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Carlson-Stevermer et al.

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(45) **Date of Patent:** **Feb. 2, 2021**

(54) **MODIFIED GUIDE RNAS,
CRISPR-RIBONUCLEOTPROTEIN
COMPLEXES AND METHODS OF USE**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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(73) Assignee: **WISCONSIN ALUMNI RESEARCH
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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
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(21) Appl. No.: **16/008,376**

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(22) Filed: **Jun. 14, 2018**

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(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2018/0362971 A1 Dec. 20, 2018

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Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 62/519,317, filed on Jun.
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(51) **Int. Cl.**

C12N 15/11 (2006.01)
C12N 15/10 (2006.01)
C12N 9/22 (2006.01)
C12N 15/90 (2006.01)

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **C12N 15/11** (2013.01); **C12N 9/22**
(2013.01); **C12N 15/102** (2013.01); **C12N**
15/907 (2013.01); **C12N 15/111** (2013.01);
C12N 2310/16 (2013.01); **C12N 2310/20**
(2017.05); **C12N 2310/3519** (2013.01); **C12N**
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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC C12N 2310/16; C12N 2310/20; C12N
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See application file for complete search history.

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(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Cantor Colburn LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Described herein are modified guide RNAs such as a single
guide RNA including, from 5' to 3', a single-stranded pro-
tospacer sequence, a first complementary strand of a binding
region for the Cas9 polypeptide, an aptamer that binds a
biotin-binding molecule, and a second complementary
strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide. Also
described is an RNP complex including the modified guide
RNA and a Cas9 polypeptide or active fragment thereof.
Also included are methods of modifying target genes in cells
using the modified guide RNAs.

37 Claims, 31 Drawing Sheets
(19 of 31 Drawing Sheet(s) Filed in Color)
Specification includes a Sequence Listing.

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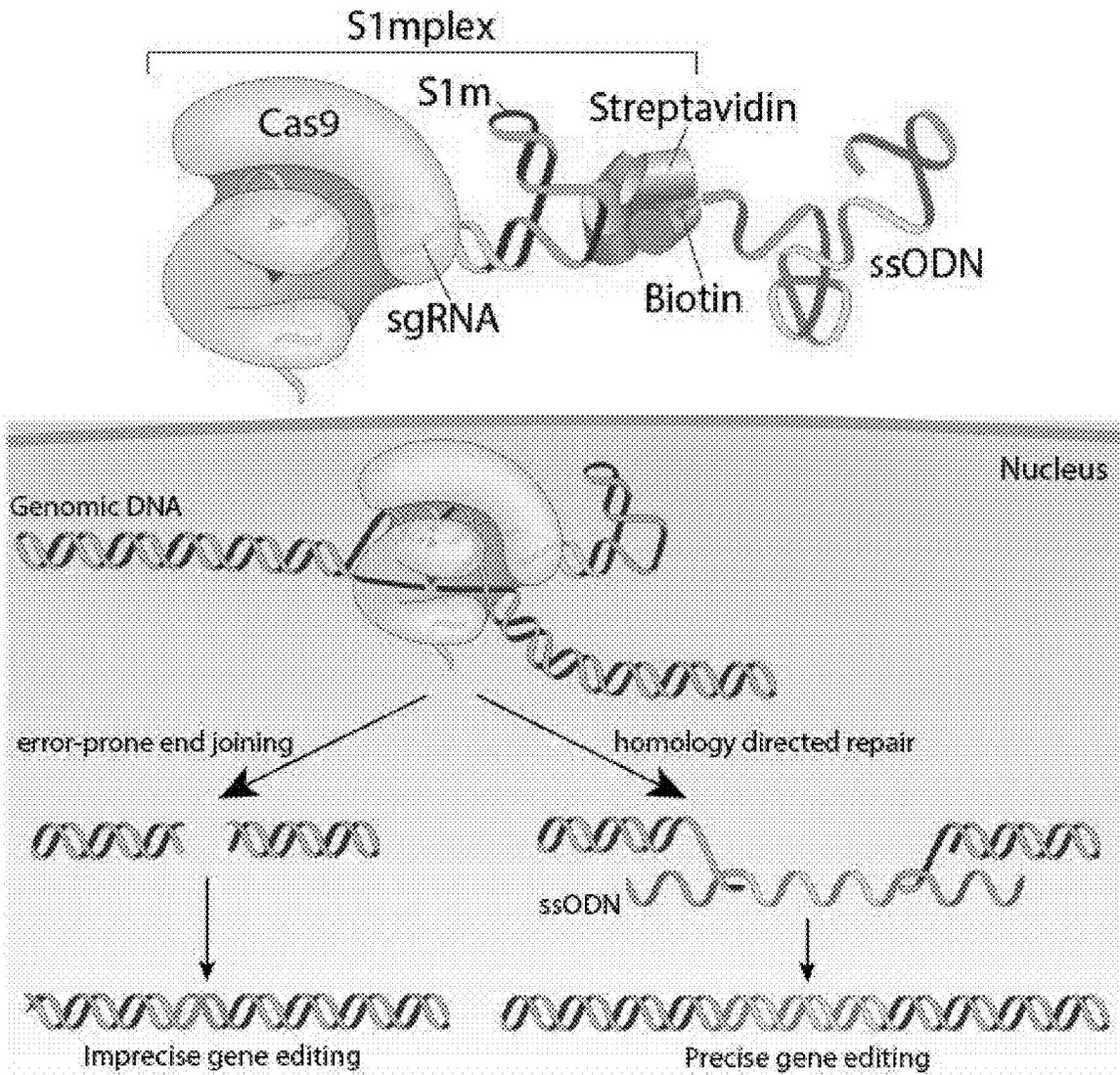
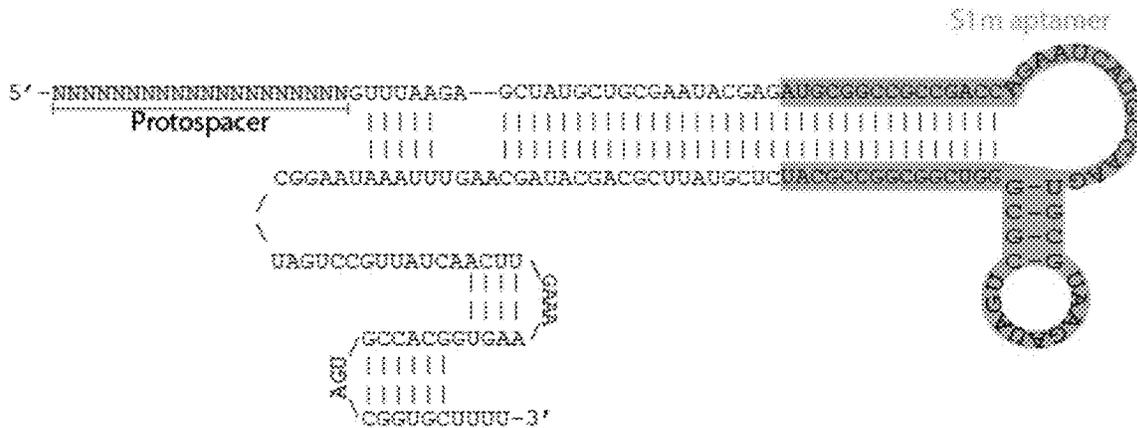


FIGURE 1



SEQ ID NO: 1

FIGURE 2

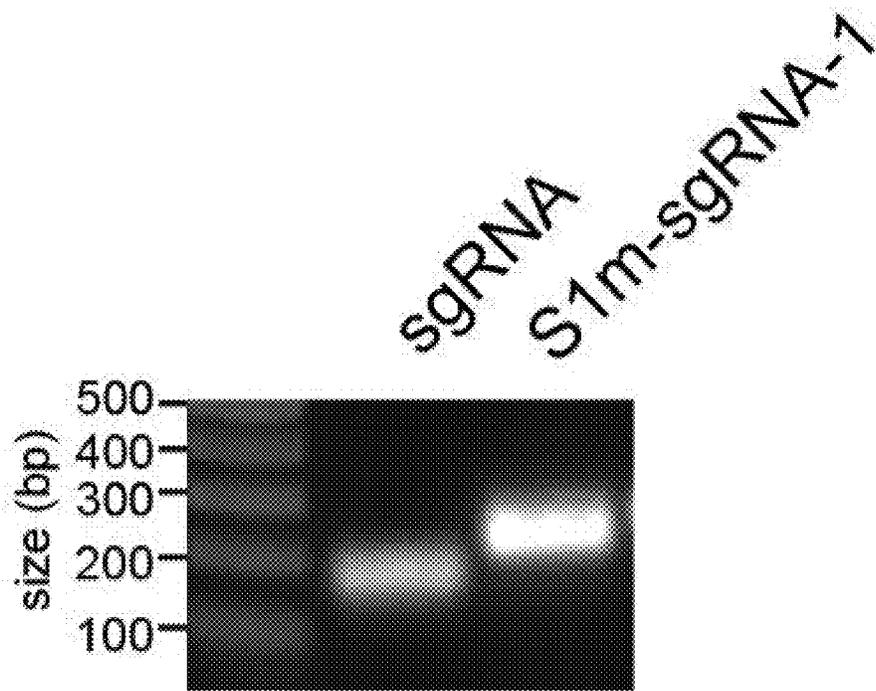


FIGURE 4

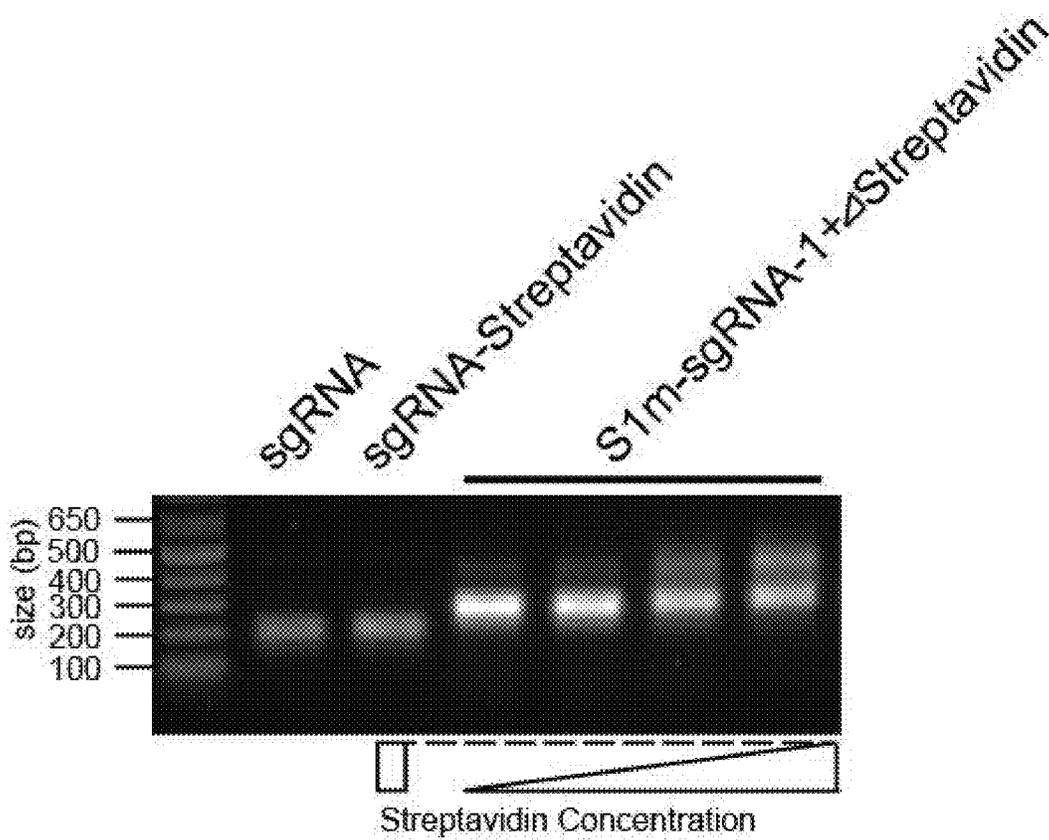
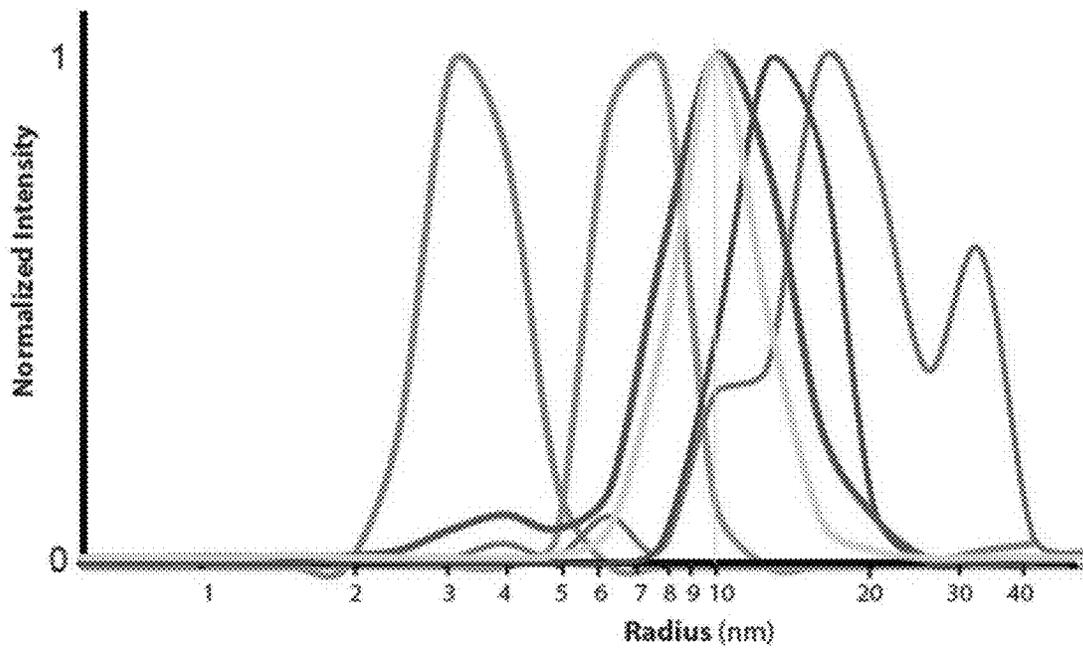


FIGURE 5



Cas9		+	+	+	+	+
sgRNA			+	+		
S1m-sgRNA					+	+
Streptavidin	+			+		+
Mean Radius	3.0	7.8	10	10	12.6	16

S1mplex

FIGURE 6

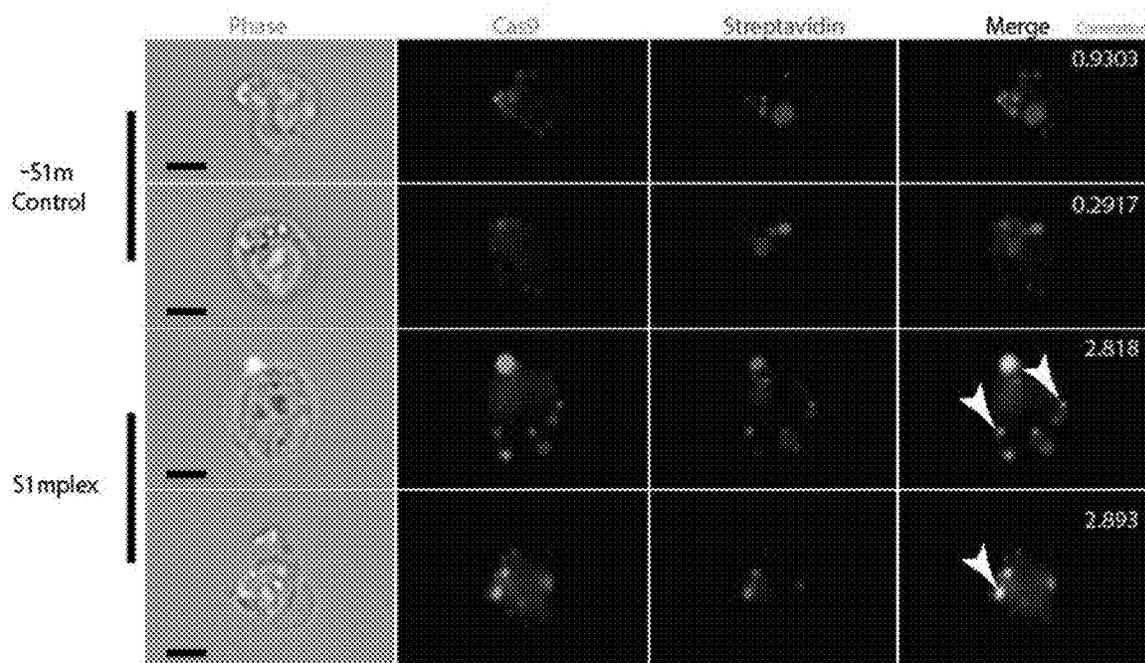


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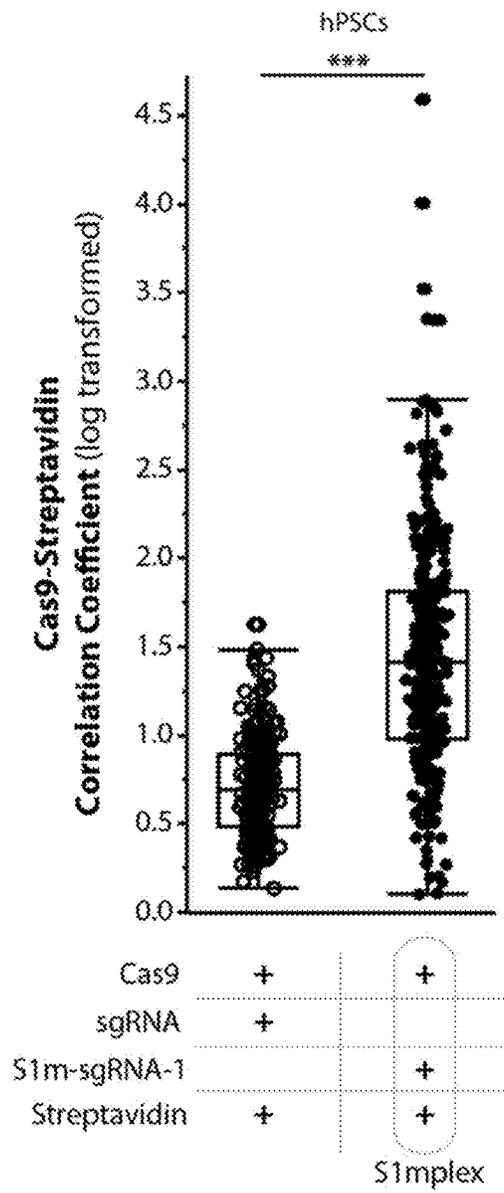


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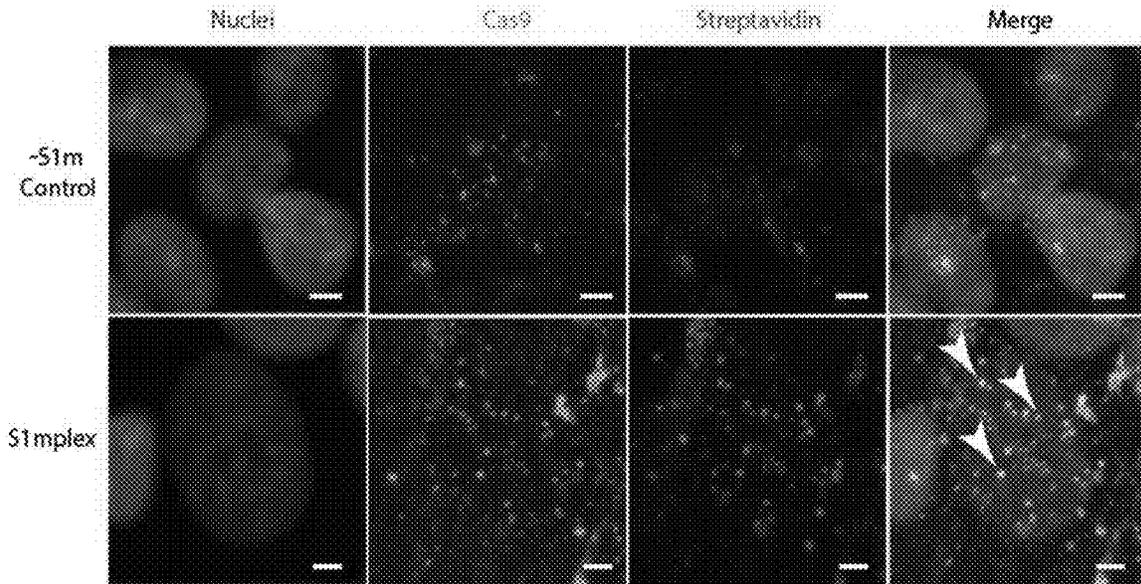


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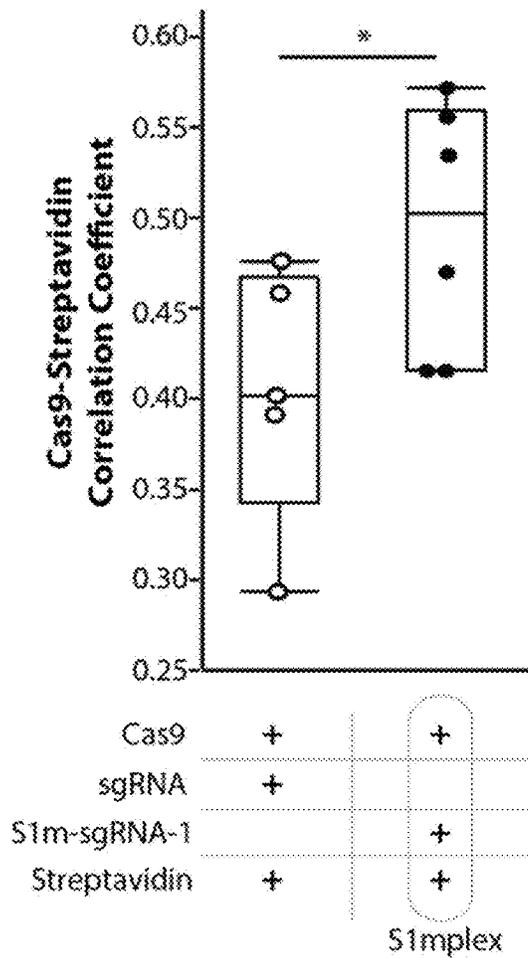


FIGURE 10

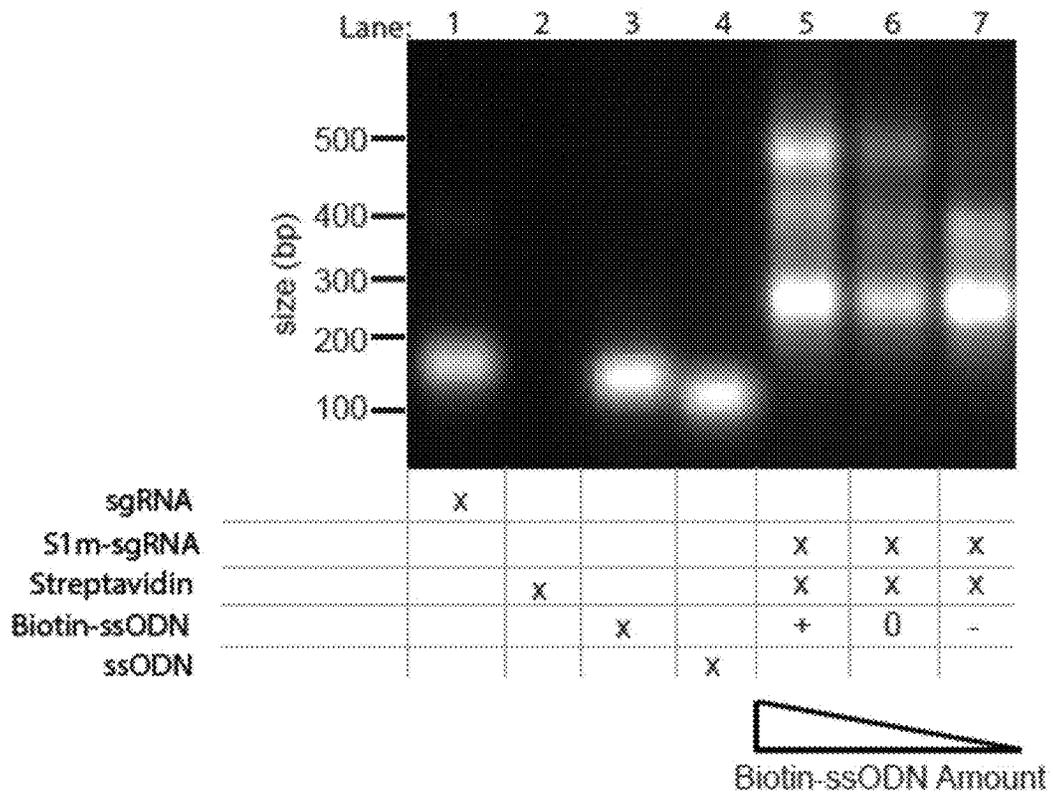


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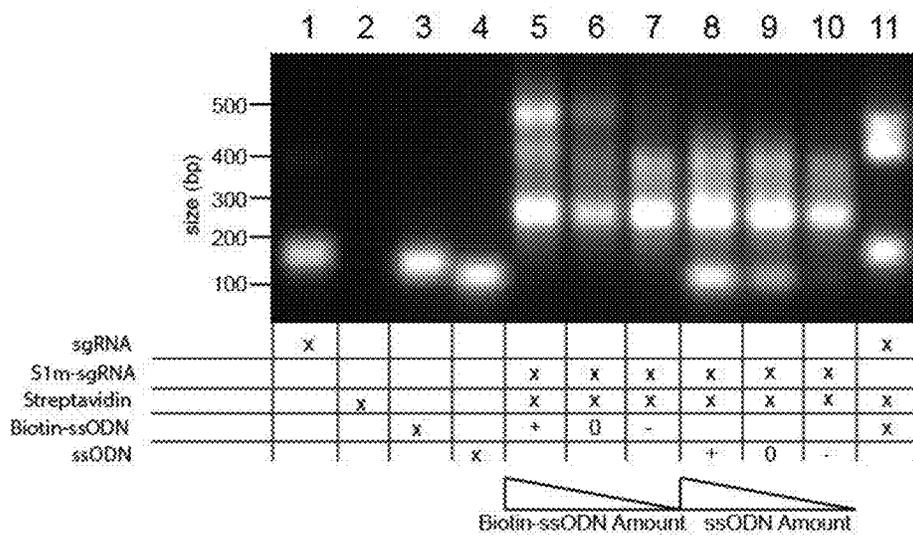


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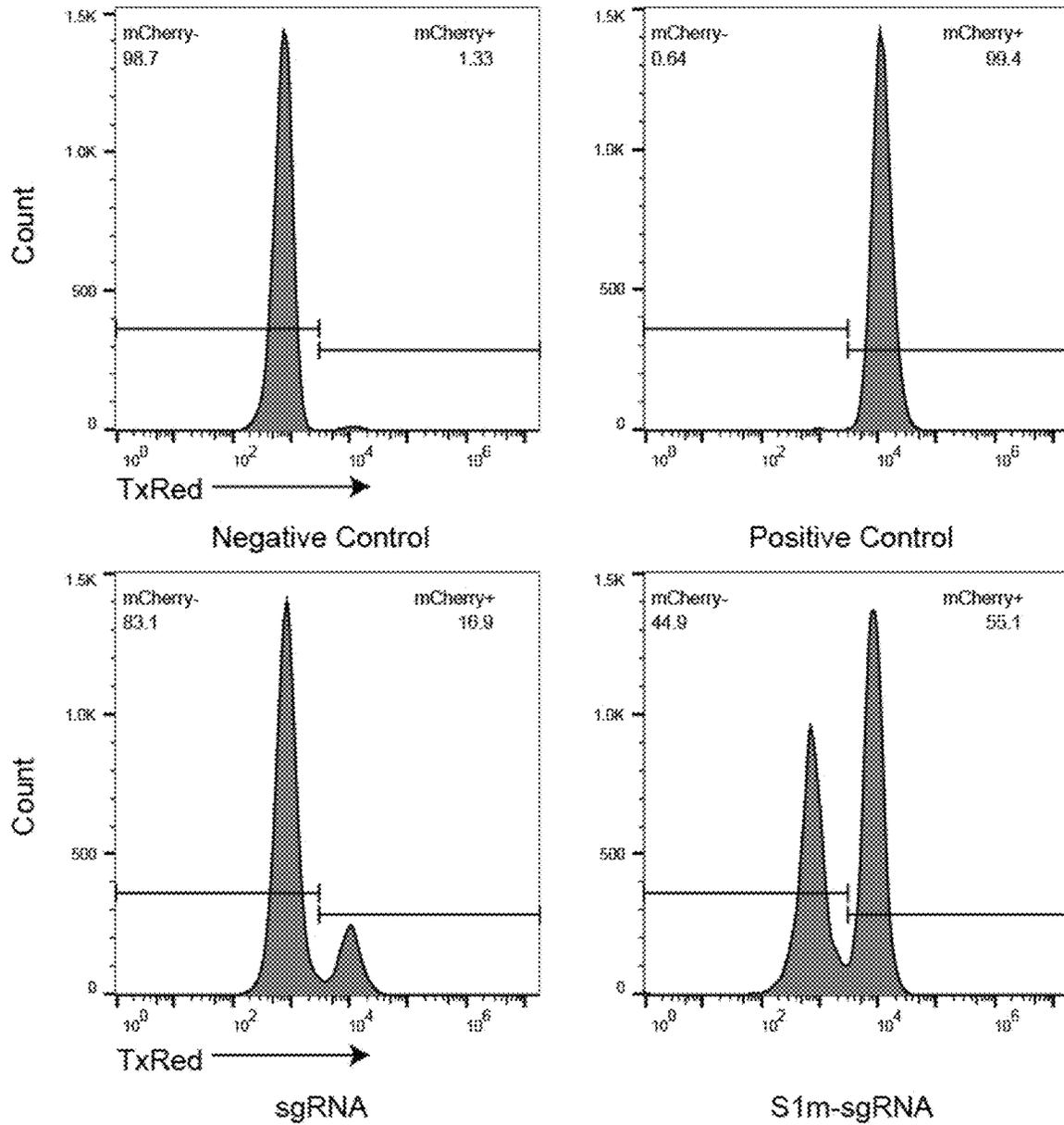


