

Culture Protocol for SH-SY5Y Cells

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Author: E.Pinet

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Materials and Reagents

- SH-SY5Y Cells (stored in liquid nitrogen)
- Culture Medium
 - o DMEM high glucose supplemented with
 - o 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS)
 - 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin (PS)
- Dulbecco's Phosphate Buffered Saline (D-PBS) without calcium and magnesium
- Trypan Blue Stain (for viability assessment)
- Sterile 15 mL conical tubes
- Trypsin-EDTA (0.05%)
- Hemacytometer or Automated Cell Counter
- Tissue-culture treated flasks, plates, or Petri dishes
- 37°C Water Bath
- 37°C Incubator with 5% CO₂ and 100% Humidity

Thawing SH-SY5Y Cells

- 1. Prepare Culture Medium: Pre-warm DMEM high glucose + 10% FBS +1% PS to 37°C.
- 2. Thaw Cells
 - o Remove the vial from liquid nitrogen.
 - Quickly thaw in a 37°C water bath, gently swirling the vial.
 - o Do not submerge the cap; thaw within < 2 minutes.
- 3 Transfer Cells
 - Transfer the cells into a 15 mL tube.
 - o Rinse the vial with 1 mL of growth medium and add dropwise to the cells.
 - o Slowly add 8 mL of growth medium, swirling gently.
- 4. Centrifugation: Spin at $250 \times g$ for 5 min at room temperature.
- 5. **Resuspend Cells:** Aspirate the supernatant and resuspend in 2 mL of fresh culture medium.
- 6. Cell Counting: Determine cell viability using Trypan Blue Staining.
- 7. Plating Cells: Seed cells at 1.5 million cells per 35 mm Petri dish
- 8. Incubation: Place in a 37°C, 5% CO₂ incubator.
- 9. Media Change: Replace 50% of the medium every 2–3 days.
- 10. Passage when 80-90% confluent.

Passaging SH-SY5Y Cells

- 1. Prepare Materials
 - Warm culture Medium and Trypsin-EDTA to 37°C.



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2. Remove Spent Medium

o Collect spent medium in a sterile tube for later use.

3. PBS Wash

o Rinse cells once with **D-PBS** (no Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺) (2 mL per 10 cm² surface).

4. Cell Detachment

- o Add 1 mL of Trypsin-EDTA per T25 flask (adjust for other dish sizes).
- o Incubate for 2–5 minutes at 37°C, checking for detachment.

5. Stop Reaction

- o Add equal volume of collected medium to stop the trypsin reaction.
- o Gently pipette up and down to break clumps.

6. Centrifugation

o Transfer cells to a 15 mL tube, spin at $250 \times g$ for 5 min.

7. Resuspend Cells

o Use pre-warmed growth medium, mix gently, and count cells.

8. Re-seeding

- Plate at 1.5 million cells per 35 mm Petri dish.
- o Change medium every 2–3 days.

Growth Conditions

• Temperature: 37°C

• $CO_2:5\%$

• **Humidity:** 100%