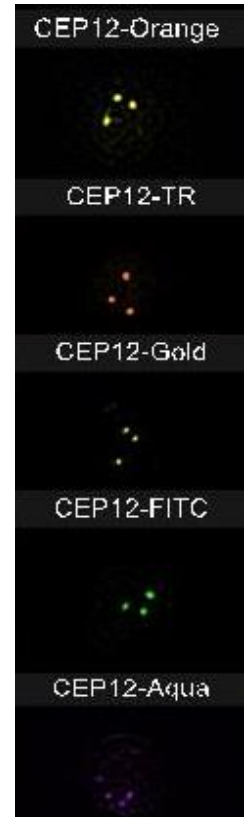


Vysis 17p13.1-SpectrumOrange

- Probe size
- Binding site
- Numerical; deletion, fusions
- Fluorophore (SO, SG)



Vysis FISH probe maps courtesy Abbott Molecular

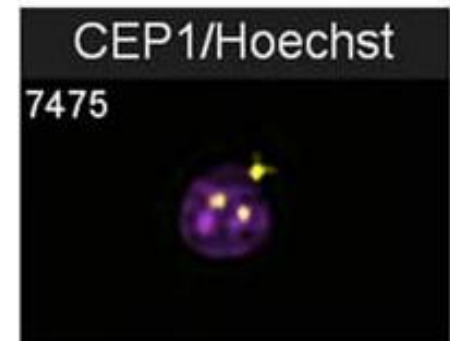
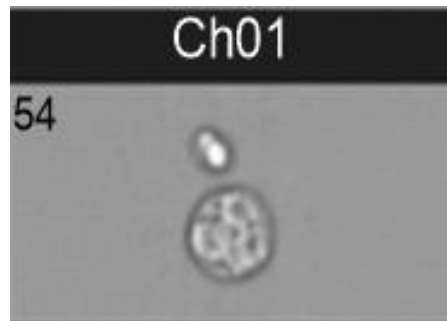


Cytocell CEP12 FISH probes with CLL+12

# FISH Probe Specificity

Probe binding is influenced by

- Hybridisation temperature
  - Hybridisation time
  - Hybridisation buffer
- Assess co-localisation with nuclear marker

