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mRNA Expressing Cytosine and Adenine Base Editors Mediate Efficient Base Corrections *In Vitro* and *In Vivo*

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Collaborators

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- An alternative to traditional genome editing tools
 - Traditional tools:
 - CRISPR/Cas9, zinc-fingers and TALENs
 - These modalities create double stranded breaks to stimulate homologous recombination
 - Require a DNA donor for gene correction

Base editor deaminases convert one base to another

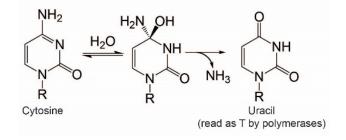
- No double stranded cuts
- No donor DNA required
- Reduced indel formation



Two Flavors of Base Editors

Cytidine base editors (CBEs)

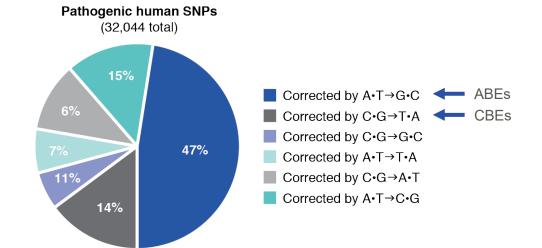
Convert C:G base pairs to T:A base pair



Adenine base editors (ABEs) Convert A:T base pairs to G:C $\overset{NH_2}{\leftarrow} \overset{H_2O}{\leftarrow} \overset{HO}{\leftarrow} \overset{NH_2}{\leftarrow} \overset{HO}{\leftarrow} \overset{NH_2}{\leftarrow} \overset{HO}{\leftarrow} \overset{NH_2}{\leftarrow} \overset{HO}{\leftarrow} \overset{HO}$







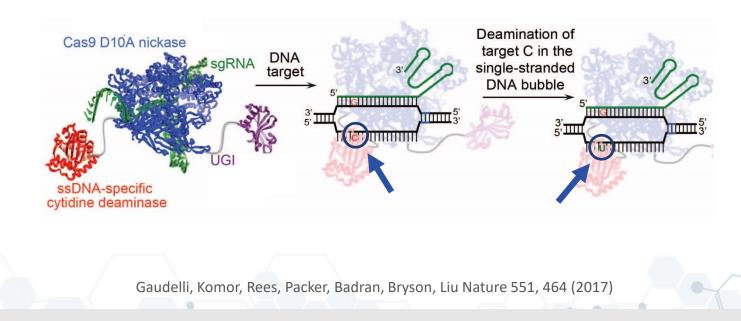
61% of pathogenic SNPs are accessible to base editing

Gaudelli, Komor, Rees, Packer, Badran, Bryson, Liu Nature 551, 464 (2017)

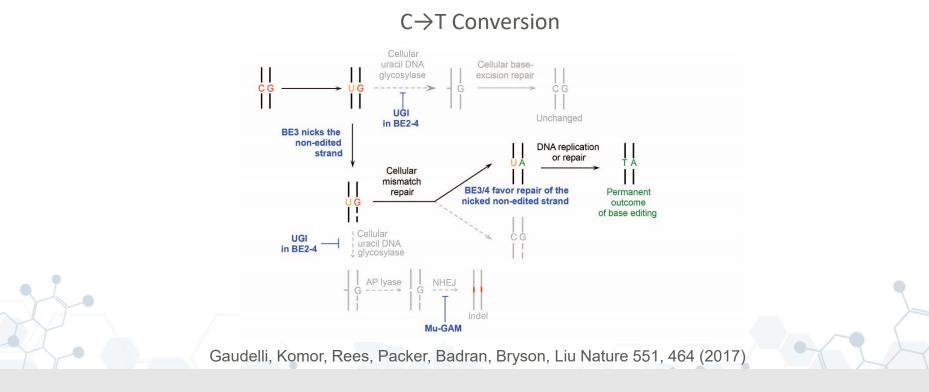
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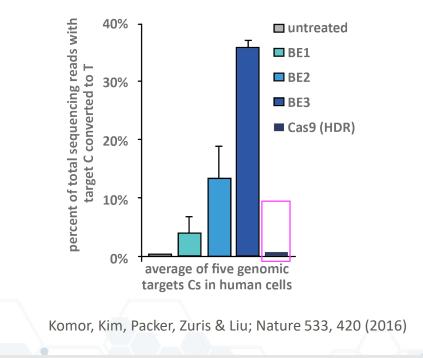
$C \rightarrow T$ Conversion



