



(51) International Patent Classification:

A61K 48/00 (2006.01) C12N 15/11 (2006.01)

C12N 9/22 (2006.01) C12N 15/86 (2006.01)

C12N 9/78 (2006.01) C12N 15/90 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2023/066389

(22) International Filing Date:

28 April 2023 (28.04.2023)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

63/336,064 28 April 2022 (28.04.2022) US

63/389,796 15 July 2022 (15.07.2022) US

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(54) Title: AAV VECTORS ENCODING BASE EDITORS AND USES THEREOF

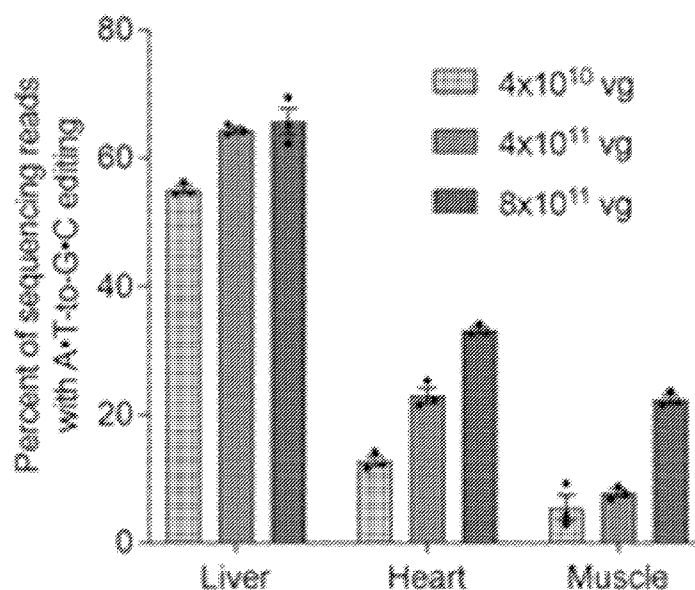


FIG. 2C

(57) **Abstract:** Nucleic acid molecules, compositions, recombinant AAV (rAAV) particles, kits, and methods are described herein for delivering a base editor (or "nucleobase editor") to cells, e.g., via AAV vectors. In particular, the disclosure provides compositions, methods, and uses for delivery of adenine base editors and cytosine base editors in a single AAV vector (or genome). Further described herein are improved AAV vectors containing size-minimized regulatory components that enable, e.g., the packaging of base editors. Provided herein are methods and compositions for delivering base editor proteins to a cell or tissue in a single recombinant AAV (rAAV) vector. Contemplated herein are improved methods and compositions for delivering these base editors in vivo, in a single rAAV particle. Further provided herein are base editors and compositions and cells comprising these base editors.



(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CV, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IQ, IR, IS, IT, JM, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MU, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, CV, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SC, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, ME, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))

AAV VECTORS ENCODING BASE EDITORS AND USES THEREOF

RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Application, U.S.S.N. 63/336064, filed April 28, 2022 and U.S. Provisional Application, U.S.S.N., 63/389796, filed July 15, 2022, each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT CLAUSE

[0002] This invention was funded by Grant Nos. UG3AI150551, U01AI142756, R35GM118062, RM1HG009490, R01EY009339, R01HL148769, and R35HL145203, awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights in the invention.

REFERENCE TO AN ELECTRONIC SEQUENCE LISTING

[0003] The contents of the electronic sequence listing (B119570158WO00-SEQ-JQM.XML; Size: 447,661 bytes; and Date of Creation: April 28, 2023) are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

[0004] Gene editing offers the clinically validated potential to treat a wide variety of genetic disorders for which few therapeutic options are available. Because the study and treatment of most genetic disorders through gene editing requires editing *in vivo*, clinically useful methods that mediate the efficient delivery of precision gene editing agents into cells of tissues in animals such as mammals^{1,74} continue to play an important role in advancing the field.

[0005] Adeno-associated viruses (AAV) have been used to deliver genes encoding many therapeutic proteins in animal models of human disease^{3,4}, in clinical trials⁵, and in FDA-approved drugs^{6,7}. AAV has become a popular *in vivo* delivery method due to its clinical validation, its ability to target a variety of clinically relevant tissues, and its relatively well-understood and favorable safety profile.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] In some aspects, described herein are nucleic acid molecules, compositions, recombinant AAV (rAAV) particles, kits, and methods for delivering a complete base editor (or “nucleobase editor”) to cells, *e.g.*, via a single AAV vector (or genome). In particular, the disclosure provides compositions, methods, and uses for delivery of size-minimized adenine base editors and cytosine base editors in a single AAV vector, wherein the adenine base editor and associated regulatory elements have a length shorter than the packaging capacity of AAV, of ~4.9 kilobases (kb). Further described herein are improved AAV vectors containing size-minimized regulatory components that enable the packaging of base editors. The disclosure provides host cells and compositions comprising the disclosed rAAV particles. The disclosure further provides improved AAV vectors containing size-minimized regulatory components that enable the packaging of larger transgenes other than base editors.

[0007] Base editors^{8,9} (BEs) can efficiently install targeted mutations in a variety of therapeutically relevant cell types *in vitro* and in animal models of human genetic diseases^{1,10}. BEs can also efficiently install targeted mutations in a variety of therapeutically relevant tissues in subjects, such as human subjects, including liver tissues. Unlike nuclease-mediated gene editing, base editing does not require double-strand DNA breaks and therefore generates minimal unwanted indel byproducts, chromosomal translocations¹¹, chromosomal aneuploidy¹², large deletions^{13,14}, p53 activation^{15,16}, or chromothripsis¹⁷. Base editors can correct point mutations that cause various genetic diseases, but their delivery to subjects *in vivo* is complicated by their large size (about 5.2 kb), which typically exceeds the maximum packaging capacity of an adeno-associated virus (AAV), which is ~4.9 kb between the inverted terminal repeats (ITRs)^{18,19}. As the optimal packaging capacity of an AAV is ~4.7 kb, delivery of a base editor capable of acting on target DNA in a single AAV particle has presented major obstacles. For example, packaging BEs containing the commonly used *Streptococcus pyogenes* Cas9 protein (SpCas9, which is about 4.2 kb in length) and a single-guide RNA (sgRNA) in a single vector has not been workable. Although technically feasible, this approach leaves little room for customized expression and control elements, such as nuclear localization sequences (NLSs). In addition to the base editor itself, AAVs that deliver base editors must also include the guide RNA, promoters driving base editor and sgRNA expression, and *cis* regulatory elements.

[0008] In previous studies²⁰⁻²⁶, AAV was used to deliver base editors by dividing the base editor into two halves among two AAV nucleic acid vectors. See U.S. Patent Publication No.

2018/0127780, published May 10, 2018, PCT Publication No. WO 2020/236982, published November 26, 2020, Levy, J.M., *et al. Nat Biomed Eng* **4**, 97-110 (2020), Chen, Y., *et al. Development of Highly Efficient Dual-AAV Split Adenosine Base Editor for In Vivo Gene Therapy. Small Methods* **4**, 2000309 (2020), and Villiger, L. *et al. Nature Medicine* **24**, 1519-1525 (2018), each of which is incorporated herein by reference. In dual-AAV approaches, each “split” portion of the base editor transgene is fused to a small, trans-splicing intein²⁷, or each portion is expressed as mRNAs that undergoes trans-splicing²⁸. Typically, each of the two AAV vectors is packaged in a separate AAV viral particle (or virion). Dual AAV approaches rely on the incorporation of trans-splicing inteins that mediate reconstitution of the full-length BE from the split portions in the cell following delivery and transduction of the AAV particles. Because two AAV particles are required to deliver a single base editor, two successful and relatively simultaneous transductions of the target cell are necessary.

[0009] While dual-AAV delivery of base editors has supported therapeutic levels of editing including in mouse models of human disease, the development of a single AAV base editing system would further increase the potential impact by simplifying the application, characterization, and manufacturing of the base editor, and potentially increasing editing efficiency by obviating the need for simultaneous transduction of multiple AAVs. The single-AAV base editing system disclosed herein also lowers the required dose of AAV, an important advance since clinical applications of AAV are often constrained by dose-limiting toxicity²⁹. Thus, there is a need in the art for single-AAV *in vivo* base editor delivery, which only requires a single transduction of the target cell, that retains high editing efficiency. Single AAV delivery would offer advantages for research and clinical use, particularly in mammalian tissues that are more difficult to transduce effectively, such as heart, CNS, and muscle tissues.

[0010] Adenine base editors (ABEs) are a particularly useful class of editing agents because they install A•T-to-G•C conversions that correct approximately half of all known pathogenic SNPs⁹. Phage-assisted continuous evolution (PACE) of ABE7.10, an adenine base editor, recently yielded TadA-8e, a deoxyadenosine deaminase with increased activity and broadened compatibility with Cas domains other than SpCas9³⁰. ABE7.10, which contains the TadA7.10 deaminase, can perform clean and efficient A•T-to-G•C conversion in DNA with very low levels of undesired by-products, such as small insertions or deletions (indels), in cultured cells, adult mice, plants, and other organisms. Additional details about the TadA-8e and TadA7.10 deaminase can be found in PCT Publication No. WO 2021/158921,

published August 12, 2021; PCT Publication No. WO 2018/027078, published on February 8, 2018, PCT Patent Publication No. WO 2019/079347, published on April 25, 2019; Koblan *et al.*, *Nat Biotechnol* 36, 843-846 (2018); and Gaudelli *et al.*, *Nature* 551, 464-471 (2017), each of which is incorporated herein by reference. ABEs containing only a single TadA deaminase domain, rather than a single-chain dimer, allow for reduction in editor size^{30,31}. Moreover, while SaCas9 is small enough (1053 amino acids in length, SEQ ID NO: 377) to provide a single AAV-compatible base editor, its utility is greatly limited by the rarity of its NNGRRT PAM. Since base editing requires the presence of a suitable PAM to place the target nucleotide within the editing window, ABEs that collectively offer broad PAM compatibility along with simple and efficient *in vivo* delivery would advance *in vivo* applications of base editing.

[0011] Likewise, cytosine base editors (CBEs) that offer broad PAM compatibility along with simple and efficient *in vivo* delivery would advance *in vivo* applications of base editing. Current CBEs contain a uracil glycosylase inhibitor domain, which is about 84 bp in length. Although not very large, these additional 84 base pairs render delivery of CBEs in a single AAV vector more difficult than ABEs.

[0012] Ran and colleagues engineered a size-minimized *S. aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9) for delivery in a single AAV vector *in vivo* to install double-strand breaks into target genomic DNA. See Ran, F. A., *et al.* (2015) *Nature* 520(7546): 186-191, which is incorporated herein by reference. Ran's AAV cassette contained a U6 promoter-driven sgRNA and a cytomegalovirus (CMV) promoter- or thyroxine-binding globulin (TBG) promoter-driven SaCas9 transgene. Recently, Tran and colleagues engineered a single AAV vector containing a size-minimized SaCas9 ABE, microABE I744, in which an ABE7.10 TadA deaminase monomer was inlaid (*i.e.*, inserted) within an SaCas9 domain. See Tran *et al.*, *Nat. Commun.* 11, 4871 (2020), which is incorporated herein by reference. However, this AAV-encoded ABE showed only <0.25% editing *in vitro* and was not assessed *in vivo*. More recently, Zhang, Sontheimer, and colleagues generated a single-AAV vector encoding an ABE containing an *N. meningitidis* 2 Cas9 (Nme2Cas9) protein. See Zhang *et al.*, Adenine Base Editing *in vivo* with a Single Adeno-Associated Virus Vector. *bioRxiv* 2021.12.13.472434, which is incorporated herein by reference. The base editors of Zhang however exhibited significant edits at bystander adenines, and a maximum editing efficiency of 35%, following AAV delivery to liver tissue. However, single-AAV delivery of base editors containing other compact Cas9 protein domains that exhibit highly efficient base editing, as is the case for

currently used ABEs and CBEs, has not been disclosed. In addition, single-AAV delivery of base editors of base editors to cardiac and muscular tissue has not been disclosed.

[0013] This disclosure provides size-minimized AAV vectors that have lengths of less than about 4.90 kb between the ITRs. This single-AAV base editing platform offers similar or improved editing efficiencies compared to dual-AAV ABE8e in a variety of tissues across multiple doses when delivered systemically into mice. Exemplary AAV vectors of the disclosure do not incorporate, or rely on the use of, trans-splicing inteins for successful delivery.

[0014] The AAV vectors of the disclosure are based, at least in part, on genetic engineering advances that generated vectors containing size-minimized components necessary for efficient expression in target cells and editing of target bases *in vivo*. Exemplary target cells include muscle cells, neurons, liver cells, neuromuscular cells, and cardiac cells. These vectors are smaller than the vectors disclosed in U.S. Patent Publication No. 2018/0127780, published May 10, 2018, and PCT Publication No. WO 2020/236982, published November 26, 2020, and thus are adapted for incorporation into a single AAV particle. In particular, the disclosed AAV vectors are based in part on the discovery that a post-transcriptional response element, such as WPRE, in the transcriptional terminator (or polyadenylation signal) is not necessary for successful expression of the base editor in target tissues *in vivo*. The disclosed AAV vectors thus contain shorter (or size-minimized) terminators. The disclosed AAV vectors further contain other size-minimized regulatory elements, such as short promoters.

[0015] The disclosed AAV vectors are also based in part on the discovery that a guide RNA compatible with any of the disclosed Cas proteins can be encoded at the 3' end of the vector and maintain a total ITR-to-ITR length of less than 4.9 kb, less than 4.8 kb, less than 4.7 kb, less than 4.6 kb, or less than 4.5 kb. As such, through the genetic engineering techniques described herein, a base editor and its guide can be efficiently packaged in a single rAAV particle for delivery *in vivo*. The guide RNA may be encoded in the vector in an orientation (3' to 5') reverse of that of the base editor (*i.e.*, 5' to 3') and the promoter driving expression of the base editor transgene (and its origin of replication).

[0016] The disclosure also provides size-minimized base editors. These base editors were developed to enable efficient *in vivo* base editing mediated by single AAV particle. The disclosed AAV-encoded base editors that may comprise size-minimized Cas proteins. These Cas9 proteins are about 1000-1050 amino acids in length, which is about 350 amino acids shorter than a SpCas9 protein. These size-minimized Cas proteins include, but are not limited

to *S. aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9), Nme2Cas9, *C. jejuni* Cas9 (CjCas9), *S. auricularis* Cas9 (SauriCas9), and variants of any of these Cas9 proteins. The disclosed base editors may contain an evolved or mutated variant of any of these Cas9 proteins, or any of the Cas9 proteins disclosed herein.

[0017] Accordingly, in various embodiments, the disclosed AAV nucleic acid molecules do not comprise an intein, such as a trans-splicing intein (*e.g.*, do not comprise a trans-splicing intein derived from *Nostoc punctiforme*, or Npu). In various embodiments, the disclosed AAV nucleic acid molecules comprise a transcriptional terminator that does not comprise a post-transcriptional response element. In some embodiments, the disclosed AAV nucleic acid molecules do not comprise an intein or a post-transcriptional response element. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecules comprise a first nucleic acid segment comprising: (i) a 5' inverted terminal repeat (ITR); (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a base editor operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the base editor comprises a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp) domain and a deaminase domain; and a polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a second promoter; and (iv) a 3' ITR.

[0018] In some aspects, provided herein are rAAV vectors having size-minimized regulatory elements that allow for packaging of a large transgenes. Accordingly, provided herein are rAAV nucleic acid molecules that comprise, in 5' to 3' order: (i) a 5' inverted terminal repeat (ITR); (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising a transgene operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the first promoter has a length of less than 300 nucleotides; and a transcriptional terminator that does not contain a posttranscriptional response element; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment operably linked to a second promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the first nucleic acid segment; and (iv) a 3' ITR. In various embodiments, the length the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb. In some embodiments, the length the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.85 kb, less than about 4.80 kb, less than about 4.75 kb, less than about 4.725 kb, less than about 4.70 kb, or less than 4.65 kb.

[0019] In some embodiments, the first nucleic acid segment encodes a base editor, and the second nucleic acid segment encodes a gRNA. In some embodiments, the first nucleic acid segment encodes a protein that is not a base editor.

[0020] Any of the disclosed base editors may comprise (i) a napDNAbp domain; and (ii) a deaminase domain. The disclosed base editors may comprise a wild-type napDNAbp domain (*e.g.*, wild-type SaKKH-Cas9). The disclosed base editors may comprise a napDNAbp domain that has nickase activity (*e.g.*, SaKKH-Cas9 nickase, or “SaKKH”). In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain is a Cas9 nickase domain. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain is SaKKH-Cas9 nickase. The napDNAbp domain may be selected from an *S. aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9), an *N. meningitidis* 2 Cas9 (Nme2Cas9), a *C. jejuni* Cas9 (CjCas9), or an *S. auricularis* (SauriCas9) domain, and variants thereof. These Cas proteins have broader PAM compatibility than the standard SpCas9 protein. As such, the disclosed single-AAV encoded base editors can potentially target the vast majority of adenines across the genome, or the vast majority of cytosines across the genome. In exemplary embodiments, the napDNAbp domain is an SaCas9 domain, SaCas9 nickase domain, SaKKH domain, or SaKKH nickase domain.

[0021] The AAV-encoded ABEs of the disclosure contain an adenosine deaminase domain containing a single deaminase, *i.e.* a deaminase monomer (such as a TadA-8e monomer), rather than an adenosine deaminase dimer (*i.e.*, two adenosine deaminases). Use of a deaminase monomer facilitates generation of size-minimized base editors. The TadA monomers are about 166 amino acids in length.

[0022] Any of the disclosed adenine base editors may comprise an adenosine deaminase domain that is a variant of *E. coli* TadA deaminase. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is selected from a TadA-8e, a TadA-8e(V106W), a TadA9, a TadA20, and a TadA7.10 deaminase. In some embodiments, any of the base editors of the disclosure comprises an adenosine deaminase fused to the N-terminus of a napDNAbp domain, such as a Cas9 nickase. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is TadA-8e.

[0023] In some aspects, the present disclosure provides size-minimized ABE8e variants. Each variant is compatible with single-AAV delivery, and three such variants collectively offer PAM compatibility sufficient to target 87% and edit 82% of adenines in the human genome. These three variants are Sauri-ABE8e, SaKKH-ABE8e, and SaABE8e. Each contain the TadA-8e adenosine deaminase and the nickase variant of SauriCas9, SaKKH-Cas9, and SaCas9, respectively. The present disclosure further provides ABE8e variants CjCas9-ABE8e and Nme2Cas9-ABE8e. The present disclosure further provides ABE variants SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W), SauriCas9-ABE8e(V106W), CjCas9-ABE8e(V106W), Nme2Cas9-ABE8e(V106W), and SaCas9-ABE8e(V106W); SaKKH-ABE9, SauriCas9-

ABE9, CjCas9-ABE9, Nme2Cas9-ABE9, and SaCas9-ABE9; SaKKH-ABE20, SauriCas9-ABE20, CjCas9-ABE20, Nme2Cas9-ABE20, and SaCas9-ABE20; and SaKKH-ABE7.10, SauriCas9-ABE7.10, CjCas9-ABE7.10, Nme2Cas9-ABE7.10, and SaCas9-ABE7.10. In any of these disclosed base editors, the wild-type, or the nickase variant, of SauriCas9, SaKKH-Cas9, SaCas9, CjCas9, and Nme2Cas9, respectively, may be used.

[0024] The present disclosure further provides size-minimized CBE variants, and in particular size-minimized BE3.9 variants. Examples of these variants include CjCas9-BE3.9, CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9, and CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9. In some embodiments, the base editor further comprises a uracil glycosylase inhibitor (UGI) domain. The size of an exemplary cytidine deaminase (*e.g.*, a rAPOBEC1 deaminase) of the disclosed CBEs is about 229 amino acids.

[0025] By integrating these developments, the single AAV-delivered base editors of the disclosure were used to treat a mouse model of high cholesterol (which is implicated in cardiovascular disease), resulting in correction of a casual mutation in cardiac tissue, and an increase in the animal's lifespan.

[0026] In the examples of this disclosure, single-AAV delivery of ABEs achieved editing of 66%, 33%, and 22% in liver, heart, and muscle tissues, respectively, at doses lower than or similar to those used in recent preclinical and clinical studies of AAV particles targeting these tissues (see, *e.g.*, Clinical Trial Nos. NCT02122952 (SMA treatment) and NCT03375164 (DMD treatment)). In addition, it was demonstrated that single-AAV8 ABEs could efficiently edit therapeutically relevant targets in mice at efficiencies of 60-85%. These edits produced disruptions at native splice acceptors sites in the target human and mouse *Pcsk9* and mouse *Angptl3* genes, which resulted in nearly complete (93% average) knockdown of these genes at doses lower than previously reported, resulting in substantial reduction in plasma cholesterol and triglycerides. Liver protein Proprotein Convertase Subtilisin/Kexin Type 9 (PCSK9) is a secreted, globular, auto-activating serine protease that acts as a protein-binding adaptor within endosomal vesicles to bridge a pH-dependent interaction with the low-density lipoprotein receptor (LDL-R) during endocytosis of LDL particles, preventing recycling of the LDL-R to the cell surface and leading to reduction of LDL-cholesterol clearance. Angiopoetin-like 3 protein (Angptl3) is an endogenous inhibitor of lipoprotein lipase (LPL), which is the main enzyme involved in hydrolysis of triglyceride-rich lipoproteins. Base editors targeting disease-causing mutations in the *Pcsk9* gene are disclosed in US Publication No. 2018/0237787, published on August 23, 2018, which is incorporated herein by reference.

[0027] By minimizing the size of adenine base editors and AAV components, a suite of single-AAV adenine base editor systems were developed that had broad targeting capability due to their collective PAM compatibility and supported robust editing *in vivo*. The single-AAV BE vectors of the disclosure facilitate base editing for research and therapeutic applications by simplifying production and characterization, and by reducing the total dose of AAV required to achieve a desired level of editing. These single-AAV BEs offer several potential advantages over dual AAV approaches for clinical use: clinical-scale production of a single vector rather than two; increased potency, especially at lower doses; and reduced complexity from a simpler construct that obviates the need to use a trans-splicing intein. For these reasons, *in vivo* editing approaches compatible with single-AAV delivery may be more readily applied to large animal models and human therapeutics where systemic delivery is commonly used. Development of smaller promoters that provide sufficient expression of base editors allow further minimization of the elements of single-AAV ABEs, which should facilitate clinical translation by increasing the proportion of full-length packaged AAV genomes.

[0028] In other aspects, host cells comprising the compositions described herein are provided. The disclosed cells may comprise any of the disclosed nucleic acid molecules, rAAV vectors, or rAAV particles described herein. In still other aspects, kits comprising any of the disclosed rAAV particles and instructions for delivery to a cell (such as a host cell) are provided.

[0029] Still other aspects of the present disclosure provide methods comprising contacting a target nucleic acid molecule with any of the compositions described herein. In various embodiments, the target nucleic acid molecule is in a cell, such as a eukaryotic cell (*e.g.*, a mammalian cell). In some embodiments, the target nucleic acid molecule is genomic DNA. In some embodiments, the genomic DNA is in a cell or tissue of a subject, such as a human subject. Accordingly, methods comprising contacting a cell with any of the rAAV particles or compositions disclosed herein are contemplated.

[0030] Still other aspects of the present disclosure provide methods comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of any of the compositions (or rAAV particles) described herein. In some embodiments, the subject has a disease or disorder (*e.g.* a genetic disease). In some embodiments, the disease or condition is cardiovascular disease. In some embodiments, the compositions are administered to the liver tissue, cardiac tissue, or skeletal muscle tissue of the subject.

[0031] Still other aspects of the present disclosure provide methods of making any of the disclosed rAAV particles and compositions.

[0032] The details of certain embodiments of the invention are set forth in the Detailed Description of Certain Embodiments, as described below. Other features, objects, and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the Definitions, Examples, Figures, and Claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0033] **FIGs. 1A-1C.** FIG. 1A shows an AAV construct evaluated *in vivo*. sgRNA targeting a *Pcsk9* gene having the W8 mutation was delivered with EGFP in one AAV that was co-injected with either one or two additional AAVs encoding either an intact or intein-split SaABE8e, respectively. A total of two AAVs were used to deliver the intact SaABE8e and sgRNA, and three AAVs were used to deliver the intein-split SaABE8e. Black boxes represent ITRs, EFS promoter is EF1 α short, W3 is truncated WPRE, bGH is bovine growth hormone polyadenylation signal, the purple box is the U6 promoter-driven sgRNA cassette in the orientation indicated by the arrow, NpuN & NpuC split inteins from *Nostoc punctiforme* are shown in brown, and protein coding regions are indicated for EGFP and SaABE8e. FIG. 1B shows *in vivo* editing efficiency from injection of AAV encoding intein-split and intact SaABE8e. The total dose of base editor AAV administered to each mouse is shown. FIG. 1C shows a comparison of *in vivo* editing efficiency from injection of AAV9 encoding intact SaABE8e in five different AAV architectures when administered at the dose shown. In all cases, editor AAV dose was either 4×10^{11} vector genomes (vg) or 4×10^{10} vg and sgRNA EGFP AAV dose was either 4×10^{11} vg or 4×10^{10} vg for a 1:1 ratio of base editor AAV to sgRNA AAV. The sizes of the delivered editor AAV constructs (including ITRs) are shown in the legend. C57BL/6J mice aged 6-7 weeks old weighing 20-25 g were injected systemically by retroorbital injection. Dots represent individual mice. Values and error bars represent mean $\pm$ SEM of n=3 different mice.

[0034] **FIGs. 2A-2C.** Development and characterization of a single AAV SaABE8e. FIG. 2A shows a schematic of the single AAV SaABE8e genome (5,064 bp including ITRs). Arrow indicates direction of the U6 sgRNA cassette. FIG. 2B shows a comparison of dual to single SaABE8e. Base editing activity of either a dual (SaABE8e with intact editor on one genome and sgRNA and EGFP on a second genome) or a single (SaABE8e and guide RNA in a single vector) AAV vector, both installing *Pcsk9* W8R edit, packaged in AAV9 with

matched promoter and terminator (polyA). Base editor AAVs were administered at the dose indicated in the legend (dual AAVs were delivered with the dose indicated of editor AAV and sgRNA AAV, while single AAVs were delivered at the dose indicated) to C57BL/6J mice aged 6- to 8-week-old weighing 20-25 grams via retroorbital injection, and tissues were harvested three weeks post injection and analyzed by high-throughput DNA sequencing (HTS). FIG. 2C shows the dose titration of single AAV SaABE8e. Dots represent individual mice and error bars represent mean $\pm$ SEM of n=3 different mice.

[0035] FIGs. 3A-3D. Characterization of Nme2ABE8e (FIG. 3A), CjABE8e (FIG. 3B), and SauriABE8e (FIG. 3C) in HEK293T cells. Editing of each target adenine within the protospacer is shown. Target sites are indicated, with sequences of each target protospacer and PAM listed in Table 1. Target adenines are numbered with respect to a standard protospacer length for each editor (22 nucleotides for CjABE8e, 24 nucleotides for Nme2ABE8e, and 21 nucleotides for SauriABE8e). Dots represent values and error bars represent mean $\pm$ SEM of n=3 replicates. FIG. 3D shows the percent of genomic adenines in the hg38 human reference genome targetable by size-minimized ABEs independently and collectively. A schematic showing a representative portion of the genome targetable by size-minimized ABEs is shown, with targetable PAMs denoted with colored lines and targetable adenines denoted with colored dots. The right-most pie chart of the schematic indicates that 87% of single nucleotide adenine polymorphisms are targetable (and 82% are editable) by all of the small AAV-encoded ABEs of this disclosure, collectively.

[0036] FIGs. 4A-4D. Characterization of Nme2ABE8e (FIG. 4A), CjABE8e (FIG. 4B), and SauriABE8e (FIG. 4C) in HEK293T cells. Base editing activity windows from 8-9 genomic target sites for each size-minimized ABE are shown. Positions that were not present in any tested site are shaded gray. Target adenines are numbered with respect to a standard protospacer length for each editor (24 nt for Nme2ABE8e, 22 nt for CjABE8e, and 21 nt for SauriABE8e). Dots represent values and error bars represent mean $\pm$ SEM of n=3 replicates for each site, with each position representing 1-3 genomic sites. The dotted line corresponds to 25% of mean peak activity for each base editor and defines the activity threshold considered within the editing window. Individual sites that contained three or more adenines within a protospacer were included in this analysis. Sites with only one or two adenines within the protospacer were excluded from summary analysis, but data from all sites analyzed are shown in FIGs. 3A-3C. FIG. 4D shows the percent of genomic adenines in the hg38 human reference genome targetable by size-minimized ABEs, either independently or

collectively. An example showing a representative portion of the human genome targetable by size-minimized ABEs is shown, with targetable PAMs denoted with colored lines and targetable adenines denoted with colored dots.

[0037] FIGs. 5A-5K. Assessment of genome editing and plasma lipids when targeting *PCSK9*, *Pcsk9*, and *Angptl3* with single-AAV *in vivo*. FIG. 5A shows a strategy for assessing base editing and plasma analytes in AAV treated mice, and was created using BioRender. FIG. 5B shows bulk liver editing efficiencies at human *PCSK9*, and mouse *Pcsk9* and *Angptl3* (n=3-5 mice, each dot represents one mouse, error bars represent SEM). Human *PCSK9* editing was performed using humanized *PCSK9* mice, while mouse *Pcsk9* and *Angptl3* editing was performed at the endogenous mouse loci of wild-type C57BL/6J mice. AAV was administered by retroorbital injection at 6-8 weeks of age at a dose of 1×10^{11} vg/mouse. FIG. 5C shows dose-dependent base editing for dual SpABE8e and single SaKKH-ABE8e at mouse *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor. The total AAV dose administered is indicated below each set of bars in vg/mouse. The total AAV dose administered is indicated below each set of bars in vg/mouse. The dual SpABE8e editing data was reported in another publication from our group². Each dot represents a different mouse (n=5). FIG. 5D shows direct comparison of editing efficiencies of dual-AAV8 intein-split SaKKH-ABE8e and single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e targeting the *Pcsk9* exon 1 donor site in bulk liver at two doses. The total AAV dose administered is indicated below each set of bars in vg/mouse, ***P=0.0004. Each dot represents a different mouse (n=4). FIG. 5E shows plasma PCSK9 protein in humanized mice treated with 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e. FIG. 5F shows plasma *Pcsk9* protein in C57BL/6J mice treated with either 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e, dual-AAV8 SpABE8e or non-targeting control, ***P= 0.0001. FIG. 5G shows plasma *Angptl3* protein in C57BL/6J mice treated with 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e or non-targeting control, **P= 0.0027. FIG. 5H shows plasma total cholesterol in humanized mice treated with 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e. FIG. 5I shows plasma total cholesterol in C57BL/6J mice treated with either 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e, dual-AAV8 SpABE8e or non-targeting control, ***P= 0.0007. FIG. 5J shows plasma total cholesterol ***P=0.0007 and plasma triglycerides *P=0.0118. FIG. 5K shows C57BL/6J in mice treated with 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e or non-targeting control. For FIGs. 5E-5K, dots represent mean values and error bars represent SEM of n=5 different mice. Significance was calculated for FIGs. 5C-5D using two-way unpaired t-test. Significance for FIGs. 5F-5G and FIGs. 5I-5K was calculated using two-way repeated

measures ANOVA with Tukey's or Šídák multiple comparisons, as applicable, and is shown for the week 4 time point for all graphs except for FIG. 5F, in which week 3 significance is shown as week 4 protein levels did not reach statistical significance. In all instances, non-targeting control is dual AAV8 SpABE7.10 with sgRNA targeting mouse *Dnmt1*, an unrelated site in the mouse genome, administered at the same timepoint, route, and dose.

[0038] FIG. 6 shows the validation of SaABE targets in mouse Neuro-2A and 3T3 cells. The base editor and PAM are noted below each set of bars. Dots represent independent biological replicates (n=3) and error bars show SEM.

[0039] FIG. 7 shows the titration of sgRNA cassette AAV *in vivo*. A constant dose of 4×10^{11} vg of full-length SaABE8e editor AAV was delivered with varying proportion of sgRNA cassette containing AAV by retroorbital injection to C57BL/6J mice. Tissues were harvested three weeks post injection and analyzed by HTS. Dots represent individual mice (n=3) and error bars show SEM.

[0040] FIGs. 8A and 8B. FIG. 8A shows the SaABE8e activity window at *Pcsk9* W8R in liver. SaABE8e maintains a wide editing window *in vivo*, consistent with observations in cultured cells. FIG. 8B shows that indels remain low under all conditions, reaching 2.4%, 1.6%, and 1.1% indels in heart, muscle, and liver tissues, respectively, at a high dose of 8×10^{11} vg single AAV SaABE8e. Dots represent individual mice (n=3) and error bars show SEM.

[0041] FIGs. 9A-9C. Validating guide targeting *PCSK9* (FIG. 9A) in HEK293T cells and *Pcsk9* (FIG. 9B) and *Angptl3* (FIG. 9C) in mouse Neuro-2a cells. For each sgRNA, the exon, target type (start codon, splice donor, or splice acceptor), ABE8e variant (SaABE8e or SaKKH-ABE8e), and protospacer position that disrupts the indicated target with respect to a 22 nt protospacer length are indicated. Editing at the position that disrupts the indicated target is plotted. Dots represent independent replicates (n=2) and error bars show standard deviation (SD).

[0042] FIGs. 10A and 10B show editing in Neuro-2A cells with SauriABE8e at the *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor target. FIG. 10A shows targeting of mouse *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor with SauriABE8e and SaKKH-ABE8e in mouse Neuro-2A cells. The target adenine is A₉ with respect to the Sauri protospacer, A₅ with respect to SaKKH protospacer. FIG. 10B shows a comparison of SaCas9 guide RNA scaffolds^{33,74} on editing activity at the mouse *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor. The SaCas9 sgRNA scaffold is used with the homologous SauriCas9 protein, as the native sgRNA for SauriCas9 is not known.

[0043] FIGs. 11A and 11B. *In vivo* editing of control AAVs for lipid modification experiments. 6- to 8-week-old C57BL/6J mice were injected by retroorbital injection and whole liver was analyzed by HTS after four weeks. FIG. 11A shows editing at *Dnmt1* A41A (silent edit) with dual SpABE7.10 at a dose of 1×10^{11} vg dual AAV8. FIG. 11B shows installation of the *Pcsk9* W8R substitution using single SaKKH-ABE8e at a dose of 1×10^{11} vg single AAV8.

[0044] FIGs. 12A-12D. Dose response of single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e and dual-AAV8 SpABE8e (with *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor site-targeting sgRNA) on plasma Pcsk9 and total cholesterol. FIG. 12A shows circulating Pcsk9 protein and FIG. 12B shows total cholesterol from plasma taken weekly, normalized to baseline. FIG. 12C shows circulating Pcsk9 protein and FIG. 12D shows total cholesterol from plasma taken weekly, raw (unnormalized). Dots represent mean values and error bars represent SEM of n=5 different mice. All mice were administered the total dose of AAV8 indicated in the legend systemically by retro-orbital injection at 6-8 weeks of age and blood samples were removed serially over four weeks.

[0045] FIGs. 13A-13E. Raw (unnormalized) levels of plasma analytes of either single-AAV ABE or nontargeting control dual-AAV ABE mice, for human PCSK9 and mouse Angptl3 targets. FIG. 13A shows ELISA of human PCSK9 in plasma from humanized mice. FIG. 13B shows total plasma cholesterol in humanized PCSK9 mice. FIG. 13C shows ELISA of mouse Angptl3 in plasma from C57BL/6J mice. FIG. 13D shows total plasma cholesterol in C57BL/6J mice. FIG. 13E shows plasma triglycerides from C57BL/6J mice. Dots represent mean values and error bars represent SEM of n=5 different mice. The nontargeting control is dual-AAV ABE7.10 targeting *Dnmt1*. All mice were administered a dose of 1×10^{11} vg AAV8 systemically by retro-orbital injection at 6-8 weeks of age, and blood samples were removed serially over four weeks.

[0046] FIG. 14 is a schematic showing a construct for a single AAV vector expressing a cytosine base editor, which includes a uracil glycosylase domain. The Cas9 domain of the cytosine base editor is a CjCas9. A U6-controlled sgRNA is positioned at the 3' end, in the reverse orientation. This construct has a total length of 5.012 kb, including the ITRs.

[0047] FIG. 15 shows a base editor-matched comparison of guide-dependent on-target editing between single-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e and dual-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e at the *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor site.

[0048] FIGs. 16A-16C shows guide-dependent off-target DNA editing analyses *in vivo* and in culture between single-AAV8 SaKKH and each half of an AAV8 intein-split SaKKH-

ABE8e. FIG. 16A shows *in vivo* editing in liver tissue from single-AAV ABE treated mice. The top three predicted off target (“OT”) sites for SaKKH-ABE8e targeting *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor were sequenced from liver tissue. FIG. 16B shows the editing observed at OT2 is dose-dependent. OT, off-target; NT, non-targeting dose-matched dual AAV8 ABE7.10 targeting *Dnmt1*, an unrelated gene. FIG. 16C shows editing in cell culture. On-and off-target sites were sequenced after plasmid transfection of N2A cells with sgRNA targeting *Pcsk9* exon 1 donor site and full-length or intein-split SpABE8e. Full-length and intein-split SpABE8e did not significantly differ in efficiency at on-or off-target edits by multiple unpaired t tests with Holm-Šidák method for correction for multiple comparisons.

[0049] FIG. 17 shows that *in vivo* mRNA off-target editing is undetectable in single-AAV ABE8e treated mice. Dots represent single adenines across each amplicon of n=4 mice.

[0050] FIG. 18 shows a comparison of the editing windows of exemplary single AAV-encoded ABEs in the liver.

[0051] FIGs. 19A-19B. Histopathological assessment by hematoxylin and eosin staining of livers from untreated mice, FIG. 19A, and mice four weeks after treatment with 1×10^{11} vg of single AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e targeting human *PCSK9*, FIG. 19B. Representative images are shown. Scale bar, 50 μ m.

[0052] FIG. 20 shows the quantification of AAV genomes from tissue encoding SaABE8e dual AAV (SaABE8e with intact editor on one genome and sgRNA and EGFP on a second genome) or single AAV (SaABE8e and guide RNA all-in-one), both installing *Pcsk9* W8R packaged in AAV9. Editors were packaged in AAV9 and administered by retro-orbital injection at 6-8 weeks of age at the dose indicated in the legend (dual AAVs were delivered at the dose indicated in the legend of editor AAV and sgRNA AAV, while single AAVs were delivered at the total dose indicated). Tissues were harvested 3 weeks post injection then editor AAV genomes were quantified by ddPCR using SaCas9 primers and probe, normalized to Gapdh. Dots represent individual mice (n=1-3) and error bars show SEM.

[0053] FIG. 21 shows the alkaline gel electrophoresis of packaged AAV genomes.

[0054] FIG. 22A-22D show the off-target mRNA editing. RNA was extracted from mouse livers treated with single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e and untreated mouse livers, reverse transcribed, and cDNA amplicons from *Aars*, *Canx*, *Ctnnb*, and *Usp38* mRNA were analyzed by HTS. Dots represent individual adenines across the sequenced amplicon (n=3 mice).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0055] Provided herein are methods and compositions for delivering base editor proteins to a cell or tissue in a single recombinant AAV (rAAV) vector. Contemplated herein are improved methods and compositions for delivering these base editors *in vivo* (such as to a subject in need thereof) in a single rAAV particle. Delivery in a single rAAV particle has advantages of requiring fewer injections and lower doses for delivery to target tissues, as well as reducing in half the number of successful transductions of target tissue necessary for expression of the base editor in target cells. These rAAV vectors comprise size-minimized base editors and regulatory components that enable the vector to have a length within the 4.7kb-4.9kb packaging capacity of rAAV particles. rAAV particles that contain any of the disclosed rAAV vectors and a capsid protein are also provided, as well as compositions and cells comprising same. Methods of administering such compositions, and cells, to a subject are further provided. Further provided are base editors and compositions and cells comprising these base editors. The disclosed single-AAV adenine base editors provide comparable or enhanced editing efficiencies compared to dual-AAV editors in a variety of tissues *in vivo*.

[0056] Recombinant AAV vectors (or AAV genomes) are widely used for transgene delivery. Transgenes are inserted into the AAV genome between the inverted terminal repeat (ITR) sequences and packaged into AAV viral particles, which are used to transduce a host cell (e.g., mammalian cell, human cell). AAV has been used to deliver genes encoding many therapeutic proteins in animal models of human disease, in clinical trials and in FDA-approved drugs. A suite of available AAV serotypes provide access to a variety of clinically relevant cell types in mice, nonhuman primates, and humans.

[0057] The disclosure provides rAAV vectors having size-minimized regulatory elements that allow for packaging of a larger transgene than the vectors of the prior art. In some embodiments, the transgene encodes a base editor, such as an adenine base editor. In some embodiments, the transgene is not a base editor. In some embodiments, the base editor contains a napDNAbp domain that is a compact protein, such as an *S. aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9), an *N. meningitidis* 2 Cas9 (Nme2Cas9), a *C. jejuni* Cas9 (CjCas9), or an *S. auricularis* (SauriCas9) domain, or a variant thereof.

[0058] In some aspects, provided herein are rAAV vectors that contain a first nucleic acid segment comprising: (i) a 5' ITR; (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a base editor operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the base editor comprises

a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp) domain and a deaminase domain; and a polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a second promoter; and (iv) a 3' ITR, wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb. In some embodiments, the rAAV vectors consist essentially of components (i)-(iv).

[0059] In some embodiments, the nucleic acid vector is the genome of an adeno-associated virus packaged in a rAAV particle. In some embodiments, the first and/or the second nucleic acid segment is operably linked to a first promoter. In some embodiments, the first promoter is a constitutive promoter. In some embodiments, the first promoter is an inducible promoter.

[0060] In various embodiments, the first promoter is a short promoter. In various embodiments, the first promoter has a length of less than 325 nucleotides, less than 300 nucleotides, less than 285 nucleotides, less than 270 nucleotides, less than 265 nucleotides, or less than 250 nucleotides. This short length ensures optimal packaging capacity for the base editor and additional regulatory elements. In some embodiments, the first promoter has a length of between 200 and 250 nucleotides, 225 and 255 nucleotides, 250 and 275 nucleotides, 275 and 300 nucleotides, or 300 and 325 nucleotides. In certain embodiments, the first promoter has a length of 280 nucleotides. In some embodiments the first promoter has a length of 229 nucleotides, 253 nucleotides, or 324 nucleotides.

[0061] In some embodiments, the first promoter is a tissue-specific promoter. The first promoter may be a cardiac tissue-specific promoter, a muscle tissue-specific promoter, or a neuronal tissue-specific promoter. The first promoter may be active in a tissue other than liver, muscle, and neurons, such as ocular tissue. In some embodiments, the first promoter is active in neuromuscular tissue.

[0062] In some embodiments, the first promoter is an EF-1 α (short) ("EFS") promoter, which is the intron-less form of EF-1 α . In some embodiments, the first promoter is an MeCP2 promoter, which is active in neuronal tissues. In some embodiments, the first promoter is a P3 promoter, which is active in liver tissues. In some embodiments, the first promoter is a U1a promoter, which is active in liver tissues. Additional details about the MeCP2 promoter, P3 promoter, and U1a promoter is found in Gray *et al.*, *Human Gene Therapy*. Sep 2011.1143-1153; Viecelli *et al.*, *Hepatology*, 60: 1035-1043 (2014); and Ibraheim *et al.*, *Genome Biol.* 19, 137 (2018), respectively, each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

[0063] In some embodiments, the first nucleic acid segment comprises a transcriptional terminator. In various embodiments, the first nucleic acid segment does not contain a posttranscriptional response element (e.g., W3). In some embodiments, the transcriptional terminator is a polyA signal selected from a bovine growth hormone (bGH) signal, human growth hormone (hGH) signal, or SV40 signal. In some embodiments, the terminator is a bGH polyA signal. In some embodiments, the terminator is a SV40 late polyA signal.

[0064] In some embodiments, the first nucleic acid segment comprises a minimal minute virus of mice (MVM) intron. In some embodiments, the MVM is positioned 5' of the promoter and 3' of the transgene.

[0065] In some embodiments, the second nucleic acid segment comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a gRNA operably linked to a second promoter. In some embodiments, the second promoter is a constitutive promoter. In some embodiments, the second promoter is an inducible promoter. In some embodiments, the second promoter is a U6 promoter, such as a human U6 promoter. In some embodiments, the the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the first nucleic acid segment.

[0066] The disclosed rAAV vectors—which contain a first nucleic acid segment that contains a promoter and terminator and a second nucleic acid segment that may encode a guide RNA—have packaging capacities between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR of lengths that fit a transgene encoding one or more of the disclosed base editors. For example, the disclosed AAV vectors may contain a length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR of between 4.7 kb and 4.9 kb. The disclosed AAV vectors may contain a length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR of between 4.7 kb and 5.1 kb. The disclosed AAV vectors may contain a length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR of between 4.6 kb and 4.9 kb, or between 4.6 kb and 4.8 kb. In certain embodiments, the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is about 4.60 kb, about 4.65 kb, about 4.70 kb, about 4.725 kb, about 4.75 kb, about 4.80 kb, about 4.825 kb, about 4.85 kb, about 4.90 kb, or about 4.95 kb.

[0067] In various embodiments, the length the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb. In some embodiments, the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is about 4.80 kb. In some embodiments, the length between the ITRs is 4.804 kb (4804 bp). In some embodiments, the length between the ITRs is 4.828 kb. In some embodiments, the length between the ITRs is 4.722 kb.

[0068] The disclosure provides rAAV vectors containing size-minimized adenine base editors, and rAAV vectors containing size-minimized cytosine base editors. Exemplary AAV vectors of the disclosure are shown in FIGs. 2A and 14.

[0069] In some aspects, provided herein are rAAV vectors that comprise: (i) a 5' ITR; (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a SaKKH-ABE8e, a SauriCas9-ABE8e, a CjCas9-ABE8e base editor, or a Nme2Cas9 base editor operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the first promoter is selected from the EFS, MeCP2, P3, and U1A promoters; and a bGH polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and (iv) a 3' ITR. In some embodiments, the rAAV vectors contain a first nucleic acid segment comprising: (i) a 5' ITR; (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a Sauri-ABE8e base editor operably linked to an EFS promoter; and a polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and (iv) a 3' ITR. In various embodiments, the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb. In some embodiments, the poly(A) signal is a bGH poly(A) signal.

[0070] In certain embodiments, the rAAV vectors comprise, from 5' to 3': (i) a 5' ITR; (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a SaKKH-ABE8e base editor operably linked to an EFS promoter; and a bGH polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and (iv) a 3' ITR. In some embodiments, the rAAV vectors contain a first nucleic acid segment comprising: (i) a 5' ITR; (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a Sauri-ABE8e base editor operably linked to an EFS promoter; and a bGH polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and (iv) a 3' ITR. In some embodiments, the base editor is SauriCas9-ABE8e. In some embodiments, the base editor is CjCas9-ABE8e.

[0071] In some embodiments, the rAAV vectors encode a CBE and comprise, from 5' to 3': (i) a 5' ITR; (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9 or CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3 base editor operably linked to a first promoter that is an EFS promoter; and a polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and (iv) a 3' ITR. In some embodiments, the rAAV vectors encode a CBE and comprise, from 5' to 3': (i) a 5' ITR; (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising sequence encoding a CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9 or CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3 base editor operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the first promoter is selected from the EFS, MeCP2, P3, and U1A promoters; and a polyadenylation (polyA) signal; (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and (iv) a 3' ITR. In some embodiments, the poly(A) signal is a bGH poly(A) signal. In some embodiments, the poly(A) signal is a SV40 poly(A) signal.

[0072] In various embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV vectors are encapsidated in an AAV8 capsid. In some embodiments, the disclosed rAAV vectors are encapsidated in an AAV9 capsid.

[0073] Further provided herein are empirical testing of regulatory elements in the disclosed AAV vectors for high expression levels of the encoded base editor.

Definitions

[0074] As used herein and in the claims, the singular forms “a,” “an,” and “the” include the singular and the plural unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Thus, for example, a reference to “an agent” includes a single agent and a plurality of such agents.

[0075] An “adeno-associated virus” or “AAV” is a virus which infects humans and some other primate species. The wild-type AAV genome is a single-stranded deoxyribonucleic acid (ssDNA), either positive- or negative-sensed. The genome comprises two inverted terminal repeats (ITRs), one at each end of the DNA strand, and two open reading frames (ORFs): rep and cap between the ITRs. The rep ORF comprises four overlapping genes encoding Rep proteins required for the AAV life cycle. The cap ORF comprises overlapping genes encoding capsid proteins: VP1, VP2 and VP3, which interact together to form the viral

capsid. VP1, VP2 and VP3 are translated from one mRNA transcript, which can be spliced in two different manners: either a longer or shorter intron can be excised resulting in the formation of two isoforms of mRNAs: a ~2.3 kb- and a ~2.6 kb-long mRNA isoform. The capsid forms a supramolecular assembly of approximately 60 individual capsid protein subunits into a non-enveloped, T-1 icosahedral lattice capable of protecting the AAV genome. The mature capsid is composed of VP1, VP2, and VP3 (molecular masses of approximately 87, 73, and 62 kDa respectively) in a ratio of about 1:1:10.

[0076] rAAV particles may comprise a nucleic acid vector (*e.g.*, a recombinant genome), which may comprise at a minimum: (a) one or more heterologous nucleic acid regions (or transgenes) comprising a sequence encoding a protein or polypeptide of interest (*e.g.*, a base editor) or an RNA of interest (*e.g.*, a gRNA); and (b) one or more regions comprising inverted terminal repeat (ITR) sequences (*e.g.*, wild-type ITR sequences or engineered ITR sequences) flanking the one or more nucleic acid regions (*e.g.*, heterologous nucleic acid regions). In some embodiments, the nucleic acid vector is between 4 kb and 5 kb in size (*e.g.*, 4.2 to 4.7 kb in size). In some embodiments, the nucleic acid vector is circular. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid vector is single-stranded. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid vector is double-stranded. In some embodiments, a double-stranded nucleic acid vector may be, for example, a self-complementary vector that contains a region of the nucleic acid vector that is complementary to another region of the nucleic acid vector, initiating the formation of the double-strandedness of the nucleic acid vector.

[0077] As used herein, the term “adenosine deaminase” or “adenosine deaminase domain” refers to a protein or enzyme that catalyzes a deamination reaction of an adenosine (or adenine). The terms are used interchangeably. In certain embodiments, the disclosure provides base editors comprising one or more adenosine deaminase domains. For instance, an adenosine deaminase domain may comprise a heterodimer of a first adenosine deaminase and a second deaminase domain, connected by a linker. Adenosine deaminases (*e.g.*, engineered adenosine deaminases or evolved adenosine deaminases) provided herein may be enzymes that convert adenine (A) to inosine (I) in DNA or RNA. Such adenosine deaminase can lead to an A:T to G:C base pair conversion. In some embodiments, the deaminase is a variant of a naturally-occurring deaminase from an organism. In some embodiments, the deaminase does not occur in nature. For example, in some embodiments, the deaminase is at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least

75% at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% identical to a naturally-occurring deaminase.

[0078] In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is derived from a bacterium, such as, *E. coli*, *S. aureus*, *S. typhi*, *S. putrefaciens*, *H. influenzae*, or *C. crescentus*. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is a TadA deaminase. In some embodiments, the TadA deaminase is an *E. coli* TadA deaminase (ecTadA). In some embodiments, the TadA deaminase is a truncated *E. coli* TadA deaminase. For example, the truncated ecTadA may be missing one or more N-terminal amino acids relative to a full-length ecTadA. In some embodiments, the truncated ecTadA may be missing 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 6, 17, 18, 19, or 20 N-terminal amino acid residues relative to the full length ecTadA. In some embodiments, the truncated ecTadA may be missing 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 6, 17, 18, 19, or 20 C-terminal amino acid residues relative to the full length ecTadA. In some embodiments, the ecTadA deaminase does not comprise an N-terminal methionine. Reference is made to U.S. Patent Publication No. 2018/0073012, published March 15, 2018, which is incorporated herein by reference.

[0079] In genetics, the “antisense” strand of a segment within double-stranded DNA is the template strand, and which is considered to run in the 3' to 5' orientation. By contrast, the “sense” strand is the segment within double-stranded DNA that runs from 5' to 3', and which is complementary to the antisense strand of DNA, or template strand, which runs from 3' to 5'. In the case of a DNA segment that encodes a protein, the sense strand is the strand of DNA that has the same sequence as the mRNA, which takes the antisense strand as its template during transcription, and eventually undergoes (typically, not always) translation into a protein. The antisense strand is thus responsible for the RNA that is later translated to protein, while the sense strand possesses a nearly identical makeup to that of the mRNA. Note that for each segment of dsDNA, there will possibly be two sets of sense and antisense, depending on which direction one reads (since sense and antisense is relative to perspective). It is ultimately the gene product, or mRNA, that dictates which strand of one segment of dsDNA is referred to as sense or antisense.

[0080] “Base editing” refers to genome editing technology that involves the conversion of a specific nucleic acid base into another at a targeted genomic locus. In certain embodiments, this can be achieved without requiring double-stranded DNA breaks (DSB), or single stranded breaks (*i.e.*, nicking). To date, other genome editing techniques, including CRISPR-based systems, begin with the introduction of a DSB at a locus of interest. Subsequently,

cellular DNA repair enzymes mend the break, commonly resulting in random insertions or deletions (indels) of bases at the site of the DSB. However, when the introduction or correction of a point mutation at a target locus is desired rather than stochastic disruption of the entire gene, these genome editing techniques are unsuitable, as correction rates are low (*e.g.* typically 0.1% to 5%), with the major genome editing products being indels. In order to increase the efficiency of gene correction without simultaneously introducing random indels, the present inventors previously modified the CRISPR/Cas9 system to directly convert one DNA base into another without DSB formation. See, Komor, A.C., *et al.*, Programmable editing of a target base in genomic DNA without double-stranded DNA cleavage. *Nature* 533, 420-424 (2016), the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference.

[0081] The term “base editor (BE),” as used herein, refers to an agent comprising a polypeptide that is capable of making a modification to a base (*e.g.*, A, T, C, G, or U) within a nucleic acid sequence (*e.g.*, DNA or RNA) that converts one base to another (*e.g.*, A to G, A to C, A to T, C to T, C to G, C to A, G to A, G to C, G to T, T to A, T to C, T to G). In some embodiments, the base editor is capable of deaminating a base within a nucleic acid such as a base within a DNA molecule. In the case of an adenine base editor, the base editor is capable of deaminating an adenine (A) in DNA. Such base editors may include a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp) fused to an adenosine deaminase. Some base editors include CRISPR-mediated fusion proteins that are utilized in the base editing methods described herein. In some embodiments, the base editor comprises a nuclease-inactive Cas9 (dCas9) fused to a deaminase which binds a nucleic acid in a guide RNA-programmed manner via the formation of an R-loop, but does not cleave the nucleic acid. For example, the dCas9 domain of the fusion protein may include a D10A and a H840A mutation (which renders Cas9 capable of cleaving only one strand of a nucleic acid duplex), as described in PCT/US2016/058344, which published as WO 2017/070632 on April 27, 2017 and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The DNA cleavage domain of *S. pyogenes* Cas9 includes two subdomains, the HNH nuclease subdomain and the RuvC1 subdomain. The HNH subdomain cleaves the strand complementary to the gRNA (the “targeted strand”, or the strand in which editing or deamination occurs), whereas the RuvC1 subdomain cleaves the non-complementary strand containing the PAM sequence (the “non-edited strand”). The RuvC1 mutant D10A generates a nick in the targeted strand, while the HNH mutant H840A generates a nick on the non-edited strand (see Jinek *et al.*, *Science*,

337:816-821(2012); Qi *et al.*, *Cell*. 28;152(5):1173-83 (2013), each of which are incorporated herein by reference).

[0082] In some embodiments, a base editor is a macromolecule or macromolecular complex that results primarily (*e.g.*, more than 80%, more than 85%, more than 90%, more than 95%, more than 99%, more than 99.9%, or 100%) in the conversion of a nucleobase in a polynucleic acid sequence into another nucleobase (*i.e.*, a transition or transversion) using a combination of 1) a nucleotide-, nucleoside-, or nucleobase-modifying enzyme and 2) a nucleic acid binding protein that can be programmed to bind to a specific nucleic acid sequence.

[0083] In some embodiments, the base editor comprises a DNA binding domain (*e.g.*, a programmable DNA binding domain such as a dCas9 or nCas9) that directs it to a target sequence. In some embodiments, the base editor comprises a nucleobase modifying enzyme fused to a programmable DNA binding domain (*e.g.*, a dCas9 or nCas9). A “nucleobase modifying enzyme” is an enzyme that can modify a nucleobase and convert one nucleobase to another (*e.g.*, a deaminase such as an adenosine deaminase). Base editors that carry out certain types of base conversions (*e.g.*, adenosine (A) to guanine (G), C to G) are contemplated.

