



Sep 06, 2022

Lentivirus production for primary neuron transduction

 [Nature Communications](#)

DOI

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kqdg39eo1g25/v1>

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DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kqdg39eo1g25/v1>

External link: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.02.18.481043v1.full>



Protocol Citation: Miguel Da Silva Padilha, Irina Dudanova, Itika Saha, F. Ulrich Hartl, Mark S. Hipp 2022. Lentivirus production for primary neuron transduction. **protocols.io** <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.kqdg39eo1g25/v1>

Manuscript citation:

Itika Saha, Patricia Yuste-Checa, Miguel Da Silva Padilha, Qiang Guo, Roman Körner, Hauke Holthusen, Victoria A. Trinkaus, Irina Dudanova, Rubén Fernández-Busnadiego, Wolfgang Baumeister, David W. Sanders, Saurabh Gautam, Marc I. Diamond, F. Ulrich Hartl, Mark S. Hipp bioRxiv 2022.02.18.481043; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.02.18.481043>

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: September 05, 2022

Last Modified: May 31, 2024

Protocol Integer ID: 69592

Keywords: ASAPCRN, lentivirus production for primary neuron transduction, lentivirus production, production of lentivirus, lentivirus, primary neuron transduction, mouse primary neuron, primary neuron, neuron

Abstract

This protocol describes the production of lentiviruses to transduce mouse primary neurons and has to be performed in a biosafety level 2 laboratory

Safety warnings

! This protocol describes the production of lentiviruses to transduce mouse primary neurons and has to be performed in a biosafety level 2 laboratory



- 1 Expand HEK293T cells (LentiX 293T cell line, Takara) for lentiviral packaging to 70-85% confluency in DMEM Glutamax (+4.5 g/L D-glucose, - pyruvate) supplemented with 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS)(Sigma), 1% G418 (Gibco), 1% Non-Essential Amino Acids (Thermo Fisher) and 1% HEPES (Biomol).

Note

NOTE: Only low passage cells should be used.

- 2 For lentiviral production, plate cells ($\sim 4.8 \times 10^6$) in a three-layered 525 cm² flask (Falcon).
- 3 On the following day, transfect cells with 59.52 µg expression plasmid, 35.2 µg packaging plasmid psPAX2 (RRID:Addgene_12260) and 20.48 µg envelope plasmid pVsVg (gift from Dieter Edbauer) using 345.6 µl TransIT-Lenti transfection reagent (Mirus) in 9.6 mL DMEM without FBS. 1d
- 4 Incubate transfection mix for 20 min at room temperature and exchange the cell medium in the meantime. 20m
- 5 Add 10 mL of transfection mix to the flask, followed by incubation overnight.
- 6 Exchange the medium on the following day. 1d
- 7 After 48-52 h, collect culture medium containing the viral particles and centrifuge for 10 min at 1,200 x g. 2d
- 8 Filter the supernatant through 0.45 µm pore size filters using 50 mL syringes and add 20 mL Lenti-X concentrator (Takara) to filtered supernatant.
- 9 Incubate overnight at 4 °C and centrifuge samples at 1,500 x g for 45 min at 4 °C. 1d
- 10 Remove the supernatant and resuspend the lentivirus pellet in 150 µL TBS-5 buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 130 mM NaCl, 10 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂).
- 11 After aliquoting, store lentivirus at -80 °C.



- 12 Thaw virus preparation immediately before adding to freshly prepared neuronal culture medium.
- 13 Remove a fifth of the medium from cultured neurons and add the equivalent volume of virus-containing medium.

Note

NOTE: Volume of concentrated virus to be added to the neurons and the length of transduction should be determined empirically.