
Foreword

I am honored to prepare this foreword to *A Manual for Primary Human Cell Culture*. Primary human cell culture has become a major element in academia and the rapidly growing biotechnology sector. Human cell culture is being employed not only for basic research purposes, but also for diagnostic and therapeutic applications. Cell transplantation and, in particular, tissue engineering have successfully been established to investigate and to treat a variety of diseases. Researchers and clinicians using those technologies are commonly referring to animal cell culture protocols or protocols that have been established for long-term culture of immortalized cell lines. However, primary human cells are often difficult to isolate and have particular requirements for maintaining them in culture.

Based on the authors' own benchwork practice and teaching in human cell culture techniques, this manual addresses a vital need to provide clear and concise written protocols for scientists and students embarking on primary human cell culture. Thus, it allows the readers to benefit from the advice and experience of scientists actively working in this field. Mastery of the information in this manual should provide the basic elements of primary human cell culture and stimulate trainees to delve deeper into more stratified literature and explanatory cell culture texts. This protocol collection will serve as a valuable reference guide and, by leaving plenty of blank spaces, it encourages the

user to modify sections according to one's own personal style. The authors are to be commended for writing this brief, yet very informative, manual that I am confident will prove valuable in current laboratory practice and will find a wide distribution in research and clinical institutions.

Mark A. Randolph MAS
Harvard Medical School
Massachusetts General Hospital