Molecular cloning of chicken TET family genes and role of chicken TET1 in

erythropoiesis

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ABSTRACT

Ten-eleven translocation (TET) methylcytosine dioxygenase has potential as an

active eraser to regulate the genomic DNA methylation status. We herein cloned

chicken TET (cTET) family genes, and confirmed their functions. Quantitative

reverse-transcription PCR showed that cTET1 was strongly expressed in erythrocytes

throughout development. This cTET1 expression pattern, together with the results of

1

methylated or hydroxymethylated DNA immunoprecipitation, suggests that cTET1 contributes to demethylation around the promoter region of the definitive-type β -globin gene βA in erythroid cells. The knockdown of cTET1 in T2ECs chicken erythroid progenitor cells suppressed the induction of βA expression under differentiation conditions. These results suggest that cTET1 plays an important role in erythroid cell differentiation.

Keywords

Chicken; Ten-eleven translocation (TET); 5-Hydroxymethylcytosine (5hmC); β -globin; Erythropoiesis

1. Introduction

The methylation of cytosine residues in genomic DNA is one of the most important epigenetic modifications together with histone modifications, which regulate embryogenesis and cell differentiation through the modulation of gene expression [1]. DNA methylation has been extensively studied and two classes of DNA methyltransferases (DNMTs) (maintenance and *de novo*) have been identified [1]; [2]. In contrast, the enzymes involved in demethylation remain elusive. The hydroxylation of 5-methylcytosine (5mC) to 5-hydroxymethylcytosine (5hmC), and its further oxidation to 5-formylcytosine (5fC) and 5-carboxylcytosine (5caC) were recently

shown to be catalyzed by ten-eleven translocation (TET) proteins [3]; [4]. TET proteins have been suggested to play passive and active roles in the demethylation of DNA. Maintenance-type DNA methyltransferase (DNMT1) modifies a newly synthesized unmethylated strand of hemimethylated CpG during DNA replication, but does not recognize 5hmC, which leads to passive demethylation [5]. On the other hand, 5fC and 5caC are repaired through a base excision repair pathway to unmodified cytosine, which results in active demethylation [6]; [7].

In the early stage of mouse development, mouse *TET1* (m*Tet1*) and 2 are expressed in ES cells, the inner cell mass, and primordial germ cells, while m*Tet3* is expressed in zygotes [8]; [9]; [10]. TETs maintain pluripotency and control epigenetic reprogramming in these cells. TETs are also involved in the late stage of development and cell differentiation. TET1 regulates neural development [11] and maintains intestinal stem cells [12]. TET2 is broadly expressed in hematopoietic cells and regulates hematopoiesis [13]; [14]; [15]; [16]; [17]; [18], and TET3 is also involved in hematopoiesis and neural development in mammals. However, limited information is currently available on the functions of TETs in the chicken.

Chicken α - and β -globin genes have been well-studied in relation to the epigenetic modifications such as histone modification and DNA methylation [19]; [20]; [21]; [22]; [23]; [24]. The chicken α -globin gene cluster consists of three functional genes: π (*HBZ*), αD (*HBM*), and αA (*HBA1*), while the β -globin gene cluster has four: ρ (*HBG1*),

 βH (*HBE1*), βA (*HBG2*), and ε (*HBE*). The expression patterns of these globin genes are known to change during development [25]. In β -globin genes (ρ and βA), a clear inverse relationship has been reported between the methylation states of promoters and gene expression [21]; [22].

In the present study, we cloned chicken TET family genes, and detected *in vivo* activities. We demonstrated that chicken TET1 was prominently expressed in erythrocytes and may be involved in β -globin gene regulation.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Cell lines

293FT, HeLa, and DF-1 cells were maintained in DMEM high glucose (Sigma-Aldrich) containing 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) (Biological Industries), 100 U/ml penicillin G, and 100 μg/ml streptomycin (P&S). DT40 cells were maintained in RPMI1640 (Nissui Pharmaceutical) containing 7.5% FBS, 2.5% normal chicken serum (Thermo Fisher Scientific), and P&S.

2.2. Chickens and eggs

Chickens (White Leghorn) and fertilized eggs were obtained from Nisseiken or Takeuchi Farm. Organs were minced and washed with phosphate-buffered saline, and

RNA was isolated. Blood samples were obtained from embryos as well as newly hatched and adult chickens using a fine glass needle or syringe. Leukocytes and erythrocytes were separated using Histodenz (Sigma) density gradient centrifugation. Progenitor of erythroid cells (T2ECs (TGF- α /TGF- β -induced erythroid cells)) were established from the bone marrow cells of newborn chicks as described previously [26]. T2ECs were maintained in α -MEM (Invitrogen) containing 10% FBS, 1% normal chicken serum, P&S, 0.1 mM β -mercaptoethanol (Wako), 5 ng/ml human TGF- α (PeproTech), 1 ng/ml human TGF- β 1 (PeproTech), and 1 μ M dexamethasone (Dex) (Wako). In order to induce differentiation, TGF- α , TGF- β 1, and Dex were removed from the culture medium, while 10 ng/ml insulin (Wako) and 100 IU/ml Epojin (Chugai Pharmaceutical) were added at the indicated times. All animal experiments were performed according to the ethical guidelines for animal experimentation of Nagoya University.

