



Primary Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells; Normal, Human, Pooled (HUVEC)

PCS-100-013™

Description

ATCC Normal Primary Human Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells, Pooled (Pooled HUVEC), when grown in Vascular Cell Basal Media supplemented with Endothelial Cell Growth Kit components, provide an ideal cell system to propagate HUVEC in low serum conditions with or without the addition of human recombinant VEGF. The cells are cryopreserved in the second passage to ensure the highest viability and plating efficiency. ATCC primary pooled HUVECs are derived from 10 individual donors, thus minimizing the variability associated with cells derived from a single donor. ATCC Primary Cell Solutions cells, media, supplements, and reagents are quality-tested together to guarantee optimum performance and reliability.

Organism: *Homo sapiens*, human

Cell Type: endothelial cell

Tissue: Umbilical cord

Age: neonate

Gender: Lot-specific

Morphology: Cobblestone appearance with large dark nuclei; during proliferation, cells are small and evenly sized, display a high mitotic index and show no presence of smooth muscle cells.

Growth properties: Adherent

Disease: Normal

Cells per vial: $\geq 5.0 \times 10^5$

Volume: 1.0 mL

Storage Conditions

Product format: Frozen

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Storage conditions: Vapor phase of liquid nitrogen

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.

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.

All tissues used for isolation are obtained under informed consent and conform to HIPAA regulations to protect the privacy of the donor's Personally Identifiable Information. It is best to use caution when handling any human cells. We recommend that all human cells be accorded the same level of biosafety consideration as cells known to carry Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and other bloodborne pathogens. With infectious virus assays or viral antigen assays, even a negative test result may not exclude the possibility of the existence of a latent viral genome or infectious viral particles below the lower limit of detection of that assay.

ATCC recommends that appropriate safety procedures be used when handling all primary cells and cell lines, especially those derived from human or other primate material. Handle as a potentially biohazardous material using universal precautions. Cells derived from primate lymphoid tissue may fall under the regulations of 29 CFR 1910.1030 Bloodborne Pathogens.

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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 submerged 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 submerged in liquid nitrogen.

Certificate of Analysis

For batch-specific test results, refer to the applicable certificate of analysis that can be found at www.atcc.org.

Handling Procedures

Unpacking and storage instructions:

1. Check all containers for leakage or breakage.
2. Remove the frozen cells from the dry ice packaging and immediately place the cells at a temperature below -130°C , preferably in liquid nitrogen vapor, until ready for use.

Complete medium:

1. Obtain one growth kit from the freezer; make sure that the caps of all components are tight.
2. Thaw the components of the growth kit just prior to adding them to the basal medium. It is necessary to warm the L-glutamine component in a 37°C water bath and shake to dissolve any precipitates prior to adding to the basal medium.
3. Obtain one bottle of Vascular Cell Basal Medium (475 mL) from cold storage.
4. Decontaminate the external surfaces of all growth kit component vials and the

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basal medium bottle by spraying them with 70% ethanol.

5. Using aseptic technique, and working in a laminar flow hood or biosafety cabinet, transfer the volume of each growth kit component, as indicated below, to the bottle of basal medium using a separate sterile pipette for each transfer. **Note:** for clarification on which Endothelial Growth Kit to use refer to [FAQs](#) | [ATCC](#).

A. If using the Endothelial Cell Growth Kit-BBE (ATCC PCS-100-040), add the indicated volume for each component:

- Bovine Brain Extract (BBE), 1.0 mL (Final concentration 0.2%)
- rh EGF 0.5 mL (Final concentration 5 ng/mL)
- L-glutamine, 25.0 mL (Final concentration 10 mM)
- Heparin sulfate, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 0.75 Units/mL)
- Hydrocortisone hemisuccinate, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 1 µg/mL)
- Fetal Bovine Serum, 10.0 mL (Final concentration 2%)
- Ascorbic acid, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 50 µg/mL)

B. If using the Endothelial Cell Growth Kit-VEGF (ATCC PCS-100-041), add the indicated volume for each component:

- rh VEGF, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 5 ng/mL)
- rh EGF, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 5 ng/mL)
- rh FGF basic, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 5 ng/mL)
- rh IGF-1, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 15 ng/mL)
- L-glutamine, 25.0 mL (Final concentration 10 mM)
- Heparin sulfate, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 0.75 Units/mL)
- Hydrocortisone hemisuccinate, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 1 µg/mL)
- Fetal Bovine Serum, 10.0 mL (Final concentration 2%)
- Ascorbic acid, 0.5 mL (Final concentration 50 µg/mL)

