

Sep 02, 2021

3.3 Lentivirus Production and Transduction

✓ Book Chapter

📁 In 1 collection

Evelyn J. Sauter¹, Lisa K. Kutsche¹, Simon D. Klapper¹, Volker Busskamp¹¹Center for Regenerative Therapies, Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany

1 Works for me

Share

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bqhdmt26

Springer Nature Books

satyavati Kharde

ABSTRACT

This is part 3.3 of the "[Induced Neurons for the Study of Neurodegenerative and Neurodevelopmental Disorders](#)" collection of protocols.

Collection Abstract: Patient-derived or genomically modified human induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) offer the opportunity to study neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative disorders. Overexpression of certain neurogenic transcription factors (TFs) in iPSCs can induce efficient differentiation into homogeneous populations of the disease-relevant neuronal cell types. Here we provide protocols for genomic manipulations of iPSCs by CRISPR/Cas9. We also introduce two methods, based on lentiviral delivery and the piggyBac transposon system, to stably integrate neurogenic TFs into human iPSCs. Furthermore, we describe the TF-mediated neuronal differentiation and maturation in combination with astrocyte cocultures.

ATTACHMENTS

[Sauter2019_Protocol_InducedNeuronsForTheStudyOfNeu.pdf](#)

DOI

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bqhdmt26

EXTERNAL LINK

https://link.springer.com/protocol/10.1007/978-1-4939-9080-1_9

PROTOCOL CITATION

Evelyn J. Sauter, Lisa K. Kutsche, Simon D. Klapper, Volker Busskamp 2021. 3.3 Lentivirus Production and Transduction. **protocols.io**
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bqhdmt26>

MANUSCRIPT CITATION please remember to cite the following publication along with this protocol

Sauter E.J., Kutsche L.K., Klapper S.D., Busskamp V. (2019) Induced Neurons for the Study of Neurodegenerative and Neurodevelopmental Disorders. In: Ben-Yosef D., Mayshar Y. (eds) Fragile-X Syndrome. Methods in Molecular Biology, vol 1942. Humana Press, New York, NY.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4939-9080-1_9


COLLECTIONS ⓘ

**Induced Neurons for the Study of Neurodegenerative and Neurodevelopmental Disorders**

KEYWORDS

Human induced pluripotent stem cells, Nucleofection, PiggyBac transposon, Lentiviral transduction, CRISPR/Cas9, Transcription factor-mediated neuronal differentiation, Astrocyte coculture

LICENSE

 This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited

CREATED

Dec 07, 2020

LAST MODIFIED

Sep 02, 2021

OWNERSHIP HISTORY

Dec 07, 2020  Lenny Teytelman protocols.io

Jul 05, 2021  Emma Ganley protocols.io

Aug 24, 2021  Satyavati Kharde

Aug 26, 2021  satyavati Kharde

PROTOCOL INTEGER ID

45317

PARENT PROTOCOLS

Part of collection

[Induced Neurons for the Study of Neurodegenerative and Neurodevelopmental Disorders](#)

2. Materials

2.3 Lentivirus Production and Transduction

1. A highly transfectable cell line, such as 293T/17 cells (a gift from Didier Trono; ATCC® #CRL-11268).
2. DMEM with **[M]10 % FBS** : DMEM medium, **[M]10 % FBS** , **[M]1 % penicillin–streptomycin** . Store at **4 °C** .
3. DMEM w/o FBS: DMEM medium, **[M]1 % penicillin–streptomycin** . Store at **4 °C** .
4. **[M]1 mg/mL PEI solution** **pH7.1**): adjust the pH with **[M]0.1 N NaOH** , sterile-filter (0.22 µm), aliquot, and store at **-20 °C** . After thawing, working aliquots can be stored at **4 °C** .
5. Lentiviral vector containing the gene of interest under a doxycycline-inducible promoter (e.g., pLV_TRET_Ngn2-2A-Ngn1 (Addgene plasmid #61471) [4] and pLV_hEF1a_rTA3 (Addgene plasmid #61472) [4] or pLIX403 (Addgene plasmid #41395)) (see **Note 3** and Fig. 3a, b). Store at **-20 °C** .
6. Viral packaging plasmid psPAX2 (a gift from Didier Trono, Addgene plasmid #12260). Store at **-20 °C** .
7. Viral envelope plasmid pMD2G (a gift from Didier Trono, Addgene plasmid #12259). Store at **-20 °C** .
8. **[M]50 % PEG 6000 solution** . Store at **4 °C** .
9. **[M]4 Molarity (M) NaCl solution** . Store at **4 °C** .
10. PBS **pH7.2** without calcium and magnesium. Store at **Room temperature** .
11. Lenti-X™ GoStix™ (Clontech).
12. Antibiotic: If you would like to select the cells for the integrated lentiviral construct, use the appropriate antibiotic (such as blasticidin or puromycin). Store aliquots at **-20 °C** , after thawing store at **4 °C** , protected from light.
13. DNA extraction kit (e.g., DNeasy® Blood and Tissue Kit (Qiagen)).
14. Albumin plasmid pAlbumin (a gift from Didier Trono, Addgene plasmid #22037). Store at **-20 °C** .
15. TaqMan® PCR master mix, such as TaqMan® Universal PCR Master Mix (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Store at **4 °C** .
16. TaqMan® primer and probes for WPRE and albumin detection (see Table 1). Dilute in ddH₂O to a concentration of **[M]10 Micromolar (µM)** and store at **-20 °C** .
17. Real time PCR system, such as StepOnePlus™ Real-Time PCR System (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