2.3. Cloning of TET genes

In the cloning of chicken *TET1*, *2*, *and 3* (*cTET1*, *2*, and *3*) full-length (FL) genes and DNA fragments corresponding to the catalytic domain (CD) (cTET1: 1486–2244 amino acids (AA), cTET2: 1101–1955 AA, and cTET3: 568–1524 AA), DNAs were amplified by PCR using KOD-Fx-Neo (Toyobo) with the chicken blastoderm or brain cDNA as templates. The sequences of primers used were shown in Table. S1. Primers

were designed following the NCBI database of *cTET1*: XM_015278732, *cTET2*: NM_001277794, and *cTET3*: XM_015297468.1. Amplified DNA fragments were cloned into pFLAG-CMV2 (Sigma). m*Tet1* CD (1367–2039 AA) was amplified by PCR with the cDNA of NIH3T3 mouse fibroblast cells, and cloned into pFLAG-CMV2. Primers were designed following the NCBI database of m*Tet1*: NM_001253857.

2.4. In vivo quantification of 5hmC

293FT cells were seeded at 5 x 10^5 cells per 35-mm dish. After 24 hr, cells were transfected with 4 μ g of TETs CD expression plasmids using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) according to the supplier's recommendations. Cells were cultured for 24 hr. Genomic DNAs were purified by MagExtractor -Genome- (Toyobo). In the dot blot assay, genomic DNAs were spotted on Hybond-XL membranes (GE Healthcare), and then fixed by baking at 80°C for 3 hr. 5hmC was detected by immunoblotting with a rabbit anti-5hmC antibody (Active Motif) and goat anti-rabbit IgG-HRP (Santa Cruz Biotechnology). FLAG-TETs and β -ACTIN were detected by Western blotting with a mouse anti-FLAG antibody (Wako) or mouse anti- β -ACTIN antibody (Medical & Biological Laboratories) and goat anti-mouse IgG-HRP (Santa Cruz Biotechnology).

2.5. Quantitative PCR (qPCR) and quantitative reverse-transcription PCR (qRT-PCR)

Total RNA extraction, cDNA synthesis, and qPCR were performed as previously

described [27]. Primers for PCR were shown in Table. S1.

2.6. Methylated DNA immunoprecipitation (MeDIP) and hydroxymethylated DNA immunoprecipitation (hMeDIP)

Genomic DNAs from chicken erythrocytes, T2ECs, and DT40 cells were purified by the QIAamp DNA Mini Kit (QIAGEN). MeDIP and hMeDIP were then performed as previously described [8].

2.7. Knockdown of cTET1

Regarding knockdown, c*TET1*-specific (Hokkaido System Science) or control (siTrio; B-Bridge International Inc.) siRNA (150 pmol each) was electroporated to 1 x 10⁶ cells of T2ECs using the NEPA21 electroporator (NEPAGENE). Cells were then cultured under standard conditions for 24 hr, and differentiation was induced for 48 hr. The sequences of siRNAs were shown in Table. S1.

3. Results

3.1. Cloning of chicken TET1, 2, and 3, and detection of biological activity

Three *Tet* family genes have been reported in the mouse, and all of their protein products have been shown to catalyze the oxidization of methylated DNA [8]. c*TET1*, 2,

and 3 have also been predicted for the chicken in the NCBI database. We cloned them as N-terminal FLAG fusions and confirmed their nucleotide sequences. The cloned cTET1, 2, and 3 genes encoded proteins with 2244 AA, 1955 AA, and 1524 AA, respectively (Fig. 1A). Some nucleotide replacements were observed in all three cTETs, whereas no amino acid mutations were noted in cTET2. In cTET1, lysine 1832 was changed to proline. cTET3 had three single-nucleotide insertions (C was inserted between nucleotides 550 and 551, G was inserted between 1292 and 1293, and C was inserted between 1363 and 1364 of the cTET3 sequence shown in the NCBI database) (Fig. S1), which introduced a frameshift and resulted in the coding of a unique protein. Since the amino acid sequences shown in the present study well matched quail TET3 in the NCBI database (XP 015738510.1), we assumed that this clone was functional, at least in our chicken strain. cTET1 contained the CXXC zinc finger domain near the N-terminal portion and Cys-rich region just beside the catalytic domain containing CD1 and 2. cTET2 and 3 also contained the Cys-rich regions, CD1 and 2, but lacked the CXXC zinc finger domain (Fig. 1A). In other species, TET3 has the CXXC domain, which binds unmethylated and methylated CpGs [28].

