

SIROCCO

Silencing RNAs: organizers and coordinators of complexity in eukaryotic organisms

AUG 2007 Newsletter 7

SIROCCO COMPETITIVE CALL

SIROCCO MONTH 8 of 48

New Partner Search for SIROCCO consortium

The search is on for a replacement for Rosetta Genomics in the SIROCCO consortium. Suggestions are invited from SIROCCO members for possible new partners that can undertake the workpackages described in the technical annex:

Workpackage 1.2: Sequence analysis of sRNAs in animals

The aim of WP1.2 is to establish the complement of miRNAs and siRNAs in different animal species. High-throughput sRNA cloning and sequencing projects will be carried out by the new partner using human cells including embryonic stem cells as RNA sources. The tasks involving the new project partner will include identification of miRNAs and siRNAs by cloning and validation of miRNAs that were predicted by different bioinformatic approaches.

Workpackage 1.3: Investigation of sRNA expression patterns in animals

The new project partner will investigate the association and role of miRNAs in major human solid tumours (breast, lung, colon and prostate cancers) using combined microarray and RT-PCR technology for this purpose. In the first 18 months of participation, the new partner will describe the expression profile of already known miRNAs in different healthy and diseased tissues. The information generated in workpackage 1.2 will be used to establish the expression patterns of new miRNAs and siRNAs in various mammalian tissues during the next 18 month period.

Please contact david.baulcombe@sainsbury-laboratory.ac.uk or aileen.hogan@sainsbury-laboratory.ac.uk with your suggestions



RNAi Europe

20-21 September 2007, Barcelona, Spain

The SIROCCO Consortium will be represented by Aileen Hogan at the RNAi Europe meeting next month.

SIROCCO Partner Eric Miska will be giving a talk entitled 'microRNAs in animal development and human cancer' at a special microRNA symposium. RNAi Europe is being held 19-21 September in Barcelona.

**FP7 Health
deadline 18 September**

Call identifier: FP7-HEALTH-2007-B

· Deadline: 18 September 2007 17.00 · Indicative budget: €549million·



Some examples of topics in this call:

Biotechnology: HEALTH-2007-1.4-4: Development of emerging gene therapy tools and technologies for clinical application.

Systems Biology: HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-5: Multidisciplinary fundamental genomics and molecular biology approaches to study basic biological processes relevant to health and diseases.

For more information, see the CORDIS FP7 call page:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=63

2007-2010 SIROCCO Integrated Project
European Commission 6th Framework Programme
Contract Number: LSHG-CT-2006-037900



RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT



Antiviral Immunity

Partner 3-ibmp Olivier Voinnet and his co-author Shou-Wei Ding have published a review in *Cell* on antiviral immunity and viral responses likening the interaction to “an ongoing molecular arms race that likely impacts the evolution of both viral and host genomes” [Ding SW, Voinnet O](#). Antiviral Immunity Directed by Small RNAs. *Cell*. 2007 Aug 10;130(3):413-26.

Initiation of Silencing

Partner 4 Witold Filipowicz and his colleagues have shown that the repression of 5' cap recognition by microRNAs is the first event to occur in mRNA silencing.

[Mathonnet G, Fabian MR, Svitkin YV, Parsyan A, Huck L, Murata T, Biffo S, Merrick WC, Darzynkiewicz E, Pillai RS, Filipowicz W, Duchaine TF, Sonenberg N](#). MicroRNA Inhibition of Translation Initiation in Vitro by Targeting the Cap-Binding Complex eIF4F. *Science*. 2007 Jul 30.

MicroRNA Expression Atlas

Several SIROCCO Partners have been involved in the assembly of a mammalian microRNA expression atlas. The atlas provides information about mature sequences, precursors, genome locations, maturation processes, inferred transcriptional units and conservation patterns.

[Landgraf P, Rusu M, Sheridan R, Sewer A, Iovino N, Aravin A, Pfeffer S, Rice A, Kamphorst AO, Landthaler M, Lin C, Socci ND, Hermida L, Fulci V, Chiaretti S, Foa R, Schliwka J, Fuchs U, Novosel A, Muller RU, Schermer B, Bissels U, Inman J, Phan Q, Chien M, Weir DB, Choksi R, De Vita G, Frezzetti D, Trompeter H, Hornung V, Teng G, Hartmann G, Palkovits M, Di Lauro R, Wernet P, Macino G, Rogler CE, Nagle JW, Ju J, Papavasiliou FN, Benzing T, Lichter P, Tam W, Brownstein MJ, Bosio A, Borkhardt A, Russo JJ, Sander C, Zavolan M, Tuschl T](#). A mammalian microRNA expression atlas based on small RNA library sequencing. *Cell*. 2007 Jun 29;129(7):1401-14.

Discounts are available for SIROCCO Partners from Applied Biosystems/Ambion on selected items. For a list of products visit www.sirocco-project.eu



PARTNER MESSAGE BOARD

SIROCCO ANNUAL MEETING

- ◆ SIROCCO Annual Meeting at [Harnack-Haus](#) in Berlin 20-21 November 2007—Arrival 19th November—dinner arranged for 19th November ◆
- ◆ There is enough sleeping accommodation at Harnack-Haus for each SIROCCO PI and two accompanying delegates (max 65) ◆
- ◆ For visitor information: <http://www.berlin.de/>
Flights available on [air berlin](#) and [easyjet](#) as well as national carriers ◆
- ◆ Program details to follow shortly ◆
- ◆ Please register online www.sirocco-project.eu ◆

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