



Melanocyte Medium (MelM) Catalog #2201

Product Description

Melanocyte Medium (MelM), when used with Melanocyte Growth Supplement (MelGS, Cat #2252) and 2.5 ml of fetal bovine serum (FBS) is a complete medium designed for optimal growth of normal melanocytes *in vitro*. It is a sterile, liquid medium which contains essential and non-essential amino acids, vitamins, organic and inorganic compounds, hormones, growth factors, trace minerals and a low concentration of FBS (0.5%). The medium is HEPES and bicarbonate buffered and has a pH of 7.4 when equilibrated in an incubator with an atmosphere of 5% CO₂/95% air. The medium is formulated (quantitatively and qualitatively) to provide an optimally balanced nutritional environment that selectively supports the growth of normal melanocytes *in vitro*.

Components

MelM consists of 500 ml of basal medium, 2.5 ml of FBS (Cat. #0002), 5 ml of Melanocyte Growth Supplement (MelGS, Cat. #2252) and 5 ml of penicillin/streptomycin solution (P/S, Cat. #0503). *Note: FBS, MelGS and P/S are not pre-mixed in MelM; they must be added separately to make the complete MelM.*

Note: Due to bovine pituitary extract (BPE) in the growth supplement, the color may vary with different lots and formation of lipoproteins can result in precipitates. This does not affect the biological activity.

Product Use

MelM is for research use only. It is not approved for human or animal use, or for application in *in vitro* diagnostic procedures.

Storage

Store the basal medium at 4°C and the MelGS, FBS and P/S solution at -20°C. Protect from light.

Shipping

Basal medium: room temperature. Supplements: dry ice.

Instructions for Use

Thaw MelGS, FBS and P/S solution at 37°C. Gently tilt the tubes several times to ensure the contents are completely mixed before adding to the medium. (**Note:** the presence of BPE in the growth supplement may result in lipoprotein precipitates; this does **not** reduce the efficacy of the supplement). Spray the medium bottle and tubes with 70% ethanol, and wipe to remove excess liquid. In a sterile field, remove the caps without touching the interior threads with fingers. Add MelGS, FBS and P/S solution to the medium and mix well. Since several components are light-labile, the medium should not be exposed to light for extended periods. We do not recommend

warming medium in a 37°C water bath prior to use. When stored in the dark at 4°C, the reconstituted medium is stable for one month.

Caution: If handled improperly, some components of the medium may present a health hazard. Take appropriate precautions when handling it, including the wearing of protective clothing and eyewear. Dispose of properly.