Fragments of the active domain have been used to detect the activities of TETs [8]. A part of TET protein containing the Cys-rich regions, CD1 and 2 was fused to the FLAG tag and expressed in 293FT cells. The accumulation of 5hmC was observed in cTET1-, cTET3-, and mTet1-transfected cells, but not in cTET2 cells (Fig. 1B). We

confirmed the expression of TETs, except for cTET2, by Western blotting with the anti-FLAG antibody. The cTET2 protein was not detected at the expected molecular mass (Fig. 1C). Similar results were obtained when cTET2 was expressed in HeLa cells or DF-1 chicken fibroblast cells (data not shown). A previous study reported that the TET2 catalytic domain was ubiquitinated and degraded by the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway in human cells [29]. Hence, cells were cultured in the presence of the proteasome inhibitor MG132 and genomic DNA was extracted. We detected the accumulation of 5hmC by dot blotting and the cTET2 protein by Western blotting (Fig. S2). Overall, these results revealed that cTET1, 2, and 3 were catalytically active, and converted 5mC to 5hmC in an *in vivo* assay.

3.2. Analyses of TETs expression in chickens

In chicken embryos, the accumulation of 5hmC was not observed in pre-primitive streak embryos, whereas a strong 5hmC signal was detected after 6-somite stage embryos (28-hr embryos) [30]. Thus, we measured the expression levels of cTETs in embryos under different developmental stages and adult chickens. In blastoderms (EK stage X embryos [31]), the expression of all cTETs was relatively weak (Fig. 2A). Certain expression levels of cTETs were observed in embryos (5-, 10-, and 15-day-old (-d)) and adults; however, the extent of expression differed between organs (Fig. S3 and Fig. 2B-D). In adult organs, all three cTETs were more strongly expressed in the lung,

spleen, intestine, oviduct, and leukocytes than in the other organs tested. Unexpectedly, cTET1 was prominently expressed in adult erythrocytes. Thus, we analyzed the expression levels of cTETs in erythrocytes from various developmental stages. The expression level of cTET1 was increased through development, particularly after 5 days, whereas those of cTET2 and 3 were low and not changed (Fig. 2E).

3.3. 5mC and 5hmC in the β -globin gene cluster

Our qRT-PCR analyses indicated that c*TET1* was strongly expressed in erythrocytes. We then analyzed the physiological role of cTET1 in erythrocytes. The expression of β -globin genes is known to change during embryogenesis. In the chicken, primitive erythroid cells from 2-d to 5-d embryos express embryonic β -globin genes (ρ and ε). After 5-d embryos, definitive erythroid cells, which express fetal and adult β -globin genes (βH and βA), gradually increased, whereas embryonic-type genes were silenced in these erythroid cells [25]. We compared β -globin expression between 5-d and 8-d embryonic erythrocytes, and confirmed that embryonic-type globin transcripts (ρ and ε) decreased, whereas fetal- and adult-type transcripts (βH and βA) increased as reported previously (Fig. 3A).

A relationship was previously reported between hydroxymethylation and β -globin gene expression in baboon models [16]. In the chicken, the accumulation of 5hmC in αD was also demonstrated during the differentiation of erythroid cells [24]. However,

alterations in and the function of the hydroxymethylation of β-globin genes during chicken erythropoiesis have not yet been examined, although the expression of ρ and βA is known to be regulated by DNA methylation during development [21]; [22]. In order to analyze the hydroxymethylation of ρ and βA promoters, we conducted MeDIP and hMeDIP with chicken erythrocytes from various developmental stages. Genomic DNAs were isolated from erythrocytes and the chicken pre-B cell line DT40. DT40 cells were used as a non-erythroid control, which weakly expressed cTETs (Fig. S4). 5mC and 5hmC modifications to the ρ and βA proximal promoter regions within 500 bp of the transcriptional start sites were analyzed by immunoprecipitation with anti-5mC and anti-5hmC antibodies, respectively. As expected, 5mC was not detected in the ρ promoter region of 5-d erythrocytes, whereas its content increased in 8-d erythrocytes and was maintained at a certain level in 10-d embryos and adult chickens (Fig. 3B). This change appeared to parallel decreases in transcription. Increased levels of 5mC were also observed with DT40, which did not express the ρ gene. Unexpectedly, 5hmC increased between 5-d and 8-d erythrocytes. After that, it gradually decreased as differentiation progressed; however, a certain level of 5hmC remained in adult erythrocytes (Fig. 3C). On the other hand, 5hmC was not detected in the ρ promoter of DT40 cells. Regarding the βA promoter, 5mC was accumulated in 5-d erythrocytes, markedly decreased between 5-d and 8-d, and was almost undetectable in adult erythrocytes. A certain level of 5mC was detected in DT40 cells. 5hmC levels were

high in 5-d and 8-d erythrocytes, and then gradually decreased during development. We also analyzed HS4, which is known as a strong insulator and is hypomethylated, even in non-erythroid cells [32]; [33]. In this region, 5mC was maintained at low levels under all developmental stages of erythrocytes and DT40 cells, and the levels of 5hmC were also low. Overall, the status of 5mC appeared to be closely related with the expression patterns of the ρ and βA genes; however, the reason why 5hmC modifications in the ρ gene transiently increased in 8-d and 10-d erythrocytes remains elusive.