[0084] In some embodiments, a base editor converts an A to G. In some embodiments, the base editor comprises an adenosine deaminase. An “adenosine deaminase” is an enzyme involved in purine metabolism. It is needed for the breakdown of adenosine from food and for the turnover of nucleic acids in tissues. Its primary function in humans is the development and maintenance of the immune system. An adenosine deaminase catalyzes hydrolytic deamination of adenosine (forming inosine, which base pairs as G) in the context of DNA. There are no known natural adenosine deaminases that act on DNA. Instead, known adenosine deaminase enzymes only act on RNA (tRNA or mRNA). Evolved deoxyadenosine deaminase enzymes that accept DNA substrates and deaminate dA to deoxyinosine have been described, *e.g.*, in PCT Application PCT/US2017/045381, filed August 3, 2017, which published as WO 2018/027078, and PCT Application No. PCT/US2019/033848, filed May 23, 2019, which published on November 28, 2019 as WO 2019/226953, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2018/0073012, published March 15, 2018, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,113,163; on October 30, 2018; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2017/0121693, published May 4, 2017, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,167,457 on January 1, 2019; PCT Publication No. WO 2017/070633, published April 27, 2017; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2015/0166980,

published June 18, 2015; U.S. Patent No. 9,840,699, issued December 12, 2017; U.S. Patent No. 10,077,453, issued September 18, 2018; PCT Publication No. WO 2019/023680, published January 31, 2019; International Application No. PCT/US2019/033848, filed May 23, 2019, which published as Publication No. WO 2019/226593 on November 28, 2019; PCT Publication No. WO 2018/0176009, published September 27, 2018, PCT Publication No. WO 2020/041751, published February 27, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/051360, published March 12, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/102659, published May 22, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/086908, published April 30, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/181180, published September 10, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/214842, published October 22, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/092453, published May 7, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/236982, published November 26, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2021/108717, published June 3, 2021, and PCT Publication No. WO 2021/158921, published August 12, 2021, the contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[0085] In some embodiments, a base editor converts a C to a T. In some embodiments, the base editor comprises a cytidine deaminase. A “cytosine deaminase”, or “cytidine deaminase,” refers to an enzyme that catalyzes the chemical reaction “cytosine + H₂O → uracil + NH₃” or “5-methyl-cytosine + H₂O → thymine + NH₃.” As it may be apparent from the reaction formula, such chemical reactions result in a C to U/T nucleobase change. In the context of a gene, such a nucleotide change, or mutation, may in turn lead to an amino acid change in the protein, which may affect the protein’s function, *e.g.*, loss-of-function or gain-of-function. In some embodiments, the cytosine base editor comprises a dCas9 or nCas9 fused to a cytidine deaminase. In some embodiments, the cytidine deaminase domain is fused to the N-terminus of the dCas9 or nCas9. In some embodiments, the base editor further comprises a domain that inhibits uracil glycosylase, and/or a nuclear localization signal. Such base editors have been described in the art, *e.g.*, in Rees & Liu, *Nat Rev Genet.* 2018;19(12):770-788, Rees, *et al. Sci. Advances* 5, eaax5717 (2019), and Koblan *et al.*, *Nat Biotechnol.* 2018;36(9):843-846; as well as U.S. Patent Publication No. 2018/0073012, published March 15, 2018, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,113,163 on October 30, 2018; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2017/0121693, published May 4, 2017, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,167,457 on January 1, 2019; PCT Publication No. WO 2017/070633, published April 27, 2017; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2015/0166980, published June 18, 2015; U.S. Patent No. 9,840,699, issued December 12, 2017; U.S. Patent No. 10,077,453, issued

September 18, 2018; PCT Publication No. WO 2019/023680, published January 31, 2019; PCT Publication No. WO 2018/0176009, published September 27, 2018, PCT Application No PCT/US2019/033848, filed May 23, 2019, PCT Application No. PCT/US2019/47996, filed August 23, 2019; PCT Application No. PCT/US2020/028568, filed April 17, 2020; PCT Application No. PCT/US2019/61685, filed November 15, 2019; PCT Application No. PCT/US2019/57956, filed October 24, 2019; PCT Publication No. PCT/US2019/58678, filed October 29, 2019; and PCT Publication No. WO 2021/108717, published June 3, 2021, the contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[0086] Exemplary adenine and cytosine base editors are also described in Rees & Liu, Base editing: precision chemistry on the genome and transcriptome of living cells, *Nat. Rev. Genet.* 2018;19(12):770-788; as well as U.S. Patent Publication No. 2018/0073012, published March 15, 2018, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,113,163, on October 30, 2018; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2017/0121693, published May 4, 2017, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,167,457 on January 1, 2019; PCT Publication No. WO 2017/070633, published April 27, 2017; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2015/0166980, published June 18, 2015; U.S. Patent No. 9,840,699, issued December 12, 2017; and U.S. Patent No. 10,077,453, issued September 18, 2018, the contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[0087] The term “Cas9” or “Cas9 nuclease” refers to an RNA-guided nuclease comprising a Cas9 domain, or a fragment thereof (*e.g.*, a protein comprising an active or inactive DNA cleavage domain of Cas9, and/or the gRNA binding domain of Cas9). A “Cas9 domain” as used herein, is a protein fragment comprising an active or inactive cleavage domain of Cas9 and/or the gRNA binding domain of Cas9. A “Cas9 protein” is a full length Cas9 protein. A Cas9 nuclease is also referred to sometimes as a casn1 nuclease or a CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeat)-associated nuclease. CRISPR is an adaptive immune system that provides protection against mobile genetic elements (viruses, transposable elements, and conjugative plasmids). CRISPR clusters contain spacers, sequences complementary to antecedent mobile elements, and target invading nucleic acids. CRISPR clusters are transcribed and processed into CRISPR RNA (crRNA). In type II CRISPR systems correct processing of pre-crRNA requires a trans-encoded small RNA (tracrRNA), endogenous ribonuclease 3 (rnc) and a Cas9 domain. The tracrRNA serves as a guide for ribonuclease 3-aided processing of pre-crRNA. Subsequently, Cas9/crRNA/tracrRNA endonucleolytically cleaves linear or circular dsDNA target complementary to the spacer. The target strand not complementary to crRNA is first cut

endonucleolytically, then trimmed 3'-5' exonucleolytically. In nature, DNA-binding and cleavage typically requires protein and both RNAs. However, single guide RNAs ("sgRNA", or simply "gRNA") can be engineered so as to incorporate aspects of both the crRNA and tracrRNA into a single RNA species. See, *e.g.*, Jinek M., *et al.* *Science* 337:816-821 (2012), the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. Cas9 recognizes a short motif in the CRISPR repeat sequences (the PAM or protospacer adjacent motif) to help distinguish self versus non-self. Cas9 nuclease sequences and structures are well known to those of skill in the art (see, *e.g.*, "Complete genome sequence of an M1 strain of *Streptococcus pyogenes*." Ferretti *et al.*, J.J., McShan W.M., Ajdic D.J., Savic D.J., Savic G., Lyon K., Primeaux C., Sezate S., Suvorov A.N., Kenton S., Lai H.S., Lin S.P., Qian Y., Jia H.G., Najar F.Z., Ren Q., Zhu H., Song L., White J., Yuan X., Clifton S.W., Roe B.A., McLaughlin R.E., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 98:4658-4663(2001); "CRISPR RNA maturation by trans-encoded small RNA and host factor RNase III." Deltcheva E., Chylinski K., Sharma C.M., Gonzales K., Chao Y., Pirzada Z.A., Eckert M.R., Vogel J., Charpentier E., *Nature* 471:602-607(2011); and "A programmable dual-RNA-guided DNA endonuclease in adaptive bacterial immunity." Jinek M., Chylinski K., Fonfara I., Hauer M., Doudna J.A., Charpentier E. *Science* 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). Cas9 orthologs have been described in various species, including, but not limited to, *S. pyogenes* and *S. thermophilus* (*e.g.*, StCas9 or St1Cas9). Additional suitable Cas9 nucleases and sequences will be apparent to those of skill in the art based on this disclosure, and such Cas9 nucleases and sequences include Cas9 sequences from the organisms and loci disclosed in Chylinski, Rhun, and Charpentier, "The tracrRNA and Cas9 families of type II CRISPR-Cas immunity systems" (2013) *RNA Biology* 10:5, 726-737; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. In some embodiments, a Cas9 nuclease comprises one or more mutations that partially impair or inactivate the DNA cleavage domain.

[0088] A nuclease-inactivated Cas9 domain may interchangeably be referred to as a "dCas9" protein (for nuclease-"dead" Cas9). Methods for generating a Cas9 domain (or a fragment thereof) having an inactive DNA cleavage domain are known (see, *e.g.*, Jinek *et al.*, *Science*. 337:816-821(2012); Qi *et al.*, "Repurposing CRISPR as an RNA-Guided Platform for Sequence-Specific Control of Gene Expression" (2013) *Cell*. 28;152(5):1173-83, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). For example, the DNA cleavage domain of Cas9 is known to include two subdomains, the HNH nuclease subdomain

and the RuvC1 subdomain. The HNH subdomain cleaves the strand complementary to the gRNA, whereas the RuvC1 subdomain cleaves the non-complementary strand. Mutations within these subdomains can silence the nuclease activity of Cas9. For example, the mutations D10A and H840A completely inactivate the nuclease activity of *S. pyogenes* Cas9 (Jinek *et al.*, *Science*. 337:816-821(2012); Qi *et al.*, *Cell*. 28;152(5):1173-83 (2013)). In some embodiments, proteins comprising fragments of Cas9 are provided. For example, in some embodiments, a protein comprises one of two Cas9 domains: (1) the gRNA binding domain of Cas9; or (2) the DNA cleavage domain of Cas9. In some embodiments, proteins comprising Cas9 or fragments thereof are referred to as “Cas9 variants.” A Cas9 variant shares homology to Cas9, or a fragment thereof. For example, a Cas9 variant is at least about 70% identical, at least about 80% identical, at least about 90% identical, at least about 95% identical, at least about 96% identical, at least about 97% identical, at least about 98% identical, at least about 99% identical, at least about 99.5% identical, at least about 99.8% identical, or at least about 99.9% identical to wild type Cas9 (e.g., SpCas9 of SEQ ID NO: 74). In some embodiments, the Cas9 variant may have 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, or more amino acid changes compared to wild type Cas9 (e.g., SpCas9 of SEQ ID NO: 74). In some embodiments, the Cas9 variant comprises a fragment of Cas9 (e.g., a gRNA binding domain or a DNA-cleavage domain), such that the fragment is at least about 70% identical, at least about 80% identical, at least about 90% identical, at least about 95% identical, at least about 96% identical, at least about 97% identical, at least about 98% identical, at least about 99% identical, at least about 99.5% identical, or at least about 99.9% identical to the corresponding fragment of wild type Cas9 (e.g., SpCas9 of SEQ ID NO: 74). In some embodiments, the fragment is at least 30%, at least 35%, at least 40%, at least 45%, at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95% identical, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% of the amino acid length of a corresponding wild type Cas9 (e.g., SpCas9 of SEQ ID NO: 74).

[0089] As used herein, the term “nCas9” or “Cas9 nickase” refers to a Cas9 or a variant thereof, which cleaves or nicks only one of the strands of a target cut site thereby introducing a nick in a double strand DNA molecule rather than creating a double strand break. This can be achieved by introducing appropriate mutations in a wild-type Cas9 which inactivates one of the two endonuclease activities of the Cas9. Any suitable mutation which inactivates one

Cas9 endonuclease activity but leaves the other intact is contemplated, such as one of D10A or H840A mutations in the wild-type *S. pyogenes* Cas9 amino acid sequence, or a D10A mutation in the wild-type *S. aureus* Cas9 amino acid sequence, may be used to form the nCas9.

[0090] The term “cDNA” refers to a strand of DNA copied from an RNA template. cDNA is complementary to the RNA template.

[0091] CRISPR is a family of DNA sequences (*i.e.*, CRISPR clusters) in bacteria and archaea that represent snippets of prior infections by a virus that have invaded the prokaryote. The snippets of DNA are used by the prokaryotic cell to detect and destroy DNA from subsequent attacks by similar viruses and effectively compose, along with an array of CRISPR-associated proteins (including Cas9 and homologs thereof) and CRISPR-associated RNA, a prokaryotic immune defense system. In nature, CRISPR clusters are transcribed and processed into CRISPR RNA (crRNA). In certain types of CRISPR systems (*e.g.*, type II CRISPR systems), correct processing of pre-crRNA requires a trans-encoded small RNA (tracrRNA), endogenous ribonuclease 3 (*rnc*) and a Cas9 protein. The tracrRNA serves as a guide for ribonuclease 3-aided processing of pre-crRNA. Subsequently, Cas9/crRNA/tracrRNA endonucleolytically cleaves linear or circular dsDNA target complementary to the RNA. Specifically, the target strand not complementary to crRNA is first cut endonucleolytically, then trimmed 3′-5′ exonucleolytically. In nature, DNA-binding and cleavage typically requires protein and both RNAs. However, single guide RNAs (“sgRNA”, or simply “gRNA”) can be engineered so as to incorporate aspects of both the crRNA and tracrRNA into a single RNA species—the guide RNA. See, *e.g.*, Jinek M., Chylinski K., Fonfara I., Hauer M., Doudna J.A., Charpentier E. *Science* 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of which is hereby incorporated by reference. Cas9 recognizes a short motif in the CRISPR repeat sequences (the PAM or protospacer adjacent motif) to help distinguish self versus non-self. CRISPR biology, as well as Cas9 nuclease sequences and structures are well known to those of skill in the art (see, *e.g.*, “Complete genome sequence of an M1 strain of *Streptococcus pyogenes*.” Ferretti *et al.*, J.J., McShan W.M., Ajdic D.J., Savic D.J., Savic G., Lyon K., Primeaux C., Sezate S., Suvorov A.N., Kenton S., Lai H.S., Lin S.P., Qian Y., Jia H.G., Najar F.Z., Ren Q., Zhu H., Song L., White J., Yuan X., Clifton S.W., Roe B.A., McLaughlin R.E., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 98:4658-4663(2001); “CRISPR RNA maturation by trans-encoded small RNA and host factor RNase III.” Deltcheva E., Chylinski K., Sharma C.M., Gonzales K., Chao Y., Pirzada Z.A., Eckert M.R.,

Vogel J., Charpentier E., *Nature* 471:602-607(2011); and “A programmable dual-RNA-guided DNA endonuclease in adaptive bacterial immunity.” Jinek M., Chylinski K., Fonfara I., Hauer M., Doudna J.A., Charpentier E. *Science* 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). Cas9 orthologs have been described in various species, including, but not limited to, *S. pyogenes* and *S. thermophilus*. Additional suitable Cas9 nucleases and sequences will be apparent to those of skill in the art based on this disclosure, and such Cas9 nucleases and sequences include Cas9 sequences from the organisms and loci disclosed in Chylinski, Rhun, and Charpentier, “The tracrRNA and Cas9 families of type II CRISPR-Cas immunity systems” (2013) *RNA Biology* 10:5, 726-737; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[0092] The term “deaminase” or “deaminase domain” refers to a protein or enzyme that catalyzes a deamination reaction. In some embodiments, the deaminase is an adenosine (or adenine) deaminase, which catalyzes the hydrolytic deamination of adenine or adenosine. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase catalyzes the hydrolytic deamination of adenine or adenosine in deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) to inosine. In some embodiments, the deaminase is a cytidine (or cytosine) deaminase, which catalyzes the hydrolytic deamination of cytidine to uracil.

[0093] The deaminases described herein may be from any organism, such as a bacterium. In some embodiments, the deaminase or deaminase domain is a variant of a naturally-occurring deaminase from an organism. In some embodiments, the deaminase or deaminase domain does not occur in nature. For example, in some embodiments, the deaminase or deaminase domain is at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% identical to a naturally-occurring deaminase.

[0094] As used herein, the term “DNA binding protein” or “DNA binding protein domain” refers to any protein that localizes to and binds a specific target DNA nucleotide sequence (*e.g.* a gene locus of a genome). This term embraces RNA-programmable proteins, which associate (*e.g.* form a complex) with one or more nucleic acid molecules (*i.e.*, which includes, for example, guide RNA in the case of Cas systems) that direct or otherwise program the protein to localize to a specific target nucleotide sequence (*e.g.*, DNA sequence) that is complementary to the one or more nucleic acid molecules (or a portion or region thereof) associated with the protein. Exemplary RNA-programmable proteins are CRISPR-Cas9 proteins, as well as Cas9 equivalents, homologs, orthologs, or paralogs, whether naturally

occurring or non-naturally occurring (*e.g.* engineered or modified), and may include a Cas9 equivalent from any type of CRISPR system (*e.g.* type II, V, VI), including Cpf1 (a type-V CRISPR-Cas systems) (now known as Cas12a), C2c1 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system), C2c2 (a type VI CRISPR-Cas system), C2c3 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system), dCas9, GeoCas9, CjCas9, Nme2Cas9, SaCas9, SaKKH-Cas9, SauriCas9, Cas12b, Cas12c, Cas12d, Cas12g, Cas12h, Cas12i, Cas13d, Cas14, Argonaute, and nCas9. Further Cas-equivalents are described in Makarova *et al.*, “C2c2 is a single-component programmable RNA-guided RNA-targeting CRISPR effector,” *Science* 2016; 353(6299), the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[0095] The term “DNA editing efficiency,” as used herein, refers to the number or proportion of intended base pairs that are edited. For example, if a base editor edits 10% of the base pairs that it is intended to target (*e.g.*, within a cell or within a population of cells), then the base editor can be described as being 10% efficient. Some aspects of editing efficiency embrace the modification (*e.g.* deamination) of a specific nucleotide within DNA, without generating a large number or percentage of insertions or deletions (*i.e.*, indels). It is generally accepted that editing while generating less than 5% indels (as measured over total target nucleotide substrates) is high editing efficiency. The generation of more than 20% indels is generally accepted as poor or low editing efficiency. Indel formation may be measured by techniques known in the art, including high-throughput screening of sequencing reads.

[0096] The term “off-target editing frequency,” as used herein, refers to the number or proportion of unintended base pairs, *e.g.*, DNA base pairs, that are edited. On-target and off-target editing frequencies may be measured by the methods and assays described herein, further in view of techniques known in the art, including high-throughput sequencing reads. As used herein, high-throughput sequencing involves the hybridization of nucleic acid primers (*e.g.*, DNA primers) with complementarity to nucleic acid (*e.g.*, DNA) regions just upstream or downstream of the target sequence or off-target sequence of interest. Because the DNA target sequence and the Cas9-independent off-target sequences are known a priori in the methods disclosed herein, nucleic acid primers with sufficient complementarity to regions upstream or downstream of the target sequence and Cas9-independent off-target sequences of interest may be designed using techniques known in the art, such as the PhusionU PCR kit (Life Technologies), Phusion HS II kit (Life Technologies), and Illumina MiSeq kit. The number of off-target DNA edits may be measured by techniques known in

the art, including high-throughput screening of sequencing reads, EndoV-Seq, GUIDE-Seq, CIRCLE-Seq, and Cas-OFFinder. Since many of the Cas9-dependent off-target sites have high sequence identity to the target site of interest, nucleic acid primers with sufficient complementarity to regions upstream or downstream of the Cas9-dependent off-target site may likewise be designed using techniques and kits known in the art. These kits make use of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification, which produces amplicons as intermediate products. The target and off-target sequences may comprise genomic loci that further comprise protospacers and PAMs. Accordingly, the term “amplicons,” as used herein, may refer to nucleic acid molecules that constitute the aggregates of genomic loci, protospacers and PAMs. High-throughput sequencing techniques used herein may further include Sanger sequencing and Illumina-based next-generation genome sequencing (NGS).

[0097] The term “on-target editing,” as used herein, refers to the introduction of intended modifications (*e.g.*, deaminations) to nucleotides (*e.g.*, adenine) in a target sequence, such as using the base editors described herein. The term “off-target DNA editing,” as used herein, refers to the introduction of unintended modifications (*e.g.* deaminations) to nucleotides (*e.g.* adenine) in a sequence outside the canonical base editor binding window (*i.e.*, from one protospacer position to another, typically 2 to 8 nucleotides long). Off-target DNA editing can result from weak or non-specific binding of the gRNA sequence to the target sequence. As used herein, the term “bystander editing” refers to synonymous off-target point mutations at nucleobases that are near (proximate to) the target base and do not change the outcome of the intended mutation (*e.g.*, the intended disruption of a splice acceptor site, incorporation of a premature stop codon, or reversal of a mutant codon). Bystander edits may encompass non-silent mutations in the relevant codon of the transcript that do not result in a different translated protein.

[0098] As used herein, the terms “purity” and “product purity” of a base editor refer to the mean the percentage of edited sequencing reads (reads in which the target nucleobase has been converted to a different base) in which the intended target conversion occurs (*e.g.*, in which the target A, and only the target A, is converted to a G). See Komor *et al.*, *Sci Adv* 3 (2017).

[0099] As used herein, the terms “upstream” and “downstream” are terms of relativity that define the linear position of at least two elements located in a nucleic acid molecule (whether single or double-stranded) that is orientated in a 5'-to-3' direction. In particular, a first element is upstream of a second element in a nucleic acid molecule where the first element is

positioned somewhere that is 5' to the second element. For example, a SNP is upstream of a Cas9-induced nick site if the SNP is on the 5' side of the nick site. Conversely, a first element is downstream of a second element in a nucleic acid molecule where the first element is positioned somewhere that is 3' to the second element. For example, a SNP is downstream of a Cas9-induced nick site if the SNP is on the 3' side of the nick site. The nucleic acid molecule can be a DNA (double or single stranded), RNA (double or single stranded), or a hybrid of DNA and RNA. The analysis is the same for single strand nucleic acid molecule and a double strand molecule since the terms upstream and downstream are in reference to only a single strand of a nucleic acid molecule, except that one needs to select which strand of the double stranded molecule is being considered. Often, the strand of a double stranded DNA which can be used to determine the positional relativity of at least two elements is the "sense" or "coding" strand. In genetics, a "sense" strand is the segment within double-stranded DNA that runs from 5' to 3', and which is complementary to the antisense strand of DNA, or template strand, which runs from 3' to 5'. Thus, as an example, a SNP nucleobase is "downstream" of a promoter sequence in a genomic DNA (which is double-stranded) if the SNP nucleobase is on the 3' side of the promoter on the sense or coding strand.

[00100] The term "effective amount," as used herein, refers to an amount of a biologically active agent that is sufficient to elicit a desired biological response. For example, in some embodiments, an effective amount of a base editor may refer to the amount of the editor that is sufficient to edit a target site nucleotide sequence, *e.g.*, a genome. In some embodiments, an effective amount of a base editor described herein, *e.g.*, of a base editor comprising a nickase Cas9 domain and a guide RNA may refer to the amount of the base editor that is sufficient to induce editing of a target site specifically bound and edited by the base editor. As will be appreciated by the skilled artisan, the effective amount of an agent, *e.g.*, a base editor, a nuclease, a hybrid protein, a protein dimer, a complex of a protein (or protein dimer) and a polynucleotide, or a polynucleotide, may vary depending on various factors as, for example, on the desired biological response, *e.g.*, on the specific allele, genome, or target site to be edited, on the cell or tissue being targeted, and on the agent being used.

[00101] The term "functional equivalent" refers to a second biomolecule that is equivalent in function, but not necessarily equivalent in structure to a first biomolecule. For example, a "Cas9 equivalent" refers to a protein that has the same or substantially the same functions as Cas9, but not necessarily the same amino acid sequence. In the context of the disclosure, the specification refers throughout to "a protein X, or a functional equivalent thereof." In this

context, a “functional equivalent” of protein X embraces any homolog, paralog, fragment, naturally occurring, engineered, circular permutant, mutated, or synthetic version of protein X which bears an equivalent function.

[00102] The term “fusion protein” as used herein refers to a hybrid polypeptide which comprises protein domains from at least two different proteins. One protein may be located at the amino-terminal (N-terminal) portion of the fusion protein or at the carboxy-terminal (C-terminal) protein thus forming an “amino-terminal fusion protein” or a “carboxy-terminal fusion protein,” respectively. A protein may comprise different domains, for example, a nucleic acid binding domain (*e.g.*, the gRNA binding domain of Cas9 that directs the binding of the protein to a target site) and a nucleic acid cleavage domain or a catalytic domain of a nucleic-acid editing protein. Another example includes a Cas9 or equivalent thereof fused to an adenosine deaminase. Any of the proteins described herein may be produced by any method known in the art. For example, the proteins described herein may be produced via recombinant protein expression and purification, which is especially suited for fusion proteins comprising a peptide linker. Methods for recombinant protein expression and purification are well known, and include those described by Green and Sambrook, *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual* (4th ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (2012)), the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[00103] The term “guide nucleic acid” or “napDNAbp-programming nucleic acid molecule” or equivalently “guide sequence” refers to one or more nucleic acid molecules which associate with and direct or otherwise program a napDNAbp protein to localize to a specific target nucleotide sequence (*e.g.*, a gene locus of a genome) that is complementary to the one or more nucleic acid molecules (or a portion or region thereof) associated with the protein, thereby causing the napDNAbp protein to bind to the nucleotide sequence at the specific target site. A non-limiting example is a guide RNA of a Cas protein of a CRISPR-Cas genome editing system. Chemically, guide nucleic acids can be all RNA, all DNA, or a chimeric of RNA and DNA. The guide nucleic acids may also include nucleotide analogs. Guide nucleic acids can be expressed as transcription products or can be synthesized.

[00104] As used herein, a “guide RNA”, or “gRNA,” refers to a synthetic fusion of the endogenous bacterial crRNA and tracrRNA that provides both targeting specificity and a scaffold and/or binding ability for Cas9 nuclease to a target DNA. This synthetic fusion does not exist in nature and is also commonly referred to as an sgRNA. However, the term, guide RNA, also embraces equivalent guide nucleic acid molecules that associate with Cas9

equivalents, homologs, orthologs, or paralogs, whether naturally occurring or non-naturally occurring (*e.g.*, engineered or recombinant), and which otherwise program the Cas9 equivalent to localize to a specific target nucleotide sequence. The Cas9 equivalents may include other nApDNAbp from any type of CRISPR system (*e.g.*, type II, V, VI), including Cpf1 (a type-V CRISPR-Cas systems), C2c1 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system), C2c2 (a type VI CRISPR-Cas system) and C2c3 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system). Further Cas-equivalents are described in Makarova *et al.*, “C2c2 is a single-component programmable RNA-guided RNA-targeting CRISPR effector,” *Science* 2016; 353(6299), the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. Exemplary sequences and structures of guide RNAs are provided herein. In addition, methods for designing appropriate guide RNA sequences are provided herein.

[00105] A guide RNA is a particular type of guide nucleic acid which is mostly commonly associated with a Cas protein of a CRISPR-Cas9 and which associates with Cas9, directing the Cas9 protein to a specific sequence in a DNA molecule that includes complementarity to the protospacer sequence for the guide RNA. Functionally, guide RNAs associate with Cas9, directing (or programming) the Cas9 protein to a specific sequence in a DNA molecule that includes a sequence complementary to the protospacer sequence for the guide RNA.

[00106] As used herein, a “spacer sequence” is the sequence of the guide RNA (~20 nts in length) which has the same sequence (with the exception of uridine bases in place of thymine bases) as the protospacer of the PAM strand of the target (DNA) sequence, and which is complementary to the target strand (or non-PAM strand) of the target sequence.

[00107] As used herein, the “target sequence” refers to the ~20 nucleotides in the target DNA sequence that have complementarity to the protospacer sequence in the PAM strand. The target sequence is the sequence that anneals to or is targeted by the spacer sequence of the guide RNA. The spacer sequence of the guide RNA and the protospacer have the same sequence (except the spacer sequence is RNA, and the protospacer is DNA).

[00108] As used herein, the terms “guide RNA core,” “guide RNA scaffold sequence” and “backbone sequence” refer to the sequence within the gRNA that is responsible for Cas9 binding, it does not include the 20 bp spacer sequence that is used to guide Cas9 to target DNA.

[00109] The term “host cell,” as used herein, refers to a cell that can host and replicate a vector encoding a base editor, guide RNA, and/or combination thereof, as described herein. In some embodiments, host cells are mammalian cells, such as human cells. Provided herein

are methods of transducing and transfecting a host cell, such as a human cell, *e.g.*, a human cell in a subject, with one or more vectors provided herein, such as one or more viral (*e.g.*, rAAV) vectors provided herein.

[00110] It should be appreciated that any of the base editors, guide RNAs, and or combinations thereof, described herein may be introduced into a host cell in any suitable way, either stably or transiently. In some embodiments, a base editor may be transfected into the host cell. In some embodiments, the host cell may be transduced or transfected with a nucleic acid construct that encodes a base editor. For example, a host cell may be transduced (*e.g.*, with a viral particle encoding a base editor) with a nucleic acid that encodes a base editor, or the translated base editor. As an additional example, a host cell may be transfected with a nucleic acid (*e.g.*, a plasmid) that encodes a base editor or the translated base editor. Such transductions or transfections may be stable or transient. In some embodiments, host cells expressing a base editor or containing a base editor may be transduced or transfected with one or more gRNA molecules, for example when the base editor comprises a Cas9 (*e.g.*, nCas9) domain. In some embodiments, a plasmid expressing a base editor may be introduced into host cells through electroporation, transient transfection (*e.g.*, lipofection, such as with Lipofectamine 3000[®]), stable genome integration (*e.g.*, piggybac), viral transduction, or other methods known to those of skill in the art.

[00111] Also provided herein are host cells for packaging of viral particles. In embodiments where the vector is a viral vector, a suitable host cell is a cell that may be infected by the viral vector, can replicate it, and can package it into viral particles that can infect fresh host cells. A cell can host a viral vector if it supports expression of genes of viral vector, replication of the viral genome, and/or the generation of viral particles. In some embodiments, the host cell is a eukaryotic cell, for example, a yeast cell, an insect cell, or a mammalian cell. The type of host cell, will, of course, depend on the vector employed, and suitable host cell/vector combinations will be readily apparent to those of skill in the art.

[00112] An “intein” is a segment of a protein that is able to excise itself and join the remaining portions (the exteins) with a peptide bond in a process known as protein splicing. Inteins are also referred to as “protein introns.” The process of an intein excising itself and joining the remaining portions of the protein is herein termed “protein splicing” or “intein-mediated protein splicing.” In some embodiments, an intein of a precursor protein (an intein containing protein prior to intein-mediated protein splicing) comes from two genes. Such intein is referred to herein as a split intein. For example, in cyanobacteria, DnaE, the catalytic

subunit α of DNA polymerase III, is encoded by two separate genes, dnaE-n and dnaE-c. The intein encoded by the dnaE-n gene is herein referred as “intein-N.” The intein encoded by the dnaE-c gene is herein referred as “intein-C.” In various embodiments of the disclosed nucleic acid molecules, the nucleic acid molecules do not contain an intein. In various embodiments of the disclosed nucleic acid molecules, the nucleic acid molecules do not contain a trans-splicing intein.

[00113] Other intein systems may also be used. For example, a synthetic intein based on the dnaE intein, the Cfa-N and Cfa-C intein pair, has been described (*e.g.*, in Stevens *et al.*, J Am Chem Soc. 2016 Feb 24;138(7):2162-5, incorporated herein by reference). As another example, a synthetic intein based on the dnaE intein, the *Nostoc punctiforme* (Npu) intein pair, has been described (see Zettler, J., Schutz, V. & Mootz, H. D., The naturally split Npu DnaE intein exhibits an extraordinarily high rate in the protein trans-splicing reaction. *FEBS letters* 583, 909-914 (2009), incorporated herein by reference). In some embodiments, the intein is a fast-splicing gp41 intein, such as a gp41-8 intein. Reference is made to Carvajal-Vallejos *et al*, *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 287(34): 28686-28696 (2012), and Pinto, Thornton & Wang, *Nat. Comm.* (2020) 11:1529, each of which are incorporated herein by reference. Non-limiting examples of intein pairs that may be used in accordance with the present disclosure include: Cfa DnaE intein, Npu DnaE intein, gp41-8 intein, Ssp GyrB intein, Ssp DnaX intein, Ter DnaE3 intein, Ter ThyX intein, Rma DnaB intein and Cne Prp8 intein (*e.g.*, as described in US Patent 8,394,604, incorporated herein by reference).

[00114] The term “linker,” as used herein, refers to a chemical group or a molecule linking two molecules or domains, *e.g.* dCas9 and a deaminase. Typically, the linker is positioned between, or flanked by, two groups, molecules, or other domains and connected to each one via a covalent bond, thus connecting the two. In some embodiments, the linker is an amino acid or a plurality of amino acids (*e.g.* a peptide or protein). In some embodiments, the linker is an organic molecule, group, polymer, or chemical domain. Chemical groups include, but are not limited to, disulfide, hydrazone, and azide domains. In some embodiments, the linker is 5-100 amino acids in length, for example, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 30-35, 35-40, 40-45, 45-50, 50-60, 60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, 100-150, or 150-200 amino acids in length. Longer or shorter linkers are also contemplated. In some embodiments, the linker is an XTEN linker, which is 32 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker is a 32-amino acid linker. In other embodiments, the linker is a 30-, 31-, 33- or 34-amino acid linker.

[00115] The term “mutation,” as used herein, refers to a substitution of a residue within a sequence, *e.g.* a nucleic acid or amino acid sequence, with another residue; a deletion or insertion of one or more residues within a sequence; or a substitution of a residue within a sequence of a genome in a subject to be corrected. Mutations are typically described herein by identifying the original residue followed by the position of the residue within the sequence and by the identity of the newly substituted residue. Various methods for making the amino acid substitutions (mutations) provided herein are well known in the art, and are provided by, for example, Green and Sambrook, *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual* (4th ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (2012)). Mutations can include a variety of categories, such as single base polymorphisms, microduplication regions, indel, and inversions, and is not meant to be limiting in any way. Mutations can include “loss-of-function” mutations which are mutations that reduce or abolish a protein activity. Most loss-of-function mutations are recessive, because in a heterozygote the second chromosome copy carries an unmutated version of the gene coding for a fully functional protein whose presence compensates for the effect of the mutation. There are some exceptions where a loss-of-function mutation is dominant, one example being haploinsufficiency, where the organism is unable to tolerate the approximately 50% reduction in protein activity suffered by the heterozygote. This is the explanation for a few genetic diseases in humans, including Marfan syndrome, which results from a mutation in the gene for the connective tissue protein called fibrillin. Mutations also embrace “gain-of-function” mutations, which is one which confers an abnormal activity on a protein or cell that is otherwise not present in a normal condition. Many gain-of-function mutations are in regulatory sequences rather than in coding regions, and can therefore have a number of consequences. Because of their nature, gain-of-function mutations are usually dominant. Many loss-of-function mutations are recessive, such as autosomal recessive. Many of the *USH2A* mutations for which the presently disclosed base editing methods aim to correct are autosomal recessive.

[00116] The term “napDNAbp” which stand for “nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein” refers to any protein that may associate (*e.g.*, form a complex) with one or more nucleic acid molecules (*i.e.*, which may broadly be referred to as a “napDNAbp-programming nucleic acid molecule” and includes, for example, guide RNA in the case of Cas systems) which direct or otherwise program the protein to localize to a specific target nucleotide sequence (*e.g.*, a gene locus of a genome) that is complementary to the one or more nucleic acid molecules (or a portion or region thereof) associated with the protein,

thereby causing the protein to bind to the nucleotide sequence at the specific target site. This term napDNAbp embraces CRISPR-Cas9 proteins, as well as Cas9 equivalents, homologs, orthologs, or paralogs, whether naturally occurring or non-naturally occurring (*e.g.*, engineered or modified), and may include a Cas9 equivalent from any type of CRISPR system (*e.g.*, type II, V, VI), including Cpf1 (a type-V CRISPR-Cas systems), C2c1 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system), C2c2 (a type VI CRISPR-Cas system), C2c3 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system), dCas9, GeoCas9, CjCas9, Cas12a, Cas12b, Cas12c, Cas12d, Cas12g, Cas12h, Cas12i, Cas13d, Cas14, Argonaute, and nCas9. Further Cas-equivalents are described in Makarova *et al.*, “C2c2 is a single-component programmable RNA-guided RNA-targeting CRISPR effector,” *Science* 2016; 353 (6299), the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. However, the nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp) that may be used in connection with this invention are not limited to CRISPR-Cas systems. The invention embraces any such programmable protein, such as the Argonaute protein from *Natronobacterium gregoryi* (NgAgo) which may also be used for DNA-guided genome editing. NgAgo-guide DNA system does not require a PAM sequence or guide RNA molecules, which means genome editing can be performed simply by the expression of generic NgAgo protein and introduction of synthetic oligonucleotides on any genomic sequence. See Gao *et al.*, DNA-guided genome editing using the *Natronobacterium gregoryi* Argonaute. *Nature Biotechnology* 2016; 34(7):768-73, which is incorporated herein by reference.

[00117] In some embodiments, the napDNAbp is a RNA-programmable nuclease, when in a complex with an RNA, may be referred to as a nuclease:RNA complex. Typically, the bound RNA(s) is referred to as a guide RNA (gRNA). gRNAs can exist as a complex of two or more RNAs, or as a single RNA molecule. gRNAs that exist as a single RNA molecule may be referred to as single-guide RNAs (sgRNAs), though “gRNA” is used interchangeably to refer to guide RNAs that exist as either single molecules or as a complex of two or more molecules. Typically, gRNAs that exist as single RNA species comprise two domains: (1) a domain that shares homology to a target nucleic acid (*e.g.*, and directs binding of a Cas9 (or equivalent) complex to the target); and (2) a domain that binds a Cas9 protein. In some embodiments, domain (2) corresponds to a sequence known as a tracrRNA, and comprises a stem-loop structure. For example, in some embodiments, domain (2) is homologous to a tracrRNA as depicted in Figure 1E of Jinek *et al.*, *Science* 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference. Other examples of gRNAs (*e.g.*, those

including domain 2) can be found in U.S. Patent No. 9,340,799, entitled “mRNA-Sensing Switchable gRNAs,” and PCT Application No. PCT/US2014/054247, filed September 6, 2013, published as WO 2015/035136 and entitled “Delivery System For Functional Nucleases,” the entire contents of each are incorporated herein by reference. In some embodiments, a gRNA comprises two or more of domains (1) and (2), and may be referred to as an “extended gRNA.” For example, an extended gRNA will, *e.g.*, bind two or more Cas9 proteins and bind a target nucleic acid at two or more distinct regions, as described herein. The gRNA comprises a nucleotide sequence that complements a target site, which mediates binding of the nuclease/RNA complex to said target site, providing the sequence specificity of the nuclease:RNA complex. In some embodiments, the RNA-programmable nuclease is the (CRISPR-associated system) Cas9 endonuclease, for example Cas9 (Csn1) from *Streptococcus pyogenes* (see, *e.g.*, “Complete genome sequence of an M1 strain of *Streptococcus pyogenes*.” Ferretti J.J. *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 98:4658-4663(2001); “CRISPR RNA maturation by trans-encoded small RNA and host factor RNase III.” Deltcheva E. *et al.*, *Nature* 471:602-607(2011); and “A programmable dual-RNA-guided DNA endonuclease in adaptive bacterial immunity.” Jinek M. *et al.*, *Science* 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[00118] The napDNAbp nucleases (*e.g.*, Cas9) use RNA:DNA hybridization to target DNA cleavage sites, these proteins are able to be targeted, in principle, to any sequence specified by the guide RNA. Methods of using napDNAbp nucleases, such as Cas9, for site-specific cleavage (*e.g.*, to modify a genome) are known in the art (see *e.g.*, Cong, L. *et al.* Multiplex genome engineering using CRISPR/Cas systems. *Science* 339, 819-823 (2013); Mali, P. *et al.* RNA-guided human genome engineering via Cas9. *Science* 339, 823-826 (2013); Hwang, W.Y. *et al.* Efficient genome editing in zebrafish using a CRISPR-Cas system. *Nature Biotechnology* 31, 227-229 (2013); Jinek, M. *et al.* RNA-programmed genome editing in human cells. *eLife* 2, e00471 (2013); Dicarlo, J.E. *et al.*, Genome engineering in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* using CRISPR-Cas systems. *Nucleic Acid Res.* (2013); Jiang, W. *et al.* RNA-guided editing of bacterial genomes using CRISPR-Cas systems. *Nature Biotechnology* 31, 233-239 (2013); the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference).

[00119] The term “nickase” refers to a napDNAbp (*e.g.*, a Cas9) having only a single nuclease activity that cuts only one strand of a target DNA, rather than both strands. Thus, a nickase type napDNAbp does not leave a double-strand break. Exemplary nickases include

SpCas9 and SaCas9 nickases. An exemplary nickase comprises a sequence having at least 99%, or 100%, identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 107.

[00120] A nuclear localization signal or sequence (NLS) is an amino acid sequence that tags, designates, or otherwise marks a protein for import into the cell nucleus by nuclear transport. Typically, this signal consists of one or more short sequences of positively charged lysines or arginines exposed on the protein surface. Different nuclear localized proteins may share the same NLS. An NLS has the opposite function of a nuclear export signal (NES), which targets proteins out of the nucleus. Thus, a single nuclear localization signal can direct the entity with which it is associated to the nucleus of a cell. Such sequences may be of any size and composition, for example, more than 25, 25, 15, 12, 10, 8, 7, 6, 5, or 4 amino acids, but will preferably comprise at least a four to eight amino acid sequence known to function as a nuclear localization signal (NLS).

[00121] The term “nucleic acid molecule” as used herein, refers to RNA as well as single and/or double-stranded DNA. Nucleic acid molecules may be naturally occurring, for example, in the context of a genome, a transcript, an mRNA, tRNA, rRNA, siRNA, snRNA, a plasmid, cosmid, chromosome, chromatid, or other naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule. On the other hand, a nucleic acid molecule may be a non-naturally occurring molecule, *e.g.* a recombinant DNA or RNA, an artificial chromosome, an engineered genome, or fragment thereof, or a synthetic DNA, RNA, DNA/RNA hybrid, or including non-naturally occurring nucleotides or nucleosides.

[00122] Furthermore, the terms “nucleic acid,” “DNA,” “RNA,” and/or similar terms include nucleic acid analogs, *e.g.* analogs having other than a phosphodiester backbone. Nucleic acids may be purified from natural sources, produced using recombinant expression systems and optionally purified, chemically synthesized, *etc.* Where appropriate, *e.g.* in the case of chemically synthesized molecules, nucleic acids may comprise nucleoside analogs such as analogs having chemically modified bases or sugars, and backbone modifications. A nucleic acid sequence is presented in the 5' to 3' direction unless otherwise indicated. In some embodiments, a nucleic acid is or comprises natural nucleosides (*e.g.* adenosine, thymidine, guanosine, cytidine, uridine, deoxyadenosine, deoxythymidine, deoxyguanosine, and deoxycytidine); nucleoside analogs (*e.g.* 2-aminoadenosine, 2-thiothymidine, inosine, pyrrolo-pyrimidine, 3-methyl adenosine, 5-methylcytidine, 2-aminoadenosine, C5-bromouridine, C5-fluorouridine, C5-iodouridine, C5-propynyl-uridine, C5-propynyl-cytidine, C5-methylcytidine, 2-aminoadenosine, 7-deazaadenosine, 7-deazaguanosine,

inosinedenosine, 8-oxoguanosine, O(6)-methylguanine, and 2-thiocytidine); chemically modified bases; biologically modified bases (*e.g.*, methylated bases, such as 2'-O-methylated bases); intercalated bases; modified sugars (*e.g.* 2'-fluororibose, ribose, 2'-deoxyribose, arabinose, and hexose); and/or modified phosphate groups (*e.g.* phosphorothioates and 5'-N-phosphoramidite linkages).

[00123] The term “phage-assisted continuous evolution (PACE),” as used herein, refers to continuous evolution that employs phage as viral vectors. The general concept of PACE technology has been described, for example, in PCT Application No. PCT/US2009/056194, filed September 8, 2009, published as WO 2010/028347 on March 11, 2010; PCT Application No. PCT/US2011/066747, filed December 22, 2011, published as WO 2012/088381 on June 28, 2012; U.S. Application, U.S. Patent No. 9,023,594, issued May 5, 2015, PCT Application No. PCT/US2015/012022, filed January 20, 2015, published as WO 2015/134121 on September 11, 2015, and PCT Application No. PCT/US2016/027795, filed April 15, 2016, published as WO 2016/168631 on October 20, 2016, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[00124] The term “promoter” is art-recognized and refers to a nucleic acid molecule with a sequence recognized by the cellular transcription machinery and able to initiate transcription of a downstream gene. A promoter may be constitutively active, meaning that the promoter is always active in a given cellular context, or conditionally active, meaning that the promoter is only active in the presence of a specific condition. For example, a conditional promoter may only be active in the presence of a specific protein that connects a protein associated with a regulatory element in the promoter to the basic transcriptional machinery, or only in the absence of an inhibitory molecule. A subclass of conditionally active promoters is inducible promoters that require the presence of a small molecule “inducer” for activity. Examples of inducible promoters include, but are not limited to, arabinose-inducible promoters, Tet-on promoters, and tamoxifen-inducible promoters. A variety of constitutive, conditional, and inducible promoters are well known to the skilled artisan, and the skilled artisan will be able to ascertain a variety of such promoters useful in carrying out the instant invention, which is not limited in this respect. In various embodiments, the disclosure provides vectors with appropriate promoters for driving expression of the nucleic acid sequences encoding the base editors (or one or more individual components thereof).

[00125] As used herein, the term “protospacer” refers to the sequence (*e.g.*, a ~20 bp sequence) in DNA adjacent to the PAM (protospacer adjacent motif) sequence which shares

the same sequence as the spacer sequence of the guide RNA, and which is complementary to the target sequence of the non-PAM strand. The spacer sequence of the guide RNA anneals to the target sequence located on the non-PAM strand. In order for Cas9 to function it also requires a specific protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) that varies depending on the bacterial species of the Cas9 gene. The most commonly used Cas9 nuclease, derived from *S. pyogenes*, recognizes a PAM sequence of NGG that is found directly downstream of the protospacer sequence in the genomic DNA, on the non-target strand. The skilled person will appreciate that the literature in the state of the art sometimes refers to the “protospacer” as the ~20-nt target-specific guide sequence on the guide RNA itself, rather than referring to it as a “spacer” (and that the protospacer (DNA) and the spacer (RNA) have the same sequence). Thus, the term “protospacer” as used herein may be used interchangeably with the term “spacer.” The context of the description surrounding the appearance of either “protospacer” or “spacer” will help inform the reader as to whether the term is reference to the gRNA or the DNA sequence. Both usages of these terms are acceptable since the state of the art uses both terms in each of these ways.

[00126] As used herein, the term “protospacer adjacent sequence” or “PAM” refers to an approximately 2-6 base pair DNA sequence that is an important targeting component of a Cas9 nuclease. Typically, the PAM sequence is on either strand, and is downstream in the 5' to 3' direction of Cas9 cut site. The canonical PAM sequence (i.e., the PAM sequence that is associated with the Cas9 nuclease of *Streptococcus pyogenes* or SpCas9) is 5'-NGG-3' wherein “N” is any nucleobase followed by two guanine (“G”) nucleobases. Different PAM sequences can be associated with different Cas9 nucleases or equivalent proteins from different organisms. In addition, any given Cas9 nuclease, e.g., SpCas9, may be modified to alter the PAM specificity of the nuclease such that the nuclease recognizes alternative PAM sequence.

[00127] For example, with reference to the canonical SpCas9 amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 74, the PAM sequence can be modified by introducing one or more mutations, including (a) D1135V, R1335Q, and T1337R “the VRQR variant”, which alters the PAM specificity to NGAN or NGNG, (b) D1135E, R1335Q, and T1337R “the EQR variant”, which alters the PAM specificity to NGAG, and (c) D1135V, G1218R, R1335E, and T1337R “the VRER variant”, which alters the PAM specificity to NGCG. In addition, the D1135E variant of canonical SpCas9 still recognizes NGG, but it is more selective compared to the wild type SpCas9 protein.

[00128] It will also be appreciated that Cas9 enzymes from different bacterial species (i.e., Cas9 orthologs) can have varying PAM specificities. For example, Cas9 from *Staphylococcus aureus* (SaCas9) recognizes NGRRT or NGRRN. In addition, Cas9 from *Neisseria meningitis* (NmeCas) recognizes NNNNGATT. A Cas9 from *Staphylococcus auricularis* (SauriCas9) recognizes NNGG and NNGG. A Cas9 from *Streptococcus thermophilis* (StCas9) recognizes NNAGAAW. A Cas9 from *Treponema denticola* (TdCas) recognizes NAAAAC. These are example are not meant to be limiting. It will be further appreciated that non-SpCas9s bind a variety of PAM sequences, which makes them useful when no suitable SpCas9 PAM sequence is present at the desired target cut site. Furthermore, non-SpCas9s may have other characteristics that make them more useful than SpCas9. For example, Cas9 from *Staphylococcus aureus* (SaCas9) is about 1 kilobase smaller than SpCas9, so it can be packaged into adeno-associated virus (AAV). Further reference may be made to Shah et al., “Protospacer recognition motifs: mixed identities and functional diversity,” *RNA Biology*, 10(5): 891-899 (which is incorporated herein by reference).

[00129] The terms “protein,” “peptide,” and “polypeptide” are used interchangeably herein, and refer to a polymer of amino acid residues linked together by peptide (amide) bonds. The terms refer to a protein, peptide, or polypeptide of any size, structure, or function. Typically, a protein, peptide, or polypeptide will be at least three amino acids long. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may refer to an individual protein or a collection of proteins. One or more of the amino acids in a protein, peptide, or polypeptide may be modified, for example, by the addition of a chemical entity such as a carbohydrate group, a hydroxyl group, a phosphate group, a farnesyl group, an isofarnesyl group, a fatty acid group, a linker for conjugation, functionalization, or other modification, etc. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may also be a single molecule or may be a multi-molecular complex. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may be just a fragment of a naturally occurring protein or peptide. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may be naturally occurring, recombinant, or synthetic, or any combination thereof. It should be appreciated that the disclosure provides any of the polypeptide sequences provided herein without an N-terminal methionine (M) residue.

[00130] In genetics, a “sense” strand is the segment within double-stranded DNA that runs from 5' to 3', and which is complementary to the antisense strand of DNA, or template strand, which runs from 3' to 5'. In the case of a DNA segment that encodes a protein, the sense strand is the strand of DNA that has the same sequence as the mRNA, which takes the antisense strand as its template during transcription, and eventually undergoes (typically, not

always) translation into a protein. The antisense strand is thus responsible for the RNA that is later translated to protein, while the sense strand possesses a nearly identical makeup to that of the mRNA. Note that for each segment of dsDNA, there will possibly be two sets of sense and antisense, depending on which direction one reads (since sense and antisense is relative to perspective). It is ultimately the gene product, or mRNA, that dictates which strand of one segment of dsDNA is referred to as sense or antisense.

[00131] A “split Cas9 protein” or “split Cas9” refers to a Cas9 protein that is provided as an N-terminal portion (which is referred to herein interchangeably as an N-terminal half) and a C-terminal portion (which is referred to herein interchangeably as a C-terminal half) encoded by two separate nucleotide sequences. The polypeptides corresponding to the N-terminal portion and the C-terminal portion of the Cas9 protein may be combined (joined) to form a complete Cas9 protein. A Cas9 protein is known to consist of a bi-lobed structure linked by a disordered linker (*e.g.*, as described in Nishimasu *et al.*, *Cell*, Volume 156, Issue 5, pp. 935–949, 2014, incorporated herein by reference). In some embodiments, the “split” occurs between the two lobes, generating two portions of a Cas9 protein, each containing one lobe.

[00132] The term “subject,” as used herein, refers to an individual organism, for example, an individual mammal. In some embodiments, the subject is a human. In some embodiments, the subject is a non-human mammal. In some embodiments, the subject is a non-human primate. In some embodiments, the subject is a rodent. In some embodiments, the subject is a sheep, a goat, cattle, a cat, or a dog. In some embodiments, the subject is a vertebrate, an amphibian, a reptile, a fish, an insect, a fly, or a nematode. In some embodiments, the subject is a research animal. In some embodiments, the subject is genetically engineered, *e.g.*, a genetically engineered non-human subject. The subject may be of either sex and at any stage of development. In some embodiments, the subject is a domesticated animal. In some embodiments, the subject is a plant.

[00133] The term “target site” refers to a sequence within a nucleic acid molecule that is edited by a base editor (BE) disclosed herein. The term “target site,” in the context of a single strand, also can refer to the “target strand” which anneals or binds to the spacer sequence of the guide RNA. The target site can refer, in certain embodiments, to a segment of double-stranded DNA that includes the protospacer (*i.e.*, the strand of the target site that has the same nucleotide sequence as the spacer sequence of the guide RNA) on the PAM-strand (or non-target strand) and target strand, which is complementary to the protospacer and

the spacer alike, and which anneals to the spacer of the guide RNA, thereby targeting or programming a Cas9 base editor to target the target site.

[00134] A “transcriptional terminator” is a nucleic acid sequence that causes transcription to stop. A transcriptional terminator may be unidirectional or bidirectional. It is comprised of a DNA sequence involved in specific termination of an RNA transcript by an RNA polymerase. A transcriptional terminator sequence prevents transcriptional activation of downstream nucleic acid sequences by upstream promoters. A transcriptional terminator may be necessary *in vivo* to achieve desirable expression levels or to avoid transcription of certain sequences. A transcriptional terminator is considered to be “operably linked to” a nucleotide sequence when it is able to terminate the transcription of the sequence it is linked to.

[00135] In eukaryotic systems, the terminator region may comprise specific DNA sequences that permit site-specific cleavage of the new transcript so as to expose a polyadenylation site. This signals a specialized endogenous polymerase to add a stretch of about 200 A residues (polyA) to the 3' end of the transcript. RNA molecules modified with this polyA tail (signal) appear to more stable and are translated more efficiently. Thus, in some embodiments involving eukaryotes, a terminator may comprise a signal for the cleavage of the RNA. In some embodiments, the terminator signal promotes polyadenylation of the message. The terminator and/or polyadenylation site elements may serve to enhance output nucleic acid levels and/or to minimize read through between nucleic acids.

[00136] In some embodiments, the transcriptional terminator contains a posttranscriptional response element, a sequence that, when transcribed, creates a tertiary structure enhancing expression. In some embodiments, the posttranscriptional response element is derived from woodchuck hepatitis virus (WHV), *i.e.*, is a WPRE. In some embodiments, the terminator contains the gamma subunit of a WPRE, or a W3, as first reported in Choi, J. H., *et al.* (2014), *Mol. Brain* 7: 17, incorporated herein by reference. The WPRE also has alpha and beta subunits. Typically, the posttranscriptional response element is inserted 5' of the transcriptional terminator. In certain embodiments, the WPRE is a truncated WPRE sequence. In certain embodiments, the WPRE is a full-length WPRE.

[00137] Terminators for use in accordance with the present disclosure include any terminator of transcription described herein or known to one of ordinary skill in the art. Examples of terminators include, without limitation, the termination sequences of genes such as, for example, the bovine growth hormone terminator, and viral termination sequences such as, for example, the SV40 terminator and bGH terminator. In some embodiments, the

termination signal may be a sequence that cannot be transcribed or translated, such as those resulting from a sequence truncation.

[00138] As used herein, “transitions” refer to the interchange of purine nucleobases (A ↔ G) or the interchange of pyrimidine nucleobases (C ↔ T). This class of interchanges involves nucleobases of similar shape. The compositions and methods disclosed herein are capable of inducing one or more transitions in a target DNA molecule. The compositions and methods disclosed herein are also capable of inducing both transitions and transversion in the same target DNA molecule. These changes involve A ↔ G, G ↔ A, C ↔ T, or T ↔ C. In the context of a double-strand DNA with Watson-Crick paired nucleobases, transitions refer to the following base pair exchanges: A:T ↔ G:C, G:G ↔ A:T, C:G ↔ T:A, or T:A ↔ C:G. The compositions and methods disclosed herein are capable of inducing one or more transitions in a target DNA molecule. The compositions and methods disclosed herein are also capable of inducing both transitions and transversion in the same target DNA molecule, as well as other nucleotide changes, including deletions and insertions.

[00139] As used herein, “transversions” refer to the interchange of purine nucleobases for pyrimidine nucleobases, or in the reverse and thus, involve the interchange of nucleobases with dissimilar shape. These changes involve T ↔ A, T ↔ G, C ↔ G, C ↔ A, A ↔ T, A ↔ C, G ↔ C, and G ↔ T. In the context of a double-strand DNA with Watson-Crick paired nucleobases, transversions refer to the following base pair exchanges: T:A ↔ A:T, T:A ↔ G:C, C:G ↔ G:C, C:G ↔ A:T, A:T ↔ T:A, A:T ↔ C:G, G:C ↔ C:G, and G:C ↔ T:A.

[00140] The terms “treatment,” “treat,” and “treating,” refer to a clinical intervention aimed to reverse, alleviate, delay the onset of, or inhibit the progress of a disease or disorder, or one or more symptoms thereof, as described herein. As used herein, the terms “treatment,” “treat,” and “treating” refer to a clinical intervention aimed to reverse, alleviate, delay the onset of, or inhibit the progress of a disease or disorder, or one or more symptoms thereof, as described herein. In some embodiments, treatment may be administered after one or more symptoms have developed and/or after a disease has been diagnosed. In other embodiments, treatment may be administered in the absence of symptoms, *e.g.*, to prevent or delay onset of a symptom or inhibit onset or progression of a disease. For example, treatment may be administered to a susceptible individual prior to the onset of symptoms (*e.g.*, in light of a history of symptoms and/or in light of genetic or other susceptibility factors). Treatment may also be continued after symptoms have resolved, for example, to prevent or delay their recurrence.

[00141] As used herein, the terms “upstream” and “downstream” are terms of relativity that define the linear position of at least two elements located in a nucleic acid molecule (whether single or double-stranded) that is orientated in a 5'-to-3' direction. In particular, a first element is upstream of a second element in a nucleic acid molecule where the first element is positioned somewhere that is 5' to the second element. For example, a SNP is upstream of a Cas9-induced nick site if the SNP is on the 5' side of the nick site. Conversely, a first element is downstream of a second element in a nucleic acid molecule where the first element is positioned somewhere that is 3' to the second element. For example, a SNP is downstream of a Cas9-induced nick site if the SNP is on the 3' side of the nick site. The nucleic acid molecule can be a DNA (double or single stranded), RNA (double or single stranded), or a hybrid of DNA and RNA. The analysis is the same for single strand nucleic acid molecule and a double strand molecule since the terms upstream and downstream are in reference to only a single strand of a nucleic acid molecule, except that one needs to select which strand of the double stranded molecule is being considered. Often, the strand of a double stranded DNA which can be used to determine the positional relativity of at least two elements is the “sense” or “coding” strand. In genetics, a “sense” strand is the segment within double-stranded DNA that runs from 5' to 3', and which is complementary to the antisense strand of DNA, or template strand, which runs from 3' to 5'. Thus, as an example, a SNP nucleobase is “downstream” of a promoter sequence in a genomic DNA (which is double-stranded) if the SNP nucleobase is on the 3' side of the promoter on the sense or coding strand.

[00142] As used herein, the term “variant” refers to a protein having characteristics that deviate from what occurs in nature that retains at least one functional *i.e.* binding, interaction, or enzymatic ability and/or therapeutic property thereof. A “variant” is at least about 70% identical, at least about 80% identical, at least about 90% identical, at least about 95% identical, at least about 96% identical, at least about 97% identical, at least about 98% identical, at least about 99% identical, at least about 99.5% identical, or at least about 99.9% identical to the wild type protein. For instance, a variant of Cas9 may comprise a Cas9 that has one or more changes in amino acid residues as compared to a wild type Cas9 amino acid sequence. As another example, a variant of a deaminase may comprise a deaminase that has one or more changes in amino acid residues as compared to a wild type deaminase amino acid sequence, *e.g.* following ancestral sequence reconstruction of the deaminase. These changes include chemical modifications, including substitutions of different amino acid

residues truncations, covalent additions (*e.g.* of a tag), and any other mutations. The term also encompasses circular permutants, mutants, truncations, or domains of a reference sequence, and which display the same or substantially the same functional activity or activities as the reference sequence. This term also embraces fragments of a wild type protein.

[00143] The level or degree of which the property is retained may be reduced relative to the wild type protein but is typically the same or similar in kind. Generally, variants are overall very similar, and in many regions, identical to the amino acid sequence of the protein described herein. A skilled artisan will appreciate how to make and use variants that maintain all, or at least some, of a functional ability or property. The variant proteins may comprise, or alternatively consist of, an amino acid sequence which is at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or 100%, identical to, for example, the amino acid sequence of a wild-type protein, or any protein provided herein.

[00144] By a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least, for example, 95% “identical” to a query amino acid sequence, it is intended that the amino acid sequence of the subject polypeptide is identical to the query sequence except that the subject polypeptide sequence may include up to five amino acid alterations per each 100 amino acids of the query amino acid sequence. In other words, to obtain a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a query amino acid sequence, up to 5% of the amino acid residues in the subject sequence may be inserted, deleted, or substituted with another amino acid. These alterations of the reference sequence may occur at the amino- or carboxy-terminal positions of the reference amino acid sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among residues in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence.

