# **User Guide**



# Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic - mRNA Kit (Large)

Catalog Number: DA-mRNA-L

#### Introduction

The Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic - mRNA Kit (Large) facilitates rapid and efficient differentiation of human iPS or ES cells into a population of dopaminergic neurons in just 10 days. Our proprietary transcription factor-based stem cell differentiation method uses synthetic mRNAs to produce highly pure populations of neurons without a genetic footprint. Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic differentiated cell cultures display typical neurite outgrowth and express a variety of neuronal markers, such as the pan-neuronal marker tubulin beta 3 class III (TUBB3) and the dopaminergic markers tyrosine hydroxylase (TH) and dopamine (DA). When handled and maintained according to the instructions in this user guide, dopaminergic neurons are viable long-term and are suitable for a variety of characterization and neurotoxicity assays.

Scale: The Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic - mRNA Kit (Large) contains a set of reagents for use with a

total of 6 wells of a 6-well plate.

Related Products: Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic mRNA Kit (Small), Catalog Number: DA-mRNA-S

Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic- Human iPSC-derived Neurons, Catalog Number: DA-mRNA-CW

Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic- Maintenance Medium, Catalog Number: DA-MM

#### **Contents**

Upon receipt, store the reagents at the temperatures indicated in the table below. All reagents are shipped on dry ice.

| Contents     | Volume     | Storage        | Thaw             |
|--------------|------------|----------------|------------------|
| QND-mRNA-P   | 4 x 33 µl  | -80°C          | On ice           |
| Component N  | 3 x 840 µl | -20°C or -80°C | On ice or 4°C    |
| Component P  | 2 x 50 µl  | -20°C or -80°C | Room temperature |
| Component D4 | 4 x 20 μl  | -20°C or -80°C | On ice or 4°C    |
| Component D5 | 90 μΙ      | -20°C or -80°C | Room temperature |
| Component D6 | 38 µl      | -20°C or -80°C | Room temperature |

## **Condition of Use**

This product is for research use only. It is not approved for use in humans or for therapeutic or diagnostic use.

# **Technical Support**

For technical support please refer to the FAQ on our website.

You may also contact us at cs@elixirgensci.com or call +1 (443) 869-5420 (M-F 9am-5pm EST).

Last revised: August 24, 2023

# **Required Consumables**

| Item  | Vendor   | Catalog Number                       |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 6-well tissue-culture-treated polystyrene plate (e.g., Corning Costar Flat Bottom Cell Culture Plates)                  | Fisher Scientific                              | 07-200-80                            |
| (Optional) 24-well tissue-culture-treated polystyrene plate (e.g., Corning Costar Flat Bottom Cell Culture Plates)      | Fisher Scientific                              | 07-200-740                           |
| (Optional) 96-well tissue-culture-treated polystyrene plate (e.g., Thermo Scientific™ 96 Well Black/Clear Bottom Plate) | Fisher Scientific                              | 12-566-70                            |
| Lipofectamine MessengerMAX  | ThermoFisher                                   | LMRNA001                             |
| Opti-MEM I Reduced Serum Medium   | ThermoFisher                                   | 31985062                             |
| DMEM/F12  | ThermoFisher                                   | 21331020                             |
| Neurobasal Medium   | ThermoFisher                                   | 21103049                             |
| GlutaMAX  | ThermoFisher                                   | 35050061                             |
| Penicillin-Streptomycin   | ThermoFisher                                   | 15140122                             |
| StemFit Basic04 Complete Type, or<br>StemFit AK02N, or<br>StemFlex Medium   | Elixirgen Scientific<br>TaKaRa<br>ThermoFisher | ASB04-C, or<br>AK02N, or<br>A3349401 |
| iMatrix-511 silk  | Elixirgen Scientific                           | NI511S                               |
| TrypLE Select Enzyme (1X)   | ThermoFisher                                   | 12563011                             |
| 0.02% EDTA in DPBS  | Sigma-Aldrich                                  | E8008-100ML                          |
| 0.01% Poly-L-Ornithine  | Sigma-Aldrich                                  | P4957-50ML                           |
| Extracellular Matrix such as - Laminin Mouse Protein, Natural, or - Geltrex Basement Membrane Matrix                    | ThermoFisher                                   | 23017015 or<br>A15696-01             |
| Phosphate-buffered saline (without Ca <sup>++</sup> Mg <sup>++</sup> )*   | ThermoFisher                                   | 20012050                             |
| ROCK inhibitor Y27632   | Selleckchem                                    | S1049                                |
| Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)   | Sigma-Aldrich                                  | D2650                                |
| Puromycin (10 mg/ml)  | InvivoGen                                      | ant-pr-1                             |