3.4. cTET1 promotes the expression of βA in differentiated T2ECs

In order to demonstrate that the demethylation of the βA promoter by cTET1 is associated with the transcriptional activation of βA , we established T2ECs from newborn chick bone marrow cells [26]. We confirmed the differentiation of T2ECs by detecting hemoglobin with tetramethylbenzidine staining. After a 7-day cultivation in differentiation medium, the intensity of staining significantly increased, which showed that T2ECs successfully differentiated (Fig. S5A). We also examined the expression of α - and β -globin genes by qRT-PCR. By inducing differentiation, the expression of adult-type globin genes (αA and βA) gradually increased, whereas that of embryonic-type globin genes (α and β) did not change (Fig. 4A and Fig. S5B). In addition, the expression of cTET1 increased, whereas that of cTET2 and cTET3 remained unchanged (Fig. 4B). We then examined alterations in 5mC and 5hmC in the

 βA promoter region before and after the induction of differentiation. Genomic DNAs were purified from T2ECs, followed by MeDIP or hMeDIP. 5mC in the βA promoter region significantly decreased after differentiation (Fig. 4C), while 5hmC significantly increased (Fig. 4D). These results suggested that the βA promoter was demethylated, possibly through cTET1 activity, during differentiation.

We then prepared two different siRNAs for the c*TET1* gene and introduced them into T2ECs. Despite extensive trials under various conditions, the efficiency of the knockdown (at approximately 50%) was not sufficiently high because of low transfection efficiency. The βA transcript was decreased by this knockdown with either of the two different siRNAs (Fig. 4E), suggesting that cTET1 was involved in βA gene activation, possibly through the demethylation of 5mC.

4. Discussion

In the present study, we cloned the chicken *TET* family genes, c*TET1*, 2, and 3, and showed the accumulation of 5hmC by the overexpression of these genes *in vivo* (Fig. 1B and Fig. S2A). Previous studies reported that the enzyme activity of TETs is conserved through vertebrates [8]; [15]; [28]; [30]. The present results suggest that TETs activity is also preserved, and cTETs may be involved in the demethylation of 5mC through 5hmC as an intermediate in the chicken.

qRT-PCR experiments revealed that the expression of *cTETs* was relatively low in the blastoderm (Fig. 2A). This result is consistent with previous findings showing that 5hmC was not observed in this stage of chicken embryos [30]. Although extensive *in vivo* analyses are needed in order to obtain conclusive results, the present results suggest that cTETs are not required for the early stage development of chickens, in contrast to mammals.

cTET1 was expressed at a higher level in erythrocytes, and its expression increased between 5-d and 8-d embryos when primitive erythroid cells change to definitive erythroid cells (Fig. 2E). MeDIP and hMeDIP revealed that 5mC rapidly decreased between 5-d and 8-d embryos, then almost disappeared in adult erythrocytes in the βA promoter, as reported previously (Fig. 3B) [20]; [22]. The transient accumulation of 5hmC was also simultaneously observed (Fig. 3C). We measured the expression of DNMTs in 3-d and 15-d embryonic erythrocytes, and found that they slightly increased (data not shown), suggesting that reductions in 5mC in the βA promoter are not due to passive demethylation by decrements in DNMT1 expression. Similar changes in 5mC and 5hmC were observed in the *in vitro* differentiation of T2ECs (Fig. 4C and D). These results, together with knockdown experiments (Fig. 4E), suggest that cTET1 regulates the expression of βA during erythropoiesis by directly demethylating the βA promoter sequence in the chicken. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that cTET1 controls βA expression by other mechanisms. For example, zebrafish Tet2 regulates the

expression of the erythroid lineage-specific transcription factors *scl*, *gata-1*, and *cmyb* through the demethylation of promoters of these genes, and the knockout of *tet2* leads to defects in erythropoiesis [15]. In humans, a TET2 deficiency has been shown to disrupt the 5hmC patterns of transcription factor-binding sites and hampers erythroid differentiation [18].

Our experiments indicated that cTET1 is a major TET species in chicken erythroid cells and involved in regulating erythropoiesis. However, in other species such as the zebrafish, baboon, and humans, TET2 and 3 mainly contribute to erythropoiesis [15]; [16]; [17]; [18]. Thus, it currently remains unclear why cTET1, but not cTET2 or 3 is mainly expressed in chicken erythroid cells and involved in the control of globin expression.

The chicken β -globin locus has been studied extensively as a model of transcriptional regulation, epigenetic modifications, and chromatin organization. This study initially showed that active demethylation by cTET1 contributes to β -globin expression.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest associated with this manuscript.

