The non-enzymatic RAS effector RASSF7 inhibits oncogenic c-Myc function

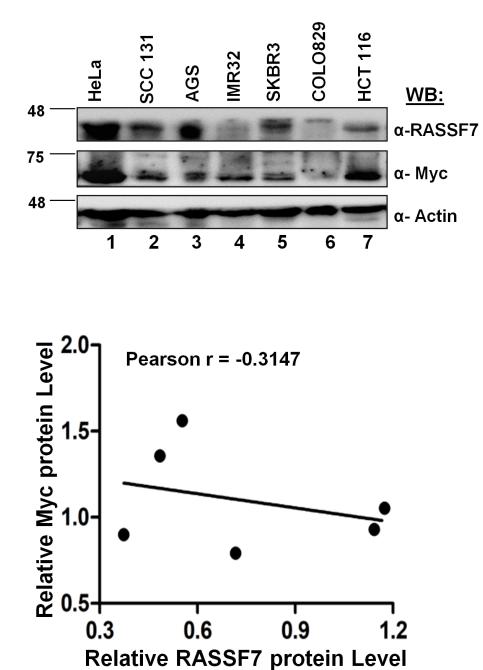
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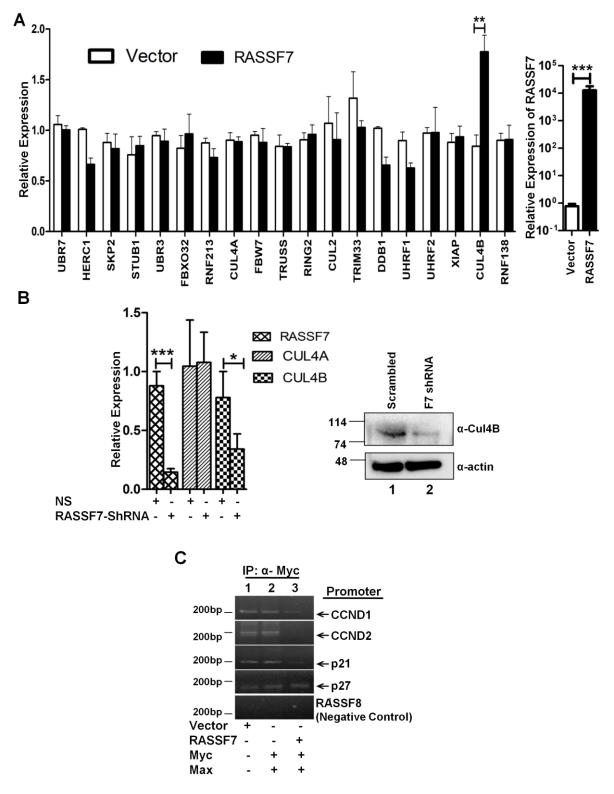
Running Title: RASSF7 regulates c-Myc function

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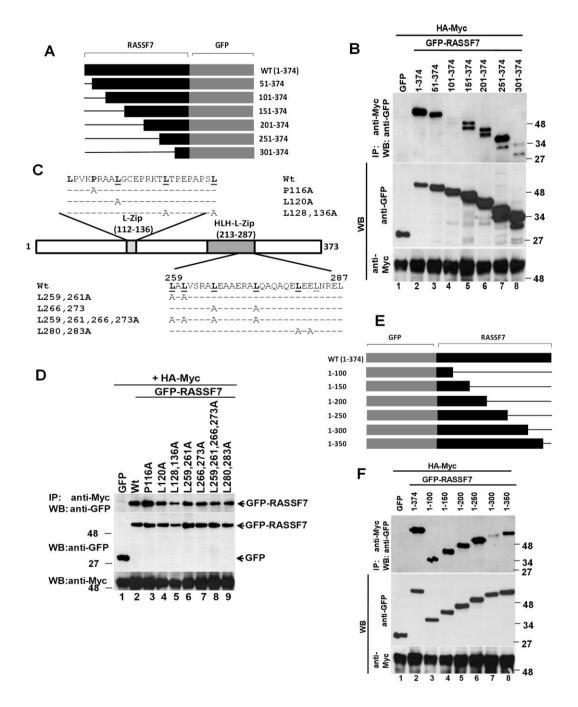
Keywords: RASSF7, c-Myc, Ubiquitination, Tumorigenesis, Cell Penetrating Peptide, Peptide Inhibitor, Cell Proliferation, Cancer, MAX, Transcription Factor



