
Product description

HGS4 is a transplantable murine HGSOc cell line generated from mesenteric tumour tissue arising in a Pax8-rtTA; TetO-Cre; Trp53 fl/fl; Pten fl/fl; Brca2 fl/wt mouse. This model captures features of advanced peritoneal dissemination characteristic of human high-grade serous ovarian cancer. SNP profiling confirmed a predominantly C57BL/6 genetic background (95.1–96.5%), ensuring compatibility with syngeneic immunocompetent mouse studies. HGS4 cultures expand readily under standard epithelial cell culture conditions and serve as a robust platform for investigating tumour microenvironmental heterogeneity, therapeutic responses, and metastatic behaviour.

Name: HGS4 Cell Line

Cancer: Ovarian cancer

Cancers detailed: High Grade Serous Epithelial Ovarian; High-Grade Serous Ovarian (HGSOc)

Organism: Mouse

Tissue: Fallopian tube, ovarian, or peritoneal tumour tissues

Growth properties: Adherent

Model: Cancer model

CRISPR Edited: No

Conditional: Yes

Production details: HGS4 was generated following doxycycline-induced Cre activation in female GEMM mice (0.2 mg/ml in drinking water for 14 days post-weaning), producing tissue-specific recombination of Trp53 and Pten together with heterozygous Brca2 deletion (Brca2 fl/wt). Mesenteric tumour tissue was harvested, minced thoroughly, and enzymatically digested with collagenase type I to obtain a viable single-cell suspension. Cells were initially plated on collagen-coated dishes before being transferred into Primaria flasks and subsequently propagated as polyclonal cultures on conventional cell-culture plastic.

Biosafety level: 1

Cellosaurus id: CVCL_B5GY

Contributor(s)

Inventor: Frances Balkwill

Institute: Queen Mary University of London

Properties

Product format: Frozen

Unpacking and storage:

1. Check all containers for leakage or breakage.

2. Remove the frozen cells from the dry ice packaging and immediately place the cells at a temperature below -130°C , preferably in liquid nitrogen vapour, until ready for use.

Recommended medium: DMEM:F12 1:1 with GlutaMax (GIBCO™) with the addition of 4% FBS (Hyclone), 1x Pen/Strep (Invitrogen), 1x insulin/transferrin/selenium (Invitrogen, 51300), 100 ng/ml hydrocortisone (Sigma, H0135), 20 ng/ml murine Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF, Sigma, E4127), 1x antibiotic-antimycotic (GIBCO™).

Subculture: Split 1:10 three times/week or 1:20 twice a week, depending on observed growth rate. Growth rate may vary depending on serum batch. Monitor cell density and adjust split ratios accordingly. 0.25% trypsin/EDTA solution; 5% CO₂; 37°C.

Culture conditions: 37.0°C $\pm$ 1.0°C incubator with 5.0% $\pm$ 1.0% CO₂

Handling instructions

1. Please ensure that vials are frozen when received, and store at **<-130 °C long term**. When removing frozen cells from storage, it is important to minimise exposure to room temperature (15 - 25°C). If not proceeding directly to thawing, place the cells on dry ice or in a liquid nitrogen container.
2. **Do not thaw at room temperature.** To thaw, swirl the vial quickly in a 37 °C water bath with O-ring and cap above the water to avoid contamination. Remove from the water bath with a small ice pellet remaining (this should not take more than 2 minutes) and wipe the exterior with 70% ethanol or isopropanol before transferring to a biosafety cabinet. Further steps should be conducted under aseptic conditions.
3. We strongly recommend that the volume of cell suspension is measured at this point, and a 20 uL aliquot be removed for a **viable cell count** using trypan blue or similar dye. This ensures that provided cells are viable, and the cell count can be used to determine volume of growth medium to be added to the cell suspension.
4. Transfer the remaining cell suspension to a 50 mL conical tube using a pipette.
5. Rinse the vial with 1 mL of medium and add it dropwise to the cells.
6. Wash by adding 15 - 20 mL of medium **dropwise**, while gently swirling the tube.
7. Centrifuge the cell suspension at **250 x g for 5 minutes** at room temperature.
8. Carefully remove the supernatant with a pipette, leaving a small amount of medium to ensure the cell pellet is not disturbed. Resuspend the cell pellet by gently flicking the tube.
9. Gently add required volume of culture medium and transfer to a 75 cm² culture dish.

In vivo use:

Recommended injection protocol:

- Prepare 1×10^7 cells per mouse in sterile PBS.
- Trypsinize cells and neutralize trypsin with complete medium.
- Centrifuge, discard supernatant, and resuspend in PBS.
- Count cells and adjust to a final concentration suitable for delivering 1×10^7 cells in 300 μL PBS.
- Inject intraperitoneally into C57BL/6 mice.

Technical notes:

- Injection-site tumours may occasionally develop. To minimize this, use a fresh needle for each mouse.
- After inserting the needle into the peritoneal cavity, allow it to rest for several seconds before withdrawal to reduce backflow and subcutaneous deposition.
- Injection-site tumours are uncommon and rarely cause clinical issues.

Animal Monitoring Guidelines:

- Weight loss: Check at least twice weekly as animals approach endpoint; also assess general wellbeing (hunched posture, sunken eyes, reduced mobility).
- Ascites: Observe for abdominal distension and rounded flanks.
- Jaundice (rare): Tumour growth in the lesser omentum may obstruct the gall bladder, leading to jaundice. Although difficult to detect by ear or paw colour in C57BL/6 mice, signs include weight loss and dark yellow urine.
- Intestinal obstruction (very rare): Tumours arising from the mesentery can obstruct the intestine or cecum. Even small tumours may cause rapid clinical deterioration.

References

- Maniati et al. 2020. Cell Rep. 30(2):525-540.e7. PMID: 31940494.

Material Citation

If use of this material results in a scientific publication, please cite the material in the following manner: HGS4 cell line, was invented by Frances Balkwill (CancerTools.org #160540).

PRODUCTS ARE FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY AND NOT INTENDED FOR HUMAN OR ANIMAL DIAGNOSTIC OR THERAPEUTIC USES UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

While CancerTools.org has made all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information provided by CancerTools.org and its suppliers is correct, it makes no warranties or representations as to the accuracy or completeness of such information.