

Blood-Brain Barrier hCMEC/D3 Cell Line

Immortalized Cell Line

Cat. # SCC066

FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY
NOT FOR USE IN DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES
NOT FOR HUMAN OR ANIMAL CONSUMPTION
THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

Pack size: $\geq 1 \times 10^6$
cells/vial

Store at Liquid Nitrogen



Certificate of Analysis

page 1 of 3

Background

The blood-brain barrier (BBB) is a highly selective permeability barrier that separates the circulating blood from the brain extracellular fluid in the central nervous system. The blood-brain barrier is formed by capillary endothelial cells, which are connected by tight junctions with an extremely high electrical resistivity. The blood-brain barrier allows the passage of water, some gases, and lipid soluble molecules by passive diffusion, as well as the selective transport of molecules such as glucose and amino acids that are crucial to neural function. On the other hand, the blood-brain barrier may prevent the entry of lipophilic, potential neurotoxins by way of an active transport mechanism mediated by P-glycoprotein. Astrocytes are necessary to create the blood-brain barrier. The blood-brain barrier (BBB) prevents entry into the brain of most drugs from the blood. The presence of the BBB makes difficult the development of new treatments of brain diseases, or new radiopharmaceuticals for neuroimaging of brain.

The hCMEC/D3 cell line was derived from human temporal lobe microvessels isolated from tissue excised during surgery for control of epilepsy. The primary isolate was enriched in cerebral endothelial cells (CECs). In the first passage, cells were sequentially immortalized by lentiviral vector transduction with the catalytic subunit of human telomerase (hTERT) and SV40 large T antigen, following which CEC were selectively isolated by limited dilution cloning, and clones were extensively characterized for brain endothelial phenotype. This brain microvascular endothelial cell line represents one such model of the human BBB that can be easily grown and is amenable to cellular and molecular studies on pathological and drug transport mechanisms with relevance to the central nervous system (CNS).

Source

The Blood-Brain Barrier hCMEC/D3 cell line was isolated from a consenting normal human donor following established protocols.

Storage and Handling

Blood-Brain Barrier hCMEC/D3 cells should be stored in liquid nitrogen. The cells can be passage for at least 10 passages without significantly affecting the cell marker expression and functionality.

Quality Control Testing

- Each vial contains $\geq 1 \times 10^6$ viable cells.
- Cells are tested by PCR and are negative for Hepatitis A, B, C, HPV, Herpes and HIV-1 & 2 viruses.
- Cells are negative for mycoplasma contamination.
- Each lot of cells is genotyped by STR analysis to verify the unique identity of the cell line.

References

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Schreibelt G, et al. (2007) Reactive oxygen species alter brain endothelial tight junction dynamics via RhoA, PI3 kinase, and PKB signaling. *FASEB J*. 2007 Nov;21(13):3666-76.

Tai LM, et al. (2009) P-glycoprotein and breast cancer resistance protein restrict apical-to-basolateral permeability of human brain endothelium to amyloid-beta. *J Cereb Blood Flow Metab*. 2009 Jun;29(6):1079-83.

Coureuil M, et al. (2010) Meningococcus Hijacks a β 2-adrenoceptor/ β -Arrestin pathway to cross brain microvasculature endothelium. *Cell*. 2010 Dec 23;143(7):1149-60.

SPECIES LEGEND: H Human Ca Canine M Mouse R Rat Rb Rabbit B Bovine P Porcine WR Most Common Vertebrates

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Protocols

hCMEC/D3 Medium Preparation

Cells are cultured in EndoGRO™-MV Complete Media Kit (Cat. No. SCME004) supplemented with 1 ng/mL FGF-2 (Cat. No. GF003).

ECM Coating of Flasks

1. Thaw Collagen Type I, Rat Tail (Cat. No. 08-115) at room temperature.
2. Dilute 1 mL of Collagen Type I with 19 mL 1X PBS (Cat. No. BSS-1005-B). Mix gently. Scale up according to the volumes required.
3. Coat flask with 1:20 diluted Collagen Type I solution. Use 5-10 mL for T75 flasks and 15-25 mL for T225 flasks. Incubate in 37°C incubator for at least one hour before use.

