Trouble Shooting Cell Culture



| Problem | Possible Reasons | What to do? |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cells do not detach or detach very slowly | Cells have been grown to confluency | Trypsinize cells at a subconfluent stage |
| | Forgot washing step with HepesBSS | Perfom washing step to remove residual medium |
| | Trypsin solution too cold | Use warm trypsin (room temperature or heated to 37°C) |
| | Trypsin solution too old | Check expiry date; use fresh solution; when stored at 4°C, trypsin has a shelf life of 6 weeks |
| | Incubation time too short | Use proper incubation time until 80% have detached Please note: some epithelial cell types adhere very firmly and need prolonged incubation times. To avoid irreversible damage by over-trypsinization, the use of accutase is recommended. Accutase is very gentle to the cells, preserves the surface receptors and doesn't affect the cellular viability during extended contact with the cells |

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