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AAV-mediated delivery of CRISPR/Cas systems for genome engineering in mammalian cells

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Abstract

The CRISPR/Cas9 system has emerged as a highly versatile platform for inducing targeted genome modifications into mammalian cells and model organisms. However, fully capitalizing on the therapeutic potential for this system requires its safe and efficient delivery into relevant cell types. Adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors are a clinically promising class of engineered gene delivery vehicles capable of safely infecting a broad range of dividing and non-dividing cells types, while also serving as a highly effective donor template for homology-directed repair. Together, CRISPR/Cas9 and AAV technologies have the potential to accelerate both basic research and clinical applications of genome engineering. Here we describe a step-by-step protocol for AAV-mediated delivery of CRISPR/Cas systems into mammalian cells. Procedures are described for the preparation of high titer virus capable of achieving a diverse range of genetic modifications, including gene knockout and integration.

MATERIALS

It is essential that you consult the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets and your institution's Environmental Health and Safety Office for proper handling of equipment and hazardous materials used in this protocol.

RECIPES:

Please see the end of this protocol for recipes, indicated by <R>. Additional recipes can be found online at http://cshprotocols.cshlp.org/site/recipes.

REAGENTS

1 mL sterile syringe

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100 mM stock solutions of dATP, dTTP, dCTP and dGTP

100 µM fluorescein (Bio-Rad)

10x DNA gel loading dye <R>

10x DNase buffer <R>

10X PBS-MK <R>

10x phosphate buffered saline (PBS) <R>

10x Tris-borate-EDTA (TBE) <R>

15% iodixanol solution <R>

1x PBS with 0.001% Tween-20 <R>

1x PBS with 5% Tween-20 <R>

1x PBS-MK with 2M NaCl <R>

21G 1 ¹/₂" regular bevel needles

24% iodixanol solution <R>

2x iCycler mix <R>

2x Proteinase K buffer <R>

3 mL sterile syringe

40% iodixanol solution <R>

54% iodixanol solution <R>

AAV lysis buffer <R>

Agarose

Ammonium persulfate

Antibiotic-antimycotic (Anti-Anti; Life Technologies)

Benzonase nuclease (Sigma-Aldrich)

Bromophenol blue

Disposable vacuum filtration systems, 0.22 µm (500 mL; Thermo-Scientific)

DNase I (Roche)

Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM)

Escherichia coli TOP10 cells (Life Technologies)

Ethanol

Expand High Fidelity PCR System (Roche)

Fetal bovine serum (Gibco)

Gel extraction kit

Human embryonic kidney (HEK) 293T cells (ATCC CRL-1573)

Jumpstart Taq Antibody (Sigma-Aldrich)

LB plates with 100 μ g/mL ampicillin

Linear polyethylenimine MW 25,000 (PEI; Polysciences)

Long blunt ended cannulas

OptiPrep Density Gradient Medium (Sigma-Aldrich)

OptiSeal polyallomer centrifuge tubes (4.9 mL capacity; Beckman Coulter)

pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA plasmid

pHelper (or plasmid that contains adenovirus helper genes; Addgene)

Phenol red

Plasmid midi or maxiprep kit

Plasmid miniprep Kit

Polyacrylamide

Primer oligonucleotides

Proteinase K (NEB)

pXX2 (or plasmid that contains the desired AAV rep and cap genes; Addgene)

qPCR master mix

QuickExtract DNA Extraction Solution (Epicentre)

Restriction endonuclease BsmBI (NEB)

SURVEYOR Mutation Detection Kit (Transgenomics)

SYBR Safe (Life Technologies)

T4 DNA ligase with buffer (NEB)

T4 polynucleotide kinase (NEB)

Taq DNA polymerase supplied with Thermopol buffer (NEB)

TEMED

Trypsin-EDTA (Life Technologies)

Tween-20

Ultra-15, MWCO 100 kDa U Centrifugal Filter Units (Amicon)

