

# **Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Research for Regenerative Medicine and Drug Discovery**

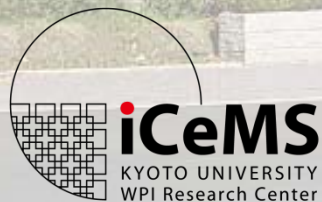
**Our Multidisciplinary Academia-Industry  
Collaboration Project in Japan**

**Norio Nakatsuji  
Professor and Founding Director  
Institute for Integrated Cell-Material Sciences  
Kyoto University**

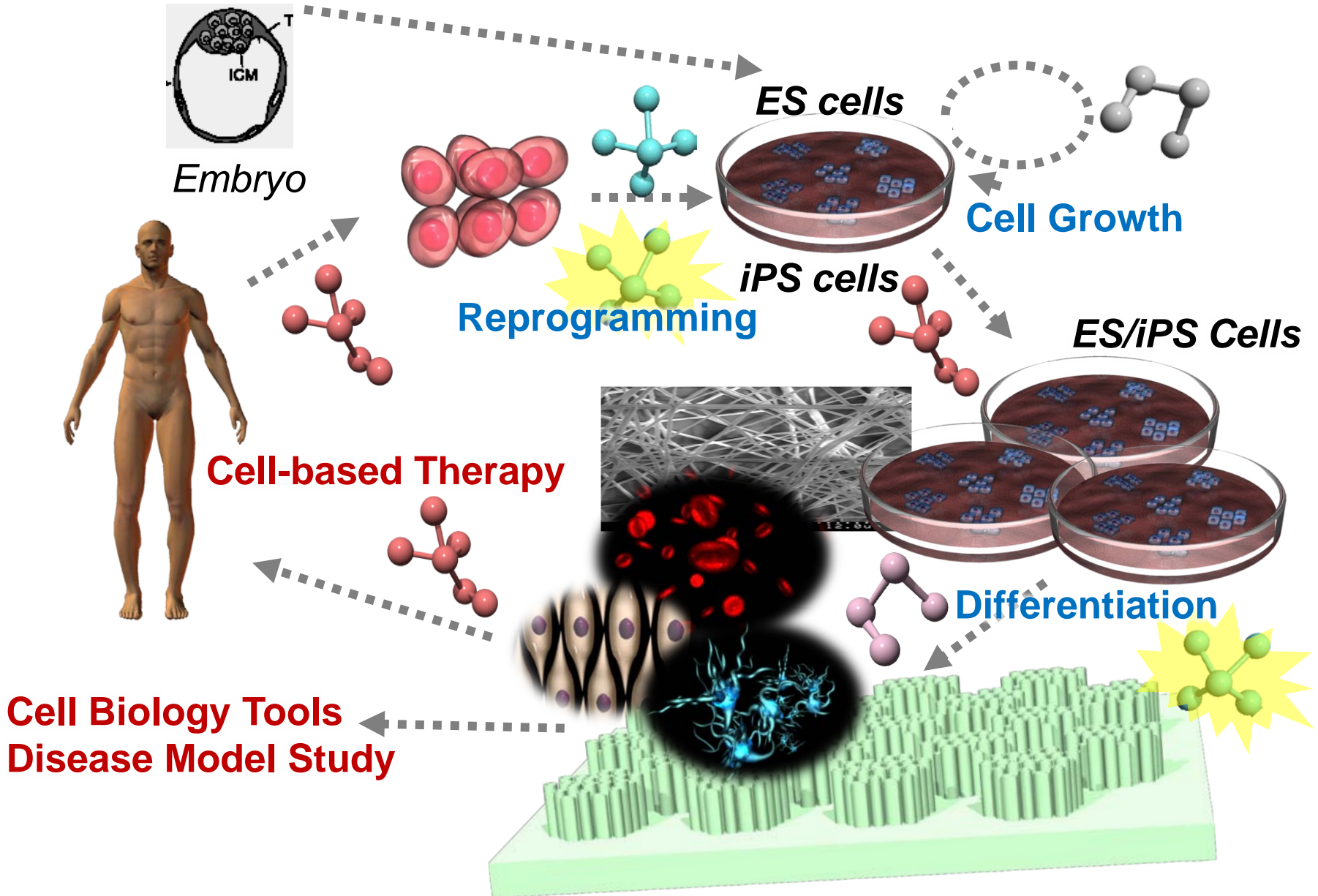
# Institute for Integrated Cell-Material Sciences

Kyoto University

Founded October 2007



# Cell-Material Integration for Stem Cell Research



# How to deliver safe and effective stem cell therapy to many patients at affordable cost

Norio Nakatsuji @



## Key Targets

- **Large-scale** production of **high-quality** stem cells (e.g. human pluripotent stem cells)
- **Robust** and **reliable** production of **high-quality** differentiated cells for cell transplantation therapy
- All steps and procedures at **lower cost** with reliable **quality control**

# Our Academia-industry collaboration in Japan (2011-2014)

 **日産化学工業株式会社**  
NISSAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD.

**HAMAMATSU**

 **ReproCELL**

**TAKARA**

**GENE TEIN**

 **SHIMADZU**

 **SUMITOMO BAKELITE CO., LTD.**

**Imaging**

**Human ES cells**

**Human iPS cells**

Defined/robust medium with low molecular compounds

Development of cell culture substrate and materials

**(1) Development of defined/robust mass culture and cryo-preservation technology**

Development of cryo-preservation method

Development of large scale culture method

**(2) Development of quality evaluation system of human stem cells**

Development of evaluation machines and reagents

**(3) Development of quality control and stable supply technology of human stem cells**

Automated large-scale stem cell culture system

Quality evaluation system

Accurate cell shipment system

 **ReproCELL**



 **NIPRO**



**Academia**



**Kyoto Univ.**  
**Prof. Nakatsuji**



**NIBIO**  
**Dr. Mizuguchi**



**Keio Univ.**  
**Prof. Okano**



**Chiba Univ.**  
**Prof. Iwama**

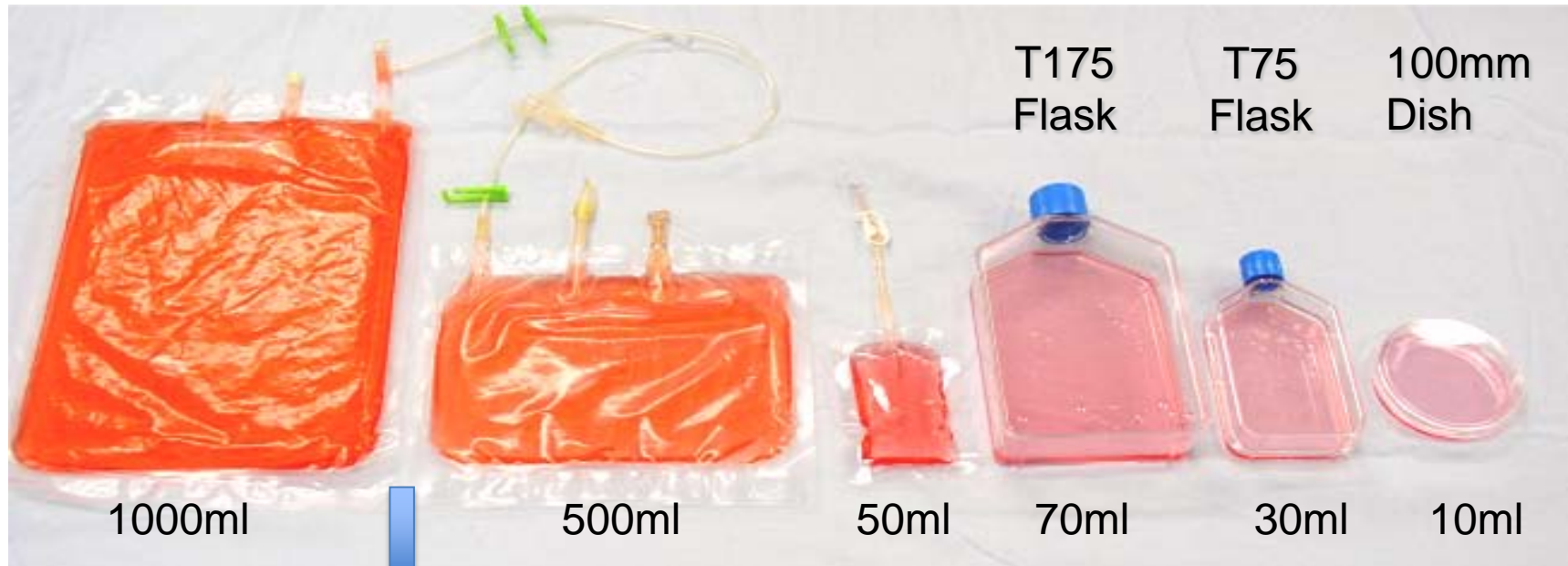


**Tokyo Univ.**  
**Prof. Nakauchi**

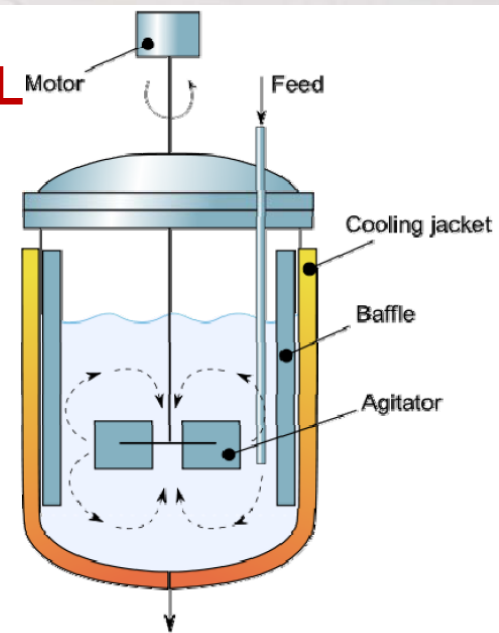
# **Multidisciplinary Research of Human Pluripotent Stem Cells**

- 1. Novel 3D culture system for large-scale production of human pluripotent stem cells**
- 2. Cytokine-free and xeno-free chemical induction of cardiomyocyte differentiation**

