

## HIV-1

### **Development of Permanent Cell Lines for HIV-1 Tat Inhibitor Screening**

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**Abstract :** Among potential genetic targets for intervention of HIV-1 replication, the *tat* gene product is a key target. In this study, two permanent cell lines, HeLa-LT2 and CCRF-CEM-LT1, have been developed for screening of Tat inhibitors. pcDNA3-LT1 and pcDNA3-LT2 plasmids that contain the firefly luciferase and HIV-1 *tat* genes were constructed to this end. The luciferase reporter gene is under the control of the HIV-1 long terminal repeat (LTR) and the HIV-1 *tat* gene is expressed constitutively from the cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter. These plasmids were stably transfected into HeLa and CCRF-CEM cell lines and maintained under stable selection. G418-selected cell lines were assayed for luciferase activity, identified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR), and further analyzed for expression of the HIV-1 *tat* gene by RT-PCR. The inhibitory activity of Tat inhibitors is assessed by measuring suppressed expression of the luciferase gene. This *in vitro* assay system can be a useful tool for screening of new Tat inhibitors such as *tat* antisense and TAR decoy.

**Key words :** HIV-1, Permanent cell line, Tat inhibitor

Human immunodeficiency virus type-1(HIV-1) lentivirus 9.2 kb 가 RNA [1].

AIDS mRNA (Gag, Pol, Env) 6 (Tat, Rev, Vif, Vpr, Vpu, Nef) [2]. HIV-1 Tat nuclear factor- B(NF- B) 가 . AIDS NF- B가 [3-5]. Tat가

CD4<sup>+</sup> T- Tat RNA lentivirus , [6]. HIV-1 Tat 86 72

trans-activation [7]. Tat RNA 5' trans-activation response element(TAR) [8]. TAR 59 nucleotide RNA stem-loop . TAR HIV-1 core promoter element Sp1 , TATA box mRNA 가 [9]. TAR 2 Tat 가 *in vivo* [10-12] *in vitro*[9] . Tat TAR가 HIV-1 CD4<sup>+</sup> T- Tat AIDS 가 .

HIV-1 Tat-TAR 가 TAR TAR decoy[13-15] Tat Tat [16,17]. antisense *in vitro* [18]. *in vitro* Tat [19]. 가 Tat 가 Tat 가 가 *in vitro* Tat *in vitro* Tat *in vitro* , TAR long terminal repeat(LTR) luciferase tat-tar .

1. HeLa CD4<sup>+</sup> T- CCRF-CEM 가 fetal bovine serum(FBS, JBI , ) 10% DMEM RPMI1640(JBI , ) 37 5% CO<sub>2</sub> (Forma Scientific , ) Geneticin G418(Life Technologies , ) G418 500 g/mL 가 .

2. LTR-1 LTR-2 primers(Table 1)  
 pHXBc2-pBR322 HIV-1  
 LTR pBS-SK(+)  
 (pBS-SK(+)-LTR) , pBS-SK(+)-LTR  
 LTR pGEM-*luc*  
 (pGEM-*luc*-LTR) . pBS-SK(+)  
 TKpA pGEM-  
*luc*-LTR (pGEM-*luc*-LTR-  
 TKpA) . pGEX-2T-TAT72  
 TAT72 pcDNA3 (pcDNA3-  
 TAT72) . pGEM-*luc*-LTR-TKpA  
*Pst* *Sal* LTR-*luc*-  
 TKpA pcDNA3-TAT72 *Bgl*  
 (pcDNA3-LT1  
 pcDNA3-LT2)

3. Transfection  
 가  
 luciferase  
 transfection . HeLa  
 transfection 24-well  
 plate well  $7 \times 10^4$   
 . Transfection liposomes  
 (Lipofectamine Plus Reagent, Life  
 Technologies , ) , 가  
 . luciferase

4. HeLa transfection  
 12-well plate well  $1 \times 10^5$   
 . CCRF-CEM 24-well plate  
 well  $2.5 \times 10^5$   
 Transfection cationic liposomes  
 . transfection HeLa  
 10 cm dish , 2 G418  
 500 g/mL DMEM  
 2  
 DNA가  
 G418  
 24-well  
 plate , 가 well 90%  
 24-well plate 2 ,  
 luciferase  
 CCRF-CEM 10 cm dish  
 subculture , 3  
 luciferase . Luciferase  
 relative light units(RLU)  
 luciferase assay system kit(Promega ,  
 ) 가  
 luciferase  
 HeLa CCRF-CEM

**Table 1.** Nucleotide sequences of primers for polymerase chain reactions

Primer1	Sequence
LTR *-1 (sense)	5' TGGAAGGGCTAATTCCTCC 3'
LTR-2 (antisense)	5' CCCTGTTCGGGCGCCACTGCT 3'
Tat-1 (sense)	5' ATGGAGCCAGTAGATCCTAG 3'
Tat-2 (antisense)	5' ACTTGATGAGTCTGACTGCC 3'

\* LTR: long terminal repeat.

