## ALTERATIONS OF TRANSCRIPTIONAL REGULATION IN CANCER



**Oncogenesis** is based on growth tumors and one molecular mechanism is the transcription activation

Aberrant transcription activation depends on:

- super-enhancers formation
- transcription factors and cofactors dyregulation
- Long range interactions dynamic

#### Molecular mechanisms that may be used for drug discovery



#### Increased the turnover of TFs

#### Cooperative Cofactors function about TFs

The drug-tolerant tumor cells can, in turn, be ablated with histone deacetylase inhibitors, establishing a paradigm of **Combination therapy** using inhibitors of chromatin regulators against drug resistance



#### **DOT1L** histone methyltransferase



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Somatic Mutations and aberrant DNA methylation drive oncogenesis

Genome editing may represent a promise technology to reverse disease mechanisms



Somatic Mutations and aberrant DNA methylation drive oncogenesis

## Activation of degradation pathway of TFs



#### Dysregulated transcriptional programs may be target for drug discovery:

- Increased turnover of oncogenes
- Interfering with cooperation between TFs and cofactors
- Targeting chromatin remodeling enzymes
- Genome editing of specific regulatory regions
- Activation of proteasome degradation machinery

#### SINGLE NUCLEOTIDE VARIATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PROTEIN IMPORTANT IN CHROMATIN ORGANIZATION, LAMININ, INDUCES LAMINOPATHIES



# Lamina-Associated Domains: Links with Chromosome Architecture, Heterochromatin, and Gene Repression

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In metazoan cell nuclei, hundreds of large chromatin domains are in close contact with the nuclear lamina. Such lamina-associated domains (LADs) are thought to help organize chromosomes inside the nucleus and have been associated with gene repression. Here, we discuss the properties of LADs, the molecular mechanisms that determine their association with the nuclear lamina, their dynamic links with other nuclear compartments, and their proposed roles in gene regulation.

#### NUCLEAL LAMINA- ASSOCIATED HETEROCHROMATIN



Electron microscopy

Confocal microscopy **Transcription factories** are discrete subnuclear foci composed of **active**, **phosphorylated RNAPII** and other transcriptional accessory and regulatory factors (RED)



## SPLINCING FACTOR SPECKLE

#### Dynamic juxtapositioning of transcription units at transcription factories

#### **Transcription factory**



Active genes recruit to transcription factory

Active genes associates to transcription factory: RNA pol II complex formation Transcription activation with RNA nascent (red). Induction of genes in proximity activation

#### DYNAMIC TRANSCRIPTIONAL ACTIVATION

Some LADs (semi-transparent green) contact the NL erratically (i.e., in a subset of cells) and may **become transcriptionally active** when associated with a permissive compartment (semi-transparent blue).



#### How the chromatin is organized near the lamina-associated domain

Some LADs are apparently **stochastically** distributed between the NL, nucleoli, and pericentromeric heterochromatin (ph), which are all repressive environments.



The Nuclear Lamins Structural Properties and Functions

Major structural proteins of the lamina Located throughout the nucleoplasm Determinants of nuclear size and shape Nuclear envelope assembly/ disassembly Mitotic spindle assembly DNA synthesis (chain elongation phase) DNA damage repair Transcription (RNA Pol II) Cell proliferation and senescence Structural support for nuclear memb. Support and positioning of nuclear pores Chromatin anchorage and organization



#### OVERVIEW OF CHROMATIN ARCHITECTURE: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TAD AND LAD



COMPLEXITY

#### DamID : DNA adenine methyltransferase identification

#### **Graphical Abstract**



A modified DamID method enables the mapping of genome-wide nuclear lamina interactions in single human cells, providing insight into the cell-to-cell variation in the interphase chromosome architecture and suggesting extensive intra-chromosomal coordination of nuclear lamina contacts.

Kind et al., 2015, Cell 163, 134-147

## DamID (DNA adenine methyltransferase identification)

DamID identifies binding sites by expressing the proposed DNA-binding protein as a <u>fusion</u> <u>protein</u> with <u>DNA methyltransferase</u>. Binding of the protein of interest to DNA localizes the methyltransferase in the region of the binding site



Antibodies against laminB1 red

GFP-tagged m6A -tracer protein that binds to adenine-methylated DNA (green)



#### DamID : DNA adenine methyltransferase identification



#### DamID : DNA adenine methyltransferase identification







**DamID** is a molecular biology protocol used to map the binding sites of DNAchromatinand binding proteins in eukaryotes. DamID identifies binding sites by expressing the proposed DNA-binding protein as fusion protein with DNA а methyltransferase. Binding of the protein of interest to DNA localizes the methyltransferase in the region of the binding site.

4 6 8 10 log<sub>2</sub>(Hi-C score) TADs Compartment score 0 NL contact frequency 0.8 0 80 Mb 40 50 60 70 Position on chromosome 2

Model derived from comparation of signals between Hi-C and DamID assays

#### CHROMATIN ORGANIZATION IN THE NUCLEUS USING CHROMATIN LOOPING TECHNIQUES



## Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome (HGPS) PROGERIA

is caused by a **point mutation in the LMNA gene** that activates a cryptic donor splice site and yields a truncated form of prelamin A called progerin

#### LAMINA ALTERATIONS INDUCE DISEASE

**Progeria**, or Hutchinson–Gilford progeria syndrome (HGPS), is a rare, fatal genetic disease characterized by an **appearance of accelerated aging in children**.

This syndrome is typically caused by mutations in codon 1824, cryptic splincing site (p.G608G, no change aminoacid) of the LMNA, leading to the production of a mutated form of lamin A precursor called progerin.

Progerin accumulates in cells causing progressive molecular defects, including nuclear shape abnormalities, chromatin disorganization, damage to DNA and delays in cell proliferation.

#### LAMINA ALTERATIONS INDUCE DISEASE

**Progeria**, or Hutchinson–Gilford progeria syndrome (HGPS)

Aminoacid 608 (p.G608G) of the LMNA: mutated form of lamin A precursor called **progerin**.





#### Loss of splicing site induce a deletion of aminoacid sequence that is recognized by ZMPSTE24 enzyme









#### **PROGERIA EFFECTS ON THE BIOLOGICAL FUNCTIONS**



- Genome Instability
- Accelerated Aging Cardiovascular Disease

#### Loss of protein complexes organization in HGPS

А Normal ONM Lamin B Nuclear Pore Receptor Emerin INM Complex 5155 515 155 CNN DN Lamin B CPI A RBBPA Lamin A/C BAF Lap2a HP1 WRN PRC2 Emerin HDAC3 Lap2 SUV39H1 HDAC1 BAF Nuclear Actin SUN / BAF HDAC3 Nesprin Pol Lap2a Lamin A/C В HGPS Nuclear Lamin B Blebbing Nuclear Receptor ONM Pore Complex Lamin B INM **Changes in INM** Loss of Peripheral Lap2q **Protein Composition** Heterochromatin Progerin Lap2 Loss of Nucleoplasmic **Elevated DNA damage** Lamin A/C and Lap2a

## In summary

In HGPS:

- the mutation leads to alternative splicing in exon 11 and to the loss of 50 amino acids in prelamin A
- ZMPSTE24 enzyme not cleave the farnesylated C-terminus of this protein.
- This mutant protein, called progerin, remains permanently farnesylated
- Alteration of lamin A processing induce nuclear shape and protein complexes dysorganization.