

Supplementary figure 1 Comparison of NK-92/5.28.z cell growth in two variants of X-Vivo 10 media containing transferrin from two different sources Black dots represent proliferation rates in X-Vivo 10 medium containing recombinant transferrin at indicated time points. Black squares represent X-Vivo 10 containing human holo-transferrin.



Supplementary figure 2 Stability of transgene (CAR) expression and functionality of NK-92/5.28.z cells in a large-scale long-term maintenance culture (a) CAR expression analysis was performed up to week 50 with the cells derived from 3 representative vials thawed from master cell bank. Data are presented as a % of CAR+7AAD- cells (hatched bars) and as a MFI (box with whiskers: min to max; Mean  $\pm$  SEM). (b) PCR analysis of vector integration sites in cell clone NK-92/5.28.z (#78) at different time points of continuous expansion. The genomic DNA was isolated after 1 week (passage 2, P2), 7.5 weeks (passage 15, P15), 13.5 weeks (passage 26, P26) and 16.5 weeks (passage 31, P31). Genomic DNA of unmodified parental NK-92 cells and reactions without addition of genomic DNA (H2O) served as controls. (c) Specific cytotoxicity against ErbB2+ targets was tested with the cells derived from 3 representative vials thawed from master cell bank up to week 50 using EuTDA killing assay. Data shown as Mean  $\pm$  SEM. Grey bars shown in the figure a and c represent three-month period of maintenance culture.

Supplementary table 1 Impact of different serum substitutes in GMP-compliant, albumin containing culture media supplemented with 500 U/ml of IL-2 on NK-92/5.28.z cells proliferation

Culture medium	Human serum substitute	Doubling time [h]	Maximal fold expansion	Maximal concentration/ml in batch culture [x10 <sup>5</sup> ]
X-Vivo 10 w/o Phenol red and Gentamycin containing recombinant Transferrin (Lonza, #BE02-055Q)	5 % of heat inactivated human plasma	$28.84 \pm 0.5$	$24.97\pm0.65$	12.49 ± 0.32
	5 % of human platelet lysate 1	$35.6 \pm 1.38$	$21.37 \pm 1.01$	$10.7\pm0.52$
	5 % of human platelet lysate 2	$37.48 \pm 1.89$	$18.07\pm3.04$	$9.01 \pm 1.52$
	serum-free culture w/o acclimation	$83.11\pm3.08$	$5.3\pm0.18$	$2.65\pm0.09$
	serum-free culture post-acclimation	47.37 ± 2.75	20.4 ± 1.71	$10.2\pm0.85$
X-Vivo 10 w/o Phenol red and Gentamycin (Lonza, #BE04-743Q)	5 % of heat inactivated human plasma	$34.39\pm0.63$	$15 \pm 0.6$	7.5 ± 0.3
CellGro SCGM (CellGenix)	5 % of heat inactivated human plasma	$33.29\pm0.2$	$21.23 \pm 2.34$	$10.62 \pm 1.17$
	serum-free culture	$90.97 \pm 5.47$	$3.03\pm0.2$	$1.52\pm0.1$

Grey field indicates optimal formulation and respective growth parameters. Results shown as Mean  $\pm$  SEM

Target cell line	Soluble factor	Concentration [pg/ml]
MDA-MB-453	IL-8	$9.93 \pm 1.2$
MDA-MB-468	IL-6	$247\pm30.09$
	IL-8	$635\pm27.53$
	TNF	$6.64\pm2.72$
K562	GM-CSF	$286.61 \pm 76.55$
	IL-6	$235.26\pm64.34$
	IL-8	524.61 (n=1)
	TNF	$311.92\pm47.92$

Supplementary table 2 Cytokine profile of PMA (50 ng/ml)/Ionomycin (500 ng/ml) stimulated target cells

Results shown as Mean ± SEM