5. (PCR)

Transfection DNA가 HeLa CCRF-CEM ( HeLa-LT2, CCRF-CEM-LT1 ) genomic DNA 가 PBS digestion buffer{100 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris·HCl, pH 8.0, 25 mM EDTA, pH 8.0, 0.5% (w/v) SDS, 0.1 mg/mL proteinase K} 1 mL 가 16 .

PCR kit(Neurotics , ) thermal cycler(PTC-100™, MJ Research , ) . PCR 94 30 , 57 40 , 72 , 1 DNA 35 . PCR 1% agarose gel genomic DNA *tat*

6. (RT-PCR)

RNA Tri-Reagent(Molecular Research Center, USA) , RNA RNase-free DNase (5 units/μL, Takara Shuzo ., ) 1 μL 37 10

RT-PCR kit(Promega , ) thermal cycler . cDNA 48 45 , PCR 94 30 , 57 1 , 68 2 DNA 35 . PCR 1% agarose gel *tat* mRNA

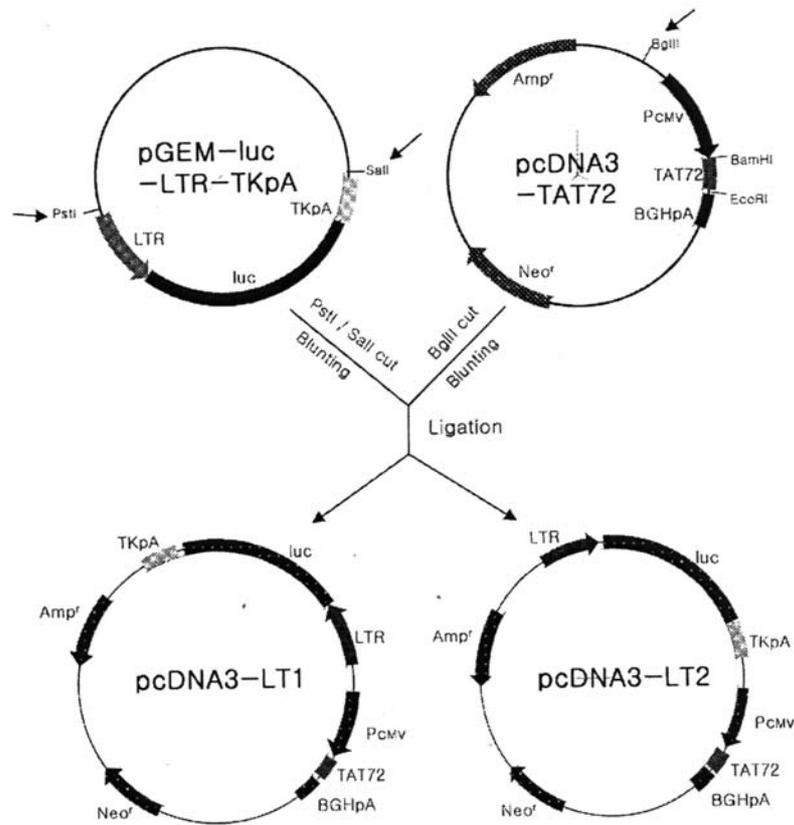
1.

LTR TAR RNA Tat

LTR *tat* . pGEM-*luc*-LTR-TKpA LTR-*luc*-TKpA pcDNA3-TAT72 pcDNA3-LT1 pcDNA3-LT2 가 (Fig. 1). DNA sequencing , HeLa transfection . *tat* (pGEM-*luc*-LTR-TKpA) *tat* pcDNA3-LT1 pcDNA3-LT2 luciferase 7 12 가 LTR TAR , *tat* 가 luciferase , Tat TAR sequence (Fig. 2).

2. HeLa-LT2 CCRF-CEM-LT1

HeLa transfection transfection G418 2 24- well plate , CCRF-CEM subculture 3



**Fig. 1.** Schematic diagram for the construction of pcDNA3-LT1 and pcDNA3-LT2. The LTR region amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) was subcloned at the 5' end of the luciferase reporter gene in the pGEM-*luc* vector. The TKpA region was inserted at the 3' end of the luciferase gene. The HIV-1 *tat* gene from pGEX-2T-TAT72 plasmid was subcloned into the pcDNA3 plasmid. The pGEM-*luc*-LTR-TKpA was digested with *Pst* and *Sal* and blunted. The LTR-*luc*-TKpA expression cassette was subcloned into the pcDNA3-TAT72.