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Figure legends

Fig. 1. Cloning of cTETs and measurement of biological activity

A: Domain structures of cTET1, 2, and 3. CXXC: CXXC-type Zn finger domain. Cys-rich & CD1: cysteine-rich region and catalytic domain 1. CD2: catalytic domain 2. B: Genomic DNAs were purified from 293FT cells that expressed FLAG-tagged TET CD, and 200 ng of DNAs were spotted on the membrane, followed by immunoblotting using an anti-5hmC antibody. C: The expression levels of each TETs CD were examined by Western blotting with anti-FLAG antibody. β-ACTIN was used as an internal control.

Fig. 2. Expression of cTET1, 2, and 3

A: RNAs from blastoderms were subjected to qRT-PCR. Expression levels of cTET1, 2, and 3 are represented as relative expression levels against GAPDH. Data are the mean \pm standard error of three different chickens. B-D: RNAs from adult chicken organs were subjected to qRT-PCR. Expression levels of cTET1 (B), cTET2 (C), and cTET3 (D) are represented as relative expression levels against GAPDH. Data are the mean \pm standard error of six different chickens (three males and three females), except for the testis, oviduct and ovary (N = 3), leukocytes and erythrocytes (N = 4). E: Blood samples from each stage (embryo, newborn, and adult chickens) were isolated, and erythrocytes were obtained by density gradient centrifugation. RNAs from purified erythrocytes were

subjected to qRT-PCR. The expression levels of cTET1, 2, and 3 are represented as relative expression levels against GAPDH. Data are the mean \pm standard error of four different chickens.

Fig. 3. MeDIP and hMeDIP of the β -globin locus in erythrocytes

A: RNAs were purified from erythrocytes of 5-d and 8-d embryos and subjected to qRT-PCR. The expression levels of ρ , βH , βA , and ε are represented as relative expression levels against GAPDH. Data are the mean \pm standard error of four different samples. B, C: Genomic DNAs purified from each developmental stage of erythrocytes or DT40 cells were immunoprecipitated by an anti-5mC antibody (B) or anti-5hmC antibody (C). Precipitated DNAs were subjected to qPCR. Data are the mean \pm standard error of three (B) or four (C) different samples.

Fig. 4. cTET1 promotes the expression of the βA gene during erythroid cell differentiation

A, B: RNAs from T2ECs, which were differentiated for various periods by Epojin (EPO), were subjected to qRT-PCR. The expression levels of ρ and βA (A) as well as TET1, 2, and 3 (B) are represented as relative expression levels of GAPDH. Data are the mean \pm standard error of six different samples. C, D: Genomic DNAs purified from T2ECs, differentiated for 48 hr (EPO+) or an undifferentiated control (EPO-), were

immunoprecipitated by an anti-5mC antibody (C) or anti-5hmC antibody (D). Precipitated DNAs were subjected to qPCR. Data are the mean \pm standard error of four different samples. * and ** indicate significant differences by the Student's *t*-test (p<0.05 and p<0.01, respectively). E: siRNA for c*TET1* was electroporated to T2ECs. The expression levels of c*TET1*, 2, 3, and βA were examined by qRT-PCR. Expression levels in control siRNA-treated cells are set as 1. Data are the mean \pm standard error of four different samples. * indicates significant differences by the Student's *t*-test (p<0.05); NS, not significant.

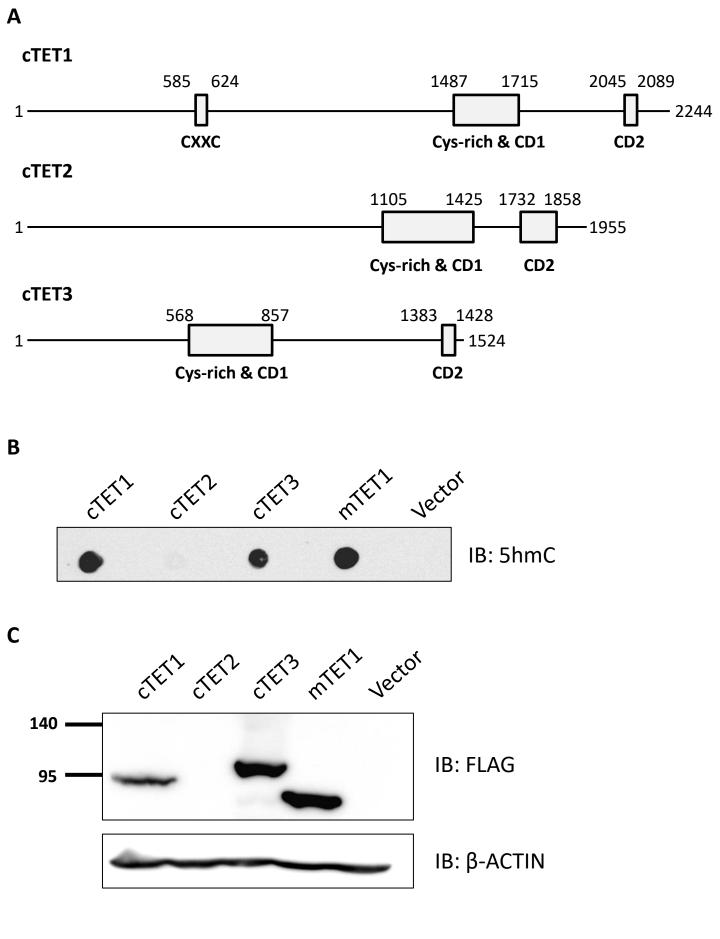


Fig. 1. Okuzaki et al.