[00145] As a practical matter, whether any particular polypeptide is at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% identical to, for instance, the amino acid sequence of a fusion protein, can be determined conventionally using known computer programs. A preferred method for determining the best overall match between a query sequence (a sequence of the present invention) and a subject sequence, also referred to as a global sequence alignment, can be determined using the FASTDB computer program based on the algorithm of Brutlag *et al.* (*Comp. App. Biosci.* 6:237-245 (1990)). In a sequence alignment the query and subject sequences are either both nucleotide sequences or both amino acid sequences. The result of said global sequence alignment is expressed as percent identity. Preferred parameters used in a FASTDB amino acid alignment are: Matrix=PAM 0, k-

tuple=2, Mismatch Penalty=1, Joining Penalty=20, Randomization Group Length=0, Cutoff Score=1, Window Size=sequence length, Gap Penalty=5, Gap Size Penalty=0.05, Window Size=500 or the length of the subject amino acid sequence, whichever is shorter.

[00146] If the subject sequence is shorter than the query sequence due to N- or C-terminal deletions, not because of internal deletions, a manual correction must be made to the results. This is because the FASTDB program does not account for N- and C-terminal truncations of the subject sequence when calculating global percent identity. For subject sequences truncated at the N- and C-termini, relative to the query sequence, the percent identity is corrected by calculating the number of residues of the query sequence that are N- and C-terminal of the subject sequence, which are not matched/aligned with a corresponding subject residue, as a percent of the total bases of the query sequence. Whether a residue is matched/aligned is determined by results of the FASTDB sequence alignment. This percentage is then subtracted from the percent identity, calculated by the above FASTDB program using the specified parameters, to arrive at a final percent identity score. This final percent identity score is what is used for the purposes of the present invention. Only residues to the N- and C-termini of the subject sequence, which are not matched/aligned with the query sequence, are considered for the purposes of manually adjusting the percent identity score. That is, only query residue positions outside the farthest N- and C-terminal residues of the subject sequence.

[00147] The term “vector,” as used herein, refers to a nucleic acid that can be modified to encode a gene of interest and that is able to enter into a host cell and replicate within the host cell, and then transfer a replicated form of the vector into another host cell. Exemplary suitable vectors include viral vectors, such as AAV vectors or bacteriophages and filamentous phage, and conjugative plasmids. Additional suitable vectors will be apparent to those of skill in the art based on the present disclosure.

[00148] As used herein the term “wild type” is a term of the art understood by skilled persons and means the typical form of an organism, strain, gene or characteristic as it occurs in nature as distinguished from mutant or variant forms.

napDNAbp domains

[00149] The base editors described herein comprise a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding (napDNAbp) domain. The napDNAbp is associated with at least one guide nucleic acid (e.g., guide RNA), which localizes the napDNAbp to a DNA sequence that comprises a

DNA strand (i.e., a target strand) that is complementary to the guide nucleic acid, or a portion thereof (e.g., the protospacer of a guide RNA). In other words, the guide nucleic-acid “programs” the napDNAbp domain to localize and bind to a complementary sequence of the target strand. Binding of the napDNAbp domain to a complementary sequence enables the nucleobase modification domain (i.e., the adenosine deaminase domain) of the base editor to access and enzymatically deaminate a target base in the target strand.

[00150] The napDNAbp can be a CRISPR (clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeat)-associated nuclease. As outlined above, CRISPR is an adaptive immune system that provides protection against mobile genetic elements (viruses, transposable elements and conjugative plasmids). CRISPR clusters contain spacers, sequences complementary to antecedent mobile elements, and target invading nucleic acids. CRISPR clusters are transcribed and processed into CRISPR RNA (crRNA). In type II CRISPR systems correct processing of pre-crRNA requires a trans-encoded small RNA (tracrRNA), endogenous ribonuclease 3 (rnc) and a Cas9 protein. The tracrRNA serves as a guide for ribonuclease 3-aided processing of pre-crRNA. Subsequently, Cas9/crRNA/tracrRNA endonucleolytically cleaves linear or circular dsDNA target complementary to the spacer. The target strand not complementary to crRNA is first cut endonucleolytically, then trimmed 3'-5' exonucleolytically. In nature, DNA-binding and cleavage typically requires protein and both RNAs. However, single guide RNAs (“sgRNA”, or simply “gNRA”) can be engineered so as to incorporate aspects of both the crRNA and tracrRNA into a single RNA species. See, e.g., Jinek *et al.*, *Science* 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

[00151] The below description of various napDNAbps which can be used in connection with the disclosed adenosine deaminases is not meant to be limiting in any way. The base editors may comprise the canonical SpCas9, or any ortholog Cas9 protein, or any variant Cas9 protein—including any naturally occurring variant, mutant, or otherwise engineered version of Cas9—that is known or which can be made or evolved through a directed evolutionary or otherwise mutagenic process. In various embodiments, the napDNAbp has a nickase activity, i.e., only cleave one strand of the target DNA sequence. In other embodiments, the napDNAbp has an inactive nuclease, e.g., are “dead” proteins. Other variant Cas9 proteins that may be used are those having a smaller molecular weight than the canonical SpCas9 (e.g., for easier delivery) or having modified or rearranged primary amino acid sequence (e.g., the circular permutant forms). The base editors described herein may

also comprise Cas9 equivalents, including Cas12a/Cpf1 proteins. The napDNABps used herein (*e.g.*, SpCas9, SaCas9, or SaCas9 variant or SpCas9 variant) may also contain various modifications that alter/enhance their PAM specificities. The disclosure contemplates any Cas9, Cas9 variant, or Cas9 equivalent which has at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 91%, at least 92%, at least 93%, at least 94%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.9% sequence identity to any of the Cas9 proteins disclosed herein. In some embodiments, the napDNABp domain comprises a nickase variant of a wild-type Cas9. In some embodiments, the napDNABp domain comprises any of the Cas9 nickases disclosed herein.

[00152] In some embodiments, the napDNABp directs cleavage of one or both strands at the location of a target sequence, such as within the target sequence and/or within the complement of the target sequence. In some embodiments, the napDNABp directs cleavage of one or both strands within about 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 100, 200, 500, or more base pairs from the first or last nucleotide of a target sequence. For example, an aspartate-to-alanine substitution (D10A) in the RuvC I catalytic domain of Cas9 from *S. pyogenes* converts Cas9 from a nuclease that cleaves both strands to a nickase (cleaves a single strand). Other examples of mutations that render Cas9 a nickase include, without limitation, H840A, N854A, and N863A in reference to the canonical SpCas9 sequence, or to equivalent amino acid positions in other Cas9 variants or Cas9 equivalents.

[00153] As used herein, the term “Cas protein” refers to a full-length Cas protein obtained from nature, a recombinant Cas protein having a sequences that differs from a naturally occurring Cas protein, or any fragment of a Cas protein that nevertheless retains all or a significant amount of the requisite basic functions needed for the disclosed methods, *i.e.*, (i) possession of nucleic-acid programmable binding of the Cas protein to a target DNA, and (ii) ability to nick the target DNA sequence on one strand. The Cas proteins contemplated herein embrace CRISPR Cas9 proteins, as well as Cas9 equivalents, variants (*e.g.*, Cas9 nickase (nCas9) or nuclease inactive Cas9 (dCas9)) homologs, orthologs, or paralogs, whether naturally occurring or non-naturally occurring (*e.g.*, engineered or recombinant), and may include a Cas9 equivalent from any type of CRISPR system (*e.g.*, type II, V, VI), including Cpf1 (a type-V CRISPR-Cas systems), C2c1 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system), C2c2 (a type VI CRISPR-Cas system) and C2c3 (a type V CRISPR-Cas system). Further Cas-equivalents are described in Makarova *et al.*, “C2c2 is a single-component programmable RNA-guided

RNA-targeting CRISPR effector,” *Science* 2016; 353(6299), the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[00154] The term “Cas9” or “Cas9 domain” embraces any naturally occurring Cas9 from any organism, any naturally-occurring Cas9 equivalent or functional fragment thereof, any Cas9 homolog, ortholog, or paralog from any organism, and any mutant or variant of a Cas9, naturally-occurring or engineered. The term Cas9 is not meant to be particularly limiting and may be referred to as a “Cas9 or equivalent.” Exemplary Cas9 proteins are further described herein and/or are described in the art and are incorporated herein by reference. The present disclosure is unlimited with regard to the particular napDNAbp that is employed in the base editors of the disclosure.

[00155] As used herein, the terms “compact Cas9 protein”, “compact napDNAbp” and “compact variant [of a Cas protein]” refers to a Cas9 protein or variant that has an amino acid length of less than about 1250 amino acids. In some embodiments, a compact Cas9 protein or compact napDNAbp contains less than 1250 amino acids, less than 1240 amino acids, less than 1230 amino acids, less than 1220 amino acids, less than 1210 amino acids, less than 1200 amino acids, less than 1190 amino acids, less than 1180 amino acids, less than 1170 amino acids, less than 1160 amino acids, less than 1150 amino acids, less than 1140 amino acids, less than 1130 amino acids, less than 1120 amino acids, less than 1110 amino acids, less than 1100 amino acids, less than 1050 amino acids, less than 1000 amino acids, less than 950 amino acids, less than 900 amino acids, less than 850 amino acids, less than 800 amino acids, less than 750 amino acids, less than 700 amino acids, less than 650 amino acids, less than 600 amino acids, less than 550 amino acids, or less than 500 amino acids in length. These terms also embrace any Cas9 protein or variant encoded by a nucleic acid sequence having a length of less than about 3750 nucleotides. The base editors of the disclosure may comprise compact napDNAbps and/or compact Cas9 proteins. In some embodiments, the compact Cas9 protein is about 350 amino acids shorter than a SpCas9. In some embodiments, the compact Cas9 protein is about 1000 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the compact protein is a compact variant of *S. pyogenes* Cas9 (SpCas9), Cpf1, CasX, CasY, C2c1, C2c2, C2c3, Cas12a, Cas12b, Cas12g, Cas12h, Cas12i, Cas13b, Cas13c, Cas13d, Cas14, Csn2, Cas3, or CasΦ. A “compact variant” may refer to a Cas9 protein that has one or more truncations, or one or more deletions, relative to a wild-type Cas9 protein, such as a wild-type SpCas9 or Cpf1.

[00156] Additional Cas9 sequences and structures are well known to those of skill in the art (see, e.g., “Complete genome sequence of an M1 strain of *Streptococcus pyogenes*.” Ferretti et al., J.J., McShan W.M., Ajdic D.J., Savic D.J., Savic G., Lyon K., Primeaux C., Sezate S., Suvorov A.N., Kenton S., Lai H.S., Lin S.P., Qian Y., Jia H.G., Najjar F.Z., Ren Q., Zhu H., Song L., White J., Yuan X., Clifton S.W., Roe B.A., McLaughlin R.E., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 98:4658-4663(2001); “CRISPR RNA maturation by trans-encoded small RNA and host factor RNase III.” Deltcheva E., Chylinski K., Sharma C.M., Gonzales K., Chao Y., Pirzada Z.A., Eckert M.R., Vogel J., Charpentier E., *Nature* 471:602-607(2011); and “A programmable dual-RNA-guided DNA endonuclease in adaptive bacterial immunity.” Jinek M., Chylinski K., Fonfara I., Hauer M., Doudna J.A., Charpentier E. *Science* 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference), and also provided below.

[00157] Examples of Cas9 and Cas9 equivalents are provided as follows; however, these specific examples are not meant to be limiting. The base editors of the present disclosure may use any suitable napDNAbp, including any suitable Cas9 or Cas9 equivalent.

napDNAbp nickases

[00158] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors may comprise a napDNAbp domain that comprises a nickase. In some embodiments, the base editors described herein comprise a Cas9 nickase. The term “Cas9 nickase” or “nCas9” refers to a variant of Cas9 which is capable of introducing a single-strand break in a double strand DNA molecule target. In some embodiments, the Cas9 nickase comprises only a single functioning nuclease domain. The wild type Cas9 (e.g., the canonical SpCas9) comprises two separate nuclease domains, namely, the RuvC domain (which cleaves the non-protospacer DNA strand) and HNH domain (which cleaves the protospacer DNA strand). In one embodiment, the Cas9 nickase comprises a mutation in the RuvC domain which inactivates the RuvC nuclease activity. For example, mutations in aspartate (D) 10, histidine (H) 983, aspartate (D) 986, or glutamate (E) 762, have been reported as loss-of-function mutations of the RuvC nuclease domain and the creation of a functional Cas9 nickase (e.g., Nishimasu et al., “Crystal structure of Cas9 in complex with guide RNA and target DNA,” *Cell* 156(5), 935–949, which is incorporated herein by reference). Thus, nickase mutations in the RuvC domain could include D10X, H983X, D986X, or E762X, wherein X is any amino acid other than the wild type amino acid. In certain embodiments, the nickase could be D10A, of H983A, or D986A, or E762A, or a combination thereof.

[00159] In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises an *S. pyogenes* Cas9 nickase (SpCas9n). In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed based editors is comprises at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 365 or 370. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 365. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370.

[00160] In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises an *S. aureus* Cas9 nickase (SaCas9n). In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed based editors is comprises at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 438. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 438.

[00161] In various embodiments, the Cas9 nickase can having a mutation in the RuvC nuclease domain and have one of the following amino acid sequences, or a variant thereof having an amino acid sequence that has at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 99% sequence identity thereto.

Description	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
Cas9 nickase <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with D10X, wherein X is any alternate amino acid	MDKKYSIGLXIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVPSSKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLF DSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSESLV EEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADLRILIYALAH MIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVKLFQVLQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKILSA RLSKSRLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSK DTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADFLAAKNLSAAILSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMI KRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYK FIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKNLREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQED FYFPLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHSLLEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRF NASLGTYHDLKIIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTTLTFEDREMIERLKYAH LFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWRSLRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQDLSLHEHIANLAGSPAICKGILQTVKVVDE LVKVMGRHKPENIVIEMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEELGKELGSQILKEH PVENTQLQNEKLYLYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSD IDNKVLRSDKNRGSNDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTK AERGGSELDDKAGFIKRLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKV ITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVRINNYHHAHDAYLNAVVGTAIIKYPKLESEF VYGDYKVDVRKMIKSEKQEGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRP LIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVLSPQVNVKKEVQTTGGFSKESILPKR NSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVAKVEKGKSKKLKSVKELLGI TIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIPLPKYSLFELENGRKRMLASAGEL QKGNELALPSKYVNFYLLASHYEKLKGPEDNEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIIEQI SEFSKRVLADANLDKVL SAYNKHRRDKPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAFKYF DTTIDRKRYTSTKEVLDAITVHQSITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	SEQ ID NO: 361
Cas9 nickase	MDKKYSIGLDIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVPSSKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLF DSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSESLV EEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADLRILIYALAH	SEQ ID NO: 362

Description	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with E762X, wherein X is any alternate amino acid	MIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVDKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSARLSKSRRLLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSKDTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILLSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMIKRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYKFIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKNLREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQEDFYFPLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHKSHLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRFNASLGTYHDLKIIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTLTLFEDREMIEERLKTYAHLFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAICKGILQTVKVVDELVKVMGRHKPENIVIXMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEEGIKELGSQILKEHPVENTQLQNEKLYLYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSIDNKVLTRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTKAERGGLSELDKAGFIKRQLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKVITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVREINNYHHAHDAYLNAVVG TALIKKYPKLES EFVYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVL SMPQVNIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILPKRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVAKVEKGKSKKLKSVKEL LGITIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIILPKYSLFELENGRKRMLASAGELQKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIEIEQISEFSKRVILADANLDKVL SAYNKHHRDKPIREQAENIHLFTLTNLGAPAAF KYFDTTIDRKRYTSTKEVL DATLIHQ SITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	
Cas9 nickase <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with H983X, wherein X is any alternate amino acid	MDKKYSIGLDIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVP SKKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLFDSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSESLVEEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADRLRIYLALAHMIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVDKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSARLSKSRRLLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSKDTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILLSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMIKRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYKFIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKNLREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQEDFYFPLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHKSHLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRFNASLGTYHDLKIIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTLTLFEDREMIEERLKTYAHLFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAICKGILQTVKVVDELVKVMGRHKPENIVIAMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEEGIKELGSQILKEHPVENTQLQNEKLYLYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSIDNKVLTRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTKAERGGLSELDKAGFIKRQLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKVITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVREINNYHXAHHDAYLNAVVG TALIKKYPKLESEF VYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVL SMPQVNIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILPKRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVAKVEKGKSKKLKSVKEL LGITIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIILPKYSLFELENGRKRMLASAGELQKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIEIEQISEFSKRVILADANLDKVL SAYNKHHRDKPIREQAENIHLFTLTNLGAPAAF KYFDTTIDRKRYTSTKEVL DATLIHQ SITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	SEQ ID NO: 363
Cas9 nickase <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with D986X, wherein X is any alternate amino acid	MDKKYSIGLDIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVP SKKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLFDSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSESLVEEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADRLRIYLALAHMIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVDKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSARLSKSRRLLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSKDTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILLSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMIKRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYKFIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKNLREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQEDFYFPLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHKSHLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRFNASLGTYHDLKIIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTLTLFEDREMIEERLKTYAHLFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAICKGILQTVKVVDELVKVMGRHKPENIVIAMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEEGIKELGSQILKEHPVENTQLQNEKLYLYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSIDNKVLTRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTKAERGGLSELDKAGFIKRQLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKVITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVREINNYHXAHHDAYLNAVVG TALIKKYPKLESEF VYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVL SMPQVNIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILPKRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVAKVEKGKSKKLKSVKEL LGITIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIILPKYSLFELENGRKRMLASAGELQKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIEIEQISEFSKRVILADANLDKVL SAYNKHHRDKPIREQAENIHLFTLTNLGAPAAF KYFDTTIDRKRYTSTKEVL DATLIHQ SITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	SEQ ID NO: 364

Description	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
	LVKVMGRHKPENIVIAMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEEGKELGSQILKEH PVENTQLQNEKLYLYYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSD IDNKVLRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTK AERGGLSELDKAGFIKRLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKV ITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVREINNYHHAHXAYLNAVVGTAIIKKYPKLESEF VYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRP LIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVLSPQVNVIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILPKR NSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKEKGKSKKLKSVKELLGI TIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIIKLPKYSLELENGRKRMLASAGEL QKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDNEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIEIQI SEFSKRVLADANLDKVL SAYNKHRRDKPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAFKYF DTTIDRKRYTSTKEVLDATLIHQSIITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	
Cas9 nickase <i>Streptococcus</i> <i>pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with D10A	MDKKYSIGLAIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVPSSKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLF DSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSEESFLV EEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADRLIYLALAH MIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKILSA RLSKSRLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNDLAEDAKLQLSK DTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILLSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMI KRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYK FIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKNLREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQED FYPFLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEFVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHSLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRF NASLGTYHDLLKIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVTLTLTFEDREMIEERLKYAH LFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWRLSRKLINGIRDQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAIIKGILQTVKVVDE LVKVMGRHKPENIVIAMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEEGKELGSQILKEH PVENTQLQNEKLYLYYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSD IDNKVLRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTK AERGGLSELDKAGFIKRLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKV ITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVREINNYHHAHDAYLNAVVGTAIIKKYPKLESEF VYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRP LIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVLSPQVNVIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILPKR NSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKEKGKSKKLKSVKELLGI TIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIIKLPKYSLELENGRKRMLASAGEL QKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDNEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIEIQI SEFSKRVLADANLDKVL SAYNKHRRDKPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAFKYF DTTIDRKRYTSTKEVLDATLIHQSIITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	SEQ ID NO: 365
Cas9 nickase <i>Streptococcus</i> <i>pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with E762A	MDKKYSIGLDIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVPSSKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLF DSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSEESFLV EEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADRLIYLALAH MIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKILSA RLSKSRLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNDLAEDAKLQLSK DTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILLSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMI KRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYK FIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKNLREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQED FYPFLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEFVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHSLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRF NASLGTYHDLLKIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVTLTLTFEDREMIEERLKYAH LFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWRLSRKLINGIRDQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAIIKGILQTVKVVDE LVKVMGRHKPENIVIAMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEEGKELGSQILKEH HPVENTQLQNEKLYLYYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSD IDNKVLRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTK AERGGLSELDKAGFIKRLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREV KVITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVREINNYHHAHDAYLNAVVGTAIIKKYPKLES EFVYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRK RPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVLSPQVNVIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILP KRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKEKGKSKKLKSVKELL LGITIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIIKLPKYSLELENGRKRMLASA GELQKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDNEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEI	SEQ ID NO: 366

Description	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
	IEQISEFSKRVILADANLDKVL SAYNKH RD KPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAF KYFDTTIDRKRYTSTKEVLDATLIHQ SITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	
Cas9 nickase <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with H983A	MDKKYSIGLDIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVP SKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLF DSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFS NEMAKVDDSFHRL EESFLV EEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADLR LIYLALAH MIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSA RLSKSRRL ENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSK DTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMI KRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYK FKPILEKMDGTEELLV KLNREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQED FYPFLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHSLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRF NASLGTYHDLLKIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTTLTFEDREMIERLKYAH LFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPA IKKGILQTVKV VDE LVKVMGRHKPENIVIE MARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIE EGIKELGSQILKEH PVENTQLQNEKLYLYYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDD S IDNKVLTRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEE VVKMKKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLT K AERGGSEL DKAGFIKRLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKV ITLKS KLVSDFRKDFQFYK VREINNYHAAHDAYLNAVVG TALIKKYPKLESEF VYGDYKVYDVRKMIAKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRP LIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVL SMPQVNIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILPKR NSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKEKGKSKKLKSVKELLGI TIMERS SFEKNPIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIKLPKYSLFELENGRKRMLASAGEL QKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLK GSPEDNEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIIEQI SEFSKRVILADANLDKVL SAYNKH RD KPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAF KYF DTTIDRKRYTSTKEVLDATLIHQ SITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	SEQ ID NO: 367
Cas9 nickase <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Q99ZW2 Cas9 with D986A	MDKKYSIGLDIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVP SKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLF DSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFS NEMAKVDDSFHRL EESFLV EEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADLR LIYLALAH MIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSA RLSKSRRL ENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSK DTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMI KRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYK FKPILEKMDGTEELLV KLNREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQED FYPFLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEVV DKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHSLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGM RKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRF NASLGTYHDLLKIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTTLTFEDREMIERLKYAH LFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNF MQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPA IKKGILQTVKV VDE LVKVMGRHKPENIVIE MARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIE EGIKELGSQILKEH PVENTQLQNEKLYLYYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDD S IDNKVLTRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEE VVKMKKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLT K AERGGSEL DKAGFIKRLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKV ITLKS KLVSDFRKDFQFYK VREINNYHHAHAAYLNAVVG TALIKKYPKLESEF VYGDYKVYDVRKMIAKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRP LIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVL SMPQVNIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESILPKR NSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKEKGKSKKLKSVKELLGI TIMERS SFEKNPIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIKLPKYSLFELENGRKRMLASAGEL QKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLK GSPEDNEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIIEQI SEFSKRVILADANLDKVL SAYNKH RD KPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAF KYF DTTIDRKRYTSTKEVLDATLIHQ SITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD	SEQ ID NO: 368
Cas9 nickase <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (SaCas9) with D10A	MGKRN YILGLAIGITSVGYGIIDYETRDVIDAGVRLFKEANVENNEGRRSKRGARRLKR RRRHRIQRVKKLLFDYNLLTDHSELSGINPYEARVKGLSQKLSEEEFSAALLHLAKRRGV HNVNEVEEDTGNELSTKEQISRNSKALEEKYVAELQLERLKKDGEVRGSINRFKTS DYV KEAKQLLK VQKAYHQLDQSFDITYIDLLETRRTY YEGPGEGSPFGWKDIKEWYEMLMG HCTYFPEELRSVKYAYNADLYNALNDLNNLVITRDENEKLEYEYEFQIIE NVFKQKKKPT LKQIAKEILVNEEDIKGYRVSTGKPEFTNLKVYHDIKDITARKEIENAE LLDQIAKILTY QSSEDIQEELTNLSEL TQEEIEQISNLKGYTGTHNLSLKAINLILDELWHTNDNQIAIFNR LKLVPKKVDLSQQKEIPTTLVDDFILSPVVKRSFIQSIKVINAIKKYGLPNDIIELAREKNS KDAQKMINE MQKRN RQTNERIEIIRTTGKENAKYLIEKIKLHDMQEGKCLYSLEAIPLE DLLNPNFNYEVDHIIPRSVSFDNSFNKVLVKQEENSKKGNRTPFQYLSSSDSKISYETFK	SEQ ID NO: 438

Description	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
	KHILNLAGKGGRISKTKKEYLLEERDINRFSVQKDFINRNLVDTRYATRGLMNLRSYFR VNNLDVKVKSINGGFTSFLRRKWKFKKERNKGYKHHAEDALIIANADFIKWKLDK AKKVMENQMFEEKQAESMPEIETEQEYKEIFITPHQIKHIKDFKDYKYSHRVDKKPNRK LINDTLYSTRKDDKGNTLIVNNLNGLYDKDNDKLLKLINKSPEKLLMYHHDPQTYQKL KLIMEQYGDEKNPLYKYEETGNYLTKEYSKKDNPGVVIKKIKYYGNKLNHLDTDDYP NSRNKVVKLSLKPYRFDVYLDNGVYKFVTVKNLVDVIKENYEVNSKCYEEAKLKKI SNQAEFIASFYKNDLIKINGELYRVIGVNNDLLNRIEVNMIDITYREYLENMNDKRPPHII KTIASTQSIKKYSTDILGNLYEVKSKKHPQIIKK	

Compact Cas9 variants with modified PAM specificities

[00162] In some embodiments, the napDNAbp comprises a compact Cas protein, such as a Cas9 derived from *C. jejuni*, *S. auricularis*, *N. meningitidis*, or *S. aureus*. In exemplary embodiments, the napDNAbp comprises a CjCas9 nickase, a SauriCas9 nickase, an Nme2Cas9 nickase, an SaCas9 nickase, or an SaKKH-Cas9 nickase. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp is not an Nme2Cas9 protein or nickase. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp is not a SaCas9 protein or nickase.

[00163] The base editors of the present disclosure may also comprise Cas9 variants with modified PAM specificities. Some aspects of this disclosure provide Cas9 proteins that exhibit activity on a target sequence that does not comprise the canonical PAM (5'-NGG-3', where N is A, C, G, or T) at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NGG-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NNG-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NNA-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NNC-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NNT-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NGT-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NGA-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NGC-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NAA-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NAC-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In some embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NAT-3'

PAM sequence at its 3'-end. In still other embodiments, the Cas9 protein exhibits activity on a target sequence comprising a 5'-NAG-3' PAM sequence at its 3'-end.

[00164] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain comprising a SpCas9-NG, which has a PAM that corresponds to NGN. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain that has a sequence that is at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, or at least 99% identical to SpCas9-NG. The sequence of SpCas9-NG is illustrated below:

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MDKKYSIGLAIGTNSVGWAVITDEYKVPSKKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLFDSGE
TAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSEESFLVEEDKKHE
RHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLVDSTDKADLRILIYLAHMIKFRGHFLIEG
DLNPDNSDVKLFIQLVQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSARLSKSRRLLENLIAQLP
GEKKNGLFGNLIALSLGLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAQLQSKDQYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYA
DLFLAAKNLSDAILSDILRVNTEITKAPLSASMIKRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLP
KYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYIDGGASQEEFYKFIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKLNREDLLRKQR
TFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAILRRQEDFYFPLKDNREKIEKILTRIPYYVGPLARGNSRFA
WMTRKSEETITPWNFEEVVDKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHSLLEYEFTV
YNELTKVKYVTEGMRKPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFD
SVEISGVEDRFNASLGTYHDLLKIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTLTLFEDREMIEERL
KTYAHLFDDKVMKQLKRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRN
FMQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQKAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAIIKKGILQTVKVVDELVK
VMGRHKPENIVIEMARENQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEELGSGILKEHPVENTQL
QNEKLYLYYLQNGRDMYVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSIDNKVLTRSDK
NRGKSDNPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTKAERGGLSELDKAGFIK
RQLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKVITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKV
REINNYHHAHDAYLNAVVGTAIIKKYPKLESEFVYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGK
ATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEITLANGEIRKRPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVLMS
PQVNIVKKTEVQTGGFSKESIRPKRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFVSPTVAYSVLVV
AKVEKGKSKKLKSVKELLGITIMERSSEFEKNPIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIIKLPKYSLE
LENGRKRMLASARFLQKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDEQKQLFVEQ
HKHYLDEIIEQISEFSKRVLADANLDKVLSAYNKHRDKPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGA
PRAFKYFDTTIDRKVYRSTKEVLDATLIHQSIITGLYETRIDLSQLGGD (SEQ ID NO:
477)
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[00165] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain comprising a *S. aureus* Cas9 nickase KKH, or SaCas9-KKH, which has a PAM that corresponds to NNNRRT, or NNGRRT. This Cas9 variant contains the amino acid substitutions D10A, E782K, N968K, and R1015H ("KKH") relative to wild-type SaCas9, set forth as SEQ ID NO: 377. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain that has a sequence that is at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, or at least 99% identical to SaCas9-KKH. The length of SaCas9 (and SaKKH-Cas9) is 1053 amino acids. The sequence of SaCas9-KKH (nickase) is illustrated below:

[00166] *S. aureus* Cas9 nickase KKH (SaCas9-KKH)

MGKRNYILGLAIGITSVGYGIIDYETRDVIDAGVRLFKEANVENNEGRRSKRGARRL
 KRRRRHRIQRVKKLLFDYNLLTDHSELSGINPYEARVKGLSQKLSEEEFSAALLHLAK
 RRGVHNVNEVEEDTGNELSTKEQISRNSKALEEKYVAELQLERLKKDGEVRGSINRF
 KTS DYVKEAKQLLKVQKAYHQLDQSFIDTYIDLLETRRTYYEGPGEGSPFGWKDIKE
 WYEMLMGHCTYFPEELRSVKYAYNADLYNALNDLNNLVITRDENEKLEYEYKFQII
 ENVFKQKKKPTLKQIAKEILVNEEDIKGYRVTSTGKPEFTNLKVYHDIKDITARKEIIE
 NAELLDQIAKILTIYQSSEDIQEELTNLNSLTQEEIEQISNLKGYTGTHNLSLKAINLIL
 DELWHTNDNQIAIFNRLKLVPKKVDLSQQKEIPTTLVDDFILSPVVKRSFIQSIKVINAI
 IKKYGLPNDIIEELAREKNSKDAQKMINEMQKRNRQTNERIEEII RTTGKENAKYLIKI
 KLHDMQEGKCLYSLEAIPLEDLLNNPFNYEVDHIIPRSVSFDNSFNNKVLVKQEENSK
 KGNRTPFYQLSSSDSKISYETFKKHILNLA KGKGRISKTKKEYLLEERDINRFSVQKDF
 INRNLDVTRYATRGLMNNLSYFRVNNLDVKVKSINGGFTSFLRRKWKFKKERNKG
 YKHHAE DALIANADFIKFWKKLDKAKKVMENQMFEKQAESMPEIETE QEYKEIF
 ITPHQIKHIKDFKDYKYSHRVDKKPNRKLINDTL YSTRKDDKGNTLIVNNLNGLYDK
 DNDKLKLINKSPEKLLMYHHDPTQYQKLKLIMEQYGDENPLYKY YEETGNYLTK
 YSKKDNGPVIKKIKYYGNKLNAHLDDYPNSRNKVVKLSLKPYRFDVYLDNGVY
 KFVTVKNLDVIKKENYYEVNSKCYEEAKKKKISNQAEFIASFYKNDLIKINGELYR
 IGVNNDLLNRIEVMIDITYREYLENMNDKRPPHIIKTIASKTQSIKKYSTDILGNLYE
 VKSKKHPQIIKKG (SEQ ID NO: 478)

[00167] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp comprising a Cas9 protein derived from *Staphylococcus Auricularis* (*S. auri* Cas9, or SauriCas9). In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a SauriCas9 nickase. SauriCas9 recognizes NNGG and NNGG PAMs. The sequence of SauriCas9 (nickase) is set forth as SEQ ID NO: 479. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain that has a sequence that is at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, or at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 479. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp comprising SEQ ID NO: 479. The length of this protein is 1061 amino acids.

MQENQQKQNYILGLAIGITSVGYGLIDSKTREVIDAGVRLFPEADSENNSNRRSKRGA
 RRLKRRRIHRLNRVKDLLADYQ MIDLNNVPKSTDPYTIRVKGLREPLTKEEFAIALH
 IAKRRGLHNISVSMGDEEQDNELSTKQQLQKNAQQLQDKYVCELQLERLTNINKVR
 GEKNRFTKTEDFVKEVKQLCETQRQYHNIDDQFIQQYIDL VSTRREYFEGPGNGSPYG
 WGDLLK WYEKLMGRCTYFPEELRSVKYAYSADLFNALNDLNNLVVTRDDNPKLE
 YYEKYHIIENVFKQKKNPTLKQIAKEIGVQDYDIRGYRITKSGKPQTSFKLYHDLKNI
 FEQAKYLEDVEMLDEIAKILTIYQDEISIKKALDQLPELLTESEKSQIAQLTGYTGTHR
 LSLKCIHIVIDELWESPENQMEIFTRLNLKPKKVEMSEIDSIPTTLVDEFILSPVVKRAFI
 QSIKVINAVINRFGLPEDIIELAREKNSKDRRKFKINKLQKQNEATRKKIEQLLAKYGN
 TNAKYMIEKIKLHDMQEGKCLYSLEAIPLEDLLSNPTHYEVVDHIIPRSVSFDNSLNNK
 VLVKQSENSKKGNRTPYQYLSSNESKISYNQFKQHILNLSKAKDRISKKKRDMLLEE
 RDINKFEVQKEFINRNLDVTRYATRELSNLLKTYFSTHDYAVKVKTINGGFTNHLRK
 VWDFFKHRNHGYKHHAE DALVIANADFLFKTHKALRRTDKILEQPGLEVNDTTVK
 VDTEEKYQELFETPKQVKNIKQFRDFKYSHRVDKKPNRQLINDTL YSTREIDGETYV
 VQTLKDLYAKDNEKVKKLFTERPQKILMYQHDPKTFEKLMTILNQYAEAKNPLAAY

YEDKGEYVTKYAKKGNPAIHKIKYIDKKLGSYLDVSNKYPETQNKLVKLSLKSFRE
DIYKCEQGYKMVSIGYLDVLKKDNYYYIPKDKYEA EKQKKKIKESDLFVGSFYND
LIMYEDELFRVIGVNSDINNLEVELNMVDITYKDFCEVNNVTGEKRIKKTIGKRVVLIE
KYTTDILGNLYKTPLPKKPQLIFKRGE (SEQ ID NO: 479)

[00168] In some embodiments, the napDNAbp comprises a SauriCas9-KKH variant, or a SauriCas9-KKH nickase variant. SauriCas9-KKH contains corresponding triple KKH mutations: Q788K, Y973K, and R1020H. See Hu *et al.* (2020) *PLoS Biol.* 18(3): e3000686, which is incorporated herein by reference.

[00169] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain comprising an *S. pyogenes* Cas9 nickase KKH, or SpCas9-KKH, which has a PAM that corresponds to NNNRRT.

[00170] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp comprising a compact Cas9 ortholog from derived from *Neisseria meningitidis* (Nme, or Nme2). In some embodiments, the napDNAbp comprises Nme2Cas9. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise an Nme2Cas9 nickase. Nme2Cas9 recognizes recognizes a simple dinucleotide PAM, NNNNCC, or N₄CC (where N is any nucleotide), as described in Edraki *et al.*, *Molecular Cell* 73, 714-726, incorporated herein by reference. The sequence of Nme2Cas9 is set forth as SEQ ID NO: 5. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain that has a sequence that is at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, or at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp comprising SEQ ID NO: 5. The length of this protein is 1082 amino acids.

MAAFKPNPINYILGLAIGIASVGWAMVEIDEEENPIRLIDLGVRFERAEVPKTGDSL
MARRLARSVRRLTRRRARHLLRARRLLKREGVLQAADFENGLIKSLPNTPWQLRA
AALDRKLTPLEWSAVLLHLIKHRGYLSQRKNEGETADKELGALLKGVANNAHALQT
GDFRTPAELALNKFESGHIRNQRGDYSHTFSRKDLQAEILLFEKQKEFGNPHVSG
GLKEGIETLLMTQRPALSGDAVQKMLGHCTFEPAEPKAAKNTYTAERFIWLTKLNN
LRILEQGSERPLTDERATLMDEPYRKSKLTYAQARKLLGLEDTAFFKGLRYGKD
NA EASTLMEMKAYHAISRALEKEGLKDKKSPLNLSSELQDEIGTAFSLFKTDEDITGR
LK DRVQPEILEALLKHISFDKFVQISLKALRRIVPLMEQGKRYDEACAEIYGDHYGK
KNT EEKIYLPPIPADEIRNPVLRALSQARKVINGVVRRYGSPARIHIETAREVGKSF
KDRK EIEKRQEENRKDREKAAAKFREYFPNFVGEPSKDKILKLRLYEQQHKGKCL
YSGKEIN LVRLNEKGYVEIDHALPFSRTWDDSFNNKVLVLGSENQNKGNQTPYEY
FNGKDNSR EWQEFKARVETSRFPRSKKQRILLQKFDEDEGFKECNLNDTRYVNRFLC
QFVADHILL TGKGKRRVFASNGQITNLLRGFWGLRKVRAENDRHHALDAVVVACSTV
AMQQKIT RFVRYKEMNAFDGKTIDKETGKVLHQKTHFPQPWEFFAQEVMIRVFGKPD
GKPEFE EADTPEKLRTLLAEKLSSRPEAVHEYVTPLFVSRAPNRKMSGAHKDTLRS
AKRFVKH NEKISVKRVWLTEIKLADLENMVNYKNGREIELYEALKARLEAYGGNAKQ
AFDPKD NPFYKKGQQLVKAVRVEKTQESGVLLNKKNAAYTIADNGDMVRVDVFCKV
DKKGGK

NQYFIVPIYAWQVAENILPDIDCKGYRIDDSYTFCSLHKYDLIAFQKDEKSKVEFAY
YINCDSSNGRFYLA WHDKGSKEQQFRISTQNLVLIQKYQVNELGKEIRPCRLKKRPP
VR (SEQ ID NO: 5).

[00171] The amino acid sequence of NmeCas9 is provided below, as SEQ ID NO: 6. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain that has a sequence that is at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, or at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 6. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp comprising SEQ ID NO: 6. The length of this protein is 1083 amino acids.

MAAFKPNSINYILGLAIGIASVGWAMVEIDEEENPIRLIDLGVRFERAEVPKTGDSL
MARRLARSVRRLTRRRARHLLRTRLLKREGVLQAANFDENGLIKSLPNTPWQLRA
AALDRKLTPLEWSAVLLHLIKHRGYLSQRKNEGETADKELGALLKGVAGNAHALQT
GDFRTPAELALNKFESGHIRNQSDYSHTFSRKDLQAEILLFEKQKEFGNPHVSG
GLKEGIETLLMTQRPALSGDAVQKMLGHCTFEPAEPKAAKNTYTAERFIWLTKLNN
LRILEQGSERPLTDERATLMDEPYRKSCLTYAQARKLLGLEDTAFFKGLRYGKDNA
EASTLMEMKAYHAISRALEKEGLKDKKSPLNLSPELQDEIGTAFSLFKTDEDITGRK
DRIQPEILEALLKHISFDKQVQISLKALRRIVPLMEQGKRYDEACAEIYGDHYGKNT
EEKIYLPPIPADEIRNPVVLRLALSQARKVINGVRRYRGSPARIHIETAREVGKSFKDRK
EIEKRQEENRKDREKAAAKFREYFPNFVGEPSKSKDILKLRLYEQQHKGKCLYSGKEIN
LGRLEKGYVEIDAALPFSRTWDDSFNNKVLVLGSENQNKGNQTPYEYFNGKDNSR
EWQEFKARVETSRFPRSKKQRILLQKFDEDEGFKERNLNDTRYVNRFLCQFVADMR
LTGKGKKRVFASNGQITNLLRGFWGLRKVRAENDRHHALDAVVVACSTVAMQQKI
TRFVRYKEMNAFDGKTIDKETGEVLHQKTHFPQPWEFFAQEVMIRVFGKPDGKPEF
EEADTLEKLRTLLAEKLSSRPEAVHEYVTPLFVSRAPNRKMSGQGHMETVKSARKL
DEGVSVLRVPLTQLKLDLEKMNREREPPLYEALKARLEAHKDDPAKAFAEPFYK
YDKAGNRTQQVKA VRVEQVQKTGVWVRNHNGIADNATMVRVDVFEKGDYKYYLV
PIYSWQVAKGILPDRAVVQKDEEDWQLIDDSFNFKFSLHPNDLVEVITKKARMFGY
FASCHRGTTGNIRIHDLHDHKIGKNGILEGIGVKTALSFQKYQIDELGKEIRPCRLKKR
PPVR (SEQ ID NO: 6)

[00172] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp comprising a compact Cas9 ortholog from derived from *Campylobacter jejuni* (CjCas9). In some embodiments, the napDNAbp comprises CjCas9. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a CjCas9 nickase. CjCas9 recognizes recognizes NNNNACA and NNNNACAC PAMs. See Kim *et al.*, *Nature Communications* 8(14500):1-12 (2017), which is incorporated herein by reference. The sequence of CjCas9 (nickase) is set forth as SEQ ID NO: 379. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp domain that has a sequence that is at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, or at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 379. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise a napDNAbp comprising SEQ ID NO: 379. The length of this protein is 984 amino acids.

MARILAFAGISSIGWAFSENDELKDCGVRIFTKVENPKTGESLALPRRLARSARKRL
ARRKARLNHLKHLIANEFKLNEDYQSFDESLAKAYKGSLISPYELRFRALNELLSK

QDFARVILHIAKRRGYDDIKNSDDKEKGAILKAIKQNEEKLANYQSVGEYLYKEYFQ
 KFKENSKEFTNVRNKKESYERCIAQSFLKDELKLIFKKQREFGFSFSKKFEEEVLSVAF
 YKRALKDFSHLVGNCFFTEDEKRAPKNSPLAFMFVALTRIINLLNNLKNTGILYTKD
 DLNALLNEVLKNGTLTYKQTKKLLGLSDDYEFKGEKGTIFYEFKKYKEFIKALGEHN
 LSQDDLNEIAKDITLIKDEIKLKKALAKYDLNQNQIDSLSKLEFKDHLNISFKALKLVT
 PLMLEGKKYDEACNELNLKVAINEDKKDFLPAFNETYYKDEVTPVVLRAIKEYRK
 VLNALLKKYGVHKINIELAREVGKNHSQRAKIEKEQNENYKAKKDAELECEKLGL
 KINSKNILKLRLFKEQKEFCAYSGEKIKISDLQDEKMLEIDHIYPYSRSFDDSYMKNVL
 VFTKQNQEKLNQTPFEAFGNDSAKWQKIEVLAKNLPTKKQKRILDKNYKDKEQKNF
 KDRNLNDTRYIARLVNLYTKDYLDLPLSDDENTKLNDTQKGSKVHVEAKSGMLTS
 ALRHTWGFSADRNHHLHHAIDAVIIAYANNSIVKAFSDFKKEQESNSAELYAKKIS
 ELDYKNKRKFFEPFSGFRQKVLDKIDEIFVSKPERKKPSGALHEETFRKEEFYQSYG
 GKEGVLKALELGKIRKVNKGKIVKNGDMFRVDIFKHKKTNKFYAVPIYTMDFAKVL
 PNKAVARSKKGEIKDWILMDENYEFCSLYKDSLILIQTKDMQEPEFVYYNAFTSSTV
 SLIVSKHDNKFETLSKNQKILFKNANEKEVIAKSIGIQNLKVFEKYIVSALGEVTKAEF
 RQREDFKK (SEQ ID NO: 379)

Additional Compact Cas proteins

[00173] In various embodiments, the nucleic acid programmable DNA binding proteins include, without limitation, compact variants of a Cas9 (*e.g.*, dCas9 and nCas9), a CasX, a CasY, a Cpf1, a C2c1, a C2c2, a C2c3, a GeoCas9, a CjCas9, a Cas12a, a Cas12b, a Cas12g, a Cas12h, a Cas12i, a Cas13b, a Cas13c, a Cas13d, a Cas14, a Csn2, an xCas9, an SpCas9-NG, a circularly permuted Cas9 domain such as CP1012, CP1028, CP1041, CP1249, and CP1300, an Argonaute (Ago) domain, a Cas9-KKH, a SmacCas9, a SpRY, a SpRY-HF1, a Spy-macCas9, an SpCas9-VRQR, an SpCas9-VRER, an SpCas9-VQR, an SpCas9-EQR, an SpCas9-NRRH, an SpaCas9-NRTH, an SpCas9-NRCH, an LbCas12a, an AsCas12a, a CeCas12a, an MbCas12a, a Cas Φ , an SpCas9-NG-CP1041, an SpCas9-NG-VRQR.

[00174] In still other embodiments, the napDNAbp may comprise a compact Cas9 ortholog from *Staphylococcus lugdunensis* Cas9 (SlugCas9), *Staphylococcus lutrae* Cas9 (SlutrCas9), or *Staphylococcus haemolyticus* Cas9 (ShaCas9). See Hu *et al.*, *Nucleic Acids Research*, 49(7), April 2021, 4008-4019, which is incorporated herein by reference. The SlugCas9, SlutrCas9, and ShaCas9 proteins recognize NNGG, NNGG/NNGA, and NNGG PAMs, respectively.

[00175] In still other embodiments, the Cas protein may include any CRISPR associated protein, including but not limited to, Cas12a, Cas12b, Cas1, Cas1B, Cas2, Cas3, Cas4, Cas5, Cas6, Cas7, Cas8, Cas9 (also known as Csn1 and Csx12), Cas10, Csy1, Csy2, Csy3, Cse1, Cse2, Csc1, Csc2, Csa5, Csn2, Csm2, Csm3, Csm4, Csm5, Csm6, Cmr1, Cmr3, Cmr4, Cmr5, Cmr6, Csb1, Csb2, Csb3, Csx17, Csx14, Csx10, Csx16, CsaX, Csx3, Csx1, Csx15, Csf1, Csf2, Csf3, Csf4, homologs thereof, or modified versions thereof, and preferably comprising

a nickase mutation (*e.g.*, a mutation corresponding to the D10A mutation of the wild type SpCas9 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 326).

[00176] In certain embodiments, the base editors contemplated herein can include a Cas9 protein that is of smaller molecular weight than the canonical SpCas9 sequence. In some embodiments, the smaller-sized Cas9 variants may facilitate delivery to cells, *e.g.*, by an AAV vector, expression vector, or other means of delivery. The canonical SpCas9 protein is 1368 amino acids in length and has a predicted molecular weight of 158 kilodaltons. The term “small-sized Cas9 variant”, as used herein, refers to any Cas9 variant—naturally occurring, engineered, or otherwise—that is less than about 1300 amino acids, or at least less than 1290 amino acids, or less than 1280 amino acids, or less than 1270 amino acid, or less than 1260 amino acid, or less than 1250 amino acids, or less than 1240 amino acids, or less than 1230 amino acids, or less than 1220 amino acids, or less than 1210 amino acids, or less than 1200 amino acids, or less than 1190 amino acids, or less than 1180 amino acids, or less than 1170 amino acids, or less than 1160 amino acids, or less than 1150 amino acids, or less than 1140 amino acids, or less than 1130 amino acids, or less than 1120 amino acids, or less than 1110 amino acids, or less than 1100 amino acids, or less than 1050 amino acids, or less than 1000 amino acids, or less than 950 amino acids, or less than 900 amino acids, or less than 850 amino acids, or less than 800 amino acids, or less than 750 amino acids, or less than 700 amino acids, or less than 650 amino acids, or less than 600 amino acids, or less than 550 amino acids, or less than 500 amino acids, but at least larger than about 400 amino acids and retaining the required functions of the Cas9 protein.

[00177] In various embodiments, the base editors disclosed herein may comprise one of the small-sized Cas9 variants described as follows, or a Cas9 variant thereof having at least about 70% identical, at least about 80% identical, at least about 90% identical, at least about 95% identical, at least about 96% identical, at least about 97% identical, at least about 98% identical, at least about 99% identical, at least about 99.5% identical, or at least about 99.9% identical to any reference small-sized Cas9 protein. Exemplary small-sized Cas9 variants include, but are not limited to, SauriCas9, SaCas9, CjCas9, Nme2Cas9, AsCas12a, and LbCas12a.

[00178] In some embodiments, the napDNABp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises an LbCas12a, such as a wild-type LbCas12a. In some embodiments, the napDNABp domain of any of the disclosed based editors is comprises at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 381. In

some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 381.

[00179] In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises an AsCas12a, such as a wild-type AsCas12a. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises a mutant AsCas12a, such as an engineered AsCas12a, or enAsCas12a. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed based editors is comprises at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 383. In some embodiments, the napDNAbp domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 383.

Description	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
SaCas9 <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> 1053 AA 123 kDa	MGKRNILGLDIGITSVGYGIIDYETRDVIDAGVRLFKEANVENNEGRRSKRG ARRLKRRRRHRIQVRVKLLFDYNLLTDHSELSGINPYEARVKGLSQKLSSEEF SAALLHLAKRRGVHNVNEVEEDTGNELSTKEQISRNSKALEEKYVAELQLER LKKDGEVRGSINRFKTSYVKEAKQLLKVQKAYHQLDQSFIDTYIDLLETRRT YYEGPGEPSFGWKDIKEWYEMLMGHCTYFPEELRSVKYAYNADLYNALND LNNLVITRDENEKLEYEYEFQIENVFKQKKKPTLKQIAKEILVNEEDIKGYRV TSTGKPEFTNLKVYHDIKDITARKEIENAEELLDQIAKILTIYQSSEDIQEELTNL NSELTQEEIEQISNLKGYTGTHNLSLKAINLILDELWHTNDNQIAIFNRLKLVPK KVDLSQQKEIPTTLVDDFILSPVVKRSFIQSIKVINAIKKYGLPNDIIEAREKN SKDAQKMINEMQKRNRQTNERIEEIIIRTGKENAKYLIEKIKLHDMQEGKCLY SLEAIPLEDLLNPNFNYEVDHIIPRSVSFDNSFNKVLVKQEENSKKGNRTPFQ YLSSSDSKISYETFKKHILNLAKGKGRISKTCKEYLLERDINRFSVQKDFINR NLVDTRYATRGLMNLRSYFRVNNLDVKVKSINGGFTSFLRRKWFKKERNK GYKHAEDALIIANADFIFKEWKKLDKAKKVMENQMFEKQAESMPEIETEY EYKEIFITPHQIKHIKDFDYKYSHRVDKKPNRKLINDTLYSTRKDDKGNTLIV NNLNGLYDKDNDKLKLINKSPEKLLMYHHDPQTYQKLKLIMEQYGDEKNP LYKYYEETGNLYTKYSKKDNGPVIKKIKYYGNKLNALHDITDDYPNSRNKVV KLSLKPYPYFDVYLDNGVYKFVTVKNLDVIKKENYEVNSKCYEEAKKKKIS NQAEFIASFYKNDLIKINGELYRVIGVNNDDLNRIEVNMIDITYREYLENMNDK RPHHIKTIASKTQSIKKYSTDILGNLYEVKSKKHPQIIKK	SEQ ID NO: 377
GeoCas9 <i>G. stearothermophilus</i> 1087 AA 127 kDa	MRYKIGLDIGITSVGWAVMNLDPRIEDLGVRIFDRAENPQTGESLALPRRLAR SARRRLRRRKHRLERIRRLVIREGILTKEELDKLFEEKHEIDVWQLRVEALDRK LNNDLARVLLHLAKRRGFKSNRKSERSNKENSTMLKHIEENRAILSSYRTVG EMIVKDPKFALHKRNKGENYNTIARDDLEREIRLIFSQRQREFGNMSCTEEFE NEYITIWASQRPVASKDDIEKKVGFCTFEPKEKRAPKATYTFQSFIAWEHINKL RLISPSGARGLTDEERRLLYEAFQKNKITYHDIRTLHLHPDDTYFKGIVYDRG ESRRQNENIRFLELDAYHQIRKAVDKVYGGKSSSFLPIDFDTFGYALTFLFKDD ADIHSYLRNEYEQNGKRMPNLANKVYDNELIEELLNLSFTKFGHLSLKALRSI LPYMEQGEVYSSACERAGYTFTGPKKKQKTMLLPNIPPIANPVVMRALTQAR KVVNAIKKYGSPVSIHIELARDLSQTFDERRKTKKEQDENRKKNETAIRQLM EYGLTLNPTGHDIVKFKLWSEQNGRCAYSLQPIERLLEPGYVEVDHVIPYSR SLDDSYTNKVLVLTRENREKGNRIPAEYLGVGTERWQQFETVLTNKQFSKK KRDRLLRLHYDENEETEFKNRNLNDTRYISRFFANFIREHLKFAESDDKQKVY TVNGRVTAHLRSRWEFNKNREESDLHHAVDVAVACTTPSDIAKVTAIFYQRRE QNKELAKKTEPHFPQPWPHFADELRLRSKHPKESIKALNLGNYYDDQKLESL QPVFVSMPKRSVTGAHQETLRRYVGIDERSGKIQTVVVKTLSEIKLDASGH FPMYGGESDPRTYEAIRQLLEHNNDPKAFQEPLYKPKKNGEPGPVIRTVKII DTKNQVIPLNDGKTVAYSNIVRVDVFEKDGKYYCVPVYTM DIMKGILPNKA IEPNKPYSWKEMTEDYTFRFSLYPNDLIRIELPREKTVKTAAGEEINVKDVV YYKTIDSANGGLELISHDHRFLRGVGSRTLKRFEKYQVDVLGNIYKVRGEK RVGLASSAHKPGKTIRPLQSTRD	SEQ ID NO: 380
LbCas12a	MSKLEKFTNCYSLSKTLRFKAIPVGKTQENIDNKRLLVEDEKRAEDYKGVKK LLDRYYLSFINDVLHSIKLKNLNNYISLFRKKTRTEKENKELENLEINLRKEIA	SEQ ID NO: 381

Description	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
<i>L. bacterium</i> 1228 AA 143.9 kDa	KAFKGNEGYKSLFKKDIETILPEFLDDKDEIALVNSFNGFTTAFTGFFDNREN MFSEEAKSTIAFRCINENLTRYISNMDIFEKVDAIFDKHEVQEIKEKILNSDYD VEDFFEGEFNFVLTQEGIDVYNIAIGGFVTVESGEKIKGLNEYINLYNQKTKQK LPKFKPLYKQVLSDRSLSFYGEGYTSDEEVLEVFRNTLNKNSEIFSSIKKLEK LFKNFDEYSSAGIFVKNGPAISTISKDIFGEWNVIRDKWNAEYDDIHLKKKAV VTEKYEDDRRKSFKKIGSFSLEQLQEYADADLSVVEKLKEIIQKVDEIYKVYG SSEKLFDAFVLEKSLKKNDAVVAIMKDLLDSVKSFENYIKAFFGEGKETNRD ESFYGDFVLAYDILLKVDHIYDAIRNYVTQKPYSKDKFKLYFQNPQFMGGWD KDKETDYRATILRYGSKYYLAIMDKKYAKCLQKIDKDDVNGNYEKINYKLLP GPNKMPLPKVFFSKKWMAYYNPSEDIQKIYKNGTFFKKGDMFNLNDCHKLIDF FKDSISRYPKWSNAYDFNFSETEKYKDIAGFYREVVEEQGYKVSFESASKKEVD KLVEEGKLYMFQIYNKDFSDKSHGTPNLHTMYFKLLFDENNHGQIRLSGGAE LFMRRASLKKEELVVHPANSPIANKNPDNPCKTTTSLYDVYKDKRFSEDQYE LHIPIAINKCPKNIFKINTEVRVLLKHDDNPYVIGIDRGERNLLYIVVVDGKGNI VEQYSLNEIINNFNIRIKTDYHSLDDKKEKERFEARQNWTSIENIKELKAGYI SQVVHKICELVEKYDAVIALEDLNSGFKNSRVKVEKQVYQFEKMLIDKLN MVDKKSNPCATGGALKGYQITNKFESFKSMSTQNGFIFYIPAWLTSKIDPSTGF VNLLKTKYTSIADSKKFISSFDRIYVPEEDLFEFALDYKNFSRTDADYIKKW KLYSYGNRIRIFRNPKNNVFDWEEVCLTSAYKELFNKYGINYQQGDIRALLC EQSDKAFYSSFMALMSLMLQMRNSITGRDVFDFLISPVKNSDGIFYDSRNYEA QENAILPKNADANGAYNIARKVLWAIGQFKKADEKLDKVKIAISNKEWLEY AQTSVKH	
BhCas12b <i>B. hisashii</i> 1108 AA 130.4kDa	MATRSFILKIEPNEEVKKGLWKTHEVLNHGIAYYMNILKLIRQEAIYEHHEQD PKNPKKVSKAEIQAEWDFVLKMQKCNSTHEVDKDEVFNILRELYEELVPS VEKKGEANQLSNKFLYPLVDPSNSQSGKGTASSGRKPRWYNLKIAGDSPWEE KKKWEEDKKKDPLAKILGLAEYGLIPLFIPYTDSENEIVKEIKWMEKSRNQS VRRLDKDMFIQALERFLSWESWNLKVKEEYKVEKEYKTEERIKEDIQALK ALEQYEKERQEQLLRDTLNTNEYRLSKRGLRGWREIIQKWLKMDENEPSEKY LEVFKDYQRKHPREAGDYSVYEFLSKKENHFIWRNHPEYPYLYATFCEIDKK KKDAKQQATFTLADPINHPLWVRFEERSGSNLKYRILTEQLHTEKLKKKLT QLDRLIYPTESGGWEEKGKVDIVLLPSRQFYNQIFLDIEEKKGHAFTYKDES IKFPLKGLTGARVQFDRDHLRRYPHKVESGNVGRIFYNMTVNIEPTSPVSKL KIHRRDDFPKVVNFKPKELTEWIKDSKGKKLKSIGESLEIGLRVMSIDLQQRQA AAASIFEVVDQKPDIEGKLFFPIKGTELYAVHRASFNIKLPGETLVKSREVL AREDNLKLMLNQLNFLRNVLHFQQFEDITEREKRVTKWISREQNSDVPLVYQ DELIQIRELMYKPYKDWVAFKQLHKLRLVEIGKEVKHWRKSLSDGRKGGLY ISLKNIDEIDRTRKFLLRWSLRPTEPGEVRRLEPGQRFADQLNLHLNALKEDRL KKMANTIIIMHALGYCYDVRKKKWQAKNPACQIILFEDLSNYPNPEERSRFEN SKLMKWSREIPRQVALQGEIYGLQVGEVGAQFSSRFHAKTGSPGIRCSVTK EKLQDNRRFFKNLQREGRLTLDKIAVLKEGDLYPDKGGEKFLSKDRKCVTTH ADINAAQNLQKRFWTRTHGFYKYCKAYQVDGQTVYIPESKDQKQKIIIEFG EGYFILKDGVEYEWVWVAGKLKIKKGSSQSSSELVSDILKDSFDLASELKGEK LMLYRDPGSGNVFSPDKWMAAGVFFGKLERILISKLTNQYSISTIEDSSKQSM	SEQ ID NO: 382

