**Collagen Gel Cultures**

To cast tissues in collagen gels, proceed as follows:

1. Mix 9 parts collagen solution with 1 part 10×MEM (Gibco) and adjust the pH with 7.5% sodium carbonate solution (Gibco) until the gel is the same orange-red colour as tissue culture medium.
2. Plate out 100μl drops of collagen solution and suspend a couple of tissue fragments in each gel.
3. Place at 37°C to set for about 15 minutes. Feed with culture medium.

The collagen solution can be bought from many different places. We currently get ours from Advanced Biomatrix (www.advancedbiomatrix.com) - we use their PureCol purified bovine collagen (Cat# 5005-B; 3mg/ml).