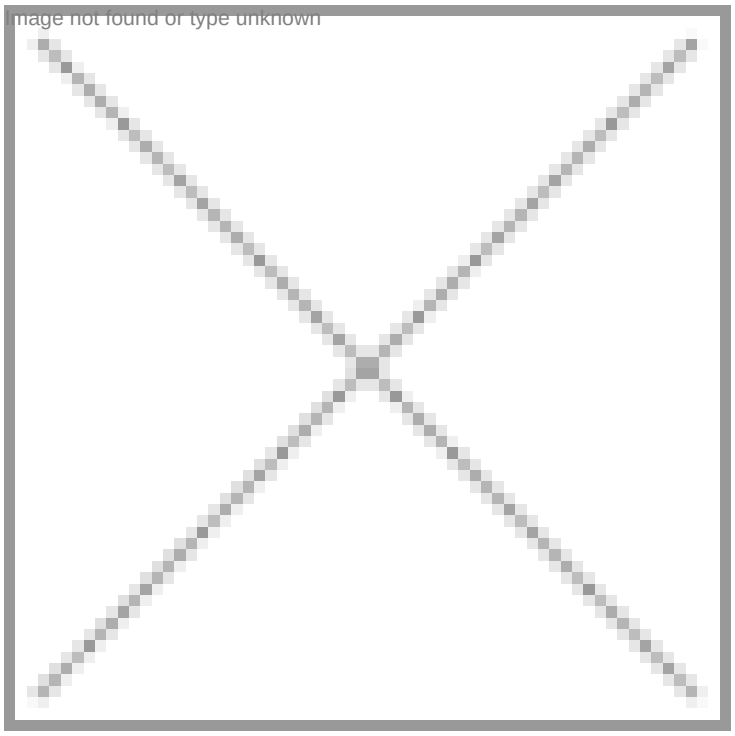
BioSpectrum the business of Bio & Health Sciences

Affymetrix GeneChip Platform

11 April 2005 | News



The Affymetrix GeneChip system analyses all oligonucleotide based probe arrays for expression analysis, genotyping and health management. The platform mainly comprises of the gene chips, kits, hybridization oven, fluidics station, high-resolution scanner and computer/software workstation for control, data acquisition and analysis. Affymetrix has GeneChips for human, eukaryotes, prokaryotes and plants. The system helps in generating reproducible genetic analysis data. Custom designed arrays can also be produced based on the sequence data. The new generation Affymetrix GeneChips have 11m feature size and very soon will have GeneChips with 5m feature size. The entire human Genome with ~ 38,500 Genes are available on single GeneChip. Similarly, 100K- array (>100,000 SNP's) is available for SNP analysis, re-sequencing, association studies, linkage studies and chromosome copy number. There are more than 1100 Affymetrix GeneChip platforms in various institutions, universities, pharmaceutical industries and medical research/hospitals worldwide.

For more details, contact: *spincomd@md4.vsnl.net.in*

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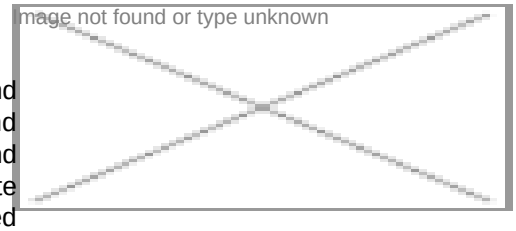
mRNA Quantitation Kits by R&D Systems

US based R&D Systems has introduced mRNA Quantitation Kits in the market to assist the biotech industry. Quantikine mRNA kits are simple, colorimetric, microplate-based assays for the quantitation of cytokine-specific mRNA. This kit is capable of quantitating gene-specific mRNA in the attomolar (10-18) range. Using an ELISA-based format, levels of mRNA can be estimated from cell lysate, total RNA, or poly (A)+ RNA samples in less than five hours. This non-PCR based assay offers several advantages over conventional methods of mRNA quantitation, such as Northern blot analysis and semiquantitative RT-PCR. Radioactive isotopes, specialized instrumentation, and extensive assay optimization are not required. The quantitative mRNA assay is capable of both high sample throughput as well as quantitative analysis of

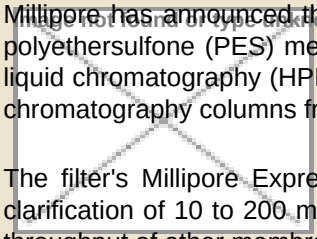
multiple target mRNAs in parallel.



Quantikine mRNA kits are available in two modules, a Base Kit and a Probes and Calibrator kit. The Base kit is common for all cytokines while Probes and Calibrator kits are assigned for a given cytokine specific mRNA. The Base Kit and Probes and Calibrator Kits can also be purchased individually for multi-analyte analysis. This product is being distributed exclusively in India by Delhi-based Biotech India.

For further details, contact: *info@biotechindia.com*

Millipore introduces High Throughput Syringe Filters

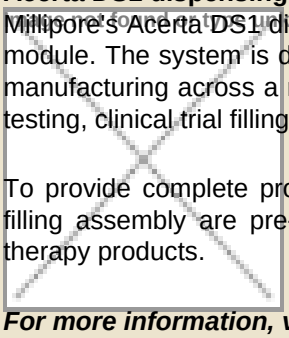


Millipore has announced the availability of 33 mm Sample Preparation Millex syringe filters with Millipore Express PLUS polyethersulfone (PES) membrane. The syringe filters are used for general particulate filtration prior to high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) or other instrument analysis. The syringe filters allow the removal of fine particles to protect chromatography columns from premature plugging.

The filter's Millipore Express PLUS membrane provides rapid flow rates and high throughput for the sterilization and clarification of 10 to 200 mL of aqueous and mild organic solutions. The low-protein binding membrane delivers twice the throughput of other membrane types.

Blotting membrane
Millipore has also announced the availability of its Immobilon-FL membrane, the first western blotting membrane specifically optimized for fluorescence applications. The background fluorescence of this polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) microporous membrane is nearly 10 times lower than typical PVDF membranes and 2 to 5 times lower than nitrocellulose membranes. As a result, the new membrane offers greater sensitivity and improved protein detection with fluorescent reagents.

Acerta DS1 dispensing system



Millipore's Acerta DS1 dispensing system, a single-head liquid filling unit, utilizes a pre-assembled, sterile disposable filling module. The system is designed for final sterile injectables and diagnostics in biotechnology and classical pharmaceutical manufacturing across a range of fill weights and applications. This includes process development, new drug development testing, clinical trial filling and small scale production.

To provide complete product containment for enhanced sterility assurance and operator safety, all contact parts in the filling assembly are pre-assembled and disposable. This makes the Acerta DS1 system ideal for cytotoxic and gene therapy products.

For more information, visit *www.millipore.com*