# Development of large-scale culture and quality control system for human pluripotent stem cell lines

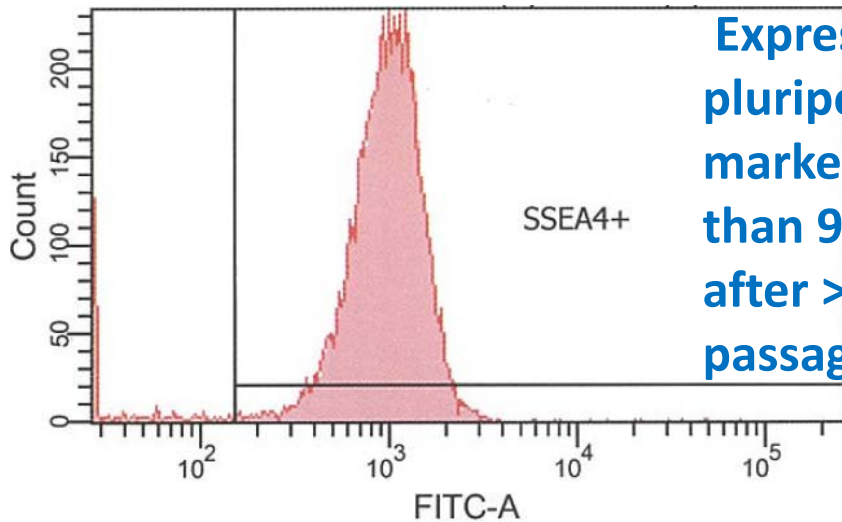
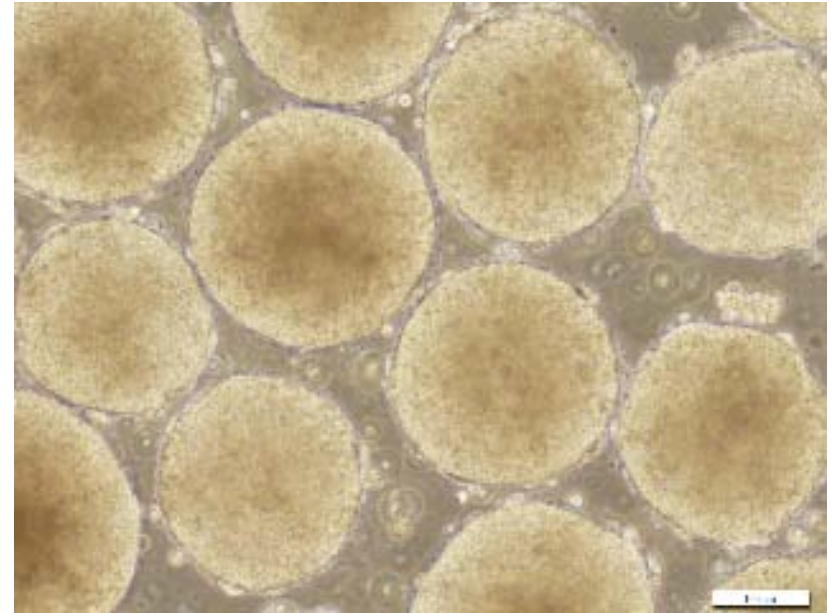
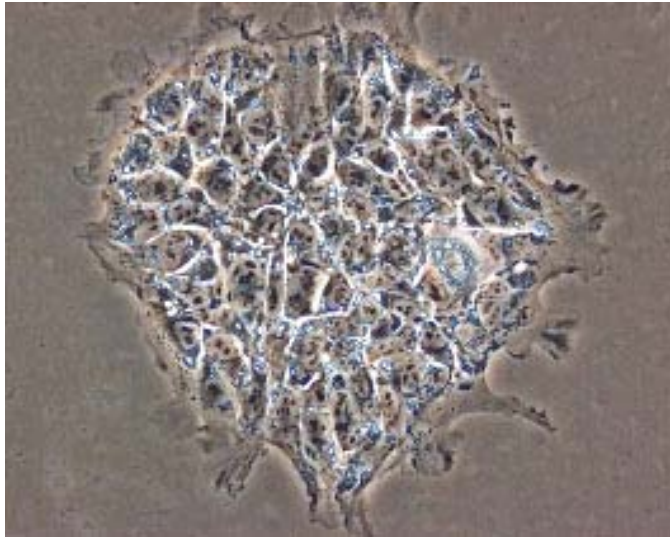


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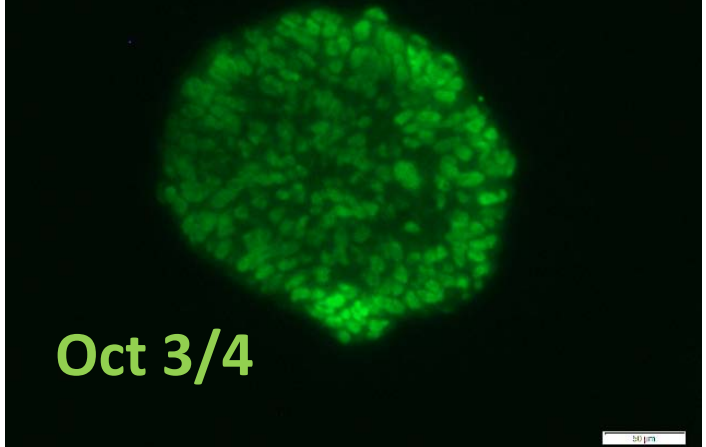
Otsuji et al. *Stem Cell Reports* (April 2014)

# From conventional adherent 2D culture to 3D sphere culture for large-scale production of human pluripotent stem cells



Expression of pluripotency markers in more than 98 % cells after > 50 passages

**Frozen section**

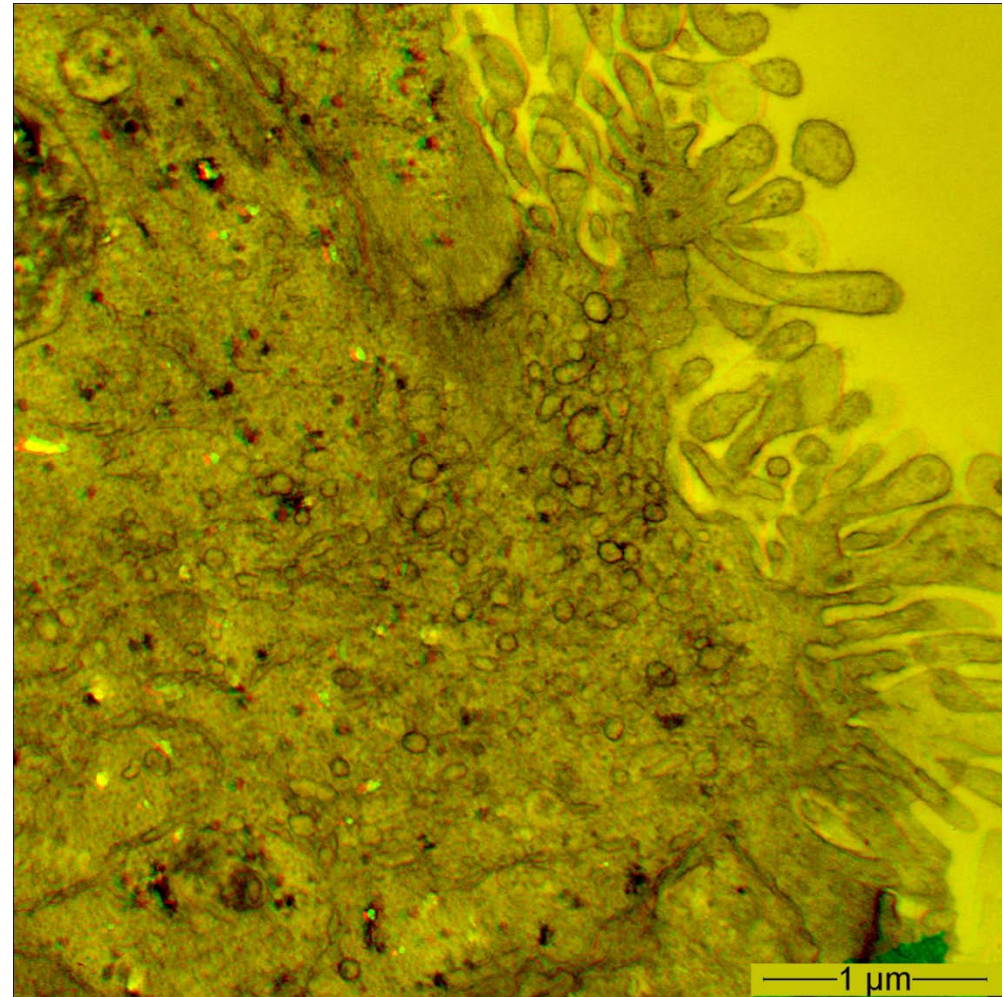
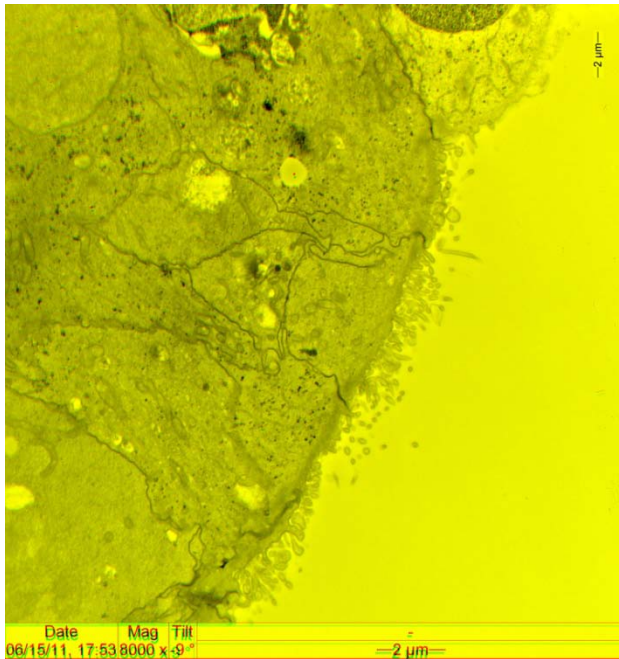
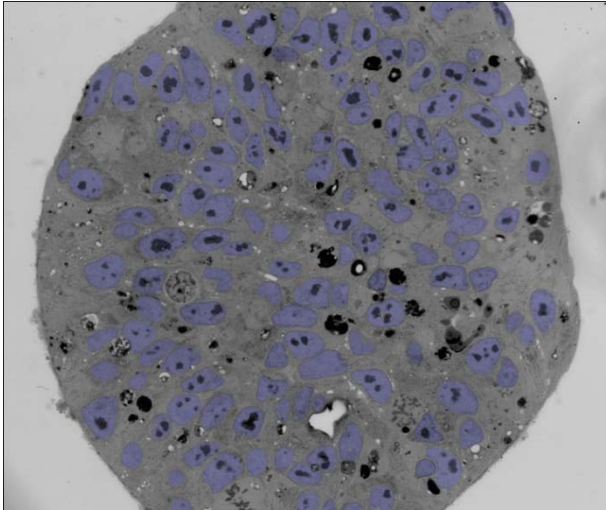




# Detailed morphological study of the hPSC spheres with electron microscopy by Heuser Lab shows homogenous undifferentiated cell population

