Scn10a promoter studies:

Utilizing an *Scn10a*-EGFP reporter mouse to study changes in Na_v1.8 expression in peripheral sensory neurons and novel Na_v1.8 expression in the central nervous system





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Why study promoters of ion channels?

- Abnormal <u>expression</u> of ion channels contributes to human disease
 - E.g. Na_v1.3
 - E.g. Na_v1.8
- Tissue-selective targeting of ion channels

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Type III Sodium Channel mRNA Is Expressed in Embryonic But Not Adult Spinal Sensory Neurons, and Is Reexpressed Following Axotomy

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Adult

DRG

E17 DRG

Adult DRG (axotomy)

Why study promoters of ion channels?

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Regulation of Expression of the Sensory Neuron-Specific Sodium Channel SNS in Inflammatory and Neuropathic Pain

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TABLE 1

Expression of SNS in Inflammatory and Neuropathic Pain Models

Treatment	% SNS mRNA normalized to controls
Freund's adjuvant 72 h NGF in vivo 4 h NGF in vivo 24 h	91% (SE 7) $n = 9$ 95% (SE 10) $n = 9$ 103% (SE 13) $n = 9$
Immunoreactive protein in NGF-treated DRG explants (7 days) NGF <i>in vitro</i> 7 days CGRP levels in the same cells	125% (SE 9) $n = 3$ 117% (SE 8) $n = 3$ 413% (SE 39) $n = 3$
Axotomy 7 days Axotomy 14 days Diabetic neuropathy 4 weeks	36% (SE 4) $n = 4$ 26% (SE 7) $n = 4$ 74% (SE 12) $n = 4$
Nerve ligation Holtzman strain 3 weeks Nerve ligation Harlan strain 3 weeks Neonatal capsaicin 7 weeks Neonatal capsaicin plus ligature at 5 weeks Ligature alone at 5 weeks	$\begin{array}{l} 23\% (\text{SE 17}) n = 4 \\ 58\% (\text{SE 24}) n = 4 \\ 47\% (\text{SE 24}) n = 4 \\ 27\% (\text{SE 7}) n = 4 \\ 54\% (\text{SE 19}) n = 3 \end{array}$

Our approach: Scn10a promoter

- Develop tools to study regulation of Scn10a promoter
- Why *Scn10a*/Na_v1.8?
 - <u>Very</u> selective expression pattern
 - Abnormal expression in human disease states
 - E.g. Multiple sclerosis



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 expression pattern
 - Abnormal expression in human disease states
 - E.g. Multiple sclerosis

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Sensory neuron-specific sodium channel SNS is abnormally expressed in the brains of mice with experimental allergic encephalomyelitis and humans with multiple sclerosis

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Highlights of Scn10a promoter studies

- I. Scn10a promoter constructs
 - Identification of putative Scn10a promoter
- II. Scn10a-EGFP transgenic mouse
 - Validation of mouse model
 - Growth factor regulation of expression
 - Cell lineage-dependent regulation of expression
 - Novel Na_V1.8 expression in CNS

I. Scn10a promoter constructs

Identification of the sensory neuron specific regulatory region for the mouse gene encoding the voltage-gated sodium channel $Na_V 1.8$

Henry L. Puhl III and Stephen R. Ikeda

Aligned sequence (kb)

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Identification of putative Scn10a promoter

II. Scn10a-EGFP transgenic mouse

Cellular/Molecular

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A 3.7 kb Fragment of the Mouse *Scn10a* Gene Promoter Directs Neural Crest But Not Placodal Lineage EGFP Expression in a Transgenic Animal

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C57BL/6N-Tg(*Scn10a*-EGFP)ALmp/J Stock #025400





II. Scn10a-EGFP transgenic mouse



80% Na_v1.8-IR+ve cells are EGFP+ve
 70% EGFP+ve cells are Na_v1.8-IR+ve

II. Scn10a-EGFP transgenic mouse



A 3.7 kb fragment of the Scn10a promoter recapitulates most Na_v1.8 expression in vivo.

Regulation of Na_V1.8 expression



<u>Day 0</u>



O Control

Time in culture (days)

Growth factors maintain Na_v1.8 expression



Regulation of Na_V1.8 expression



Placodal-derived sensory neurons utilize additional promoter elements to regulate Na_v1.8 expression

Novel $Na_V 1.8$ expression in the CNS



Functional Na_v1.8 protein expressed in the CNS

Conclusions

- A 3.7 kb promoter fragment of the mouse Scn10a gene directs expression in sensory neurons of neural crest descent.
- Transgenic Scn10a-EGFP mouse a useful tool to study regulation of Na_V1.8 expression.
 - Real-time changes in $Na_V 1.8$ expression
 - Novel expression of Na_V1.8

Targeting ion channels to treat pain?



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Virus-mediated shRNA Knockdown of Na, 1.3 in Rat Dorsal Root Ganglion Attenuates Nerve Injury-induced Neuropathic Pain

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Research

Nerve injury induces robust allodynia and ectopic discharges in $Na_{\nu} I\,.3$ null mutant mice

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 - Department of Defense



C57BL/6N-Tg(*Scn10a*-EGFP)ALmp/J Stock #025400

Other placodal-derived ganglia



Na_V1.8 in CNS tissues



Ectopic expression in Scn10a-EGFP mouse

Cardiac ganglion



Cardiac muscle



Epidermal skin layer





Pancreas



Kidney



Grueneberg ganglion



Analysis program for ICC experiments



Controls for ICC experiments



Characterization of EGFP+ve DRG neurons



Table 1. Characterization of the EGFP-positive peripheral sensory neuron population^a

Label	% positive for labe	% double-labeled cells (as % EGFP-positive I cells)	% double-labeled cells (as % label-positive cells)
For DRG neurons			
EGFP, transgene expression	45.7 ± 2.2 (40)		
EGFP-IR	35.5 ± 3.6 (4)	97.9 ± 1.2	90.7 ± 2.8
Na _v 1.8	44.6 ± 2.2 (12)	69.7 ± 1.6	80.2 ± 4.6
IB4	35.4 ± 1.5 (18)	56.7 ± 1.7	75.2 ± 4.2
CGRP	14.6 ± 1.1 (5)	18.7 ± 0.9	61.4 ± 4.0
Substance P	8.0 ± 0.8 (4)	7.2 ± 0.9	45.9 ± 4.7
CtB	36.5 ± 1.3 (12)	9.6 ± 1.0	11.4 ± 1.7
NF200	25.9 ± 1.1 (3)	8.6 ± 1.4	10.8 ± 3.3
TH	9.0 ± 0.7 (5)	5.6 ± 0.3	32.2 ± 3.9
Na _v 1.7	91.3 ± 3.0 (9)	95.8 ± 1.7	41.9 ± 5.0
For ND neurons			
EGFP, transgene expression	7.0 ± 1.2 (13)		
Na _v 1.8	46.1 ± 9.0 (5)	82.9 ± 10.2	14.6 ± 3.8
	103	GFP(+))
	10 ²		
	dg 10 ¹		
	10 ⁰ -		*

GFP(-) 200 400 600 800 1000 FSC (Cell Size) Live Cell Gate Gate %Total %Gated 4.65 100.00 All 55.89 GFP(-) 2.60 GFP(+) 2.05 44.11