



Monthly Fluidics Station Decontamination Protocol

To maintain your Fluidics Station in the best possible working condition, we recommend that the following decontamination protocol be performed on your fluidics station **at least once a month**, in addition to the weekly cleaning described above. The protocol requires approximately 2 hours to run.

This protocol ensures that all of the tubing associated with the station is kept thoroughly clean. Keeping this tubing as clean as possible ensures that array images will be optimized and high quality results will be obtained.

1. Prepare 2 liters of 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution using distilled water. Mix well.
2. Place all three wash lines of the fluidics station in 1 liter of 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution.
3. Run the Prime protocol ([page 2.4.8](#)) on all four modules with wash lines in 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution (instead of wash buffers A and B).
4. Run the Shutdown protocol ([page 2.4.16](#)) on all four modules with wash lines in 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution (instead of distilled water).
5. Follow Bleach Protocol (as described on [page 5.1.4](#)) with the following change in [Step 3](#): place the three wash lines of the fluidics station in 1 liter of 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution instead of distilled water.
6. Change intake tubing and peristaltic tubing, if required (as described in the *Affymetrix GeneChip® Fluidics Station 400 User's Guide*).
7. Run the **Bleach** protocol with three wash lines of the fluidics station in distilled water.
8. Run the **Prime** protocol with wash lines in distilled water (instead of wash buffers A and B).
9. Run the **Shutdown** protocol with wash lines in distilled water.
10. Run the **Prime** protocol with wash lines in distilled water (instead of wash buffers A and B).
11. Run the **Shutdown** protocol with distilled water.

At the end of each step, the fluidics station will indicate a 'ready' status. The fluidics station should not be used until this entire procedure (steps 1-11) is complete.

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