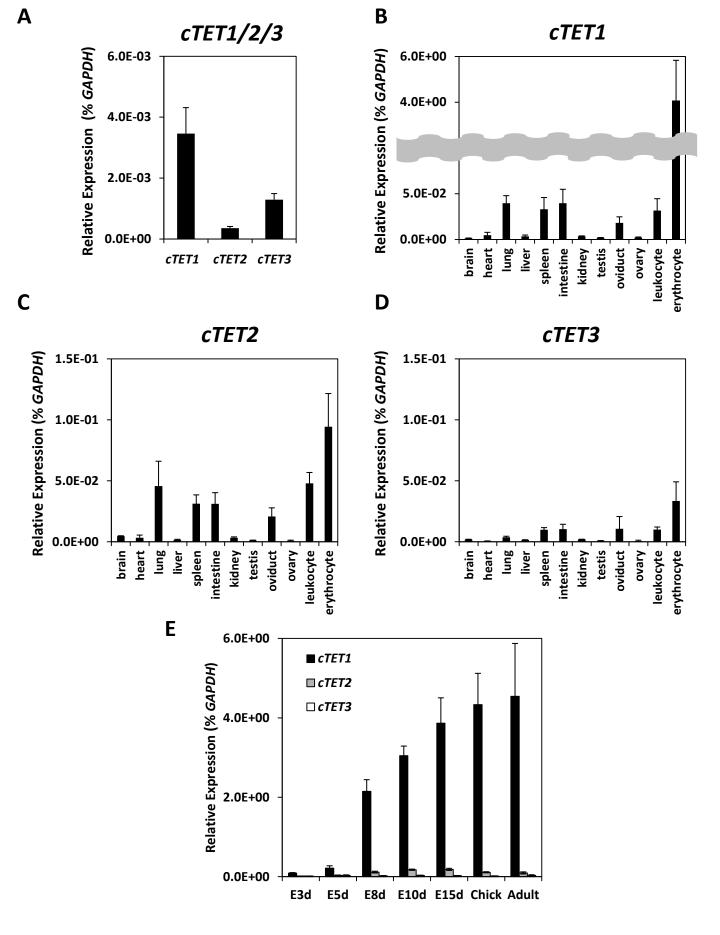


Fig. 2. Okuzaki et al.

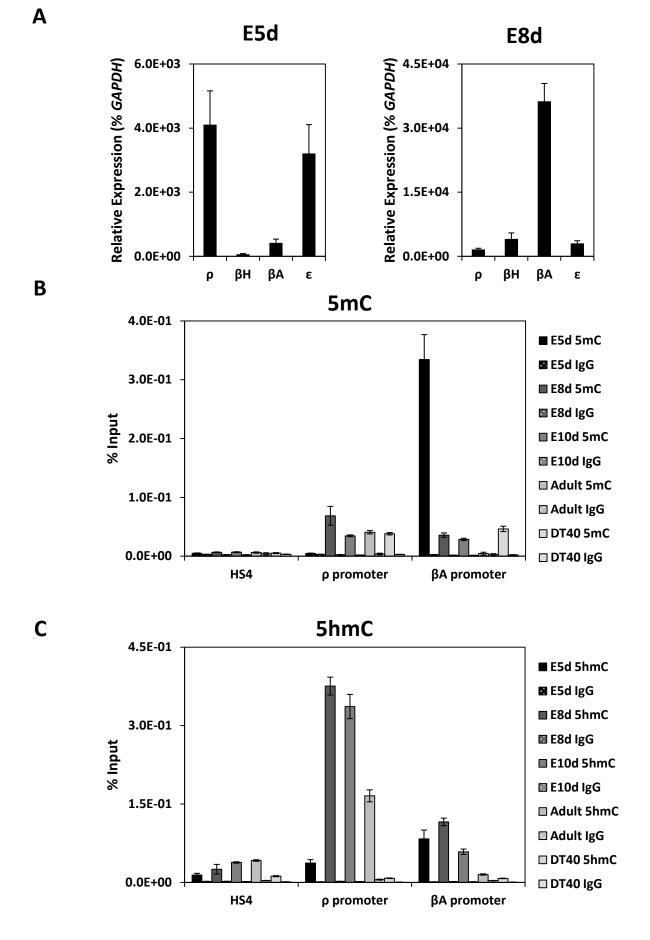


Fig. 3. Okuzaki et al.