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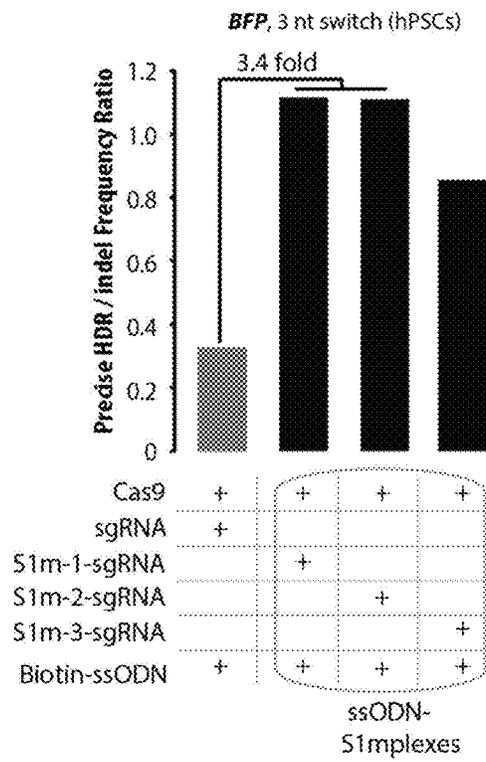


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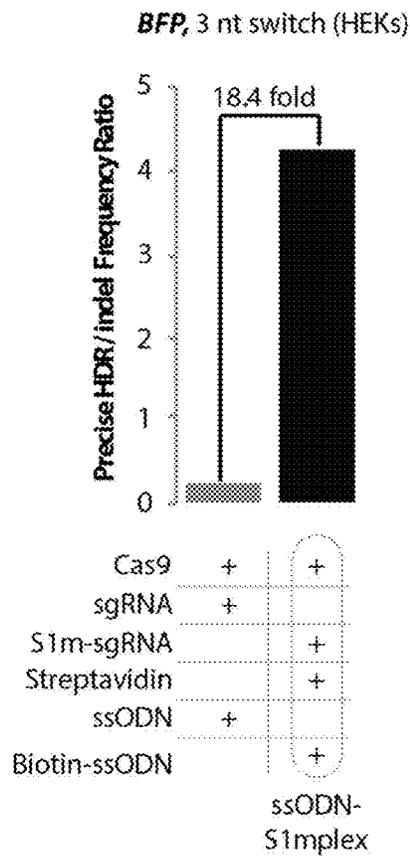
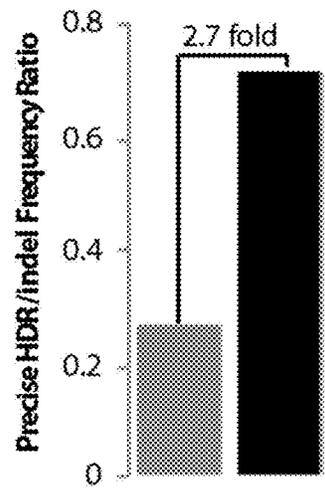


Figure 15

EMX1, 12 nt insertion (HEKs)



Cas9	+	+
sgRNA	+	
S1m-sgRNA		+
Streptavidin		+
ssODN	+	
Biotin-ssODN		+

ssODN-S1mplex

Figure 16

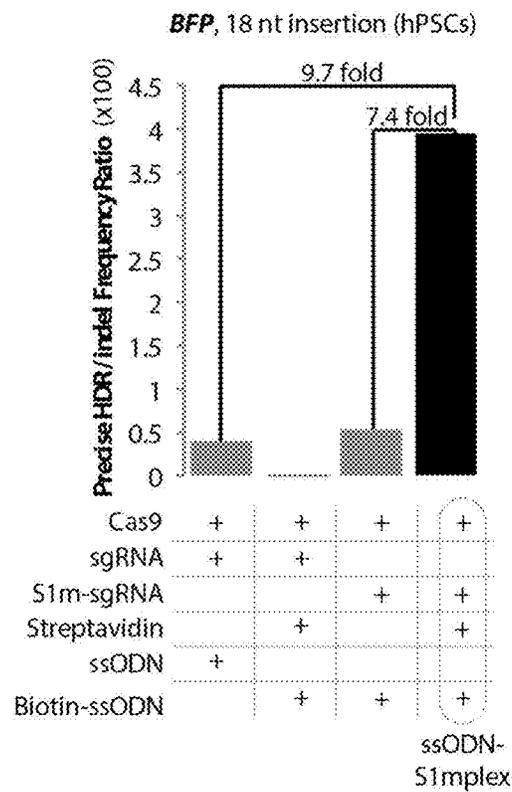


Figure 17

EMX1, 18 nt insertion (hPSCs)

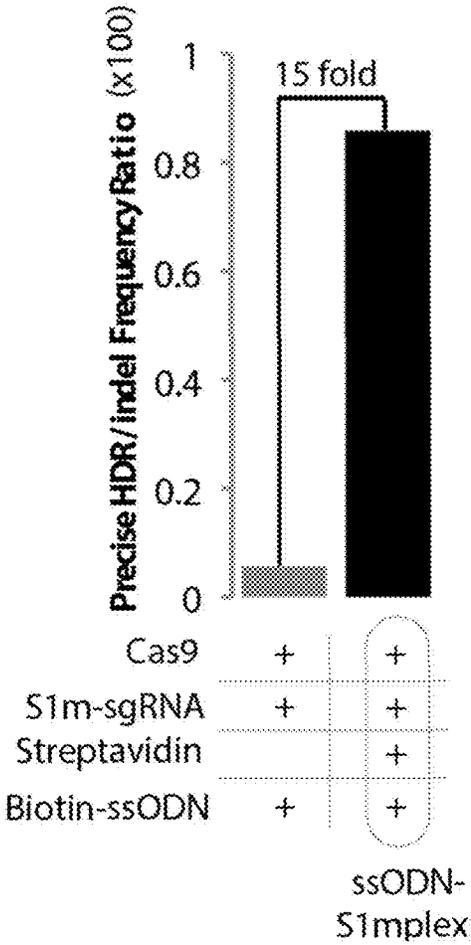


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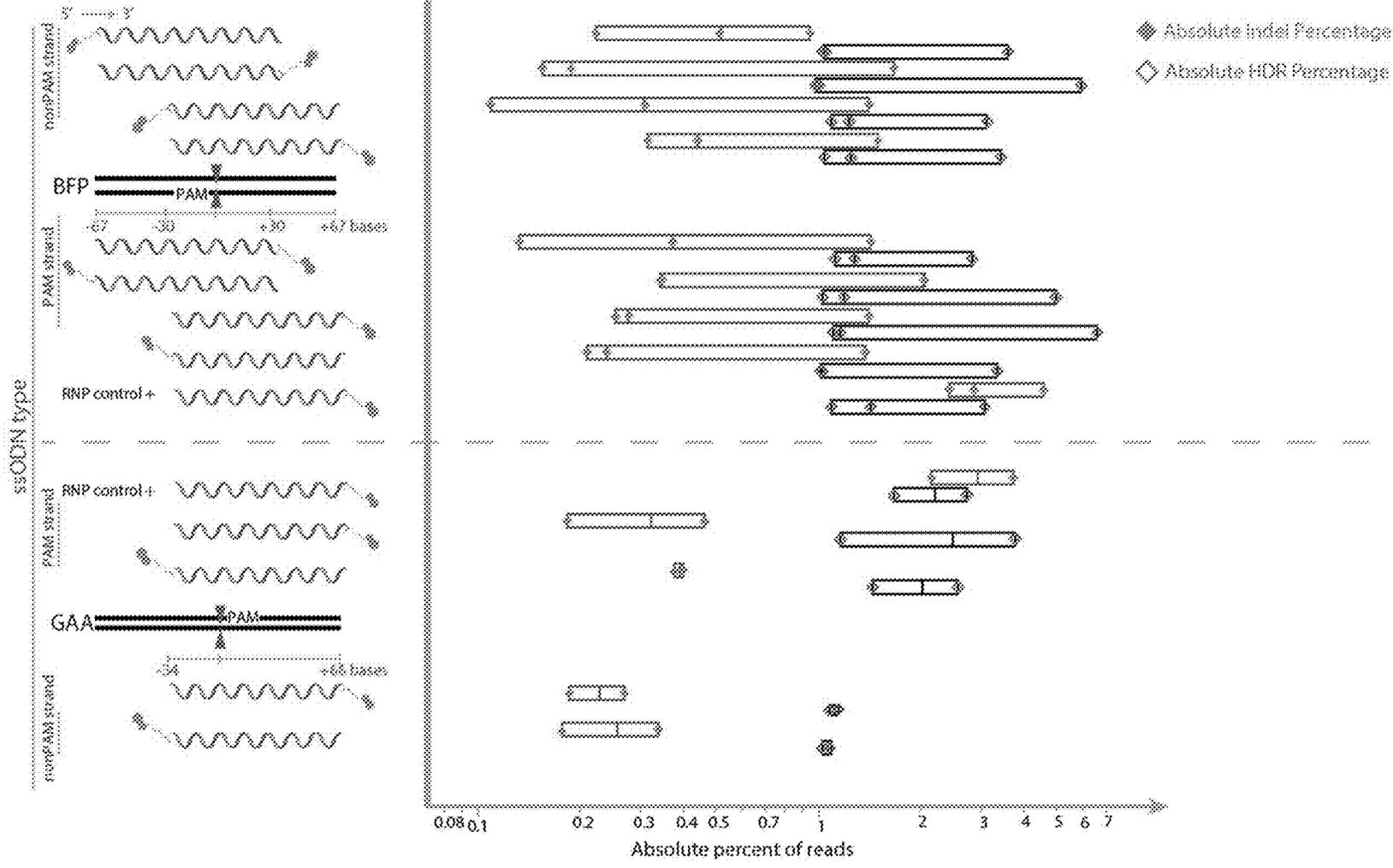


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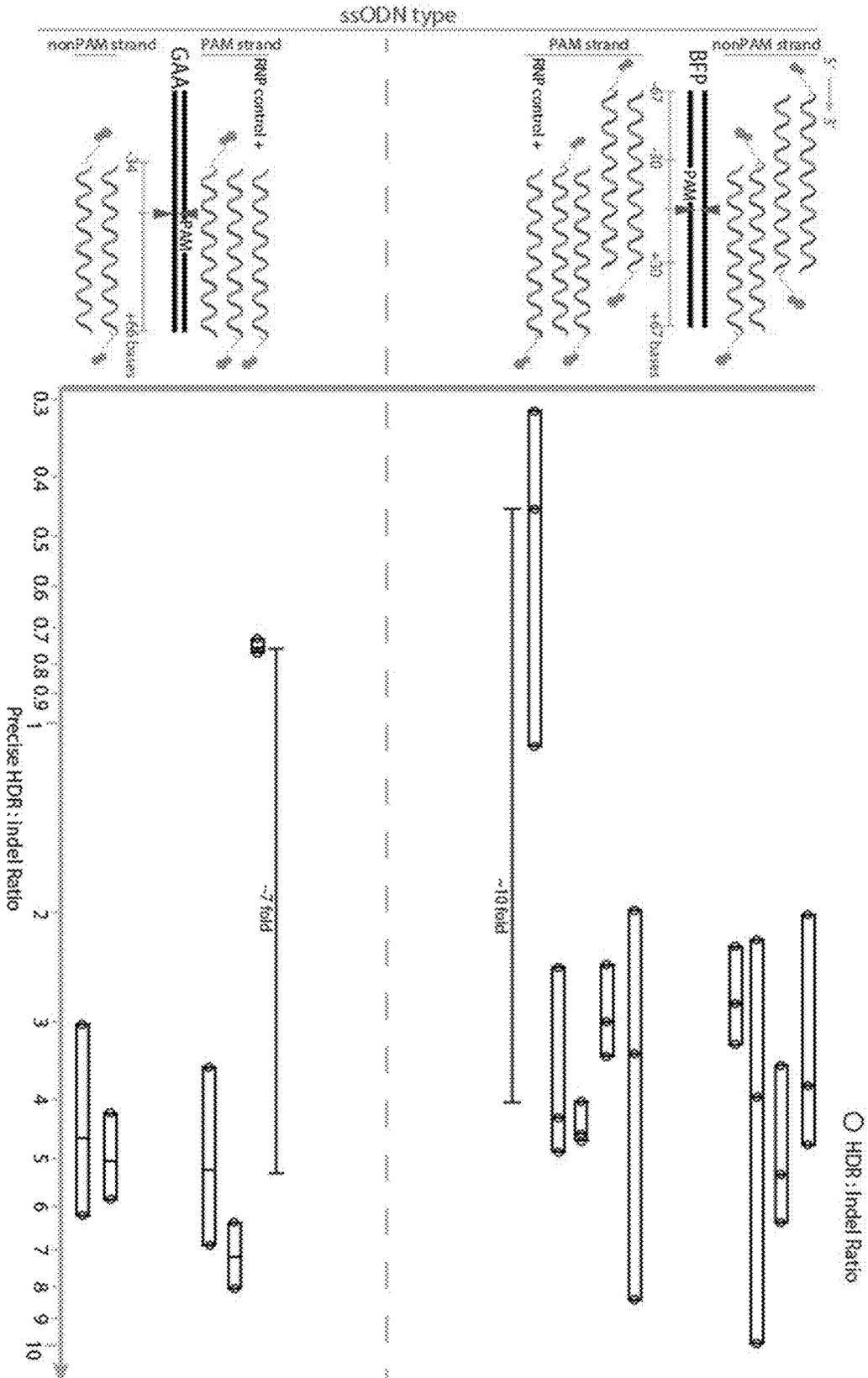


FIGURE 20

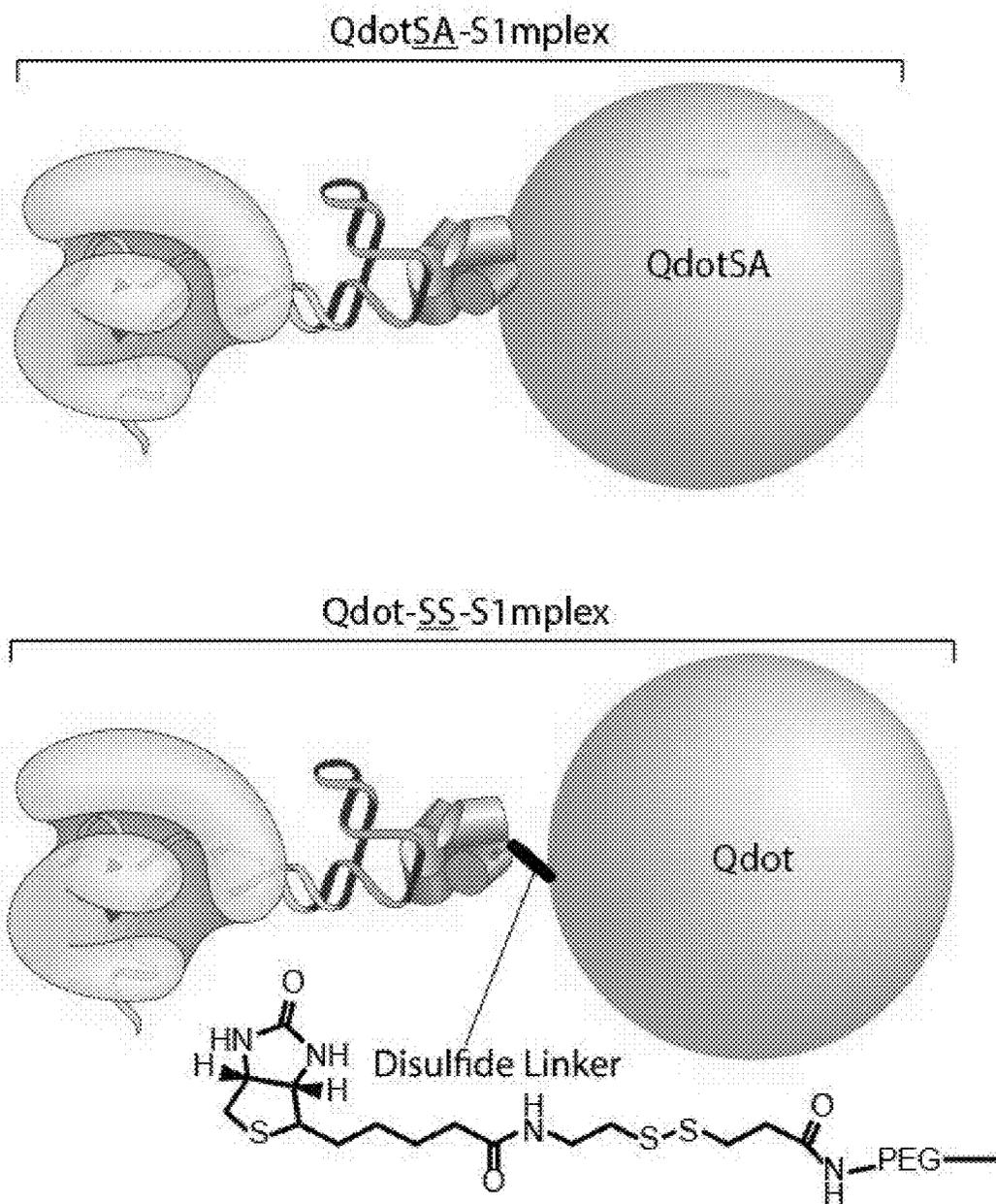


FIGURE 21

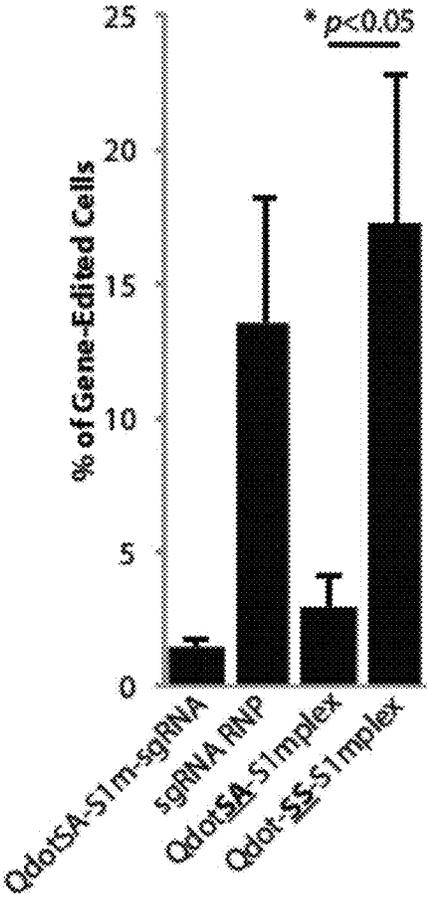


FIGURE 22

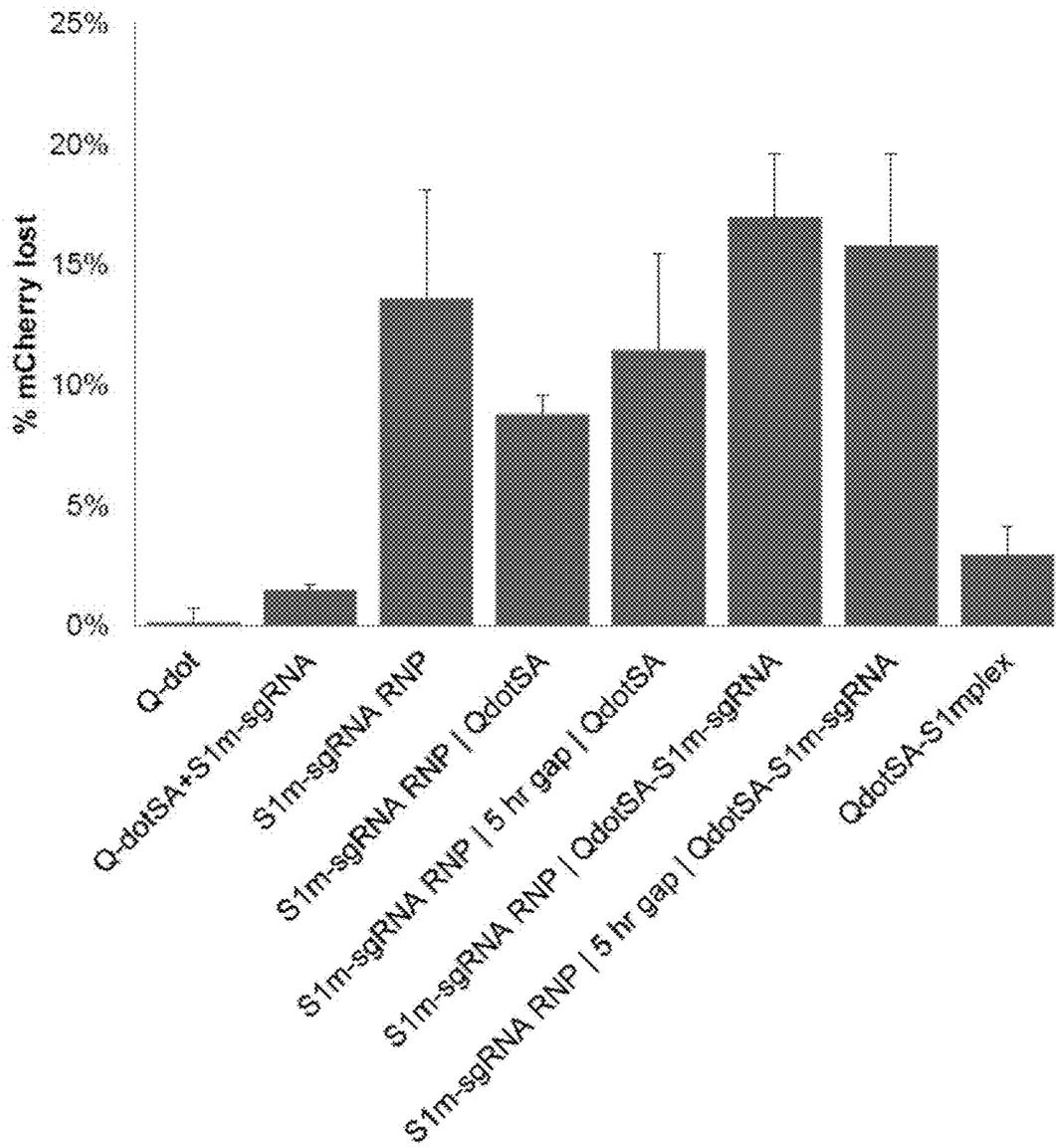


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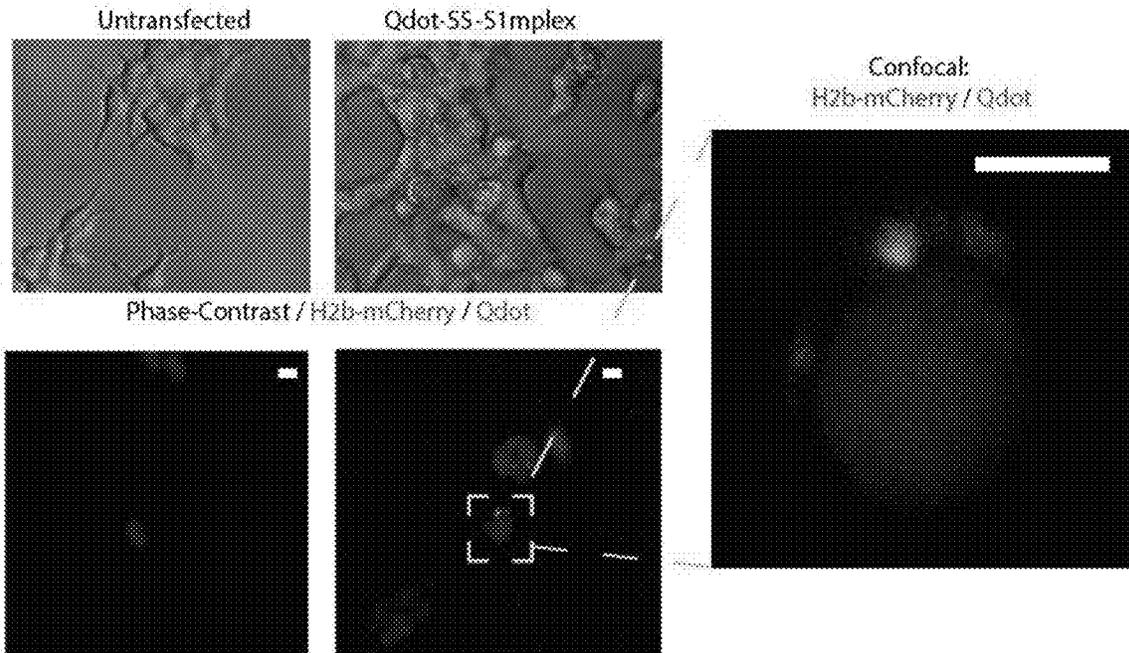
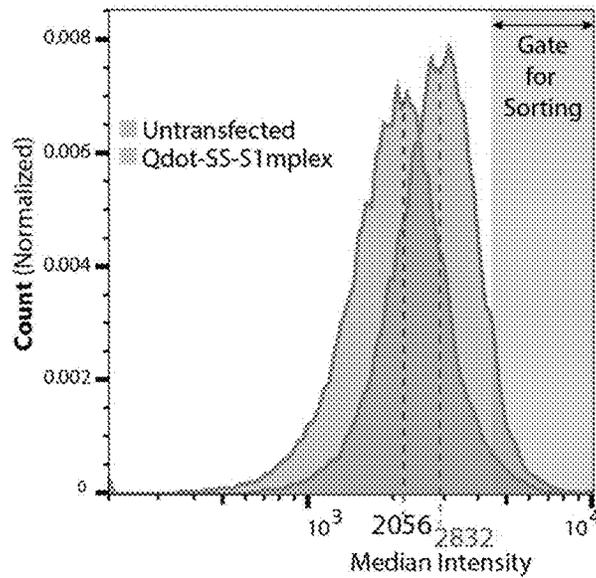


FIGURE 24



FITC-A

Figure 25

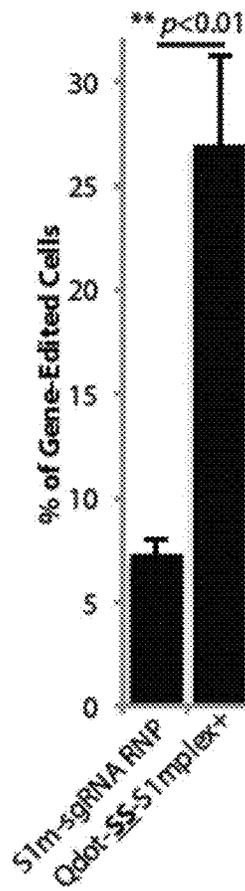


FIGURE 26

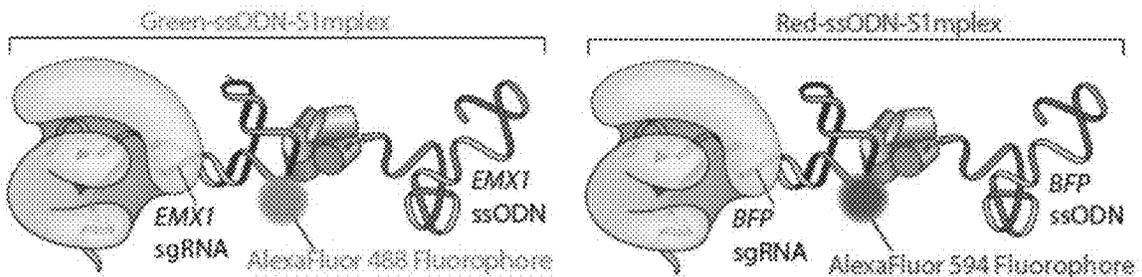


FIGURE 27

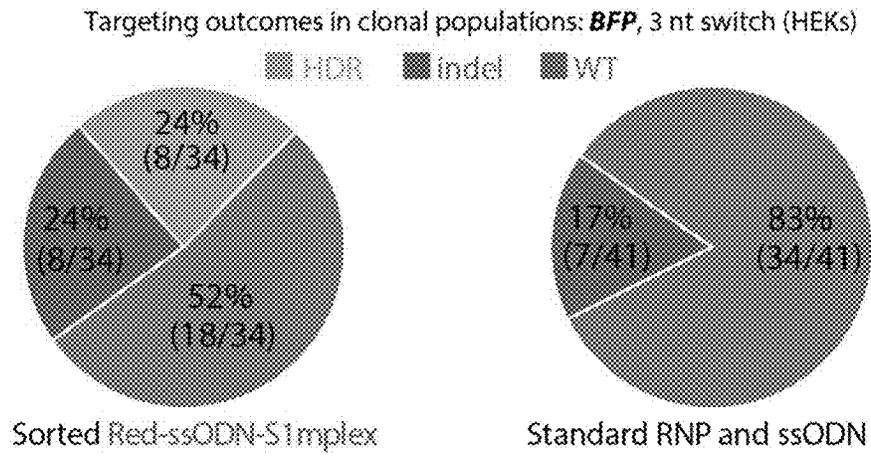
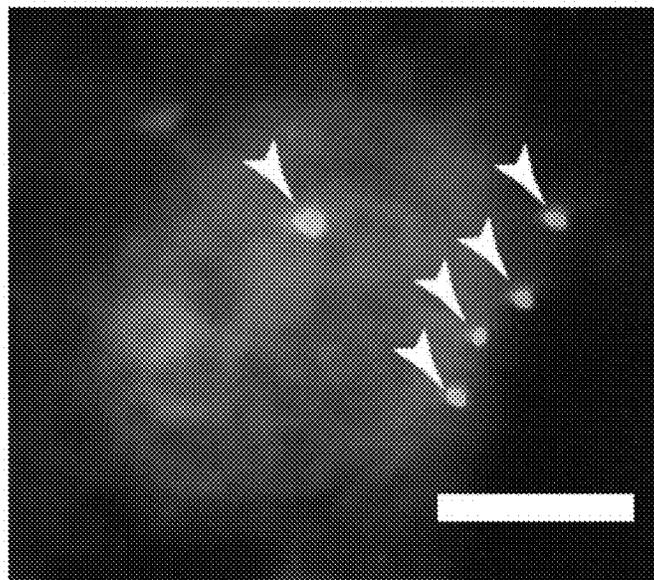