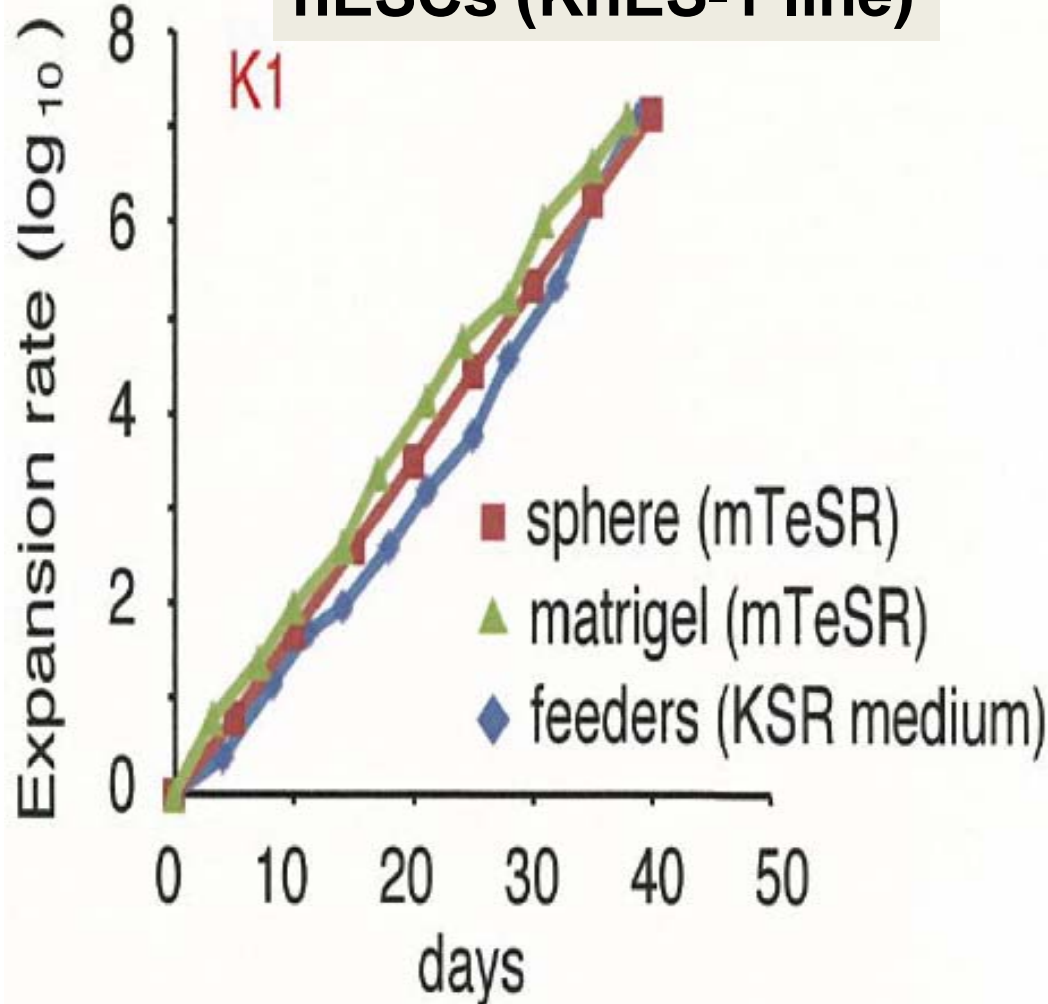
Otsuji et al.  
*Stem Cell Reports*  
(April 2014)

TEM by Dr. Yoshimura (Heuser Lab)

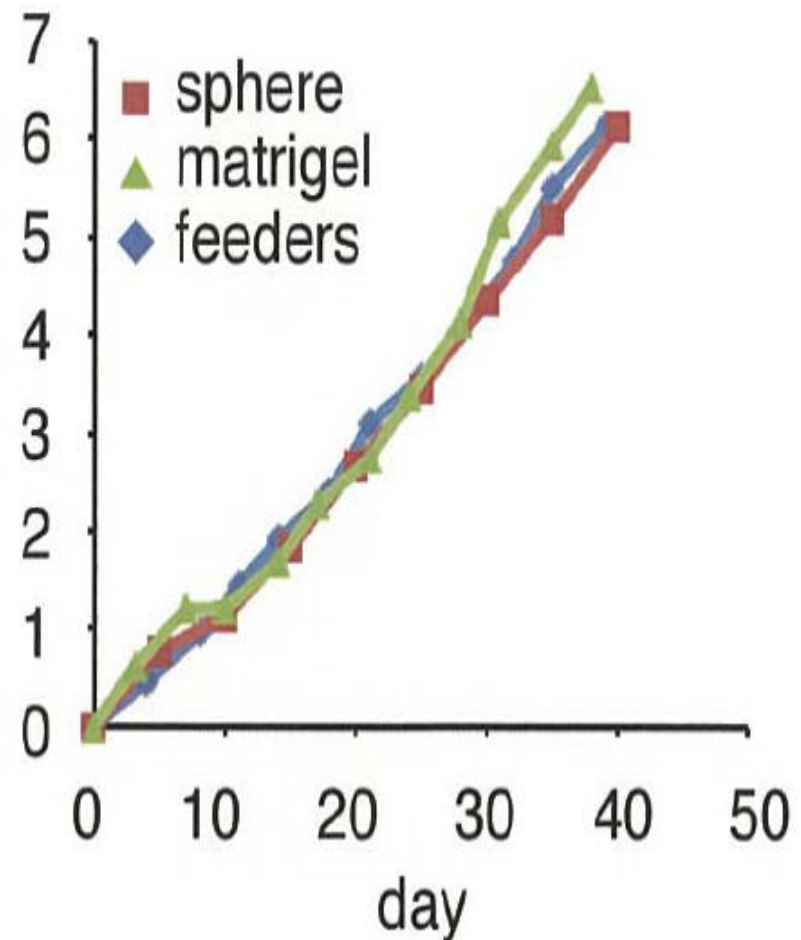


# Expansion rate of hPSCs in the sphere culture with passaging every 5 days (unpublished data)

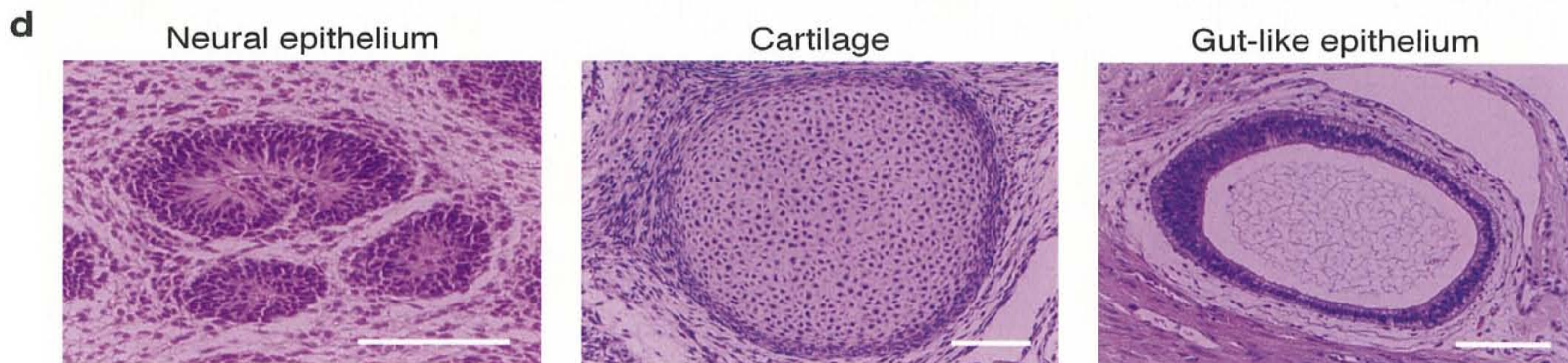
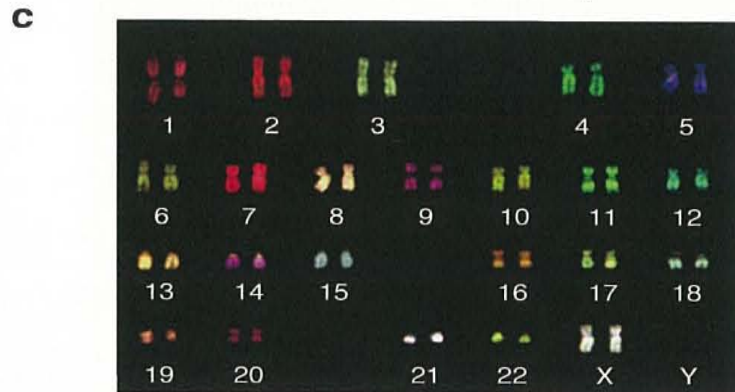
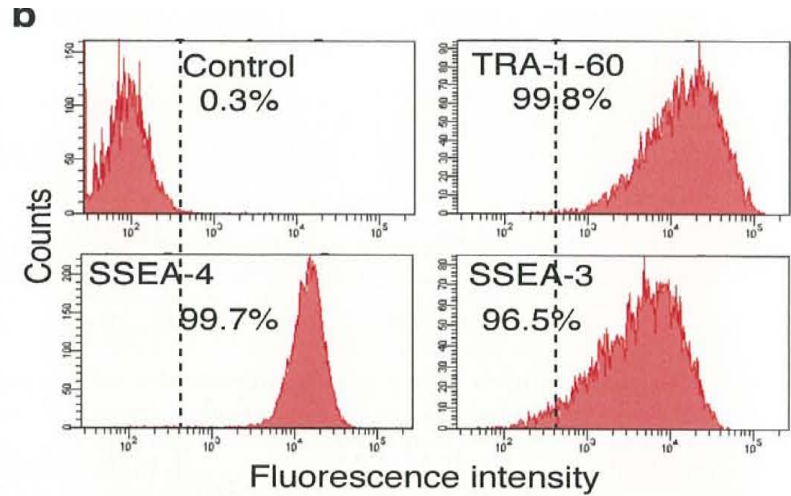
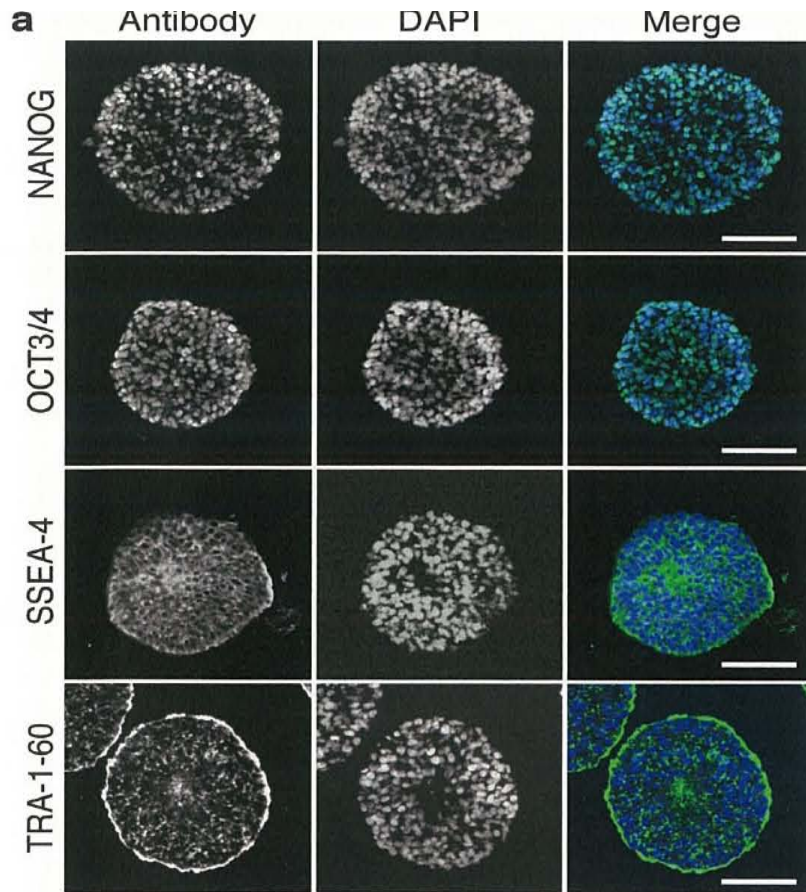
hESCs (KhES-1 line)



hiPSCs (253G1 line)

