

細胞ゲノム機能学分野

Division of Genome and Cellular Functions

スタッフ紹介



教授 久郷裕之



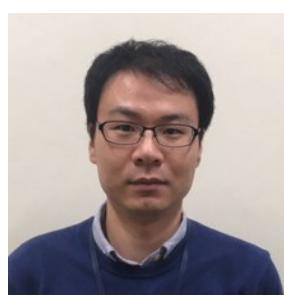
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スタッフ紹介



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細胞ゲノム機能学分野と染色体工学研究センターの歴史

細胞ゲノム機能学

分子生物学講座細胞ゲノム機能学分野(旧:細胞工学)は、医学の基礎知識を持つバイオサイエンティストを養成する学科として全国に先駆け医学部内に設置された生命科学科の設立に伴い、1990年より押村光雄先生が初代教授として着任し開講しました。2014年より、2代目教授として久郷裕之先生が着任し新たな体制でスタートしました。2020年、大学院医学系研究科機能再生医科学専攻、生命科学科専攻、保健学科専攻が統合され新たに医科学専攻の設置に伴い研究室名を細胞ゲノム機能学に変更しました。

染色体工学研究センター

2009年に染色体工学研究センターが設置されたのち、2011年に産学官共同研究拠点として「とっとりバイオフロンティア」が開所されました。

2018年に採択された文部科学省事業「とっとり発医療イノベーション(創薬)産学官連携研究開発実証拠点」を推進するために、染色体工学研究センター内に「とっとり創薬実証センター」が開所されました。

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里深博幸(2017 染色体工学研究センター准教授)

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曾我万里栄、宅野奈緒美、清水優美、柴田奈緒美、野崎翔子、山本美由紀、

久郷かおり、前田真理、青山佳子、中野潤子、里深美香子

現在の研究テーマ

細胞ゲノム機能学

本講座では、開講以来から一貫して遺伝子・染色体導入や細胞融合によって自然界にない細胞を作り出し、病気の解明から治療への応用を目指しています。とりわけ、遺伝子の集合体として知られている染色体の特性を利用した独自の染色体工学技術開発より学問体系を確立し、細胞から個体レベルまで、且つ様々な研究領域で重要な研究成果をあげてきました。細胞や染色体レベルにおける機能解析を通して、生体高次機能の理解から疾病の解明までを目指します。

染色体工学技術を用いた発がん機構の解明

これまで染色体工学技術を通して新規がん抑制遺伝子を同定し、その機能解析を中心に進めました。しかし、がん抑制遺伝子単体よりもむしろそれを含む染色体ドメインレベルにおけるがん抑制制御機構の存在が示唆されました。このことから、遺伝子および染色体ゲノムドメインレベルにおける両側面からの分子動態・シグナル伝達機構の統合的な機能解析による新しい切り口から新たな発がん機構の解明を目指し、創薬および治療法開発に向けた「創造性」のある次世代のがん戦略の提示につなげたいと考えています。

ヒト／マウス人工染色体を用いたゲノムライティングと応用

我々は哺乳類細胞において自立複製・分配が可能なヒト人工染色体(HAC)およびマウス人工染色体(MAC)を構築し、Mb 単位の巨大なヒト遺伝子クラスターのマウス個体への導入にこれまでに成功してきました。現在では HAC/MAC 技術を用いて、「Mb 単位の合成 DNA を目的細胞に効率的に導入する基盤技術開発」を行い、「ゲノム配列の動作原理の解明」と「産業応用および医療応用」のための基盤となる技術を開発しています。

染色体工学研究センター

世界で唯一の染色体工学の研究センターである当センターでは、染色体工学技術の開発と医学や医薬品開発等に関する異分野との融合を図り、医療や新産業へのグローバルレベルでの発展に寄与することを目指しています。

また、筋ジストロフィー遺伝子治療プロジェクトを始め、癌の原因遺伝子の解明を進め産学の連携による治療薬の開発もを目指しています。
当センターは 4 部門からなります。

生命現象研究部門

染色体の構造や遺伝子発現制御メカニズムの解明研究を行い、その成果を最新の染色体工学技術開発に役立てる。また、医学生命科学研究と染色体工学研究を融合できる人材の育成を行う。

バイオモデル動物開発部門

疾患モデル動物や医薬開発モデル動物の開発と共同研究の実施及び人材育成に貢献する。特に、ヒトの薬物代謝遺伝子をもつマウス・ラットの開発(医薬品開発に貢献)及びダウン症モデルラットの開発(精神疾患、アルツハイマー症候群やがんの治療モデル)を行う。

創薬開発・支援部門

ヒト抗体産生動物を用いた抗体医薬品開発及びその支援、体性幹細胞や iPS 細胞を用いて遺伝子治療や再生医療、更には医薬品開発に向けた基盤研究とその応用分野における人材育成。

特に、「とっとり創薬実証センター」を通して製薬企業と共に創薬開発に取り組む。

ゲノム編集技術開発部門

染色体工学技術にとって、簡便に染色体改変を行う技術は不可欠である。

従って、近年急速に発展してきたゲノム編集技術を導入し、既存の部門との融合を図り、染色体工学研究技術開発の加速化に繋げる。

論文業績

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