

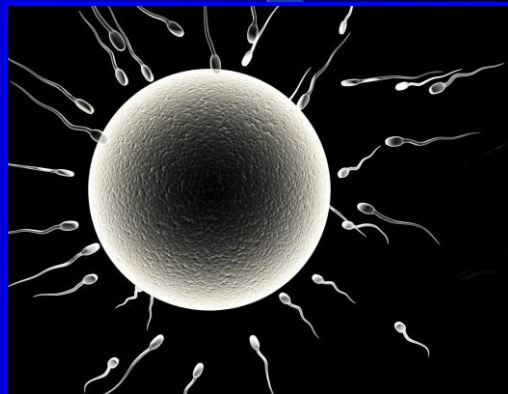
Potency of the cells

Fejlődés- és Molekuláris Genetika
2021

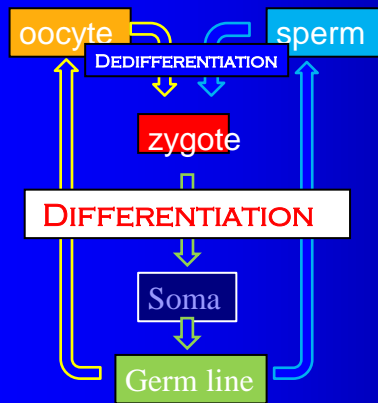
At the beginning

Oocyte: Differentiated? Totipotent?
Sperm: Differentiated? Totipotent?

Yes. Not.

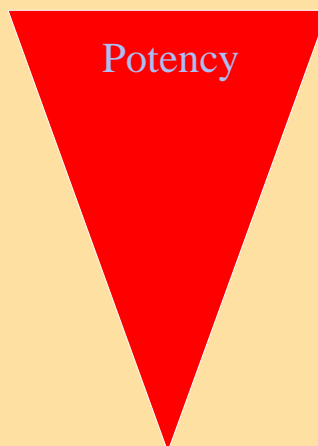


The fundamental cycle



Potency of the cells

- Totipotent
- Pluripotent
- Multipotent
- Oligopotent
- Unipotent



Potency

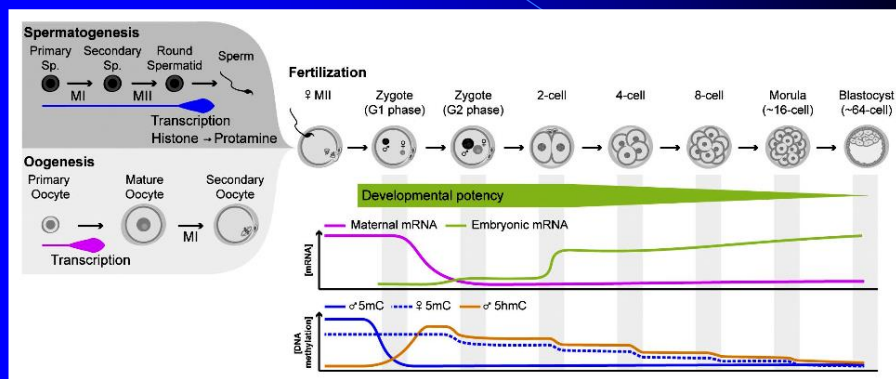
The range of commitment options available to a cell

- Totipotent
- Pluripotent
- Multipotent
- Oligopotent
- Unipotent

Potency

How does zygote become totipotent?

1. *via demethylation:*



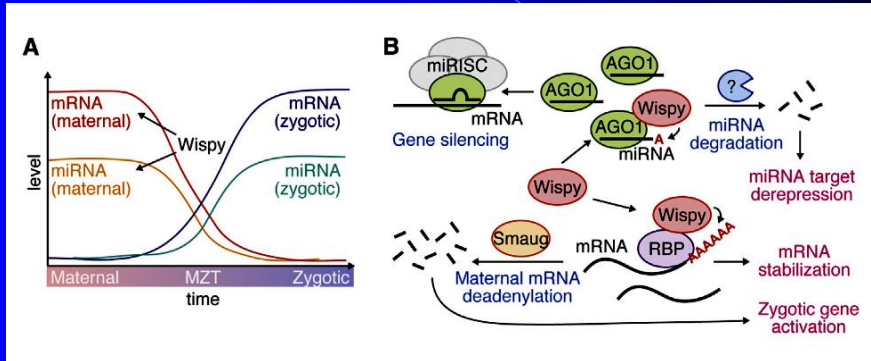
5mC: 5 methyl cytosine
5hmC: 5 hydroxymethyl cytosine

↑
Maximal demethylation

Ladstätter and Tachibana, JBC, 2018

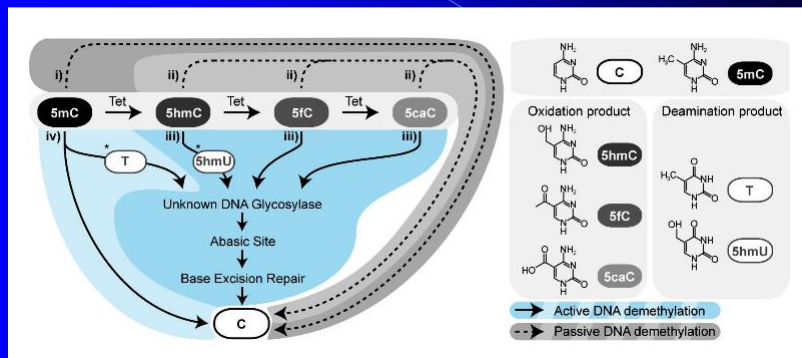
How does zygote become totipotent?

2. *via removing maternal mRNAs:*



wispy (wisp) encodes a conserved cytoplasmic poly-A polymerase of the GLD2 family
smaug (smg) encodes a sequence-specific RNA-binding proteins.

Passive and active DNA demethylation



Ladstätter and Tachibana, JBC, 2018

5hmC: 5 hydroxymethyl cytosine

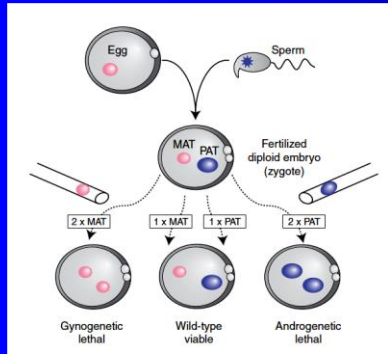
5fC: 5-formylcytosine

5caC: 5-carboxylcytosine

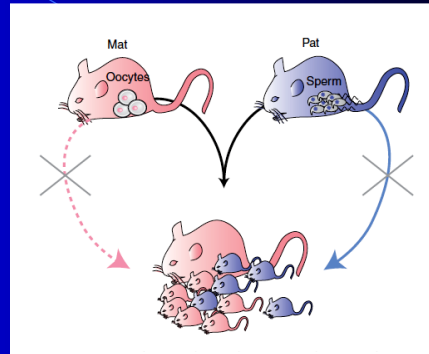
Tet: Ten-eleven translocation enzymes 1-3 (methylcytosine dioxygenases)

TdT: Terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase

Result of the asymmetrical demethylation



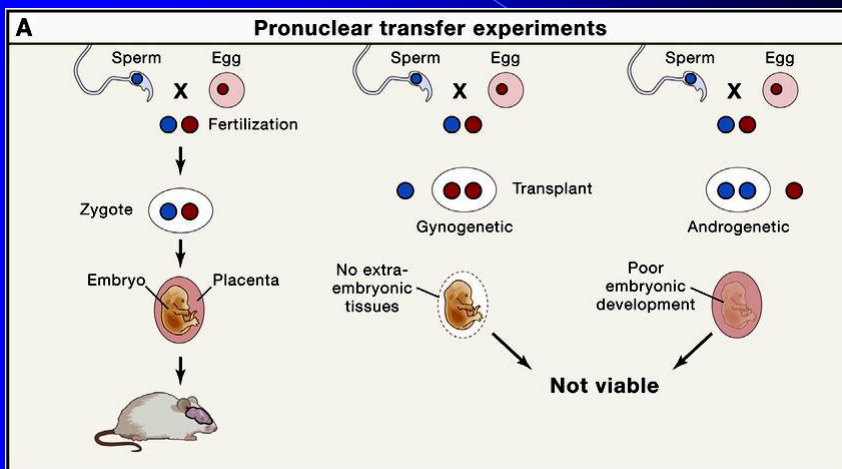
McGrath and Solter, Cell, 1984



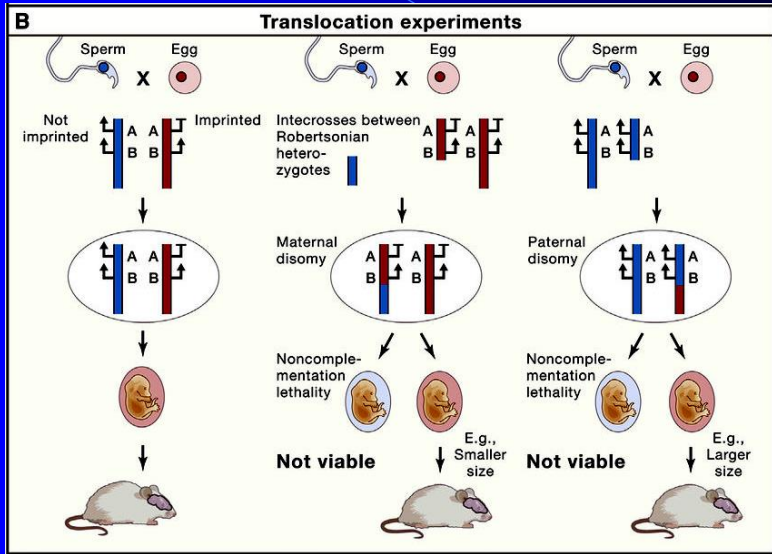
Barlow and Bartolomei, CSHL, 2014

Even if the lines were inbred.

