LUCID: A simple and versatile technique for tissue optical clearing

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1. Abstract

- For 3D-imaging of tissue structure, a simple and versatile method that turns organs transparent benefits every biological research field.
- We present a new tissue clearing technique, LUCID (ilLUminate Cleared organs to IDentify target molecules), which does not need a delipidation process or a special device.
- LUCID is a safe, simple, and versatile tool for 3D-visualization of target molecules in every research field including cancer, bone diseases, joint diseases, leukemia, hematopoiesis, and drug discovery.

2. Procedure

- 1. Organs are simply immersed in Solution-1 (thiodiethanol+sucrose) for 0.5 to 1 day followed by Solution-2 (thiodiethanol + glycerol + non-ionic organic iodine compound) for 1 to 5 days.
- (2) LUCID-cleared samples are observed with a multiphoton microscope.
- (3) Cleared samples can be further examined with routine histochemical analyses.

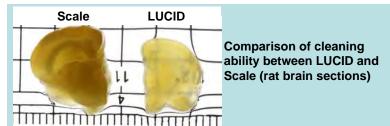
Adult rat muscle

multiphoton microscopy

are visible.

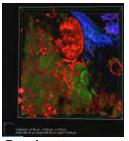
Sarcomere stripes in muscles

3. LUCID-cleared organs (macroscopic and multiphoton microscopic images)



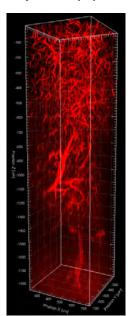


Adult rat kidney



Renal cortex multiphoton microscopy rendered image red=blood vessel, green=renal tubule blue=SHG (collagen fiber)

3 day-old rat pup head



Adult rat brain (hippocampus) blood vessels

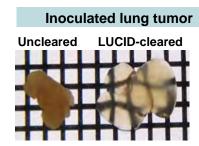
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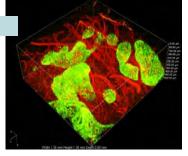
Patent No. : WO2014/115206 JST/ IP Management & Licensing Group : phone: +81-3-5214-8486, e-mail: license@jst.go.jp

Adult rat muscle



Adult EGFP transgenic rat hindlimb (knee joint). Femur and tibia bones become transparent and bone marrow (red color because of hemoglobin) is clearly visualized.





Tumor cells expressing EGFP (green) and blood vessels (DyLight594-bound Lycopersicon esculentum lectin, red) are visualized. Tumor structures are visualized to the limit of the working distance of our objective lens.