

Pharmaceutical research and production

•<u>Research (models):</u>

Tissue, cell culture, organism

Production (models):
 Microrganisms, cell culture









Virology

Used to study their infectious cycle.

Gene therapy

Cells having a functional gene can be replaced with cells which are having the non-functional gene

Genetic Engineering

Production of commercial proteins, large-scale production of viruses for use in vaccine production

Tissue or Organ?

Animal cell culture can be used as replacement tissue or organs.















- Primary cells cells taken from the tissue and further grown *in vitro*, without doubling.
- **Cell strains** when these cells start to divide, one obtains a cell strain with finite lifetime (e.g., 30–40 generations) and the cells are unchanged.
- Permanent or established cell lines cells that have gone through some transformations and can proliferate principally with an infinite life span. They can be effectively used for the expression of recombinant proteins.
- Hybridoma cells cells obtained through the fusion of lymphocytes and tumor cells. They are particularly effective for the expression of monoclonal antibodies.

Cell Culture Technology-Rolf Pörtner, Uwe Jandt, and An-Ping Zeng Industrial Biotechnology: Products and Processes, First Edition. Edited byChristophWittmann and JamesC. Liao. © 2017Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA. Published 2017 byWiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA



Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, prepared by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Institues of Health (NIH),

Biosafety Level 1 (BSL-1)

 BSL-1 is the basic level of protection common to most research and clinical laboratories and is appropriate for agents that are not known to cause disease in normal, healthy humans.

Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2)

 BSL-2 is appropriate for moderate-risk agents known to cause human disease of varying severity by ingestion or through percutaneous or mucous membrane exposure. Most cell culture labs should be at least BSL-2, but the exact requirements depend upon the cell line used and the type of work conducted.











	Adherent Culture	Suspension Culture			
	Appropriate for most cell types, including primary cultures.	Appropriate for cells adapted to suspension culture and a few other cell lines that are nonadhesive (e.g., hematopoietic).			
	Requires periodic passaging, but allows easy visual inspection under inverted microscope.	Easier to passage, but requires daily cell counts and viability determination to follow growth patterns; culture can be diluted to stimulate growth.			
	Cells are dissociated enzymatically (e.g., TrypLE™ Express, trypsin) or mechanically.	Does not require enzymatic or mechanical dissocation.			
	Growth is limited by surface area, which may limit product yields.	Growth is limited by concentration of cells in the medium, which allows easy scale-up.			
	Requires tissue-culture treated vessel.	Can be maintained in culture vessels that are not tissue-culture treated, but requires agitation (i.e., shaking or stirring) for adequate gas exhange.	-		
	Used for cytology, harvesting products continuously, and many research applications.	Used for bulk production, batch harvesting, and many research applications.			
Cell Culture Basics Handbook ©2015 Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. All rights reserved. C012890 0315					

Transfection of Host Cells and Recombinant Protein Production

Transfection leads to

- transient expression of the introduced gene
- plasmids are rapidly diluted as a consequence of cell division or even degraded. However, it is
- stably transfect cells leading to long-expression periods.
 - plasmid DNA has to integrate into the chromosomal DNA of the host cell.
- Stable transfection normally includes a selection gene into the expression vector (transfected cells have a selectable growth advantage) → the neomycin resistance gene (Neo^r) --> codes for a protein that neutralizes the toxic drug Geneticin, also known as G418.
 - ightarrow the selection process takes around 2 weeks, resulting in a tissue culture dish with several colonies.
 - →Each colony contains the descendants of 1 stably transfected cell.
 - \rightarrow the cells from individual colonies have to be isolated and further expanded.
 - \rightarrow quantification of the recombinant protein production to select cell culture with the highest yields.

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Recent Advances in Medium Development

- New technologies can support automated and aseptic sampling of bioreactors,
 real-time analytics and diagnosis via Process Analytical Technology (PAT) approaches (capacitance and Raman spectroscopy) allow the <u>development of feedback loop</u> <u>adjustments to medium composition.</u>
- High-throughput cell culture equipment and methodologies to decipher and <u>control product quality</u>, (product quality for **biosimilars**, sustain high cell densities long periods to enable continuous processing).
- → The need for the development of highly <u>customized media</u>, optimized for specific cell lines and processes to maximize cellular productivity.

Ritacco FV, Wu Y, Khetan A. Cell culture media for recombinant protein expression in Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells: History, key components, and optimization strategies. Biotechnol Prog. 2018 Nov;34(6):1407-1426. doi: 10.1002/btpr.2706.

