

1 **Title:**

2 **The interaction of CDK12/CrkRS with CYCLIN K1 is required for the phosphorylation of**  
3 **the C-terminal domain of RNA Pol II.**

4

5 **Authors/Affiliations:**

6 S.-W. Grace Cheng<sup>1</sup>, Michael A. Kuzyk<sup>1,2</sup>, Annie Moradian<sup>1</sup>, Taka-Aki Ichu<sup>1</sup>, Vicky C.-D.

7 Chang<sup>1</sup>, Jerry F. Tien<sup>1,3</sup>, Sarah E. Vollett<sup>1</sup>, Malachi Griffith<sup>1,4</sup>, Marco A. Marra<sup>1,5</sup>, Gregg B.

8 Morin<sup>1,5\*</sup>

9 <sup>1</sup>Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre, British Columbia Cancer Agency, Vancouver BC,

10 V5Z 1L3, Canada, <sup>2</sup>GenoLogics, Victoria BC, V8Z 7X8, Canada, <sup>3</sup>Department of Biochemistry,

11 University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195-7350, <sup>4</sup>The Genome Institute, Washington

12 University School of Medicine, St. Louis MO, 63108 USA, <sup>5</sup>Department of Medical Genetics,

13 University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC, V6H 3N1, Canada., \*corresponding author.

14

15 **Contact:**

16 Gregg B. Morin, [gmorin@bcgsc.ca](mailto:gmorin@bcgsc.ca)

17 Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre, British Columbia Cancer Agency, 675 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave,

18 Vancouver, BC V5Z 1L3, Canada.

19

20 **Running Title:**

21 **CYCLIN K1 is required for CDK12/CrkRS kinase activity.**

22 **Supplemental Data:**

23

24 **Supplemental Methods**

25

26 **MRM Mass Spectrometry.** We designed optimized MRM transitions for 3 signature peptides (3  
27 transitions/peptide) for each of the CYCLIN L1, T1, K1 and K2 and CDK12, CDK9 and CDK11  
28 based on our MS/MS data (Supplemental Table S2). Peak areas are proportional to peptide  
29 amounts. MRM data were processed using MultiQuant v.1.0 (Applied Biosystems). Default  
30 values for noise percentage and minimum peak height were used (40% and 50 CPS,  
31 respectively). Manual inspection ensured that correct peaks were integrated for all samples.  
32 Integrated peak area values for multiple transitions were summed (Microsoft Excel).

33 **Quantitative PCR.** Cells were lysed in Trizol (Invitrogen) and total RNA was prepared. The  
34 samples were then treated with amplification grade DNase I (Invitrogen). cDNA was generated  
35 by reverse transcription (RT) with SuperScript III Reverse Transcriptase (Invitrogen)  
36 Quantitative real-time RT-PCR was done as described previously and the relative expression  
37 changes were determined with the  $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$  method with GAPDH used as a normalization control  
38 (2, 4). The primer sequences used are: CDK12:5'-GAAGAGAGTCGCCCTTACACAAAC-3',  
39 5'-AATACATCCACAGCTCCAAACATC-3', CYCLIN K: 5'-CACCCAGGTTGTTTCTCC-3',  
40 5'-CCTCACCTAAGGCAGCAG-3', GAPDH: 5'-AGAAGGCTGGGGCTCATTTG-3', 5'-  
41 AGGGGCCATCCACAGTCTTC-3'.