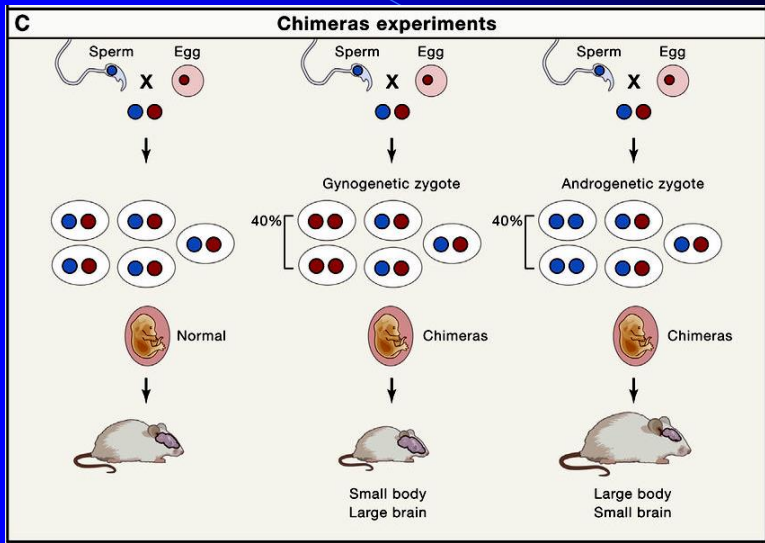
Maternal / paternal imprints



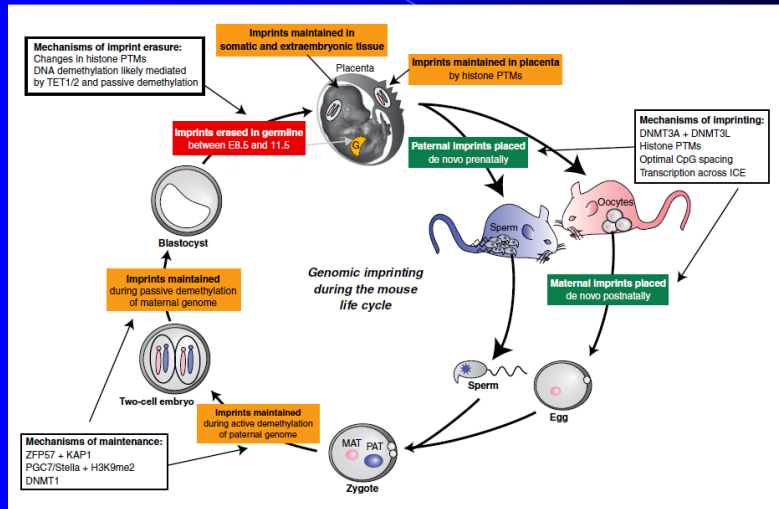
Maternal / paternal imprints



Maternal / paternal imprints



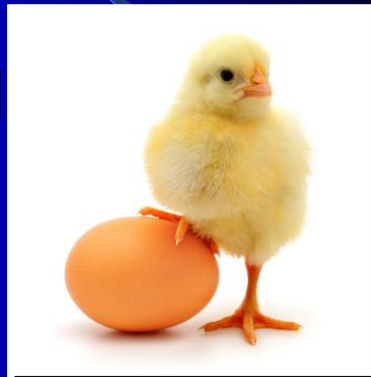
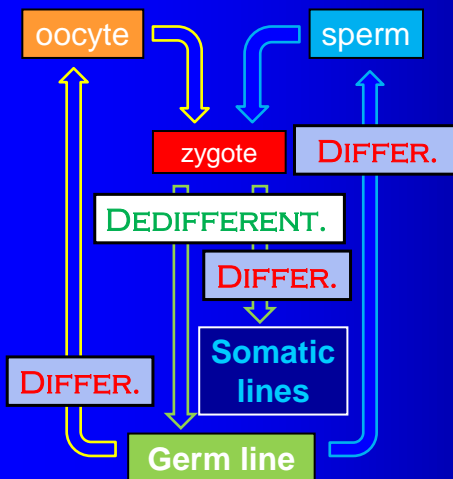
Establishment, maintenance, and erasure of genomic imprints in mouse development



PTMs: posttranslational modifications
ICE: imprinting control elements

DNMT: DNA methyltransferase
Tet: methylcytosine dioxygenase

The Fundamental Cycle - Reloaded



Potency

The range of commitment options available to a cell

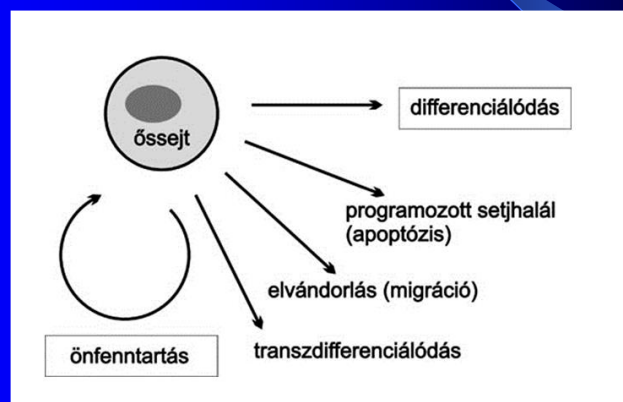
- Totipotent
- Pluripotent
- Multipotent
- Oligopotent
- Unipotent

Potency

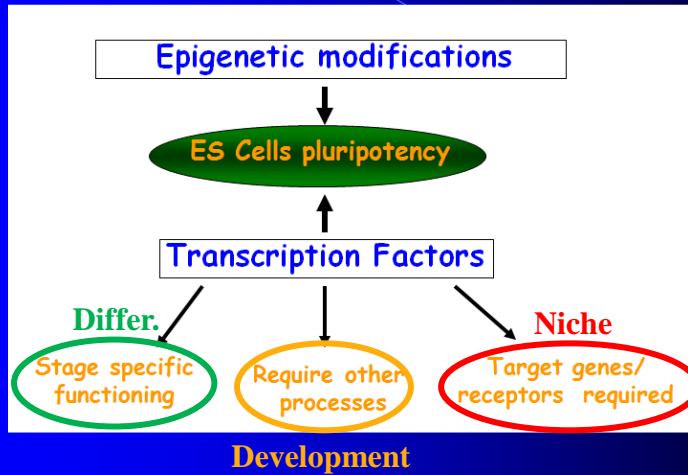
Criteria for pluripotency:

- ✓ Immortality
- ✓ Undifferentiation
- ✓ Clonality
- ✓ Broad developmental potential

- **Stem cells** are biological cells found in all multicellular organisms, that can divide (through mitosis) and differentiate into diverse specialized cell types and can self-renew to produce more stem cells.