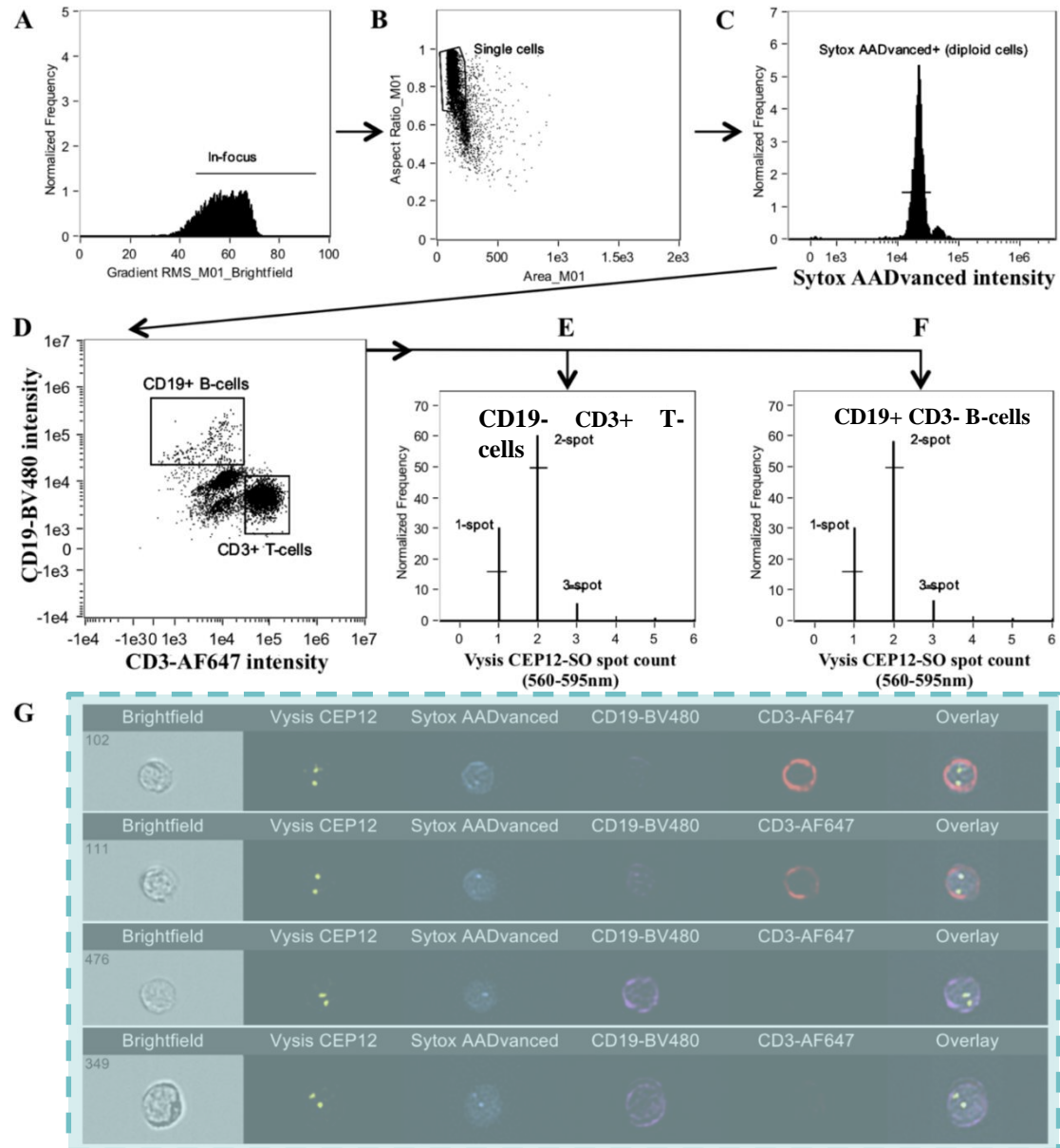


# IDEAS<sup>®</sup> Analysis

Image analysis  
using masks

Flow cytometry  
gate strategy

Feature calculations

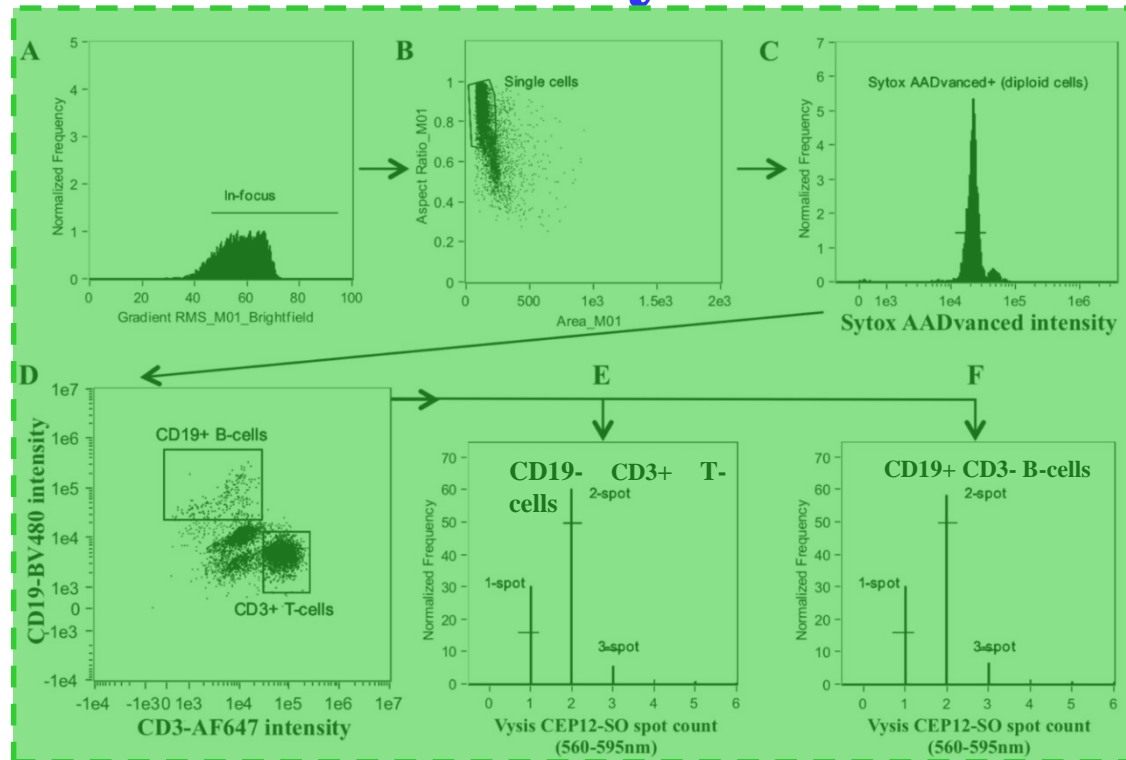


# IDEAS<sup>®</sup> Analysis

Image analysis  
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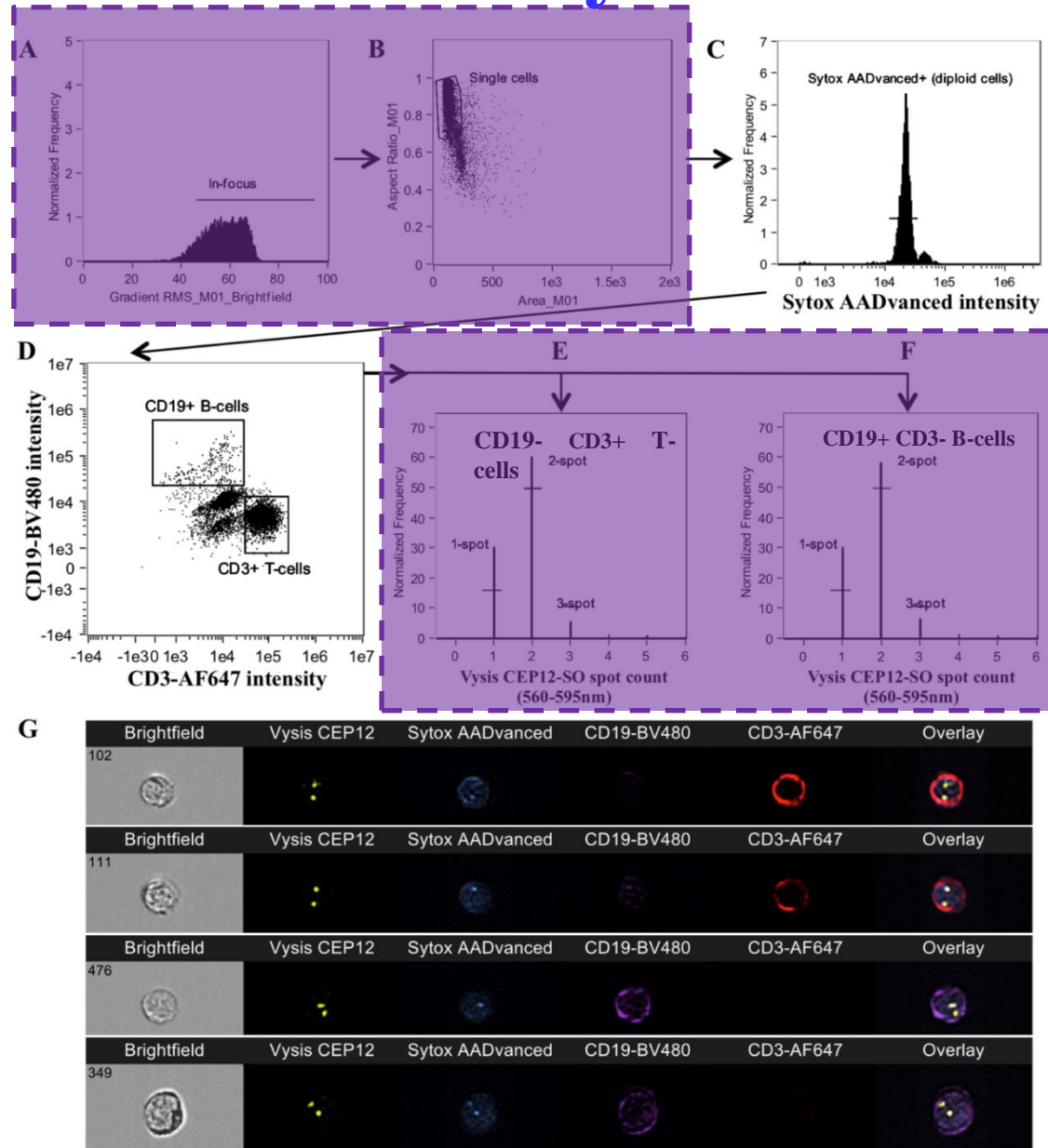


