

**SOP:** Propagation of Sk-N-SH  
**Date modified:** 9/5/2008  
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### **Ordering Information**

SK-N-SH can be ordered from ATCC as a frozen ampule.

Name: Sk-N-SH, Neuroblastoma  
ATCC #: HTB-11

### **Notes:**

This is an adherent cell line. Cells are differentiated with retinoic acid (ATRA) for 48 hours prior to harvesting.

### **Materials List**

1. RPMI 1640 with 2mM L-glutamine (Cellgro Cat# 10-040-CM)
2. Fetal Bovine Serum (Cellgro Cat# 35-016-CV)
3. Sodium Pyruvate (Cellgro Cat# 25-000-CI)
4. T225 culture flasks
5. *all trans*-Retinoic acid (Sigma, Cat #R2625)
6. Graduated pipets (1, 5, 25mL)
7. Penicillin-Streptomycin Solution, 100X (Cellgro, Cat#300-002CI )
8. Hemocytometer
9. Micropipet w/ P20 tips
10. Microscope

### **Growth Medium for SK-N-Sh**

RPMI 1640 with 2mM L-glutamine  
Sodium Pyruvate 10mM  
10% FBS  
Pen-strep (1X)

### **Procedure**

#### **A. Receipt of frozen cells and starting cell cultures.**

- 1) Immediately place frozen cells in liquid nitrogen storage incubator.
- 2) Quickly thaw ampoule in 37°C water bath
- 3) Transfer thawed cells to a T75 flask with 40ml of warm growth media.
- 4) Allow cells to recover over night in 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> humidified incubator.
- 5) Pour off medium the next day, replace with fresh medium and return to incubator.

#### **B. Sub-culture**

- 1) Propagate cells until density reaches 70-80% confluence.
- 2) Decant medium.
- 3) Wash cells with warm 1X PBS.
- 4) Add 8mLs of Accutase and return to incubator for 10-15 minutes.
- 5) Immediately remove cells and pellet at 500 xg for 3 minutes (4°C).
- 6) Wash cells 2X with 1X PBS.

- 7) Gently re-suspend cell pellet in warm medium.
- 8) Perform 1:3 to 1:8 cell split as needed.
- 9) Record each subculture event as a passage.

**C. Maintenance**

- 1) Change media the day after seeding and 1-2 times per week thereafter.  
Use ~50mLs of medium per T225 flask.

**D. Differentiation**

- 1) Upon reaching the desired cell number, add growth medium containing 6uM *all trans*-retinoic acid. Cells should be cultured for 48 hours in differentiation medium.

**E. Harvest**

- 1) Do not use cells that have been passed more than 8 times
- 2) Remove cells from flasks according to protocol described above under 'subculturing'
- 3) Examine viability using trypan blue staining (SOP)