

PrimaPure™



A division of Gene Therapy Systems, Inc.

Human Coronary Artery Smooth Muscle Cells (HCASMC)

Catalog #	Description/Content	Amount
PH35005A	HCASMC	>500,000 cells
PH35005AK	HCASMC Complete System	1 Kit*
*Each kit contains an ampoule of cryopreserved HCASMC (PP35005), 500 ml of Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium (PM311500), and a Subculture Reagent Kit (PR090100K).		

Related Products	Catalog #
Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium, 500 ml	PM311500
HEPES Buffered Saline Solution (HBSS), 100 ml	PR062100
Trpsin/EDTA, 100 ml	PR070100
Trypsin Neutralizing Solution, 100 ml	PR080100
Subculture Reagent Kit, including 100 ml each of HBSS, Trpsin/EDTA, and Trpsin Neutralizing Solution	PR090100K
GenePORTER 2 Transfection Reagent, 0.75 ml	T202007
GeneSilencer siRNA Transfection Reagent, 200 reactions	T500750

Storage:	Store cryopreserved vials in liquid nitrogen immediately upon arrival. Store the growth medium at 4°C in the dark immediately upon arrival. Store the Subculture Reagent Kit at -20°C upon arrival and store the reagents at 4°C upon thawing.
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INTRODUCTION

Human Coronary Artery Smooth Muscle Cells (HCASMC) are derived from the tunica intima and tunica media of normal human, fibrous plaque-free coronary arteries. They are cryopreserved at second passage and can be cultured and propagated at least 16 population doublings. Smooth muscle cells are present in various amounts in early fatty streaks and they are the predominant type of cells in fibrous plaques^{1,2,3}. Atherosclerosis of the coronary arteries can cause angina pectoris and heart attack. Intimal smooth muscle proliferation plays a key event in the development of atherosclerosis. HCASMC is an ideal cellular model for the investigations of coronary artery diseases, such as alteration of smooth muscle cell differentiation in atherosclerosis^{4,5}.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

I. Preparation for Culturing

1. Make sure your Class II Biological Safety Cabinet, with HEPA filtered laminar airflow, is in proper working condition.
2. Clean the Biological Safety Cabinet with 70% alcohol to ensure it is sterile.
3. Turn the Biological Safety Cabinet blower on for 10 min. before cell culture work.
4. Make sure all serological pipettes, pipette tips, and reagent solutions are sterile.
5. Follow the standard sterilization technique and safety rules:
 - a. Do not pipette with mouth.
 - b. Always wear gloves and safety glasses when working with human cells even though all the strains have been tested negative for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C.
 - c. Handle all cell culture work in a sterile hood.

II. Culturing HCASMC

- A. PREPARING CELL CULTURE FLASKS FOR CULTURING HCASMC
1. Take the Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium from the refrigerator. Decontaminate the bottle with 70% alcohol in a sterile hood.
 2. Pipette 15 ml of Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium* into a T-75 flask.

* Keep the medium to surface area ratio at 1 ml per 5 cm². For example,

- 5 ml for a T-25 flask or a 60 mm tissue culture dish.
- 15 ml for a T-75 flask or a 100 mm tissue culture dish.

B. THAWING AND PLATING HCASMC

1. Remove the cryopreserved vial of HCASMC from the liquid nitrogen storage tank using proper protection for your eyes and hands.
2. Turn the vial cap a quarter turn to release any liquid nitrogen that may be trapped in the threads, then re-tighten the cap.
3. Thaw the cells quickly by placing the lower half of the vial in a 37°C water bath for 1 minute.
4. Take the vial out of the water bath and wipe dry.
5. Decontaminate the vial exterior with 70% alcohol in a sterile Biological Safety Cabinet.
6. Remove the vial cap carefully. Do not touch the rim of the cap or the vial.
7. Resuspend the cells in the vial by gently pipetting the cells 5 times with a 2 ml pipette. Be careful not to pipette too vigorously as to cause foaming.
8. Pipette the cell suspension (1ml) from the vial into the T-75 flask containing 15 ml of Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium.
9. Cap the flask and rock gently to evenly distribute the cells.
10. Place the T-75 flask in a 37°C, 5% CO₂ humidified incubator. Loosen the cap to allow gas exchange. For best results, do not disturb the culture for 24 hours after inoculation.
11. Change to fresh Smooth Muscle Growth Medium after 24 hours or overnight to remove all traces of DMSO.
12. Change Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium every other day

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until the cells reach 60% confluent.

