



## Rat Cerebellar Granule Cells (RCGC)

Catalog Number: R1530

### Cell Specification

The development of the cerebellum involves a set of coordinated cell movements and two separate proliferation zones: the ventricular zone and the external granule cell layer (EGL), a rhombic-lip-derived progenitor pool [1]. The EGL appears to be segregated during early cerebellum formation and produces only granule cells. Cerebellar granule cells (CGC) are the most abundant neurons of the brain [2]. Their axons run as parallel fibres along the coronal axis, and the one-dimensional spread of excitation that is expected to result from this arrangement is a key assumption in theories of cerebellar function. CGC receive inhibitory synaptic input from Golgi cells, which are mediated by gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA). During both *in vivo* and *in vitro* development, CGC depend on the activity of the NMDA glutamate receptor subtype for survival and full differentiation [3]. Cultured CGC are widely used as a model system for studying neuronal apoptosis.

RCGC from ScienCell Research Laboratories are isolated from neonate day 8 rat cerebellum. RCGC are cryopreserved at primary culture and delivered frozen. Each vial contains  $>1 \times 10^6$  cells in 1 ml volume. RCGC are characterized by immunofluorescent method with antibodies to neurofilament, MAP2, and beta-tubulin 3. RCGC are negative for mycoplasma, bacteria, yeast and fungi. RCGC are guaranteed to further culture in the conditions provided by ScienCell Research Laboratories.

### Recommended Medium

It is recommended to use Neuronal Medium (NM, Cat. No. 1521) for the culture of RCGC *in vitro*.

### Product Use

RCGC are for research use only. They are not approved for human or animal use, or for application in *in vitro* diagnostic procedures.

### Storage

Transfer cells directly and immediately from dry ice to liquid nitrogen upon receiving and keep the cells in liquid nitrogen until cell culture is needed for experiments.

### Shipping

Dry ice.

### Reference

- [1] Hatten, M. E. (1999) Central nervous system neuronal migration. *Annu. Rev. Neurosci.* 22, pp. 511–539.
- [2] Andersen, B.B., Korbo, L. and Pakkenberg, B. (1992) A quantitative study of the human cerebellum with unbiased stereological techniques. *J. Comp. Neurol.*, 326:549-560.
- [3] Monti, B, Marri, L, Contestabile, A. (2002) NMDA receptor-dependent CREB activation in survival of cerebellar granule cells during *in vivo* and *in vitro* development. *Eur J Neurosci.* 16:1490-8.

# Instruction for culturing cells

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Caution: Cryopreserved cells are very delicate. Thaw the vial in a 37°C waterbath and return them to culture as quickly as possible with minimal handling!

## Set up culture after receiving the order:

1. Coat culture vessel with 0.2% Gelatin (ScienCell Product # 0423)  
*Note: It is important that these cells are plated in Gelatin coated culture vessels that promote cell attachment (Gelatin coating: coat flask or plate with 0.2% Gelatin at suggested volumes for one hour and wash the flask or plate with sterile water three times).*
1. Prepare complete medium: decontaminate the external surfaces of medium and medium supplements with 70% ethanol and transfer them to sterile field. Aseptically open each supplement tube and add them to the basal medium with a pipette. Rinse each tube with medium to recover the entire volume.
2. Add 7 ml of complete medium to the flask. Leave the flask in the hood and go to thaw the cells.
3. Place the vial in a 37°C waterbath, hold and rotate the vial gently until the contents are completely thawed. Remove the vial from the waterbath immediately, wipe it dry, rinse the vial with 70% ethanol and transfer it to a sterile field. Remove the cap, being careful not to touch the interior threads with fingers. Using 1 ml eppendorf pipette gently re-suspend the contents of the vial.
4. Dispense the contents of the vial into the equilibrated, gelatin coated culture vessels. A seeding density of  $\geq 10,000$  cells/cm<sup>2</sup> is recommended.  
*Note: Dilution and centrifugation of cells after thawing are not recommended since these actions are more harmful to the cells than the effect of DMSO residue in the culture. It is also important that cells are plated in gelatin coated culture vessels that promote cell attachment.*
5. Replace the cap or cover, and gently rock the vessel to distribute the cells evenly. Loosen cap if necessary to permit gas exchange.
6. Return the culture vessels to the incubator.
7. For best result, do not disturb the culture for at least 16 hours after the culture has been initiated. Change the growth medium the next day to remove the residual DMSO and unattached cells, then every other day thereafter.

### **Maintenance of Culture:**

1. Change the medium to fresh supplemented medium the next morning after establishing a culture from cryopreserved cells.
2. Change the medium every two to three days thereafter.

***It is not recommended that RCGC be subcultured beyond their initial plating.***

*Caution: Handling animal derived products is potentially biohazardous. Always wear gloves and safety glasses when working these materials. Never mouth pipette. We recommend following the universal procedures for handling products of human origin as the minimum precaution against contamination [1].*

[1]. Grizzle, W. E., and Polt, S. S. (1988) Guidelines to avoid personal contamination by infective agents in research laboratories that use human tissues. J Tissue Culture Methods. 11(4).