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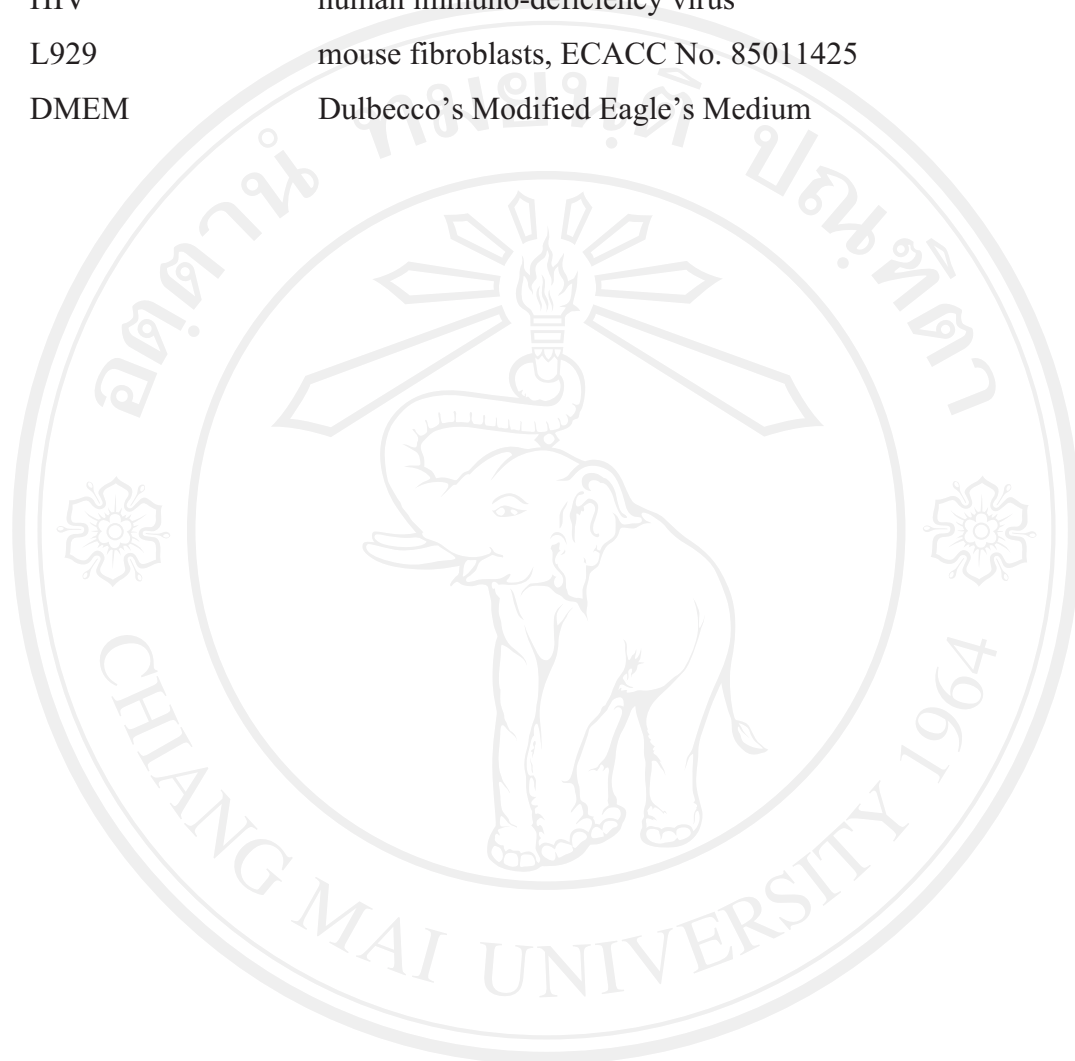
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## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

AMPS	2-acrylamido-2-methylpropane sulfonic acid
poly(AMPS)	poly(2-acrylamido-2-methylpropane sulfonic acid)
Na-AMPS	2-acrylamido-2-methylpropane sulfonic acid sodium salt
poly(Na-AMPS)	poly(2-acrylamido-2-methylpropane sulfonic acid sodium salt)
NVP	<i>N</i> -vinyl pyrrolidone
PNVP	poly( <i>N</i> -vinyl pyrrolidone)
P(HEMA)	poly(2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate)
ACPA	4,4'-azo-bis(4-cyanopentanoic acid)
EGDM	ethylene glycol dimethacrylate
Irgacure 184	1-hydroxycyclohexyl phenyl ketone
Ebecryl 11	poly(ethylene glycol) dicrylate 600
Gly	glycerol
PEG	poly(ethylene glycol) 10000
SBF	synthetic body fluid
PBS	phosphate buffer saline
HDPE	high-density polyethylene
PU	polyurethane
PET	poly(ethylene terephthalate)
WC	water content
EWC	equilibrium water content
WR	water retention
EWR	equilibrium water retention
EWL	evaporative water loss
WVTR	water vapour transmission rate
UV	ultraviolet
$\gamma$	gamma ray
FT-IR	Fourier-transform infrared spectrometer
<sup>1</sup> H-NMR	proton nuclear magnetic resonance

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$	carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance
DVS	dynamic vapour sorption
DSC	differential scanning calorimetry
$\bar{M}_n$	number-average molecular weight
Pd	dissolved oxygen permeability
Dk	oxygen permeability
STP	standard temperature and pressure
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
b.pt.	boiling point
m.pt.	melting point
$^{\circ}\text{C}$	degrees Celsius
% mol	percent by mol
% w/v	weight in gram of solute per 100 ml of solution
% v/v	volume of reagent per 100 ml of solution
M	molarity (mol/l)
g	gram
mg	milligram
ml	milliliter
mm	millimeter
cm	centimeter
$\mu\text{s}$	microsecond
$\mu\text{s}/\text{min}$	microsecond per minute
mm Hg	millimeters of mercury
N	newton
s	second
mins	minutes
hrs	hours
$T_{\text{room}}$	room temperature
cc	cubic centimeter
3-D	three-dimensional
$\delta$	chemical shift (NMR)

ppm	parts per million
MHz	megahertz
HIV	human immuno-deficiency virus
L929	mouse fibroblasts, ECACC No. 85011425
DMEM	Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium



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