

# Cytological advantages of three-dimensional (3D) culture of human cryopreserved hepatocytes evaluated by comprehensive gene expression.

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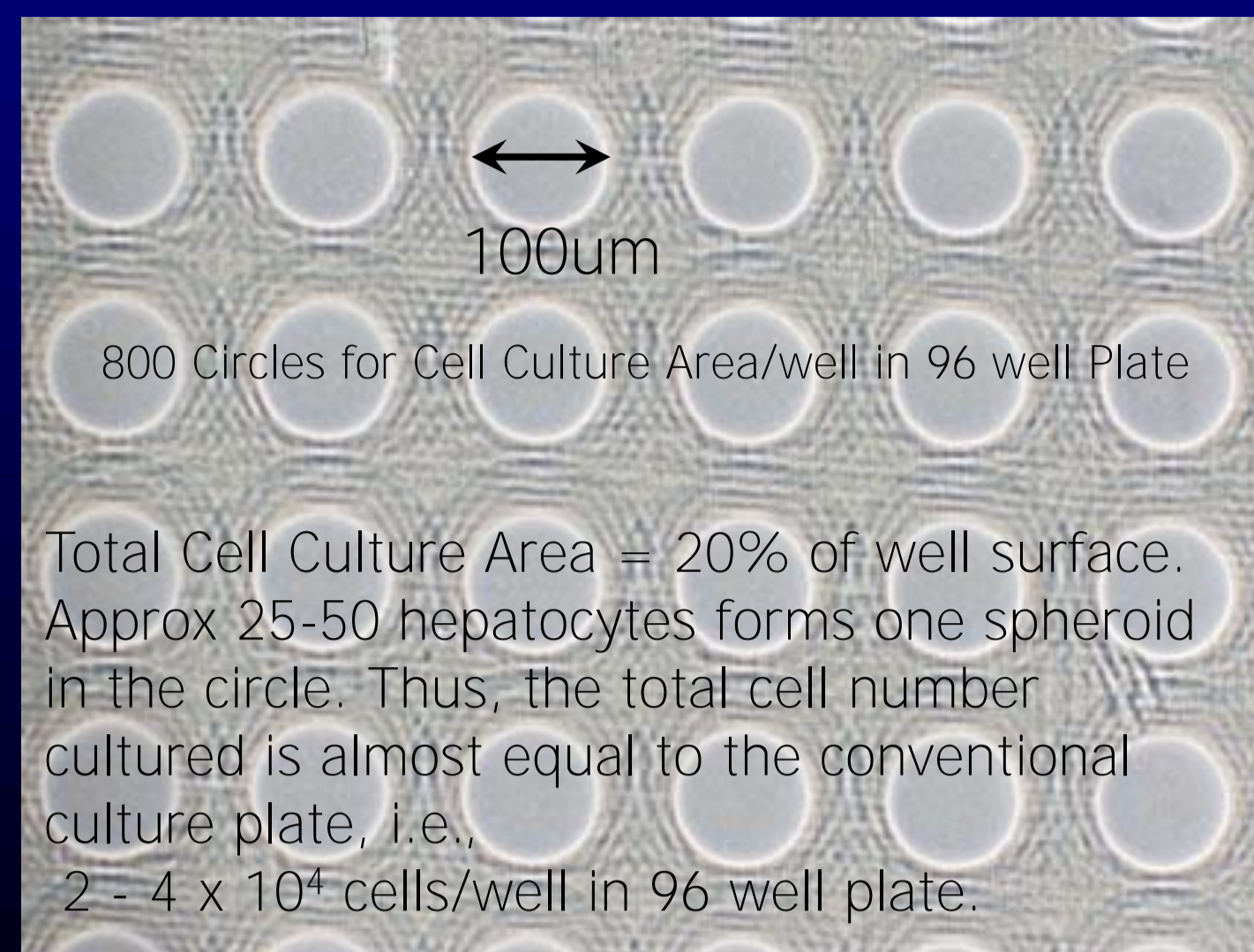
**[Purpose]** Long-term stability of functioning hepatocytes is desired in drug metabolism and pharmacokinetic (DMPK) study. In this regard, three-dimensional (3D) culture of human hepatocytes has been recognized as a promising DMPK model in vitro. To confirm integrated evaluation of 3D culture, we performed comprehensive gene expression in 3D cultures of primary hepatocytes using Cell-able®, compared with conventional two dimensional (2D) culture.