C. Addition of Antimicrobials/Antimycotics and Phenol Red (Optional):

- Gentamicin-Amphotericin B Solution, 0.5 mL, (Gentamicin: 10 µg/mL, Amphotericin B: 0.25 µg/mL) **(Recommend discarding, do not use-see note below)**
- Penicillin-Streptomycin-Amphotericin B Solution, 0.5 mL, (Penicillin: 10 Units/mL) **(Recommend discarding, do not use-see note below)**
- Streptomycin: 10 µg/mL, Amphotericin B: 25 ng/mL) **(Recommend discarding, do not use-see note below)**
- Phenol Red, 0.5 mL, 33 µM

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Note: If possible, avoid using antibiotics. The antimicrobial/antimycotic solutions are optional and should be discarded if not required. Overuse or unnecessary inclusion of these additives can hinder cell growth.

6. Tightly cap the bottle of complete growth medium and swirl the contents gently to assure a homogeneous solution. Do not shake forcefully to avoid foaming. Label and date the bottle.
7. Complete growth media should be stored in the dark at 2°C to 8°C (do not freeze). When stored under these conditions, complete growth media is stable for 30 days.

Note: To maintain media integrity and ensure optimal cell culture performance, complete media should be aliquoted to avoid repeated freeze-thaw or cold-warm cycles. Additionally, complete media should be used within one month of preparation and should not be left at room temperature or warmed for more than 30 minutes at a time.

Reagents for subculture::

1. D-PBS (ATCC 30-2200)
2. Trypsin-EDTA for Primary Cells (ATCC PCS-999-003) containing 0.05% Trypsin and 0.02% EDTA. Note: Do not use other Trypsin-EDTA concentrations with ATCC PCS-100-013.
3. Trypsin Neutralizing Solution (ATCC PCS-999-004)

Required media: One bottle of Vascular Cell Basal Medium (ATCC PCS-100-030) plus one Endothelial Cell Growth Kit of either:

1. Endothelial Cell Growth Kit-BBE (ATCC PCS-100-040) containing each of the following growth supplements: Bovine Brain Extract, rh EGF, L-glutamine, heparin sulfate, hydrocortisone hemisuccinate, Fetal Bovine Serum, and ascorbic acid.
2. Endothelial Cell Growth Kit-VEGF (ATCC PCS-100-041) containing each of the following growth supplements: rh VEGF, rh EGF, rh FGF basic, rh IGF-1, ascorbic acid, L-glutamine, heparin sulfate, hydrocortisone hemisuccinate and Fetal Bovine Serum.

3. Optional media supplements:

1. Gentamicin-Amphotericin B Solution (ATCC PCS-999-025)
2. Penicillin-Streptomycin-Amphotericin B Solution (ATCC PCS-999-002)
3. Phenol Red (ATCC PCS-999-001)

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4. Handling Procedure:

1. Refer to the Certificate of Analysis for the total number of viable cells recovered from this lot of ATCC® PCS-100-013.
2. Using the total number of viable cells, determine how much surface area can be inoculated to achieve an initial seeding density between 2,500 and 5,000 cells per cm². **Note:** More than 1 culture vessel may be needed. The practice of seeding one vial into a single flask often results in overcrowding.

Cell Counting Before Plating: Relying solely on the Certificate of Analysis (COA) for cell number without actual counting is not recommended. It is crucial to count cells before plating, as these cells are highly sensitive to seeding density. Over-seeding can lead to rapid confluence, limiting the opportunity for expansion.

3. Prepare the desired combination of flasks. Add 5 mL of complete growth media per 25 cm² of surface area. Place the flasks in a 37°C, 5% CO₂, humidified incubator and allow the media to pre-equilibrate to temperature and pH for 30 minutes prior to adding cells.

Note: The practice of seeding one vial into a single flask often results in overcrowding. At 5,000 cells/cm², one vial containing 500,000 cells, can be distributed into four 25 cm² flasks or one 75 cm² flask and one T25 flask.

Note: Thicker plastic (e.g., Corning flasks) is preferable. Thinner plastics (e.g., Falcon) may cause static issues.

4. While the culture flasks equilibrate, remove one vial of ATCC® PCS-100-010 from storage and thaw the cells by gentle agitation in a 37°C water bath. To reduce the possibility of contamination, keep the O-ring and cap out of the water. Thawing should be rapid (approximately 1 to 2 minutes).
5. Remove the vial from the water bath as soon as the contents are thawed, and decontaminate by dipping in or spraying with 70% ethanol. All operations from this point onward should be carried out under strict aseptic conditions.
6. Add the appropriate volume of complete growth media [volume = (1 mL x number of flasks to be seeded) - 1 mL] into a sterile conical tube. Using a sterile pipette, transfer the cells from the cryovial to the conical tube. Gently pipette the cells to homogenize the suspension. Do not centrifuge.

