

CONTENTS

<i>Contributors</i>	xv
<i>Preface</i>	xxiii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xxv

Part I

General Methods to Study IF Proteins

1. How to Study Intermediate Filaments in Atomic Detail 3

Anastasia A. Chernyatina, John F. Hess, Dmytro Guzenko, John C. Voss,
and Sergei V. Strelkov

1. Introductory Remarks	4
2. Bioinformatics	5
3. X-ray Crystallography	7
4. Electron Paramagnetic Resonance with Site-Directed Spin Labeling	21
5. Concluding Remarks	27
Acknowledgments	28
References	28

2. Mechanical Properties of Intermediate Filament Proteins 35

Elisabeth E. Charrier and Paul A. Janmey

1. Introduction	36
2. Viscoelasticity of Purified IFs <i>In Vitro</i>	36
3. IFs and the Mechanical Properties of Cells	42
4. Conclusion	53
Acknowledgments	54
References	54

3. Multidimensional Monitoring of Keratin Intermediate Filaments in Cultured Cells and Tissues 59

Nicole Schwarz, Marcin Moch, Reinhard Windoffer, and Rudolf E. Leube

1. Introduction	60
2. 3D Imaging of Keratin Intermediate Filaments in Cultured Cells	62
3. 3D Imaging of Keratin Intermediate Filaments in Murine Preimplantation Embryos	75
4. Outlook	80
Acknowledgments	81
References	81

4. Phospho-Specific Antibody Probes of Intermediate Filament Proteins	85
Hidemasa Goto, Hiroki Tanaka, Kousuke Kasahara, and Masaki Inagaki	
1. Introduction	86
2. Production of Site- and Phosphorylation State-Specific Antibodies	91
3. Characterization of Site- and Phosphorylation State-Specific Antibodies	97
4. Immunocytochemistry	100
5. Other Applications	105
6. Conclusions	105
Acknowledgments	106
References	106
5. Assays for Posttranslational Modifications of Intermediate Filament Proteins	113
Natasha T. Snider and M. Bishr Omary	
1. Introduction	114
2. Extraction of IF Proteins from Tissues and Cells for Biochemical Analysis of IF PTMs	120
3. Methods for Monitoring Specific PTMs on IF Proteins	126
4. Conclusions	135
Acknowledgments	135
References	135
6. Immunofluorescence and Immunohistochemical Detection of Keratins	139
Cornelia Stumptner, Margit Gogg-Kamerer, Christian Viertler, Helmut Denk, and Kurt Zatloukal	
1. Introduction	140
2. Impact of Molecular Structure on the Detection of Keratins in Frozen Tissue Samples	142
3. Keratin Immunohistochemistry on Paraffin-Embedded Tissue	146
4. Conclusions	159
5. Pearls and Pitfalls	159
Acknowledgments	160
References	160
7. High-Throughput Screening for Drugs that Modulate Intermediate Filament Proteins	163
Jingyuan Sun, Vincent E. Groppi, Honglian Gui, Lu Chen, Qing Xie, Li Liu, and M. Bishr Omary	
1. Overview of Intermediate Filaments and Their Associated Diseases	164
2. Current Targeted Therapeutic Approaches for IF-Pathies	165

3. Unbiased Drug Screening to Target IF Mutations	170
4. High-Throughput Steps to Identify Drugs that Target Intermediate Filaments	171
5. Available Libraries and Vendors for Drug Screening	179
6. Pearls and Pitfalls	182
Acknowledgments	183
References	183
8. The Use of Withaferin A to Study Intermediate Filaments	187
Royce Mohan and Paola Bargagna-Mohan	
1. Introduction	188
2. WFA: A Novel Chemical Tool for IF Biology and Pharmacology	194
3. Targeting IFs	197
4. Primary Cell Culture Systems	207
5. Ocular Injury Model of Fibrosis	209
6. Techniques	211
7. Perspectives	213
Acknowledgments	214
References	214
9. Assays to Study Consequences of Cytoplasmic Intermediate Filament Mutations: The Case of Epidermal Keratins	219
Tong San Tan, Yi Zhen Ng, Cedric Badowski, Tram Dang, John E.A. Common, Lukas Lacina, Ildikó Szeverényi, and E. Birgitte Lane	
1. Introduction	221
2. Identification of Keratin Mutations	223
3. Developing Experimental Model Systems	227
4. Keratin Mutations in Stress Assays	238
5. Conclusion, Pearls, and Pitfalls	246
Acknowledgments	248
References	248
10. Using Data Mining and Computational Approaches to Study Intermediate Filament Structure and Function	255
David A.D. Parry	
1. Introduction	256
2. Methodology	259
3. Summary	270
References	273

