Unpacking & Storage Instructions

Handling Procedure for Frozen Cells

Handling Procedure for Flask Cultures

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To ensure the highest level of viability, thaw the vial and initiate the culture as soon as possible upon receipt. If upon arrival, continued storage of the frozen culture is necessary, it should be stored in liquid nitrogen vapor phase and not at -70°C. Storage at -70°C will result in loss of viability.

SAFETY PRECAUTION: ATCC highly recommends that protective gloves and clothing always be used and a full face mask always be worn when handling frozen vials. It is important to note that some vials 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 vessel exploding or blowing off its cap with dangerous force creating flying debris.

1. Thaw the vial 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 2 minutes).
2. 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 of the operations from this point on should be carried out under strict aseptic conditions.
3. Transfer the vial contents to a centrifuge tube containing 9.0 ml complete culture medium and spin at approximately 125 x g for 5 to 10 minutes.
4. Resuspend the cell pellet with the recommended complete medium (see the specific batch information for the culture recommended dilution ratio) and dispense into a 25 cm² or a 75 cm² culture flask. It is important to avoid excessive alkalinity of the medium during recovery of the cells. It is suggested that, prior to the addition of the vial contents, the culture vessel containing the complete growth medium be placed into the incubator for at least 15 minutes to allow the medium to reach its normal pH (7.0 to 7.6).
5. Incubate the culture at 37°C in a suitable incubator. A 5% CO₂ in air atmosphere is recommended if using the medium described on this product.

Handling Procedure for Flask Cultures

The flask was seeded with cells (see specific batch information) grown and completely filled with medium at ATCC to prevent loss of cells during shipping.

1. Upon receipt visually examine the culture for macroscopic evidence of any microbial contamination. Using an inverted microscope (preferably equipped with phase-contrast optics), carefully check for any evidence of microbial contamination. Also check to determine if the majority of cells are still attached to the bottom of the flask; during shipping the cultures are sometimes handled roughly and many of the cells often detach and become suspended in the culture medium (but are still viable).
2. If the cells are still attached, aseptically remove all but 5 to 10 ml of the shipping medium. The shipping medium can be saved for reuse. Incubate the cells at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ in air atmosphere until they are ready to be subcultured.
3. If the cells are not attached, aseptically remove the entire contents of the flask and centrifuge at 125 x g for 5 to 10 minutes. Remove shipping medium and save. Resuspend the pelleted cells in 10 ml of this
medium and add to 25 cm² flask. Incubate at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ in air atmosphere until cells are ready to be subcultured.

**Subculturing Procedure**

**Subcultivation Ratio:** A subcultivation ratio of 1:3 is recommended

**Medium Renewal:** 2 to 3 times per week

Subcultures can be prepared by scraping. Remove old medium, add fresh, dislodge cells from the floor of the flask, aspirate and dispense into new flasks. Alternatively, a standard trypsinization procedure can be used.

**Cryopreservation Medium**

complete culture medium described above supplemented with 5% (v/v) DMSO.

Cell culture tested DMSO is available as ATCC Catalog No. 4-X.

**Comments**

Tested and found negative for ectromelia virus (mousepox).

**References**

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

**Biosafety Level:** 1

Appropriate safety procedures should always be used with this material. Laboratory safety is discussed in the current publication of the *Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories* from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Institutes for Health.

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