Note: Flasks may be coated 5-6 days in advance and stored at 2-8°C in the coating solution.

4. Aspirate the coating solution just before plating the cells.

Thawing of Cells

1. **Do not thaw the cells until the recommended medium is on hand.** Cells are thawed in hCMEC/D3 Medium (see hCMEC/D3 Medium Preparation above).
2. Remove the vial of hCMEC/D3 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.

IMPORTANT: Do not vortex the cells.

3. As soon as the cells are completely thawed, disinfect the outside of the vial with 70% ethanol. Proceed immediately to the next step.
4. In a laminar flow hood, use a 1 or 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.
5. Using a 10 mL pipette, slowly add dropwise 9 mL of hCMEC/D3 Medium (pre-warmed to 37°C) to the 15 mL conical tube.

IMPORTANT: Do not add the whole volume of media at once to the cells. This may result in decreased cell viability due to osmotic shock.

6. Gently mix the cell suspension by slow pipetting up and down twice. Be careful to not introduce any bubbles.

IMPORTANT: Do not vortex the cells.

7. Centrifuge the tube at 300 x g for 2-3 minutes to pellet the cells.
8. Decant as much of the supernatant as possible. Steps 5-8 are necessary to remove residual cryopreservative (DMSO).
9. Resuspend the cells in a total volume of 10 -12 mL hCMEC/D3 medium (pre-warmed to 37°C).
10. Plate the cell mixture onto a pre-coated T75 tissue culture flask (See section on ECM Coating of Flasks).
11. Incubate the cells at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ humidified incubator.
12. The next day, exchange the medium with fresh hCMEC/D3 Medium pre-warmed to 37°C. Exchange with fresh medium every two to three days thereafter.
13. When the cells are approximately 80% confluent (3-4 days after plating cells at the density they can be dissociated with Accumax™ (Cat. No. SCR006) or trypsin-EDTA (Cat. No. SM-2003-C) and passaged or alternatively frozen for later use.

Subculturing of Cells

1. Carefully remove the medium from the T75 tissue culture flask containing the confluent layer of hCMEC/D3 cells.
2. Apply 3-5 mL of Accumax™ or trypsin-EDTA solution and incubate in a 37°C incubator for 3-5 minutes.
3. Inspect the plate and ensure the complete detachment of cells by gently tapping the side of the plate with the palm of your hand.
4. Add 8 mL of hCMEC/D3 medium (pre-warmed to 37°C) to the plate.
5. Gently rotate the plate to mix the cell suspension. Transfer the dissociated cells to a 15 mL conical tube.
6. Centrifuge the tube at 300 x g for 3-5 minutes to pellet the cells.
7. Discard the supernatant.
8. Apply 2 mL of hCMEC/D3 media (pre-warmed to 37°C) to the conical tube and resuspend the cells thoroughly.

IMPORTANT: Do not vortex the cells.

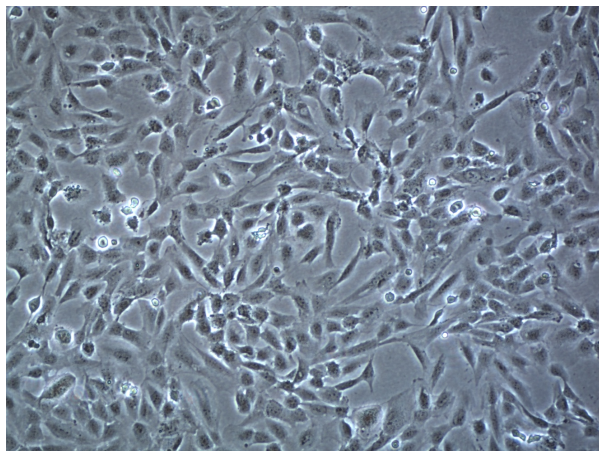
9. Count the number of cells using a hemocytometer.
10. Plate the cells to the desired density (typical split ratio is 1:3 to 1:6).

