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Questions for our scientist?

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Cell Banking and Storage

With more than 20 years of experience, Charles River has successfully produced over 2,000 cell and/or viral banks for clients, including ones used for the manufacture of commercially available therapeutics. Our CGMP-compliant cell bank production assures a uniform population of cells is preserved and a supply of material is readily available for the life of the product.

Cell Banking

Mammalian, Insect, and Stem Cells

Our cell banking team can produce up to a 1,000-vial cell bank in CGMP-compliant suites. To provide clients with the best timelines, we have multiple cell banking suites available for manufacturing. Standard release criteria of viability and sterility are provided, and full [characterization](#) and [biosafety](#) capabilities are available for further regulatory-based testing of the client's cell bank.

Microbial Cell Banking

Our [microbial cell banking](#) team has a wealth of experience in manufacturing *E. coli*, yeast, and other aerobic and anaerobic microbial cell banks. As with our [mammalian cell banks](#), microbial cell banking services are conducted under appropriate, controlled conditions. We have dedicated, fully equipped CGMP-compliant suites with the capability to produce up to an 800-vial cell bank.

EVERY STEP OF THE WAY



Related Services

- [Cell line characterization](#)
- End-of-production cell testing
- In-process/drug substance testing
- [Lot release/drug product release testing](#)
- [Viral clearance studies](#)
- [Protein characterization](#)
- [Product stability testing](#)

Cell Banking Support

Charles River offers support services to help expedite the process from receipt of cell seed stocks to production of cell banks. If necessary, our team of experts can assist with import permits and provide appropriate shipping vessels. After the seed stock arrives, our project management team will guide the client through the manufacturing process, from pre-seed testing and generation of the manufacturing batch record through the manufacture, release, and characterization testing of the cell bank. It is our top priority to communicate with our clients throughout the manufacturing process.

Storage, Retrieval, and Shipment of Cell Banks

Storage of Cell Banks

Maintaining the security and integrity of client cell banks is one of our top priorities. Cell banks are stored at -70°C or in vapor-phase liquid nitrogen in a controlled-access area. In addition to strict security compliance, our clients' cell banks are divided and stored in multiple, validated liquid nitrogen dewars. Separate dewars are maintained for quarantined (untested) and released materials. At the time of material storage, unique identification numbers for each bank are coupled with unique vial locations to enable complete material confidentiality and expeditious vial retrieval. Additional risk mitigation includes the separation of cell banks across multiple sites.

Cell Bank Retrieval and Shipment

Our staff will work diligently with clients to ensure comprehensive logistical support for stored cell bank materials. To maintain the integrity of our secure storage processes, cell bank retrieval and shipment occurs only at the request of an authorized client representative. When shipped, vials of a cell bank are removed from storage and transferred to an appropriate shipping container with a temperature monitoring device documenting the temperature for the duration of the shipment. All vapor-phase liquid nitrogen shipments are shipped in a qualified dewar that has been tested for suitable performance prior to use. These practices, coupled with appropriate custody documentation, ensure that the client's cell bank vials are maintained under controlled conditions during transport.