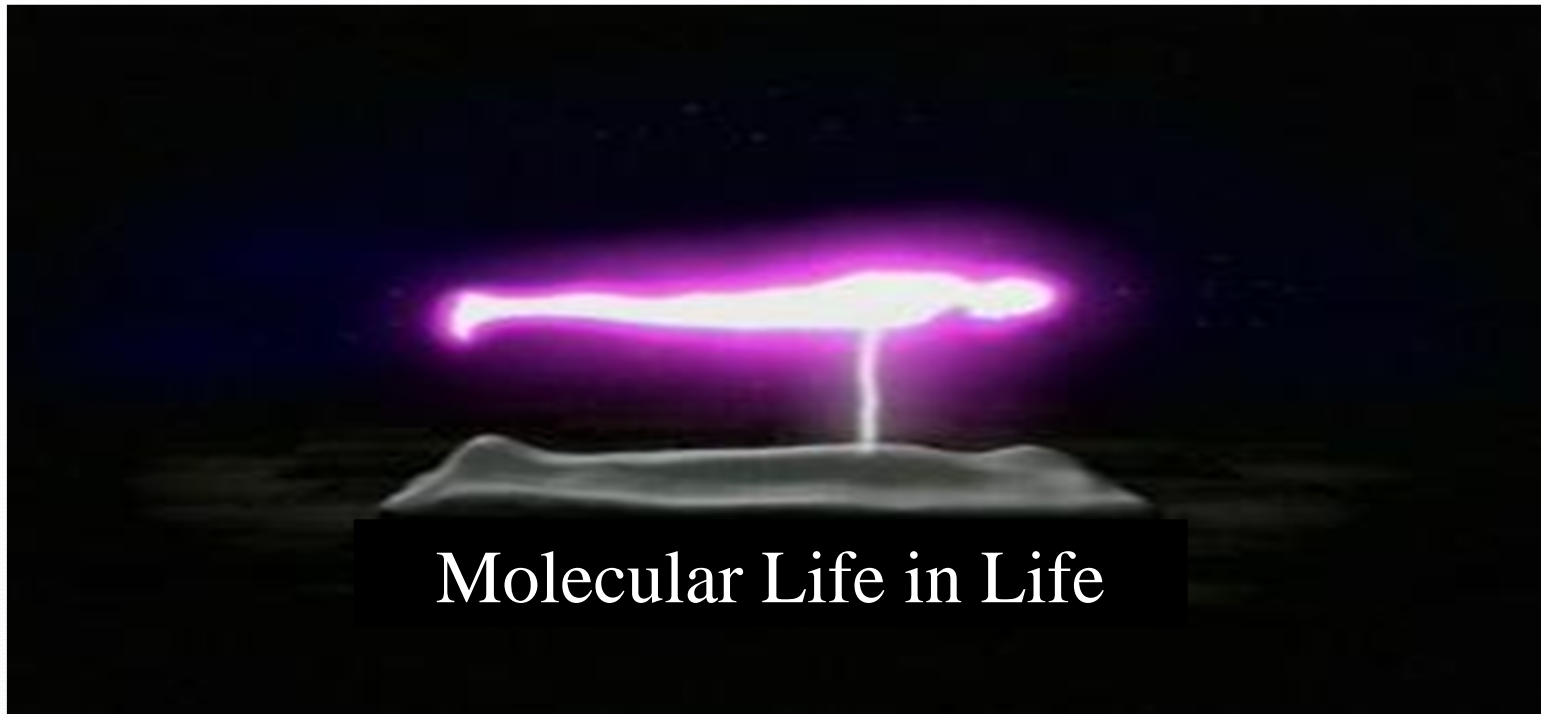


A chimeric microRNA imaging  
system to visualize microRNA-1  
in a single skeletal muscle cell  
during myogenesis

Soonhag Kim PhD  
Lab. of Molecular Imaging  
CHA University

# In vivo Molecular Imaging

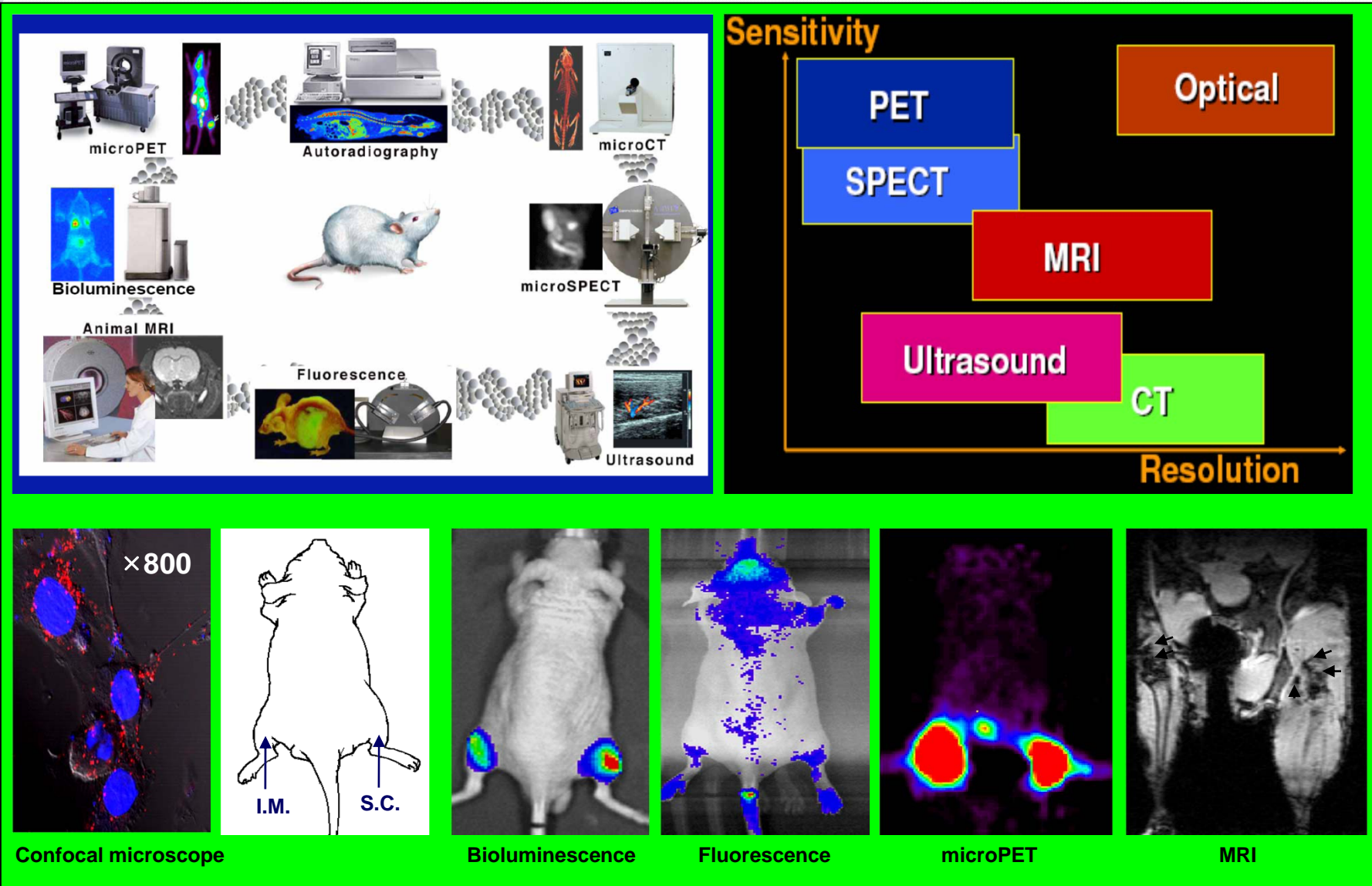
❖ **visualize and quantify** characterization of biological mechanisms at the cellular and molecular level **without sacrificing the animal**



Molecular Life in Life



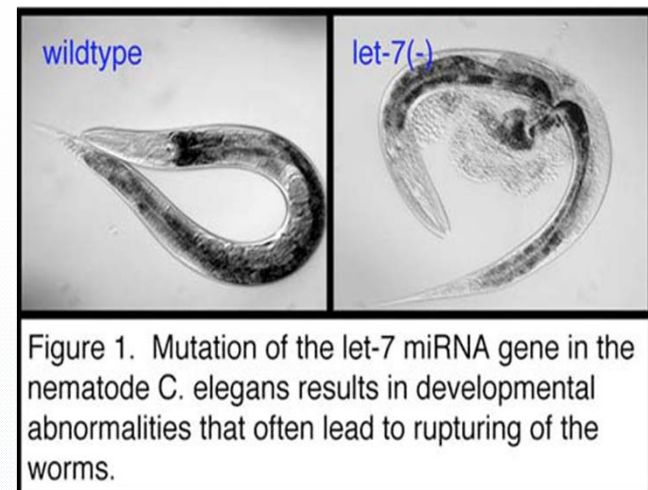
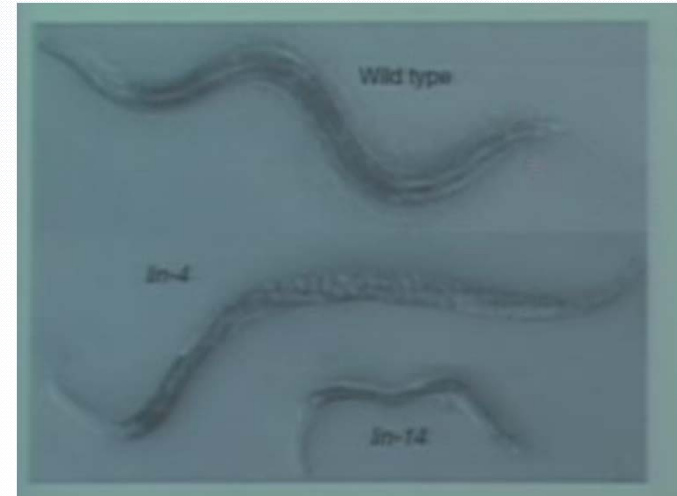
# Molecular Imaging Modalities



Hwang et al, 2009

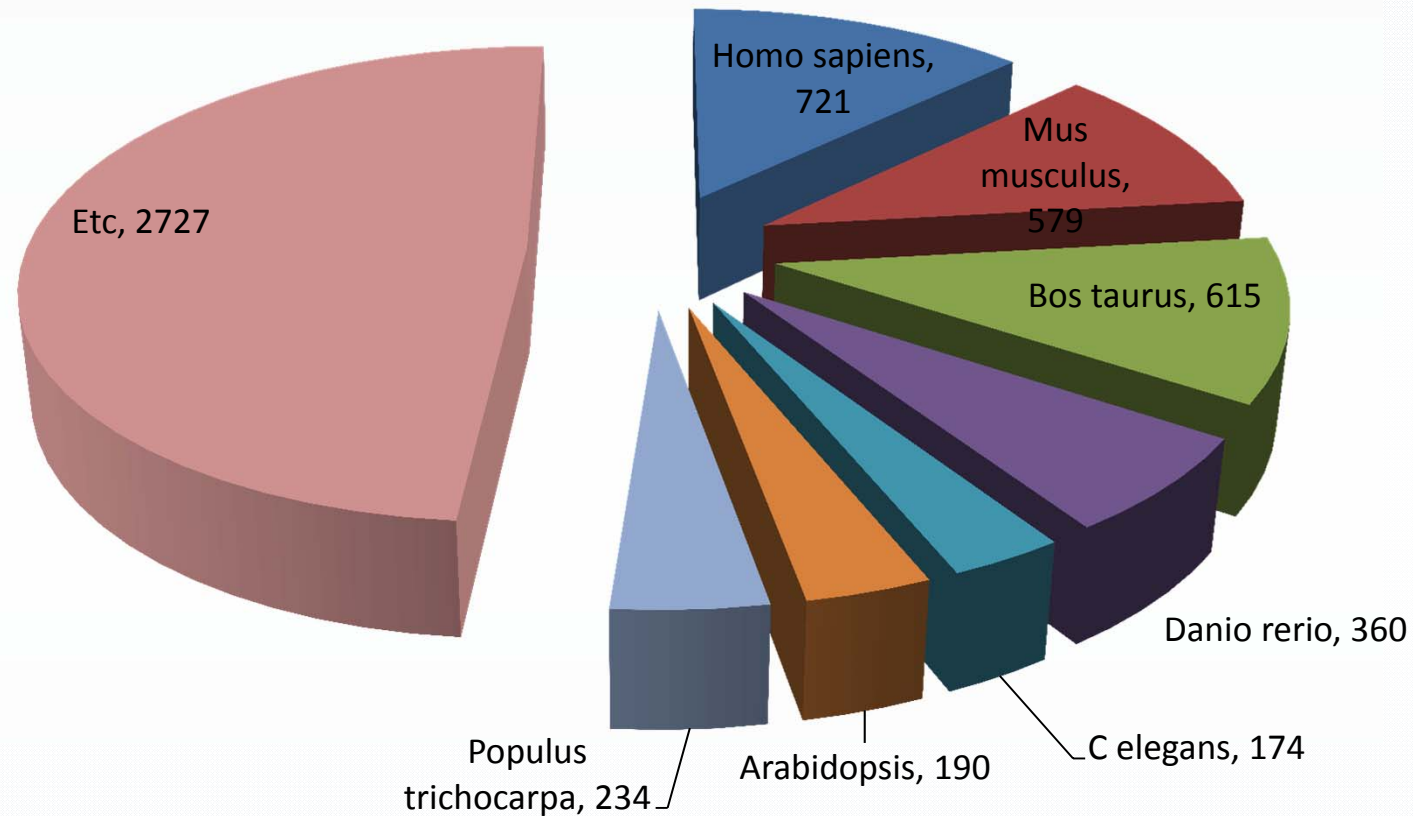
# microRNAs (miR)