[00180] Additional exemplary Cas9 equivalent protein sequences can include the following:

Description	Sequence
AsCas12a (previously known as Cpf1) <i>Acidaminococcus</i> <i>sp. (strain BV3L6)</i> UniProtKB U2UMQ6	MTQFEGFTNLYQVSKTLRFELIPQGKTLKHIQEQGFIEEDKARNDHYKELKPIIDRIYKT YADQCLQLVQLDWENLSAIDSYRKEKTEETRNALIEEQATYRNAIHDFIGRTDNLTA INKRHAEIYKGLFKAELFNGKVLKQLGTVTTEHENALLRSFDKFTTYFSGFYENRKNVF SAEDISTAIPHRIQDNFPKFKENCHIFTRLITAVPSLREHFENVKKAIGIFVSTSIIEV FSFPFYNQLLTQTQIDLYNQLLGGISREAGTEKIKGLNEVLNLAIQKNDETAHIIASLPH RFIFLQKQLSDRNTLSFILEEFKSDDEVIQSFCKYKTLLRNENVLETAELFNLNSID LTHIFISHKKLETISSALCDHWDTLRNALYERRISELTGKITKSAKEKVQRSLKHEDINL QEIIAAGKELSEAFKQKTSEILSHAAALDQPLPTTLKKQEEKEILKSQDLSLLGLYHL LDWFAVDENESNEVDPEFSARLTGIKLEMESLSFYNKARNYATKKPYSVEKFKLNFQMPTL ASGWDVYNKEKNNGAILFVKNGLYYLGIMPKQKGRYKALSFEPTKTEGFDKMYDYDFPD AAKMIPKCSTQLKAVTAHFQTHHTPILLSNNFIEPLEITKEIYDLNNPEKEPKKFQTAYA KKTGDQKGYREALCKWIDFTRDFLSKYTKTTSIDLSSLRPSSQYKDLGEYYAELNPLLYH ISFQRIAEKEIMDAVETGKLYLFQIYNKDFAKGHHGKPNLHTLYWTGLFSPENLAKTSIK LNGQAELFYRPKSRMKRMAHRLGEKMLNKKLKDQKTPIDTLYQELYDYVNHRLSHDLS EARALLPNVITKEVSHEIHKDRRFTSDKFFHVPITLNYQAANSPPKFNQVRNAYLKEHP

	ETPIIGIDRGERNLIYTTVIDSTGKILEQRSNLTIQQFDYQKKLDNREKERVAAARQAWSV VGTIKDLKQGYLSQVIHEIVDLMIHYQAVVLENLNFQFKSKRTGIAEKAVYQQFEKMLI DKLNCVLKDYPAEKVGGVLNPYQLTDQFTSFAKMGTSQGLFYVPAPYTSKIDPLTGFV DPFVWVKTIKNHESRKHFLLEGFDLHYDVKTGDFILHFKMNRNLSFQRLPGFMPAWDIVF EKNETQFDAQGTPFIAGKRIVPVIEHRFTGRYRDLYPANELIALLEEKGIVFRDGSNIL PKLLENDSDSHAITMVALIRSVLQMRNSNAATGEDYINSPVRDLNGVCFDSRFQNPPEWPM DADANGAYHIALKGQLLNHLKESKDLKLQNGISNQDWLAYIQELRN (SEQ ID NO: 383)
AsCas12a nickase (e.g., R1226A)	MTQFEGFTNLYQVSKTLRFELIPQGGKTLKHIEQGGFIEEDKARNDHYKELKPIIDRIYKT YADQCLQLVQLDWENLSAIDSYRKEKTEETRNALIEEQATYRNAIHDIYFGRDNLTD INKRHAELIYKGLFKAELFNGKVLKQLGTVTTEHENALLRSFDKFTTYFSGFYENRKNVF SAEDISTAIPHRIVQDNFPKFKENCHIFTRLITAVPSLREHFENVKKAIGIFVSTSIIEV FSFPFYNQLLTQTQIDLYNQLLGGISREAGTEKIKGLNEVLNLAIQKNDETAHIASLPH RFIPLFKQILSDRNTLSFILEEFKSDEEVIQSFCYKKTLLRNENVLETAELFNELSID LTHIFISHKKLETISSALCDHWDTLRNALYERRISELTGKITKSAKEKVQSLKHEDINL QEIISAAGKELSEAFKQKTSEILSHAAALDQPLPTLKKQEEKEILKSLDGLYHL LDWFADESNEVDPEFSARLTGKLEMEPSLSFYNKARNYATKKPYSVEKFLNFQMPTL ASGWDVNKEKNNGAILFVKNGLYYLGIMPKQKGRYKALSFEPTKTSSEGFDMYYDYFPD AAKMIPKCSTQLKAVTAHFQTHHTPILLSNNFIEPLEITKEIYDLNNPEKEPKKFQTAYA KKTGDQKGYREALCKWIDFTRDFLSKYTKTTSIDLSSLRPSSQYKDLGEYYAELNPLLYH ISFQRIAEKEIMDAVETGKLYLFQIYNKDFAKGHHGKPNLHTLYWTGLFSPENLAKTSIK LNGQAELEFYRPSKSRMKRMAHRLGEKMLNKKLKDQKTPIPDTLYQELYDVNHRLSHDLSD EARALLPNVITKEVSHEIHKDRRFTSDKFFFHVPITLNYQAANSPSKFNQVRNAYLKEHP ETPIIGIDRGERNLIYTTVIDSTGKILEQRSNLTIQQFDYQKKLDNREKERVAAARQAWSV VGTIKDLKQGYLSQVIHEIVDLMIHYQAVVLENLNFQFKSKRTGIAEKAVYQQFEKMLI DKLNCVLKDYPAEKVGGVLNPYQLTDQFTSFAKMGTSQGLFYVPAPYTSKIDPLTGFV DPFVWVKTIKNHESRKHFLLEGFDLHYDVKTGDFILHFKMNRNLSFQRLPGFMPAWDIVF EKNETQFDAQGTPFIAGKRIVPVIEHRFTGRYRDLYPANELIALLEEKGIVFRDGSNIL PKLLENDSDSHAITMVALIRSVLQMANNSNAATGEDYINSPVRDLNGVCFDSRFQNPPEWPM DADANGAYHIALKGQLLNHLKESKDLKLQNGISNQDWLAYIQELRN (SEQ ID NO: 384)
LbCas12a (previously known as Cpf1) <i>Lachnospiraceae</i> <i>bacterium</i> <i>GAM79</i> Ref Seq. WP_119623382.1	1 MNYKTGLEDF IGKESLSKTL RNALIPTEST KIHMEEMGVI RDELRAEKQ QELKEIMDDY 61 YRTFIEEKLQ QIQGIQWNSL FQKMEETMED ISVRKDLDKI QNEKRKEICC YFTSDKRFKD 121 LFNAKLITDI LPNFIKDNKE YTEEEKAEKE QTRVLFQRF A TAFTNYFNQR RNNFSEDNIS 181 TAISFRIVNE NSEIHLQNM AFQRIEQQYP EEVCGMEEY KMDLQEWQMK HIYSVDFYDR 241 ELTQPGIEYY NGICGKINEH MNQFCQKNRI NKNDFRMKKL HKQILCKKSS YYEIPFRFES 301 DQEVYDALNE FIKTMKKKEI IRRCVHLGQE CDDYDLGKIY ISSNKYEQIS NALYGSWDTI 361 RKCIKEEYMD ALPGKGEKKE EKAEAAKKE EYRSIADIDK IISLYGSEMD RTISAKKCIT 421 EICDMAGQIS IDPLVCNSDI KLLQNKETTT EIKTILDSFL HVYQWGQTFI VSDIEKDSY 481 FYSELEDVLE DFEGITTLYN HVRSYVTQKP YSTVKFKLHF GSPTLANGWS QSKEYDNNAI 541 LLMRDQKFYL GIFNVRNKPQ KQIKKGHEKE EKG DYKKMIY NLLPGPSKML PKVFITSRSG 601 QETYKPSKHI LDGYNEKRHI KSSPKFDLGY CWDLIDYYKE CIHKHPDWKN YDFHFSDTKD 661 YEDISGFYRE VEMQGYQIKW TYISADEIQK LDEKGQIFLF QIYNKDFSVH STGKDNLHTM 721 YLKNLFSEEN LKDIVLKLNG EAELFFRKAS IKTPIVHKKG SVLVNRSYTQ TVGNKEIRVS 781 IPEEYYTEIY NYLNIHGKKG LSSEAQRYLD EGKIKSFTAT KDIVKNRYC CDHYFLHLPI 841 TINFKAQSDV AVNERTLAYI AKKEDIHIG IDRGERNLLY ISVVDVHGNI REQRSFNIVN 901 GYDYQQKLKD REKSRAARK NWEIEKIKE LKEGYLSMVI HYIAQLVVKY NAVVAMEDLN 961 YGFKTGRFKV ERQVYQKFET MLIEKLHYLV FKDREVCEEG GVLRGYQLTY IPESLKKVGK 1021 QCGFIFYVPA GYTSKIDPTT GFVNLFSEFN LTNRESRQDF VGKFDEIRYD RDKKMFESF 1081 DYNNYIKKGT ILASTKWVY TNGTRLKRIV VNGKYTSQSM EVELTDAMEK MLQRAGIEYH 1141 DGKDLKGQIV EKGIEAEIID IFRLTVQMRN SRSESEDREY DRLISPVLDN KGEFFDTATA 1201 DKTL PQDADA NGAYCIALKG LYEVKQIKEN WKENEQFPRN KLVQDNKTWF DFMQKKRYL (SEQ ID NO: 385)
PcCas12a – previously known at Cpf1 <i>Prevotella copri</i>	1 MAKNFEDFKR LYSLSKTLRF EAKPIGATLD NIVKSGLLDE DEHRAASYVK VKKLIDEYHK 61 VFIDRVLLDDG CLPLENKGNN NSLAEEYYESV VSRAQDEDAK KKFKEIQQNL RSVIAKKLTE 121 DKAYANLFGN KLIESYKDKE DKKKIISDIL IQFINTAEST QLDSMSQDEA KELVKEFWGF 181 VTYFYGGFDN RKNMYTAEK STGIAYRLVN ENLPKFIDNI EAFNRAITRP EIQENMGVLY 241 SDFSEYLNVE SIQEMFQLDY YNMLLTQKQI DVYNAIIGGK TDDEHDVKIK GINEYINLYN 301 QQHKKDDKLPK LKALFKQILS DRNAISWLPE EFNSDQEVLN AIKDCYERLA ENVLGDKVLK 361 SLLGSLADYS LDGIFIRNDL QLTDISQKMF GNWGVQNAI MQNIKRVA RKHKESEEDY

Ref Seq. WP_119227726.1	421 EKRIAGIFKK ADSFSISYIN DCLNEADPNN AYFVENYFAT FGAVNTPTMQ RENLFALVQN 481 AYTEVAALLH SDYPTVKHLA QDKANVSKIK ALLDAIKSLQ HFVKPLLGGK DESDKDERFY 541 GELASLWAE L DTVTPLYNMI RNYMTRKPYS QKKIKLNFEN PQLLGGWDAN KEKDYATIL 601 RRNGLYYLAI MDKDSRKLLG KAMPSDGECY EKMVYKFFKD VTTMIPKCST QLKDVQAYFK 661 VNTDDYVLNS KAFNKPLTIT KEVFDLNNVL YGKYKKFQKG YLTATGDNVG YTHAVNVWIK 721 FCMDFLNSYD STCIYDFSSL KPESYLSLDA FYQDANLLLY KLSFARASVS YINQLVEEGK 781 MYLFQIYNKD FSEYSKGTNP MHTLYWKALF DERNLADVY KLNGQAEMFY RKKSIENTHP 841 THPANHPILN KNKDNKKKES LFDYDLIKDR RYTVDKFMFH VPITMNFKSV GSENIQDVK 901 AYL RHADDMH IIGIDRGERH LLYLVVIDLQ GNIKEQYSLN EIVNEYNGNT YHTNYHDLLD 961 VREEERLKAR QSWQTENIK ELKEGYLSQV IHKITQLMVR YHAIVVLEDL SKGFMRSRQK 1021 VEKQVYQKFE KMLIDKLNLY VDKKTDVSTP GLLNAYQLT CKSDSSQKLG KQSGFLFYIP 1081 AWNTSKIDPV TGFVNLLDTH SLNSKEKIK FFSKFDAIRY NKDKKWFEN LDYDKFGKKA 1141 EDTRTKWTLC TRGMRIDTFR NKEKNSQWDN QEVDLTTEMK SLLEHYIDI HGNLKAISA 1201 QTDKAFFTGL LHILKLTQM RNSITGTETD YLVSPADEN GIFYDSRSCG NQLPENADAN 1261 GAYNIARKGL MLIEQIKNAE DLNNVKFDS NKAWLNFAQQ KPYKNG (SEQ ID NO: 386)
ErCas12a – previously known at Cpf1 <i>Eubacterium rectale</i> Ref Seq. WP_119223642.1	1 MFSAKLISDI LPEFVIHNNN YSASEKEEKT QVIKLSRFA TSFKDYFKNR ANCF SANDIS 61 SSSCHRIVND NAEIFFSNAL VYRRIVKNLS NDDINKISGD MKDSLKEMSL EEIYSYEKYG 121 EFITQEGISF YNDICGKVN L FMNLYCQKNK ENKNLYKLK LHKQILCIAD TSYEVYPYKFE 181 SDEEVYQSVN GFLDNISSKH IVERLRKIGE NYNGYNLDKI YIVSKFYESV SQKTYRDWET 241 INTALEIHYN NILPGNGKSK ADKVKKAVKN DLQKSITEIN ELVSNYKLC P DDNIKAETIY 301 HEISHILNNF EAQELKYNPE IHLVESELKA SELKNVLDVI MNAFWWCVSF MTEELVDKDN 361 NFYAELEEIY DEIYPVISLY NLVRNYVTQK PYSTKKIKLN FGIPTLADGW SKSKEYSNNA 421 IILMRDNLYY LGIFNAKNKP DKKIIEGNTS ENKGDYKKMI YNLLPGPNKM IPKVFLSSKT 481 GVETYKPSAY ILEGYKQNKH LKSSKDFDIT FCHDLIDYFK NCIAIHPWEK NFGDFSDTS 541 TYEDISGFYR EVELQGYKID WTYISEKID LLQEKGLYL FQIYNKDFSK KSSGNDNLHT 601 MYLKNLFSEE NLKDIVLKL N GEAEIFFRKS SIKNPIHKK GSILVNRTYE AEEKDQFGNI 661 QIVRKTI PEN IYQELYKYN DKSDKELSDE AAKLKNVVG H HEAATNIVKD YRYTYDKYFL 721 HMPITINFKA NKTSFINDRI LQYIAKEKDL HVGIDRGER NLIYVSVIDT CGNIVEQKSF 781 NIVNGYDYQI KLKQEGARQ IARKEWKEIG KIKEIKEGYL SLVIHEISKM VIKYNAIIM 841 EDLSYGFKKG RFKVERQVYQ KFETMLINKL NYLVFKDISI TENGGLLKG Y QLTYPDKLK 901 NVGHQCGCIF YVPAAYTSKI DPTTG FVNIF KFKDLTVDAK REFIKKFDSI RYDSDKNLFC 961 FTFDYNFIT QNTVMSKSSW SVYTYGVRIK RRFVNGRFSN ESDTIDITDK MEKTLEMTDI 1021 NWRDGHDLRQ DIIDYEIVQH IFEIFKLTVP MRNSLSELED RDYDRLISPV LNNENIFYDS 1081 AKAGDALPKD ADANGAYCIA LKGLYEIKQI TENWKEDGKF SRDKLKISNK DWFDFIQNK R 1141 YL (SEQ ID NO: 387)
CsCas12a – previously known at Cpf1 <i>Clostridium sp. AF34-10BH</i> Ref Seq. WP_118538418.1	1 MNYKTGLEDF IGKESLSKTL RNALIPTST KIHMEEMGVI RDELRAEKQ QELKEIMDDY 61 YRAFIEEKLQ QIQGIQWNSL FQKMEETMED ISVRKDLDKI QNEKRKEICC YFTSDKRFKD 121 LFNAKLITDI LPNFIKDNKE YTEEEKAEKE QTRVLFQFRA TAFTNYFNQR RNNFSEDNIS 181 TAISFRIVNE NSEIHLQNM R AFQRIEQQYP EEVCGMEEY K DMLQEWQMK HIYLVDFYDR 241 VLTQPGIEYY NGICGKINEH MNQFCQKNRI NKNDFRMKKL HKQILCKKSS YYEIPFRFES 301 DQEVYDALNE FIKTMKEKEI ICRCVHLGQK CDDYDLGKIY ISSNKYEQIS NALYGSWDIT 361 RKCIKEEYMD ALPGKGKKE EKAEEAAKKE EYRSIADIDK IISLYGSEMD RTISAKKCIT 421 EICDMAGQIS TDPLVCNSDI KLLQNKETT EIKTILDSFL HVYQWGQTFI VSDIEKDSY 481 FYSELEDVLE DFEGITTLN HVRSYVTQKP YSTVKFKLHF GSPTLANGWS QSKEYDNNAI 541 LLMRDQKFYL GIFNVRNKP D KQIKGHEKE EKG DYKKMIY NLLPGPSKML PKVFITSRS 601 QETYKPSKHI LDGYNEKRHI KSSPKFDLGY CWDLDIYYKE CIHKHPDWKN YDFHFSDTKD 661 YEDISGFYRE VEMQGYQIKW TYISADEIQ LDEKGQIFLQ QIYNKDFSVH STGKDNLHTM 721 YLKNLFSEEN LKDIVLKLNG EAELFFRKAS IKTPVVHKKG SVLVNRSYTQ TVGDKEIRVS 781 IPEEYYTEIY NYLNHIGRGK LSTEAQRYLE ERKISFTAT KDIVKNRYC CDHYFLHLP 841 TINFKA KSDI AVNERTLAYI AKKEDIHIG IDRGERNLLY ISVVDVHGNI REQRSFNIVN

	901 GYDYQQKLKD REKSRAARK NWEEIEKIKE LKEGYLSMVI HYIAQLVVKY NAVVAMEDLN 961 YGFKTGRFKV ERQVYQKFET MLIEKLHLYV FKDREVCEEG GVLRGYQLTY IPESLKKVGK 1021 QCGFIFYVPA GYTSKIDPTT GFVNLFSEFN LTNRESRQDF VGKFDEIRYD RDKKMFESF 1081 DYNNYIKKGT MLASTKWKVY TNGTRLKRIV VNGKYTSQSM EVELTDAMEK MLQRAGIEYH 1141 DGKDLKGQIV EKGIEAEIID IFRLTVQMRN SRSESEDREY DRLISPVLND KGEFFDTATA 1201 DKTLPQDADA NGAYCIALKG LYEVKQIKEN WKENEQFPRN KLVQDNKTWF DFMQKKRYL (SEQ ID NO: 388)
BhCas12b <i>Bacillus hisashii</i> Ref Seq. WP_095142515.1	1 MATRSFILKI EPNEEVKKGL WKTHEVLNHG IAYYMNILKL IRQEAIEHH EQDPKNPKKV 61 SKAEIQAEIW DFVLKMQKCN SFTHEVDKDE VFNLRLYE ELVPSSVEKK GEANQLSNKF 121 LYPLVDPN SQSGKGTASSGR KPRWYNLkia GDPSWEEEEK KWEEDKKKDP LAKILGKLA 181 YGLIPLFIPY TDSNEPIVKE IKWMEKSRNQ SVRRLDKDMF IQALERFLSW ESWNLKVKEE 241 YEKVEKEYKT LEERIKEDIQ ALKALEQYKE ERQEQLLRDT LNTNEYRLSK RGLRGWREII 301 QKWLMKDENE PSEKYLEVFK DYQRKHPREA GDYSVYEFLS KKENHFIWRN HPEYPLYAT 361 FCEIDKKKKD AKQQAATFTLA DPINHLWVR FEERSGSNLN KYRILTEQLH TEKLKKKLTV 421 QLDRLIYPTE SGGWEEKGKV DIVLLPSRQF YNQIFLDIEE KGKHAFTYKD ESIKFLKGT 481 LGGARVQFDR DHLRRYPHKV ESGNVGRIYF NMTVNIEPTE SPVSKSLKIH RDDFPKVVNF 541 KPKELEWIK DSKGKKLKSG IESLEIGLRV MSIDLQQRQA AAASIFEVVD QKPDIEGKLF 601 FPIKGTETYA VHRASFNIK L PGETLVKSRE VLRKAREDNL KLMNQKLNFL RNVLFHQFE 661 DITEREKVRT KWISRQENS D VPLVYQDEL I QIRELMYKPY KDWVAFKQL HKRLEVEIGK 721 EVKHWKSL S DGRKGLYGIS LKNIDEIDRT RKFLLRWSLR PTEPGEVRL EPGQRFADQ 781 LNHLNALKED RLKKMANTII MHALGYCYDV RKKKWQAKNP ACQILFEDL SNYNPYEERS 841 RFENSKLMKW SRREIPRQVA LQGEIYGLQV GEVGAQFSSR FHAKTGSPGI RCSVVTKEKL 901 QDNRRFFKNLQ REGRLTLDKI AVLKEGDLYP DKGGEKFISL SKDRKCVTTH ADINAAQNLQ 961 KRFWTRTHGF YKVYCKAYQV DGQTVYIPES KDQKQKIIIE FGEGYFILKD GVEWVNAGK 1021 LKIKKGSSKQ SSELVDSI LKDSFDLASE LKGEKLMLYR DPSGNVFPD KWMAGVFFG 1081 KLERILISK L TNQYSISTIE DDSSKQSM (SEQ ID NO: 389)
ThCas12b <i>Thermomonas hydrothermalis</i> Ref Seq. WP_072754838	1 MSEKTTQRAY TLRLNRASGE CAVCQNNSCD CWHDALWATH KAVNRGAKAF GDWLLTLRGG 61 LCHTLVEMEV PAKGNNPPQR PTDQERRDRR VLLALSWLSV EDEHGAPKEF IVATGRDSAD 121 DRAKKVEEKL REILEKRDFE EHEIDAWLQD CGPSLKAHIR EDAVWVNRA LFDAVERIK 181 TLTWEEAWDF LEPPFGTQYF AGIGDGKDKD DAEGPARQGE KAKDLVQKAG QWLSARFGIG 241 TGADFMMAE AYEKIAK WAS QAQNGDNGKA TIEKLACALR PSEPPTLDTV LKCISGPGHK 301 SATREYLKTL DKKSTVTQED LNQLRKLAD E DARNCRKKVG KKGKKPWAD E VLKDVENSCE 361 LTYLQDN SPA RHREFSVMLD HAARRVSM AH SWIKKAEQRR RQFESDAQKL KNLQERAPSA 421 VEWLDRFCES RSMTTGANTG SGYRIRKRAI EGWSYVVQAW AEASCDTEDK RIAAARKVQA 481 DPEIEKFGDI QLFEALAADE AICVWRDQEG TQNPSILIDY VTGKTAEHNQ KRFKVPAYRH 541 PDEL RHPVFC DFGNSRWSIQ FAIHKEIRDR DKGAKQDTRQ LQNRHGLKMR LWNGRSMTDV 601 NLHWSSKRLT ADLALDQNP N PNPTEVTRAD RLGRAASSAF DHVKIKNVFN EKEWNGRLQA 661 PRAELDRIAK LEEQGKTEQA EKLRKRLRWY VSFSPCLSPS GPFIVYAGQH NIQPKRSGQY 721 APHAQANKGR ARLAQLILSR LPDLRLSVD LGHRFAAACA VWETLSSDAF RREIQLNLV 781 AGGSGEGDLF LHVEMTGDDG KRRTVVYRRI GPDQLLDNTP HPAPWARLDR QFLIKLQGED 841 EGVREASNEE LWTVHKLEVE VGRTVPLIDR MVRSGFGKTE KQKERLKKLR ELGWISAMPN 901 EPSAETDEKE GEIRSISRSV DELMSSALGT LRLALKRHGN RARIAFAMTA DYKPMPPGGQK 961 YYFHEAKEAS KNDET KRRD NQIEFLQDAL SLWHDLFSSP DWEDNEAKKL WQNHIATLPN 1021 YQTPEEISAE LKRVERNKKR KENRDKLRTA AKALAENDQL RQHLHDTWKE RWESDDQQWK

	1081 ERLRSLKDWI FPRGKAEDNP SIRHVGGLSI TRINTISGLY QILKAFKMRP EPDDLKKNIP 1141 QKGDDLENF NRRLLEARDR LREQRVKQLA SRIIEAALGV GRIKIPKNGK LPKRPRTTVD 1201 TPCHAVVIES LKTYRPDDL TRRENRLMQ WSSAKVRKYL KEGCELYGLH FLEVPANYTS 1261 RQCSRTGLPG IRCDDVPTGD FLKAPWWRA INTAREKNGG DAKDRFLVDL YDHLNNLQSK 1321 GEALPATVRV PRQGGNLFIA GAQLDDTNKE RRAIQADLNA AANIGLRALL DPDWRGRWWY 1381 VPCKDGTSEP ALDRIEGSTA FNDVRS LPTG DNSSRRAPRE IENLWRDPSG DSLESGTWSP 1441 TRAYWDTVQS RVIELLRRHA GLPTS (SEQ ID NO: 390)
LsCas12b <i>Laceyella sacchari</i> WP_132221894.1	1 MSIRSFKLKL KTKSGVNAEQ LRRGLWRTHQ LINDGIAYYM NWLVLLRQED LFIRNKETNE 61 IEKRSKEEIQ AVLLERVHKQ QQRNQWSGEV DEQTLLQALR QLYEEIVPSV IGKSGNASLK 121 ARFFLGPLVD PNNKTTKDVS KSGPTPKWKK MKDAGDPNWV QEYEKYMAER QTLVRLEEMG 181 LIPLFPMYTD EVGDIHWLPQ ASGYTRTWDR DMFQQAIRL LSWEWNRRV RERRAQFEKK 241 THDFASRFSE SDVQWMNKL EYEAQQEKS EENAFAPNEP YALTKKALRG WERVYHSWMR 301 LDSAASEEAY WQEVATCQTA MRGEFGDPAI YQFLAQKENH DIWRGYPERV IDFAELNHLQ 361 RELRRAKEDA TFTLPDSVDH PLWVRYEAPG GTNIHGYDLV QDTRKRLTLI LDKFILPDEN 421 GSWHEVKKVP FSLAKSKQFH RQVWLQEEQK QKKREVVFYD YSTNLPHLGT LAGAKLQWDR 481 NFLNKRTQQQ IEETGEIGKV FFNISVDVRP AVEVKNGRLQ NGLGKALTVL THPDGTKIVT 541 GWKAEQLEKW VGESGRVSSL GLDSLSEGLR VMSIDLQRT SATVSVFEIT KEAPDNPYKF 601 FYQLEGTEMF AVHQRSFLA LPGENPPQKI KQMREIRWKE RNRIKQQVDQ LSAILRLHKK 661 VNEDERIQAI DKLLQKVASW QLNEEIATAW NQALSQLYSK AKENDLQWNQ AIKNAHHQLE 721 PVVGKQISLW RKDLSTGRQG IAGLSLWSIE ELEATKLLT RWSKRSREP VVKRIERFET 781 FAKQIQHHIN QVKENRLKQL ANLIVMTALG YKYDQEKKW IEVYPACQVV LFENLRSYRF 841 SFERSRRENK KLMESHRSI PKLVQMGGEL FGLQVADVYA AYSSRYHGRT GAPGIRCHAL 901 TEADLRNETN IHELIEAGF IKEEHRPYLQ QGDLVPWSSG ELFATLQKPY DNPRILTLHA 961 DINAAQNIQK RFWHPSMWFR VNCESVMEGE IVTYVPKNKT VHKKQKGKTFR FVKVEGSDVY 1021 EWAKWSKNRN KNTFSSITER KPPSSMILFR DPSGTFEKEQ EWVEQKTFWG KVQSMIQAYM 1081 KKTIVQRMEE (SEQ ID NO: 391)
DiCas12b <i>Dsulfonatronum</i> <i>thiodismutans</i> WP_031386437	1 MVLGRKDDTA ELRRALWTH EHVNLAAEV ERVLLRCRGR SYWTLDRRGD PVHVPESQVA 61 EDALAMAREA QRRNGWPVVG EDEEILLALR YLYEQIVPSC LLDDLKPLK GDAQKIGTNY 121 AGPLFSDTC RRDEGKDVAC CGPFHEVAGK YLGALPEWAT PISKQEFDGK DASHLRFKAT 181 GGDDAFFRVS IEKANAWYED PANQDALKNK AYNKDDWKKE KDKGISSWAV KYIQKQLQLG 241 QDPRTEVRRK LWLELGLLPL FIPVFDKTMV GNLWNRLAVR LALAHLLSWE SWNHRVQDQ 301 ALARAKRDEL AALFLGMEDG FAGLREYELR RNESIKQHAF EPVDRPYVVS GRALRSWTRV 361 REEWLRHGD TQESRKNICNR LQDRLRGKFG DPDVFWHLAE DGQEALWKER DCVTSFSLN 421 DADGLLEK RK GYALMTFADA RLHPRWAMYE APGGSNLRTY QIRKTENGLW ADVLLSPRN 481 ESAAVEEKT NVRLAPSGQL SNVSFDQIQK GSKMVGRCRY QSANQQFEGL LGGAEILFDR 541 KRIANEQHGA TDLASKPGHV WFKLTLDVRP QAPQGWLDGK GRPALPPEAK HFKTALS NKS 601 KFADQVRPGL RVLSVDLGVR SFAACSVFEL VRGGPDQGT YFPAADGRTVD DPEKLWAKHE 661 RSFKITLPG NPSRKEEIR RAAMEELRSL NGDIRRLKAI LRLSVLQEDD PRTEHLRLFM 721 EAIVDDPAKS ALNAELFKGF GDDRFRSTPD LWKQHCHFFH DKAKEVVAER FSRWRTETRP

781	KSSSWQDWRE RRGYAGGKSY WAVTYLEAVR GLILRWNMRG RTYGEVNRQD
	KKQFGTVASA
841	LLHHINQLKE DRIKTGADMI IQAARGFVPR KNGAGWVQVH EPCRLLIFD
	LARYRFRTDR
901	SRRENSRLMR WSHREIVNEV GMQGELYGLH VDTTEAGFSS RYLASSGAPG
	VRCRHLVEED
961	FHDGLPGMHL VGELDWLLPK DKDRTANEAR RLLGGMVRPG MLVPWDGGEL
	FATLNAASQL
1021	HVIHADINAA QNLQRRFWGR CGEAIRIVCN QLSVDGSTRY EMAKAPKARL
	LGALQQLKNG
1081	DAPFHLTSIP NSQKPENSYV MTPTNAGKKY RAGPGEKSSG EEDELALDIV
	EQAEELAQGR
1141	KTFFRDPSGV FFAPDRWLPS EIYWSRIRRR IWQVTLEARN SGRQERAEMD EMPY
	(SEQ ID NO: 392)

[00181] The base editors described herein may also comprise Cas12a/Cpf1 (dCpf1) variants that may be used as a guide nucleotide sequence-programmable DNA-binding protein domain. The Cas12a/Cpf1 protein has a RuvC-like endonuclease domain that is similar to the RuvC domain of Cas9 but does not have a HNH endonuclease domain, and the N-terminal of Cpf1 does not have the alpha-helical recognition lobe of Cas9. It was shown in Zetsche *et al.*, *Cell*, 163, 759–771, 2015 (which is incorporated herein by reference) that, the RuvC-like domain of Cpf1 is responsible for cleaving both DNA strands and inactivation of the RuvC-like domain inactivates Cpf1 nuclease activity.

Cytidine Deaminase Domains

[00182] In some embodiments, the base editor comprises a deaminase that is a cytosine deaminase. In some embodiments, the cytosine deaminase domain is fused to the N-terminus of the napDNAp domain.

[00183] In some embodiments, the deaminase is an apolipoprotein B mRNA-editing complex (APOBEC) family deaminase. In some embodiments, the deaminase is an APOBEC1 deaminase, an APOBEC2 deaminase, an APOBEC3A deaminase, an APOBEC3B deaminase, an APOBEC3C deaminase, an APOBEC3D deaminase, an APOBEC3F deaminase, an APOBEC3G deaminase, an APOBEC3H deaminase, or an APOBEC4 deaminase. In some embodiments, the deaminase is an activation-induced deaminase (AID). In some embodiments, the deaminase is a Lamprey CDA1 (pmCDA1) deaminase. In some embodiments, the deaminase is from a human, chimpanzee, gorilla, monkey, cow, dog, rat, or mouse. In some embodiments, the deaminase is from a human. In some embodiments the deaminase is from a rat. In some embodiments, the deaminase is a human APOBEC1 deaminase. In some embodiments, the deaminase is pmCDA1. In some embodiments, the deaminase is human APOBEC3G. In some embodiments, the deaminase is a human APOBEC3G variant. In some embodiments, the deaminase is rat APOBEC1.

[00184] In certain embodiments, the cytidine deaminase domain is a “FERNY” polypeptide having an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 393 or an amino acid sequence that is at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95, 98%, 99%, or 99.5% identical to SEQ ID NO: 393, as follows: MFERNYDPRELRLKETYLLYEIKWGKSGKLWRHWCQNNRTQHAEVYFLENIFNARRF NPSTHCSITWYLSWSPCAECSQKIVDFLKEHPNVNLEIYVARLYYHEDERNRQGLRD LVNSGVTIRIMDLDPDYNWCWKTFSVSDQGGDEDYWPGHFAPWIKQYSLKL (SEQ ID NO: 393)

[00185] In certain other embodiment, the cytidine deaminase domain is a domain evolved from a wild-type domain, *e.g.*, evolved through phage-assisted continuous evolution (PACE). In some embodiments, the cytidine deaminase domain is an “evoFERNY” polypeptide having an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 394 or an amino acid sequence that is at least 85%, 90%, 95, 98%, 99%, or 99.5% identical to SEQ ID NO: 394, which contains H102P and D104N substitutions relative to SEQ ID NO: 393, as follows: MFERNYDPRELRLKETYLLYEIKWGKSGKLWRHWCQNNRTQHAEVYFLENIFNARRF NPSTHCSITWYLSWSPCAECSQKIVDFLKEHPNVNLEIYVARLYYPENERNRQGLRD LVNSGVTIRIMDLDPDYNWCWKTFSVSDQGGDEDYWPGHFAPWIKQYSLKL (SEQ ID NO: 394). The FERNY and evoFERNY deaminase domains are 162 amino acids in length. These domains are thus shorter than those of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 276-277, 281, 133-134, 292-295, and 487.

[00186] In exemplary embodiments, the disclosed CBEs comprise a FERNY or evoFERNY deaminase domain. In some embodiments, the disclosed CBEs comprise a deaminase domain that comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 393 or 394.

[00187] The state-of-the-art cytosine base editor BE3.9 contains a rat APOBEC1 (rAPOBEC1) cytidine deaminase domain. They have high overall activity, severely compromised activity editing GC targets, and high editing on TC targets. Alternative deaminases have been demonstrated as base editors. AID and CDA both work well on GC targets but have lower activity than APOBEC1 generally. APOBEC3G works less well than all of these (see Komor, A. C. *et al.* Improved base excision repair inhibition and bacteriophage Mu Gam protein yields C:G-to-T:A base editors with higher efficiency and product purity. *Sci Adv* 3, eaao4774 (2017), which is incorporated herein by reference). The TARGET-AID base editing implementation uses CDA (Nishida, K. *et al.* Targeted nucleotide editing using hybrid prokaryotic and vertebrate adaptive immune systems. *Science* 353, aaf8729–aaf8729 (2016) , which is incorporated herein by reference). “FERNY” is an N- and

C-terminally truncated ancestral sequence reconstruction based on an APOBEC family phylogenetic tree. rAPOBEC1: 229 aa; FERNY: 161 aa. The sequence similarity to rAPOBEC1 is 55%. The evolved FERNY genotype also has high GC activity and is comparably active to APOBEC despite being a shorter protein. Evolved FERNY is described in greater detail in PCT Publication No. WO 2019/023680, published January 31, 2019, which is incorporated herein by reference. Additional exemplary cytidine deaminases are disclosed in PCT Publication No. WO 2021/108717, published June 3, 2021.

[00188] Non-limiting examples of suitable cytosine deaminase domains are provided below, as SEQ ID NOs: 276-277, 281, 133-134, 292-295, and 487. In some embodiments, the deaminase is at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 92%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% identical to any one of the amino acid sequences set forth below.

[00189] Human AID

MDSLLMNRRKFLYQFKNVRWAKGRRETYLCYVVKRRDSATSFSLDFGYLRNKNGC
HVELLFLRYISDWDLDPGRCYRVTWFTSWSPCYDCARHVADFLRGNPNLRLRIFTAR
LYFCEDRKAEPGLRRLHRAGVQIAIMTFKDYFYCWNTFVENHERTFKAWEWGLHEN
SVRLSRQLRRILLPLYEVDDLRLDAFRTLGL (SEQ ID NO: 276)

[00190] Mouse AID

MDSLLMKQKKFLYHFKNVRWAKGRHETLYCYVVKRRDSATSCSLDFGHLRNKSGC
HVELLFLRYISDWDLDPGRCYRVTWFTSWSPCYDCARHVAEFLRWNPNLRLRIFTAR
LYFCEDRKAEPGLRRLHRAGVQIGIMTFKDYFYCWNTFVENRERTFKAWEWGLHEN
SVRLTRQLRRILLPLYEVDDLRLDAFRMLGF (SEQ ID NO: 277)

[00191] Rat APOBEC-3 (rAPOBEC3)

MGPFCLGCSHRKCYSPIRNLISQETFKFHFKNLRYAIDRKDTFLCYEVTRKDCDSPVS
LHHGVFKNKDNIHAEICFLYWFHDKVLKVLSPREEFKITWYMSWSPCFECAEQVLR
LATHHNLSLDIFSSRLYNIRDPENQQNLRLVQEGAQVAAMDLYEFKKCWKKFVDN
GGRRFRPWKKLLTNFRYQDSKLQEILRPCYIPVPSSSSSTLSNICLTKGLPETRFCVER
RRVHLLSEEEFYFQFYNQVRVHLCYHGVKPYLCYQLEQFNGQAPLKGCLLSEKGG
QHAEILFLDKIRSMELSQVIITCYLTWSPCPNCAWQLAAFKRDRPDILHIYTSRLYFH
WKRPFQKGLCSLWQSGILVDVMDLPQFTDCWTNFNPNKRPFWPWKGLEIISRRTQR
RLHRIKESWGLQDLVNDFGNLQLGPPMS (SEQ ID NO: 281)

[00192] Human APOBEC-3G

MKPHFRNTVERMYRDTFSYNFYNRPILSRRNTVWLCYEVKTKGPSRPPLDAKIFRGQ
VYSELKYHPEMRFFHWFSKWRKLHRDQEYEV TWYISWSPCTKCTRD MATFLAEDP
KVTLTIFVARLYYFWDPDYQEALRSLCQKRDGPRATMKIMNYDEFQHCWSK FVYS
QRELFE PWNNLPKYIILLHIMLGEILRHSM DPPTFTFNFNNEP WVRGRHETLYCYEV

ERMHNDTWVLLNQRRGFLCNQAPHKHGFLEGRHAELCFLDVIPFWKLDLDQDYRV
TCFTSWSPCFSCAQEMAKFISKNKHVSLCIFTARIYDDQGRCQEGLRTLAEAGAKISI
MTYSEFKHCWDTFVDHQGCPFPWDGLDEHSQDLSGRLRAILQNQEN (SEQ ID NO:
133)

[00193] Human APOBEC-3F

MKPHFRNTVERMYRDTFSYNFYNRPILSRRNTVWLCYEVKTKGPSRPRLDAKIFRGQ
VYSQPEHHAEMCFLSWFCGNQLPAYKCFQITWFSWTPCPDCVAKLAEFLAHPNV
TLTISAARLYYYWERDYRRALCRLSQAGARVKIMDDEEFAYCWENFVYSEGQPFMP
WYKFDDNYAFLHRTLKEILRNPMEAMYPHIFYHFKNLRKAYGRNESWLCFTMEV
VKHHSPVSWKRGVFRNQVDPETHCHAERCFLSWFCDDILSPNTNYESVTWYTSWSPC
PECAGEVAEFLARHSNVNLTIFTARLYYFWDTDYQEGLRSLSQEGASVEIMGYKDFK
YCWENFVYNDDEPFKPKWKGLKYNFLFLDSKLQEILE (SEQ ID NO: 134)

[00194] Human APOBEC-1

MTSEKGPSTGDPTLRRRIEPWEFDVFYDPRELKKEACLLYEIKWGMSRKIWRSSGKN
TTNHVEVNFIEKFTSERDFHPSMSCSITWFLSWSPCWECSQAIREFLSRHPGVTLVIYV
ARLFWHMDQQNRQGLRDLVNSGVTIQIMRASEYYHCWRNFVNYPGDEAHWPQY
PPLWMMLYALELHCIILSLPPCLKISRRWQNHLTFFRLHLQNCHYQTIPPHILLATGLI
HPSVAWR (SEQ ID NO: 292)

[00195] Mouse APOBEC-1

MSSETGPVAVDPTLRRRIEPHEFEVFFDPRELKKECTCLLYEINWGGRHSVWRHTSQN
TSNHVEVNFIEKFTTERRYFRPNTRCSITWFLSWSPCGECSRAITEFLSRHPYVTLFIYIA
RLYHHTDQRNRQGLRDLISSGVTIQIMTEQEYCYCWRNFVNYPSPNEAYWPRYPHL
WVKLYVLELYCIILGLPPCLKILRRKQPQLTFFTITLQTCHYQRIPPHLLWATGLK
(SEQ ID NO: 293)

[00196] Rat APOBEC-1 (rAPOBEC1)

MSSETGPVAVDPTLRRRIEPHEFEVFFDPRELKKECTCLLYEINWGGRHSIWRHTSQNT
NKHVEVNFIEKFTTERRYFCPNTRCSITWFLSWSPCGECSRAITEFLSRYPHVTLFIYIAR
LYHHADPRNRQGLRDLISSGVTIQIMTEQESGYCWRNFVNYPSPNEAHWPYPHLW
VRLYVLELYCIILGLPPCLNILRRKQPQLTFFTIALQSCHYQRLPPHILWATGLK (SEQ
ID NO: 294)

[00197] *Petromyzon marinus* CDA1 (pmCDA1)

MTDAEYVRIHEKLDIYTFKKQFFNNKKSVSHRCYVLFELKRRGERRACFWGYAVNK
PQSGTERGIHAEIFSIRKVEEYLRDNPGQFTINWYSSWSPCADCAEKILEWYNQELRG
NGHTLKIWACKLYYEKNARNQIGLWNLRDNGVGLNVMVSEHYQCCRKIFIQSSHNQ
LNENRWLEKTLKRAEKRRSELSIMIQQVILHTTKSPAV (SEQ ID NO: 295)

[00198] Evolved pmCDA1 (evoCDA1)

MTDAEYVRIHEKLDIYTFKKQFSNNKKS VSHRCYVLFELKRRGERRACFWGYAVNK
 PQSGTERGIHAEIFSIRKVEEYLRDNPQGFTINWYSSWSPCADCAEKILEWYNQELRG
 NGHTLKIWVCKLYYEKNARNQIGLWNLRDNGVGLNVMVSEHYQCCRKIFIQSSHNQ
 LNENRWLEKTLKRAEKRRSELSIMFQVKILHTTKSPAV (SEQ ID NO: 487)

Adenosine deaminase domains

[00199] The disclosure provides adenosine deaminase variants that have activity on deoxyadenosine nucleosides in DNA. As such, the variants provided herein are deoxyadenosine deaminases. In some embodiments, the disclosed adenosine deaminases are variants of known adenosine deaminase TadA7.10, which comprises the following mutations as compared to wild-type ecTadA (SEQ ID NO: 325): W23R, H36L, P48A, R51L, L84F, A106V, D108N, H123Y, S146C, D147Y, R152P, E155V, I156F, and K157N. In some embodiments, the disclosed adenosine deaminases are variants of a TadA derived from a species other than *E. coli*, such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Shewanella putrefaciens*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Caulobacter crescentus*, or *Bacillus subtilis*.

[00200] In some embodiments, the disclosed adenosine deaminase domain comprises TadA-8e, a variant of *E. coli* TadA 7.10. TadA-8e (set forth as SEQ ID NO: 433) contains the following substitutions: T111, D119, F149, R26, V88, A109, H122, T166, and D167, relative to TadA7.10 (SEQ ID NO: 315). TadA-8e is disclosed in PCT Publication No. WO 2021/158921, published August 12, 2021, which is incorporated herein by reference. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain comprises TadA-8e(V106W), which contains a V106W substitution relative to TadA-8e.

[00201] In various embodiments, the disclosed adenosine deaminases hydrolytically deaminate a targeted adenosine in a nucleic acid of interest to an inosine, which is read as a guanosine (G) by DNA polymerase enzymes.

[00202] These variants may comprise a domain of any of the disclosed base editors (i.e., an adenosine deaminase domain of an adenine base editor). In some embodiments, any of the disclosed adenine base editors are capable of deaminating adenosine in a nucleic acid sequence (e.g., DNA or RNA). The disclosed adenine base editors are further capable of deaminating adenine in DNA.

[00203] Exemplary, non-limiting, embodiments of adenosine deaminases are provided herein. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain of any of the disclosed base editors comprises a single adenosine deaminase, or a monomer. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain comprises 2, 3, 4 or 5 adenosine deaminases. In some

embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain comprises two adenosine deaminases, or a dimer. In some embodiments, the deaminase domain comprises a dimer of an engineered (or evolved) deaminase and a wild-type deaminase, such as a wild-type *E. coli*-derived deaminase. It should be appreciated that the mutations provided herein (*e.g.*, mutations in ecTadA) may be applied to adenosine deaminases in other adenine base editors, for example, those provided in PCT Publication No. WO 2018/027078, published August 2, 2018; PCT Publication No. WO 2019/079347 on April 25, 2019; International Application No. PCT/US2019/033848, filed May 23, 2019, which published as PCT Publication No. WO 2019/226593 on November 28, 2019; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2018/0073012, published March 15, 2018, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,113,163, on October 30, 2018; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2017/0121693, published May 4, 2017, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 10,167,457 on January 1, 2019; PCT Publication No. WO 2017/070633, published April 27, 2017; U.S. Patent Publication No. 2015/0166980, published June 18, 2015; U.S. Patent No. 9,840,699, issued December 12, 2017; and U.S. Patent No. 10,077,453, issued September 18, 2018; PCT Application No. PCT/US2020/28568, filed April 16, 2020, and PCT Publication No. WO 2021/158921, published August 12, 2021; all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[00204] In some embodiments, any of the adenosine deaminases provided herein are capable of deaminating adenine, *e.g.*, deaminating adenine in a deoxyadenosine nucleoside of DNA. The adenosine deaminase may be derived from any suitable organism (*e.g.*, *E. coli*). In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is a naturally-occurring adenosine deaminase that includes one or more mutations corresponding to any of the mutations provided herein (*e.g.*, mutations in ecTadA). One of skill in the art will be able to identify the corresponding residue in any homologous protein and in the respective encoding nucleic acid by methods well known in the art, *e.g.*, by sequence alignment and determination of homologous residues. Exemplary TadA deaminases derived from *Bacillus subtilis* (set forth in full as SEQ ID NO: 318), *S. aureus* (SEQ ID NO: 317), and *S. pyogenes* (SEQ ID NO: 448) are provided. The amino acid substitutions in *E. coli* TadA-8e, and the homologous mutations in the *B. subtilis*, *S. aureus*, and *S. pyogenes* TadA deaminases, are shown. Accordingly, one of skill in the art would be able to generate mutations in any naturally-occurring adenosine deaminase (*e.g.*, having homology to ecTadA) that corresponds to any of the mutations described herein, *e.g.*, any of the mutations identified in ecTadA. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is derived from a prokaryote. In some embodiments, the adenosine

deaminase is from a bacterium. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is from *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Shewanella putrefaciens*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Caulobacter crescentus*, or *Bacillus subtilis*. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase is from *E. coli*.

[00205] In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase comprises TadA9, or a variant thereof. TadA9 contains V82S and Q154R substitutions relative to TadA-8e. (Stated differently, TadA9 contains Y147R, Q154R and I76Y mutations relative to TadA7.10.) In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% identical to the amino acid sequence of TadA9 (SEQ ID NO: 33). TadA9 may be referred to in the art as TadA*8.9. An ABE containing the TadA9 deaminase is referred to herein as ABE9. TadA9 is described in additional detail in Gaudelli *et al.*, *Nat Biotechnol.* 2020 Jul;38(7):892-900 and PCT Publication No. WO 2021/050571, published March 18, 2021, each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[00206] In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase comprises TadA20, or a variant thereof. TadA20 contains I76Y, V82S, Y123H, Y147R and Q154R substitutions relative to TadA7.10. TadA20 is described in additional detail in Gaudelli *et al.*, *Nat Biotechnol.* 2020 Jul;38(7):892-900 and WO 2021/050571, published March 18, 2021. TadA20 may be referred to in the art as TadA*8.20. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% identical to the amino acid sequence of TadA20 (SEQ ID NO: 326). An ABE containing the TadA20 deaminase is referred to herein as ABE20. It may be referred to in the art as ABE8.20, ABE8.20-d, or ABE8.20-m.

[00207] In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96%, at least 97%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% identical to any of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 33, 315, 317-326, 433 or 448-449.

[00208] It should be appreciated that adenosine deaminases provided herein may include one or more mutations (*e.g.*, any of the mutations provided herein). The disclosure provides adenosine deaminases with a certain percent identity plus any of the mutations or combinations thereof described herein. Any of the adenosine deaminases described herein

may be a truncated variant of any of the other adenosine deaminases described herein, *e.g.*, any of the adenosine deaminases of SEQ ID NOs: 33, 315, 317-326, 433 or 448-449.

[00209] Exemplary truncated adenosine deaminases may comprise truncations of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, or more than 15 amino acids from the N-terminus. Other exemplary truncated adenosine deaminases may comprise truncations of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, or more than 15 amino acids from the C-terminus. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain comprises a truncated version of the wild-type ecTadA, as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 324. Any of the adenosine deaminases described herein may include an N-terminal methionine (M) amino acid residue.

[00210] It should be appreciated that any of the mutations provided herein (*e.g.*, based on the ecTadA amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 315) may be introduced into other adenosine deaminases, such as *S. aureus* TadA (saTadA), *A. aeolicus* TadA (AaTadA), or another adenosine deaminase (*e.g.*, another bacterial adenosine deaminase), such as those sequences provided below. It would be apparent to the skilled artisan how to identify amino acid residues from other adenosine deaminases that are homologous to the mutated residues in ecTadA. Thus, any of the mutations identified in ecTadA may be made in other adenosine deaminases that have homologous amino acid residues. Any of the mutations provided herein may be made individually or in any combination in ecTadA or another adenosine deaminase. Any of the mutated deaminases provided herein may be used in the context of adenine base editor. Any of the deaminases provided herein may have a sequence that begins with a methionine (“M”) before the first amino acid shown in the sequences below.

[00211] Exemplary adenosine deaminase variants of the disclosure are described below. In certain embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain comprises an adenosine deaminase that has a sequence with at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% sequence identity to one of the following:

[00212] TadA 7.10 (*E. coli*)

SEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVLNNRVIGEGWNRAIGLHDPTA
HAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGRVVFGVRNAKTG
AAGSLMDVLHYPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCYFFRMPRQVFNAQKKAQSSTD
(SEQ ID NO: 315)

[00213] TadA-8e (*E. coli*)

SEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVLNNRVIGEGWNRAIGLHDPTA
HAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGRVVFGVRNSKRG

AAGSLMNVNLNYPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCDFYRMPRQVFNAQKKAQSSIN
(SEQ ID NO: 433)

[00214] *TadA9*

SEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEGEVPVGAVLVLNNRVIGEGWNRAIGLYDPTA
HAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGRVVFGVRNSKRG
AAGSLMNVNLNYPGMDHRVEITEGILANECAALLCDFYRMPRQVFNAQKKAQSSIN
(SEQ ID NO: 33)

[00215] *TadA20*

SEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVLNNRVIGEGWNRAIGLHDPTA
HAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLYDATLYSTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGRVVFGVRNAKT
GAAGSLMDVLHHPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCRFFRMPRRVFNAQKKAQSSTD
(SEQ ID NO: 326)

[00216] *Staphylococcus aureus* TadA:

MGSHMTNDIYFMTLAIEEAKKAAQLGEVPIGAITKDDEVIARAHNLRETLQQPTAH
AEHIAIERAAKVLGSRLEGCTLYVTLEPCVMCAGTIVMSRIPRVVYGADDPKGGCS
GSLMNLLQQSNFNHRAIVDKGVLKEACSTLLTFFKNLRANKKSTN (SEQ ID NO:
317)

[00217] *Bacillus subtilis* TadA:

MTQDELYMKEAIKEAKKAEKGEVPIGAVLVINGEIIARAHNLRETEQRSIAHAEML
VIDEACKALGTWRLEGATLYVTLEPCPMCAVAVLSRVEKVVFGAFDPKGGCSGTL
MNLLQEERFNHQAEVVSGVLEEECGGMLS AFFREL RKKKKAARKNLSE (SEQ ID
NO: 318)

[00218] *Salmonella typhimurium* (*S. typhimurium*) TadA:

MPPAFITGVTSLSDVELDHEYWMRHALTLAKRAWDEREVPVGAVLVHNHRVIGEG
WNRPIGRHDPTAHAEIMALRQGGLVLQNYRLDITLYVTLEPCVMCAGAMVHSRIG
RVVFGARDAKTGAAGSLIDVLHHPGMNHRVEIIEGVLRDECATLLSDFFRMRRQEIK
ALKKADRAEGAGPAV (SEQ ID NO: 319)

[00219] *Shewanella putrefaciens* (*S. putrefaciens*) TadA:

MDEYWMQVAMQMAEKAEAAAGEVPVGAVLVKDGQQIATGYNLSISQHDPTAHAEI
LCLRSAGKKLENYRLLDATLYITLPCAMCAGAMVHSRIARVVYGARDEKTGAAGT
VVNLLQHAPFNHQVEVTSGVLAEACSAQLSRFFKRRRDEKKALKLAQRAQQGIE
(SEQ ID NO: 320)

[00220] *Haemophilus influenzae* F3031 (*H. influenzae*) TadA:

MDAAKVRSEFDEKMMRYALELADKAEALGEIPVGAVLVDDARNIIGEGWNLSIVQS
DPTAHAEIHALRNGAKNIQNYRLLNSTLYVTLEPCTMCAGAILHSRIKRLVFGASDYK
TGAIGSRFHFFDDYKMNHTLEITSGVLAEECSQLSTFFQKRREEKKIEKALLKSLSD
K (SEQ ID NO: 321)

[00221] *Caulobacter crescentus* (*C. crescentus*) TadA:

MRTDESEDQDHRMMRLALDAARAAAEAGETPVGAVILDPSTGEVIATAGNGPIAAH
DPTAHAEIAAMRAAAAKLGNYRLTDLTLVVTLEPCAMCAGAISHARIGRVVFGADD
PKGGAUVHGPKEFFAQPTCHWRPEVTGGVLADESADLLRGFFRARRKAKI (SEQ ID
NO: 322)

[00222] *Geobacter sulfurreducens* (*G. sulfurreducens*) TadA:

MSSLKKTPIRDDAYWMGKAIREAAKAAARDEVPIGAVIVRDGAVIGRGNLREGSN
DPSAHAEMIAIRQAARRSANWRLTGATLYVTLEPCLMCMGAILARLERVVFGCYDP
KGAAGSLYDLSADPRLNHQVRLSPGVCQEECGTMLSDFFRDLRRRKAKATPALFI
DERKVPPEP (SEQ ID NO: 323)

[00223] *Streptococcus pyogenes* (*S. pyogenes*) TadA

MPYSLEEQTTFMQEALKEAEKSLQKAEPIGCVIVKDGEIIGRGNAREESNQAIMHA
EIMAINANAHEGNWRLDITTLFVTIEPCVMCSGAIGLARIPHVYIGASNQKFGGADS
LYQILTDERLNHRVQVERGLLAADCANIMQTFFRQGRERKKIAKHLIKEQSDPFD
(SEQ ID NO: 448)

[00224] *Aquifex aeolicus* (*A. aeolicus*) TadA

MGKEYFLKVALREAKRAFEKGEVPVGAIIVKEGEIISKAHNSVEELKDPTAHAEMLA
KEACRRLNTKYLEGCELYVTLEPCIMCSYALVLSRIEKVIFSALDKKHGGVVSFVNIL
DEPTLNHRVKWEYYPLEEASELLSEFFKKLRNNII (SEQ ID NO: 449)

[00225] In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain comprises an N-terminal truncated *E. coli* TadA. In certain embodiments, the adenosine deaminase comprises the amino acid sequence:

MSEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRAWDEREVPVGAVLVHNNRVIGEGWNRPIGRHDPT
AHAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTLEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGRVVFGARDAKT
GAAGSLMDVLHHPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLSDFFRMRRQEIKAKKAQSSTD
(SEQ ID NO: 324).

[00226] In some embodiments, the TadA deaminase is a full-length *E. coli* TadA deaminase (ecTadA). For example, in certain embodiments, the adenosine deaminase domain comprises a deaminase that comprises the amino acid sequence:

MRRAFITGVFFLSEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRAWDEREVPVGAVLVHNNRVIGEG
WNRPIGRHDPTAHAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTLEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIG
RVVFGARDAKTGAAGSLMDVLHHPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLSDFFRMRRQEI
KAQKKAQSSTD (SEQ ID NO: 325)

[00227] In some embodiments, the base editor comprises an adenosine deaminase monomer. In other aspects, the base editor comprises an adenosine deaminase dimer. The base editor may comprise a heterodimer of a first adenosine deaminase and a second adenosine deaminase. In some embodiments, the first adenosine deaminase is N-terminal to the second adenosine deaminase in the base editor. In some embodiments, the first adenosine deaminase is C-terminal to the second adenosine deaminase in the base editor. In some embodiments, the first adenosine deaminase and the second deaminase are fused directly to each other or via a linker. In some embodiments, the first adenosine deaminase is fused N-terminal to the napDNAbp via a linker, and the second deaminase is fused C-terminal to the napDNAbp domain via a linker. In other embodiments, the second adenosine deaminase is fused N-terminal to the napDNAbp domain via a linker, and the first deaminase is fused C-terminal to the napDNAbp via a linker.

