

Receipt and Handling of Proliferating Cultures

Product Description

Proliferating cultures are provided in T-flasks that are filled to capacity with transport medium. The caps of the flasks have been tightened securely and bound with Parafilm®. The flasks have been individually sealed in plastic bags to provide a secondary barrier against any leakage that may occur in transport. Follow the instructions below upon receipt of the proliferating cultures.

Caution

Although proliferating cells have been tested for the presence of various hazardous agents, diagnostic tests are not necessarily 100% accurate. In addition, human cells may harbor other known or unknown agents or organisms which could be harmful to your health or cause fatal illness. Treat all human cells and all fluids and vessels that have come into contact with human cells as potentially pathogenic. Wear protective clothing and eyewear. Practice appropriate disposal techniques for potentially pathogenic or biohazardous materials.

Initial Receipt and Incubation

1. Move the box containing the cultures to an area designated for the use of human cells.
2. Open the box and remove the sealed plastic bags containing the T-flasks.
3. Examine each bag and determine if any transport medium has leaked from any of the flasks into the containment bag.
4. **If any of the flasks have leaked or are broken, do not use.** Dispose of the materials as you would for any potentially biohazardous waste. Contact Technical Support and report the damage.
5. If no transport medium has leaked from the flask, remove each of the flasks from its sealed plastic bag and place the flasks in a 5% CO₂/95% air, 37°C, humidified incubator for 3 hours. This allows any cells that might have detached during transport to re-attach.

Replacing the Transport Medium with Fresh Growth Medium

1. After the 3 hour incubation, remove the flasks from the incubator and place the flasks in a Class II, Type A laminar flow cell culture hood.
2. Wipe the caps and necks of the flasks with a disinfecting solution such as 70% ethanol or isopropanol.
3. Prepare supplemented culture medium (refer to the appropriate product document for instructions on preparing supplemented medium).
4. Working with one flask at a time, stand the flask on end.
 - a. Remove the Parafilm® and the cap.
 - b. Aspirate any shipping medium which may be on the threads of the cap or the neck of the flask. Remove all of the shipping medium from the flask and immediately add the appropriate supplemented growth medium (0.2 ml per cm² of culture area). Replace the caps on the flasks.
5. Return the flasks to a 5% CO₂/95% air, 37°C, humidified incubator and loosen the caps slightly.
6. For further instructions on maintenance and subculture of the cells, refer to the appropriate product document.

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