M1D3: Use immunofluorescence staining to assess repair foci experiment

- 1. Prelab
- 2. Antibody staining for γ H2AX assay
- 3. Image coverslips



Mod1 Overview

Last lab:

This lab:







- **1**. Use repair foci experiment to measure DNA breaks
- Examine effect of H₂O₂ +/- As on double strand DNA breaks by measuring γH2AX foci formation

2. Use high-throughput genome damage assay to measure DNA damage

 Measure effects of H₂O₂ +/- As on DNA damage by measuring DNA migration in agarose matrix

Using immunofluorescence: γH2AX assay to detect double-strand DNA breaks



protein of interest	🔺 γH2AX
primary antibody	k mouse anti-human anti-γH2AX
secondary antibody	👗 goat anti-mouse
Fluorophore (conjugated to secondary antibody) exc./ em. wavelengths	488/525 nm

Histone H2AX phosphorylated at Ser139 if DSB

Antibodies against γH2AX (phosphorylated form)

Considerations for using antibodies in the lab

- Antibodies bind to specific epitopes on antigens
 - Antigens may have multiple epitopes

Primary antibodies vs secondary antibodies

- Primary antibody recognizes the antigen
 - Specific protein sequence
 - Specific conformation of protein
 - Specific state of protein (i.e. phosphorylation)
- Secondary Ab recognizes the species of the primary Ab
 - Often conjugated to tag for visualization
 - Enzyme or fluorophore
 - Amplifies signal through multiple bindings
 - Consider sample species when choosing antibodies!





Polyclonal vs. monoclonal antibodies

Polyclonal

- How it's made: animal (often rabbit) immunized with antigen of interest then antibodies collected from blood sera and affinity purified
- Advantages:
 - Less expensive and faster to produce than monoclonal
 - Multiple antibodies in one polyclonal mixture can increase antigen recognition by binding multiple epitopes
 - Especially useful for proteins with low expression
- Disadvantages:
 - Variability from lot to lot



Monoclonal

- How it's made: animal (usually mouse) immunized with antigen of interest then B cells from spleen are harvested and fused with myeloma cells to create hybridoma cell line that will continually produce single antibody clone
- Advantages:
 - Very consistent
 - Binds single epitope (can also be disadvantage)
- Disadvantages:
 - More expensive and requires animal sacrifice



Using immunofluorescence (IF): steps in protocol

Formaldehyde Fix cells



Finish IF by adding DAPI, then mount slides for imaging





Blue= DAPI Green= γH2AX

Mount coverslip on glass slide with mounting media

In lab today:

- 1. Complete IF staining for H2AX
- 2. View H2AX images on 7th floor microscope

HW due M1D4

(group)

• Create an experimental schematic for the H2AX staining process

(individual)

- 1. Write outline for Research Talk
- 2. Read paper for discussion (linked on M1D4)
- 3. Visit Comm Lab before M1D5

Notes on experimental schematics...

How does Becky knit a scarf?



time to cast off

What should be in the Title and Caption?

Title: State what is shown / represented in the schematic

Caption:

- Explain the flow of information using concise / clear language
- Expand on text shown in figure labels to eliminate excess wordiness / clutter from the figure
- Define all abbreviations / jargon / labels / symbols

Revised example:



Figure 1: Becky's knitting process. Becky follows a specific protocol to knit a scarf. She choses her yarn and checks the pattern before following the written pattern and blocking to complete the project. K2= knit two, P2= purl 2, YO= yarn over, K2tog= knit two together

Mini-presentation due Saturday, Oct 1

- Prepare a video of you verbally discussing your research
 - Use any device or Zoom
 - No visuals / slides
 - Do not edit / splice the video
- Submit to Gmail account!
 - bioeng20.109@gmail.com
 - Remember to follow file name guidelines

Presentation should be 3 min (+/- 15 sec)

- Introduce yourself
- Provide important background information
- Describe key results
 - Briefly describe critical methods used to generate important data
 - Use quantitative descriptions when discussing results
- Highlight the take-home message



What data / results should be included?

• Protein purification

• Protein purity and concentration

• Aggregation assay results

Review assignment description on wiki

Category	Elements of a strong presentation	Weight
Introduction	 Introduce yourself and the research Summarize the background information necessary to understand the research State the research question 	25%
Methods & Data	 Provide ONLY the method information necessary to understand the results Give complete and concise explanations of the results Relate the results to the central question 	25%
Summary & Conclusions	 Highlight the key finding(s) relevant to the central question / hypothesis 	25%
Organization	 Give a logical, easy-to-follow narrative Include transition statements 	15%
Delivery	 Show confidence / enthusiasm and speak clearly Use appropriate language (technical or informal, as appropriate) Be mindful of the time limit (3 minutes +/- 15 seconds!) 	10%

The Research talk will be graded by Dr. Noreen Lyell with input from Dr. Becky Meyer and Jamie Zhan.