

## Immortalized HK/FDC Cells | 300205

### General information

#### Description

The immortalized HK/FDC cell line is a genetically stabilized derivative of the original HK follicular dendritic cell-like cells, retaining key phenotypic and functional characteristics while enabling extended propagation without the senescence-associated limitations of the parental culture. Immortalization was achieved through the introduction of defined genetic elements that bypass replicative arrest, facilitating consistent long-term studies of germinal center biology and FDC-B cell interactions.

Immortalized HK/FDC cells maintain the capacity to bind and co-stimulate germinal center B cells, promote their survival, and enhance their proliferation in the presence of signals such as anti-IgM or CD40 ligation. Importantly, they continue to express adhesion molecules and costimulatory factors characteristic of FDCs, including VCAM-1 and ICAM-1, and secrete soluble mediators that mimic the microenvironmental support provided by native FDCs. These properties make the immortalized HK/FDC line a robust and reproducible model for dissecting the cellular and molecular mechanisms governing B cell maturation, affinity selection, and survival within the germinal center.

**Organism** Human

**Tissue** Tonsil

**Disease** Follicular dendritic reticulum

**Applications** Feeder cell for growth of normal B lymphocytes and lymphomas/leukemias. Studies on B cell development in germinal centers of lymph nodes. Possibly research on virus infection of FDCs

### Characteristics

**Age** Child

**Gender** Unspecified

**Ethnicity** Caucasian

**Morphology** Fibroidal

**Cell type** Follicular dendritic cell

**Growth properties** Adherent

### Regulatory Data

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**Citation** Immortalized HK/FDC (Cytion catalog number 300205)

**Biosafety level** 1

**NCBI\_TaxID** 9606

### Biomolecular Data

**Viruses** Cytion, immortalized by Inscreenex i.A.

### Handling

**Culture Medium** DMEM:Ham's F12 (1:1), w: 3.1 g/L Glucose, w: 2.5 mM L-Glutamine, w: 15 mM HEPES, w: 0.5 mM Sodium pyruvate, w: 1.2 g/L NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (Cytion article number 820400a)

**Supplements** Supplement the medium with 10% FBS

**Dissociation Reagent** Accutase

**Freeze medium** As a cryopreservation medium, we use complete growth medium (including FBS) + 10% DMSO for adequate post-thaw viability, or CM-1 (Cytion catalog number 800100), which includes optimized osmoprotectants and metabolic stabilizers to enhance recovery and reduce cryo-induced stress.

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### Thawing and Culturing Cells

1. Confirm that the vial remains deeply frozen upon delivery, as cells are shipped on dry ice to maintain optimal temperatures during transit.
2. Upon receipt, either store the cryovial immediately at temperatures below  $-150^{\circ}\text{C}$  to ensure the preservation of cellular integrity, or proceed to step 3 if immediate culturing is required.
3. For immediate culturing, swiftly thaw the vial by immersing it in a  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  water bath with clean water and an antimicrobial agent, agitating gently for 40-60 seconds until a small ice clump remains.
4. Perform all subsequent steps under sterile conditions in a flow hood, disinfecting the cryovial with 70% ethanol before opening.
5. Carefully open the disinfected vial and transfer the cell suspension into a 15 ml centrifuge tube containing 8 ml of room-temperature culture medium, mixing gently.
6. Centrifuge the mixture at  $300 \times g$  for 3 minutes to separate the cells and carefully discard the supernatant containing residual freezing medium.
7. Gently resuspend the cell pellet in 10 ml of fresh culture medium. For adherent cells, divide the suspension between two T25 culture flasks; for suspension cultures, transfer all the medium into one T25 flask to promote effective cell interaction and growth.
8. Adhere to established subculture protocols for continued growth and maintenance of the cell line, ensuring reliable experimental outcomes.

### Incubation Atmosphere

$37^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 5%  $\text{CO}_2$ , humidified atmosphere.

### Flask Coating

None

### Shipping Conditions

Cryopreserved cell lines are shipped on dry ice in validated, insulated packaging with sufficient refrigerant to maintain approximately  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  throughout transit. On receipt, inspect the container immediately and transfer vials without delay to appropriate storage.

### Storage Conditions

For long-term preservation, place vials in vapor-phase liquid nitrogen at about  $-150$  to  $-196^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Storage at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  is acceptable only as a short interim step before transfer to liquid nitrogen.

## Quality Control & Molecular Analysis

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### **Sterility**

Mycoplasma contamination is excluded using both PCR-based assays and luminescence-based mycoplasma detection methods.

To ensure there is no bacterial, fungal, or yeast contamination, cell cultures are subjected to daily visual inspections.