Xylene cyanol

Equipment

 $150 \; mm \times 25 \; mm$ tissue culture treated dish

96-well flat bottom tissue culture treated plate

Benchtop centrifuge

Biological safety cabinet / tissue culture hood

Cell scraper

Clamp

Fixed-angle ultracentrifuge rotor

Gel imaging system

Multicolor Real-Time PCR Detection SystemPAGE apparatus

PCR tubes

Preparative ultracentrifuge

Ring stand

Sterile 1.7 mL microcentrifuge tubes

Sterile 15 and 50 mL conical tubes

Thermocycler

Water bath set to 42 °C

METHOD

Cloning

- 1. Retrieve the DNA sequence of the targeted gene using a reference genome database (e.g. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/)
- 2. Search for potential Cas9 cleavage sites using an online CRISPR design tool (Cradick et al. 2014; Montague et al. 2014) or DNA sequence viewing software.
- 3. For the *Streptococcus pyogenes* (SpCas9) protein, search the gene sequence for the motif 5'-G(N)₁₉-NGG-3', where 5'-NGG-3' is the PAM (protospacer adjacent motif) recognized by SpCas9 (Jinek et al. 2012; Cong et al. 2013; Mali et al. 2013). Alternatively, for the *Staphylococcus aureus* (SaCas9) protein (Ran et al. 2015), search the gene sequence for the motif 5'-G(N)₂₁₋₂₄-NNGRRT-3' (R: A or G). Note, a 'G' nucleotide is recommended at the 5' end of the sgRNA transcript for efficient expression from the human U6 promoter.
- **4.** Design and order custom sense and antisense oligonucleotides encoding the selected sgRNA protospacer sequences as shown in Fig. 1A.
- Phosphorylate 1 μM of each oligonucleotide with 5 Units (U) of T4 polynucleotide kinase in recommended buffer to 20 μL for 30 min at 37 °C.
- 6. Anneal oligonucleotides by incubation at 95 °C for 5 min followed by fast cooling on ice for 5 min.
- 7. Digest pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA (empty) with the appropriate type IIS restriction enzyme in recommended buffer for 3 hr using 10 U of enzyme per 1 µg of DNA. Visualize DNA by agarose gel electrophoresis using a fluorescent intercalating dye, such as SYBE Safe. All AAV vectors and sequences used here are available upon request.
- **8.** Purify linearized pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA (empty) using a gel extraction kit, according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- **9.** Ligate sgRNA duplex DNA into 20–50 ng of linearized pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA (empty) using 1 U of T4 DNA Ligase for 1 hr at room temperature. 6 to 1 insert to vector ratio is recommended for ligation.
- **10.** Thaw 100 µL of chemically competent *E. coli* TOP10 cells on ice and mix gently with ligated pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA.
- **11.** Keep cells on ice for 30 min. Heat shock the mixture at 42 °C for 35 sec and recover the cells in 1 mL of lysogeny broth (LB) for at least 30 min at 37 °C with shaking.
- 12. Spread 50–100 μ L of bacterial cell culture on a LB agar plate with 100 μ g/mL ampicillin and incubate overnight at 37 °C.
- 13. The following day, inoculate 2–4 mL of terrific broth (TB) medium containing 100 μ g/mL ampicillin with one colony from the LB agar plate and culture overnight at 37 °C with shaking.

- 14. Purify pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA by miniprep and confirm plasmid identity by DNA sequencing using the primer U6 Seq (5- GAC TGT AAA CAC AAA GAT ATT AGT AC-3').
- 15. (Recommended) The ability of Cas9 to induce modifications at the genomic target site can be tested in mammalian cell culture by transient transfection of pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA using the procedures described in the "Gene modification" section below.
- **16.** Thaw 100 μL of chemically competent *E. coli* TOP10 cells on ice and mix gently with 100 ng of pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA plasmid. Transform as above.
- 17. The following day, inoculate 50-100 mL of TB medium containing $100 \mu \text{g/mL}$ ampicillin with one colony and grow overnight at 37 °C with shaking.
- **18.** Purify plasmid DNA by midi or maxiprep, according to the manufacturer's instructions, or polyethylene glycol (PEG) precipitation.
- **19.** Store plasmid at -20 °C until transfection.

