Telomerase maturation and Cajal Bodies

Teresa Bannino Emeline Callac-Rouxel Clarissa Orrico

Human telomerase: biogenesis, trafficking, recruitment, and activation

I° Biogenesis of human telomerase II° Telomerase localization to CBs Ill° Telomerase recruitment to telomeres IV° Telomerase activation and telomere length regulation

ABOUT HUMAN TELOMERE & TELOMERASE

- Human chromosomes are **capped by telomeres**
- Telomeres: variable numbers of a **repetitive sequence**
- **Six-protein shelterin complex** stabilized telomeres
- Hayflick limit



Human telomere biology: A contributory and interactive factor in aging, disease risks, and protection -Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Elissa S. Epel, Jue Lin - Science - December 4th, 2015

ABOUT TELOMERASE

- Catalyzes the **extension of telomeric DNA**
- **Contains a reverse transcriptase** (TERT)
- **Promoter mutations** in hTERT lead to oncogenesis
- Aplastic anemia or dyskeratosis congenita



ABOUT TELOMERIC REPEATS



SHELTERIN











ABOUT FUNCTIONAL FEATURES IN TR

- The **template** for reverse transcription
- The pseudoknot domain
- A **stem-loop** that interacts with TERT (CR4/CR5)
- A 3' element required for RNA stability, trafficking and activity..





- The telomerase N-terminal (TEN) domain participates in catalysis and drives telomerase localization to telomeres
- The TR-binding domain (TRBD) **interacts with hTR**
- The reverse transcriptase (RT) and C- terminal extension (CTE) **form the catalytic core of telomerase**

Biogenesis of human telomerase: telomerase assembly



Biogenesis of human telomerase: structural organization



Telomerase localization to Cajal Body (CB):

ABOUT CAJAL BODY FUNCTION

- Contribution to the biogenesis of :
 - small **nuclear** RNPs (snRNPs)
 - small **nucleolar** RNPs (snoRNPs)
- Contain **small Cajal body-specific RNPs** (scaRNPs)
- Contain **RNP of telomerase**
- Assembly point for the incorporation of hTERT into the nascent RNA complex



Telomerase localization to Cajal Body (CB):

ABOUT CAJAL BODY FUNCTION

- Contribution to the biogenesis of :
 - small **nuclear** RNPs (snRNPs) **Pre-mRNA** splicing
 - small **nucleolar** RNPs (snoRNPs) **rRNA** maturation
- Contain **small Cajal body-specific RNPs** (scaRNPs) **mRNA** processing
- Contain **RNP of telomerase**
- Assembly point for the incorporation of hTERT into the nascent RNA complex

Telomerase localization to Cajal Body (CB):

ABOUT TCAB1 FUNCTION IN CAJAL BODY

- Autosomal recessive TCAB1 mutation :
 - **u** mutation **do not disrupt interaction** with hTR
 - **TCAB1** is **not required** for the enzymatic activity of telomerase
- Elimination of Cajal Body:
 - Rescue by over-expression of telomerase
 - Telomerase **do not localize** to telomere with TCAB1 loss
 - CB and TCAB1 make a **major contribution** to telomerase trafficking and recruitment to telomere





An important component of Cajal Body: Coilin

ABOUT CAJAL BODY FORMATION

2 Z models:

- **CB** self-assembly via **RNA binding protein**
- **CB** self-assembly via **Coilin**



Cajal bodies: where form meets function - Martin Machyna, Patricia C. Heyn, Karla M Neugebauer - Wiley interdisciplinary review - 2013

An important component of Cajal Body: Coilin



Telomerase recruitment to telomeres:



Telomerase activation and telomere length regulation:



TPP1 controls the telomerase catalytic cycle and its modulation

To conclude:

The telomerase is **assembled and recruited to the telomere**

The telomere length maintenance is a key process in normal human development

Inappropriate telomere lengthening is a hallmark of cancer



An activity switch in human telomerase based on RNA conformation and shaped by TCAB1

l° Introduction

II° Results & discussion

III° Conclusion

ABOUT TELOMERASE

- Localize in the **nucleus**
- Multiple subunit **ribonucleoprotein** : maintain the telomere
- □ Inactivating mutations in telomerase genes causes **dyskeratosis congenita**
- **Upregulation is central to carcinogenesis**



UniProtKB - O14746 (TERT_HUMAN)

ABOUT TELOMERASE RIBONUCLEOPROTEIN COMPLEX

- Pseudoknot/template (PK/T) domain: catalysis & fold into triple helical structure
- □ Three-way junction element (CR4/5) domain
- P6.1 helix : critical role in catalysis and TERT association
- Mutations in P6.1 : reduction of TERT binding and telomerase catalytic activity



Michael D. Stone - Detailed view of human telomerase enzyme invites rethink of its structure - April 25, 2018 - Nature

ABOUT HUMAN TELOMERASE'S STUDIES

- **CR4/5** serves as an **activation domain**
- **Engagement of CR4/5** by TRBD of TERT
- P6.1 and P6 RNA helix form a clamp
- **CR4/5** facilitates **telomerase enzymatic activity**



ABOUT THE RECRUITMENT OF TELOMERASE ENZYME

- Interaction between TEN domain and OB fold domain
- Importance of dyskerin core complex and TCAB1
- **2** essentials functions of **TCAB1 binding to scaRNA domain**
 - Enhancing recruitment to telomere
 - Facilitating proper localization of telomerase



telomere

3. Processive elongation of telomeric DNA

TPP1 OB-Fold Domain Controls Telomere Maintenance by Recruiting Telomerase to Chromosome Ends - August 3,2012 - Cell Journal To understand the **molecular function of TCAB1 and the CAB box** of the scaRNA domain in telomerase function, they inactivated TCAB1 :

in human cancer cells,

in human embryonic stem cells (ESCs)

in mouse embryo fibroblasts (MEFs)