# IDEAS<sup>®</sup> Analysis

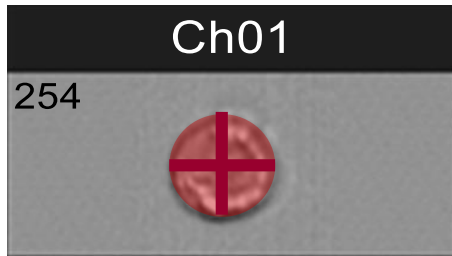
Image analysis  
using masks

Flow cytometry  
gate strategy

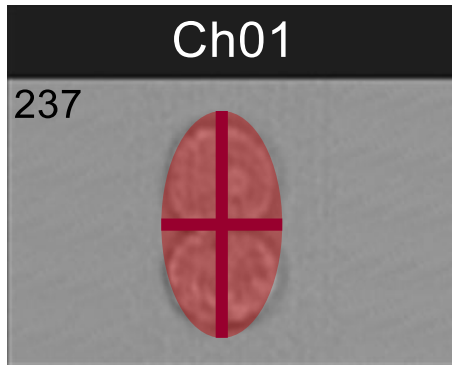
Feature calculations



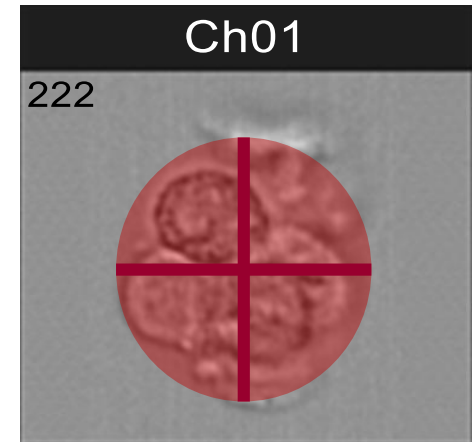
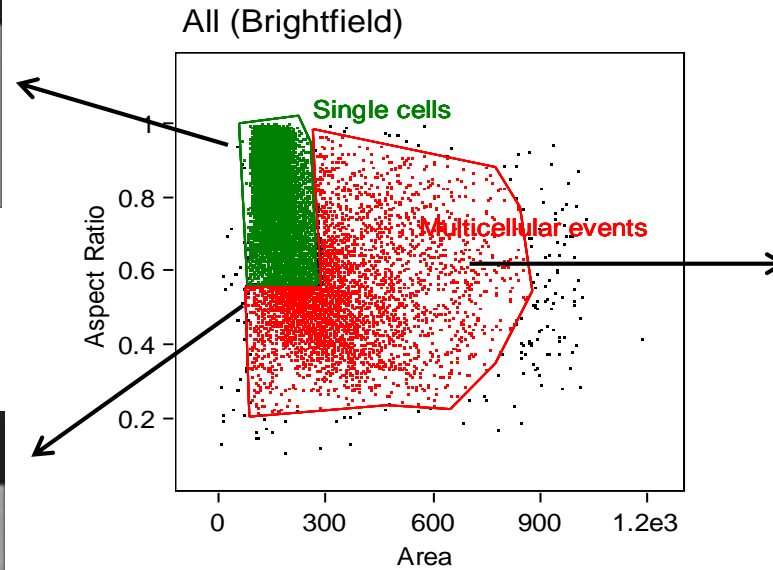
# Image Analysis: excluding doublets and debris