<sup>\*</sup> PBS should be used at room temperature unless otherwise specified.

#### Source hPSC Culture Conditions

The Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic - mRNA Kit (Large) gives the best differentiation results when source human pluripotent stem cells (hPSCs) have been maintained in StemFit® Basic04, StemFit® AK02N, StemFlex™ Medium, or other similar culture media which enable the maintenance of cultures by single-cell passaging. This protocol also assumes that the source hPSCs are cultured in a 35-mm culture dish or one well of a 6-well plate. If iMatrix-511 silk is routinely used as a coating substrate, prepare culture dishes or wells precoated with 0.25 µg/cm² iMatrix-511 silk diluted in 2 ml chilled PBS per well or dish for this kit.

- The protocols and reagents for StemFit® Basic04 and iMatrix-511 silk culture conditions are available at Elixirgen Scientific (Catalog Numbers: ASB04-C, NI511S).
- Differentiation should not be performed until the cells are at least 14 days post-thaw.
- We recommend preparing a minimum of 3.6 x 10<sup>6</sup> viable hPSC for use with this kit. This is usually obtained by using 2-3 wells of a 6-well plate at 50-70% confluency.

• For optimal differentiation, hPSC confluency should be around 50% to 70%. Do not use wells more than 90% confluent.

# **Drug Selection**

Users should perform a puromycin kill curve for their cells to determine the minimum concentration required to kill all non-treated cells within ~60 hours. Based on Elixirgen Scientific's internal tests, the appropriate concentration ranges between 0.5 and 2 µg/ml. We recommend maintaining 2 wells of untransfected iPSC (with standard StemFit conditions), alongside the transfected wells, until after puromycin selection is performed. Treat 1 of those wells with puromycin at your selected concentration so as to confirm that the puromycin is effective at killing the untransfected cells in your experiment.

#### Workflow

Note: This protocol assumes that Day 0 is a Monday.



<sup>\*</sup>From Day 10, users may maintain differentiated neurons in the medium best suited for their needs, though we recommend Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic - Maintenance Medium, Catalog Number: DA-MM.

# **Preparation**

Important Note! For the best possible delivery of QND-mRNA-P into cells, we recommend Lipofectamine MessengerMax. If users prefer another transfection reagent, please make sure that the reagent provides a transfection efficiency of ≥80% prior to using this kit. QND-mRNA-P mixed with Lipofectamine MessengerMax must be immediately applied to cultures and cannot be stored.

#### 10 mM ROCK inhibitor Y27632 (iROCK)

- 1. Dissolve 10 mg ROCK inhibitor Y27632 in 3.12 ml DMSO.
- 2. Make aliquots of a convenient volume (e.g., 100 µl).
- 3. This solution, hereafter referred to as iROCK, can be stored at -20°C.

## StemFit Basic04 Complete Type (Medium S)\*

- 1. Thaw StemFit Basic04 Complete Type bottle overnight or multiple nights at 4°C.
- 2. Make aliquots of a convenient volume (e.g., 40 ml).
- 3. This solution, hereafter referred to as Medium S, can be stored at -80°C. Once thawed, Medium S should be stored at 4°C for up to 2 weeks.
  - After thawing users may choose to add Penicillin-Streptomycin at a 1:200 dilution (e.g., 200 μl in 40 ml of Medium S) before using Medium S.

