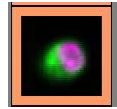


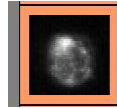

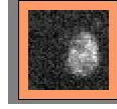

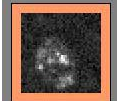
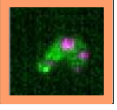







Supplementary Table 1. Table illustrating the criteria with which a cell was considered viable, or apoptotic either due to positive M-30 staining and/or visual evidence of apoptosis (nucleic condensation and/or fragmentation and granular CK).

Category	CTC composite image	Relative M-30 staining	Description	CTC Y/N	M-30 positive Y/N	Morphologically apoptotic Y/N	
Perfect event			Intact cell satisfying the morphology features	Y	N	N	Viable cell
			Intact cell satisfying the morphology features	Y	Y	N	Early apoptotic CTC
Apoptotic event due to M-30+			Nucleic condensation and/or fragmentation	Y	Y	N/Y	Early apoptotic CTC
Apoptotic cells due to M-30+			Granular CK	Y	Y	N/Y	Early apoptotic CTC
Morphologically apoptotic			Nucleic condensation and fragmentation	Y	N	Y	Late apoptotic event
Morphologically apoptotic			Granular CK	Y	N	Y	Late apoptotic event
Cell fragments			Completely broken cells, but part of the nucleus is still surrounded by the CK	N	NA		

Legend: Y= Yes, N= No