Part II

Mammalian IF Proteins**11. Isolation and Analysis of Keratins and Keratin-Associated Proteins from Hair and Wool 279**

Santanu Deb-Choudhury, Jeffrey E. Plowman, and Duane P. Harland

1. Introduction 280
2. Chemical Extraction of Whole Fibers 281
3. Isolation and Digestion of Other Components of the Fiber 286
4. Combination of Sodium Deoxycholate and C18 Empore™ for an Efficient Extraction of Keratin Peptides from Gel-Resolved Keratin Proteins 290
5. Ionic Liquid-Assisted Extraction of Fiber Keratins 294
6. Conclusions 299
- References 300

12. Skin Keratins 303

Fengrong Wang, Abigail Zieman, and Pierre A. Coulombe

1. Introduction 305
2. Collection of Mouse Skin Tissue for Analysis 311
3. Cell Culture Studies 319
4. *In Vitro* Methods to Study Keratin Proteins 330
5. Pearls and Pitfalls 337
6. Conclusions 340
- Acknowledgments 340
- Appendix 340
- References 346

13. Simple Epithelial Keratins 351

Pavel Strnad, Nurdan Guldiken, Terhi O. Helenius, Julia O. Mislerek,

Joel H. Nyström, Iris A.K. Lähdeniemi, Jonas S.G. Silvander, Deniz Kuscuglu,
and Diana M. Toivola

1. Introduction 352
2. Isolation of SEKs 354
3. Studying SEKs in Cell Culture 357
4. Genetic Mouse Models of SEKs 365
5. MDBs—Keratin Aggregates in Liver Disease 372
6. SEK Variant Detection in Humans 378
7. Conclusions 379
- Acknowledgments 380
- References 380

14. Methods for Determining the Cellular Functions of Vimentin Intermediate Filaments	389
Karen M. Ridge, Dale Shumaker, Amélie Robert, Caroline Hookway, Vladimir I. Gelfand, Paul A. Janmey, Jason Lowery, Ming Guo, David A. Weitz, Edward Kuczmarski, and Robert D. Goldman	
1. Introduction	391
2. Disruption of Vimentin IFs	391
3. Analysis of Vimentin Dynamics Using Photoactivatable and Photoconvertible Protein Tags	398
4. Investigating Vimentin-Protein Interactions	405
5. Investigating the Mechanical Properties of Vimentin IF Networks	411
6. Investigating the Role of Vimentin IFs in Cell Mechanics	415
7. Conclusion	420
Acknowledgments	421
References	421
15. Strategies to Study Desmin in Cardiac Muscle and Culture Systems	427
Antigoni Diokmetzidou, Mary Tsikitis, Sofia Nikouli, Ismini Kloukina, Elsa Tsoupri, Stamatis Papathanasiou, Stelios Psarras, Manolis Mavroidis, and Yassemi Capetanaki	
1. Introduction: Desmin's Scaffold—The Fine-Tuning Machinery of Striated Muscle	428
2. Cell Systems Used for Desmin Studies	430
3. Methods for Desmin Detection (Expression and Localization)	440
4. Methods for Desmin Isolation and Assembly	447
5. Model Animals for Desmin Mutation Studies	451
6. Identification of Desmin-Associated Proteins	452
7. Pearls and Pitfalls	454
References	454
16. Genetic Manipulation of Neurofilament Protein Phosphorylation	461
Maria R. Jones, Eric Villalón, and Michael L. Garcia	
1. Introduction	462
2. Genetic Manipulation of Mice	464
3. Steps for Creating a Gene-Targeted Mutant of a Mouse	465
4. Conclusions and Applications	471
References	473