#### 0.5X TrypLE Select with EDTA (Solution D1)

- 1. Mix 1 ml TrypLE Select Enzyme (1X) with 1 ml 0.02% EDTA in DPBS.
- 2. This mixture, hereafter referred to as Solution D1, can be stored at 4°C for 2 weeks.

## 0.002% Poly-L-Ornithine solution (ornithine)

1. Take 2 ml 0.01% Poly-L-Ornithine solution and mix it with 8 ml PBS.

<sup>\*</sup>Medium S can be substituted with StemFit AK02N or StemFlex.

2. The 0.002% Poly-L-Ornithine solution, hereafter referred to as ornithine, can be stored at 4°C for up to 2 weeks.

## 1 mg/ml laminin stock solution (laminin)

- 1. Thaw Laminin Mouse Protein, Natural and chill PBS at 4°C or on ice.
- 2. Mix the Laminin Mouse Protein, Natural and PBS to make the 1 mg/ml stock solution, hereafter referred to as laminin.
  - Laminin concentration varies by lot, so use the number specified on the vial or CoA when making your calculations.
- 3. Make aliquots of a convenient volume (e.g., 90 µl) and store at -20°C.

#### **Medium N**

- 1. Prepare Medium N using the reagents listed in the table below.
  - o Thaw Component N for 20-30 minutes at the temperatures indicated in the "Contents" table on page 1.
  - Warm all other reagents at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
  - o Tap each Component tube 3 times and then briefly spin all tubes down before use.
  - Keep Medium N, and any subsequent media made with it, protected from light.
  - Store Medium N for up to 2 weeks at 4°C.
  - Leftover Component N can be discarded or saved at 4°C for up to two weeks.

| Reagents                                       | Volume  |
|--|---------|
| DMEM/F12                                       | 35.8 ml |
| Neurobasal                                     | 35.8 ml |
| GlutaMAX                                       | 375 μΙ  |
| Penicillin-Streptomycin (10000 units/ml; 100x) | 750 µl  |
| Component N                                    | 2.33 ml |

# Day-3



Note: This protocol assumes that Day 0 is a Monday so Day -3 is Friday.

## **Plate Preparation**

- 1. Prepare diluted iMatrix-511 silk by mixing together the following components in a 15 ml conical tube.
  - Keep iMatrix-511 silk on ice.
  - Make sure chilled PBS is used for this mixture.

| Reagents         | Volume  |
|------------------|---------|
| iMatrix-511 silk | 43.2 µl |
| Chilled PBS      | 13 ml   |

- 2. Add 2 ml diluted iMatrix-511 silk to each new well of a new 6-well plate.
- 3. Incubate the plate at 4°C for 3 days.

**Note:** For best results we recommend precoating the plate 1 day or up to a week before use and keeping at 4°C. Alternatively plates can be precoated on Day 0 and placed at 37°C for at least 2 hours before use.



**Note:** This protocol assumes that Day 0 is a Monday and that user's hPSCs were already used with a small size kit (Catalog number: DA-mRNA-S) so that users are familiar with the experimental process and have optimized conditions for their particular cells.

#### **Plating**

**IMPORTANT!** Source hPSC wells should be no more than 50-70% confluent thus requiring a minimum of 2 wells to begin differentiation.