**[Methods]** Cryopreserved hepatocytes (Xenotech) were cultured for 14 days by collagen-coat (2D) and Cell-able® (3D) (Transparent). In 3D culture, mouse 3T3 feeder cells were used according to our established protocol. Microarray analysis was done by SurePrint G3 Human GE (Agilent Technologies, Ltd. at Chemicals Evaluation and Research Institute, Japan). Comparison of 3D and 2D culture was examined with relative gene expression of cultured (day14) and thawed (day0) hepatocytes.

## [Introduction]

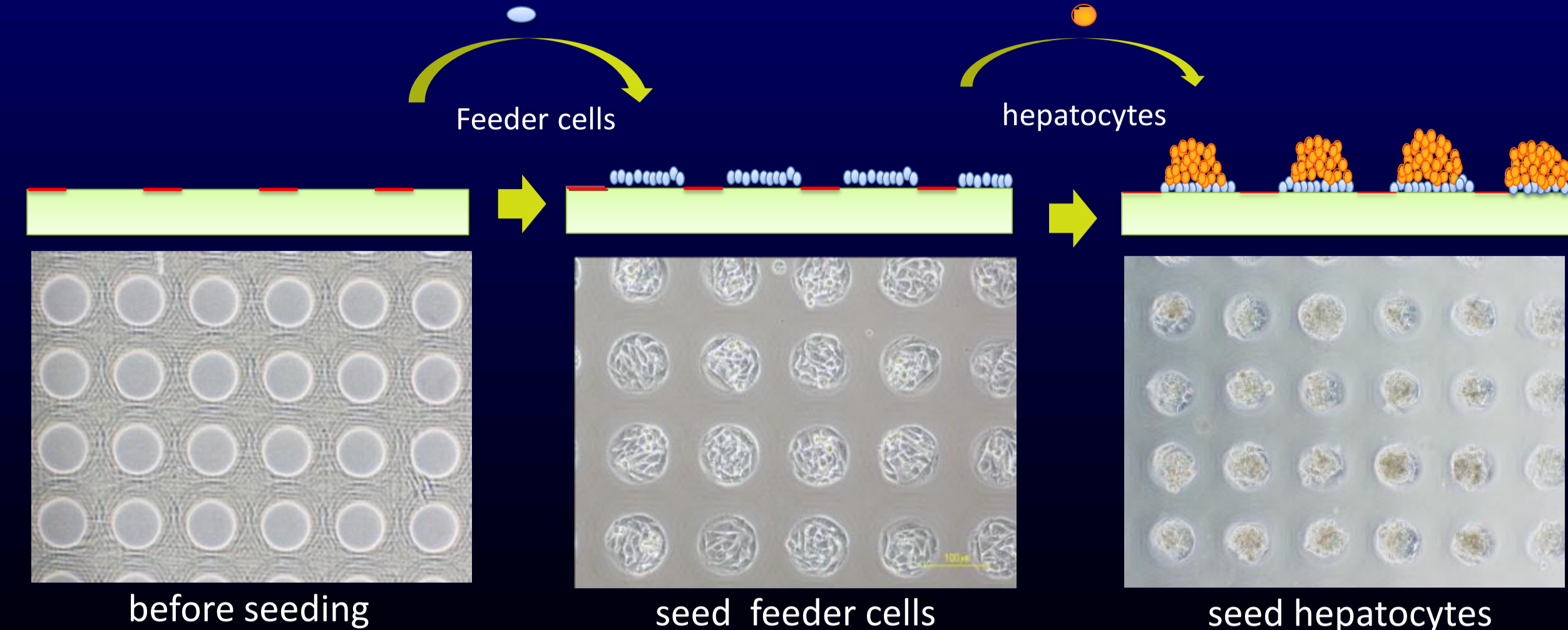
3D cell culture plate used in this experiment

Outline of Cell-able® Hyper view (96well)



