
Preface

During the last decade, an increased interest in somatic stem cells has led to a flurry of research on one of the most accessible tissues of the body: skin. Much effort has focused on such topics as understanding the heterogeneity of stem cell pools within the epidermis and dermis and their comparative utility in regenerative medicine applications. To facilitate studies in this area, I have brought together here some representative but critically important protocols for a variety of skin stem cells. The hope is that by doing so, we will accelerate both the basic understanding of these diverse cell types and the translation of their biological potential to the in vivo setting. I am grateful to all of the contributors for their generosity in describing in great detail their methods for isolation, maintenance, and characterization of stem cell populations from skin.

I would also like to take this opportunity once again to acknowledge Dr. John Walker for his ongoing support of my ideas.

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