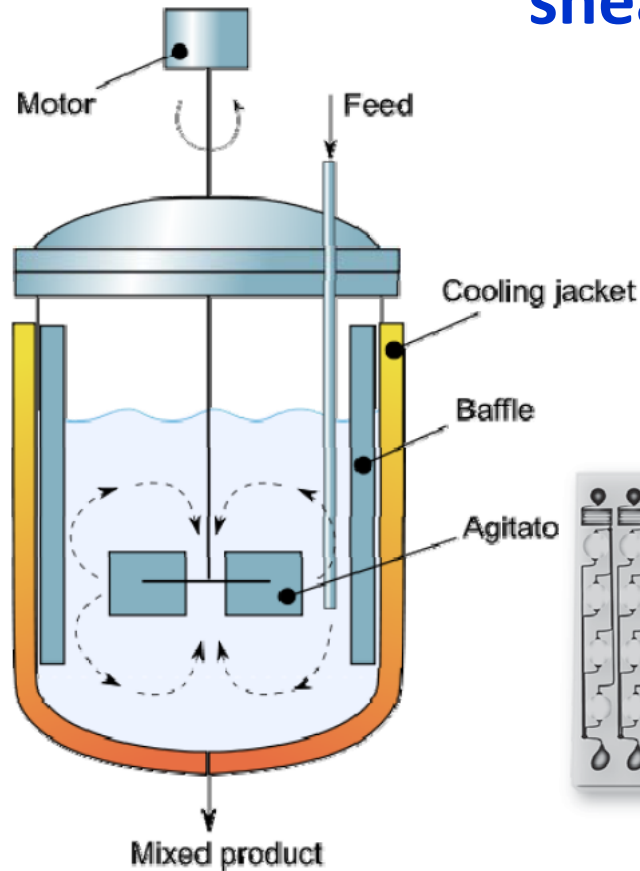


# Maintenance of pluripotency & normal karyotype in sphere culture of hPSCs



# Current 3D culture system needs stirring /agitation devices that may cause cell damages by stronger than adequate shear stress for keeping suspension

File:Agitated vessel.svg  
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Process engineering of human pluripotent stem cells for clinical application.

Margarida Serra, Catarina Brito, and Paula M. Alves.  
*Trends in Biotechnology* 2012

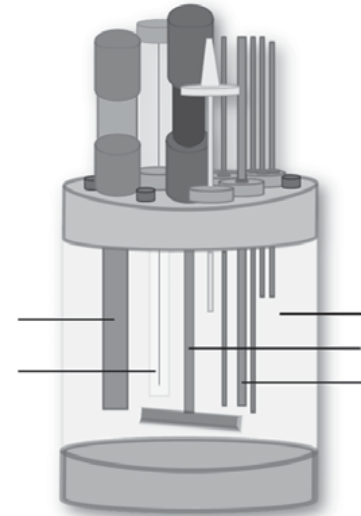
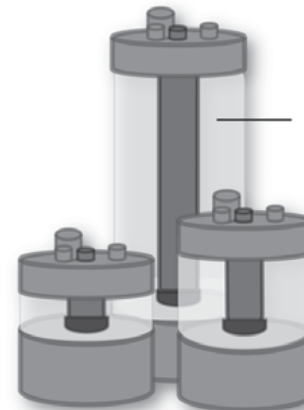
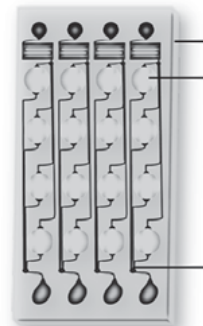
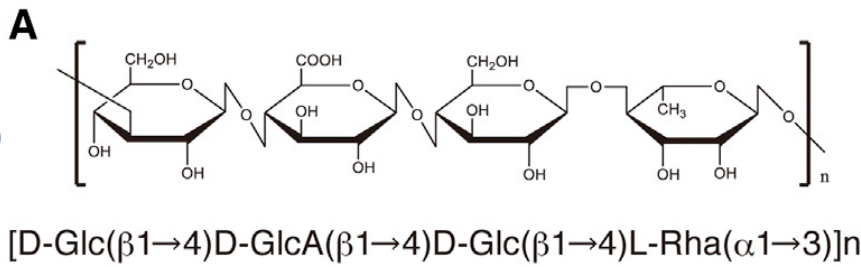


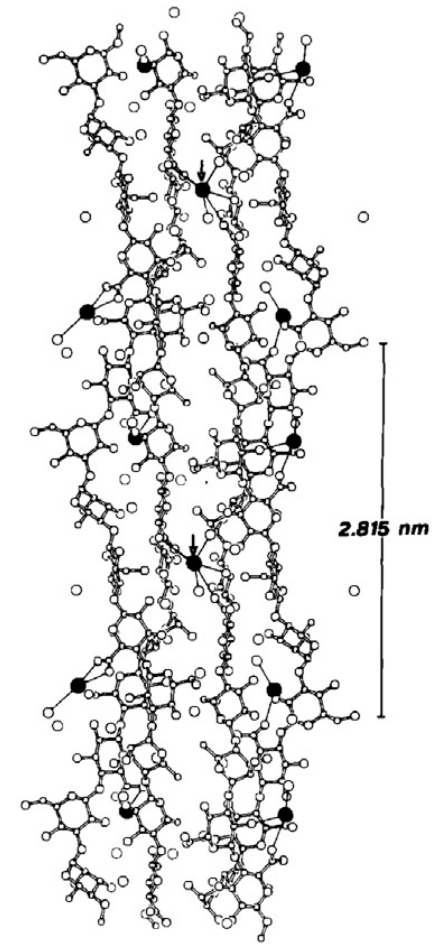
Figure I. Schematic diagrams of bioreactor systems for stem cell culture: (a) micro-bioreactor, (b) slowly turning lateral vessels and (c) stirred-tank bioreactors.

# Low-Acyl Gellan Gum Polymer (GG)

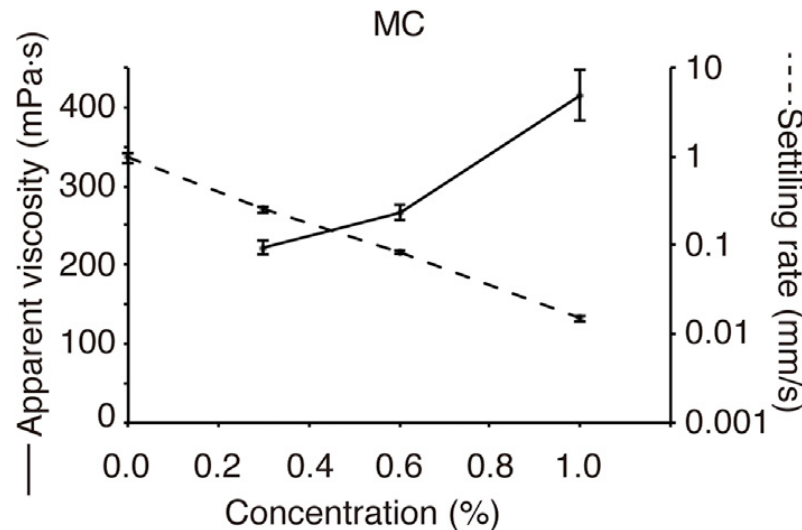
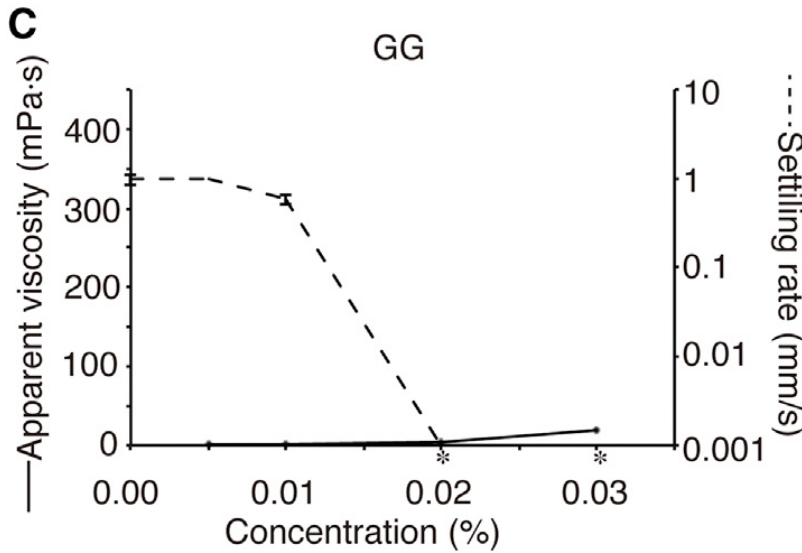


(A) Repeat unit of GG.

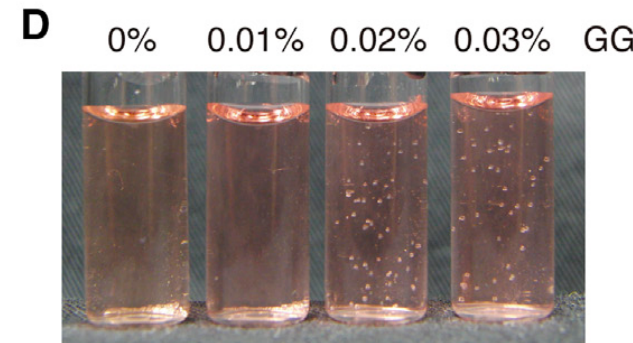
(B) Stereo view of GG (Chandrasekaran & Thailambal, 1990). Two double-helices are crosslinked by calcium ions.



(C) Apparent viscosities and settling rates of GG and methylcellulose (MC). Asterisks, no settling.



(D) Polystyrene beads at various concentrations of GG.



