

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

## Growing Cell Cultures

**Material Safety Data Sheet for:**

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) Growing Cell Cultures

**Review date:**

**Issued to:** Users of UKHSA Growing Cell Cultures

**Access:** Document to be downloaded from Culture Collections website  
<https://www.culturecollections.org.uk>

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UK  
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<https://www.culturecollections.org.uk/contactus>

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET FOR UKHSA GROWING CELL CULTURES

### **1. Identification of the substance/mixture and of the company/undertaking**

**Product name:**

Various cell cultures supplied by the European Collection of Cell Cultures (ECACC) which is part of the Culture Collections of Public Health England. Refer to the relevant cell line data entry on the Culture Collections website at <https://www.culturecollections.org.uk>. Refer to the relevant cell line data entry on the Culture Collections website:

**Contact:** Culture Collections  
UK Health Security Agency  
Porton Down Salisbury  
SP4 0JG, UK

Telephone (working hours): +44 (0)1980 612512

Telephone (out of hours): +44 (0)1980 612100

<https://www.culturecollections.org.uk/contactus>

### **2. Hazards Identification**

**Chemical Hazards:**

The above components are deemed non-hazardous.

**Biological hazards:**

Although the ECACC-supplied cell lines are not known to contain any agents capable of harm to healthy adult humans the possibility of a contaminant, adventitious virus can rarely be excluded. Therefore, it is recommended that all animal cell lines are handled as an Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP) (Biosafety) Group 2 organism. The relevant cell line data entry on the Culture Collections website includes any specific instructions that may pertain to the biohazard potential of this cell line and that should be considered by the user when performing a risk assessment. Any such information will not be inconsistent with Containment (Biosafety) Level 2. The user is referred to the relevant references in the relevant cell line data entry on the Culture Collections website at <https://www.culturecollections.org.uk>. These cell lines have not been screened for adventitious agents.

**Health Effects:**

Eyes: Not known; Skin: Not known; Ingestion: Not known; Inhalation: Not known

**Physical Hazards:**

It is recommended that persons handling growing animal cell cultures should wear a laboratory coat, protective glasses and disposable gloves.

This sheet does not constitute an assessment as required by the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1994.

The information contained in this publication is given in good faith and is accurate to the best of our knowledge.

**3. Composition/information on ingredients**

Cells are supplied in a variety of different culture media. Refer to the relevant cell line data entry on the Culture Collections website at <https://www.culturecollections.org.uk>.

Although the ECACC-supplied cell lines are not known to contain any agents capable of harm to healthy adult humans the possibility of a contaminant, adventitious virus can rarely be excluded. Therefore, it is recommended that all animal cell lines are handled as an ACDP hazard Group 2 organism.

**4. First aid measures**

If accidental contact with material occurs laboratory staff must follow the local first aid procedures that are normally applied following exposure to organisms of ACDP Hazard Group 2

Eyes: Irrigate with physiological saline or water. Seek medical advice immediately.

Skin: Wash thoroughly with soap and water. Seek medical advice immediately.

Ingestion: Seek medical advice immediately.

Inhalation: Seek medical advice immediately.

## **5. Fire-fighting measures**

Extinguisher medium: Use medium suitable for surrounding environment

Unsuitable Extinguisher medium: N/A

Protective equipment for firefighting: N/A

## **6. Accidental release measures**

Personal precautions: avoid direct contact with the growing culture. Do not open the primary containers unless authorised to do so. Wear a laboratory coat, disposable gloves and safety glasses.

Environmental precautions: if spillage occurs place absorbent material over the spillage and disinfect. See below.

Spillage of material: wear a laboratory coat, safety glasses and disposable gloves. Place paper towels or other absorbent material over the spillage. Pour disinfectant over spillage to saturate and leave for 30 minutes prior to cleaning and disposal. The preferred disinfectant is 10% v/v sodium hypochlorite (10,000 parts per million available chlorine). This should not be used in combination with other disinfectants, see your local risk assessment or contact the manufacturer of the disinfectant for additional information.