13. Double the Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium volume when the culture is >60% confluent or for weekend feedings.
14. Subculture the cells when the HCASMC reach 80% confluent.

III. Subculturing HCASMC

A. PREPARING SUBCULTURE REAGENTS

1. Remove the Subculture Reagent Kit from the -20°C freezer and thaw overnight in a refrigerator.
2. Make sure all the subculture reagents are thawed. Swirl each bottle gently several times to form homogeneous solutions.
3. Store all the subculture reagents at 4°C for future use. The activity of Trypsin/EDTA Solution will be stable for 2 weeks when stored at 4°C.
4. Aliquot Trypsin/EDTA solution and store the unused portion at -20°C if only portion of the Trypsin/EDTA is needed.

B. PREPARING CULTURE FLASK

1. Take the Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium from the refrigerator. Decontaminate the bottle with 70% alcohol in a sterile hood.
2. Pipette 30 ml of Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium to a T-175 flask (to be used in Section III C Step 15).

C. SUBCULTURING HCASMC

Trypsinize Cells at Room Temperature. Do Not Warm Any Reagents to 37°C.

1. Remove the medium from culture flasks by aspiration.
2. Wash the monolayer of cells with HBSS and remove the solution by aspiration.
3. Pipette 5 ml of Trypsin/EDTA Solution into the T-75 flask. Rock the flask gently to ensure the solution covers all the cells.
4. Remove 4 ml of the solution immediately.
5. Re-cap the flask tightly and monitor the trypsinization progress at room temperature under an inverted microscope. It usually takes about 2 to 5 minutes for the cells to become rounded. The cells may not be completely round during trypsinization and some cells may maintain some processes even though they are loosened from the culture surface.
6. Release the rounded cells from the culture surface by hitting the side of the flask against your palm until most of the cells

are detached.

7. Pipette 5 ml of Trypsin Neutralizing Solution to the flask to inhibit further tryptic activity.
8. Transfer the cell suspension from the flask to a 50 ml sterile conical tube.
9. Rinse the flask with an additional 5 ml of Trypsin Neutralizing Solution and transfer the solution into the same conical tube.
10. Examine the T-75 flask under a microscope. If there are >20% cells left in the flask, repeat Steps 2-9.
11. Centrifuge the conical tube at 220 x g for 5 minutes to pellet the cells.
12. Aspirate the supernatant from the tube without disturbing the cell pellet.
13. Flick the tip of the conical tube with your finger to loosen the cell pellet.
14. Resuspend the cells in 5 ml of Smooth Muscle Cell Growth Medium by gently pipetting the cells to break up the clumps.
15. Count the cells with a hemocytometer or cell counter. Inoculate at 10,000 cells per cm² for rapid growth, or at 6,000 cells per cm² for regular subculturing.

IV. DIFFERENTIATING HCASMC

A. SEEDING HCASMC FOR DIFFERENTIATION

1. Seed HCASMC in the desired format at 15,000 per cm². Follow instructions in Section IV C.
2. Change to Smooth Muscle Differentiation Medium the next day.

B. DIFFERENTIATING HCASMC TO EXPRESS CONTRACTILE PROTEIN

1. Remove growth medium from culture tissue ware by aspiration. Do not allow cells to dry during medium changes.
2. Add the appropriate volume of Smooth Muscle Differentiation Medium.
3. Incubate cell in a 37°C, 5% CO₂ humidified incubator in the Smooth Muscle Differentiation Medium.
4. Change to fresh Smooth Muscle Differentiation Medium every other day.
5. HCASMC are in growth arrest and smooth muscle α -actin is expressed in 10 days.

REFERENCES

1. Ross, R.N., Nature 362:801 (1993).
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3. Jonasson, L. et al, Artherosclerosis 6(2):131 (1986).
4. Owens. G.K., Atherosclerosis and Coronary Artery Disease Chap3:401 (1996).
5. Fager, G. et al, In Vitro Cell. Biol. 25(6):511 (1989).

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