# Inhibition of sphere sedimentation by polymer: Gellan Gum enables very simple 3D culture system at low concentration

Gellan Gum 0.00%

0.01%

0.015%

0.02%

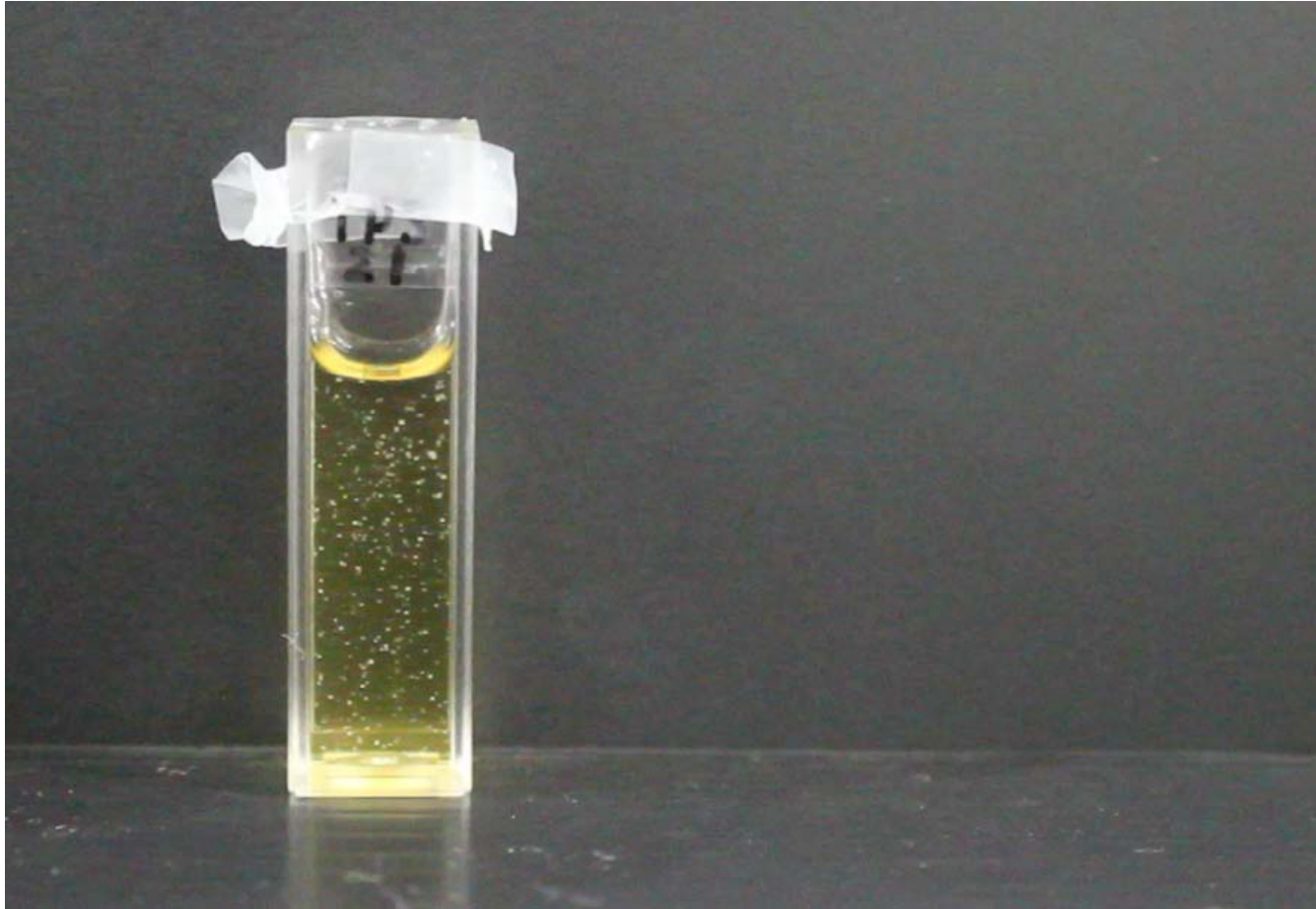
**After 20 hrs**

hES cells  
(KhES-1 line)



Otsuji et al. *Stem Cell Reports* (April 2014)

# Gellan Gum Polymer inhibits sedimentation of cell spheres **without gel formation or viscosity increase**



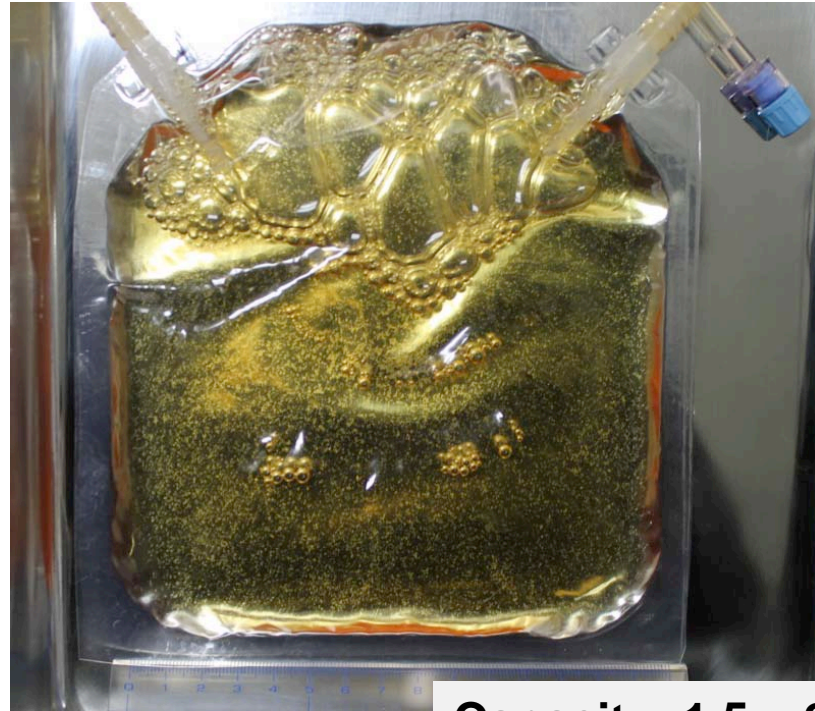
Otsuji et al. *Stem Cell Reports* (April 2014)

# Bag culture of hESCs (KhES-1 line) using 200ml gas-permeable bag

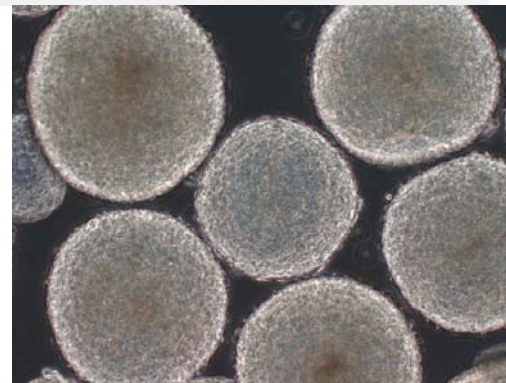
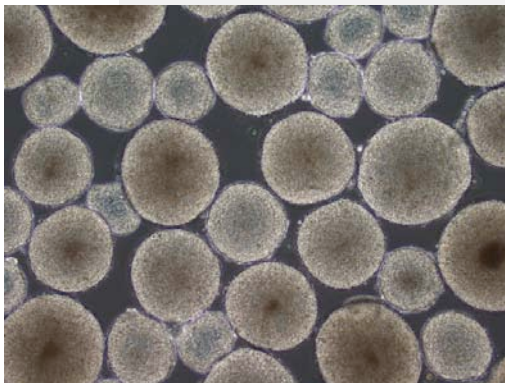
Otsuji et al.  
*Stem Cell Reports* (April 2014)

5 cm

5 cm



Capacity:  $1.5 \sim 2.0 \times 10^8$  cells / 200 ml

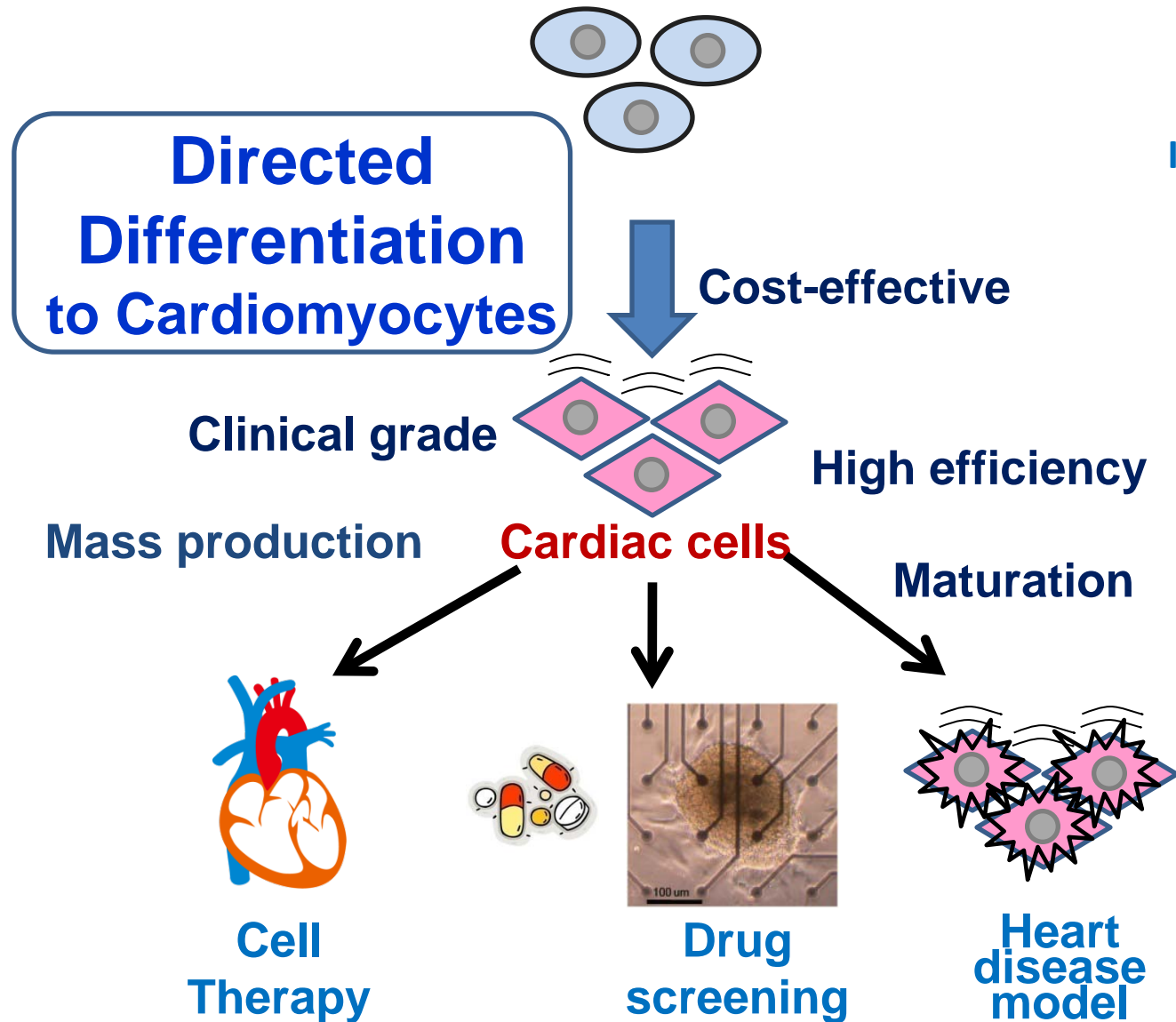




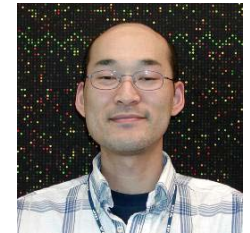
# **Multidisciplinary Research of Human Pluripotent Stem Cells**

- 1. Novel 3D culture system for large-scale production of human pluripotent stem cells**
- 2. Cytokine-free and xeno-free chemical induction of cardiomyocyte differentiation**