- ❖ The regulation of developmental timing (line 14 gene) by Lin-4 in *C. elegans* (found by Ambros) (*Cell*.1993; 75:843)
- ❖ small non-coding RNAs
- ❖ 20~25 ribonucleotide
- ❖ Regulated by RNA polymerase II



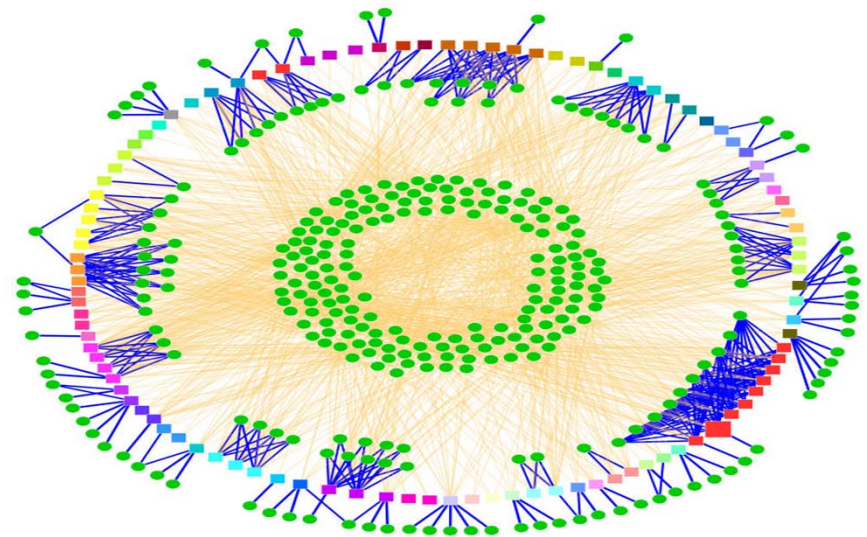
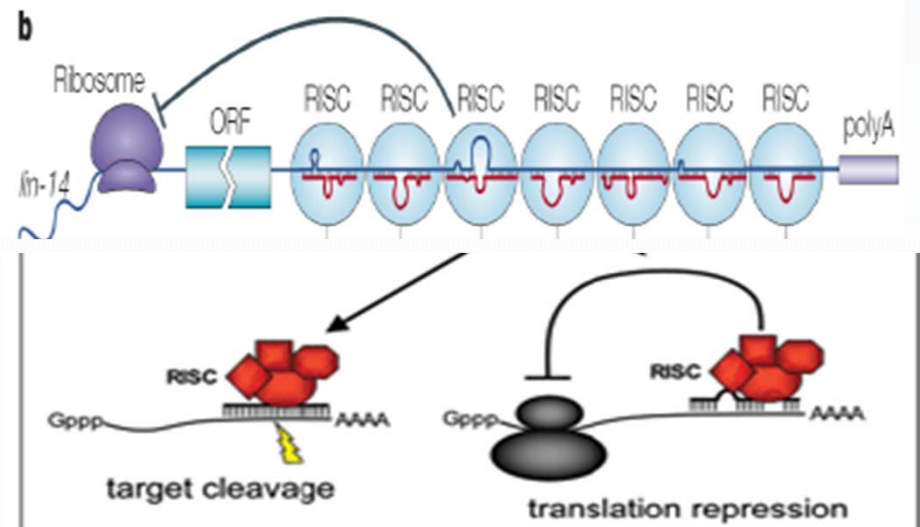
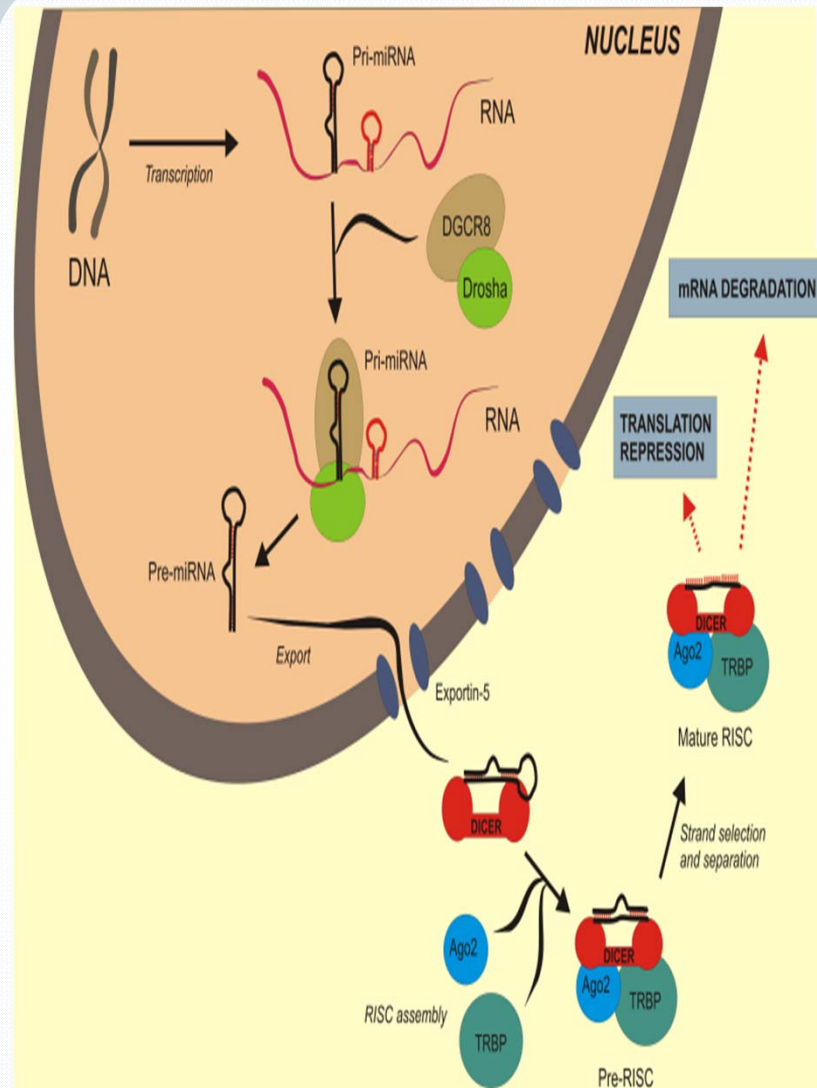


# How many microRNAs?



❖ miRBase release 14: <http://www.mirbase.org>

# microRNA biogenesis and function



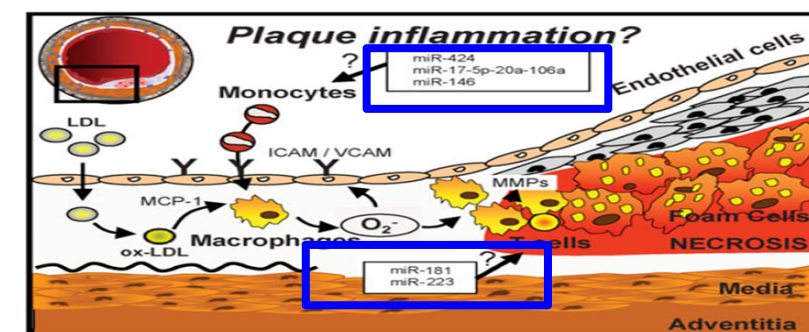
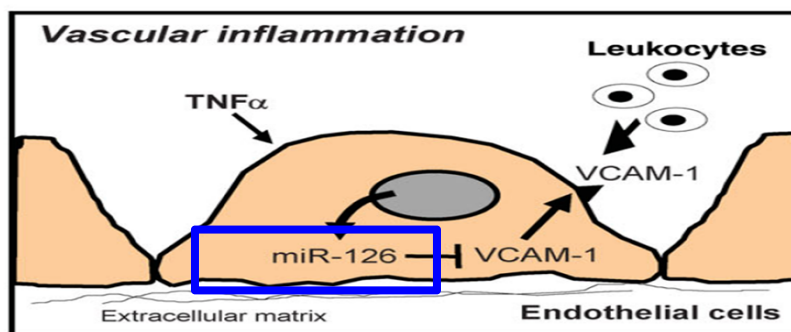
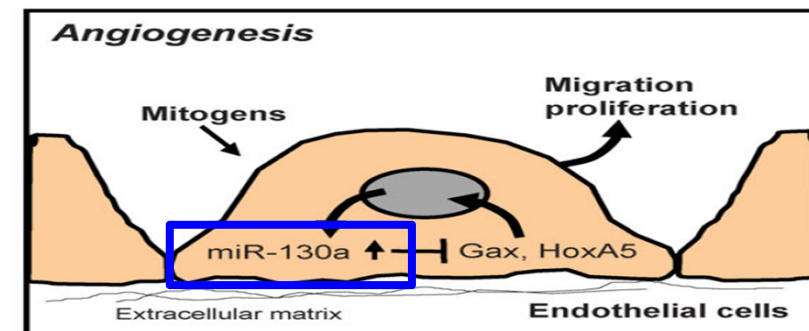
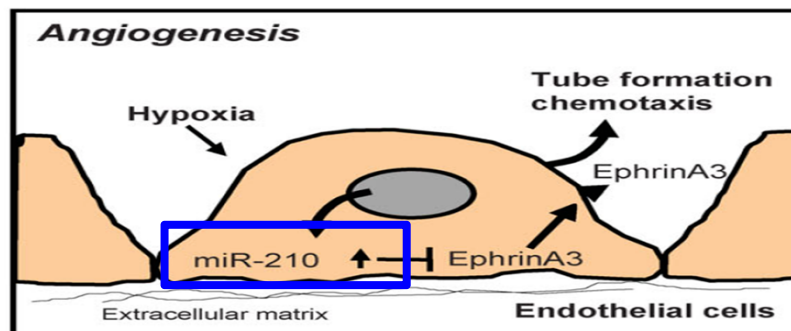
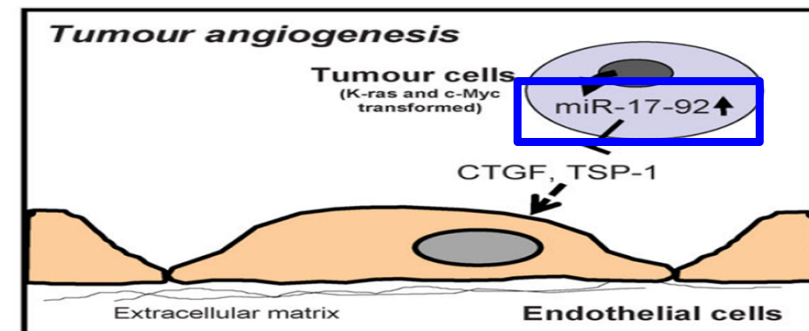
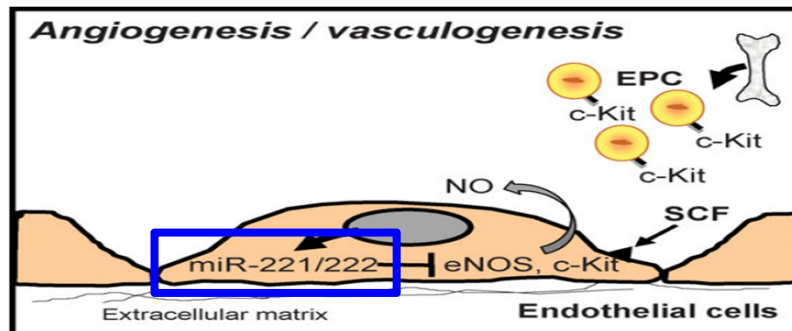
1,597 gene (■) / 104 microRNA (●)