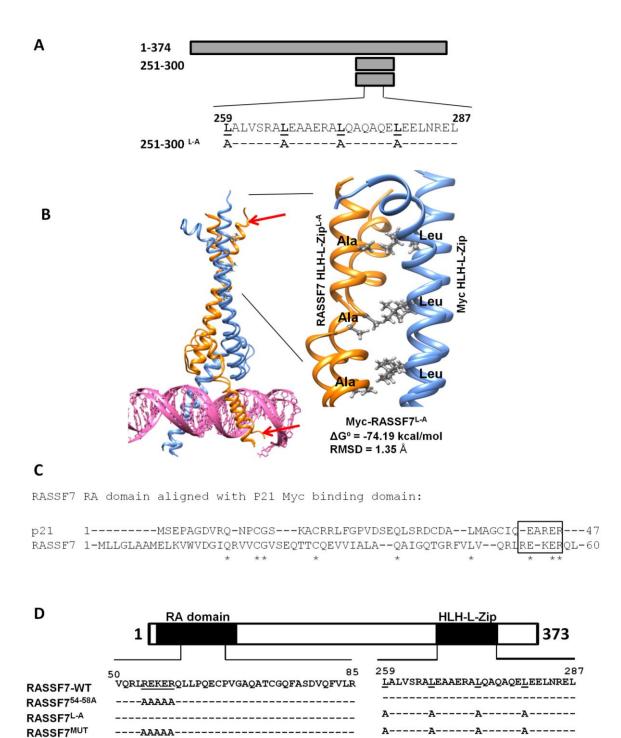
Western blot analysis in cancer cell lines reveals the existence of inverse correlation between RASSF7 and c-Myc protein levels. Densitometry analysis was performed for RASSF7 and Myc protein levels normalized to Actin.



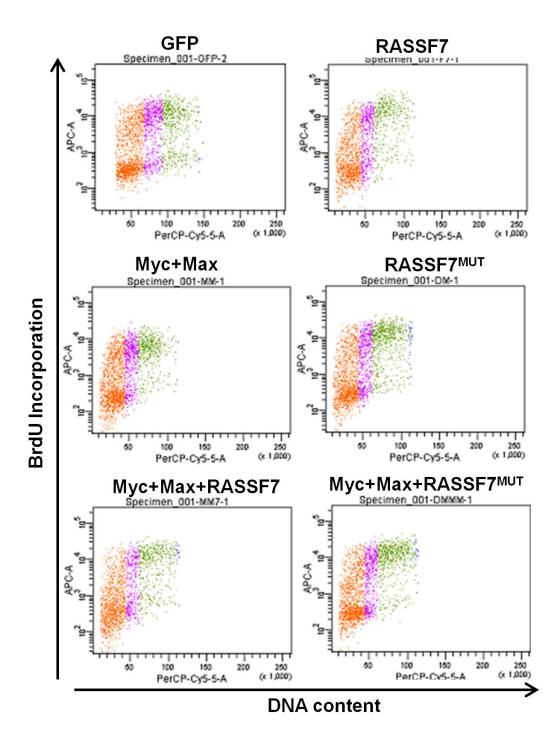
(A) RT-qPCR analysis of different E3 ligases expression in presence of RASSF7 in HEK293T indicates that Cullin4B (CUL4B) was significantly upregulated. Beta-actin served as internal control. (B) RT-qPCR and western blot analyses indicate that depletion of RASSF7 reduces endogenous CUL4B expression levels. Beta-actin served as internal control (n=3 and data is expressed as mean±SD). (C) Chromatin immunoprecipitation assay reveals that RASSF7 alters c-Myc occupancy on target promoters. RASSF8 promoter lacking c-Myc binding site served as negative control.



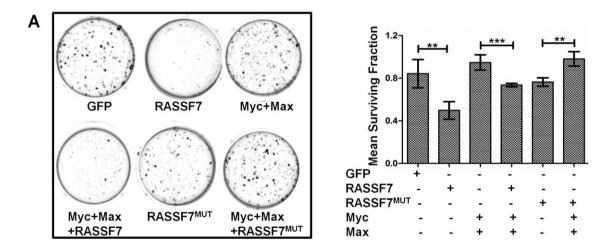
(A) Schematic diagram indicating the wild-type and N-terminal deletion mutants of RASSF7. (B) Various indicated N-terminal deletion mutants of RASSF7 were expressed in HEK293T cells and performed immunoprecipitation assay using anti-c-Myc antibodies. Results indicate that all RASSF7 mutants are interacting with c-Myc. (C) Schematic representation L-Zip and HLH-L-Zip domains mutants of RASSF7. All underlined amino acids were mutated with alanine as described in Materials and Methods. (D) Immunoprecipitation analysis with HEK293T cell lysates indicated that all L-Zip and HLH-L-Zip domains mutants of RASSF7 are able to interact with c-Myc. (E) Line diagram indicating the wild-type and C-terminal deletion mutants of RASSF7. (F) All indicated C-terminal deletion mutants of RASSF7 were expressed in HEK293T cells and performed immunoprecipitation assay using anti-c-Myc antibodies. Results indicate that all RASSF7 mutants are interacting with c-Myc.

