Tetrahymena mobilis

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: SES with a sterilised/boiled wheat grain added to encourage growth of the bacteria the ciliate feeds on. The original depositor recommended occasionally adding some pieces of mealworm larvae as an additional food source.
Media recipes can be found on our website: www.ccap.ac.uk/index.php/media-recipes/

Lighting: no light necessary

Light Cycle: natural day/night cycle or constant dark

Temperature: 20 degrees C

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

Culture Vessel: small petri dishes or vented tissue culture flask

Culture Method:

This strain is usually cultured within petri dishes that can be examined directly using an inverted microscope x40. Examine each plate before subculturing.

One new subculture is created from each petri dish unless density is low in which case two or more dishes can be subcultured.

Under a fume hood, label petri dishes and fill up to half way with sterilised liquid medium. Use a sterile plastic pipette to transfer 1ml of older culture into new media. Sterilise forceps and add wheat grain (pre-sterilise wheat by boiling in distilled water). Seal dish with parafilm.

Use strict aseptic techniques throughout and if possible carry out all subculturing within a laminar flow cabinet.