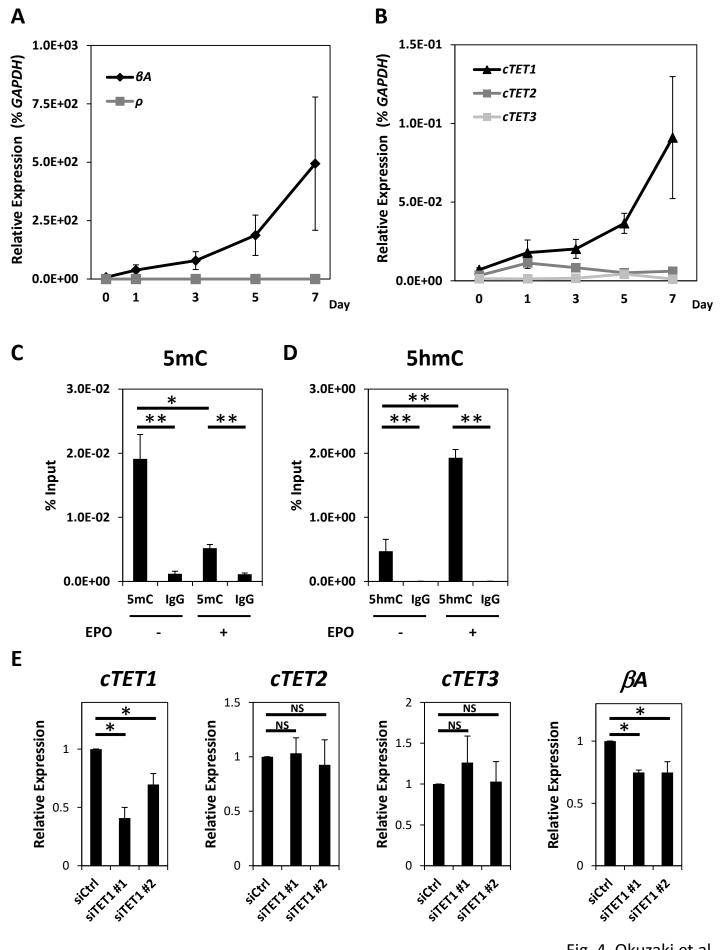


Fig. 4. Okuzaki et al.

A

Cloned

NCBI database

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В

Cloned

NCBI database

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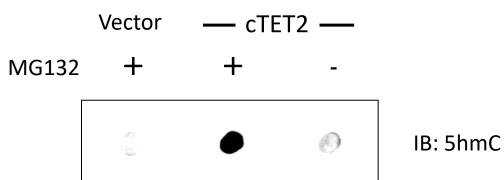
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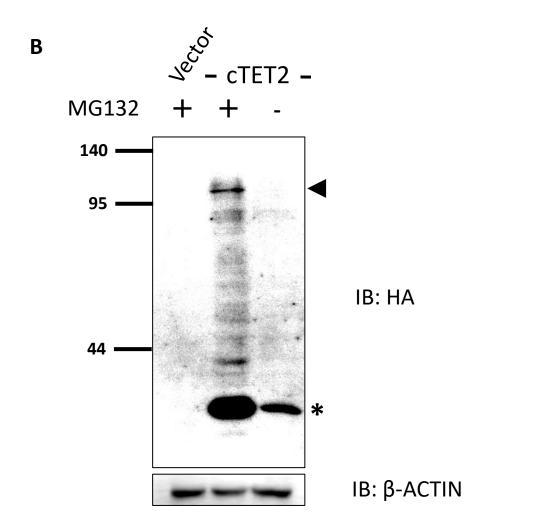
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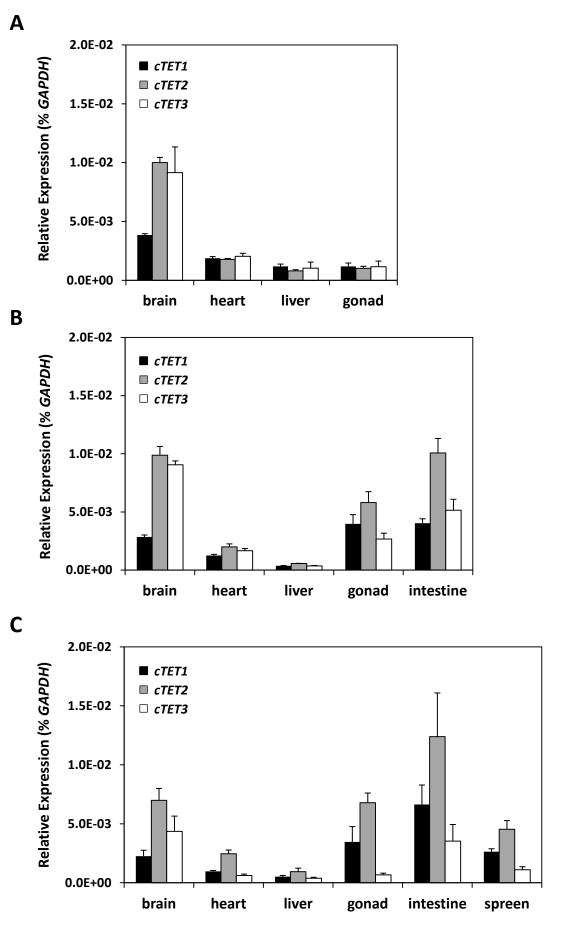
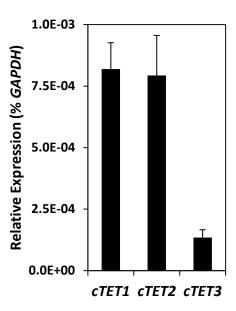
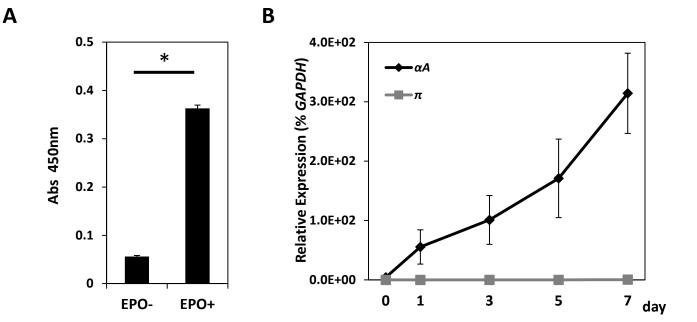


