

Coating plates with Matrigel for ES/iPS culture

1. Chill 1xPBS on ice. Skip this step if you have PBS in the fridge already.
2. Take culture dishes you want to coat out of their package and place them inside a tissue culture hood.
3. Thaw desired number of Matrigel aliquots either on ice or at room temperature. Keep in mind that matrigel will solidify at room temperature. So if you thaw matrigel at room temp, you want to make sure to proceed to the next step before the gel is warmed up to room temperature. You can proceed to the next step even if there is still a little some frozen matrigel in the tube. PBS should thaw them quite quickly.
4. Resuspend matrigel with chilled PBS. You want to use 25ml PBS per 2mg matrigel.
5. Make sure the matrigel is well mixed in the PBS. Then aliquot proper volume into each culture dish. You will need 6ml per 10cm dish, 1ml per well of a 6 well plate, 0.5ml per well of a 12 well plate...
Swirl plate to coat all the surface.
6. These plates are ready to use after 1hr at room temperature. Depending on the storage space situation. You can keep these plates in a 37C tissue culture incubator, somewhere clean at room temperature or in the fridge. As long as they are kept sterile and the solution is not dried out, they are good for a couple months. Dried out plates have to be either discarded or re-coated.
7. After 1h, add 2ml of fresh 1xPBS on top to avoid the wells from drying out.