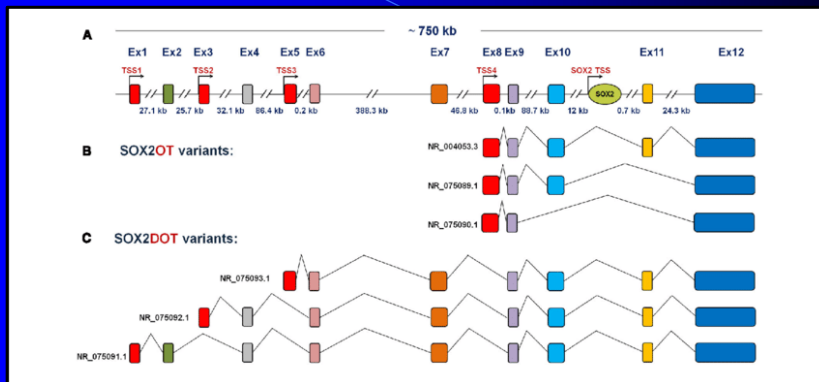


Maintenance of ESCs' pluripotency



ESCs: Embyonic stem cells

Sox2 /SRY (sex-determining region Y)-box2



SOX2OT : SOX2 overlapping transcript

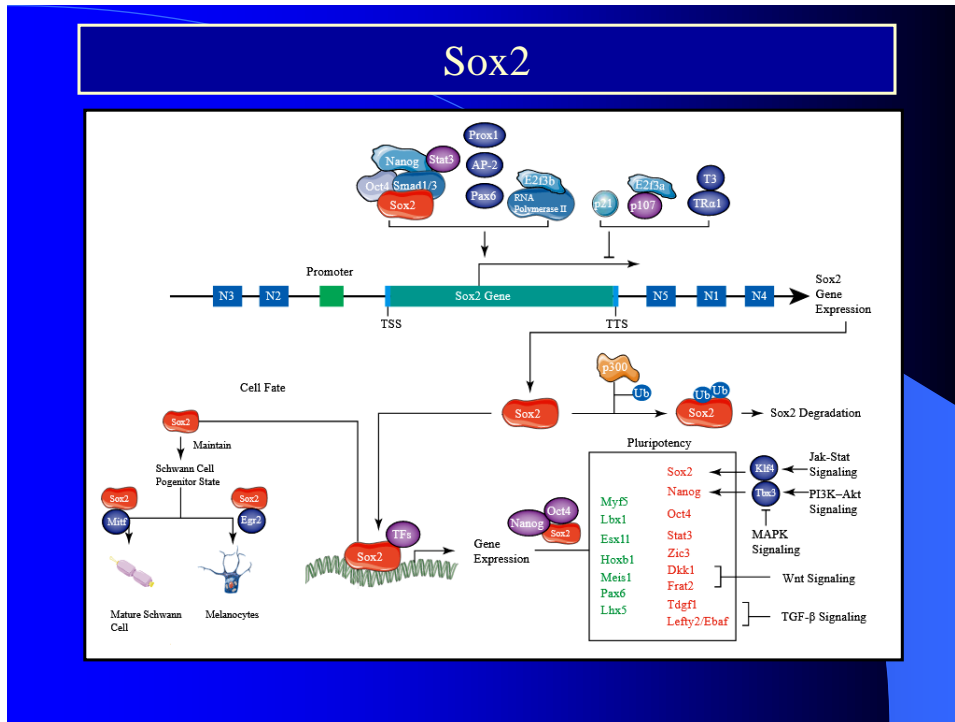
lncRNA

Tss: transcriptional start sites

Oct4: octamer (AGTCAAAT) binding tr. factor,
Homeodomain

Sox2

Intronless gene
HMG-box
Transcription factor
Binds only to non-B DNA
Maintenance of pluripotency
Trimeric complex with Oct4



Oct4 and Nanog

Octamer-binding tr. factor
 ATTTGCAT
 Maternal gene
 Heterodimer with Sox2
 Oct4-/- : ICM → trophoectoderm

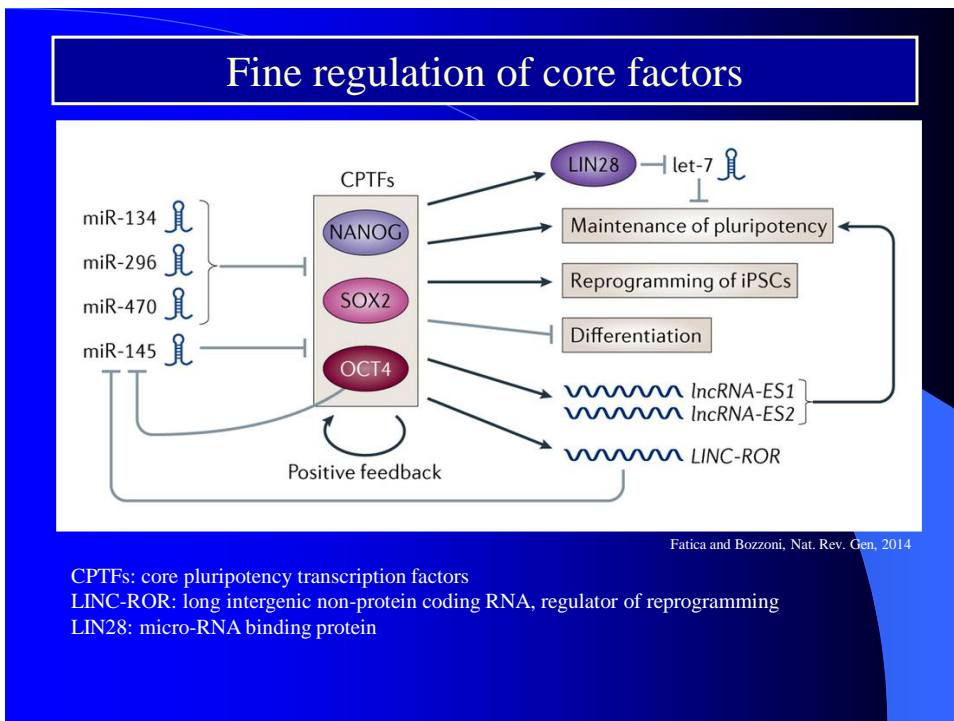
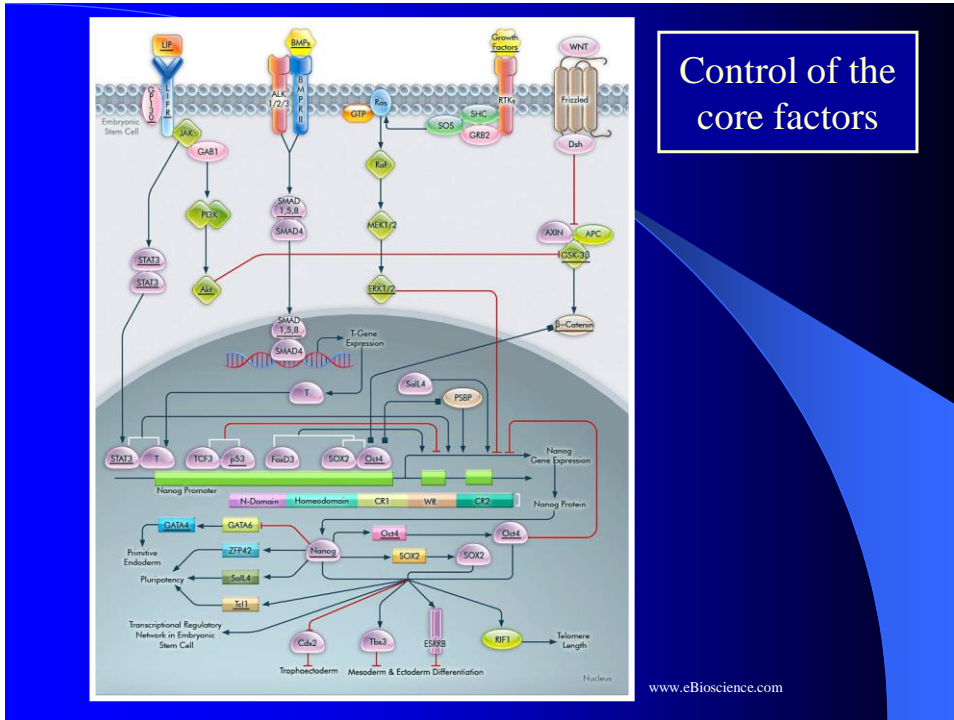
Optimal level: maintenance of pluripotency
 Low level: differentiation
 2x level: primitive endoderm and mesoderm

Low level → Rex1 activation
 High level → Rex1 inactivation

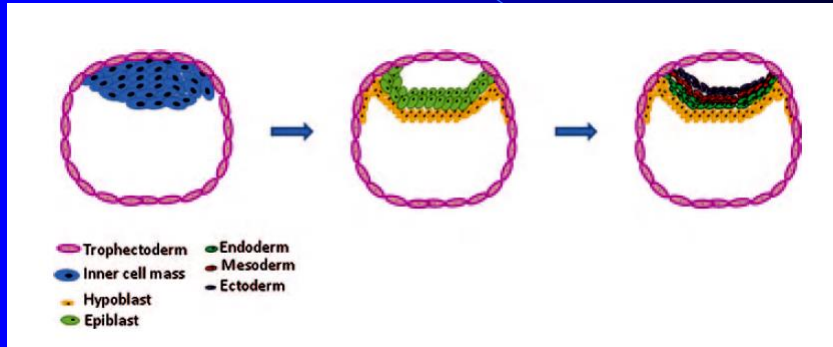
Rex1: Required for *Excision 1*

Tír na nÓg (Nanog): homeodomain tr. factor
 Nanog -/- : entoderm formation
 P53 binding site on the promoter

Hammachi et al., Cell Rep., 2012



Formation of the germ layers



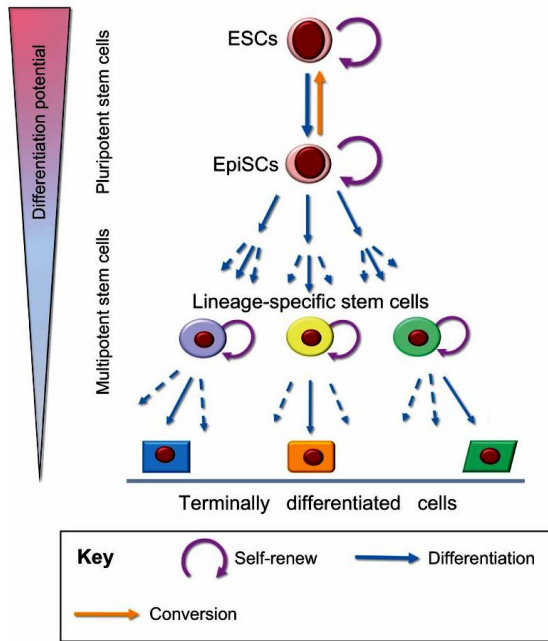
Brevini and Pamarosi: Gametogenesis, Springer, 2013

