
 **Cassiopea xamachana Cellular Dissociation**
 Forked from [Cellular Dissociation \(Enzymes + Mechanical + Fixation\)](#).

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This protocol is to optimized to dissociate and fix *Cassiopea xamachana* cells for cell sorting and scRNA-seq.

Cells cannot be sorted without fixative, unless your machine can sort a seawater solution.
Any other solution will lyse cells.

Make sure to work in an RNase free-environment when able to. Use RNase-ZAP or work in a UV sterilized hood if possible.

The tissue should be less than 1 cm long

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Protocol status: Working
We use this protocol and it's working

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cnidaria, cnidarian, enzyme,
fluorescence

MATERIALS

- Sterile razors
- Sterile forceps
- Ice
- Wide-bore pipette tips, or cut 1000 uL pipette tips
- 15 mL tube for digestion buffer
- 2 petri dishes to wash and incubate tissue in Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} free seawater
- 2 70-um filters
- 2 mL microcentrifuge tubes
- pipettes

Equipment:
microcentrifuge
rocking plate

Reagents:
NaCl
KCl
 NaSO_4
 NaHCO_3
Dispase II
Liberase
L-cysteine
PBS
BSA
DNase/RNase-free distilled water
methanol
glacial acetic acid
glycerol
RNase Inhibitor

BEFORE START INSTRUCTIONS

Treat reagents and materials with UV-light for ~15 mins before beginning protocol.

Set 15 mL and microcentrifuge to 4° C.

Prepare Reagents:

Ca²⁺ Mg²⁺ free seawater (Roger et al. 2021)

To 1 L Distilled Water add:

- 23 g NaCl
- 0.763 g KCl
- 3 g NaSO₄
- 0.25 g NaHCO₃

- Dissociation Mix:

To Ca²⁺ Mg²⁺ free ASW add:

- 3.6 mg/mL Dispase II
- 0.25 mg/mL of Liberase
- 4% L-cysteine

- 1x PBS 0.5% bovine serum albumin (BSA)

- Add 0.25 g to 50 mL 1x PBS.

- Fresh ACME Solution

- 13:3:3:2 ratio of DNase/RNase-free distilled water, methanol, glacial acetic acid, and glycerol

- Prep about 15 mL, FRESH, per sample each time












- RNase Inhibitor

Dissociation









1h

- 1 Cut the jellyfish tissue with a sterile razor to encourage permeability of reagents.


2m

- 2 Gently wash the jellyfish tissue in  10 mL Ca-Mg-Free SW for  00:01:00 then transfer to fresh  10 mL Ca-Mg-Free SW and let incubate at  Room temperature for  00:02:30 . 3m 30s
- 3 Using sterilized forceps, place the jelly tissue into a clean 15 mL tube then add  1 mL dissociation mix on top of the jelly, or enough to submerge the tissue. 30s
- 4 Incubate the tissue on a rocker for  00:30:00 at room temperature. 30m
- 5 Pipette up and down using a wide-bore tip 10 times. 5m
- 6 Repeat steps 4 and 5. 35m
- 7 Add  80 μ L fetal bovine serum to the cell suspension to create a 8% FBS solution to halt enzyme digestion. 2m
- 8 After the incubation period, filter the sample through a  70 μ m filter Keep sample  On ice moving 2m forward.
- 9 Resuspend in  1000 μ L Ca-Mg-free SW . Gently pipette up and down 10 times with a wide-bore tip to dissociate clumps. 2m

Staining and Fixation

- 10 Add  1 micromolar (μM) Calcein Violet 450 AM to cells. Incubate in the dark for  00:30:00 . 30m
- 11 After the incubation period, filter the sample through a  70 μm filter 5m
- 12 Resuspend in  500 μL ACME . Incubate for  00:30:00 . 35m
- 13 Centrifuge  350 x g, 4°C, 00:07:00 then carefully discard the supernatant. 7m
- 14 Re-suspend the pellet in  800 μL 1x PBS w/ 1% BSA using gentle pipetting with a wide-bore pipette then add  1 μL RNA Inhibitor . 1m

FACS & Cryopreservation

- 15 Pre-chill chambers of FACS Machine to  4 °C 5m
- 16 Sort at the slowest rate (High-purity) with less than 50 PSI at  4 °C . Gate for Calcein Violet (450 nm) and chlorophyll autofluorescence (650-700 nm) for viable jelly cells and symbiont cells. 2h

17 After sorting, cryopreserve by adding [M] 10 % volume DMSO and 1 μL RNA Inhibitor and immediately putting the sample at -80 °C .

1m

Thaw and Sample Submission

38m

18 Thaw the sample On ice

30m

19 Centrifuge 350 x g, 4°C, 00:07:00 then carefully remove the supernatant.

7m

20 Re-suspend the cells in 1 mL 3.3x PBS w/ 1% BSA then add 1 μL RNA Inhibitor .

1m

21 Submit to sequencing center On ice .