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technology opportunity

Assay for Screening HCV Drugs

More than 170 million people worldwide are infected with the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), which can lead to acute and chronic liver diseases. Since the virus will not reproduce in test tubes for more than a few hours it is very difficult to perform experimental research on it. This novel assay uses a reporter cell line, causing the cells to send out a detectable signal when certain events happen internally. Whenever HCV is replicating, the cell will emit green fluorescence. The fluorescence is then tracked in the cell culture through flow cytometry.

Applications

- HCV testing
- Rapidly identify and isolate antiviral drug candidates

Advantages

- Easy to use
- Identifies HCV quickly relative to other assays

Technology Opportunity

The Inventors

Dr. Hengli Tang is an Assistant Professor at Florida State University. He received his Ph.D from the University of California in San Diego in 1998. The general area of research interest in his lab is virus-host cell interactions concerning human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV). Currently, the molecular and cell biology of HCV replication is the main focus of the lab.



Projects:

1. Characterization of cellular factors for HIV infection and HCV replication using a variety of biochemistry, cell biology and molecular biology techniques.
2. Dissection of the molecular mechanisms of HCV replication in vitro, especially of the adaptive mutations.

For Licensing Opportunities Contact

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