Trophectoderm (placenta formation) and inner cell mass (embryo proper)

Blastula: Epiblast and hypoblast layers

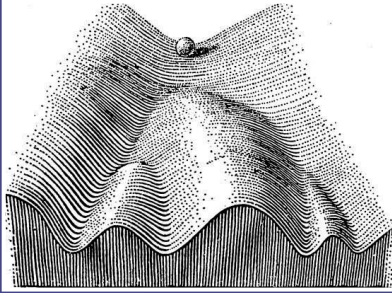
Gastrulation: Trilaminar embryo disc + hypoblast

Differentiation

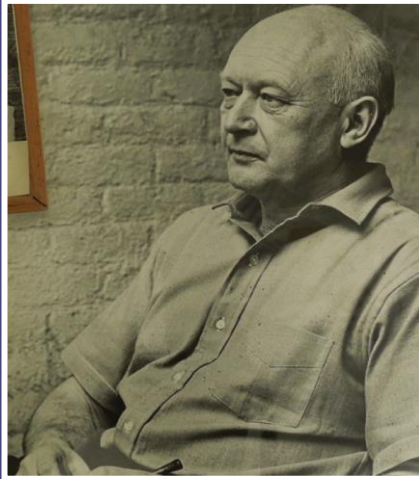


ESCs: Embryonic Stem Cells
EpiSCs: Epiblast SCs

Epigenetic landscape

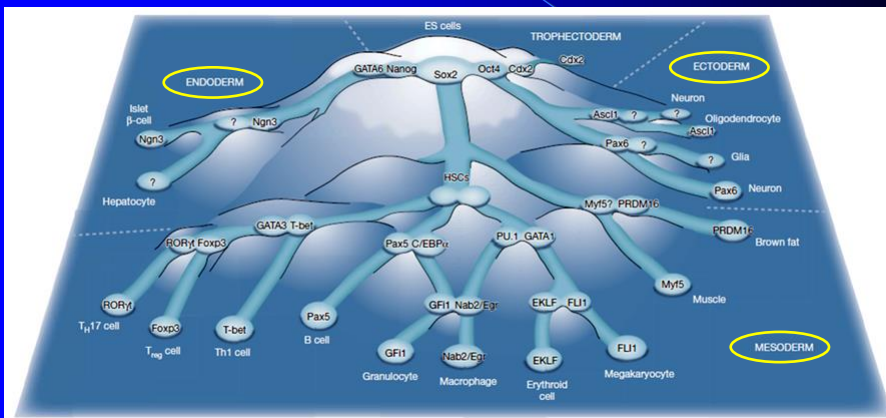


- Mutations can modulate the epigenetic landscape.
- Evolution mainly occurred through mutations that affected developmental anatomy



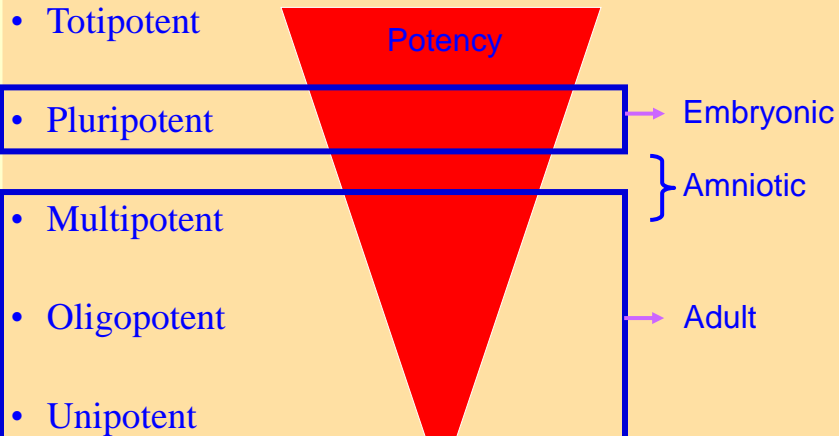
Conrad Hal Waddington (1905–1975)

Classic epigenetic landscape 2015

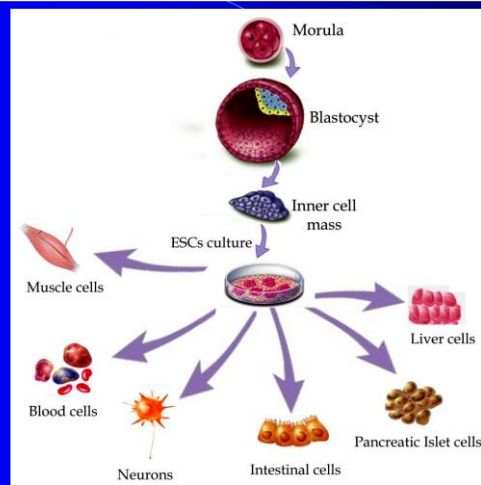


Potency

The range of commitment options available to a cell

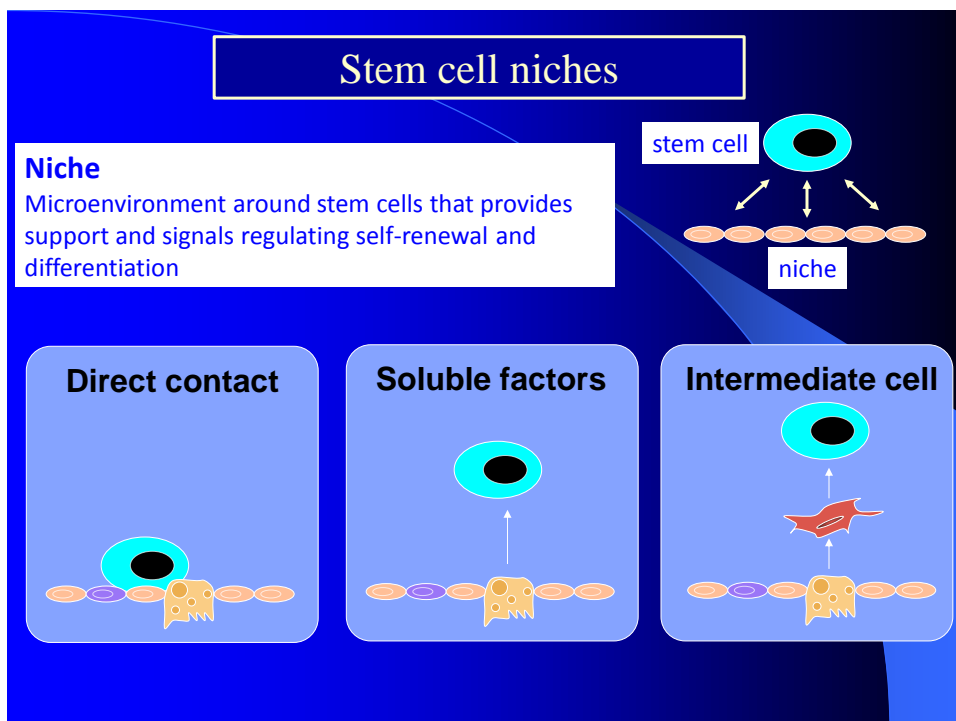
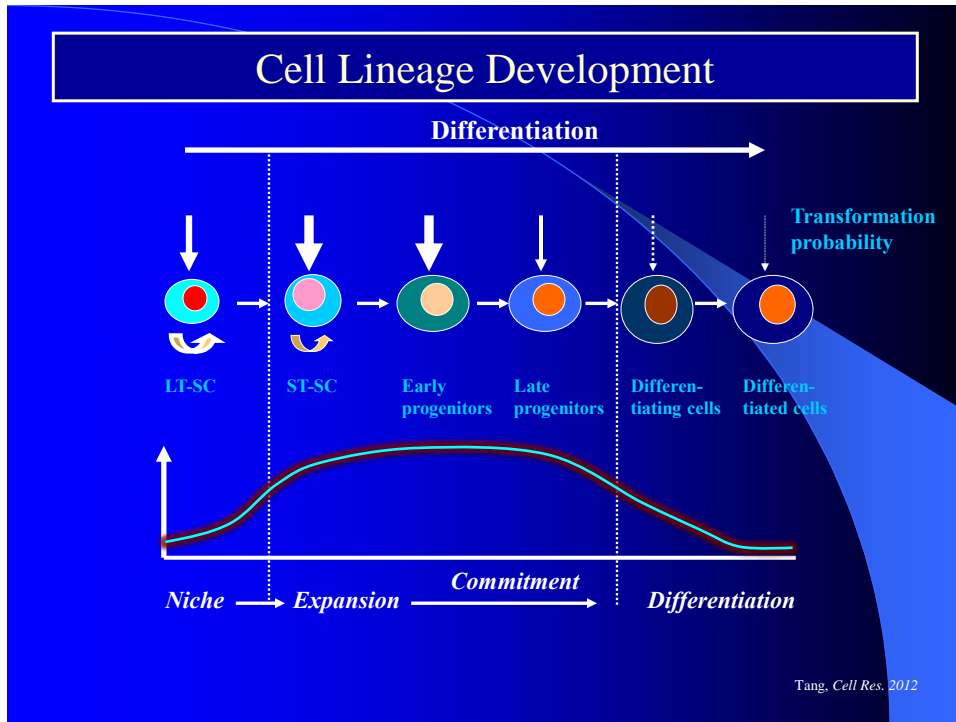


ICM or EpiSCs



Nearly all research to date has made use of mouse embryonic stem cells (mES) or human embryonic stem cells (hES).