# Human ES/iPS Cell Lines



Itsunari MINAMI

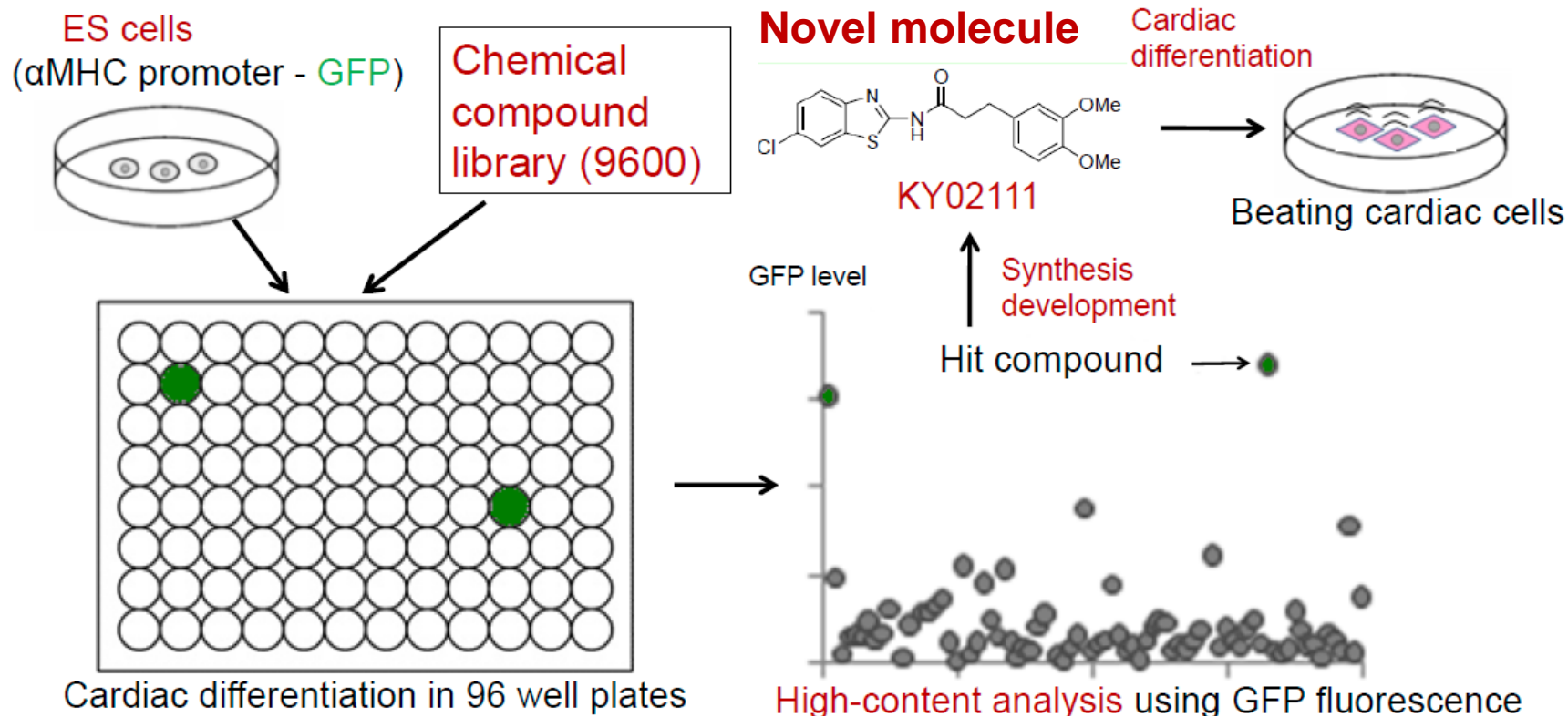


Kazuhiro AIBA

Minami et al.  
*Cell Reports*  
2012

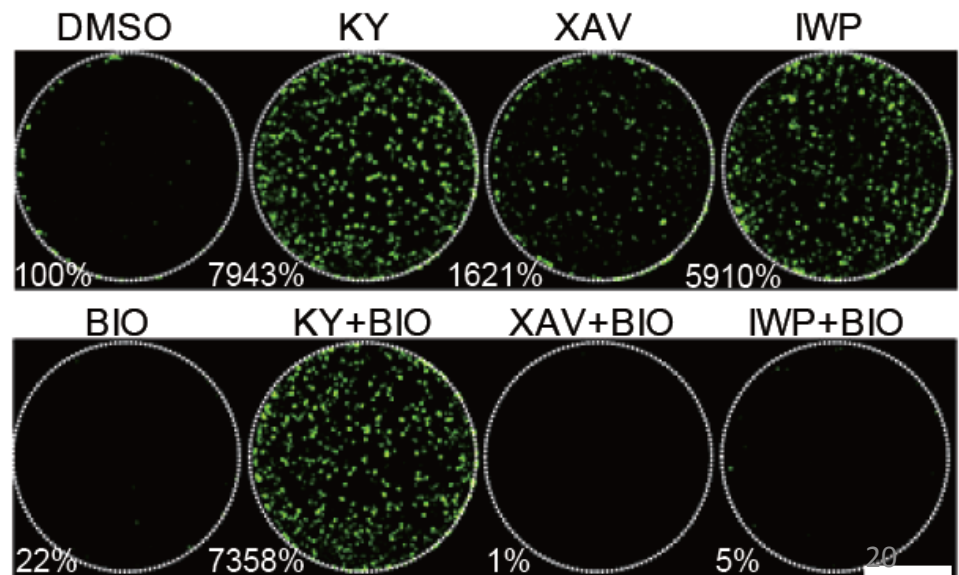
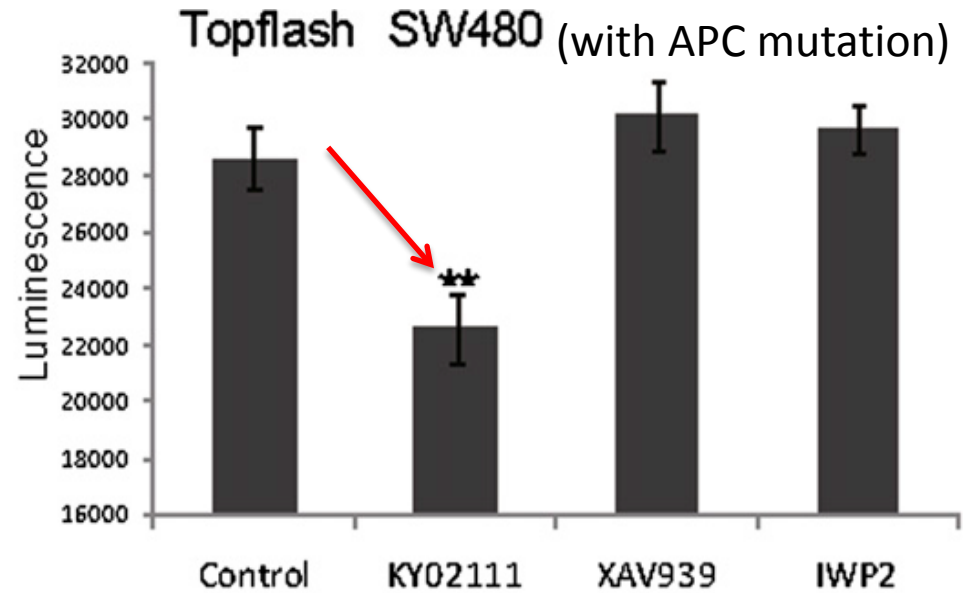
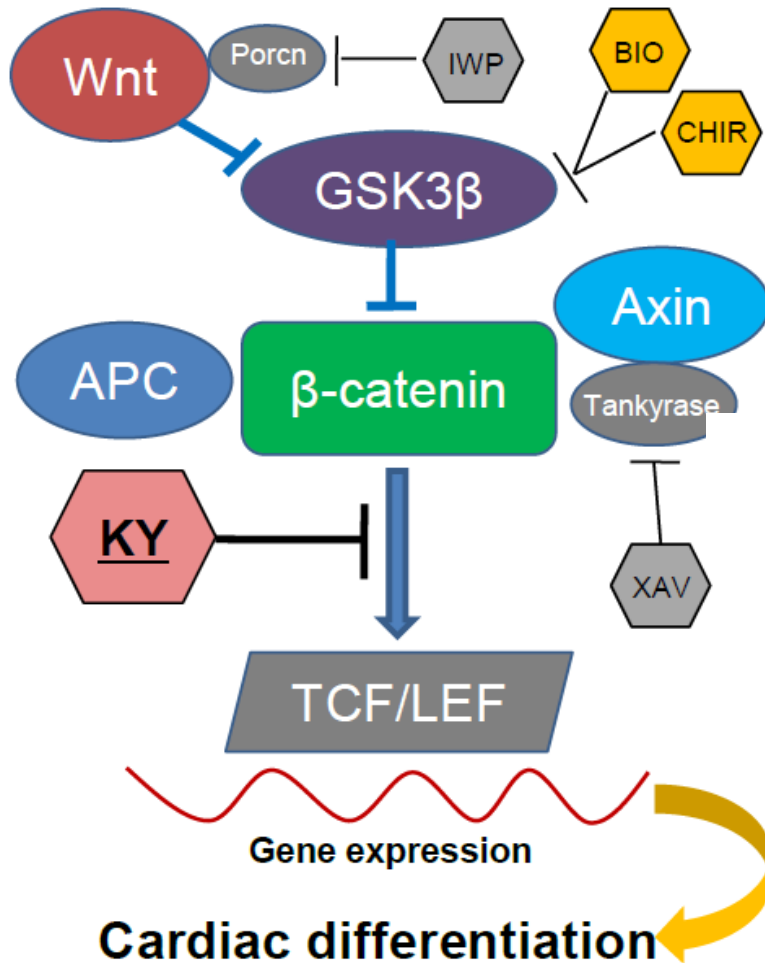
# Cell-based chemical library screening using ES cells

Nakatsuji Lab and Uesugi Lab



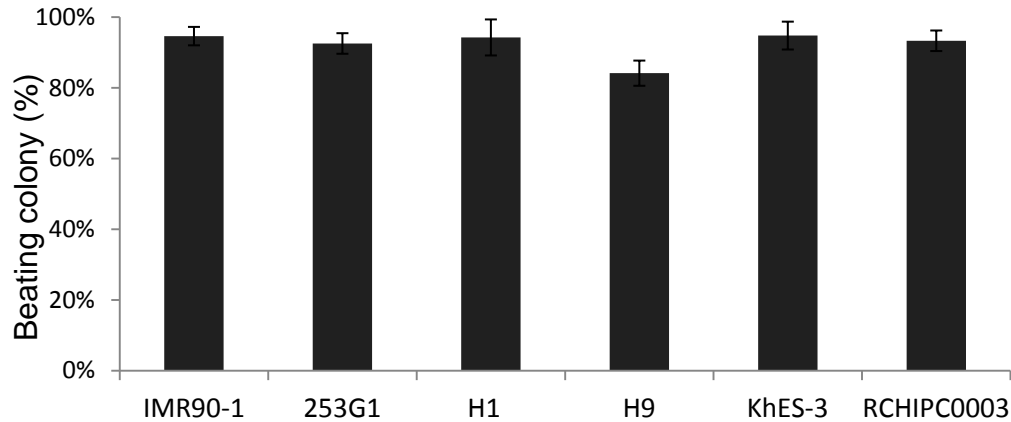
We discovered a **novel small molecules KY02111** that promotes cardiac differentiation efficiently

