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Version 2

iNeuron pre-differentiation & differentiation protocol V.2

 [Cell](#)

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iNeuron

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We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

This protocol describes the differentiation of iPSCs with stably integrated doxycycline-inducible Ngn2 (such as i3Ns).

Attachments



iNeuron pre-differen...

186KB



Materials

MATERIALS

- ✕ Glutamax (100x) **Gibco - Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #35050-061**
- ✕ DPBS no calcium no magnesium **Gibco - Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #14190250**
- ✕ KnockOut[®]; DMEM **Thermo Fisher Catalog #10829018**
- ✕ MEM Non-Essential Amino Acids Solution (100X) **Thermo Fisher Catalog #11140050**
- ✕ DMEM/F-12 **Thermo Fisher Catalog #11320033**
- ✕ B-27[®]; Supplement (50X), minus vitamin A **Thermo Fisher Catalog #12587010**
- ✕ KnockOut[®]; DMEM/F-12 **Thermo Fisher Catalog #12660012**
- ✕ N-2 Supplement (100X) **Thermo Fisher Catalog #17502048**
- ✕ Laminin Mouse Protein, Natural **Thermo Fisher Catalog #23017015**
- ✕ StemPro[®]; Accutase[®]; Cell Dissociation Reagent **Thermo Fisher Catalog #A1110501**
- ✕ Essential 8[®]; Medium **Thermo Fisher Catalog #A1517001**
- ✕ Rock inhibitor Y-27632 dihydrochloride **Tocris Catalog #125410**
- ✕ Neurobasal[™]-A Medium **Thermo Scientific Catalog #10888022**
- ✕ BrainPhys[™] Neuronal Medium **STEMCELL Technologies Inc. Catalog #05790**
- ✕ Recombinant Human/Murine/Rat BDNF **peprotech Catalog #450-02**
- ✕ Corning[®] Matrigel[®] Growth Factor Reduced (GFR) Basement Membrane Matrix **Corning Catalog #356231**
- ✕ Recombinant Human NT-3 **peprotech Catalog #450-03**
- ✕ Doxycycline hydrochloride **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #D3447**



Culture iPSCs

1

Protocol



NAME

WTc11 iPSC Culture and Maintenance

CREATED BY

Martin Kampmann

Preview

- 1.1 Thaw the frozen StemFlex Supplement 10X at Room temperature for ~ 02:00:00 or overnight at 2 °C to 8 °C .

Note

IMPORTANT! Do not thaw the frozen supplement at 37°C.

- 1.2 Mix the thawed supplement by gently inverting 3–5 times.



- 1.3 Aseptically transfer 50 mL of StemFlex Supplement 10X to the bottle of StemFlex™ Basal Medium (450 mL fill).

- 1.4 Gently invert the bottle several times to obtain 500 mL of homogenous complete medium.



**Note**

Following reconstitution, complete StemFlex™ Medium can be stored at 2°C to 8°C for up to 2 weeks or aliquoted and stored at -5 °C to -20 °C for up to 6 months. Alternatively, usage size aliquots of the supplement can be made and frozen at -5 °C to -20 °C for up to 6 months. Avoid multiple freeze-thaw cycles.

- 1.5 Feed the PSCs the day after seeding followed by every-other-day thereafter.

Note

If the cells are to be left without feeding for two days (for example, over a weekend), then double the feed volume (i.e., 4 mL added per well of 6-well plate).

- 1.6 iPSCs should be split when cells are ~ 80% confluent.

- 1.7 Thaw Matrigel on ice and dilute in pre-chilled Knockout DMEM for a final volume of 100 Mass Percent .

- 1.8 Coat desired wells/plates with diluted Matrigel and incubate at 37 °C for 00:30:00 - 01:00:00 using the following table for volumes to add **per well**:

Per:	96-well	24-well	12-well	6-well	10-cm dish	15-cm dish
Volume to add:	40 µL	200 µL	0.5 mL	1 mL	5 mL	10 mL

Note

Matrigel may be re-used during this time only to coat additional plates. Original plates should have PBS or media to prevent the matrix from drying out. Matrigel coated plates must be used within 14 days of coating.