- Determine the number of wells required to get 3.6 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells from the source hPSC 6-well plate.
   NOTE: Cells will be plated in a new 6-well plate at 3 densities (0.5 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells, 0.55 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells, and 0.6 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells), with 2 wells per density.
- 2. Prepare Medium iS by mixing together the following components in a 15 ml conical tube.
  - Warm Medium S, iROCK, and Solution D1 at room temperature for at least 1 hour protected from light.
  - The rest of Medium S should be stored at 4°C for later use.

|          | Required medium volume based on # of wells of a 6-well plate |         |  |
|----------|--|---------|--|
| Reagents | 2 wells  | 3 wells |  |
| Medium S | 12.7 ml  | 15.5 ml |  |
| iROCK    | 12.7 μΙ  | 15.5 μΙ |  |

- 3. Aspirate old medium from hPSC culture and add 1.5 ml of Medium iS to each well.
- 4. Incubate the culture at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 1 hour before harvesting cells.
  - This is to decrease cell death on Day 1 and minimize the loss of cells.
- 5. Aspirate old medium from hPSC culture and add 2 ml PBS to each well being harvested.
- 6. Rock the plate 3 times, aspirate PBS from the culture, and add 300 µl of the cell dissociation reagent Solution D1.
  - Keep the rest of Solution D1 at 4°C for use on Day 4.
- 7. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 5 minutes. If all the cells are not rounded under a microscope, continue to incubate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> in 1-2 minute increments (see images below).



- 8. Carefully pipet out Solution D1 from the culture and add 1 ml Medium iS to the well.
  - Follow Steps 8-10 one well at a time if multiple wells are used.
- 9. Disperse the medium over the bottom surface of the well by pipetting 8-15 times to detach cells.
- 10. Using the same pipet tip, collect the cell suspension in a 15 ml tube.
- 11. Count cells and determine viability.
- 12. Take out the volume of the cell suspension needed for 2 wells of each cell density, according to the note in step 1, and include an extra 10%. Place each in a new tube labeled with the corresponding density.
- 13. Bring the volume of the cell suspension in each tube up to 2.2 ml with Medium iS.
  - o If the volume in the tube exceeds 2.2 ml, centrifuge the required volume of cell suspension at 200 x g for 4 minutes, remove the supernatant, and resuspend the pellet in 2.2 ml Medium iS.

- 14. Aspirate diluted iMatrix-511 silk from each newly coated well and add 1 ml cell suspension to each well.
  - Most of the diluted iMatrix-511 silk should be aspirated but not completely to prevent the coated well from drying before adding the cell suspension. The cell suspension should be added to the well immediately after the diluted iMatrix-511 silk is removed. Handle one well after another.
- 15. Leave the plate flat at room temperature for 10 minutes.
- 16. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> overnight.

## Day 1



**IMPORTANT!** Observe all wells under a microscope and confirm that all 6 wells show 50-70% confluency for transfections with QND-mRNA-P. If there are any wells that do not fall within the range of confluence, do not use them.

#### **First Treatment**

- 1. Thaw 1 vial of QND-mRNA-P on ice for 30 minutes and warm Opti-MEM and Medium S at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
- 2. Prepare QND by the following steps:
  - o Tap the QND-mRNA-P tube 3 times and then briefly spin it down before use.
  - Prepare a 15 ml tube and a 1.5 ml tube with 825 μl Opti-MEM each. Label the 15 ml tube "Mix 1" and the 1.5 ml tube "Mix 2".
  - Add 16.5 μl Lipofectamine MessengerMax (LMM) to the Mix 1 tube and mix by brief vortexing. Leave it at room temperature for 10 minutes (Mix 1). Keep the rest of LMM at 4°C for later treatments.
  - o **IMPORTANT!** Immediately before 10 minutes pass (i.e., around 8 minutes), add the entire contents of the QND-mRNA-P vial to the other 1.5 ml tube with Opti-MEM (Mix 2). Mix by tapping 5 times. Do not vortex.
  - o 10 minutes after mixing LMM with Opti-MEM, add Mix 2 into Mix 1, and pipet up and down 8-10 times. This mixture is called QND. Leave QND at room temperature for 5 minutes and no longer.

| Mix 1 Reagents | Volume  |
|----------------|---------|
| Opti-MEM       | 825 µl  |
| LMM            | 16.5 µl |

| Mix 2 Reagents | Volume |
|----------------|--------|
| Opti-MEM       | 825 µl |
| QND-mRNA-P     | ~33 µl |

- 3. Add 6.6 ml Medium S to QND and pipet up and down 2-3 times to mix.
- 4. Working with up to 2 wells at a time, aspirate the old medium out and add 1.25 ml of QND mixture to each well. Repeat until QND mixture has been added to all wells.
- 5. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 2.5 hours.

