



# *Tetrahymena thermophila* Nanney and McCoy

30008™

## Description

**Strain designation:** WH-14 (WHII)

**Deposited As:** *Tetrahymena thermophila* Nanney and McCoy

**Type strain:** Yes

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## Storage Conditions

**Product format:** Test tube

**Storage conditions:** See handling procedure

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## Intended Use

This product is intended for laboratory research use only. It is not intended for any animal or human therapeutic use, any human or animal consumption, or any diagnostic use.

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## BSL 1

ATCC determines the biosafety level of a material based on our risk assessment as guided by the current edition of *Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL)*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is your responsibility to understand the hazards associated with the material per your organization's policies and procedures as well as any other applicable regulations as enforced by your local or national agencies.

ATCC highly recommends that appropriate personal protective equipment is always used when handling vials. For cultures that require storage in liquid nitrogen, it is important to note that some vials may leak when submersed in liquid nitrogen and will slowly fill with liquid nitrogen. Upon thawing, the conversion of the liquid nitrogen back to its gas phase may result in the vial exploding or blowing off its cap with dangerous force creating flying debris. Unless necessary, ATCC recommends that these cultures be stored in the vapor phase of liquid nitrogen rather than submersed in liquid nitrogen.

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## Certificate of Analysis

For batch-specific test results, refer to the applicable certificate of analysis that can be found at [www.atcc.org](http://www.atcc.org).

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## Growth Conditions

### Medium:

ATCC Medium 357: *Tetrahymena* medium

ATCC Medium 1034: Modified PYNFH medium (Available from ATCC as ATCC cat. no. 327-X)

ATCC Medium 383: Haskins agar for *Tetrahymena*

**Instructions for complete medium: Media:** ATCC Medium 357 is used for short-term cultivation.

**Alternate Media:** ATCC Medium 1034 can also be used for short-term cultivation and is available in a freeze-dried format from ATCC; ATCC Medium 383 is used for long-term c

**Temperature:** 25°C

**Culture system:** Axenic

## Handling Procedures

### Handling Test Tube Cultures

This strain is routinely shipped as a growing culture in a glass 16 x 125 mm screw-capped test tube. The volume of the cell suspension is approximately 5 ml. When the culture arrives remove it promptly from the shipping container. **Do not store the culture at refrigeration temperatures before handling.** To assure viability, immediately loosen the test tube cap and incubate upright at 25°C for at least one hour before observing the culture. There should be numerous active trophozoites in suspension. If the numbers are low the culture may have been exposed to temperature extremes in transit. Regardless of the state of the culture, aseptically transfer a 0.5 ml aliquot to a 16 x 125 mm screw-capped test tube containing 5 ml of sterilized ATCC medium 357. Incubate the parent and daughter cultures upright with the caps on loosely at 25°C.

### Culture maintenance:

#### Routine Short-Term Maintenance of Culture:

1. Inoculate 5.0 ml of ATCC medium 357 with 0.1 ml from a *Tetrahymena* culture at or near peak density.
2. Incubate upright at 25°C with cap loosened one half turn.
3. For routine maintenance subculture every 10-14 d.

#### Routine Long-Term Maintenance of Culture:

1. Screw the cap on tightly of a *Tetrahymena* culture at or near peak density and invert several times. Aseptically transfer 0.1 ml aliquot to a fresh vessel of ATCC medium 383.
2. Loosen caps one half turn and incubate vertically at 25°C for 1 d.
3. Place cultures at 15°C for 3-6 wk.
4. For routine maintenance subculture every 3-6 wk; repeat steps 3-5.

### Cryopreservation:

1. Transfer *Tetrahymena* from usual growth medium to ATCC Medium 1034 and allow to grow to near peak density.
2. Harvest cells from a culture by centrifugation at 300 x g for 2 min.
3. Adjust concentration of cells to  $2 \times 10^6$ /ml in fresh medium.
4. While cells are centrifuging, prepare a 22% (v/v) sterile solution of sterile DMSO in fresh medium.

- a. Add 2.2 ml of DMSO to an ice cold 20 x 150 mm screw-capped test tube;
  - b. Place the tube on ice and allow the DMSO to solidify (~5 min) and then add 7.8 ml of ice cold medium;
  - c. Invert several times to dissolve the DMSO;
  - d. Allow to warm to room temperature.
5. Add a volume of the DMSO solution equal to the cell suspension volume but add in 3 equal aliquots at 2 min intervals. Thus, the final concentration of the preparation will equal 11% (v/v) DMSO and  $10^6$  cells/ml.
  6. Dispense in 0.5 ml aliquots into 1.0 - 2.0 ml sterile plastic screw-capped cryules (special plastic vials for cryopreservation).
  7. Place the ampules in a controlled rate freezing unit. The cooling cycle should be initiated no less than 15 min and no longer than 60 min after the addition of the DMSO to the cell preparation. From room temperature cool at  $-1^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$  to  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ . If freezing unit can compensate for the heat of fusion, maintain rate at  $-1^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$  through heat of fusion. At  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$  ampules are plunged into liquid nitrogen.
  8. Store in the vapor or liquid phase of a nitrogen refrigerator.
  9. To establish a culture from the frozen state aseptically add 0.5 ml of sterile modified PYNFH medium (ATCC Medium 1034) containing 8% (w/v) sucrose to the ampule. Immediately, place in a  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$  water bath, until thawed. Immerse the ampule just sufficient to cover the frozen material. Do not agitate the ampule.
  10. Immediately after thawing, aseptically remove the contents of the ampule and gently add the material to the edge of a 20 x 100 mm Petri plate containing ATCC Medium 919 (non-nutrient agar) and position on a 15 degree slant. The cell suspension will pool at the edge of the plate.
  11. Continue to double the volume of the cell suspension at 10 minute intervals by adding ATCC medium 1034) containing 4% sucrose (w/v). When the volume reaches 16.0 ml place the plate in horizontal position and incubate at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
  12. On the following day, gently remove the cell suspension for the plate and transfer to a T-25 tissue culture flask. Note the volume of the suspension and add a volume of fresh medium containing 4% sucrose equal to the volume of the cell suspension. Incubate the culture at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
  13. After culture has been established subculture into fresh normal medium without sucrose.

## Material Citation

If use of this material results in a scientific publication, please cite the material in the following manner: *Tetrahymena thermophila* Nanney and McCoy (ATCC 30008)

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## References

References and other information relating to this material are available at [www.atcc.org](http://www.atcc.org).

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## Revision

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***Tetrahymena thermophila* Nanney and McCoy**  
**30008**

Product Sheet

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