Aspect ratio = 1  
Area = small



Aspect ratio = 0.5  
Area = small



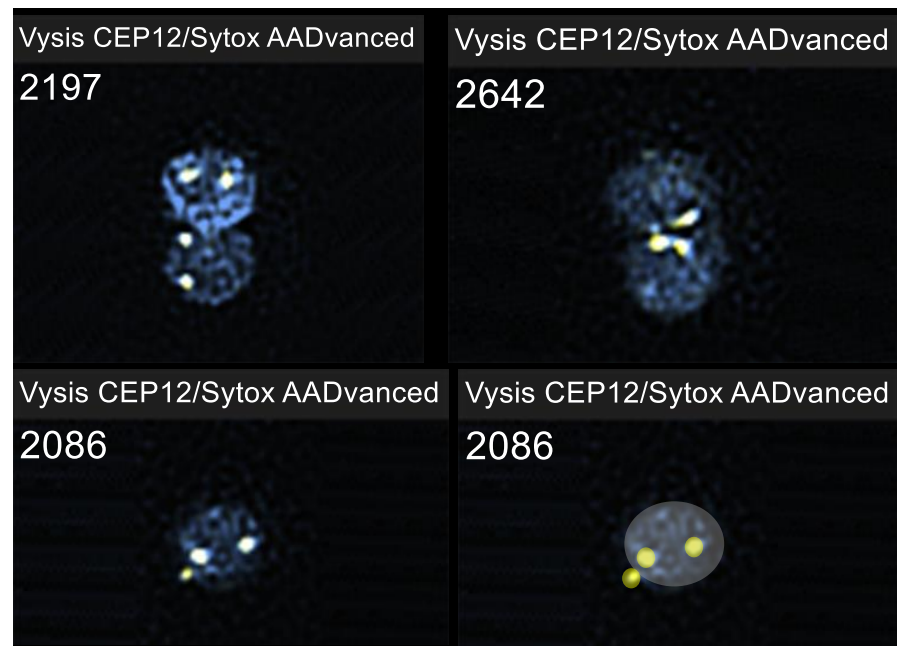
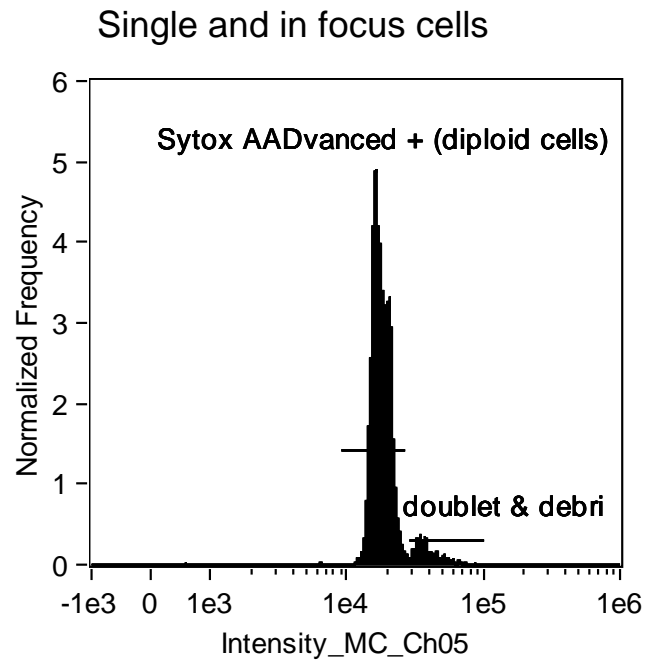
Aspect ratio = 1  
Area = large

Area, Aspect Ratio

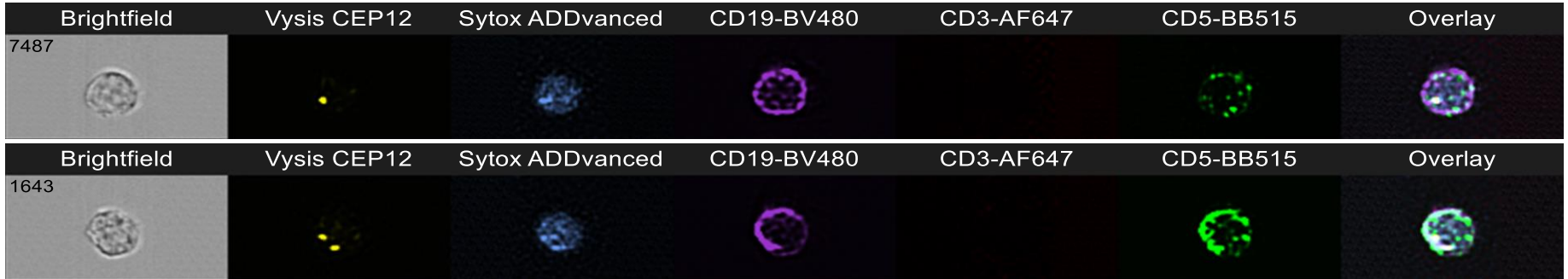
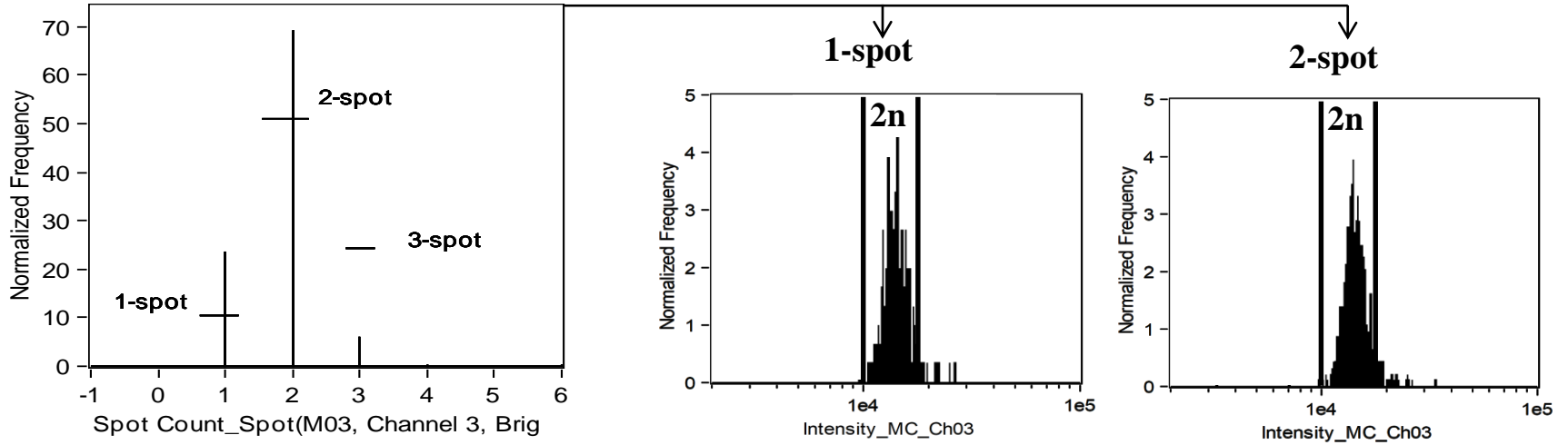
Population	Count	%Gated
All	25021	100
Single cells	20692	82.7
Multicellular events	3927	15.9

