

Jun 02, 2025

Version 1

[MDC_Alternative_2D_hiPSC-CM_diff] hiPSC Cardiomyocyte differentiation V.1

DOI

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.14egn9p8yI5d/v1

Yuichiro Ueda¹, Carolin Genehr¹

¹Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine



Yuichiro Ueda

Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine

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Protocol Citation: Yuichiro Ueda, Carolin Genehr 2025. [MDC_Alternative_2D_hiPSC-CM_diff] hiPSC Cardiomyocyte differentiation. [protocols.io https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.14egn9p8yI5d/v1](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.14egn9p8yI5d/v1)Version created by [Yuichiro Ueda](#)

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: March 12, 2025

Last Modified: June 02, 2025

Protocol Integer ID: 124261

Keywords: hipsc cardiomyocyte differentiation this protocol, hipsc cardiomyocyte differentiation, derived cardiomyocyte, beating cardiomyocyte, induced pluripotent stem cell, pluripotent stem cell, robust cardiac differentiation through sequential modulation, robust cardiac differentiation, wnt signaling, 2d differentiation method, mdc-alternative-2d-hipsc, differentiation

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Abstract

This protocol outlines a small molecules based, 2D differentiation method for generating high-purity human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes (hiPSC-CMs). Optimized for reproducibility across hiPSC lines, the procedure achieves robust cardiac differentiation through sequential modulation of Wnt signaling, yielding functional beating cardiomyocytes by days 7–10.

Troubleshooting



Day-3 Matrix coating of Culture Vessels

10m

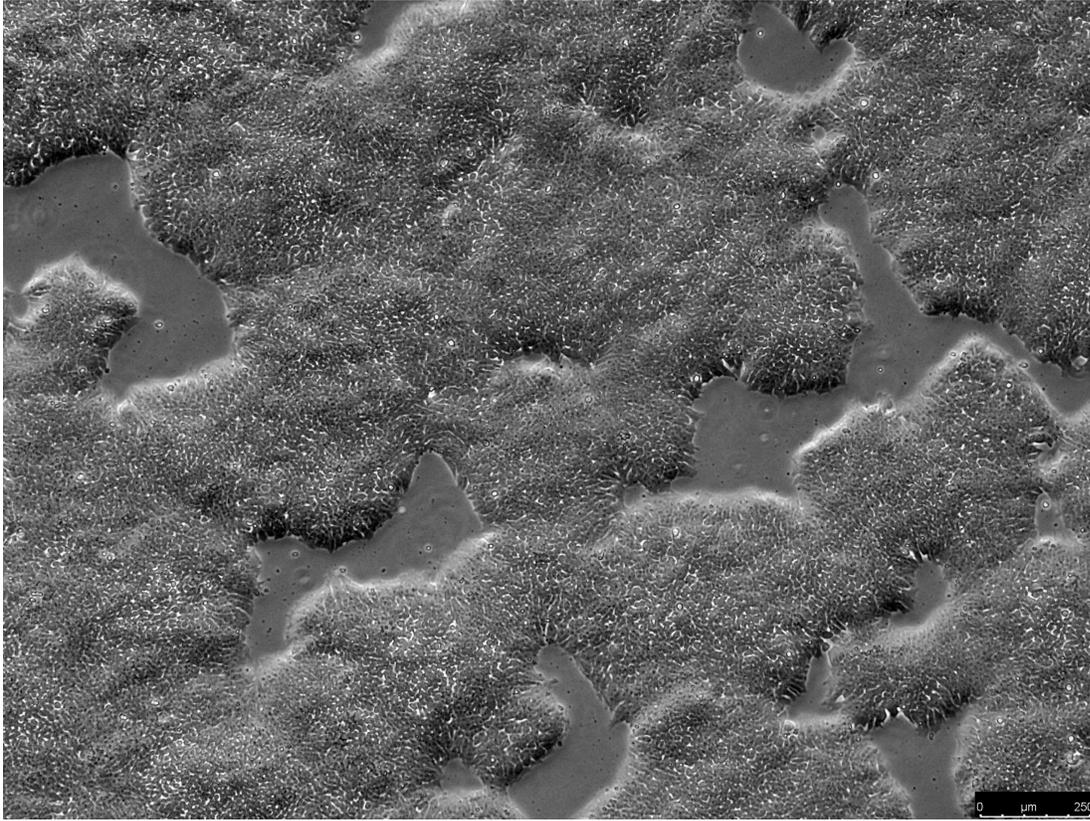
- 1 Coating of culture vessels (Geltrex, Laminin-511, etc.) according to optimize protocol for hiPSC

