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PGmatrix-BioInk Using Guide

PGmatrix-BioInk (PGbioInk) takes the advantage of its unique features including shear-thinning, rapid gel-recovery (self-healing), and tunable gel strength capability, offering the best cyto-compatible hydrogel to meet advanced tissue engineering and organ biofabrication via 3D bioprinting techniques without using light or chemical crosslinking agent. PGbioInk Kit consists of a vial of PGmatrix-BioInk nanofiber solution and a vial of PGworks trigger solution. PGbioInk kit creates a microenvironment mimicking in vivo ECM accordingly for cells growing and migrating in 3D manner. All operating procedures can be completed at room temperature or 37°C in neutral pH condition.

NOTE 1: PGmatrix-Spheroid (PG-S) kit with similar mechanical properties and cyto-compatibility as the PGbioink kit can also be used for 3D bioprinting following the PGbioInk protocol.

NOTE 2: PGbioink kit can also be co-printed with light sensitive polymers such as Poly (ethylene glycol) diacrylate (PEGDA) or Gelatin Methacryloyl (GelMA)] for bioprinting into large scale constructs with the aid of UV or visible light crosslinking or any other bioinks. For co-printing with PEGDA or GelMA, PGworks is not necessary. or **NOTE 3:** choose PGmatrix-Bioink-LightC for light sensitive bioprinting]

PRODUCT:	PepGel™ PGmatrix-BioInk Research Kit
CONTENT:	PGmatrix-BioInk solution and PGworks solution
QUANTITY:	20 mL of 4% PGmatrix-BioInk and 4 mL of PGworks 10 mL of 4% PGmatrix-BioInk and 2 mL of PGworks 6 mL of 4% PGmatrix-BioInk and 1 mL of PGworks
STORAGE:	Stored at 4°C

FOR IN VITRO RESEARCH USE ONLY. PLEASE READ MATERIAL USING AGREEMENT FOR MORE DETAILS. FOR IN VIVO TEST, PLEASE ASK FOR PG IN VIVO PRODUCTS.

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PGmatrix-BioInk Using Protocol

1. Mixing ratios: The PGmatrix-BioInk (PGbioInk) solution contains 4% W/V standard peptides. Most cells from soft tissue grow well in PGbioInk peptide concentration from 0.5% to 3%. **Table 1** presents mixing ratios of PGbioink solution and PGworks to obtain final gel concentration of 0.5%, 1%, 2%, and 3% as reference, respectively. Then follow procedure **#2** below for bioink preparation. Recommended final cell seeding density in PGbioInk hydrogel for printing can be 2×10^5 - 4×10^5 cell/mL.

Table 1: Examples of Mixing ratios of 4% PGbioInk solution, PGworks* and cell suspension (PGworks is always 16% of the total volume of PGbioInk solution.)

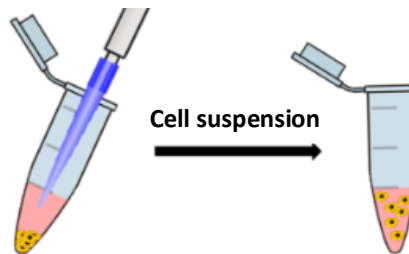
Final concentration**	PGbioInk solution (μL)	PGworks (μL)	Cell suspension	Total volume (μL)
3%	750	120	130	1000
2%	500	80	420	1000
1%	250	40	710	1000
0.5%	125	20	855	1000

NOTES: * add PGworks to your cell suspension **FIRST** before you mix PGbioInk solution with cell suspension.

**Bioink from 0.5 – 1% peptide concentration is suitable for ink-jet printing or manually pipetting for small construct desirable for Lab-on-Chip research, and bioink from 1.5% above is for extrusion printer or other printing devices.

2. Protocol for PGbioInk Preparation

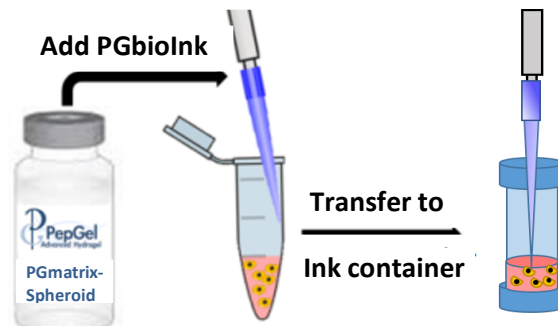
1. Bring the PGbioInk solution and PGworks solution to room temperature (15 - 25 °C) or 37 °C (37 °C water bath)
2. Suspend cells in desired cell culture medium with appropriate growth factors then add PGworks solution to the cell suspension according to the Mixing Ratio in **Table 1**, pipet well without introducing air bubbles (always immersing pipet tip in cell solution during pipetting).



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3. Mix the PGbioInk solution carefully into the cell suspension from step 2 at the Mixing Ratio following **Table 1** (pipet well without introducing air bubbles). Transfer the mixture into the center of the bioink container (i.e., syringe or pipet).
4. Incubate the bioink container at 37°C (5% CO₂) for 30 min to complete the gelation, then it is ready for bioprinting. (**NOTE:** for hydrogel infusion purpose, the mixture from step 3 can be used, and then perform step 4 for gelation after infusion).
5. Culture the bioprinted construct at 37°C (5% CO₂) with desirable culture medium and perform downstream characterization and analysis as needed.



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