

Corning® Elplasia® Plates

Frequently Asked Questions



1. What is the average number of spheroids you can generate per well in Corning Elplasia plates?

Format	Round Bottom Type	Square Well Type
6-well	2885	15796
24-well	554	2934
96-well	79	475
384-well	-	137

2. How can I control the size of the spheroids?

The diameter of the spheroids in the culture can be controlled by altering the initial seeding density.

3. Are there any special storage conditions for Corning Elplasia plates?

No. The Corning Elplasia round bottom plates feature Corning Ultra-Low Attachment (ULA) surface, which is a stable, non-cytotoxic, non-degradable, biologically inert hydrogel coating that requires no special storage or handling conditions. The square bottom type plates feature a stable plasma treatment that requires no special storage or handling.

4. When should I use the round bottom vs. a square flat bottom Corning Elplasia plate?

Corning Elplasia plates are available in multiple formats, two well geometries and surface coating options.

Corning Elplasia round bottom plates are optimal for bulk spheroid formation, collection and expansion. Round bottom plates feature Corning ULA surface and are available in 6-, 24-, and 96-well formats.

Both plates feature surfaces with optical qualities suited for image analysis. Corning Elplasia square bottom type plates are an ideal solution for clonal selection and high magnification imaging of very small clusters. Square bottom plates are plasma-treated for easier self-coating and are available in 6-, 24-, 96-, and 384-well formats. The Elplasia square plate is well suited for screening programs as it generates a high volume of spheroids per well when coated with a low attachment coating such as poly-HEMA, allowing for higher signals per well.

5. Are there any special seeding instructions?

Yes. You must pre-wet the plates to remove bubbles from the microcavities. If bubbles are not removed prior to seeding spheroids will not form. To accomplish this, we recommend pre-wetting wells with cell culture medium and centrifuging the plates prior to adding cells. For more details please refer to our Guidelines for Use for Round Bottom Plates (Corning Lit. Code CLS-AN-536).

6. What are the dimensions of the plate for automation programming?

Corning spheroid microplates adhere to the standard ANSI/SBS footprint dimensions for 96-well and 384-well microplate formats. Drawings are available via Corning Scientific Support:

E-mail: ScientificSupport@corning.com

Phone: 800.492.1110 or +1.978.442.2200

7. How do I change media when feeding my cells?

We recommend avoiding media exchanges when possible to decrease the risk of dislodging spheroids out of the microcavities. If media exchanges are necessary, we recommend half media exchanges by adding droplets of media as gently as possible. Adding media when there are higher volumes already in the well can reduce the chances of disturbing the spheroids.

Be especially gentle when transporting Corning® Elplasia® 6-well plates to avoid dislodging spheroids out of the microcavities.

8. Is there any way to get single spheroids back in the microcavities after being disturbed?

Unfortunately, no. Care must be taken during handling to avoid disturbing spheroids.

9. Can Corning Elplasia plates be used with fluorescent/colorimetric agents?

Yes. Corning Elplasia plates are specifically designed for assay use. The plates feature optically clear, round bottom wells with a black opaque microplate body. We recommend using Promega CellTiter-Glo® 3D Cell Viability Assay for cell proliferation and cytotoxicity assay screening.

10. Are these plates compatible with confocal imaging?

Yes. We have successfully imaged using up to a 20X objective.

11. Where can I find application notes for Corning Elplasia plates and Corning spheroid microplates?

Corning technical literature can be found online at www.corning.com/lifesciences.

For more specific information on claims, visit the Certificates page at www.corning.com/lifesciences.

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