

THP1-Null Cells

Human monocytes

Catalog code: thp-null

<https://www.invivogen.com/thp1-null>

For research use only

Version 23F02-MM

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Contents and Storage

- 3-7 x 10⁶ of THP1-Null cells in a cryovial or shipping flask.

IMPORTANT: If cells provided in a cryovial are not frozen upon arrival, contact InvivoGen immediately.

- 1 ml of Hygromycin B Gold (>90% pure hygromycin B) provided at 100 mg/ml. Store at 4 °C or at -20 °C.*
- 1 ml of Normocin™ (50 mg/ml), a formulation of three antibiotics active against mycoplasmas, bacteria and fungi. Store at -20 °C.*

*The expiry date is specified on the product label.

Handling Frozen Cells Upon Arrival

Cells must be thawed immediately upon receipt and grown according to handling procedures (as described on the next page) to ensure the best cell viability and proper assay performance.

Note: Avoid freezing cells upon receipt as it may result in irreversible damage to the cell line.

Disclaimer: We cannot guarantee cell viability if the cells are not thawed immediately upon receipt and grown according to handling procedures.

IMPORTANT: For cells that arrive in a shipping flask please refer to the enclosed 'cell recovery procedure'.

Cell Line Stability

Cells will undergo genotypic changes over time that will result in reduced responsiveness in normal cell culture conditions. Genetic instability is a biological phenomenon that occurs in all stably transfected cells. Therefore, it is critical to prepare an adequate number of frozen stocks at early passages.

THP1-Null cells should not be passaged more than 20 times to remain fully efficient. THP1-Null cells should be maintained in growth medium supplemented with the selective antibiotic, Hygromycin B Gold (200 µg/ml), following every other passage.

Quality control

- The functionality of THP1-Null cells was tested using inflammasome inducers, such as MSU crystals and ATP.
- The stability of this cell line for 20 passages following thawing has been verified.
- THP1-Null cells are guaranteed mycoplasma-free.

USE RESTRICTIONS

These cells are distributed for research purposes only.

This product is covered by a Limited Use License. By use of this product, the buyer agrees with the terms and conditions of all applicable Limited Use Label Licenses. For non-research use, such as screening, quality control or clinical development, contact info@invivogen.com.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

THP1-Null cells are derived from THP-1 human monocytic cells, that represent the most commonly used model cell line for the study of inflammasome activation as they express high levels of NLRP3, ASC and pro-caspase-1. THP1-Null cells produce IL-1 β upon stimulation with inflammasome inducers, such as MSU crystals and ATP. As THP1-Null cells are fully efficient for NLRP3 and ASC activities, they are the positive control cell line for InvivoGen's THP1-defASC and THP1-defNLRP3, that are deficient in ASC and NLRP3 respectively. THP1-Blue™-Null cells are resistant to hygromycin B.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

Biosafety Level 1

HANDLING PROCEDURES

Required Cell Culture Medium

- **Growth Medium:** RPMI 1640, 2 mM L-glutamine, 25 mM HEPES, 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (30 min at 56 °C), 100 µg/ml Normocin™, Pen-Strep (100 U/ml-100 µg/ml)

Initial culture of all THP-1 derived cells must be performed in growth medium containing 20% heat-inactivated FBS.

Note: The use of Normocin™ together with Pen-Strep is required to keep the cells free of microbial contaminants. Contamination of this cell line may activate TLRs resulting in differentiation of the monocytes and activation of the reporter gene.

- **Freezing Medium:** 95% fetal bovine serum (FBS), 5% DMSO
- **Test Medium:** RPMI 1640, 2 mM L-glutamine, 25 mM HEPES, 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum, Pen-Strep (100 U/ml-100 µg/ml)

Required Selective Antibiotic

Hygromycin B

Initial Culture Procedure

The first propagation of cells should be for generating stocks for future use. This ensures the stability and performance of the cells for subsequent experiments.