# Tissue-specific expression of microRNA



Table 1 | Expression studies on mammalian microRNAs



# Abnormal expression of microRNA: Disease

## Abnormal expression of microRNAs in cancer cells:

Down-regulation-deletion in Chronic Lymph. Leukemia *miR-15 a miR-16*

Up-regulation in B cell lymphomas *miR-155*

Up-regulation-amplifikasi in B cell lymphomas *miR- 17-92 klaster*

Down-regulation in lung cancer *miR-26a a miR-99a, let-7*

Down-regulation in colon cancer *miR-143-miR-145 klaster*

Up-regulation in Burkitt lymphoma *miR-155*

Up-regulation in glioblastoma *miR-221*

## Other diseases

Parkinson , X-linked mental retardation

*miR-224*

Diabetes

*miR-375*

Cardiac hypertrophy in stress condition

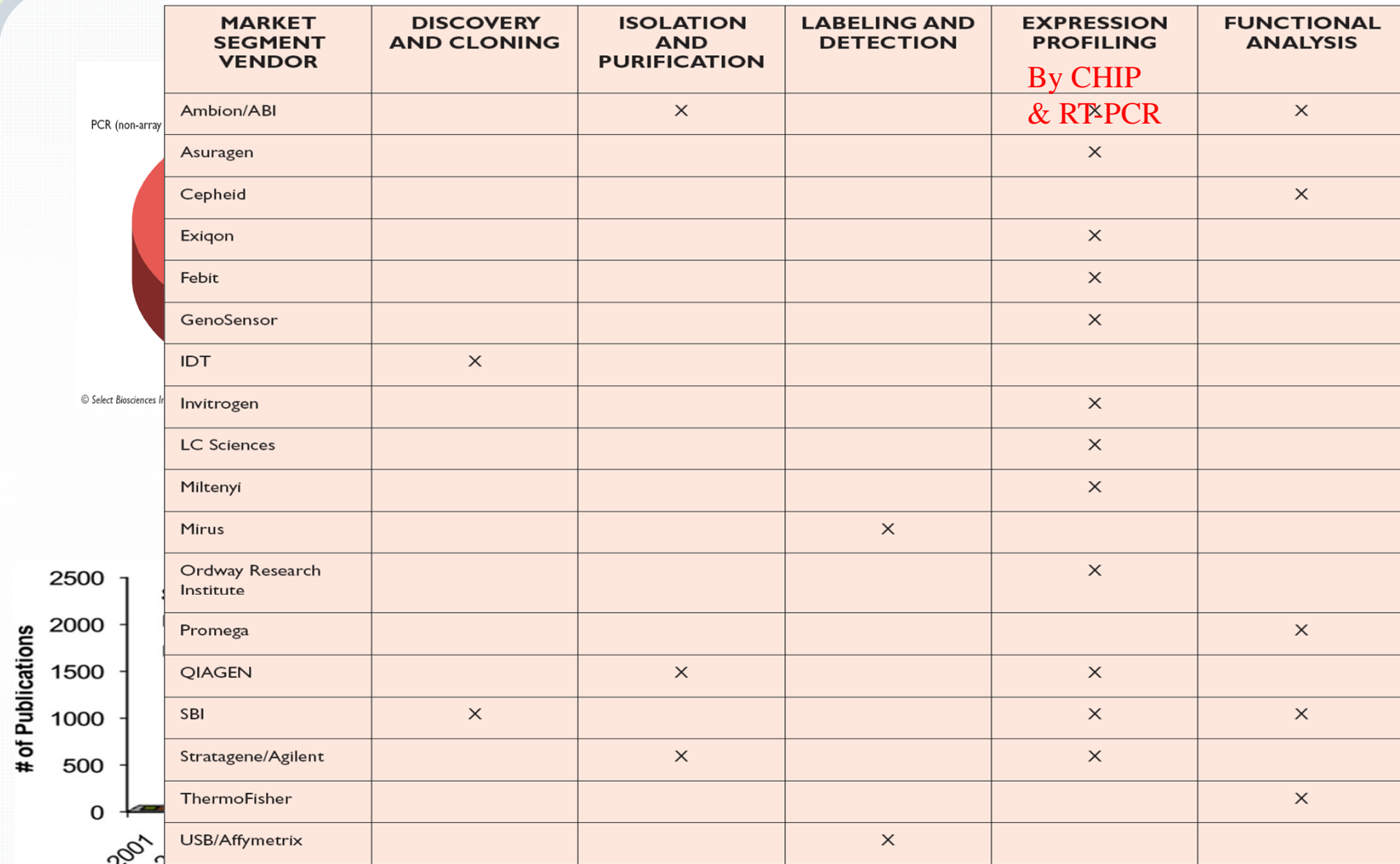
*miR-209, miR1-2*

Defective Immunity

*miR-155*

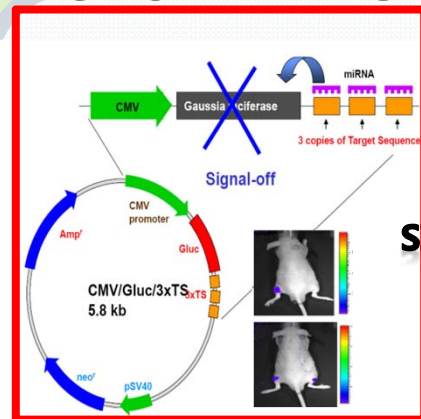


# microRNA research trend



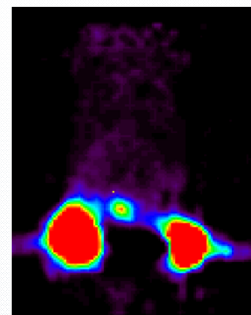
Source: Select Biosciences Industry Research

# How have we evolved to image microRNAs from 2008

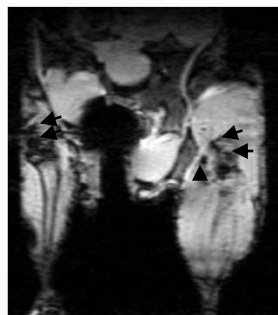


Reporter gene (signal-off)

