

Ribosomal protein L27 is identical in chick and rat

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Our goal was to identify a gene with stable expression and use it as a control for differential cloning in the developing chick retina. Probes to cytoskeletal elements, like actins, are widely used for such purposes but we have found that β -actin expression clearly decreased after neuronal maturation (Fig. 1a). Moreover, β -actin levels were much lower in liver than in brain or retina (see ref. 1) and the probe hybridized mainly to a smaller mRNA species in heart (probably α -actin, see ref. 2). Therefore, a chick retina cDNA library (3) was differentially screened with cDNA probes derived from mRNA extracted at embryonic day 9 or 15 and several clones showing the same intensity of hybridization with both probes were isolated. One such clone hybridized to a mRNA of about 600 nucleotides equally abundant in all tissues tested (Fig. 1b). The sequence of the insert was determined (Fig. 2) and revealed an open reading frame of 408 nucleotides with 83% identity to the rat ribosomal protein L27 coding region (4). All nucleotide differences were silent, resulting in a predicted protein sequence of 136 residues identical in chick and rat.

REFERENCES

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chick L27  -CGGGCATTGGAGCGCGCTGTGTCGAGATGGCCAGTTTATGAAGCCGGGG  50
rat L27    -CTGCT GC          A          A C          8
           METGlyLysPheMetLysProGly

AAGTGGTGTCTGCTGCTCGCGGCGCTACTCGGGCGTAAAGCTGTCTATCGTGAAGAAC  110
A          C G T A          C A C A C          A          28
LysValValLeuValLeuAlaGlyArgTyrSerGlyArgLysAlaValIleValLysAsn

ATCGACGATGGCAGCTCTGATCGGCCCTACGCCACGCGCTTGGTGGCAGGCATCGACCCG  170
T T          C C C C T          T C          T A T          48
IleAspAspGlyThrSerAspArgProTyrSerHisAlaLeuValAlaGlyIleAspArg

TACCCAGGAAGTTACAGCAGCAATGGCCAGAAAGATAGCGAAGAGGCTAAGATC  230
T C A A A G          T C          C C C A C          68
TyrProArgLysValThrAlaAlaMetGlyLysLysLysIleAlaLysArgSerLysIle

AAGTCTTTTGTAAAGTTTACAACTACACCCCTGATGCCACCGGTTATCTGTGAC  290
          T          C          A A C G T          88
LysSerPheValLysValTyrAsnTyrAsnHisLeuMetProThrArgTyrSerValAsp

ATTCGCCGTGGCAAACTGTGTCAATAGGATGTGTTCAGGGACCGTCTCTGAAGCC  350
C T          C          A A A          108
IleProLeuAspLysThrValValAsnLysAspValPheArgAspProAlaLeuLysArg

AAAGCAGCGTGAAGCTAAGGTGAAGTTTGGAGAGATACAGACTGGCAGAATAG  410
G C G G G C C          C          A G C A          128
LysAlaArgArgGluAlaLysValLysPheGluGluArgTyrLysThrGlyLysAspLys

TGGTCTTCAGAGCTGGATTCTAAATTTGMAATAGGACTGTTTCAATAAATGTTAT  470
T          T C T G G A T T T T T T C G C A T T A          A A A A          136
TrpPhePheGlnLysLeuArgPhe***

TAAAAACCA (n)
A T AA (n)
    
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Figure 2. Chicken and rat L27. Only the nucleotides that are different are indicated for the rat. All substitutions within the open reading frame are silent. ***, STOP codon; (n), Poly A tail.

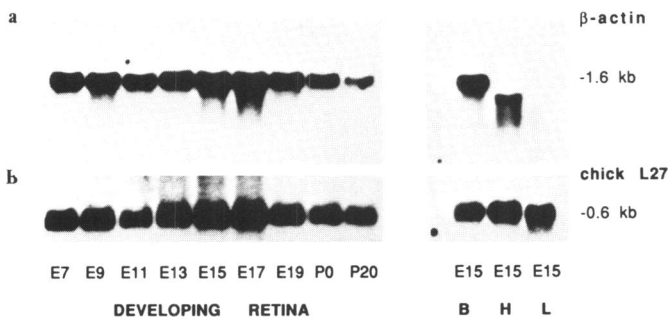


Figure 1. Northern analysis (8 μ g of total cytoplasmic RNA in each lane). Both probes were used on the same blots. E, embryonic day; P, post-hatching day; B, brain; H, heart; L, liver.

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