General Instructions for Culturing

**Human Tracheal Epithelial Cells-Asthma (HTEpC-AS)**

Open all the packages immediately upon arrival and examine each component for shipping damage. Notify Cell Applications, Inc. or your distributor immediately if there is any problem.

II. PREPARATION FOR CULTURING

1. Make sure the 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 minutes 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.

III. CULTURING HTEpC-AS

A. PREPARING CELL CULTURE FLASKS FOR CULTURING HTEpC-AS

1. Take the Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium from the refrigerator. Decontaminate the bottle with 70% alcohol in a sterile hood.
2. Pipette 15 ml of Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium* to a T-75 flask.

* Keep the medium to surface area ratio at 1ml 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.

Cell Applications Inc (hereinafter CAI) warrants that its products are manufactured with the utmost care and stringent quality control procedures. However, if you should ever have a problem with the products, we will either replace the products, or in the case we cannot deliver the products, provide you with a refund. Such warranty is applicable only when CAI’s cells are used in conjunction with CAI’s medium and subculture reagents, and vice versa.
B. THAWING AND PLATING HTEpC-AS
1. Remove the cryopreserved vial of HTEpC-AS 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 retighten the cap.
3. Thaw the cells quickly by placing the lower half of the vial in a 37°C water bath and watch the vial closely during the thawing process.
4. Take the vial out of the water bath when only small amount of ice left in the vial. Do not let cells thaw completely.
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 Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial 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 Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium after 24 hours or overnight to remove all traces of DMSO.
12. Change Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium every other day until the cells reach 45% confluent.
13. Double the Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium volume when the culture is >45% confluent or for weekend feedings.
14. Subculture the cells when the HTEpC-AS culture reaches 60-80% confluent.

IV. SUBCULTURING HTEpC-AS
A. PREPARING SUBCULTURE REAGENTS
1. Remove the Subculture Reagent Kit from -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 Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium from the refrigerator. Decontaminate the bottle with 70% alcohol in a sterile hood.
2. Pipette 30ml of Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium to a T-175 flask (to be used in Section IV C Step 15).

C. SUBCULTURING HTEpC-AS
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 8 ml of Trypsin/EDTA Solution into the T-75 flask. Rock the flask gently to ensure the solution covers all the cells.
4. Re-cap the flask tightly and monitor the trypsinization progress at room temperature under an inverted microscope. Do this for 60 seconds.
5. Aspirate Trypsin/EDTA
6. Re-cap the flask and place in a 37°C incubator for 1.5 minutes.
7. 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.
8. If the cells are not visually detached place the flask into the incubator for an additional thirty seconds, then repeat step 7.
9. Pipette 5 ml of Trypsin Neutralizing Solution to the flask to inhibit further tryptic activity.
10. Transfer the cell suspension from the flask to a 50 ml sterile conical tube.
11. Rinse the flask with an additional 5 ml of Trypsin Neutralizing Solution and transfer the solution into the same conical tube.
12. Examine the T-75 flask under a microscope. If there are >20% cells left in the flask, repeat Steps 2-9.
13. Centrifuge the conical tube at 220 x g for 5 minutes to pellet the cells.
14. Aspirate the supernatant from the tube without disturbing the cell pellet.
15. Flick the tip of the conical tube with your finger to loosen the cell pellet.
16. Resuspend the cells in 2 ml of Bronchial/Tracheal Epithelial Cell Growth Medium by gently pipetting the cells to break up the clumps.
17. Count the cells with a hemocytometer or cell counter. Inoculate at 7,500 cells per cm² for rapid growth, or at 5,000 cells per cm² for regular subculturing.