**ALL-IN-ONE  
CASSETTE  
VECTOR**

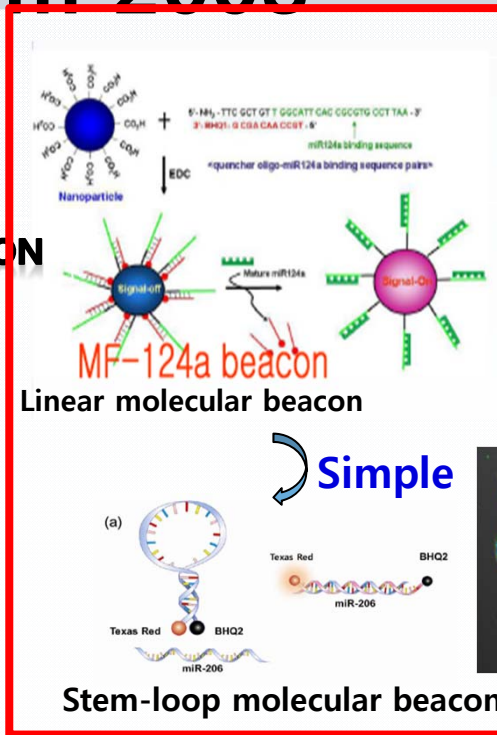


PET  
Pre-differentiation



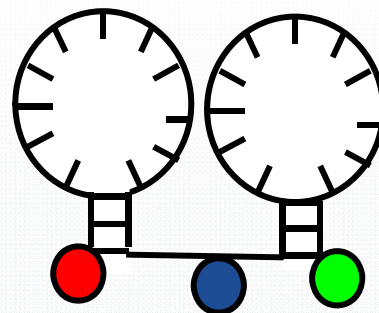
MRI

**SIGNAL-ON**



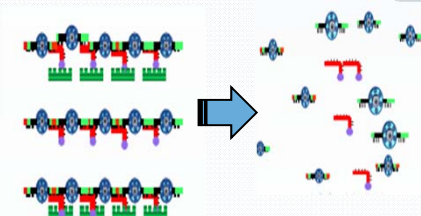
Stem-loop molecular beacon

**Multiple**



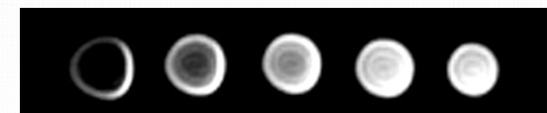
Dual molecular beacon

**CLINICAL  
NANO-  
BIOSENSOR**



T2 ↓

T2 ↑



Magnetic Resonance Imaging

**Extension**

Light ↓

Light ↑



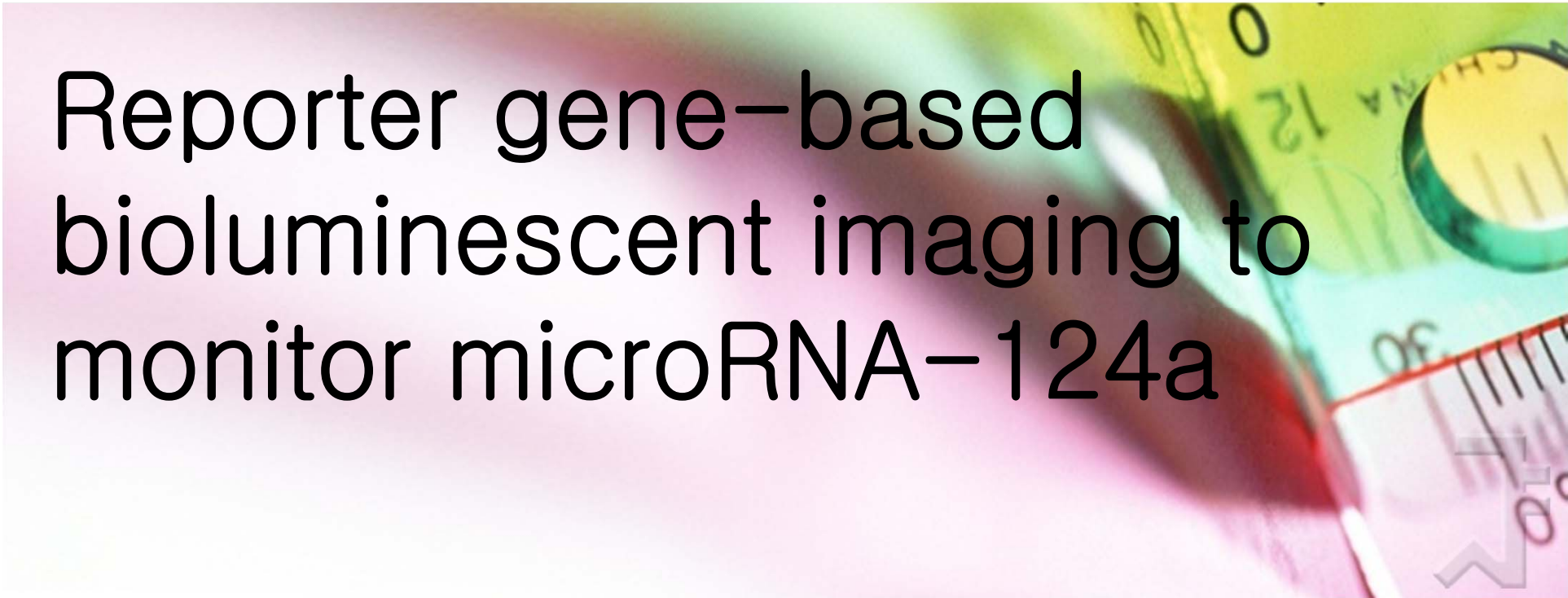
Quantum Dot-based optical Imaging



# A reporter gene imaging system for monitoring microRNA biogenesis

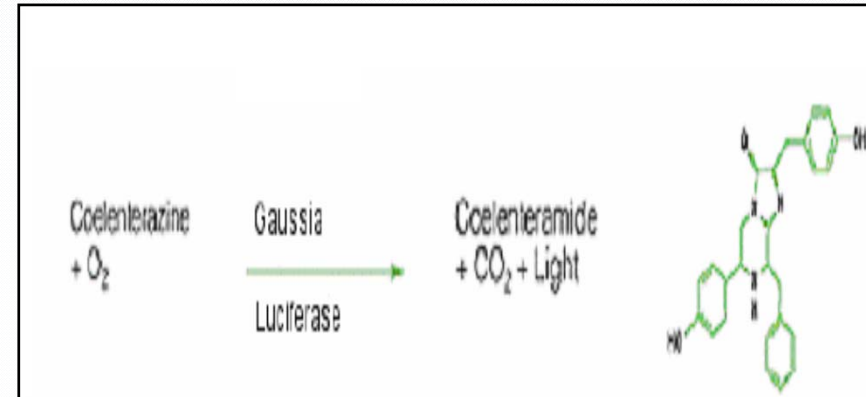
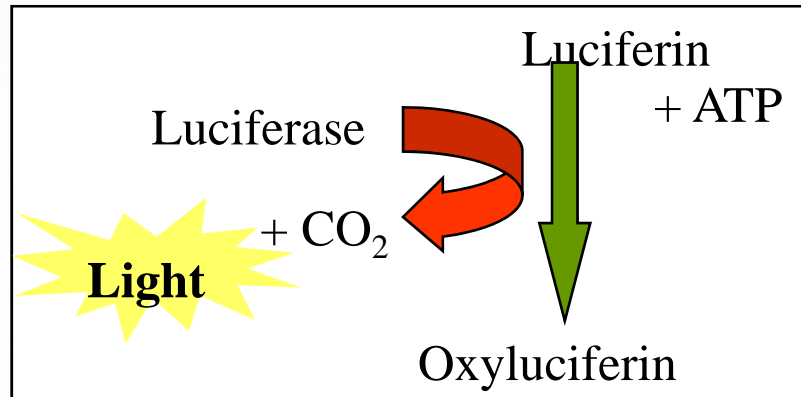
Hae Young Ko<sup>1,2</sup>, Do Won Hwang<sup>1</sup>, Dong Soo Lee<sup>1,3</sup> & Soonhag Kim<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Nuclear Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea. <sup>2</sup>Interdisciplinary Course of Radiation Applied Life Science, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea. <sup>3</sup>Department of Nuclear Medicine and Department of Molecular Medicine and Biopharmaceutical Science, College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea. <sup>4</sup>Laboratory of Molecular Imaging, Department of Applied Bioscience, CHA Stem Cell Institute, CHA University, Seoul, Korea. Correspondence should be addressed to S.K. (kimsoonhag@empal.com) and D.S.L. (dsl@plaza.snu.ac.kr).



Reporter gene-based  
bioluminescent imaging to  
monitor microRNA-124a

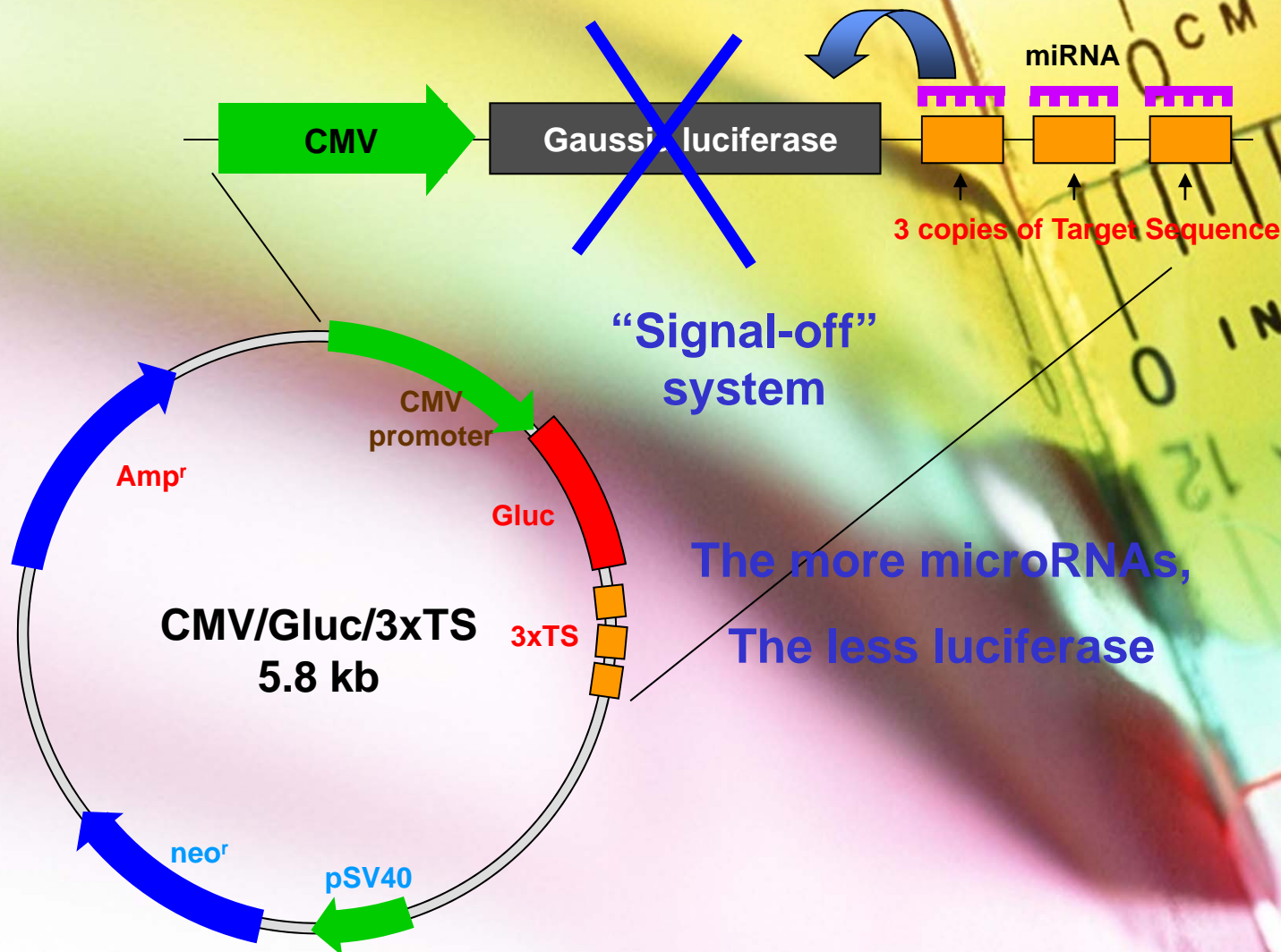
# Bioluminescent proteins



	substrate	Maximal emission wavelength
Firefly	Luciferin	560 nm
Renilla	coelenterazine	480 nm
Gaussia	coelenterazine	470 nm

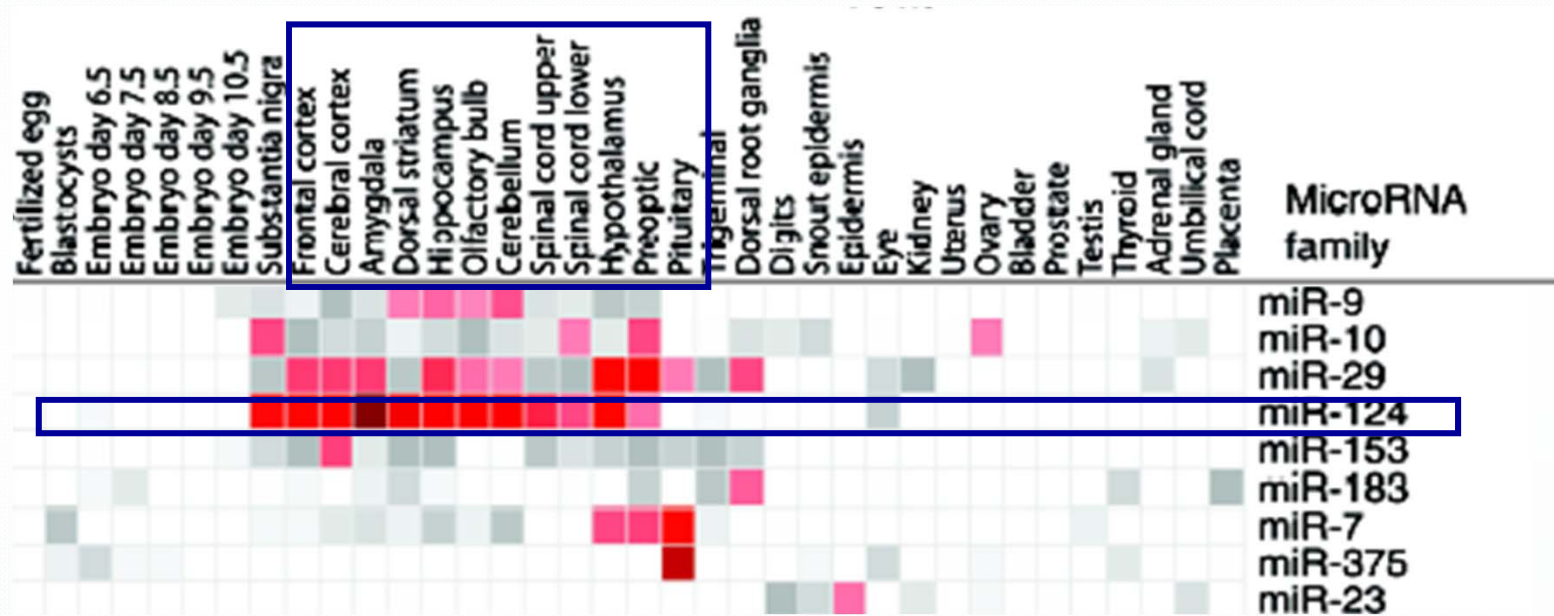


# Bioluminescent imaging reporter gene: mature microRNAs



# microRNA124a (miR124a)

## ❖ Brain specific expression

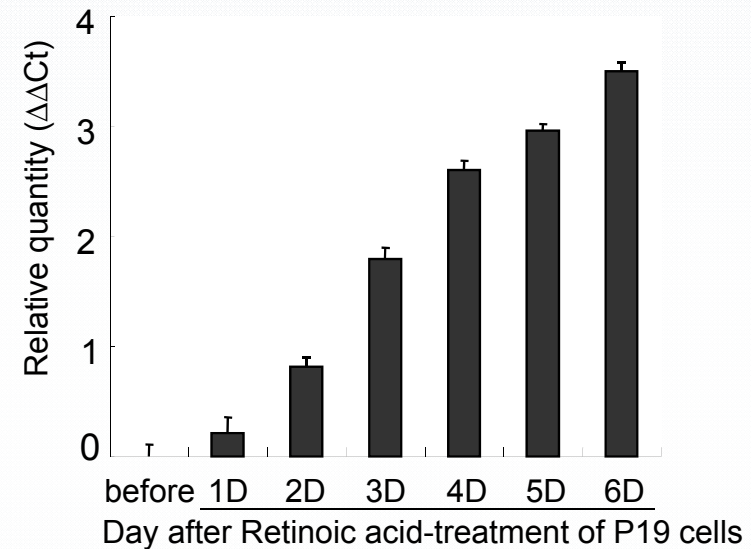
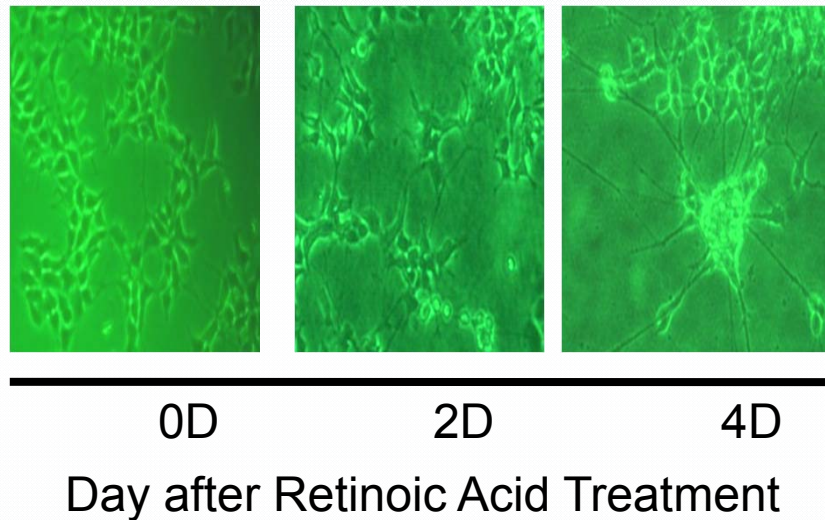


