**Mayo Clinic Brain Tumor Patient-Derived Xenograft (PDX) National Resource**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Updated Oct. 30, 2023**

**Requests**

* **When will I receive my samples?**
  + We try to get all samples shipped within 4 weeks of your request. While we’re sensitive to your needs, we don’t have full-time staff solely dedicated to this effort. We run a very active research laboratory and we field numerous requests weekly from Mayo Clinic colleagues, other academic institutions and industry partners worldwide. We appreciate your patience.
* **Can I request a modified (e.g., virally transduced) PDX cell line?**
  + No. We are **not** sharing modified PDX cell lines through the resource.
* **Can I request samples from specific generations?**
  + No. We will share what we have available from our archives for external use.
* **Does the resource share samples internationally?**
  + The resource does provide samples to international destinations. However, the requester is responsible for coordinating all logistical aspects of the shipment, including completing all the required customs paperwork (as needed) and indicating the best day of the week for shipment based off their location. Delays due to paperwork or shipping day could jeopardize the viable delivery of the shipped samples. Connecting with the home institution shipping office prior to request is recommended.
* **Can I request more than (4) samples per request?**
  + No. Four samples is the hard cutoff to allow more researchers to have access to the resource. Please prioritize accordingly.
* **When can I request more samples?**
  + Once we’ve received payment for previous samples, another request can be submitted.

**Available data**

* **Where can I find the NGS data for your PDX models?**
  + Go to cBioPortal website, select our PDX dataset under the CNS/brain section and then click explore selected studies.
    - <http://www.cbioportal.org/study/summary?id=gbm_mayo_pdx_sarkaria_2019>
    - For WES identified mutations, click clinical data tab on the top and then find the patients of interest (e.g., Sarkaria-115 would be G115). Click on the patient ID and then it should take you to the mutations section.

**Cell line use**

* **What sort of testing do you perform on these cell lines?**
  + As these lines were established here at Mayo Clinic, these lines are exempt from all testing requirements when used on-site. All outside users are responsible for adhering to all internal policies at their home institutions regarding the use of these lines. This includes performing the necessary biosafety testing.
* **How long can I passage these cells in vitro?**
  + We don’t recommend passaging these PDX cells in vitro. The use of fresh cultures within two weeks of receipt is our gold standard. Use beyond this scope is done at the user’s own risk.

**In vivo tumor growth**

* **Where do you order your mice from?**
  + Charles River Laboratories.
* **How long will it take for cryopreserved tumor growth in the flank?**
  + Each PDX line varies in growth. Moribund times provided by our group **DO NOT** capture take rate times but instead reflect growth rates once already established in our colony. Provide at **minimum** six months of time to grow up in the flank. Some lines may require up to one year.
* **Are cryopreserved cells tumorigenic in mice?**
  + We prefer using fresh cells whenever possible. If fresh cells are not currently available, researchers are encouraged to check our website for frozen cell growth rates. If they perform well in culture post thaw, in vivo use could be attempted but is not guaranteed.
    - Orthotopic intracranial use tends to be more successful than heterotopic flank use.

**Invoicing**

* **When will I receive my invoice?**
  + Expect to receive your invoice the month following sample shipment (e.g., receive cells in September, receive invoice first week of October).
* **Can I pay via credit card?**
  + Yes, please call Kate Meredith at the number listed on the invoice to pay via credit card over the phone.