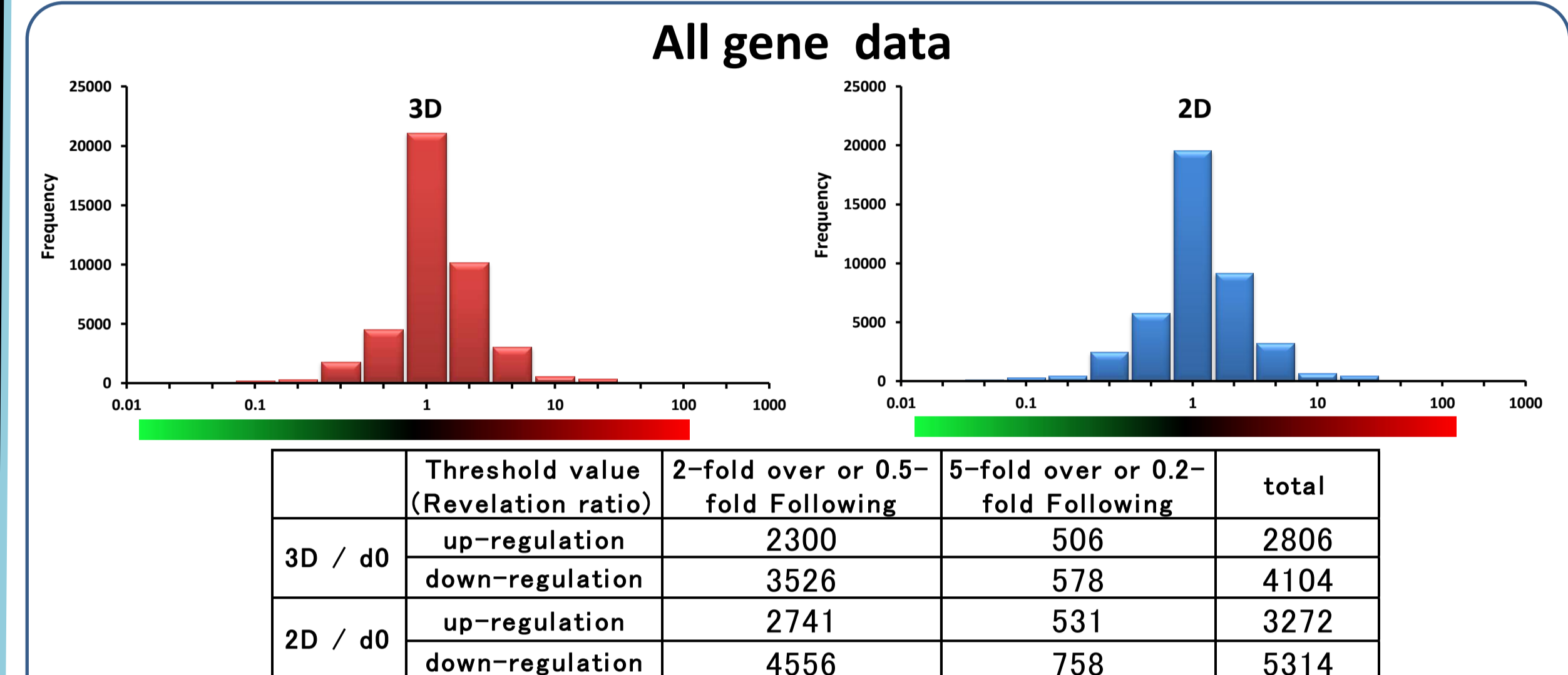
Seeding of the cell to Cell-able®

- ✓ Uniform size of spheroids are formed
- ✓ Simple handling for spheroids culture



