

**SK-BR-3 Cells | 300333****General information****Description**

SK-BR-3 cells are a human breast cancer cell line isolated from the pleural effusion of a 43-year-old female patient with metastatic breast cancer. SKBR3 cells were established in the early 1970s and are known for their overexpression of the human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2), a receptor tyrosine kinase that plays a critical role in the pathogenesis and progression of certain types of breast cancer.

The cell line is characterized by genetic aberrations common in breast cancer, including amplification of the HER2 gene and mutations in the p53 tumor suppressor gene. The overexpression of HER2 in SK-BR-3 cells makes them a valuable model for studying HER2-positive breast cancer, which is characterized by aggressive growth and a poor prognosis, and for HER2-targeted therapies. SK-BR-3 cells have been instrumental in the study of trastuzumab (Herceptin), a monoclonal antibody against HER2 that has become a cornerstone in the treatment of HER2-positive breast cancer.

SK-BR-3 cells exhibit a robust in vitro growth rate and have been used in a variety of experimental setups, including studies on cell signaling, drug resistance, apoptosis, and the cancer cell cycle. These cells are also a key resource for the production of monoclonal antibodies and for research into the immune response to breast cancer cells.

In summary, the SK-BR-3 cell line is an indispensable tool in breast cancer research, offering profound insights into the biology of HER2-positive tumors and facilitating the development of targeted therapies that have significantly improved the outlook for patients with this challenging form of cancer.

**Organism**

Human

**Tissue**

Breast, mammary gland

**Disease**

Invasive ductal carcinoma

**Metastatic site**

Pleural effusion

**Synonyms**

SK-Br-3, Sk-Br-3, SK BR 03, SKBR-3, SKBr-3, SK-BR3, SKBr3, SkBr3, SKBR3

**Characteristics****Age**

43 years

**Gender**

Female

**Ethnicity**

Caucasian

**Morphology**

Epithelial-like

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**Growth properties** Monolayer, adherent

### Identifiers / Biosafety / Citation

**Citation** SK-BR-3 (Cytion catalog number 300333)

**Biosafety level** 1

### Expression / Mutation

**Protein expression** p53 positive

**Antigen expression** Blood Type A, Rh+, HLA A11, Bw22(+/-), B40, B18

**Isoenzymes** PGM3, 1, PGM1, 1-2, ES-D, 1, AK-1, 1-2, GLO-1, 2, G6PD, B, Phenotype Frequency Product: 0.0044

**Tumorigenic** Yes, in nude mice, forms poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma

**Mutational profile** TP53 mut

**Karyotype** (P9) hypertriploid to hypotetraploid (+A, +B, +C, +E, +F, +G, -D) with abnormalities including dicentrics, acrocentric fragments, rings, secondary constrictions, large metacentrics or polycentrics and large submetacentric marker

### Handling

**Culture Medium** DMEM, w: 4.5 g/L Glucose, w: 4 mM L-Glutamine, w: 1.5 g/L NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, w: 1.0 mM Sodium pyruvate (Cytion article number 820300a)

**Medium supplements** Supplement the medium with 10% FBS

**Passaging solution** Accutase

**Doubling time** 30 hours

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|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Subculturing</b>      | Remove the old medium from the adherent cells and wash them with PBS that lacks calcium and magnesium. For T25 flasks, use 3-5 ml of PBS, and for T75 flasks, use 5-10 ml. Then, cover the cells completely with Accutase, using 1-2 ml for T25 flasks and 2.5 ml for T75 flasks. Let the cells incubate at room temperature for 8-10 minutes to detach them. After incubation, gently mix the cells with 10 ml of medium to resuspend them, then centrifuge at 300xg for 3 minutes. Discard the supernatant, resuspend the cells in fresh medium, and transfer them into new flasks that already contain fresh medium. |
| <b>Split ratio</b>       | A ratio of 1:2 to 1:4 is recommended                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Seeding density</b>   | Start culture from cryovial at $3 \times 10^4$ cells/cm <sup>2</sup> . Use $2 \times 10^4$ cells/cm <sup>2</sup> for continued subcultures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Fluid renewal</b>     | 2 to 3 times per week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Freezing recovery</b> | After thawing, plate the cells at $5 \times 10^4$ cells/cm <sup>2</sup> and allow the cells to recover from the freezing process and to adhere for at least 24 hours.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Freeze medium</b>     | CM-1 (Cytion catalog number 800100) or CM-ACF (Cytion catalog number 806100)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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#### Handling of cryopreserved cultures

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°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°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 x g for 3 minutes to separate the cells and carefully discard the supernatant containing residual freezing medium. Optionally, skip centrifugation but remove any remaining freezing medium after 24 hours.
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.

## Quality control / Genetic profile / HLA

#### 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.

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#### STR profile

**Amelogenin:** x,x  
**CSF1PO:** 12  
**D13S317:** 11,12  
**D16S539:** 9  
**D5S818:** 9,12  
**D7S820:** 9,12  
**TH01:** 8,9  
**TPOX:** 8,11  
**vWA:** 17  
**D3S1358:** 17  
**D21S11:** 30,30.2  
**D18S51:** 10,13  
**Penta E:** 10,11  
**Penta D:** 9,12  
**D8S1179:** 11,12  
**FGA:** 20

#### HLA alleles

**A\*:** 02:01:01, 03:01:01  
**B\*:** 14:02:01, 40:01:02  
**C\*:** 03:04:01, 08:02:01  
**DRB1\*:** 07:01:01, 13:02:01  
**DQA1\*:** 01:02:01, 02:01:01  
**DQB1\*:** 02:02:01, 06:04:01  
**DPB1\*:** 03:01:01  
**E:** 01:01, 01:03