Without optimal culture conditions or genetic manipulation, embryonic stem cells will rapidly differentiate. For mice: LIF, for human: FGF2.



Signals from Niche

- Signals are local; niches have a limited capacity and cells compete for the signals
- The signals control tissue homeostasis, also after damage.

Signals from niches maintain adult stem cells and tissues.

In the absence of niche signals, adult stem cells will differentiate, by default.

Alternate Stem Cell Fates

symmetric SC renewal
asymmetric cell division (ACD) *symmetric SC commitment (differentiation)*
 SC
 Committed progenitor cells

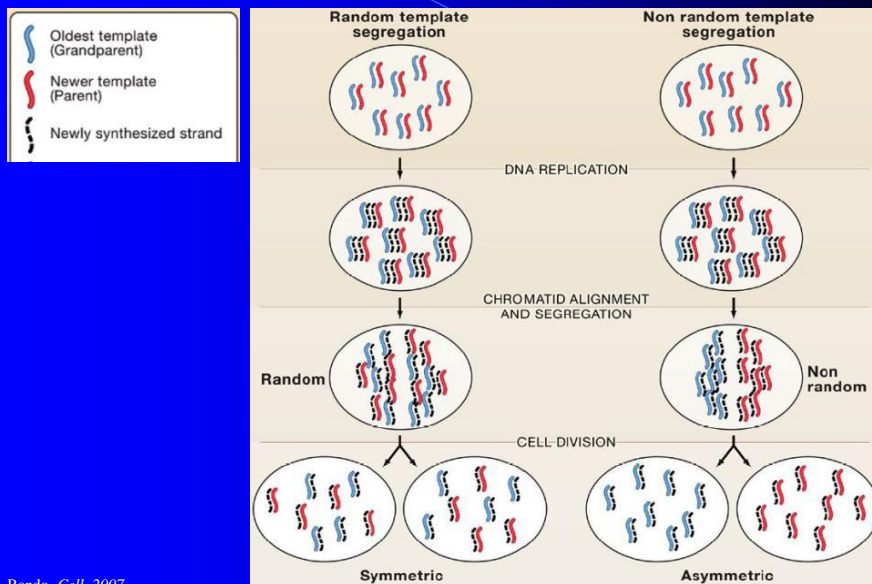
Tang, Cell Res. 2012

Motivation for Asymmetric Strand Segregation

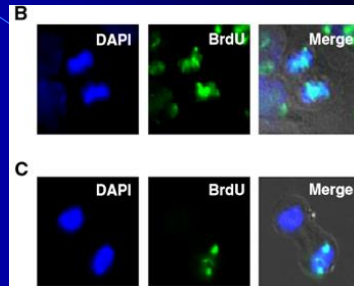
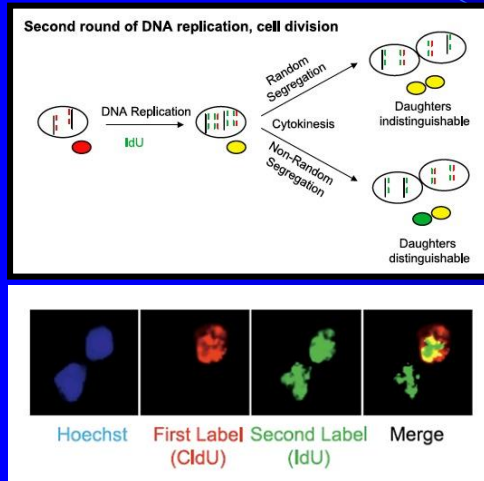
- Adult rat contains 6×10^{10} cells
- In its small intestine, a rat sheds over 10^{13} epithelial cells during its lifetime.
- Requires 10^3 symmetric cell doublings from embryo to adult followed by 10^{13} asymmetric cell doublings during its lifetime
- How do epithelial cells minimize mutations that lead to cancer?

Cairns, *Nature*, 1975

Asymmetric Segregation of Parental DNA Strands?



Asymmetric DNA segregation



Liu et al., *Mol Cancer*, 2013

Human breast cancer cell lines asymmetrically segregate their template DNA strands.

Figure 2. Evidence of Co-Segregation of DNA Template Strands during Muscle Progenitor Cell Division
 (B) Cell pairs were immunostained for CldU and IdU. Shown is a representative photograph of an immunostained pair of cells, in which both daughter cells were labeled with the second label, IdU (green), but only one daughter inherited the first label, CldU (red).

DNA re-replication

- DNA re-replication occurs when one or more of the normal controls that prevent reutilization of replication origins during S-phase is circumvented.
- Re-replicated DNA sequences: amplicons
- They are in: MA of Tetrahymena
 SG of Sciarid flies
 chorion genes on X in *Drosophila*
 Tumor cells

Replication Origin

DNA Re-replication (S-phase)

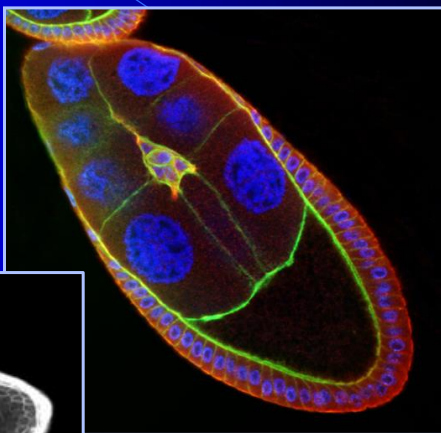
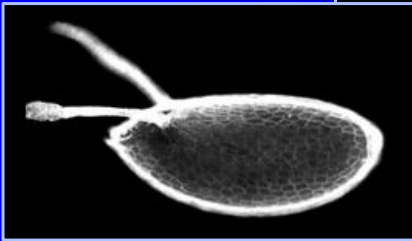
DNA Replication

Endoreduplication (S-G-S-G)

Genome Duplication (S-G2-M-G1)

Endomitosis (S-M'-S-M')

Chorion genes in the follicular cells are amplified

Replication Origin

DNA Re-replication (S-phase)

DNA Replication

Endoreduplication (S-G-S-G)

Genome Duplication (S-G2-M-G1)

Endomitosis (S-M'-S-M')

Re-replication of chorion genes

Despite of the follicular cells are endoreduplicated, they amplify some of their chorion genes.

Minors: diploids, majors: amplified
 Minor: 15 hours long expression,
 Major: 2-3 hours long expression.

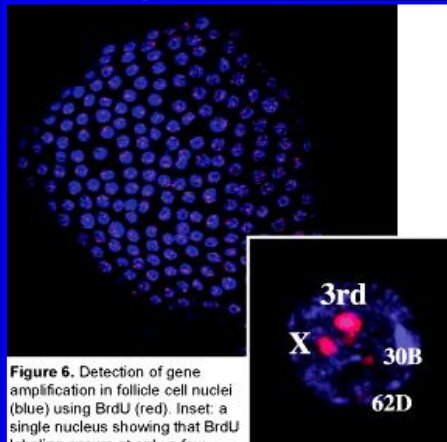


Figure 6. Detection of gene amplification in follicle cell nuclei (blue) using BrdU (red). Inset: a single nucleus showing that BrdU labeling occurs at only a few amplifying genomic sites

7F ~16-fold
66D ~64-fold
3rd chromosome origin

Amplification goes hand in hand with chromatin rearrangement

ACE3:
Amplification control element

Rpd3 Rpd3
Genomic origin
Inactive
closed chromatin

HAT
Ac Ac
Ac Ac
Ac Ac
Ac Ac
Rpd3 Rpd3
Amplification origin-
Active
open chromatin

