

## Curation and Banking of Stem Cell Lines

The UK Stem Cell Bank (UKSCB) is required under the *Code of Practice for the UK Stem Cell Bank and the Use of Stem Cell Lines* to accession any line approved by the associated UK steering committee (*UK Steering Committee for the UK Stem Cell Bank and for the use of stem cell lines*). The UKSCB may refuse to accession any line that does not come under the jurisdiction of the UK Steering Committee.

In order to facilitate stem cell research and therapy, the UKSCB recognises two forms of deposit:

1. Banking - the expansion of a stem cell line to form one or more stem cell banks for eventual release for research or as starting materials for human therapy.
2. Curation - the custodianship of a limited stock of a stem cell line for storage or archival purposes.

The UKSCB will apply the criteria listed below to all stem cell lines approved for deposit by the UK Steering Committee.

Stem cell lines will only be banked for distribution once:

- a fully executed Materials Deposit and Distribution Agreement (MDDA) or Material Deposit Agreement (MDA) is in place with the Depositor;
- the UKSCB have demonstrated the line is free from bacterial and fungal contamination, including mycoplasma;
- the UKSCB have demonstrated the line can be successfully recovered;

**AND** at least one of the following criteria is also met:

- The cell line is believed to be suitable as starting material for human application (EUTCD-Grade) following the UKSCB due diligence procedure and a fully executed Quality Agreement (in line with HTA requirements for third party agreements) is in place with the depositing centre's designated individual.
- The cell line has a significant value due to the cell type or origin or intended use (e.g. human induced pluripotent stem cell, adult somatic stem cell line, human fibroblast feeder cell).
- The cell line has unique characteristics (e.g. particular genotype, HLA type, disease specific).
- The cell line is required for use in a specific project for which funding is available for banking the cell line.

- The UKSCB has established that there are a high number of approved requests for use of the cell line.
- The cell line is required to replace failed stock at the depositing centre.

Cell lines failing to meet these criteria will be curated only. Requests for re-designation of cell lines from curated to banked stocks may be made by a depositor or a requestor. Any changes to the designation of the cell line shall be notified to the Depositor and published on the UKSCB's website ([www.nibsc.org/ukstemcellbank](http://www.nibsc.org/ukstemcellbank)).