

Table S1

Workflow	Step	Time	Details	Specific requirements	Key benefits (compared to CKO)
	PCR amplify shRNA	1 day	Targeting vector: Individual shRNAs are PCR amplified from single-stranded 97mer oligonucleotides using Pfx platinum polymerase (see Zuber et al., 2010). XhoI/EcoRI digested PCR fragments are cloned into any miR30 recipient vector, including pCol-TGM.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 97mer shRNA oligo * miR30 For and Rev primers * Pfx platinum polymerase * PCR cyclor * XhoI and EcoRI * miR30-based vector (pCol-TGM,LMP,LMS) 	Vector cloning can be completed in less than 1 week. (1-6 months for traditional vector cloning)
	Clone into miR30 backbone	4 days			Vector design can be tested prior to ES cell production.
	Electroporate ES cells Select with Hygromycin Pick individual clones	3-4 weeks	Electroporation: ES cells are coelectroporated with the pCol-TGM targeting vector and FlpE plasmid and plated on irradiated feeder cells. 48 hours post electroporation cells are selected with Hygromycin (140µg/ml) and individual clones are picked after 8-14 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * KH2 ES cells * pCol-TGM targeting vector * FlpE plasmid * Hygromycin * Hygro resistant feeder cells 	Electroporations can be performed on a smaller scale as fewer clones need to be screened. Therefore more constructs can be handled in parallel.
	Test target gene knockdown in 3-4 clones	1 week	Testing clones: Individual ES clones are tested <i>in vitro</i> by treating with 1µg/ml doxycycline in the culture media for 4 days (or longer depending on target stability). For testing knockdown ES cells are cultured in the absence of feeders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Doxycycline * Flow cytometer 	Easy to assess gene silencing before further screening and mouse production.
	Southern blot to confirm single integration at the ColA1 locus (GFP and ColA probes)	5-7 days	Testing genomic integration: Southern blot on gDNA from from ES cell clones confirms ColA targeting (ColA1 probe) and no off target integrations (GFP probe) GFP probe: EcoRI digest ColA1 probe: SpeI digest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * GFP and ColA1 probes * 32P-dATP * SpeI * EcoRI 	Approximately 90% of GFP positive/hygromycin resistant clones have single correct integration. Efficiency of traditional targeting ranges from 1-20%
Produce transgenic mice by tetraploid complementation or blastocyst injection	4 weeks	Mouse production: Founder animals can be produced by tetraploid embryo complementation. These founder animals are 100% ES cell derived and F1 mice do not need to be screened for transmission of the allele.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Transgenic facility equipped for tetraploid embryo complementation or blastocyst injection. 	No screening of F1 generation for germline transmission. Founder animals can be used directly for experiments.	