## **Second Treatment**

- 1. Pipet out the medium from each well and add 1 ml Medium S.
- 2. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 2 hours.
  - Put 1 vial of QND-mRNA-P on ice when the incubation above reaches 1.5 hours and leave it for 30 minutes.
- 3. Repeat Steps 2-5 of the previous "First Treatment" section.

## Medium Change and Drug Selection

- 1. Transfer 10 ml Medium S into a tube and add puromycin to it at the predetermined optimal concentration (see earlier section on "Drug Selection").
- 2. Pipet out the medium from each well and add 1.5 ml Medium S with puromycin.
- 3. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> overnight.



**IMPORTANT!** Observe the QND-treated cultures to make sure that they are reaching confluency (≥90%). If the cultures are <50% confluent and show signs of cell death (e.g., many floating cells), users should skip the third and fourth treatments on Day 2 and proceed directly to the steps described in Day 3. The protocol will then be accelerated by one day.

#### **Third Treatment**

- 1. Thaw 1 vial of QND-mRNA-P on ice for 30 minutes and warm Opti-MEM and Medium S at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
- 2. Repeat Steps 2-5 of the previous "First Treatment" section.

#### **Fourth Treatment**

- 1. Pipet out the medium from each well and add 1 ml Medium S.
- 2. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 2 hours.
  - o Put 1 vial of QND-mRNA-P on ice when the incubation above reaches 1.5 hours and leave it for 30 minutes.
- 3. Repeat Steps 2-5 of the previous "First Treatment" section.

# **Medium Change and Drug Selection**

- 1. Transfer 10 ml Medium S into a tube and add puromycin to it at the predetermined optimal concentration (see earlier section on "Drug Selection").
  - If more than 90% of the cells show resistance to puromycin at the concentration used on Day 1, consider increasing its concentration.
- 2. Pipet out the medium from each well and add 1.5 ml Medium S with puromycin.
- 3. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> overnight.

#### Day 3



< 2 hours

#### **Medium Change and Drug Selection**

- 1. Prepare Medium N(D4D5) using the volumes indicated in the table below. The volume of media required will differ depending on the plate format you choose to passage the cells to on Day 4. Cells can be plated on 6-well, 24-well, or 96-well plates depending on the desired format.
  - Thaw Components D4 and D5 for 20-30 minutes at the temperatures indicated in the "Contents" table on page 1.
  - Warm Medium N at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
  - o Tap each Component tube 3 times and then briefly spin all tubes down before use.
  - Store Medium N(D4D5) for up to 2 weeks at 4°C.
  - Store the remaining Medium N and thawed Component D4 at 4°C for use on Day 7.

|              | Recommended volume per plate |               |               |  |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| Reagents     | 6-well plate                 | 24-well plate | 96-well plate |  |
| Medium N     | 32 ml                        | 39 ml         | 33 ml         |  |
| Component D4 | 32 µl                        | 39 μΙ         | 33 µl         |  |
| Component D5 | 64 µl                        | 78 µl         | 66 µl         |  |

2. Transfer 6.5 ml Medium N(D4D5) into a tube and add puromycin to it at the predetermined optimal concentration (see earlier section on "Drug Selection").

- 3. Pipet out the medium from each well and add 1 ml Medium N(D4D5) with puromycin.
- 4. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> overnight.