FIGURE 28



Confocal:
Nucleus / CellTrace / AlexaFluor 488

FIGURE 29

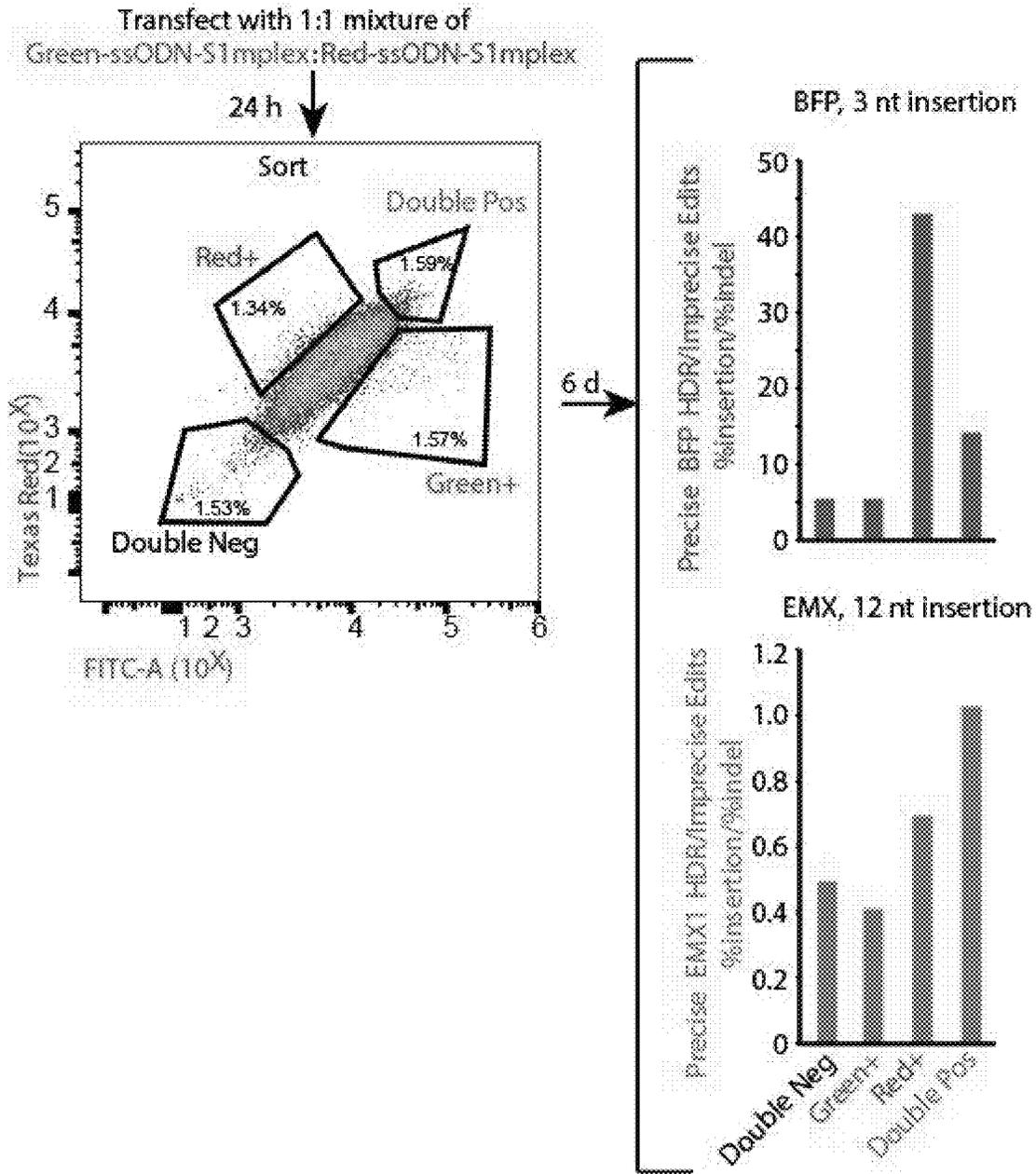


Figure 30

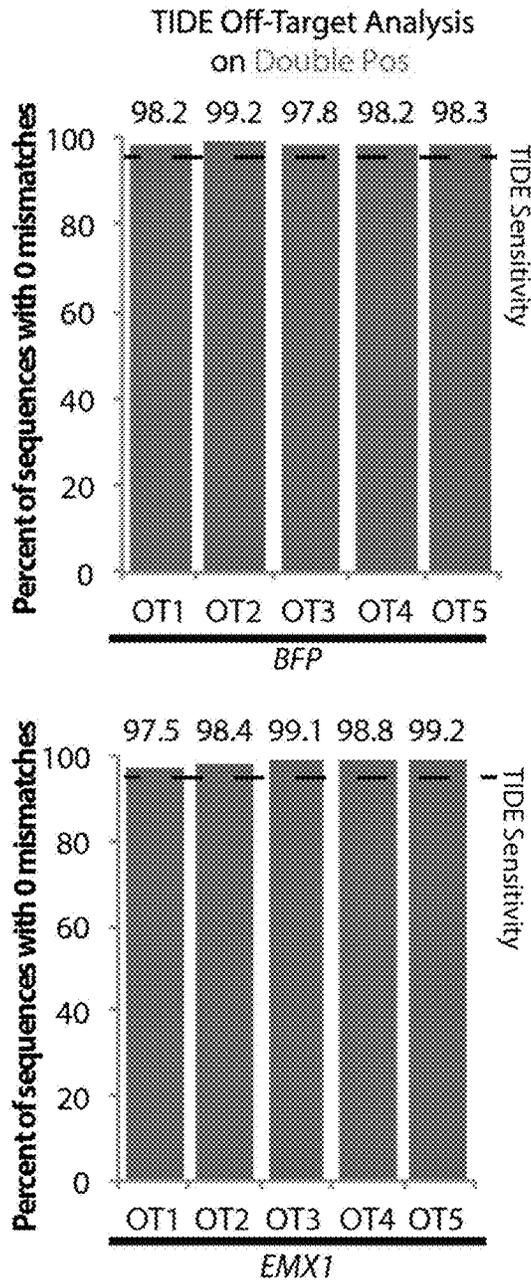


Figure 31

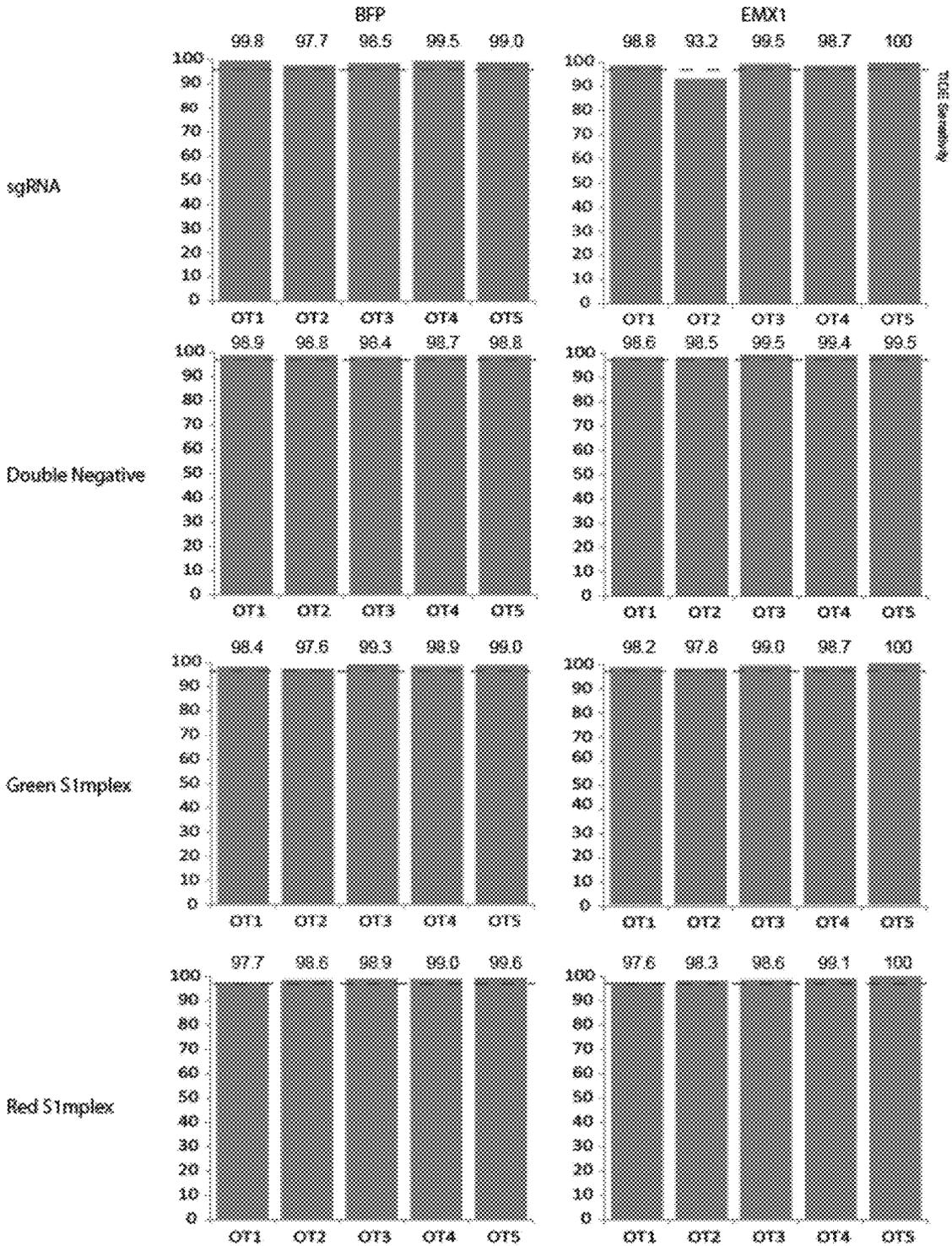


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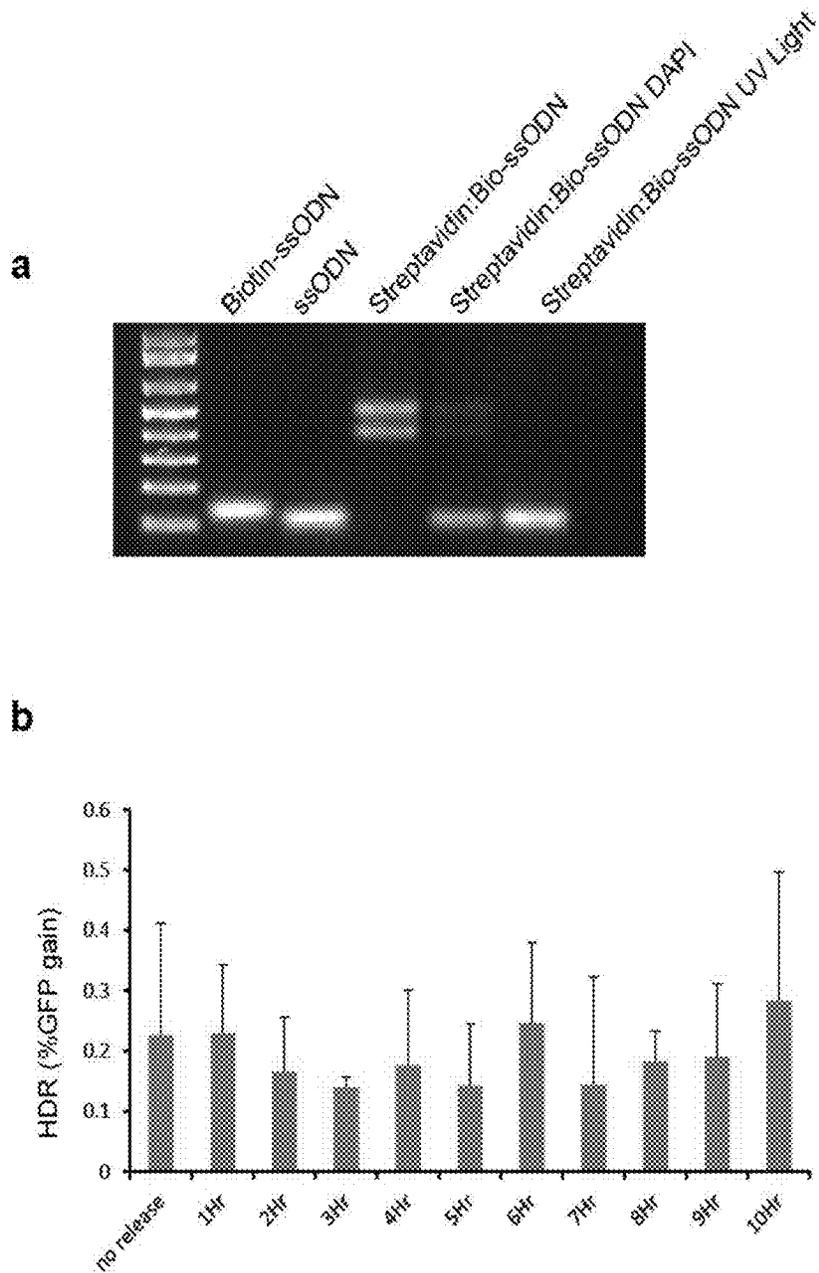
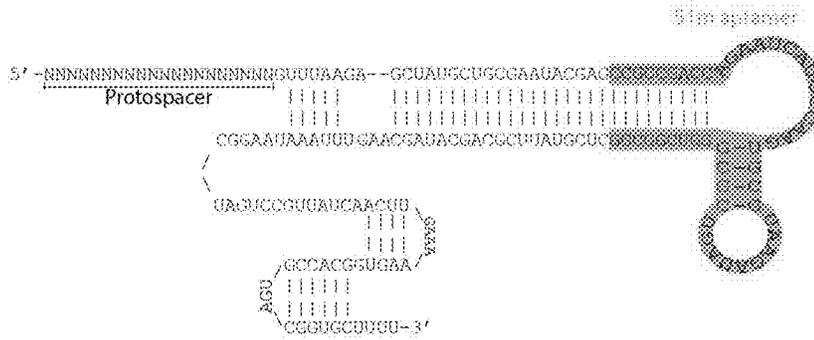


FIGURE 33



SEQ ID NO: 70

FIGURE 34

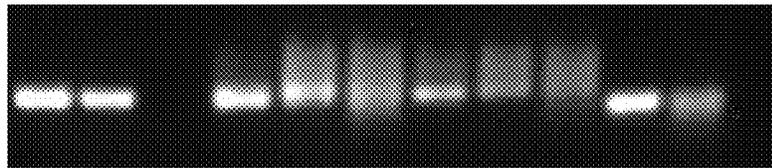


FIGURE 35

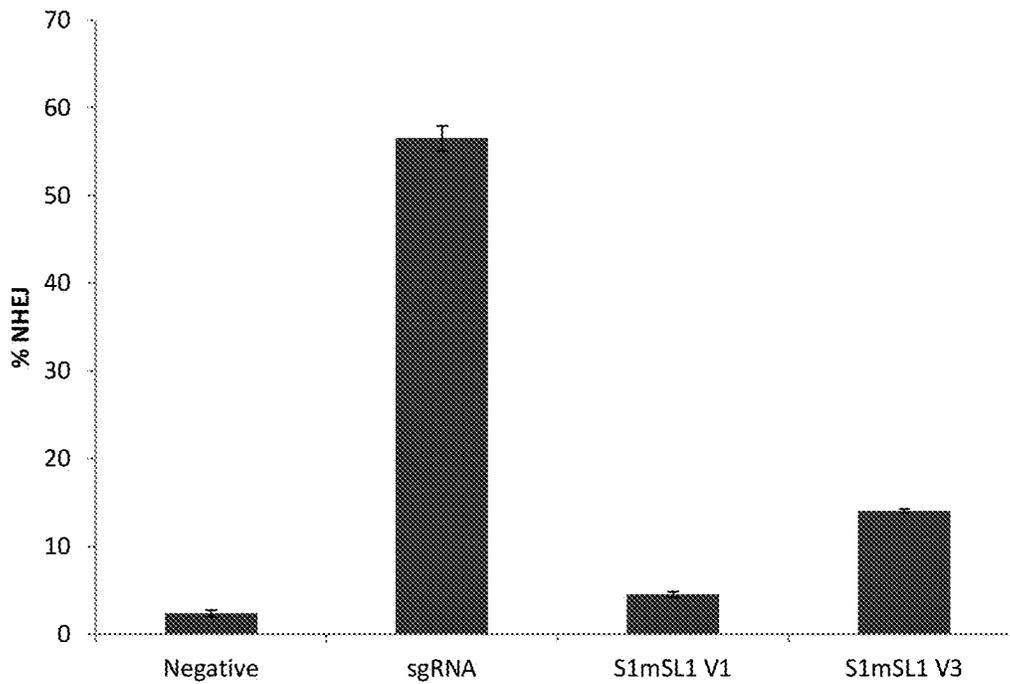


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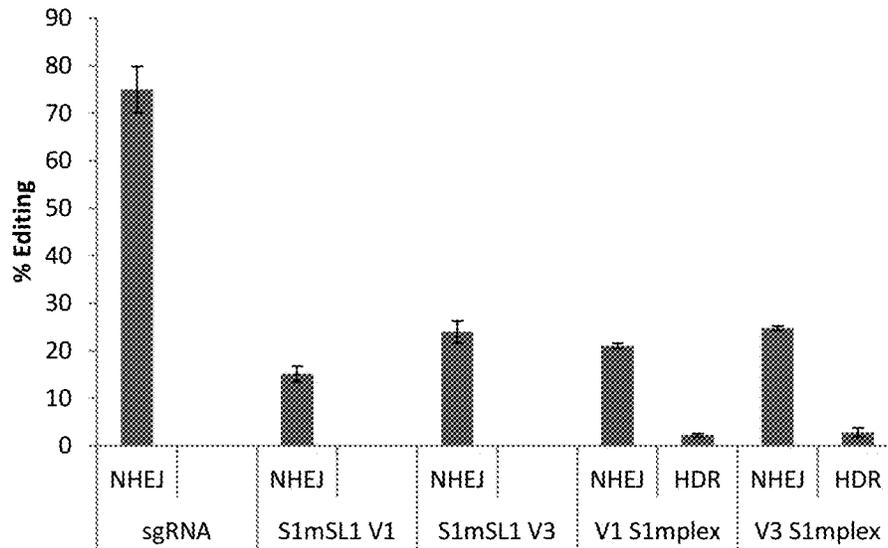


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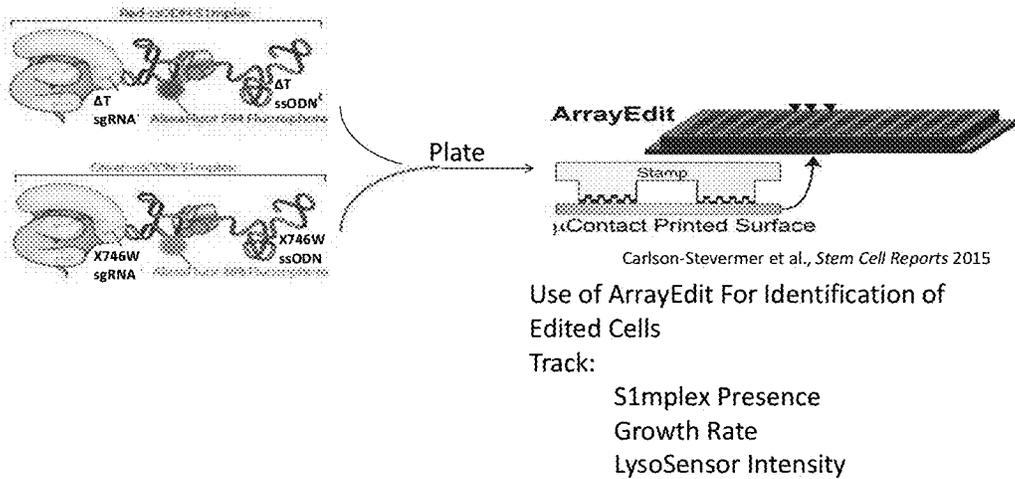


FIGURE 38

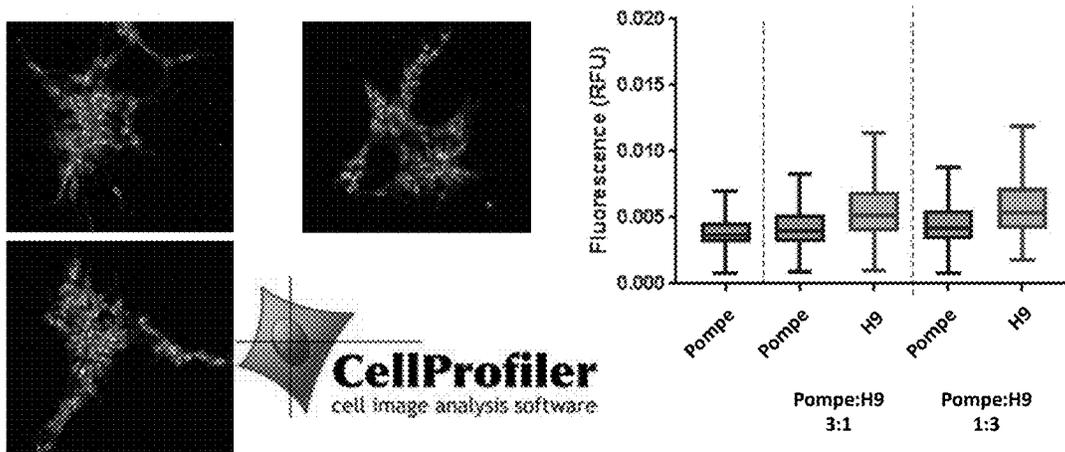


FIGURE 39

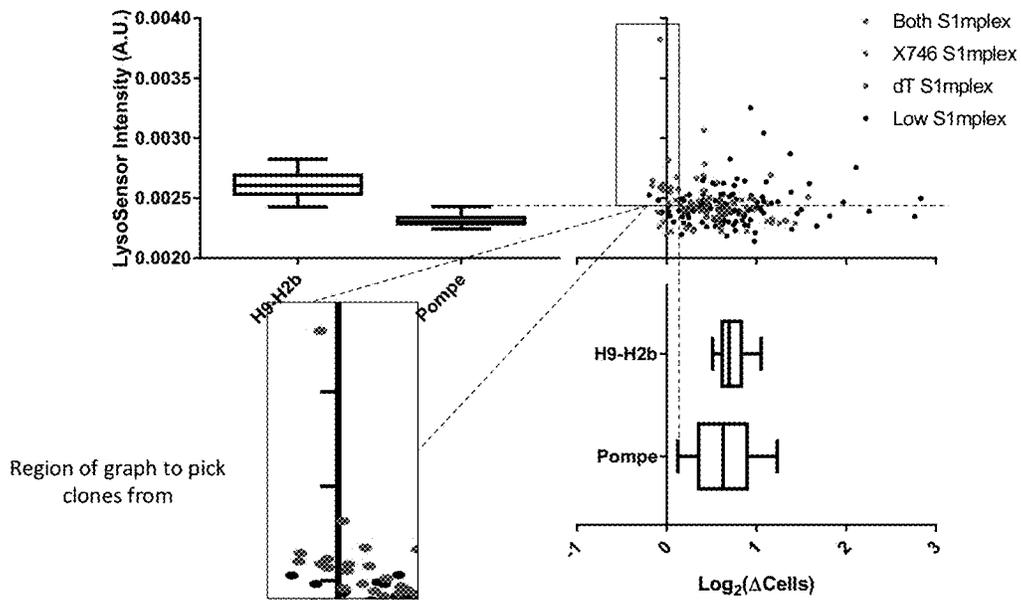


FIGURE 40

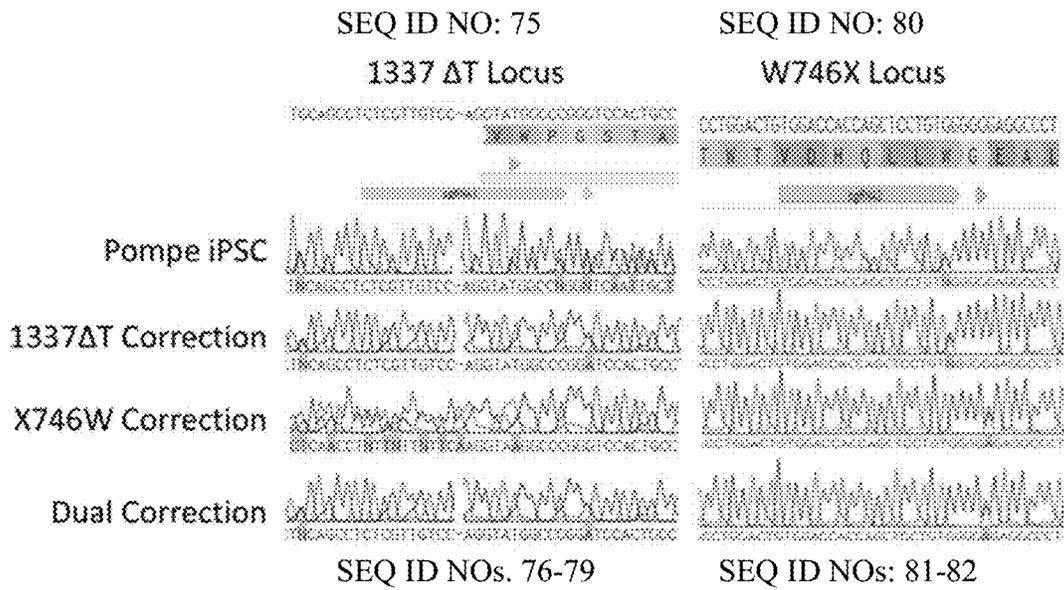


FIGURE 41

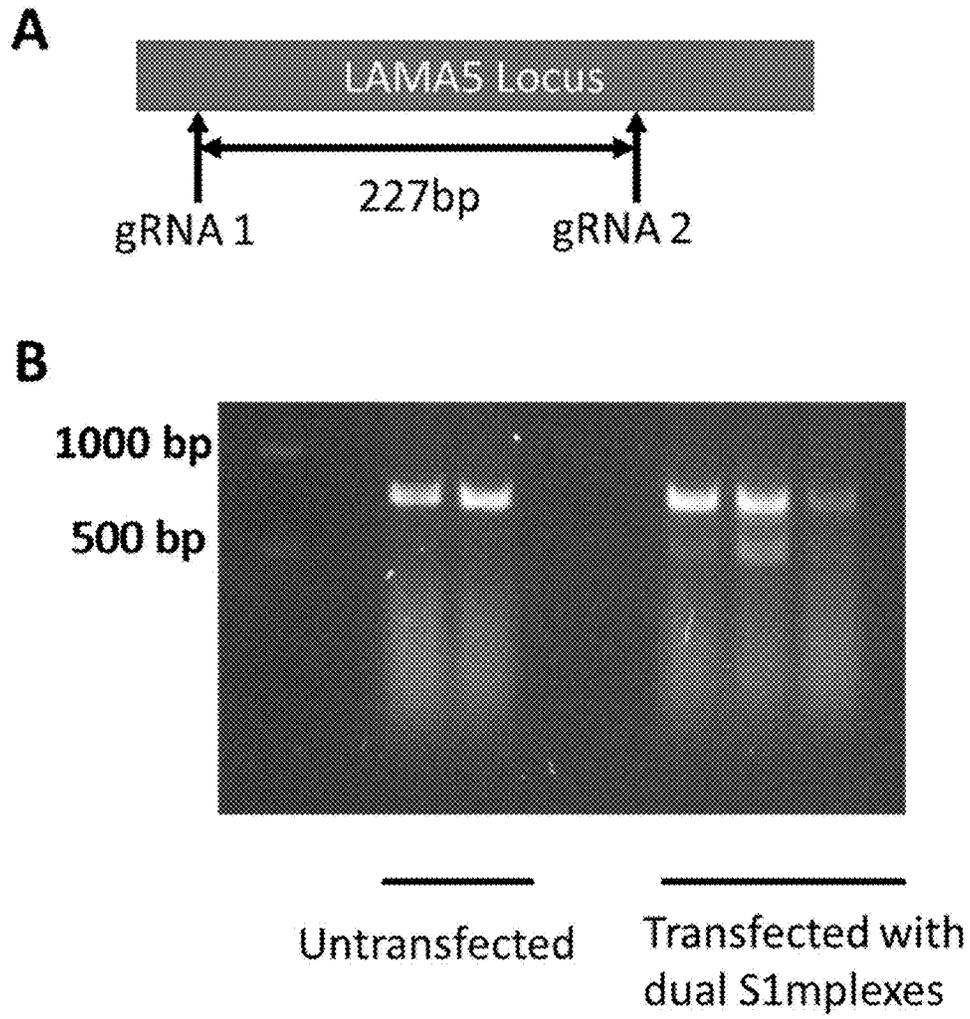


FIGURE 42

1

**MODIFIED GUIDE RNAS,
CRISPR-RIBONUCLEOTPROTEIN
COMPLEXES AND METHODS OF USE**

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED
APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application 62/519,317 filed on Jun. 14, 2017, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

FEDERAL FUNDING STATEMENT

This invention was made with government support under GM119644 awarded by the National Institutes of Health and CBET1350178 awarded by the National Science Foundation. The government has certain rights in the invention.

