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🌐 Nuclei Preparation from Frozen Tissue for 10X Multiome using gentleMACS Homogenization and FANS, v1.2 Feb 2024

ereisner¹

¹Center for Epigenomics, University of California, San Diego

Cellular Senescence Network (SenNet) Method Development Community

SenNet TMC-University of California San Diego

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ereisner

Center for Epigenomics, University of California, San Diego

ABSTRACT

This protocol describes isolation of nuclei from frozen tissue using gentleMACS homogenization and FANS. Nuclei are permeabilized, washed, and counted; single-nucleus suspensions of sufficient concentration and nuclei quality may then be processed using the Chromium Next GEM Single Cell Multiome ATAC + Gene Expression (CG000338, Rev F) protocol from 10X Genomics.

ATTACHMENTS

[Nuclei Preparation from Frozen Tissue for 10X Multiome using gentleMACS Homogenization and FANS, v1.2, Feb 2024.pdf](#)

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

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MATERIALS

Reagents List:

A	B	C	D
Reagent	Concentration	Vendor	Catalog Number
CaCl ₂	1M	Thermo Scientific	J63122.AE
EDTA, pH 8.0	0.5M	Invitrogen	AM9260G
MgCl ₂	1M	Invitrogen	AM9530G
Mg acetate (MgAc)	1M	Thermo Scientific	J60041.AD
Tris-HCl, pH 7.5	1M	Invitrogen	15567-027
Tris-HCl, pH 8.0	1M	Invitrogen	15568-025
DTT (DL-Dithiothreitol)	-	Sigma	D9779-10G
Roche cOmplete, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail Tablets	-	Sigma	5056489001
Recombinant RNasin (Ribonuclease Inhibitor), 10000 U	-	Promega	N2515
Molecular biology water	-	Corning	46-000-CV
IGEPAL CA-630	-	Sigma	I8896-50ML
Tween-20	10%	BioRad	1662404
NaCl	5M	Invitrogen	AM9760G
Fatty acid-free BSA	-	Lampire Biological Laboratories	7500804
7-AAD	-	Invitrogen	A1310
PBS	-	Corning	21-040-CV
Trypan Blue	0.4%	Invitrogen	T10282
DMSO (Dimethyl Sulfoxide)	-	MP Biomedicals	ICN19481980

Equipment:

Sony Cell Sorter (SH800)

Eppendorf tabletop swing-bucket centrifuge (Eppendorf, 5920R)

gentleMACS Octo Dissociator with Heaters (Miltenyi Biotec)

Consumables:

Sony Sorting Chip-100 µm for SH800 and MA900 (Sony, LEC3210)

Thermo Scientific™ NERL™ Diluent 2 Hematology Reagent for Flow Cytometry (Fisher Scientific, 23-029-361)

30 µm CellTrics (Fisher Scientific, NC9682496)

gentleMACS M tubes, sterile packed as 4x25 pieces (Miltenyi Biotec, 130-096-335)

Standard Line Sterile Centrifuge Tubes with Flat Caps, Conical-Bottom, 15 mL (VWR, 10025-686)

1.5 mL Lo Bind Centrifuge tubes (Eppendorf, 022431021)

5 mL Eppendorf DNA LoBind tubes (Eppendorf, 0030108310)

Thermo Scientific™ SoftFit-L™ Filtered Pipette Tips in Hinged Racks, 200 µL (Fisher Scientific, 21-402-561)

Thermo Scientific™ SoftFit-L™ Filtered Pipette Tips in Hinged Racks, 20 µL (Fisher Scientific, 21-402-550)

xTIP4™ Racked Pipette Tips, Rainin® LTS® Pipette Compatible, Biotix, 1000 µL (Fisher Scientific, 76266-146)

Olympus Plastics 0.2 mL 8-Strip PCR Tubes, Flex Free Individual Attached Flat Caps (Genesee Scientific, 27-125U)

Serological Pipets, 10 mL, Sterile, Individually Wrapped (Genesee Scientific, 12-104)

Reagent preparation:

1 Prepare buffers fresh and leave on ice.

1.1 The volume of MACS Buffer prepared depends on the input mass of each sample. An additional 1 mL should be prepared for rinsing in addition to the homogenization volume. Refer to the chart below:

Recommended MACS Buffer Homogenization Volumes	
Tissue Mass	Volume per Sample
10-40 mg	2 mL
40-100 mg	3 mL
100-200 mg	4 mL
> 200 mg	5 mL

A	B	C	D
MACS Buffer			
Reagent	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	for 1 mL
Roche cOmplete, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail	25X	1X	40 µl
DTT	200 mM	0.6 mM	3 µl
CaCl ₂	250 mM	5 mM	20 µl
EDTA	500 mM	5 mM	10 µl
Tris-HCl, pH 8.0	1M	10 mM	10 µl
MgAc	300 mM	3 mM	10 µl
Recombinant RNasin	40 U/µl	1 U/µl	25 µl
Molecular biology water	-	-	1.1 mL

