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Formation of Reactive Oxygen Species in Cellular Media.

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A potential complication of studies concerning the production of free radicals and other reactive oxygen species (ROS) by cells is the formation of ROS by media used for cell culture. One source of ROS formation are photoreactions in-volving riboflavin, present in all cellular media, augmented by some component of the media like tryptophan, tyrosine and HEPES. Another source of ROS are reactions of autoxidation of polyphenols, thiols and other compounds.