

User Manual

OriCell™ Chondrogenic Differentiation Medium For Rat Tendon Stem Cells

Catalog No. RASTA-90041



Introduction

OriCell™ Chondrogenic Differentiation Medium For Rat Tendon Stem Cells, carefully developed by the OriCell™ R&D team, contains a basal medium and various additives which were suitable for the growth of rat tendon stem cells. Extensive cell culture data have demonstrated that it can reliably and efficiently induce these cells to differentiate into cartilage tissue.

Note: This product is only provided for further scientific research. It is not intended for diagnostic, therapeutic, clinical, household, or any other applications.

When citing our products in academic journals, please indicate “OriCell™ + Catalog Number, from Cyagen Biosciences (Guangzhou) Inc.”

Product Information

Components	Catalog Number	Volume
OriCell™ Basal Medium For Cell Culture	BHDM-03011	97 mL
OriCell™ Supplement For Rat Tendon Stem Cells Chondrogenic Differentiation I	RASTA-04041-1	2 mL
OriCell™ Supplement For Rat Tendon Stem Cells Chondrogenic Differentiation II	RASTA-04041-2	1 mL
Alcian Blue 8GX Solution (pH=2.2)	ALCB-10001	5 mL

QC

- Pass the detection of bacteria, fungi, mycoplasma and endotoxins.
- Pass the detection of osmotic pressure and pH.
- Pass the detection of product quality.

Please reference "COA" for details.

General Handling Principles

1. Ensure that all equipment should be kept clean and tidy.
2. Standard operation method. Please operate according to the method described in the product manual.
3. The ingredients should be properly stored in accordance with the storage conditions and used as soon as possible.
4. If complete medium cannot be used in a short period of time, it should be prepared in batches according to the volume ratio of each component in the kit and stored in aliquots.

Product Stability and Storage Conditions

1. All ingredients must be kept in dark place.
2. The basal medium should be stored in a refrigerator at 4 °C for a period of 1 year. Other components should be stored at -20°C for a period of 2 years.
3. The prepared complete medium can be stored at 4 °C for a period of 1 month. If the culture conditions are stable, the container has great sealing performance, and there is no alternation of hot and cold condition, the period of using can be appropriately extended, but not exceed 45 days.

4. Please use all products within the expiration date. Expired ingredients may significantly affect the cell culture effect.

Preparation of Premix

Materials Required

- OriCell™ Chondrogenic Differentiation Medium For Rat Tendon Stem Cells (Cat. No.: RASTA-90041)
- Clean, sterile, and stable quality disposable consumables (pipettes, pipette tips, centrifuge tubes, etc.)
- Clean sealing film
- Aluminum foil paper and other light-avoiding materials

Steps

1. At least 30 minutes before preparation, place supplement I (Cat. No.: RASTA-04041-1) in a refrigerator at 4°C until it is completely thawed.
2. Invert or flick the reagent tube to mix the reagent thoroughly.
3. Carefully wipe the outer packaging of all components with 75% ethanol. Open the packages inside a clean bench.
4. Add the supplement I to OriCell™ Cell Basal Medium (Cat. No.: BHDM-03011).
5. Take a small amount of basal medium to rinse each bottle and tube, and add all rinsed ingredients to the basal medium as much as possible.
6. Tighten the cap of the basal medium bottle and shake it gently and thoroughly.
7. Seal the bottle opening with parafilm, wrap the bottle in aluminum foil, and label it with the product name, preparation date, and other relevant information.

Special Reminder

- If the medium will not be used up immediately, we recommend preparing in batches. Please prepare the required amount according to the ratio of each component in the kit. Any remaining components must be stored according to their respective storage conditions and should not be subjected to multiple freeze-thaw cycles.
- All components in the OriCell™ Chondrogenic Differentiation Medium For Rat Tendon Stem Cells are strictly controlled aseptic. Under normal circumstances, we do not recommend sterilization again. If there is a risk of contamination during the preparation process, the complete medium can be filtered and sterilized.
- The prepared chondrogenic differentiation medium should be aliquoted into small portions to avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Procedure for Inducing Differentiation

Materials Required

- OriCell™ Chondrogenic Differentiation Medium For Rat Tendon Stem Cells (Cat. No.: RASTA-90041)
- 4% Paraformaldehyde solution or 10% Formalin solution

Steps

1. Transfer $3\sim 4 \times 10^5$ cells to a 15 mL centrifuge tube, and centrifuge at $250 \times g$ for 4 min at 20°C .
2. Aspirate the supernatant. Add 0.5 mL into chondrogenic differentiation premix, resuspend the pellet obtained from the previous centrifugation, and centrifuge at $150 \times g$ for 5 min at 20°C .
3. Repeat step 2 to wash the cells again.
4. Add Supplement II, according to the proportion (add 10 μL Supplement II to 1 mL of Chondrogenic Differentiation Premix). Add the amount of Supplement II to the corresponding volume of premix to

prepare a complete chondrogenic differentiation medium, and gently pipette to mix.

- Note:** 1) Briefly centrifuge the reagent tube before sucking supplement II (Cat. No.: RASTA-04041-2), so that the reagent can be collected at the bottom of the tube for use;
- 2) Be sure to store supplement II in aliquots below -20°C , avoid repeated freezing and thawing, and can be stored for 12 months;
- 3) The chondrogenic differentiation complete medium added with supplement II must be prepared for immediate use, and stored at 4°C for no more than 12 h.