FIELD OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present disclosure is related to modified guide RNAs and CRISPR-ribonucleoprotein complexes containing the modified guide RNAs and their use in genome editing methods.

BACKGROUND

Precise editing of DNA sequences in the human genome can be used to correct mutations or introduce novel genetic functionality for many biomedical purposes. Specifically, nonviral delivery of pre-formed CRISPR ribonucleoproteins (RNPs) is currently being developed for somatic gene editing applications. RNPs combining *Streptococcus pyogenes* Cas9 nuclease (Sp.Cas9, a high-affinity nuclease isolated from a type II CRISPR-associated system) and a single-guide RNA (sgRNA), for example, generate on-target DNA double strand breaks (DSBs) with little to no off-target DNA cleavage. This break can be repaired through error prone non-homologous end joining (NHEJ) or precise homology directed repair (HDR), in which a template is used. Co-delivery of a nucleic acid donor template with the Sp.Cas9 RNP (Sp.Cas9+sgRNA) is capable of producing precise edits at target loci through HDR of the DSB. However, variable delivery of the CRISPR system along with the donor templates generates a spectrum of edits, where a majority of cells include imprecise insertions and deletions (indels) of DNA bases from NHEJ repair of the DSB. Even when precise HDR of the DSB occurs on one allele, there is a chance that both alleles in diploid cells are not identically edited, resulting in imprecise edits on the other allele. Faithful writing of DNA, or scarless gene editing, within human cells remains an outstanding challenge.

Strategies to promote precise editing include addition of small molecules to block NHEJ and restricting Sp.Cas9 activity to particular phases of the cell cycle, but variability and toxicity has been observed across human cell lines when applying small molecules to promote HDR. Also, selection strategies through viral integration and excision of drug or cell-surface selection cassettes, flow cytometry for co-expressed fluorescent protein, or through transient drug selection can assist in the isolation of cells with one or two precisely-edited alleles. For all of these strategies, imprecise editing through NHEJ typically outnumbers precise HDR outcomes. None of the current strategies precisely control the delivery of the RNP with the donor template, and many resort to 'flooding' the cell with high Cas9 expression and/or the donor template.

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What is needed are new strategies for genome editing that have improved editing fidelity.

BRIEF SUMMARY

In one aspect, a modified guide RNA, comprises a crRNA comprising a single-stranded protospacer sequence, and a first complementary strand of a binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, and a tracrRNA comprising, a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises an aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule, wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide.

In another aspect, a modified sg RNA comprises, from 5' to 3', a single-stranded protospacer sequence, a first complementary strand of a binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, an aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule, and a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide.

In another aspect, an RNP complex comprises the modified guide RNA such as the sgRNA and a Cas9 polypeptide or active fragment thereof.

In another aspect, a method of modifying a target gene in a cell comprises delivering to the cell the RNP complex described above, wherein the single-stranded protospacer sequence of the modified guide RNA such as the sgRNA hybridizes to a sequence in the target gene to be modified.

In another aspect, a method of modifying a target gene in a cell comprises delivering to the cell the modified guide RNA described above, wherein the modified guide RNA is associated with a biotin-binding molecule, and wherein the single-stranded protospacer sequence of the modified guide RNA hybridizes to a sequence in the target gene to be modified.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

FIG. 1 is a schematic showing assembled ssODN-S1mplexes which are complexes of Sp.Cas9 protein, sgRNA with S1m aptamer, streptavidin, and a single-stranded oligodeoxynucleotide (ssODN) donor template. S1m-sgRNAs add an RNA aptamer at the first stem loop of the sgRNA that is capable of binding streptavidin protein. A biotin-ssODN is then added to this tertiary complex. ssODN-S1mplex particles are designed to promote homology directed repair (HDR).

FIG. 2 shows the predicted secondary structure of S1m-sgRNA. Protospacer designates the region that defines the sequence to target in the human genome. S1m stem loop (coral) binds streptavidin.

FIG. 3 shows the predicted secondary structure of S1m-sgRNAs variants.

FIG. 4 shows in vitro transcription of S1m-sgRNAs compared to standard sgRNAs. S1m-sgRNAs are larger than sgRNAs due to the insertion of S1m stem loop.

FIG. 5 shows in vitro complexes of sgRNAs and streptavidin. Lane 1: S1m-sgRNA. Lane 2: streptavidin. Lane 3-5: Progressive ratios of S1m-sgRNA streptavidin. As strepta-

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vidin concentration was increased the electrophoretic front of S1m-sgRNAs was slowed. The presence of several bands may be due to multiple S1m-sgRNAs binding to a single streptavidin. Lane 6-7: Addition of streptavidin to standard sgRNAs do not shift the electrophoretic front.

FIG. 6 shows dynamic light scattering of ssODN-S1mplex (S1mplex=tertiary complexes of Sp.Cas9, S1m-sgRNA, and streptavidin) particle assembly. Cas9 (orange) and streptavidin (blue) proteins fail to interact when in solution together and have a hydrodynamic radius consistent with published data. The addition of sgRNA to Sp.Cas9 protein increases the radius of the particle to 10 nm (yellow). This radius does not change with the addition of streptavidin (red). When S1m-sgRNAs are added to Sp.Cas9 (purple), the radius is increased by a larger amount than sgRNAs, potentially due to the larger size of the S1m-sgRNA. When streptavidin is added to this complex (green), a shift in size of about 3 nm occurs, the size of streptavidin. A second peak at 35 nm may be associated with multiple Cas9-S1m-sgRNA complexes connected to a single streptavidin.

FIG. 7 shows two representative single cell multispectral flow cytometric images of S1m-sgRNA and sgRNA transfected cells with Cas9 immunohistochemistry and fluorescent streptavidin (scale bar: 10 μ m). Arrowheads indicate presence of overlapping colors. Numbers in yellow are measured log Pearson correlation coefficient as determined by IDEAS software.

FIG. 8 shows the correlation coefficient of Cas9 immunocytochemistry fluorescent signal and streptavidin fluorescence, as measured by multispectral image cytometry within hPSCs. Use of S1m-sgRNA significantly increased the correlation between the two signals (**p<10⁻⁵, Student's two-tailed t-test).

FIG. 9 shows representative confocal images of S1m-sgRNA and sgRNA transfected cells with Cas9 immunohistochemistry and fluorescent streptavidin (scale bar: 5 μ m). Arrowheads indicate presence of overlapping colors.

FIG. 10 shows the correlation coefficient of Cas9 immunocytochemistry and streptavidin fluorescence inside the nuclei of transfected cells. Introduction of S1m-sgRNAs significantly increased the correlation between the two molecules (*p<0.05, Student's two-tailed t-test).

FIG. 11 shows in vitro tertiary complexes of S1m-sgRNA, streptavidin, and ssODN. Lanes 1-4: Components of S1m particles ran individually. Lanes 5-7: complexes of S1m-sgRNAs, streptavidin, and biotin-ssODNs. Three concentrations of ssODN were used while amount of S1m-sgRNA and streptavidin was held constant. Major bands showing the complexation of all three components can be seen. Elongated bands may be due to different stoichiometry of bio-ssODN and S1m-sgRNA connected to streptavidin.

FIG. 12 shows in vitro tertiary complexes of S1m-sgRNA, streptavidin, and ssODN. Lanes 1-4: Components of S1m particles ran individually. Lanes 5-7: complexes of S1m-sgRNAs, streptavidin, and biotinylated ssODNs. Numbers represent relative stoichiometry between components ran on gel. Major bands showing the complexation of all three components can be seen. Elongated bands may be due to different stoichiometry of biotin-ssODN and S1m-sgRNA connected to streptavidin. Lanes 8-10: complexes of S1m-sgRNAs, streptavidin, and ssODNs. ssODNs do not interfere with the binary complex. Lane 11: complexes of streptavidin and biotin-ssODNs, with free sgRNAs. None of the typical S1m-sgRNA-streptavidin complexes can be seen in this lane.

FIG. 13 shows gene editing via NHEJ using S1m-sgRNA RNPs. Knockout of integrated H2B-mCherry fluorescence

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in human embryonic kidney (HEK) cells. When transfected together with a plasmid encoding Sp.Cas9, S1m-sgRNAs induced ~50% the level of NHEJ as sgRNA as measured by the loss of fluorescence (44.9% vs. 83.1%) five days post transfection.

FIG. 14 shows the ratio of precise to imprecise editing using S1mplexes formed with different S1m-sgRNA variants in hPSCs. Each S1m-sgRNA increased the ratio of precise to imprecise editing when compared to sgRNAs. S1mplexes with S1m-sgRNA-1, and S1m-sgRNA-2 had the highest ratios of precise editing.

FIG. 15 shows the ratio of precise to imprecise editing at BFP locus. ssODN-S1mplexes had an 18.4-fold higher ratio than sgRNAs and contained four precise edits to every one indel as analyzed by deep sequencing 8 days post lipofection of HEKs.

FIG. 16 shows the ratio of precise to imprecise editing at EMX1 locus. ssODN-S1mplexes had a 2.7-fold higher ratio than sgRNAs.

FIG. 17 shows the ratio of precise insertions to imprecise indels at BFP locus in hPSCs as analyzed by deep sequencing. ssODN-S1mplexes had a 9.7-fold increase in comparison to standard sgRNAs and a 7.4-fold increase when compared with untethered ssODNs.

FIG. 18 shows the ratio of precise insertions to imprecise indels at EMX1 locus. Addition of streptavidin to S1mplex resulted in a 15-fold increase in the ratio of precise insertions to imprecise indels.

FIGS. 19 and 20: ssODN design. Genomic sequence is denoted with black bars. sgRNA targeting site and PAM is denoted by 'PAM' inside genomic locus, while red triangles are the sgRNA cut site. ssODN length is measured around cut site either upstream (-) or downstream (+) as read by the reading frame. Biotin (blue hexagon) was attached to either the 5' or 3' end of the ssODN. ssODNs were identical in sequence to either the PAM or Non-PAM sequence as read in a 5'-3' direction. RNP controls were standard sgRNAs plus corresponding ssODN.

FIG. 19 shows absolute NHEJ (orange diamonds) and HDR percentages (purple diamonds) as a function of total reads at two different loci in hPSCs using different ssODN designs. Each symbol represents a single replicate analyzed by deep sequencing 4 days after nucleofection into hPSCs. HDR levels were generally higher in each replicate than NHEJ levels.

FIG. 20 shows the ratio of HDR:indel reads in deep sequencing using each ssODN combined with S1mplexes. Blue circles represent individual biological replicates. With each ssODN, S1mplexes increased the ratio of HDR:indel when compared to sgRNA controls but no significant trends as to symmetry, sidedness, or biotin location were observed.

FIG. 21 is a schematic of S1mplexes with quantum dot cargoes. Qdots can be complexed with the S1mplex by a disulfide linker (Qdot-SS-S1mplex, top) or by using streptavidin covalently attached directly to the quantum dot (QdotSA-S1mplex, bottom). The quantum dot has a mean diameter of 20 nm.

FIG. 22 shows a gene editing comparison of different Qdot S1mplexes. Gene editing of HEK H2B-mCherry reporter cells five days post sorting as assayed by flow cytometry. QdotSA interferes with RNP activity, while Qdot-SS has equivalent gene editing activity as the free RNP (n=3 technical replicates).

FIG. 23 shows gene-editing using various combinations of components with QdotSA. Conjugation of S1mplexes to QdotSA significantly lowers gene editing efficiency. Editing efficiency is lower even if QdotSA is transfected separately

from the S1plexes without complexation. S1m-sgRNA|QdotSA indicates complexation of S1m-sgRNA RNP with transfection agent in a separate tube from QdotSA complexation with transfection agent, and subsequent addition of the contents of the S1m-sgRNA tube followed immediately by addition of the QdotSA tube. 5 hr. gap indicates a 5 hour culture time between transfections. Immediate application of the QdotSA can moderately interfere with the activity of the RNP, but these interference effects are abrogated if QdotSA is added 5 hours later. All RNP activity is abrogated by complexation with the QdotSA (last column) (n=3 technical replicates).

FIG. 24 shows representative epifluorescence images of untransfected and Qdot-SS-S1plex transfected cells 24 hours post transfection (Scale bar: 10 μ m). Arrowheads indicate Qdot fluorescence in the cytoplasm.

FIG. 25 shows increased fluorescence of Qdot-S1plex allows sorting out of quantum dot positive fractions compared to untransfected cells 24 hours post transfection.

FIG. 26 shows quantum dot conjugation to S1plex via a cleavable disulfide linker allows fluorescent enrichment of gene-edited human cells. Increased fluorescence of Qdot-S1plex after cleavage of the disulfide linker allows sorting out of quantum dot positive fractions compared to untransfected cells 24 hours post transfection (n=3 biological replicates).

FIG. 27 shows a schematic of simultaneous editing at two loci strategy. HEK cells were transfected simultaneously with two S1m particles, labeled with distinct fluorophores. Editing at the BFP locus was associated with Red-ssODN-S1plexes (AlexaFluor®-594 fluorophore), while editing at the EMX1 locus was associated with Green-ssODN-S1plexes (AlexaFluor®-488 fluorophore).

FIG. 28 shows single cells sorting for enrichment of editing at BFP locus. In enriched S1plex clonal populations, indels (brown) and HDR (blue) events occurred in a 1:1 ratio. In sgRNA clones, all isolated clones either had indel or wildtype genotypes. Genotypes were assayed by Sanger sequencing. No mosaic genotypes were observed.

FIG. 29 shows fluorescent S1plexes inside the cell using confocal microscopy. Arrows denote Green-S1plex both inside the nucleus and outside the cell (Scale bar: 10 μ m).

FIG. 30 shows twenty-four hours post transfection, cells were sorted into populations that were positive for either fluorophore, both or neither. Analysis via deep sequencing was done 6 days post sorting. Top: ratio of precise (perfect sequence match to ssODN) to imprecise editing (indels) in sorted populations. Populations enriched for BFP targeted S1plexes (Red+ and double positive) had elevated ratios up to 40 times as many insertions as indels. Bottom: ratio of precise to imprecise editing in sorted populations. Populations enriched for EMX1 targeted S1plexes (Red+ and double positive) had elevated ratios of precise insertions to indels.

FIG. 31 Off-target analysis of double positive populations using TIDE at the top 5 off-target locations for each sgRNA. No modifications were detected below the TIDE limit of detection (dotted line).

FIG. 32 shows an off-target analysis of sorted S1plex populations. Off-target analysis using TIDE software at the top 5 predicted off-target sites within the human genome at the BFP and EMX1 loci. Y axis indicates the percentage of cells with 0 mismatches from the parental sequence (perfect matches in sequencing reads). None of the sorted S1plex populations showed off-target effects above the limit of

detection. The unsorted sgRNA RNP population had a small proportion of cells that may have been edited at OT-2 of the EMX1 off-target sites.

FIG. 33 shows release of a biotin-ssODN through a photocleavable linkage had no significant effect on HDR editing. FIG. 33a shows a biotin-ssODN that contained a UV-cleavable linker was attached to streptavidin and S1plex particles in order to study the potential of releasing the ssODN inside the cell to promote HDR. Lane 1: DNA standard. Lane 2: Photo-cleavable biotin-ssODN. Lane 3: standard ssODN. Lane 4: Binary complexes of streptavidin and photo-cleavable biotin-ssODNs. Lane 5-6: Binary complexes cleaved by either exposure to light through a DAPI filter cube (lane 5) or exposure to a UV transilluminator (lane 6). DAPI filter cube cleaved nearly all ssODN after 10 minutes whereas transilluminator had complete cleavage. Cleaved DNA product was the same length as control standard ssODN. FIG. 33b shows release of biotin-ssODN by 15 minutes of light exposure through a DAPI filter cube every hour post transfection. Levels of HDR were not significantly affected by the release of the ssODN within the cell at any time point (n=3 biological replicates).

FIG. 34 is a schematic of the structure and sequence of S1m-sgRNA-V3. This sequence removes 6 nt from the beginning of the S1m aptamer. Removal of these nucleotides simplified the secondary structure of the RNA. This modification may potentially decrease the number of incorrectly folded and therefore inactive S1m-sgRNAs.

FIG. 35 shows the binding capability of S1m-sgRNA-1 and S1m-sgRNA-V3 with streptavidin using an electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA). S1m-sgRNAs or standard sgRNAs were mixed with native streptavidin protein at the indicated ratios (w/w) and allowed to complex prior to being loaded on an agarose gel. Lane 1: S1m-sgRNA-1. Lane 2: S1m-sgRNA-V3. Lane 3: Streptavidin. Lane 4: 10:1 S1m-sgRNA-1:Streptavidin. Lane 5: 1:1 S1m-sgRNA-1:Streptavidin. Lane 6: 1:10 S1m-sgRNA-1:Streptavidin. Lane 7: 10:1 S1m-sgRNA-V3:Streptavidin. Lane 8: 1:1 S1m-sgRNA-V3:Streptavidin. Lane 9: 1:10 S1m-sgRNA-V3:Streptavidin. Lane 10: sgRNA. Lane 7: 1:10 sgRNA:Streptavidin.

FIG. 36 shows the induction of NHEJ using various sgRNAs. Cas9 RNPs were formed with standard sgRNA, S1m-sgRNA-1, or S1m-sgRNA-V3 targeting the same locus and transfected into H2b-mCherry expressing HEK cells. % NHEJ was measured by loss of fluorescence 7 days post transfection. Both S1m-sgRNA versions were less effective at creating double strand breaks repaired by NHEJ than standard sgRNA. S1m-sgRNA-V3 induced more NHEJ events than V1 (~3-fold higher) potentially due to simplified secondary structure. Both S1m-sgRNA variants were still capable of creating genetic modifications. (n=3 technical replicates. Error bars represent ± 1 S.D.)

FIG. 37 shows the induction of HDR using various sgRNAs. Cas9 RNPs were formed with standard sgRNA, S1m-sgRNA-1, or S1m-sgRNA-V3 targeting the same locus. S1m-sgRNA-1 and V3 were also used to create S1plexes containing an ssODN to induce HDR at the target site. S1m-sgRNAs again formed fewer DSBs and S1m-sgRNA-V3 was more efficient at inducing NHEJ than V1. Similarly, when S1plexes were formed using S1m-sgRNAs, V3 induced higher levels of HDR than V1. However, in this replicate, ratios of HDR:NHEJ differed from what was seen in previous experiments (n=3 technical replicates. Error bars represent ± 1 S.D.)

FIG. 38 shows identification of corrected Pompe iPSCs using ArrayEdit platform following transfection with fluorescent S1plexes. Array Edit enables tracking of phenotypic characteristics.

FIG. 39 shows the phenotypic difference between wild-type and Pompe disease iPSCs. Cell lines were cocultured together at the indicated ratio and evaluated for the presence of mCherry (wildtype) or DAPI (disease). Lysosome acidity was measured using LysoSensor™ Green and quantified on a per-cell basis.

FIG. 40 shows identification of corrected Pompe iPSCs. Pompe iPSCs and H9-H2b-mCherry cells were mock transfected and plated of ArrayEdit platform. Over seven days number of cells per feature was tracked and used to calculate average growth rate (bottom right). On day seven, wells were stained with LysoSensor™ Green and per cell intensity was measured (top left). Data was plotted as a per-feature average. Pompe iPSCs were transfected with S1plex-ssODNs targeting diseased loci and analyzed in the same manner as described above but with the addition of S1plex presence on day 1. Clones to be selected (bottom left) were determined by gating out the lowest average growth rate of mock transfected cells as well as the upper intensity limit of mock transfected Pompe iPSCs. Microfeatures with cells meeting both of these criteria as well as displaying S1plex presence were selected and expanded.

FIG. 41 shows selection of gene-corrected disease iPSCs. Sanger sequencing traces of corrected cell lines. Heterozygous mutations within the PAM sequence show that the ssODN was used as the HDR template in all lines.

FIG. 42 shows dual S1plexes for the precise excision of genomic DNA. a) 2 sgRNAs designed in the LAMA5 locus for excision of a 238 bp stretch of genomic DNA. B) Mixed S1m sgRNAs (1,2) with streptavidin added to HEK 293s, with ratio sgRNA:streptavidin 2:1 at 50 ng/well per guide. Gel shows LAMA5 locus PCR amplicon spanning both guides. Average excision efficiency of 22% with dual S1plexes.

The above-described and other features will be appreciated and understood by those skilled in the art from the following detailed description, drawings, and appended claims.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Described herein are modified guide RNAs such as sgRNAs and their RNP complexes with Cas9. Without being held to theory, the inventors hypothesized that some of the errors in gene editing outcomes could be reduced by pre-assembling RNPs with donor template or other moieties that enable the isolation of precisely-edited cells (FIG. 1). The inventors designed a strategy inspired by CRISPR display that leverages structural studies of the RNP to identify locations in the guide RNA sequence where RNA aptamers could be tolerated.

The S1plex tool described here exploits high affinity interactions between a short RNA aptamer and streptavidin to promote more faithful writing of the human genome. In an aspect, these RNP-containing complexes can be assembled outside the cell to a desired stoichiometry and delivered as an all-in-one gene-editing nanoparticle together with a donor nucleic acid template. In addition, the complexes can be easily decorated with additional moieties such as fluorophores or Qdots to enrich for edited cells. Use of these particles with a biotinylated ssODN reduced heterogeneity in delivery among RNPs and nucleic acids within human cells and enriches the ratio of precisely-edited to

imprecisely-edited alleles up to 18-fold higher than standard RNP methods, approaching a ratio of four precise edits to every one imprecise edit. Further functionalization with a unique fluorophore enables multiplexed editing and enrichment of precisely edited populations through cell sorting. Taken together, advances with the S1plex tool generates new, chemically-defined reagents to promote precise editing of the human genome.

The inventors devised a strategy inspired by CRISPR display that leverages structural studies of the RNP to identify locations in the sgRNA sequence where RNA aptamers could be tolerated (FIG. 1). Three sgRNAs with a modification either in a stem loop of the sgRNA or at the 3' end were designed (FIG. 2), as these locations have previously been shown to tolerate additions with a minimal loss in Cas9 binding activity. Separately, at each location, a perfectly complementary 10 nucleotide block was added which was previously shown to aid aptamer addition to sgRNAs and a 60 nucleotide S1m aptamer, which has a strong non-covalent interaction with streptavidin. The added sequence extends the sgRNA stem loop and contains two distinct bulges used for binding. We termed these new sgRNAs S1m-sgRNA-1, S1m-sgRNA-2, and S1m-sgRNA-3 in reference to their position in the sgRNA from 5' to 3' (FIG. 2).

CRISPR refers to the Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats type II system used by bacteria and archaea for adaptive defense. This system enables bacteria and archaea to detect and silence foreign nucleic acids, e.g., from viruses or plasmids, in a sequence-specific manner. In type II systems, guide RNA interacts with Cas9 and directs the nuclease activity of Cas9 to target DNA sequences complementary to those present in the guide RNA. Guide RNA base pairs with complementary sequences in target DNA. Cas9 nuclease activity then generates a double-stranded break in the target DNA.

CRISPR/Cas9 is an RNP complex. CRISPR RNA (crRNA) includes a 20 base protospacer element that is complementary to a genomic DNA sequence as well as additional elements that are complementary to the transactivating RNA (tracrRNA). The tracrRNA hybridizes to the crRNA and binds to the Cas9 protein, to provide an active RNP complex. Thus, in nature, the CRISPR/Cas9 complex contains two RNA species.

sgRNA refers to a single RNA species which combines the tracrRNA and the crRNA and is capable of directing Cas9-mediated cleavage of target DNA. An sgRNA thus contains the sequences necessary for Cas9 binding and nuclease activity and a target sequence complementary to a target DNA of interest (protospacer sequence). In general, in an sgRNA, the tracrRNA and the crRNA are connected by a linker loop sequence. sgRNAs are well-known in the art. While sgRNA is generally used throughout this disclosure, two-part guide RNAs containing a crRNA and a tracrRNA can also be employed.

As used herein, a guide RNA protospacer sequence refers to the nucleotide sequence of a guide RNA that binds to a target DNA sequence and directs Cas9 nuclease activity to the target DNA locus. In some embodiments, the guide RNA protospacer sequence is complementary to the target DNA sequence. As described herein, the protospacer sequence of a single guide RNA may be customized, allowing the targeting of Cas9 activity to a target DNA of interest.

Any desired target DNA sequence of interest may be targeted by a guide RNA target sequence. Any length of target sequence that permits CRISPR-Cas9 specific nuclease

activity may be used in a guide RNA. In some embodiments, a guide RNA contains a 20 nucleotide protospacer sequence.

In addition to the protospacer sequence, the targeted sequence includes a protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) adjacent to the protospacer region which is a sequence recognized by the CRISPR RNP as a cutting site. Without wishing to be bound to theory, it is thought that the only requirement for a target DNA sequence is the presence of a protospacer-adjacent motif (PAM) adjacent to the sequence complementary to the guide RNA target sequence. Different Cas9 complexes are known to have different PAM motifs. For example, Cas9 from *Streptococcus pyogenes* has a NGG trinucleotide PAM motif; the PAM motif of *N. meningitidis* Cas9 is NNNNGATT; the PAM motif of *S. thermophilus* Cas9 is NNAGAAW; and the PAM motif of *T. denticola* Cas9 is NAAAAC.

A modified guide RNA is a one-part or two-part RNA capable of directing Cas-9-mediated cleavage of target DNA. A modified sg RNA is a single RNA species capable of directing Cas9-mediated cleavage of target DNA. A modified sgRNA, for example, comprises sequences that provide Cas9 nuclease activity, a protospacer sequence complementary to a target DNA of interest, and an aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule. The inventors of the present application unexpectedly found that the linker loop that connects the tracrRNA and the crRNA in an sgRNA can be replaced with an aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule such as a streptavidin-binding aptamer. Unexpectedly, the modified sgRNAs can bind both Cas9 protein and streptavidin, and form active RNP complexes which induce error-prone DNA repair less frequently than standard CRISPR-Cas9 RNP complexes.

In an aspect, a modified guide RNA, comprises

a crRNA comprising a single-stranded protospacer sequence and a first complementary strand of a binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, and

a tracrRNA comprising a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide,

wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises an aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule, wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide.

In another aspect, the crRNA and the tracrRNA form an sgRNA, the sgRNA comprise from 5' to 3',

the single-stranded protospacer sequence,

the first complementary strand of a binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide,

the aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule, and

the second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide.

More specifically, a modified sgRNA comprises, from 5' to 3', a single-stranded protospacer sequence, a first complementary strand of a binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, an aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule, and a second complementary strand of the binding region of the Cas9 protein. In an embodiment, in the secondary structure of the modified sgRNA, the stem forms a stem-loop structure with the aptamer that binds the biotin-binding molecule. Specific modified sgRNAs are provided in FIG. 2.

The single-stranded protospacer region can comprise 17 to 20 nucleotides. Exemplary binding regions for Cas9 polypeptides comprise 10 to 35 base pairs.

In an aspect, the aptamer that binds a biotin-binding molecule forms a stem-loop structure. The stem portion of the stem-loop structure optionally forms a contiguous double strand with the double-stranded binding region for

the Cas9 polypeptide. The stem portion of the aptamer can comprise 9 to 15 base pairs, while the loop comprises 30 nucleotides. As shown in FIG. 2, the aptamer may contain more than one stem-loop structure. As shown in Example 9, the length of the stem portion of the aptamer is not critical and can be adjusted depending on the application of the modified guide RNA.