Adeno-associated virus production

- **20.** Maintain HEK293T cells in DMEM containing 10% (v/v) FBS and 1% antibiotic-antimycotic at 37 °C in a fully humidified atmosphere with 5% CO₂.
- **21.** Seed HEK293T cells onto a 15-cm plate at a density of $2.5-3 \times 10^7$ cells/plate.
- **22.** At 24 hr after seeding, or once cells are ~90% confluent, add 15 μg pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA, 15 μg pXX2, and 15 μg pHelper plasmids to 4 mL of cell culture medium in a sterile conical tube.
- **23.** Add 135 μ L PEI (1 μ g/ μ L) and mix immediately by vortexing for 10 sec. The volume of PEI is based on a 3 to 1 ratio of PEI (μ g) to total DNA (μ g).
- 24. Incubate transfection solution for 10 min at room temperature.
- **25.** Add transfection solution dropwise to cells.
- **26.** (Optional) Change media 8–12 hr post-transfection to reduce transfection reagent-associated toxicity.
- 27. Harvest virus from cells 48–72 hr post-transfection by manually dissociating cells from plate using a cell scraper and pipetting media and cells into 50 mL conical tubes.
- **28.** Pellet cells by centrifugation at $4,000 \times \text{g}$ for 5 min at room temperature.
- 29. Remove media and resuspend cells in 2 mL of lysis buffer for each 15 cm plate.
- **30.** Freeze/thaw cells three times using a dry ice / ethanol bath and a 37 °C water bath. Cell lysate can be stored at -20 °C after the third freeze.
- **31.** Incubate cells with 10 U of Benzonase per 1 mL of cell lysate. Incubate samples at 37 °C for 30 min.
- **32.** Centrifuge cell lysate at $10,000 \times g$ for 10 min at room temperature.

33. Transfer supernatant to new tubes and store at 4 °C until purification.

Iodixanol density gradient centrifugation

- **34.** Pipet 1.2 mL of 15% iodixanol solution into an OptiSeal polyallomer centrifuge tube.
- **35.** Underlay the 15% iodixanol solution with 0.7 mL of 25% iodixanol solution containing phenol red using a long blunt ended cannula attached to a 3 mL syringe.
- 36. Underlay the 25% iodixanol solution with 0.6 mL of 40% iodixanol solution
- **37.** Underlay the 40% iodixanol solution with 0.6 mL of 54% iodixanol solution containing phenol red.
- **38.** Gently pipet 1.8 mL of crude lysate onto each gradient.
- **39.** Weigh tubes to ensure they are properly balanced. Use AAV lysis buffer to balance tubes as necessary and seal tubes using provided caps.
- **40.** Set ultracentrifuge to slow acceleration and deceleration settings and centrifuge gradients at $174,000 \times g$ for 2 hr at 18 °C.
- **41.** Carefully remove centrifuge tubes from the rotor and secure the centrifuge tube in a clamp attached to a ring stand. Remove the cap.
- **42.** Carefully puncture the tube at the interface between the 40% and 50% iodixanol solution using a 21G 1 ¹/₂" regular bevel needle attached to a 1 mL syringe.
- **43.** Collect the bottom 4/5 of the 40% iodixanol solution (bevel up) and the top 1/5 of the 54% iodixanol solution (bevel down) (Zolotukhin et al. 1999). Contaminating proteins from the cell lysate will be present in a band at the interface between the 25% and 40% iodixanol layers. Do not collect the protein band.
- **44.** Store collected fractions in a sterile 1.7 mL microcentrifuge or a 15 mL conical tube at 4 °C until further purification.

Buffer exchange and concentration

- **45.** Incubate Ultra-15 Centrifugal Filter Unit in PBS with 5% Tween-20 at room temperature for 30 min. After incubation, wash filter once with PBS containing 0.001% Tween-20.
- **46.** Dilute collected iodixanol fraction to 15 mL in PBS containing 0.001% Tween-20 and add to Ultra-15 Centrifugal Filter Unit.
- **47.** Centrifuge at $4,000 \times \text{g}$ for 30 min or until solution has been concentrated to less than 2 mL.
- 48. Add 15 mL of PBS with 0.001% Tween-20 and mix well.
- **49.** Repeat steps 3 and 4 three times or until all iodixanol has been eliminated and the viscosity of the solution is similar to PBS with 0.001% Tween-20.