Cryopreservation of Cells

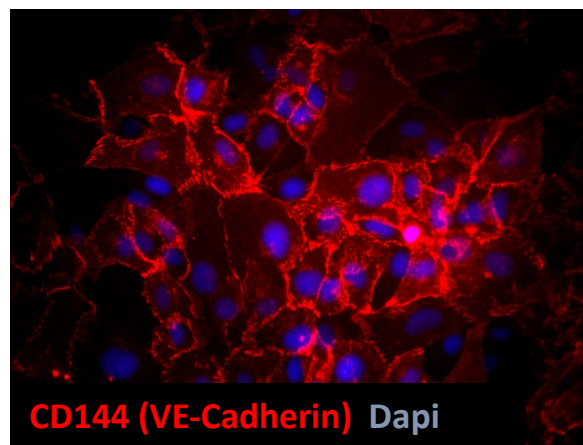
hCMEC/D3 cells can be frozen in hCMEC/D3 Medium with 10% DMSO using a Nalgene slow freeze Mr. Frosty container.

Representative Lot Data

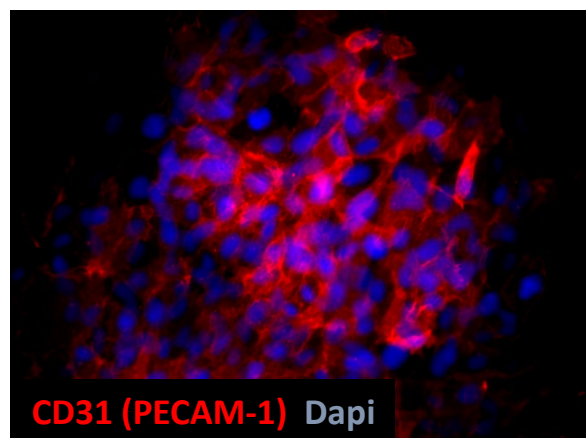
hCMEC/D3 Cells 48 hrs after thaw



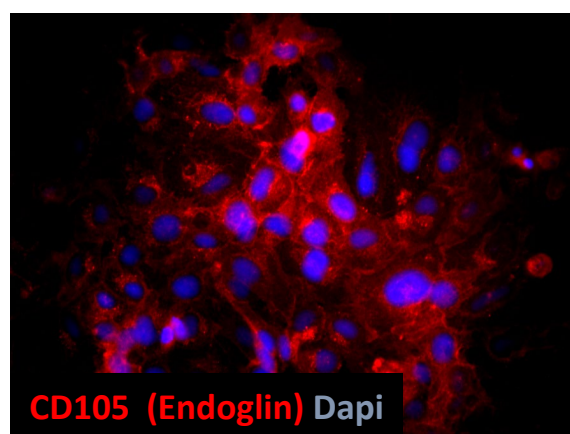
hCMEC/D3 Cells CD144 (VE-Cadherin) Expression



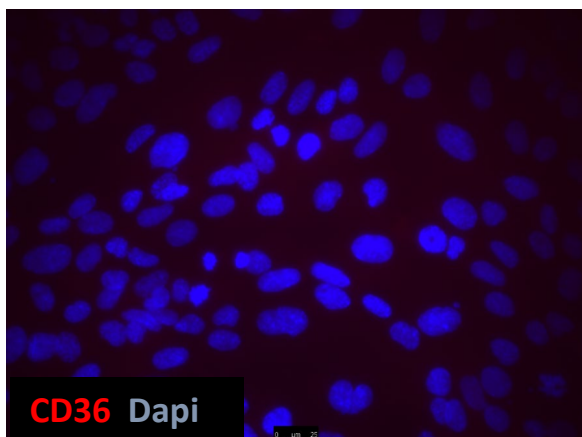
hCMEC/D3 Cells CD31 (PECAM-1) Expression



hCMEC/D3 Cells CD105 (Endoglin) Expression



hCMEC/D3 Cells CD36 Expression



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