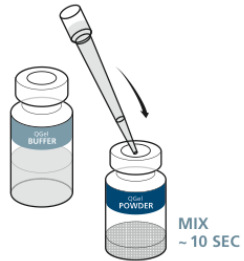


# How to cast gels with QGel™ ?



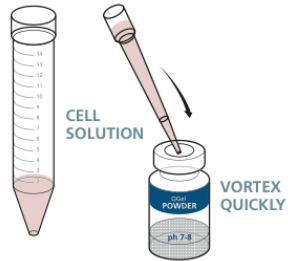
**QGel™ MT 3D MATRIX** is a ready-to-use lyophilized powder containing pre-mixed components. Below shows how we recommend to make gel discs from the QGel™ MT 3D Matrix powder.

**Step : 1**



Resuspend QGel™ MT 3D Matrix powder by addition of 400  $\mu$ L of the QGel™ Buffer A and vortex about 10 seconds.

**2**



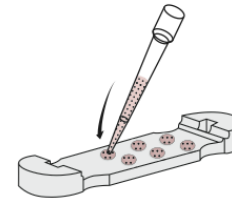
Add 100  $\mu$ L of the cell suspension and vortex quickly for homogenization.

**3**



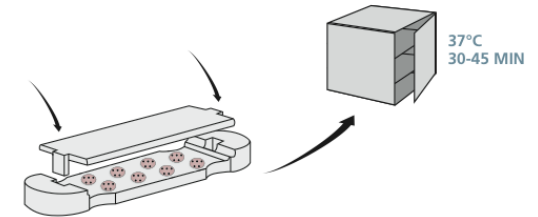
After mixing, pipette the solution out and...

**4**



... quickly apply drops on the QGel™ 3D Disc Caster.

**5**

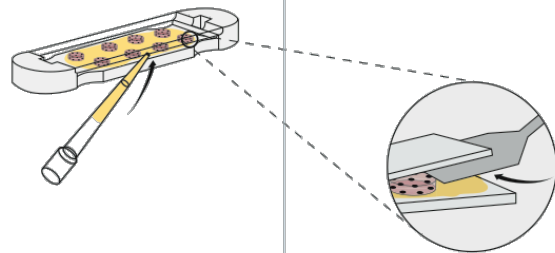


Close the disc caster carefully and incubate the structure in a cell culture incubator (37°C) for 30-45 minutes.



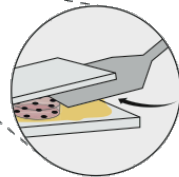
QGel™ makes available QGel™ Buffer A which will give you 5-10 minutes\* to work with the solution before it gels. Indeed, the reaction kinetics is pH-dependent: the higher the pH, the faster gelation occurs.

**Step : 6**



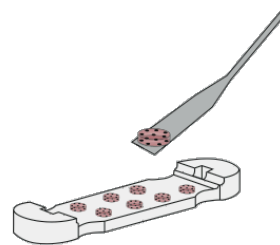
Apply PBS (Phosphate-Buffered Saline) around the gel discs and then open slowly the QGel™ 3D Disc Caster.

**7**



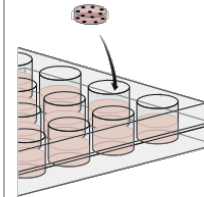
To avoid gel sticking to the caster surfaces, first detach slightly the disc edges with a spatula to allow PBS to flow through upper and lower interfaces.

**8**



Once the disc caster is opened, use the spatula to gently pick up each disc.

**9**

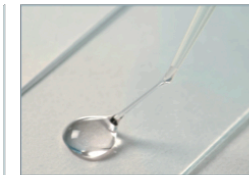


Each gel disc is transferred into a 24-well plate containing 1 mL pre-warmed culture medium. Medium is subsequently replaced after two hours incubation and then according to your experimental conditions.

**10**



Samples are now ready for long-term culture.



### TIPS 'N TRICKS

The gel hardens in 5-10 minutes once QGel™ MT 3D Matrix powder is mixed with QGel™ Buffer. You will notice a "little filament" sticking to the pipette tip at the point of gelation. After this point, it is no longer possible to pipette the gel solution.

After casting your gel discs, you may have some leftover gel in the glass vial; use this to monitor when the little filament" forms.

\* depending on the experimental conditions.