1. Thaw the vial by gentle agitation in a 37 °C water bath. To reduce the possibility of contamination, keep the O-ring and cap out of the water. Thawing should be rapid.
2. Remove the vial from the water bath as soon as the contents are thawed, and decontaminate by dipping in or spraying with 70% ethanol. **Note:** All steps from this point should be carried out under strict aseptic conditions.
3. Transfer cells in a vial containing 15 ml of pre-warmed growth medium (with 20% heat-inactivated FBS). **Do not add selective antibiotics until the cells have been passaged twice.**
4. Centrifuge vial at 150 x g (RCF) for 10 minutes.
5. Remove supernatant containing the cryoprotective agent and resuspend cells with 1 ml of growth medium. **Do not add selective antibiotics.**
6. Transfer the vial contents to a 25 cm² tissue culture flask containing 5 ml of growth medium (with 20% heat-inactivated FBS).
7. Place the culture at 37 °C in 5% CO₂.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

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Frozen Stock Preparation

1. Resuspend cells at a density of $5-7 \times 10^6$ cells/ml in freshly prepared freezing medium.
2. Aliquot 1 ml cells into cryogenic vials.
3. Place vials in a freezing container and store at -80°C overnight.
4. Transfer vials to liquid nitrogen for long term storage.

Note: If properly stored, cells should remain stable for years.

Cell maintenance

- After cells have recovered (after at least one passage), subculture the cells in growth medium. To maintain selection pressure, add 200 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of Hygromycin B Gold to the growth medium every other passage.
- Pass the cells every 3 days by inoculating 5×10^5 cells/ml. Do not allow the cell concentration to exceed 2×10^6 cells/ml.

Cell Handling Recommendations

To ensure the best results:

- **Use THP1-Null cells with less than 20 passages.**
Handling of cells should be as short as possible to prevent any damage resulting from the prolonged stay at room temperature without 5% CO₂.

APPLICATION

THP1-Null cells are designed for the study of inflammasome activation as they express high levels of NLRP3, ASC and pro-caspase-1. To become responsive to inflammasome inducers, these cells must be induced by stimuli commonly used for induction in model systems, such as lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and phorbol 12-myristate acetate (PMA). Stimulation by LPS or differentiation with PMA induces the production of pro-IL-1 β , the immature form of IL-1 β . Subsequent stimulation with inflammasome inducers, such as ATP and MSU Crystals, leads to caspase-1 activation and IL-1 β maturation and secretion. Mature IL-1 β can be detected by Western blot, ELISA, or a cell-based assay.

InvivoGen has developed a new method to detect bioactive IL-1 β , based on HEK293 cells specifically engineered to selectively respond to IL-1 β , named HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cells. These cells feature the SEAP (secreted embryonic alkaline phosphatase) reporter gene under the control of an NF- κ B-inducible promoter. They naturally express the IL-1 β receptor (IL-1R), and all the proteins involved in the MyD88-dependent IL-1R signaling pathway that leads to NF- κ B activation. Thus upon IL-1 β binding to IL-1R, a signaling cascade is initiated triggering NF- κ B activation and the subsequent production of SEAP. Detection of SEAP in the supernatant of HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cells can be readily assessed using QUANTI-Blue™ Solution, a SEAP detection medium. QUANTI-Blue™ Solution turns blue in the presence of SEAP which can be easily quantified using a spectrophotometer.

Detection of IL-1 β in THP-1 supernatants

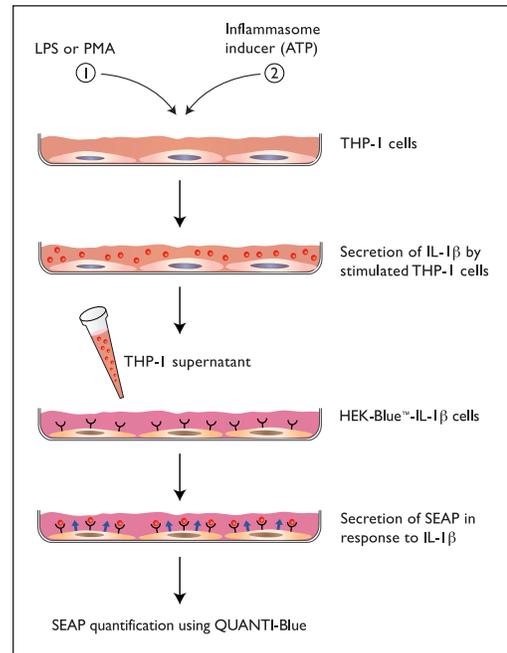


Figure 1. THP-1/HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β Assay

Activation of THP1-Null cells

THP1-Null cells are grown in RPMI 1640 medium, 2 mM L-glutamine, 25 mM HEPES, 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (30 min at 56°C), 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ Normocin™, Pen-Strep (100 U/ml-100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$). THP1-Null cells are grown in suspension to a density of 5×10^5 cells/ml in tissue culture flasks.