A	B	C	D
Sort Buffer (SB)			
Reagent	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	For 4 samples
Fatty acid-free BSA in PBS	10%	1%	200 µL
Roche cOmplete, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail	25X	1X	80 µL
7-AAD (10% in DMSO)	1 mM	2 µM	4 µL
Recombinant RNasin	40 U/µl	1 U/µl	50 µL
PBS			1666 µL

A	B	C	D
Collection Buffer (CB)			
Reagent	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	For 4 samples

A	B	C	D
Fatty acid-free BSA in PBS	10%	5%	200 µL
Recombinant RNasin	40 U/µL	5 U/µL	50 µL
PBS	-	-	150 µL


A	B	C	D
Nuclear Permeabilization Buffer (NPB)			
Reagent	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	1 mL
Fatty acid-free BSA in PBS	-	5%	50 mg
IGEPAL-CA630	10%	0.20%	2 µL
DTT	200 mM	1 mM	5 µL
Roche cOmplete, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail	25X	1X	40 µL
Recombinant RNasin	40 U/µL	1 U/µL	25 µL
PBS			928 µL

A	B	C	D
Wash Buffer (WB)			
Reagent	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	Volume per Sample
Fatty acid-free BSA in PBS	10%	1%	200 µL
Roche cOmplete, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail	25X	1X	80 µL
Tris-HCl, pH 7.5	1M	10 mM	20 µL
DTT	200 mM	1 mM	10 µL
MgCl ₂	1M	3 mM	6 µL
NaCl	5M	10 mM	4 µL
Tween-20	10%	0.01%	2 µL
Recombinant RNasin	40 U/µL	1 U/µL	50 µL
Molecular biology water	-	-	1628 µL

Nuclei Preparation

- 2 Pre-chill a large, swing-bucket tabletop centrifuge to 4°C.

- 3 Add the pre-determined homogenization volume of MACS buffer to each MACS tube on ice.
- 4 Immediately transfer samples to MACS tubes. If needed, resuspend tissue first with MACS buffer from the MACS tube and then transfer the full volume to the tube.
- 5 Tighten the cap of each MACS tube and flip the tube upside down. Ensure that all tissue is submerged in the buffer.
- 6 Thaw on ice for 1 min.
- 7 Homogenize samples using the gentleMACS Octo Dissociator in the 4 °C cold room.
- 8 Run the protocol "protein_01_01" for gentleMACS M tubes (~1 min).
- 9 Quick spin M tubes to bring all liquid to the bottom of the tubes.
- 10 Filter each sample into a 15 mL tube using a 30 um (green) Celltrics filter.

- 11 Rinse the sides of each MACS tube with 1 mL MACS buffer.
 - 12 Quick spin M tubes to bring all liquid to the bottom of the tubes.
 - 13 Transfer the rinse to each Celltrics filter.
 - 14 Centrifuge homogenized samples for 5 min at 500 rcf, 4°C, and 3/3 acceleration/deceleration.
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- 15 Discard supernatants. A small volume of supernatant can be left in each tube to avoid disturbing the pellet.
 - 16 Gently resuspend each pellet in 500 µL sort buffer.
 - 17 Transfer the full sample volume to a pre-chilled 1.5 mL LoBind tube.
 - 18 Incubate on ice, protected from light, for 10 min.

19 Aliquot 90 μ L of 5X collection buffer into a 1.5 mL LoBind tube for each sample.

20 Sort 120,000 nuclei into the 90 μ L of collection buffer for each sample.

21 Centrifuge for 5 min at 500 rcf, 4°C, and 3/3 acceleration/deceleration.



22 Discard supernatant.

23 Gently resuspend pellet in 100 μ L of NPB.

24 Incubate on ice for 1 min.

25 Add 900 μ L of Wash buffer to each sample

26 Centrifuge for 5 min at 500 rcf, 4°C, and 3/3 acceleration/deceleration.



27 Carefully discard supernatants. Switch to a P20 pipette once the volume reaches ~40 µL. Do NOT disturb the pellet.

28 Gently resuspend in 12 µL of 1X Nuclei Buffer (prepared from 10X Genomics protocol).

29 Stain an aliquot of nuclei with 0.4% Trypan Blue. Load 10 µL into one chamber of a hemocytometer.

30 Count nuclei in four quadrants. Average the count and determine the nuclei concentration (nuclei/µL).

31 Capture images from the microscope field at 10X and 20X magnification.

32 Follow the 10X Genomics protocol **“Chromium Next GEM Single Cell Multiome ATAC + Gene Expression” (CG000338, Rev F)** for the remainder of the experiment. Input 18,000 nuclei for each tagmentation reaction for a targeted recovery of ~10,000 nuclei.