Fig. S3





Primer List

Primers for Cloning		
eTET1 FL	Dir	CAT <u>ATCGAT</u> AATGGCTCACCACGCAAGGC
cTET1 CD	Dir	CAT <u>ATCGAT</u> AGAATTGCCAACTTGTGACTGTGTTG
cTET1 Rev	Rev	CAT <u>TCTAGA</u> CTATGCCCAATGGTTGTAAGGCCC
c <i>TET2</i> FL	Dir	CAT <u>GAATTC</u> AAATGGAACAGGACAGAACCATCCATG
cTET2 CD	Dir	CAT <u>GAATTC</u> AAGATTTCCCATCTTGCAGCTG
cTET2 Rev	Rev	CAT <u>GCGGCCGC</u> TTAGATGTATCTGTTGTAAAGGCC
c <i>TET3</i> FL	Dir	CAT <u>GAATTC</u> AATGGCTGCCCGGCCCCCCCGCCGGCC
c <i>TET3</i> CD	Dir	CAT <u>ATCGAT</u> AGAGTTCCCCACCTGCGA
cTET3 Rev	Rev	CAT <u>TCTAGA</u> TCAAACCCAGCGGCTG
m <i>Tet1</i> CD	Dir	CAT <u>ATCGAT</u> AGAAGCTGCACCCTGTGACTGTGATG
	Rev	CAT <u>GGATCC</u> TTAGACCCAACGATTGTAGGGTCCC

(Restriction enzymes recognition sites were underlined)

Primers for qPCR (expression analysis)		
GAPDH	Dir	GGGCACGCCATCACTATC
	Rev	GTGAAGACACCAGTGGACTCC
cTET1	Dir	CAGGAAGCGCAAAACCAGTC
	Rev	CCTCAAAAGGTAGTGTGA
cTET2	Dir	TCGAGTACGAACACAGAGCG
	Rev	TGCAAACCAGTGTACTCCCG
cTET3	Dir	CAGAATGCAGGGTATGGCGT
	Rev	TCATGCTGTAAGGGTCGGAG
π	Dir	TCACTGGAGAGGCTTTTTGCC
	Rev	GTGGGAAAGCAGCTTGAAGTT
aA	Dir	CCCTGGAAAGGATGTTCACC
	Rev	GGCCCAGGAGTTTGAAGTTG
ρ	Dir	CTTCAGGCTCCTGGGGAACA
	Rev	TCACACTGTGTCCTGCTCTG
βН	Dir	GAGAACTTCAGGCTCCTGGG
	Rev	GAGCATCTCCAAGTGGCTGT
βA	Dir	ACTTCAGGCTCCTGGGTGA
	Rev	GTGATCTTTGGTGCTGGTGC
ε	Dir	GAACTTCAGGCTCCTTGGGG
	Rev	CAACGTTGACCAGCTTCTGC

Primers for qPCR (MeDIP, hMeDIP)				
HS4	Dir	CGGGGAAGGTGGCACG		
	Rev	AGCTTTTTCCCCGTATCCCC		
ρ promoter	Dir	TGCAGTGAGGACAGCAAGAT		
	Rev	TGTGCACAAGGTGTGGTCTT		
βA promoter	Dir	CCTCTGGAGATGCAGCCAAT		
	Rev	TCTTGCTCCCGTGGGGATA		

siRNA

siTET1 #1	guide	UUAUCAUUCAGCAAAAUUCCA
	passenger	GAAUUUUGCUGAAUGAUAAGA
siTET1 #2	guide	CAUCCUUUGCCUCAAACUUUU
	passenger	AAGUUUGAGGCAAAGGAUGUG