

## Data Sheet

# HEK293 GABAA Receptor $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$ (short form) Cell Line

**SCC460**

**Pack Size:  $\geq 1 \times 10^6$  viable cells/vial**

**Store in liquid nitrogen.**

**FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY**

**Not for use in diagnostic procedures. Not for human or animal consumption.**

## Background

GABA ( $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid) is the major inhibitory neurotransmitter in the central nervous system. It acts through GABA-A and GABA-B receptors. GABAA receptors are widespread in brain.<sup>1</sup> They are ligand gated chloride ion channels and play a major role in modulating fast inhibitory neurotransmission.<sup>2</sup> Dysfunction or mutation of this receptor results in neurological disorders including epilepsy and schizophrenia.<sup>3</sup> They are the targets for various drugs including sedatives, hypnotics, anxiolytics, anticonvulsants as well as other general anesthetics.<sup>4</sup> Structurally GABAA receptors (GABAA Rs) are heteropentamers. Receptors with two  $\alpha$  subunits, two  $\beta$  subunits and one  $\gamma$  subunit is most observed with the prevalent native subunit combinations of  $\alpha 1$  and  $\beta 2$  or  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 3$  with  $\gamma 2$  subunit.

The  $\gamma 2$  subunit contributes to postsynaptic clustering of GABAA Rs during synaptogenesis, postsynaptic localization and maintenance of GABAA R at mature synapses. Alternative RNA splicing results in the expression of two isoforms of the  $\gamma$  subunit ( $\gamma 2S$ , short isoform;  $\gamma 2L$ , long isoform).  $\gamma 2S$  is expressed early in development, while  $\gamma 2L$  increases markedly in the adult brain. The long isoform,  $\gamma 2L$ , has insertion of eight amino acids and regulates synaptic stabilization and trafficking. GABAA Rs containing  $\gamma 2S$  are less stable within the synapse and migrate to extra-synaptic compartments. These receptors exhibit enhanced GABA transmission and reduced desensitization compared with  $\gamma 2L$ -containing GABAA Rs.<sup>5</sup> Pharmacologic sensitivity and physiologic characteristics of these receptors are determined by these constituent subunits.

The receptors with short splice variant of  $\gamma 2$  subunit are insensitive to volatile anesthetic, isofluorane.<sup>6</sup> The HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) Cell Line, SCC460, presented herewith, are transfected to stably express  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short isoform) of GABAA receptor. They can be utilized to efficiently study their function and pharmacologic effects of various compounds *in vitro*.

## Source

HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) Cell Line was derived from gene edited HEK293 cells.<sup>7</sup>

## Short Tandem Repeat

D3S1358:	15,16,17	D13S317:	12
D7S820:	11	D16S539:	9, 13
vWA:	15,16,17,18,19	TH01:	7, 9.3
FGA:	22, 23	TPOX:	11,12
D8S1179:	11,12,13,14,15,16	CSF1PO:	11,12,13
D21S11:	28,29.2	Amelogenin:	X
D18S51:	17,18,19	Penta D:	9,10
D5S818:	8,9	Penta E:	7, 15

Cell lines are inherently genetically unstable. Instability may arise in the form of loss of heterozygosity of alleles at one or more genetic sites with increased passages.

## Quality Control Testing

HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) cells are verified to be of human origin and negative for mouse, rat, Chinese hamster, Golden Syrian hamster, and non-human primate interspecies contamination, as assessed by a Contamination Clear panel by Charles River Animal Diagnostic Services.

Cells tested negative for infectious diseases against a Human Essential CLEAR panel by Charles River Animal Diagnostic Services.

Cells tested negative for mycoplasma.