Also included herein is an RNP complex comprising the modified guide RNA, e.g., sgRNA, and a Cas9 polypeptide or active fragment thereof. Exemplary modified sgRNAs include:

(SEQ ID NO: 1)
NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNGUUUAAAGAGCUAUGCUGCGAAUACGAGA

UGCGGCCGCCGACCAGAAUCAUGCAAGUGCGUAAGAUAGUCGCGGGUC

GGCGGCCGCAUCUCGUAUUUCGAGCAUAGCAAGUUUUAAAUAAGGCUAG

UCCGUUAUCAACUUGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU;

(SEQ ID NO: 2)
NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNGUUUAAAGAGCUAUGCUGGAAACAGCAUA

GCAAGUUUUAAAUAAGGCUAGUCGCUUAUCAACUUGCAAUACGAGAUGC

GGCCGCCGACCAGAAUCAUGCAAGUGCGUAAGAUAGUCGCGGGUCGGC

GGCCGCAUCUCGUAUUUCGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU;

OR

(SEQ ID NO: 3)
NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNGUUUAAAGAGCUAUGCUGGAAACAGCAUA

GCAAGUUUUAAAUAAGGCUAGUCGCUUAUCAACUUGAAAAAGUGGCACC

GAGUCGGUGCCGAAUACGAGAUGCAGCGCCGCCGACCAGAAUCAUGCAAG

UGCGUAAGAUAGUCGCGGGUCGGCGCCGCAUCUCGUAUUCGUUUU;

OR

(SEQ ID NO: 70)
NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNGUUUAAAGAGCUAUGCUGCGAAUACGAGA

CGCCGACCAGAAUCAUGCAAGUGCGUAAGAUAGUCGCGGGUCGGCGCC

UCGUUUUCGAGCAUAGCAAGUUUUAAAUAAGGCUAGUCGCUUAUCAAC

UUGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU

A "Cas9" polypeptide is a polypeptide that functions as a nuclease when complexed to a guide RNA, e.g., an sgRNA or modified sgRNA. The Cas9 (CRISPR-associated 9, also known as Csn1) family of polypeptides, for example, when bound to a crRNA:tracrRNA guide or single guide RNA, are able to cleave target DNA at a sequence complementary to the sgRNA target sequence and adjacent to a PAM motif as described above. Cas9 polypeptides are characteristic of type II CRISPR-Cas systems. The broad term "Cas9" Cas9 polypeptides include natural sequences as well as engineered Cas9 functioning polypeptides. The term "Cas9 polypeptide" also includes the analogous Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats from *Prevotella* and *Francisella* 1 or CRISPR/Cpf1 which is a DNA-editing technology analogous to the CRISPR/Cas9 system. Cpf1 is an RNA-guided endonuclease of a class II CRISPR/Cas system. This acquired immune mechanism is found in *Prevotella* and *Francisella* bacteria. Additional Class I Cas proteins include Cas3, Cas8a, Cas5, Cas8b, Cas8c, Cas 10d, Cse1, Cse 2, Csy 1, Csy 2, Csy 3, GSU0054, Cas 10, Csm 2, Cmr 5, Cas10, Csx11, Csx10, and Csf 1. Additional Class 2 Cas9 polypeptides include Csn 2, Cas4, C2c1, C2c3 and Cas13a.

Exemplary Cas9 polypeptides include Cas9 polypeptide derived from *Streptococcus pyogenes*, e.g., a polypeptide having the sequence of the Swiss-Prot accession Q99ZW2 (SEQ ID NO: 5); Cas9 polypeptide derived from *Streptococcus thermophilus*, e.g., a polypeptide having the sequence of the Swiss-Prot accession G3ECR1 (SEQ ID NO: 6); a Cas9 polypeptide derived from a bacterial species within the genus *Streptococcus*; a Cas9 polypeptide derived from a bacterial species in the genus *Neisseria* (e.g., GenBank accession number YP_003082577; WP_015815286.1 (SEQ ID NO: 7)); a Cas9 polypeptide derived from a bacterial species within the genus *Treponema* (e.g., GenBank accession number EMB41078 (SEQ ID NO: 8)); and a polypeptide with Cas9 activity derived from a bacterial or archaeal species. Methods of identifying a Cas9 protein are known in the art. For example, a putative Cas9 protein may be complexed with crRNA and tracrRNA or sgRNA and incubated with DNA bearing a target DNA sequence and a PAM motif.

The term “Cas9” or “Cas9 nuclease” refers to an RNA-guided nuclease comprising a Cas9 protein, or a fragment thereof (e.g., a protein comprising an active, inactive, or partially active DNA cleavage domain of Cas9, and/or the gRNA binding domain of Cas9). In some embodiments, a Cas9 nuclease has an inactive (e.g., an inactivated) DNA cleavage domain, that is, the Cas9 is a nickase. Other embodiments of Cas9, both DNA cleavage domains are inactivated. This is referred to as catalytically-inactive Cas9, dead Cas9, or dCas9.

Functional Cas9 mutants are described, for example, in US20170081650 and US20170152508, incorporated herein by reference for its disclosure of Cas9 mutants.

In addition, to the modified sgRNA and the Cas9 polypeptide or active fragment thereof, an RNP complex may further comprise a biotin-binding molecule such as an avidin such as avidin, streptavidin, or NeutrAvidin™ which bind with high affinity to the aptamer that binds the biotin-binding molecule in the modified sgRNA. Avidin, streptavidin and NeutrAvidin™ are a tetramers and each subunit can bind biotin with equal affinity. Avidin, streptavidin and NeutrAvidin™ variants that contain one, two or three biotin binding sites are also available and may be employed in the complex.

When the RNP complex comprises a biotin-binding molecule, the complex can further comprise a biotinylated molecule which associates with the complex via the biotin-binding molecule. The biotinylated molecule can target the RNP complex to a specific cell type, organ or tissue. For example, PEG-coated gold nanoparticles exhibit size-dependent in vivo toxicity; the renal clearance of quantum dots can be controlled; and the accumulation of PEGylated silane-coated magnetic iron oxide nanoparticles has been shown to be size dependent.

In one embodiment, the biotinylated molecule is a biotinylated oligodeoxynucleotide, such as a biotinylated donor DNA template. Homologous recombination can insert an exogenous polynucleotide sequence into the target nucleic acid cleavage site. An exogenous polynucleotide sequence can be called a donor polynucleotide or a donor sequence. In some embodiments, a donor polynucleotide, a portion of a donor polynucleotide, a copy of a donor polynucleotide, or a portion of a copy of a donor polynucleotide can be inserted into a target nucleic acid cleavage site. A donor polynucleotide can be single-stranded DNA, double-stranded DNA, RNA, or a duplex of RNA and DNA. A donor polynucleotide can be a sequence that does not naturally occur at a target nucleic acid cleavage site. In some embodiments, modifications of a target nucleic acid due to NHEJ and/or HDR can

lead to, for example, mutations, deletions, alterations, integrations, gene correction, gene replacement, transgene insertion, nucleotide deletion, gene disruption, and/or gene mutation. The process of integrating non-native nucleic acid(s) into genomic DNA can be referred to as “genome engineering”.

In an embodiment, the biotinylated molecule is a nanoparticle, such as a quantum dot, a gold particle, a magnetic particle, a polymeric nanoparticle. In another embodiment, the biotinylated molecule is a biotinylated fluorescent dye such as Atto 425-Biotin, Atto 488-Biotin, Atto 520-Biotin, Atto-550 Biotin, Atto 565-Biotin, Atto 590-Biotin, Atto 610-Biotin, Atto 620-Biotin, Atto 655-Biotin, Atto 680-Biotin, Atto 700-Biotin, Atto 725-Biotin, Atto 740-Biotin, fluorescein biotin, biotin-4-fluorescein, biotin-(5-fluorescein) conjugate, and biotin-B-phycoerythrin, Alexa Fluor® 488 biocytin, Alexa Fluor® 546, Alexa Fluor® 549, lucifer yellow cadaverine biotin-X, Lucifer yellow biocytin, Oregon green 488 biocytin, biotin-rhodamine and tetramethylrhodamine biocytin. Biotinylated molecule may also be a peptide, proteins or protein domains, specifically antibodies and Fab domains.

In another aspect, the biotin-binding molecule can be covalently linked to a donor polynucleotide, a nanoparticle, or a dye molecule either directly or via a linker molecule, using, for example a disulfide linker. The bound biotin-binding molecule can then bind the aptamer of the modified sgRNA. Additional biotinylated donor polynucleotides, nanoparticle, contrast agent, or dye molecules can then be associated with the bound biotin-binding molecule. Alternatively, the biotin-binding molecule can be associated with the biotinylated molecule prior to adding to modified sgRNA.

Further included herein are methods of modifying a target gene, such as a target gene in a cell by contacting the cell with the RNP complexes and modified guide RNAs described herein. The cell can be from any organism (e.g., a bacterial cell, an archaeal cell, a cell of a single-cell eukaryotic organism, a plant cell, an algal cell, a fungal cell (e.g., a yeast cell), a cell from an invertebrate animal, a cell from a vertebrate animal, or a cell from a mammal, including a cell from a human).

Also included herein is a method of modifying a target gene in a cell, comprising delivering to the cell the modified guide RNA, wherein the modified guide RNA is associated with a biotin-binding molecule, and wherein the single-stranded protospacer sequence of the modified guide RNA hybridizes to a sequence in the target gene to be modified.

In some embodiments, the present disclosure provides for methods of modifying a target gene in a plant. As used herein, the term “plant” refers to whole plants, plant organs, plant tissues, seeds, plant cells, seeds and progeny of the same. Plant cells include, without limitation, cells from seeds, suspension cultures, embryos, meristematic regions, callus tissue, leaves, roots, shoots, gametophytes, sporophytes, pollen and microspores. Plant parts include differentiated and undifferentiated tissues including, but not limited to roots, stems, shoots, leaves, pollens, seeds, tumor tissue and various forms of cells and culture (e.g., single cells, protoplasts, embryos, and callus tissue).

In an embodiment, modifying the target gene increases or decreases the expression of a gene product of the target gene.

In another embodiment, modifying the target gene comprises high-fidelity homology-directed repair (HDR).

In another embodiment, modifying the target gene comprises the addition of a genetic functionality, or the correction of a mutation.

In yet another embodiment, modifying the target gene creates a double strand break (DSB) which is repaired by a non-homologous end joining (NHEJ) cell repair mechanism generating indels thereby modifying the polynucleotide sequence of the target gene.

In a further embodiment, modifying the target gene creates a DSB which is repaired by a homologous recombination (HDR) cell repair mechanism incorporating a donor DNA sequence thereby modifying the polynucleotide sequence of the target gene.

In an aspect, the S1m-sgRNAs described herein can be used for biallelic correction. Infantile-onset Pompe disease contains two distinct deleterious mutations at different points within a single gene. In an aspect, two S1m-sgRNAs can be employed simultaneously, one for correction of each disease locus. As shown in Example 11, clones containing edits at both alleles were identified.

In another aspect, the S1m-sgRNAs described herein can be used for the excision of genomic DNA. In an aspect, two S1m-sgRNAs can be employed simultaneously, wherein each S1m-sgRNA targets an end of the region to be excised. As shown in Example 12, human cells contain the properly excised region of genomic DNA.

Delivery of polynucleotides and RNPs of the present disclosure to cells, in vitro, or in vivo, may be achieved by a number of methods known to one of skill in the art. These methods include lipofection, electroporation, nucleofection, microinjection, biolistics, liposomes, immunoliposomes, polycation or lipid:nucleic acid conjugates. Lipofection is well known and lipofection reagents are sold commercially. Cationic and neutral lipids that are suitable for efficient receptor-recognition lipofection of polynucleotides are described in the art.

Lipid:nucleic acid complexes, including targeted liposomes such as immunolipid complexes, and the preparation of such complexes is well known to one of skill in the art.

Electroporation can be used to deliver the polynucleotides and RNPs of the present disclosure. In these methods, the polynucleotides or RNPs are mixed in an electroporation buffer with the target cells to form a suspension. This suspension is then subjected to an electrical pulse at an optimized voltage, which creates temporary pores in the phospholipid bilayer of the cell membrane, permitting charged molecules like DNA and proteins to be driven through the pores and into the cell. Reagents and equipment to perform electroporation are sold commercially.

Biolistic, or microprojectile delivery, can be used to deliver the polynucleotides and RNPs of the present disclosure. In these methods, microprojectiles, such as gold or tungsten, are coated with the polynucleotide by precipitation with calcium chloride, spermidine or polyethylene glycol. The microprojectile particles are accelerated at high speed into a cell using a device such as the BIOLISTIC® PDS-1000/He Particle Delivery System (Bio-Rad; Hercules, Calif.).

In another embodiment, a viral vector expressing the modified guide RNA of the present disclosure, a viral vector expressing a Cas9 polypeptide and biotinylated donor DNA template (e.g., a biotinylated donor DNA template), can be transfected into a cell, such as a human cell. Human cells include human pluripotent stem cell lines and primary blood cell such as hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells and T-cells. Once editing has occurred in the cell line, the cells can be differentiated and transplanted into a subject, or used for drug development.

In some embodiments, the polynucleotides of the present disclosure may also comprise modifications that, for

example, increase stability of the polynucleotide. Such modifications may include phosphorothioates, chiral phosphorothioates, phosphorodithioates, phosphotriesters, aminoalkylphosphotriesters, methyl and other alkyl phosphonates such as 3'-alkylene phosphonates, 5'-alkylene phosphonates, chiral phosphonates, phosphinates, phosphoramidates including 3'-amino phosphoramidate and amino alkylphosphoramidates, phosphorodiamidates, thionophosphoramidates, thionoalkylphosphonates, thionoalkylphosphotriesters, selenophosphates, and boranophosphates having normal 3'-5' linkages, 2-5' linked analogs, and those having inverted polarity wherein one or more internucleotide linkages is a 3' to 3', a 5' to 5' or a 2' to 2' linkage. Exemplary nucleic acid-targeting polynucleotides having inverted polarity can comprise a single 3' to 3' linkage at the 3'-most internucleotide linkage (i.e. a single inverted nucleoside residue in which the nucleobase is missing or has a hydroxyl group in place thereof). Various salts (e.g., potassium chloride or sodium chloride), mixed salts, and free acid forms can also be included.

In some embodiments, the polynucleotides of the present disclosure may also contain other nucleic acids, or nucleic acid analogues. An example of a nucleic acid analogue is peptide nucleic acid (PNA).

The invention is further illustrated by the following non-limiting examples.

EXAMPLES

Methods

Cell Culture:

WA09 hESCs (WiCell, Madison, Wis.) were maintained in E8 medium on Matrigel® (WiCell) coated tissue culture polystyrene plate (BD Falcon). Cells were passaged every 3-4 days at a 1:6 ratio using Versene® solution (Life Technologies). WA09-BFP hESCs were generated through lentiviral transduction of BFP dest clone (Addgene #71825) and sorted to ensure clonal populations. After expansion, lines were sorted monthly on a BD FACS Aria to maintain expression levels.

Human embryonic kidney cells (293T) were obtained from ATCC and were maintained between passage 15-60 in Growth medium containing DMEM (Life Technologies), 10% v/v FBS (WiCell), 2 mM L-Glutamine (Life Technologies), and 50 U/mL Penicillin-Streptomycin (Life Technologies). Cells were passaged 1:40 with Trypsin-EDTA (Life Technologies) onto Gelatin-A (Sigma) coated plates. HEK-H2B-mCherry lines were generated through CRISPR-mediated insertion of a modified AAV-CAGGS-EGFP plasmid (Addgene #22212) at the AAVS safe harbor locus using gRNA AAVS1-T2 (Addgene #41818). HEK-BFP lines were generated and maintained as mentioned above. All cells were maintained at 37° C. and 5% CO₂.

One Pot Transcription of S1m-sgRNA:

S1m-sgRNAs were synthesized by first creating a double stranded DNA block that encoded the sgRNA scaffold as well as the S1m aptamer. This scaffold was formed by overlap PCR using Phusion® High-Fidelity Polymerase (New England Biolabs) according to the manufacturer's protocols and was placed in the thermocycler for 30 cycles of 98° C. for 10 s and 72° C. for 15 s with a final extension period of 72° C. for 10 min. A second primer consisting of a truncated T7 promoter, the sgRNA target, and homology to the S1m scaffold was then added to the scaffold and PCR was performed again using Phusion® and placed in a thermocycler at 98° C. for 30 s followed by 35 cycles of 98° C. for 5 s, 60° C. for 10 s, and 72° C. for 15 s, with a final

extension period of 72° C. for 10 min. S1m PCR products were then incubated overnight at 37° C. in a HiScribe™ T7 IVT reaction (New England Biolabs) according to manufacturer's protocol. The resulting RNA was purified using MEGAclear™ Transcription Clean-Up Kit (Thermo Fisher) and quantified on a Nanodrop™2000.

S1m RNP Formation:

NLS-Cas9-NLS protein (Aldevron, Madison, Wis.) was combined with S1m-sgRNAs and allowed to complex for 5 minutes with gentle mixing. To this complex, streptavidin (Life Technologies) was added and the mixture was allowed to complex for an additional 5 minutes. Finally, biotin-ssODNs (Integrated DNA Technologies) were added to the tertiary complex and subsequently vortexed at low speed. This final mixture was then allowed to sit for 10 minutes to ensure complete complexation.

S1m-sgRNA and Streptavidin Binding Gel Shift Assays:

S1m-sgRNAs were heated at 75° C. for 5 min and cooled to room temperature for 15 min. 20 pmol S1m-sgRNA was combined with streptavidin at 10:1, 1:1, and 1:10 molar ratios in a final volume of 5 µl and the mixture was allowed to complex for 10 min. The S1m-sgRNA-streptavidin complexes were run on a 1% agarose gel. Tertiary complexes were assembled by first mixing 15 pmol each of S1m-sgRNA and streptavidin. To this mixture, 6, 15, or 30 pmol of ssODN was added prior to running the complexes through a 1% agarose gel. All gels were run using Kb+ Ladder (Invitrogen) as a molecular weight marker to allow for inter-gel size comparisons even when running RNA samples.

Biotin Competition Assay:

S1m-sgRNA was heated to 75° C. for 5 min and cooled to room temperature. 20 pmol each S1m-sgRNA and streptavidin were complexed for 10 min. 80 pmol biotin was added at 30, 20, 10, 5, and 0 min intervals prior to running the complexes through a 1% agarose gel.

Dynamic Light Scattering:

DLS was performed using a DynaPro® NanoStar® (Wyatt Technology) using small volume (4 µL) disposable cuvettes. 10 µg of each component was added into the cuvette and diluted as necessary with dH₂O to reach 4 µL solution volume. In mixed component conditions, components were allowed to mix for 5 minutes while taking readings. Acquisitions were performed for 20 seconds with a minimum of 4 acquisitions per measurement. 5 measurements were performed per sample and were conducted at room temperature. Data was graphed as a function of percent intensity.

Quantum Dot Biotin Conjugation:

To make Qdot-SS-S1mplexes, amine-PEG green fluorescent quantum dots (Qdot® ITK™ 525—ThermoFisher) were reacted with a degradable dithiol biotin linker (EZ-Link™ Sulfo-NHS-Biotin—ThermoFisher) as follows: First, 25 µl of an 8 µM Quantum dot solution in 50 mM Borate buffer were desalted into PBS using Zeba desalting columns (40K MWCO—ThermoFisher) and then reacted with excess sulfoNHS-dithiol-biotin linker for 2 hours at 4° C. with shaking. The conjugate was purified from excess linker through buffer exchange in the desalting columns. Quantum dots retained their fluorescence and were stored at 4° C. until use.

RNP Delivery:

HEK transfections were performed using TransIT-X2® delivery system (Mirus Bio, Madison, Wis.) according to manufacturer's protocol. 2.5×10⁵ cells/cm² were seeded in a 24-well plate 24 hours prior to transfection. RNP complexes were formed as described in 25 µL of Opti-MEM™ (Life

Technologies). 1 µg of Ca9 protein, 500 ng sgRNA, 500 ng streptavidin, and 500 ng ssODN were used. In a separate tube, 25 µL of Opti-MEM™ was combined with 0.75 µL of TransIT-X2® reagent and allowed to mix for 5 minutes. TransIT-X2® and RNP solutions were then mixed by gentle pipetting and placed aside for 15 minutes. After this incubation, 50 µL of solution were added dropwise into the well. Media was changed 24 hours post transfection.

For HEK transfections involving quantum dots, Lipofectamine™ 2000 (Life Technologies) was used for delivery. Qdot-RNP complexes were formed according to the following amounts (for 24 wells: 500 ng of Ca9 protein, 187.5 ng sgRNA, 187.5 ng streptavidin, 3.125 pMoles of quantum dots and 3 ul Lipofectamine™ per well; a quarter of these amounts were used when transfecting 5000 cells in 96 well plates).

All hPSC transfections were performed using the 4D-Nucleofector™ System (Lonza) in P3 solution using protocol CB150. Cells were pretreated with Rho-kinase (ROCK) inhibitor (Y-27632 Selleck Chemicals) 24 hours prior to transfection. 8 µg Cas9, 3.5 µg sgRNA, 3.5 µg streptavidin, and 1 µg ssODN were used to form particles as described above. Cells were then harvested using TrypLE™ (Life Technologies) and counted. 2×10⁵ cells per transfection were then centrifuged at 100×g for 3 minutes. Excess media was aspirated and cells were resuspended using 20 µL of RNP solution per condition. After nucleofection, samples were incubated in nucleocuvettes at room temperature for 15 minutes prior to plating into one well of a 6-well plate containing E8 media+10 µM ROCK inhibitor. Media was changed 24 hours post transfection and replaced with E8 medium.

Immunocytochemistry:

To measure correlation hPSCs were transfected with Cas9 protein and streptavidin-AF-647. 24 hours post transfection, cells were fixed using 4% PFA and incubated at room temperature for 10 minutes. Cells were then permeabilized using 0.05% Triton X-100 and incubated for 10 minutes. Following two washes with 5% goat serum, Cas9 antibody (Clontech #632607, 1:150) was added to cells and incubated overnight at 4° C. The next day, cells were rinsed twice with 5% goat serum and then incubated with a goat anti-rabbit secondary antibody (Santa Cruz Biotech #sc-362262, 1:500) for one hour at room temperature. Cells were then washed twice with PBS and mounted for imaging.

To visualize S1mplexes in the nucleus human embryonic kidney cells (HEK293T) were plated at 16,000 cells per well in an 8-well chamber slide at day 0. On day 1, 20 mL of transfection media was added to cells in 200 µL of maintenance media. Transfection media contained 20 µL Opti-MEM® (Life Technologies), 10 pmol Streptavidin Alexa Fluor® 488 conjugate (Thermo Fisher), and 0.6 µL TransIT® transfection reagent (Mirus). On day 3, cells were incubated with 1× CellMask™ Plasma Membrane Stain (ThermoFisher) and 1× Hoechst for 10 min. Following incubation at 37° C., cells were immediately washed with PBS and fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde (IBI Scientific) at room temperature for 15 min. Cells were analyzed using a Nikon Eclipse TI epifluorescent microscope and a Nikon AR1 confocal microscope.

Multispectral Imaging Flow Cytometry:

hPSCs were transfected and stained as described above. After staining, cells were centrifuged and resuspended in 50 µL PBS. Fluorescence was detected on ImageStream® X Mark II (EMD Millipore) according to manufacture instruc-

tions. Cellular colocalization was measured by IDEAS software package (Amnis) using predefined colocalization wizard.

Flow Cytometry:

Flow cytometry of BFP expression and conversion to GFP was measured using a BD FACS Aria using the DAPI and FITC filters and analyzed using FlowJo. Voltages were established by running wild type WA09 hPSCs as well as WA09-BFP hPSCs. Sorting was performed on a BD FACS Aria™ II with a nozzle size of 100 µm at room temperature and sorted into culture media.

Genomic Analysis:

DNA was isolated from cells using DNA QuickExtract™ (Epicentre, Madison, Wis.) following treatment by 0.05% trypsin-EDTA and centrifugation. QuickExtract™ solution was incubated at 65° C. for 15 minutes, 68° C. for 15 minutes, and finally 98° C. for 10 minutes. Genomic PCR was performed following manufacturer's instructions using AccuPrime™ HiFi Taq (Life Technologies) and 500 ng of genomic DNA. Products were then purified using AMPure® XP magnetic bead purification kit (Beckman Coulter) and quantified using a Nanodrop™2000. For deep sequencing, samples were pooled and run on an Illumina HiSeq™ 2500 High Throughput at a run length of 2x125 bp or an Illumina Miseq® 2x150 bp.

Deep Sequencing Data Analysis:

A custom python script was developed to perform sequence analysis. The pipeline starts with preprocessing, which consists of filtering out low quality sequences and finding the defined ends of the reads. For each sample, sequences with frequency of less than 100 were filtered from the data. Sequences in which the reads matched with primer and reverse complement subsequences classified as "target sequences". Target sequences were aligned with corresponding wildtype sequence using global pairwise sequence alignment. Sequences that were misaligned around the expected cut site were classified as NHEJ events while sequences that had insertions larger than 15 bp were classified as HDR events. The frequency, length, and position of matches, insertions, deletions, and mismatches were all tracked in the resulting aligned sequences.

Cell Membrane Staining:

Human embryonic kidney cells (HEK293) were plated at 16,000 cells/well in an 8-well chamber slide at day 0. On day 1, 20 µl of transfection media was added to cells in 200 µL of maintenance media. Transfection media contained 20 µL Opti-MEM® (Life Technologies), 400 ng Streptavidin Alexa Fluor® 488 conjugate (Thermo Fisher), and 0.6 µL TransIT® transfection reagent (Mirus). On day 3, cells were incubated with 1x CellMask™ Plasma Membrane Stain (ThermoFisher) and 1x Hoechst for 10 min. Following incubation at 37 C, cells were immediately washed with PBS and fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde (IBI Scientific) at room temperature for 15 min. Cells were analyzed using a Nikon Eclipse TI epifluorescent microscope and a Nikon AR1 confocal microscope.

Statistics:

All error bars are shown as ±1 standard deviation. p values were computed using a Student's two-tailed t-test and deemed significant at α<0.05.

Nucleic Acid Sequences:

The relevant nucleic acid sequences are provided in the following tables:

TABLE 1

Primers used to create sgRNA and S1m-sgRNAs.			
5	S1m Construct Name	Sequence (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:
5	S1m		SEQ
	Construct Name		ID
			NO:
10	S1m-sgRNA-1_F	GTTTAAGAGCTATGCTGCGAATACGAGATGCGGC CGCCGACCAGAATCATGCAAGTGCCTAAGATAGT CGCGGGTCGGCGGCCGCATCTCGTATTC	8
15	S1m-sgRNA-1_R	AAAAGCACCGACTCGGTGCCACTTTTTCAAGTTGA TAACGGACTAGCCTTATTTAAACTTGCTATGCTGC GAATACGAGATGCGGCCGCCGACCCG	9
20	S1m Forward	TTAATACGACTCACTATAGGNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN NNNNNGTTTAAAGACTATGCTGCGCA	10
	RNATracR	AAAAGCACCGACTCGGTGCC	11

TABLE 2

Protospacer and respective PAMs used for genomic targeting.				
25	sgRNA Name	Sequence (5' to 3')	PAM	SEQ ID NO:
30	BFP (BFP→GFP)	GCTGAAGCACTGCACGCCAT	GGG	12
	EMX1 (EMX1_21)	GTCACCTCCAATGACTAGGG	TGG	13
35	mCherry (mCherry_15)	GGAGCCGTACATGAACTGAG	GGG	14

TABLE 3

Forward and reverse primers for genomic loci.					
40	Genomic Primer	Forward (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:	Reverse (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:
45	EMX1	CCATCCCCTT CTGTGAATGT	15	GGAGATTGGAG ACACGGAGA	16
50	EMX1 Symmetric	TCCACCTTGG CTTGGCTTTG	17	CCCTCCACCAG CTACCCAC	18
	mCherry Interior	AAGGGCGAGG AGGATAACATGG	19	TTGTACAGCTC GTCCATGCCG	20
55	EMX1 Insertion	CCAATGACAA GCTTGCTAGC	21		

TABLE 4

ssODNs used to direct HDR after DSB formation.			
60	ssODN Donor	Sequence (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:
65	BFP→GFP	TCATGTGGTCGGGTAGCGGCTGAAGCACTGCA	22
	NT	CGCCATGGGTCAGGTTGGTCACGAGGTTGGG CAGGGCACCCGCAGCTTGCCTGGTGCAGAT GAA	

19

TABLE 4-continued

ssODNs used to direct HDR after DSB formation.		
ssODN Donor	Sequence (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:
BFP→GFP	5Biotin/TCATGTGGTCTGGGTAGCGGTGAAG	23
5PCBi	CACTGCACGCCATGGGTGAGGTGGTACAGAGGGT	
NT	GGGCCAGGGCACCCGCAGCTTGCCGGTGGTGCAGATGAA	
EMX1	AAGCAGCACTCTGCCCTCGTGGGTTTGTGGTTG	24
NT	CCCACCGCTAGCAAGCTTGTCTATTGGAGGTGACATCGATGTCCTCCCCATTGGCCTG	
EMX1	5Biotin/AAGCAGCACTCTGCCCTCGTGGGTTT	25
5PCBio	GTGGTTGCCACCGCTAGCAAGCTTGTCTATTGGAG	
NT	GTGACATCGATGTCCTCCCCATTGGCCTG	

TABLE 5

Off-target sequences and corresponding genomic locus for each sgRNA used. Mismatches from protospacer are labelled in red.

sgRNA Target	Off-Target	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:	PAM Locus
BFP→ GFP	OT1	GCAGAAGCACTG	27	CAGchr17: +39786906
GCTGAAGCACT		CAAGCCAT		
GCACGCCAT	OT2	TCTGAAGTGCTG	28	CAGchr2: -238397265
(SEQ ID NO: 26)		CACGCCAT		
	OT3	GTGGAAGCACTG	29	TGGchr7: -11228464
		CAAGCCAT		
	OT4	GCTGGAGCAGGG	30	CAGchr9: +109114765
		CACGCCAT		
	OT5	GAAGAAGCACTG	31	CAGchr13: -75660548
		CACCCCAT		
EMX1	OT1	AGGACCACCAAT	33	CAGchr3: -64303990
GTCACCTCCAA		GACTAGGG		
TGACTAGGG	OT2	ACCACCTGTAAT	34	TAGchr4: -149749778
(SEQ ID NO: 32)		GACTAGGG		
	OT3	GGAGCCTCCAGT	35	GAGchr17: -38423030
		GACTAGGG		
	OT4	GTGAACACTACAGT	36	TGGchr8: +112210096
		GACTAGGG		
	OT5	CTGGCCTCCAAA	37	GAGchr15: -75011931
		GACTAGGG		

TABLE 6

Forward and reverse primers used to amplify off-target genomic loci.