Exemplary Base Editors

Adenine Base Editors

[00228] In some aspects, the base editing methods of the disclosure comprise the use of an adenine base editor. Exemplary adenine base editors of this disclosure comprise the monomer and dimer versions of the following editors: Sauri-ABE8e, SaKKH-ABE8e, SaABE8e, CjCas9-ABE8e and Nme2Cas9-ABE8e; SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W), SauriCas9-ABE8e(V106W), CjCas9-ABE8e(V106W), Nme2Cas9-ABE8e(V106W), and SaCas9-ABE8e(V106W); SaKKH-ABE9, SauriCas9-ABE9, CjCas9-ABE9, Nme2Cas9-ABE9, and SaCas9-ABE9; SaKKH-ABE20, SauriCas9-ABE20, CjCas9-ABE20, Nme2Cas9-ABE20, and SaCas9-ABE20; and SaKKH-ABE7.10, SauriCas9-ABE7.10, CjCas9-ABE7.10, Nme2Cas9-ABE7.10, and SaCas9-ABE7.10. In some embodiments, the ABE is Sauri-ABE8e, SaKKH-ABE8e, or SaABE8e. These base editors are 1298, 1291, and 1291 amino acids in length, respectively. Additional base editors are 1221 amino acids (CjABE8e) and 1319 amino acids (Nme2ABE8e) in length. In exemplary embodiments, the ABE is SaKKH-ABE8e. Exemplary ABEs contain an adenosine deaminase domain that comprises a TadA8e

and does not comprise a second adenosine deaminase (*i.e.*, the adenosine deaminase domain consists of a deaminase monomer).

[00229] Additional exemplary adenine base editors are disclosed in PCT Publication No. WO 2020/051360, published March 12, 2020; PCT Publication No. WO 2021/050571; PCT Publication No. WO 2020/168132, published August 20, 2020; and PCT Publication No. WO 2021/158921, published August 12, 2021, each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

[00230] ABE8e may be referred to in the art as “ABE8” or “ABE8.0”. The ABE8e base editor and variants thereof may comprise an adenosine deaminase domain containing a TadA-8e adenosine deaminase monomer (monomer form) or a TadA-8e adenosine deaminase homodimer or heterodimer (dimer form). In some embodiments, the architecture of base editors comprising an adenosine deaminase domain and a napDNAbp is as follows: NH₂-[adenosine deaminase]-[napDNAbp domain]-COOH; or NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[adenosine deaminase]-COOH. In certain embodiments, the base editors comprise an ABE8e monomer architecture, which comprises NH₂-[NLS]-[adenosine deaminase]-[napDNAbp domain]-[NLS]-COOH, wherein “NLS” is a nuclear localization sequence.

[00231] In some aspects, the disclosure provides complexes of adenine base editors and guide RNAs. Exemplary disclosed complexes comprise any of the following ABEs in conjunction with a guide RNA (such as a single-guide RNA): Sauri-ABE8e, SaKKH-ABE8e, SaABE8e, CjCas9-ABE8e and Nme2Cas9-ABE8e; SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W), SauriCas9-ABE8e(V106W), CjCas9-ABE8e(V106W), Nme2Cas9-ABE8e(V106W), and SaCas9-ABE8e(V106W); SaKKH-ABE9, SauriCas9-ABE9, CjCas9-ABE9, Nme2Cas9-ABE9, and SaCas9-ABE9; SaKKH-ABE20, SauriCas9-ABE20, CjCas9-ABE20, Nme2Cas9-ABE20, and SaCas9-ABE20; and SaKKH-ABE7.10, SauriCas9-ABE7.10, CjCas9-ABE7.10, Nme2Cas9-ABE7.10, and SaCas9-ABE7.10. Other ABEs may be used to deaminate a A nucleobase in accordance with the disclosed complexes.

[00232] In some embodiments, the ABE is CjCas9-ABE8e. During adenine editing evaluation, this editor exhibited higher context preference for pyrimidines in the nucleotide position 5' of the target adenine base (YA >> RA). As used herein, “preference” and “context preference” refer to a product purity of above 40% with respect to the target adenosine. Accordingly, in some aspects, the disclosure provides ABEs having pyrimidine (“Y”) context preference, where “context” refers to the presence of a pyrimidine or a purine (“R”) immediately 5' of the adenine base to be edited (or the target adenine base), such as CjABE8e editors and variants thereof. These ABEs may have a preference for editing an

adenosine in a target nucleic acid sequence of 5'-YAN-3', wherein Y is C or T; N is A, T, C, G, or U; and A is the target adenosine. Accordingly, in some embodiments, an ABE is provided having context preference for deaminating an adenosine in a target nucleic acid sequence of 5'-YAN-3', wherein Y is C or T, and N is A, T, C, G, or U; and A is the target adenosine.

[00233] An exemplary AAV-encoded adenine base editor construct is shown in FIG. 2A. This construct contains an SaABE8e base editor operably controlled by an EFS promoter and a bGH polyA sequence. It also contains a guide RNA encoded in the reverse orientation, as indicated by the arrow pointing away from the 3' terminus.

[00234] The disclosed complexes of ABEs may possess an on-target editing efficiency of more than 50% after being contacted with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a target sequence. Further exemplary ABE complexes possess an on-target editing efficiency of more than 60% after being contacted with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a target sequence. Further exemplary ABEs possess an on-target editing efficiency of more than 65%, more than 70%, more than 75%, more than 80%, more than 82.5%, or more than 85% after being contacted with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a target sequence. The disclosed ABE complexes may exhibit indel frequencies of less than 2.5%, less than 2.4%, less than 2.2%, less than 2.0%, less than 1.75%, less than 1.5%, less than 1.3%, less than 1.1%, or less than 1.0% after being contacted with a nucleic acid molecule containing a target sequence.

[00235] In some aspects, the disclosure provide base editors comprising a napDNAbp domain and an adenosine deaminase domain as described herein. The Cas9 domain may be any of the Cas9 domains or Cas9 proteins (*e.g.*, a Cas9 nickase, or nCas9) provided herein. In some embodiments, any of the Cas9 domains or Cas9 proteins (*e.g.*, nCas9) provided herein may be fused with any of the adenosine deaminase domains provided herein.

[00236] In some embodiments, the base editors comprising adenosine deaminases and a napDNAbp (*e.g.*, Cas9 domain) do not include a linker sequence. In some embodiments, a linker is present between the adenosine deaminase domain and/or between an adenosine deaminase and the napDNAbp. In some embodiments, the “[]-[” used in the general architecture above indicates the presence of an optional linker. In some embodiments, an adenosine deaminase domain and the napDNAbp domain are fused via any of the linkers provided herein. For example, in some embodiments the adenosine deaminase domain (which may include one or more adenosine deaminases) and the napDNAbp are fused via any of the linkers provided below in the section entitled “Linkers”.

[00237] In some embodiments, the adenine base editors comprise adenosine deaminases comprising a sequence with at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 98%, 99%, or 99.5% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 433 (TadA-8e). In some embodiments, the adenine base editors comprise the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 433.

[00238] In some embodiments, the adenine base editor of the disclosure comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 181. In some embodiments, the adenine base editor of the disclosure comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 182. In other embodiments, the adenine base editor of the disclosure comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 183. In other embodiments, the adenine base editors of the disclosure comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 171 or 172.

[00239] In some embodiments, any of the adenine base editors described herein may comprise an amino acid sequence having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25, 30, or more than 30 amino acids that differ relative to the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 171-172 and 181-183. These differences may comprise amino acids that have been inserted, deleted, or substituted relative to the reference sequence. In some embodiments, the disclosed adenosine deaminase domains contain stretches of about 50, about 75, about 100, about 125, about 150, about 175, about 200, about 300, about 400, about 500, or more than 500 consecutive amino acids in common with either of SEQ ID NOs: 171-172 and 181-183.

[00240] Exemplary base editors comprise sequences that are at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% identical to any of the following amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NOs: 171-172 and 181-183). In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors have a sequence comprising any of the following amino acid sequences:

[00241] *SaABE8e*: NLS, linker, *TadA-8e*, *SaCas9*

MKRTADGSEFESPKKKRKVSEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVLNNRVI
GEGWNRAIGLHDPTAHAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGR
VVFGVRNSKRGAAAGSLMNVLNYPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCDFYRMPRQVFNAQK
KAQSSINSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGSGKRNILGLAIGITSVGYGIIDYET
RDVIDAGVRLFKEANVENNEGRRSKRGARRLKRRRRHRIQRVKKLLFDYNLLTDHSELGI
NPYEARVKGLSOKLSEEEFSAALLHLAKRRGVHNVNEVEEDTGNELSTKEQISRNSKALEE
KYVAELQLERLKKDGEVRGSINRFKTSYVKEAKQLLKVOKAYHOLDQSFIDTYIDLLETR
RYYEGPGEGSPFGWKDIKEWYEMLMGHCTYFPEELRSVKYAYNADLYNALNDLNNLVIT
RDENEKLEYEYKQIENVFVKQKKKPTLKQIAKEILVNEEDIKGYRVTSTGKPEFTNLKVYH
DIKDITARKEIIEAELLDQIAKILTIYQSSEDIQEELTNLNLSELTOEEIEQISNLKGYTGTHNL

SLKAINLILDELWHTNDNQIAIFNRLKLVPKKVDLSQOKEIPTTLVDDFILSPVVKRSFIQSIK
VINAIHKYGLPNDIIELAREKNSKDAQKMINEMOKRNRQTNERIEEIIHRTTGKENAKYLIEK
IKLHDMQEGKCLYSLEAIPLEDLLNPNFYEVVDHIIPRSVSFDNSFNNKVLVKQEENSKKG
NRTPFQYLSSSDSKISYETFKKHILNLAAGKGRISKTKKEYLLEERDINRFSVQKDFINRNLV
DTRYATRGLMNLRSYFRVNNLDVKVKSINGGFTSFLRRKWKFKKERNKGYKHHAEADALII
ANADFIFKEWKLDKAKKVMENOMFEEKQAESMPEIETEQEYKEIFITPHOIKHIKDFKD
YKYSHRVDKKPNRELINDTLYSTRKDDKGNTLIVNNLNGLYDKDNDKLLKLINKSPEKLLM
YHHDPTQYQKLKLIMEQYGDENPLYKYEEETGNYLTKYSKKDNGPVIKKIKYYGNKLNA
HLDITDDYPNSRNKVVKLSLKPYRFDVYLDNGVYKFVTVKNLDVIKKENYYEVNSKCYEEA
KKLKKISNOAEFIASFYNNDLIKINGELYRVIGVNNDLLNRIEVMIDITYREYLENMNDKRP
PRIIKTIASKTOSIKKYSTDILGNLYEVKSKKHPOIHKKGSGGSKRTADGSEFEPKKRKV
 (SEQ ID NO: 171)

[00242] SaKKH-ABE8e: NLS, linker, TadA-8e, SaKKH

MKRTADGSEFESPCKKRKVSEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVLNRRVI
GEGWNRAIGLHDPTAHAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGR
VVFGVRNSKRGAAAGSLMNVNYPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCDFYRMPRQVFNAQK
KAQSSINSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSGKRNILGLAIGITSVGYGIIDYE
TRDVIDAGVRLFKEANVENNEGRRSKRGARRLKRRIIRHRIORVKLLFDYNLLTDHSELSE
INPYEARVKGLSOKLSEEEFSAALLHLAKRRGVHNVNEVEEDTGNELSTKEQISRNSKALEE
KYVAELOLERLKKDGEVRGSINRFKTSYVKEAKOLLKVQKAYHOLDOSFIDTYIDLLETR
RTYYEGPGEKSPFGWKDIKEWYEMLMGHCTYFPEELRSVKYAYNADLYNALNDLNNLVIT
RDENEKLEYEKFQIENVFQKQKPTLKQIAKEILVNEEDIKGYRVTSTGKPEFTNLKVYH
DIKDITARKEIENAEELDOIAKILTIYOSSEDIQEELTNLNSLTQEEIEQISNLKGYTGTHNL
SLKAINLILDELWHTNDNQIAIFNRLKLVPKKVDLSQOKEIPTTLVDDFILSPVVKRSFIQSIK
VINAIHKYGLPNDIIELAREKNSKDAQKMINEMOKRNRQTNERIEEIIHRTTGKENAKYLIEK
IKLHDMQEGKCLYSLEAIPLEDLLNPNFYEVVDHIIPRSVSFDNSFNNKVLVKQEENSKKG
NRTPFQYLSSSDSKISYETFKKHILNLAAGKGRISKTKKEYLLEERDINRFSVQKDFINRNLV
DTRYATRGLMNLRSYFRVNNLDVKVKSINGGFTSFLRRKWKFKKERNKGYKHHAEADALII
ANADFIFKEWKLDKAKKVMENOMFEEKQAESMPEIETEQEYKEIFITPHOIKHIKDFKD
YKYSHRVDKKPNRKLINDTLYSTRKDDKGNTLIVNNLNGLYDKDNDKLLKLINKSPEKLL
MYHHDPTQYQKLKLIMEQYGDENPLYKYEEETGNYLTKYSKKDNGPVIKKIKYYGNKLNA
AHLITDDYPNSRNKVVKLSLKPYRFDVYLDNGVYKFVTVKNLDVIKKENYYEVNSKCYEE
AKKLKKISNOAEFIASFYKNDLIKINGELYRVIGVNNDLLNRIEVMIDITYREYLENMNDKRP
PHIIKTIASKTOSIKKYSTDILGNLYEVKSKKHPOIHKKGSGGSKRTADGSEFEPKKRKV
 (SEQ ID NO: 181)

[00243] SauriABE8e: NLS, linker, TadA-8e, SauriCas9

MKRTADGSEFESPCKKRKVSEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVLNRRVI
GEGWNRAIGLHDPTAHAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGR
VVFGVRNSKRGAAAGSLMNVNYPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCDFYRMPRQVFNAQK
KAQSSINSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSQENQOKQNYILGLAIGITSVGYGL

IDSKTREVIDAGVRLFPEADSENNNSNRRSKRGARRLKRRRIHRLNVRVKDLLADYQOMIDLNN
VPKSTDPYTIRVKGRLREPLTKEEFAIALHIAKRRGLHNISVSMGDEEQDNELSTKQOLOKN
AQOLODKYVCELOLERLTNINKVRGEKNRFKTEDFVKEVKQLCETORQYHNIDDQFIQQ
YIDLVSTRREYFEGPGNGSPYGWDGDLKWEKLMGRCTYFPEELRSVKYAYSADLFNAL
NDLNNLVVTRDDNPKLEYEYKYHIIENVFKQKKNPTLKQIAKEIGVODYDIRGYRITKSGPK
QFTSFKLYHDLKNIFEQAKYLEDVEMLDEIAKILTIYODEISIKKALDOLPELLTESEKSOIA
OLTGYTGTHRLSLKCIHIVIDELWESPENOMEIFTRLNLKPKKVEMSEIDSIPITLVDEFILS
PVVKRAFIOSIKVINAVINRFGLPEDIIELAREKNSKDRRKFINKLQKONEATRKKIEQLLAK
YGNTNAKYMIEKIKLHDMQEGKCLYSLEAIPLEDLLSNPTHYEVVDHIIIPRSVSFDNSLNNKY
LVKQSENSKKGNRTPYOYLSSNESKISYNQFKQHILNLSKAKDRISKKKRDMLLEERDINKF
EVQKEFINRNLDTRYATRELSNLLKTYFSTHDYAVKVKTINGGFTNHLRKVWDFKKHRNH
GYKHAEDALVIANADFLFKTHKALRRTDKILEQPGLEVNDTTVKVDTEEKYQELFETPK
QVKNIKQFRDFKYSHRVDKKPNRQLINDTLYSTREIDGETYVVQTLKDLYAKDNEKVKKLF
TERPOKILMYOHDPKTFEKLMTILNOYAEAKNPLAAYYEDKGEYVTKYAKKGNGPAIHKIK
YIDKKLGSYLDVSNKYPETQNKLVKLSLKSFRFDIYKCEQGYKMVSIGYLDVLKKDNYYYIP
KDKYEAEEKKKIKESDLFVGSFYNDLIMYEDELFRVIGVNSDINNVLVELNMVDITYKDF
CEVNNVTGEKRIKKTIGKRVVLIEKYTTDILGNLYKTPLPKKPQLIFKRGELSGGSKRTADG
SEFEPKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 172)

[00244] *CjABE8e*: NLS, linker, *TadA-8e*, *CjCas9*

MKRTADGSEFESPKKKRKVSEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVLNRRVI
GEGWNRAIGLHDPTAHAEIMALRQGGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGR
VVFGVRNSKRGAAAGSLMNVLNYPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCDFYRMPRQVFNAQK
KAQSSINSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSARILAFAGISSIGWAFSENDELK
DCGVRIFTKVENPKTGESLALPRRLARSARKRLARRKARLNHLKHLIANEFKLNIEDYQSF
DESLAKAYKGSLSIPYELRFRALNELLSKQDFARVILHIAKRRGYDDIKNSDDKEKGAILKAI
KONEEKLANYOSVGEYLYKEYFOKFKEKSKEFTNVRNKKESYERCIAQSFLKDELKLIFKK
OREFGFSFSKKFEEVLSVAFYKRALKDFSHLVGNCSFFTDEKRAPKNSPLAFMFVALTRII
NLLNNLKNTEGILYTKDDLNALLNEVLKNGTLTYKQTKKLLGLSDDYEFKGEKGTIFYIEFK
KYKEFIKALGEHNLSQDDLNEIAKDITLIKDEIKLKKALAKYDLNQNQIDSLSKLEFKDHLN
ISFKALKLVTPLMLEGKKYDEACNELNLKVAINEDKKDFLPAFNETYKDEVTPNPVVLRAIK
EYRKVLNALLKKYGVHKKINIELAREVGKNHSORAKIEKEONENYKAKKDAELECEKLGL
KINSKNILKLRLFKEQKEFCAYSGEKIKISDLQDEKMLEIDHIYPYSRSFDDSYMKNKVLVFT
KONQEKLNQTPFEAFGNDSAKWQKIEVLAKNLPTKKQKRILDKNYKDKEQKNFKDRNLN
DTRYIARLVNLNYTKDYLDLPLSDDENTKLNDTQKGSKVHVEAKSGMLTSALRHTWGFSA
KDRNNHLHHAIDAVIIAYANNSIVKAFSDFKKEQESNSAELYAKKISELDYKNKRKFFEPFS
GFRQKVLDKIDEIFVSKPERKKPSGALHEETFRKEEEFYQSYGGKEGVKALELGKIRKVN
GKIVKNGDMFRVDIFKHKKTNKFYAVPIYTMDFAKVLPNKAVARSKKGEIKDWILMDEN
YEFCSLYKDSLILIQTKDMQEPFVYYNAFTSSTVSLIVSKHDNKFETLSKNQKILFKNANE

KEVIAKSIGIQNLKVFEKYIVSALGEVTKAEFRQREDFKKSSGGSKRTADGSEFEPKKKRK
V (SEQ ID NO: 182)

[00245] *Nme2ABE8e*: NLS, linker, *TadA-8e*, *Nme2Cas9*

MKRTADGSEFESPCKKKRKVSEVEFSHEYWMRHALTLAKRARDEREVPVGAVLVNLRVI
GEGWNRAIGLHDPTAHAEIMALRQGGLVMQNYRLIDATLYVTFEPCVMCAGAMIHSRIGR
VVFGVRNSKRGAAGSLMNVNYPGMNHRVEITEGILADECAALLCDFYRMPRQVFNAQK
KAQSSINSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGSAAFKPNPINYLGLAIGIASVGW
AMVEIDEEENPIRLIDLGVRFERAEVPKTGDSLAMARRLARSVRRLTRRRRAHRLLRARLL
KREGVLQAADFDENGLIKSLPNTPWQLRAAALDRKLTPLEWSAVLLHLIKHRGYLSQRKN
EGETADKELGALLKGVANNAHALOTGDFRTPAELALNKFEEKESGHIRNQRGDYSHTFSRK
DLOAELILLFEKOKEFGNPHVSGGLKEGIETLLMTORPALS GDAVOKMLGHCTFEPAEPK
AAKNITYAERFIWLTKLNNLRILEQGSERPLTDTERATLMDEPYRKSKLTYAQARKLLGLED
TAFFKGLRYGKDNAEASTLMEKAYHAISRALEKEGLKDKKSPLNLSSELODEIGTAFSLF
KTDEDITGRLKDRVQPEILEALLKHISFDKFVOISLKALRRIVPLMEQGKRYDEACAEIYGD
HYGKKNTEEKIYLPPIPADEIRNPVVLRLALSQARKVINGVVRRYGSPARIHIETAREVGKSKF
DRKEIEKROEENRKDREKAAAKFREYFPNFVGEPKSKDILKLRLYEQQHKGCLYSGKEIN
LVRLNEKGYVEIDHALPFSRTWDDSFNNKVLVLGSENQNKGNQTPYEYFNGKDNSREWQ
EFKARVETSFRPRSKKORILLOKFDEDEGDFKECNLNDTRYVNRFLCQFVADHILLTGKGR
RVFASNGOITNLLRGFWGLRKVRAENDRRHALDAVVVACSTVAMQOKITRFVRYKEMNAF
DGKTIDKETGKVLHQKTHFPQPWEFFAQEVMIRVFGKPDGKPEFEEADTPEKLRTLLAE
KLSSRPEAVHEYVTPLFVSRAPNRKMSGAHKDTLRSKRFRVVKHNEKISVKRVWLTEIKLAD
LENMVNYKNGREIELYEALKARLEAYGGNAKQAFDPKDNPFYKKGGLVKA VRVEKTOES
GVLLNKKNAYTIADNGDMVRVDVFCKVDKKGKNQYFIVPIYAWQVAENILPDIDCKGYRID
DSYTFCSLHKYDLIAFQKDEKSKVEFAYYINCDSSNGRFYLA WHDKGSKEQQFRISTONL
VLIQKYQVNELGKEIRPCRLKKRPPVRS GGSKRTADGSEFEPKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO:
 183)

Cytosine Base Editors

[00246] In some aspects, the disclosure provides cytosine base editors (CBEs). Examples of these CBEs include CjCas9-BE3.9, CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9, and CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9. The CBEs of the disclosure may be a variant of any of CjCas9-BE3.9, CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9, and CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9.

[00247] In some embodiments, the disclosed cytosine base editors (CBEs) may comprise a fusion protein comprising: (i) a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp) domain; (ii) a cytidine deaminase domain; and (iii) a uracil glycosylase inhibitor domain (UGI). In various embodiments, the disclosed CBEs contain a single UGI domain. The disclosed CBEs can be arranged structurally in a variety of configurations, which include, but are not limited to:

NH₂-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-[UGI]-COOH;
 NH₂-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[UGI]-[napDNAbp domain]-COOH;
 NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[UGI]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-COOH;
 NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[UGI]-COOH;
 NH₂-[UGI]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-COOH; or
 NH₂-[UGI]-[napDNAbp domain]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-COOH, wherein each instance of “[]-[” comprises an optional linker.

[00248] An exemplary construct encoding a single AAV-CBE is shown in FIG. 14. This CBE contains a BE3.9 architecture, with the deaminase FERNY (or evoFERNY) as the cytidine deaminase domain positioned 5′ of the napDNAbp domain. In this construct, the cytosine base editor contains a CjCas9 napDNAbp domain. A human U6-controlled (“hU6”) sgRNA is positioned at the 3′ end, in the reverse orientation to the base editor. This construct contains an EFS promoter driving the base editor, and an SV40 late polyA sequence. The construct has a length of 5.012 kb. Where indicated, “BE3.9” refers to the BE3.9 CBE architecture, *i.e.*, NH₂-[first nuclear localization sequence]-[cytosine deaminase domain]-[32aa linker]-[napDNAbp domain]-[9aa linker]-[first UGI domain]-[second nuclear localization sequence]-COOH. The disclosed CBEs may further comprise one or more nuclear localization signals (NLSs).

[00249] Additional exemplary CBEs are disclosed in PCT Publication No. WO 2019/023680, published January 31, 2019, and PCT Publication No. WO 2021/108717, published June 3, 2021, each of which are incorporated herein by reference. Additional CBEs are disclosed in Villiger, L. *et al. Nature Medicine* 24, 1519-1525 (2018), incorporated herein by reference. Villiger and colleagues developed an intein-split *S. aureus* CBE. The disclosed single-AAV CBEs demonstrate comparable if not improved activity relative to that shown by Villiger.

[00250] The disclosed CBEs may comprise modified (or evolved) cytosine deaminase domains, such as deaminase domains that recognize an expanded PAM sequence, have improved efficiency of deaminating 5′-GC targets, and/or make edits in a narrower target window. In some embodiments, the disclosed cytidine nucleobase editors comprise evolved nucleic acid programmable DNA binding proteins (napDNAbp), such as an evolved Cas9.

[00251] In some aspects, the disclosure provides complexes of cytosine base editors and guide RNAs, *e.g.*, complexes of any of CjCas9-BE3.9, CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9, and CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9 and a sgRNA.

[00252] Non-limiting examples of CBEs are provided below, as SEQ ID NOs: 19 and 20, which are FERNY-BE3.9 editors. These editors contain SpCas9 as a napDNAbp domain. Exemplary AAV-encoded CBEs of the disclosure contain a CjCas9 domain (SEQ ID NO: 379) in place of the SpCas9 domain of the below-described FERNY-BE3.9 editors.

[00253] The following base editor (SEQ ID NO: 19) contains wild-type FERNY, which may be used as a reference base editor. This base editor was evolved to generate the evoFERNY base editor shown as SEQ ID NO: 20. These base editors contain a bpNLS and a single UGI domain.

Amino acid sequence of FERNY-BE3.9

MKRTADGSEFESPKKKRKVSFERNYDPRELKETYLLYEIKWGKSGKLWRHWCQ
NNRTQHAENVYFLENIFNARRFNPSTHCSITWYLSWSPCAECSQKIVDFLKEHPNVNLE
IYVARLYYHEDERNRQGLRDLVNSGVTIRIMDLPDYNWCWKTFSVSDQGGDEYWP
GHFAPWIKQYSLKLSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSDKKYSIGLAIGTNS
VGWAVITDEYKVPSKKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLFDSGETAEATRLKRTARRRY
TRRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSSFFHRLEESFLVEEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHE
KYPTIYHLRKKLVDDSTDKADLRLIYLALAHMIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVKLFIQL
VQTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSARLSKSRLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIALSL
GLTPNFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSKDITYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILLS
DILRVNTEITKAPLSASMIKRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAG
YIDGGASQEEFYKFIKPILEKMDGTEELLVVLNREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELH
AILRRQEDFYFPLKDNREKIEKILTFRIPIYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFE
EVVDKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPHSLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGMR
KPAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRFNASLGT
YHDLKIIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTLTLFEDREMIEERLKTYAHLFDDKVMKQL
KRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDFANRNFMQLIHDDSLTFKEDIQ
KAQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAIIKKGILQTVKVVDELVKVMGRHKPENIVIAMARE
NQTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIIEGIKELGSQILKEHPVENTQLQNEKLYLYYLQNGRDM
YVDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSIDNKVLTSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKK
MKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTKAERGGLSELDKAGFIKQQLVETRQITKHVAQIL
DSRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKVITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVVREINNYHHAHDAYLNA
VVGTAIIKKYPKLESEFVYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKT
EITLANGEIRKRPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVLSPQVNIKKTEVQTGGFS
KESILPKRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKEKGKSKKLKSVKE
LLGITIMERSSEKPNIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIIKLPKYSLELNGRKRMLASAGELQ
KGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDNEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIEQISEFSKR
VILADANLDKVL SAYNKHARDKPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAFKYFDTTIDRKRYT
STKEVLDTLIHQSTGLYETRIDLSQLGGDSGGSGGSGGSTNLSDIIEKETGKQLVIOE
SILMLPEEVEEVIGNKPESDILVHTAYDESTDENVMLLTSDAPEYKPWALVIQDSNGE
NKIKMLSGGSKRTADGSEFEPKKKRKV* (SEQ ID NO: 19)

[00254] The following base editor contains evoFERNY, which was evolved based on the base editor provided above (SEQ ID NO: 19).

Amino acid sequence of evoFERNY-BE3.9

MKRTADGSEFESPKKKRKVSFERNYDPRELKETYLLYEIKWGKSGKLWRHWCQ
NNRTQHAEVYFLENIFNARRFNPSTHCSITWYLSWSPCAECSQKIVDFLKEHPNVNLE
 IYVARLYYPENERNRQGLRDLVNSGVITIRIMDLPDYNYCWKTFVSDQGGDEDEDYWPG
 HFAPWIKQYSLKLSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSDKKYSIGLAIGTNSV
 GWAVITDEYKVPSKKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGALLFDSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYT
 RRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFHRLSEESFLVEEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEK
 YPTIYHLRKKLV DSTDKADLRILIYLA LAHMIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVKLFIQLV
 QTYNQLFEENPINASGVDAKAILSARLSKSRLENLIAQLPGEKKNGLFGNLIASLGL
 TPNFKNFDLAEDAKLQLSKDTYDDDLNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAILLSDI
 LRVNTEITKAPLSASMIKRYDEHHQDLTLLKALVRQQLPEKYKEIFFDQSKNGYAGYI
 DGGASQEEFYKFIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKLNREDLLRKQRTFDNGSIPHQIHLGELHAI
 LRRQEDFPFLKDNREKIEKILTFRIPIYYVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEE
 VVDKGASAQSFIERMTNFDKNLPNEKVLPKHSLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGMRK
 PAFLSGEQKKAIVDLLFKTNRKVTVKQLKEDYFKKIECFDSVEISGVEDRFNASLGT
 Y HDLLKIIKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTTLTFEDREMIEERLKYAHLFDDKVMKQLK
 RRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKQSGKTILDFLKSDFANRNFMLIHDDSLTFKEDIQK
 AQVSGQGDSLHEHIANLAGSPAIIKKGILQTVKVVDLVKVMGRHKPENIVIAMAREN
 QTTQKGQKNSRERMKRIEEGIKELGSQILKEHPVENTQLQNEKLYLYYLQNGRDMY
 VDQELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPQSFLKDDSIDNKVLTRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKM
 KNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLTKAERGGLSELDKAGFIKRQLVETRQITKHVAQILD
 SRMNTKYDENDKLIREVKVITLKSCLVSDFRKDFQFYKVRINNYHHAHDAYLNAV
 VGTALIKKYPKLESEFVYGDYKVYDVRKMIKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEI
 TLANGEIRKRPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVL SMPQVNIVKKTEVQTGGFSK
 ESILPKRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKVEKGKSKKLKSVKEL
 LGITIMERSSEFKNPIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIILPKYSLFELENGRKRMLASAGELQK
 GNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPEDEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIIEQISEFSKRV
 ILADANLDKVL SAYNKHDKPIREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAFKYFDTTIDRKRYTS
 TKEVL DATLIHQ SITGLYETRIDLSQLGGDSGGSGGSGGSTNLS***DIIEKETGKQLVIQES***
ILMLPEEVEEVIGNKPESDILVHTAYDESTDENVMLLTSDAPEYKPWALVIQDSNGE
NKIKMLSGGSKRTADGSEFEPKKKRKV* (SEQ ID NO: 20)

[00255] In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9, which is provided below as SEQ ID NO: 21. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9, which is provided below as SEQ ID NO: 22. Any of the disclosed base editors may comprise a sequence having at least 80%, 85%, 90%, 92.5%, 95%, 97%, 98% or 99% identity to any of SEQ ID NOs: 21 and 22. The base editors may comprise the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21 or 22. These base editors contain a bpNLS and a single UGI domain. The FERNY deaminase is italicized.

[00256] **CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9**

MKRTADGSEFESPKKKRKVSFERNYDPRELKETYLLYEIKWGKSGKLWRHWCQ
NNRTQHAEVYFLENIFNARRFNPSTHCSITWYLSWSPCAECSQKIVDFLKEHPNVNLEIYVARLYY
 PENERNRQGLRDLVNSGVITIRIMDLPDYNYCWKTFVSDQGGDEDEDYWPGHFAPWIKQYSL
 KLSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSSARILAFAGISSIGWAFSENDELKDC
 GVRIFTKVENPKTGESLALPRRLARSARKRLARRKARLNHLKHLIANEFKLNIEDYQ

SFDESLAKAYKGS LISPYELRFRALNELLSKQDFARVILHIAKRRGYDDIKNSDDKEK
 GAILKAIKQNEEKLANYQSVGEYLYKEYFQKFKENSKEFTNVRNKKESYERCIAQSF
 LKDELKLIFKKQREFGFSFSKKFEEVLSVAFYKRALKDFSHLVGNCSFFTDEKRAPK
 NSPLAFMFVALTRIINLLNNLKNTEGILYTKDDLNALLNEVLKNGTLTYKQTKKLLG
 LSDDYEFKGEKGTIFYEFKKYKEFIKALGEHNLSQDDLNEIAKDITLIKDEIKLKKALA
 KYDLNQNQIDSLSKLEFKDHLNISFKALKLVTPMLLEGKKYDEACNELNLKVAINED
 KKDFLPAFNETYYKDEVTPVVLRAIKEYRKVLNALLKKYGVHKNINIELAREVGK
 NHSQRAKIEKEQNENYKAKKDAELECEKLGLKINSKNILKLRLFKEQKEFCAYSGEKI
 KISDLQDEKMLEIDHIYPYSRSFDDSYMKNVLFVTKQNQEKLNQTPFEAFGNDSAKW
 QKIEVLAKNLPTKKQKRILDKNYKDKEQKNFKDRNLNDTRYIARLVNLYTKDYLD
 LPLSDDENTKLNDTQKGSKVHVEAKSGMLTSALRHTWGFSADKDRNNHLHHAIDAVI
 IAYANNSIVKAFSDFKKEQESNSAELYAKKISELDYKNKRKFFEPFSGFRQKVLDKID
 EIFVSKPERKKPSGALHEETFRKEEEFYQSYGGKEGVKALELGKIRKVNKGKIVKNG
 DMFRVDIFKHKKTNKFYAVPIYTMDFAKVLPNKAVARSKKGEIKDWILMDENYEF
 CFSLYKDSLILIQTKDMQEPEFVYYNAFTSSTVSLIVSKHDNKFETLSKNQKILFKNAN
 EKEVIAKSIGIQNLKVFEKYIVSALGEVTKAEFRQREDFKKSGGSGGSGGSTNLSDIIE
 KETGKQLVIQESILMLPEEVEEVIGNKPESDILVHTAYDESTDENVMMLTSDAPEYKP
 WALVIQDSNGENKIKMLSGGSKRTADGSEFEPKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 21)

[00257] CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9

MKRTADGSEFESPKKKRKVSFERNYDPRELRKETYLLYEIKWGKSGKLWRHWCQNNRT
 QHAEVYFLENIFNARRFNPSTHCSITWYLSWSPCAECSQKIVDFLKEHPNVNLEIYVARLYY
 HEDERNRQGLRDLVNSGVTIRIMDLDPDYNWCWKTFSVSDQGGDEDEDYWPGHFAPWIKQYSL
 KLSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSARILAFAGISSIGWAFSENDELKDC
 GVRIFTKVENPKTGESLALPRRLARSARKRLARRKARLNHLKHLIANEFKLNIEDYQ
 SFDESLAKAYKGS LISPYELRFRALNELLSKQDFARVILHIAKRRGYDDIKNSDDKEK
 GAILKAIKQNEEKLANYQSVGEYLYKEYFQKFKENSKEFTNVRNKKESYERCIAQSF
 LKDELKLIFKKQREFGFSFSKKFEEVLSVAFYKRALKDFSHLVGNCSFFTDEKRAPK
 NSPLAFMFVALTRIINLLNNLKNTEGILYTKDDLNALLNEVLKNGTLTYKQTKKLLG
 LSDDYEFKGEKGTIFYEFKKYKEFIKALGEHNLSQDDLNEIAKDITLIKDEIKLKKALA
 KYDLNQNQIDSLSKLEFKDHLNISFKALKLVTPMLLEGKKYDEACNELNLKVAINED
 KKDFLPAFNETYYKDEVTPVVLRAIKEYRKVLNALLKKYGVHKNINIELAREVGK
 NHSQRAKIEKEQNENYKAKKDAELECEKLGLKINSKNILKLRLFKEQKEFCAYSGEKI
 KISDLQDEKMLEIDHIYPYSRSFDDSYMKNVLFVTKQNQEKLNQTPFEAFGNDSAKW
 QKIEVLAKNLPTKKQKRILDKNYKDKEQKNFKDRNLNDTRYIARLVNLYTKDYLD
 LPLSDDENTKLNDTQKGSKVHVEAKSGMLTSALRHTWGFSADKDRNNHLHHAIDAVI
 IAYANNSIVKAFSDFKKEQESNSAELYAKKISELDYKNKRKFFEPFSGFRQKVLDKID
 EIFVSKPERKKPSGALHEETFRKEEEFYQSYGGKEGVKALELGKIRKVNKGKIVKNG
 DMFRVDIFKHKKTNKFYAVPIYTMDFAKVLPNKAVARSKKGEIKDWILMDENYEF
 CFSLYKDSLILIQTKDMQEPEFVYYNAFTSSTVSLIVSKHDNKFETLSKNQKILFKNAN
 EKEVIAKSIGIQNLKVFEKYIVSALGEVTKAEFRQREDFKKSGGSGGSGGSTNLSDIIE
 KETGKQLVIQESILMLPEEVEEVIGNKPESDILVHTAYDESTDENVMMLTSDAPEYKP
 WALVIQDSNGENKIKMLSGGSKRTADGSEFEPKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 22)

Recombinant Adeno-Associated Viral (rAAV) Vectors

[00258] Aspects of the present disclosure relate to using recombinant adeno-associated virus vectors for the delivery of any of the disclosed nucleic acid molecules. The rAAV particles of the present disclosure comprise a rAAV vector (i.e., a recombinant genome of the rAAV) encapsidated in the viral capsid proteins. See U.S. Patent Publication No. 2018/0127780, published May 10, 2018, and PCT Publication No. WO 2020/236982, published November 26, 2020, the disclosures of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[00259] In some embodiments, the AAV nucleic acid vector is single-stranded. In some embodiments, the AAV nucleic acid vector is self-complementary. In various embodiments, the rAAV vectors of the disclosure do not contain any inteins.

[00260] In some embodiments, viral sequences that facilitate integration comprise Inverted Terminal Repeat (ITR) sequences. In some embodiments, nucleic acid molecule is flanked on each side by an ITR sequence. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid vector further comprises a region encoding an AAV Rep protein as described herein, either contained within the region flanked by ITRs or outside the region. The ITR sequences can be derived from any AAV serotype (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10) or can be derived from more than one serotype. In some embodiments, the ITR sequences are derived from AAV8 or AAV9. In some embodiments, in methods of packaging any of the disclosed rAAV particles, a nucleic acid plasmid, such as a helper plasmid, that comprises a region encoding a Rep protein and/or a Cap (capsid) protein is provided.

[00261] Thus, in some embodiments, the rAAV particles disclosed herein comprise an rAAV2 particle, rAAV6 particle, rAAV8 particle, rPHP.B particle, rPHP.eB particle, or rAAV9 particle, or a variant thereof. In particular embodiments, the disclosed rAAV particles are rAAV8 or rAAV9 particles.

[00262] Exemplary rAAV particles provided herein include, but are not limited to, an rAAV8-Sauri-ABE8e, rAAV9-Sauri-ABE8e, rAAV8-SaKKH-ABE8e, rAAV9-SaKKH-ABE8e, rAAV8-CjCas9-ABE8e, rAAV9-CjCas9-ABE8e, rAAV8-Nme2Cas9-ABE8e, or an rAAV9-Nme2Cas9-ABE8e particle. In certain embodiments, the rAAV particle comprises an rAAV8-SaKKH-ABE8e particle. In some embodiments, the rAAV particle comprises a rAAV9-CjBE3.9 particle or an rAAV8-CjBE3.9 particle.

[00263] ITR sequences and plasmids containing ITR sequences are known in the art and commercially available (see, e.g., products and services available from Vector Biolabs, Philadelphia, PA; Cellbiolabs, San Diego, CA; Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, Ca; and

Addgene, Cambridge, MA; and Gene delivery to skeletal muscle results in sustained expression and systemic delivery of a therapeutic protein. Kessler PD, Podsakoff GM, Chen X, McQuiston SA, Colosi PC, Matelis LA, Kurtzman GJ, Byrne BJ. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 1996 Nov 26;93(24):14082-7; and Curtis A. Machida. *Methods in Molecular Medicine™. Viral Vectors for Gene Therapy Methods and Protocols*. 10.1385/1-59259-304-6:201 © Humana Press Inc. 2003. Chapter 10. Targeted Integration by Adeno-Associated Virus. Matthew D. Weitzman, Samuel M. Young Jr., Toni Cathomen and Richard Jude Samulski; U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,139,941 and 5,962,313, all of which are incorporated herein by reference).

[00264] In some embodiments, the rAAV vector of the present disclosure comprises one or more regulatory elements to control the expression of the heterologous nucleic acid region (e.g., promoters, transcriptional terminators, and/or other regulatory elements). In some embodiments, the first and/or second nucleotide sequence is operably linked to one or more (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more) transcriptional terminators. Non-limiting examples of transcriptional terminators that may be used in accordance with the present disclosure include transcription terminators (or polyadenylation signals) of the bovine growth hormone gene (bGH), human growth hormone gene (hGH), SV40, CW3, ϕ , or combinations thereof. In exemplary embodiments, the transcriptional terminator is an SV40 polyadenylation signal. In exemplary embodiments, the transcriptional terminator does not contain a posttranscription response element, such as WPRE element.

[00265] In some aspects, provided herein are methods of making (or manufacturing, or packaging) any of the disclosed rAAV particles. rAAV particles may be manufactured according to any method known in the art. Methods of packaging are known in the art and reagents are commercially available (see, e.g., Zolotukhin *et al.* Production and purification of serotype 1, 2, and 5 recombinant adeno-associated viral vectors. *Methods* 28 (2002) 158–167; and U.S. Patent Publication Numbers US 2007-0015238 and US 2012-0322861, which are incorporated herein by reference; and plasmids and kits available from ATCC and Cell Biolabs, Inc.). For example, a plasmid comprising a gene of interest may be combined with one or more helper plasmids, e.g., that contain a rep gene (e.g., encoding Rep78, Rep68, Rep52 and Rep40) and a cap gene (encoding VP1, VP2, and VP3, including a modified VP2 region as described herein), and transfected into a recombinant cells such that the rAAV particle can be packaged and subsequently purified.

[00266] Packaging cells (or host cells) are typically used to form virus particles that are capable of infecting a host cell. Such cells include 293 cells, which package adenovirus, and ψ 2 cells or PA317 cells, which package retrovirus. Viral vectors used in gene therapy are usually generated by producing a cell line that packages a nucleic acid vector into a viral particle. The vectors typically contain the minimal viral sequences required for packaging and subsequent integration into a host, other viral sequences being replaced by an expression cassette for the polynucleotide(s) to be expressed. The missing viral functions are typically supplied in trans by the packaging cell line. For example, AAV vectors used in gene therapy typically only possess ITR sequences from the AAV genome which are required for packaging and integration into the host genome. Viral DNA is packaged in a cell line, which contains a helper plasmid encoding the other AAV genes, namely rep and cap, but lacking ITR sequences. The cell line may also be infected with adenovirus as a helper. The helper virus promotes replication of the AAV vector and expression of AAV genes from the helper plasmid. The helper plasmid is not packaged in significant amounts due to a lack of ITR sequences. Contamination with adenovirus can be reduced by, *e.g.*, heat treatment to which adenovirus is more sensitive than AAV. Additional methods for the delivery of nucleic acids to cells are known to those skilled in the art, such as those disclosed in US 2003/0087817, published May 8, 2003, PCT Application No. WO 2016/205764, published December 22, 2016, and PCT Application No. WO 2018/071868, published April 19, 2018.

[00267] In various embodiments, the base editor constructs may be engineered for delivery in one or more rAAV vectors. An rAAV as related to any of the methods and compositions provided herein may be of any serotype including any derivative or pseudotype (*e.g.*, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 2/1, 2/5, 2/8, 2/9, 3/1, 3/5, 3/8, or 3/9). An rAAV may comprise a genetic payload (*i.e.*, a recombinant nucleic acid vector that expresses a transgene of interest, such as a whole base editor that is carried by the rAAV into a cell) that is to be delivered to a cell. An rAAV may be chimeric.

[00268] As used herein, the serotype of an rAAV refers to the serotype of the capsid proteins of the recombinant virus. Non-limiting examples of derivatives and pseudotypes include rAAV2/1, rAAV2/5, rAAV2/8, rAAV2/9, AAV2-AAV3 hybrid, AAVrh.10, AAVrh.74, AAVhu.14, AAV3a/3b, AAVrh32.33, AAV-HSC15, AAV-HSC17, AAVhu.37, AAVrh.8, CHt-P6, AAV2.5, AAV6.2, AAV2i8, AAV-HSC15/17, AAVM41, AAV9.45, AAV6(Y445F/Y731F), AAV2.5T, AAV-HAE1/2, AAV clone 32/83, AAVShH10, AAV2 (Y->F), AAV8 (Y733F), AAV2.15, AAV2.4, AAVM41, and AAVr3.45. A non-limiting

example of derivatives and pseudotypes that have chimeric VP1 proteins is rAAV2/5-1VP1u, which has the genome of AAV2, capsid backbone of AAV5 and VP1u of AAV1. Other non-limiting example of derivatives and pseudotypes that have chimeric VP1 proteins are rAAV2/5-8VP1u, rAAV2/9-1VP1u, and rAAV2/9-8VP1u. In some embodiments, the capsid of the disclosed rAAV particles is AAV8 (serotype 8). In some embodiments, the capsid of the disclosed rAAV particles is AAV8 (serotype 9). In some embodiments, the capsid is of serotype 2, 6, PHP.B, or PHP.eB.

[00269] Compositions comprising a plurality of any of the disclosed rAAV particles are provided herein. Exemplary compositions contain a plurality of any of the disclosed rAAV8 particles, rAAV9 particles, rAAV2 particles, rAAV6 particles, rAAVPHP.B particles, and rAAVPHP.eB particles.

[00270] In some embodiments, disclosed are methods of administering compositions of rAAV8 particles or rAAV9 particles by intravenous administration. In other embodiments, tissues not well-transduced by intravenous AAV9 injections may be transduced by other existing AAV variants, such as AAV4 transduction of the lung, or by different delivery routes, such as AAV9 transduction of kidney cells by retrograde ureteral infusion.

[00271] AAV derivatives/pseudotypes, and methods of producing such derivatives/pseudotypes are known in the art (see, *e.g.*, *Mol. Ther.* 2012 Apr;20(4):699-708. doi: 10.1038/mt.2011.287. Epub 2012 Jan 24. The AAV vector toolkit: poised at the clinical crossroads. Asokan A1, Schaffer DV, Samulski RJ.). Methods for producing and using pseudotyped rAAV vectors are known in the art (see, *e.g.*, Duan *et al.*, *J. Virol.*, 75:7662-7671, 2001; Halbert *et al.*, *J. Virol.*, 74:1524-1532, 2000; Zolotukhin *et al.*, *Methods*, 28:158-167, 2002; and Auricchio *et al.*, *Hum. Molec. Genet.*, 10:3075-3081, 2001).

[00272] In some aspects, the disclosure provides compositions containing a plurality of any of the disclosed rAAV particles. In some aspects, the disclosure provides host cells containing a plurality of any of the disclosed rAAV particles. In some embodiments, the host cells are mammalian cells, such as human cells. In other embodiments, the host cells are yeast cells, plant cells, or bacterial cells.

[00273] Methods of delivery to a target cell or target tissue of any of the disclosed rAAV particles and compositions and host cells comprising rAAV particles are known in the art. In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles, host cells, or compositions are delivered to a subject, such as a mammalian subject. In some embodiments, the rAAV particles are delivered to a human subject.

[00274] In some embodiments, the disclosed rAAV particles and compositions are administered to a subject in a single injection, such as a single systemic injection. In some embodiments, the disclosed rAAV particles and compositions are administered to a subject in multiple injections. rAAV particles are known to transduce target tissues within days, but are typically allowed three to four weeks to complete transduction, genome integration, and clearance, from the cell. Accordingly, in some aspects, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions are administered to a subject for a period of three weeks. In some aspects, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions are administered to a subject for a period of between three and four weeks.

[00275] In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions is administered to a subject or a target tissue in a therapeutically effective amount of about 10^{15} , about 10^{14} , about 10^{13} , about 10^{12} , about 10^{11} , or less than about 10^{11} vector genomes (vg) per kg weight of the subject. In some embodiments, the rAAV particles are administered in an amount of between 10^{15} and 10^{14} , between 10^{14} and 10^{13} , between 10^{13} and 10^{12} , between 10^{12} and 10^{11} , or between 10^{12} and 10^{11} vgs per kg. In some embodiments, the rAAV particles are administered in an amount of between 10^{14} and 10^{11} vgs per kg. In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions is administered to a target tissue of a subject in a lower dose than is convention for dual AAV particle delivery, such as that described in PCT Publication No. WO 2020/236982, published November 26, 2020 and Levy, J.M., *et al. Nat Biomed Eng* **4**, 97-110 (2020).

[00276] In some aspects, the present disclosure provides single AAV vector delivery of base editors to target tissues, such as liver, neuronal, heart, muscular, or ocular tissue. In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions is administered to the liver (hepatic) tissue of a subject. In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions is administered to the cardiac tissue of a subject. In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions is administered to the neuronal tissue of a subject. In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions is administered to the muscular, or neuromuscular, tissue of a subject. In some embodiments, any of the disclosed rAAV particles or compositions is administered to the ocular tissue of a subject.

[00277] In some embodiments, the disclosed rAAV particles provide for transduction of the target tissue to achieve expression and translation of the payload or transgene, *e.g.*, a base editor in accordance with the present disclosure, for a sufficient duration to install desired

mutations in the genome of a target cell. In some embodiments, the desired mutation is an A to G mutation. In some embodiments, the desired mutation is a C to T mutation. In some embodiments, the disclosed rAAV particles provide for sufficient expression and translation of the base editor transgene for a sufficient duration to install desired (on-target) mutations in the genome with a tolerable degree of off-target effects, such as bystander edits. In some embodiments, the disclosed rAAV particles provide for sufficient expression and translation of the base editor transgene for a sufficient duration to install desired mutations in the genome without appreciable off-target editing. In some embodiments, the disclosed rAAV particles provide for sufficient expression and translation of the base editor transgene for a sufficient duration to install desired mutations in the genome without appreciable bystander editing.

[00278] Suitable routes of administering the disclosed compositions of rAAV particles include, without limitation: topical, subcutaneous, transdermal, intradermal, intralesional, intraarticular, intraperitoneal, intravesical, transmucosal, gingival, intradental, intracochlear, transtympanic, intraorgan, epidural, intrathecal, intramuscular, intravenous, systemic, intravascular, intraosseus, periocular, intratumoral, intracerebral, parenteral, and intracerebroventricular administration. In some embodiments, the route of administration is systemic (intravenous). In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition described herein is administered locally to a diseased site.

[00279] In some aspects, pharmaceutical compositions comprising any of the disclosed compositions and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier are provided herein. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical composition is formulated for delivery to a subject, *e.g.*, for base editing in a genome. In some embodiments, the disclosed compositions are formulated in accordance with routine procedures as a composition adapted for intravenous or subcutaneous administration to a subject, *e.g.*, a human. In some embodiments, compositions provided herein are formulated for delivery to a subject, for example, to a human subject, in order to effect a targeted genomic modification within the subject. In some embodiments, cells are obtained from the subject and contacted with any of the pharmaceutical compositions provided herein. In some embodiments, cells removed from a subject and contacted *ex vivo* with a pharmaceutical composition are re-introduced into the subject, optionally after the desired genomic modification has been effected or detected in the cells. Subjects to which administration of the pharmaceutical compositions is contemplated include, but are not limited to, humans and/or other primates; mammals, domesticated

animals, pets, and commercially relevant mammals such as cattle, pigs, horses, sheep, cats, dogs, mice, and/or rats; and/or birds, including commercially relevant birds such as chickens, ducks, geese, and/or turkeys.

[00280] Formulations of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein may be prepared by any method known or hereafter developed in the art of pharmacology. In general, such preparatory methods include the step of bringing the active ingredient(s) into association with an excipient and/or one or more other accessory ingredients, and then, if necessary and/or desirable, shaping and/or packaging the product into a desired single- or multi-dose unit. Pharmaceutical formulations may additionally comprise a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, which, as used herein, includes any and all solvents, dispersion media, diluents, or other liquid vehicles, dispersion or suspension aids, surface active agents, isotonic agents, thickening or emulsifying agents, preservatives, solid binders, lubricants and the like, as suited to the particular dosage form desired.

[00281] In some embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions of rAAV particles for administration by injection are solutions in sterile isotonic aqueous buffer. Where necessary, the pharmaceutical can also include a solubilizing agent and a local anesthetic such as lignocaine to ease pain at the site of the injection. Generally, the ingredients are supplied either separately or mixed together in unit dosage form, for example, as a dry lyophilized powder or water free concentrate in a hermetically sealed container such as an ampoule or sachette indicating the quantity of active agent. Where the pharmaceutical is to be administered by infusion, it can be dispensed with an infusion bottle containing sterile pharmaceutical grade water or saline. Where the pharmaceutical composition is administered by injection, an ampoule of sterile water for injection or saline can be provided so that the ingredients can be mixed prior to administration.

[00282] As used here, the term “pharmaceutically acceptable carrier” means a pharmaceutically-acceptable material, composition or vehicle, such as a liquid or solid filler, diluent, excipient, manufacturing aid (*e.g.*, lubricant, talc magnesium, calcium or zinc stearate, or steric acid), or solvent encapsulating material, involved in carrying or transporting the compound from one site (*e.g.*, the delivery site) of the body, to another site (*e.g.*, organ, tissue or portion of the body). A pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is “acceptable” in the sense of being compatible with the other ingredients of the formulation and not injurious to the tissue of the subject (*e.g.*, physiologically compatible, sterile, physiologic pH, etc.). Some examples of materials which can serve as pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers include:

(1) sugars, such as lactose, glucose and sucrose; (2) starches, such as corn starch and potato starch; (3) cellulose, and its derivatives, such as sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, methylcellulose, ethyl cellulose, microcrystalline cellulose and cellulose acetate; (4) powdered tragacanth; (5) malt; (6) gelatin; (7) lubricating agents, such as magnesium stearate, sodium lauryl sulfate and talc; (8) excipients, such as cocoa butter and suppository waxes; (9) oils, such as peanut oil, cottonseed oil, safflower oil, sesame oil, olive oil, corn oil and soybean oil; (10) glycols, such as propylene glycol; (11) polyols, such as glycerin, sorbitol, mannitol and polyethylene glycol (PEG); (12) esters, such as ethyl oleate and ethyl laurate; (13) agar; (14) buffering agents, such as magnesium hydroxide and aluminum hydroxide; (15) alginic acid; (16) pyrogen-free water; (17) isotonic saline; (18) Ringer's solution; (19) ethyl alcohol; (20) pH buffered solutions; (21) polyesters, polycarbonates and/or polyanhydrides; (22) bulking agents, such as polypeptides and amino acids (23) serum component, such as serum albumin, HDL and LDL; (22) C2-C12 alcohols, such as ethanol; and (23) other non-toxic compatible substances employed in pharmaceutical formulations. Wetting agents, coloring agents, release agents, coating agents, sweetening agents, flavoring agents, perfuming agents, preservative and antioxidants can also be present in the formulation. The terms such as “excipient”, “carrier”, “pharmaceutically acceptable carrier” or the like are used interchangeably herein.

[00283] The rAAV particle pharmaceutical compositions of this disclosure may be administered or packaged as a unit dose, for example. The term “unit dose” when used in reference to a pharmaceutical composition of the present disclosure refers to physically discrete units suitable as unitary dosage for the subject, each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active material calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required diluent, *i.e.*, a carrier or vehicle.

rAAV Vector Sequences

[00284] In some aspects, the disclosure provides the rAAV vector nucleic acid sequences set forth below. In some embodiments, the disclosed vectors comprise a nucleic acid sequence having at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, at least 99%, or at least 99.5% sequence identity to any of SEQ ID NOs: 100-102. In certain embodiments, the disclosed vectors the nucleic acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 100-102. The components of each sequence, along with the ITR-to-ITR length, is indicated.

[00285] In some embodiments, any of the vectors described herein may comprise a nucleic acid sequence having 1-5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20, 20-25, 25-30, 30-35, 35-40, 40-45, 45-50, or

more than 50 nucleotides that differ relative to the sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 100-102. These differences may comprise nucleotides that have been inserted, deleted, or substituted relative to any of SEQ ID NOs: 100-102. In some embodiments, the disclosed vectors contain stretches of about 50, about 75, about 100, about 125, about 150, about 175, about 200, about 300, about 400, about 500, or more than 500 consecutive nucleotides in common with any of SEQ ID NOs: 100-102.

