

# Human salivary gland stem cell-derived extracellular matrix enhances formation and maturation of salivary gland organoids

Yeo-Jun Yoon<sup>1</sup>, Dojin Choi<sup>1</sup>, Joshua Kim<sup>2</sup>, and Jae-Yol Lim<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea <sup>2</sup>Rokit Healthcare, Seoul, Republic of Korea

### **Abstracts**

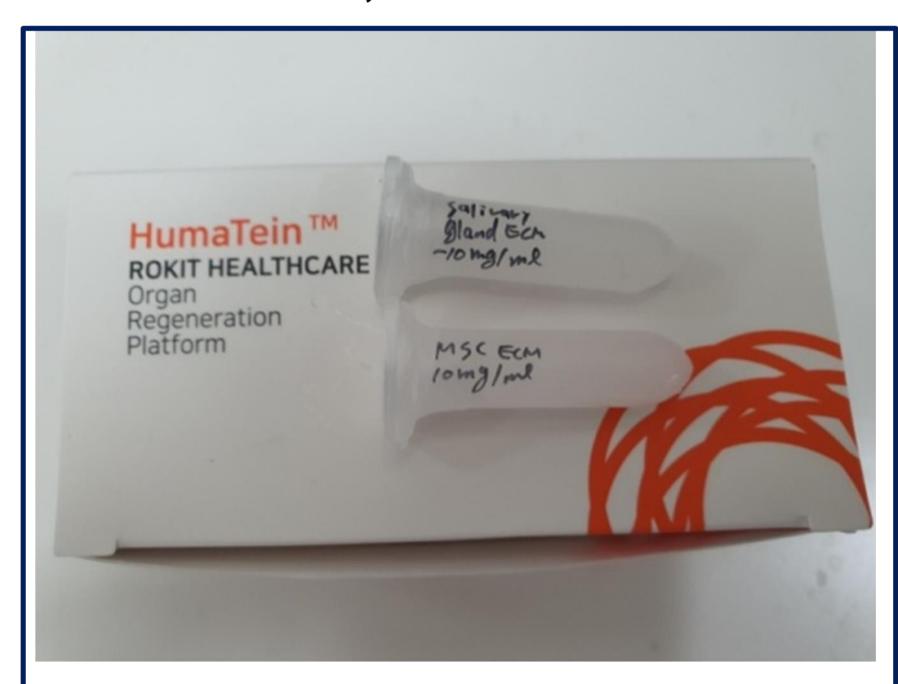
**Purpose:** The purpose of this study was to culture human salivary gland organoids using salivary gland stem cell(SGSC)-derived extracellular matrix (ECM) instead of the basement membrane-derived ECM (Matrigel) to obtain transplantable organoids from human resources.

Methods: Decelluarized ECM was prepared from primary human SGSCs of parotid glands. Human salivary cells (sublingual or parotid, hSLG or hPG) were then embedded into Matrigel, human adipose mesenchymal stem cell (MSC)- derived ECM, or human SGSCderived ECM. The number, size, and growth of organoids were measured and compared among three groups. The cell types in generated organoids were identified by immunofluorescent staining. The secretory salivary function was determined by measuring amylase activity. Results: Salivary gland organoids were generated in all the ECM cultures and growth rate of organoids was similar in three conditions. However, the expression location of ductal cell markers, K5 and K7 at the basal and luminal position, respectively was not identical. Although AQP5, a pro-acinar marker, was identified in three ECM cultures, myoepithelial marker was only present in the in SGSCderived ECM culture group with bi-layer surrounding acini. In, hPG derived organoid showed that the activity of Amy1 per unit cell was significantly higher in MSC-derived ECM than those of SGSC-derived ECM or Matrigel. Interestingly, hPG organoid cannot well-established in SGSC derived ECM.

**Conclusion:** Salivary gland organoid using SGSC-derived ECM successfully generated salivary gland organoids to recapitulate the specific characteristics of human salivary glands. We propose that salivary gland organoid culture in SGSC-derived ECM may offer opportunities to broaden insights on tissue-mimicking salivary gland organoids.

