

HHUA was deposited in 1991 as a “human endometrial cancer-derived cell line”. In the test to exclude misidentified cell lines, short tandem repeat (STR) polymorphism analysis with 16 loci, HHUA was proved to be derived from the same patient of SNG-M (JCRB0179), another “human endometrial cancer-derived cell line” distributed from the JCRB cell bank in Japan.

HHUA and SNG-M are the cell lines established by the same researcher. SNG-M was deposited with the JCRB Cell Bank in 1990, and HHUA was deposited with the RIKEN Cell Bank in 1991.

The paper on the establishment of SNG-M was published in 1977, and the paper on the establishment of HHUA was published in 1984. Therefore, it is speculated that the later established HHUA is likely to be a mix-up of SNG-M.

However, there is an important fact that both cell lines have been used at the same time in the laboratory of the depositor from the establishment of both cell lines to the deposit in the cell banks (6 years in total). At the moment, the depositor does not possess either cell line. In addition, the depositor does not possess the original cancer tissues at all. Therefore, it is impossible to scientifically prove which is the true cell line.

After consulting with the depositor and the JCRB Cell Bank, we have decided to deal with future distribution of HHUA and SNG-M as follows.

Based on the facts that many papers have already been published using both cell lines and both cell lines have been distributed as “human endometrial cancer-derived cell lines”, both cell banks continue the distribution of both cell lines, respectively, with specifying that HHUA (RCB0658) and SNG-M (JCRB0179) are derived from the same patient.