[00286] Single AAV SaABE8e

*ITR-EFS **promoter**-SaABE8e (start codon-BPNLS-TadA-SaCas9 D10A-BPNLS-stop codon)-bGH polyA-sgRNA (protospacer in **bold**)-U6-ITR (restriction sites for cloning)*

[4804 bp is the ITR-to-ITR length]

*CTGCGCGCTCGCTCGCTCACTGAGGCCGCCCGGGCAAAGCCCGGGCGTCGGGCGACCTTTGGTCGCC
CGGCCTCAGTGAGCGAGCGAGCGCGCAGAGAGGGAGTGGCCAACTCCATCACTAGGGGGTTCTGCGGGC
CTCTAGAATTGCTAGCTAGGTCTTGAAAGGAGTGGGAATTGGCTCCGGTGGCCGTCAGTGG
GCAGAGCGCACATCGCCACAGTCCCCGAGAAGTTGGGGGGAGGGGTGGCAATTGATCCG
GTGCCTAGAGAAGGTGGCGCGGGGTAAACTGGGAAAGTGATGTCGTGTACTGGCTCCGCCT
TTTTCCCGAGGGTGGGGGAGAACCGTATATAAGTGCAGTAGTCGCCGTGAACGTTCTTTTTC
GCAACGGGTTTGCCGCCAGAACACAGGACCGGTGCCACCATGAAACGGACAGCCGACGGAAG
CGAGTTCGAGTCACCAAAGAAGAAGCGGAAAGTCTCTGAGGTGGAGTTTTCCACGAGTACTGGA
TGAGACATGCCCTGACCCTGGCCAAGAGGGCACGGGATGAGAGGGAGGTGCCTGTGGGAGCCGTG
CTGGTGCTGAACAATAGAGTGATCGGCGAGGGCTGGAACAGAGCCATCGGCCTGCACGACCCAAC
AGCCCATGCCGAAATTATGGCCCTGAGACAGGGCGGCCTGGTCATGCAGAACTACAGACTGATTG
ACGCCACCTGTACGTGACATTGAGCCTTGCGTGATGTGCGCCGGCGCCATGATCCACTCTAGGA
TCGGCCGCGTGGTGTGTTGGCGTGAGGAACTCAAAAAGAGGCGCCGCGAGGCTCCCTGATGAACGTG
CTGAACTACCCCGGCATGAATCACCGCGTCGAAATTACCGAGGGAATCCTGGCAGATGAATGTGC
CGCCCTGCTGTGCGATTTCTATCGGATGCCTAGACAGGTGTTCAATGCTCAGAAGAAGGCCAGAG
CTCCATCAACTCCGGAGGATCTAGCGGAGGCTCCTCTGGCTCTGAGACACCTGGCACAAGCGAGA
GCGCAACACCTGAAAGCAGCGGGGGCAGCAGCGGGGGGTGAGGGAAGCGAAATTACATTCTGGG
GCTGGCCATTGGCATTACATCAGTGGGCTATGGCATCATTGACTACGAGACAAGGGACGTGATCG
ACGCCGGCGTGAGACTGTTCAAGGAGGCCAACGTGGGAGAACAAATGAGGGCCGGAGATCCAAGAG
GGGAGCAAGGCGCCTGAAGCGGAGAAGGCGCCACAGAATCCAGAGAGTGAAGAAGCTGCTGTTC
GATTACAACCTGCTGACCGACCACTCCGAGCTGTCTGGCATCAATCCTTATGAGGCCAGAGTGAAG
GGCCTGTCCAGAAGCTGTCTGAGGAGGAGTTTAGCGCCGCCCTGCTGCACCTGGCAAAGAGGAG
AGGCGTGACAACGTGAATGAGGTGGAGGAGGACACCGGCAACGAGCTGTCCACAAAGGAGCAG
ATCAGCCGCAATTCCAAGGCCCTGGAGGAGAAGTATGTGGCCGAGCTGCAGCTGGAGCGGCTGAA
GAAGGATGGCGAGGTGAGGGGCTCCATCAATCGCTTCAAGACCTCTGACTACGTGAAGGAGGCCA
AGCAGCTGCTGAAGGTGCAGAAGGCCCTACCACCAGCTGGATCAGTCCTTTATCGATACATATATCG*

ACCTGCTGGAGACAAGGCGCACATACTATGAGGGACCAGGAGAGGGCTCTCCCTTCGGCTGGAAG
GACATCAAGGAGTGGTACGAGATGCTGATGGGCCACTGCACCTATTTTCCAGAGGAGCTGAGAAG
CGTGAAGTACGCCTATAACGCCGATCTGTACAACGCCCTGAATGACCTGAACAACCTGGTCATCAC
CAGGGATGAGAACGAGAAGCTGGAGTACTATGAGAAGTTCCAGATCATCGAGAACGTGTTCAAGC
AGAAGAAGAAGCCTACACTGAAGCAGATCGCCAAGGAGATCCTGGTGAACGAGGAGGACATCAA
GGGCTACCGCGTGACCTCCACAGGCAAGCCAGAGTTCACCAATCTGAAGGTGTATCACGATATCA
AGGACATCACAGCCCGAAGGAGATCATCGAGAACGCCGAGCTGCTGGATCAGATCGCCAAGATC
CTGACCATCTATCAGAGCTCCGAGGACATCCAGGAGGAGCTGACCAACCTGAATAGCGAGCTGAC
ACAGGAGGAGATCGAGCAGATCAGCAATCTGAAGGGCTACACCGGCACACACAACCTGAGCCTG
AAGGCCATCAATCTGATCCTGGATGAGCTGTGGCACACAAACGACAATCAGATCGCCATCTTTAAC
CGGCTGAAGCTGGTGCCAAAGAAGGTGGACCTGTCCCAGCAGAAGGAGATCCCAACCACACTGGT
GGACGATTTTCATCCTGTCTCCCGTGGTGAAGCGGAGCTTCATCCAGAGCATCAAAGTGATCAACGC
CATCATCAAGAAGTACGGCCTGCCCAATGATATCATCATCGAGCTGGCCAGGGAGAAGAACTCCA
AGGACGCCCAGAAGATGATCAATGAGATGCAGAAGAGGAACCGCCAGACCAATGAGCGGATCGA
GGAGATCATCAGAACCACAGGCAAGGAGAACGCCAAGTACCTGATCGAGAAGATCAAGCTGCAC
GATATGCAGGAGGGCAAGTGTCTGTATTCTCTGGAGGCCATCCCTCTGGAGGACCTGCTGAACAA
TCATTCAACTACGAGGTGGATCACATCATCCCCGGAGCGTGAGCTTCGACAATTCTTTTAACAAT
AAGGTGCTGGTGAAGCAGGAGGAGAACAGCAAGAAGGGCAATAGGACCCCTTTCCAGTACCTGTC
TAGCTCCGATTCTAAGATCAGCTACGAGACATTCAAGAAGCACATCCTGAATCTGGCCAAGGGCA
AGGGCCGCATCAGCAAGACCAAGAAGGAGTACCTGCTGGAGGAGCGGGACATCAACAGATTCTCC
GTGCAGAAGGACTTCATCAACCGGAATCTGGTGGACACCAGATACGCCACACGCGGCCTGATGAA
TCTGCTGCGGTCTTATTTTCAGAGTGAACAATCTGGATGTGAAGGTGAAGAGCATCAACGGCGGCTT
CACCTCCTTTCTGCGGAGAAAGTGGAAGTTTAAGAAGGAGCGCAACAAGGGCTATAAGCACCACG
CCGAGGATGCCCTGATCATCGCCAATGCCGACTTCATCTTTAAGGAGTGGAAGAAGCTGGACAAG
GCCAAGAAAGTGATGGAGAACCAGATGTTTCGAGGAGAAGCAGGCCGAGAGCATGCCCGAGATCG
AGACAGAGCAGGAGTACAAGGAGATTTTCATCACACCTCACCAGATCAAGCACATCAAGGACTTC
AAGGACTACAAGTATTCTCACAGGGTGGATAAGAAGCCCAACCGCGAGCTGATCAATGACACCTT
GTATAGCACACGGAAGGACGATAAGGGCAATACCCTGATCGTGAACAATCTGAACGGCCTGTACG
ACAAGGATAATGACAAGCTGAAGAAGCTGATCAACAAGTCTCCCGAGAAGCTGCTGATGTACCAC
CACGATCCTCAGACATATCAGAAGCTGAAGCTGATCATGGAGCAGTACGGCGACGAGAAGAACCC
ACTGTATAAGTACTATGAGGAGACAGGCAACTACCTGACAAAGTATAGCAAGAAGGATAATGGCC
CCGTGATCAAGAAGATCAAGTACTATGGCAACAAGCTGAATGCCACCTGGACATCACCGACGAT
TACCCTAACTCTCGCAATAAGGTGGTGAAGCTGAGCCTGAAGCCATACCGGTTTCGACGTGTACCTG
GACAACGGCGTGTATAAGTTTGTGACAGTGAAGAATCTGGATGTGATCAAGAAGGAGAACTACTA
TGAGGTGAACAGCAAGTGCTACGAGGAGGCCAAGAAGCTGAAGAAGATCAGCAACCAGGCCGAG
TTCATCGCCTCTTTTACAACAATGACCTGATCAAGATCAATGGCGAGCTGTATAGAGTGATCGGC
GTGAACAATGATCTGCTGAACAGAATCGAAGTGAATATGATCGACATCACCTACAGGGAGTATCT
GGAGAACATGAATGATAAGAGGCCCCCTCGCATCATCAAGACCATCGCCTCTAAGACACAGAGCA
TCAAGAAGTACAGCACAGACATCCTGGGGAACCTGTATGAAGTCAAGAGCAAGAAACATCCTCAG

ATTATCAAGAAAGGCTCTGGCGGCTCAAAAAGAACCGCCGACGGCAGCGAATTCGAGCCCAAGAA
GAAGAGGAAAGTCTAATAGATCTCGACTGTGCCTTCTAGTTGCCAGCCATCTGTTGTTTGCCCTCCCC
CGTGCCTTCCTTGACCCCTGGAAGGTGCCACTCCCACTGTCTTTCCCTAATAAAATGAGGAAATTGCATCGC
ATTGTCTGAGTAGGTGTCAATTCTATTCTGGGGGGTGGGGTGGGGCAGGACAGCAAGGGGGAGGATTGG
GAAGACAATAGCAGGCATGCTGGGGATGCGGTGGGCTCTATGGCTCGAGCGGCCCAAGCTTAAAAAAA
TCTCGCCAACAAGTTGACGAGATAAACACGGCATTTTGCCTTGTTTTAGTAGATTCTGTAATTTTCA
TTACAGAGTACTAAAACCGCCGTTGCTCCAAGGTATGGCGGTGTTTCGTCTTTCCACAAGATAT
ATAAAGCCAAGAAATCGAAATACTTTCAAGTTACGGTAAGCATATGATAGTCCATTTTAAACATA
ATTTTAAACTGCAAACTACCCAAGAAATTATTACTTTCTACGTCACGTATTTTGTACTAATATCTT
TGTGTTTACAGTCAAATTAATTCTAATTATCTCTCTAACAGCCTTGATATCGTATATGCAAAATATGAA
GGAATCATGGGAAATAGGCCCTCTTCCTGCCCCGACCTTGCGGCCGCTGCGCGCTCGCTCGCTCACT
GAGGCCGCCGGGCAAAGCCCGGGCGTCGGGCGACCTTTGGTCGCCCGGCCTCAGTGAGCGAGCGAG
CGCGCAGAGAGGGAGTGGCCAACTCCATCACTAGGGGTTTCCT (SEQ ID NO: 100)

[00287] Single AAV SaKKH-ABE8e

*ITR-EFS **promoter**-SaKKHABE8e (start codon-BPNLS-TadA-SaKKHCas9 D10A-BPNLS-*
*stop codon)-bGH polyA-sgRNA (protospacer in **bold**)-U6-ITR (sequences between in grey*
contain restriction sites for cloning) [4804 bp is the ITR-to-ITR length]

CTGCGCGCTCGCTCGCTCACTGAGGCCGCCGGGCAAAGCCCGGGCGTCGGGCGACCTTTGGTCGCC
*CGGCCTCAGTGAGCGAGCGAGCGCGCAGAGAGGGAGTGGCCAACTCCATCACTAGGGGTTTCCT**GCGGC***
***CTCT**AGAATTCGCTAGCTAGGTCTTGAAAGGAGTGGGAATTGGCTCCGGTGCCCGTCAGTGG*
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[00288] Single AAV SauriABE8e

*ITR-EFS **promoter**-SauriABE8e (start codon-BPNLS-TadA-SauriCas9 D10A-BPNLS-stop codon)-bGH polyA-sgRNA (protospacer in **bold**)-U6-ITR (sequences between in grey contain restriction sites for cloning) [4828 bp is the ITR-to-ITR length]*

CTGCGCGCTCGCTCGCTCACTGAGGCCGCCCGGGCAAAGCCCGGGCGTCGGGGCGACCTTTGGTCGCC
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TTCT (SEQ ID NO: 102)

Methods of Editing a Target Nucleic Acid Molecule

[00289] In some aspects, provided herein are methods of contacting any of the disclosed AAV-encoded base editors with a nucleic acid molecule, e.g., a nucleic acid molecule (e.g., DNA) comprising a target sequence. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a DNA, e.g., a single-stranded DNA or a double-stranded DNA. The target sequence of the nucleic acid molecule may comprise a target nucleobase pair containing an adenine (A). The target sequence of the nucleic acid molecule may comprise a target nucleobase pair containing a cytosine (C). The target sequence may be a genomic sequence,

e.g., a human genomic sequence. The target sequence may comprise a sequence, *e.g.*, a target sequence with point mutation, associated with a disease or disorder. The target sequence with a point mutation may be associated with cardiovascular disease.

[00290] In some embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is a DNA sequence in a genome, *e.g.*, a eukaryotic genome. In certain embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in a mammalian (*e.g.*, a human) genome. In certain embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in a human genome. In other embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in the genome of a rodent, such as a mouse or a rat. In other embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in the genome of a domesticated animal, such as a horse, cat, dog, or rabbit. In some embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in the genome of a research animal. In some embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in the genome of a genetically engineered non-human subject. In some embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in the genome of a plant. In some embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in the genome of a microorganism, such as a bacteria.

[00291] In some embodiments, the disclosed AAV-encoded base editors exhibit low off-target effects, such as low off-target editing frequencies. In some embodiments, the disclosed AAV-encoded base editors exhibit low off-target editing frequencies while exhibiting high on-target editing efficiencies. In some embodiments, use of the TadA-8e deaminase or TadA-8e(V106W) deaminase in any of the disclosed AAV-encoded adenine base editors may exhibit off-target editing frequencies of 0.32% or less while maintaining on-target editing efficiencies of about 80% or more. See PCT Publication No. WO 2021/158921, published August 12, 2021.

[00292] The disclosed base editors may provide (or yield) on-target editing efficiencies of greater than 50% or greater than 60% (such as greater than 70%, greater than 75%, greater than 80%, or greater than 85%) at the target nucleobase pair for one or more base editors under evaluation. Any of the disclosed methods of editing may yield an on-target editing efficiency of at least about 50%, at least about 55%, at least about 60%, at least about 65%, at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, or at least about 85%.

[00293] In some embodiments, the disclosed BEs and editing methods comprising the step of contacting a cell comprising a target DNA sequence with any of the disclosed BEs result in an actual or average off-target DNA editing frequency of about 2.0% or less, 1.75% or less, 1.5% or less, 1.2% or less, 1% or less, 0.9% or less, 0.8% or less, 0.75% or less, 0.7% or less, 0.65% or less, or 0.6% or less. These off-target editing frequencies may be obtained in

sequences having any level of sequence identity to the target sequence. As used herein to refer to off-target DNA editing frequencies, the modifier “average” refers to a mean value over all editing events detected at sites other than a given target nucleobase pair (e.g., as detected by high-throughput sequencing).

[00294] In various embodiments, the disclosed editing methods result in an on-target DNA base editing efficiency of at least about 35%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 98%, or 99% at the target nucleobase pair. The step of contacting may result in a DNA base editing efficiency of at least about 60%, 61%, 62%, 63%, 64%, 65%, 66%, 67%, 68%, 69%, 70%, 71%, 72%, 73%, 74%, or 75%. In particular, the step of contacting results in on-target base editing efficiencies of greater than 75%. The step of contacting may result in a DNA base editing efficiencies of between 60 and 85%. In certain embodiments, base editing efficiencies of greater than 85% may be realized.

[00295] These editing efficiencies may be realized following administration of any of the disclosed AAV-encoded base editors in any target tissue, such as liver tissue, cardiac tissue, muscle tissue, neuronal tissue, or ocular tissue.

[00296] Upon administration of any of the disclosed rAAV vectors or particle to cardiac tissue or muscle tissue (e.g., skeletal muscle tissue), editing efficiencies of at least about 20%, at least about 22%, at least about 24%, at least about 27%, at least about 30%, at least about 33%, or at least about 36%, may be realized. These editing efficiencies represent between 2- and 2.5-fold increases relative to the editing efficiencies in cardiac and muscle tissues reported for dual AAV vectors. Upon administration of any of the disclosed rAAV vectors or particle to cardiac tissue or muscle tissue (e.g., cardiac tissue), indel rates of 2.5% or less, 2.0% or less, 1.5% or less, 1.2% or less, or 1.0% or less in the cardiac cell or muscle cell may be realized.

[00297] In various embodiments, the disclosed editing methods result in a ratio of on-target:off-target editing of about 25:1, 50:1, 65:1, 75:1, 80:1, 85:1, 90:1, 95:1, 100:1, 110:1, 125:1, or more than 125:1. In various embodiments, the disclosed editing methods result in a ratio of on-target:off-target editing of about 150:1, 200:1, 300:1, 400:1, 500:1, 600:1, 700:1, 800:1, 900:1, 1000:1, 1100:1, 1200:1, 1250:1, 1275:1, 1300:1, 1325:1, 1350:1, 1400:1, 1500:1, or more than 1500:1. As used herein, a ratio of on-target:off-target editing is equivalent to a ratio of sequencing reads reflecting on-target deaminations relative to deaminations of known or predicted off-target sites, or candidate off-target sites. Candidate off-target sites may be identified, and hence the ratio of on-target:off-target editing may be

measured, using an experimental assay or a computation algorithm (*e.g.*, Cas-OFFinder). For example, candidate off-target sites may be identified using an experimental assay such as EndoV-Seq, GUIDE-Seq, or CIRCLE-Seq. In some embodiments, the ratios of on-target editing:off-target editing relies on the use of EndoV-Seq.

[00298] In some embodiments, the disclosed editing methods result in, and the disclosed base editors generate, a minimal degree of bystander edits (*i.e.*, synonymous off-target point mutations at nucleobases that are near the target base and do not change the outcome of the intended editing method). In some embodiments, the disclosed editing methods result in less than 10, less than 9, less than 8, less than 7, less than 6, less than 5, less than 4, less than 3, less than 2, less than 1, or zero non-silent bystander edits. For example, editing methods using the disclosed single-AAV encoded SaKKH-ABE8e editor in liver tissue may result in few (*i.e.*, minimal) non-silent bystander edits.

[00299] Some aspects of the disclosure are based on the recognition that any of the adenine base editors provided herein are capable of modifying a specific DNA base without generating a significant proportion of indels. An “indel”, as used herein, refers to the insertion or deletion of a nucleotide base within a DNA substrate. Such insertions or deletions can lead to frame shift mutations within a coding region of a gene. In some embodiments, it is desirable to generate adenine base editors that efficiently modify (*e.g.* mutate or deaminate) a specific nucleotide within a DNA, without generating a large number of insertions or deletions (*i.e.*, indels) in the nucleic acid (while at the same time having lower RNA editing effects than existing adenine base editors).

[00300] In some embodiments, the disclosed editing methods that use the disclosed BEs may result in less than 20%, 19%, 18%, 16%, 14%, 12%, 10%, 8%, 6%, 4%, 2%, 1.5%, 1%, 0.5%, 0.2%, or 0.1% indel formation in a nucleic acid (*e.g.*, a DNA) comprising a target sequence. In some embodiments, the disclosed editing methods result in an indel rate of 2.5% or less, 2.0% or less, 1.5% or less, 1.2% or less, or 1.0% or less. See FIGs. 11A, 11B, and 15.

[00301] In some embodiments, the disclosed editing methods result in a base edit:indel ratio of at least about 5:1, 7:1, 8:1, 9:1, 10:1, 11:1, 12:1, 13:1 or greater than about 15:1.

[00302] Some aspects of the disclosure are based on the recognition that any of the base editors provided herein are capable of efficiently generating an intended mutation, such as a point mutation, in DNA (*e.g.* DNA within a genome of a subject) without generating a significant number of unintended mutations, such as unintended point mutations. In some

embodiments, an intended mutation is a mutation that is generated by a specific base editor bound to a gRNA, specifically designed to generate the intended mutation (e.g. deamination). In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a mutation associated with a disease or disorder, such as sickle cell disease. In some embodiments, the intended mutation is an adenine (A) to guanine (G) point mutation associated with a disease or disorder. In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a thymine (T) to cytosine (C) point mutation associated with a disease or disorder. In some embodiments, the intended mutation is an adenine (A) to guanine (G) point mutation within the coding region of a gene. In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a thymine (T) to cytosine (C) point mutation within the coding region of a gene.

[00303] In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a deamination that generates a stop codon, for example, a premature stop codon within the coding region of a gene. In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a mutation that eliminates a stop codon. In some embodiments, the intended mutation eliminates a stop codon comprising the nucleic acid sequence 5'-TAG-3', 5'-TAA-3', or 5'-TGA-3'.

[00304] In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a deamination that alters the regulatory sequence of a gene (e.g., a gene promoter or gene repressor). In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a deamination introduced into the gene promoter. In particular embodiments, the deamination introduced into the gene promoter leads to a decrease in the transcription of a gene operably linked to the gene promoter. In other embodiments, the deamination leads to an increase in the transcription of a gene operably linked to the gene promoter.

[00305] In some embodiments, the intended mutation is a deamination that alters the splicing of a genetic sequence, or gene. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the intended deamination results in the introduction of a splice site in a gene. In other embodiments, the intended deamination results in the removal of a splice site. In some embodiments, the intended deamination results in the introduction of a stop codon in a gene. In other embodiments, the intended deamination results in the removal of a stop codon.

[00306] In some embodiments, any of the base editors provided herein are capable of generating a ratio of intended mutations to unintended mutations (e.g., intended point mutations:unintended point mutations) that is greater than 1:1. In some embodiments, any of the base editors provided herein are capable of generating a ratio of intended mutations to unintended mutations (e.g., intended point mutations:unintended point mutations) that is at

least 1.5:1, at least 2:1, at least 2.5:1, at least 3:1, at least 3.5:1, at least 4:1, at least 4.5:1, at least 5:1, at least 5.5:1, at least 6:1, at least 6.5:1, at least 7:1, at least 7.5:1, at least 8:1, at least 10:1, at least 12:1, at least 15:1, at least 20:1, at least 25:1, at least 30:1, at least 40:1, at least 50:1, at least 100:1, at least 150:1, at least 200:1, at least 250:1, at least 500:1, or at least 1000:1, or more. It should be appreciated that the characteristics of the base editors described in this section and the following section of the disclosure may be applied to any of the base editors, or methods of using the base editors provided herein.

[00307] The disclosed AAV-encoded base editors disclosed herein have reduced and/or low RNA editing effects. In some embodiments, the base editors are evolved or engineered to have reduced RNA editing effects. The term “RNA editing effects,” as used herein, refers to the introduction of modifications (*e.g.* deaminations) of nucleotides within cellular RNA, *e.g.*, messenger RNA (mRNA). An important goal of DNA base editing efficiency is the modification (*e.g.* deamination) of a specific nucleotide within DNA, without introducing modifications of similar nucleotides within RNA. RNA editing effects are “low” or “reduced” when a detected mutation is introduced into RNA molecules at a frequency of 0.3% or less.

[00308] The present disclosure further provides methods of administering the disclosed base editors wherein the method yields reduced and/or low RNA editing effects. The present disclosure further provides base editors (such as the disclosed ABEs) that induce (or yield, provide or cause) low and/or undetectable RNA editing effects (see FIG. 17). In some embodiments, the base editors provide an average adenosine (A) to inosine (I) (A-to-I) editing frequency in cellular mRNA transcripts of 0.3% or less. In some embodiments, the base editors provide an average adenosine (A) to inosine (I) (A-to-I) actual and/or consistent editing frequencies in RNA of about 0.3% or less. The base editors may provide actual or average A-to-I editing frequencies in RNA of about 0.5% or less, 0.4% or less, 0.35% or less, 0.25% or less, 0.2% or less, 0.15% or less, 0.12% or less, 0.1% or less, 0.08% or less, or 0.075% or less.

Guide sequences (e.g., guide RNAs)

[00309] The present disclosure further provides guide RNAs for use in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing. The disclosure provides guide RNAs that are designed to recognize target sequences. Such gRNAs may be designed to have guide sequences (or “spacers”) having complementarity to a protospacer within the target sequence.

[00310] Guide RNAs are also provided for use with one or more of the disclosed base editors, e.g., in the disclosed methods of editing a nucleic acid molecule. Such gRNAs may be designed to have guide sequences having complementarity to a protospacer within a target sequence to be edited, and to have backbone sequences that interact specifically with the napDNAbp domains of any of the disclosed base editors, such as Cas9 nickase domains of the disclosed base editors. Guide RNAs in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing may have complementarity to any of the protospacer sequences listed in Table 1 (SEQ ID NOs: 430-565).

[00311] In various embodiments, the base editors may be complexed, bound, or otherwise associated with (e.g., via any type of covalent or non-covalent bond) one or more guide sequences. The guide sequence becomes associated or bound to the base editor and directs its localization to a specific target sequence having complementarity to the guide sequence or a portion thereof. The particular design embodiments of a guide sequence will depend upon the nucleotide sequence of a genomic target sequence (i.e., the desired site to be edited) and the type of napDNAbp (e.g., type of Cas9 protein) present in the base editor, among other factors, such as PAM sequence locations, percent G/C content in the target sequence, the degree of microhomology regions, secondary structures, etc.

[00312] In general, a guide sequence is any polynucleotide sequence having sufficient complementarity with a target polynucleotide sequence to hybridize with the target sequence and direct sequence-specific binding of the napDNAbp (e.g., a Cas9 or Cas9 variant) to the target sequence. In some embodiments, the degree of complementarity between a guide sequence and its corresponding target sequence, when optimally aligned using a suitable alignment algorithm, is about or more than about 50%, 60%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 97.5%, 99%, or more. Optimal alignment may be determined with the use of any suitable algorithm for aligning sequences, non-limiting example of which include the Smith-Waterman algorithm, the Needleman-Wunsch algorithm, algorithms based on the Burrows-Wheeler Transform (e.g., the Burrows Wheeler Aligner), ClustalW, Clustal X, BLAT, Novoalign (Novocraft Technologies, ELAND (Illumina, San Diego, Calif.), SOAP (available at soap.genomics.org.cn), and Maq (available at maq.sourceforge.net).

[00313] In some embodiments, a guide sequence is about or more than about 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 75, or more nucleotides in length. In some embodiments, a guide sequence is less than about 75, 50, 45, 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 12, or fewer nucleotides in length. In some embodiments, the guide

RNA is 15-300, 25-300, 50-300, 25-250, 25-200, 15-200, or 15-100 nucleotides in length. In some embodiments, the guide RNA is between about 25 and 200 nucleotides in length. In some embodiments, the guide RNA is between about 15 and 200, or between 15 and 100, nucleotides in length.

[00314] The ability of a guide sequence to direct sequence-specific binding of a base editor to a target sequence may be assessed by any suitable assay. For example, the components of a base editor, including the guide sequence to be tested, may be provided to a host cell having the corresponding target sequence, such as by transfection with vectors encoding the components of a base editor disclosed herein, followed by an assessment of preferential cleavage within the target sequence. Similarly, cleavage of a target polynucleotide sequence may be evaluated *in situ* by providing the target sequence, components of a base editor, including the guide sequence to be tested and a control guide sequence different from the test guide sequence, and comparing binding or rate of cleavage at the target sequence between the test and control guide sequence reactions. Other assays are possible, and will occur to those skilled in the art.

[00315] A guide sequence may be selected to target any target sequence. In some embodiments, the target sequence is a sequence within a genome of a cell. Exemplary target sequences include those that are unique in the target genome.

[00316] In some embodiments, a guide sequence is selected to reduce the degree of secondary structure within the guide sequence. Secondary structure may be determined by any suitable polynucleotide folding algorithm. Some programs are based on calculating the minimal Gibbs free energy. An example of one such algorithm is mFold, as described by Zuker & Stiegler (*Nucleic Acids Res.* 9 (1981), 133-148). Another example folding algorithm is the online webserver RNAfold, developed at Institute for Theoretical Chemistry at the University of Vienna, using the centroid structure prediction algorithm (see, e.g., A. R. Gruber *et al.*, 2008, *Cell* 106(1): 23-24; and PA Carr & GM Church, 2009, *Nature Biotechnology* 27(12): 1151-62). Additional algorithms may be found in Chuai, G. *et al.*, *DeepCRISPR: optimized CRISPR guide RNA design by deep learning*, *Genome Biol.* 19:80 (2018), and U.S. Application Ser. No. 61/836,080 and U.S. Patent No. 8,871,445, issued October 28, 2014, the entireties of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

[00317] The guide sequence of the gRNA is linked to a tracr mate (also known as a “backbone”) sequence which in turn hybridizes to a tracr sequence. A tracr mate sequence includes any sequence that has sufficient complementarity with a tracr sequence to promote

one or more of: (1) excision of a guide sequence flanked by tracr mate sequences in a cell containing the corresponding tracr sequence; and (2) formation of a complex at a target sequence, wherein the complex comprises the tracr mate sequence hybridized to the tracr sequence. In general, degree of complementarity is with reference to the optimal alignment of the tracr mate sequence and tracr sequence, along the length of the shorter of the two sequences. Optimal alignment may be determined by any suitable alignment algorithm, and may further account for secondary structures, such as self-complementarity within either the tracr sequence or tracr mate sequence. In some embodiments, the degree of complementarity between the tracr sequence and tracr mate sequence along the length of the shorter of the two when optimally aligned is about or more than about 25%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 95%, 97.5%, 99%, or higher. In some embodiments, the tracr sequence is about or more than about 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, or more nucleotides in length. In some embodiments, the tracr sequence and tracr mate sequence are contained within a single transcript, such that hybridization between the two produces a transcript having a secondary structure, such as a hairpin. Preferred loop forming sequences for use in hairpin structures are four nucleotides in length, and most preferably have the sequence GAAA. However, longer or shorter loop sequences may be used, as may alternative sequences. The sequences preferably include a nucleotide triplet (for example, AAA), and an additional nucleotide (for example C or G). Examples of loop forming sequences include CAAA and AAAG. In an embodiment of the invention, the transcript or transcribed polynucleotide sequence has at least two or more hairpins. In certain embodiments, the transcript has two, three, four or five hairpins. In a further embodiment of the invention, the transcript has at most five hairpins. In some embodiments, the single transcript further includes a transcription termination sequence; preferably this is a polyT sequence, for example six T nucleotides.

[00318] In some embodiments, the guide RNAs for use in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing comprise synthetic single guide RNAs (sgRNAs) containing modified ribonucleotides. In some embodiments, the guide RNAs contain modifications such as 2'-O-methylated nucleotides and phosphorothioate linkages. In some embodiments, the guide RNAs contain 2'-O-methyl modifications in the first three and last three nucleotides, and phosphorothioate bonds between the first three and last three nucleotides. Exemplary modified synthetic sgRNAs are disclosed in Hendel A. *et al.*, *Nat. Biotechnol.* 33, 985-989 (2015), incorporated herein by reference.

[00319] In some embodiments, the guide RNAs for use in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing comprise a backbone structure that is recognized by an *N. meningitis* Cas9 protein or domain, such as an Nme2Cas9 domain. The backbone structure (or scaffold) recognized by an Nme2Cas9 protein may comprise the sequence provided below: 5'-[guide sequence]-

gtttagctccctttctcatttcggaaacgaaatgagaaccgttgctacaataaggccgtctgaaaagatgtgccgcaacgctctgcccc ttaagcttctgctttaaggggcatcgttta-3' (SEQ ID NO: 719). This scaffold sequence is recognized by the NmeCas9, Nme1Cas9, Nme2Cas9, and Nme3Cas9 proteins. Exemplary guide RNAs for editing with base editors containing Nme2Cas9 domains and variants thereof are described in Edraki *et al.*, *Molecular Cell* 73, 714-726, incorporated herein by reference.

[00320] In other embodiments, the guide RNAs for use in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing comprise a backbone structure that is recognized by an *S. pyogenes* Cas9 protein or domain, such as an SpCas9 domain of the disclosed base editors. The backbone structure recognized by an SpCas9 protein may comprise the sequence 5'-[guide sequence]- guuuuagagcuagaaauagcaaguuaaaauaaggcuaguccguuaucaacuugaaaaaguggcaccgagucggugcuuu uu-3' (SEQ ID NO: 339), wherein the guide sequence comprises a sequence that is complementary to the protospacer of the target sequence. See U.S. Publication No. 2015/0166981, published June 18, 2015, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. The guide sequence is typically 20 nucleotides long.

[00321] In other embodiments, the guide RNAs for use in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing comprise a backbone structure that is recognized by an *C. jejuni* Cas9 protein or domain, such as a CjCas9 domain of the disclosed base editors. The backbone structure recognized by a CjCas9 protein may comprise the sequence 5'-[guide sequence]- gtttagctccctgaaaagggactaaaataagagtttgcgggactctgcgggggttacaatcccctaaaaccgctttttt-3' (SEQ ID NO: 340), wherein the guide sequence comprises a sequence that is complementary to the protospacer of the target sequence.

[00322] In other embodiments, the guide RNAs for use in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing comprise a backbone structure that is recognized by an *S. aureus* Cas9 protein. The backbone structure recognized by an SaCas9 protein may comprise the sequence 5'-[guide sequence]-

guuuuaguacucuguaauggaaaauuacagaauacuacuaaaacaaggcaaaaugccguguuuauaucugucaacuuguugg cgagauuuuuuu-3' (SEQ ID NO: 78). This is also the backbone structure recognized by SaKKH-Cas9 and the SaCas9 ortholog, SauriCas9.

[00323] The guide RNAs for use in accordance with the disclosed methods of editing may comprise a backbone structure as listed in Table 2 (SEQ ID NOs: 566-571)..

[00324] The sequences of suitable guide RNAs for targeting the disclosed BEs to specific genomic target sites will be apparent to those of skill in the art based on the present disclosure. Such suitable guide RNA sequences typically comprise guide sequences that are complementary to a nucleic sequence within 50 nucleotides upstream or downstream of the target nucleobase pair to be edited. Some exemplary guide RNA sequences suitable for targeting any of the provided BEs to specific target sequences are provided herein.

Additional guide sequences are well known in the art and may be used with the base editors described herein. Additional exemplary guide sequences are disclosed in, for example, Jinek M., *et al.*, *Science* 337:816-821(2012); Mali P, Esvelt KM & Church GM (2013) Cas9 as a versatile tool for engineering biology, *Nature Methods*, 10, 957-963; Li JF *et al.*, (2013) Multiplex and homologous recombination-mediated genome editing in *Arabidopsis* and *Nicotiana benthamiana* using guide RNA and Cas9, *Nature Biotechnology*, 31, 688-691; Hwang, W.Y. *et al.*, Efficient genome editing in zebrafish using a CRISPR-Cas system, *Nature Biotechnology* 31, 227-229 (2013); Cong L *et al.*, (2013) Multiplex genome engineering using CRISPR/Cas systems, *Science*, 339, 819-823; Cho SW *et al.*, (2013) Targeted genome engineering in human cells with the Cas9 RNA-guided endonuclease, *Nature Biotechnology*, 31, 230-232; Jinek, M. *et al.*, RNA-programmed genome editing in human cells, *eLife* 2, e00471 (2013); Dicarlo, J.E. *et al.*, Genome engineering in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* using CRISPR-Cas systems. *Nucleic Acid Res.* (2013); Briner AE *et al.*, (2014) Guide RNA functional modules direct Cas9 activity and orthogonality, *Mol Cell*, 56, 333-339, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Methods for generating Cas variants and base editors

[00325] The invention further relates in various aspects to methods of making the disclosed improved base editors by various modes of manipulation that include, but are not limited to, codon optimization to achieve greater expression levels in a cell, and the use of nuclear localization sequences (NLSs), preferably at least two NLSs, *e.g.*, two bipartite NLSs, to increase the localization of the expressed base editors into a cell nucleus.

Preparation of Base Editors for Increased Expression in Cells

[00326] The base editors contemplated herein can include modifications that result in increased expression, for example, through codon optimization.

[00327] In some embodiments, the base editors (or a component thereof) is codon optimized for expression in particular cells, such as eukaryotic cells. The eukaryotic cells may be those of or derived from a particular organism, such as a mammal, including, but not limited to, human, mouse, rat, rabbit, dog, or non-human primate. In general, codon optimization refers to a process of modifying a nucleic acid sequence for enhanced expression in the host cells of interest by replacing at least one codon (e.g. about or more than about 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, or more codons) of the native sequence with codons that are more frequently or most frequently used in the genes of that host cell while maintaining the native amino acid sequence. Various species exhibit particular bias for certain codons of a particular amino acid. Codon bias (differences in codon usage between organisms) often correlates with the efficiency of translation of messenger RNA (mRNA), which is in turn believed to be dependent on, among other things, the properties of the codons being translated and the availability of particular transfer RNA (tRNA) molecules. The predominance of selected tRNAs in a cell is generally a reflection of the codons used most frequently in peptide synthesis. Accordingly, genes can be tailored for optimal gene expression in a given organism based on codon optimization. Codon usage tables are readily available, for example, at the “Codon Usage Database”, and these tables can be adapted in a number of ways. See Nakamura, Y., *et al.* “Codon usage tabulated from the international DNA sequence databases: status for the year 2000” *Nucl. Acids Res.* 28:292 (2000). Computer algorithms for codon optimizing a particular sequence for expression in a particular host cell are also available, such as Gene Forge (Aptagen; Jacobus, Pa.), are also available. In some embodiments, one or more codons (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, or more, or all codons) in a sequence encoding a CRISPR enzyme correspond to the most frequently used codon for a particular amino acid.

Nuclear localization Sequences and additional Base Editor Components

[00328] In some embodiments, the base editors provided herein further comprise one or more nuclear targeting sequences, for example, a nuclear localization sequence (NLS). In some embodiments, a NLS comprises an amino acid sequence that facilitates the importation of a protein, that comprises an NLS, into the cell nucleus (e.g., by nuclear transport). In some embodiments, any of the base editors provided herein further comprise one or more nuclear localization sequences (NLSs). In certain embodiments, any of the base editors comprise two NLSs. In some embodiments, one or more of the NLSs are bipartite NLSs (“bpNLS”). In

certain embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise two bipartite NLSs. In some embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise more than two bipartite NLSs.

[00329] In some embodiments, the NLS is fused to the N-terminus of the base editor. In some embodiments, the NLS is fused to the C-terminus of the base editor. In some embodiments, the NLS is fused to the C-terminus of the napDNAbp. In some embodiments, the NLS is fused to the N-terminus of the adenosine deaminase. In some embodiments, the NLS is fused to the C-terminus of the adenosine deaminase. In some embodiments, the NLS is fused to the base editor via one or more linkers. In some embodiments, the NLS is fused to the base editor without a linker.

[00330] In some embodiments, the NLS comprises an amino acid sequence of any one of the NLS sequences provided or referenced herein. In some embodiments, the NLS comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 408 or SEQ ID NO: 409. Additional nuclear localization sequences are known in the art and would be apparent to the skilled artisan. For example, NLS sequences are described in Plank *et al.*, PCT/EP2000/011690, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference for their disclosure of exemplary nuclear localization sequences. In some embodiments, a NLS comprises the amino acid sequence PKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 408),

MDSLLMNRRKFLYQFKNVRWAKGRRETYLC (SEQ ID NO: 409),

KRTADGSEFESPKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 410), or KRTADGSEFEPKKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 411). In other embodiments, the NLS comprises the amino acid sequence:

NLSKRPAAIKKAGQAKKKK (SEQ ID NO: 482), PAAKRVKLD (SEQ ID NO: 483), RQRRNELKRSF (SEQ ID NO: 484), or

NQSSNFGPMKGGNFGGRSSGPYGGGGQYFAKPRNQGGY (SEQ ID NO: 485).

[00331] In some embodiments, the base editor comprises a bpNLS. The bpNLS may comprise an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

KRTADGSEFEPKKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 398), KRPAATKKAGQAKKKK (SEQ ID NO: 344), KKTELQTTNAENKTKKL (SEQ ID NO: 345), KRGINDRNFWRGENGRKTR (SEQ ID NO: 346), and RKSGKIAAIVVKRPRK (SEQ ID NO: 347). In certain embodiments, the bpNLA comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 344 or 398.

[00332] In some embodiments, the base editors provided herein do not comprise a linker. In some embodiments, a linker is present between one or more of the domains or proteins (*e.g.*, deaminase, napDNAbp, and/or NLS). In some embodiments, the “[]-[” used in the general architecture above indicates the presence of an optional linker.

[00333] In some embodiments, the general architecture of exemplary base editors with a first adenosine deaminase, a second adenosine deaminase, and a napDNAbp domain comprises any one of the following structures, where NLS is a nuclear localization sequence (*e.g.*, any NLS provided herein), NH₂ is the N-terminus of the base editor, and COOH is the C-terminus of the base editor.

[00334] Exemplary base editors comprising a deaminase, a napDNAbp domain, and an NLS (*e.g.*, any NLS provided herein) may have the following architecture:

NH₂-[deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-[NLS]-COOH;

NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[deaminase domain]-[NLS]-COOH;

NH₂-[NLS]-[deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-COOH; or

NH₂-[NLS]-[napDNAbp domain]-[deaminase domain]-COOH.

[00335] In particular embodiments, the disclosed base editors comprise the ABE architecture that follows, where TadA-8e is the adenosine deaminase domain:

NH₂-[bpNLS]-[TadA-8e]-[napDNAbp domain]-[bpNLS]-COOH;

NH₂-[bpNLS]-[napDNAbp domain]-[TadA-8e]-[bpNLS]-COOH;

NH₂-[bpNLS]-[TadA-8e]-[napDNAbp domain]-[bpNLS]-COOH; or

NH₂-[bpNLS]-[napDNAbp domain]-[TadA-8e]-[bpNLS]-COOH..

[00336] Exemplary base editors comprising a cytidine deaminase, a napDNAbp domain, a UGI domain, and an NLS (*e.g.*, any NLS provided herein) may have the following architecture: NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[UGI domain]-[bpNLS]-COOH; or NH₂-[bpNLS]-[napDNAbp domain]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[UGI domain]-COOH; NH₂-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-[UGI domain]-[bpNLS]-COOH; or NH₂-[bpNLS]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-[UGI domain]-COOH.

[00337] A representative nuclear localization signal is a peptide sequence that directs the protein to the nucleus of the cell in which the sequence is expressed. A nuclear localization signal is predominantly basic, can be positioned almost anywhere in a protein's amino acid sequence, generally comprises a short sequence of four amino acids (Autieri & Agrawal, (1998) *J. Biol. Chem.* 273: 14731-37, incorporated herein by reference) to eight amino acids, and is typically rich in lysine and arginine residues (Magin *et al.*, (2000) *Virology* 274: 11-16, incorporated herein by reference). Nuclear localization signals often comprise proline residues. A variety of nuclear localization signals have been identified and have been used to effect transport of biological molecules from the cytoplasm to the nucleus of a cell. See, *e.g.*,

Tinland *et al.*, (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 89:7442-46; Moede *et al.*, (1999) *FEBS Lett.* 461:229-34, which is incorporated herein by reference. Translocation is currently thought to involve nuclear pore proteins.

[00338] Most NLSs can be classified in three general groups: (i) a monopartite NLS exemplified by the SV40 large T antigen NLS (PKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 408)); (ii) a bipartite motif consisting of two basic domains separated by a variable number of spacer amino acids and exemplified by the *Xenopus nucleoplasmin* NLS (KRXXXXXXXXXXKKKL (SEQ ID NO: 486)); and (iii) noncanonical sequences such as M9 of the hnRNP A1 protein, the influenza virus nucleoprotein NLS, and the yeast Gal4 protein NLS (Dingwall and Laskey, *Trends Biochem Sci.* 1991 Dec;16(12):478-81).

[00339] Nuclear localization signals appear at various points in the amino acid sequences of proteins. NLSs have been identified at the N-terminus, the C-terminus, and in the central region of proteins. Thus, the specification provides base editors that may be modified with one or more NLSs at the C-terminus, the N-terminus, as well as at in internal region of the base editor. The residues of a longer sequence that do not function as component NLS residues should be selected so as not to interfere, for example tonically or sterically, with the nuclear localization signal itself. Therefore, although there are no strict limits on the composition of an NLS-comprising sequence, in practice, such a sequence can be functionally limited in length and composition.

[00340] The present disclosure contemplates any suitable means by which to modify a fusion protein (or base editor) to include one or more NLSs. In one aspect, the base editors can be engineered to express a fusion protein that is translationally fused at its N-terminus or its C-terminus (or both) to one or more NLSs, i.e., to form a fusion protein-NLS fusion construct. In other embodiments, the fusion protein-encoding nucleotide sequence can be genetically modified to incorporate a reading frame that encodes one or more NLSs in an internal region of the encoded fusion protein. In addition, the NLSs may include various amino acid linkers or spacer regions encoded between the fusion protein and the N-terminally, C-terminally, or internally-attached NLS amino acid sequence. Thus, the present disclosure also provides for nucleotide constructs, vectors, and host cells for expressing base editors that comprise a fusion protein and one or more NLSs.

[00341] The base editors described herein may also comprise nuclear localization signals which are linked to a fusion protein through one or more linkers, e.g., polymeric, amino acid, polysaccharide, chemical, or nucleic acid linker element. In certain embodiments, the NLS is

linked to a fusion protein using an XTEN linker, as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 412. The linkers within the contemplated scope of the disclosure are not intended to have any limitations and can be any suitable type of molecule (e.g., polymer, amino acid, polysaccharide, nucleic acid, lipid, or any synthetic chemical linker domain) and be joined to the fusion protein by any suitable strategy that effectuates forming a bond (e.g., covalent linkage, hydrogen bonding) between the fusion protein and the one or more NLSs.

[00342] The base editors described herein also may include one or more additional elements. In certain embodiments, an additional element may comprise an effector of base repair, such as an inhibitor of base repair.

[00343] In some embodiments, the base editors described herein may comprise one or more heterologous protein domains (e.g., about or more than about 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more domains in addition to the base editors components). A base editor may comprise any additional protein sequence, and optionally a linker sequence between any two domains. Other exemplary features that may be present are localization sequences, such as cytoplasmic localization sequences, export sequences, such as nuclear export sequences, or other localization sequences, as well as sequence tags.

[00344] Examples of heterologous protein domains that may be fused to a base editor or component thereof (e.g., the napDNAbp domain, the nucleotide modification domain, or the NLS domain) include, without limitation, epitope tags and reporter gene sequences. Non-limiting examples of epitope tags include histidine (His) tags, V5 tags, FLAG tags, influenza hemagglutinin (HA) tags, Myc tags, VSV-G tags, and thioredoxin (Trx) tags. Examples of reporter genes include, but are not limited to, glutathione-S-transferase (GST), horseradish peroxidase (HRP), chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT), beta-galactosidase, beta-glucuronidase, luciferase, green fluorescent protein (GFP), HcRed, DsRed, cyan fluorescent protein (CFP), yellow fluorescent protein (YFP), and autofluorescent proteins including blue fluorescent protein (BFP). A base editor may be fused to a gene sequence encoding a protein or a fragment of a protein that binds DNA molecules or binds other cellular molecules, including, but not limited to, maltose binding protein (MBP), S-tag, Lex A DNA binding domain (DBD) fusions, GAL4 DNA binding domain fusions, and herpes simplex virus (HSV) BP16 protein fusions. Additional domains that may form part of a base editor are described in US Patent Publication No. 2011/0059502, published March 10, 2011, and incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[00345] In an aspect of the disclosure, a reporter gene which includes, but is not limited to, glutathione-5-transferase (GST), horseradish peroxidase (HRP), chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT) beta-galactosidase, beta-glucuronidase, luciferase, green fluorescent protein (GFP), HcRed, DsRed, cyan fluorescent protein (CFP), yellow fluorescent protein (YFP), and autofluorescent proteins including blue fluorescent protein (BFP), may be introduced into a cell to encode a gene product which serves as a marker by which to measure the alteration or modification of expression of the gene product. In certain embodiments of the disclosure the gene product is luciferase. In a further embodiment of the disclosure the expression of the gene product is decreased.

[00346] Other exemplary features that may be present are tags that are useful for solubilization, purification, or detection of the base editor. Suitable protein tags provided herein include, but are not limited to, biotin carboxylase carrier protein (BCCP) tags, myc-tags, calmodulin-tags, FLAG-tags, hemagglutinin (HA)-tags, bgh-PolyA tags, polyhistidine tags, and also referred to as histidine tags or His-tags, maltose binding protein (MBP)-tags, nus-tags, glutathione-S-transferase (GST)-tags, green fluorescent protein (GFP)-tags, thioredoxin-tags, S-tags, Softags (e.g., Softag 1, Softag 3), strep-tags, biotin ligase tags, FAsH tags, V5 tags, and SBP-tags. Additional suitable sequences will be apparent to those of skill in the art. In some embodiments, the base editor comprises one or more His tags.

Linkers

[00347] In certain embodiments, linkers may be used to link any of the peptides or peptide domains or domains of the base editor (e.g., a napDNAbp domain covalently linked to an adenosine deaminase domain which is covalently linked to an NLS domain). The base editors described herein may comprise linkers of 32 amino acids in length.

[00348] The linker may be as simple as a covalent bond, or it may be a polymeric linker many atoms in length. In certain embodiments, the linker is a polypeptide or based on amino acids. In other embodiments, the linker is not peptide-like. In certain embodiments, the linker is a covalent bond (e.g., a carbon-carbon bond, disulfide bond, carbon-heteroatom bond, etc.). In certain embodiments, the linker is a carbon-nitrogen bond of an amide linkage. In certain embodiments, the linker is a cyclic or acyclic, substituted or unsubstituted, branched or unbranched aliphatic or heteroaliphatic linker. In certain embodiments, the linker is polymeric (e.g., polyethylene, polyethylene glycol, polyamide, polyester, etc.). In certain embodiments, the linker comprises a monomer, dimer, or polymer of aminoalkanoic

acid. In certain embodiments, the linker comprises an aminoalkanoic acid (*e.g.*, glycine, ethanoic acid, alanine, beta-alanine, 3-aminopropanoic acid, 4-aminobutanoic acid, 5-pentanoic acid, *etc.*). In certain embodiments, the linker comprises a monomer, dimer, or polymer of aminohexanoic acid (Ahx). In certain embodiments, the linker is based on a carbocyclic moiety (*e.g.*, cyclopentane, cyclohexane). In other embodiments, the linker comprises a polyethylene glycol moiety (PEG). In other embodiments, the linker comprises amino acids. In certain embodiments, the linker comprises a peptide. In certain embodiments, the linker comprises an aryl or heteroaryl moiety. In certain embodiments, the linker is based on a phenyl ring. The linker may include functionalized moieties to facilitate attachment of a nucleophile (*e.g.*, thiol, amino) from the peptide to the linker. Any electrophile may be used as part of the linker. Exemplary electrophiles include, but are not limited to, activated esters, activated amides, Michael acceptors, alkyl halides, aryl halides, acyl halides, and isothiocyanates.

[00349] In some embodiments, the linker is 5-100 amino acids in length, for example, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35-40, 40-45, 45-50, 50-60, 60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, 100-110, 110-120, 120-130, 130-140, 140-150, or 150-200 amino acids in length. Longer or shorter linkers are also contemplated. In some embodiments, the linker is 32 amino acids in length. In exemplary embodiments, the linker comprises the 32-amino acid sequence SGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGS (SEQ ID NO: 412), also known as an XTEN linker. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the 9-amino acid sequence SGGSGGSGGS (SEQ ID NO: 413). In some embodiments, the linker comprises the 4-amino acid sequence SGGS (SEQ ID NO: 414).

[00350] In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence (GGGGS)_n (SEQ ID NO: 415), (G)_n (SEQ ID NO: 416), (EAAAK)_n (SEQ ID NO: 417), (GGS)_n (SEQ ID NO: 418), (SGGS)_n (SEQ ID NO: 419), (XP)_n (SEQ ID NO: 420), or any combination thereof, wherein n is independently an integer between 1 and 30, and wherein X is any amino acid. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence (GGS)_n (SEQ ID NO: 421), wherein n is 1, 3, or 7. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence SGSETPGTSESATPES (SEQ ID NO: 422).

[00351] In some embodiments, a linker comprises SGSETPGTSESATPES (SEQ ID NO: 422), and SGGS (SEQ ID NO: 414). In some embodiments, a linker comprises SGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGS (SEQ ID NO: 423). In some embodiments, a linker

comprises SGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGS (SEQ ID NO: 412). In some embodiments, a linker comprises

GGSGGSPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPATSGGSGGS (SEQ ID NO: 424). In some embodiments, the linker is 24 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence SGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPES (SEQ ID NO: 425).

In some embodiments, the linker is 40 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence

SGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSSGGSSGGS (SEQ ID NO: 426). In some embodiments, the linker is 64 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence

SGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGS (SEQ ID NO: 427). In some embodiments, the linker is 92 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence

PGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSESATPESGPGTSTEPSEGSAPGSPAGSPTSTEEGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSTEPSEGSAPGTSESATPESGPGSEPAT (SEQ ID NO: 428). It should be appreciated that any of the linkers provided herein may be used to link a first adenosine deaminase and a second adenosine deaminase; an adenosine deaminase domain (comprising, *e.g.*, a first and/or a second adenosine deaminase) and a napDNAbp; a napDNAbp and an NLS; or an adenosine deaminase domain and an NLS.

[00352] In some embodiments, any of the base editors provided herein, comprise an adenosine deaminase and a napDNAbp that are fused to each other via a linker. In some embodiments, any of the base editors provided herein, comprise a first adenosine deaminase and a second adenosine deaminase that are fused to each other via a linker. In some embodiments, any of the base editors provided herein, comprise an NLS, which may be fused to an adenosine deaminase (*e.g.*, a first and/or a second adenosine deaminase) and a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp). Various linker lengths and flexibilities between an adenosine deaminase (*e.g.*, an engineered ecTadA) and a napDNAbp (*e.g.*, a Cas9 domain), and/or between a first adenosine deaminase and a second adenosine deaminase may be employed (*e.g.*, ranging from very flexible linkers of the form of SEQ ID NOs: 119, 121-124 (see, *e.g.*, Guilinger JP, Thompson DB, Liu DR. Fusion of catalytically inactive Cas9 to FokI nuclease improves the specificity of genome modification. *Nat. Biotechnol.* 2014; 32(6): 577-82; the entire contents are incorporated herein by reference) and

(XP)_n (SEQ ID NO: 420)) in order to achieve the optimal length for deaminase activity for the specific application. In some embodiments, n is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, or 15. In some embodiments, the linker comprises a (GGS)_n (SEQ ID NO: 421) motif, wherein n is 1, 3, or 7. In some embodiments, the adenosine deaminase and the napDNAbp, and/or the first adenosine deaminase and the second adenosine deaminase of any of the base editors provided herein are fused via a linker comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOs: 119-132. In some embodiments, the linker is 24 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence (SGGS)₂-SGSETPGTSESATPES-(SGGS)₂ (SEQ ID NO: 412), which may also be referred to as (SGGS)₂-XTEN-(SGGS)₂ (SEQ ID NO: 429). In some embodiments, the linker comprises the amino acid sequence, wherein n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10. In some embodiments, the linker is 40 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker is 64 amino acids in length. In some embodiments, the linker is 92 amino acids in length.

[00353] The above description is meant to be non-limiting with regard to making base editors having increased expression, and thereby increase editing efficiencies.

Methods of Treatment and Uses

[00354] Other aspects of the present disclosure provide methods of delivering the base editor into a cell to form a complete and functional Cas9 protein or nucleobase editor. For example, in some embodiments, a cell is contacted with a composition described herein (*e.g.*, compositions comprising nucleotide sequences encoding the base editor or AAV particles containing nucleic acid vectors comprising such nucleotide sequences). In some embodiments, the contacting results in the delivery of such nucleotide sequences into a cell, wherein the N-terminal portion of the Cas9 protein or the nucleobase editor and the C-terminal portion of the Cas9 protein or the nucleobase editor are expressed in the cell and are joined to form a complete Cas9 protein or a complete nucleobase editor.

[00355] It should be appreciated that any rAAV particle, nucleic acid molecule or composition provided herein may be introduced into the cell in any suitable way, either stably or transiently. In some embodiments, the disclosed proteins may be transfected into the cell. In some embodiments, the cell may be transduced or transfected with a nucleic acid molecule. For example, a cell may be transduced (*e.g.*, with a virus encoding a protein), or transfected (*e.g.*, with a plasmid encoding a protein) with a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a protein, or an rAAV particle containing a viral genome encoding one or more

nucleic acid molecules. Such transduction may be a stable or transient transduction. In some embodiments, cells expressing a protein or containing a protein may be transduced or transfected with one or more guide RNA sequences, for example in delivery of a base editor. In some embodiments, a plasmid expressing a protein may be introduced into cells through electroporation, transient (*e.g.*, lipofection) and stable genome integration (*e.g.*, nucleofection or piggybac) and viral transduction or other methods known to those of skill in the art.

[00356] In some aspects, the invention provides methods comprising delivering one or more base editor-encoding polynucleotides, one or more transcripts thereof, and/or one or proteins transcribed therefrom, to a cell using a non-viral delivery method. Methods of non-viral delivery of nucleic acids include lipofection, nucleofection, microinjection, biolistics, virosomes, liposomes, immunoliposomes, polycation or lipid:nucleic acid conjugates, naked DNA, artificial virions, and agent-enhanced uptake of DNA. Lipofection is described in *e.g.*, U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,049,386, 4,946,787; and 4,897,355) and lipofection reagents are sold commercially (*e.g.*, Transfectam™ and Lipofectin™). Cationic and neutral lipids that are suitable for efficient receptor-recognition lipofection of polynucleotides include those of Feigner, WO 1991/17424; WO 1991/16024. Delivery can be to cells (*e.g. in vitro* or *ex vivo* administration) or target tissues (*e.g. in vivo* administration).

[00357] In certain embodiments, the compositions provided herein comprise a lipid and/or polymer. In certain embodiments, the lipid and/or polymer is cationic. The preparation of such lipid particles is well known. See, *e.g.* U.S. Patent Nos. 4,880,635; 4,906,477; 4,911,928; 4,917,951; 4,920,016; 4,921,757; and 9,737,604, each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

[00358] In some embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is a DNA sequence in a genome, *e.g.* a eukaryotic genome. In certain embodiments, the target nucleotide sequence is in a mammalian (*e.g.* a human) genome.

[00359] The target nucleotide sequence may comprise a target sequence (*e.g.*, a point mutation) associated with a disease, disorder, or condition. The target sequence may comprise a T to C (or A to G) point mutation associated with a disease, disorder, or condition, and wherein the deamination of the mutant C base results in mismatch repair-mediated correction to a sequence that is not associated with a disease, disorder, or condition. The target sequence may otherwise comprise a G to A (or C to T) point mutation associated with a disease, disorder, or condition, and wherein the deamination of the mutant A base results in mismatch repair-mediated correction to a sequence that is not associated with a disease,

disorder, or condition. The target sequence may encode a protein, and where the point mutation is in a codon and results in a change in the amino acid encoded by the mutant codon as compared to a wild-type codon. The target sequence may also be at a splice site, and the point mutation results in a change in the splicing of an mRNA transcript as compared to a wild-type transcript. In addition, the target may be at a non-coding sequence of a gene, such as a promoter, and the point mutation results in increased or decreased expression of the gene.

[00360] Thus, in some aspects, the deamination of a mutant C results in a change of the amino acid encoded by the mutant codon, which in some cases can result in the expression of a wild-type amino acid. In other aspects, the deamination of a mutant A results in a change of the amino acid encoded by the mutant codon, which in some cases can result in the expression of a wild-type amino acid.

[00361] The methods described herein involving contacting a cell with a composition or rAAV particle can occur *in vitro*, *ex vivo*, or *in vivo*. In certain embodiments, the step of contacting a cell occurs in a subject. In certain embodiments, the subject has been diagnosed with a disease, disorder, or condition. In some embodiments, the step of contacting a cell occurs *ex vivo*, or outside of a subject.

[00362] In some embodiments, the methods disclosed herein involve contacting a mammalian cell with a composition or rAAV particle. In particular embodiments, the methods involve contacting a retinal cell, cortical cell or cerebellar cell.

[00363] The compositions described herein may be administered to a subject in need thereof in a therapeutically effective amount to treat and/or prevent a disease or disorder the subject is suffering from. Any disease or disorder that maybe treated and/or prevented using CRISPR/Cas9-based genome-editing technology may be treated by the base editor described herein. It is to be understood that, if the nucleotide sequences encoding the base editor does not further encode a gRNA, a separate nucleic acid vector encoding the gRNA may be administered together with the compositions described herein.