ANNA M. K. et al. (2006)



miR124a: gradually increased expression during neurogenesis

P19 cell (rat embryonal carcinoma cell line)



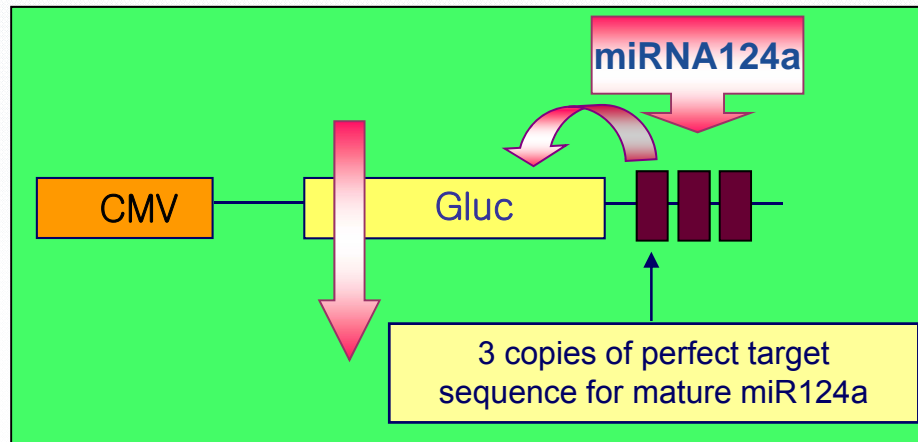
**mature miR124a: Real-time PCR**

**Ko et al. FEBS J (2009)**

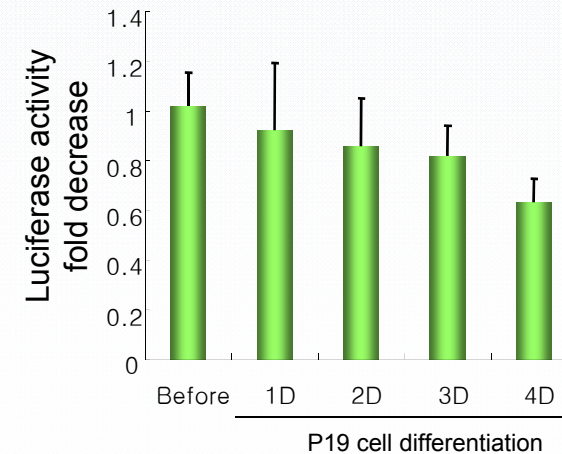


# Imaging of single-stranded mature miRNA 124a during neurogenesis

## CMV/Gluc/3xPT\_miR124a: miR124a reporter gene

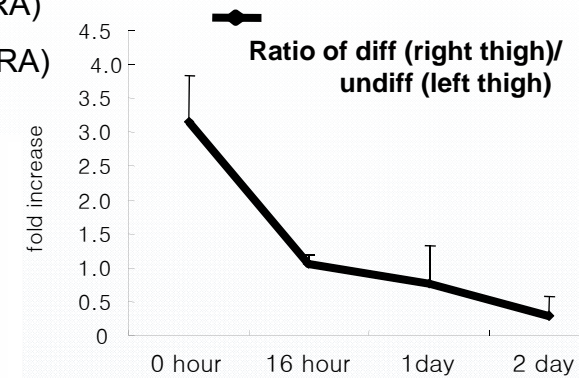
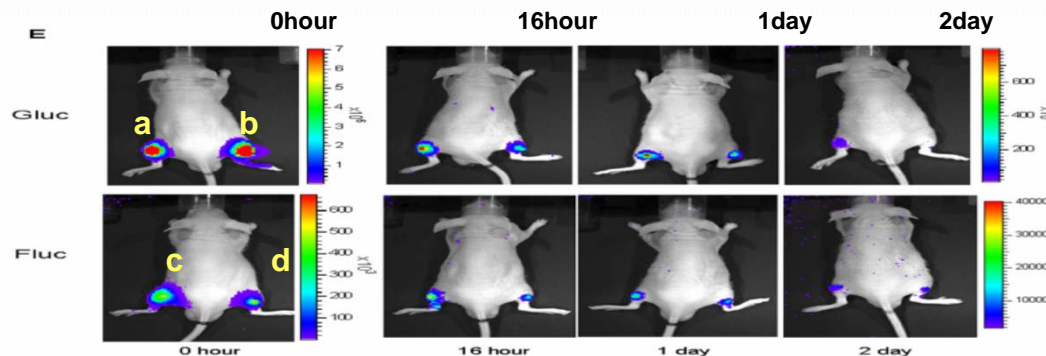


## ◆ mature -miR124a: in vitro



## ◆ mature -miR124a: in vivo

- a. CMV/Gluc/3xPT\_miR124a (-RA)      c. CMV/Firefly luciferase (-RA)  
 b. CMV/Gluc/3xPT\_miR124a (+ RA)      d. CMV/Firefly luciferase (+ RA)



## Smart Magnetic Fluorescent Nanoparticle Imaging Probes to Monitor MicroRNAs

*Do Won Hwang, In Chan Song, Dong Soo Lee, and Soonhag Kim\**

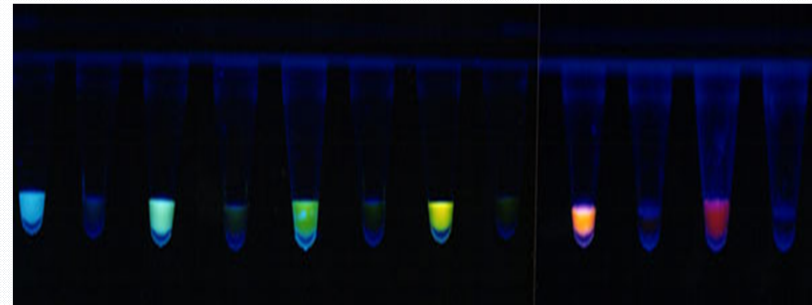
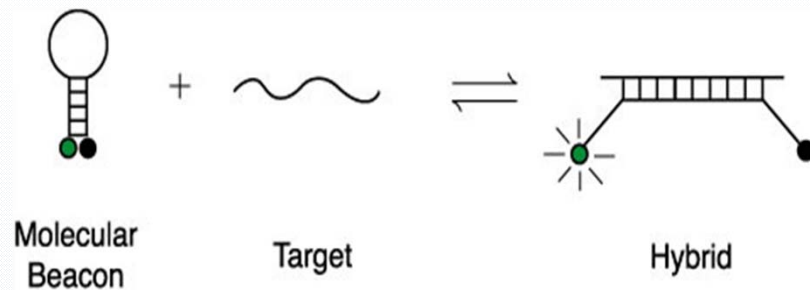
**small** 2010, 6, No. 1, 81–88 © 2010 Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA, Weinheim



Molecular beacon–based  
fluorescent imaging to  
monitor microRNA–124a

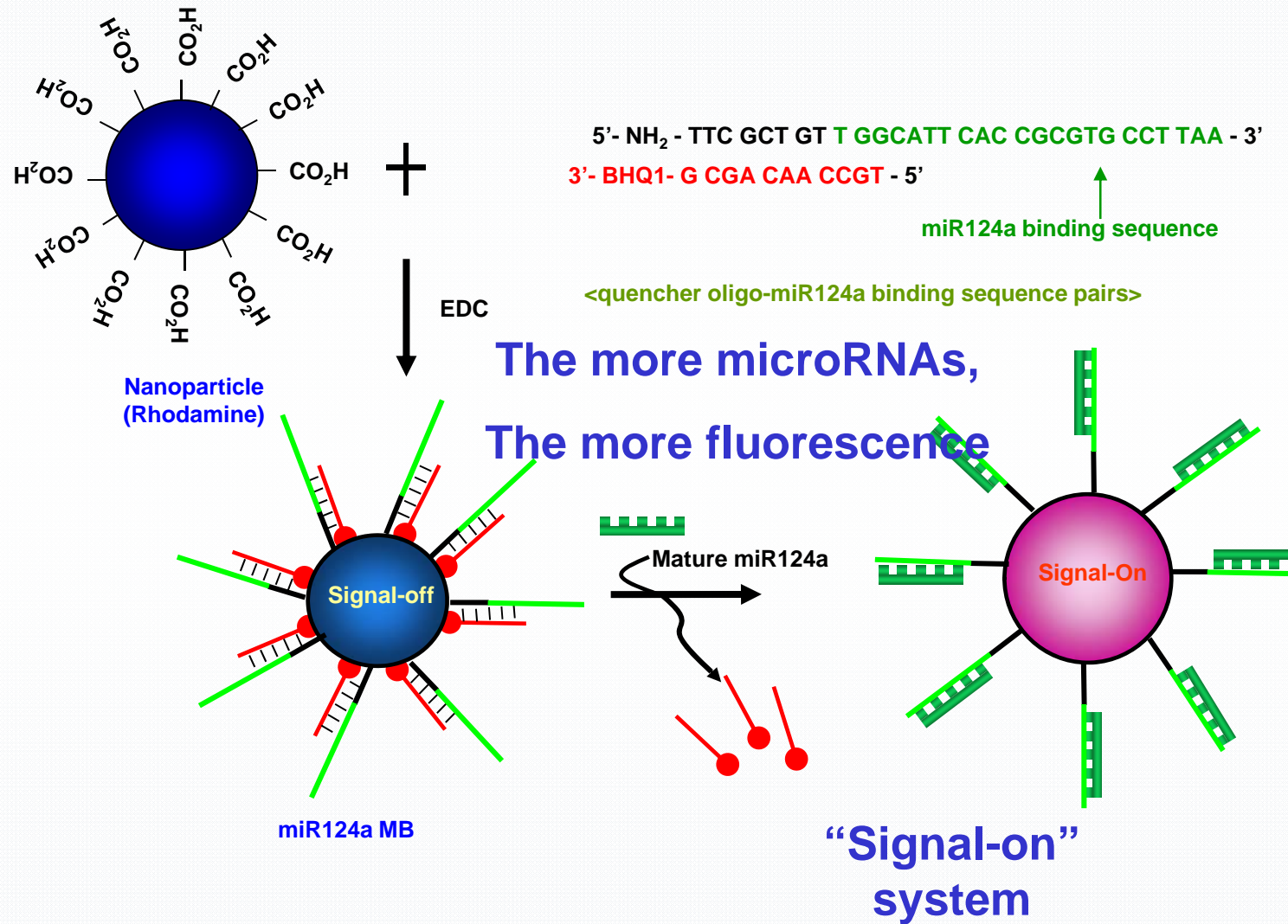
# Molecular beacon (MB)

- ❖ oligonucleotide hybridization probes that contains a fluorophore and a non-fluorescent quencher on each arm

