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The Invention

UW-Madison researchers have developed a titin DNA construct (a 'titin minigene plasmid') that is useful for identifying agents that modulate the titin size reduction that correlates with age and leads to stiffening of the heart tissue. The inventors' construct cuts out many central exons from the gene (connecting exon 51 to exon 218) to make it more tractable in a plasmid, yet retains the key sequences for the RBM20-mediated splicing event that produces the adult 'switched' size (connecting exon 50 to exon 219).

This plasmid construct allows the detection of the splicing event and therefore facilitates screening for antisense oligonucleotides or chemical compounds that can switch titin size for further validation in animal models.

Tech Fields

- [Drug Discovery & Development : Other drug discovery & development](#)
- [Research Tools : DNA & RNA tools](#)
- [Research Tools : Protein interactions & function](#)

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Figures