Off-Target Primer	Forward (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:	Reverse (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:
BFP OT1	TTTCTAGCAAGCAGACTCAGA	38	AGCTGTCTTTGTCCATTGA	39
BFP OT2	TCTCCATGCCCTCC TTTCCAT	40	GGATGTAGTCCATGATCTTCCCC	41
BFP OT3	TCCCAGAATGTGA AAGTGGAGG	42	CTGTGGGCTTTCTCAGCTC	43
BFP OT4	GCTGACTAACGTC CACTGCT	44	TGGACCTATGTTTTTCTTCGTCAC	45
BFP OT5	AAAGTCTGTGGCC TTGTGAGA	46	AACCCTACCCCTACCTGAA	47

20

TABLE 6-continued

Forward and reverse primers used to amplify off-target genomic loci.				
Off-Target Primer	Forward (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:	Reverse (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO:
EMX1 OT1	TTCCCCAGGTAGT TGCTGTTC	48	TCTGCACATGTCCCAACTGTC	49
EMX1 OT2	ATCCGTACCTAACATGACCC	50	GCACAGATCTTGGTGGCTTT	51
EMX1 OT3	GGCTGGGTTTCCCCAAACGTA	52	CAAAGTCTGTGTGGTGGTGG	53
EMX1 OT4	ACTTGGAAAGGGTCCACACAA	54	CCTTGAATAGAGCATTTTTCCCCA	55
EMX1 OT5	TCCTACCCTTGGA TGGGGTT	56	GGGTACACGGTCCCC TAAAG	57

Example 1: Design of Modified sgRNA

25 A novel sgRNA with a modification at the stem loop closest to the 5' end of the sgRNA was designed (FIG. 3). This location was chosen because it has previously been shown to tolerate additions with a minimal loss in activity. An S1m aptamer was added, which has a strong non-covalent interaction with streptavidin. The added S1m aptamer extends the sgRNA stem loop closest to the 5' end and contains two distinct bulges used for binding. These modifications do not otherwise disrupt the predicted sgRNA secondary structure (FIG. 3). We confirmed that S1m-sgRNAs can be made rapidly in vitro via one-pot transcription and are larger than standard sgRNAs when analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis (FIG. 3).

30 Similar experiments were performed with sgRNAs S1m-sgRNA-1, S1m-sgRNA-2, S1m-sgRNA-3, and S1m-sgRNA-V3.

Example 2: Formation of Streptavidin and Cas9 Complexes with Modified sgRNA

45 Next, we verified the ability of S1m-sgRNAs to complex with streptavidin in vitro by combining a constant amount of S1m-sgRNA with increasing amounts of streptavidin. The electrophoretic front of the S1m-sgRNA slowed as streptavidin levels increased (FIG. 5). At the maximum amount of streptavidin, 40% of the front had slowed demonstrating the binding of the S1m-sgRNA with streptavidin. In contrast, when the same amount of standard (non-S1m) sgRNA was run with streptavidin, the electrophoretic front remained constant.

50 To demonstrate the ability of S1m-sgRNA-1 to complex with streptavidin and Cas9 protein simultaneously, we performed dynamic light scattering (DLS). When streptavidin and Cas9 were combined in solution, two peaks were distinct at 3.0 nm and 7.8 nm (FIG. 6), both of which match closely the radii previously reported for each protein. We next formed Cas9 RNPs with excess standard sgRNAs and observed that the species formed were larger than Cas9 alone and did not increase in radius with the addition of streptavidin. Excess sgRNA was not detected by DLS and was included in the DLS studies to ensure all key components were able to assemble together (data not shown). Additionally, these samples had a discernable peak corre-

sponding to the presence of streptavidin alone. RNPs containing S1m-sgRNAs and Sp.Cas9 protein increased in radius by a larger amount than RNPs containing standard sgRNAs and Sp.Cas9 protein, likely due to the increased length of S1m-sgRNAs. When streptavidin was added to S1m-sgRNA RNPs, the average radius of the complex was increased by ~3 nm, the radius of streptavidin protein. These tertiary complexes of Sp.Cas9, S1m-sgRNA-1, and streptavidin are termed “S1mplexes”. The second, larger peak in the S1mplex DLS trace is attributed to the tetrameric nature of streptavidin that can harbor up to four RNPs.

While assembly of S1mplexes in vitro is important, the maintenance of complexes post-delivery is imperative to gene editing function. To demonstrate this capability, we delivered Cas9 protein and streptavidin in combination with either sgRNAs or S1m-sgRNAs into human pluripotent stem cells (hPSCs) via nucleofection and conducted immunohistochemistry for the two protein components. Multi-spectral imaging flow cytometric analysis of single fixed cells confirmed the co-localization of the two protein components within hPSCs (FIG. 7). Significantly higher correlation in the fluorescent signals from the two protein components were seen when S1m-sgRNA-1 was included ($p < 10^{-5}$, Student’s two-tailed t-test FIG. 8). To gain further subcellular resolution of these components after S1mplex delivery, images obtained using confocal microscopy on fixed, intact hPSC cultures were analyzed using CellProfiler for overlap between the two components within the nuclei. At 24 hours after delivery, the correlation between the fluorescent signals arising from Cas9 and streptavidin within the nucleus was significantly higher when using S1m-sgRNAs than sgRNAs ($p < 0.05$, Student’s two-tailed t-test, FIG. 9, 10). Together, these results indicate that complexes between Cas9 and streptavidin are preserved specifically through the S1m aptamer during transfection and subsequently subcellular trafficking such as nuclear transport.

Example 3: Formation of a Quaternary Complex with Donor DNA Template

After demonstrating the ability to form S1mplexes, we searched for a method to combine donor DNA template with S1mplexes and form a quaternary complex. Given the strong interaction between streptavidin and biotin ($K_D = 10^{-15}M$) we selected biotinylated single-stranded oligodeoxynucleotide (ssODNs) donor templates. All components (S1m-sgRNA, streptavidin, biotin-ssODN) were run alone individually on a gel and compared side-by-side with standard reagents (sgRNA, ssODN) to establish baseline migration characteristics. The biotin-ssODN ran slightly higher than the standard ssODN, presumably due to the biotin modification (FIG. 11, 12). Tertiary complexes were formed using varying levels of biotin-ssODNs. The primary band displayed a higher electrophoretic shift than either the sgRNA or ssODN alone, indicating complex formation (FIG. 11, lanes 5-7). To demonstrate that all components combined successfully, unmodified ssODNs were run in the place of biotin-ssODNs. The unmodified ssODN displayed the expected electrophoretic shift despite the presence of the S1m-streptavidin complex (FIG. 12, lanes 8-10). Finally, standard sgRNA was run with streptavidin and biotin-ssODN. In this condition, the smeared band from S1m-streptavidin binding was not observed and instead solid bands representing sgRNA and ssODN-streptavidin were present (FIG. 12, lane 11).

Due to the strong interaction of biotin and streptavidin, we needed to ensure that biotin did not displace S1m-sgRNA-1

already bound to streptavidin when added in solution. To do so, we combined S1m-sgRNA-1s with streptavidin at a 1:1 molar ratio. We then added 4-fold molar excess of biotin to occupy every binding site on each streptavidin molecule and incubated the complex for 0, 5, 10, 20, or 30 minutes. After incubation, gel shift following electrophoresis was not different from bound S1m-sgRNA: streptavidin combinations suggesting that biotin did not interfere with the S1m-streptavidin interaction at four times the concentrations used in this study (data not shown).

Example 4: Gene Editing Activity of S1m-sgRNAs in Human Cells

Next, we examined the ability of S1m-sgRNAs to edit genes within human cells. We created a human embryonic kidney (HEK) cell line that constitutively expressed blue fluorescent protein (BFP) from an integrated transgene. DSBs produced by sgRNAs that target the fluorophore in combination with Cas9 expressed from a transfected plasmid are repaired predominantly through NHEJ, with indel formation at the DSB. NHEJ-mediated gene edits are expected to result in a loss of BFP fluorescence within this HEK line. After delivery of S1m-sgRNAs and a plasmid encoding Cas9 to this HEK line, BFP expression was analyzed via flow cytometry. All S1m-sgRNAs (1, 2, and 3) created indels at approximately half the frequency of standard sgRNAs (data not shown). While the ~2-fold decrease in generating indel edits is significant, such decreases in indel formation have been linked to a concomitant decrease in off-target effects.

We also created a human embryonic kidney (HEK) cell line that constitutively expressed a histone 2B (H2B)-mCherry fusion protein generated by integrating a transgene into one chromosome at the safe harbor AAVS1 locus. DSBs produced by sgRNAs that target the mCherry fluorophore in combination with Sp.Cas9 expressed from a transfected plasmid will be repaired predominantly through NHEJ, with indel formation at the DSB. NHEJ-mediated gene edits are expected to create a loss of mCherry fluorescence assayed via flow cytometry. When transfected into cells, S1m-sgRNAs created NHEJ gene edits at approximately half the frequency of standard sgRNAs, knocking out fluorescence in 45% of cells compared to 83% loss by standard sgRNAs (FIG. 13). While the ~2-fold decrease in generating NHEJ edits is significant, such decreases in NHEJ activity have been linked to a concomitant decrease in off-target effects.

Example 5: Increased HDR to Indel Ratios in Human Cells

We tested the ability of all three ssODN-S1mplexes to induce HDR in a hPSC line containing a BFP-expressing transgene that can be switched to express GFP through a 3 nucleotide switch (data not shown). S1mplexes with biotin-ssODNs (ssODN-S1mplexes) were assembled using one of the three S1m-sgRNAs and compared to standard sgRNAs and ssODN combinations. After delivery of ssODN-S1mplexes and subsequent deep sequencing of genomic DNA, we found that all three ssODN-S1mplexes had a higher ratio of HDR:indel editing than standard RNPs. ssODN-S1mplexes with S1m-sgRNA-1 and S1m-sgRNA-2 induced similar ratios of HDR:indel editing while ssODN-S1mplexes with S1m-sgRNA-3 had a slightly depressed HDR:indel ratio (FIG. 14). The decreased HDR:indel ratio found using S1m-sgRNA-3 may have been due to the lower binding affinity of this sgRNA with streptavidin, as seen in

the EMSA (data not shown). In order to minimize the frequency of indel mutations while maximizing HDR, we decided to use S1m-sgRNA-1 for all remaining experiments and will refer to it henceforth simply as S1m-sgRNA.

With this knowledge, we then evaluated S1mplexes in multiple human cell lines for their ability to generate a variety of precise nucleotide changes. We assembled ssODN-S1mplexes to again switch BFP to GFP. After delivery to HEK cells, deep sequencing revealed that the ssODN-S1mplexes enriched the ratio of precise insertions to imprecise editing 18.4-fold over standard RNPs and approached a ratio of four precise edits to every one indel (FIG. 15). When the same experiments were conducted in hPSCs, results from flow cytometry assays were consistent with these conclusions from deep sequencing (data not shown). Additionally, when introducing a 12 nucleotide insertion into the EMX1 locus²⁹ of HEKs with ssODN-S1mplexes, the ratio of precise insertions to imprecise editing increased 2.7-fold over standard sgRNA RNPs (FIG. 16 and data not shown). Taken together, this shows that ssODN-S1mplexes are able to shift the balance of editing to enrich for small, precise edits within the genome.

We tested the ability of this strategy to create even larger sequence changes in hPSCs by designing an ssODN that carried a variable 18 nucleotide insertion. We deep sequenced the cell population after delivery of ssODN-S1mplexes, again targeting the BFP and EMX1 loci. When standard sgRNA RNPs were transfected with streptavidin-ssODN complexes, minimal insertion was seen with a subsequently low ratio of precise HDR to imprecise indel alleles (FIG. 17). Equivalent precise:imprecise ratios were seen when standard sgRNA RNPs and ssODNs were transfected as when S1m-sgRNA RNPs were transfected with biotin-ssODN (without streptavidin) (FIG. 17 and data not shown). However, levels of indels were increased in the sgRNA RNP-free ssODN condition (data not shown). When the full ssODN-S1mplexes were transfected into hPSCs, HDR insertion levels greatly increased (data not shown) as did the ratio of precisely-edited to imprecisely-edited alleles to 9.7 fold over standard RNP methods (FIG. 17). Again, we observed four precise edits to every one indel with ssODN-S1mplexes at this locus. At the endogenous EMX1 locus, we delivered the S1m-sgRNA RNPs with biotin-ssODNs either with or without streptavidin. When streptavidin was added to generate the full ssODN-S1mplex, rates of insertion increased 51-fold (data not shown), and the ratio of precise to imprecise gene-editing increased 15-fold (FIG. 18). Taken together, each component of the ssODN-S1mplex is necessary to drive higher HDR:indel ratios within human cells.

Example 6: Design Constraints on the ssODN-S1mplex

Recent studies have reported that the design of the ssODN has a significant effect on the rate of HDR. Accordingly, we explored various ssODN designs with ssODN-S1mplexes. Designs were limited to a 100 nucleotide length for ease of synthetic synthesis, but varied as follows: asymmetrical around the cut site, extending 30 upstream and 67 bp downstream or vice-versa, either identical to the sequence containing the PAM or the reverse complement (non-PAM), and biotinylated on either the 5' or 3' end of the ssODN (FIGS. 19, 20, left). S1mplexes containing each unique ssODN were assembled and transfected separately into BFP-expressing hPSCs. Four days after delivery, genomic DNA from each condition was collected and analyzed using deep sequencing. Under these conditions, $2.8 \pm 2.2\%$ of

alleles in all samples were edited via HDR and NHEJ (FIG. 19, top and data not shown). We observed that neither the asymmetry, sidedness, biotin, nor location on the ssODN had a significant effect on the HDR or indel outcomes using ssODN-S1mplexes (FIG. 19, top and data not shown). Precise editing ranged from 2-10 times greater than imprecise editing (FIG. 20, top and data not shown).

We next sought to test these ssODN designs at an endogenous GAA locus using a patient-derived hPSC line that contains a pathogenic 1 bp deletion in exon 10 on one allele. We designed sgRNAs that target only the mutant allele as well as ssODNs to correct the mutation to wildtype and modify the PAM site. These ssODNs were again asymmetrical, 34 bp upstream and 66 bp downstream from the cut site, complementary to the PAM or non-PAM strand, and biotinylated at either the 5' or 3' end of the ssODN (FIG. 19, 20, bottom). At this locus ssODN-S1mplexes again had higher levels of precise to imprecise editing than RNPs consisting of sgRNAs, with 3-8 precise edits occurring for every imprecise edit (FIG. 20, bottom and data not shown). Consistent with the sequencing results at the BFP locus, absolute levels of HDR and NHEJ editing were $2.0 \pm 1.1\%$ (FIG. 19, 20, bottom and data not shown). There was still no significant difference between any of the ssODNs tested when complexed to the S1mplex.

Example 7: Imaging of S1mplexes Transfected Cells

To facilitate isolation of the precisely-edited cells, we pursued a strategy to label the cells that received the S1mplexes by including additional biotinylated fluorescent cargoes. We preassembled standard streptavidin-conjugated quantum dots (QdotSA, 20 nm diameter) with S1mplexes (QdotSA-S1mplexes, FIG. 21, bottom). After transfection of QdotSA-S1mplexes, a subpopulation of cells contained Qdots within the cytoplasm. High-intensity green fluorescence dots were distributed variably across the transfected cell population, indicating that standard transfection methods likely generate significant heterogeneity in the number of RNPs delivered to each cell. Despite the presence of Qdots in the cytoplasm, no gene editing was observed upon further culture and analysis within the HEK H2B-mCherry reporter cell line (FIG. 22, FIG. 23). When the biotin linkage of the S1mplex to the Qdot was mediated through a pH-sensitive disulfide linker (Qdot-SS-S1mplex, FIG. 21, top), we observed a gain in gene editing activity (FIG. 22), while the Qdots remained largely within the cytoplasm (FIG. 24), suggesting separation and nuclear transport of the RNP. The fluorescence from the Qdot at 24 hours post transfection was utilized for fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS). There was a shift in fluorescence for the whole cell population, indicating uptake of Qdot-S1mplexes in most cells, although to differing extents (FIG. 25). The fluorescence from the Qdot at 24 hours post transfection was utilized for cell sorting, and sorted cells with positive fluorescent signal were gene edited at 3.7-fold higher rates versus cells transfected using standard methods (FIG. 26).

Example 8: Multiplexed Gene Editing with S1mplexes

To obtain further control and refine the mutagenic spectrum of S1mplexes, we attached a fluorescent label directly to streptavidin that could be used for identification during flow cytometry. We preassembled an S1m-sgRNA and biotin-ssODN targeting BFP with a streptavidin labeled with a

red fluorophore (AlexaFluor®-594) (FIG. 27) and then performed a single cell FACS for the isolation of clones that had high fluorescence after delivery. Upon further cell culture, clones were analyzed by Sanger sequencing for editing at the BFP locus. Of the 34 isolated clones in the S1mplex-positive population, eight underwent HDR; eight harbored indels; and, the rest remained unedited (FIG. 28). In comparison, when using sgRNAs, seven of the 41 isolated clones harbored indels and none were positive for HDR. Cell populations did not contain mosaic gene editing, indicating that defined gene editing outcomes could be enriched by FACS on the S1mplex fluorescence. Using this capability we tested whether it was possible to multiplex edits using differently colored S1mplexes. We thus assembled the same ssODN-S1mplex targeting BFP, termed red-ssODN-S1mplex, and separately complexed an S1m-sgRNA and biotin-ssODN targeting EMX1 with a streptavidin labeled with a green fluorophore (AlexaFluor®-488), termed green-ssODN-S1mplex (FIG. 27). The two ssODN-S1mplexes were mixed and transfected simultaneously into HEKs (FIG. 29).

Twenty-four hours post transfection, we sorted cells using FACS into one of four populations: positive for either fluorophore, both, or neither (FIG. 30). Only the top 2% of each population was taken, as we observed some association of the fluorescent S1mplex with the cell membrane in addition to robust fluorescent signal within the nucleus of some of the cells (FIG. 29). One-week post sort, each of the four populations was analyzed for editing via deep sequencing as well as by flow cytometry for BFP editing or insert-based PCR for EMX1. Deep sequencing revealed that editing at the EMX1 locus was increased in the presence of green-ssODN-S1mplexes (Green+ and double positive fractions) (FIG. 30, and data not shown). In these populations the ratio of precise to imprecise edits increased and approached one and was 2-fold greater than that of the double negative fraction (data not shown). Similarly, editing at the BFP locus was increased in the Red+ and double positive fractions. As was seen in previous deep sequencing experiments, the ratio of precise to imprecise edits was elevated in the presence of S1mplexes. With the addition and sorting of fluorescent S1mplexes, the ratio was greater than 10 insertions per indel (FIG. 30 and data not shown). Interestingly, the level of indels was highest in the double negative fraction (data not shown); this may be due to the presence of unlabeled RNPs that did not complex with streptavidin. Results with conventional flow cytometry and PCR assays followed the same trends, consistent with these conclusions from deep sequencing data not shown). We analyzed the top 5 off-target sites for both the BFP and EMX1 sgRNAs using TIDE³¹ in the sorted fractions as well as previous samples used for deep sequencing. None of the sorted populations using ssODN-S1mplexes had modifications above the TIDE limit of detection (FIG. 31, data not shown). However, using standard sgRNA RNPs, notable off-target mutagenesis occurred at EMX1 off-target site 2 (data not shown). Taken together, the assembly of S1mplex particles with a fluorescent tag can be used to create multiple, precise edits with increased efficiency without needing multiple transfections or extended culture.

We analyzed the top 5 off-target sites for both the BFP and EMX1 sgRNAs using TIDE in the sorted fractions as well as previous samples used for deep sequencing. None of the sorted populations using ssODN-S1mplexes had modification above the limit of detection (FIG. 32). However, using standard sgRNA RNPs, notable off-target mutagenesis occurred at EMX1 off-target site 2 (FIG. 32). Taken together,

the pairing of S1mplex particles with a fluorescent tag can be used to create multiple, precise edits with increased efficiency without needing multiple transfections or extended culture.

FIG. 33 shows release of a biotin-ssODN through a photocleavable linkage had no significant effect on HDR editing. FIG. 33a shows a biotin-ssODN that contained a UV-cleavable linker was attached to streptavidin and S1mplex particles in order to study the potential of releasing the ssODN inside the cell to promote HDR. Lane 1: DNA standard. Lane 2: Photo-cleavable biotin-ssODN. Lane 3: standard ssODN. Lane 4: Binary complexes of streptavidin and photo-cleavable biotin-ssODNs. Lane 5-6: Binary complexes cleaved by either exposure to light through a DAPI filter cube (lane 5) or exposure to a UV transilluminator (lane 6). DAPI filter cube cleaved nearly all ssODN after 10 minutes whereas transilluminator had complete cleavage. Cleaved DNA product was the same length as control standard ssODN. FIG. 33b shows release of biotin-ssODN by 15 minutes of light exposure through a DAPI filter cube every hour post transfection. Levels of HDR were not significantly affected by the release of the ssODN within the cell at any time point (n=3 biological replicates).

Conclusions from Examples 1-8

The S1mplex strategy provides a straightforward, robust and modular method to regulate the gene editing activity of Sp.Cas9 RNPs. RNA modification of the sgRNA with S1m can be performed readily through short nucleic acid synthesis methods, whereas other methods that engineer the Cas9 protein can add challenges in protein expression, purification and stability. Our strategy could complement and add functionality to generate engineered variants (e.g., high fidelity, switchable, and optogenetic nucleases). Pre-assembled S1mplexes could also be readily manufactured to be off-the-shelf reagents with well-defined critical quality attributes appropriate for clinical use: avidin has previously been tolerated in clinical trials and clinical grade Sp.Cas9 is available from several vendors.

Gene editing in human cells could be controlled by the linkages within the S1mplex. For the Qdot-S1mplexes, a gain of RNP activity occurred after switching to a labile disulfide bond. Without being held to theory, it is believed that large cargoes such as Qdots (20 nm diameter) complexed with the RNP inhibit Cas9 nuclease activity. The smaller ssODN-S1mplexes without labile bonds with mean diameters of 16 nm could generate edits at target loci. The Qdot-S1mplex results demonstrate that the biotin-streptavidin linkage is strong enough to associate biotinylated cargoes with the RNP, while disulfide bonds, which are enzymatically labile at low pH, likely dissociate the S1mplex in low pH endocytotic trafficking compartments and release the RNP from the cargo to fully recover activity. Regulating CRISPR gene editing tightly through the release of large cargoes could be explored with other chemistries that generate labile cargoes upon excitation by light or heat. Such strategies could advance targeted therapy to specific areas and cell types within the body.

The site-specific complexation of the HDR donor template with the RNP through a biotin-streptavidin noncovalent interaction and an S1m RNA aptamer-streptavidin interaction favored precise gene editing outcomes at a ratio of ~1-10 precise edits to each indel. Absolute levels of precise editing decreased as the length of insertion increased, which has been shown previously, and we anticipate that even higher ratios of precise to imprecise editing could be generated for single nucleotide changes. 44,750 disease-associated single nucleotide or indel mutations in the ClinVar

database can be corrected, in principle, by HDR via donor templates of 1-50 nucleotides in length. While dissociation of the RNP from its complexed quantum dot cargo was required for Cas9 activity, release of the biotin-ssODN through a photocleavable linkage had no significant effect on HDR editing (FIG. 34). Using a different chemistry in mouse cells, biotin-ssODNs could be recruited to RNPs within the cell produced by translation of injected Cas9-avidin mRNA. Increased local concentration of biotinylated donor template at the DSB through the streptavidin bridge of the S1mplex could be one mechanism that increases precise editing. Other potential mechanisms include differential modification of the ssODN ends to promote strand invasion or enhance stability within the cells, and a more defined stoichiometry of the RNP to the ssODN within each cell. Further modifications to the ssODN template and linkers could be used to dissect these gene editing mechanisms. The S1mplex strategy coupled with the variety of conjugatable biotinylated reagents enables the formation of a versatile toolkit centered around precise gene editing to advance gene editing scientific development and gene therapy.

Additional Materials and Methods

S1m-sgRNA-V3 was generated in a similar fashion but scaffold PCR was performed under different conditions. Phusion® PCR was performed using the following thermocycling protocol: 30 cycles of 98° C. for 10 s and 72° C. for 15 s with a final extension period of 72° C. for 10 min. These scaffolds were then combined with the same second primer as in S1m-sgRNA-1 but cycled for 30 cycles of 98° C. for 10 s and 60° C. for 10 s and 72° C. for 15 s with a final extension period of 72° C. for 10 min.

LysoSensor™ Quantification.

H9 hESCs and Pompe iPSCs were harvested and counted to establish correct cell number ratios prior to being plated on glass-bottom well slides (Ibidi™). Cells were allowed to attach for 24 hours prior to analysis. Cocultures were stained with LysoSensor™ Green (1:1000) and Hoechst33342 (1:2000) for 5 minutes followed by 2× washes with PBS. Images were obtained using confocal microscopy (Nikon AR-1) and analyzed using CellProfiler.

Creation of ArrayEdit Platform.

μCP was performed using previously described methods. The surface modification involved printing of an alkanethiol initiator to nucleate the polymerization of hydrophilic poly (ethylene glycol) (PEG) chains. Briefly, double sided-adhesive was attached to the bottom of a standard tissue culture plate, after which a laser cutter was used to cut out the well bottoms. Glass sheets were purchased at a size slightly smaller than a well plate. A metal evaporator was then used to deposit a thin layer of titanium, followed by a layer of gold onto one side of the glass sheet. Using previously described chemistry, patterns were transferred to gold-coated glass via a polydimethylsiloxane stamp after which the glass was submerged in a poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG) solution overnight to build hydrophilic PEG chains surrounding μFeatures. After submersion, sheets were washed with deionized water to remove residual copper deposited by the reaction and 70% ethanol to sterilize. Standard tissue culture plates with well bottoms cut out were then fastened to processed sheets using a custom-made alignment device.

Biallelic Correction of Pompe iPSC.

All hPSC transfections were performed using the 4D-Nucleofector™ System (Lonza) in P3 solution using protocol CA-137. Cells were pretreated with Rho-kinase (ROCK) inhibitor (Y-27632 Selleck Chemicals) 24 hours prior to transfection. 50 pmol Cas9, 60 pmol sgRNA, 50 pmol streptavidin, and 60 pmol ssODN were used to form

particles per ssODN-S1mplex as described above. Cells were then harvested using TrypLE™ (Life Technologies) and counted. 2×10⁵ cells per transfection were then centrifuged at 100×g for 3 minutes. Excess media was aspirated and cells were resuspended using 20 μL of RNP solution per condition. After nucleofection, samples were incubated in nucleocuvettes at room temperature for 15 minutes prior to plating into 3×10⁴ cells per well of an ArrayEdit plate containing mTeSR1+10 μM ROCK inhibitor. Media was changed 24 hours post transfection and replaced with mTeSR1 medium.

High-Content Image Acquisition and Analysis.

Automated microscopy was performed using a Nikon Eclipse TI epifluorescent microscope and NIS Elements Advanced Research (V4.30) software. The ND acquisition 6D module was used to establish a 20×20 grid pattern such that one 10× image was taken at each μfeature and combined in a single file. Nikon Perfect Focus was used to ensure that all images were in the same Z-plane and in focus. Each image was then corrected for illumination defects using CellProfiler and the number of nuclei was determined as well as LysoSensor™ intensity and S1mplex presence within the cell.

Dual S1mplexes for the Excision of Genomic DNA.

Two different s1m-sgRNA-1 sequences, cutting ~238 bps apart in the LAMA5 locus were designed (target sequences+ PAM: GTAGCCGGGAAGCGAAGCA-GGG (SEQ ID NO: 58) and GCTCACGGACGGCTCTACC-TGG (SEQ ID NO: 59)) and sgRNAs for these sequences were made through in vitro transcription. One day prior to transfection, HEK 293 cells were seeded at ~5,000 cells/well in a 96 well plate. Prior to transfection, first, RNPs were formed by mixing each S1m-sgRNA at a 1:1 molar ratio with Cas9 protein separately. Dual S1mplexes were then formed by mixing the two different RNPs with streptavidin at a 1:1:1 molar ratio. S1mplexes were then mixed with Lipofectamine™ (100 ng Dual S1mplexes mixed with 0.75 μL Lipofectamine™ 2000 per well) and used to transfect the HEK293 cells. Three days post transfection, cells were harvested and genomic DNA extracted as described previously. A 744 bp portion of the LAMA5 locus spanning both targets was amplified using PCR (With primers CCC-CATCGTTCCATCTCTCT (SEQ ID NO: 60) and CGCGGGTCTTTTGGTATCTTG (SEQ ID NO: 61)) and band intensities of unaffected and excised portions were used to quantify excision efficiency.