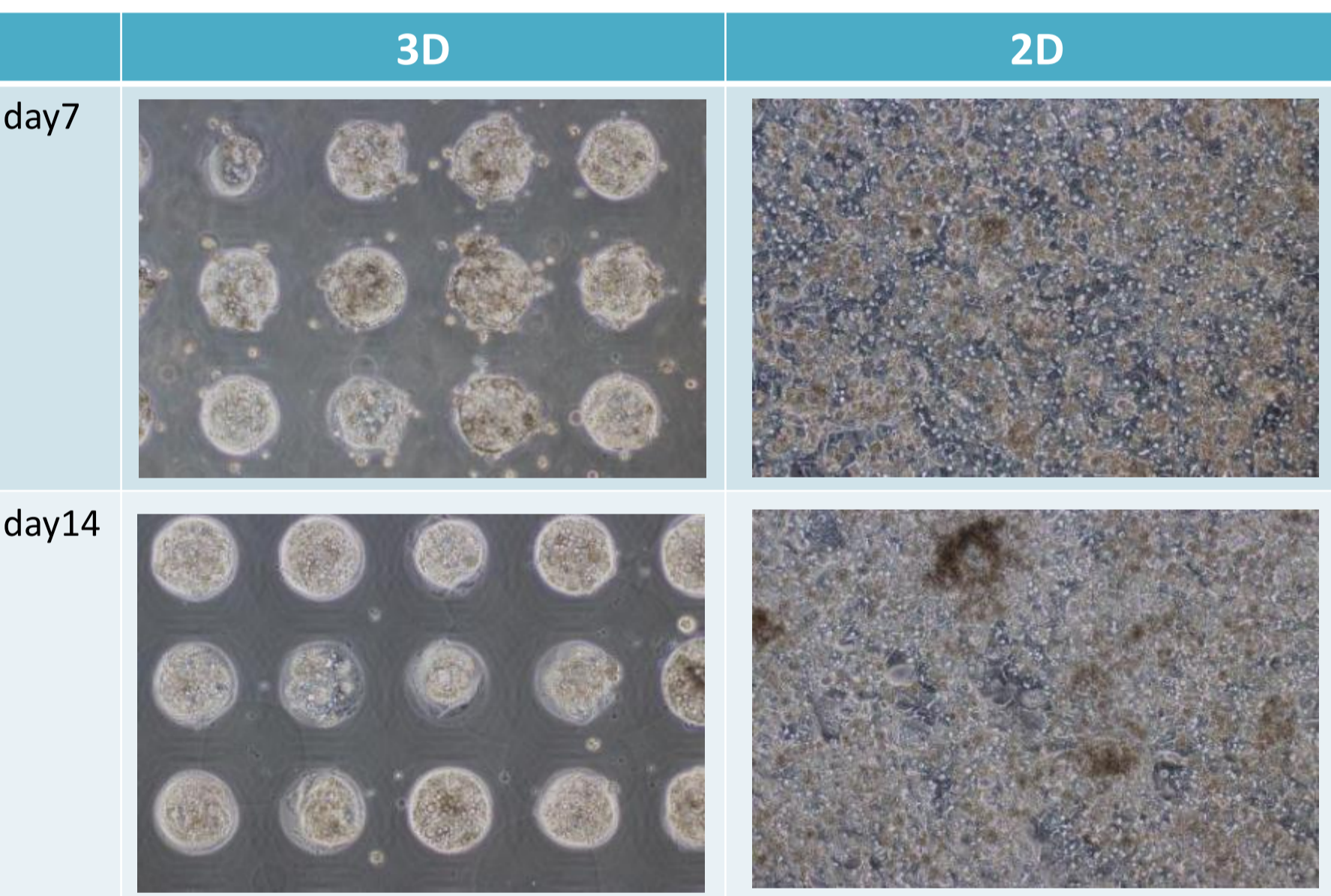
## [Materials and Methods]

Experimental condition		Microarray Sample					
Plate	3D (Cell-able®) 2D (Collagen coat plate)	Sample No.	Group Name	Sample Name	Culture term	Culture plate	Feeder cells
Culture medium	RM101	1	d0	d0	0 day	-	-
Hepatocytes	HC 1-18 (Xenotech. platable lot.)	2	3D group	3D-n1	14 days	Cell-able®	3T3swiss albino
2 × 10 <sup>5</sup> cells/well		3		3D-n2			
Feeder cell	3T3swiss albino (ATCC CCL-163)	4		3D-n3			
8 × 10 <sup>4</sup> cells/well		5	2D group	2D-n1			
Culture term	14 days	6		2D-n2		Collagen coat plate	
Assay items	Microarray Analysis Photo shot	7		2D-n3			