42 **Supplemental Results:**

43 **MRM Analysis of CDK/Cyclin complexes**

44 To estimate the relative level of CDK or cyclin partners for a given cyclin or CDK we  
45 isolated ectopic and endogenous CDK12 and CDK9 complexes by immunoprecipitation. The  
46 protein complexes resolved by SDS-PAGE and each lane was cut into multiple slices  
47 corresponding to specific molecular weight ranges. The peptides within each gel slice were then  
48 analyzed by MRM. The reason behind this method of analysis is that we could not rule out the  
49 possibility that CYCLIN K2 (43 KDa) may be expressed in HEK239A cells because this cell line  
50 was not among the 570 RNA-seq libraries examined for CYCLIN K splice variants. The  
51 separation of the immunoprecipitated protein complexes by SDS-PAGE allows CYCLIN K1 (64  
52 KDa) to be distinguished from CYCLIN K2 (43 KDa). The MRM analysis of CDK12  
53 immunoprecipitates showed that CDK12 interacted primarily with CYCLIN K, with CYCLIN  
54 K1 specific and CYCLIN K1/K2 common peptide signatures found predominantly in the 65-100  
55 KDa gel slices (Supplemental Fig. S1A). We did not detect any CYCLIN K2 specific peptide  
56 signatures in any of our CDK12 immunoprecipitates or significant levels of any CYCLINK  
57 peptides in the 40-53 KDa ranges (Supplemental Fig.S1A). This supports our observation that  
58 CYCLIN K1 is the predominant CYCLIN K isoform that interacts with CDK12. We were able to  
59 detect one peptide of CYCLIN L1 in both endogenous and ectopic CDK12 immunoprecipitates.  
60 However, the signal from this CYCLIN L1 peptide was ~15 fold lower and ~6 fold lower than  
61 the signal for CYCLIN K in the endogenous and ectopic expressed CDK12 immunoprecipitates,  
62 respectively. This suggests that CYCLIN L1 is a very minor cyclin partner of CDK12 at  
63 endogenous protein levels.

64 MRM analysis of endogenous and ectopic CDK9 complexes shows that CYCLIN T1 was  
65 the primary cyclin interacting with CDK9 in HEK293A (Supplemental Fig. S1B). Low levels of  
66 CYCLIN K1 and K1/K2 peptide signatures were observed in 3xFLAG-CDK9  
67 immunoprecipitates in the 60-90 KDa gel slices suggesting that CYCLIN K1 may be a minor  
68 partner of CDK9 when CDK9 is ectopically expressed (Supplemental Fig. S1B). Again, no  
69 CYCLIN K2 peptide signatures were observed. The finding that the common CYCLIN K1/K2  
70 MRM peptide signatures are predominantly found in molecular weight ranges consistent with the  
71 molecular weight of CYCLIN K1 is further evidence that CYCLIN K1 is the predominant  
72 isoform expressed in mammalian cells.

73 Studies have shown that cyclins can interact with multiple CDK partners (1, 3, 5, 7).  
74 Therefore, we analyzed 3xFLAG tagged CYCLIN L1, T1 and K1 immunoprecipitates to look for  
75 CDK12, CDK11 and CDK9 by MRM. In 3xFLAG-CYCLIN L1 immunoprecipitates, CDK11  
76 peptide signatures were found in the 80-130 KDa range, consistent with the molecular weight of  
77 CDK11<sup>p110</sup> (Supplemental Fig. S2) (6). However, we were unable to detect CDK12 by MRM in  
78 the 3xFLAG-CYCLIN L1 immunoprecipitates (Supplemental Fig. S2). In 3xFLAG CYCLIN T1  
79 immunoprecipitates, only CDK9 peptide signatures were found (predominantly between 48-56  
80 KDa) and these signals coincide with the expected molecular weight of range of both CDK9  
81 isoforms (42 and 55 KDa) (Supplemental Fig. S2). MRM analyses of 3xFLAG-CYCLIN K1  
82 immunoprecipitates showed the presence of CDK12 and CDK13/CDC2L5 peptide signatures  
83 between the 180-250 KDa molecular weight gel slices, consistent with our IP-MS results  
84 (Supplemental Fig. S2). One CDK9 peptide signature was detected within 48-56 KDa gel slice  
85 but the signal from this one peptide was substantially lower than CDK12 and CDK13/CDC2L5  
86 where we detected signals from 2 and 3 peptides, respectively. This suggests that CDK12 and

- 87 CDK13 are the primary partners of CYCLIN K1 and that CDK9 is a minor partner at
- 88 endogenous protein expression levels in HEK293A.