50. Concentrate the virus to the desired volume and store at 4 °C.

Viral titering

- **51.** Combine 1 μ L of virus with 5 μ L of 10x DNase buffer, 0.5 μ L DNase I, and 43.5 μ L of water. Incubate virus sample at 37 °C for 30 min.
- **52.** Incubate sample at 75 °C for 10 min to inactivate DNase I.
- 53. Add 60 μ L of 2x Proteinase K buffer and 10 μ L of Proteinase K to virus sample and incubate at 37 °C for at least 1 hr.
- 54. Incubate at 95 °C for 20 min to inactivate Proteinase K.
- 55. Create tenfold serial dilutions of pAAV-SpCas9-sgRNA plasmid between 0.2 ng/ μL and 0.02 pg/μL for standard curve.
- **56.** Prepare qPCR master mix.
- **57.** Dilute virus sample tenfold for qPCR.
- 58. Combine 15 μL of qPCR master mix with 5 μL of virus sample or linear plasmid for standard curve and run qPCR using the following protocol: 95 °C for 5 min; 40 cycles of 95 °C for 30 sec; 60 °C for 30 sec.; 72 °C for 20 sec.
- **59.** Threshold cycle (C_t) values for standards can be plotted against the log_{10} of the starting plasmid copy number. The C_t value of the virus sample can be correlated to the copy number of the standard from a corresponding C_t value.

Genome modification

- 60. Seed HEK293T cells (or most relevant cell type) onto a 96-well plate at a density of 4×10^4 cells per well.
- **61.** Twenty-four hr after seeding, add AAV-SpCas9-sgRNA vector to cells at a genomic multiplicity of infection (MOI) of ~10⁶. Vector can be diluted in serum-containing medium.
- **62.** (Recommended) Vary the MOI five- to ten-fold from 10^6 to 10^2 to further assess vector activity.
- **63.** At 72 hr after infection, wash cells once with PBS and isolate infected cells by trypsin-EDTA digestion.
- **64.** Collet cells and centrifuge at $250 \times g$ for 3 min.
- **65.** Remove supernatant and resuspend cells by vigorous pipetting with 50 μL of QuickExtract DNA Extraction solution.
- **66.** Incubate samples at 65 °C for 15 min, followed by 98 °C for 15 min. Samples can be held at 4 °C and stored indefinitely at -80 °C.
- **67.** Amplify the targeted genomic region by PCR using the Expand High Fidelity PCR System. Carry out a 50 μL PCR reaction using 3 μL of template DNA, 5 μL

of 10x Expand High Fidelity Buffer with MgCl₂, 0.4 μ M of each primer, 0.5 μ L High Fidelity Taq Polymerase, 5% DMSO and water to 50 μ L.

- **68.** Verify amplification by agarose gel electrophoresis.
- **69.** Denature and re-anneal the PCR amplicon to generate mismatched duplex DNA for the Surveyor nuclease assay using the cycle: 95 °C for min; 95 °C to 85 °C at −2 °C/sec; 85 °C to 25 °C at −0.1 °C/sec. Samples can be held at 4 °C.
- **70.** Mix 10 μL of heteroduplex DNA with 1 μL of 0.15 M MgCl₂, 1 μL of Surveyor Enhancer S and 1 μL of Surveyor Nuclease S. Incubate reaction at 42 °C for 1 hr.
- **71.** Quench reaction with 1 μ L of Stop solution and add 2 μ L of 10x loading dye to each sample.
- 72. Load the samples on a 10–14% TBE acrylamide gel and run the gel at 140–180V until the xylene cyanol band is located in the middle/bottom third of the gel.
- 73. Remove the gel and stain with 10 μL of SYBR Safe in 30 mL of 1x TBE for 10 min. Wash the gel at least once with water.
- 74. Visualize the gel using a gel imaging system and measure the density or intensity of each band.
- 75. The percent gene modification can be determined by measuring the fraction of parental band cleaved at the anticipated location as described (Guschin et al. 2010). Representative results are shown in Fig. 1B.

Gene targeting

- 76. Nuclease-induced double-strand breaks (DSBs) can stimulate integration of donor DNA into an endogenous locus via homology-directed pair (HDR) (Rouet et al. 1994; Bibikova et al. 2001). AAV, in particular, can enhance gene targeting >1000-fold compared to plasmid DNA (Russell and Hirata 1998; Jang et al. 2011; Asuri et al. 2012; Gaj et al. 2015).
- 77. To construct AAV vectors for gene targeting, design primers to PCR amplify "left" and "right" homology arms that flank the intended modified sequence. The 5' (sense) primer for the "left" homology arm should encode an *AfI*II restriction site, and the 3' (antisense) primer for the "right" homology arm should encode a *Kpn*I restriction site. Note, optimal homology arm length ranges from 0.5 to 1.5 kb. The Cas9 cleavage site should be situated within 50 bps of each homology arm.
- **78.** Single-base modifications should be encoded on the 3' and 5' ends of the antisense and sense primers of the "left" and "right" homology arms, respectively. A silent restriction site should also be encoded on the donor template for downstream analysis.
- **79.** For gene integration, design a second set of primers to amplify the gene of interest (GOI) with 20–30 nucleotides of sequence complementary to the 3' and 5' ends of the "left" and "right" homology arms, respectively. Ensure that the

Cas9 cleavage site is not present in the donor construct. Due to the carrying capacity of AAV, the donor template should not exceed 4.7 kb.

