

Construction of recombinant ORFV-TRAP using CRISPR/Cas9 technology

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Abstract

Orf is an acute and highly contracted human and animal infection caused by orf virus (ORFV), which mainly affects sheep and goats, especially young animals, who have close contact with sick animals. Clinically, in secondary infection cases of orf, opportunistic or conditional pathogens such as Staphylococcus aureus (*S. aureus*) are often detected. The *S. aureus* TRAP gene product is reportedly protective against bacterial infection. For joint control of ORFV and *S. aureus*, the research direction of delivering a TRAP gene vaccine against *S. aureus* infection using the ORFV live vector is proposed. Here, we used CRISPR/Cas9 technology to edit vascular endothelial growth factor E of ORFV (VEGF-V) and introduced the TRAP gene of *S. aureus* into the terminus of the ORFV genome to promote TRAP expression in infected keratinocytes. The construction and experimental verification of recombinant ORFV (ORFV-V/TRAP) will provide a reference for in-depth studies on the prevention and control of orf and *S. aureus* disease.

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