90 **References:**

91

92

93 1. **De Luca, A., M. De Falco, A. Baldi, and M. G. Paggi.** 2003. Cyclin T: three forms for  
94 different roles in physiological and pathological functions. *J Cell Physiol* **194**:101-7.95 2. **Livak, K. J., and T. D. Schmittgen.** 2001. Analysis of relative gene expression data  
96 using real-time quantitative PCR and the 2(-Delta Delta C(T)) Method. *Methods* **25**:402-  
97 8.98 3. **Loyer, P., J. H. Trembley, J. A. Grenet, A. Busson, A. Corlu, W. Zhao, M. Kocak, V.**  
99 **J. Kidd, and J. M. Lahti.** 2008. Characterization of cyclin L1 and L2 interactions with  
100 CDK11 and splicing factors: influence of cyclin L isoforms on splice site selection. *J Biol*  
101 *Chem* **283**:7721-32.102 4. **Palmqvist, L., B. Argiropoulos, N. Pineault, C. Abramovich, L. M. Sly, G. Krystal,**  
103 **A. Wan, and R. K. Humphries.** 2006. The Flt3 receptor tyrosine kinase collaborates  
104 with NUP98-HOX fusions in acute myeloid leukemia. *Blood* **108**:1030-6.105 5. **Romano, G., and A. Giordano.** 2008. Role of the cyclin-dependent kinase 9-related  
106 pathway in mammalian gene expression and human diseases. *Cell Cycle* **7**:3664-8.107 6. **Trembley, J. H., D. Hu, C. A. Slaughter, J. M. Lahti, and V. J. Kidd.** 2003. Casein  
108 kinase 2 interacts with cyclin-dependent kinase 11 (CDK11) in vivo and phosphorylates  
109 both the RNA polymerase II carboxyl-terminal domain and CDK11 in vitro. *J Biol Chem*  
110 **278**:2265-70.111 7. **Zhu, H., J. R. Doherty, E. Kulyev, and P. E. Mead.** 2009. CDK9/cyclin complexes  
112 modulate endoderm induction by direct interaction with Mix.3/mixer. *Dev Dyn*  
113 **238**:1346-57.

114

115

116 **Supplemental Figure Legends**

117 **Supplemental Fig S1. Multiple Reaction Monitoring (MRM) analysis of**

118 **immunoprecipitated complexes.**

119 Immunoprecipitated protein complexes were separated by SDS-PAGE. The gel was cut into  
120 approximate molecular weight ranges, subjected to in-gel trypsin digestion and the resulting  
121 peptides were analyzed by MRM. Different shades of grey on the stacked columns represent  
122 different peptides from the same protein used in the MRM assay. A minimum of two transitions  
123 per peptide were summed. **A.** CYCLIN MRM analysis of endogenous CDK12 and 3xFLAG-  
124 CDK12 protein complexes showed that CDK12 complexes contained CYCLIN K1 and not  
125 CYCLIN K2. CYCLIN K1 and CYCLIN K2 were distinguished in this assay by CYCLIN K1  
126 and CYCLIN K2 specific MRM signatures as well as by molecular weight. CYCLIN L1  
127 appeared to be a minor CDK12 interacting protein using this assay. **B.** CDK MRM analysis of  
128 3xFLAG-CYCLIN K1 and 3xFLAG-CYCLIN L1 protein complexes showed that CYCLIN K1  
129 interacted predominantly with CDK12 and CDK13 and minimally with CDK9, while CYCLIN  
130 L1 interacted only with CDK11 in this assay.

131

132 **Supplemental Fig. S2. Multiple Reaction Monitoring (MRM) analysis of CYCLIN**

133 **immunoprecipitated complexes.**

134 3xFLAG-CYCLIN K1, L1 and T1 complexes were immunoprecipitated from HEK293A cells  
135 and proteins were analyzed by MRM as described in Supplemental Methods. **A** CDK MRMs of  
136 3xFLAG-CYCLIN K1, 3xFLAG-CYCLIN L1 and 3xFLAG-CYCLIN T1 protein complexes  
137 showed that CYCLIN K1 interacted predominantly with CDK12 and CDK13 and minimally

138 with CDK9, while CYCLIN L1 interacted only with CDK11, and CYCLIN T1 interacted only  
139 with CDK9.

140

141 **Supplemental Fig. S3. Quantitative RT-PCR analysis of CDK12 and CYCLIN K mRNA**  
142 **expression in siRNA treated cells.**

143 Quantitative RT-PCR was performed as described in Supplemental Methods. **A.** CYCLIN K  
144 mRNA expression was reduced between 60-70% by the CYCLIN K 3' UTR siRNA in  
145 HEK293A cells stably expressing 3xFLAG-CDK12 when normalized against a mock transfected  
146 control. **B.** CDK12 mRNA expression in the 3xFLAG-CDK12 stable cell line was typically 8-12  
147 fold higher than the control cell line. Vertical error bars denotes the standard deviation in 3  
148 replicates.

149

150 **Supplemental Table S1. Invitrogen STEALTH™ siRNA sequences used to knockdown the**  
151 **expression of CDK9, CDK12 and CYCLIN K.**

152

153 **Supplemental Table S2. Multiple Reaction Monitoring (MRM) peptides and transitions**  
154 **used for the detection of CDK and CYCLIN proteins.**