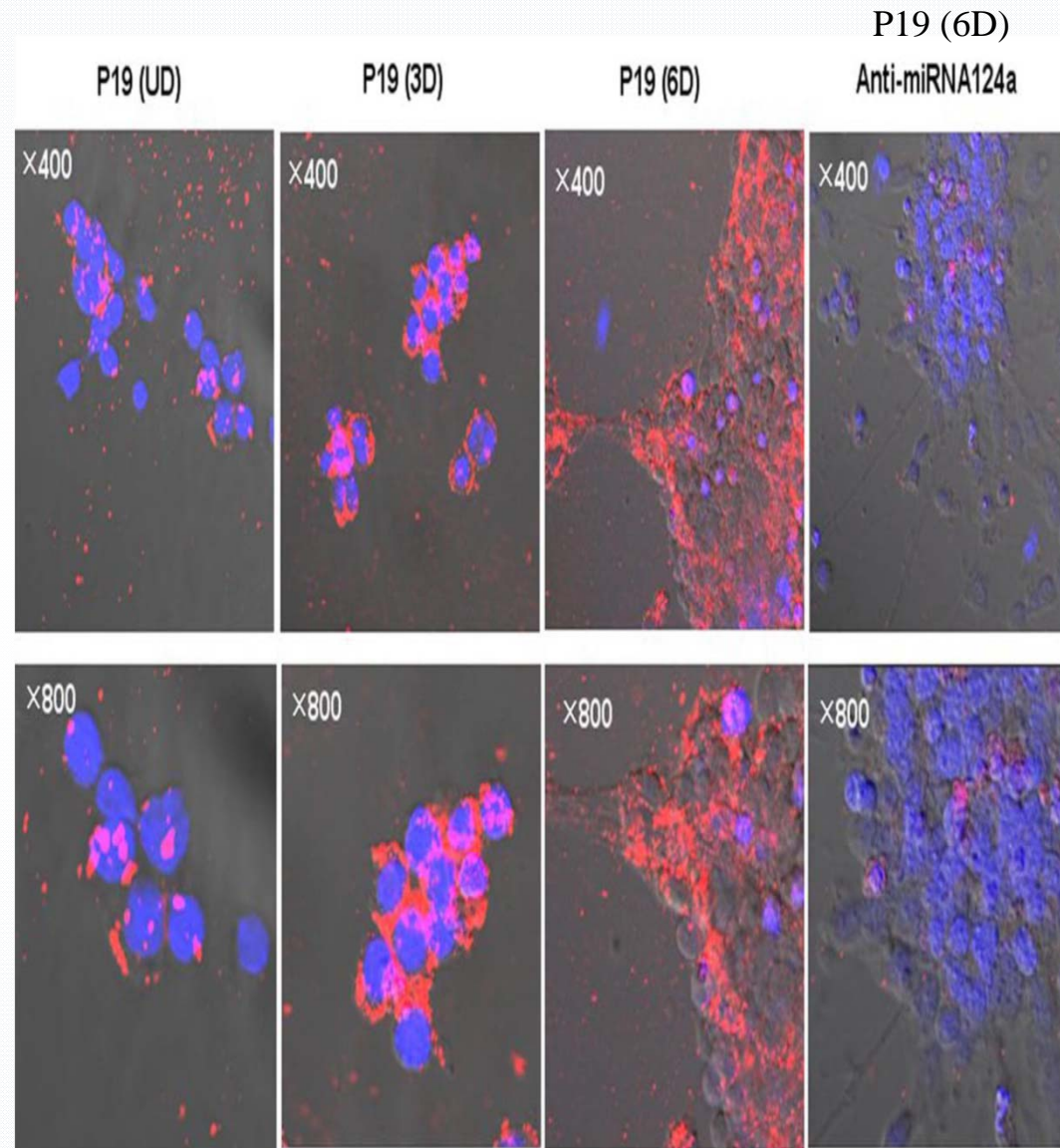
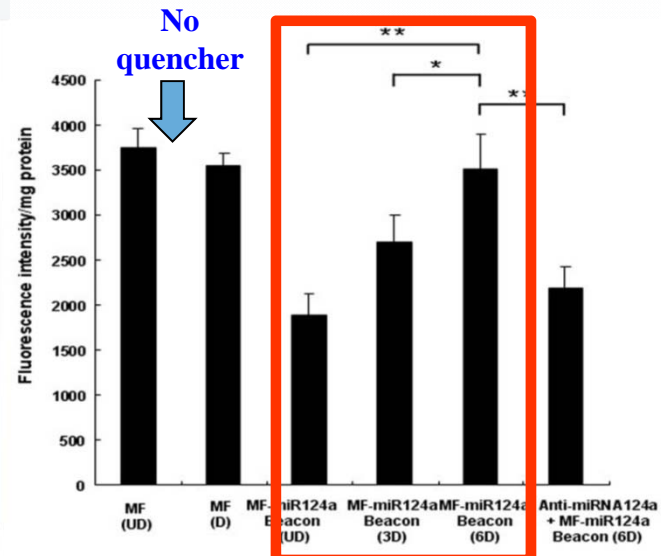
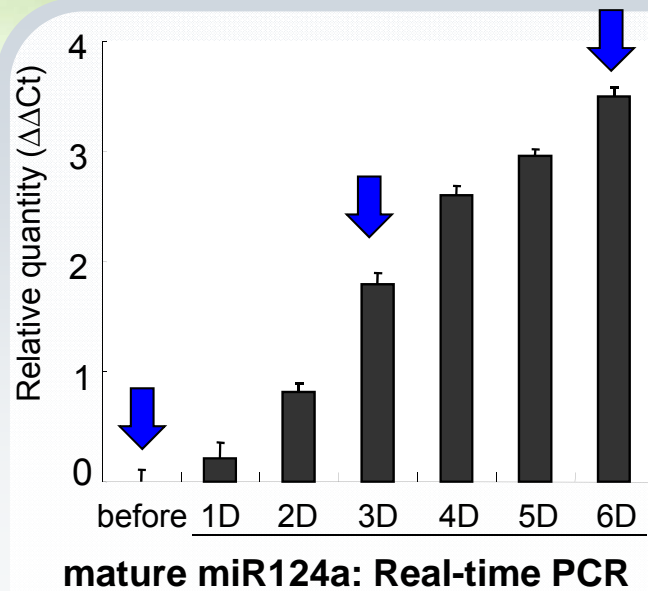




# miR124a molecular beacon

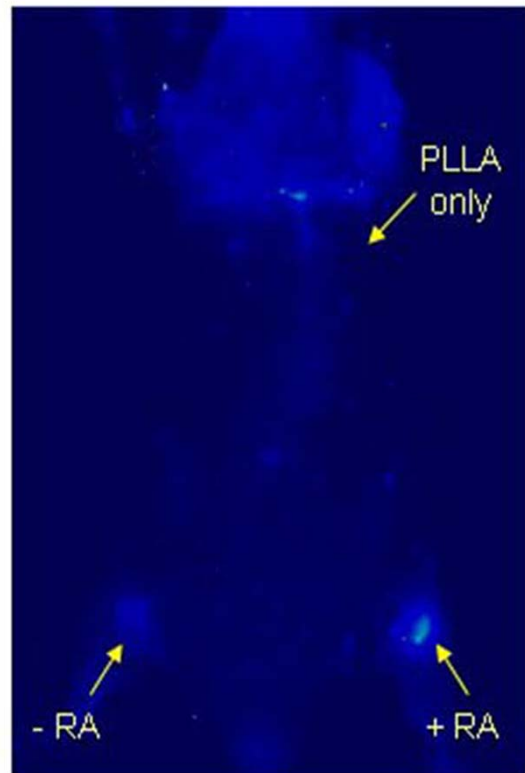


# In vitro assay of miR124a molecular beacon in P19 cells

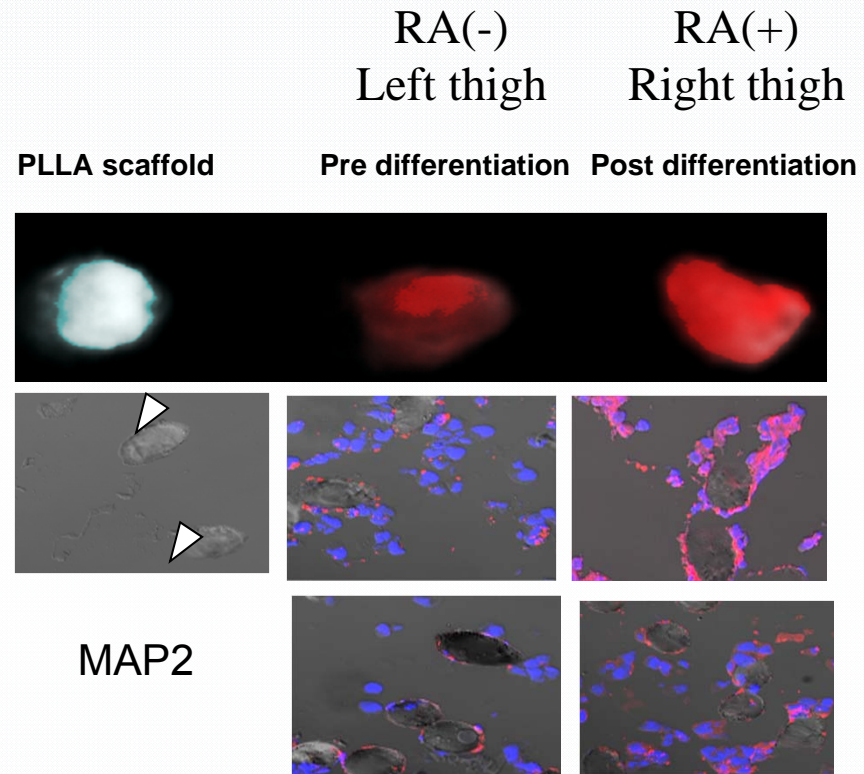




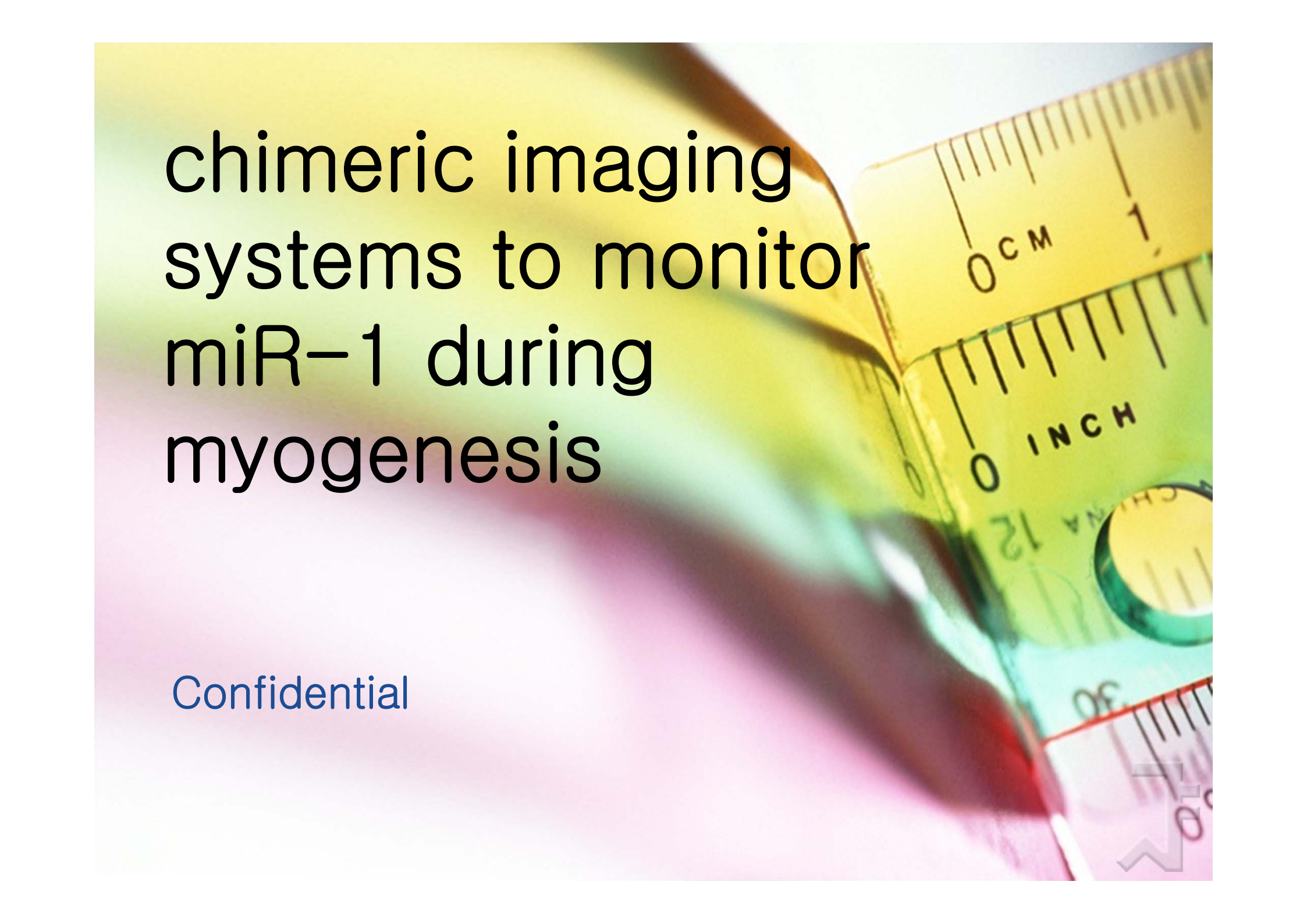
# In vivo imaging of miR124a molecular beacon



