

## CDB SEMINAR

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RIKEN Frontier Research System

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## Downstream components of Wnt signaling that control the maintenance of retinal stem cells in the ciliary marginal zone

## **Summary**

In many vertebrates, retinal stem cells are located in ciliary marginal zone (CMZ), a region between the neural retina and ciliary epithelium. Wnt2b is expressed in the marginal pigment epithelium adjacent to the CMZ, and *in vitro* and *in vivo* evidences suggest that it functions as a stem cell factor that inhibits differentiation of marginal progenitor cells and promotes their prolonged proliferation. In this talk, I will summarize recent progress in dissecting downstream components of Wnt signaling in the marginal stem cells, especially focusing on the role of HES1/c-hairly1 regulated in a manner independent of Notch.

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