# Nuclear Marker

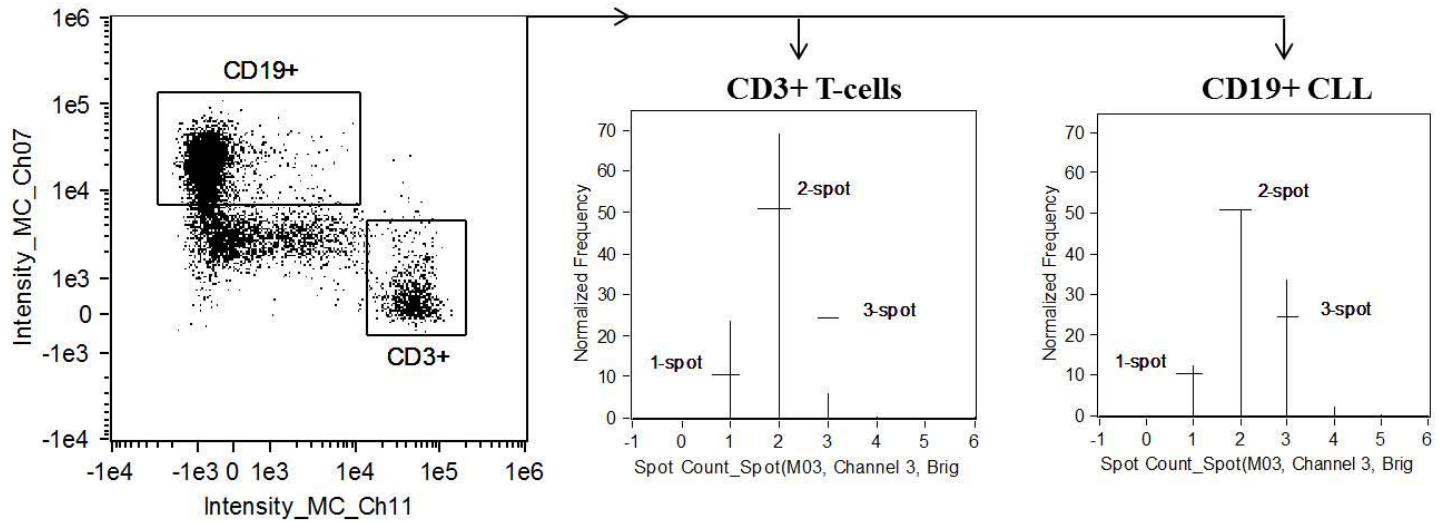
## DNA fluorescence: one fluor two functions...



# “Spot Count” Verification

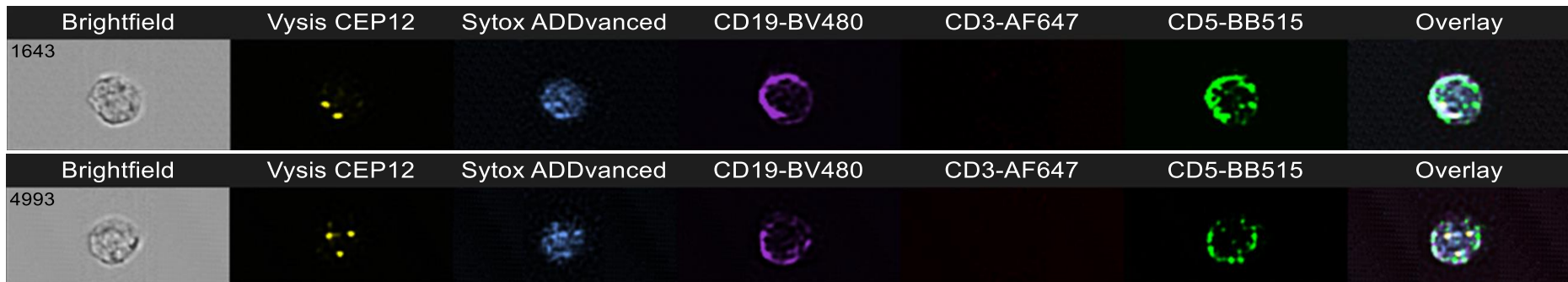
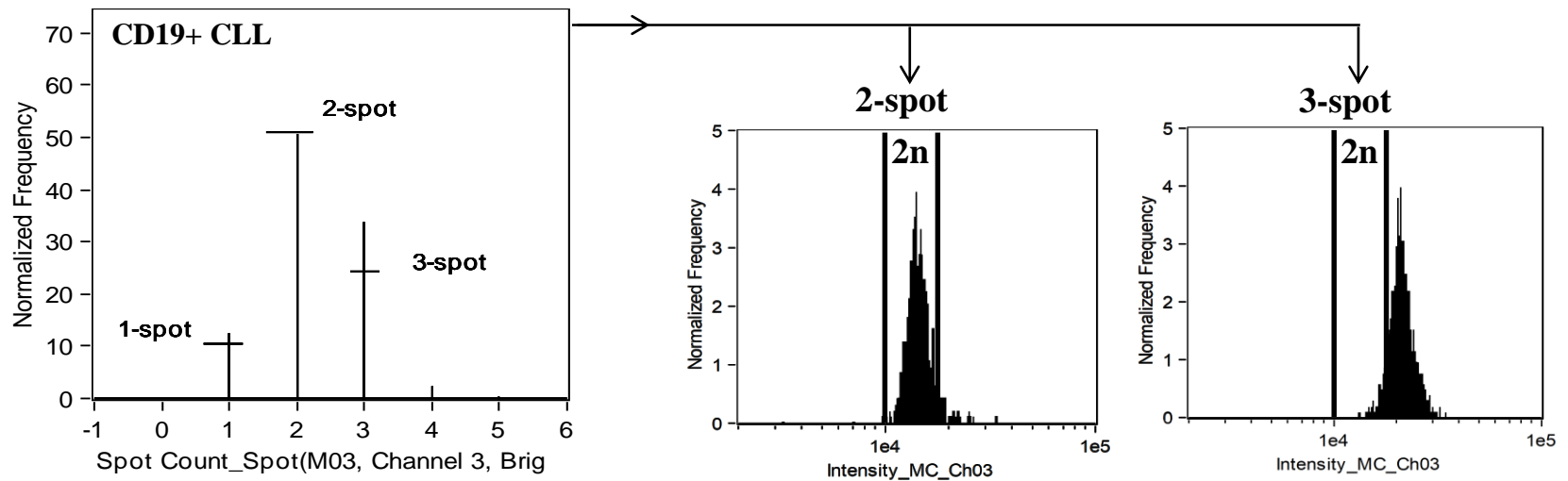


