



CDB SEMINAR

Speaker:

Mamoru Ishii

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Department of Biochemistry

Title: “*Msx* genes function in neural crest development”

Date: Friday, December 26

Time: 15:00 P.M.~16:00 P.M.

Place: 6F Conference Room of Building C, CDB

Summary

Msx genes, members of *Nk*-like homeobox gene family, have been conserved widely in the metazoa. In the mouse embryo, *Msx1* and *Msx2* are expressed in premigratory and migratory neural crest cells as well as in the pharyngeal arches. Despite their expression patterns, the roles of *Msx* genes during early neural crest development have remained largely unknown because of their functional redundancy. We have found that *Msx1/2* double mutant embryos exhibit defects in neural crest-derived structures caused by deficiencies in neural crest differentiation and survival. In addition, our data suggest that *Msx1/2* may function in a common developmental pathway with *AP-2*, a transcription factor required for neural crest development, and that *Msx1/2* may control *AP-2* gene expression.

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