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express the parathyroid hormone (PTH) receptor and produce cyclic AMP in response to treatment with PTH. These cells do not form tumors when injected subcutaneously into immunocompromised mice. When injected into diffusion chambers that are implanted intra-peritoneally into immunocompromised mice, however, Saos-2 cells produce a mineralized matrix, which is a defining characteristic of osteoblastic cells. All of these characteristics make this cell line an attractive source of bone-related molecules for research.

Source

This cell line was established in 1973 from an 11-year-old Caucasian female with osteogenic sarcoma.

Inventors

Jorgen Fogh, PhD, formerly at Sloan Kettering Institute, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Key References

- Fogh J et al. (1977) Absence of HeLa cell contamination in 169 cell lines derived from human tumors. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* 58: 209-214 (PubMed ID: [833871](#))
- Rodan SB et al. (1987) Characterization of a human osteosarcoma cell line (Saos-2) with osteoblastic properties. *Cancer Research* 47: 4961-4966 (PubMed ID: [3040234](#))

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