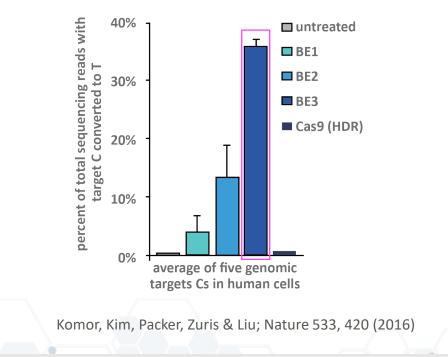




Plasmids Expressing Cytosine Base Editors are More Efficient Than Cas9 + HDR in Human Cells

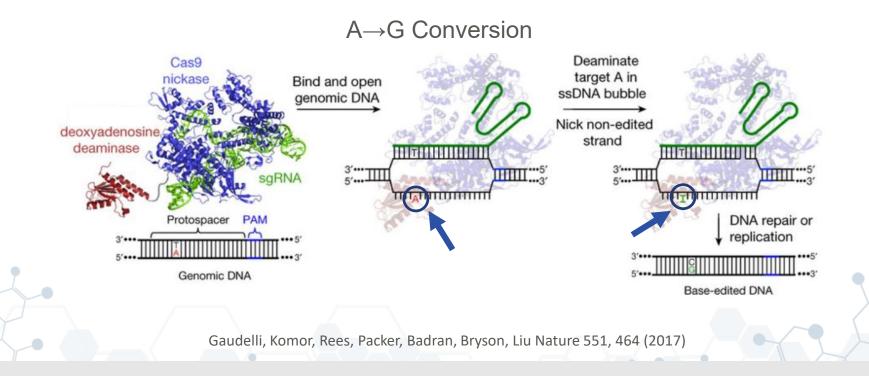


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part of Maravai LifeSciencesPlasmids Expressing Cytosine Base Editors are More
Efficient Than Cas9 + HDR in Human Cells



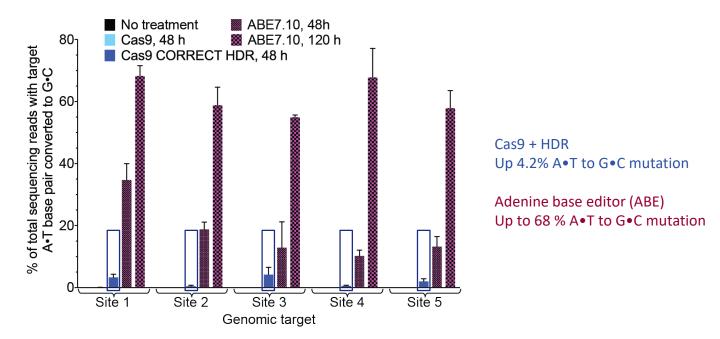


Adenine Base Editor Mechanism





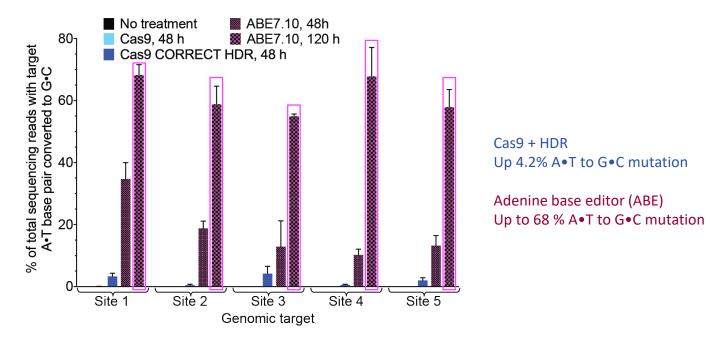
Adenine Base Editing by Expression from Plasmids is More Efficient than Cas9 + HDR



Kwart, Tessier-Lavigne et al. Nat. Protocols 12, 329 (2017) and Paquet, Tessier-Lavigne et al. Nature 533, 125 (2016)