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Cell culture systems used for the production of biopharmaceuticals

The available cell culture systems:

- non-agitated (multiwall plates, dishes and flasks, culture bags)
- agitated

Cell culture bioreactors considered:

- gentle agitation without cell damage
- well-controlled environment
- respect to pH, temperature,
- dissolved oxygen, and dissolved CO₂ concentration;
- low levels of toxic metabolites (ammonia, lactate);
- high cell and product concentrations;
- optimized medium utilization;
- surface for adherent cells;
- scalability.

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Cell culture systems used for the production of biopharmaceuticals

Continuous system

- Chemostat: is a valuable tool for research (e.g., kinetic studies), but is rarely considered for the production-scale operation.
- Perfusion: the ability to grow cells to a very high density, the ease of handling media exchanges for fresh feed and product harvest, product stability associated with short residence time in the culture (an advantage for the production of labile proteins), the easy removal of metabolites and other inhibitors, and the prospect of easy scale-up.

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	Permanent cell lines	Characteristics
	Chinese hamster ovary (CHO)	Adherent cells, can be adapted to suspension, used for production of recombinant proteins (e.g., HBstg, tPA, factor VIII; Therapeutic antibodies)
	COS (monkey kidney) HEK-293 (human embryonic kidney)	Used for transient protein expression
	Baby hamster kidney (BHK)	Adherent cells, can be adapted to suspension, used for production of foot and mouth disease vaccines, rabies vaccine, recombinant proteins (e.g., factor VIII)
	MDCK (canine kidney)	Adherent cell line with good growth characteristics, animal vaccines
	MRC-5 (human embryonic lung cells)	"Normal" cells with a finite life span, vaccine production
	NAMALWA (human lymphatic tissue)	Used for production of alpha-interferon
	NS0 and SP2/0 (mouse myeloma from B- lymphocytes)	Used for antibody production
	PERC.6 (human embryonic retina cells)	Immortalized cell line, well characterized, produce high levels of recombinant proteins and viruses
	Vero (long-tailed monkey kidney)	Established cell line, but with some characteristics of the normal diploid cells
Cell Culture	WI-38 (human embryonic lung cells)	"Normal" cells with a finite life span, vaccine production
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Characteristics of the tumour microenvironment

Abnormal interstitial flow decreases the efficacy of drug therapies.

Hypoxia caused by absence of oxygen

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Summary of 2D and 3D in vitro cell culture models

TABLE 1

Summary of 2D and 3D <i>in vitro</i> cell culture models						
2D	3D	Refs				
Trastuzumab only slightly reduced cell proliferation in the monolayers (\sim 10% inhibition)	48% proliferation inhibition seen for SKBR-3 and ${\sim}35\%$ inhibition for SKOV-3	[44]				
2D-derived tumor implanted into mice and, after 5 weeks, resulted in a tumor weighing 0.17 \pm 0.27 g	3D-derived tumor implanted in mice created a tumor weighing 0.7 \pm 0.26 g after same 5 weeks	[57]				
After 24 h of exposure to doxorubicin, toxic effect of drug in 2D cell culture generated IC_{50} = 1.2 \pm 0.3 μM	Effect of doxorubicin in 3D cell models was lower than in 2D cultures, with $IC_{50} = 3.6 \pm 1.33 \mu M$	[58]				
Cells cultured in a petri dish showed a flat shape	3D-cultured cells maintained a circular shape, forming 300-μM spheroid clusters in less stiff alginate matrices	[59]				
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Drug Discov Today. 2017 Nov;22(11):1654-1670. doi: 10.1016/j.drudis.2017.06.010.

The Current Landscape of 3D In Vitro Tumor Models: What Cancer Hallmarks Are Accessible for Drug Discovery?	 Validate biological relevance Demonstrate clinical relevance of data for a specific disease. Demonstrate can identify (ideally) a novel target that validates in vivo 	 Creation of industrialization pipeline Establish standards in performance and reproducibility and define required benchmarking assays. Design with scaling and manufacturing in mind. Demonstrate feasibility to implement scalable manufacturing processes and to establish model distribution mechanisms. Establish scalable data analysis pipelines 	
The Current Landscape of 3D in Vitro Tumor Models: What C	 Customize/define application space Integrate primary patient cell materials Define medium formulation Assess cell proportions and phenotype over time to help assess usability time. Define how complex is enough. Define domains of validity for specific assays Create criteria to define/select appropriate disease biology to model <i>in vitro</i>. 	 Quantify value proposition Demonstrate types of novel biology accessible that lead to clinically relevant target identification. Quantify impact of model use on overall drug development process (can you find targets faster and cheaper?) Increase communication between academia and industry to ensure models are being designed to add value to drug development pipeline. published: 19 January 2018, DOI: (10.1002/adhm.201701174) 	