TABLE 7

primers			
S1m Construct Name	SEQ ID NO:	Sequence (5' to 3')	
S1m_V3_F	62	GTTTAAAGAGCTATGCTGCGAATACGAGCCGCC ACCAGAATCATGCAAGTGCCTAAGATAGTCGCG GGTCCGGCGCTCGTATTC	55
S1m_V3_R	63	AAAAGCACCGACTCGGTGCCACTTTTTCAAGTT GATAACGGACTAGCCTTATTTAACTTGCTATG CTGCGAATACGAGCCGCCGACCCG	60
S1m1 Forward	64	TTAATACGACTCACTATAGNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN NNNNNNGTTTAAAGAGCTATGCTGCGA	
S1m-SL2_F	65	GTTTAAAGAGCTATGCTGGAACAGCATAGCAAG TTTAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTCGAA TACGAGATGCGCGCCGCCGACCCG	65

TABLE 7-continued

primers			
S1m Construct Name	SEQ ID NO:	Sequence (5' to 3')	
S1m-SL2_R	66	AAAAAAGCACCGACTCGGTGCCACTTTTTCCG AATACGAGATGCGGCCCGACCGCGACTATC TTACGCACTTGCATGATTCTGGTCGGCGGC	
S1m-SL3_F	67	GTTTAAAGAGCTATGCTGGAACAGCATAGCAAG TTTAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTATCAACTTGAAA AAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGCCGAA	
S1m-SL3_R	68	AAAAAACGAATACGAGATGCGGCCGCGACCC GCGACTATCTTACGCACTTGCATGATTCTGGTC GGCGGCCGATCTCGTATTGGCACCAGACT	
RNATracR	69	AAAAGCACCGACTCGGTGCC	

TABLE 8

protospacers and respective PAMs used for genomic targeting			
sgRNA Name	SEQ ID NO:	Sequence (5' to 3')	PAM
BFP (BFP→GFP)	71	GCTGAAGCACTGCACGCCAT	GGG
mCherry (mCherry_15)	72	GGAGCCGTACATGAACTGAG	GGG
GAA ΔT	73	CTCGTTGTCCAGGTAGGCC	GGG
GAA X746	74	TGGACCACCAGCTCCTGTGG	GGG

Example 9: Variants of S1m-Sg RNA: Variable Length of S1m Linker

We have created two different S1m-sgRNA versions that may serve different functions for downstream applications. Importantly, we have shown that the exact sequence of the construct is malleable and can be fine-tuned as desired. S1m-sgRNA-1 has a longer stem loop and may demonstrate more degrees of freedom in solution or when bound to Cas9 to form an RNP. This structure may have advantages when attaching larger cargoes such as additional proteins that may cause steric interference with Cas9 protein. Similarly S1m-sgRNA-V3 (FIG. 34) contains a shorter stem loop linking the sgRNA and S1m aptamer. This structure may be easier to fold in to the correct secondary structure due to the decreased complexity of the sequence and fewer binding partners for each nucleotide in the sequence. This sequence may also be amenable to synthetic construction methodologies that are length limited to preserve fidelity of the final product

We next tested the capability of both sgRNAs to bind to streptavidin through an electrophoretic mobility shift assay (FIG. 35). Both sgRNAs showed a similar shift on the gel suggesting the same binding capability of both aptamer constructions. This is as we expected as the core sequence and therefore secondary structure of the streptavidin binding region is unchanged. However, with this assay we are unable to distinguish the portion of S1m-sgRNAs that are folded correctly. Both S1m-sgRNA-1 and V3 showed similar upward mobility following EMSA suggesting the presence

of larger complexes within the solution. In comparison, no shift was observed when mixing sgRNAs with streptavidin.

A core capability of the CRISPR/Cas9 system is the ability to create double strand breaks that are subsequently repaired by cellular mechanisms. To test this capability with S1m-sgRNAs we transfected Cas9 RNPs containing an sgRNA in targeting the fluorophore (Table 8) into H2b-mCherry expressing HEK cells and tested for the loss of fluorescence after 7 days. Both S1m-sgRNA variants induced fewer NHEJ events than a standard sgRNA (FIG. 36). While this loss of function is significant, it may lend greater utility to S1m-sgRNAs in applications relating to precise editing. In clinical settings, the high level of uncontrolled NHEJ products is undesirable. Between the two S1m-sgRNA variants, V3 induced ~3-fold higher NHEJ events than S1m-sgRNA-1. This may be due to a higher number of active sgRNAs within the transfected pool and may also suggest that V3 is more suitable to targeted deletion strategies.

We next tested the capabilities of both S1m-sgRNAs to induce HDR when formed in to an ssODN-S1mplex. S1m-sgRNA-V3 again induced a higher level of HDR when compared to S1m-sgRNA-1 (FIG. 37). However, the ratio of precise to imprecise mutations was decreased in this condition as the level of NHEJ was significantly higher than S1m-sgRNA-1. This suggests that S1m-sgRNA-1 may be a better choice for when only precise mutations are desired within the target cell population.

Both S1m-sgRNA-1 and S1m-sgRNA-V3 have potential to be used in the field of clinical gene editing and may span different applications. S1m-sgRNA-V3 is easier to create and induces higher levels of overall editing, a feature that may be useful in ex vivo therapies. Due to the higher cutting efficiency of S1m-sgRNA-V3, one could also envision a strategy of large deletions by tethering together two RNPs at a defined length. S1m-sgRNA-1 in comparison is a longer aptamer and may feature more utility for attachment of larger cargoes such as qDots or growth factors. It generally has a lower level of overall editing efficiency for both HDR and NHEJ applications but may be more useful for in vivo editing where precise mutations are desired.

Example 10: Isolation of Biallelic Corrected iPSCs

We obtained an iPSC line derived from a patient afflicted with infantile-onset Pompe disease. This cell line contains two distinct deleterious mutations at different points within a single gene. We created two fluorescent S1mplex-ssODNs containing sgRNA (Table 8) and ssODNs specific to each diseased locus and transfected them into cells prior to plating on our ArrayEdit platform (FIG. 38). ArrayEdit functions by looking for phenotypic differences between cell colonies to enrich the proportion of selected clones that are edited. We identified lysosome acidity as a potential difference between healthy and diseased cell lines that can be analyzed using image cytometry. To test this hypothesis we co-cultured WA09-H2b-mCherry expressing cells with diseased Pompe iPSCs and stained the lysosomes with LysoSensor™ Green. LysoSensor™ Green is a dye that is preferentially trafficked to acidic organelles and fluoresces at higher intensity at lower pH. We then analyzed the green intensity of each cell within the coculture using CellProfiler and found that there was a significant difference between the two populations, even when growing within the same colony (FIG. 39).

With this knowledge we mock transfected WA09 and Pompe PSCs and plated them on ArrayEdit to obtain baseline phenotypic data. We simultaneously transfected Pompe iPSCs with both fluorescent S1mplex-ssODNs. Across all conditions we tracked the growth rate of colonies and seven days post-transfection the LysoSensor™ intensity. We also measured the presence of each S1mplex in the corresponding condition. We again found that the WA09 cell colonies had a significantly higher LysoSensor™ intensity than Pompe iPSCs. Importantly, we also observed Pompe iPSC colonies that displayed intensities similar to that of the control WA09 line, suggesting editing events (FIG. 40). In previous experiments we observed that edited cell colonies may suffer a decrease in fitness while editing events occurred. Accordingly, we tracked cell number of each colony over from day 1-7 of the experiment and plotted the average change in cell number over this time course. We again observed cell colonies that grew slower than mock transfected Pompe iPSCs. Importantly, there were numerous cell colonies that fit all of the criteria for selection for downstream analysis. These were: low growth rate, high Lysosensor™ intensity, and presence of at least one S1mplex type. After selection and Sanger sequencing we observed that we had obtained clones that were positive for correction at both loci individually, and most importantly one clones that contained edits at both alleles simultaneously including mutations to the PAM site (SEQ ID NOs. 76-79; 81-84), showing the ssODN that was the used as the donor DNA (SEQ ID NOs. 75 and 80) (FIG. 41).

TGCAGCCTCTCGTTGTCCAGGTATGGCCCCGGTCCACTGCC SEQ ID NO: 75;
 TNCAGCCTCTCGTTGTCCAGGTATGGCCNGGNTCAATTGCT SEQ ID NO: 76;
 TNCAGCCTCTCGTTGTCCAGGTATGGCCCCGGATCCACTGCC SEQ ID NO: 77;
 CTCAGACCTNTTNTTNT-
 CAAGGTAAGCCCCGGTCCACTGCC SEQ ID NO: 78;
 TNCAGCCTCTCGTTGTCCAGGTATGGCCCCGGATCCACTGCC SEQ ID NO: 79;
 CCTGGACTGTGGACCACCAGCTCCTGTGGGGGAGGCCCT SEQ ID NO: 80;
 CCTGGACTGTGGACCACCAGCTCCTGTNGGGGAGGCCCT SEQ ID NO: 81;
 CCTGGACTGTGGACCACCAGCTCCTGTGGGAGAGGCCCT SEQ ID NO: 82.

Example 11: Dual S1mplexes for the Excision of Genomic DNA

Dual S1mplexes containing S1m-sgRNAs targeted to 2 different spots in the LAMA5 locus were formed (FIG. 42) in order to test whether RNPs targeting 2 positions packaged into S1mplexes and transfected into HEK 293 cells were able to excise the intermediate genomic sequence. After genomic isolation and PCR amplification of the LAMA5, analysis (FIG. 42) showed an average excision efficiency of ~22% of the region spanned by the two sgRNAs in HEK293 cells, demonstrating the utility of dual guided S1mplexes for excision purposes.

To isolate the specific S1mplexes containing only one RNP targeting each site, we will use HPLC (high performance liquid chromatography) to separate out the various S1mplex species formed by random mixing of streptavidin and the various RNPs. We expect to be able to isolate the specific fraction containing one RNP for each of the two sites bound to a single streptavidin. We will compare the excision efficiency of that isolated dual S1mplexes with that of standard double sgRNAs, with and without a donor template for precise excision. For S1mplexes, the donor will be biotinylated and attached to the streptavidin as part of the S1mplex. We expect the simultaneous delivery in a nanoparticle of both RNPs as well as a donor to both increase the efficiency and precision of excision.

The use of the terms “a” and “an” and “the” and similar referents (especially in the context of the following claims) are to be construed to cover both the singular and the plural, unless otherwise indicated herein or clearly contradicted by context. The terms first, second etc. as used herein are not meant to denote any particular ordering, but simply for convenience to denote a plurality of, for example, layers. The terms “comprising”, “having”, “including”, and “containing” are to be construed as open-ended terms (i.e., meaning “including, but not limited to”) unless otherwise noted. Recitation of ranges of values are merely intended to serve as a shorthand method of referring individually to each separate value falling within the range, unless otherwise indicated herein, and each separate value is incorporated into the specification as if it were individually recited herein. The endpoints of all ranges are included within the range and independently combinable. All methods described herein can be performed in a suitable order unless otherwise indicated herein or otherwise clearly contradicted by context. The use of any and all examples, or exemplary language (e.g., “such as”), is intended merely to better illustrate the invention and does not pose a limitation on the scope of the invention unless otherwise claimed. No language in the specification should be construed as indicating any non-claimed element as essential to the practice of the invention as used herein.

While the invention has been described with reference to an exemplary embodiment, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes may be made and equivalents may be substituted for elements thereof without departing from the scope of the invention. In addition, many modifications may be made to adapt a particular situation or material to the teachings of the invention without departing from the essential scope thereof. Therefore, it is intended that the invention not be limited to the particular embodiment disclosed as the best mode contemplated for carrying out this invention, but that the invention will include all embodiments falling within the scope of the appended claims. Any combination of the above-described elements in all possible variations thereof is encompassed by the invention unless otherwise indicated herein or otherwise clearly contradicted by context.

SEQUENCE LISTING

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<210> SEQ ID NO 1

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or u

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ccagaaucau gcaagugcgu aagauagucg cgggucggcg gcucguauuc gcagcauagc      120
aaguuuuuuu aaggcuaguc cguuuaucaac uugaaaaagu ggcaccgagu cggugcuuuu      180

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or u

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aaggcuaguc cguuuaucaac uucgaauacg agaugcggcc gccgaccaga aucaugcaag      120
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cggugcuuuu      190

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or u

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aaggcuaguc cguuuaucaac uugaaaaagu ggcaccgagu cggugccgaa uacgagaugc      120
ggccgccgac cagaaucaug caagugcgua agauagucgc gggucggcgg cucguauucg      180
uuuu      184

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 20             25             30

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```

Lys Val Leu Gly Asn Thr Asp Arg His Ser Ile Lys Lys Asn Leu Ile
 35             40             45

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 50 55 60
 Lys Arg Thr Ala Arg Arg Arg Tyr Thr Arg Arg Lys Asn Arg Ile Cys
 65 70 75 80
 Tyr Leu Gln Glu Ile Phe Ser Asn Glu Met Ala Lys Val Asp Asp Ser
 85 90 95
 Phe Phe His Arg Leu Glu Glu Ser Phe Leu Val Glu Glu Asp Lys Lys
 100 105 110
 His Glu Arg His Pro Ile Phe Gly Asn Ile Val Asp Glu Val Ala Tyr
 115 120 125
 His Glu Lys Tyr Pro Thr Ile Tyr His Leu Arg Lys Lys Leu Val Asp
 130 135 140
 Ser Thr Asp Lys Ala Asp Leu Arg Leu Ile Tyr Leu Ala Leu Ala His
 145 150 155 160
 Met Ile Lys Phe Arg Gly His Phe Leu Ile Glu Gly Asp Leu Asn Pro
 165 170 175
 Asp Asn Ser Asp Val Asp Lys Leu Phe Ile Gln Leu Val Gln Thr Tyr
 180 185 190
 Asn Gln Leu Phe Glu Glu Asn Pro Ile Asn Ala Ser Gly Val Asp Ala
 195 200 205
 Lys Ala Ile Leu Ser Ala Arg Leu Ser Lys Ser Arg Arg Leu Glu Asn
 210 215 220
 Leu Ile Ala Gln Leu Pro Gly Glu Lys Lys Asn Gly Leu Phe Gly Asn
 225 230 235 240
 Leu Ile Ala Leu Ser Leu Gly Leu Thr Pro Asn Phe Lys Ser Asn Phe
 245 250 255
 Asp Leu Ala Glu Asp Ala Lys Leu Gln Leu Ser Lys Asp Thr Tyr Asp
 260 265 270
 Asp Asp Leu Asp Asn Leu Leu Ala Gln Ile Gly Asp Gln Tyr Ala Asp
 275 280 285
 Leu Phe Leu Ala Ala Lys Asn Leu Ser Asp Ala Ile Leu Leu Ser Asp
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 Ile Leu Arg Val Asn Thr Glu Ile Thr Lys Ala Pro Leu Ser Ala Ser
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 Asp Gln Ser Lys Asn Gly Tyr Ala Gly Tyr Ile Asp Gly Gly Ala Ser
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 Gln Glu Glu Phe Tyr Lys Phe Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Glu Lys Met Asp
 370 375 380
 Gly Thr Glu Glu Leu Leu Val Lys Leu Asn Arg Glu Asp Leu Leu Arg
 385 390 395 400
 Lys Gln Arg Thr Phe Asp Asn Gly Ser Ile Pro His Gln Ile His Leu
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 Gly Glu Leu His Ala Ile Leu Arg Arg Gln Glu Asp Phe Tyr Pro Phe
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Leu	Leu	Tyr	Glu	Tyr	Phe	Thr	Val	Tyr	Asn	Glu	Leu	Thr	Lys	Val	Lys
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Tyr	Val	Thr	Glu	Gly	Met	Arg	Lys	Pro	Ala	Phe	Leu	Ser	Gly	Glu	Gln
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Lys	Lys	Ala	Ile	Val	Asp	Leu	Leu	Phe	Lys	Thr	Asn	Arg	Lys	Val	Thr
545					550					555					560
Val	Lys	Gln	Leu	Lys	Glu	Asp	Tyr	Phe	Lys	Lys	Ile	Glu	Cys	Phe	Asp
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Ser	Val	Glu	Ile	Ser	Gly	Val	Glu	Asp	Arg	Phe	Asn	Ala	Ser	Leu	Gly
			580					585						590	
Thr	Tyr	His	Asp	Leu	Leu	Lys	Ile	Ile	Lys	Asp	Lys	Asp	Phe	Leu	Asp
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Asn	Glu	Glu	Asn	Glu	Asp	Ile	Leu	Glu	Asp	Ile	Val	Leu	Thr	Leu	Thr
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Leu	Phe	Glu	Asp	Arg	Glu	Met	Ile	Glu	Glu	Arg	Leu	Lys	Thr	Tyr	Ala
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His	Leu	Phe	Asp	Asp	Lys	Val	Met	Lys	Gln	Leu	Lys	Arg	Arg	Arg	Tyr
			645						650						655
Thr	Gly	Trp	Gly	Arg	Leu	Ser	Arg	Lys	Leu	Ile	Asn	Gly	Ile	Arg	Asp
			660					665					670		
Lys	Gln	Ser	Gly	Lys	Thr	Ile	Leu	Asp	Phe	Leu	Lys	Ser	Asp	Gly	Phe
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Lys	Glu	Asp	Ile	Gln	Lys	Ala	Gln	Val	Ser	Gly	Gln	Gly	Asp	Ser	Leu
705					710					715					720
His	Glu	His	Ile	Ala	Asn	Leu	Ala	Gly	Ser	Pro	Ala	Ile	Lys	Lys	Gly
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Ile	Leu	Gln	Thr	Val	Lys	Val	Val	Asp	Glu	Leu	Val	Lys	Val	Met	Gly
			740					745						750	
Arg	His	Lys	Pro	Glu	Asn	Ile	Val	Ile	Glu	Met	Ala	Arg	Glu	Asn	Gln
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Thr	Thr	Gln	Lys	Gly	Gln	Lys	Asn	Ser	Arg	Glu	Arg	Met	Lys	Arg	Ile
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Glu	Glu	Gly	Ile	Lys	Glu	Leu	Gly	Ser	Gln	Ile	Leu	Lys	Glu	His	Pro
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Gln	Asn	Gly	Arg	Asp	Met	Tyr	Val	Asp	Gln	Glu	Leu	Asp	Ile	Asn	Arg
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Asn	Tyr	Trp	Arg	Gln	Leu	Leu	Asn	Ala	Lys	Leu	Ile	Thr	Gln	Arg	Lys
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 485 490 495
 Trp Asn Phe Glu Asp Val Ile Asp Lys Glu Ser Ser Ala Glu Ala Phe
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 Ile Asn Arg Met Thr Ser Phe Asp Leu Tyr Leu Pro Glu Glu Lys Val
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 Lys Arg Lys Val Thr Asp Lys Asp Ile Ile Glu Tyr Leu His Ala Ile
 580 585 590
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 595 600 605
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755 760 765

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Gln Arg Leu Lys Arg Leu Glu Lys Ser Leu Lys Glu Leu Gly Ser Lys
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Ile Leu Lys Glu Asn Ile Pro Ala Lys Leu Ser Lys Ile Asp Asn Asn
820 825 830

Ala Leu Gln Asn Asp Arg Leu Tyr Leu Tyr Tyr Leu Gln Asn Gly Lys
835 840 845

Asp Met Tyr Thr Gly Asp Asp Leu Asp Ile Asp Arg Leu Ser Asn Tyr
850 855 860

Asp Ile Asp His Ile Ile Pro Gln Ala Phe Leu Lys Asp Asn Ser Ile
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900 905 910

Gln Leu Leu Lys Ser Lys Leu Ile Ser Gln Arg Lys Phe Asp Asn Leu
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Thr Lys Ala Glu Arg Gly Gly Leu Leu Pro Glu Asp Lys Ala Gly Phe
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945 950 955 960

Arg Leu Leu Asp Glu Lys Phe Asn Asn Lys Lys Asp Glu Asn Asn Arg
965 970 975

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980 985 990

Gln Phe Arg Lys Asp Phe Glu Leu Tyr Lys Val Arg Glu Ile Asn Asp
995 1000 1005

Phe His His Ala His Asp Ala Tyr Leu Asn Ala Val Ile Ala Ser
1010 1015 1020

Ala Leu Leu Lys Lys Tyr Pro Lys Leu Glu Pro Glu Phe Val Tyr
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Gly Asp Tyr Pro Lys Tyr Asn Ser Phe Arg Glu Arg Lys Ser Ala
1040 1045 1050

Thr Glu Lys Val Tyr Phe Tyr Ser Asn Ile Met Asn Ile Phe Lys
1055 1060 1065

Lys Ser Ile Ser Leu Ala Asp Gly Arg Val Ile Glu Arg Pro Leu
1070 1075 1080

Ile Glu Val Asn Glu Glu Thr Gly Glu Ser Val Trp Asn Lys Glu
1085 1090 1095

Ser Asp Leu Ala Thr Val Arg Arg Val Leu Ser Tyr Pro Gln Val
1100 1105 1110

Asn Val Val Lys Lys Val Glu Glu Gln Asn His Gly Leu Asp Arg
1115 1120 1125

Gly Lys Pro Lys Gly Leu Phe Asn Ala Asn Leu Ser Ser Lys Pro

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1130	1135	1140
Lys Pro Asn Ser Asn Glu Asn Leu Val Gly Ala Lys Glu Tyr Leu		
1145	1150	1155
Asp Pro Lys Lys Tyr Gly Gly Tyr Ala Gly Ile Ser Asn Ser Phe		
1160	1165	1170
Ala Val Leu Val Lys Gly Thr Ile Glu Lys Gly Ala Lys Lys Lys		
1175	1180	1185
Ile Thr Asn Val Leu Glu Phe Gln Gly Ile Ser Ile Leu Asp Arg		
1190	1195	1200
Ile Asn Tyr Arg Lys Asp Lys Leu Asn Phe Leu Leu Glu Lys Gly		
1205	1210	1215
Tyr Lys Asp Ile Glu Leu Ile Ile Glu Leu Pro Lys Tyr Ser Leu		
1220	1225	1230
Phe Glu Leu Ser Asp Gly Ser Arg Arg Met Leu Ala Ser Ile Leu		
1235	1240	1245
Ser Thr Asn Asn Lys Arg Gly Glu Ile His Lys Gly Asn Gln Ile		
1250	1255	1260
Phe Leu Ser Gln Lys Phe Val Lys Leu Leu Tyr His Ala Lys Arg		
1265	1270	1275
Ile Ser Asn Thr Ile Asn Glu Asn His Arg Lys Tyr Val Glu Asn		
1280	1285	1290
His Lys Lys Glu Phe Glu Glu Leu Phe Tyr Tyr Ile Leu Glu Phe		
1295	1300	1305
Asn Glu Asn Tyr Val Gly Ala Lys Lys Asn Gly Lys Leu Leu Asn		
1310	1315	1320
Ser Ala Phe Gln Ser Trp Gln Asn His Ser Ile Asp Glu Leu Cys		
1325	1330	1335
Ser Ser Phe Ile Gly Pro Thr Gly Ser Glu Arg Lys Gly Leu Phe		
1340	1345	1350
Glu Leu Thr Ser Arg Gly Ser Ala Ala Asp Phe Glu Phe Leu Gly		
1355	1360	1365
Val Lys Ile Pro Arg Tyr Arg Asp Tyr Thr Pro Ser Ser Leu Leu		
1370	1375	1380
Lys Asp Ala Thr Leu Ile His Gln Ser Val Thr Gly Leu Tyr Glu		
1385	1390	1395
Thr Arg Ile Asp Leu Ala Lys Leu Gly Glu Gly		
1400	1405	

<210> SEQ ID NO 6
 <211> LENGTH: 1082
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Neisseria

<400> SEQUENCE: 6

Met Ala Ala Phe Lys Pro Asn Pro Ile Asn Tyr Ile Leu Gly Leu Asp			
1	5	10	15
Ile Gly Ile Ala Ser Val Gly Trp Ala Met Val Glu Ile Asp Glu Glu			
20	25	30	
Glu Asn Pro Ile Arg Leu Ile Asp Leu Gly Val Arg Val Phe Glu Arg			
35	40	45	
Ala Glu Val Pro Lys Thr Gly Asp Ser Leu Ala Met Val Arg Arg Leu			
50	55	60	
Ala Arg Ser Val Arg Arg Leu Thr Arg Arg Arg Ala His Arg Leu Leu			
65	70	75	80

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Arg Ala Arg Arg Leu Leu Lys Arg Glu Gly Val Leu Gln Ala Ala Asp
 85 90 95
 Phe Asp Glu Asn Gly Leu Ile Lys Ser Leu Pro Asn Thr Pro Trp Gln
 100 105 110
 Leu Arg Ala Ala Ala Leu Asp Arg Lys Leu Thr Pro Leu Glu Trp Ser
 115 120 125
 Ala Val Leu Leu His Leu Ile Lys His Arg Gly Tyr Leu Ser Gln Arg
 130 135 140
 Lys Asn Glu Gly Glu Thr Ala Asp Lys Glu Leu Gly Ala Leu Leu Lys
 145 150 155 160
 Gly Val Ala Asp Asn Ala His Ala Leu Gln Thr Gly Asp Phe Arg Thr
 165 170 175
 Pro Ala Glu Leu Ala Leu Asn Lys Phe Glu Lys Glu Ser Gly His Ile
 180 185 190
 Arg Asn Gln Arg Gly Asp Tyr Ser His Thr Phe Ser Arg Lys Asp Leu
 195 200 205
 Gln Ala Glu Leu Ile Leu Leu Phe Glu Lys Gln Lys Glu Phe Gly Asn
 210 215 220
 Pro His Ile Ser Gly Gly Leu Lys Glu Gly Ile Glu Thr Leu Leu Met
 225 230 235 240
 Thr Gln Arg Pro Ala Leu Ser Gly Asp Ala Val Gln Lys Met Leu Gly
 245 250 255
 His Cys Thr Phe Glu Pro Ala Glu Pro Lys Ala Ala Lys Asn Thr Tyr
 260 265 270
 Thr Ala Glu Arg Phe Ile Trp Leu Thr Lys Leu Asn Asn Leu Arg Ile
 275 280 285
 Leu Glu Gln Gly Ser Glu Arg Pro Leu Thr Asp Thr Glu Arg Ala Thr
 290 295 300
 Leu Met Asp Glu Pro Tyr Arg Lys Ser Lys Leu Thr Tyr Ala Gln Ala
 305 310 315 320
 Arg Lys Leu Leu Gly Leu Glu Asp Thr Ala Phe Phe Lys Gly Leu Arg
 325 330 335
 Tyr Gly Lys Asp Asn Ala Glu Ala Ser Thr Leu Met Glu Met Lys Ala
 340 345 350
 Tyr His Ala Ile Ser Arg Ala Leu Glu Lys Glu Gly Leu Lys Asp Lys
 355 360 365
 Lys Ser Pro Leu Asn Leu Ser Pro Glu Leu Gln Asp Glu Ile Gly Thr
 370 375 380
 Ala Phe Ser Leu Phe Lys Thr Asp Glu Asp Ile Thr Gly Arg Leu Lys
 385 390 395 400
 Asp Arg Ile Gln Pro Glu Ile Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Lys His Ile Ser
 405 410 415
 Phe Asp Lys Phe Val Gln Ile Ser Leu Lys Ala Leu Arg Arg Ile Val
 420 425 430
 Pro Leu Met Glu Gln Gly Lys Arg Tyr Asp Glu Ala Cys Ala Glu Ile
 435 440 445
 Tyr Gly Asp His Tyr Gly Lys Lys Asn Thr Glu Glu Lys Ile Tyr Leu
 450 455 460
 Pro Pro Ile Pro Ala Asp Glu Ile Arg Asn Pro Val Val Leu Arg Ala
 465 470 475 480
 Leu Ser Gln Ala Arg Lys Val Ile Asn Gly Val Val Arg Arg Tyr Gly
 485 490 495
 Ser Pro Ala Arg Ile His Ile Glu Thr Ala Arg Glu Val Gly Lys Ser

