

BASIC CONCEPT:

Any researcher, who has expertise in analyzing mutant mice, may have access to the RIKEN Gene-Driven Mutagenesis System ("RGDMS"). The use of RGDMS should encourage the researchers, who propose a feasible research plan for the target gene, to conduct original scientific studies. At the same time, all the identified and developed mutants must be openly available to research community at an appropriate time. The basic idea is to advance the fields of mutagenesis as well as mouse genetics and to accelerate studies on mammalian genome functions. RGDMS is under development; thus, RIKEN does not guarantee that it can provide mutant mice to the user. Following the receipt of this Application Form, the applicant (USER) and RIKEN will agree to conduct a collaborative research based on the contents of this Application Form.

1. USER is the principal investigator of the applied target gene¹⁾, when USER applies the target gene by sending this Application Form to RIKEN, and RIKEN confirms the applied gene is not in the target gene list in the RIKEN WEB site¹⁾.
2. RIKEN adds USER's target gene to the target gene list when RIKEN updates it.
3. USER designs the PCR primers with the reaction conditions and sends the PCR primers, PCR conditions and a photo(s) of an electrophoresis gel for the PCR product(s) to RIKEN.
4. RIKEN screens RIKEN Mutant Mouse Library after confirming the designed PCR condition, and notices USER all the detected mutations.
5. USER decides which mutation(s) to analyze at the live mouse level²⁾, and send RIKEN the Order Form and Material Agreement Form specified by RIKEN.
6. RIKEN sends USER the heterozygous mice carrying the identified mutation, by conducting the in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer.
7. USER takes the initiative to analyze the mutant mice, publishes the outcome results as a collaborative work with RIKEN and deposit the mutant to RIKEN BioResource Center ("BRC").³⁾

RIKEN may use and publish summarized mutation data including USER's target gene freely without USER's permission, e.g. mutation rates and spectra, which is obtained from Step 4 above. USER may apply intellectual properties (IPs) based on the outcomes of the mutant studies. When USER applies any IPs based on the collaborative studies, USER makes the application with RIKEN as a co-applicant.

1) In order to avoid a duplicated application to the same gene, RIKEN disclose the list of gene-driven target genes to the public through the RIKEN WEB site (http://www.brc.riken.jp/lab/mutants/genedriven_name.htm). Please note that there is some time lag to update the list of the target gene. Please inquire to the e-mail address above for the latest information.

2) USER must notify the use of the identified mutation within 6 months after RIKEN sends the report of the mutation to USER. If USER decided not to investigate the mutation, RIKEN may conduct the study on it. If both parties decided not to investigate, the mutation will be immediately open to the research community through the RIKEN BRC WEB site.

3) Identified mutation may become available to the public through RIKEN BRC, when 1) the first publication on the characterization of the mutation is made, 2) USER terminates the study on it, or 3) three years have passed since its notification to USER, whichever comes first. USER agrees to deposit the most useful mutant strain(s), for instance backcrossed ones, to BRC when we make the strain(s) open to public. The original G1 strain carries many other ENU-induced mutations. If USER discovers any such additional mutations that are unrelated to the one identified by RGDMS, USER will be granted the first right to conduct the study on the additional mutations also bound to this agreement. To retain the right, USER has to report the identified mutation(s) to RIKEN at the time of discovery with the study plan.

I have read the above conditions and agree with them.

Applicant's name (type or print)	Applicant's signature	Date
Applicant's title	Name of the target gene	
Telephone number	e-mail address	Map of the target gene (chromosomal band/cytoband)

Applicant's affiliation and address

Send this Application Form to:

Yoichi Gondo, Ph.D., Mutagenesis and Genomics Team, RIKEN BioResource Center
3-1-1 Koyadai, Tsukuba 305-0074 JAPAN.