## Day 4



4-6 hours

## **Media Preparation**

- 1. Prepare Medium N(D4D5P) using the volumes indicated in the table below.
  - Warm Medium N(D4D5) at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
  - o Thaw Component P for 20-30 minutes at the temperatures indicated in the "Contents" table on page 1.
  - Tap each Component tube 3 times and then briefly spin all tubes down before use.
  - Store the remaining Component P at 4°C for use on Day 7.

|                | Recommended volume per plate |               |               |  |  |  |
|----------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| Reagents       | 6-well plate                 | 24-well plate | 96-well plate |  |  |  |
| Medium N(D4D5) | 25 ml                        | 32 ml         | 26 ml         |  |  |  |
| Component P    | 25 µl 32 µl 26 µl            |               |               |  |  |  |

#### **New Plate Preparation**

IMPORTANT! This kit can accommodate replating to all wells of either a 6-well, a 24-well, or a 96-well plate. Refer to the tables for the recommended volumes. Please note that the volumes are per well in Table A and per plate in Table B.

- 1. Vortex ornithine briefly and centrifuge it at a maximum speed for 1 minute.
- 2. Add ornithine to each well of a new plate in the volume specified in Table A.
- 3. Incubate the plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for at least 2 hours (or at 4°C overnight one day before plating).
- 4. Thaw laminin and chill specified amounts of PBS on ice for 20-30 minutes.
- 5. Add laminin to chilled PBS in the volume specified in Table B. Mix well.
  - o All PBS washes should be done dropwise and with room temperature PBS. Chilled PBS is only for the coating step.
- 6. Aspirate the supernatant from each well and add PBS in the volume specified in Table A.
- 7. Repeat Step 6.
- 8. Aspirate PBS from each well and add diluted laminin according to Table A.
- 9. Incubate the plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for at least 2 hours.

**Table A.** Recommended volumes per well for different plate formats.

|                 | Recommended volume per well |               |               |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Reagents        | 6-well plate                | 24-well plate | 96-well plate |
| Ornithine       | 1.5 ml                      | 300 μΙ        | 50 μΙ         |
| PBS             | 2 ml                        | 500 μΙ        | 100 μΙ        |
| Diluted laminin | 1.5 ml                      | 300 μΙ        | 50 μl         |
| Medium N(D4D5P) | 500 μl                      | 200 μΙ        | 35 µl         |

**Table B.** Recommended volumes per plate for different plate formats.

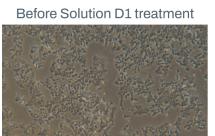
|             | Recommended volume per plate |               |               |  |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| Reagents    | 6-well plate                 | 24-well plate | 96-well plate |  |
| Laminin     | 100 μΙ                       | 80 µl         | 53 µl         |  |
| Chilled PBS | 10 ml                        | 8 ml          | 5.3 ml        |  |

#### **Medium Preparation**

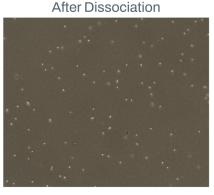
- 1. After the laminin incubation, aspirate most, but not all, of the supernatant from each well of the new plate and add PBS in the volume specified in Table A above. Add the PBS dropwise to each well.
- 2. Aspirate most, but not all of the PBS and add Medium N(D4D5P) in the volume specified in Table A above.
- 3. Incubate the plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> until cells are ready for plating.

#### **Passaging Cells**

**IMPORTANT!** For the following steps, gently pipet and add solutions. Differentiating cells are delicate and should be handled with great care. Steps 2-9 below are critical. **Perform these steps one well at a time.** Refer to the images below to successfully manage cell treatment and dissociation.







