

HepG2 culture conditions

Medium: DMEM + 10% FBS + 1% pen-strep. Given there are many formulations of DMEM and different versions of serum, we would like to provide the catalog numbers of the stuff that we are using: DMEM - HyClone cat. no. SH30022.02 & serum - HyClone cat. no. SH30070.03. Both could be purchased from VWR.

Procedure:

1. Frozen cells should be thawed into a 175 cm² flask containing 30 ml of medium and incubated @37C, 5% CO₂ and allowed to attach and fill out the dish. Change the media the next day.
2. Trypsinize with 0.05% or 0.25% trypsin. Split 1:8 – 1:16.
3. Change the media twice a week. Make sure it does not turn orange or yellow. For production, we grow these cells either in 15 cm dishes or (more commonly) cell-stacks. The yields are somewhat higher in dishes due to more complete trypsinization. The stacks are easier to handle on the other hand.
4. Grow to 75% confluence.

To see photographs of HepG2 cells, please go to http://www.atcc.org/common/images/Cells/HB-8065_mg1.jpg. Cells in the high density photograph were grown to approximately 90% confluence. The Resources Working Group will try to obtain and distribute a photograph of cells growing at 75% confluence.

Comments:

These cells grow in foci which eventually merge together.