# Trisomy Verification



	Brightfield	Vysis CEP12	Sytox ADDvanced	CD19-BV480	CD3-AF647	CD5-BB515	Overlay
259							
4419							
1851							
1828							
6201							

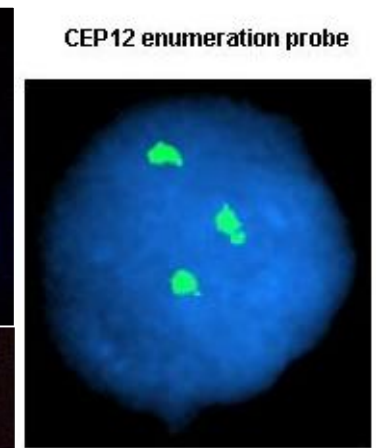
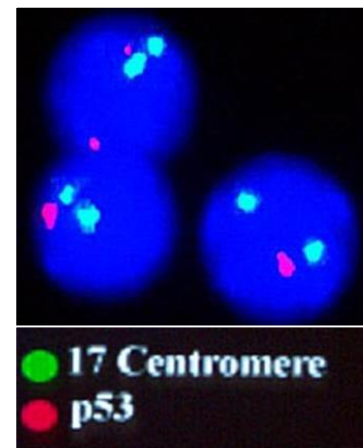
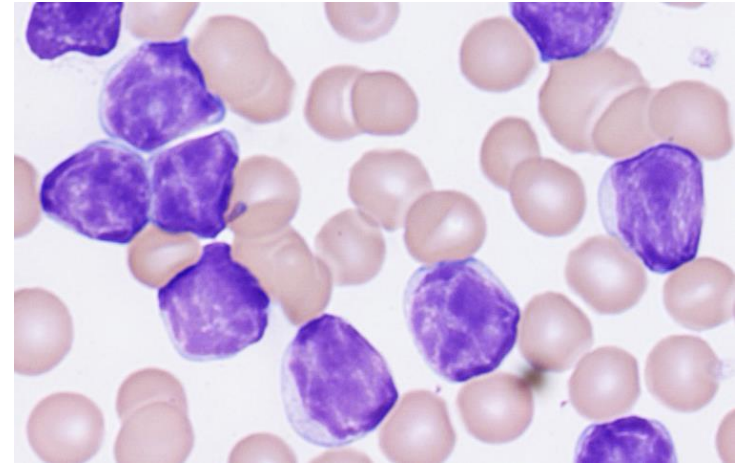
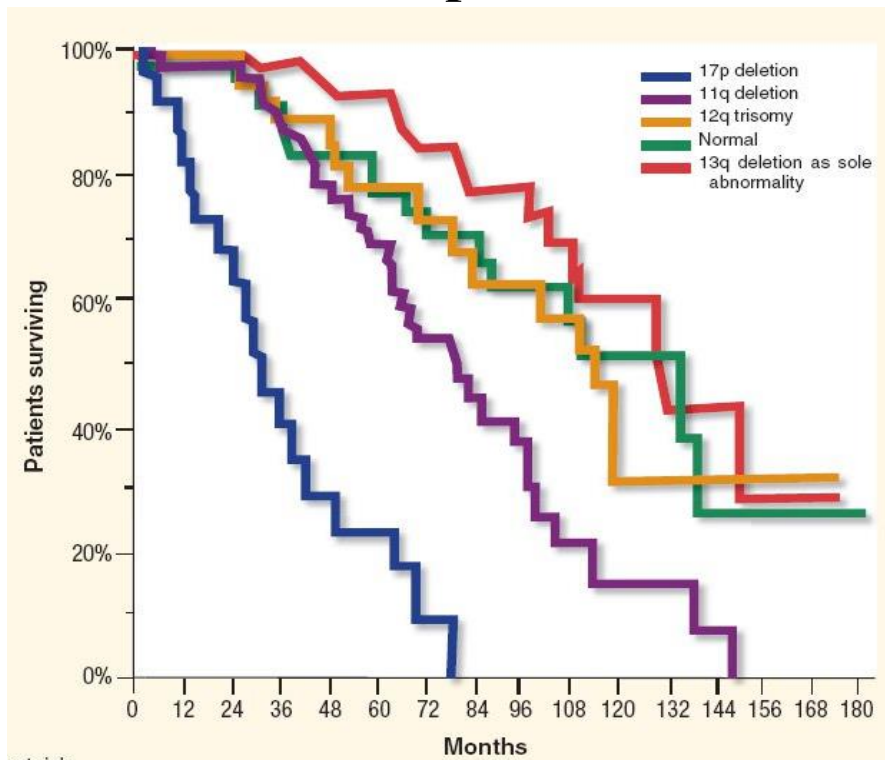
# CLL+12 “Spot Count” Accuracy



