### **CellFree Sciences**

The natural power of wheat driving science



Antibody Validation - Protein array services for antibody testing

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### Motivation

 Reproducibility of scientific results has become a large concern undermining the trust in medical research

Matthias Ha 12/10/2019

- This problem became even more pronounced as industry reduced discovery efforts and tries to rely more on academic research for new projects
- Low quality antibodies are considered one of the reasons for poor scientific data
- Thus, antibody validation is required for improving standards to conducting research and became essential for antibody development in industry
- There are new challenges to confirm antibody specificity during antibody engineering, selection and later in drug development
- CFS wants to support efforts for better antibody validation by offering dedicated antibody specificity testing services using our unique human protein bead array platform

### **Key elements to success**

#### **1.** Comprehensive human clone set:

We are using the human cDNA clone set prepared at National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) as part of a Japanese National Project (NEDO) to create the most comprehensive human full-length ORF clone set – licensed to CFS for commercial use in protein expression services

#### 2. Protein expression system:

We are using our proprietary wheat germ cell-free protein expression system for reliable high-throughput protein synthesis – fully automated for expression and purification of nearly 20,000 human proteins for protein array production

#### 3. Protein bead array platform:

We are using a unique bead array format for our protein arrays developed together with researchers at AIST – immobilized proteins always stay in solution to avoid changes in protein conformation

# The AIST human ORF clone set



4

### **Automated protein production**



High

### **Unique bead array format**

#### 1. Protein production:

CFS established an automated protein production pipeline for FLAG<sup>™</sup>- and GST-tagged fusion proteins using a dedicated wheat germ extract precleared on a glutathione resin for higher protein purity - entire process has a ~99% success rate for making 19,712 proteins from the human clone set



#### 3. Quality control on produced bead arrays:

We perform a QC step on each batch using the FLAG<sup>™</sup>-tag and an anti-FLAG<sup>™</sup> antibody to confirm individual proteins on the arrays

### Antibody detection on the array

#### 1. Direct ELISA-like assay - Analyzing labeled antibodies:



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#### 2. Indirect ELISA-like assay - Analyzing common antibodies:



### **Service applications**



#### **1.** Screening clones during antibody selection:

Test binding to 19,712 human full-length proteins arrayed onto one 1536 well plate with up to 14 proteins per well – quick overview doing a single experiment

#### **2.** *Production control:*

Test binding to 19,712 human full-length proteins arrayed onto one 1536 well plate with up to 14 proteins per well – quick overview doing a single experiment with option to use custom array formats for more dedicated searches

#### 3. Confirming specificity of given antibody:

Screening binding to 19,712 human full-length proteins arrayed onto one 1536 well plate with up to 14 proteins per well followed by analysis of binding to individual proteins using custom array – identification of individual proteins recognized by antibody in question

### **Service overview**

Customer Requirements: Antibodies to test Secondary antibody use Use of controls

*Entry QC:* Antibody titer check Binding condition test Secondary antibody test

**Protein Array Screen:** Testing 19,712 Up to 14 proteins per well Data analysis

> **Project Report:** Image Interaction data

#### Option to prepare customized protein arrays

**Protein Identification:** Custom array with all proteins from each selected well

**Project Report:** Image Interaction data Full protein annotations

Other Services: Providing human proteins Full support on data provided by CFS

### How does it compare

Testing commercial anti-ErbB2/HER2 antibody doing protein array screen with 19,712 proteins and Western Blot with commercial cell lysates from wild-type (wt) and knock-out (ko) cells

MW

←



Antibody detects ErbB2 in wt (lane 1) but not in ko cell extract (lane 2); MW = size marker

Positive signals for 16 wells including 2 containing ErbB2 (positive controls indicated in blue)

#### No one cell line allows for genome-wide profiling on all human proteins!

# **Signal detection**

- Secondary antibodies used for signal detection are pretested for binding to proteins on the bead array
- Several antibodies can bind to the human (tripartite motif) TRIM21 protein, a known cytoplasmic Fc receptor having a broad isotype specificity binding IgG, IgM and IgA



Example: Anti-Rabbit IgG, HRP-Linked Whole Ab from Donkey [1/5000 dilution, GE Healthcare (NA934)] used for testing anti-PD-1 antibody shown in this presentation

# **Identifying cross reactivity**

Testing a commercial anti-PD-1 antibody using protein bead array with 19,712 proteins on one 1536 well plate, followed by detection of individual proteins on custom array



Identifying PD-1 within clone set plus 3 unrelated proteins (positive controls indicated in blue)

### **Specific epitope recognition**

Loss of antibody binding caused by mutations introduced into binding sites: Protein array Western Blot



PD-1(m) 257- MGTSSPARRGSADGPRSAQPLRPEDGHCSWPL -288 [Ala274 in peptide]Positive clone A(m1) 1-MSVCPVDLPRRAQRLWLRAPARLRRKPPVLDPLPAHSGMCGNCRLAS -47Positive clone A(m2) 61-HTAMVLPPDALLWCGLSAQYLV - 82 (not recognized by AB)Positive clone B(m1) 234-LGDTADARASSPTTPRSAPSSDSFPR SAQK - 263 (not recognized by AB)Positive clone B(m2) 244-SPTTPRSAPSSDSFPRSAQK -263Positive clone C(m1) 240-NQANSSGRESKVPGARSAQNLPGGGPASH SNPRSLSSGHLQGKPWK -285

13

### Conclusions

- Unique protein bead array format allows to keep protein conformation intact after protein synthesis
- ELISA-like assay designs allow for robust signal detection using standard methods
- Experiments with anti-PD-1 antibody show that our protein bead array can accurately detect antibody specificity for linear epitopes
- Similar results were obtained for directly testing the specificity of a labeled anti-HA-tag antibody (data not shown)
- Many proteins on the bead array are recognized by natural antibodies when testing human sera; similar results obtained using AlphaScreen<sup>™</sup> and human protein sets indicating a high immunoreactivity of proteins made in our system (data not shown)
- Detection of the TRIM21 protein shows that many proteins on the array could be correctly folded and thus should also allow the detection of conformational epitopes

### At your service

 Discuss your needs and chose your service: Select the best service option for your needs Defined milestones as the project proceeds

#### 2. CFS services and deliveries:

Established experimental procedures Detailed project reports including full annotation on identified proteins

#### 3. After services:

We want to make sure you get meaningful data to support your projects Use other CFS services and products for additional experiments on protein targets

#### We are looking forward to be at your service!

### Thank you for working together with us!

### **CellFree Sciences Co., Ltd.**

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