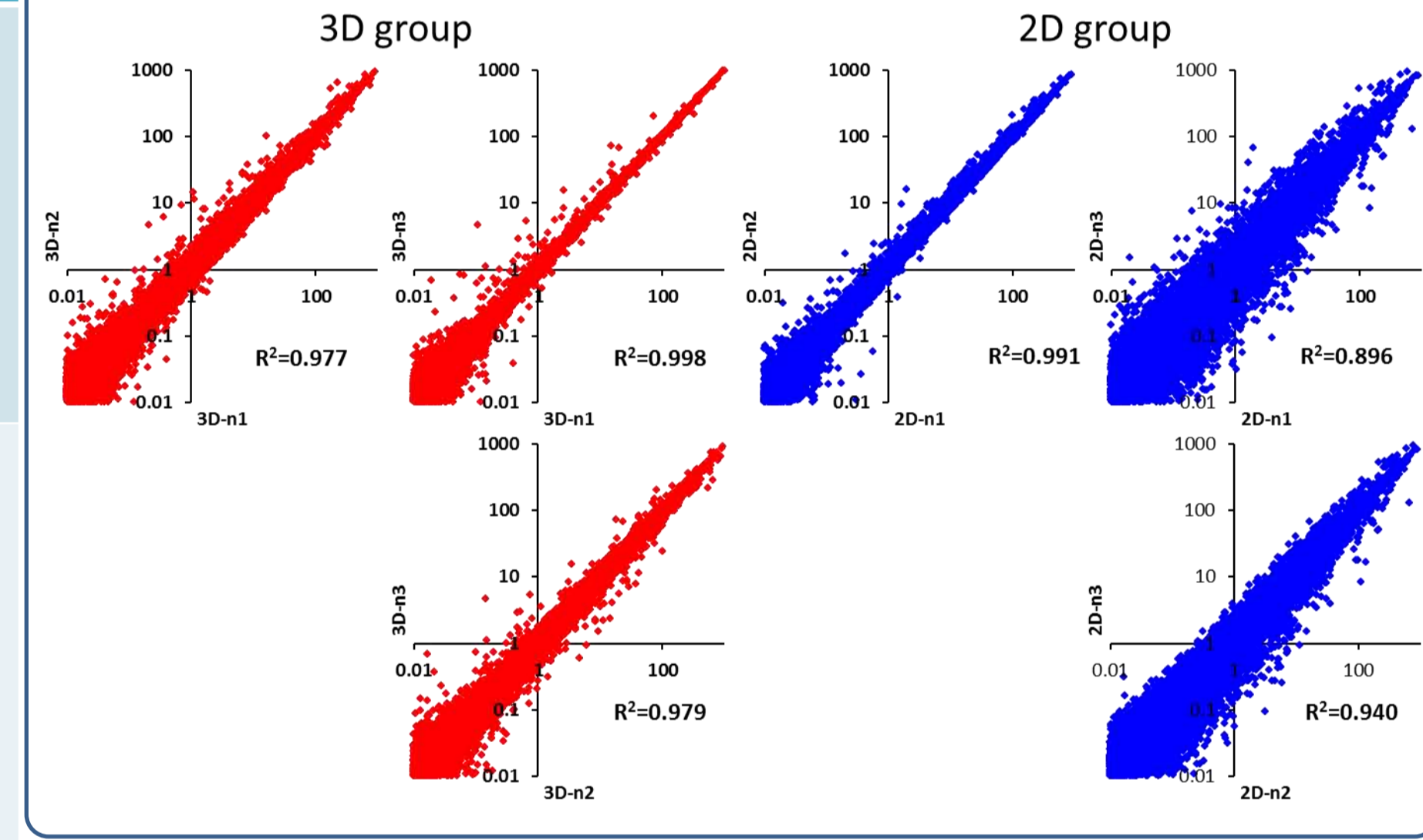


## [Result]

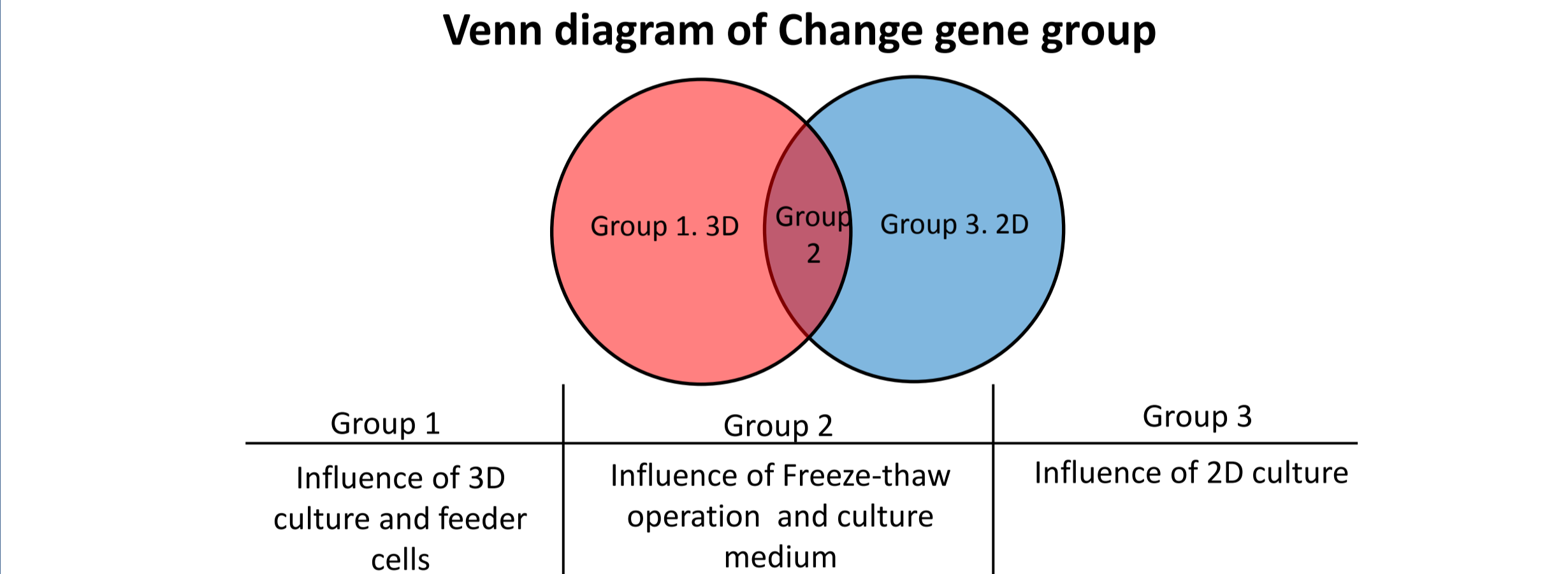