[00364] Exemplary suitable diseases, disorders or conditions include, without limitation, cardiovascular disease, cystic fibrosis, phenylketonuria, epidermolytic hyperkeratosis (EHK), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), Charcot-Marie-Toot disease type 4J, neuroblastoma (NB), von Willebrand disease (vWD), myotonia congenital, hereditary renal amyloidosis, dilated cardiomyopathy, hereditary lymphedema, familial Alzheimer's disease, prion disease, chronic infantile neurologic cutaneous articular syndrome (CINCA), congenital

deafness, Niemann-Pick disease type C (NPC) disease, and desmin-related myopathy (DRM). In some embodiments, the disease or condition is cardiovascular disease. In some embodiments, the disease or condition is Niemann-Pick disease type C (NPC) disease.

[00365] In some embodiments, the disease, disorder or condition is associated with a point mutation that introduces a stop codon, for example, a premature stop codon within the coding region of a gene. In some embodiments, the desired base edit removes a stop codon within the coding region of a gene. In some embodiments, the desired base edit disrupts a splice acceptor site or a splice donor site.

[00366] In some embodiments, the desired base edit is associated with disruption of a splice acceptor site or a splice donor site in a *PCSK9* gene, or an *Angptl3* gene. In certain embodiments, the desired base edit is associated with the disruption of a splice acceptor site at W8 in a *PCKS9* gene. In some embodiments, the desired base edit is an A to G edit that disrupts the splice acceptor site at residue 8, generating a W8R substitution.

[00367] Additional exemplary diseases, disorders and conditions include cystic fibrosis (see, *e.g.*, Schwank *et al.*, Functional repair of CFTR by CRISPR/Cas9 in intestinal stem cell organoids of cystic fibrosis patients. *Cell stem cell*. **2013**; 13: 653-658; and Wu *et. al.*, Correction of a genetic disease in mouse via use of CRISPR-Cas9. *Cell stem cell*. **2013**; 13: 659-662, neither of which uses a deaminase fusion protein to correct the genetic defect); phenylketonuria – *e.g.*, phenylalanine to serine mutation at position 835 (mouse) or 240 (human) or a homologous residue in phenylalanine hydroxylase gene (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, McDonald *et al.*, *Genomics*. **1997**; 39:402-405; Bernard-Soulier syndrome (BSS) – *e.g.*, phenylalanine to serine mutation at position 55 or a homologous residue, or cysteine to arginine at residue 24 or a homologous residue in the platelet membrane glycoprotein IX (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Noris *et al.*, *British Journal of Haematology*. **1997**; 97: 312-320, and Ali *et al.*, *Hematol*. **2014**; 93: 381-384; epidermolytic hyperkeratosis (EHK) – *e.g.*, leucine to proline mutation at position 160 or 161 (if counting the initiator methionine) or a homologous residue in keratin 1 (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Chipev *et al.*, *Cell*. **1992**; 70: 821-828, see also accession number P04264 in the UNIPROT database at [www\[dot\]uniprot\[dot\]org](http://www.uniprot.org); chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) – *e.g.*, leucine to proline mutation at position 54 or 55 (if counting the initiator methionine) or a homologous residue in the processed form of α_1 -antitrypsin or residue 78 in the unprocessed form or a homologous residue (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Poller *et al.*, *Genomics*. **1993**; 17: 740-743, see also accession number P01011 in the UNIPROT database; Charcot-Marie-Toot disease

type 4J – *e.g.*, isoleucine to threonine mutation at position 41 or a homologous residue in FIG4 (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Lenk *et al.*, *PLoS Genetics*. 2011; 7: e1002104; neuroblastoma (NB) – *e.g.*, leucine to proline mutation at position 197 or a homologous residue in Caspase-9 (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Kundu *et al.*, *3 Biotech*. **2013**, **3**:225-234; von Willebrand disease (vWD) – *e.g.*, cysteine to arginine mutation at position 509 or a homologous residue in the processed form of von Willebrand factor, or at position 1272 or a homologous residue in the unprocessed form of von Willebrand factor (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Lavergne *et al.*, *Br. J. Haematol.* **1992**, see also accession number P04275 in the UNIPROT database; 82: 66-72; myotonia congenital – *e.g.*, cysteine to arginine mutation at position 277 or a homologous residue in the muscle chloride channel gene CLCN1 (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Weinberger *et al.*, *The J. of Physiology*. **2012**; 590: 3449-3464; hereditary renal amyloidosis – *e.g.*, stop codon to arginine mutation at position 78 or a homologous residue in the processed form of apolipoprotein AII or at position 101 or a homologous residue in the unprocessed form (T>C mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Yazaki *et al.*, *Kidney Int.* **2003**; 64: 11-16; dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) – *e.g.*, tryptophan to Arginine mutation at position 148 or a homologous residue in the FOXD4 gene (T>C mutation), see, *e.g.*, Minoretti *et al.*, *Int. J. of Mol. Med.* **2007**; 19: 369-372; hereditary lymphedema – *e.g.*, histidine to arginine mutation at position 1035 or a homologous residue in VEGFR3 tyrosine kinase (A>G mutation), see, *e.g.*, Irrthum *et al.*, *Am. J. Hum. Genet.* **2000**; 67: 295-301; familial Alzheimer's disease – *e.g.*, isoleucine to valine mutation at position 143 or a homologous residue in presenilin1 (A>G mutation), see, *e.g.*, Gallo *et al.*, *J. Alzheimer's disease*. **2011**; 25: 425-431; Prion disease – *e.g.*, methionine to valine mutation at position 129 or a homologous residue in prion protein (A>G mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Lewis *et al.*, *J. of General Virology*. **2006**; 87: 2443-2449; chronic infantile neurologic cutaneous articular syndrome (CINCA) – *e.g.*, Tyrosine to Cysteine mutation at position 570 or a homologous residue in cryopyrin (A>G mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Fujisawa *et al.* *Blood*. **2007**; 109: 2903-2911; and desmin-related myopathy (DRM) – *e.g.*, arginine to glycine mutation at position 120 or a homologous residue in $\alpha\beta$ crystallin (A>G mutation) – see, *e.g.*, Kumar *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* **1999**; 274: 24137-24141. The entire contents of all references and database entries is incorporated herein by reference.

[00368] Treatment of a disease or disorder includes delaying the development or progression of the disease, or reducing disease severity. Treating the disease does not necessarily require curative results.

[00369] As used therein, “delaying” the development of a disease means to defer, hinder, slow, retard, stabilize, and/or postpone progression of the disease. This delay can be of varying lengths of time, depending on the history of the disease and/or individuals being treated. A method that “delays” or alleviates the development of a disease, or delays the onset of the disease, is a method that reduces probability of developing one or more symptoms of the disease in a given time frame and/or reduces extent of the symptoms in a given time frame, when compared to not using the method. Such comparisons are typically based on clinical studies, using a number of subjects sufficient to give a statistically significant result.

[00370] “Development” or “progression” of a disease means initial manifestations and/or ensuing progression of the disease. Development of the disease can be detectable and assessed using standard clinical techniques as well known in the art. However, development also refers to progression that may be undetectable. For purpose of this disclosure, development or progression refers to the biological course of the symptoms. “Development” includes occurrence, recurrence, and onset.

[00371] As used herein “onset” or “occurrence” of a disease includes initial onset and/or recurrence. Conventional methods, known to those of ordinary skill in the art of medicine, can be used to administer the isolated polypeptide or pharmaceutical composition to the subject, depending upon the type of disease to be treated or the site of the disease.

[00372] In some aspects, the present disclosure provides uses of any one of the disclosed base editors described herein and a guide RNA targeting this nucleobase editor to a target in the manufacture of a medicament. In some aspects, uses of any one of the nucleobase editors and guide RNAs described herein are provided in the manufacture of a kit for base editing, wherein the base editing comprises contacting the nucleic acid molecule with the base editor and guide RNA under conditions suitable for the substitution of the adenine (A) of a A:T nucleobase pair in the target with a guanine (G), or for the substitution of the cytosine (C) of a C:T nucleobase pair in the target with a thymine (T). In some embodiments, the step of contacting induces separation of the double-stranded DNA at a target region. In some embodiments, the step of contacting further comprises nicking one strand of the double-stranded DNA, wherein the one strand comprises an unmutated strand.

[00373] In some embodiments of the described uses, the step of contacting is performed *in vitro*. In other embodiments, the step of contacting is performed *in vivo*. In some embodiments, the step of contacting is performed in a subject (*e.g.*, a human subject or a non-human animal subject). In some embodiments, the step of contacting is performed in a

human or non-human animal cell. In some embodiments, the step of contacting is performed in a plant cell.

[00374] The present disclosure also provides uses of any one of the nucleobase editors or any one of the complexes of nucleobase editors and guide RNAs described herein as a medicament. The present disclosure also provides uses of the described pharmaceutical compositions or cells comprising, and vectors or rAAV particles encoding, any of the disclosed nucleobase editors or complexes herein as a medicament. In some embodiments, the medicament is for treatment of cardiovascular disease.

[00375] In some aspects, the present disclosure provides uses of any one of the base editors described herein and a guide RNA targeting this base editor to a target base pair in a nucleic acid molecule in the manufacture of a kit for nucleic acid editing, wherein the nucleic acid editing comprises contacting the nucleic acid molecule with the base editor and guide RNA under conditions suitable for the desired base edit. In some embodiments, the desired base edit is the substitution of the adenine (A) of a target A:T base pair with a guanine (G). In some embodiments of these uses, the nucleic acid molecule is a double-stranded DNA molecule. In some embodiments, the step of contacting induces separation of the double-stranded DNA at a target region. In some embodiments, the step of contacting thereby comprises nicking one strand of the double-stranded DNA, wherein the one strand comprises an unmutated strand that comprises the T of the target A:T nucleobase pair.

[00376] In some embodiments of the described uses, the step of contacting is performed *in vitro*. In other embodiments, the step of contacting is performed *in vivo*. In some embodiments, the step of contacting is performed in a subject (*e.g.*, a human subject or a non-human animal subject). In some embodiments, the step of contacting is performed in a human or non-human animal cell. In some embodiments, the step of contacting is performed in a plant cell.

[00377] The present disclosure also provides uses of any one of the adenine base editors described herein as a medicament. The present disclosure also provides uses of any one of the complexes of adenine base editors and guide RNAs described herein as a medicament.

Kits

[00378] The compositions of the present disclosure may be assembled into kits. In some embodiments, the kit comprises nucleic acid vectors for the expression of the nucleobase

editors described herein. In some embodiments, the kit further comprises appropriate guide nucleotide sequences (e.g., gRNAs) or nucleic acid vectors for the expression of such guide nucleotide sequences, to target the Cas9 protein or nucleobase editor to the desired target sequence.

[00379] The kit described herein may include one or more containers housing components for performing the methods described herein and optionally instructions for use. Any of the kit described herein may further comprise components needed for performing the assay methods. Each component of the kits, where applicable, may be provided in liquid form (e.g., in solution) or in solid form, (e.g., a dry powder). In certain cases, some of the components may be reconstitutable or otherwise processible (e.g., to an active form), for example, by the addition of a suitable solvent or other species (for example, water), which may or may not be provided with the kit.

[00380] In some embodiments, the kits may optionally include instructions and/or promotion for use of the components provided. As used herein, “instructions” can define a component of instruction and/or promotion, and typically involve written instructions on or associated with packaging of the disclosure. Instructions also can include any oral or electronic instructions provided in any manner such that a user will clearly recognize that the instructions are to be associated with the kit, for example, audiovisual (e.g., videotape, DVD, etc.), Internet, and/or web-based communications, etc. The written instructions may be in a form prescribed by a governmental agency regulating the manufacture, use, or sale of pharmaceuticals or biological products, which can also reflect approval by the agency of manufacture, use or sale for animal administration. As used herein, “promoted” includes all methods of doing business including methods of education, hospital and other clinical instruction, scientific inquiry, drug discovery or development, academic research, pharmaceutical industry activity including pharmaceutical sales, and any advertising or other promotional activity including written, oral and electronic communication of any form, associated with the disclosure. Additionally, the kits may include other components depending on the specific application, as described herein.

[00381] The kits may contain any one or more of the components described herein in one or more containers. The components may be prepared sterilely, packaged in a syringe and shipped refrigerated. Alternatively it may be housed in a vial or other container for storage. A second container may have other components prepared sterilely. Alternatively the kits may include the active agents premixed and shipped in a vial, tube, or other container.

[00382] The kits may have a variety of forms, such as a blister pouch, a shrink wrapped pouch, a vacuum sealable pouch, a sealable thermoformed tray, or a similar pouch or tray form, with the accessories loosely packed within the pouch, one or more tubes, containers, a box or a bag. The kits may be sterilized after the accessories are added, thereby allowing the individual accessories in the container to be otherwise unwrapped. The kits can be sterilized using any appropriate sterilization techniques, such as radiation sterilization, heat sterilization, or other sterilization methods known in the art. The kits may also include other components, depending on the specific application, for example, containers, cell media, salts, buffers, reagents, syringes, needles, a fabric, such as gauze, for applying or removing a disinfecting agent, disposable gloves, a support for the agents prior to administration, etc.

Host Cells

[00383] Cells that may contain any of the compositions described herein include prokaryotic cells and eukaryotic cells. The methods described herein are used to deliver a Cas9 protein or a nucleobase editor into a eukaryotic cell (e.g., a mammalian cell, such as a human cell). In some embodiments, the cell is *in vitro* (e.g., cultured cell). In some embodiments, the cell is *in vivo* (e.g., in a subject such as a human subject). In some embodiments, the cell is *ex vivo* (e.g., isolated from a subject and may be administered back to the same or a different subject).

[00384] Mammalian cells of the present disclosure include human cells, primate cells (e.g., vero cells), rat cells (e.g., GH3 cells, OC23 cells) or mouse cells (e.g., MC3T3 (“3T3”) cells or mouse neuroblastoma neuro-2A (“N2A”) cells). There are a variety of human cell lines, including, without limitation, human embryonic kidney (HEK, or HEK293T) cells, HeLa cells, cancer cells from the National Cancer Institute’s 60 cancer cell lines (NCI60), DU145 (prostate cancer) cells, Lncap (prostate cancer) cells, MCF-7 (breast cancer) cells, MDA-MB-438 (breast cancer) cells, PC3 (prostate cancer) cells, T47D (breast cancer) cells, THP-1 (acute myeloid leukemia) cells, U87 (glioblastoma) cells, SHSY5Y human neuroblastoma cells (cloned from a myeloma) and Saos-2 (bone cancer) cells. In some embodiments, rAAV vectors are delivered into human embryonic kidney (HEK) cells (e.g., HEK 293 or HEK 293T cells). In some embodiments, rAAV vectors are delivered into stem cells (e.g., human stem cells) such as, for example, pluripotent stem cells (e.g., human pluripotent stem cells including human induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSCs)). A stem cell refers to a cell with

the ability to divide for indefinite periods in culture and to give rise to specialized cells. A pluripotent stem cell refers to a type of stem cell that is capable of differentiating into all tissues of an organism, but not alone capable of sustaining full organismal development. A human induced pluripotent stem cell refers to a somatic (e.g., mature or adult) cell that has been reprogrammed to an embryonic stem cell-like state by being forced to express genes and factors important for maintaining the defining properties of embryonic stem cells (see, e.g., Takahashi and Yamanaka, *Cell* 126 (4): 663–76, 2006, incorporated herein by reference). Human induced pluripotent stem cell cells express stem cell markers and are capable of generating cells characteristic of all three germ layers (ectoderm, endoderm, mesoderm).

[00385] Examples of cell lines that may be used in accordance with the present disclosure include 293-T, 293-T, 3T3, N2A, 4T1, 721, 9L, A-549, A172, A20, A253, A2780, A2780ADR, A2780cis, A431, ALC, B16, B35, BCP-1, BEAS-2B, bEnd.3, BHK-21, BR 293, BxPC3, C2C12, C3H-10T1/2, C6, C6/36, Cal-27, CGR8, CHO, CML T1, CMT, COR-L23, COR-L23/5010, COR-L23/CPR, COR-L23/R23, COS-7, COV-434, CT26, D17, DH82, DU145, DuCaP, E14Tg2a, EL4, EM2, EM3, EMT6/AR1, EMT6/AR10.0, FM3, H1299, H69, HB54, HB55, HCA2, Hepa1c1c7, High Five cells, HL-60, HMEC, HT-29, HUVEC, J558L cells, Jurkat, JY cells, K562 cells, KCL22, KG1, Ku812, KYO1, LNCap, Ma-Mel 1, 2, 3....48, MC-38, MCF-10A, MCF-7, MDA-MB-231, MDA-MB-435, MDA-MB-468, MDCK II, MG63, MONO-MAC 6, MOR/0.2R, MRC5, MTD-1A, MyEnd, NALM-1, NCI-H69/CPR, NCI-H69/LX10, NCI-H69/LX20, NCI-H69/LX4, NIH-3T3, NW-145, OPCN/OPCT Peer, PNT-1A/PNT 2, PTK2, Raji, RBL cells, RenCa, RIN-5F, RMA/RMAS, S2, Saos-2 cells, Sf21, Sf9, SiHa, SKBR3, SKOV-3, T-47D, T2, T84, THP1, U373, U87, U937, VCaP, WM39, WT-49, X63, YAC-1 and YAR cells.

[00386] Without further elaboration, it is believed that one skilled in the art can, based on the above description, utilize the present disclosure to its fullest extent. The following specific embodiments are, therefore, to be construed as merely illustrative, and not limitative of the remainder of the disclosure in any way whatsoever. All publications cited herein are incorporated by reference for the purposes or subject matter referenced herein.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

[00387] In this study small, highly active ABE8e variants were constructed and the minimal necessary cis-acting components on the AAV genome were identified to develop

highly efficient single-AAV vectors with broad *in vivo* targeting capability. ABE8e variants that use compact CjCas9, Nme2Cas9 and SauriCas9 domains were characterized to develop a suite of single-AAV, high-activity adenine base editors that collectively offered compatibility with a broad range of PAM sequences, including commonly occurring N₄CC and N₂GG PAMs, enabling base editing of approximately 82% of adenines in the human genome in principle (see FIG. 4D). Finally, the performance of single-AAV ABEs was assessed in mice by using them to install base edits associated with decreased cardiovascular disease risk, resulting in efficient editing (averaging 50%) of human *PCSK9*, mouse *Pcsk9* and mouse *Angptl3* in bulk liver at a range of clinically relevant doses with concomitant substantial reduction in circulating target protein, total cholesterol, and triglycerides. These findings illustrated advancements in the therapeutic potential of base editing, established the benefits of single-AAV base editor constructs, and provided a suite of single-AAV adenine base editors with broad collective targeting capability that supported efficient *in vivo* base editing.

Development of a size-minimized AAV backbone for ABE delivery

[00388] Starting with the small, robust editor SaABE8e (3.9 kb)³⁰ and its PAM-variant SaKKH-ABE8e^{30,33}, the components of the AAV genome were optimized to yield size-minimized AAV-based delivery of adenine base editors in which the entire base editor, its guide RNA, and all necessary promoters and regulatory sequences were present in a single AAV ($\leq \sim 4.9$ kb, not including ITRs). First, high-efficiency guide RNAs targeting *Pcsk9* to allow evaluation of *in vivo* genome editing (irrespective of protein knockdown) in N2A and 3T3 cells were identified by transfecting plasmids encoding SaABE8e or SaKKH-ABE8e and corresponding sgRNAs with spacers that targeted the endogenous *Pcsk9* gene. The editing efficiency of each sgRNA was analyzed by targeted high-throughput DNA sequencing (HTS) (FIG. 6). The most efficient guide RNA installed a W8R coding mutation in *Pcsk9* using SaABE8e (FIG. 6).

[00389] To encode the full-length SaABE8e protein on a single AAV genome, the small ubiquitous promoter EFS (EF-1 α short) and a terminator, that was previously validated, was used to yield efficient split-intein base editor delivery: the gamma portion of WPRE (W3) with bovine growth hormone (bGH) polyadenylation signal³⁴. To simplify production when testing multiple AAV architectures, sgRNA targeting *Pcsk9* W8 was provided on a separate AAV.

[00390] First, the *in vivo* editing activity of intact SaABE8e delivered on a second AAV was compared to that of intein-split SaABE8e delivered on a second and third AAV using a

previously validated intein split site²² (FIG. 1A). To assess editing across multiple tissues, a mixture of two or three AAV9 encoding (1) EGFP and sgRNA targeting *Pcsk9* and (2) either the intact AAV9 SaABE8e or the intein-split AAV9 SaABE8e (Fig. 1a) was systemically administered by retroorbital injection into 6 to 7-week-old wild-type C57BL/6J mice. Either a high total dose (8×10^{11} vg, or 4×10^{13} vg/kg) or low total dose (8×10^{10} vg, or 4×10^{12} vg/kg) of AAV consisting of a 1:1 mixture of sgRNA AAV to total base editor AAV was injected. Low doses of AAV were purposefully chosen to avoid saturating editing efficiency and to increase the likelihood of observing differences in editing outcomes between different ABE-AAV architectures. Three weeks post-injection, liver, heart, and muscle was harvested for analysis by HTS.

[00391] Both intact and intein-split SaABE8e AAVs resulted in dose-dependent and tissue-dependent editing activity consistent with the tropism of AAV9 across harvested tissues^{35,36}, with liver showing the highest editing efficiencies, followed by heart, then skeletal muscle. Intact SaABE8e AAV yielded robust editing at both doses administered, reaching 59%, 12%, and 5.3% editing of bulk liver, heart, and skeletal muscle, respectively, comparable or higher to the editing efficiencies achieved with intein-split SaABE8e in all tested tissues and doses (FIG. 1B). Decreasing the amount of sgRNA AAV to one half or one quarter the amount of base editor AAV did not affect editing efficiency in the liver, but decreased editing efficiency by ~1,4-fold per 2-fold decrease in administered sgRNA AAV in both heart and muscle (FIG. 6), indicating that the dose of guide RNA partially limited editing efficiency in extrahepatic tissues under these conditions.

[00392] Next, improved editing efficiency and minimizing the size of ABE AAV was sought by identifying minimal necessary elements on the AAV genome. Five AAV genome architectures were designed and compared for delivery of SaABE8e to assess the impact of modifying the EFS promoter by adding a minimal minute virus of mice (MVM) intron³⁷, modifying the terminator by removing the truncated WPRE gamma subunit W3, or replacing the bGH polyadenylation signal with an SV40 late polyadenylation signal. The following AAV expression cassettes were designed and produced: (1) EFS-SaABE8e-W3bGH, (2) EFS-MVM-SaABE8e-W3bGH, (3) EFS-MVM-SaABE8e-bGH, (4) EFS-SaABE8e-bGH, and (5) EFS-SaABE8e-W3-SV40. Each of the five AAV candidates were administered to 6- to 7-week-old wild-type C57BL/6J mice by retro-orbital injection at a high dose (4×10^{11} vg editor AAV plus 4×10^{11} vg sgRNA AAV) or low dose (4×10^{10} vg editor AAV plus 4×10^{10} vg sgRNA AAV) (FIG. 2C).

[00393] Three weeks after AAV injection, liver, heart, and skeletal muscle tissues were harvested. Each tissue was analyzed by HTS. Editing efficiencies followed a consistent pattern among architectures, with the highest efficiency construct of EFS promoter driving SaABE8e expression and a bGH polyadenylation signal without W3 (EFS-SaABE8e-bGH) outperforming the other architectures across all assessed doses and tissues. These data demonstrated that the cis-acting W3 element was not necessary for sufficient expression of SaABE8e from the EFS promoter in these tissues and cell types and highlighted the importance of assessing AAV elements in the context of a specific editing application.

Development of a single-AAV Adenine Base Editing system

[00394] The space gained by removal of W3 (250 bp) allowed the addition of an sgRNA expression cassette on the AAV genome, thereby enabling a single AAV with both ABE and guide RNA expression cassettes (FIG. 2A). The U6 sgRNA cassette was inserted proximal to the 3' ITR, as this orientation was previously found to enhance base editing activity in intein-split BE AAVs³⁴. This single-AAV9 SaABE8e was injected retro-orbitally into 6-8-week-old C57BL/6J mice at a dose of 4×10^{11} vg or 4×10^{10} vg, matching the dose of base editor AAV used in previous experiments, and corresponding to half the previously used total AAV dose since the sgRNA was now expressed from the same AAV as the base editor. Single-AAV SaABE8e performed similarly at half the total AAV dose to intact SaABE8e and sgRNA expressed from two different AAVs in the liver at both the high and low doses. Single-AAV SaABE8e yielded 64% and 55% editing of bulk liver at high and low dose, respectively (FIG. 2B), similar to editing achieved with dual-AAV SaABE8e at high and low doses. Single-AAV SaABE8e also resulted in 23% and 13% editing of bulk heart tissue at the high and low dose, respectively, corresponding to 1.4-fold and 4.8-fold higher editing efficiency compared to dual-AAV ABE (FIG. 2B, $P=0.038$ and $P=0.0012$, respectively, by unpaired t-test). Single-AAV SaABE8e yielded comparable editing to dual-AAV SaABE8e at the high dose and low dose in skeletal muscle compared to dual AAV treatment, yielding 7.8% and 5.5% at high and low dose, respectively (FIG. 2B).

[00395] Next, the single-AAV ABE construct was assessed at a dose of 8×10^{11} vg per mouse, equal in total AAV dose per mouse to that of the high-dose experiments described above requiring two AAVs. Further improvements in editing were observed compared to the lower doses, especially in heart and muscle, which were edited with 33% and 22% average efficiency, respectively (FIG. 2C, FIGs. 8A and 8B). This level of editing corresponded to a

2.1-fold and 2.5-fold increase in editing in heart and muscle, respectively, compared to the highest observed level of base editing from dual-AAV SaABE8e with editor and sgRNA delivered on separate AAVs (FIG. 2C, $P=0.00048$ and $P=0.0020$, respectively, by unpaired t-test) at the same total dose of AAV. The relatively wide editing window of SaABE8e is maintained *in vivo*, and indels remain low in each tissue (FIGs. 8A and 8B).

[00396] Next, the degree of transduction of AAV genomes in tissues were quantified by digital droplet PCR (ddPCR). It was observed that editing efficiencies correlated with the quantity of delivered genomes in each tissue (FIG. 20), with liver being much more amenable to transduction with AAV9 than heart and muscle. Tissues with the largest differences in editing between the single and dual-AAV strategies were less efficiently transduced than liver, consistent with previous analysis of biodistribution of AAV9⁷⁵. Heart and muscle tissues were transduced to a similar degree, which may indicate that the EFS promoter is more active in heart or may reflect effects of tissue heterogeneity.

[00397] The levels of base editing achieved in the liver, heart, and muscle tissue from a single-AAV ABE injection would be sufficient to offer therapeutic benefit for many genetic disorders^{21,38-40}. These data represented some of the highest reported somatic cell *in vivo* base editing in these tissues at clinically relevant doses^{21,26,34,41} of $\leq 10^{14}$ vg/kg. Together, these results demonstrated that this engineered single-AAV ABE architecture mediated robust genome editing *in vivo* and highlighted the benefits of single-AAV systems over dual-AAV methods, especially in less well transduced tissues or when lower total doses of AAV were used.

Example 2

Development of a suite of size-minimized ABEs with broad collective PAM compatibility

[00398] To broaden the targeting scope of single-AAV ABEs beyond that of SaCas9 (3.16kb, PAM=NNGRRT) or engineered variants such as SaKKH³³ (3.16kb, PAM=NNNRRT), the editing activity of ABE8e that used the nickase forms of the small Cas orthologs Nme2Cas9^{42,43} (3.24kb, PAM=N₄CC), CjCas9^{44,45} (2.95kb, PAM=N₄RYAC), and SauriCas9⁴⁶ (3.18kb, PAM=N₂GG) was profiled. To profile the activity of these size-reduced ABEs across multiple loci, plasmids encoding each editor and a corresponding sgRNA targeting a PAM-matched site were transfected into HEK293T cells. Three days later, the cells were analyzed by targeted high-throughput DNA sequencing (FIGs. 3A-3C).

[00399] All three of the tested small ABEs supported efficient base editing in HEK293T cells, with peak efficiencies at each target site generally ranging from 40-70%. Consistent with prior studies on base editors comprised of smaller Cas variants^{30,47,48}, Nme2ABE8e, CjABE8e, and SauriABE8e all exhibited broader base editing windows compared to SpCas9-based ABE8e. For Nme2ABE8e, the editing windows spanned much of the distal half of the 24-nt protospacer (position 2 to 19, counting the PAM as positions 25-30), with improved editing occurring between positions 6 and 17 (FIGs. 3A and 4A). For CjABE8, the smallest of the three small-Cas variants tested, the window was even larger, spanning positions 2 to 18, counting the PAM as positions 24-31, with optimal editing occurring between positions 3 and 15 (FIGs. 3B and 4B). CjABE8e also appeared to be more sensitive to the context preferences of the fused deaminase than the other tested ABEs. The editing efficiency varied substantially depending on the nucleobase 5' of the target adenine (YA >> RA). The editing window of SauriCas9-ABE8e typically ranged from protospacer positions 3-16 (counting the PAM as positions 22-25) with improved editing occurring between positions 5-15 (FIGs. 3C and 4C), which resembled the wide editing window enabled by the related SaCas9. SauriCas9's broad PAM compatibility (3' NNGG) allowed access to previously characterized SpCas9 targets (3' NGG PAM) with single-AAV base editors.

[00400] The collective targeting scope of four small ABE8e variants (SaKKHABE8e, Nme2ABE8e, CjABE8e, and SauriABE8e) were assessed by determining the number of adenines in the entire hg38 human reference genome that were targetable by at least one of these variants. The sequence context surrounding each adenine was analyzed for the presence of a small ABE8e-targetable PAM that would place each adenine within an appropriate base editing window. This analysis revealed that 82% of all adenines in the human genome were targetable in principle by at least one of these four small ABE8e variants. This data suggested that the single AAV ABE platform could potentially target the vast majority of adenines across the genome, although bystander editing in some cases could result in additional mutations, approximately half of which would be non-silent⁴⁹.

Adenine base editing of Pcsk9 and Angptl3 with small-Cas ABEs in cultured cells

[00401] To test the *in vivo* therapeutic potential of the single-AAV ABE system, mutations were installed in mice that were associated with decreased cardiovascular disease risk in humans⁵⁰⁻⁵² by knocking down Pcsk9 or Angptl3 protein levels. Knockdown of these proteins reduced levels of serum biomarkers including circulating protein and total cholesterol. Additionally, levels of triglycerides were reduced when Angptl3 was knocked down,

facilitating robust functional assessment of editing efficiency. SaABE8e, SaKKH-ABE8e, and newly designed SauriABE8e were used to disrupt start codons, splice donors, and splice acceptors⁵³ to block production of the targeted protein without relying on double-strand breaks or indel formation.

[00402] First, editing activity was measured of guide RNAs designed to disrupt production of *Pcsk9* or *Angptl3* by transfection of plasmids encoding a size-reduced ABE8e and sgRNA targeting sites throughout human *PCSK9* in HEK293T cells (FIG. 9A) or mouse *Pcsk9* and *Angptl3* in Neuro-2a cells (FIGs. 9B and 9C, 10A and 10B). Base editing efficiencies varied from undetectable to 89% as measured by deep sequencing of genomic DNA at the targeted loci. Three highly efficient SaKKH-ABE8e guide RNAs that targeted exon 1 splice donor site of human *PCSK9* and mouse *Pcsk9* and exon 6 splice donor of mouse *Angptl3*, as well as an SauriABE8e sgRNA targeting the exon 1 splice donor site of mouse *Pcsk9*, were advanced to *in vivo* experiments.

Single-AAV Adenine base editing of Pcsk9 and Angptl3 in mice

[00403] To assess *in vivo* editing activity with sgRNAs targeting *PCSK9*, *Pcsk9*, and *Angptl3* together with the corresponding size-minimized ABE8e variant, single-AAV ABEs were prepared in AAV8, a serotype that efficiently transduced murine hepatocytes⁵⁴, and administered to 6- to 8-week old mice systemically via retroorbital injection at a dose of 1×10^{11} vg per mouse (5×10^{12} vg/kg). AAV8 encoding SaKKH-ABE8e and sgRNA targeting the exon 1 splice donor of human *PCSK9* were injected into humanized mice containing the human *PCSK9* sequence⁵⁵. Similarly, AAV8 encoding SaKKH-ABE8e, SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W), or SauriABE8e and editor-matched sgRNA targeting exon 1 splice donor of mouse *Pcsk9* or SaKKH-ABE8e and sgRNA targeting the exon 6 splice donor of mouse *Angptl3* were injected to wild-type C57BL/6J mice. After four weeks bulk liver tissue was analyzed by HTS. These treatments achieved 44%, 54%, 46%, and 61% base editing of bulk liver tissue for human *PCSK9* using SaKKH-ABE8e, mouse *Pcsk9* using SaKKH-ABE8e, mouse *Pcsk9* using SauriABE8e, and mouse *Angptl3* using SaKKH-ABE8e, respectively (FIG. 5B). The relative editing efficiency of each target in cultured HEK293T and N2A cells (FIGs. 9A-9C) paralleled relative editing efficiencies *in vivo* (FIG. 5B). SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W), which uses a mutant of evolved TadA-8e deaminase that reduces guide-independent DNA and mRNA off-target editing⁷⁶, maintained high editing efficiency *in vivo*. These single-AAV *in vivo* base editing efficiencies approached those of reported LNP-

mediated ABE mRNA liver delivery methods targeting *Pcsk9* and *Angptl3* reported in pre-clinical studies in mice^{41,58}.

[00404] The editing activity of single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e (1×10^{11} vg) targeting the *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor was compared to the previously optimized³⁴ dual AAV split-intein SpABE8e architecture paired with an SpCas9 sgRNA validated to efficiently edit and knockdown *Pcsk9* *in vivo*^{41,59} by targeting the same splice donor. Single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e and dual-AAV8 SpABE8e were administered at the same total dose per mouse to 6- to 8-week-old C57BL/6J mice at three doses (1×10^{11} vg, 1×10^{10} vg, or 1×10^9 vg total AAV per mouse). The disruption of *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor was measured in liver four weeks after administration by HTS. The maximum vg/kg dose used (5×10^{12} vg/kg for a 20-g mouse) was comparable to or lower than those used in gene therapy non-human primate studies and human clinical trials^{6,60}. It was observed that the single- and dual-AAV ABE systems performed similarly at each dose, with the single-AAV yielding 54%, 38%, and 3.7% average editing in liver at a dose of 1×10^{11} vg, 1×10^{10} vg, and 1×10^9 vg, respectively (FIG. 4C), and editing via dual-AAV SpABE8e in liver at the same dose of AAV averaging 57%, 35%, and 1.0%, respectively. There were no significant difference at any dose by unpaired t-test. These results showed that single-AAV ABE performed comparably to the highly active previously optimized dual-AAV SpABE8e at a range of doses at a therapeutically relevant locus³⁴. Dual SpABE8e editing data has also been reported in Banskota *et al.* Engineered virus-like particles for efficient *in vivo* delivery of therapeutic proteins. *Cell* 185(2):250-265 (2022), which is incorporated herein by reference.

[00405] To investigate the modest apparent editing efficiency improvement of the single-AAV platform relative to split SpABE8e in liver, editing by single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e and dual-AAV8 intein-split SaKKH-ABE8e with matched promoter and polyA signal by systemic retro-orbital delivery to 6-8 week old C57BL/6 mice were compared at two doses (FIG. 5D). Single and dual-AAV intein-split SaKKH-ABE8e showed similar editing frequencies at the high dose of 1×10^{11} vg (50% and 46%, respectively, not significant by unpaired t-test); however, the dual-AAV intein-split SaKKH-ABE8e showed markedly reduced activity compared to single-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e at a lower dose of 1×10^{10} vg (5.2% versus 29%, respectively, $P=0.0004$). These data indicate that single-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e may perform similarly to optimized dual-AAV SpABE8e under conditions in which AAV transduction is already at or near saturation. This observation may be due to the higher activity of SpABE8e and/or increased activity afforded by cis-regulatory elements that may

be included with the extra space on two AAV genomes overcoming the limitations of intein-splitting and two transduction events. For applications in which AAV transduction is well below saturation, however, single-AAV delivery can result in substantial editing efficiency improvements. The integrity of AAV genomes packaged in single-AAV ABEs was also assessed. The results of alkaline gel electrophoresis of single-AAV ABEs and smaller intein-split dual-AAV ABEs (FIG. 21) indicated that single-AAV ABEs can efficiently package full-length and truncated genomic species, consistent with their size being at or near the AAV packaging limit¹⁹.

Example 3

*Reduction in circulating protein and lipids upon editing of *Pcsk9* and *Angptl3**

[00406] To assess whether the efficient editing observed in the liver translated into efficient target gene knockdown and concomitant reduction in circulating lipid levels, editor treated mice were serially bled and plasma levels of the targeted protein and total cholesterol were measured. A non-targeting control of dual AAV ABE7.10 targeting *Dnmt1*, an edit not expected to affect cholesterol or lipid metabolism, was included for comparison (FIGs. 11A and 11B). Complete protein knockdown in all experimental conditions at a dose of 1×10^{11} vg (5×10^{12} vg/kg) single-AAV SaABE8e or SaKKH-ABE8e was observed by four weeks, with most knockdown evident by two weeks (FIGs. 5D-5F). *Dnmt1* encodes DNA methyltransferase 1. On average, single-AAV ABE treatment at this dose resulted in 99%, 91%, and 94% knockdown of human PCSK9, mouse *Pcsk9*, and mouse *Angptl3* protein levels, respectively, compared to control animals treated with AAV encoding the *Dnmt1*-targeting guide RNA. The knockdown of these proteins matched the results achieved by reported LNP-mediated ABE mRNA delivery to the liver^{41,58}. This high level of protein knockdown is also consistent with observed editing levels (FIG. 4B) since the hepatocytic tropism of AAV8⁵⁸ and the fact that hepatocytes constitute roughly 70% of the murine liver⁵⁷ imply that 44-61% editing in bulk liver tissue corresponds to about 60-85% base editing in hepatocyte cells.

[00407] Protein knockdown resulted in decreased circulating cholesterol in all ABE treated mice (FIGs. 5G-5I). Plasma total cholesterol in human *PCSK9*-targeted mice decreased by 24% from baseline levels to 45 mg/dL after 4 weeks. At the highest AAV dose in *Pcsk9*-targeted mice, plasma cholesterol was lowered by an average of 25% compared to age-matched nontargeting controls to 53 mg/dL after four weeks (FIGs. 5H and 13E) nearing the

degree of cholesterol lowering observed in liver-specific *Pcsk9* knockout mice⁶¹. For *Angptl3* targeted mice, a 38% decrease in plasma cholesterol was observed compared to age-matched nontargeting controls to 44 mg/dL. These results demonstrated substantial lowering of cholesterol using single-AAV ABEs.

[00408] The dose-dependence of AAV dose and editing was assessed on circulating *Pcsk9* and total cholesterol. Knockdown of mouse *Pcsk9* and the decrease in total plasma cholesterol was dose-dependent and closely reflected the level of editing observed at each dose (FIGs 12A-12B, 13A-13E). Dual-SpABE8e, which effected editing levels similar to single AAV ABE8e, also resulted in decreased plasma cholesterol in a dose-dependent manner (FIGs. 12C-12D). For both single- and dual-AAV ABEs targeting mouse *Pcsk9*, cholesterol and protein knockdown correlated closely with editing percentage, regardless of editor type administered.

[00409] Plasma triglycerides were measured in *Angptl3*-targeted mice, as loss-of-function alleles of *Angptl3* are known to reduce levels of both cholesterol and triglycerides⁶². In the *Angptl3*-targeted mice, a 45% decrease in circulating triglycerides was observed compared to nontargeting control to 25 mg/dL after four weeks (FIG. 5K). The editing and reduction of circulating *Angptl3*, cholesterol, and triglycerides achieved here with single AAV ABE is likely the highest reported upon targeted genome editing to knockdown *Angptl3*^{58,63}.

Together, these results demonstrate robust base editing at multiple therapeutically relevant loci achieved with single-AAV ABEs, resulting in strong effects on target protein level and metabolic changes in adult mice.

Additional Editing Experiments: Off-Target Effects

[00410] Lastly, liver morphology and off-target editing in mice treated with single-AAV ABEs was assessed. Histology performed on livers from mice treated with single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e and guide targeting PCSK9 exon 1 donor at 1×10^{11} vg four weeks after administration did not indicate morphological changes relative to untreated mice (FIGs. 19A and 19B).

[00411] As shown in FIGs. 15-17, on-target editing of single-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e was comparable to, or better than, on-target editing of dual-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e, at the *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor site. The results of the on-target editing comparison is shown in FIG. 14. Indel rates approached 0% for this experiment.

[00412] Although off-target editing in cell culture has been characterized for SaCas9-based genome editing agents, no off-target editing in tissues treated with SaCas9-based editing agents *in vivo* has been reported^{22,74}. To assess single-AAV ABEs *in vivo* off-target editing, the liver tissue of 6- to 8-week-old C57BL/6J mice treated with 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e, 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W), or 5×10^{10} vg of each half of dual-AAV8 intein-split SaKKH-ABE8e targeting mouse *Pcsk9* exon 1 four weeks after administration of these three editors. The top three computationally predicted sites^{77,78} from these livers were sequenced. A low but detectable (up to 0.45%) dose-dependent frequency of editing was at one off-target site *in vivo* for single-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e was observed (FIGs. 16A and 16B). This suggests the importance of considering off-target editing outcomes when using single-AAV ABEs, even though observed off-target editing was relatively rare at the sites examined.

[00413] This *in vivo* off-target editing was ameliorated by administration of a single-AAV SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W) variant, which has been reported to lower guide-independent DNA off-target editing and mRNA off-target editing^{30,76}. It was also ameliorated by administration of dual-AAV intein-split SaKKH-ABE8e, which may be due to inherent lower overall activity of intein-linked ABE8e, or the lower dose of complete base editors, although no significant difference between full-length or intein-split SpABE8e off-target editing in N2A cells by plasmid transfection *in vitro* was observed (FIG. 16B). As shown in FIG. 16C, HEK293T cells were transfected with plasmids encoding full-length SpABE8e or intein-split SpABE8e and sgRNA targeting the human PCSK9 exon 1 splice donor site. CIRCLE-seq predicted off-targets were analyzed three days after transfection by high-throughput DNA sequencing (HTS).

[00414] Next, we assessed *in vivo* off-target mRNA editing resulting from treatment of mice with single AAV8-encoded SaKKH-ABE8e editors by analyzing cDNA amplicons of mouse homologs of validated ABE mRNA off-target human amplicons⁷⁶, some containing partial TadA recognition sequences. In particular, adult C57BL/6J mice were injected retro-orbitally with 1×10^{11} vg single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e with sgRNA targeting the *Pcsk9* exon 1 splice donor site or saline. At four weeks after injection, RNA was isolated from liver tissue and reverse transcribed. cDNA amplicons *Aars*, *Canx/IP90*, *Ctnnb*, and *Usp38* were analyzed by HTS. No off-target mRNA editing was observed compared to untreated mice (FIGs. 22A-22D). In particular, no significant increases in mRNA off-target editing in livers from single-AAV ABE treated-mice relative those from untreated mice were observed, across the four

measured cDNAs. These results suggest that single-AAV ABEs maintain low levels of off-target DNA and RNA editing *in vivo* for the guide RNA tested, and that deaminase mutations can further minimize off-target editing *in vivo*.

[00415] Finally, an analysis of the width of the editing windows of the disclosed AAV-encoded base editors was performed. ABEs were delivered by AAV8 at a total dose of 1×10^{11} vg by retro-orbital injection and liver was harvested at 4 weeks post injection for HTS. As shown in FIG. 18, the editing windows of SaKKH-ABE8e and SauriABE8e are as large as 13 nucleotides, which constitutes wide editing windows.

[00416] Overall, these results suggest that on-target editing is comparable for single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e, single-AAV8 SaKKH-ABE8e(V106W), and dual-AAV8 intein-split SaKKH-ABE8e.

Discussion

[00417] By minimizing the size of adenine base editors and AAV components, a suite of single-AAV adenine base editor systems was developed that support robust editing *in vivo* and have broad targeting capability due to their collective PAM compatibility. Single-AAV ABE supported base editing efficiencies of up to 66%, 33%, and 22% editing in liver, heart, and muscle, respectively, and outperformed dual-AAV approaches especially when tissue type or AAV dose prevented saturating levels of transduction. The largest editing efficiency increases compared to dose-matched dual-AAV were 2.1-fold in heart and 2.5-fold in skeletal muscle, potentially due to the relatively lower transduction efficiency in these tissues. These findings suggested that a single AAV platform may be especially preferable when targeting non-liver tissues such as heart and skeletal muscle, or when toxicity limits AAV dosage (FIG. 2C).

[00418] Single-AAV ABEs having serotypes AAV8 and AAV9 were packaged in multiple serotypes which facilitated editing in a variety of tissues and cell types outside the liver or with alternate administration routes. Even for base editing in the liver, the organ for which LNP-mediated mRNA delivery is the most potent, single-AAV ABEs resulted in editing efficiencies, target protein knockdown, and desired phenotypic changes comparable to reported preclinical LNP-mediated mRNA delivery efforts^{41,59}. In organs such as the heart for which LNP-mediated delivery is not particularly efficient, the single-AAV systems described herein may prove especially useful.

[00419] Single-AAV base editor delivery is currently limited to ABEs that use small Cas enzymes $\leq \sim 3.2$ kb in gene size. The activity of a variety of size-reduced ABEs that together

cover a targetable genome similar to that targetable by SpCas9-ABE has been demonstrated. It is estimated that roughly 82% of genomic adenines can be edited using the suite of size-minimized ABEs described in this disclosure. While a small fraction can be targeted without any bystander edits, for many applications, bystander editing may be acceptable, for example, because it results in silent or benign mutations, because the target is in a non-coding regulatory sequence, or because the application seeks to disrupt the function of a sequence. Further work to analyze single-AAV base editors that exhibit sequence context preferences or altered activity window locations^{48,64} would further broaden the applicability of single-AAV in vivo base editing and is ongoing.

[00420] The single-AAV ABE systems described herein yielded robust editing efficiencies *in vivo*, facilitating therapeutically relevant levels of editing in liver, heart, and muscle tissue at moderate doses of AAV. While AAV allow targeting of tissues inaccessible with technologies such as LNPs, toxicity associated with AAV was recognized in NHPs and in clinical trials at high doses^{65,66}. Animal studies have also indicated that AAV genomic integration may lead to hepatocellular carcinoma⁶⁷, although a causal link between liver tumors and AAV has not been established in humans treated with recombinant AAV vectors^{68,69}. While the therapeutic landscape of AAV continues to be explored, these limitations suggest the potential safety advantages of highly potent editing agents that limit the amount of AAV required to achieve therapeutic target editing levels. Immune responses to gene editing agents delivered via AAV have not been thoroughly characterized in large animal models. Early data indicated that stable genome editing using non-native nucleases expressed from AAV was achievable in non-human primates without major adverse effects, although, some loss of edited hepatocytes was observed⁷⁰. Systems for inducible expression of editing agents⁷¹ and alternative delivery vectors such as engineered virus-like particles (eVLPs)^{2,72,73} could also be incorporated with administration of size-reduced base editors.

Methods

Molecular biology

[00421] Expression vectors for tissue culture were cloned using KLD, Gibson, or USER assembly. sgRNA expression plasmids were cloned via KLD or Goldengate assembly to install the protospacers as indicated in Table 1. Base editor plasmids were cloned via USER assembly or Gibson assembly of PCR-amplified fragments. Plasmids encoding rAAV genomes were cloned by Gibson assembly of plasmid restriction fragments and PCR amplicons with Gibson-compatible overhangs. All plasmids for mammalian tissue culture

experiments were purified using Plasmid Plus Maxiprep or Midiprep kits (Qiagen), ZymoPURE II Midiprep kit (Zymo Research) or PureYield plasmid miniprep kits (Promega).

Culture and transfection of HEK293T and N2A cells

[00422] HEK293T cells (ATCC CRL-3216) and Neuro-2A cells (ATCC CCL-131) were maintained in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium plus GlutaMax (Thermo Fisher Scientific) supplemented with 10% (v/v) FBS at 37 °C with 5% CO₂. 16–24 hours before transfection, HEK293T cells or N2A cells were seeded on 96-well plates (Corning) at 1.4×10^4 – 2.0×10^4 cells/well at >90% viability, or for SauriABE transfections, HEK293T cells were seeded in 48-well plates (Corning) at 4.0×10^4 cells/well, >90% viability. Cells in 96-well plates were transfected at approximately 70–85% confluency with 0.5 µL of Lipofectamine 2000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and 187.5 ng of base editor plasmid, 37.5 ng of sgRNA plasmid per well (180 ng editor and 60 ng sgRNA for SauriABE8e). Cells in 48-well plates were transfected with 1.5 µL Lipofectamine 2000 with 750 ng editor and 250 µL sgRNA. Cells were cultured for 72 hours after transfection. Next, the media was removed, cells were washed with 1× PBS (Thermo Fisher Scientific), and genomic DNA was extracted by addition of 30–60 µL lysis buffer [10mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5–8.0, 0.05% SDS, 20 µg/mL Proteinase K (New England Biolabs)] per well for 96 well plates and 150 µL per well for 48 well plates. Genomic DNA was stored temporarily at 4 °C or longer term at –20 °C until further use.

High throughput sequencing and data analysis

[00423] Genomic DNA was amplified by PCR using Phusion Hot Start II DNA polymerase or Phusion U Hot Start DNA polymerase with 0%–3% DMSO added. Barcodes for Illumina sequencing were added via a second PCR step, using 1 µL of the first PCR as a template. Total PCR cycles were kept to a minimum to avoid PCR bias. Barcoded PCR products were pooled according to amplicon. The gel was extracted (MinElute; Qiagen) and quantified by qPCR (KAPA; KK4824) or Qubit dsDNA HS Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Sequencing of pooled libraries was performed using Illumina MiSeq according to the manufacturer's instructions. Primers for amplification of each locus from genomic DNA are compiled in Table 3.

[00424] Sequencing reads were demultiplexed using MiSeq Reporter (Illumina). Alignment of amplicon sequences to reference sequence was performed using CRISPResso2⁷⁸ with “discard_indel_reads” on. For quantification of base editing, efficiency was calculated as percentage of (reads containing an A to G edit at given position without indels)/(number of

total reads). Indels were calculated explicitly as (discarded reads)/(total aligned reads) $\times$ 100. Base editing at a given position was calculated explicitly as: (frequency of specified point mutation in non-discarded reads) $\times$ 100 $\times$ (100 – (indel reads))/100).

AAV production

[00425] AAV was produced as previously described³⁵. HEK293T clone 17 cells (ATCC CRL-11268) were maintained in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium plus GlutaMax (Thermo Fisher Scientific) supplemented with 10% (v/v) FBS without antibiotic in 150-mm dishes (Thermo Fisher Scientific; 157150) at 37 °C with 5% CO₂ and passaged every 2–3 days. Cells were split 1:3 the day before polyethyleneimine transfection with 5.7 μ g AAV genome plasmid, 11.4 μ g pHelper (Chlontech) and 22.8 μ g rep-cap plasmid per plate. Media was exchanged for DMEM 5% FBS the day after transfection. Four days after transfection, cells and media were collected using a rubber cell scraper (Corning), pelleted by centrifugation at 2000 g for 10 minutes, resuspended in 500 μ L hypertonic lysis buffer per plate [40 mM Tris base, 500 mM NaCl, 2 mM MgCl₂ and 100 U/mL salt active nuclease (ArcticZymes; 70910-202)] and incubated at 37 °C for 1 hour to lyse the cells. The media was decanted and combined with a 5 $\times$ solution of 40% poly(ethylene glycol) 8,000 (PEG 8k, Sigma-Aldrich 89510) in 2.5 M NaCl for a final concentration of 8% PEG/500 mM NaCl, incubated on ice for 2 hours, and then centrifuged at 3200 g for 30 minutes. The pellet was resuspended in 500 μ L of hypertonic lysis buffer per plate and added to the cell lysate. Crude lysates were either incubated at 4 °C overnight or taken immediately to ultracentrifugation.

[00426] Cell lysates were clarified by centrifugation at 2,000g for 10 minutes and added to Beckman Quick-Seal tubes via 16-gauge 5 inch disposable needles (Air-Tite N165). A discontinuous iodixanol gradient was formed by sequentially floating layers: 9 ml 15% iodixanol in 500 mM NaCl and 1 $\times$ PBS-MK (1 $\times$ PBS plus 1 mM MgCl₂ and 2.5 mM KCl), 6 ml 25% iodixanol in 1 $\times$ PBS-MK, and 5 mL each of 40% and 60% iodixanol in 1 $\times$ PBS-MK. Phenol red at a final concentration of 1 μ g/mL was added to the 15, 25 and 60% layers to facilitate identification. Ultracentrifugation was performed using a Ti 70 rotor in a Sorvall wX+ Ultracentrifuge (Thermo Scientific) at 58,000 rpm for 2 hours 15 minutes at 18 °C. Immediately following centrifugation, 3 mL of solution was withdrawn from the 40–60% iodixanol interface via an 18-gauge needle. The solution was exchanged into cold PBS containing 0.001% F-68 using PES 100 kD MWCO columns (Thermo Scientific, Pierce 88533) and concentrated. The concentrated AAV solution was sterile filtered using a 0.22 μ m

filter, quantified by qPCR (AAVpro Titration Kit version 2; Clontech), and stored at 4 °C until use.

Animals

[00427] All experiments in live animals were approved by the Broad Institute and University of Pennsylvania Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees and were consistent with local, state, and federal regulations as applicable, including the National Institutes of Health Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. C57BL/6J mice (stock no. 000664) for use in experiments were purchased from The Jackson Laboratory. Humanized PCSK9 mice were reported previously⁵⁷. All mice were housed in a room maintained on a 12-hour light and dark cycle with *ad libitum* access to standard rodent diet and water except for 4-hour fasts just prior to bleeds for plasma analysis.

Retro-orbital injections

[00428] AAV was diluted into 100 µL of sterile 0.9% NaCl USP (Fresenius Kabi; 918610) before injection. Anesthesia was induced with 2-4% isoflurane. Following induction, as measured by unresponsiveness to bilateral toe pinch, the right eye was protruded by gentle pressure on the skin, and an insulin syringe was advanced, with the bevel facing away from the eye, into the retrobulbar sinus where AAV solution was slowly injected. One drop of Proparacaine Hydrochloride Ophthalmic Solution (Patterson Veterinary; 07-885-9765) was then applied to the eye as an analgesic. At harvest, mice were euthanized by carbon dioxide asphyxiation. Genomic DNA was purified from minced tissue using gDNAAdvance kit (Beckman Coulter A48705) according to the manufacturer's instructions and used as template for high throughput sequencing. RNA was purified from 30 mg of snap frozen liver tissue with RNeasy Plus Mini kit (Qiagen 74134) according to the manufacturer's instructions, then reverse transcribed to cDNA using SuperScript III first-strand synthesis supermix (Invitrogen 18080-450) with an oligo dT primer, which was used as template for high-throughput sequencing.

Digital droplet PCR

[00429] Genomic DNA was purified from tissue using Beckman gDNAAdvance kit (Beckman Coulter A48705) according to the manufacturer's instructions and used as template for digital droplet PCR. ddPCR was carried out using ddPCR Supermix for Probes (BioRad 1863026) with 10 ng of genomic DNA as template and 3 units NEB EcoRI-HF (R3101S) per reaction. Droplets were autogenerated and PCR was performed at an annealing and extension temperature of 61 °C for 2 minutes for a total of 60 cycles. Droplets were

analyzed on a QX200 droplet analyzer and droplet fluorescence was quantified using QuantaSoft (BioRad).

Calculation of targetable genomic adenosines

[00430] A custom Python script, shown in Example 5, was used to analyze the targetability of all adenosines in the hg38 human reference genome. An adenosine was counted as targetable if the surrounding genomic sequence context contained a small ABE8e-targetable PAM that would place that adenosine within an appropriate base editing window. The PAM sequences, protospacer lengths, and base editing windows associated with each small ABE8e variant are provided in in Table 4A (Example 4). The percentage of calculated genomic adenines on each chromosome is shown in Table 4B.

Blood collection and plasma analysis

[00431] Initial blood samples were collected following a 4-hour fast. Age-matched littermates/ colonymates were randomly assigned to experimental groups and administered AAV particles (n = 5) via retro-orbital injection. Blood samples were collected following a 4-hour fast at 1-week intervals via the tail tip. After 4 weeks, all mice were euthanized by carbon dioxide asphyxiation after a 4-hour fast. Whole livers were harvested for genomic DNA isolation and analysis and for hematoxylin/eosin staining, and terminal blood samples were collected.

[00432] Pre-treatment and post-treatment plasma human PCSK9, mouse Pcsk9, or mouse ANGPTL3 was measured using the Human Proprotein Convertase 9/PCSK9 Quantikine ELISA Kit, Mouse Proprotein Convertase 9/PCSK9 Quantikine ELISA Kit, or Human Angiopoietin-like 3 Quantikine ELISA Kit, respectively, according to the manufacturer's instructions (R&D Systems). Total cholesterol or triglyceride levels were measured using the Infinity Cholesterol Reagent or Infinity Triglycerides Reagent, respectively, according to the manufacturer's instructions (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

Liver tissue fixation & histology

[00433] A portion of the left medial lobe was fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde at 4 °C overnight, washed with PBS, then dehydrated gradually by serial substitution of PBS for 30%, 50%, 70%, then 100% ethanol. Samples were kept at -20 °C until analysis, when they were paraffinized by the Rodent Histopathology Core of Harvard Medical School. Liver paraffin block was then cut into 5 µm sections followed by hematoxylin and eosin staining for histopathological examination.

Alkaline gel electrophoresis of AAV genomes

[00434] 1% alkaline agarose gel (1% agarose in water with 50 mM NaOH and 1mM EDTA) was prepared by dissolving agarose in water, allowing to cool but not solidify, then adding a 50×solution of NaOH and EDTA. The formed gel was submerged in 1× alkaline running buffer (50 mM NaOH, 1 mM EDTA) in a submarine style gel electrophoresis setup at 4 °C. 5×10^{10} vg of AAV was treated with DNase I (NEB M0303S) then lysed in 1× alkaline lysis buffer (50 mM NaOH, 1 mM EDTA, 0.3% SDS, 5% glycerol, 0.0025% xylene cyanol) for 3 minutes at 95 °C, then cooled on ice. Samples were loaded into the gel then electrophoresed at 20 V for 15 hours. The gel was neutralized in 0.1 M Tris pH 8 for 1 hour at 4 °C with rocking. The gel was stained in 4× SYBR Gold in 0.1 M NaCl at 4 °C with rocking protected from light. The gel was briefly washed with deionized water then imaged on a UV transilluminator.

Statistical analysis

[00435] Data are presented as mean and SEM unless otherwise noted. The number of independent replicates and statistical tests are described in the brief description of the drawings. All statistical tests were calculated using GraphPad Prism 9.