G418

Luciferase

HeLa

pcDNA3-LT2 transfection (HeLa-LT2)

Luciferase, CCRF-CEM

pcDNA3-LT1 transfection (CCRF-CEM-LT1)

Luciferase, CCRF-CEM-LT1

가 HeLa-LT2 2

Luciferase

(Fig. 3).

3. HeLa-LT2 CCRF-CEM-LT1

Luciferase

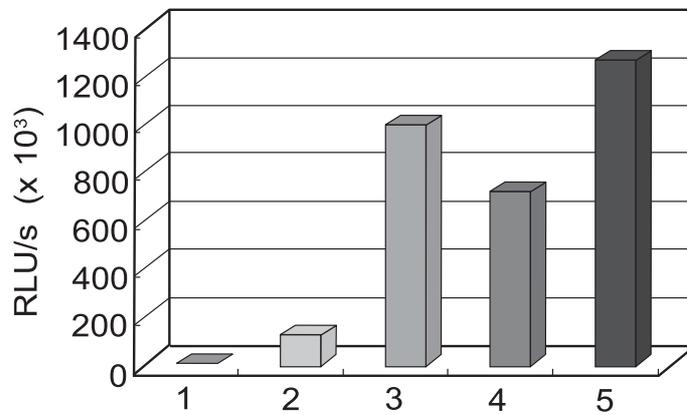
가

DNA RNA

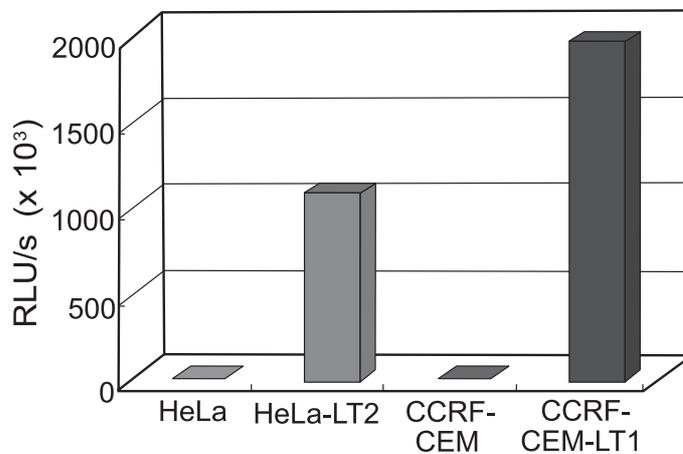
genomic DNA PCR

HeLa CCRF-CEM DNA

200 bp *tat* DNA 가

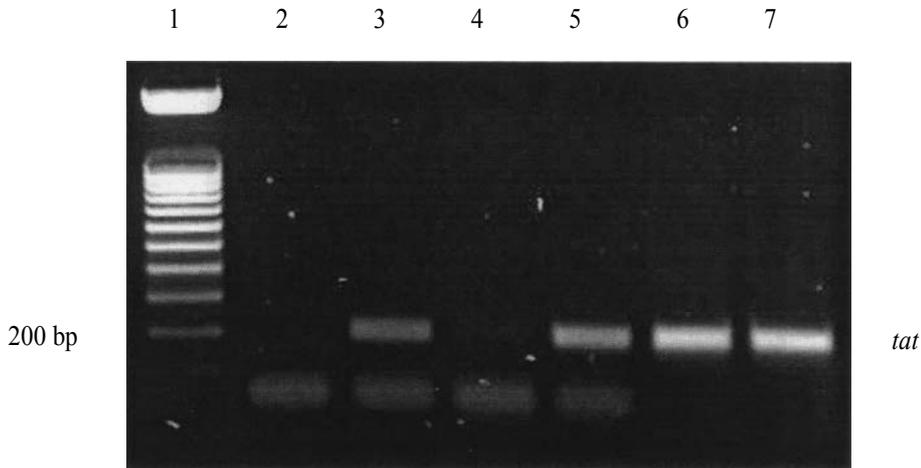


**Fig. 2.** Luciferase activity from HeLa cells transfected with different plasmids. Lane 1: HeLa cells without transfection were used as a negative control, lane 2: cells were transiently transfected with pGEM-*luc*-LTR-TKpA, lane 3: pGEM-*luc*-LTR-TKpA + pcDNA3-TAT72, lane 4: pcDNA3-LT1, and lane 5: pcDNA3-LT2. The transfectants were assayed for luciferase activity 24 hr post transfection, and values are represented as relative light units (RLU).



