High Back Pressure issue – FA/FP/ZAG

*High back pressure* above zero, can lead to several problems in parallel CE instruments.

This is mostly characterized by an uneven gel fill in the capillaries and delayed migrations. Slowed migration slowing is commonly most visible as it affects the upper marker or slow resolving peaks (as it compares to the end of the run)

An ideal back pressure is negative (or around neutral 0) PSI and trending down. Back pressure profiles may have a good deal of up/down movement and some leeway is accepted.

It is important to note that good, trusted data can be gathered with “non-ideal” back pressure profiles. A slightly positive and/or increasing profile does not necessarily mean that the run will have issues. Some runs with positive back pressure may not show signs of any issues.

To correct perceived issues with back pressure levels, we recommend following the user manual regarding vent valve flushing. Instructions for cleaning the valve can also be obtained by navigating to “*Utilities->Clean Reservoir Vent Valve”* in the instrument controller software.