Tech Report 106:

Matrix Bonded Growth Surfaces

Growing Cells in a More Natural Matrix Environment

Document: Matrix Bonded Growth Surfaces Tech Report, Rev 1.2

08-18-2009

Culturing Cells in a Mechanically Active Environment™
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Flexcell®'s unique culture plates provide researchers with matrix bonded growth surfaces that promote attachment and growth of a variety of cell types. Matrix coatings, such as type I collagen peptides, elastin, fibronectin (as RGD repeat peptides), and laminin (as YIGSR peptides), enhance attachment of specific cell types. These specialty growth surfaces help to better simulate the *in vivo* environment.

Flexcell® culture plates including BioFlex®, Tissue Train®, UniFlex®, Flex® and SurFlex® series culture plates, StageFlexer membranes® and Culture Slips® are available with the following treatments:

Genetic type I collagen for improved attachment and adherence of cells including:

- Continuous cell lines
- Primary cells
- Aortic, venous, and capillary endothelial cells
- Chondrocytes
- Ligament fibroblasts
- Lung type II epithelial cells
- Osteoblasts
- Tendon fibroblasts
- Smooth, striated and cardiac muscle cells
- Myoblasts
- Myocytes

Fibronectin, as RGD repeat peptides, and ProNectin F for the improved attachment of cells including:

- Embryonic cells
- Fibroblasts

Laminin, as YIGSR peptides, for the improved attachment of cells including:

- Astrocytes
- Glial cells
- Neurons
- Cells grown on type I collagen or ProNectin F

Positively charged amino hydrophilic for the improved attachment of cells including:

- Endothelial cells
- Smooth muscle cells

Elastin for the improved attachment of cells including:

- Endothelial cells
- Smooth muscle cells

NOTE: See the integrin table below to match your cell's integrin panel with the appropriate growth surface.

Flexcell®'s culture plates are stringently tested to assure the highest quality control and the best cell attachment and growth possible. Attachment factors are covalently bonded to the culture plate rubber membranes or plastics using our proprietary methods that result in optimal cell adherence and clarity for viewing cells. Culture plates are sterilized with gamma radiation and have a shelf life of one year.

The Flexcell® Tension System provides a strain component for dynamically culturing cells *in vitro*. Researchers use the Flexcell® culture plates together with the tension system to apply a defined, controlled, static or variable duration cyclic tension to cells.

The Flexcell® Streamer® applies fluid flow to cells in culture. Researchers use Culture Slips® together with the flow system to apply a controlled laminar, oscillatory, or pulsatile flow to cells.

Flexcell®'s culture plates together with Flexcell®'s systems for applying mechanical load provide the investigator with the ability to grow cells *in vitro* in a manner that better simulates an *in vivo* environment.

Vertebrate Integrins Grouped in Subfamilies Sharing a Common β Subunit			
Subunits		**Ligands Sequenced**	**Minimal Sequence of Integrin Binding Site***
β_1^+	α_1	Collagen, Laminin	
	α_2	Collagen, Laminin	DGEA
	α_3	Fibronectin, Laminin, Collagen	RGD
	α_4	Fibronectin, VCAM-1	EILDV
	α_5	Fibronectin	RGD
	α_6^+	Laminin	
	α_7	Laminin	
	α_8	?	
	α_V	Vitronectin, Fibronectin	RGD
β_2	α_L	ICAM-1, ICAM-2	
	α_M	C3b component of complement (inactivated), Fibrinogen, Factor X, ICAM-1	
	α_X	Fibrinogen, C3b component of complement	GPRP
β_3^+	α_{IIb}	Fibrinogen, ProNectin F, von Willebrand factor, Vitronectin, Thrombospondin	RGD, KQAGDV
	α_V	Vitronectin, Fibrinogen, von Willebrand factor, Thrombospondin, Fibronectin, Osteopontin, Collagen	RGD
β_4^+	α_8^+	Laminin	
β_5	α_V	Vitronectin	RGD
β_6	α_V	Fibronectin	RGD
β_7	α_4	Fibronectin, VCAM-1	EILDV
	α_{IEL}	?	