- 1. Make sure that Solution D1 is at room temperature for at least 1 hour before use.
- 2. Pipet out the old medium from one well and add 1 ml PBS to the well.
- 3. Pipet out the PBS from the well and add 300 µl Solution D1.
- 4. Rock the plate 3 times to spread the Solution D1 evenly.
- 5. Incubate the cultures at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 3 minutes.
- 6. Carefully pipet out Solution D1 from the well and add 750 µl Medium N(D4D5P) along the wall of the well.
- 7. Disperse the medium quickly over the bottom surface of the well by pipetting 6-8 times to detach cells.
- 8. Observe cells and/or cell aggregates floating in the well under a microscope. It is normal that 10-20% of cells remain attached to the well bottom after pipetting. These clusters of cells are not supposed to be lifted. Do not attempt to detach all of the cells remaining on the well bottom.
- 9. Collect 750 µl cell suspension from the well and transfer to a tube.
- 10. Repeat steps 2-9 for the rest of the wells.
- 11. Gently pipet the cell suspension up and down up to 5 times to break the cell aggregates. Excessive pipetting can damage the already-suspended neuronal cells.
- 12. Count cells and determine viability.
- 13. Prepare specified amounts of a  $1 \times 10^6$  live cells/ml cell suspension using Medium N(D4D5P) based on the table below.
- 14. Add cell suspension to the center of each well. Since each well already has Medium N(D4D5P), the total volume of the medium in each well is indicated in the table below.

|  | Recommended Amounts       |               |                             |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
|  | 6-well plate              | 24-well plate | 96-well plate               |
| Viable cells/well  | 5 x 10 <sup>5</sup> cells | 1 x 10⁵ cells | 1.5 x 10 <sup>4</sup> cells |
| Req vol of cell suspension (1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> viable cells/ml)  • (Vol of cell suspension/well x # of wells) + 10% extra | 3.3 ml                    | 2.64 ml       | 1.6 ml                      |
| Volume of cell suspension/well   | 500 μl                    | 100 μΙ        | 15 µl                       |
| Total volume/well  ■ Medium N(D4D5P) + cell suspension   | 1 ml                      | 300 µl        | 50 μl                       |

## Day 5



< 1 hour

#### **Medium Change**

**IMPORTANT!** It is optional, but recommended, to include the PBS wash if cell death/floating cells are observed.

- 1. Warm Medium N(D4D5P) at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
- Pipet out the old medium from each well and \* add Medium N(D4D5P) according to the table below.
   \*(Optional) Slowly add PBS, in the amount specified in the table, alongside the wall of each well to avoid lifting attached cells. Gently pipet out PBS before adding Medium N(D4D5P).

|                 | Recommended volume per well |               |               |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Reagents        | 6-well plate                | 24-well plate | 96-well plate |
| (Optional) PBS  | 1 ml                        | 500 μΙ        | 100 μΙ        |
| Medium N(D4D5P) | 2 ml                        | 800 µl        | 150 µl        |

3. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 2 days.

# Day 7



< 2 hours

## **Medium Change**

IMPORTANT! It is optional, but recommended, to include the PBS wash if cell death/floating cells are observed.

- 1. Prepare Medium N(D4D6P) by mixing together the following components in a 15 ml conical tube.
  - Warm/Thaw Components D4, D6, and P for 20-30 minutes at the temperatures indicated in the "Contents" table on page 1.
  - Warm Medium N at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
  - o Tap each Component tube 3 times and then briefly spin all tubes down before use.
  - Store Medium N(D4D6P) for up to 2 weeks at 4°C.

|              | Recommended volume per plate |               |               |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Reagents     | 6-well plate                 | 24-well plate | 96-well plate |
| Medium N     | 20 ml                        | 31 ml         | 24 ml         |
| Component D4 | 20 μΙ                        | 31 µl         | 24 μΙ         |
| Component D6 | 20 μΙ                        | 31 µl         | 24 μΙ         |
| Component P  | 20 μΙ                        | 31 μΙ         | 24 μΙ         |

2. Pipet out the old medium from each well and \* add Medium N(D4D6P) according to the table below.

\*(Optional) Slowly add 1 ml PBS alongside the wall of each well to avoid lifting attached cells. Gently pipet out PBS before adding Medium N(D4D6P).

|          | Recommended volume per well |               |               |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Reagents | 6-well plate                | 24-well plate | 96-well plate |

| (Optional) PBS  | 1 ml | 500 μΙ | 100 μΙ |
|-----------------|------|--------|--------|
| Medium N(D4D6P) | 2 ml | 800 µl | 150 µl |

3. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.

