

Generation of gene-engineered T cells via electroporation and/or transduction

CliniMACS Prodigy® T Cell Engineering

Application

Fully automated cell labeling, enrichment, activation, genetic engineering via electroporation and/or transduction and expansion of human T cells from patient material for production of gene-engineered T cells. The flexible combination of electroporation and transduction within one closed manufacturing process enables complex gene-editing applications. This application sheet gives an overview of the specifications and materials needed to perform T cell engineering (TCE) on the CliniMACS Prodigy in combination with the CliniMACS[®] Electroporator. Furthermore, it illustrates the process workflow, as well as the configuration of the CliniMACS Prodigy Tubing Set, and provides performance data.

Specifications

Process name:	T Cell Engineering		
Selection capacity:	Up to 3×10° cells		
Sample volume for selection:	50–280 mL		
TransAct™ stimulation capacity:	$0.2-2 \times 10^8$ cells (2×10 ⁸ recommended for electroporation)		
Electroporation pulses:	Voltage (V) Length (µs) Mode Polarity Burst length (µs)	1st pulse 50–1000 5–100,000 Square, burst unipolar, bipolar 5–100,000	2nd pulse 50–500 0–100,000 Square, burst unipolar 5–100,000
Cell volume for electroporation:	20–157 mL		
Cell density for electroporation:	Recommended 1×10^7 cells/mL (1×10^6 to 5×10^7 cells/mL)		
Final product harvest volume:	Harvest type 1: 100 mL Harvest type 2: up to 900 mL		
Process time:	10–14 days		

Products required*

Devices	Comment		
CliniMACS Prodigy with T Cell Engineering			
CliniMACS Electroporator	For electroporation		
CliniMACS and MACS GMP products	Comment		
CliniMACS CD62L Reagent/GMP MicroBeads or CliniMACS CD4 and CD8 Reagent/ GMP MicroBeads	For T cell isolation		
CliniMACS Prodigy TS 520			
CliniMACS PBS/EDTA Buffer	For T cell isolation and optional cell wash		
CliniMACS Electroporation Buffer	For electroporation		
TexMACS [®] GMP Medium	For cell cultivation		
MACS® GMP Recombinant Human IL-7/IL-15 or IL-2	For cell cultivation		
MACS GMP T Cell TransAct	For T cell activation		

Additional material / equipment	Comment
Viral vector and/or nucleic acid or nucleoprotein complex to be electroporated	Depending on whether transduction and/ or electroporation is desired
Triple Sampling Adapter (Miltenyi Biotec)	For additional sampling
Sterile water, syringes, hypodermic needles or Cytokine Vial Adapter (Miltenyi Biotec)	For cytokine reconstitution or For cytokine reconstitution in a closed system
MACS GMP Vectofusin-1 (Miltenyi Biotec)	For transduction, optional
Formulation solution (e.g. CliniMACS Formulation Solution)	For formulation of cells during harvest
Human Serum Albumin	For CliniMACS PBS/EDTA Buffer supplementation
Human AB serum	For addition to medium, optional
Sterile tube welder	For sterile tube connection
Uninterruptable power supply	As safety measurement
CO_2 and compressed air supply	For cell cultivation
Cell counter and / or flow cytometer	For IPC and QC

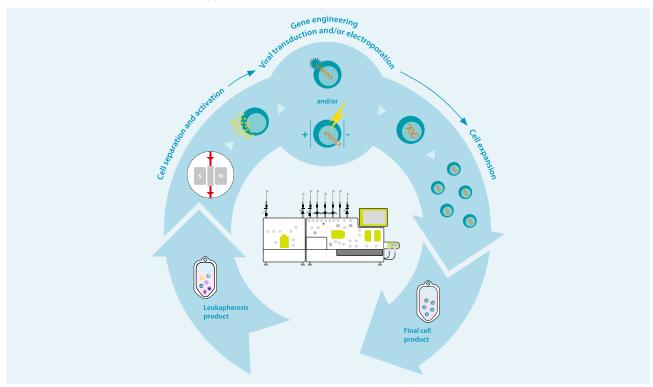
*Depending on the chosen protocol some consumables might not be needed at all or in various amounts. Please contact your responsible Miltenyi Biotec representative for support.