MCM 2-7
CDC6 CDT1
ORC 1-6
ACE3 Ori-beta
Orc2
AcH4/Orc2

Rpd3: histone deacetylase

Aggrawal and Calvi, *Nature*, 2004

Double rolling circle replication

B

(i) Replication

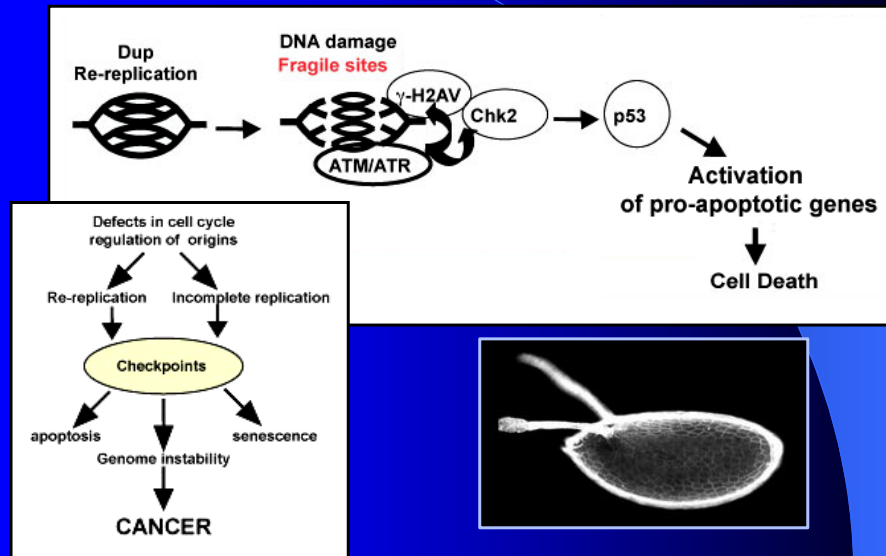
(ii) Recombination

C

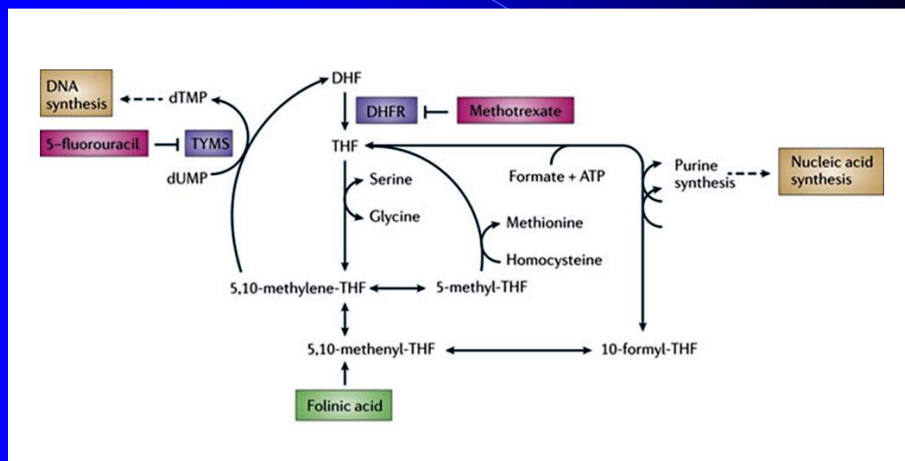
DRCR

Watanabe et al, *Nucl Acid Res.*, 2011

Re-replication of genes (amplification)



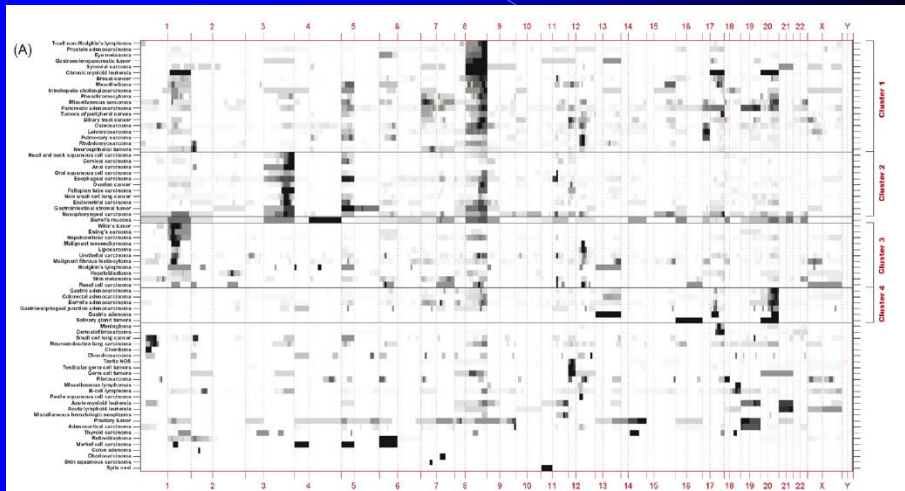
DHFR amplification in drug-resistant cancer cells



Heiden, *Nat. Rev. Drug Discovery*, 2011

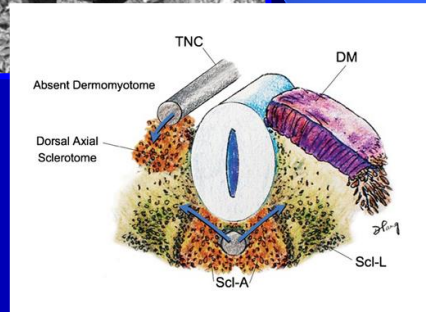
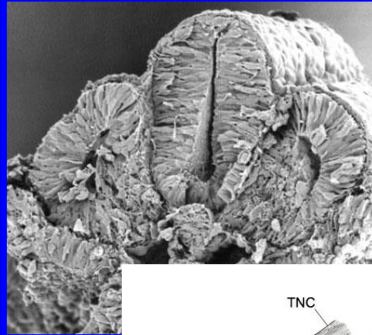
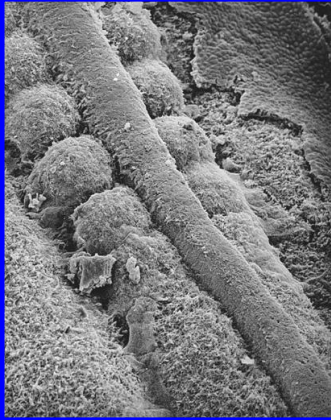
TYM: thymidylate synthase, DHFR: dihydrofolate reductase, THF: tetrahydrofolate

Amplification frequency in human neoplasms.



Skeletal Muscle Stem Cells

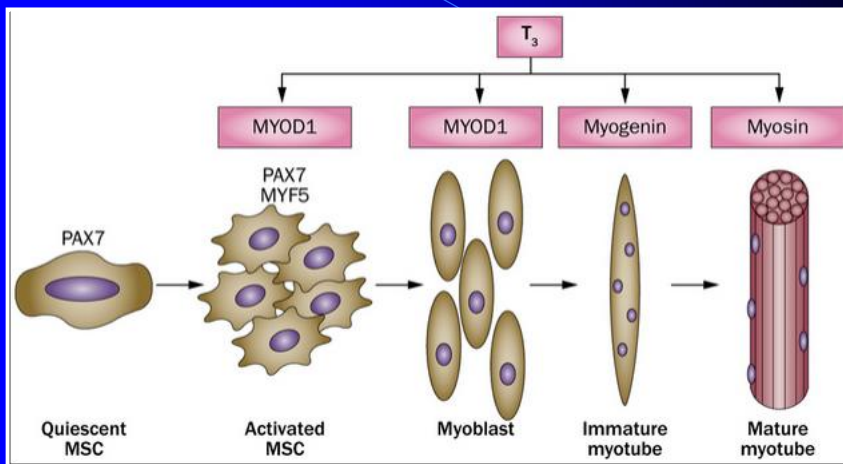
Somite



TNC: tenascin (drug)

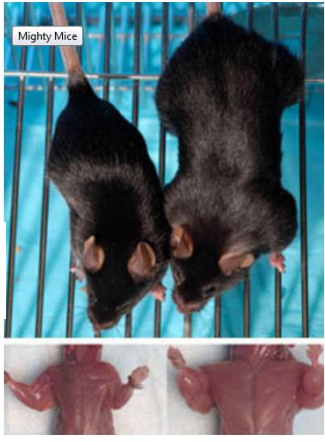
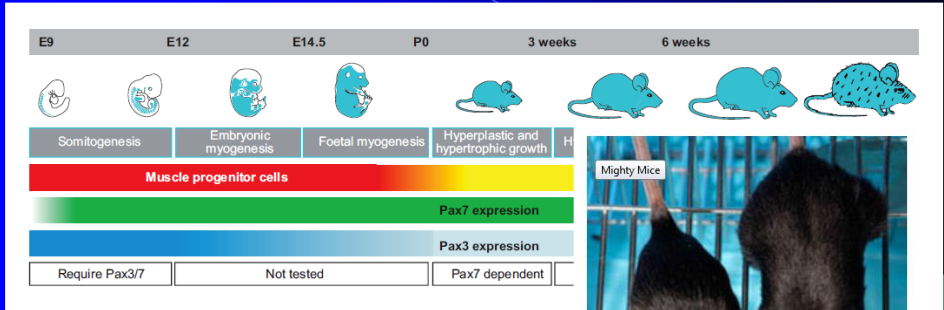
Pax3 → Pax7 → MyoD

An overview of myogenesis



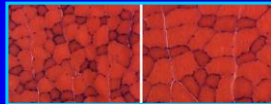
T3: triiodotyronin
 MyF5: myogenic factor 5, transcription factor
 MyoD transcription factor

