Metamoeba leningradensis

Note: The culturing conditions below are not necessarily the optimal growth conditions for each strain, as much variation is found between strains, and cultures are not always kept in optimal growth conditions at CCAP for practical reasons. There may be more info in the individual strain data on the website.

On receipt of culture: cultures should be subcultured into fresh sterile medium as described below, ideally within a few days of receipt. If the culture vessel is very full on receipt and subculturing cannot be done immediately, we advise transferring half of the culture to a sterile container to provide air space.

ACDP Hazard Gp: 1 - Non pathogenic / non hazardous. Unlikely to cause human disease.

Culture Medium: PC (Prescott's and Carrier's Solution) with 2 flamed rice grains
Media recipes can be found on our website: www.ccap.ac.uk/index.php/media-recipes/

Lighting: low light

Light Cycle: 12h light : 12h dark (for faster growth try 16h:8h)

Temperature: 15 degrees C

Sub Interval: 4-5 weeks (at CCAP, may vary depending on environment)

Culture Vessel: Tissue culture flasks.

Culture Method:

Before subculturing swirl the flasks to loosen the cells and leave standing upright for approximately 30 minutes, this allows the cells to settle to the bottom of the container.

Filter the PC medium through a sterile 0.20 µm ministart filter into a sterile conical flask, this reduces precipitation in the medium.

Holding the *Metamoeba* culture to the light check where the amoeba cells are and decant off approximately half of the old medium swiftly, this minimises the loss of cells. Replenish the media with the fresh filtered medium and add two flamed rice grains (this encourages growth of bacteria on which the amoebae feed).

Use strict aseptic techniques throughout and if possible carry out all subculturing within a laminar flow cabinet (particularly important for axenic strains).