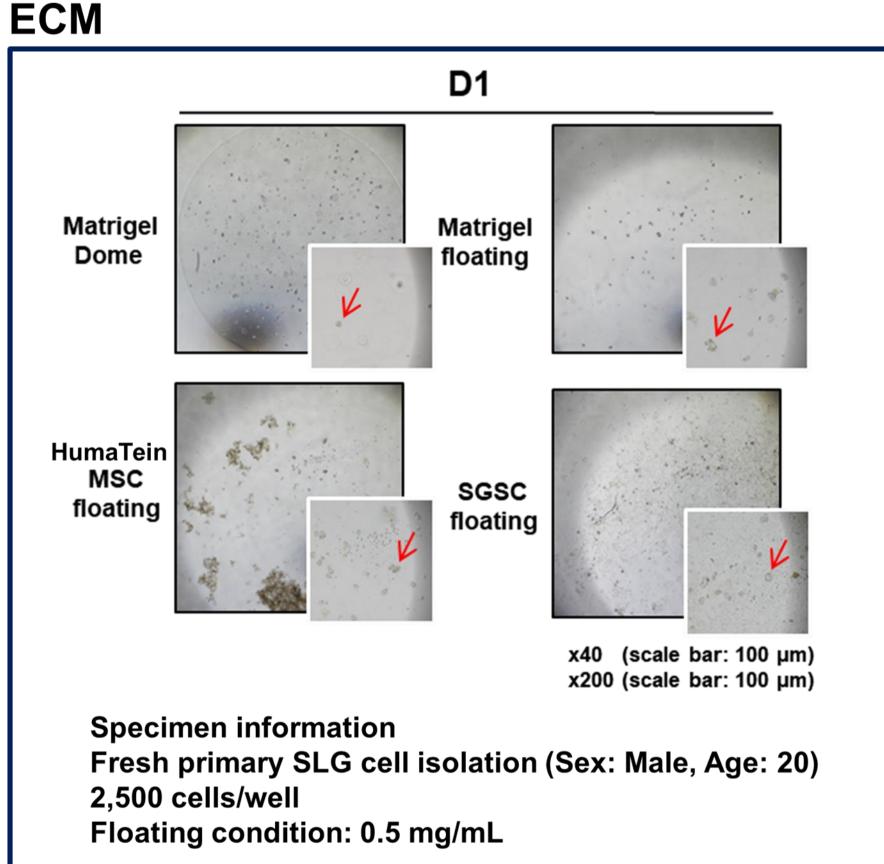
### Results

### **Extraction MSC-, SGSC- derived ECM**



Each ECM was prepared at a concentration of 10 mg/ml.

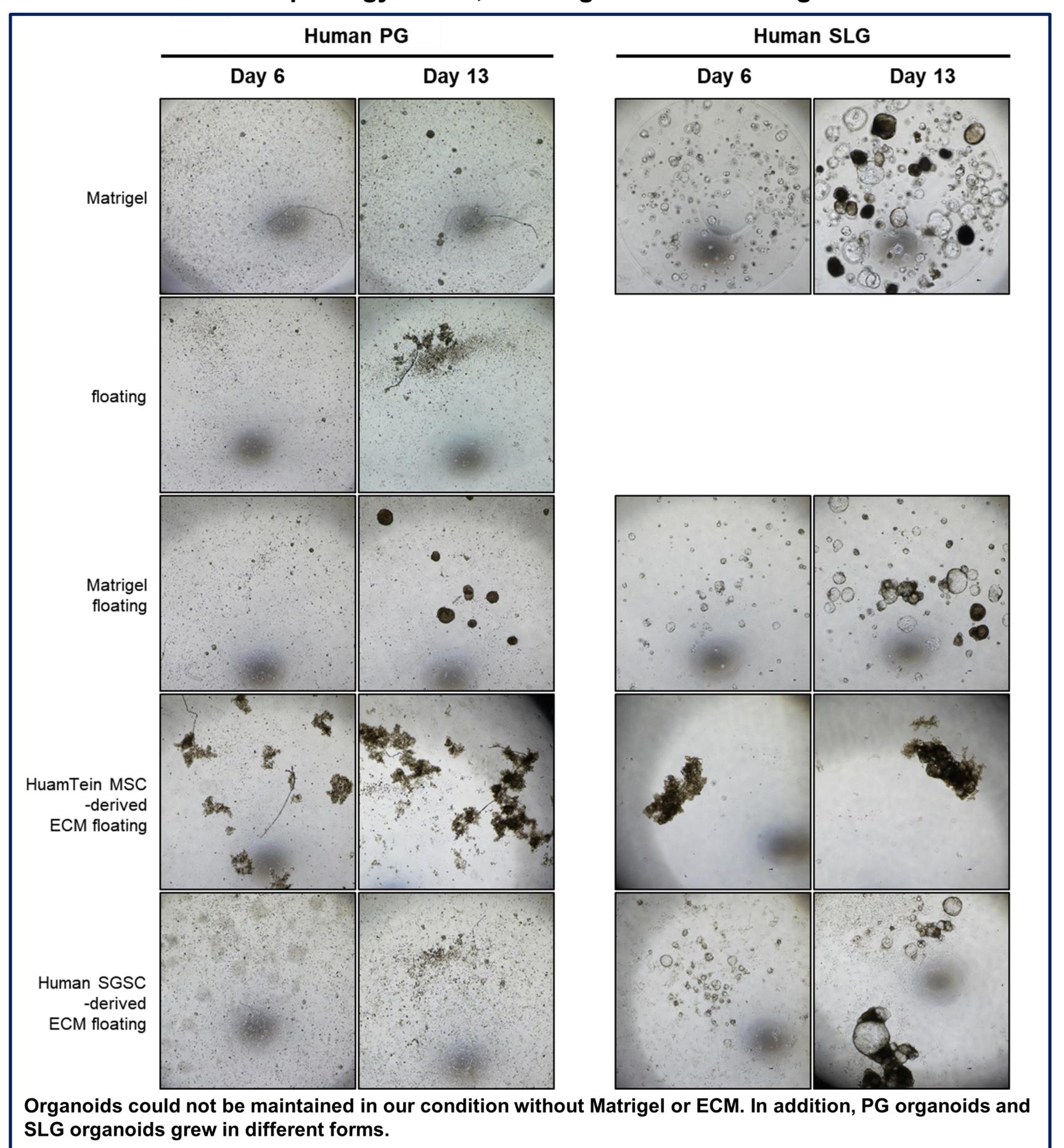
## Same number of human SLG cells seeded in ECM



MSC.

### Results

#### Growth morphology of PG, SLG organoids according to ECM



### Marker expression position in organoids varies according to ECM

