Time: 2024.12.21-2024.12.28

1. Experiment: Single-Cell Sorting and Planting

**2. Time:** 2024.12.21-2024.12.28

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## 4. Principle:

Fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) uses target cells' specific fluorescent signals to isolate individual cells into 96-well plates, ensuring clonal growth from a single cell. Second, in vitro culture mimics physiological conditions to sustain cell viability and proliferation, while inverted microscopy tracks clonal expansion. For sequencing, gentle centrifugation preserves cell integrity during collection; cell lysis releases nucleic acids, enabling high-quality sequencing of clonally pure single-cell samples.

5. Material: NK cell media (Gibco, supplemented with 5% FBS and 500 IU/mL IL-2), IL-2 (Gibco), 5% hAB serum (Gibco), Trypan Blue

## 6. Method:

- (1) Single-Cell Sorting and Planting:
  - ① FACS was performed under the following conditions: Nozzle size: 100 μm. Sort mode: Single-cell deposition (1 drop/well). Gating strategy: Virus-infected cells were gated based on fluorescence intensity.
  - ② Single cells were sorted directly into 96-well plates pre-filled with 150 μL conditioned medium (complete medium + 10% FBS + 1% penicillin-streptomycin).
  - 3 Negative control wells (medium only, no cells) were included in each plate.
- (2) Culture and Monitoring:
  - All 20 plates were transferred to cell incubator (37 °C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>) and cultured for 7 days.
  - ② Half-medium change was conducted on Day 3:75  $\mu$ L of spent medium was aspirated and replaced with 75  $\mu$ L fresh pre-warmed medium.
  - (3) Clonal growth was monitored daily using an inverted microscope.
- (3) Cell Collection and sequencing:
  - 1 The 96-well plate is gently tapped to resuspend cells and avoid aggregation.
  - 2 The suspension from each well is transferred into pre-labelled centrifuge tubes.
  - 3 The cells were centrifugated at 300  $\times$  g for 5 minutes at 4  $^{\circ}$ C and the supernatant is carefully aspirated without disturbing the pellet.
  - ④ Optionally, the cell pellet is then resuspended in ice-cold PBS, followed by repeated centrifugation to remove residual culture medium.
  - (5) Finally, the processed cells are directly subjected to lysis and sequencing services were outsourced to Shanghai Biomarker Technologies Co., Ltd.

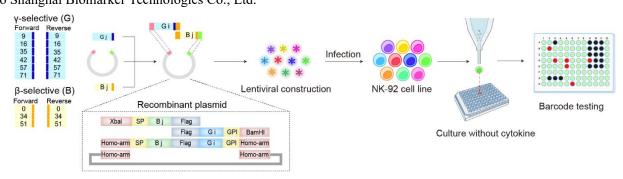


Fig 1. Single-Cell Sorting and Planting

Screening for gene combinations that significantly promote NK cell proliferation by infecting NK-92 cells with lentivirus. IL-2 $\beta$  and IL-2 $\gamma$  gene fragments were designed and recombined into various

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combinations via homologous recombination to construct a plasmid library. The plasmid library was packaged into lentivirus and used to infect NK-92 cells. After culturing for 7 days under cytokine-free conditions, barcode testing was performed to identify significantly proliferating NK cells, and the best-matching gene combination was selected.