10m

Day-3 Seeding hiPSCs

3d

- 2 Passage hiPSCs as single cells using Accutase or 1x TrypLE after 1x PBS(-) wash
- 3 Seed hiPSCs on Matrix-coated 6-well plates at a density of 4×10^5 cells/well in E8 medium supplemented with 10 micromolar (μM) ROCK inhibitor for the first 24:00:00 .
- 4 Incubate in a hypoxia incubator (5 % CO₂ , 5 % O₂ , 37 °C).
- 5 Change the medium to E8 without ROCK inhibitor after 24:00:00 , and continue daily media changes until the cell density reaches 90-95 % (approximately 3-4 days). *Never reach full confluency



hiPSC in E8 (day4) before differentiation, 90% confluency

3d



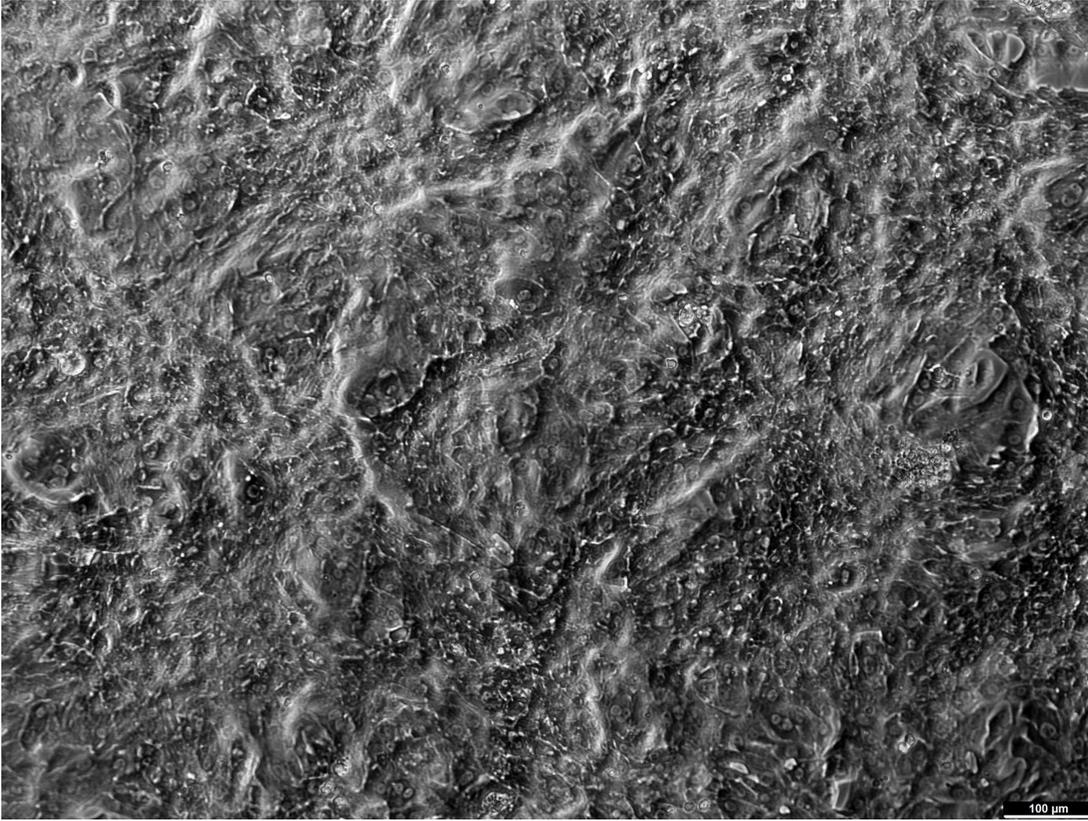
Day 0-21 Cardiac Differentiation

1w 2d

- 6 Day 0 (Priming): Change the medium to /well of Cardiac: priming medium (RPMI 1640 + B27 Minus Insulin + CHIR-99021). Use a CHIR concentration between depending on the individual hiPSC line.
- 7 Day 1: Add basal Differentiation medium/well (B27-minus insulin, w/o CHIR-99021) without removing the previous Cardiac: priming medium.

1d

- 8 Day 3 (Induction): Remove the basal Differentiation medium and add  4 mL of Cardiac: induction medium/well (RPMI 1640 + B27 Minus Insulin + IWR-1-endo). Use  5 micromolar (μM) IWR-1-endo for our iPSC. 2d
- 9 Day 5: Add  4 mL basal Differentiation medium/well (B27-minus insulin, w/o IWR-1-endo) without removing the previous Cardiac: induction medium.
- 10 Day 7: Remove Differentiation medium and replace with  2-3 mL Maintenance medium (RPMI 1640 + B27)
- 11 Day 8: Remove Maintenance medium and replace with  2-3 mL Maintenance medium (RPMI 1640 + B27) Beating cells should be observed around days 7-10.
- 12 Days 9-14: Change Maintenance medium  3 mL every  48:00:00 . 2d
- 13 Days 9-12 (Optional Lactate Selection): If desired, perform metabolic selection. Replace Maintenance medium with  2 mL Lactate Selection medium/well (RPMI 1640 w/o glucose + CDM3 supplement + Sodium DL-lactate  50 μL). Check for cell death and replace Lactate Selection medium as needed. After  24:00:00 , revert to Maintenance medium if a high proportion of beating hPSC-CMs is observed. 1d
- 14 Days 15-21: Perform media changes  3-5 mL every  24:00:00 to  48:00:00 with Maintenance medium depends on the color (yellowish: metabolites such as lactate) of medium.



hiPSC-CMs (d20, 1 day Lactate selection) Yield: 146.2 Mio from 18 wells of 6-well plate

3d

Notes

- 15 Ensure that all steps are performed with sterile techniques.
Optimize CHIR concentration (5-10 μM) for each cell line.
Be gentle during cell resuspension to avoid osmotic shock and shear stress.