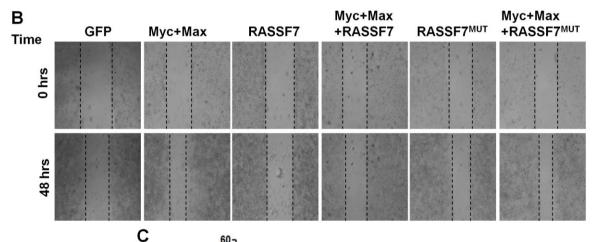


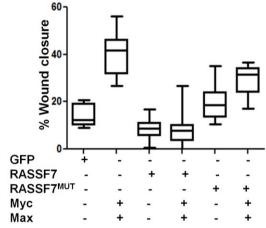
(A) Schematic representation of HLH-L-Zip domain mutants of RASSF7. All underlined amino acids were mutated with alanine as described in Materials and Methods. (B) Snapshot of c-Myc-RASSF7^{L-A} heteromeric complex shows reduced stability (indicated by arrows). The lack of interaction between mutated alanine (RASSF7 chain) and leucine (c-Myc chain) are showed as magnified image. (C) Alignment of amino acid sequences from p21 domain interacting with c-Myc with RA domain of RASSF7 indicating a conservation between these domains (indicated in box). (D) Schematic line diagram of RASSF7 containing mutations RA domain and HLH-L-Zip domain. All underlined amino acids were mutated with alanine as described in Materials and Methods.



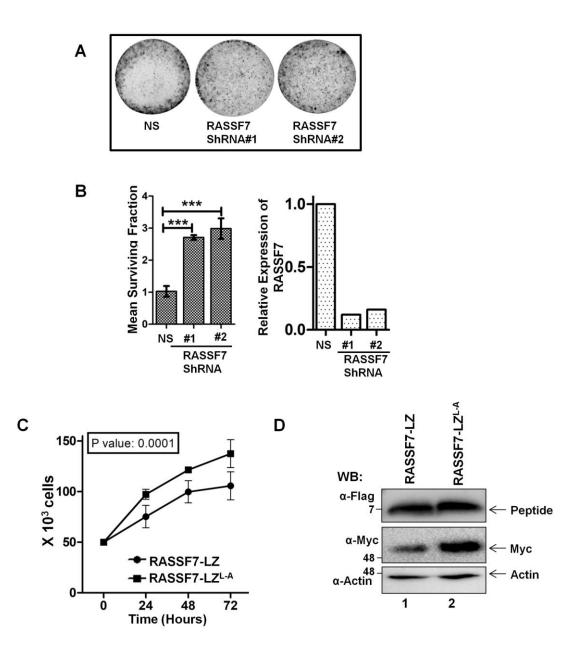
Representative BrdU assay bivariate plots of HEK293T cells upon co-expression of wildtype RASSF7 or c-Myc interaction deficient mutant of RASSF7 (RASSF7^{MUT}) with c-Myc and Max. The DNA stained with 7-AAD is represented in X-axis and BrdU incorporation in Y-axis.







(A) Representative Images of colony forming assay performed in HeLa cells indicated that c-Myc induced colony forming ability was inhibited by RASSf7^{WT} but not RASSF7^{MUT}. Colonies were counted using ImageJ and surviving fraction was calculated and plotted as bar diagram. (n=3 and data is expressed as mean ± SD). (B) HeLa cells were transiently expressed with indicated proteins and performed wound healing assay. Results indicate that c-Myc induced cell migration was inhibited by RASSf7^{WT} but not RASSF7^{MUT}. (C) Wound areas from the wound healing assay were analysed and %wound closure after 48 hours was calculated and plotted as box plots. (n=3 and data is expressed as mean ± SD).



(A) Immortalized NIH3T3 cells were transfected with RASSF7 shRNA plasmids and colony forming assay was performed. Results indicate that depletion of RASSF7 increased number of colonies. (B) Colonies from RASSF7 depleted NIH3T3 cells were counted using ImageJ and surviving fraction was calculated and plotted as bar diagram. (n=3 and data is expressed as mean ± SD). Knockdown of RASSF7 was confirmed by RT-qPCR. Beta-actin served as internal control. (C) HEK293T cells showed decreased proliferation upon treatment with RASSF7-LZ peptide as revealed by cell counting performed at indicated time intervals. (D) Treatment of RASSF7-LZ peptide induces reduction in endogenous c-Myc levels in HEK293T cells.