

VERSION 1

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Protocol status: Working
This works well although the efficiency of ciliary removal is not 100%, often closer to 80-90%.

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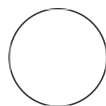
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Choanoflagellate Ciliogenesis Live Imaging V.1

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ABSTRACT

This protocol removes the cilia/flagella from choanoflagellate cells and sets up the cells for live imaging of ciliogenesis. It has been developed for the species *Salpingoeca rosetta*, but may be portable into other choanoflagellate species. Cells begin to re-generate their cilia/flagella right after removal. The idea of using a cold shock with glycerol for ciliary removal came from Brokaw et al 1960 (doi: 10.1016/0014-4827(60)90027-6).


Concentrate cells and remove cilia

18m

1 Grow choanoflagellate cells in High Nutrient Media to a density of $1-2 \times 10^6$ cells/ml

2 Count cells by hemacytomer or automated cell counter*

*We use LUNA-FL Automated Fluorescence Cell Counter (Logos Biosystems L20001)

3 Aliquot and pellet 6×10^6 cells  2000 x g, 00:10:00

10m

4 Corona treat a fluorodish 5-10 seconds

 Fluorodish **World Precision Instruments Catalog #FD35-100**

Equipment

BD-20AC Laboratory Corona Treater

NAME

Corona Treater

TYPE

Electro-Technic Products

BRAND

12051A

SKU

<https://www.electrotechnicproducts.com/bd-20ac-laboratory-corona-treater/>

LINK

5 Rinse fluorodish for 5 seconds with 1 ml of 0.1 mg/ml poly-D-lysine, followed by 3x washes with 1 ml water. Dry by air or by capillary action of kimwipe, being careful to minimize contact with surface of imaging dish.

 Poly-D-lysine hydrobromide **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #P6407-5MG**

6 Rinse a coverslip (circular - 22mm diameter) in 70% EtOH followed by water and then lay on kimwipe to dry. Easiest to hold coverslip by forceps and dunk into 50 ml conical tubes with the ethanol or water.

7 When cells are done pelleting, remove supernatant and resuspend cell pellet in 800 μ l of AKSW and transfer to 1.5 ml eppendorf tube.

8 Add 200 μ l of 50% glycerol (final concentration: 10% glycerol) and mix by pipetting

9 Add cells to a second Fluorodish (i.e. one not treated with poly-D-lysine) and incubate

 -20 °C 8 mins



Standard laboratory freezer is fine, but depending on exact temperature of your freezer or where in the freezer you place the cells, you may need to adjust the timing.

Set up cells for live imaging of ciliogenesis

18m

10 Transfer cells to 1.5 ml eppendorf tube and pellet  4200 x g, 00:08:00

8m

11 Remove supernatant and resuspend cells in 25 μ l of AKSW

12 Transfer cells to Fluorodish coated with poly-D-lysine and lay clean coverslip slowly on top using forceps

13 Mount dish on microscope* and find focus. Let cells settle for 1 minute.

*We use a Zeiss Axio Observer.Z1/7 widefield with a 100x NA 1.40 Plan-Apochromatic oil immersion objective and a Hamamatsu Orca-Flash 4.0 LT CMOS digital camera

14 Float coverslip off of cells by adding AKSW around the side of the coverslip drop by drop with a plastic transfer pipette. If you don't do this, the cells will eventually suffocate.

15

Image!



On our system we use a short (5 ms exposure) with high light intensity (12.2 V) and a DIC condenser to get the best imaging of ciliogenesis. We use Zeiss Definite Focus and take a 10 μm z-stack with 1 μm between slices every 30 seconds for one hour.