A	B	C
Primer	Sequence	Fluorophore
WPRE_forward	GGCACTGACAATTCGGTGGT	
WPRE_reverse	AGGGACGTAGCAGAAGGACG	
WPRE_probe	ACGTCCTTCCATGGCTGCTCGC	FAM-BHQ
Alb_forward	GCTGTCATCTCTGTGGGCTGT	
Alb_reverse	ACTCATGGGAGCTGCTGGTTC	
Alb_probe	CCTGTCATGCCACACAAATCTCTCC	FAM-BHQ

Table 1
TaqMan® primer and probes [8]

SAFETY WARNINGS

For hazard information and safety warnings, please refer to the SDS (Safety Data Sheet).


BEFORE STARTING


NB Introduction, Notes, and References are in the [Collection Guidelines tab](#)





3.3 Lentivirus Production and Transduction 6d 1h 27m 35s

- 1 For the production and transduction of lentiviruses, titration and copy number determination, we follow the protocol

from the Trono lab [8].

2 

One day prior to transfection, seed 8,000,000 293T/17 cells in a 10 cm culture dish. The next day, replace the culture medium with  **4 mL fresh DMEM with 10% FBS** . The cells are transfected using

 **45 µg polyethylenimine (PEI)** combined with  **15 µg DNA containing the plasmid of interest** (see Fig. 3a, b), the viral packaging (psPAX2) plasmid, and the viral envelope (pMD2G) plasmid in a 4:2:1 ratio. In detail, mix  **45 µl 1 mg/ml PEI solution** with  **955 µl DMEM medium w/o FBS** in a 1.5 ml tube.

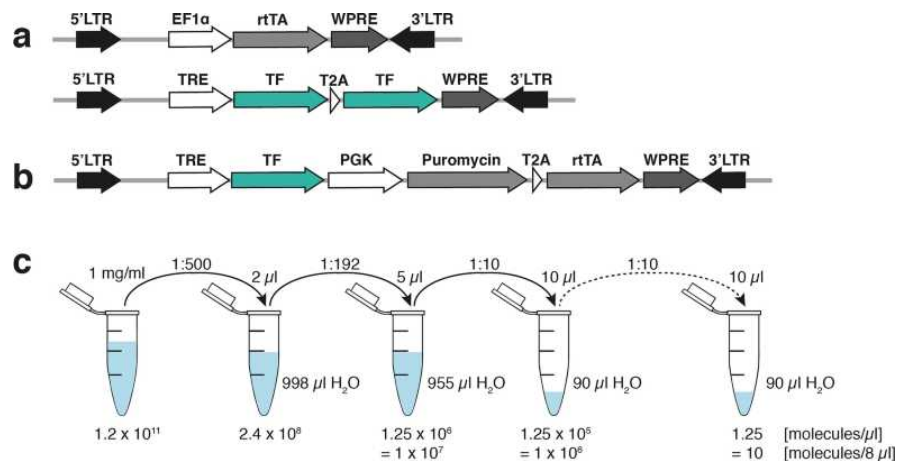





Fig. 3
Transduction of iPSCs with lentiviral vectors. (a) and (b) Schematic representation of the lentiviral constructs.
(a) The pLV system consists of two constructs: pLV_hEF1a_rTA3 (top) expresses the rTA transactivator under the control of the constitutively active EF1α promoter and pLV_TRET_Ngn2-2A-Ngn1 (bottom) expresses the transgenes under the control of the doxycycline-inducible TRE promoter [4]. The pLV plasmids depicted to here do not contain any selection markers. If selection is required, antibiotic resistance genes should be cloned into the plasmids.
(b) The pLIX403 system is an "all-in-one" doxycycline-inducible system. It expresses a puromycin resistance gene together with the rTA transactivator under the control of the constitutively active PGK promoter and the transgene under the control of the doxycycline-inducible TRE promoter. 5' and 3' LTR—long terminal repeats, WPRE—woodchuck hepatitis virus posttranscriptional regulatory element.
(c) Schematic representation of the serial dilution of the pAlbumin plasmid for titration and copy number determination (modified from [8])


3 

In a separate tube, mix  **2.1 µg pMD2G** ,  **4.2 µg psPAX2** , and  **8.4 µg vector of interest** with  **1 mL DMEM w/o FBS** .