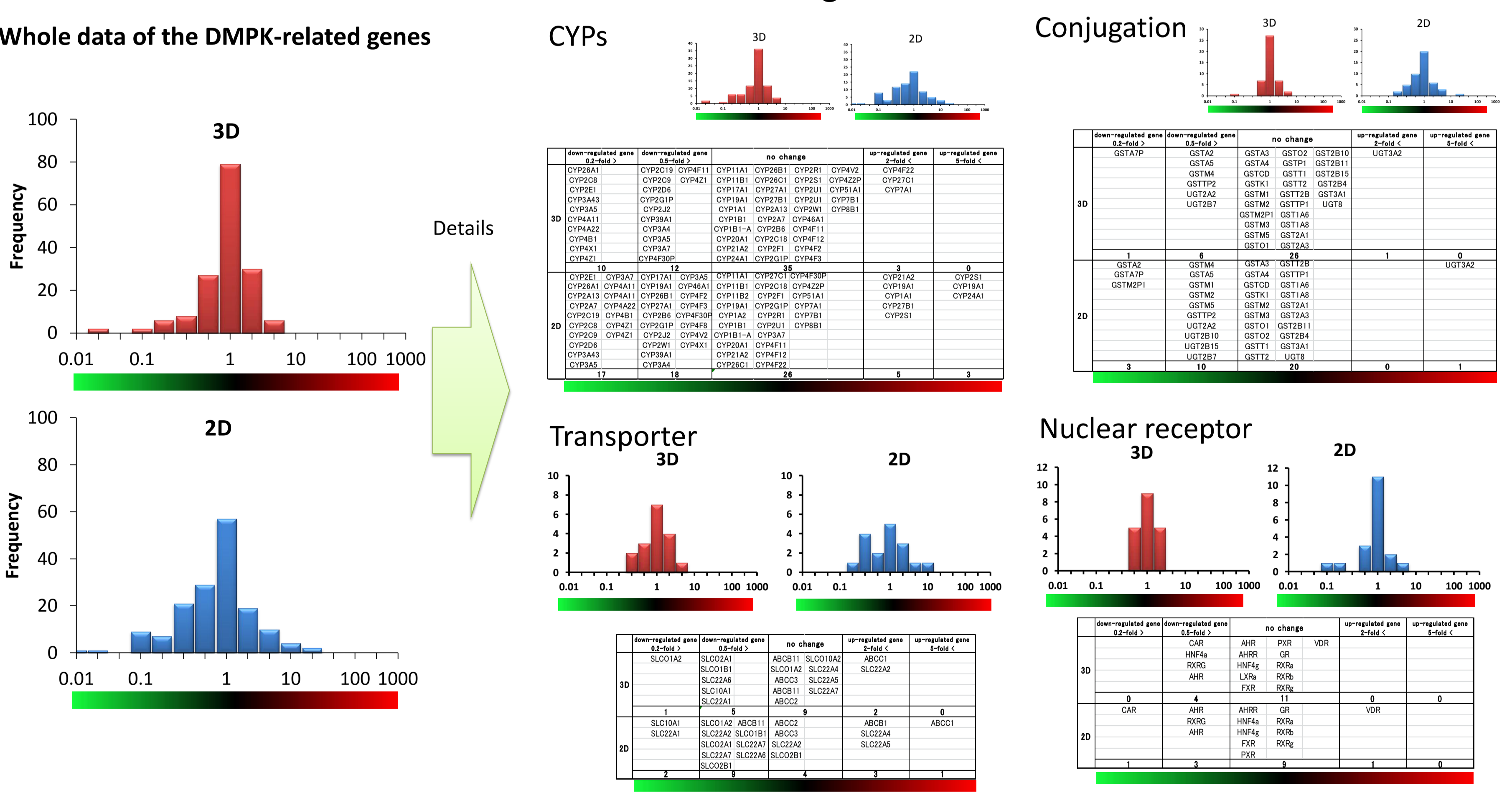
2D and 3D observation