- **80.** PCR amplify the homology arms from genomic DNA, and the GOI from cDNA or plasmid DNA using the primers described above.
- **81.** Gel purify the homology arm- and GOI-encoding amplicons using a gel extraction kit, according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- **82.** Fuse the amplicons together by overlap PCR or Gibson assembly (Gibson et al. 2009) to generate the donor template.
- **83.** Gel purify the donor template by gel extraction and digest both it and AAV plasmid (e.g. AAV-Cas9-sgRNA) with *AfI*II and *Kpn*I restriction enzymes.
- **84.** Ligate the donor template into 20–50 ng of digested AAV plasmid and transform into cells as described above.
- **85.** Purify the AAV donor plasmid by mini-prep and confirm plasmid identity by DNA sequencing.
- **86.** Construct the accompanying AAV-Cas9-sgRNA vector, and package and purify both it and the AAV donor as described above.
- **87.** Infect cells with purified AAV vectors as described above. Cells infected with AAV donor vector containing a selectable marker, such as a puromycin resistance gene or EGFP, can be subjected to antibiotic selection or harvested for FACS at 72 hr after infection. Limiting dilution is recommended for isolation and expansion of clonal cell lines.
- **88.** Isolate genomic DNA as described above and PCR amplify the genomic target across the integration junctions using the Expand High Fidelity PCR System. If the donor template contained a silent restriction site, evaluate integration frequency by restriction digestion analysis. Gene modification can be determined by measuring the fraction of parental band cleaved at the anticipated location. DNA sequencing should be used to confirm the presence of gene modifications.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem (Step 59):

Low titer

Solution:

Low titer can be due to a number of reasons, including impure plasmid preparation, mutations within the AAV plasmid from modification of inverted terminal repeats (ITRs), toxicity from PEI transfection, off-target cleavage within the AAV vector genome by Cas9, or vector being released from cells. Possible solutions include phenol-chloroform extraction of AAV plasmid to improve vector purity, diagnostic restriction digestion of the AAV vector to establish vector integrity, transfection by calcium phosphate to eliminate the possibility of PEI-induced toxicity, and harvesting cells 48 hr after transfection.

Problem (Step 63):

Low infectivity

Solution:

Due to differences in primary receptor usage and capsid composition, many natural occurring AAV vectors display differential infection abilities both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Therefore, the use of AAV vectors with the intended cell or tissue tropism is essential for efficient gene delivery. Infection by AAV serotypes can be measured using a fluorescent reporter gene, such as EGFP. Engineered or evolved AAV vectors with improved or altered tropism can also be utilized to enhance infection (Kotterman and Schaffer 2014).

Problem (Step 75):

Low genome modification efficiency

Solution:

Poor genome modification could be due to a number of factors, including low levels of Cas9-mediated cleavage at the genomic target site, terminal truncations within the AAV vector genome, and low levels of Cas9 expression. Test the ability of the Cas9-sgRNA complex to induce modifications at the genomic target by transient transfection. Due to the limited carrying capacity of AAV, packaging a single vector containing both a large Cas9 variant (such as SpCas9) and sgRNA could lead to vectors with truncations at the 5' end of the vector genome (Senis et al. 2014). Use Southern blot analysis to establish whether truncations are present. To minimize vector genome heterogeneity, SpCas9 and sgRNA can be delivered using two separate particles (Swiech et al. 2015). Smaller Cas9 orthologs, such as *Neisseria meningitidis* (NmCas9) (Hou et al. 2013) and SaCas9 (Ran et al. 2015), can be also used to induce genome modifications from a single AAV particle despite their more restrictive PAM requirements. Finally, confirm that the promoter is providing high levels of expression in the desired cell type by Western blot or with a fluorescent reporter gene, such as EGFP.