Inactivation of TCAB1 but not coilin impairs telomerase activity in human cancer cells





Inactivation of TCAB1 impairs telomerase activity in primary mouse cells

1G



TCAB1 have a conserved role in supporting telomerase enzymatic function

Results: TCAB1 loss impairs trafficking, recruitment and telomerase maturation

2A



Loss of TCAB1 caused a quantitative reduction in recruitment of telomerase to telomere

Results: TCAB1 loss impairs trafficking, recruitment and telomerase maturation



TCAB1 in telomerase function does not necessitate a fully assembled Cajal Body

- **TCAB1** loss impairs:
 - Let telomerase catalytic function,
 - disrupts **telomerase localization** to Cajal bodies
 - provokes progressive telomere shortening

Discussion: activity switch within telomerase based on RNA conformation and controlled by TCAB1



Telomerase can exist in **two catalytic states** based on altered CR4/5 conformation and TCAB1 toggle this **RNA activity switch** to control telomerase catalytic function



TCAB1 loss causes a reduced rate of enzymatic activity

(18nt)

Results: Assembly of the TERT-hTR catalytic core in cells lacking TCAB1



TCAB1 loss did not affect the assembly of the catalytic core

Results: TCAB1 stimulates telomerase activity through an interaction with the CAB box



peptide-elu	1x 1x			3x 3x			1x 1x					3x	3x
kead-bound 1x	1x		3x 3	x		1x	1x			3x	Зx		
RNase pre-treat	+	+		ŀ	+		+		+		+		+
TCAB1-KO RNP						+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
TRAP products											111111111111111111111111111111111111111		
IC-	2	3 4	5	3 7			10	11	12	13	•	15	•

RNA binding site on TCAB1 needs to be vacant to bind hTR and stimulate telomerase activity

Results: TCAB1 stimulates telomerase activity through an interaction with the CAB box



TCAB1 promotes telomerase catalytic function through direct binding of hTR after assembly of the enzyme catalytic core

Discussion: a required role for the scaRNA domain in either enzyme assembly or catalytic activation

TCAB1 contains a **WD40** repeat domain providing diverse surfaces for interactions with proteins and nucleic acids

the TCAB1-CAB box interaction also **controls catalytic activity**

For TCAB1, the **WD40 domain is required** for **binding the hTR CAB box** and **the CR4/5 domain**

Results: TCAB1 drives regional RNA folding in an hTR domain critical for catalysis



ABOUT icSHAPE

- □ Immobilized complex with NAI-N3
- □ Isolation of modified RNA sequences with **Trizol reagent**
- **Biotinylation**
- **Reverse transcription, library and sequencing**

Results: TCAB1 drives regional RNA folding in an hTR domain critical for catalysis



The CAB box loop represent the TCAB1 binding site on hTR

Results: TCAB1 drives regional RNA folding in an hTR domain critical for catalysis



Loss of TCAB1 leads to unfolding in the hTR CR4/5 domain and recombinant TCAB1 promotes refolding of this domain

Results: Impaired hTR CR4/5 - TERT association in patient-derived hTR mutants

6A

hTR deriv

+33 ----

+21 ----

+15 ---

+9

a5 (21nt)

RC . (18nt)



Mutations in hTR CR4/5 (P6.1 P6b) and disruption of TCAB1 functions operate in imparing catalysis

Results: Impaired hTR CR4/5 - TERT association in TCAB1 knockout cells and in patient-derived hTR mutants



G305A mutation in hTR impairs TERT binding and TCAB1 loss further disrupts TERT association

Discussion: impaired catalytic function and unfolding of CR4/5

TCAB1 loss affects **Cajal Bodies Localization**, **telomere recruitment** and **CR4/5 folding**

CR4/5 unfolding is the **primary defect** in the steps of telomerase assembly

Recruitment of telomerase to telomeres depends upon **TERT-TEN domain and TTP1 interaction**



To conclude:

Telomerase catalytic activity is reduced in the absence of TCAB1

TCAB1 directly **stimulates catalytic activity** of the assembled telomerase complex

TCAB1 controls folding of CR4/5, a distal domain in the telomerase RNA

An **RNA activity switch** in the telomerase toggled by TCAB1 **controls telomerase activity**

What could we do after?

WRAP53 promotes cancer cell survival and is a potential target for cancer therapy

S Mahmoudi, S Henriksson, L Farnebo, K Roberg & M Farnebo 🖂



The diagnosis and treatment of dyskeratosis congenita: a review

M Soledad Fernández García^{1,2} and Julie Teruya-Feldstein¹

TCAB1: a potential target for diagnosis and therapy of head and neck carcinomas

<u>Chong-kui Sun</u>,^{#1} <u>Xiao-bo Luo</u>,^{#1} <u>Ya-ping Gou</u>,¹ <u>Ling Hu</u>,¹ <u>Kun Wang</u>,¹ <u>Chao Li</u>,² <u>Zhen-ting Xiang</u>,¹ <u>Ping Zhang</u>,¹ <u>Xiang-li Kong</u>,¹ <u>Chao-liang Zhang</u>,¹ <u>Qin Yang</u>,^{1,3} <u>Jing Li</u>,¹ <u>Li-ying Xiao</u>,^{XI} <u>Yan Li</u>,^{XI} and <u>Qian-ming Chen</u>¹

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