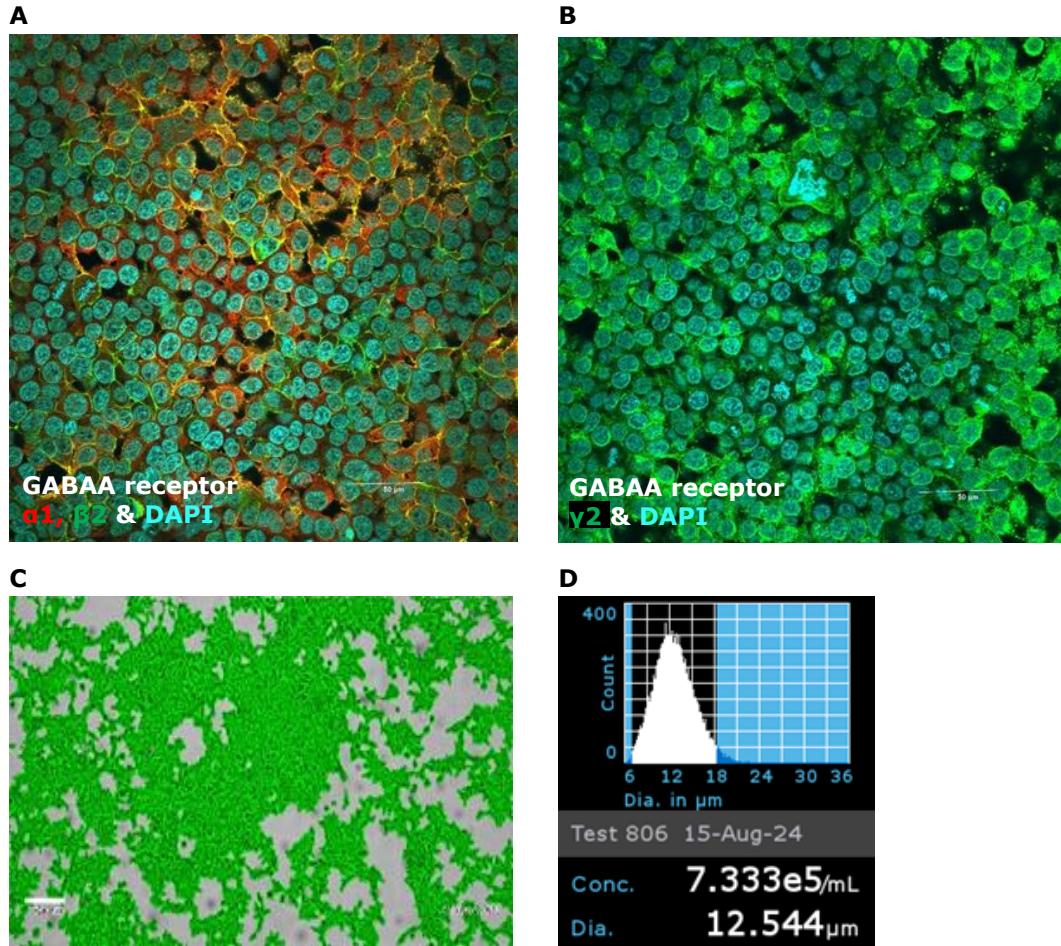
## Storage and Handling

HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) cells should be stored in liquid nitrogen until use. The cells can be cultured for at least 10 passages after initial thawing without significantly affecting the cell marker expression and functionality.

## Materials Required (Not provided)

- DMEM, high glucose (D6429)
- Fetal bovine serum (ES-009-B)
- Glutamine (TMS-002-C)
- Penicillin/streptomycin (P4333)
- Puromycin (P7255)
- Accutase® (SCR005)
- D-PBS without Calcium & Magnesium (D8537)

## Representative Data



**Figure:** 40X Immuno-fluorescence images of SCC460 cells showing expression of GABAA Receptor subunits- $\alpha$ 1 (abcam, ab281915) and  $\beta$ 2 (MAB341, **A**) and  $\gamma$ 2 (MABN875, **B**). (**C**) Masked 10X phase contrast Millicell® DCI image of SCC460 on Day 3 showing 68% confluence. (**D**) Graph showing SCC460 cell count measured by Scepter™ 3.

## Protocols

### Thawing the Cells

1. Do not thaw the cells until the recommended medium is on hand. Cells can grow on standard tissue cultureware surfaces without any additional coating.
2. Cells are thawed and expanded in HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha$ 1 $\beta$ 2 $\gamma$ 2 (short form) cell Expansion Medium comprising of DMEM-High Glucose medium containing 10% FBS, 2 mM L-Glutamine, Pen/Strep and 2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  Puromycin.
3. Remove the vial of frozen HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha$ 1 $\beta$ 2 $\gamma$ 2 (short form) cells from liquid nitrogen and incubate in a 37 °C water bath. Closely monitor until the cells are completely thawed. Maximum cell viability is dependent on the rapid and complete thawing of frozen cells. Do not vortex the cells.
4. As soon as the cells are completely thawed, disinfect the outside of the vial with 70% ethanol. Proceed immediately to the next step.
5. In a laminar flow hood, use a 1-2 mL pipette to transfer the cells to a sterile 15 mL conical tube. Be careful not to introduce any bubbles during the transfer process.