Steps of myogenesis



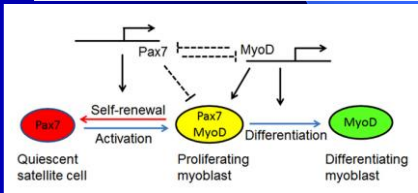
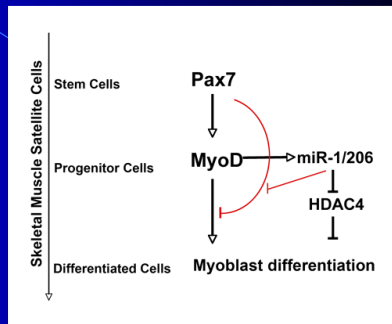
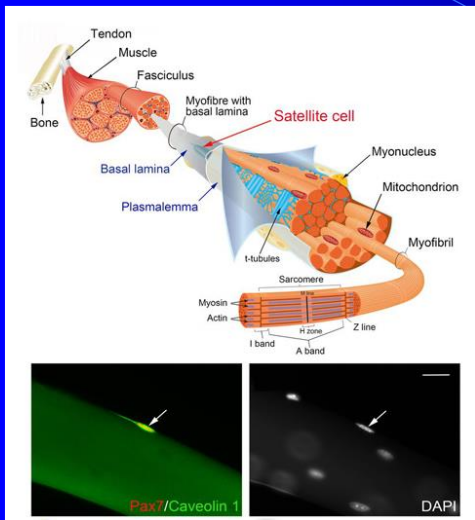
Myostatin / ActivinA → Activin receptor 2B/A pathway

ACVR2A ^{-/-}: Mighty mice

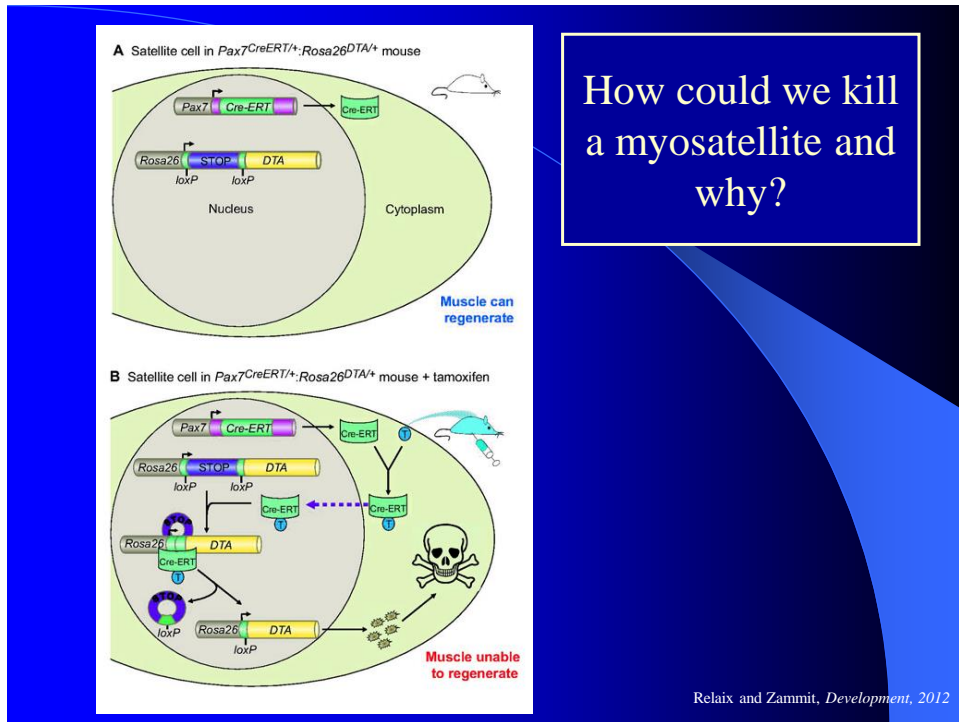


Lee et al., PNAS, 2012

Myosatellite cells



Relaix and Zammit, Development, 2012

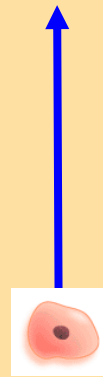
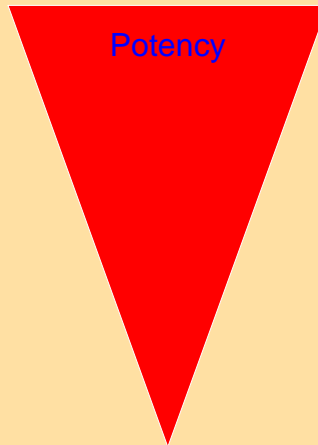


How could we kill a myosatellite and why?

Stem Cells Reprogramming

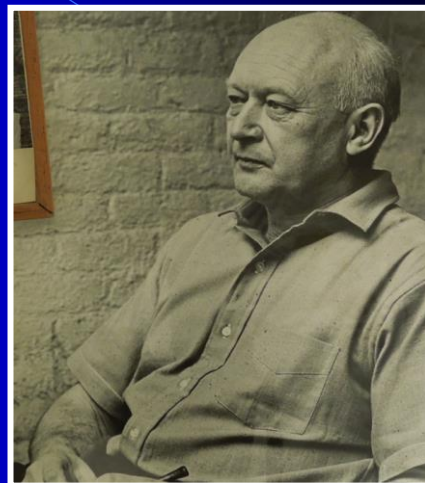
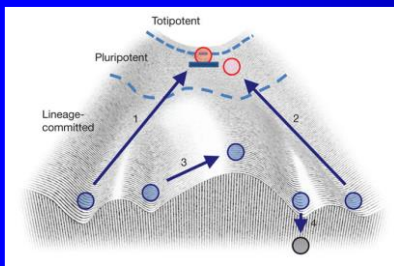
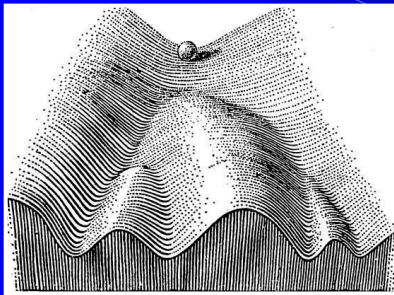
There is no way back?

- Totipotent
- Pluripotent
- Multipotent
- Oligopotent
- Unipotent



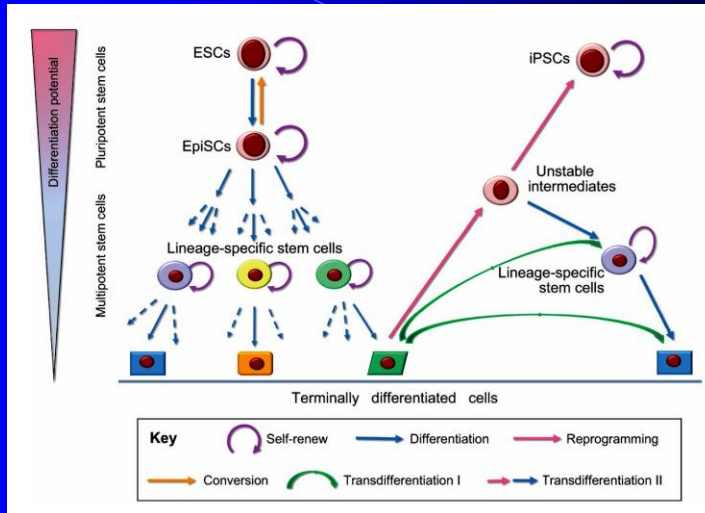
Somatic cell

Epigenetic landscape



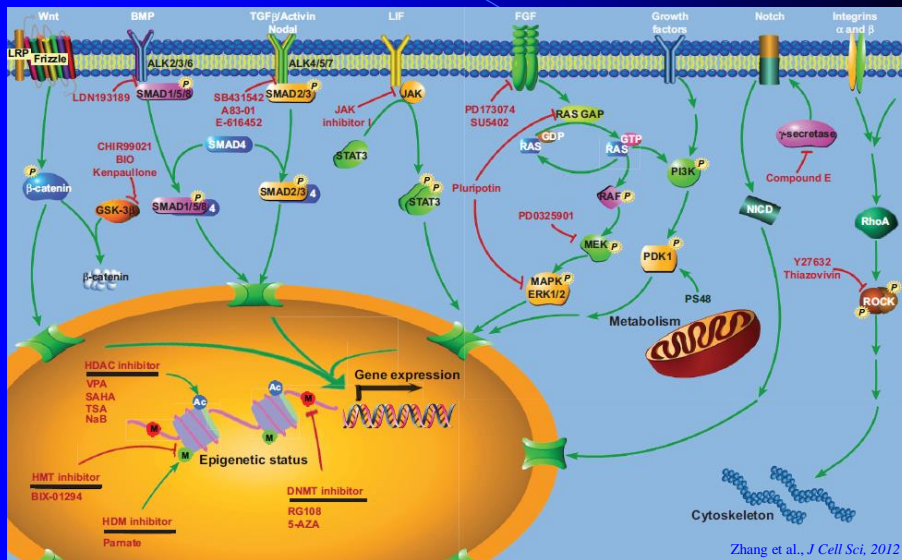
Conrad Hal Waddington (1905–1975)

