

Squamamoeba japonica

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: NSW (natural seawater) or the slightly richer ASWP; both with 1-2 boiled wheat or barley grains added

Media recipes can be found on our website: www.ccap.ac.uk/index.php/media-recipes/

Lighting: no lighting required

Light Cycle: -

Temperature: 15 degrees C (or 20 degrees C)

Sub Interval: 4-6 weeks (at CCAP, may vary depending on environment)

Culture Vessel: small petri dishes or tissue culture flask

Culture Method:

To inoculate the fresh media, a dense culture is chosen from existing stocks. The state of the culture is ascertained by using an inverted microscope.

To subculture, add a few ml of culture to fresh sterile medium. Add a boiled wheat or barley grain to each dish (to encourage growth of the bacteria the organism feeds on)

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