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7. Transfer 1.0 mL of the cell suspension to each of the pre-equilibrated culture flasks prepared in steps 1 to 3 of Handling Procedure for Frozen Cells and Initiation of Culture. Pipette gently several times, then cap and gently rock each flask to evenly distribute the cells.
8. Place the seeded culture flasks in the incubator at 37°C with a 5% CO₂ atmosphere. Incubate for at least 24 hours before processing the cells further.

5. Subculturing procedure:

1. Passage normal HUVEC cells when culture has reached approximately 80% confluence.
Note: Do not exceed 80% confluence. High confluence can lead to differentiation and make trypsinization difficult due to strong adherence.
2. Warm both the Trypsin-EDTA for Primary Cells (ATCC PCS-999-003) and the Trypsin Neutralizing Solution (ATCC PCS-999-004) to room temperature prior to dissociation. Warm complete growth medium to 37°C prior to use with the cells.
3. For each flask, carefully aspirate the spent media without disturbing the monolayer.
4. Rinse the cell layer two times with 3 to 5 mL D-PBS (ATCC 30-2200) to remove residual traces of serum.
5. Add pre-warmed trypsin-EDTA solution (1 to 2 mL for every 25 cm²) to each flask.
6. Gently rock each flask to ensure complete coverage of the trypsin-EDTA solution over the cells, and then aspirate the excess fluid off of the monolayer.
7. Observe the cells under the microscope. When the cells pull away from each other and round up (typically within 3 to 5 minutes), remove the flask from the microscope and gently tap it from several sides to promote detachment of the cells from the flask surface.
8. When the majority of cells appear to have detached, quickly add an equal volume of Trypsin Neutralizing Solution (ATCC PCS-999-004) to each flask. Gently pipette or swirl the culture to ensure all of the trypsin-EDTA solution has been neutralized.
9. Transfer the dissociated cells to a sterile centrifuge tube and set aside while processing any remaining cells in the flask.
10. Add 3 to 5 mL D-PBS (ATCC 30-2200) to the flask to collect any additional

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cells that might have been left behind.

11. Transfer the cell/D-PBS suspension to the centrifuge tube containing the trypsin-EDTA-dissociated cells.
12. Repeat steps 10 and 11 as needed until all cells have been collected from the flask.
13. Centrifuge the cells at: 275 x g; 10 minutes.
14. Aspirate the neutralized dissociation solution from the cell pellet and resuspend the cells in 2 to 8 mL fresh, pre-warmed, complete growth medium.
15. Count the cells and seed new flasks at a density of 2,500 to 5,000 cells per cm².
16. Place newly seeded flasks in a 37°C, 5% CO₂, incubator for at least 24 to 48 hours before processing the cells further. Refer to Maintenance for guidelines on feeding.

6. Culture maintenance:

1. Before beginning, pre-warm complete growth media in a 37°C water bath. This will take between 10 and 30 minutes, depending on the volume. If using a small volume of medium (50 mL or less), warm only the volume needed in a sterile conical tube. **Avoid warming complete growth media multiple times. As mentioned before to maintain media integrity and ensure optimal cell culture performance, complete media should be aliquoted to avoid repeated freeze-thaw or cold-warm cycles. Additionally, complete media should be used within one month of preparation and should not be left at room temperature or warmed for more than 30 minutes at a time.**
2. 24 hours after seeding, remove the cells from the incubator and view each flask under the microscope to determine percent cellular confluence.
3. Carefully remove the spent media without disturbing the monolayer.
4. Add 5 mL of fresh, pre-warmed complete growth media per 25 cm² of surface area and return the flasks to the incubator.
5. After 24 to 48 hours, view each flask under the microscope to determine percent cellular confluence. If not ready to passage, repeat steps 3 and 4 as described above. When cultures have reached approximately 80% confluence, and are actively proliferating (many mitotic figures are visible), it is time to subculture. *Subculture endothelial cells before reaching confluence; post-confluent HUVEC may exhibit slower proliferation after*

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passaging. **Note:** Cells are typically ready to passage after 4 to 7 days in culture when inoculated with 2,500 cells/cm².

Material Citation

If use of this material results in a scientific publication, please cite the material in the following manner: Primary Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells; Normal, Human, Pooled (HUVEC) (ATCC PCS-100-013)

References

References and other information relating to this material are available at www.atcc.org.

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