Change of differentiation potential

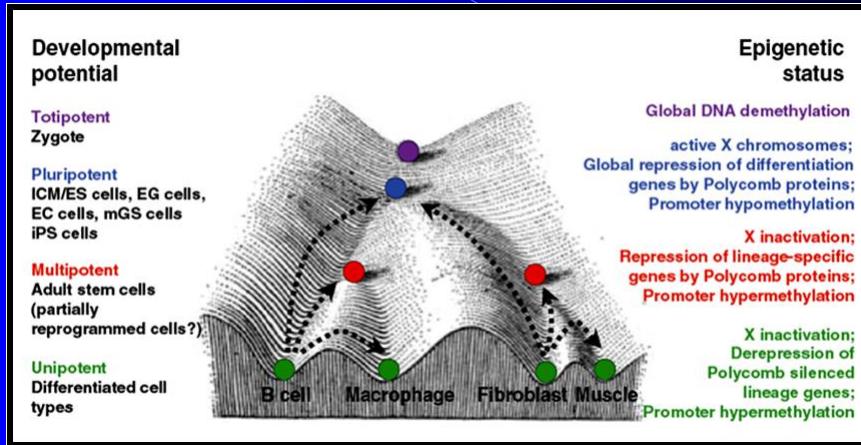


ESCs: Embryonic Stem Cells
 EpiSCs: Epiblast Stem Cells
 iPSC: induced Pluripotent Stem Cells

Chemical manipulation of stem cell fate

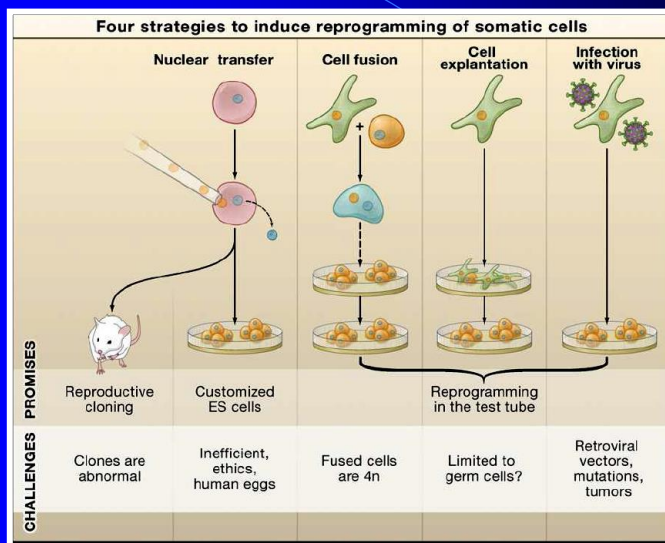


Development and epigenetic (re)programming



Hochedlinger, *Development*, 2009

Reprogramming strategies



Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs)

John Gurdon

Shinya Yamanaka
Nobel Prize: 2012

Induction of Pluripotent Stem Cells (iPS) from Somatic Stem Cells

Apoptosis, senescence

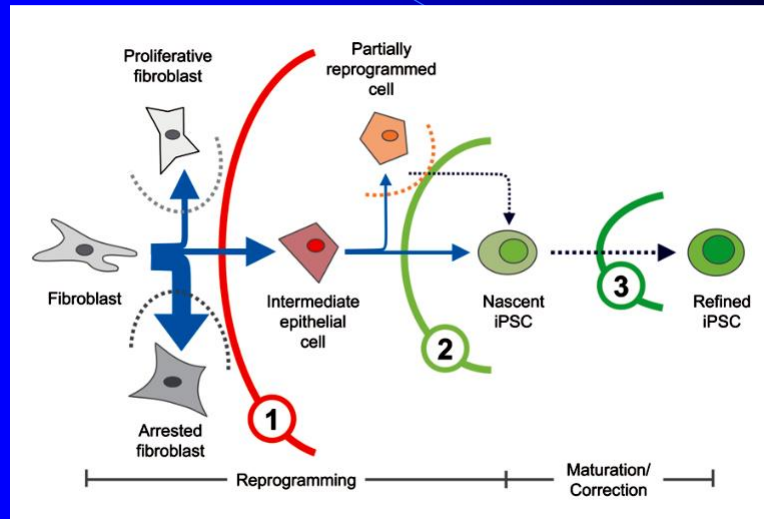
Somatic Cells → **Immortalization, open chromatin** → **Tumor Cells**

Nullipotent ES-like Cells → **Pluripotent iPS Cells**

Transcription factors:
Myc (c-Myc)
Kruppel-like factor 4 (KLF4)

Yamanaka, *Stem Cell*, 2007

Induced pluripotent stem cells



Liang and Zhang, *Nature Cell Res.* 2013

Cancer Stem Cells

Stem Cells & Cancer

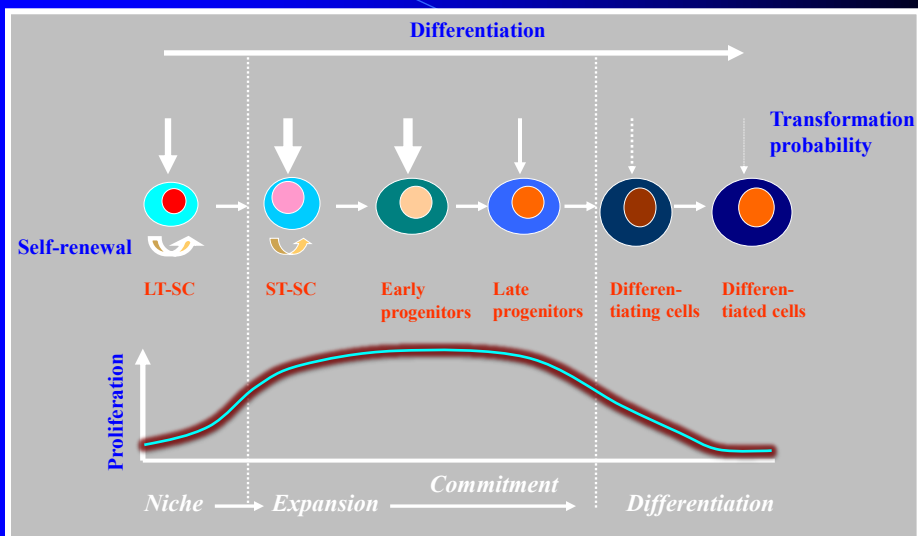
Three tumor biology puzzles:

1. Most tumors are of a clonal origin but tumor cells are heterogeneous.
2. It is very difficult to establish stable tumor cell lines from tumors.
3. Large numbers of established tumor cells have to be injected to re-initiate an orthotopic tumor in mice.

Key reviews:

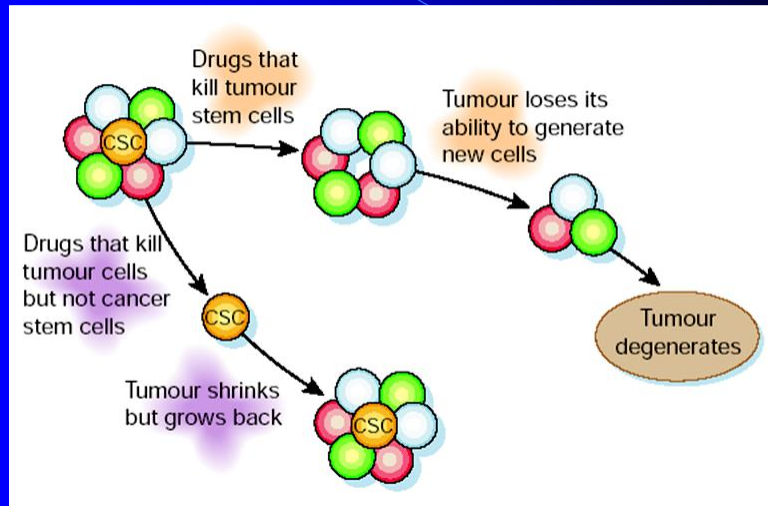
1. Reya T et al. Stem cells, cancer, and cancer stem cells. *Nature* 414, 105-111, 2001.
2. Dick JE. Stem cell concepts renew cancer research. *Blood* 112: 4793-4807, 2008.
3. Visvader JE, and Lindeman GJ. Cancer Stem Cells: Current Status and Evolving Complexities. *Cell Stem Cell* 10: 717-728, 2012.
4. Tang DG. Understanding cancer stem cell heterogeneity and plasticity. *Cell Res*, 22(3):457-472, 2012.
5. Magee JA, Piskounova E, & Morrison SJ. Cancer Stem Cells: Impact, Heterogeneity, and Uncertainty. *Cancer Cell* 21: 283-296, 2012.

Where do tumor cells come from?



Tang, *Cell Res*. 2012

Cancer Stem Cells & Treatment



Weissman, *Nature*, 2001

Medical perspectives – ethical dilemmas

Ethical dilemma



The End