17. α-Internexin and Peripherin: Expression, Assembly, Functions, and Roles in Disease	477
Jian Zhao and Ronald K.H. Liem	
1. α -Internexin	478
2. Peripherin	489
3. Conclusion	497
References	498
18. Studying Nestin and its Interrelationship with Cdk5	509
Julia Lindqvist, Num Wistbacka, and John E. Eriksson	
1. Introduction	510
2. Cellular Techniques to Study Nestin Functions in Cells	520
3. <i>In Vivo</i> Mouse Models to Study Nestin Function	528
4. Conclusions	530
Acknowledgments	530
References	530
19. Synemin: Molecular Features and the Use of Proximity Ligation Assay to Study Its Interactions	537
Madhumita Paul and Omar Skalli	
1. Synemin	538
2. Reagents and Tools to Study Synemin	545
3. PLA for <i>In Situ</i> Detection of Synemin Interaction with Binding Partners	546
4. Conclusions	552
References	552
20. Targeting Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinase Signaling in Mouse Models of Cardiomyopathy Caused by Lamin A/C Gene Mutations	557
Antoine Muchir and Howard J. Worman	
1. Introduction	558
2. Mouse Models of Cardiomyopathy Caused by LMNA Mutations	560
3. Altered MAP Kinase Signaling in Hearts of <i>Lmna</i> ^{H222P/H222P} Mice	563
4. MAP Kinase Inhibitor Treatment Studies in <i>Lmna</i> ^{H222P/H222P} Mice	568
5. Assessment of <i>Lmna</i> ^{H222P/H222P} Mice After Treatment with MAP Kinase Inhibitors	570
6. Conclusions	576
Acknowledgments	577
References	577

21. *In vivo*, *Ex Vivo*, and *In Vitro* Approaches to Study Intermediate Filaments in the Eye Lens **581**

Miguel Jarrin, Laura Young, Weijun Wu, John M. Girkin, and Roy A. Quinlan

1. Introduction 582
2. Models to Study IFs in the Eye Lens 586
3. Methods to Study IFs 594
4. Concluding Remarks 603
- References 603

Part III**Non-Mammalian IF Protein Systems****22. Compartment-Specific Phosphorylation of Squid Neurofilaments** **615**

Philip Grant and Harish C. Pant

1. Introduction 616
2. Squid Giant Fiber System 617
3. Isolation of Axoplasm 619
4. Squid NF Genes 621
5. Squid NF Antibodies 622
6. Developmental Regulation of NF Expression 622
7. NF-Associated Protein Kinases 627
8. Squid NFs Are Included in Compartment-Specific Multimeric Protein Complexes: P13suc1 Affinity Chromatography 628
- References 630

23. Using *Xenopus* Embryos to Study Transcriptional and Posttranscriptional Gene Regulatory Mechanisms of Intermediate Filaments **635**

Chen Wang and Ben G. Szaro

1. Introduction 636
2. Preparation of Expression Plasmids 641
3. Microinjection of *Xenopus* Embryos 644
4. Assays for Gene Expression 649
5. Assays for Effects of *cis*-Regulatory Elements on RNA Processing, Trafficking, and Translation 651
6. Conclusions 654
- Acknowledgments 654
- References 654

24. Intermediate Filaments in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>	661
Noam Zuela and Yosef Gruenbaum	
1. Introduction	662
2. Essential Roles of Cytoplasmic IFs in <i>C. elegans</i>	662
3. Essential Roles of Lamin in <i>C. elegans</i>	663
4. Assembly of <i>C. elegans</i> Lamins	668
5. Assembly of <i>C. elegans</i> IFs	670
6. Methods	670
7. Summary	676
Acknowledgments	677
References	677
25. Mechanical Probing of the Intermediate Filament-Rich <i>Caenorhabditis Elegans</i> Intestine	681
Oliver Jahnel, Bernd Hoffmann, Rudolf Merkel, Olaf Bossinger, and Rudolf E. Leube	
1. Introduction	682
2. Imaging of Intermediate Filaments in <i>C. elegans</i> Intestines by Epifluorescence Microscopy	686
3. Outline of Intestinal Rings in <i>C. elegans</i> by a Fluorescent Apical Junction Reporter	688
4. Dissection of Intestines and Vitality Testing	691
5. Experimental Setup for Micropipette Measurements	695
6. Outlook	702
Acknowledgments	703
References	703
26. Using <i>Drosophila</i> for Studies of Intermediate Filaments	707
Jens Bohnkamp, Diane E. Cryderman, Dylan A. Thiemann, Thomas M. Magin, and Lori L. Wallrath	
1. Introduction	708
2. Methods	711
3. Conclusions	723
References	723
Author Index	727
Subject Index	775