

HEK293-CLDN18.2 Cells | 305986

Description

Disclaimer: The prices displayed for cell lines are exclusively for academic/not-for-profit customers. For commercial entities the price is approximately €6,250.

If you represent a commercial entity or are unsure which category applies, please [contact us](#).

HEK293-CLDN18.2 cells are human embryonic kidney 293 (HEK293) cells engineered to stably express human claudin 18 isoform 2 (CLDN18.2), a tight junction-associated transmembrane protein belonging to the claudin family. CLDN18.2 is a gastric lineage-specific isoform normally restricted to differentiated gastric mucosal epithelial cells, where its extracellular domains are largely inaccessible under physiological conditions. In malignant transformation, disruption of epithelial polarity and tight junction architecture exposes CLDN18.2 on the tumor cell surface, leading to its overexpression and accessibility in several cancers, including gastric adenocarcinoma, gastroesophageal junction cancer, pancreatic cancer, and other gastrointestinal malignancies. Because of its highly restricted normal tissue distribution and tumor-associated exposure, CLDN18.2 has emerged as a clinically important therapeutic target in oncology.

HEK293-CLDN18.2 cells are widely used for development and characterization of CLDN18.2-targeted therapeutics, including monoclonal antibodies, antibody-drug conjugates, bispecific antibodies, CAR-T and CAR-NK cell therapies, and targeted imaging agents. The stable recombinant expression system enables quantitative analysis of antigen binding affinity, epitope specificity, receptor density, internalization kinetics, and target-dependent cytotoxicity. These cells are also commonly employed in flow cytometry assays, reporter assays, antibody screening workflows, and immune effector functional studies designed to evaluate antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) or complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC). Because HEK293 cells support robust recombinant membrane protein expression and efficient propagation, they provide a reliable platform for standardized CLDN18.2 assay development and therapeutic validation.

Organism Human

Tissue Fetal Kidney

Disease Transformed/immortalized; non-tumorigenic (HEK293 background)

Applications CLDN18.2-targeted antibody and ADC development; CAR-T/CAR-NK cell therapy; ADCC/CDC assays; flow cytometry; gastric/GEJ/pancreatic cancer therapeutics

Age Fetus

Gender Female

Morphology Epithelial-like

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Cell type	Epithelial cells
Growth properties	Monolayer, adherent
Citation	HEK293-CLDN18.2 (Cytion catalog number 305986)
Biosafety level	1
NCBI_TaxID	9606
CellosaurusAccession	CVCL_E5J2
GMO Status	GMO-S1: This HEK293 cell line contains a CLDN18.2 expression construct for tight junction antigen studies and targeted cancer therapy development. This classification applies only within Germany and may differ elsewhere.
Surface antigens	CLDN18.2
Receptors expressed	CDLN18.2
Culture Medium	RPMI 1640, w: 2.0 mM stable Glutamine, w: 2.0 g/L NaHCO ₃ (Cytion article number 820700a)
Supplements	Supplement the medium with 10% FBS, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 10 mM HEPES, 1% NEAA. Add Geneticin (G418-Sulfat) to achieve a final concentration of 1 mg/mL.
Dissociation Reagent	Trypsin-EDTA
Doubling time	approx. 24-36 hours

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Subculturing For routine adherent cell culture: Aspirate the old culture medium from the adherent cells, and wash them with PBS to remove any remaining medium. After aspirating the PBS, add the appropriate volume of Trypsin/EDTA solution based on the culture vessel size (e.g., 1 ml for a T25 flask, 3 ml for a T75 flask) and incubate at room temperature or 37°C until the cells detach (5-10 minutes). Monitor detachment under a microscope, and gently tap the vessel if necessary to release the cells. Once detached, add complete medium to inactivate the Trypsin/EDTA, gently resuspend the cells, and transfer an aliquot of the cell suspension into a new culture vessel containing fresh medium. Place the vessel in an incubator set to 37°C with 5% CO₂, and change the medium every 2-3 days.

Split ratio 1 to 5

Seeding density 2 to 4 x 10⁴ cells/cm²

Fluid renewal 2 to 3 times per week

Post-Thaw Recovery After thawing, split the cells at a ratio of 1:2 to 1:3 in T25 flasks and allow the cells to recover from the freezing process and to adhere (for adherent cultures) for at least 24 hours.

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°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 $300 \times g$ 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°C , 5% CO_2 , humidified atmosphere.

Shipping Conditions

Cryopreserved cell lines are shipped on dry ice in validated, insulated packaging with sufficient refrigerant to maintain approximately -78°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°C . Storage at -80°C is acceptable only as a short interim step before transfer to liquid nitrogen.

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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.