

Molecular control of cell fate decision in pluripotent and adult stem cells: from basic science toward therapy

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Convergent pathways in embryogenesis, oncogenesis and tissue regeneration



Mechanisms of cell lineage specification in mammals



TACs- Transit Amplifying Cells

Adapted S. Pece et al., BBA 2011



Role of local environmental cues in defining cell-type identity



Modified from Scadden D., Nature 2006

Signaling pathways involved in cell fate specification





Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

Munoz-Sanjuan and Brivanlou, 2002

Cripto redirects the neural fate of ESCs





Genetic or pharmacological inhibition of Cripto in mouse ESCs cells improves functional integration of ESCs and blocks tumor formation in Parkinsonian rats



wild-type ESCs



Parish, et al., Stem Cells, 2005 Lonardo, et al., Stem Cells, 2010

Cripto controls cell lineage specification in ESCs





Cripto regulates cell lineage commitment in pluripotent stem cells



Adapted S. Pece et al., BBA 2011

ADULT STEM CELLs??



Common pathways in embryonic and adult stem cells



Embryonic Stem Cells

Adult Stem Cells



Skeletal muscle regeneration



Myogenic satellite cells: physiology to molecular biology, T. J. Hawke, 2001

Sequential expression of myogenic transcription factors



The Skeletal Muscle Satellite Cell: The Stem Cell That Came inFrom the Cold. Peter S. Zammit et al., 2006



Cripto is expressed in myoblasts and inflammatory cells in skeletal muscle regeneration





Guardiola et al., PNAS 2012

Cripto is expressed in myogenic precursor cells in isolated myofibers









Cripto promotes satellite cell myogenic commitment antagonizing Myostatin



Guardiola et al., PNAS 2012







Satellite cell-specific cripto ablation affects muscle regeneration

A Tg:Pax7-CreERT2::Cripto^{LoxP/-}



В









Impacts of Genetic modulation of Cripto signaling in the satellite cell compartment on

skeletal muscle regeneration



Toward Pharmacological modulation of Cripto signaling for skeletal muscle regeneration



The Cell maker



The system executes

Protocols for targeted differentiation of ES cells Screening of compounds libraries Complete sterility

Advantage/benefits

High standard reliability, performance and flexibility

Low user intervention

Contamination risk reduction

Method standardization

Up to 4000 single compuonds simultaneously screened





Co developed with Hamilton Robotics

Cell-based Phenotypic Screening:

Small molecules

Metabolic Intermediates HDAC Inhibitors FDA-approved drugs Cell Proliferation (36hrs)

Cell Colony Phenotype (5days)

Targeted Differentiation

(10-13 days)

neurons cardiomyocytes

Casalino et al., JMCB, 2011

Casalino et al., Molecular Biotechnology, 2011

Franci et al., Biol. Open, 2013 Comes et al., Stem Cell Reports, 2013

L Proline –induced cells (PiCs): a novel metastable state of pluripotent stem cells



PiCs = Proline induced Cells



L-Pro induces remodeling of the ESC transcriptome



Comes et al., Stem Cell Reports 2013



L-Pro induces a motile phenotype in ESCs







From Day 3 to Day 4 (images were collected every 5 minutes/ 20x objective)

PiCs are invasive and metastatic pluripotent stem cells



1x10⁶ ESCs or PiCs injected into tail veins; mice were sacrificed 4 weeks after injection

L-Proline induces a fully reversible EMT –like transition in embryonic stem cells: embryonic stem to Mesenchymal Transition (esMT)





Vitamin C is a key cofactor of the reactions driven by histone demethylases of the JMJ family

Vitamin C improves cell riprogramming (*Shi et al., Cell Stem Cell 2009*) by modulating H3K9 and H3K36 methylation (*Chen J. et al Nature Genet., 2012*)

L-Proline is a genome-wide inducer of H3K9 and H3K36 methylation



L-Pro triggers an esMT reminiscent of the EMT that occurs at the invasive front of the tumor, and contributes to the acquisition of cell plasticity and invasiveness.

L-Pro-induced esMT is fully reversible (MesT) and is accompanied by a global remodeling of H3K9 and H3K36 methylation status



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EMBO WORKSHOP ON

Stem Cell Mechanobiology in Development and Disease October 18-21, 2015 Capri, Naples





Invited Speakers

Yohanns Bellaïche, France Françoise Brochard-Wyart, France Chen Christofer S., USA Giulio Cossu, UK George Q. Daley, USA Carl-Philipp Heisenberg, Austria Donald E. Ingber, USA Benoît Ladoux, France David A. Lee, UK Ohad Medalla, Switzerland Christine Mummery, The Netherlands

Paolo Netti, Italy Graziella Pellegrini, Italy Stefano Piccolo, Italy Mattieu Piel, France Giorgio Scita, Italy Dror Sellktar, Israel GV Shivashankar, Italy Craig A. Simons, Canada Molly Stevens, UK Viola Vogel, Switzerland Fiona Watt, UK

The Scientific Organizers

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