

# Mebiol® Gel PNIPAAm-PEG 3D Thermoreversible Hydrogel

Cat. No. MBG-PMW20-1001 / MBG-PMW20-1005 / MBG-PMW20-1020 /

MBG-PMW20-5001 / MBG-PMW20-5005 / MBG-PMW20-5020

Last Updated: 2023/5/18

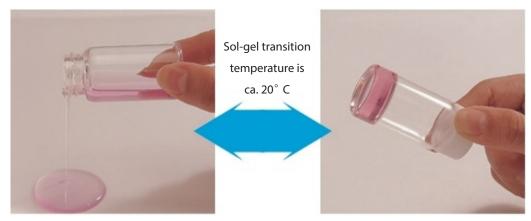
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	Cat. No.	Content quantity	Amount of medium to be added	Flask
10 mL type	MBG-PMW20-1001	1 g/Flask	10 mL	1 PC
	MBG-PMW20-1005			5 PC
	MBG-PMW20-1020			20 PC
50 mL type	MBG-PMW20-5001	5 g/Flask	50 mL	1 PC
	MBG-PMW20-5005			5 PC
	MBG-PMW20-5020			20 PC

## [ ] Background

Hydrogels are a diverse class of polymeric materials characterized by their network-like structure and high water content. Hydrogels of many kinds have found a wide variety of applications in medicine and life science research weighted towards, but not at all limited to three-dimensional cell culture, tissue engineering, and drug delivery. Properties highly favorable to cell culture and tissue engineering applications prompted the commercialization of Mebiol® Gel, a copolymer of poly(N-isopropylacrylamide) and poly(ethylene glycol) (PNIPAAm-PEG) for research purposes in the early 2000's.

Mebiol® Gel's defining feature, in contrast to other commercially available hydrogels, is its temperature reversible sol-gel transition. When cooled, Mebiol® Gel is a sol (handles like a liquid) but becomes a rigid hydrogel at higher temperatures. In practice, this means extremely easy cell handling. Cultures are seeded into cooled Mebiol® Gel and recovered conveniently by cooling the culture vessel and centrifugation. In the gel state, the highly lipophylic environment of the Mebiol® Gel presents an efficient niche for cell proliferation, cell communication, gas and mass exchange, and protection of cells and tissue from shear forces.



Low Temperature (sol)

High Temperature (gel)

## [ | ] Features

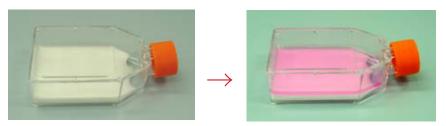
- Easy handling
- Non-toxic, biocompatible
- ♦ 100% synthetic, pathogen free
- High transparency for cell observation
- Proven performance.

## [ | ] Applications

- ◆ Stem cell and pluripotent stem cell culture, expansion, and differentiation
- Spheroid culture
- Cell implantation
- Organ and Tissue Regeneration
- Drug Delivery
- Non-cell culture application

#### [ | | ] Experimental Procedures

- How to use Mebiol® Gel -
- 1 Open package on a clean bench and add 10mL of culture medium to lyophilized Mebiol® Gel in the flask.



Close the flask cap tightly and place it in a refrigerator (2-10°C) for approximately 3 hours. Lyophilized Mebiol® Gel will absorb the culture medium slowly.



Dissolve Mebiol® Gel in culture medium by occasionally shaking the flask very gently (do not use a shaker) while keeping it at low temperature. Usually it takes about 1 day for the gel to dissolve completely. After the gel has dissolved, settle the solution in a refrigerator (2-10°C) to eliminate bubbles. Complete elimination of bubbles may take a couple of days. Warming to 37°C on and off for short period (ca. 1 min) can accelerate dissolution.





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Add cells/tissues into the sol state of Mebiol® Gel at low temperature (2-10 $^{\circ}$ C) and warm it to 37 $^{\circ}$ C in a CO<sub>2</sub> incubator so that the cells/tissues can be cultured three-dimensionally in the Mebiol® Gel at hydrogel state.