Process overview

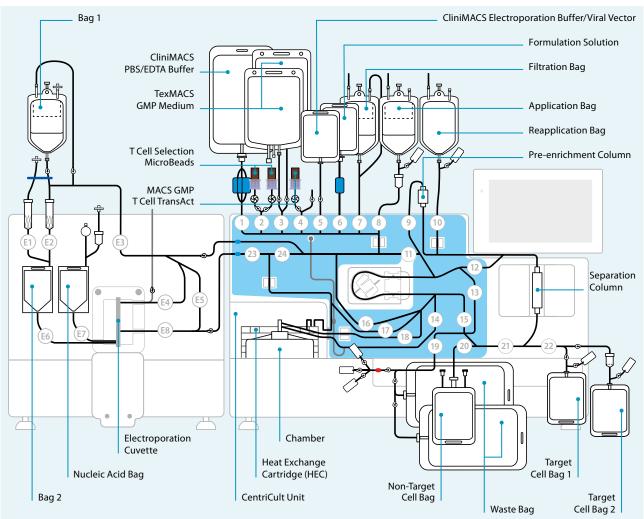
	Tubing set installation
Pre-process	Tubing set priming (buffer and medium)
Enrichment	Enrichment preparation
	\bullet
	Enrichment CD4/CD8 or CD62L
	\checkmark
Culture	Connection of culture materials and entry of cultivation parameters
preparation	\checkmark
	Culture setup (rinsing with medium, cell seeding, activation)
Cultivation	\bullet
	Cultivation with flexible activities (e.g. electroporation, feeding, media exchange, sampling, etc.)
	\checkmark
Doct process	Formulation and harvest
Post-process	\checkmark
Process time (approx.)	10–14 days

Table 1: Overview of the full T cell engineering process. When choosing the full process option, T cell enrichment, culture preparation and cultivation are performed. Other process options (so called cases) are available for flexible protocol adaption, e.g., option to start the process without T cell enrichment and process resume cases (not shown).

Principle of CliniMACS Prodigy T Cell Engineering



CliniMACS Prodigy TS 520 setup for T cell engineering



Performance data

N=3	Starting material	Isolated cells	
		Purity (%)	Viability (%)
Healthy donor	$39.5\%\pm9.9\%$	83.0% ± 10.8%	98% ± 0%

Table 2: Cell separation performance data for CD4+/CD8+ T cells. (Data from Alzubi, J. & Lock, D. et al. (2020))

N=3	Start of cultivation	Final cell product			
	Number of seeded CD4 ⁺ /CD8 ⁺ T cells	Number of harvested CD4+/CD8+ T cells	CAR ⁺ cells (%)	TCR ko cells (%)	Viability (%)
Healthy donor	$2.1 \times 10^8 \pm 0.47 \times 10^9$	$2.24 \times 10^9 \pm 1.46 \times 10^9$	52.5% ± 17.6%	34.4% ± 12.8%	93.3% ± 4.16%

Table 3: Cultivation and gene-editing performance data after viral transduction with the CAR and electroporation to knock out the endogenous TCR (Data from Alzubi, J. & Lock, D. et al. (2020)).

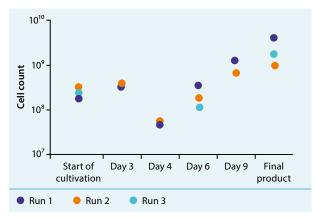


Figure 1: Total cell count over the whole manufacturing process (n=3). Cell numbers are dropping significantly after electroporation-induced stress on day three. However, cell numbers recover quickly afterwards (Data from Alzubi, J. & Lock, D. *et al.* (2020)).

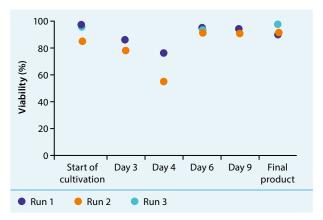


Figure 2: Viability of T cells after successful gene-editing using the CliniMACS Electroporator. After the electroporation step at day three cell viability is slightly decreased. At day six viability is already over 95% again (Data from Alzubi, J. & Lock, D. *et al.* (2020)).

References

Alzubi, J. & Lock, D. *et al.* (2020) Automated generation of gene-edited CAR T cells at clinical scale. Molecular Therapy – Methods & Clinical Development 20: 379–388.



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