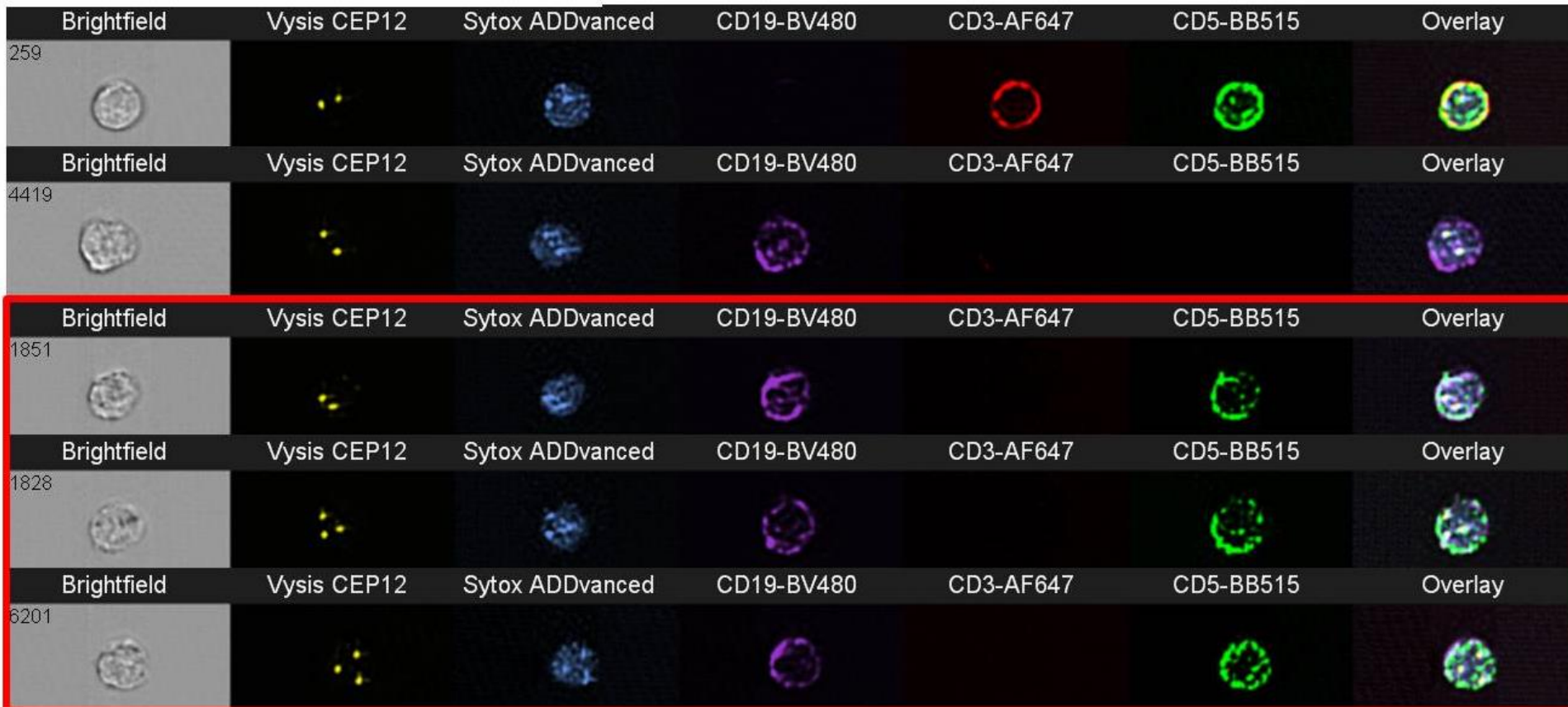
# 5. Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (CLL)

## Chromosomes and Prognosis

- FISH on a slide: 100 – 200 nuclei analysed
- Nuclei only: what cell is that?
- Percent positivity cut-off: 5-7%
- Critical: del(17p)



