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The papillomavirus E8^E2 repressor protein is required for tumor formation in vivo

The Stubenrauch lab studies the regulation of the different phases of the human papillomavirus (HPV) replication cycle in keratinocyte cells, main constituents of mucosal and cutaneous epithelium, to understand key processes that can be targeted by antiviral compounds. Investigating the viral key replication activators E1 and E2 has identified that HPV encodes E8^E2, an alternative E2 protein. E8^E2 limits viral replication in undifferentiated cells by repressing viral transcription and E1/E2-dependent DNA replication. Using a panel of different technologies, the group has shown that the cellular NCoR/SMRT repressor complex acts as a mediator of E8^E2's repression activities and has thereby opened a new application field for antiviral therapy.





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