



## Weekly Fluidics Station Clean-out

A cleaning protocol is recommended for fluidics station maintenance if the antibody staining procedure is used. Choose **Bleach** for all modules from the drop-down list in the Fluidics Station dialog box. Click the **Run** button for all modules and follow LCD instructions.

### **Bleach Protocol**

This protocol is designed to eliminate any residual SAPE-antibody complex that may be present in the fluidics station tubing and needles. We recommend running this protocol at least once a week.

1. Prepare 1 liter of 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution using distilled water. Shake well.
2. Cut at least two feet of plastic tubing for each module of each fluidics station. These can be reused for subsequent BLEACH runs.
3. Place all three wash lines of each fluidics station in 1 liter of distilled water.
4. Choose **Fluidics** from the **Run** menu. Alternatively, click the down arrow Protocol list on the toolbar.
5. Choose **Bleach** for the respective modules in the **Protocol** drop-down list.
6. Disengage washblock for each module.
7. Connect one end of the plastic tubing to the needle at the bottom of each module and insert the other end into 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution (at least 200 mL for all four modules).
8. **ENGAGE** washblock. The fluidics station will empty the lines and perform three cleaning cycles of 10 rinses each using bleach solution.
9. When the fluidics station LCD window displays **Remove Tube from Needle**, carefully remove tubing from each module needle by pushing the tubing down with one hand while holding the needle with the other.
10. Load empty microcentrifuge tube onto each module. The fluidics station will empty the lines and run three cycles with three rinses each. In addition, the fluidics station will rinse the needle 20 times, twice using distilled water, then bring the temperature back to 25°C and drain the lines with air.
11. The LCD display will read **CLEANING DONE**.

*Each fluidics station with four modules requires at least 200 mL of the 0.525% sodium hypochlorite solution.*

*The BLEACH protocol requires at least 550 L of distilled water.*

*Temperature will ramp up to 50 °C.*

*Do not pull the tube as this may damage the needle in the process.*