Coordination between cell proliferation and differentiation using *C.elegans* germline stem cells.

Earl Hwande

Major: Biological Science

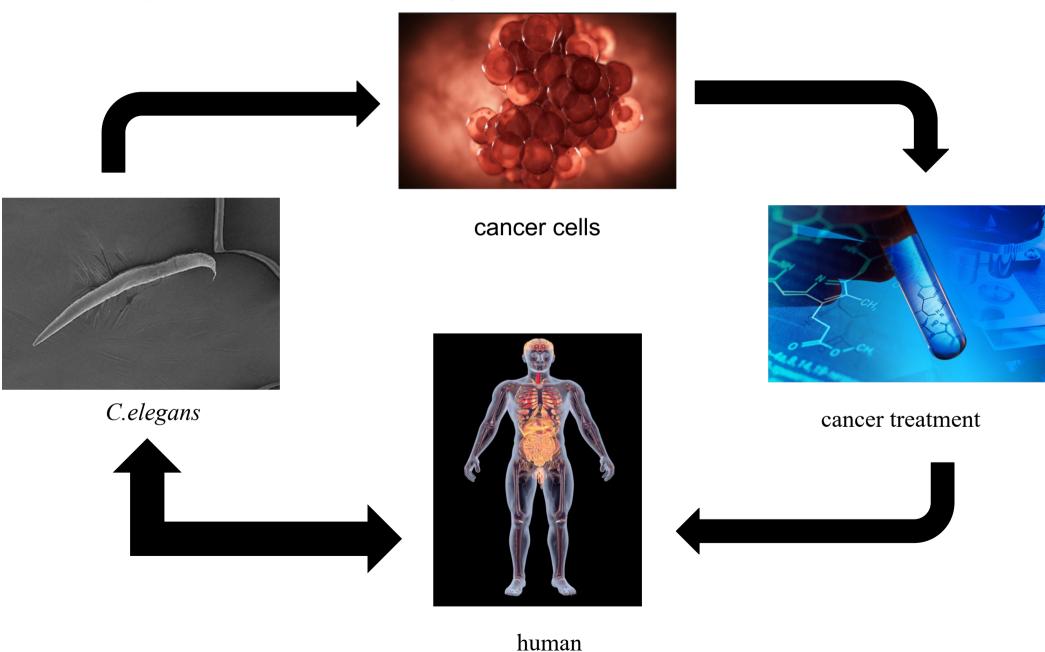
Mentor: Pradeep Joshi

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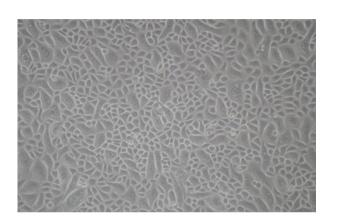


C.elegans germline stem cells may inform us on regulation of cancer stem cells

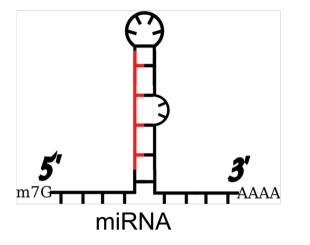


Expression of miRNAs is associated with tumor

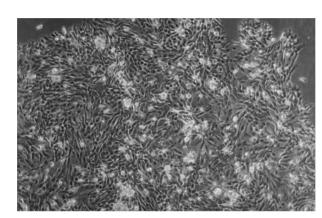
formation



normal cells





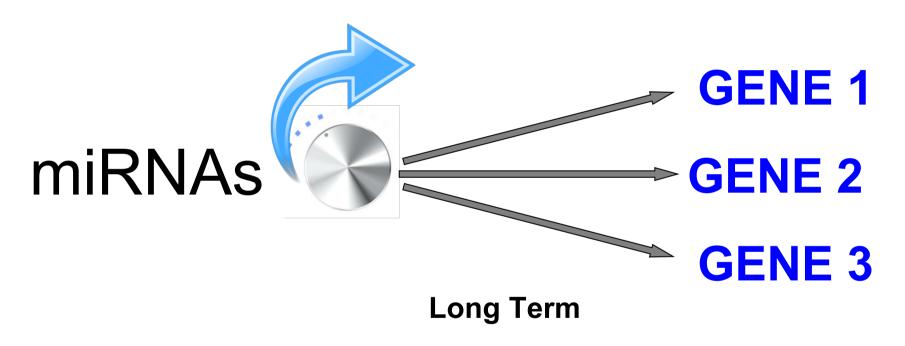


cancer cells

Summer 2019:

To control the presence or absence of miRNA and determine if germline cells undergo tumorigenesis.