# KY02111 is a novel type WNT inhibitor acting downstream of GSK3 $\beta$ and APC

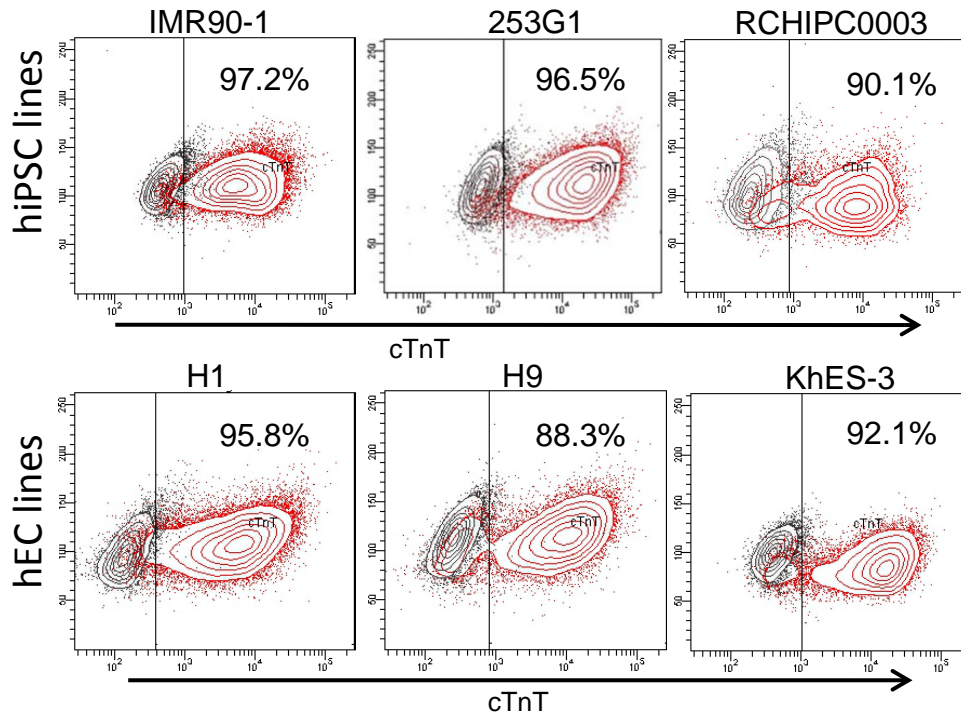
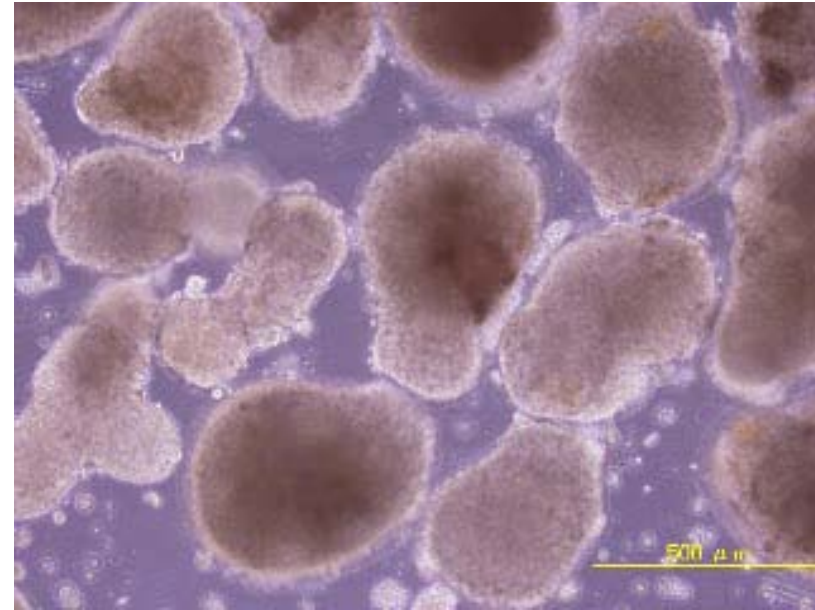


# Efficient and Robust Cardiac Differentiation under cytokine- and xeno-free condition

## Efficiency of cardiac differentiation



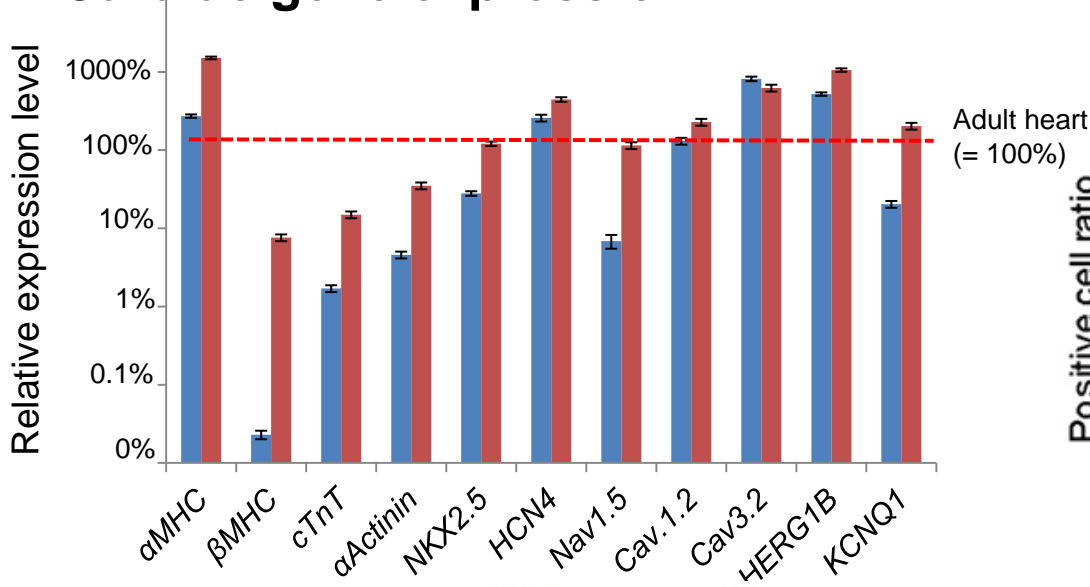
## Beating colonies on Day 21



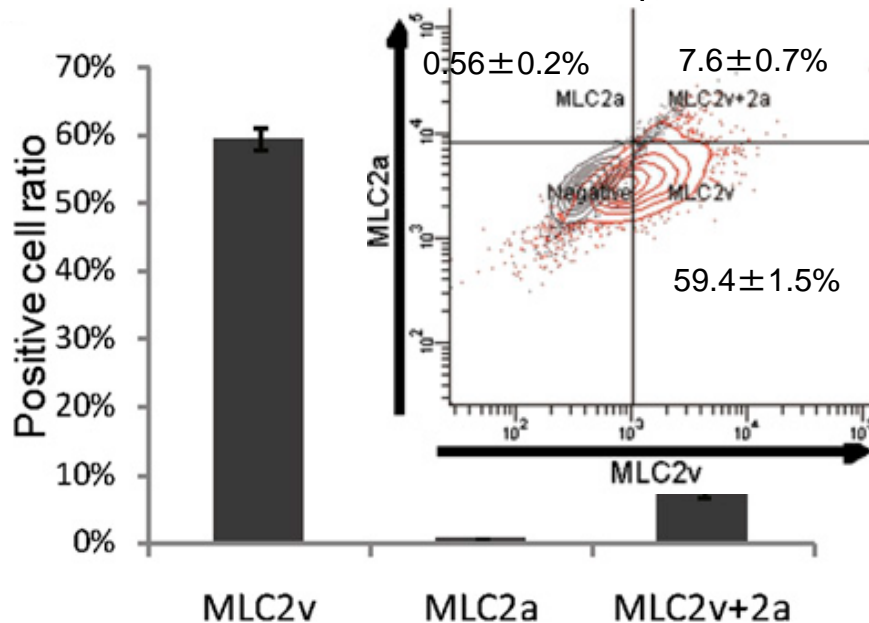
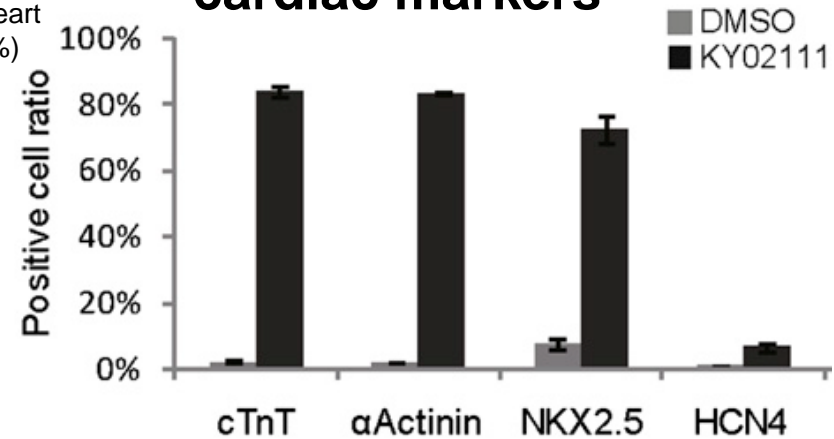
FACS analysis