6. Using a 10 mL pipette, slowly add dropwise 6 mL Expansion Medium (Step 2 above) to the 15 mL conical tube.  
**IMPORTANT:** Do not add the entire volume of media all at once to the cells. This may result in decreased cell viability due to osmotic shock.
7. Gently mix the cell suspension by slowly pipetting up and down twice. Be careful not to introduce any bubbles.
8. Do not vortex the cells.
9. Centrifuge the tube at 300 x g for 5-8 minutes to pellet the cells.
10. Decant as much of the supernatant as possible. Steps 5-8 are necessary to remove residual cryopreservative (DMSO).
11. Resuspend the cells in 15 mL of expansion Medium.
12. Transfer the cell mixture to a T75 tissue culture flask.
13. Incubate the cells at 37 °C in a humidified incubator with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.

### Subculturing the Cells

1. HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) cells can be passaged at ~85% to 90 confluence.
2. Carefully remove the medium from the T75 tissue culture flask containing the confluent layer of HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) cells.
3. Rinse the flask with 10 mL 1X PBS. Aspirate after the rinse.
4. Apply 5-7 mL of Accutase® and incubate in a 37 °C incubator for 3 minutes.
5. Inspect the flask and ensure the complete detachment of cells by gently tapping the side of the flask with the palm of your hand.
6. Add 5-7 mL of expansion Medium to the plate.
7. Gently rotate the flask to mix the cell suspension. Transfer the dissociated cells to a 15 mL conical tube.
8. Centrifuge the tube at 300 x g for 8 minutes to pellet the cells.
9. Discard the supernatant, then loosen the cell pellet by tapping the tip of the tube with a finger.
10. Apply 2-5 mL of Expansion Medium to the conical tube and resuspend the cells thoroughly. Large cell clumps may be broken up by gentle trituration. Do not vortex the cells.
11. Count the number of cells and plate the cells to the desired density. Typical split ratio is 1:6.

### Cryopreservation of the Cells

1. HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) cells may be frozen in expansion Medium (without Puromycin and without Pen/Strep) supplemented with 10% DMSO.
2. The cells can be stored at -80 °C overnight in a Nalgene® slow freeze Mr. Frosty® container and can subsequently be transferred and stored in liquid nitrogen.

### References

1. Nutt DJ, Malizia AL. New insights into the role of the GABA(A)-benzodiazepine receptor in psychiatric disorder. *Br J Psychiatry*. 2001 Nov;179:390-6. doi: 10.1192/bjp.179.5.390. PMID: 11689393.
2. Maconochie DJ, Zempel JM, Steinbach JH. How quickly can GABAA receptors open? *Neuron*. 1994 Jan; 12(1):61-71. doi: 10.1016/0896-6273(94)90152-x. PMID: 8292360.
3. Jacob TC, Moss SJ, Jurd R. GABA(A) receptor trafficking and its role in the dynamic modulation of neuronal inhibition. *Nat Rev Neurosci*. 2008 May;9(5):331-43. doi: 10.1038/nrn2370. PMID: 18382465; PMCID: PMC2709246.
4. Zhu S, Noviello CM, Teng J, Walsh RM Jr, Kim JJ, Hibbs RE. Structure of a human synaptic GABAA receptor. *Nature*. 2018 Jul;559(7712):67-72. doi: 10.1038/s41586-018-0255-3. Epub 2018 Jun 27. PMID: 29950725; PMCID: PMC6220708.
5. Edokpolor KS, Banerjee A, McEachin ZT, Gu J, Kosti A, Arboleda JD, García PS, Wang ET, Bassell GJ. Altered Behavioral Responses Show GABA Sensitivity in Muscleblind-Like 2-Deficient Mice: Implications for CNS Symptoms in Myotonic Dystrophy. *eNeuro*. 2022 Oct ;9(5): ENEURO.0218-22.2022. doi: 10.1523/ENEURO.0218-22.2022. PMID: 36150891; PMCID: PMC9557336.

