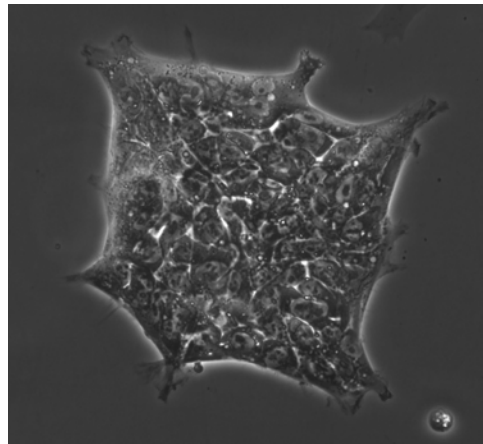


New Methods and Media for Growing Human Embryonic Stem Cells

Current feeder-free methods of culturing human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) require specific coatings such as Matrigel, serum components, and human cell-derived growth factors. University of California researchers have developed new methods and media additives for culturing stem cells. The UC culture methods use non-toxic, inexpensive additives

In one embodiment, the UC stem cell culturing method allows the growth of hESC's directly on plastic, without the need for Matrigel or other coatings. The photo below depicts hESC's cultured in conditioned media, growing directly on plastic using the UC method.



In a second embodiment, the UC method allows the growth of hESC's in a media completely devoid of animal derived factors. This allows for standardized growth conditions and avoids potential contamination from animal derived factors. The photo below depicts hESC's growing in completely animal free culture conditions.