4 

45m

Combine PEI and DNA, mix, and incubate at  **Room temperature** for  **00:15:00** –  **00:30:00** . Subsequently, add the transfection mix dropwise to the 293T/17 cells and place the culture dish into the incubator (see **Note 18**).


5 The next day, replace the medium with  **7 mL DMEM with 10% FBS** .



2d

6 ↓ ↓

After ⌚ **24:00:00** , collect the supernatant, with the help of a syringe pass it through a 0.45 µm PES filter into a 50 ml Falcon tube and store at 🌡 **4 °C** . Add 📏 **7 mL fresh DMEM with 10% FBS** and after another ⌚ **24:00:00** collect the supernatant, filter and pool with the first collection.

7 

30m

Mix 📏 **14 mL cell culture supernatant (48 h and 72 h harvests)** with
 📏 **6.6 mL diluted polyethyleneglycol (PEG) solution** containing 📏 **3.5 mL 50% PEG 6000 solution** ,
 📏 **1.5 mL 4 M NaCl solution** , and 📏 **1.6 mL 1× PBS w/o Ca2+ and Mg2+** , and keep at 🌡 **4 °C**
 ⌚ **Overnight** or over the weekend.

8 

Centrifuge the tubes at 🌀 **7000 x g, 4°C, 00:10:00** (see **Note 19**). After the centrifugation, a white pellet should be visible.

9 

50s

Carefully decant the supernatant and resuspend the pellet in 📏 **150 µl 1× PBS w/o Ca2+ and Mg2+** by pipetting up and down. Vigorously vortex the tubes for ⌚ **00:00:20** – ⌚ **00:00:30** to further resuspend the pellets. Lenti-X™GoStix™ can be used to confirm the successful generation of viral particles.

10 Transfer the virus suspension into 1.5 ml screw-cap tubes in aliquots of 50 µl, snap-freeze in crushed dry ice and store at 🌡 **-80 °C** .

11 

In order to transfect iPSCs with the viral particles, the cells should be approximately 40 ± 10% confluent. Wash the cells once with 📏 **1 x PBS w/o Ca2+ and Mg2+** and add mTeSR™1 medium to the well.

12 

Add mTeSR™1 to the tube containing the virus suspension, mix gently and transfer dropwise to one or more wells (see **Note 20**).

13 

30s

Incubate the culture dish ⌚ **Overnight** and change the medium on the next day (see **Note 21**). Starting 48 h after transduction, select for cells with an integrated construct with the appropriate antibiotic (see **Note 14**).

14 For titration and copy number determination, we perform a qPCR on genomic DNA to count the number of integrated^{4d} viral particles (WPRE) relative to the genome (albumin gene). Wait at least ⌚ **96:00:00** before isolating genomic DNA using a genomicDNAextraction kit, such as the DNeasy® Blood and Tissue Kit (Qiagen), according to the

manufacturer's instructions. The DNA should be placed **On ice** if used immediately or stored at **-20 °C**.

- 15 Adjust the concentration of the pAlbumin plasmid used for normalization to **1 mg/mL**, which corresponds to 1.2×10^{11} molecules/ μ l (*see* **Note 22**). Prepare a standard curve, with the first point being 1×10^7 molecules in 8 μ l (which corresponds to 1.25×10^6 molecules/ μ l). Prepare the other points of the standard curve by serial tenfold dilutions until there are ten molecules in 8 μ l (*see* Fig. 3c).

- 16 

Prepare two master mixes of **8.5 μ l TaqMan® Universal PCR Master Mix**,

0.17 μ l forward primer (10 μ M), **0.17 μ l reverse primer (10 μ M)**, and **0.17 μ l probe (10 μ M)** per sample including all samples and standards in duplicates (one master mix with albumin primers and probe for genomic DNA detection and one with WPRE primers and probe for lentivirus detection).

- 17 Aliquot **9 μ l master mix** per well of a 96-well plate and add **8 μ l sample DNA** (concentration between **50 ng** and **100 ng DNA** in **8 μ l**).

- 18 

Seal the plate, carefully mix by vortexing and briefly spin down.

- 19 

11m 15s

Run the qPCR with the settings for FAM fluorochromes and BHQ quenchers with the following program: 1 cycle of **00:10:00** at **95 °C** followed by 50 cycles of **00:00:15** at **95 °C** and **00:01:00** at **60 °C** (*see* **Note 17**).

- 20 

Plot the standard curve using the software of your qPCR machine or manually using other software such as Microsoft Excel, and calculate the quantity of albumin and WPRE for each sample using the equation of the standard curve.

- 21 Calculate the copy number for each sample as follows: Copy number = (quantity mean of WPRE sequence/quantity mean of Alb sequence) \times 2.

- 22 Calculate the viral titer with the following formula: Titer (viral genome/ml) = (number of target cells counted at day 1 \times number of copies per cell of the sample)/volume of supernatant (ml).