<Day 2>



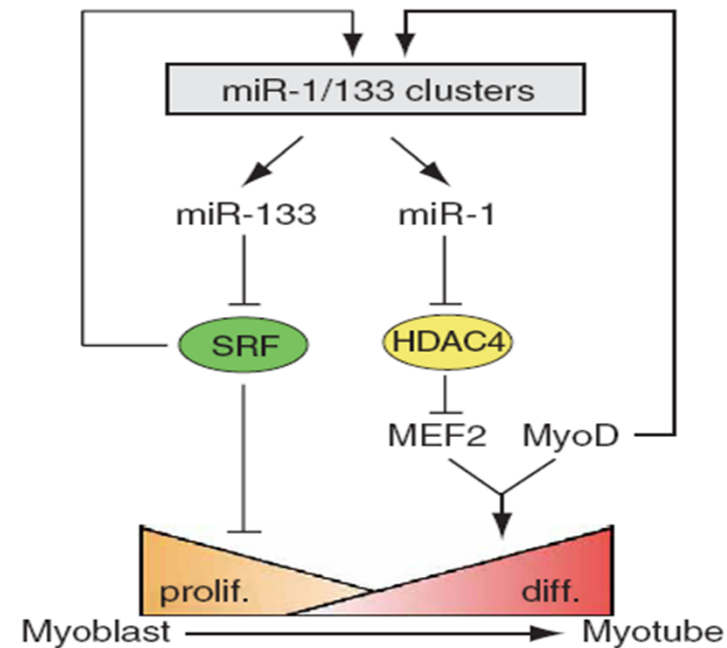
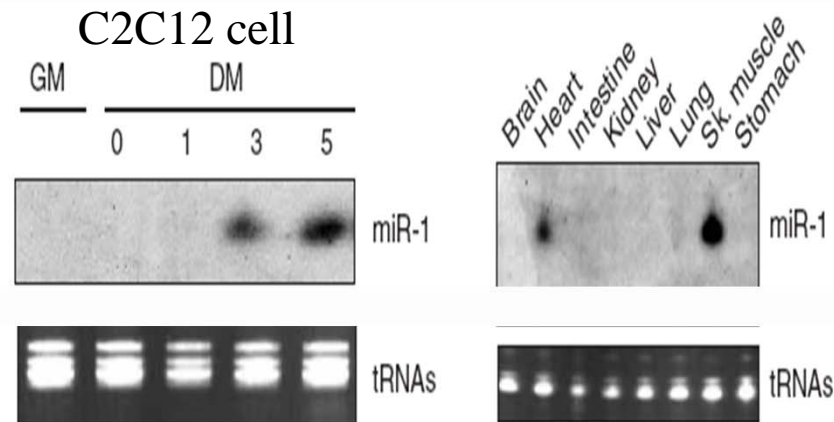
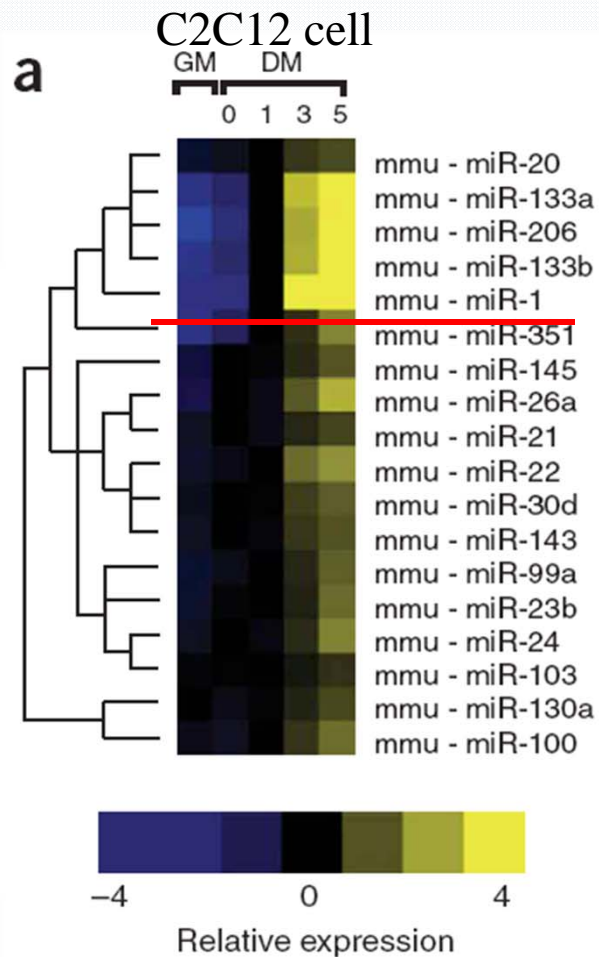




# chimeric imaging systems to monitor miR-1 during myogenesis

Confidential

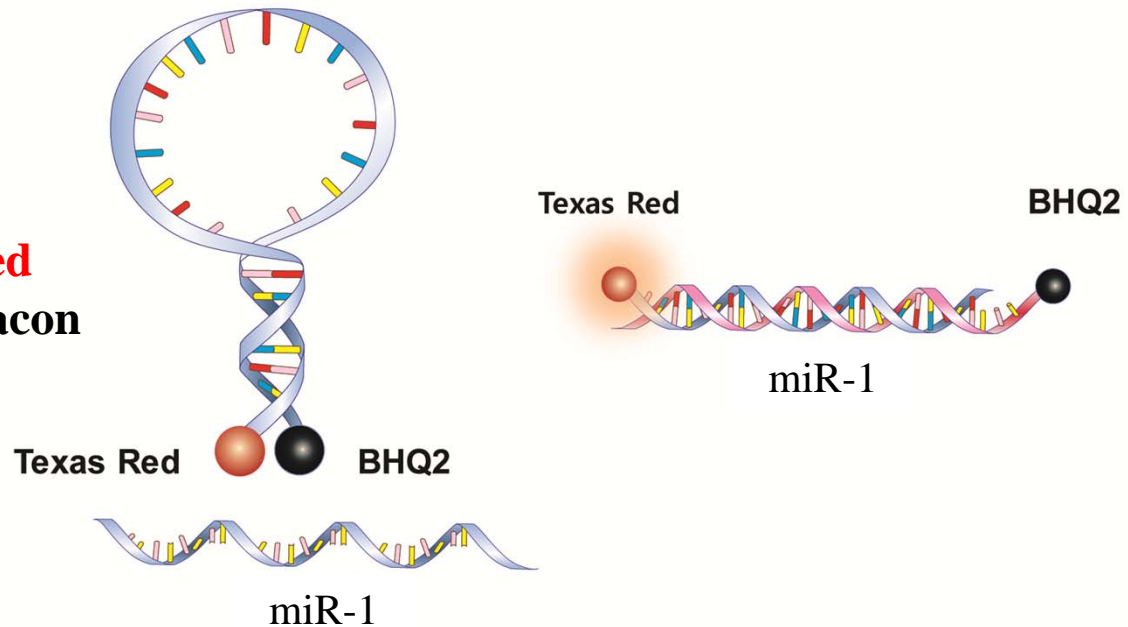
# miR-1 promotes myogenesis



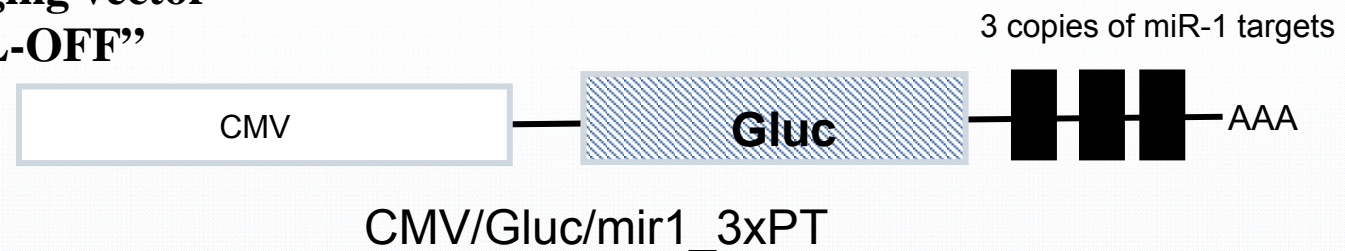
Nature genetics, 2006

# Alternative miRNA imaging systems

**Stem loop-structured  
miRNA Molecular beacon  
“SIGNAL-ON”**

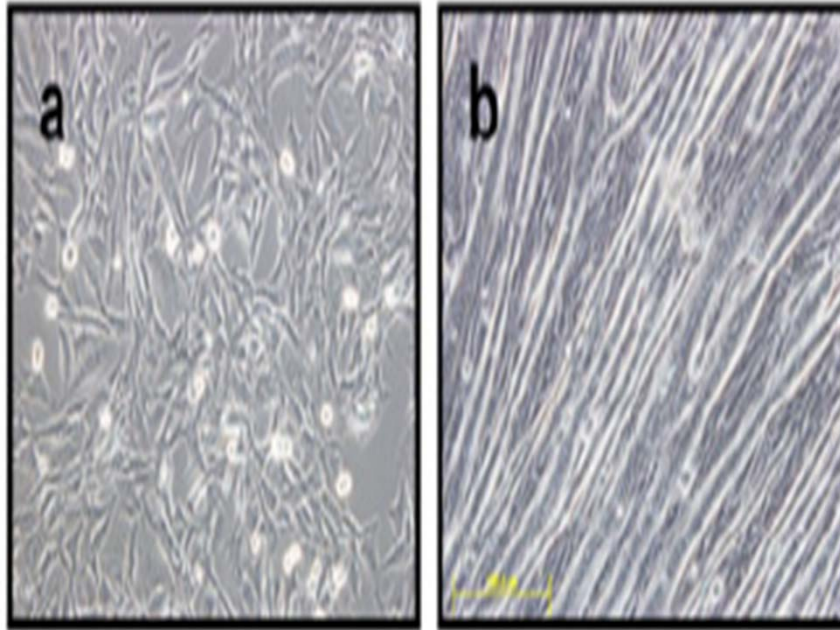


**Reporter gene- based  
miRNA imaging vector  
“SIGNAL-OFF”**



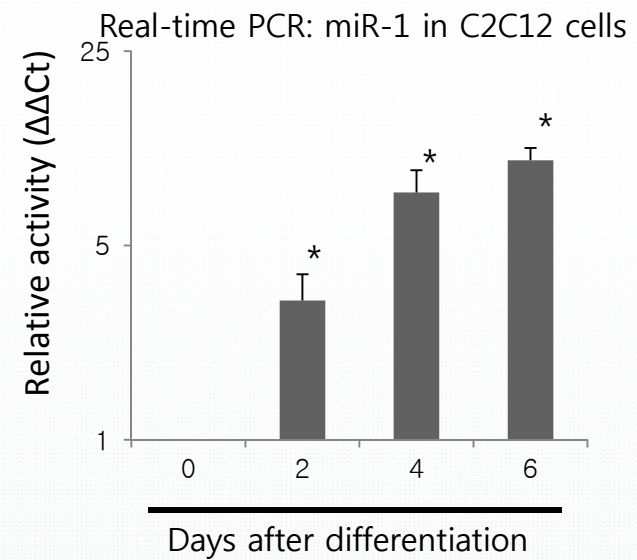
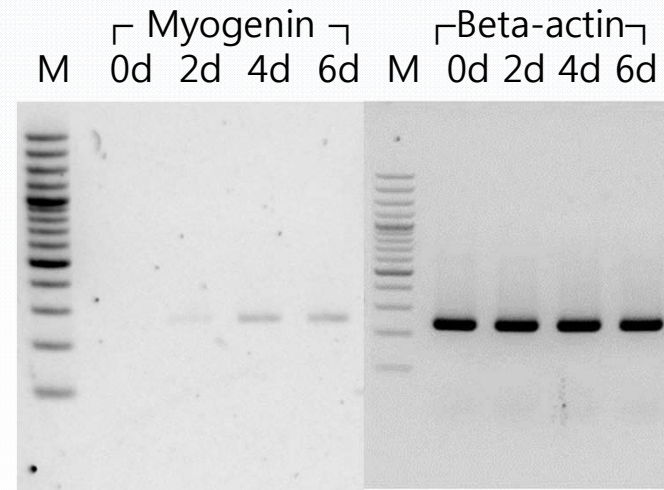


