



# Primary Vaginal Epithelial Cells

PCS-480-010™

Product Sheet

## Description

Primary vaginal epithelial cells were isolated from the vagina and can be used in cancer studies, microbiological organism-to-cell interaction, and toxicity studies.

**Organism:** *Homo sapiens*, human

**Cell Type:** epithelial cell

**Tissue:** Vagina

**Age:** lot-specific

**Gender:** Female

**Morphology:** polygonal, cobblestone appearance

**Growth properties:** Adherent

**Disease:** Normal

**Cells per vial:**  $\geq 1.0 \times 10^6$

**Volume:** 1.0 mL

---

## Storage Conditions

**Product format:** Frozen

**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.

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.

## 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).

---

## Growth Conditions

**Temperature:** 37°C

**Atmosphere:** 5% Air, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>

---

## 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:** One bottle of Vaginal Epithelial Cell Basal Medium (ATCC PCS-480-030) plus Vaginal Epithelial Cell Growth Kit (ATCC PCS-480-040)

**Handling Procedure:** Refer to the batch specific information for the total number of viable cells recovered from this lot of ATCC PCS-480-010

1. Using the total number of viable cells, determine how much surface area can be inoculated to achieve an initial seeding density of between 5000 cells per cm<sup>2</sup>.
2. Prepare the desired combination of flasks. Add 5 mL of complete growth media per 25 cm<sup>2</sup> of surface area. Place the flasks in a 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>, humidified incubator and allow the media to pre-equilibrate to temperature and pH for 30 minutes prior to adding cells.
3. While the culture flasks equilibrate, remove one vial of ATCC PCS-480-010 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).
4. Remove the vial from the water bath as soon as the contents are thawed, and decontaminate by spraying with 70% ethanol. All operations from this point onward should be carried out under strict aseptic conditions.

5. Add 5 mL of complete growth – 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.
6. Count the cells. Plate 5,000 cells per cm<sup>2</sup> into each of the pre-equilibrated culture flasks prepared in steps 1 to 3 of Handling Procedure for Frozen Cells and Initiation of Culture. Gently rock the culture vessel from side to side and front to back to evenly distribute the cells within the vessel.
7. Place the seeded culture flasks in the incubator at 37°C with a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Incubate for at least 48 hours before processing the cells further.

## **Subculturing procedure:**

1. Passage normal vaginal epithelial cells when culture has reached approximately 85 to 100% confluence, and are actively proliferating.
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. Briefly rinse the cell layer with 3 to 5 mL DPBS (ATCC 30-2200) to remove residual traces of serum and then aspirate and discard the DPBS.
5. Add pre-warmed trypsin-EDTA solution (2 to 3 mL for every 25 cm<sup>2</sup>) to each flask.
6. Gently rock each flask to ensure complete coverage of the trypsin-EDTA solution over the cells.
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 are 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 Trypsin Neutralizing Solution to the flask to collect any remaining dissociated cells. Transfer remaining cells into the centrifuge tube.
11. Repeat steps 10 as needed until all cells have been collected from the flask.

12. Centrifuge the cells at 150 x g for 3 to 5 minutes.
  13. Carefully aspirate the neutralized dissociation solution from the cell pellet and re-suspend the cells in 5 to 8 mL fresh, pre-warmed, complete growth medium.
  14. Count the cells and seed new flasks at a density of 5,000 cells per cm<sup>2</sup>.
  15. Place freshly seeded flasks in a 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator for at least 24 to 48 hours before processing the cells further. Refer to Maintenance for guidelines on feeding.
- 

## Material Citation

If use of this material results in a scientific publication, please cite the material in the following manner: Primary Vaginal Epithelial Cells (ATCC PCS-480-010)

---

## References

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

---

## Warranty

The product is provided 'AS IS' and the viability of ATCC® products is warranted for 30 days from the date of shipment, provided that the customer has stored and handled the product according to the information included on the product information sheet, website, and Certificate of Analysis. For living cultures, ATCC lists the media formulation and reagents that have been found to be effective for the product. While other unspecified media and reagents may also produce satisfactory results, a change in the ATCC and/or depositor-recommended protocols may affect the recovery, growth, and/or function of the product. If an alternative medium formulation or reagent is used, the ATCC warranty for viability is no longer valid. Except as expressly set forth herein, no other warranties of any kind are provided, express or implied, including, but not limited to, any implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, manufacture according to cGMP

standards, typicality, safety, accuracy, and/or noninfringement.

---

## Disclaimers

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. Any proposed commercial use is prohibited without a [license from ATCC](#).

While ATCC uses reasonable efforts to include accurate and up-to-date information on this product sheet, ATCC makes no warranties or representations as to its accuracy. Citations from scientific literature and patents are provided for informational purposes only. ATCC does not warrant that such information has been confirmed to be accurate or complete and the customer bears the sole responsibility of confirming the accuracy and completeness of any such information.

This product is sent on the condition that the customer is responsible for and assumes all risk and responsibility in connection with the receipt, handling, storage, disposal, and use of the ATCC product including without limitation taking all appropriate safety and handling precautions to minimize health or environmental risk. As a condition of receiving the material, the customer agrees that any activity undertaken with the ATCC product and any progeny or modifications will be conducted in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines. This product is provided 'AS IS' with no representations or warranties whatsoever except as expressly set forth herein and in no event shall ATCC, its parents, subsidiaries, directors, officers, agents, employees, assigns, successors, and affiliates be liable for indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages of any kind in connection with or arising out of the customer's use of the product. While reasonable effort is made to ensure authenticity and reliability of materials on deposit, ATCC is not liable for damages arising from the misidentification or misrepresentation of such materials.

Please see the material transfer agreement (MTA) for further details regarding the use of this product. The MTA is available at [www.atcc.org](http://www.atcc.org).

---

## Copyright and Trademark Information

# Primary Vaginal Epithelial Cells

PCS-480-010

Product Sheet

© ATCC 2023. All rights reserved.

ATCC is a registered trademark of the American Type Culture Collection.

---

## Revision

This information on this document was last updated on 2024-10-26

---

## Contact Information

ATCC

10801 University Boulevard

Manassas, VA 20110-2209

USA

US telephone: 800-638-6597

Worldwide telephone: +1-703-365-2700

Email: [tech@atcc.org](mailto:tech@atcc.org) or contact your local distributor

---