6. Benkwitz C, Banks MI, Pearce RA. Influence of GABAA receptor gamma2 splice variants on receptor kinetics and isoflurane modulation. *Anesthesiology*. 2004 Oct;101(4):924-36. doi: 10.1097/00000542-200410000-00018. PMID: 15448526.
7. Perszyk RE, Yip MC, McConnell OL, Wang ET, Jenkins A, Traynelis SF, Forest CR. Automated Intracellular Pharmacological Electrophysiology for Ligand-Gated Ionotropic Receptor and Pharmacology Screening. *Mol Pharmacol*. 2021 Jul;100(1):73-82. doi: 10.1124/molpharm.120.000195. Epub 2021 May 6. PMID: 33958481; PMCID: PMC8274318.

## Academic Use Agreement

Subject to local law

THIS PRODUCT MAY ONLY BE USED BY INDIVIDUALS EMPLOYED BY AN ACADEMIC INSTITUTION AND IS INTENDED SOLELY TO BE USED FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH, WHICH IS FURTHER DEFINED BELOW. BY OPENING THIS PRODUCT, YOU ("PURCHASER") HEREBY REPRESENT THAT YOU HAVE THE RIGHT AND AUTHORITY TO LEGALLY BIND YOURSELF AND/OR YOUR EMPLOYER INSTITUTION, AS APPLICABLE, AND CONSENT TO BE LEGALLY BOUND BY THE TERMS OF THIS ACADEMIC USE AGREEMENT. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE TO COMPLY WITH THESE TERMS, YOU MAY NOT OPEN OR USE THE PRODUCT AND YOU MUST CALL CUSTOMER SERVICE (1-800-645-5476) TO ARRANGE TO RETURN THE PRODUCT FOR A REFUND.

"Product" means HEK293 GABAA Receptor  $\alpha 1\beta 2\gamma 2$  (short form) Cell Line (SCC460).

"Academic Research" means any internal in vitro research use by individuals employed by an academic institution. Academic Research specifically excludes the following uses of whatever kind or nature:

- Re-engineering or copying the Product
- Making derivatives, modifications, or functional equivalents of the Product
- Obtaining patents or other intellectual property rights claiming use of the Product
- Using the Product in the development, testing, or manufacture of a Commercial Product
- Using the Product as a component of a Commercial Product
- Reselling or licensing the Product
- Using the Product in clinical or therapeutic applications including producing materials for clinical trials
- Administering the Product to humans
- Using the Product in collaboration with a commercial or non-academic entity

"Commercial Product" means any product intended for: (i) current or future sale; (ii) use in a fee-for-service; or (iii) any diagnostic, clinical, or therapeutic use.

Access to the Product is limited solely to those officers, employees, and students of PURCHASER's academic institution who need access to the Product to perform Academic Research. PURCHASER shall comply with all applicable laws in its use and handling of the Product and shall keep it under reasonably safe and secure conditions to prevent unauthorized use or access.

These use restrictions will remain in effect for as long as PURCHASER possesses the Product.

COMMERCIAL OR NON-ACADEMIC ENTITIES INTERESTED IN PURCHASING OR USING THE PRODUCT MUST CONTACT [licensing@emdmillipore.com](mailto:licensing@emdmillipore.com) AND AGREE TO SEPARATE TERMS OF USE PRIOR TO USE OR PURCHASE.

## Notice

We provide information and advice to our customers on application technologies and regulatory matters to the best of our knowledge and ability, but without obligation or liability. Existing laws and regulations are to be observed in all cases by our customers. This also applies in respect to any rights of third parties. Our information and advice do not relieve our customers of their own responsibility for checking the suitability of our products for the envisaged purpose.

The information in this document is subject to change without notice and should not be construed as a commitment by the manufacturing or selling entity, or an affiliate. We assume no responsibility for any errors that may appear in this document.

### Technical Assistance

Visit the tech service page at [SigmaAldrich.com/techservice](https://SigmaAldrich.com/techservice).

### Terms and Conditions of Sale

Warranty, use restrictions, and other conditions of sale may be found at [SigmaAldrich.com/terms](https://SigmaAldrich.com/terms).

### Contact Information

For the location of the office nearest you, go to [SigmaAldrich.com/offices](https://SigmaAldrich.com/offices).

The life science business of Merck operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada.

Merck, Scepter, Millicell and Sigma-Aldrich are trademarks of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany or its affiliates. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Detailed information on trademarks is available via publicly accessible resources.

© 2024 Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and/or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved.

Document Template 20306518 Ver 6.0

23153226, Ver 1.0, Rev 22NOV2024, AV