1.9 Tilt cell-containing plate towards you and aspirate existing media.

1.10 Wash wells once with ample PBS (about 2x amount of media).



1.11 Add accutase to well(s) using the following table for volumes per well and incubate at 37 °C for 00:03:00 ; add another 01:00:00 - 00:02:00 if cells have not mostly lifted/dissociated.



Per:	96-well	24-well	12-well	6-well	10-cm dish	15-cm dish
Volume to add:	20 μ L	100 μ L	250 μ L	0.5 mL	2 mL	4 mL

1.12 Add ample PBS to accutase-containing well(s) to dilute accutase using the following table for volumes per well:

Per:	96-well	24-well	12-well	6-well	10-cm dish	15-cm dish
Volume to add:	200 μ L	1 mL	2.5 mL	5 mL	10 mL	20 mL

1.13 Pipette up and down gently to mechanically release remaining cells, collect, and add to appropriately-sized conical tubes.



1.14 Spin cells at 200 x g for 00:05:00 at Room temperature .



1.15 Carefully aspirate supernatant from pelleted conicals.

- 1.16 Add appropriate volume of StemFlex + Rock inhibitor at **10** 10 micromolar (μM) to conicals according to pellet size for counting.

Note

Rock inhibitor should only be used when cells are individualized or in small colonies (typically the first two days after passaging); the presence of Ri at higher densities results in cell stress/death, and in general, Rock inhibitor greatly reduces proliferation.

Note

For first time use of Rock inhibitor, it is suggested to aliquot at 10mM [1000x], diluting in DPBS, and use on cells at concentration **10** 10 Mass Percent .

- 1.17 Triturate to resuspend cells in StemFlex + Rock inhibitor and remove 10 μL and add this volume to a 1.5mL Eppendorf tube.

Note

Be careful to minimize contact of pipette with the side of the conical wall.

- 1.18 Count cells and calculate desired number of cells to seed, and dilute this volume with additional StemFlex + Rock inhibitor to plate using the following table for volume to add per well:

Per:	96-well	24-well	12-well	6-well	10-cm dish	15-cm dish
Volume to add:	50-100 μL	250-500 μL	0.75-1 mL	1.5-2 mL	8-12 mL	15-25 mL

Note

For general passaging where exact cell number seeded is not important, adding resuspended cells at 1:100, 1:50, and 1:20 the final well volume typically provides near-confluency in 7 days, 5 days, and 3 days, respectively.

1.19 iPSCs can be frozen in StemFlex + 10% DMSO.



Days -3-0: Pre-differentiation

2

Note

Pre-Differentiation and Differentiation Notes:

1. Keep reagents at 4 °C for a maximum of 4 weeks, If needing long term storage, don't freeze-thaw more than 3 times.
2. Sometimes pre-differentiated cells take a long time to come off of the plate on Day 0. This is usually okay. It is important that your cells are single cells.
3. Feeding schedule and volumes:

Screen Shot 2019-10-19 at 12.21.48 PM.png

Make N2 Pre-differentiation Media:

Component	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	Dilution Factor	For 100 mL (mL)	For 50 mL (units in cell)
Konckout DME M/F1 2	1X	1X	1	100	50mL
NEA A	100X	1X	100	1	500 uL
N2 Supplement	100X	1X	100	1	500 uL



NT-3	10ug/mL	10ng/mL	1000	0.1	50uL
BDNF	10ug/mL	10ng/mL	1000	0.1	50uL
Mouse Laminin*	1.0mg/mL	1ug/mL	1000	0.1	50uL
ROCK Inhibitor**	10mM	10uM	1000	0.1	50uL
Doxycycline**	2mg/mL	2ug/mL	1000	0.1	50uL

*Mouse Laminin comes at variable concentrations, so make sure the final concentration is correct in the media you are making!

