

Cell Culture and Virology Laboratory Services

Southwest Research Institute® (SwRI®) offers advanced research capabilities in cell culture and virology, combining chemical expertise with biological strategies for innovative problem solving. Using the latest technologies in state-of-the-art laboratories, SwRI scientists provide multidisciplinary, integrated approaches to meet client requirements.

Capabilities

SwRI research activities include:

- Cell cultivation and maintenance
- Multiple growth vessel systems
- Virus amplification and propagation (tissue culture and embryonated chicken eggs)
- Virus detection and quantification by:
 - Cytopathic effect
 - Endpoint dilution assay
 - Plaque assay

Facilities and Equipment

SwRI research facilities include:

- Fully equipped R&D tissue culture/virology laboratory operating at Biological Safety Level 2 (BSL-2)
- HEPA-filtered exhaust and intake air
- Separate dedicated biological safety cabinets
- CO₂ incubators
- Roller bottle apparatus
- Microcarrier culture spinner systems up to 1 liter
- Cryogenic storage (-80°C to -196°C)
- Phase contrast microscope



Cell confluency observation with a roller bottle



Candling of embryonated chicken egg to determine viability

Inset: Incubation of embryonated chicken eggs upon arrival at SwRI laboratory



Assortment of culture vessel styles used for mammalian and nonmammalian cell growth, maintenance and amplification



Daily procedural operations under infectious and noninfectious biosafety cabinets



Anchorage-dependent cell culture scale-up using microcarrier cultures in spinner flasks



Inspection of cell monolayer disassociation during roller bottle culture harvest



Southwest Research Institute is an independent, nonprofit, applied engineering and physical sciences research and development organization using multidisciplinary approaches to problem solving. The Institute occupies 1,200 acres in San Antonio, Texas, and provides more than 2 million square feet of laboratories, test facilities, workshops and offices for more than 3,200 employees who perform contract work for industry and government clients.

We welcome your inquiries. For additional information, please contact:

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 and the public through innovative
 science and technology

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