# miR-1 is gradually increased during myogenesis

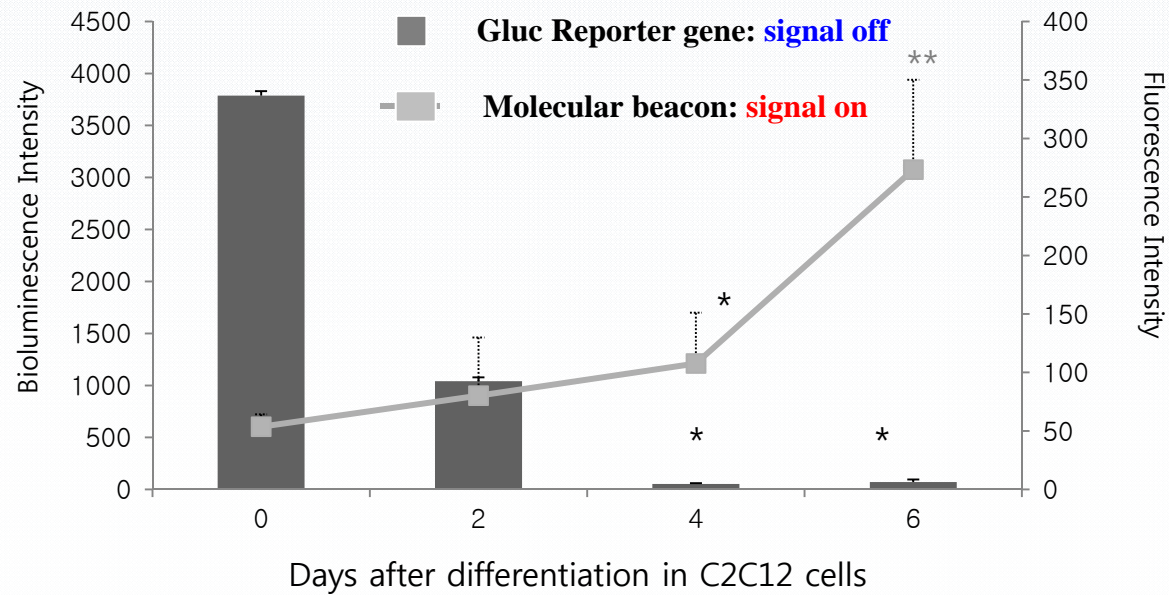


C2C12 in GM,  
Undifferentiated

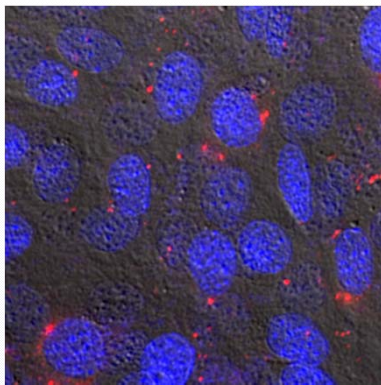
C2C12 in DM,  
differentiated



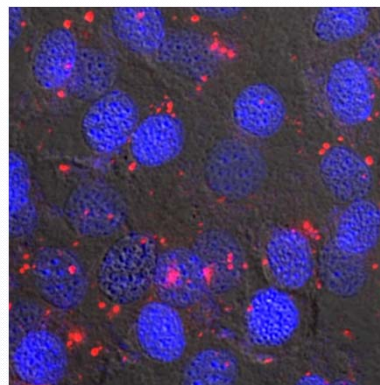
# *In vitro* assay by co-transfection of reporter gene and molecular beacon



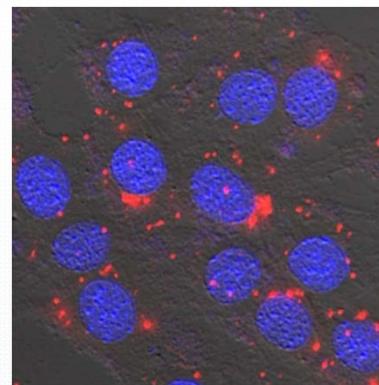
miR-1  
Molecular  
beacon



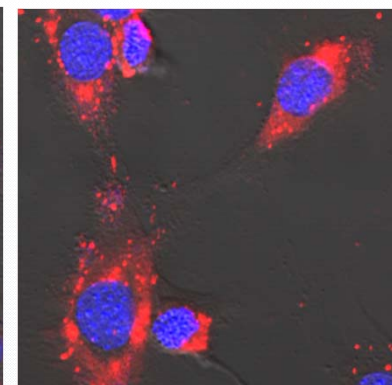
0d



2d



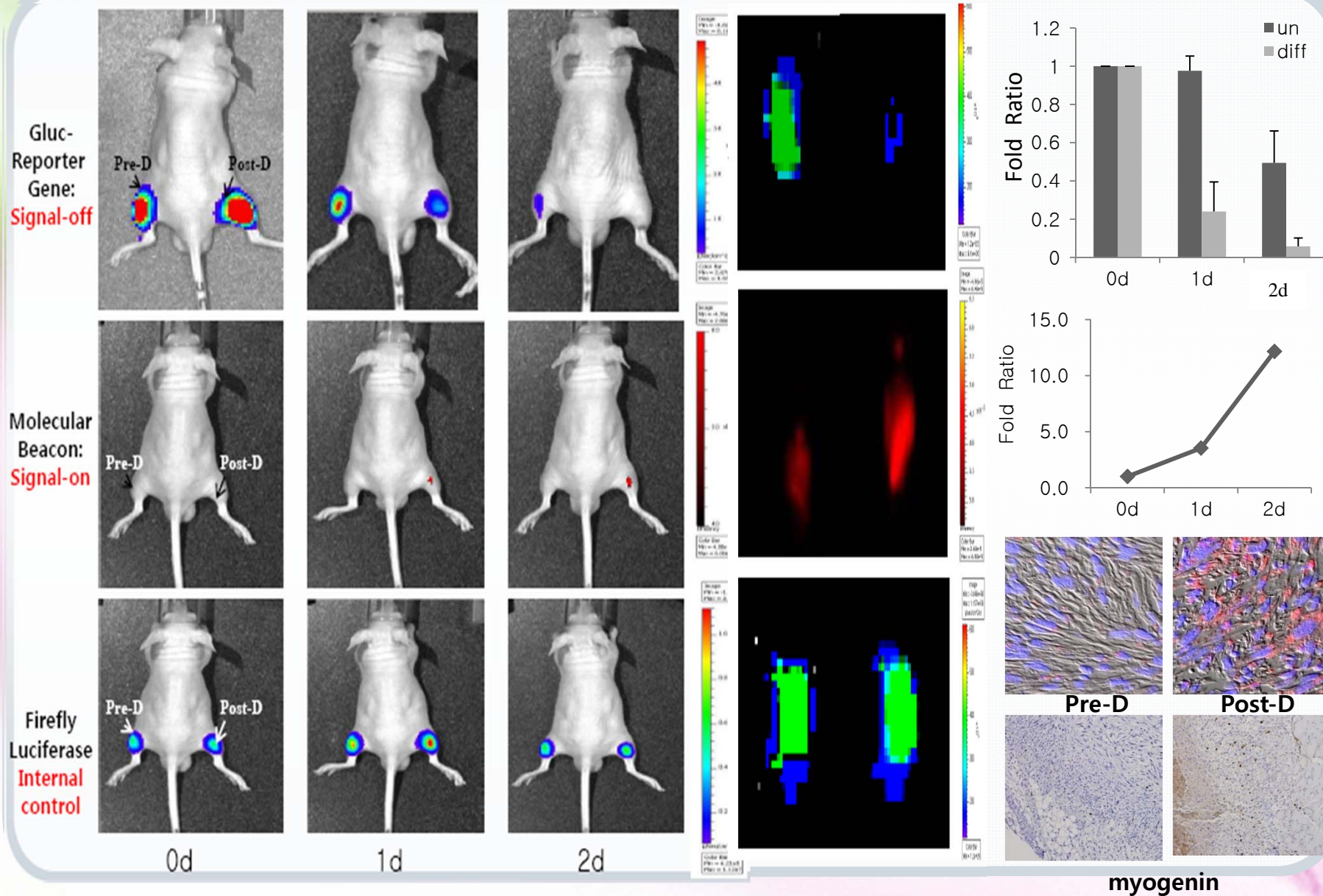
4d



6d



# *In vivo* assay by co-transfection of reporter gene and molecular beacon





# Conclusion

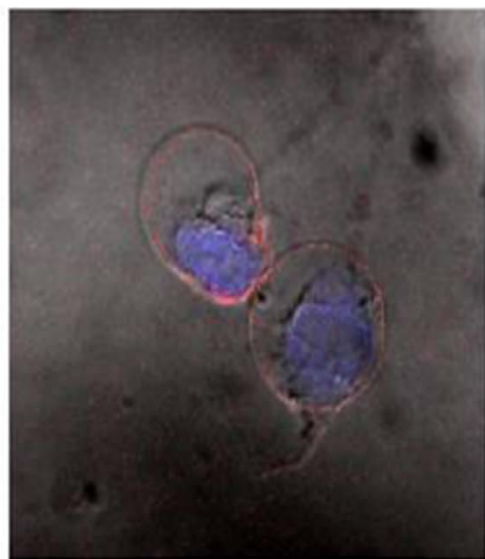
- ❖ The chimeric miRNA imaging system provides the complementary imaging information from the miRNA Molecular Beacon confirming that the dramatic signal decrease in miRNA reporter gene was caused by the increase in miRNA

# On-going work: targeting delivery of miRNA imaging system into cells and tissues

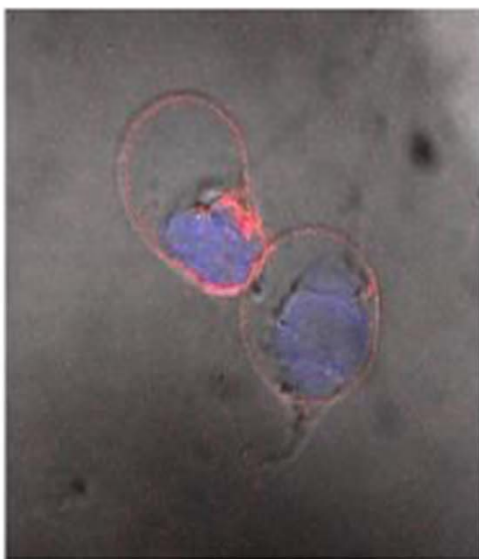


자성 형광 나노입자

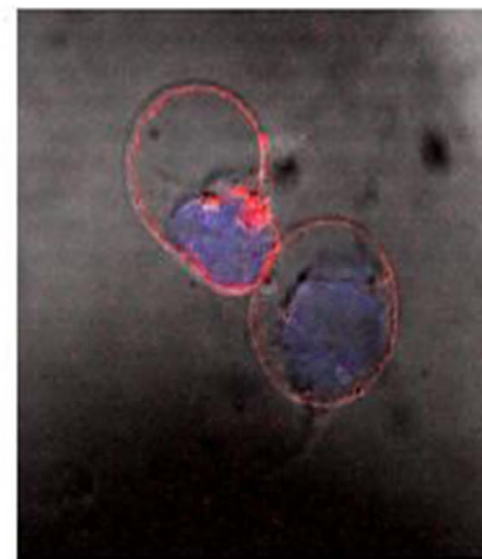
Great targeting and intracellular guide into cancers by nucleolin aptamer



< 5 min later >



< 15 min later >



< 30 min later >

Aptamer에 의한 세포내 이입



microRNA 추적 백터 핵의학/자기공명 신호 감소

적재

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- Dr. Do Won Hwang

## ❖ Yonsei University

- Dr. Won Jun Kang
- Dr. Young Min Huh

## ❖ Hanyang University

- Dr. Min Hyung Lee

## ❖ Korea University

- Dr. Youngsik Lee
- Dr. Hyunggi Kim

## ❖ Pohang University of Science and Technology

- Dr. Sung Ho Ryu
- Dr. Jung Hwang Lee





경청하여 주셨어 감사 드립니다