

Data Sheet

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BCRJ Code:	0317
Cell Line:	OVCAR-3
Species:	Homo sapiens
Vulgar Name:	Human
Tissue:	Ovary
Cell Type:	Epithelial
Morphology:	Epithelial
Disease:	Adenocarcinoma
Growth Properties:	Adherent
Sex:	Female
Age/Ethnicity:	60 Year / Caucasian
Derivation:	This cell line was established in 1982 by T.C. Hamilton, et al. from the malignant ascites of a patient with progressive adenocarcinoma of the ovary.
Applications:	This cell line is a suitable transfection host and is an appropriate model system in which to study drug resistance in ovarian cancer, and the presence of hormone receptors should be useful for the evaluation of hormonal therapy.
Tumor Formation::	Yes, Forms colonies in soft agar Yes, in nude mice inoculated subcutaneously with 10(7) cells (Tumors developed within 21 days at 100% frequency (5/5).)
Biosafety:	1

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Additional Info:

Forms colonies in soft agar and has an abnormal karyotype. Resistant to clinically relevant concentrations of adriamycin, melphalan and cisplatin. Both cultured cells and xenografts exhibit androgen and estrogen receptors. Xenograft models have been used to show that treatment with 17 beta estradiol can induce progesterone receptors in this human ovarian carcinoma.

Culture Medium:

RPMI-1640 medium modified to contain 2 mM L-glutamine, 4500 mg/L glucose, 0.01 mg/ml bovine insulin and fetal bovine serum to a final concentration of 20%.

Subculturing:

Volumes used in this protocol are for 75 sq cm flasks; proportionally reduce or increase amount of dissociation medium for culture vessels of other sizes. Corning® T-75 flasks (catalog #430641) are recommended for subculturing this product. 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 2.0 to 3.0 mL of complete growth medium and aspirate cells by gently pipetting. Resuspend the cell pellet in fresh growth medium. Add appropriate aliquots of the cell suspension to new culture vessels. Incubate cultures at 37°C. 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:

Every 2 to 3 days

Subculturing Subcultivation Ratio:

1:2 to 1:4 is recommended

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).

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).

Thawing Frozen Cells:

References:

Hamilton TC, et al. Characterization of a human ovarian carcinoma cell line (NIH:OVCAR-3) with androgen and estrogen receptors. Cancer Res. 43: 5379-5389, 1983.

Depositors:

Antonio Monteiro - Banco de Células do Rio de Janeiro

Cellosaurus:

[CVCL_0465](#)