

Gene therapy: lab report

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The LIEU gene is a linear fragment that does not contain an Autonomous Replication Sequence, so it could not replicate on its own and needed to be integrated by homologous recombination. The TRIP gene was a circular plasmid that contained an EARS, which allowed for it to act as an extra chromosome in the cell. The objective was to insert a "wild gene" and replace the defective genes and then grow them on a medium that does not contain TRIP or LIEU to prove that the genes had been cured.

To help determine if recombination took place in the LIEU gene, and to complement negative data from the 431 LIEU drop out medium, the "cured" LIEU gene was compared to the "diseased" ELISE gene. The expectation was that the "cured" LIEU gene would be a different size from that of the "diseased," which would be proven through a PCR run of the two DNA strands after they were replicated under the same in vitro conditions. The purpose of the PCR was to show what kind of mutation occurred in the mutant to cause it to lose its LIEU function.

Methods Yeast Transformation Procedure Both hands and bench tops were sterilized by 10% ethyl alcohol and were continually wiped down at various times throughout the lab. Gloves were also worn for the duration of the lab to help prevent contamination. The first step was to obtain both strains of yeast, AY 235 and AY 431, with the flat end of a sterile toothpick from an agar plate and place them into two separate Offender tubes.

The Offender tubes were filled with 50 ml of solution 1 (50 ml sterile water) before the yeast was added to them. The tubes were then spun in a centrifuge for four seconds to separate the excess water from the pellet that

formed from the yeast. The supernatant were discarded and the pellets were suspended in pool of solution 2 (0. MM Lilac; 0. 01 M Tries, 8. 0; 0. MOM DEED). The solution was once again spun for four seconds in the centrifuge and the supernatant were discarded. The pellets were re- suspended in 1 Pool of solution 2.