Adenine Base Editing by Expression from Plasmids is More Efficient than Cas9 + HDR

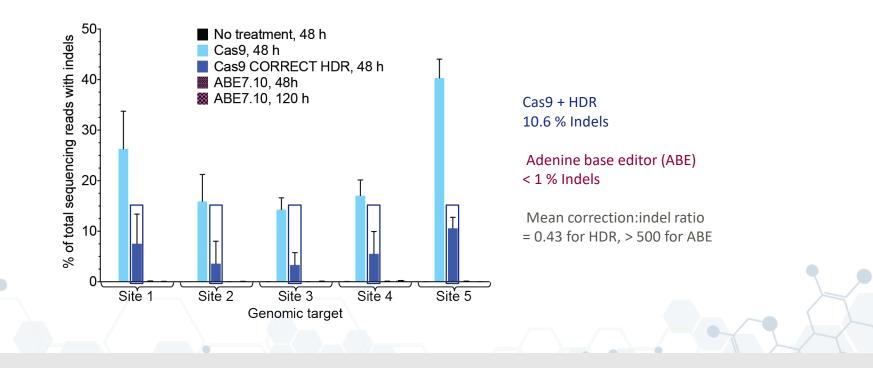


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Adenine Base Editing Produces Very Few Indels

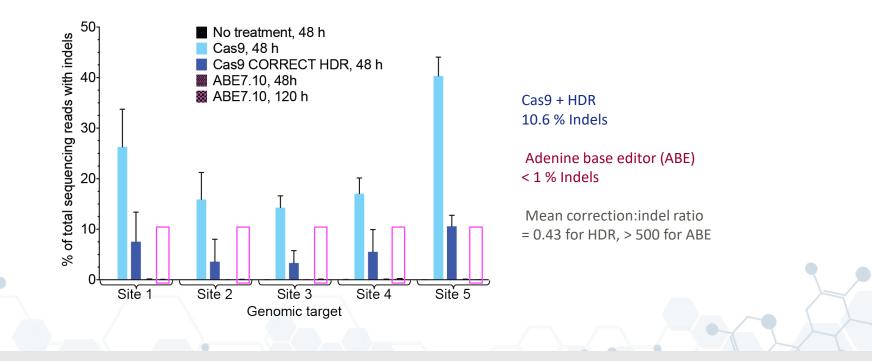






Adenine Base Editing Produces Very Few Indels





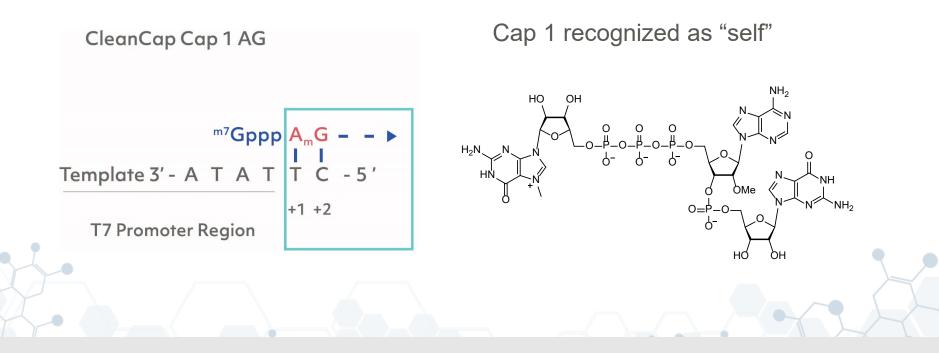


- Transient mRNA expression increases specificity of base editing
- mRNA can be introduced into the cytoplasm of difficult-to-transfect cells
- More efficient editing observed with mRNA than with plasmids



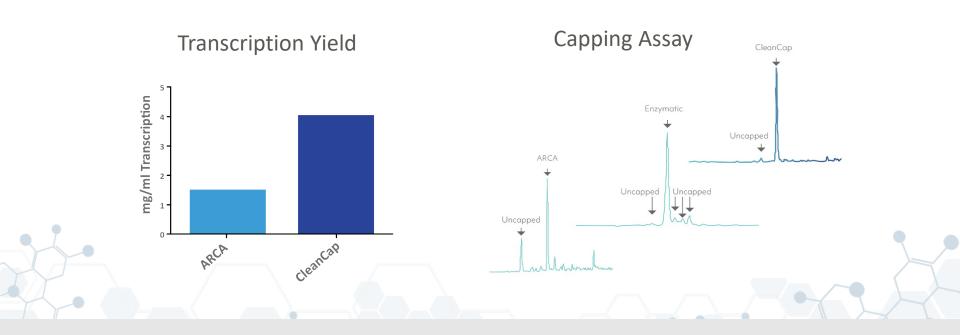


CleanCap[®] Co-transcriptional Capping Yields Optimal Cap 1 Structure with High Efficiency





