HK/FDC

300204

GENERAL INFORMATION

Description

Immortalized versions of these HK/FDC-like cells are now also available, offering a more stable and scalable tool for long-term studies of FDC function and B cell interactions.Follicular dendritic cell (FDC)-like cell lines (HK cells) from human tonsils were established to investigate the role of FDC in germinal centers of lymphoid follicles. Initially, HK cells expressed markers like CD21, CD23, DRC-1, CD40, VCAM-1, ICAM-1, and HJ2, but lost DRC-1, CD21, and CD23 within three days of culture. Morphologically and functionally, HK cells are distinct from fibroblasts and have unique growth requirements. They bind to B cells, supporting their proliferation, but not to T cells. Activated T cells, stimulated with anti-CD3 antibodies, bind to HK cells, inducing phenotypic changes and promoting their growth.
HK cells preferentially bind and stimulate germinal center (GC) B cells, rescuing them from apoptosis. They enhance B cell proliferation in the presence of anti-mu or anti-CD40. These cells also produce soluble factors that contribute to their costimulatory activity. Phenotypic and functional analyses suggest that HK cells may be derived from FDCs, highlighting their potential role in supporting GC B cell maturation and differentiation.

Tissue	Oral cavity, tonsil
Disease	Non-neoplastic follicular dendritic cell line

Applications

Feeder cell for growth of normal B lymphocytes and lymphomas/leukemias. Studies on B cell development in germinal centers of lymph nodes. Possibly research on virus infection of FDCs

Synonyms

- FDC/HK

CLASSIFICATION

Organism	Human
Sex	Unspecified
Growth properties	Adherent
GMO status	Non-GMO

GMO status details

No genetic modification; wildtype immortalized cell line

Biosafety level	1

CHARACTERISTICS

Morphology	Fibroidal
Cell type	Follicular dendritic cell
Doubling time	approx. 24-36 hours

IDENTIFIERS

Citation

HK/FDC (Cytion catalog number 300204)

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NCBI TaxID	9606
Cellosaurus	CVCL_IY38

EXPRESSION AND SUSCEPTIBILITY

Surface antigens

CD14+, CD40+, ICAM-1+, VCAM-1+

HANDLING AND CULTURE

Culture medium

EMEM (MEM Eagle), w: 2 mM L-Glutamine, w: 2.2 g/L NaHCO3, w: EBSS (Cytion article number 820100a)

Incubation atmosphere	37°C, 5% CO_2, humidified atmosphere.

Supplements

Supplement the medium with 10% FBS and 1% NEAA

Dissociation reagent	Accutase

Subculturing

Remove the old medium from the adherent cells and wash them with PBS that lacks calcium and magnesium. For T25 flasks, use 3-5 ml of PBS, and for T75 flasks, use 5-10 ml. Then, cover the cells completely with Accutase, using 1-2 ml for T25 flasks and 2.5 ml for T75 flasks. Let the cells incubate at room temperature for 8-10 minutes to detach them. After incubation, gently mix the cells with 10 ml of medium to resuspend them, then centrifuge at 300xg for 3 minutes. Discard the supernatant, resuspend the cells in fresh medium, and transfer them into new flasks that already contain fresh medium.

Split ratio	1 to 3
Seeding density	1 to 3 x 10^4 cells/cm^2
Fluid renewal	1 to 2 times per week
Post-thaw recovery	After thawing, plate the cells at 5 x 10^4 cells/cm^2 and allow the cells to recover from the freezing process and to adhere for at least 24 hours.

Thawing and culturing

Confirm that the vial remains deeply frozen upon delivery, as cells are shipped on dry ice to maintain optimal temperatures during transit.
Upon receipt, either store the cryovial immediately at temperatures below -150°C to ensure the preservation of cellular integrity, or proceed to step 3 if immediate culturing is required.
For immediate culturing, swiftly thaw the vial by immersing it in a 37°C water bath with clean water and an antimicrobial agent, agitating gently for 40-60 seconds until a small ice clump remains.
Perform all subsequent steps under sterile conditions in a flow hood, disinfecting the cryovial with 70% ethanol before opening.
Carefully open the disinfected vial and transfer the cell suspension into a 15 ml centrifuge tube containing 8 ml of room-temperature culture medium, mixing gently.
Centrifuge the mixture at 300 x g for 3 minutes to separate the cells and carefully discard the supernatant containing residual freezing medium.
Gently resuspend the cell pellet in 10 ml of fresh culture medium. For adherent cells, divide the suspension between two T25 culture flasks; for suspension cultures, transfer all the medium into one T25 flask to promote effective cell interaction and growth.
Adhere to established subculture protocols for continued growth and maintenance of the cell line, ensuring reliable experimental outcomes.

QUALITY CONTROL AND CRYOPRESERVATION

Sterility

Mycoplasma contamination is excluded using both PCR-based assays and luminescence-based mycoplasma detection methods.
To ensure there is no bacterial, fungal, or yeast contamination, cell cultures are subjected to daily visual inspections.

Freeze medium	As a cryopreservation medium, we use complete growth medium (including FBS) + 10% DMSO for adequate post-thaw viability, or CM-1 (Cytion catalog number 800100), which includes optimized osmoprotectants and metabolic stabilizers to enhance recovery and reduce cryo-induced stress.

Storage conditions

For long-term preservation, place vials in vapor-phase liquid nitrogen at about −150 to −196 °C. Storage at −80 °C is acceptable only as a short interim step before transfer to liquid nitrogen.

Shipping conditions

Cryopreserved cell lines are shipped on dry ice in validated, insulated packaging with sufficient refrigerant to maintain approximately −78 °C throughout transit. On receipt, inspect the container immediately and transfer vials without delay to appropriate storage.

DONOR

Donor age	Child
Ethnicity	Caucasian

LEGAL AND SAFETY

Safety precautions

When planning to store a cryovial in liquid nitrogen for future thawing, it is mandatory to adhere to stringent safety measures. Appropriate protective gloves and clothing are essential, and the use of a face mask or safety goggles is required during the transfer of frozen samples to or from the liquid nitrogen tank. This is to mitigate the risk of injury from potential cryovial explosions upon removal, which can result in the projection of sharp fragments.

Warranty

At Cytion, we stand behind the quality and viability of our products.
We guarantee that our cells will be viable at the start of culture for
60 days after shipment from our facilities.
We assure that all materials conform to the specifications described in the
Certificate of Analysis and/or Product Sheet.
For full details, please refer to our
Warranty Statement.

Material Transfer Agreement required	Yes