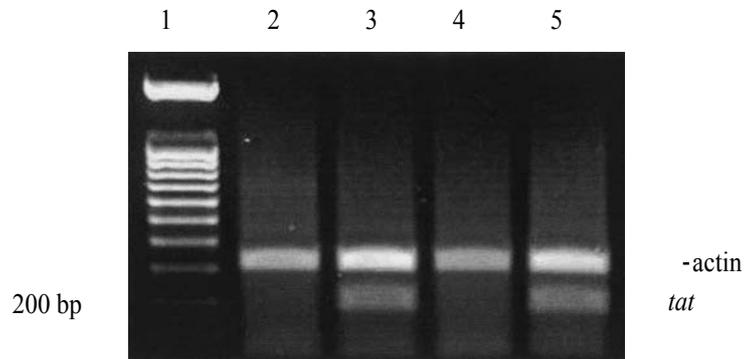
**Fig. 3.** Luciferase activity in HeLa-LT2 and CCRF-CEM-LT1 cells. HeLa or CCRF-CEM cells without transfection (denoted as HeLa or CCRF-CEM) were assayed for luciferase activity as negative controls. Cells with transfection and G418 selection (denoted as HeLa-LT2 or CCRF-CEM-LT1) were assayed for luciferase activity, and values are represented as relative light units (RLU).

HeLa-LT2    CCRF-CEM-LT1    DNA    (Fig. 4).  
 DNA    .    DNA    pcDNA3-LT2    pcDNA3-LT1  
 가 HeLa    CCRF-CEM



**Fig. 4.** PCR analysis of the HIV-1 *tat* gene in HeLa-LT2 and CCRF-CEM-LT1 cells. The HIV-1 *tat* gene in genomic DNA extracted from HeLa-LT2 and CCRF-CEM-LT1 cells was detected by PCR amplification of 200 bp fragments. Genomic DNA from HeLa and CCRF-CEM cells were processed as negative controls. Two different Plasmid DNA containing the *tat* gene were processed as positive controls. Lane 1: size marker (100 bp ladder), lane 2: HeLa, lane 3: HeLa-LT2, lane 4: CCRF-CEM, lane 5: CCRF-CEM-LT1, lane 6: pcDNA3-LT1, lane 7: pcDNA3-LT2.

가 RT-PCR CCRF-CEM 200 bp CCRF-CEM-LT1 genome 가 RT-PCR RNA HeLa RNA HeLa-LT2 RNA tat Promoter 가 Tat HIV-1 Tat 가 luciferase pcDNA3-LT2가 (luciferase ) cassettes가 promoters AIDS D4T HIV-1 AZT, ddl, HIV CMV promoter가 LTR pcDNA3-LT2 luciferase pcDNA3-LT1



**Fig. 5.** RT-PCR analysis of HIV-1 *tat* gene expression in HeLa-LT2 and CCRF-CEM-LT1 cells. HIV-1 *tat* mRNA extracted from HeLa-LT2 and CCRF-CEM-LT1 cells was detected by RT-PCR amplification of 200 bp cDNA fragments. mRNA from HeLa and CCRF-CEM cells were processed as negative controls. -Actin gene expression was used as an internal control. Lane 1: size marker (100 bp ladder); lane 2: HeLa; lane 3: HeLa-LT2; lane 4: CCRF-CEM; lane 5: CCRF-CEM-LT1.

pcDNA3-LT2 HeLa Tat  
 pGEM-luc-LTR-TKpA 7 12 NF- B cyclin dependent kinase 9(Cdk9)  
 luciferase 가  
*in vivo* HIV-1 Tat가 [20]. HIV-1 가  
 100 [6]. CEM LTR HeLa CCRF-  
 Tat가 가 HIV-1 Tat  
 , HIV-1 AIDS  
 luciferase 가  
 sequence tat TAR  
 transactivation 10 HeLa CCRF-CEM  
 Tat CCRF-CEM  
 liposomes  
 CEM-LT1 pcDNA3-LT1 CCRF- 가 HeLa  
 pcDNA3-LT2 transfection  
 HeLa-LT2 luciferase 가 HeLa 가 transfection  
 가 LTR HIV-1 Tat

Luciferase  
가 가  
가  
AIDS 가  
Tat  
*in vitro*  
HeLa CCRF-CEM  
Tat Luciferase  
*tat* LTR  
TAR decoy  
HIV-1 가  
Tat Tat  
TAR  
, HeLa-LT2 CCRF-CEM-LT1  
Luciferase(*luc*) HIV-1 *tat*  
가 pcDNA3-LT1  
pcDNA3-LT2 가 HIV-1  
1 LTR 3 *luc*  
, *tat*  
CMV promoter  
HeLa  
CCRF-CEM  
(permanebt cell line)

G418  
Luciferase 가  
genomic DNA RNA PCR  
RT-PCR genomic DNA  
*tat* *tat* mRNA  
Tat  
Luciferase  
Tat  
*in vitro*  
Tat antisense TAR decoy

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