GUIDELINES FOR USE

PRODUCT: Corning® Matrigel® Matrix for Organoid Culture, Phenol Red-free, 10 mL Vial

CATALOG NUMBER: 356255

BACKGROUND: Basement membranes are continuous sheets of specialized extracellular matrix (ECM) that are found at the dermal-epidermal junction, at the base of all lumen-lining epithelia.

Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture is a soluble basement membrane extract of the Engelbreth-Holm-Swarm (EHS) tumor that gels at room temperature to form a genuine reconstituted basement membrane\(^1\). The major components of Corning Matrigel matrix are laminin, collagen IV, entactin, and heparan sulfate proteoglycan, growth factors, collagenases, plasminogen activators, and other undefined components\(^2-4\).

ORGANOIDS: “An organoid is a collection of organ-specific cell types that develops from progenitors or stem cells, which self-organize through cell sorting and lineage commitment mimicking mini-organs”\(^5\). They can be classified into those that are tissue-derived and those derived from pluripotent stem cells (PSC). ECM is an important component of the cell niche that provides biochemical cues and structural support (porosity and stiffness) which mediates signaling for cell migration, cell behavior, and polarization in organoid structures\(^6,7\). “When stem cells are placed within Corning Matrigel matrix and in the presence of suitable exogenous factors, they can be coaxed to form organized 3D clusters of cells”\(^8\).

Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture is an optimal matrix that has been verified to support organoid growth and differentiation. Each lot is measured for its elastic modulus indicative of matrix stiffness and qualified to form stable “3D dome” structures commonly used in organoid culture protocols. The product has been verified to support mouse intestinal organoid culture for more than 7 passages with typical budding morphology and marker expression\(^9\), it has also been verified to support the formation of polarized 3D structures of primary human airway epithelial cells expressing typical markers\(^10\).

Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture will provide customers the convenience of an optimized matrix, reducing the need for time-consuming screening, while providing the reproducibility and consistency essential for organoid research.

SOURCE: Engelbreth-Holm-Swarm (EHS) Mouse Tumor

FORMULATION: Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium with 50 µg/mL gentamycin.

STORAGE: Stable when stored at -20°C. Store aliquots in either the -20°C or -70°C freezer until ready for use. Freeze thaws should be minimized by aliquoting into one time use aliquots. Do not store in frost-free freezer. Keep frozen.

PROTEIN CONCENTRATION: The protein concentration for Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture is lot-specific and can be found on the product Certificate of Analysis.

EXPIRATION DATE: The expiration date for Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture is lot-specific and can be found on the product Certificate of Analysis.


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THAWING:

CAUTION: Corning® Matrigel® matrix for organoid culture should always be kept submerged in ice, as it will start to gel above 10°C.

- Thaw vial by submerging it in an insulated bucket filled with ice.
- Keep the ice bucket in the back of a 2°C to 8°C refrigerator overnight.
- Once thawed, swirl the vial to ensure that material is evenly dispersed and spray the top of the vial with 70% ethanol while keeping material on ice.
- Using sterile technique, dispense the material into appropriate aliquots in pre-chilled tubes to avoid freeze-thaw cycles, and refreeze immediately.

METHODS OF USE:

Protocols for organoid culture should be optimized based on cell type and culture conditions. Typically, organoids are grown in Corning Matrigel matrix domes and in some instances, using a thick gel of Corning Matrigel matrix.

Dome application method

- We recommend Corning TC-treated cultureware (e.g., Cat. No. 3524 or 3526 for 24-well plates).
- We recommend preincubating the cultureware in a humidified 37°C incubator overnight.
- Adequately rinse the cell/organoid pellet to remove residual dissociating reagent before mixing with ice-cold Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture.
  - Residual dissociation reagents can affect dome formation.
  - We recommend that the cell/matrix mixture contain at least 50% Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture. Depending on organoid types and protocols, this mixture may require a higher concentration of Corning Matrigel matrix (>50%).
  - Avoid introduction of air bubbles while mixing.
- Domes are typically made by carefully dispensing 5 to 50 µL of the above-mentioned mixture.
- During dome formation, we recommend placing the multiwell plate on a heated platform (e.g., Corning Dry Bath, Cat. No. 6885-DB; with Heat Block, Cat. No. 480131) to maintain temperature.
- We recommend optimizing dome polymerization time based on volume, final Corning Matrigel matrix protein concentration, and culture medium. Typically, domes take at least 10 min. to solidify.
- We recommend gently adding room temperature organoid culture medium after dome solidification along the well wall, to avoid disrupting the domes.
  - If all wells are not used, add sterile PBS to empty wells to avoid dehydration.
- Carefully aspirate the medium to avoid disruption of the domes during medium changes and passaging.

Thick gel application method

- Keep culture plates and pipet tips on ice.
- Thaw Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture as recommended above.
- Add Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture (150 to 200 µL/cm²) to the plate.
- Allow the matrix to polymerize in a humidified incubator at 37°C for at least 30 min.
- Add cell suspension in culture medium on top of the gel.
  - Addition of Corning Matrigel matrix in medium may be needed for some organoid applications. This is referred to as a sandwich method.


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Embedded application method

- Keep culture plates and pipet tips on ice.
- Thaw Corning® Matrigel® matrix for organoid culture as recommended above.
- Resuspend and mix cell pellet with ice-cold Corning Matrigel matrix for organoid culture.
- Dispense mixture onto cold culture plate (150 to 200 µL/cm²).
- Allow the matrix to polymerize in a humidified incubator at 37°C for at least 30 min. Add culture medium on top of the gel.


SAFETY RECOMMENDATION: Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and laboratory safety practices.

REFERENCES:
10. Application note (Corning Lit. Code CLS-AN-534), High throughput gene expression analysis of 3D airway organoids.