5. Resuspend the cell pellet obtained in step 3 in 0.5 mL of chondrogenic differentiation complete medium, and centrifuge at $150\times g$ for 5 min at 20°C .
6. Unscrew the centrifuge tube cap to facilitate gas exchange. Place it upright in a CO_2 incubator at 37°C , 5% CO_2 , and saturated humidity.

- Note:** 1) This step does not need to aspirate the supernatant or resuspend the cells;
- 2) Do not shake the centrifuge tube within 24 hours.

7. When the cell clusters appear clustered (usually after 24 h or 48 h, depending on the actual situation), flick the bottom of the centrifuge tube to make the cartilage ball detach from the bottom of the tube and suspend it in the liquid.
8. Calculated from the beginning of inoculation, replace the cells with fresh chondrogenic induction and differentiation complete medium every 2 to 3 days, about 0.5 mL per tube.

- Note:** 1) Be careful not to suck out the cartilage ball;
- 2) After changing the medium, flick the centrifuge tube to make the cartilage ball detach from the bottom of the tube and suspend in the liquid;
- 3) After changing the medium each time, be sure to loosen the cap of the centrifuge tube and put it into the incubator.

9. Continue to induce until a cartilage ball with a diameter of 1.5-2 mm is formed in the tube, and then the section can be prepared for staining.

Cartilage Ball Section Staining

Materials Required

- Induced cartilage balls
- 4% Paraformaldehyde solution or 10% Formalin solution
- Anhydrous alcohol, xylene, paraffin wax
- OriCell™ Alcian Blue 8GX Solution (Cat. No.: ALCB-10001)

Steps

Note: This step takes paraffin section staining as an example. If using frozen sections, please follow the instructions for using the microtome.

1. Fixed. The induced cartilage balls were washed with 1 × PBS, soaked in 4% paraformaldehyde solution (or 10% formalin solution), and fixed for more than 30 minutes.

Note: The fixative solution needs to be prepared for immediate use.

2. Dehydration. The fixed cartilage balls are dehydrated with gradient alcohol in the following way, each stage is 30 minutes.

50% alcohol → 70% alcohol → 80% alcohol → 95% alcohol → Anhydrous alcohol

Note: 1) Dehydration must be carried out in a covered container to prevent absorbing moisture in the air;

2) Do not soak the cartilage balls in alcohol for too long, as they are easily broken;

3) When changing alcohol, suck out low-concentration alcohol, and then add high-concentration alcohol. Avoiding movement increases the risk of fragmentation of the cartilage ball.

3. Transparency. Because alcohol and paraffin wax are not compatible, it needs to pass through xylene after dehydration. The way is as follows:

- ① Mix xylene and anhydrous alcohol at a volume ratio of 1:1. Soak the cartilage ball in it for 2 hours.
- ② Soak the cartilage balls in pure xylene for 1.5 hours.

③ Replace with new xylene and continue to soak for 1 hour.

Note: 1) Transparency must be carried out in a covered container to prevent absorbing moisture in the air;

2) During the transparent process, if white misty bubbles appear around the cartilage ball, it means that the water has not been removed. It should be put back in the alcohol for dehydration and then transparent.

4. Dip wax. In order to remove the transparent agent in the cartilage ball and make the paraffin penetrate into the interior for embedding, a wax treatment is required.

① Mix xylene and paraffin at a volume ratio of 1:1. Soak the cartilage balls and place them in an oven at 40°C for 40 minutes.

② Soak the cartilage balls in pure paraffin and place them in an oven at 55°C for 30 minutes.

Note: 1) The wax immersion should be kept at a lower temperature as much as possible, so that the paraffin wax does not solidify;

2) The temperature must be constant, not high and low.

5. Embedding. Take out the cartilage ball and place it in the mold. Pour in paraffin and let stand to cool. After the paraffin is fully cooled and formed, take it out and trim the wax block.

6. Slicing. Continuous slices, each slice with a thickness of 3 μm.

7. The cartilage ball slices were adhered to the glass slide with an adhesive, and dried in an oven at 35°C.

8. Dewaxing.

① Soak the slices in pure xylene for 15 minutes, and replace the slices with new xylene for 10 minutes.

② Xylene and anhydrous alcohol are mixed in a volume ratio of 1:1. Soak the slices for 10 minutes.

③ Use 95%, 85%, 70%, and 50% alcohol to soak the slices for 10 minutes and dry them.

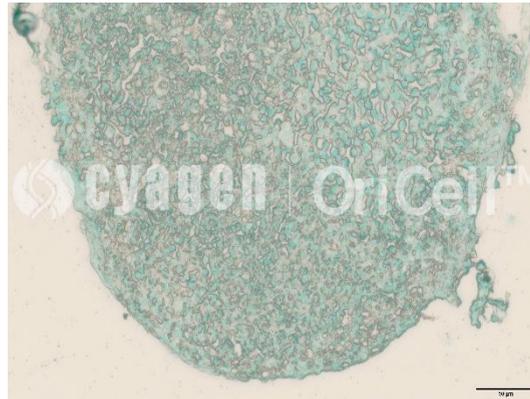
9. Dyeing

① Add Alcian Blue (Cat. No.: ALCB-10001) dropwise to the dried sections and stain them at 37°C for 1 h.

② Rinse the slides with tap water for 5 minutes and dry them.

10. Observe the staining effect of Alcian Blue under the microscope. The part stained with Alcian Blue shows the internal acid mucopolysaccharide in cartilage tissue.

The Effect of Alcian Blue Staining



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