Problem (Step 88):

Low integration efficiency

Solution:

No integration could be the result of insufficient homology arm length, low levels of Cas9 activity, or poor infectivity. Test the ability of the Cas9-sgRNA complex to induce modifications at the genomic target by transient transfection. Use an alternative sgRNA if activity is low. In addition, test the ability of the AAV donor vector in combination with Cas9 to mediate HDR by transient transfection. Modify homology arm length in cases where the existing donor template does not trigger integration. Use of small molecules that inhibit non-homologous end joining can also enhance HDR (Chu et al. 2015; Wurst et al. 2015; Yu et al. 2015).

RECIPES

Solutions should be sterilized using a disposable $0.22 \ \mu m$ vacuum filtration system in a tissue culture hood and stored at room temperature.

10x DNA gel loading dye

60% glycerol

0.2 M EDTA

0.5% Bromophenol blue

0.5% Xylene cyanol

pH 8.0

10x DNase buffer

250 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4)

100 mM MgCl₂

10x PBS

100 mM Na₂HPO₄ (pH 7.4)

18 mM KH₂PO₄

1.37 M NaCl

27 mM KCl

10x PBS-MK

100 mM Na₂HPO₄ (pH 7.4)

18 mM KH₂PO₄

1.37 M NaCl

10 mM MgCl₂

25 mM KCl

1x PBS-MK

Dilute 10x PBS-MK 1:10 in dH₂O

1x PBS-MK with 2M NaCl

Dilute 10x PBS-MOK 1:10 in dH₂O and add 2M NaCl

1x PBS with 5% Tween-20 (500 mL)

Dilute 10x PBS 1:10 in dH₂O

25 mL of Tween-20

1x PBS with 0.001% Tween-20 (500 mL)

Dilute 10x PBS 1:10 in dH₂O

 $5 \,\mu L$ of Tween-20

15% iodixanol solution (17 mL)

4.72 mL of 54% iodixanol solution

8.5 mL of 1x PBS-MK with 2M NaCl

3.78 mL of 1x PBS-MK

24% iodixanol solution (12 mL)

5.56 mL of 54% iodixanol solution

6.44 mL of 1x PBS-MK

 $60 \ \mu L \ of \ 0.5\%$ phenol red

40% iodixanol solution (10 mL)

7.41 mL of 54% iodixanol solution

2.59 mL of 1x PBS-MK

54% iodixanol solution (44.4 mL)

40 mL of OptiPrep Density Gradient Medium (60% iodixanol)

4.44 mL of 10x PBS-MK

 $60\,\mu L$ of 0.5% phenol red to 12 mL of 54% iodixanol solution

2x iCycler mix (1 mL)

200 μ L of 10x PCR buffer without Mg²⁺

 6 mM MgCl_2

 $400 \ \mu M \ dNTPs$

2x Proteinase K buffer

10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0)

20 mM Na₂EDTA

20 mM NaCl₂

AAV lysis buffer

50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0)

150 mM NaCl

qPCR master mix (150 μ L)

100 μ L of 2x iCycler mix

 $2\,\mu L$ of 1 μM sense primer

2 µL of 1 µM antisense primer

 $2 \,\mu L$ of $1 \,\mu M$ fluorescein

 $2\,\mu L$ of 40x SYBR

2 µL of a 1: 1 Taq DNA polymerase / Jumpstart Taq Antibody mix

 $40 \ \mu L \ dH_2O$

10x TBE

1 M Tris base

1 M Boric acid

0.02 M Na₂EDTA

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Figure 1. AAV-mediated delivery of CRISPR/Cas9 for genome editing in mammalian cells.

(A) Vector preparation. *Streptococcus pyogenes* (Sp), *Neisseria meningitidis* (Nm) and *Staphylococcus aureus* (Sa) Cas9 target sites, and sense and antisense oligonucleotides for constructing sgRNA. Sense and antisense sgRNA oligonucleotides encode 5'-CACC-3' and 5'-AAAC-3' overhangs, respectively, for insertion into pAAV-Cas9-sgRNA. AAV vectors encoding SpCas9 and NmCas9 should be digested with *Bsb*I, while AAV vectors encoding SaCas9 should be digested with *Bsa*I. (B) Frequency of endogenous interleukin-2 receptor gamma chain (*IL2RG*) gene modification in HEK293T cells infected with increasing multiplicity of infection (MOI) of AAV-Cas9-sgRNA with three different sgRNAs, as determined by Surveyor nuclease assay. Arrows indicate expected cleavage product. PAM and 'G' initiation nucleotide are colored red and blue, respectively.