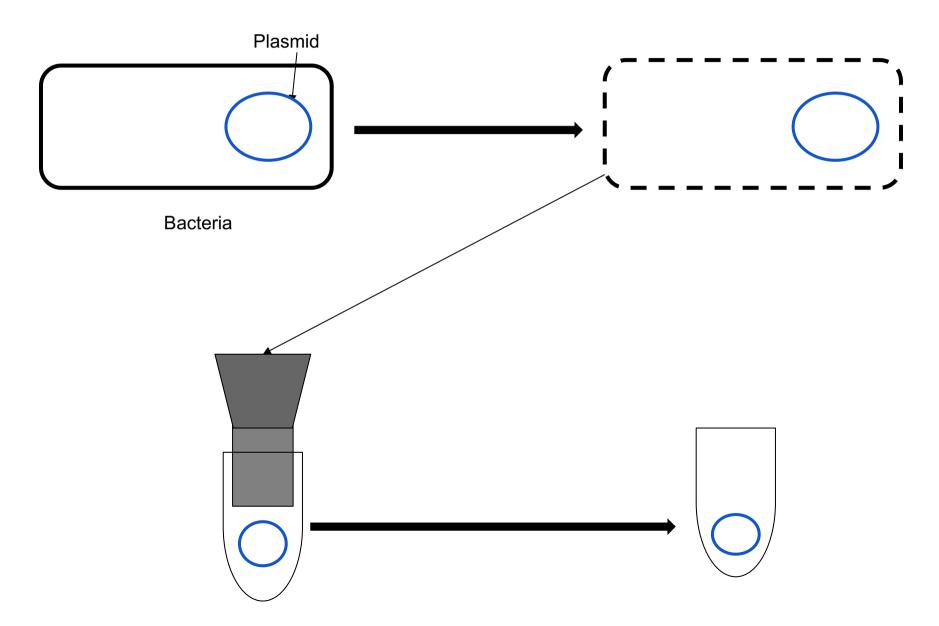
Over-expression of miRNA promote tumor formation by downregulating tumor suppressors



Understand how miRNA regulates gene expression to maintain stem cell homeostasis

Generation of an inducible system of expression of miRNAs

Step 1: Preparation of plasmid vector containing inducible heat shock promoter

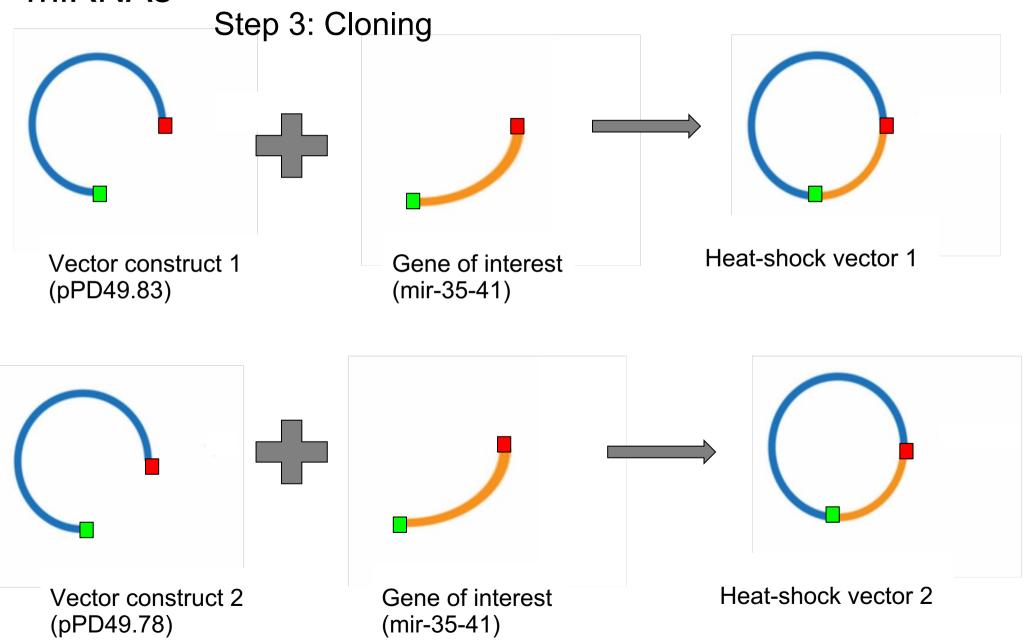


Generation of an inducible system of expression of miRNAs

Step 2: PCR amplification of gene of interest

Gene of interest (mir-35-41)

Generation of an inducible system of expression of miRNAs



Purification of DNA samples aids successful cloning

Observed Concentrations

Units: ng/microL

Trial	Gene of Interest	Vector 1	Vector 2
1	25.2	11.3	15.6
2	45.7	39.9	37.6
3	49.8	52.4	57.3
4	89.2	71.8	77.2
5	108.7	153.3	119.7
6	<mark>939.7</mark>	163.2	132.1

