

NYT Video: Designing cell-like viruses in the laboratory

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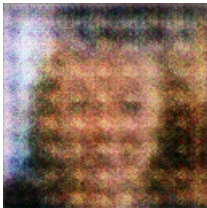
In order to get the information needed to edit certain genes we usually need to do so within a virus. However, viruses themselves are not very good at doing that. For example, to enable an alteration of the structure of a gene it must originate from a virus that contains a specific class of enzymes called RNA nucleotides (RNAs).

So researchers used a gizmo to convert portions of viruses into RNA nucleotides, which were then added into the human genome. As a consequence, the modified viruses could be used to experimentally use sequences from genes of interest. The Oct 4 video shows how this is done!

The video shows how to turn RNA into DNA and the Oct 5 one shows how to convert RNA into RNA-II molecules. (It is important to point out that not all RNAs come in one type, only the types being used in this experiment)

Yoga's Tao of RNA: the secret behind making short RNA!

~ Trent Trautman



A Brown And White Horse Standing In A Field