



JUN 21, 2023

OPEN ACCESS

DOI:
dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.e6nvwd6kwlmk/v1

Protocol Citation: Emily Stephenson, Chloe Admane, Keval Sidhpura 2023. Single cell dissociation of healthy paediatric skin . **protocols.io** <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.e6nvwd6kwlmk/v1>

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

Created: Jun 19, 2023

Last Modified: Jun 21, 2023

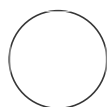
PROTOCOL integer ID:
 83638

Single cell dissociation of healthy paediatric skin

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Human Cell Atlas Method Development Community



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DISCLAIMER

This protocol has been tested on a variety of skin sites such as lip and trunk, however not all body sites has been tested. This protocol has also only been used for healthy, non-diseased skin.

ABSTRACT

This protocol outlines the method for the enzymatic dissociation of healthy paediatric skin >3mm into a single cell suspension.

GUIDELINES

This protocol includes an overnight incubation step.

MATERIALS

Petri dish
 Scalpel
 Forceps
 100 micron filters
 RPMI
 RF-10 (RPMI plus 10%FCS, 1% Pen-strep and 1% L-glut)
 48-well v bottom plate
 PBS
 Dispase (Roche)
 Collagenase Type IV (Worthington)
 50ml Falcon Tubes
 Flow Buffer (PBS 2% FCS and 2mM EDTA)

SAFETY WARNINGS




This protocol uses sharp objects.

BEFORE START INSTRUCTIONS

Do not forget to record the metadata for this sample. Before starting, clean MSC Class II with 70% ethanol and make up virkon. Ensure you have all materials needed to carry out the protocol.


Day 1 - Begin protocol late afternoon

- 1 Record sample meta data and assess size of sample  Sample 10m
- 1.1 If sample is <3mmx3mm freeze and embed sample in OCT (see other protocol), if sample is >3mmx3mm continue with protocol
- 2 Empty sample onto petri dish and wash sample with PBS 5m
- 3 Cut off lower dermis and fat and place in well of 48-well plate with 1ml RPMI 2m
- 4 Place epidermis and upper dermis sample in a 48 well V-bottom plate with 1ml RPMI and 20µL Dispase 5m
- 5 Add parafilm to plate and leave in 4°C fridge overnight 1m

Day 2 - Begin protocol early in the morning

4h 8m

- 6** Take plate out of fridge and empty epidermis/upper dermis onto new petri dish, remove collagenase type IV from -80 freezer 2m
- 7** Using forceps, separate epidermis and upper dermis and place each separately into new wells of the 48-well plate 10m
- 8** Place 1ml RPMI in each well of plate containing epidermis and upper dermis 5m
- 9** Add collagenase type IV 1:100 (10 μ L) to each of the tissues (epidermis, upper dermis and lower dermis) 5m
- 10** Place in incubator and incubate at 37°C for 3 hours 3h
- 11** Remove from incubator and, using 1ml pipette, pipette each tissue up and down to ensure the tissue has dissociated 10m
- 12** Pipette through 100micron filter into separate 50ml Falcon tubes 5m
- 13** Wash out each well an additional 3 times with 1ml RF-10 and pass through filter 2m

- 14** Wash filter with 25ml RF-10 and adjust so each Falcon tube has the same volume 2m
- 15** Centrifuge at 500g for 5 mins at 4deg (9acc/dec)  500 x g, 4°C 5m
- 16** Pour off supernatant 2m
- 17** Resuspend pellet with 1ml of Flow Buffer 5m
- 18** Take 10µL for cell count and count using Trypan Blue and C-Chip Haemocytometer, record number of cells isolated for each tissue 15m
- 18.1** If sorting for single cell RNA seq, continue with antibody staining and FACS protocol or if freezing down cells, continue with viable cell freezing protocol