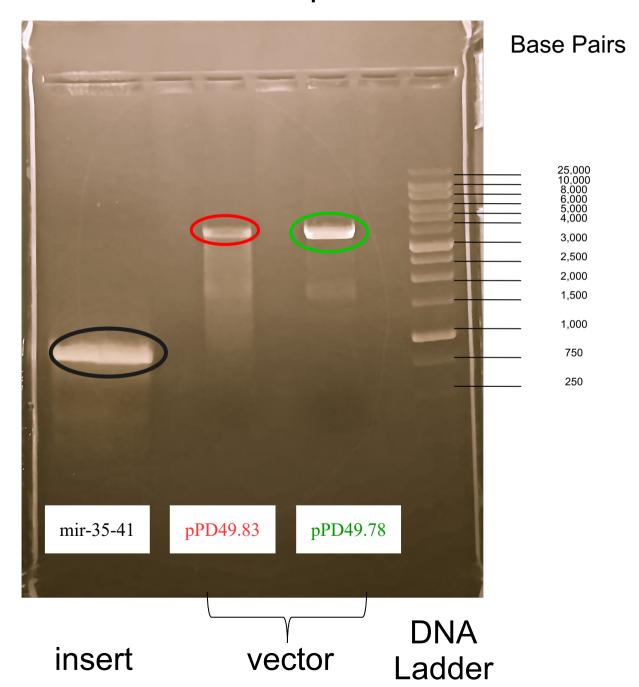
Confirming DNA sample size using Agarose Gel Electrophoresis

Expected Size:

1) mir-35-41 - 777 bp

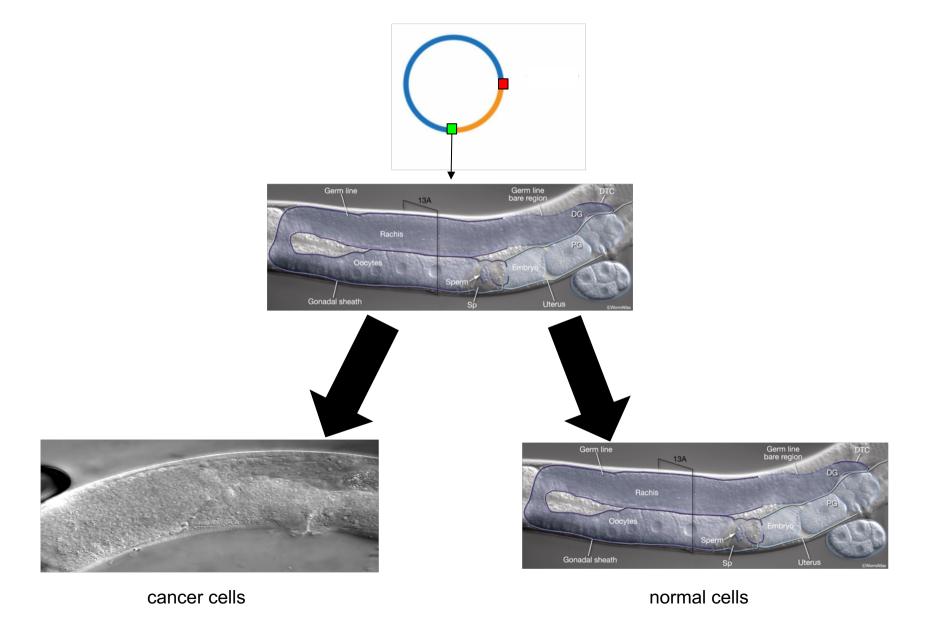
2) pPD49.83 - 3896 bp

3) pPD49.78 - 3727 bp

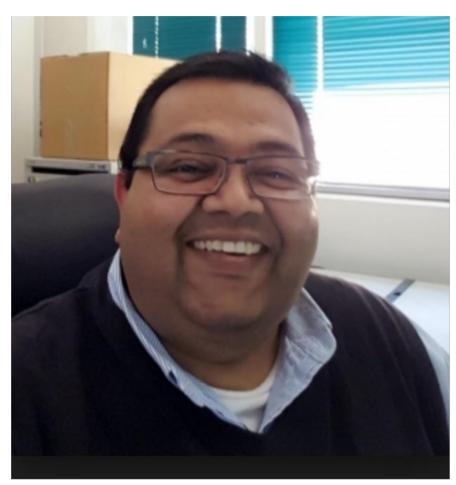


DNA Samples

Injection of Heat-shock vector results in distinct phenotypes



Acknowledgements



Dr. Pradeep Joshi PhD Project Scientist, Rothman Lab