## **7. Handling and storage**

Personal protective equipment comprised of laboratory coat, disposable gloves and safety glasses should be worn when handling (unpacking) animal cell lines. Flasks containing animal cells should be opened in a Class II microbiological safety cabinet under conditions of ACDP (Biohazard) Level 2.

Detailed discussions of laboratory safety procedures are provided in: “Laboratory Safety: Principles and Practice” (Fleming, et al., 1995); the Journal of Tissue Culture Methods (Caputo, 1988), and in the U.S. Government Publication, “Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) 5<sup>th</sup> Edition” (CDC, 2009). This publication is available on the Center for Disease Control, Office of Health and Safety’s website  
<http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmb15/>.

## **8. Exposure controls / personal protection**

Engineering control measures: Flasks or tubes containing animal cells should be opened in a Class II microbiological safety cabinet under conditions of Containment (Biohazard) Level 2. Personal protective equipment comprised of laboratory coat, disposable gloves and safety glasses should be worn.

Respiratory protection: avoid aerosol production and inhalation. Handle as for ACDP2.

Hand Protection: wear disposable gloves at all times.

Eye protection: wear safety glasses at all times.

## **9. Physical and chemical properties**

Appearance: Fluid in sealed plastic container (flask or tube).

Solid/liquid/gas: Liquid

The product is provided as a growing culture of cells shipped in liquid cell culture medium in a flask or tube.

Appearance: pink or red aqueous liquid pH 6-8 for growing cultures.

The components may include but are not limited to: water, inorganic salts, vitamins, amino acids, carbohydrates, lipids, proteins (animal-derived) and phenol red.

## **10. Stability and reactivity**

Reactivity data: Stable.

## **11. Toxicological information**

Routes of exposure: N/A

Acute effects: N/A

Chronic effects: N/A

Special considerations: In its liquid state this substance is not normally toxic but avoid aerosol formation and inhalation.

## **12. Ecological information**

Mobility: consult the relevant cell line data entry on Culture Collections website at <https://www.culturecollections.org.uk>. (May apply in certain cases of genetic modification)

Persistence / degradability N/A

Bioaccumulation: N/A

Ecotoxicity: N/A

## **13. Disposal considerations**

Follow established procedures for Containment (Biosafety) Level 2.

Methods for disposal for thawed content

Spillage: wear a laboratory coat, safety glasses and disposable gloves. Place paper towels or other absorbent material over the spillage. Pour disinfectant over spillage to saturate and leave for 30 minutes prior to cleaning and disposal. The most appropriate disinfectant is 10% v/v Sodium hypochlorite (10,000 parts per million available chlorine). This should not be used in combination with other disinfectants. See your local risk assessment or contact the manufacturer of the disinfectant for additional information.

Waste disposal: Decontaminate prior to disposal with a 10% sodium hypochlorite solution and dispose of decontaminated liquid waste down a designated sink with running water. Solid waste should be placed in a sealed bag and labelled and destroyed by incineration.

Follow all national, regional and local regulations. The UK Environmental Protection Act 1990 applies.

## **14. Transport information**

These cell lines are not classified as dangerous goods and because they are non-infectious to humans or animals, they are not subject to IATA or ADR regulation for dangerous goods.

## **15. Regulatory information**

ECACC confirms that all necessary licences (import, holding, transfer and export) required for the consignment of this material are in place. The recipient is only required to provide evidence of permits and licences to receive and handle ACDP (containment) Level 3 restricted materials. For the relevant licences consult the Culture Collections website <https://www.culturecollections.org.uk>.

This organism/material may be covered by United Kingdom or International legislation.

## **16. Other information**

In the event of an accident involving exposure of staff to the material contained in the samples, contact the Culture Collections (+44 (0)1980 612512) during normal UK working hours. Refer to section 1 for full contact details.

The above information is correct to the best of our knowledge. All materials and mixtures may present unknown hazards and should be used with caution.

The user should make independent assessments and decisions regarding the completeness of the information based on all sources available.

The Culture Collections shall not be held liable for any damage resulting from handling or contact with the above product.