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Technology and Development Team for Mammalian Cellular Dynamics

Kuniya Abe Team Leader

1. Are the proposed goals appropriate for this Team (Division or Unit)?

- 1) Are these goals meaningful and valuable for the BRC?
Are the goals of this team in accordance with the BRC's own goal of "facilitating the finest bioresources of the global standard"?

Development of analytical technologies in the three fields of genotyping, phenotyping, and 'epigenotyping' is a central pillar of research support. Therefore this matches the BRC's goals.

Are there defined programs or plans to accomplish their goals and to contribute to achieving the BRC's goals?

This is related to multiple projects including bioimaging, SNP typing and BAC resources, and all these technologies should be greatly developed in the future. Thus in the long run it is pertinent to the BRC's goal.

- 2) Are the goals achievable within this Midterm of five years?

Developments of an SNP chip and bioimaging technology are both very important and completion is desirable. It is likely that these can be achieved in five years.

- 3) Are the goals proposed from the international point of view? (Does this goal lead to international leadership?)

To establish the technologies for the analyses of genotypes, phenotypes, and epigenotypes, original approaches are required. Since these technologies have a broad range of applications, accomplishment of this research goal will lead to the international leadership.

2. Are the proposed plans adequate to achieve the goals of this Team (Division or Unit)?

- 1) Are these plans realistic and specific to achieve the goals?

The plan is based on the achievements of the previous works. Thus it is a concrete plan, although the plan might have to be changed in some occasions depending on technological advancements in other fields.

- 2) Are these plans high priority in BRC and critical for the BRC?

It is very important to develop and transfer analytical technologies to the users in order to provide even more valuable bioresources. Therefore, this is an essential project for the BRC.

- 3) Do the plans have originality in ideas and technology? (not merely a follow up?)

A fusion of imaging and micro-analytical techniques is a highly original approach, and it is a technology in great demand.

- 4) Are the plans achievable with the allocated research resources (budget and man power)?

The team has obtained a large amount of external funding and we fully expect it to realize the plan with the current budget and staff.

- 5) Does the Team (Division or Unit) have sufficient experience and a record of achievements to carry out the plans?

In the light of the past results, we think there are no serious problems with this plan.

3. Other

To develop imaging technologies, communication between specialists in the relevant field is necessary. We think that collaborative research within RIKEN will also accelerate the developments one step further.

Problem of the genetic background is a very important topic, and we hope this will lead to new scientific findings.