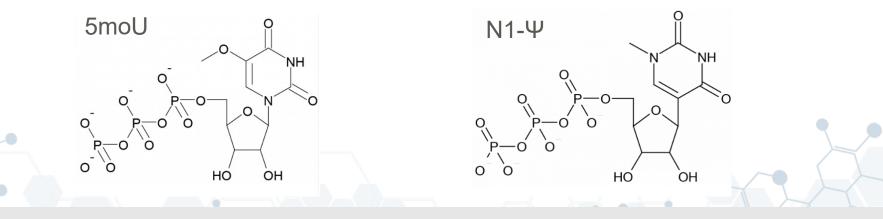
CleanCap[®] Co-transcriptional Capping Yields Optimal Cap 1 Structure with High Efficiency



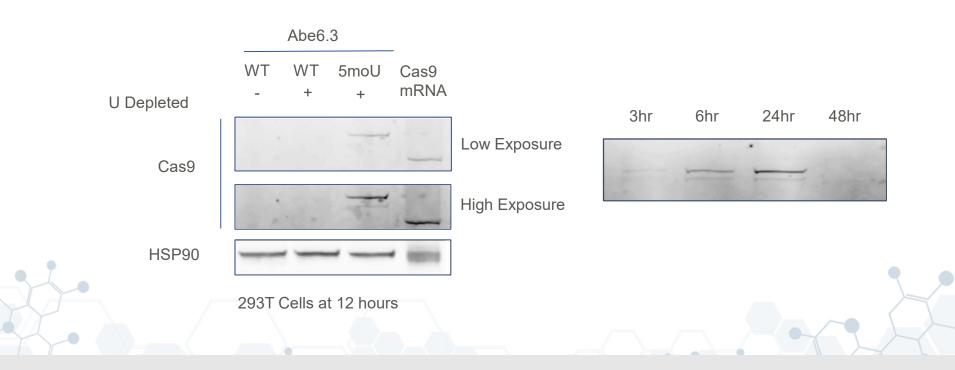


Base Modification/Sequence Optimization to Reduce Innate Immune Stimulation

- Uridine depletion
- 5-methoxyuridine (5moU) modification
- N1-methylpseudouridine (N1-Ψ) modification

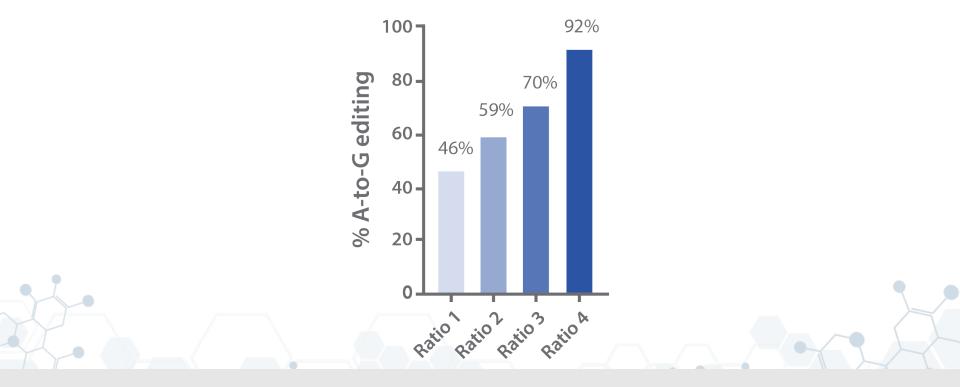


W TriLink part of Maravai LifeSciences Uridine Depleted, 5moU Modified RNA Gives Higher Expression than Wild Type RNA in Cultured Cells