• Option 1: PMA induction

Day 1

1. Add 180 μl of THP1-Null cell suspension per well of a 96-well plate (2×10^5 cells/well).
2. Treat THP1-Null cells with 20 μl of PMA (final concentration 20-50 ng/ml) for 3 hours at 37°C in 5% CO₂.
3. Gently remove medium and add 200 μl of supplemented RPMI.

Day 4

4. Wash cells with PBS and add 180 μl of supplemented RPMI.
5. Add 20 μl of an inflammasome inducer, such as ATP or MSU Crystals (see Related Products).
6. Incubate overnight at 37°C in 5% CO₂.

Note: The production of pro-IL-1 β can be further increased by priming PMA-activated THP1-Null cells with LPS (follow protocol overleaf).

• Option 2: LPS induction

1. Add 180 μl of THP1-Null cell suspension per well of a 96-well plate (3×10^5 cells/well).
2. Treat THP1-Null cells with 20 μl of LPS (final concentration 1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) for 3 hours at 37°C in 5% CO₂.
3. Gently remove medium and add 180 μl of supplemented RPMI.
4. Add 20 μl of an inflammasome inducer, such as ATP or MSU Crystals.
5. Incubate overnight at 37°C in 5% CO₂.

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Detection of IL-1 β by HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cells

HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cells are grown in DMEM, 4.5 g/l glucose, 2 mM L-glutamine, 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum, 100 μ g/ml Normocin™, and Pen-Strep.

Day 1

1. Prepare a HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cell suspension: wash cells with pre-warmed PBS, detach cells by tapping the flask, resuspend cells in fresh growth medium and prepare a cell suspension at 3×10^5 cells/ml.

Note: The response of HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cells can be altered by the action of trypsin. Do not incubate with trypsin at 37°C and for no longer than 2-3 min.

2. Add 50 μ l of activated THP1-Null cell supernatant per well of a flat-bottom 96-well plate.

3. In separate wells, add 50 μ l of recombinant human IL-1 β at 0.25 μ g/ml, as the positive control, and 50 μ l of recombinant human TNF- α at 0.25 μ g/ml, as a negative control.

Note: HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cells do not respond to human TNF- α .

4. Add 150 μ l of HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cell suspension (~50,000 cells) per well.

5. Incubate overnight at 37 °C in 5% CO₂.

Day 2

6. Prepare QUANTI-Blue™ Solution following the instructions on the enclosed product data sheet.

7. Add 180 μ l of resuspended QUANTI-Blue™ Solution per well of a flat-bottom 96-well plate.

8. Add 20 μ l of induced HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β cells supernatant.

9. Incubate the plate at 37 °C for 1-6 hours.

10. Determine SEAP levels using a spectrophotometer at 620-655 nm.

RELATED PRODUCTS

Product	Description	Cat. Code
Alum Hydroxide	Inflammasome inducer	tlr1-ah
ATP	Inflammasome inducer	tlr1-atp
CPPD Crystals	Inflammasome inducer	tlr1-cppd
HEK-Blue™ IL-1 β	IL-1 β reporter cells	hkb-il1bv2
Hemozoin	Inflammasome inducer	tlr1-hz
Hygromycin B Gold	Selective antibiotic	ant-hg-1
LPS-EK (E. coli K12)	TLR4 agonist	tlr1-eklps
MSU Crystals	Inflammasome inducer	tlr1-msu
Nigericin	Inflammasome inducer	tlr1-nig
Normocin™	Antimicrobial agent	ant-nr-1
PMA	NF- κ B activator	tlr1-pma
Poly(dA:dT)/LyoVec™	Inflammasome inducer	tlr1-patc
QUANTI-Blue™ Solution	SEAP detection medium	rep-qbs
Recombinant human IL-1 β	Recombinant cytokine	rcyec-hil1b
Recombinant human TNF- α	Recombinant cytokine	rcyc-htrfa

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