**Designation:** U-87 MG

**CLS order number:** Cryovial: 300367  
Vital: 330367

### Origin and General Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Organism</strong></th>
<th>Homo sapiens (human)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td>44 years of age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tissue</strong></td>
<td>Brain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morphology</strong></td>
<td>Epithelial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cell type</strong></td>
<td>Glioblastoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Growth Properties</strong></td>
<td>Monolayer, adherent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description:** The U-87 MG cell line derived from a glioma was isolated by J. Ponten and associates from 1966 to 1969. Deposited at the ATCC in the following years, it became cross-contaminated and does not resemble the original tumor cells, as described by Allen et al. 2016. Thus, continuous use of the cell line with the STR data as shown below is not recommended.

### Culture Conditions and Handling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Culture Medium</strong></th>
<th>Minimum essential medium Eagle (Earle's BSS) supplemented with 2 mM L-glutamine, 0.1 mM non-essential amino acids (NEAA), 1.0 mM sodium pyruvate, and 10% fetal bovine serum (MG-10, CLS order number 820100).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subculturing</strong></td>
<td>Remove medium and rinse the adherent cells using PBS without calcium and magnesium (3-5 ml PBS for T25, 5-10ml for T75 cell culture flasks). Add Accutase (1-2ml per T25, 2.5ml per T75 cell culture flask), the cell sheet must be covered completely. Incubate at ambient temperature for 10 minutes. Carefully resuspend the cells with medium (10 ml), centrifuge for 5 min at 300xg, resuspend cells in fresh medium and dispense into new flasks which contain fresh medium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Split Ratio</strong></td>
<td>A ratio of 1:2 to 1:5 is recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seeding density</strong></td>
<td>1x10^4 cells/cm^2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fluid Renewal</strong></td>
<td>2 to 3 times weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Freeze Medium</strong></td>
<td>CM-2 (CLS order number 800250, 50ml)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sterility</strong></td>
<td>Fluorescence (DAPI) test: negative; Mycoplasma specific PCR: negative; Bacteria specific PCR: negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biosafety Level</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Special Features of the Cell Line

**Tumorigenic:** Yes, in nude mice inoculated subcutaneously with 10^7 cells.

**DNA Profile (STR):**
- Amelogenin: X,X
- CSF1PO: 10,11
- D13S317: 8,11
- D16S539: 12
- D5S818: 11,12
- D7S820: 8,9
- THO1: 9,3
- TPOX: 8
- vWA: 15,17
- D3S1358: 16,17
- D21S11: 28,32,2
- D18S51: 13
- Penta E: 7,14
- Penta D: 9,14
- D8S1179: 10,11
- FGA: 18,24

**Isoenzymes:**
- Me-2, 1
- PGM3, 1
- PGM1, 2
- ES-D, 1
- AK-1, 1
- GLO-1, 1
- G6PD, B.
**Recommendations for handling of adherent cell cultures following delivery**

**Cryopreserved cells**
If immediate culturing is not intended, the cryovial(s) must be stored in liquid nitrogen (-196°C) or at least at -80°C after arrival.
If immediate culturing is intended, please follow these instructions:
Quickly thaw by rapid agitation in a 37°C water bath within 40-60 seconds. The water bath should have clean water containing an antimicrobial agent. As soon as the sample has thawed, remove the cryovial from the water bath. Note: A small ice clump should still remain and the vial should still be cold.
From now on, all operations should be carried out under aseptic conditions.
Transfer the cryovial to a sterile flow cabinet and wipe with 70% alcohol. Carefully open the vial and transfer the cell suspension into a 15 ml centrifuge tube containing 8 ml of culture medium (room temperature). Resuspend the cells carefully. Centrifuge at 300xg for 3 min and discard the supernatant. The centrifugation step may be omitted, but in this case the remains of the freeze medium have to be removed 24 hours later.
Resuspend the cells carefully in 10ml fresh cell culture medium and transfer them into two T25 cell culture flasks. All further steps are described in the Subculture section.

**Proliferating Cultures**
The cell culture flasks are completely filled with cell culture medium to prevent loss of cells during transit.
Remove the entire medium except for a sufficient volume to cover the floor of the flask. Incubate at 37°C for 24 hrs.
Sometimes the cultures are handled roughly during transit, and most of the cells detach and float in the culture medium. If this has occurred remove the entire content of the flask and centrifuge at 300xg for 3 minutes. Take off the supernatant, resuspend the cells in 10 ml of culture medium and transfer the entire cell suspension into cell culture flasks of suitable size (do not seed in more than 1T75 flask).

**Safety precautions for frozen cell lines**
If the cryovial is planned to be stored in liquid nitrogen and to be thawed in the future, special safety precautions should be followed:
- Protective gloves and clothing should be used and a facemask or safety goggles must be worn when storing and/or thawing the cryovial.
- The removal of a cryovial from liquid nitrogen can result in the explosion of the cryovial creating flying fragments.