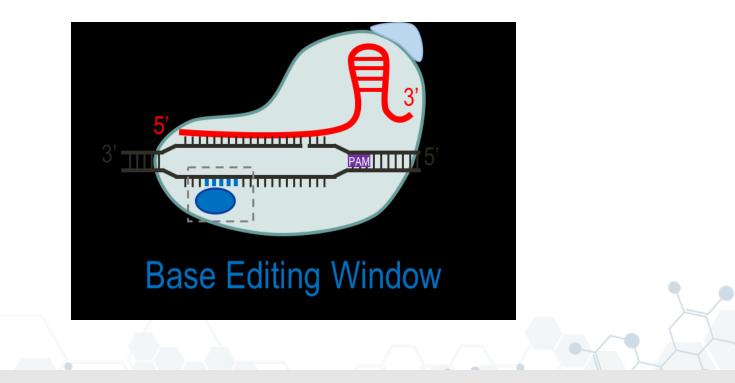
Adenine Base Editing in HEK293T Cells Optimizing Guide: mRNA Ratio



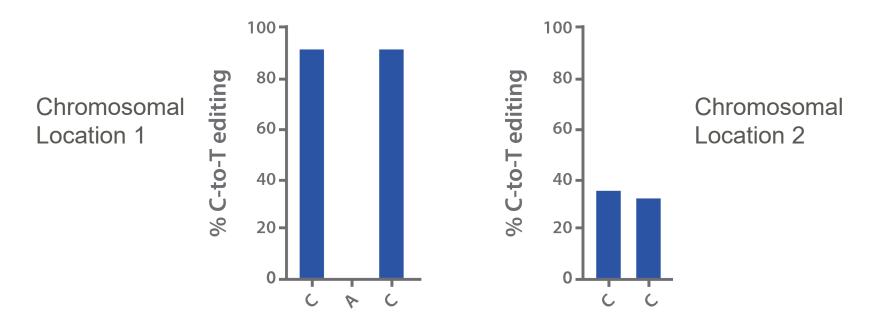
Base Editors have an Editing Window



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Multiple Sites Can Be Edited Simultaneously in Cells by Cytidine Base Editor

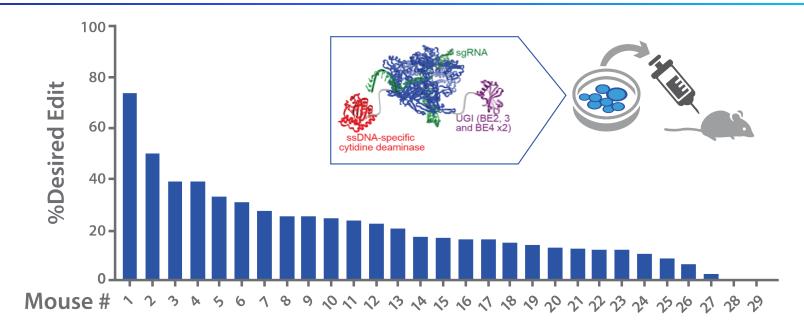


5moU modified Cap1 BE4max variant mRNA with 2 guides nucleofected into HEK293T cells Site 1 and Site 2 are on different chromosomes



Creating a Mouse Model for In Vivo Base Editing

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5moU modified Cap1 BE4max variant mRNA was injected into mouse zygote to create a model mouse with a single base change. A mosaic pattern is observed in F1 animals that will be purified by subsequent breeding.



- CleanCap[®] co-transcriptional capping produces Cap 1 structure that mimics natural "self" RNAs
- Uridine depleted modified mRNA yields maximal base editor expression
- Expression of base editors from mRNA is more efficient than from plasmid
- mRNAs expressing adenine base editors can efficiently mediate A → G changes in cultured cells
- mRNAs expressing cytosine base editors can mediate simultaneous C → T changes at different chromosomal locations in cultured cells
- Injection of mRNAs expressing cytosine BE4max variant into mouse zygotes, followed by implantation into pseudo-pregnant females, results in the birth of pups that are mosaic for the C → T change desired. Conversion can be efficient in mice.



Grand Opening of a New Expanded TriLink Facility

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Grand Opening November 20, 2019, San Diego



TriLink BioTechnologies

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Talk posted at www.trilink/BaseEditor