#### To recover/collect cells/tissues

To recover cells/tissues after cultivation, cool Mebiol® Gel containing cultured cells/tissues to liquefy it. Dilute it with 30-40ml of cold saline or medium. This dilution lowers the viscosity of Mebiol® Gel and prevents gelation even above the sol-gel transition temperature. Suspended cells/tissues can be easily recovered by centrifugation.





#### Use Mebiol® Gel with a Multi-well Plate

Cool 10ml of Mebiol® Gel solution dissolved in culture medium in a 70ml flask and 14ml sterilized centrifuge tube on ice in a beaker (1L)



- Transfer required volume (3-4ml) of Mebiol® Gel from the flask into the tube on a clean bench.

  The remaining Mebiol® Gel solution can be stored in the fridge or freezer.
- Add 30-40 ul of cell suspension (  $\sim 10^5$  cells/ml) into Mebiol® Gel solution (3-4ml) in the centrifuge tube and mix by rotating the tube on ice.

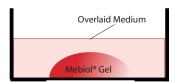


#### Pour into Multi-well Plate

- Warm up the 24-well plate and overlaying culture medium to 37°C in advanced.
- Pour 200-250ul of the cold Mebiol® Gel cell suspension (  $\sim 10^3$  cell/ml) into the center of each well of a 24-well plate warmed up to 37°C. For this process, usage of a large caliber pipette tip such as Rainin Certified<sup>TM</sup> tips are recommended as Mebiol® Gel has high viscosity.



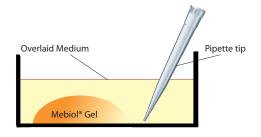
- Mebiol® Gel cell suspension in the well gels like islands on the plate when warmed up. Complete coverage of well bottom surface with Mebiol® Gel is not recommended as exposed well surfaces enable easier overlaid medium exchange.
- Overlay 400-500ul of culture medium containing phenol red on the island as in Mebiol® Gel cell suspension at 37°C



8 Cells can be cultured three-dimensionally in Mebiol® Gel in its hydrogel state at  $37^{\circ}$  C in an  $CO_2$  incubator.

### Culture Observation and Medium Exchange

- During cultivation, cells can be observed by an optical microscope, however, to prevent Mebiol® Gel from dissolving in culture medium when lowering the temperature, observation must be carried out quickly and the plates must be kept warm.
- Exchange overlaid medium when the medium color has turned yellow (low pH). Pipette out the yellow medium by contacting the tip end onto the exposed well surface. Overlay 400-500μL of culture medium containing phenol red on the island like Mebiol® Gel cell suspension at 37°C. This medium exchange procedure should be performed quickly and temperature should be kept at 37°C as close as possible.





## Culture Recovery and Passage

- To recover cells after cultivation, cool the multi-well plate in a refrigerator or on ice and shake gently. By cooling down, Mebiol® Gel is dissolved and diluted in the overlaid culture medium. At this diluted concentration, Mebiol® Gel does not become gel even above the sol-gel transition temperature. (Adding ca.400µL of saline to each well further reduces viscosity and makes cell recovery easier.) Transfer the cell suspension in the well to a centrifuge tube and precipitate cells by centrifugation (500-1,000rpm, 2-3min) at room temperature.
  - Cell passage can be performed by repeating the procedure from 3.

#### [NOTE]

- Expiry date is 1 year after date shipped.
- Do not use Mebiol® Gel for patients or medical diagnosis.
- ◆ Mebiol® Gel is distributed only for research on in vitro cell/tissue culture.
- Do not resterilize Mebiol® Gel to avoid deterioration.
- Mebiol® Gel is packaged with an oxygen scavenger in a gas barrier film. After opening the package, dissolve Mebiol® Gel in culture medium promptly and keep the solution in a refrigerator.
- Usage of solution within one month is strongly recommended.
- ◆ The gel color in this manual is pink to make it easy to look, but the actual product is clear and colorless.
- Do not use "pink tablet (oxygen detection agent)" and "Oxygen and Moisture Absorbent" that are supplied
  with the product. They are not parts of the product (see Fig. below).



Manufactured by R&D Center Mebiol Inc.



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