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BCRJ Code:	0162
Cell Line:	MCF7
Species:	Homo sapiens
Vulgar Name:	Human
Tissue:	Mammary Gland, Breast; Derived From Metastatic Site: Pleural Effusion
Cell Type:	Epithelial
Morphology:	Epithelial
Disease:	Adenocarcinoma
Growth Properties:	Adherent
Sex:	Female
Age/Ethnicity:	69 Year /
Applications:	These cells are a suitable transfection host
DNA Profile:	Amelogenin: X CSF1PO: 10 D13S317: 11 D16S539: 11,12 D5S818: 11,12 D7S820: 8,9 TH01: 6 TPOX: 9,12 vWA: 14,15
Products:	insulin-like growth factor binding proteins (IGFBP) BP-2; BP-4; BP-5
Biosafety:	1
Additional Info:	The MCF7 line retains several characteristics of differentiated mammary epithelium including ability to process estradiol via cytoplasmic estrogen receptors and the capability of forming domes. The cells express the WNT7B oncogene. [PubMed: 8168088] Growth of MCF7 cells is inhibited by tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF alpha). Secretion of IGFBP's can be modulated by treatment with anti-estrogens.
Culture Medium:	RPMI-1640 medium modified to contain 2 mM L-glutamine, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 4500 mg/L glucose and 20% of fetal bovine serum.

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Subculturing:

Volumes used in this protocol are for 75 cm² flasks; proportionally reduce or increase amount of dissociation medium for culture vessels of other sizes. Remove and discard culture medium. Briefly rinse the cell layer with PBS without calcium and magnesium to remove all traces of serum which contains trypsin inhibitor. Add 2.0 to 3.0 mL of Trypsin-EDTA solution to flask and observe cells under an inverted microscope until cell layer is dispersed (usually within 5 to 15 minutes). Note: To avoid clumping do not agitate the cells by hitting or shaking the flask while waiting for the cells to detach. Cells that are difficult to detach may be placed at 37°C to facilitate dispersal. Add 6.0 to 8.0 mL of complete growth medium and aspirate cells by gently pipetting. Add appropriate aliquots of the cell suspension to new culture vessels. Incubate cultures at 37°C. Population Doubling Time approximately 29 hours NOTE: For more information on enzymatic dissociation and subculturing of cell lines consult Chapter 12 in Culture of Animal Cells, a manual of Basic Technique by R. Ian Freshney, 6th edition, published by Alan R. Liss, N.Y., 2010.

Subculturing Medium Renewal:

2 to 3 times per week

Subculturing Subcultivation Ratio:

1:3 to 1:6

Culture Conditions:Atmosphere: air, 95%; carbon dioxide (CO₂), 5% Temperature: 37°C**Cryopreservation:**

95% FBS + 5% DMSO (Dimethyl sulfoxide)

SAFETY PRECAUTION: It is strongly recommended to always wear protective gloves, clothing, and a full-face mask when handling frozen vials. Some vials may leak when submerged in liquid nitrogen, allowing nitrogen to slowly enter the vial. Upon thawing, the conversion of liquid nitrogen back to its gas phase may cause the vial to explode or eject its cap with significant force, creating flying debris.

1. Thaw the vial by gently agitating it in a 37°C water bath. To minimize 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 its contents are thawed and decontaminate it by dipping in or spraying with 70% ethanol. From this point, all operations must be performed under strict aseptic conditions.
3. For cells sensitive to DMSO, it is recommended to remove the cryoprotective agent immediately. Transfer the vial contents to a centrifuge tube containing 9.0 mL of complete culture medium and centrifuge at approximately $125 \times g$ for 5 to 7 minutes.
4. Discard the supernatant and resuspend the cell pellet in the recommended complete medium (see specific batch information for the appropriate dilution ratio).
5. Incubate the culture under appropriate atmospheric and temperature conditions (see "Culture Conditions" for this cell line).

Thawing Frozen Cells:

NOTE: It is important to avoid excessive alkalinity of the medium during cell recovery. To minimize this risk, it is recommended to place the culture vessel containing the growth medium in the incubator for at least 15 minutes before adding the vial contents. This allows the medium to stabilize at its normal pH (7.0 to 7.6).

References:

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Cellosaurus: [CVCL_0031](#)