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500					505					510					
Phe	Lys	Asp	Arg	Lys	Glu	Ile	Glu	Lys	Arg	Gln	Glu	Glu	Asn	Arg	Lys
	515						520						525		
Asp	Arg	Glu	Lys	Ala	Ala	Ala	Lys	Phe	Arg	Glu	Tyr	Phe	Pro	Asn	Phe
	530					535					540				
Val	Gly	Glu	Pro	Lys	Ser	Lys	Asp	Ile	Leu	Lys	Leu	Arg	Leu	Tyr	Glu
	545				550					555					560
Gln	Gln	His	Gly	Lys	Cys	Leu	Tyr	Ser	Gly	Lys	Glu	Ile	Asn	Leu	Gly
				565					570					575	
Arg	Leu	Asn	Glu	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Val	Glu	Ile	Asp	His	Ala	Leu	Pro	Phe
		580						585					590		
Ser	Arg	Thr	Trp	Asp	Asp	Ser	Phe	Asn	Asn	Lys	Val	Leu	Val	Leu	Gly
		595					600					605			
Ser	Glu	Asn	Gln	Asn	Lys	Gly	Asn	Gln	Thr	Pro	Tyr	Glu	Tyr	Phe	Asn
	610					615					620				
Gly	Lys	Asp	Asn	Ser	Arg	Glu	Trp	Gln	Glu	Phe	Lys	Ala	Arg	Val	Glu
	625				630					635					640
Thr	Ser	Arg	Phe	Pro	Arg	Ser	Lys	Lys	Gln	Arg	Ile	Leu	Leu	Gln	Lys
				645					650					655	
Phe	Asp	Glu	Asp	Gly	Phe	Lys	Glu	Arg	Asn	Leu	Asn	Asp	Thr	Arg	Tyr
		660						665					670		
Val	Asn	Arg	Phe	Leu	Cys	Gln	Phe	Val	Ala	Asp	Arg	Met	Arg	Leu	Thr
		675					680					685			
Gly	Lys	Gly	Lys	Lys	Arg	Val	Phe	Ala	Ser	Asn	Gly	Gln	Ile	Thr	Asn
	690					695					700				
Leu	Leu	Arg	Gly	Phe	Trp	Gly	Leu	Arg	Lys	Val	Arg	Ala	Glu	Asn	Asp
	705				710					715					720
Arg	His	His	Ala	Leu	Asp	Ala	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Cys	Ser	Thr	Val	Ala
				725					730					735	
Met	Gln	Gln	Lys	Ile	Thr	Arg	Phe	Val	Arg	Tyr	Lys	Glu	Met	Asn	Ala
			740					745					750		
Phe	Asp	Gly	Lys	Thr	Ile	Asp	Lys	Glu	Thr	Gly	Glu	Val	Leu	His	Gln
		755					760					765			
Lys	Thr	His	Phe	Pro	Gln	Pro	Trp	Glu	Phe	Phe	Ala	Gln	Glu	Val	Met
	770					775					780				
Ile	Arg	Val	Phe	Gly	Lys	Pro	Asp	Gly	Lys	Pro	Glu	Phe	Glu	Glu	Ala
	785				790					795					800
Asp	Thr	Pro	Glu	Lys	Leu	Arg	Thr	Leu	Leu	Ala	Glu	Lys	Leu	Ser	Ser
				805					810					815	
Arg	Pro	Glu	Ala	Val	His	Glu	Tyr	Val	Thr	Pro	Leu	Phe	Val	Ser	Arg
			820					825					830		
Ala	Pro	Asn	Arg	Lys	Met	Ser	Gly	Gln	Gly	His	Met	Glu	Thr	Val	Lys
		835					840					845			
Ser	Ala	Lys	Arg	Leu	Asp	Glu	Gly	Val	Ser	Val	Leu	Arg	Val	Pro	Leu
	850					855						860			
Thr	Gln	Leu	Lys	Leu	Lys	Asp	Leu	Glu	Lys	Met	Val	Asn	Arg	Glu	Arg
	865				870					875					880
Glu	Pro	Lys	Leu	Tyr	Glu	Ala	Leu	Lys	Ala	Arg	Leu	Glu	Ala	His	Lys
				885					890					895	
Asp	Asp	Pro	Ala	Lys	Ala	Phe	Ala	Glu	Pro	Phe	Tyr	Lys	Tyr	Asp	Lys
			900						905					910	
Ala	Gly	Asn	Arg	Thr	Gln	Gln	Val	Lys	Ala	Val	Arg	Val	Glu	Gln	Val
		915						920					925		

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Gln Lys Thr Gly Val Trp Val Arg Asn His Asn Gly Ile Ala Asp Asn
 930 935 940

Ala Thr Met Val Arg Val Asp Val Phe Glu Lys Gly Asp Lys Tyr Tyr
 945 950 955 960

Leu Val Pro Ile Tyr Ser Trp Gln Val Ala Lys Gly Ile Leu Pro Asp
 965 970 975

Arg Ala Val Val Gln Gly Lys Asp Glu Glu Asp Trp Gln Leu Ile Asp
 980 985 990

Asp Ser Phe Asn Phe Lys Phe Ser Leu His Pro Asn Asp Leu Val Glu
 995 1000 1005

Val Ile Thr Lys Lys Ala Arg Met Phe Gly Tyr Phe Ala Ser Cys
 1010 1015 1020

His Arg Gly Thr Gly Asn Ile Asn Ile Arg Ile His Asp Leu Asp
 1025 1030 1035

His Lys Ile Gly Lys Asn Gly Ile Leu Glu Gly Ile Gly Val Lys
 1040 1045 1050

Thr Ala Leu Ser Phe Gln Lys Tyr Gln Ile Asp Glu Leu Gly Lys
 1055 1060 1065

Glu Ile Arg Pro Cys Arg Leu Lys Lys Arg Pro Pro Val Arg
 1070 1075 1080

<210> SEQ ID NO 7
 <211> LENGTH: 1395
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Treponema

<400> SEQUENCE: 7

Met Lys Lys Glu Ile Lys Asp Tyr Phe Leu Gly Leu Asp Val Gly Thr
 1 5 10 15

Gly Ser Val Gly Trp Ala Val Thr Asp Thr Asp Tyr Lys Leu Leu Lys
 20 25 30

Ala Asn Arg Lys Asp Leu Trp Gly Met Arg Cys Phe Glu Thr Ala Glu
 35 40 45

Thr Ala Glu Val Arg Arg Leu His Arg Gly Ala Arg Arg Arg Ile Glu
 50 55 60

Arg Arg Lys Lys Arg Ile Lys Leu Leu Gln Glu Leu Phe Ser Gln Glu
 65 70 75 80

Ile Ala Lys Thr Asp Glu Gly Phe Phe Gln Arg Met Lys Glu Ser Pro
 85 90 95

Phe Tyr Ala Glu Asp Lys Thr Ile Leu Gln Glu Asn Thr Leu Phe Asn
 100 105 110

Asp Lys Asp Phe Ala Asp Lys Thr Tyr His Lys Ala Tyr Pro Thr Ile
 115 120 125

Asn His Leu Ile Lys Ala Trp Ile Glu Asn Lys Val Lys Pro Asp Pro
 130 135 140

Arg Leu Leu Tyr Leu Ala Cys His Asn Ile Ile Lys Lys Arg Gly His
 145 150 155 160

Phe Leu Phe Glu Gly Asp Phe Asp Ser Glu Asn Gln Phe Asp Thr Ser
 165 170 175

Ile Gln Ala Leu Phe Glu Tyr Leu Arg Glu Asp Met Glu Val Asp Ile
 180 185 190

Asp Ala Asp Ser Gln Lys Val Lys Glu Ile Leu Lys Asp Ser Ser Leu
 195 200 205

Lys Asn Ser Glu Lys Gln Ser Arg Leu Asn Lys Ile Leu Gly Leu Lys

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210		215		220											
Pro	Ser	Asp	Lys	Gln	Lys	Lys	Ala	Ile	Thr	Asn	Leu	Ile	Ser	Gly	Asn
225					230					235					240
Lys	Ile	Asn	Phe	Ala	Asp	Leu	Tyr	Asp	Asn	Pro	Asp	Leu	Lys	Asp	Ala
			245						250					255	
Glu	Lys	Asn	Ser	Ile	Ser	Phe	Ser	Lys	Asp	Asp	Phe	Asp	Ala	Leu	Ser
			260					265					270		
Asp	Asp	Leu	Ala	Ser	Ile	Leu	Gly	Asp	Ser	Phe	Glu	Leu	Leu	Leu	Lys
		275					280						285		
Ala	Lys	Ala	Val	Tyr	Asn	Cys	Ser	Val	Leu	Ser	Lys	Val	Ile	Gly	Asp
	290					295					300				
Glu	Gln	Tyr	Leu	Ser	Phe	Ala	Lys	Val	Lys	Ile	Tyr	Glu	Lys	His	Lys
305					310					315					320
Thr	Asp	Leu	Thr	Lys	Leu	Lys	Asn	Val	Ile	Lys	Lys	His	Phe	Pro	Lys
				325					330						335
Asp	Tyr	Lys	Lys	Val	Phe	Gly	Tyr	Asn	Lys	Asn	Glu	Lys	Asn	Asn	Asn
			340					345					350		
Asn	Tyr	Ser	Gly	Tyr	Val	Gly	Val	Cys	Lys	Thr	Lys	Ser	Lys	Lys	Leu
		355					360						365		
Ile	Ile	Asn	Asn	Ser	Val	Asn	Gln	Glu	Asp	Phe	Tyr	Lys	Phe	Leu	Lys
370						375					380				
Thr	Ile	Leu	Ser	Ala	Lys	Ser	Glu	Ile	Lys	Glu	Val	Asn	Asp	Ile	Leu
385					390					395					400
Thr	Glu	Ile	Glu	Thr	Gly	Thr	Phe	Leu	Pro	Lys	Gln	Ile	Ser	Lys	Ser
				405					410						415
Asn	Ala	Glu	Ile	Pro	Tyr	Gln	Leu	Arg	Lys	Met	Glu	Leu	Glu	Lys	Ile
			420					425					430		
Leu	Ser	Asn	Ala	Glu	Lys	His	Phe	Ser	Phe	Leu	Lys	Gln	Lys	Asp	Glu
		435					440						445		
Lys	Gly	Leu	Ser	His	Ser	Glu	Lys	Ile	Ile	Met	Leu	Leu	Thr	Phe	Lys
450						455					460				
Ile	Pro	Tyr	Tyr	Ile	Gly	Pro	Ile	Asn	Asp	Asn	His	Lys	Lys	Phe	Phe
465					470					475					480
Pro	Asp	Arg	Cys	Trp	Val	Val	Lys	Lys	Glu	Lys	Ser	Pro	Ser	Gly	Lys
				485					490						495
Thr	Thr	Pro	Trp	Asn	Phe	Phe	Asp	His	Ile	Asp	Lys	Glu	Lys	Thr	Ala
			500					505						510	
Glu	Ala	Phe	Ile	Thr	Ser	Arg	Thr	Asn	Phe	Cys	Thr	Tyr	Leu	Val	Gly
			515					520					525		
Glu	Ser	Val	Leu	Pro	Lys	Ser	Ser	Leu	Leu	Tyr	Ser	Glu	Tyr	Thr	Val
530						535					540				
Leu	Asn	Glu	Ile	Asn	Asn	Leu	Gln	Ile	Ile	Ile	Asp	Gly	Lys	Asn	Ile
545					550						555				560
Cys	Asp	Ile	Lys	Leu	Lys	Gln	Lys	Ile	Tyr	Glu	Asp	Leu	Phe	Lys	Lys
				565					570						575
Tyr	Lys	Lys	Ile	Thr	Gln	Lys	Gln	Ile	Ser	Thr	Phe	Ile	Lys	His	Glu
			580					585						590	
Gly	Ile	Cys	Asn	Lys	Thr	Asp	Glu	Val	Ile	Ile	Leu	Gly	Ile	Asp	Lys
			595				600						605		
Glu	Cys	Thr	Ser	Ser	Leu	Lys	Ser	Tyr	Ile	Glu	Leu	Lys	Asn	Ile	Phe
			610				615						620		
Gly	Lys	Gln	Val	Asp	Glu	Ile	Ser	Thr	Lys	Asn	Met	Leu	Glu	Glu	Ile
625					630					635					640

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Val Phe Asp Tyr Asp Val Lys Arg Asn Asn Ile Thr Ala Trp Glu 1055 1060 1065
Lys Gly Lys Thr Ile Ile Thr Val Lys Asp Met Leu Lys Arg Asn 1070 1075 1080
Thr Pro Ile Tyr Thr Arg Gln Ala Ala Cys Lys Lys Gly Glu Leu 1085 1090 1095
Phe Asn Gln Thr Ile Met Lys Lys Gly Leu Gly Gln His Pro Leu 1100 1105 1110
Lys Lys Glu Gly Pro Phe Ser Asn Ile Ser Lys Tyr Gly Gly Tyr 1115 1120 1125
Asn Lys Val Ser Ala Ala Tyr Tyr Thr Leu Ile Glu Tyr Glu Glu 1130 1135 1140
Lys Gly Asn Lys Ile Arg Ser Leu Glu Thr Ile Pro Leu Tyr Leu 1145 1150 1155
Val Lys Asp Ile Gln Lys Asp Gln Asp Val Leu Lys Ser Tyr Leu 1160 1165 1170
Thr Asp Leu Leu Gly Lys Lys Glu Phe Lys Ile Leu Val Pro Lys 1175 1180 1185
Ile Lys Ile Asn Ser Leu Leu Lys Ile Asn Gly Phe Pro Cys His 1190 1195 1200
Ile Thr Gly Lys Thr Asn Asp Ser Phe Leu Leu Arg Pro Ala Val 1205 1210 1215
Gln Phe Cys Cys Ser Asn Asn Glu Val Leu Tyr Phe Lys Lys Ile 1220 1225 1230
Ile Arg Phe Ser Glu Ile Arg Ser Gln Arg Glu Lys Ile Gly Lys 1235 1240 1245
Thr Ile Ser Pro Tyr Glu Asp Leu Ser Phe Arg Ser Tyr Ile Lys 1250 1255 1260
Glu Asn Leu Trp Lys Lys Thr Lys Asn Asp Glu Ile Gly Glu Lys 1265 1270 1275
Glu Phe Tyr Asp Leu Leu Gln Lys Lys Asn Leu Glu Ile Tyr Asp 1280 1285 1290
Met Leu Leu Thr Lys His Lys Asp Thr Ile Tyr Lys Lys Arg Pro 1295 1300 1305
Asn Ser Ala Thr Ile Asp Ile Leu Val Lys Gly Lys Glu Lys Phe 1310 1315 1320
Lys Ser Leu Ile Ile Glu Asn Gln Phe Glu Val Ile Leu Glu Ile 1325 1330 1335
Leu Lys Leu Phe Ser Ala Thr Arg Asn Val Ser Asp Leu Gln His 1340 1345 1350
Ile Gly Gly Ser Lys Tyr Ser Gly Val Ala Lys Ile Gly Asn Lys 1355 1360 1365
Ile Ser Ser Leu Asp Asn Cys Ile Leu Ile Tyr Gln Ser Ile Thr 1370 1375 1380
Gly Ile Phe Glu Lys Arg Ile Asp Leu Leu Lys Val 1385 1390 1395

<210> SEQ ID NO 8

<211> LENGTH: 90

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: artificial

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 8

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 gtttaagagc tatgctgcca ataccgagatg cggccgcccga ccagaatcat gcaagtgcgt 60

aagatagtcg cgggtcggcg gctcgtattc 90

<210> SEQ ID NO 9
 <211> LENGTH: 90
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 9

aaaagcaccg actcggtgcc actttttcaa gttgataacg gactagcctt atttaaactt 60

gctatgctgc gaatacgagc cgccgaccgg 90

<210> SEQ ID NO 10
 <211> LENGTH: 60
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
 <222> LOCATION: (21)..(40)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t

<400> SEQUENCE: 10

ttaatacgac tcactatagg nnnnnnnnnn nnnnnnnnnn gtttaagagc tatgctgcca 60

<210> SEQ ID NO 11
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 11

aaaagcaccg actcggtgcc 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 12
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

<400> SEQUENCE: 12

gctgaagcac tgcacgccat 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 13
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

<400> SEQUENCE: 13

gtcacctcca atgactaggg 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 14
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

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ggagccgtac atgaactgag 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 15
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 15

 ccateccctt ctgtgaatg 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 16
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 16

 ggagattgga gacacggaga 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 17
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 17

 tccaccttgg cttggctttg 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 18
 <211> LENGTH: 19
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 18

 ccctccacca gtacccac 19

 <210> SEQ ID NO 19
 <211> LENGTH: 22
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 19

 aaggcgagg aggataacat gg 22

 <210> SEQ ID NO 20
 <211> LENGTH: 21
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 20

 ttgtacagct cgtccatgcc g 21

 <210> SEQ ID NO 21
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA

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<213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 21

 ccaatgacaa gcttgctagc 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 22
 <211> LENGTH: 100
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: ssODN

 <400> SEQUENCE: 22

 tcatgtggtc ggggtagcgg ctgaagcact gcacgccatg ggtcaggggtg gtcacgaggg 60
 tgggccaggg caccggcagc ttgccggtgg tgcagatgaa 100

 <210> SEQ ID NO 23
 <211> LENGTH: 100
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: ssODN

 <400> SEQUENCE: 23

 tcatgtggtc ggggtagcgg ctgaagcact gcacgccatg ggtcaggggtg gtcacgaggg 60
 tgggccaggg caccggcagc ttgccggtgg tgcagatgaa 100

 <210> SEQ ID NO 24
 <211> LENGTH: 90
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: ssODN

 <400> SEQUENCE: 24

 aagcagcact ctgccctcgt gggtttgtgg ttgccaccg ctagcaagct tgtcattgga 60
 ggtgacatcg atgtcctccc cattggcctg 90

 <210> SEQ ID NO 25
 <211> LENGTH: 90
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: ssODN

 <400> SEQUENCE: 25

 aagcagcact ctgccctcgt gggtttgtgg ttgccaccg ctagcaagct tgtcattgga 60
 ggtgacatcg atgtcctccc cattggcctg 90

 <210> SEQ ID NO 26
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

 <400> SEQUENCE: 26

 gctgaagcac tgcacgccat 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 27
 <211> LENGTH: 20

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<212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

 <400> SEQUENCE: 27

 gcagaagcac tgcaagccat 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 28
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

 <400> SEQUENCE: 28

 tctgaagtgc tgcacgccat 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 29
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

 <400> SEQUENCE: 29

 gtggaagcac tgcaagccat 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 30
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

 <400> SEQUENCE: 30

 ggtggagcag ggcacgccat 20

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 <220> FEATURE:
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 <400> SEQUENCE: 31

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 <210> SEQ ID NO 32
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

 <400> SEQUENCE: 32

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 <210> SEQ ID NO 33
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

 <400> SEQUENCE: 33

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aggaccacca atgactaggg 20

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 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 34

accacctgta atgactaggg 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 35
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 35

ggagcctcca gtgactaggg 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 36
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 36

gtgaactaca gtgactaggg 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 37
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Off-target sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 37

ctggcctcca aagactaggg 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 38
 <211> LENGTH: 22
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 38

tttcctagca agcagactca ga 22

<210> SEQ ID NO 39
 <211> LENGTH: 21
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 39

agctgtcctt tgtccattg a 21

<210> SEQ ID NO 40
 <211> LENGTH: 21
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial

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<220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 40

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 <210> SEQ ID NO 41
 <211> LENGTH: 23
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 41

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 <210> SEQ ID NO 42
 <211> LENGTH: 22
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 42

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 <210> SEQ ID NO 43
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 43

 ctgtgggett tcctcagctc 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 44
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 44

 gctgactaac gtccactgct 20

 <210> SEQ ID NO 45
 <211> LENGTH: 24
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 45

 tggacctatg tttttcttcg tcac 24

 <210> SEQ ID NO 46
 <211> LENGTH: 21
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 46

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<210> SEQ ID NO 47
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 47

aacctaccc cctacctgaa 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 48
<211> LENGTH: 21
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 48

ttccccaggt agttgctgtt c 21

<210> SEQ ID NO 49
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 49

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<210> SEQ ID NO 50
<211> LENGTH: 21
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 50

atccgtacct aacctgacc c 21

<210> SEQ ID NO 51
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 51

gcacagatct tgggtgcttt 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 52
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 52

ggctgggttt cccaaacgta 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 53
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

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<400> SEQUENCE: 53
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<210> SEQ ID NO 54
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 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 54
 acttgaagg gtccacaaa 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 55
 <211> LENGTH: 24
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 55
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<210> SEQ ID NO 56
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
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 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 56
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<210> SEQ ID NO 57
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 57
 gggctacacg gtcctaaag 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 58
 <211> LENGTH: 23
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: target sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 58
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<210> SEQ ID NO 59
 <211> LENGTH: 23
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: target sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 59
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<210> SEQ ID NO 60

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<211> LENGTH: 21
<212> TYPE: DNA
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<220> FEATURE:
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<400> SEQUENCE: 60

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<210> SEQ ID NO 61
<211> LENGTH: 22
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 61

cgcggttct tttggtatct tg                22

<210> SEQ ID NO 62
<211> LENGTH: 84
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 62

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gtcgggggtc ggcggctcgt attc                84

<210> SEQ ID NO 63
<211> LENGTH: 90
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 63

aaaagcaccg actcgggtgc actttttcaa gttgataacg gactagcctt atttaaactt    60
gctatgctgc gaatacgagc cgccgaccgc                90

<210> SEQ ID NO 64
<211> LENGTH: 60
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (21)..(40)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t

<400> SEQUENCE: 64

ttaatacgac tcactatagg nnnnnnnnnn nnnnnnnnnn gtttaagagc tatgctgcca    60

<210> SEQ ID NO 65
<211> LENGTH: 90
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

<400> SEQUENCE: 65

gtttaagagc tatgctggaa acagcatagc aagtttaaat aaggctagtc cgttatcaac    60
ttcgaatacg agatgcggcc gccgaccaga                90

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<210> SEQ ID NO 66
 <211> LENGTH: 96
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 66

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<210> SEQ ID NO 67
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 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: primer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 67

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 ttgaaaaagt ggcaccgagt cggcgccgaa 90

<210> SEQ ID NO 68
 <211> LENGTH: 96
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 68

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 ctggtcggcg gccgcatctc gtattcggca ccgact 96

<210> SEQ ID NO 69
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

 <400> SEQUENCE: 69

 aaaagcaccg actcggtgcc 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 70
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 <212> TYPE: RNA
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 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: sgRNA
 <220> FEATURE:
 <221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
 <222> LOCATION: (1)..(20)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or u

 <400> SEQUENCE: 70

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 ucaugcaagu gcguaagaua gucgcggguc ggcggcucgu auucgcagca uagcaaguuu 120
 aaaaaggcgu aguccguuuu caacuugaaa aaguggcacc gagucggugc uuuu 174

<210> SEQ ID NO 71
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA

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<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

<400> SEQUENCE: 71

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<210> SEQ ID NO 72
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

<400> SEQUENCE: 72

ggagccgtac atgaactgag                20

<210> SEQ ID NO 73
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

<400> SEQUENCE: 73

ctcgttgccc aggtaggccc                20

<210> SEQ ID NO 74
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: protospacer

<400> SEQUENCE: 74

tggaccacca gctcctgtgg                20

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The invention claimed is:

1. A ribonucleoprotein (RNP) complex, comprising
 - a modified guide RNA comprising,
 - a crRNA comprising a single-stranded protospacer sequence and a first complementary strand of a binding region for a Cas9 polypeptide,
 - a tracrRNA comprising a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises a nucleic acid aptamer that binds an avidin, wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide;
 - an avidin
 - the Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the Cas9 polypeptide is active for guide RNA binding, and has an active, inactive or partially inactive nuclease domain, and a biotinylated molecule.
2. The RNP complex of claim 1, wherein the avidin has one, two or four biotin binding sites, and wherein the avidin optionally comprises a fluorescent label.
3. The RNP complex of claim 1, wherein the biotinylated molecule is a biotinylated donor polynucleotide.
4. The RNP complex of claim 3, wherein the donor polynucleotide comprises single-stranded DNA, double-stranded DNA, RNA, or a duplex of RNA and DNA.
5. The RNP complex of claim 3, wherein the donor polynucleotide includes a mutation, deletion, alteration, integration, gene correction, gene replacement, transgene insertion, nucleotide deletion, gene disruption, and/or gene mutation in a target nucleic acid.
6. The RNP complex of claim 1, wherein the biotinylated molecule comprises a biotinylated nanoparticle, dye, contrast agent, or peptide.
7. The RNP complex of claim 6, wherein the nanoparticle is a quantum dot, a gold particle, a magnetic particle, or a polymeric nanoparticle.
8. The RNP complex of claim 1, wherein the avidin is covalently linked to a donor polynucleotide, either directly or via a linker molecule.
9. The RNP complex of claim 8, wherein the donor polynucleotide comprises single-stranded DNA, double-stranded DNA, RNA, or a duplex of RNA and DNA.
10. The RNP complex of claim 8, wherein the donor polynucleotide includes a mutation, deletion, alteration, integration, gene correction, gene replacement, transgene insertion, nucleotide deletion, gene disruption, and/or gene mutation in a target nucleic acid.
11. The RNP complex of claim 1, wherein the avidin is covalently linked to a nanoparticle, dye molecule, or a peptide, either directly or via a linker molecule.
12. A kit comprising
 - a modified guide RNA, the modified guide RNA comprising,
 - a crRNA comprising, a single-stranded protospacer sequence and a first complementary strand of a binding region for a Cas9 polypeptide, and

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a tracrRNA comprising, a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises a nucleic acid aptamer that binds an avidin, wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide; an avidin; a Cas9 polypeptide, and a biotinylated molecule.

13. A method of modifying a target nucleic acid in a cell, comprising

delivering to the cell an RNP complex, the RNP complex comprising

a modified guide RNA comprising,

a crRNA comprising a single-stranded protospacer sequence and a first complementary strand of a binding region for a Cas9 polypeptide,

a tracrRNA comprising a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide,

wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises a nucleic acid aptamer that binds an avidin,

wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide;

an avidin; and

the Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the Cas9 polypeptide is active for guide RNA binding, and has an active, inactive or partially inactive nuclease domain,

wherein the single-stranded protospacer sequence of the modified guide RNA hybridizes to a sequence in the target nucleic acid to be modified.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein modifying the target nucleic acid increases or decreases expression of a gene product of the target nucleic acid.

15. The method of claim 13, further comprising delivering a donor polynucleotide to the cell, and wherein modifying the target nucleic acid comprises homology-directed repair (HDR).

16. The method of claim 13, further comprising delivering a donor polynucleotide to the cell, and wherein modifying the target nucleic acid comprises addition of a genetically encoded functionality, or correction of a mutation in the target nucleic acid.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein modifying the target nucleic acid creates a double strand break (DSB) which is repaired by a non-homologous end joining (NHEJ) cell repair mechanism generating indels thereby modifying the polynucleotide sequence of the target nucleic acid.

18. The method of claim 13, further comprising delivering a donor polynucleotide to the cell, and wherein modifying the target nucleic acid creates a DSB which is repaired by a HDR cell repair mechanism incorporating a donor DNA sequence thereby modifying the polynucleotide sequence of the target nucleic acid.

19. The method of claim 13, further comprising delivering a biotinylated molecule, wherein the biotinylated molecule targets the RNP complex to a specific cell type, organ or tissue.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the RNP complex further comprises a biotinylated molecule.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the biotinylated molecule is a biotinylated donor polynucleotide.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the donor polynucleotide comprises single-stranded DNA, double-stranded DNA, RNA, or a duplex of RNA and DNA.

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23. The method of claim 21, wherein the donor polynucleotide includes a mutation, deletion, alteration, integration, gene correction, gene replacement, transgene insertion, nucleotide deletion, and/or gene disruption.

24. A method of modifying a target nucleic acid in a cell, comprising delivering to the cell two RNP complexes, wherein each RNP complex comprises

a modified guide RNA comprising,

a crRNA comprising a single-stranded protospacer sequence and a first complementary strand of a binding region for a Cas9 polypeptide,

a tracrRNA comprising a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide,

wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises a nucleic acid aptamer that binds an avidin,

wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide;

an avidin; and

a Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the Cas9 polypeptide is active for guide RNA binding, and has an active, inactive or partially inactive nuclease domain,

wherein each of the RNP complexes hybridizes to a different sequence in the target nucleic acid.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising delivering a donor polynucleotide to the cell, wherein the donor polynucleotide comprises a gene correction relative to the sequence of the target nucleic acid, thereby providing multiple allelic correction of the target nucleic acid, or excision of target DNA from the target nucleic acid.

26. The method of claim 24, further comprising delivering a donor polynucleotide to the cell, wherein the donor polynucleotide comprises a gene correction relative to the sequence of the target nucleic acid, thereby providing multiple allelic correction of the target nucleic acid.

27. The method of claim 24, wherein modifying the target nucleic acid provides excision of genomic DNA.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein each RNP complex further comprises a biotinylated molecule.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the biotinylated molecules are biotinylated donor polynucleotides.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the donor polynucleotides comprise single-stranded DNA, double-stranded DNA, RNA, or a duplex of RNA and DNA.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein the donor polynucleotides include a mutation, deletion, alteration, integration, gene correction, gene replacement, transgene insertion, nucleotide deletion, and/or gene disruption.

32. A method of modifying a target nucleic acid in a cell, the cell comprising a Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the Cas9 polypeptide is active for guide RNA binding, and has an active, inactive or partially inactive nuclease domain, the method comprising

delivering to the cell a modified guide RNA, the modified guide RNA comprising,

a crRNA comprising, a single-stranded protospacer sequence and a first complementary strand of a binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, and

a tracrRNA comprising, a second complementary strand of the binding region for a Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises a nucleic acid aptamer that binds an avidin,

wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide;

wherein the modified guide RNA is associated with an avidin; and

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wherein the single-stranded protospacer sequence of the modified guide RNA hybridizes to a sequence in the target nucleic acid to be modified.

33. The method of claim **32**, wherein two modified guide RNAs are delivered to the cell, and wherein each of the modified guide RNAs hybridizes to a different nucleic acid sequence.

34. The method of claim **32**, further comprising delivering a donor polynucleotide to the cell, wherein the donor polynucleotide comprises a gene correction relative to the sequence of the target nucleic acid, thereby providing multiple allelic correction of the target nucleic acid, or excision of target DNA from the target nucleic acid.

35. A method of modifying a target nucleic acid in a cell, comprising
 delivering to the cell a vector expressing a modified guide RNA, a vector expressing a Cas9 polypeptide, an avidin, and a biotinylated donor DNA template, the modified guide RNA comprising,

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a crRNA comprising, a single-stranded protospacer sequence and a first complementary strand of a binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, and a tracrRNA comprising, a second complementary strand of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide,

wherein the crRNA or the tracrRNA comprises a nucleic acid aptamer that binds the avidin, wherein the crRNA and the tracrRNA hybridize through the first and second complementary strands of the binding region for the Cas9 polypeptide, wherein the single-stranded protospacer sequence of the modified guide RNA hybridizes to a sequence in the target nucleic acid to be modified.

36. The method of claim **35**, wherein the cell is a human cell.

37. The method of claim **36**, wherein the human cell is a human pluripotent stem cell line, or a primary blood cell.

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