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Flood Super Cell

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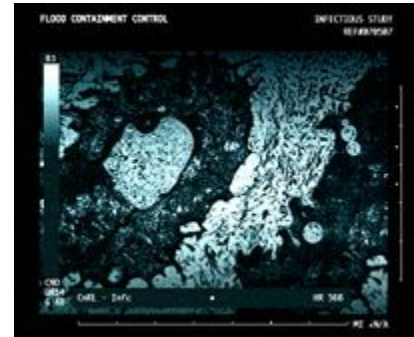
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The **LF.Xx.3273 Flood Super Cell**, often referred to using the acronym **FSC**, is an undifferentiated cell type that serves as the basis of all Flood biomass.^[1]

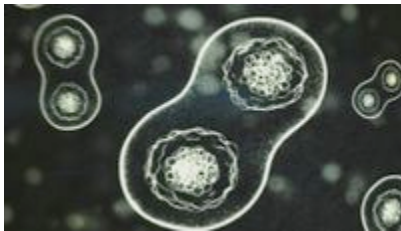
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The Flood super cell in a study.

Biology



Flood Super Cells performing Cell division inside of a host.

The Flood Super Cell is often described as "*thinking muscle*", and closely resembles both neurons and glial cells in terms of its physical structure.^[1] The Flood have demonstrated on numerous occasions that they have the ability to arrange these cells to mimic any organ that may be needed. In addition to this ability, the Flood Super Cell has a wide repertoire of additional abilities, which culminates in the creation of a Gravemind and a fully-developed Flood hive. In these latter stages of an outbreak, the Flood is able to spontaneously generate the FSC in its effort to alter the environment into a more suitable one for its growth.^[2]

An important capability essential to the Flood's survival is its ability to convert other life forms into more Flood cells, which can be used in a wide variety of ways. The Flood Super Cells capture and interface with the host's cells, which are quickly metabolized, broken down, analyzed, and reassembled into more Flood Cells that mirror the function of the target's cells.^[3] This process is rapid and continuous, with the end result being that the host's biomass is largely overtaken by the newly-generated Flood biomass.^[4]

When first inserted into a victim, primarily by the infection form, the Flood cells are in an encapsulated "spore" state before they become active in the victim.^[5]

Trivia

- The Flood Super Cell shows remarkable similarities to the alien life form in the 1982 film *The Thing*. The cells of this alien being interfaces with and analyzes the cells of its victim, and

simultaneously consumes them, shaping the resulting biomass to be a perfect replica of the victim. Similar to the Flood, the alien can reconstruct the matter of the victim in any way it chooses, and is not something that can be cured, like a disease.

- The Flood Super Cell's ability to consume and facilitate the use of an organism as an environment for its own prosperity closely parallels the abilities of real world microorganisms, specifically those of the *Agrobacterium* genus. This genus of bacteria utilizes horizontal gene transfer, to insert harmful DNA into target plants, generating tumors that create an environment in which the bacteria can thrive in.

List of appearances

- *Iris* (First appearance)
- *Halo 3*
 - *Terminals*
- *Halo: Combat Evolved Anniversary*
 - *Terminals*
- *Halo Wars 2* (Mentioned only)
 - Awakening the Nightmare DLC

Sources

1. **Bestiarum**
2. **Halo Waypoint: *Flood*** (<https://www.halowaypoint.com/en-us/universe/species/flood>)
3. **Art of Halo 3**, page 26
4. **The Art of Halo: Creating a Virtual World**, page 48
5. **Halo: Combat Evolved**, campaign level *The Library*

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