

Data Sheet

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BCRJ Code:	0242
Cell Line:	U-937
Species:	Homo sapiens
Vulgar Name:	Human
Tissue:	Pleura/Pleural Effusion, Lymphocyte, Myeloid
Morphology:	Monocyte
Disease:	Histiocytic Lymphoma
Growth Properties:	Suspension
Sex:	Male
Age/Ethnicity:	37 Year / Caucasian
Derivation:	The U-937 cell line was derived by Sundstrom and Nilsson in 1974 from malignant cells obtained from the pleural effusion of a patient with histiocytic lymphoma.
Applications:	This cell line is a suitable transfection host.
DNA Profile:	Amelogenin: X CSF1PO: 12 D13S317: 10,12 D16S539: 12 D5S818: 12 D7S820: 9,11 THO1: 6, 9.3 TPOX: 8,11 vWA: 14, 15
Products:	lysozyme; beta-2-microglobulin (beta 2 microglobulin); tumor necrosis factor (TNF), also known as tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-alpha, TNF alpha), after stimulation with phorbol myristic acid (PMA)
Biosafety:	1

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Additional Info:

Studies since 1979 have shown that U-937 cells can be induced to terminal monocytic differentiation by supernatants from human mixed lymphocyte cultures. The cells are negative for immunoglobulin production and Epstein-Barr virus expression. The cells express the Fas antigen, and are sensitive to TNF and anti-Fas antibodies.

Culture Medium:

RPMI-1640 medium modified to contain 2 mM L-glutamine, 4500 mg/L glucose and 10% of fetal bovine serum.

Subculturing:

Cultures can be maintained by the addition of fresh medium or replacement of medium. Alternatively, cultures can be established by centrifugation with subsequent resuspension at 1 to 2 X 10⁵ viable cells/mL. Maintain cell density between 1 X 10⁵ and 2 X 10⁶ viable cells/mL. T-75 flasks are recommended for subculturing this cell line.

Subculturing Medium Renewal:

Add fresh medium every 3 to 4 days (depending on cell density)

Culture Conditions:

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

Cryopreservation:

95% FBS + 5% DMSO (Dimethyl sulfoxide)

Thawing Frozen Cells:

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).

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References:

Ralph P, et al. Lysozyme synthesis by established human and murine histiocytic lymphoma cell lines. J. Exp. Med. 143: 1528-1533, 1976. PubMed: 1083890 . Gene expression during normal and malignant differentiation. London: Academic Press; 1985. . International symposium on new trends in human immunology and cancer immunotherapy. Paris: Doin Editeurs; 1980. Koren HS, et al. In vitro activation of a human macrophage-like cell line. Nature 279: 328-331, 1979. PubMed: 450085 Gidlund M, et al. Natural killer cells kill tumour cells at a given stage of differentiation. Nature 292: 848-850, 1981. PubMed: 7266653 Olsson I, et al. Induction of differentiation of the human histiocytic lymphoma cell line U-937 by 1 alpha,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol. Cancer Res. 43: 5862-5867, 1983. PubMed: 6315218 Morimoto H, et al. Overcoming tumor necrosis factor and drug resistance of human tumor cell lines by combination treatment with anti-Fas antibody and drugs or toxins. Cancer Res. 53: 2591-2596, 1993. PubMed: 7684321 Giovannangeli C, et al. Accessibility of nuclear DNA to triplex-forming oligonucleotides: The integrated HIV-1 provirus as a target. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 94: 79-84, 1997. PubMed: 8990164 Brigino E, et al. Interleukin 10 is induced by recombinant HIV-1 Nef protein involving the calcium/calmodulin-dependent phosphodiesterase signal transduction pathway. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 94: 3178-3182, 1997. PubMed: 9096366 Reid YA, et al. Cell Line Cross-contamination of U-937. J. Leukocyte Biol. 57: 804, 1995. PubMed: 7759961 Sundstrom C, Nilsson K. Establishment and characterization of a human histiocytic lymphoma cell line (U-937). Int. J. Cancer 17: 565-577, 1976. PubMed: 178611

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