# Day 9

#### **Medium Change**

- 1. Warm Medium N(D4D6P) at room temperature for 20-30 minutes.
- 2. Pipet out half the volume of old medium from each well (see table on Day 7 for original volume) and replace with an equal volume of fresh Medium N(D4D6P) according to the table below.

|                 | Recom        | Recommended volume per well |               |  |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--|
| Reagents        | 6-well plate | 24-well plate               | 96-well plate |  |
| Medium N(D4D6P) | 1 ml         | 400 µl                      | 75 µl         |  |

3. Incubate the culture plate at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.

# **Day 10**

## **Assay or Continuous Maturation**

- Differentiated neurons can be observed on Day 5. For more mature neurons, we recommend culturing cells until Day 10. From Day 10, users may maintain differentiated neurons in the medium best suited for their needs, though we recommend Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic Maintenance Medium, Catalog Number: DA-MM.
- Differentiation into Dopaminergic neurons after using Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic mRNA Kit can be confirmed with the markers TUBB3, TH, and DA.

# **Appendix**

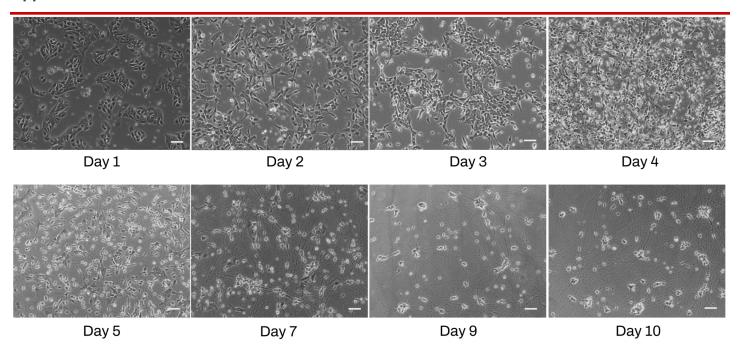


Figure 1. Representative phase contrast images of Quick-Neuron<sup>TM</sup> Dopaminergic - mRNA cell cultures on days 1,2,3,4,5,7,9 and 10 post-differentiation (scale bar =  $100 \mu m$ ).

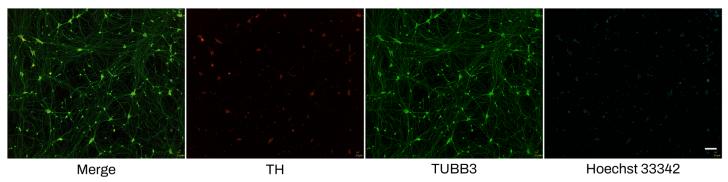


Figure 2. Immunofluorescent staining of Quick-Neuron™ Dopaminergic - mRNA cell cultures shows typical neurite growth and expression of the pan-neuronal marker TUBB3 and the dopaminergic neuron-specific marker TH on day 7 post-differentiation (scale bar = 100 μm). Staining conditions: Anti-β-III tubulin monoclonal antibody (R&D Systems, Catalog Number: MAB1195, 1:250 dilution) in combination with a secondary antibody (Invitrogen, Catalog Number: A32723 Goat anti-Mouse IgG (H+L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, AlexaFluor Plus 488, 1:500 dilution). Anti-TH primary antibody (Abcam, Catalog Number: ab6211, 1:1000 dilution) in combination with a secondary antibody (Invitrogen, Catalog Number: A11037, Goat anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor 594, 1:500 dilution). Nuclei were counterstained with Hoechst 33342.