

# Lipid-Modified Oligonucleotides For Sample Barcoding in Droplet Microfluidics-Based Single-Cell RNA Sequencing

Tech ID: 29668 / UC Case 2018-119-0

## INVENTION NOVELTY

A new strategy for barcoding single living cells using lipid-modified oligonucleotides that can vastly enhance sample multiplexing in droplet microfluidics-based RNA sequencing

## VALUE PROPOSITION

Single-cell RNA sequencing has recently emerged as a powerful tool for mapping transcriptional changes in heterogeneous cell populations. Recently, large-scale genomic screens combined with single-cell RNA sequencing have been utilized to understand complex biological phenomena. Novel insights could also be gained from coupling single-cell RNA sequencing to chemical library or drug screens, but methods for stably labeling living cells with oligonucleotide barcodes are lacking. Lipid-modified oligonucleotides represent an inexpensive, scalable, and technically simple method for labeling cell membranes in a fashion that interfaces with existing single-cell RNA sequencing workflows using droplet microfluidics.

This new cell barcoding method provides the following advantages:

- ▶ Significantly **increase the current sample and cell multiplexing capacity** of scRNA sequencing workflows.
- ▶ Dramatically **decrease labor and material costs and increase efficiency** of creating a sequencing library by performing the multiplexing early in the workflow
- ▶ **Avoid or remove technical artifacts** due to fixation, doublets, or activation of cell surface receptor-mediated transcriptional responses
- ▶ Uses a **universal cell-labeling platform** that can be applied in any biological context, without requiring *a priori* knowledge of cell surface markers
- ▶ Barcodes are **inexpensive to synthesize and stable at room temperature**.

## TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

Researchers at University of California, San Francisco have developed a new cell barcoding method that uses lipid-conjugated oligonucleotides to efficiently label single live cells derived from distinct patients or test conditions. Oligonucleotide barcodes (engineered with a PCR handle, unique identifier and PolyA sequence) can be subsequently introduced to the cells and subsets of the cells processed for droplet microfluidics-based RNA sequencing library preparation. This method can be commercially applied

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## INVENTORS

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## OTHER INFORMATION

### KEYWORDS

Single Cell RNA Sequencing, Barcoding, Droplet microfluidics, Library preparation, Clinical & preclinical samples

### CATEGORIZED AS

- ▶ **Biotechnology**
- ▶ Bioinformatics
- ▶ Genomics
- ▶ **Medical**
- ▶ Screening
- ▶ **Research Tools**

in the form of 96-, 384-, 1536- or 3456-well plates containing lipid-modified oligonucleotides prehybridized to sample barcodes.

Cells derived from distinct perturbations or clinical samples could be barcoded via dispensing into unique wells upstream of labeling

and single-cell RNA sequencing.

## LOOKING FOR PARTNERS

To develop and commercialize this technology, potentially as a cell barcoding kit for droplet microfluidics-based RNA sequencing.

## APPLICATION

Single cell RNA sequencing library preparation

## STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

Proof of Concept

## DATA AVAILABILITY

Under NDA/CDA

## PATENT STATUS

Country	Type	Number	Dated	Case
Japan	Issued Patent	7456637	03/18/2024	2018-119
European Patent Office	Published Application	3818151	05/12/2021	2018-119
China	Published Application	CN112654699A	04/13/2021	2018-119

Additional Patents Pending

## ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGIES BY THESE INVENTORS

▶ [XYZeq – Spatially-Resolved Single Cell Sequencing](#)

▶ [Nucleic](#)

[Acids/DNA/RNA](#)

▶ [Screening Assays](#)

### RELATED CASES

2018-119-0

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