# Characterization of KY02111-induced cardiac cells

## Cardiac gene expression



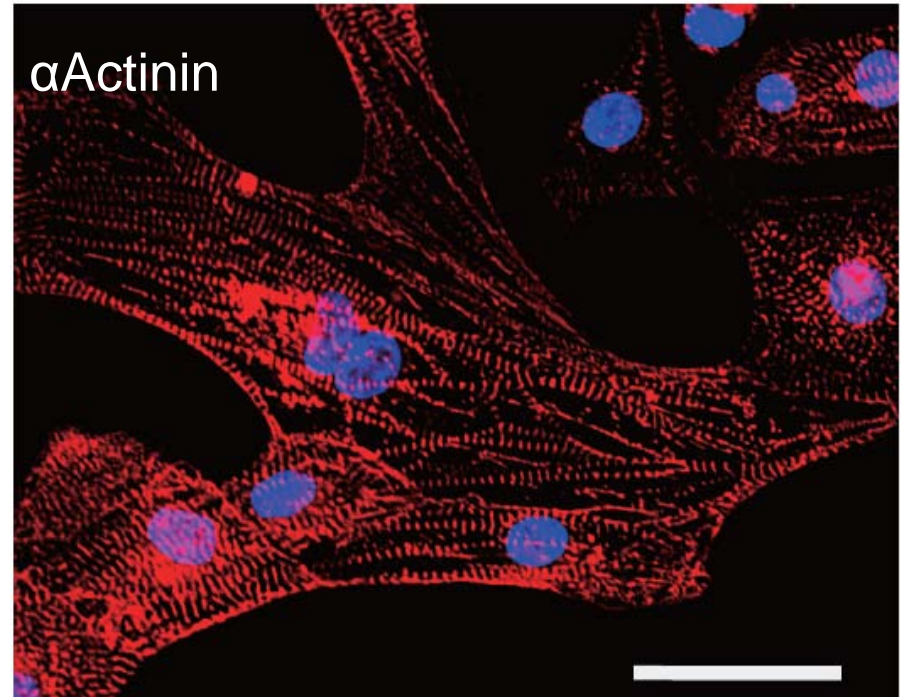
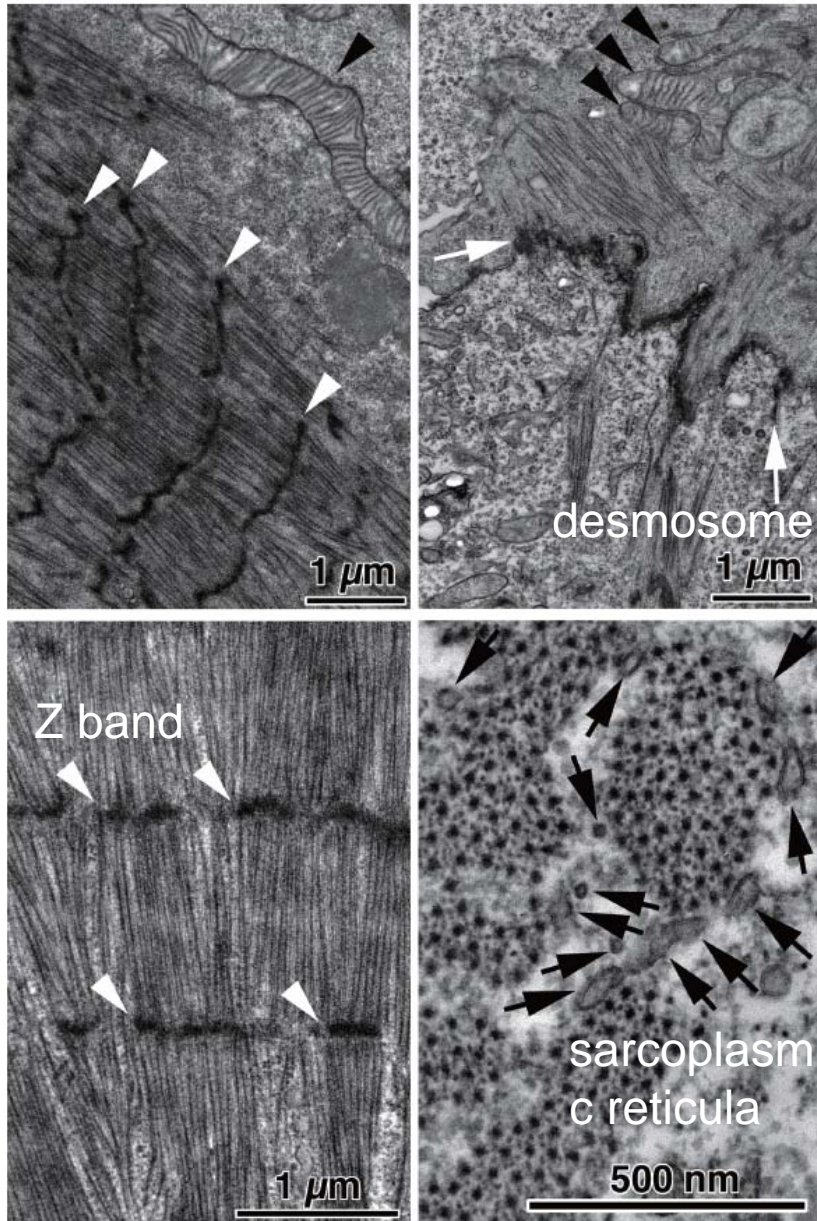
## The expression of cardiac markers



**MLC2v: ventricular cardiomyocyte**  
**MLC2a: atrial cardiomyocyte**

## FACS analysis

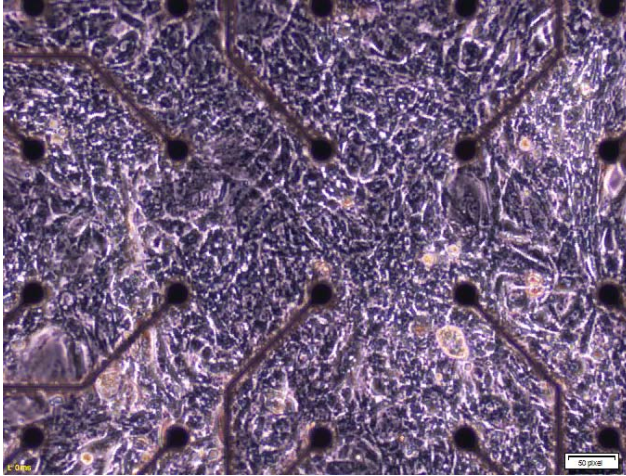
# Cellular structures of hPSC-derived cardiomyocytes



- ✓ Organized sarcomere structure
- ✓ Desmosomes and intercalated disk
- ✓ Sarcoplasmic reticulum

# HERG channel QT prolongation test

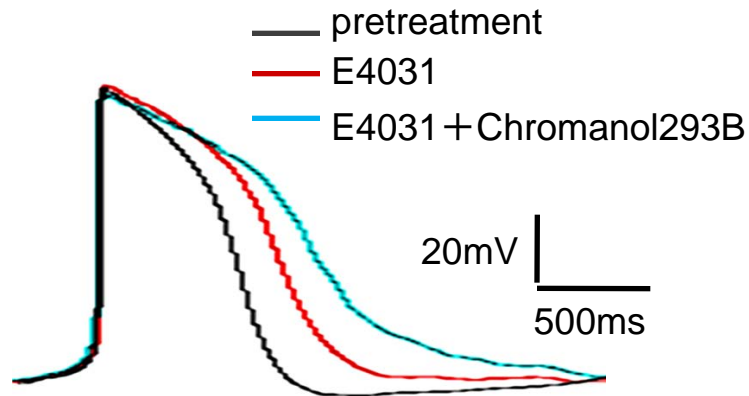
## Multi-electrode recording



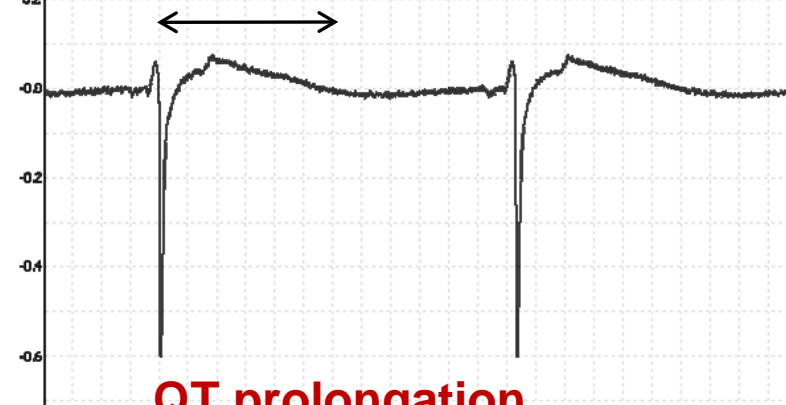
Control  
400ms



## Patch-clamp recording



E4031 (HERG blocker)  
630ms



Action potential prolongation

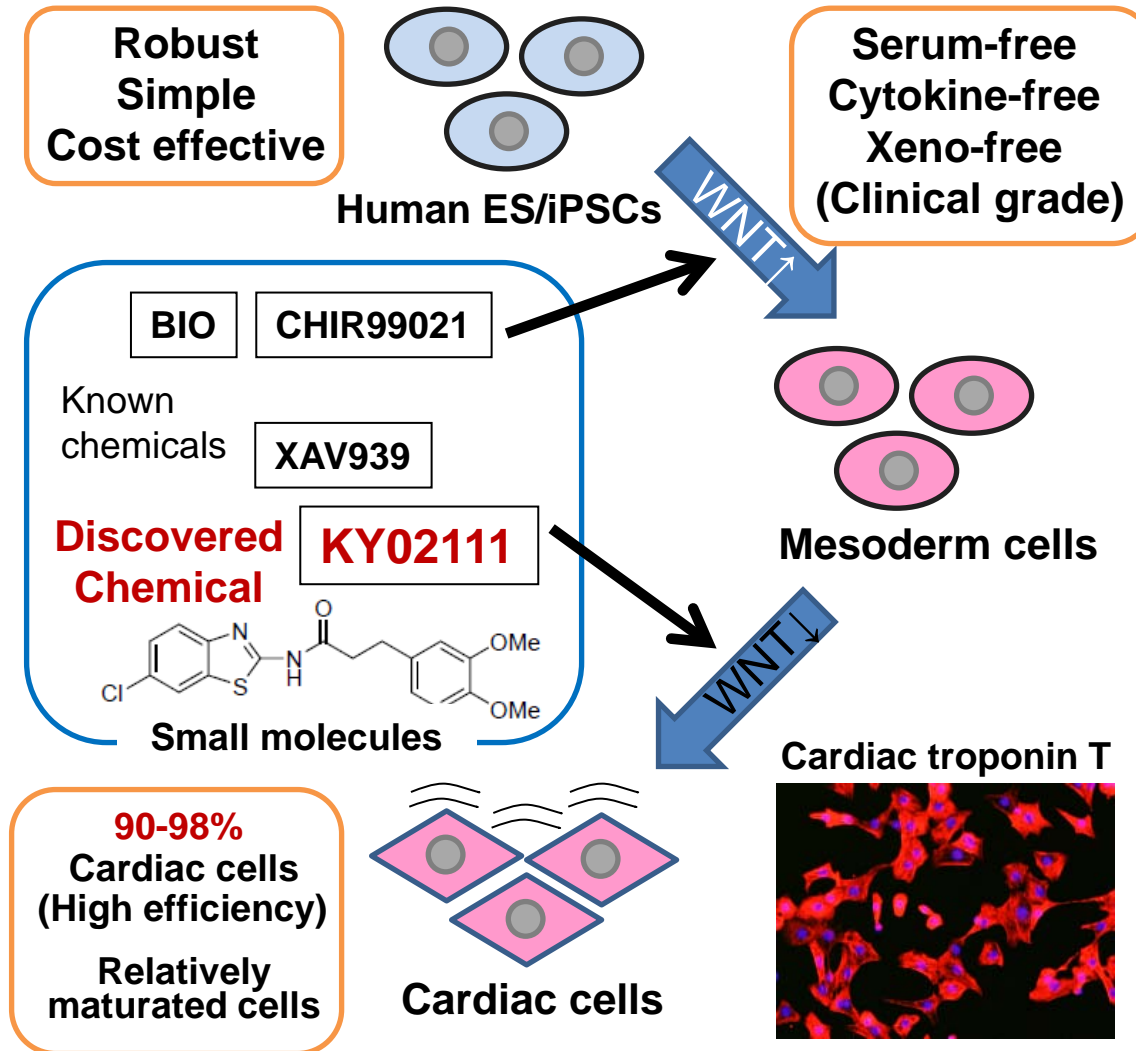
QT prolongation

KY02111 promotes electrophysiological maturation

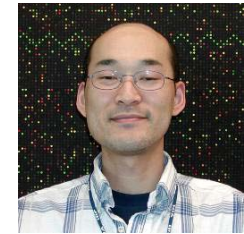


# Serum-, cytokine- and xeno-free cardiac differentiation method of hES/iPS cells using chemical compounds including KY02111

Minami et al. *Cell Reports* 2012



Itsunari MINAMI



Kazuhiro AIBA

# Collaborators

## *iCeMS, Kyoto University*

- **Norio NAKATSUJI**
- **Kazuhiro AIBA**
- **Itsunari MINAMI**
- **Sravan GOPARAJU**
- **Tomomi OTSUJI**
  
- **Kouichi HASEGAWA Lab**
- **Motonari UESUGI Lab**
- **Yong CHEN Lab**
- **Konstantin AGLADZE Lab**
- **John HEUSER Lab**
- **Takuya YAMAMOTO Lab**

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**Eihachiro KAWASE**  
**Takamichi MIYAZAKI**

## *CiRA*

**Haruhisa INOUE Lab**  
**Takuya YAMAMOTO Lab**

## *Grad School of Medicine*

**Ryosuke TAKAHASHI Lab**