**Only add during plating of iPSCs on Day -3 and omit for any further media changes

***Add immediately before use

- 3 Coat plate with matrigel diluted in Knockout DMEM. Coat for at least  00:30:00 (or O/N). Coated plates can last in the  37 °C incubator for 14 days.
- 4 Aspirate media from iPSCs and wash with DPBS.
- 5 Add Accutase and incubate at  37 °C for  00:03:00 ; if necessary, incubate for additional time up to  00:07:00 .
- 6 Use gentle agitation to release cells, and collect in an Eppendorf tube or conical with DPBS.
- 7 Spin cells at  200 x g for  00:05:00 resuspend in N2 pre-diff media.
- 8 Count cells and add desired amount to an Eppendorf tube or conical, spin, resuspend in N2 pre-differentiation media, and plate onto Matrigel-coated cell culture vessels for the pre-differentiation. Reference seeding density chart for plating



- 9 Perform $\frac{1}{2}$ pre-differentiation media change every day (w/dox, no RI) throughout days 0-3 pre-differentiation period or full media change on day -1 or day -2. **Be consistent.**
- 10 Going into differentiation, it is best if cells are in single-cell suspension. Optional: use cell strainer.
- 11 Pre-differentiated cells can be frozen in 10%DMSO + N2/B27 Differentiation media (**can also freeze in pre-diff media).

Day 0: Releasing and Plating Pre-Differentiated iNeurons

- 12 Make N2/B27 Differentiation Media:

Component	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	Dilution Factor	For 100 mL (mL)	For 50 mL (units in cell)
DME M/F1 2*	1X	0.5X	2	50	25mL
Neurobasal-A	1X	0.5X	2	50	25mL
NEA A	100X	1X	100	1	500 uL
GlutaMAX	100X	0.5X	200	0.5	250 uL
N2 Supplement	100X	0.5X	200	0.5	250 uL
B27-VA Supplement	50X	0.5X	100	1	500 uL
NT-3	10ug/mL	10ng/mL	1000	0.1	50uL
BDNF	10ug/mL	10ng/mL	1000	0.1	50uL



Mouse Laminin*	1.0mg/mL	1ug/mL	1000	0.1	50uL
Doxycycline**	2mg/mL	2ug/mL	1000	0.1	50uL

*DMEM/F12 with either bicarbonate or HEPES buffer is okay, but we have had qualitatively better neurons with HEPES buffer when grown and differentiated side-by-side. HEPES is essential for imaging, as media will change color after ~30 minutes if using bicarbonate buffered media.

**Mouse Laminin comes at variable concentrations, so make sure the final concentration is correct in the media you are making!

***Add immediately before use and only on Day 0

- 13 Aspirate media and wash with DPBS.
- 14 Add Accutase and incubate at 37 °C for 00:03:00 ; if necessary, incubate for additional time up to 00:07:00 .
- 15 Use gentle agitation to release cells, and collect in an Eppendorf tube or conical with DPBS.
- 16 Spin cells at 200 x g for 00:05:00 .
- 17 Carefully aspirate DPBS/accutase solution and resuspend in Classic N2/B27 Differentiation Media.
- 18 Count cells, dilute to appropriate density, and plate onto PDL-coated cell culture vessels.
- 19 Leftover cells can be frozen down in pre-differentiation media + 10% DMSO.

Day 0+: Neuronal differentiation

- 20 Full media change on day 3 post-plating, once debris is observed.



- 21 Pipet at the wall of the plate. **DO NOT TOUCH BOTTOM OF PLATE!** Be extra careful with 96 well plates.
- 22 Change Classic N2/B27 Differentiation media at minimum once every week without dox or rock inhibitor.
- 23 Closely monitor. Wait for a week at minimum before using for experiment. Preferably, use after 2 weeks.