Reproducibility of each culture system



DMPK-related genes



**List of Switch ON type gene**

Group	Gene
group - 1	ABCB9
	ADAM23
	ADAMTSL1
	AFP2
	ADP4
	ANGPTL7
	ARHGAP28
	BCL11B
	BTBD9
	BUB1
group - 2	AACS
	ABLIM2
	AHNAK2
	AIM1L
	ANKRD1
	API2
	APLN
	ARHGAP22
	ARHGAP23
	ASXL2
group - 3	ABCC1
	ABCC4
	ACN2
	ACTA1
	ADAM21
	ADAM9
	ADORA2B
	AFAPI
	ALDH3A1
	AMPD3

**List of Switch OFF type gene**

Group	Gene
group - 1	ADOXL
	ADP5A
	ASCL1
	ATP10D
	BCL2A1
	C14orf10
	C22orf24
	C2orf40
	C3orf7
	C5orf3
group - 2	ABCA13
	ACOT6
	ACSS1
	ADAMTSL1
	ADAR2
	ADP5A
	ADP5B
	ADP5C
	ADP5D
	ADP5E
group - 3	ACSM2A
	ADRA1A
	ADRB2
	ADRB3
	ADRB4
	ADRB5
	ADRB6
	ADRB7
	ADRB8
	ADRB9

## [Results and Discussion]

Inter-well deviation of gene expression was smaller in 3D than 2D culture. It suggests that the uniform circumstance of Cell-able®. Judging from gene expression ratios (day14/day0), numbers of genes with increased expression were 2306 in 3D and 3272 in 2D, and those with decreased expression 4104 in 3D and 5314 in 2D. The results indicated that 3D culture maintained original cellular characteristics better than 2D even after 14 days culture. The tendency was also observed with DMPK-related genes such as CYPs, nuclear receptors, and transporters.

## [Conclusion]

Cell-able®, a microfabricated cell array system for 3D culture maintains original hepatocyte characteristics in terms of gene expression. Still more detailed analysis is due to be conducted focusing on an adhesion factor from now on.

## [Acknowledgment]

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