# CLL, +12



Row 3: CD19+, CD5+ CLL

Row 4, 5: CD19+, CD5+ CLL, +12

45% CD5/CD19-positive B cells with +12

# CLL, del(17p12)

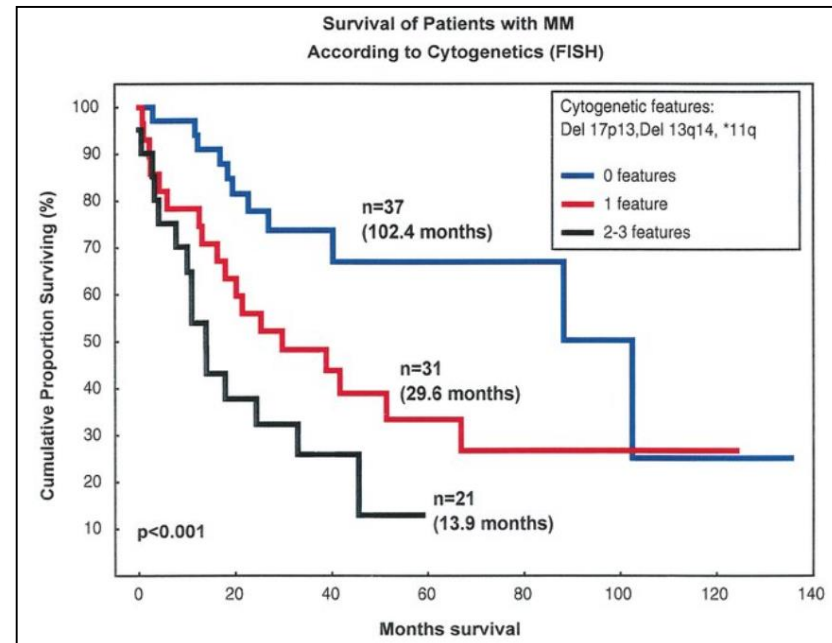
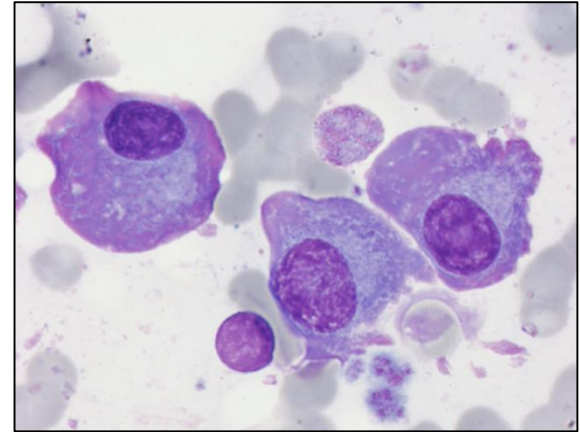
CD3 CD5 CD19 antibodies, FISH (17p12) probe





Row 1: CD3, CD5: T-cell  
 Row 2: CD5, CD19: CLL  
 Row 3,4: CD5, CD19: CLL, del(17p12)


# 6. Plasma Cell Myeloma

- Marrow neoplasm of plasma cells
- CD38, CD138 positive cells
- Cytogenetics and prognosis
  - a) Ploidy
  - b) Structural: e.g. del(17p)
  - c) Translocations: e.g. t(4;14)
- Treatment prediction: t(11;14)
- Circulating plasma cells






# 7. Summary

 Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)  
**Methods**  
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ymeth](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ymeth) 


Methods 2018; 134-135: 32-40  
**Imaging flow cytometry to assess chromosomal abnormalities in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia** 

Henry Hui<sup>a,1</sup>, Kathryn A. Fuller<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Hun Chuah<sup>a,c</sup>, James Liang<sup>a,d</sup>, Hasib Sidiqi<sup>a,d</sup>, Dejan Radeski<sup>a,b,d</sup>, Wendy N. Erber<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

**Cytometry**   Cytometry Part A 2019; 95A; 521–533 

**“Immuno-flowFISH” for the Assessment of Cytogenetic Abnormalities in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia**

Henry Y.L. Hui,<sup>1†</sup> Kathryn M. Clarke,<sup>2†</sup> Kathryn A. Fuller,<sup>1,3</sup> Jason Stanley,<sup>1</sup> Hun H. Chuah,<sup>4</sup> Teng Fong Ng,<sup>4</sup> Chan Cheah,<sup>5,6</sup> Andrew McQuillan,<sup>6</sup> Wendy N. Erber<sup>1,3\*</sup>

 Blood 2020; 136(Supp1): 9-10

**Detection of Del(17p) in Hematological Malignancies By Imaging Flow Cytometry**

Wendy N. Erber, MD, Henry Hui, PhD, Jason Stanley, BSc (Hons), Thomas Mincherton, BSc, Kathryn Clarke, PhD, Bradley Augustson, MBBS FRACP FRCPA, Teng Fong Ng, BSc, MBBS, MRCP, Chan Yoon Cheah, MBBS, Andrew David McQuillan, MBBS, FRACP, FRCPA, Kathy Fuller, PhD

# Australian Invention with Global Recognition



## 2018 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes winners

Congratulations to the 2018 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes winners.



*“Immuno-flowFISH and the improved sensitivity of detection, has potential to lead to discoveries of new prognosticators of disease and response.” (Hui H, 2019)*

Editorial. *Cytometry*. 2019

*“An unexplored frontier is the molecular testing of cytological samples. One of the most exciting opportunities is new technological capability of FISH using probes with specificity for mutations and other genetic abnormalities.” (Hui H, 2019)*

Weissleder & Lee. *Nature Reviews Materials*. 2020

# Attributes of Immuno-flowFISH



- Number of cells (100,000 cf standard FISH  $n = 100-200$ )
- Cell identification (membrane phenotype and FISH probe) increases sensitivity and specificity
- Structural abnormalities: +12, del(17p)
- Numerical quantitative data: ratio; % cells positive
- Limit of detection (to date): 1/10,000
- Automated “flow”: fast, high throughput
- Reproducible: can replicate results (100% accuracy)

*Australian patent filed. October 2017*  
*International patent filed. April 2020*

# Acknowledgements

## University of Western Australia

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- Dr James Liang
- Dr Carly George
- Dr Kathryn Clarke
- Tom Mincherton



Private donors

Australian Museum

ANSTO

Luminex

Haematologists at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital,  
Royal Perth Hospital, Hollywood Private Hospital  
and PathWest Laboratory Medicine