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Cloning and characterization of YDR1 of the yeast Saccharomyces cerevisiae

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Human Dr1 interacts with the TATA-binding protein, TBP and functions as a transcriptional repressor. The association of Dr1 with TBP results in repression of both basal and activated levels of transcription. Dr1 activity is phosphorylated in vivo and phosphorylation of Dr1 affected its interaction with TBP (Inostroza et al., 1992; Cell 70: 447-489). The potential counterpart of the human Dr1 gene in Saccaromyces cerevisiae was found from the yeast data bank based on the amino acid similarity. The gene designated YDR1 was amplified using PCR and cloned into a yeast vector. The YDR1 gene is an essential gene and overexpression of YDR1 confers deleterious effect. The human Dr1 gene can functionally replace YDR1. To study structure-function of Ydr1 protein mutagenesis is in progress and the K. lactis Dr1 gene is being cloned.

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Y-Specific Polymorphisms of the Alu (YAP) Element and the Microsatellite Locus DYS19 in Korean Populations

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The Y Alu polymorphic (YAP) element and the Y-linked tetranucleotide repeat (GATA)n of microsatellite locus DYS19 have been examined in Korean populations to raise the possibility of tracing paternal lineages and male-mediated gene flow between Korea and Japan. The frequency of YAP element was found to be 1% (3/301). This result is consistent with previous reports that showed the YAP element to be absent in most Asian populations and the high frequency of the YAP element in Japanese. The YAP chromosomes detected in this study appeared to be YAP haplotype 3, which is frequently found in the Japanese population. On the basis of the result for the locus DYS19 (n=252), Korean populations appear to have the most similar allelic frequency (C>D>B>E>A) to Mongolian populations among Asian populations. Although the DYS19 locus distinguishes the Japanese population (C>D>E>A>B) from most Asian populations, they tend to be somewhat closer to the result of the Korean population, with regard to the frequency of D allele. Finally, all of these results support the hybridization theory that modern Japanese populations have resulted from the ancient Jomon people (YAP) and Yayoi immigrants (YAP) from Korea.