Example 4

[00436] Table 1: sgRNA protospacer and PAM sequences used in the Examples

Figure	Site ID	Protospacer sequence	PAM
Fig 1	Sa-W8R	GCCACCGCAGCCACGCAGAGCA (SEQ ID NO: 430)	GTGGGT
3a	Site 1 TS90-GAPDH	GCAAGAGCACAAAGAGGAAGAGAG (SEQ ID NO: 432)	AGACCC
3a	Site 2 TS89-SEC61B	GCCCTCATCTCCAATATGGTATGG (SEQ ID NO: 434)	CGGCCC (
3a	Site 3 TS88-FANCF	GAGGCAAGAGGGCGGCTTTGGGCG (SEQ ID NO: 436)	GGGTCC
3a	Site 4 TS72-LINC01588	GACCAGCCCCTCGAAGGCAAGGCC (SEQ ID NO: 720)	AGGACC
3a	Site 5 TS81-LSP1	TATGTTCCAGCTTCCTGGGTCTGC (SEQ ID NO: 440)	AGGTCC
3a	Site 6 Nme10-EMX1	GGACCCTCTCCATTCTACCCCT (SEQ ID NO: 442)	GGGTCC
3a	Site 7 Nme91-SpRY-NCAC-1	GTTTGTCCCCACAGTCCCCAGGGA (SEQ ID NO: 444)	AAAGCC
3a	Site 8 TS71	GCGCAAAGCTGCATCCACCCCCCG (SEQ ID NO: 446)	AGGACC

Figure	Site ID	Protospacer sequence	PAM
3a	Site 9 Nme99	GCTGGCCGCCAGCCCAGTTGTAGC (SEQ ID NO: 721)	ACCGCC
3a	Site 10 TS75	GTTCCCCTTCATTGCGGCGGGCTG (SEQ ID NO: 450)	CGGGCC
3b	Site 11 Cj63-AAVS1	GATTGTGCTGTCAGGAGCTCGG (SEQ ID NO: 452)	GGGAGT AC
3b	Site 12 Cj56-AAVS1	GAGTAGAGGCGGCCACGACCTG (SEQ ID NO: 454)	GTGAAC AC
3b	Site 13 Cj672-RNF2	TCCTAATCCCTTGCACAGGGTC (SEQ ID NO: 456)	TGGCAT AC
3b	Site 14 CJ725-HEK4	GGTCCAAAGCAGGATGACAGGC (SEQ ID NO: 458)	AGGGGG CAC
3b	Site 15 Cj57-AAVS1	GGAGTGTGACAGCCTGGGGCCC (SEQ ID NO: 460)	AGGCAC AC
3b	Site 16 Cj61-AAVS1	AGCTGCAGCACCAGGATCAGTG (SEQ ID NO: 462)	AAACGC AC
3b	Site 17 Cj62-AAVS1	GAGGTGGCTAAAGCCAGGGAGA (SEQ ID NO: 464)	CGGGGT AC
3b	Site 18 Cj58	GTGGGGTGAGGAGAAGGCTGGG (SEQ ID NO: 466)	AGGGAT AC
3b	Site 19 Cj59	GCAGGAGGTTTTCTTGTGGCA (SEQ ID NO: 468)	GGAGAT AC
3c	Site 20 Sauri-HEK2	GGAACACAAAGCATAGACTGC (SEQ ID NO: 470)	GGGG
3c	Site 21 Sauri-HEK3	GGGGCCCAGACTGAGCACGTG (SEQ ID NO: 472)	ATGG
3c	Site 22 Sauri-RNF2	GCAGTCATCTTAGTCATTACCT (SEQ ID NO: 474)	GAGG
3c	Site 23 Sauri-EMX1	GCTGAGTCCGAGCAGAAGAAGA (SEQ ID NO: 476)	AGGG
3c	Site 24 Sauri-FANCF	GATGGAATCCCTTCTGCAGCAC (SEQ ID NO: 722)	CTGG
3c	Site 25 HEK4	GTGGCACTGCGGCTGGAGGTG (SEQ ID NO: 480)	GGGG
3c	Site 26 GAPDH	CCAGCCCCAGCAAGAGCACAA (SEQ ID NO: 733)	GAGG
3c	Site 27 SEC61B	CCTCATCTCCAATATGGTATG (SEQ ID NO: 734)	GCGG
3c	Site 28 ABE8e Site 1	GGACAAACCAGAAGCCGCTCC (SEQ ID NO: 735)	TGGG
3c	Site 29 ABE8e Site 7	CAGTCATCTTAGTCATTACCT (SEQ ID NO: 488)	GAGG
4b	PCSK9 exon 1 donor SaKKH	GCCTACACCCGCACCTTGGCGC (SEQ ID NO: 490)	AGCGGT
4b	Pcsk9 exon 1 donor SaKKH	GCCATACCTTGGAGCAACGGCG (SEQ ID NO: 492)	GAAGGT

Figure	Site ID	Protospacer sequence	PAM
4b	Pcsk9 exon 1 donor Sauri	GCACCCATACCTTGGAGCAACG (SEQ ID NO: 494)	GCGG
4b	Angptl3 exon 6 donor SaKKH	GAGATACCTGAGTAACTTTCTG (SEQ ID NO: 496)	GACAGT
4c	Pcsk9 exon 1 donor Sp	GCCCATACCTTGGAGCAACGG (SEQ ID NO: 498)	CGG
6	Sa-W8R	GCCACCGCAGCCACGCAGAGCA (SEQ ID NO: 500)	GTGGGT
6	SaKKH-T89A	ATGGAGGAGACCCAGAGGCT (SEQ ID NO: 502)	ACAGAT
6	SaKKH-Q259R	GCTCAACTGTCAAGGGAAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 504)	CACAGT
6	SaKKH-Q343N	GCCACGAATGCCAGGACCA (SEQ ID NO: 506)	GCCAGT
9a	PCSK9_exon1_start_SaKKH	GGTGCCCATGAGGGCCAGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 508)	AGAGGT
9a	PCSK9_exon1_don_SaSaKKH	GCACCCGCACCTTGGCGCAGCG (SEQ ID NO: 510)	GTGGAA
9a	PCSK9_exon1_don_SaKKH	GCCTACACCCGCACCTTGGCGC (SEQ ID NO: 512)	AGCGGT
9a	PCSK9_exon3_acc_SaKKH	GTTGCATGGGGCCAGGATCCGT (SEQ ID NO: 514)	GGAGGT
9a	PCSK9_exon4_don_SaKKH	GAGATGGGGGTCTTACCGGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 516)	GCTGGT
9a	PCSK9_exon5_acc_SaKKH	GCCTTGAAAGACGGAGGCAG (SEQ ID NO: 518)	CCTGGT
9a	PCSK9_exon5_don_Sa	GCGTGCTTACCTGTCTGTGGAA (SEQ ID NO: 520)	GCGGGT
9a	PCSK9_exon5_don_SaSaKKH	GACGGCCGTGCTTACCTGTCTG (SEQ ID NO: 522)	TGGAAG
9a	PCSK9_exon6_acc_SaKKH	GTCGAGCAGGCCAGCAAGTGT (SEQ ID NO: 524)	GACAGT
9a	PCSK9_exon9_acc_SaKKH	GCCCTGCACCAGGCATTGCAGC (SEQ ID NO: 526)	CATGAT
9a	PCSK9_exon9_don_Sa	GCCATCCTGCTTACCTGCCCC (SEQ ID NO: 528)	ATGGGT
5b	Pcsk9_exon1_start_SaKKH	GTGGGTGCCCATCGGGGCGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 530)	AGAGGT
9b	Pcsk9_exon1_don_SaKKH	GCCATACCTTGGAGCAACGGCG (SEQ ID NO: 532)	GAAGGT
9b	Pcsk9_exon2_don_SaKKH	GAAGATGGCTCACCAGGCCCA (SEQ ID NO: 534)	ACAGGT
9b	Pcsk9_exon3_don_SaKKH	GTACTGGGGACCTTACCAGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 536)	AGCGGT
9b	Pcsk9_exon4_acc_SaKKH	GCCATGGGAAGATGGAAGCAG (SEQ ID NO: 538)	CCAGGT

Figure	Site ID	Protospacer sequence	PAM
9b	Pcsk9_exon8_acc_Sa	GTGTACCTCCAGGCATTGTGGC (SEQ ID NO: 540)	TCGGAT
9b	Pcsk9_exon8_don_Sa	GCCATCCTGCTCACCTGTCTC (SEQ ID NO: 542)	ATGGGT
9b	Pcsk9_exon9_don_SaKKH	GAGACAGGGTCGGGCACCTCAA (SEQ ID NO: 544)	TCCAAT
9c	Angptl3_exon1_start_SaKKH	GTGAGACAAAAAATGCACACAA (SEQ ID NO: 546)	TTAAAT
9c	Angptl3_exon1_don_Sa	GTGCTGTGATTCTACTTACT (SEQ ID NO: 548)	TTGAGT
9c	Angptl3_exon1_don_SaKKH	GCTGTGATTCTACTTACTTTG (SEQ ID NO: 550)	AGTGAT
9c	Angptl3_exon3_acc_SaKKH	GTTCTTTTATCAGCTCAGAAAG (SEQ ID NO: 552)	ACTGGT
9c	Angptl3_exon4_don_Sa	GTGTTTCCATGGGTTTACCTGA (SEQ ID NO: 554)	TTGGGT
9c	Angptl3_exon4_don_SaKKH	GTGGGTTTACCTGATTGGGTAT (SEQ ID NO: 556)	CACAGT
9c	Angptl3_exon5_acc_SaKKH	GCTCTCCAGGCAGTCCATGGAC (SEQ ID NO: 558)	ATTAAT
9c	Angptl3_exon6_don_SaKKH	GAGATACCTGAGTAACTTTCTG (SEQ ID NO: 560)	GACAGT
10B	Sauri_Pcsk9_exon1_don_Klienstiver	GCACCCATACCTTGGAGCAACG (SEQ ID NO: 562)	GCGG
10B	Sauri_Pcsk9_exon1_don_Ran	GCACCCATACCTTGGAGCAACG (SEQ ID NO: 564)	GCGG

[00437] Table 2: sgRNA scaffolds

Editor	Scaffold sequence
SaABE8e	GTTTTAGTACTCTGTAATGAAAATTACAGAATCTACTAAAACAAG GCAAAATGCCGTGTTTATCTCGTCAACTTGTTGGCGAGATTTTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 566)
SaKKH-ABE8e	GTTTTAGTACTCTGTAATGAAAATTACAGAATCTACTAAAACAAG GCAAAATGCCGTGTTTATCTCGTCAACTTGTTGGCGAGATTTTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 567)
Nme2ABE8e	GTTGTAGCTCCCTTTCTCATTTTCGGAAACGAAATGAGAACCGTTGC TACAATAAGGCCGTCTGAAAAGATGTGCCGCAACGCTCTGCCCT TAAAGCTTCTGCTTTAAGGGGCATCGTTTATTTTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 568)
CjABE8e	GTTTTAGTCCCTGAAAAGGGACTAAAATAAAGAGTTTGCGGGACT CTGCGGGGTTACAATCCCCTAAAACCGCTTTTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 569)

SauriABE8 <i>e in vitro</i> ²	GTTTTAGTACTCTGGAAACAGAATCTACTAAAACAAGGCAAAATG CCGTGTTTATCTCGTCAACTTGTTGGCGAGATTTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 570)
SauriABE8 <i>e in vivo</i> ¹	GTTTTAGTACTCTGTAATGAAAATTACAGAATCTACTAAAACAAG GCAAAATGCCGTGTTTATCTCGTCAACTTGTTGGCGAGATTTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 571)

[00438] Table 3: Primer sequences used to amplify genomic DNA and cDNA for high throughput sequencing

Figure	Site ID	HTS bind Forward	HTS bind Reverse
Fig 1	Pcsk9-W8R	GGCGTCCATGTCCTTCCC GA (SEQ ID NO: 572)	ACATGTGCGGCCTCATCAGC CA (SEQ ID NO: 573)
3a	Site 1 Nme2- TS90-GAPDH	GCTCAGAAAAAGGGCCC TGA (SEQ ID NO: 574)	GAGATTCAGTGTGGTGGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 575)
3a	Site 2 Nme2- TS89- SEC61B	AACTTTCTATCCGTCCGC GT (SEQ ID NO: 576)	GGCTGTAGAGGGAGACAAG C (SEQ ID NO: 577)
3a	Site 3 Nme2- TS88-FANCF	GGGCCTGGAAGTTCGCT AAT (SEQ ID NO: 578)	TGGATCGCTTTTCCGAGCTT (SEQ ID NO: 579)
3a	Site 4 Nme2- TS72- LINC01588	ATTGCTCTTTTCTCCGCC CA (SEQ ID NO: 580)	TTCACAAAACAGGGGTGGCT (SEQ ID NO: 581)
3a	Site 5 Nme2- TS81-LSP1	GACGTCTTCTCCTGTGGT GG (SEQ ID NO: 582)	GGGTGTCTGGCTGGAATCTC (SEQ ID NO: 583)
3a	Site 6 Nme10- EMX1	CCCCCGCACTCCTTCTTC (SEQ ID NO: 584)	AATCTACCTCCGCGGACCT (SEQ ID NO: 585)
3a	Site 7 Nme91- SpRY-NCAC- 1	GGCTCCCTCTCCCAGTTA CCG (SEQ ID NO: 586)	CACCACCATCCGCTCTGCCC (SEQ ID NO: 587)
3a	Site 8 TS71	TTCAGGCTGTGAACCTTG GT (SEQ ID NO: 588)	CCGCTACCAGCCGACTTTTA A (SEQ ID NO: 589)
3a	Site 9 Nme99	GGTGGAAGGTCCCTCCA GA (SEQ ID NO: 590)	CCTTCAACCTGACCTGGGAC (SEQ ID NO: 591)
3a	Site 10 TS75	ATTGCTCTTTTCTCCGCC CA (SEQ ID NO: 592)	TTCACAAAACAGGGGTGGCT (SEQ ID NO: 593)
3b	Site 11 Cj63- AAVS1	AAAGAGGAAGCTGTCTC CGC (SEQ ID NO: 594)	AGTCTCAGCCAGCCACTTTC (SEQ ID NO: 595)
3b	Site 12 Cj56- AAVS1	GCTCTGGGCGGAGGAAT ATG (SEQ ID NO: 596)	TCCGTGCGTCAGTTTACCT (SEQ ID NO: 597)
3b	Site 13 Cj672- RNF2	GATCTGGACGAATAGTG TAGGTTAAG (SEQ ID NO: 598)	GCAAGTTGGTTGCTGTCTTTT GG (SEQ ID NO: 599)
3b	Site 14 CJ725- HEK4	GAACCCAGGTAGCCAGA GAC (SEQ ID NO: 600)	TCCTTTCAACCCGAACGGAG (SEQ ID NO: 601)

Figure	Site ID	HTS bind Forward	HTS bind Reverse
3b	Site 15 Cj57-AAVS1	GCTATGCAGGGTGGAGG AAG (SEQ ID NO: 602)	TGGACTTCGGCTTTTGTCCC (SEQ ID NO: 736)
3b	Site 16 Cj61-AAVS1	GGGACTAGAAAGGTGAA GAGCC (SEQ ID NO: 603)	GAGGATCCTGGGAGGGAGAG (SEQ ID NO: 604)
3b	Site 17 Cj62-AAVS1	GGGACTAGAAAGGTGAA GAGCC (SEQ ID NO: 737)	GAGGATCCTGGGAGGGAGAG (SEQ ID NO: 605)
3b	Site 18 Cj58	GGTCTTCGTTCTTGGCTG AT (SEQ ID NO: 606)	CTTTTCCCTTGGACCCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 607)
3b	Site 19 Cj59	ATCAAGGTCAACACAGG GGG (SEQ ID NO: 608)	TCACCATGTTGACCAGGCTG (SEQ ID NO: 609)
3c	Site 20 Sauri-HEK2	CCAGCCCCATCTGTCAA ACT (SEQ ID NO: 610)	CCGATCTTGAATGGATTCCTT GGAAACAATGA (SEQ ID NO: 611)
3c	Site 21 Sauri-HEK3	ATGTGGGCTGCCTAGAA AGG (SEQ ID NO: 612)	CCCAGCCAAACTTGTCAACC (SEQ ID NO: 613)
3c	Site 22 Sauri-RNF2	ACGTCTCATATGCCCCTT GG (SEQ ID NO: 614)	ACGTAGGAATTTTGGTGGGA CA (SEQ ID NO: 615)
3c	Site 23 Sauri-EMX1	CAGCTCAGCCTGAGTGTT GA (SEQ ID NO: 616)	CCGATCTCTCGTGGGTTTGTG GTTGC (SEQ ID NO: 617)
3c	Site 24 Sauri-FANCF	CATTGCAGAGAGGCGTA TCA (SEQ ID NO: 618)	GGGGTCCCAGGTGCTGAC (SEQ ID NO: 619)
3c	Site 25 HEK4	GAACCCAGGTAGCCAGA GAC (SEQ ID NO: 620)	TCCTTTCAACCCGAACGGAG (SEQ ID NO: 621)
3c	Site 26 GAPDH	GCTCAGAAAAAGGGCCC TGA (SEQ ID NO: 622)	GAGATTCAAGTGTGGTGGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 623)
3c	Site 27 SEC61B	AACTTTCTATCCGTCCGC GT (SEQ ID NO: 624)	GGCTGTAGAGGGAGACAAG C (SEQ ID NO: 625)
3c	Site 28 ABE8e Site 1	AGCCCTCTTTTATTGGA ACTGTG (SEQ ID NO: 626)	CCGACTGGTCCACTTACCTA (SEQ ID NO: 627)
3c	Site 29 ABE8e Site 7	AACGGAAGTCAACCATT AAGCA (SEQ ID NO: 628)	CCAACATACAGAAGTCAGGA ATGC (SEQ ID NO: 629)
4b	PCSK9 exon 1 donor	GCGCACGGCCTCTAGGT CT (SEQ ID NO: 630)	GAGGAAACAGCACCGCACC G (SEQ ID NO: 631)
4b	Pcsk9 exon 1 donor	GCGTCCATGTCCTTCCCG AG (SEQ ID NO: 632)	CCAACCCCAAAGCAACGCCG (SEQ ID NO: 633)
4b	Angptl3 exon 6 donor	TCACCTGGGCAGTCACG AAA (SEQ ID NO: 634)	ACACCATCAACATAGTGAGG AGAA (SEQ ID NO: 635)
6	Pcsk9-W8R	GGCGTCCATGTCCTTCCC GA (SEQ ID NO: 636)	ACATGTGCGGCCTCATCAGC CA (SEQ ID NO: 637)
6	Pcsk9-T89A	GATGAGGTCATGCTGGG GTCCT (SEQ ID NO: 638)	GTAGAACCTTGATGACATAG CCCC (SEQ ID NO: 639)
6	Pcsk9-Q259R	AGGAACTGTTCTCCTCAC TCCCA (SEQ ID NO: 640)	GCCTGACAGTGAGACCTTGC TTC (SEQ ID NO: 641)
6	Pcsk9-Q343N	TGTGGGAACTGGAGTTG GCTAGT (SEQ ID NO: 642)	CTGGACGCTCCGATGATGTC CTT (SEQ ID NO: 643)

Figure	Site ID	HTS bind Forward	HTS bind Reverse
9a	PCSK9_exon1	GAGGAAACAGCACCGCA CCG (SEQ ID NO: 644)	GAGGAAACAGCACCGCACC G (SEQ ID NO: 645)
9a	PCSK9_exon3 _acc	ACACCTAGGGTTTGCTG GGTTTCTT (SEQ ID NO: 646)	TATGCAGTGGCCCAGCCCTA TCA (SEQ ID NO: 647)
9a	PCSK9_exon4 _don	AGGCTGTGGCTGTGTTTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 648)	GGAAACCACCAGCAGGGAG G (SEQ ID NO: 649)
9a	PCSK9_exon5	CCAGTGCCTGGGATGTG CTCTG (SEQ ID NO: 650)	CAGGAGTACAGCTGCAACGC TC (SEQ ID NO: 651)
9a	PCSK9_exon6 _acc	TCCAGCCACCTGCTGATT TGT (SEQ ID NO: 652)	CCTCCCAGGCCAGGTCCAG (SEQ ID NO: 738)
9a	PCSK9_exon9	GCCGGGCCATCACCATC TTT (SEQ ID NO: 653)	CACACAGACCTCCCAAGCCC (SEQ ID NO: 654)
9b	Pcsk9_exon1	GCGTCCATGTCCTTCCCG AG (SEQ ID NO: 655)	CCAACCCCAAAGCAACGCCG (SEQ ID NO: 656)
9b	Pcsk9_exon2_ _don	GATTGAACAACTGCC ACCGC (SEQ ID NO: 657)	CAAGAGCCACAGGCGCTTAC TG (SEQ ID NO: 658)
9b	Pcsk9_exon3_ _don	TTGGGAAGAGGACGGGC AGA (SEQ ID NO: 659)	TGGGGAGGTGGACAGTCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 660)
9b	Pcsk9_exon4_ _acc	CCGTCTAATGCGTGGGG TGG (SEQ ID NO: 661)	GGCACGCTGTTGAAGTCGGT (SEQ ID NO: 662)
9b	Pcsk9_exon8	CCCTATATTTTGGGAAGC AGGGC (SEQ ID NO: 663)	AGAAAACCTTCCTGTGAGGC CA (SEQ ID NO: 664)
9b	Pcsk9_exon9_ _don	GGGTGCTCCCTCCACCCT AA (SEQ ID NO: 665)	AGGTGCTGCTCTCCAGCCAA (SEQ ID NO: 666)
9c	Angptl3_exon 1	GGAGGGAGAAAGTTCCAA ATTGCTTA (SEQ ID NO: 667)	CAGCTGCAGGAGGCCATTCG (SEQ ID NO: 668)
9c	Angptl3_exon 3_acc	TGACACACTTACCCAGC ATTCCCT (SEQ ID NO: 669)	ATTTTGTAGAGAAAAGTACC CGGAT (SEQ ID NO: 670)
9c	Angptl3_exon 4_don	GCCGACTGCTCTGCCGTT T (SEQ ID NO: 671)	CCCAGATTTGCGTGAATAAC CATTT (SEQ ID NO: 672)
9c	Angptl3_exon 5_acc	GCTAAAACCAAAGTCAA AACGGGT (SEQ ID NO: 673)	CCCATGTCAGTGCAACCAGC TA (SEQ ID NO: 674)
9c	Angptl3_exon 6_don	TCACCTGGGCAGTCACG AAA (SEQ ID NO: 675)	ACACCATCAACATAGTGAGG AGAA (SEQ ID NO: 676)
10A - 10B	Pcsk9_exon1	GCGTCCATGTCCTTCCCG AG (SEQ ID NO: 677)	CCAACCCCAAAGCAACGCCG (SEQ ID NO: 678)
12A - 12E	OT1	AACCCCAACACCTTGGC (SEQ ID NO: 679)	ACAGTCCACAGTCTAAGTGC AAA (SEQ ID NO: 680)

Figure	Site ID	HTS bind Forward	HTS bind Reverse
12A - 12E	OT2	TTTGGAGTGGCATATTTG ACAGCA (SEQ ID NO: 681)	TGTGGCACAGTGGGCCTTTA C (SEQ ID NO: 682)
12A - 12E	OT3	TCATGCTCTGCCCTGTAG GTA (SEQ ID NO: 683)	ATGGCATTTCATTTAAGCCTA ACTTC (SEQ ID NO: 684)
16C	OT1	AAGTATGTTGGGACCCTT GGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 685)	TGGCCTGTTCTACTGACTATG GGG (SEQ ID NO: 686)
16C	OT2	GACAGACACAGGGAAGC CTTGGG (SEQ ID NO: 687)	AACCTTCCAGGAGAGAGAAA CCTGT (SEQ ID NO: 688)
16C	OT4	TTCAAGCAATCACGAGA CACTCAG (SEQ ID NO: 689)	CCCACCACCCAGCAGCTTTA TTG (SEQ ID NO: 690)
16C	OT5	TCTCAGGCGACCTGGTTT CTGC (SEQ ID NO: 691)	TCTGCCAGATGCGTCCGATC A (SEQ ID NO: 692)
16C	OT6	GCCAGCCCTGCCTGGAA GTTAG (SEQ ID NO: 693)	TGACCTCCGGGATTCTCAGC CC (SEQ ID NO: 694)
16C	OT7	GCTTCCTGTCTGCAATTG GGGTCT (SEQ ID NO: 695)	AGTAGGTTGCGGGGCTCAGG A (SEQ ID NO: 696)
16C	OT9	AACCTCCACGGGGGTAT CTGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 697)	ACCTGGCAAGTGGGGTACTG G (SEQ ID NO: 698)
16C	OT10	GTCTAAATGGGCAAGCA ATCCCCT (SEQ ID NO: 699)	CCAGGATCCCACAGGGTCCT TCT (SEQ ID NO: 700)
16C	OT11	TCCCCAGAGCCCAGGGA ATATCA (SEQ ID NO: 701)	TGTTGCTCCGATGGAAGGAT GGG (SEQ ID NO: 702)
16C	OT13	CCACCAGAAGCGCCCCA GAA (SEQ ID NO: 703)	GGGGAATCGCCTCCACTGCC (SEQ ID NO: 704)
16C	OT14	GTTCTTATTGGCCAGGGA GCCTT (SEQ ID NO: 705)	CTCCCCAAGTGACAGGAACC ACG (SEQ ID NO: 706)
22A	cDNA_Canx/I p90	GGGTCTGGAATATACTC AGGTTCGT (SEQ ID NO: 707)	TGACCAGTCTGTTGTGAACA GTG (SEQ ID NO: 708)
22B	cDNA_Ctnnb 1	TGACCTGATGGAGTTGG ACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 709)	ACTTGCTCTTGCGTGAAGGA CT (SEQ ID NO: 710)
22C	cDNA_Usp38	ACAGGTCTTCCACAGAA GGGC (SEQ ID NO: 711)	ACTTGTTTACAAGAGGTGAC CAGT (SEQ ID NO: 712)
22D	cDNA_Aars	AGCCAGAATCCTCCCTG GCAA (SEQ ID NO: 713)	CAGAACACCATCCGACTCCC TGT (SEQ ID NO: 714)

[00439] Table 4A: Summary of the base editing activity windows of size-minimized ABEs developed in this manuscript and the percentages of targetable genomic adenines.

Variant	Protospacer length (nt)	PAM	Window (25% max)
SauriABE	21	NNGG (SEQ ID NO: 715)	5-15
SaKKHABE	21	NNNRRT (SEQ ID NO: 716)	2-13
CjABE	22	NNNV RYAC (SEQ ID NO: 717)	3-7, 9-13, 15
Nme2ABE	24	NNNNCC (SEQ ID NO: 718)	6, 9-13, 16-17

[00440] Table 4B: Window widths used for the calculation of targetable genomic adenines. Window widths are shown with respect to the standard protospacer lengths of each editor, with position 1 being defined as the 5' end of the protospacer.

	total_A	targetable_A	total_T	targetable_T	percent targetable
chr1	32546775	26685188	32599119	26731923	81.99612857
chr10	19549602	16072176	19566475	16079439	82.19539756
chr11	18530910	15213431	18548654	15231448	82.10689586
chr12	18869776	15364041	18905105	15390534	81.415412
chr13	15663586	12722581	15718153	12773277	81.24424845
chr14	13041618	10670545	13118537	10736532	81.83084924
chr15	11901023	9791465	11881736	9779219	82.2893761
chr16	10761831	8880058	10847090	8959068	82.55445054
chr17	10711334	8892175	10719812	8897966	83.01068454
chr18	11963020	9779925	12016805	9824978	81.75582182
chr19	5808203	4848031	5816556	4854410	83.46358836
chr2	36905447	30200054	36965508	30246198	81.82681813
chr20	8190084	6756662	8272621	6829290	82.52563598
chr21	5754013	4719119	5767220	4730454	82.01876483
chr22	4583339	3855516	4582999	3855167	84.11955789
chr3	29608996	24099572	29636045	24126868	81.40164845
chr4	29167021	23603218	29177885	23608189	80.91778741

	total_A	targetable_A	total_T	targetable_T	percent targetable
chr5	27049804	22032634	27155675	22123573	81.46078185
chr6	26137405	21311082	26196421	21367050	81.54980299
chr7	23255299	19020621	23243204	19007154	81.78279417
chr8	21395653	17440637	21361906	17416402	81.52251863
chr9	17364609	14209902	17335711	14192377	81.85019331
chrX	17917313	14524778	17926781	14532656	81.06616951
chrY	2994088	2426016	3002884	2431968	81.00728167
all	419670749	343119427	420362902	343726140	81.76405388

The percentage of genomic adenines targetable with one or more size-minimized ABEs developed in this study using the activity window definitions in (a).

[00441] Custom python script for calculating the targetable adenines in the human genome with small ABE8e targetable PAMs.

```
import re
from Bio import SeqIO
import Bio
from Bio.Seq import Seq
import pandas as pd

def is_targetable(sequence, A_position, window, PAM_seq, protospacer_length):
    #convert PAM to regex PAM
    regex_PAM =
PAM_seq.replace('N','[ATGC]').replace('R','[AG]').replace('Y','[CT]').replace(
'V','[AGC]')
    is_targetable = 0
    for coords in window:
        test_for_PAM = sequence[A_position + (protospacer_length - coords[1])
+ 1:A_position + (protospacer_length - coords[0]) + 1 + len(PAM_seq)]
        if [m.start() for m in re.finditer(regex_PAM, test_for_PAM)]:
            is_targetable = 1
```

```

    return is_targetable

genome_fa = '/Volumes/Storage/AR/ /genome_builds/hg38/hg38.fa'

records = SeqIO.to_dict(SeqIO.parse(genome_fa, 'fasta'))

keys = records.keys()

#store genome data as dict = {'chrN': (seq, reverse complement seq)}
sequences = {key: (str(records[key].seq), str(records[key].seq.reverse_complement())) for
key in records.keys()}

#output targetable counts as dict = {'chrN': {'targetable_A': int}, {'total_A': int}, {'total_A':
int}, {'targetable_T': int}, {'total_T': int}
output = {key: {} for key in records.keys()}

#free up some memory
del records

#iterate over chromosomes and populate output dict
for chromosome in keys:
    print('Tabulating ' + str(chromosome) + '...')
    #do forward (sense) seq first; findall As
    A_positions = [m.start() for m in re.finditer('A', sequences[chromosome][0])]
    #update total_A value
    output[chromosome]['total_A'] = len(A_positions)
    #calculate targetable As
    targetable_As = []
    for A_position in A_positions:
        targetable_As.append(0)
        if is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][0], A_position, [[1,12]],
'NNNRRT', 20):
            targetable_As[-1] = 1

```

```

        elif is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][0], A_position, [[4,14]],
'NNGG', 20):

            targetable_As[-1] = 1

        elif is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][0], A_position, [[2,2], [5,9],
[12,13]], 'NNNNCC', 23):

            targetable_As[-1] = 1

        elif is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][0], A_position, [[1,5], [7,11],
[13,13]], 'NNNNRYAC', 22):

            targetable_As[-1] = 1

    #update targetable_A value
    output[chromosome]['targetable_A'] = sum(targetable_As)

    #do reverse complement seq next
    T_positions = [m.start() for m in re.finditer('A', sequences[chromosome][1])]
    output[chromosome]['total_T'] = len(T_positions)
    targetable_Ts = []
    for T_position in T_positions:
        targetable_Ts.append(0)
        if is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][1], T_position, [[1,12]],
'NNNRRT', 20):

            targetable_Ts[-1] = 1

        elif is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][1], T_position, [[4,14]],
'NNGG', 20):

            targetable_Ts[-1] = 1

        elif is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][1], T_position,
[[2,2],
[5,9], [12,13]], 'NNNNCC', 20):

            targetable_Ts[-1] = 1

        elif is_targetable(sequences[chromosome][1], T_position,
[[1,5],
[7,11], [13,13]], 'NNNNRYAC', 20):

            targetable_Ts[-1] = 1

    output[chromosome]['targetable_T'] = sum(targetable_Ts)

```

```

#calculate combined totals for all chromosomes
all_total_A = 0
all_total_T = 0
all_targetable_A = 0
all_targetable_T = 0
for chromosome in output.keys():
    all_total_A += output[chromosome]['total_A']
    all_targetable_A += output[chromosome]['targetable_A']
    all_total_T += output[chromosome]['total_T']
    all_targetable_T += output[chromosome]['targetable_T']

output['all'] = {'total_A': all_total_A, 'targetable_A': all_targetable_A, 'total_T': all_total_T,
'targetable_T': all_targetable_T}

output_df = pd.DataFrame.from_dict(output, orient='index')
output_df['percent targetable'] = (output_df['targetable_A'] +
output_df['targetable_T'])/(output_df['total_A'] + output_df['total_T'])*100
    output_df.to_csv('2022-06-03/genome-wide_BE_search_Sauri-SaKKH-Nme2-
Cj.csv')

```

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EQUIVALENTS AND SCOPE

[00443] Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention described herein. The scope of the present invention is not intended to be limited to the above description, but rather is as set forth in the appended claims.

[00444] In the claims articles such as “a,” “an,” and “the” may mean one or more than one unless indicated to the contrary or otherwise evident from the context. Claims or descriptions that include “or” between one or more members of a group are considered satisfied if one, more than one, or all of the group members are present in, employed in, or otherwise relevant to a given product or process unless indicated to the contrary or otherwise evident from the context. The invention includes embodiments in which exactly one member of the group is present in, employed in, or otherwise relevant to a given product or process. The invention also includes embodiments in which more than one, or all of the group members are present in, employed in, or otherwise relevant to a given product or process.

[00445] Furthermore, it is to be understood that the invention encompasses all variations, combinations, and permutations in which one or more limitations, elements, clauses, descriptive terms, etc., from one or more of the claims or from relevant portions of the description is introduced into another claim. For example, any claim that is dependent on another claim can be modified to include one or more limitations found in any other claim that is dependent on the same base claim. Furthermore, where the claims recite a composition, it is to be understood that methods of using the composition for any of the purposes disclosed herein are included, and methods of making the composition according to any of the methods of making disclosed herein or other methods known in the art are included, unless otherwise indicated or unless it would be evident to one of ordinary skill in the art that a contradiction or inconsistency would arise.

[00446] Where elements are presented as lists, e.g., in Markush group format, it is to be understood that each subgroup of the elements is also disclosed, and any element(s) can be removed from the group. It is also noted that the term “comprising” is intended to be open and permits the inclusion of additional elements or steps. It should be understood that, in general, where the invention, or aspects of the invention, is/are referred to as comprising particular elements, features, steps, etc., certain embodiments of the invention or aspects of the invention consist, or consist essentially of, such elements, features, steps, etc. For purposes of simplicity those embodiments have not been specifically set forth in haec verba

herein. Thus for each embodiment of the invention that comprises one or more elements, features, steps, etc., the invention also provides embodiments that consist or consist essentially of those elements, features, steps, etc.

[00447] Where ranges are given, endpoints are included. Furthermore, it is to be understood that unless otherwise indicated or otherwise evident from the context and/or the understanding of one of ordinary skill in the art, values that are expressed as ranges can assume any specific value within the stated ranges in different embodiments of the invention, to the tenth of the unit of the lower limit of the range, unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. It is also to be understood that unless otherwise indicated or otherwise evident from the context and/or the understanding of one of ordinary skill in the art, values expressed as ranges can assume any subrange within the given range, wherein the endpoints of the subrange are expressed to the same degree of accuracy as the tenth of the unit of the lower limit of the range.

[00448] In addition, it is to be understood that any particular embodiment of the present invention may be explicitly excluded from any one or more of the claims. Where ranges are given, any value within the range may explicitly be excluded from any one or more of the claims. Any embodiment, element, feature, application, or aspect of the compositions and/or methods of the invention, can be excluded from any one or more claims. For purposes of brevity, all of the embodiments in which one or more elements, features, purposes, or aspects is excluded are not set forth explicitly herein.

[00449] All publications, patents and sequence database entries mentioned herein, including those items listed above, are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety as if each individual publication or patent was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference. In case of conflict, the present application, including any definitions herein, will control.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A nucleic acid molecule comprising:
 - (i) a 5' inverted terminal repeat (ITR);
 - (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising a sequence encoding a base editor operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the base editor comprises a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp) domain and a deaminase domain; and a polyadenylation (polyA) signal;
 - (iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a second promoter; and
 - (iv) a 3' ITR,wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb.
2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the first nucleic acid segment does not encode an intein.
3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or 2, wherein the nucleic acid molecule does not comprise a posttranscriptional response element.
4. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the second promoter is a U6 promoter.
5. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the first promoter has a length of less than 325 nucleotides, less than 315 nucleotides, less than 300 nucleotides, less than 285 nucleotides, less than 270 nucleotides, less than 265 nucleotides, or less than 250 nucleotides.
6. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the first promoter has a length of approximately 280 nucleotides.

7. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the first promoter is an EF-1 α short (EFS) promoter, a MeCP2 promoter, a P3 promoter, or a U1A promoter.
8. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the first promoter is an EF-1 α short (EFS) promoter.
9. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the first promoter is a tissue-specific promoter.
10. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 9, wherein the first promoter is a cardiac tissue-specific promoter, a muscle tissue-specific promoter, or a neuronal tissue-specific promoter.
11. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the base editor comprises (i) a nucleic acid programmable DNA binding protein (napDNAbp) domain; and (ii) a deaminase domain.
12. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-11, wherein the napDNAbp domain is a Cas9 domain.
13. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the napDNAbp domain is selected from a *S. aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9) domain, an *N. meningitidis* 2 Cas9 (Nme2Cas9) domain, a *C. jejuni* Cas9 (CjCas9) domain, an *S. auricularis* (SauriCas9) domain, and variants thereof.
14. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-13, wherein the napDNAbp domain has nickase activity.
15. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-14, wherein the napDNAbp domain is a compact variant of *S. pyogenes* Cas9 (SpCas9), Cpf1, CasX, CasY, C2c1, C2c2, C2c3, Cas12a, Cas12b, Cas12g, Cas12h, Cas12i, Cas13b, Cas13c, Cas13d, Cas14, Csn2, Cas3, or Cas Φ .

16. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-14, wherein the napDNAbp domain is an SaCas9 domain, SaCas9 nickase domain, SaKKH domain, or SaKKH nickase domain.
17. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-14 and 16, wherein the napDNAbp domain is an SaKKH nickase domain.
18. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-14 and 16, wherein the napDNAbp domain is a CjCas9 nickase domain.
19. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-18, wherein the deaminase domain comprises an adenosine deaminase.
20. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-19, wherein the deaminase domain consists of an adenosine deaminase monomer.
21. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-20, wherein the deaminase domain is a TadA-8e, a TadA-8e(V106W), a TadA9, a TadA20, or a TadA7.10 deaminase.
22. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-21, wherein the deaminase domain is a TadA-8e deaminase domain.
23. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-22, wherein the base editor further comprises one or more nuclear localization sequences (NLS).
24. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-23, wherein the base editor further comprises a bipartite NLS (bpNLS).
25. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 24, wherein the bipartite nuclear localization signal comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
KRTADGSEFEPKKRKRK (SEQ ID NO: 398), KRPAATKKAGQAKKKK (SEQ ID NO: 344), KKTELQTTNAENKTKKL (SEQ ID NO: 345), KRGINDRNFWRGENGRKTR (SEQ ID NO: 346), and RKSGKIAAIVVKRPRK (SEQ ID NO: 347).

26. The composition of claim 24 or 25, wherein the bipartite nuclear localization signal comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 344 or 398.
27. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-26, wherein the base editor is ABE8e, ABE8e(V106W), ABE9, ABE20, ABE7.10, or a variant thereof.
28. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-27, wherein the base editor is SaKKH-ABE8e, SauriCas9-ABE8e, CjCas9-ABE8e, Nme2Cas9-ABE8e, or SaCas9-ABE8e.
29. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-28, wherein the base editor comprises the structure: NH₂-[adenosine deaminase]-[napDNAbp domain]-COOH; or NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[adenosine deaminase]-COOH, wherein each “[-]” in the structure indicates the presence of an optional linker sequence.
30. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-18 and 23-26, wherein the deaminase domain comprises a cytidine deaminase.
31. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-18, 23-26, and 30, wherein the deaminase domain is FERNY or evolved FERNY (evoFERNY).
32. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1-18, 23-26, 30, and 31, wherein the base editor is BE3.9, FERNY-BE3.9, or a variant thereof.
33. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-18, 23-26, and 30-32, wherein the base editor further comprises a uracil glycosylase inhibitor (UGI) domain.
34. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-18 and 30-33, wherein the base editor comprises the structure:
NH₂-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-[UGI]-COOH;
NH₂-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[UGI]-[napDNAbp domain]-COOH;
NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[UGI]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-COOH;
NH₂-[napDNAbp domain]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[UGI]-COOH;
NH₂-[UGI]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-[napDNAbp domain]-COOH; or

NH₂-[UGI]-[napDNAbp domain]-[cytidine deaminase domain]-COOH,
wherein each instance of “[”-]” in the structure indicates the presence of an optional linker sequence.

35. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-18, 23-26, and 30-33, wherein the base editor comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21 or 22.
36. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-29, wherein the base editor comprises the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 171-172 and 181-183.
37. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-29 and 36, wherein the base editor comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 171.
38. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-37, wherein the polyA signal is a bovine growth hormone (bGH) signal, human growth hormone (hGH) signal, or SV40 signal.
39. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-38, wherein the polyA signal is a bovine growth hormone (bGH) signal.
40. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-39, wherein the first nucleic acid segment further comprises a minimal minute virus of mice (MVM) intron.
41. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-40, wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is between 4.7 kb and 4.9 kb.
42. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-41, wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is about 4.65 kb, about 4.70 kb, about 4.725 kb, about 4.75 kb, about 4.80 kb, about 4.825 kb, about 4.85 kb, or about 4.90 kb.
43. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-42, wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is about 4.80 kb.

44. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-43, wherein the nucleic acid molecule consists essentially of:
- (i) the 5' inverted terminal repeat (ITR);
 - (ii) the sequence encoding a base editor operably linked to a first promoter;
 - (iii) the polyadenylation (polyA) signal;
 - (iv) the second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a second promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and
 - (v) the 3' ITR,
- wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb.
45. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-44, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is single-stranded or self-complementary.
46. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-29 and 36-45, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises the sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 100-102.
47. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-29 and 36-46, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 100.
48. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-47, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the first nucleic acid segment.
49. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-29 and 36-48, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises, from 5' to 3':
- (i) a 5' inverted terminal repeat (ITR);
 - (ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising a sequence encoding a SaKKH-ABE8e, a SauriCas9-ABE8e, a CjCas9-ABE8e base editor, or a Nme2Cas9 base editor operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the first promoter is selected from the EFS, MeCP2, P3, and U1A promoters; and a bGH polyadenylation (polyA) signal;

(iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and

(iv) a 3' ITR,

wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb.

50. The nucleic acid vector of claim 49, wherein the first promoter is EFS.

51. The nucleic acid vector of claim 49 or 50, wherein the base editor is SaKKH-ABE8e.

52. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-18, 23-26, 30-35, and 38-43, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises, from 5' to 3':

(i) a 5' inverted terminal repeat (ITR);

(ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising a sequence encoding a CjCas9-FERNY-BE3.9 or CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9 base editor operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the first promoter is selected from the EFS, MeCP2, P3, and U1A promoters; and a bGH polyadenylation (polyA) signal;

(iii) a second nucleic acid segment encoding a guide RNA (gRNA) operably linked to a U6 promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the nucleic acid molecule; and

(iv) a 3' ITR,

wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb.

53. The nucleic acid vector of claim 52, wherein the first promoter is EFS.

54. The nucleic acid vector of claim 52 or 53, wherein the base editor is CjCas9-evoFERNY-BE3.9.

55. An AAV nucleic acid molecule that comprises, in 5' to 3' order:

(i) a 5' inverted terminal repeat (ITR);

(ii) a first nucleic acid segment comprising a transgene operably linked to a first promoter, wherein the first promoter has a length of less than 300 nucleotides; and a transcriptional terminator that does not contain a posttranscriptional response element;

(iii) a second nucleic acid segment operably linked to a second promoter, wherein the direction of transcription of the second nucleic acid segment is reversed relative to the direction of transcription of the first nucleic acid segment; and

(iv) a 3' ITR,

wherein the length between the 5' ITR and the 3' ITR is less than about 4.90 kb.

56. The AAV nucleic acid molecule of claim 55, wherein the first nucleic acid segment encodes a base editor, and the second nucleic acid segment encodes a gRNA.

57. The AAV nucleic acid molecule of claim 56, wherein the base editor contains a napDNAbp domain that is a compact Cas9 protein.

58. The AAV nucleic acid molecule of claim 57, wherein the napDNAbp domain is selected from a *S. aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9) domain, an *N. meningitidis* 2 Cas9 (Nme2Cas9) domain, a *C. jejuni* Cas9 (CjCas9) domain, an *S. auricularis* (SauriCas9) domain, and variants thereof.

59. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 55, wherein the napDNAbp domain is a compact variant of *S. pyogenes* Cas9 (SpCas9), Cpf1, CasX, CasY, C2c1, C2c2, C2c3, Cas12a, Cas12b, Cas12g, Cas12h, Cas12i, Cas13b, Cas13c, Cas13d, Cas14, Csn2, Cas3, or CasΦ.

60. The nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 55-59, wherein the napDNAbp domain has nickase activity.

61. A recombinant AAV (rAAV) particle comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-60 encapsidated in a capsid.

62. The rAAV particle of claim 61, wherein the capsid is of serotype 2, 6, 8, 9, PHP.B, or PHP.eB.

63. The rAAV particle of claim 61 or 62, wherein the capsid is of serotype 8 or serotype 9.

64. The rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-63, wherein the rAAV particle is an rAAV8-Sauri-ABE8e, rAAV9-Sauri-ABE8e, rAAV8-SaKKH-ABE8e, rAAV9-SaKKH-ABE8e, rAAV8-CjCas9-ABE8e, rAAV9-CjCas9-ABE8e, rAAV8-Nme2Cas9-ABE8e, or rAAV9-Nme2Cas9-ABE8e particle.
65. The rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-64, wherein the rAAV particle is an rAAV8-SaKKH-ABE8e particle.
66. A composition comprising a plurality of the rAAV particles of any one of claims 61-65.
67. A composition comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-60.
68. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the composition of claim 66 or 67 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
69. A cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-60, the rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-65, or the composition of any one of claims 66-68.
70. The cell of claim 69, wherein the cell is a bacterial cell.
71. The cell of claim 69, wherein the cell is a eukaryotic cell.
72. The cell of claim 69 or 71, wherein the cell is a yeast cell, a plant cell, or a mammalian cell.
73. The cell of claim 69, wherein the cell is a human cell.
74. A kit comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-60, the rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-65, or the composition of any one of claims 66-68, and instructions for delivery to a cell.

75. A method for editing a target nucleic acid molecule comprising contacting a cell comprising the target nucleic acid molecule with the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-60, the rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-65, or the composition of any one of claims 66-68.
76. The method of claim 75, wherein the contacting is performed *in vitro*.
77. The method of claim 75, wherein the contacting is performed *in vivo*.
78. The method of claim 75, wherein the contacting is performed in a subject.
79. The method of claim 78, wherein the subject has been diagnosed with a disease or disorder.
80. The method of any one of claims 75-79, wherein the guide RNA comprises a guide sequence of at least 10 contiguous nucleotides that is complementary to a target sequence in the target nucleic acid molecule.
81. The method of any one of claims 75-80, wherein the guide RNA is between about 25 and 200 nucleotides in length.
82. The method of any one of claims 75-81, wherein the target sequence comprises a point mutation associated with a disease or disorder.
83. The method of claim 82, wherein the point mutation comprises a T → C point mutation associated with the disease or disorder.
84. The method of claim 82, wherein the point mutation comprises an A → G point mutation associated with the disease or disorder.
85. The method of any one of claims 82-84, wherein the step of editing the target nucleic acid results in correction of the point mutation.

86. The method of any one of claims 75-85, wherein the step of contacting results in the introduction of a splice site.
87. The method of any one of claims 75-85, wherein the step of contacting results in the removal of a splice site.
88. The method of any one of claims 75-85, wherein the step of contacting results in the removal of a stop codon.
89. The method of any one of claims 75-85, wherein the step of contacting results in the introduction of a stop codon.
90. The method of claim 89, wherein the stop codon comprises the nucleic acid sequence 5'-TAG-3', 5'-TAA-3', or 5'-TGA-3'.
91. The method of any one of claims 75-90, wherein the target sequence is within a *PCSK9* gene or an *ANGPTL3* gene.
92. The method of any one of claims 75-91, wherein the step of contacting results in an editing efficiency of at least about 50%, at least about 55%, at least about 60%, at least about 65%, at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, or at least about 85%.
93. The method of any one of claims 75-92, wherein the step of contacting results in a base edit:indel ratio of at least about 5:1, 7:1, 8:1, 9:1, 10:1, 11:1, 12:1, 13:1, or greater than about 15:1.
94. The method of any one of claims 75-93, wherein the step of contacting results in an indel rate of 2.5% or less, 2.0% or less, 1.5% or less, 1.2% or less, or 1.0% or less.
95. The method of any one of claims 75-94, wherein the step of contacting results in minimal bystander editing.

96. A method comprising contacting a cell with the rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-65, or the composition of any one of claims 66-68, wherein the contacting results in the delivery of the nucleic acid molecule into the cell.
97. The method of claim 96, wherein the cell is a human cell.
98. The method of claim 96 or 97, wherein the cell is a cardiac cell or muscle cell.
99. The method of claim 98, wherein the step of contacting results in an editing efficiency of at least about 20%, at least about 22%, at least about 24%, at least about 27%, at least about 30%, at least about 33%, or at least about 36% in the cardiac cell or muscle cell.
100. The method of any one of claims 96-99, wherein the step of contacting results in an indel rate of 2.5% or less, 2.0% or less, 1.5% or less, 1.2% or less, or 1.0% or less in the cardiac cell or muscle cell.
101. A method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-65, the pharmaceutical composition of claim 68, or the cell of any one of claims 69-73.
102. The method of claim 101, wherein the subject is human.
103. The method of claim 101 or 102, wherein the subject has a disease or disorder.
104. The method of any one of claims 101-103, wherein the rAAV particle is administered in a therapeutically effective amount of about 10^{15} , about 10^{14} , about 10^{13} , about 10^{12} , about 10^{11} , or less than about 10^{11} vector genomes (vg) per kg weight of the subject.
105. The method of any one of claims 101-104, wherein the rAAV particle is administered in a therapeutically effective amount of about 8×10^{10} , 4×10^{10} , 1×10^{10} , or less than about 10^{10} vg per kg weight of the subject.

106. The method of any one of claims 101-105, wherein the rAAV particle is administered to cardiac tissue of the subject.

107. The method of any one of claims 101-106, wherein the rAAV particle is administered to skeletal muscle tissue of the subject.

108. The method of any one of claims 101-107, wherein the rAAV particle is administered to neuronal tissue of the subject.

109. Use of the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-60, the rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-65, the composition of any one of claims 66-68, or the cell of any one of claims 69-73 in the manufacture of a medicament.

110. A method of making the rAAV particle of any one of claims 61-65.

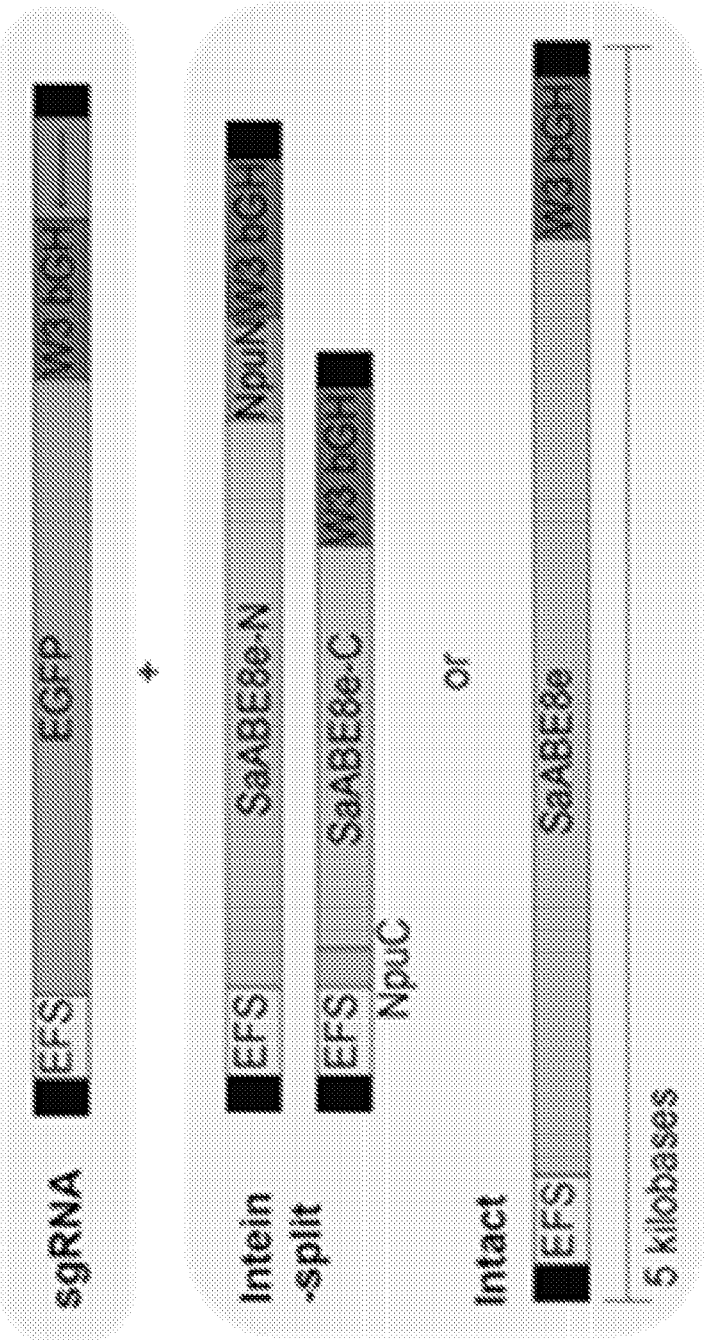


FIG. 1A

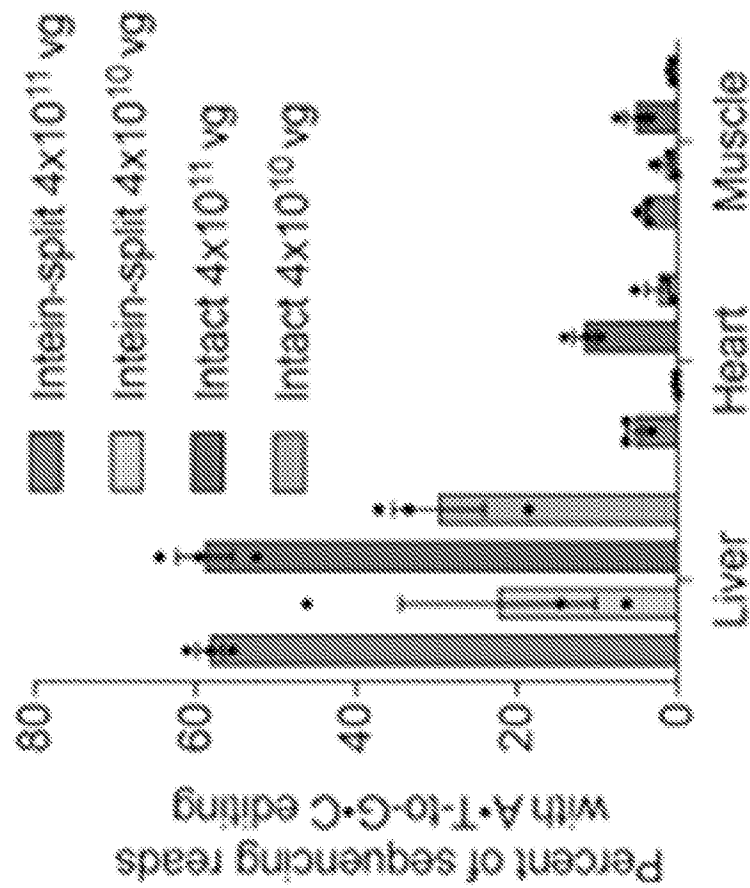


FIG. 1B

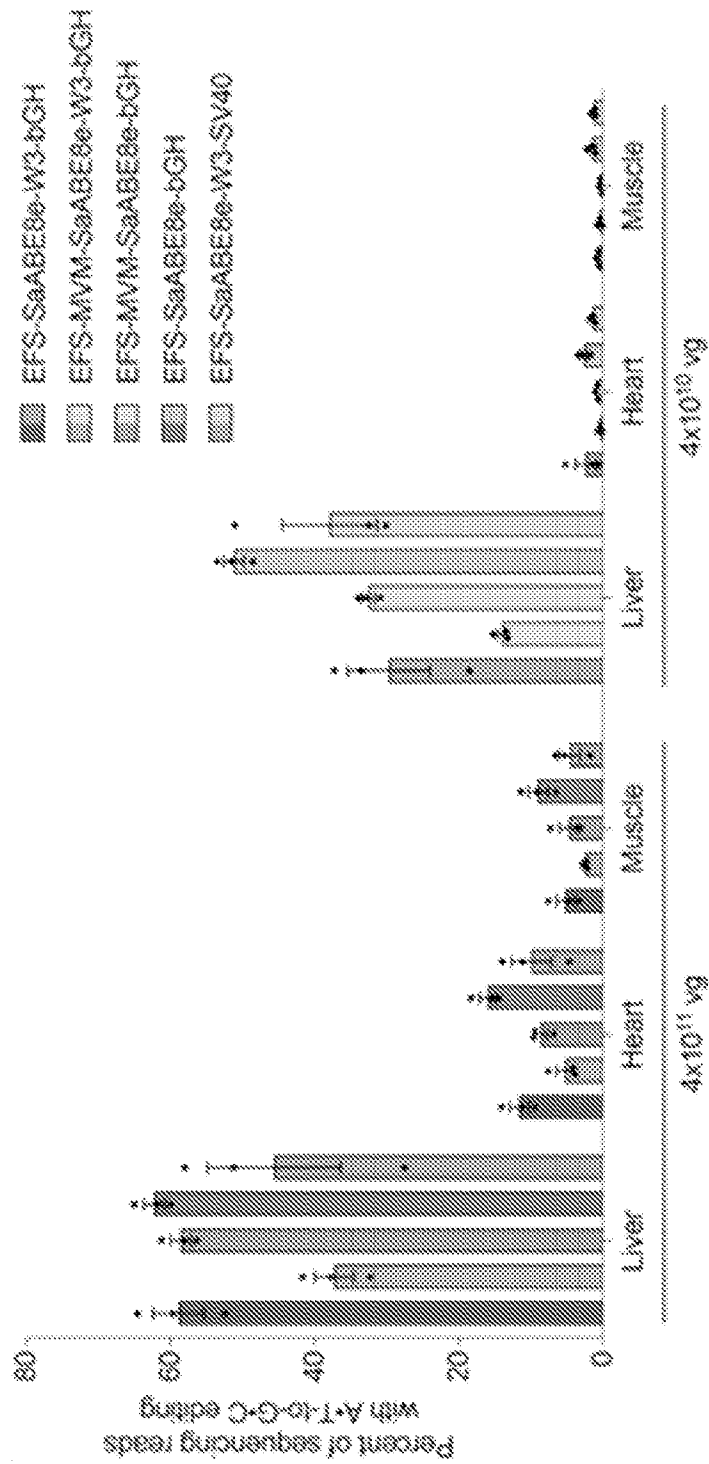


FIG. 1C



FIG. 2A

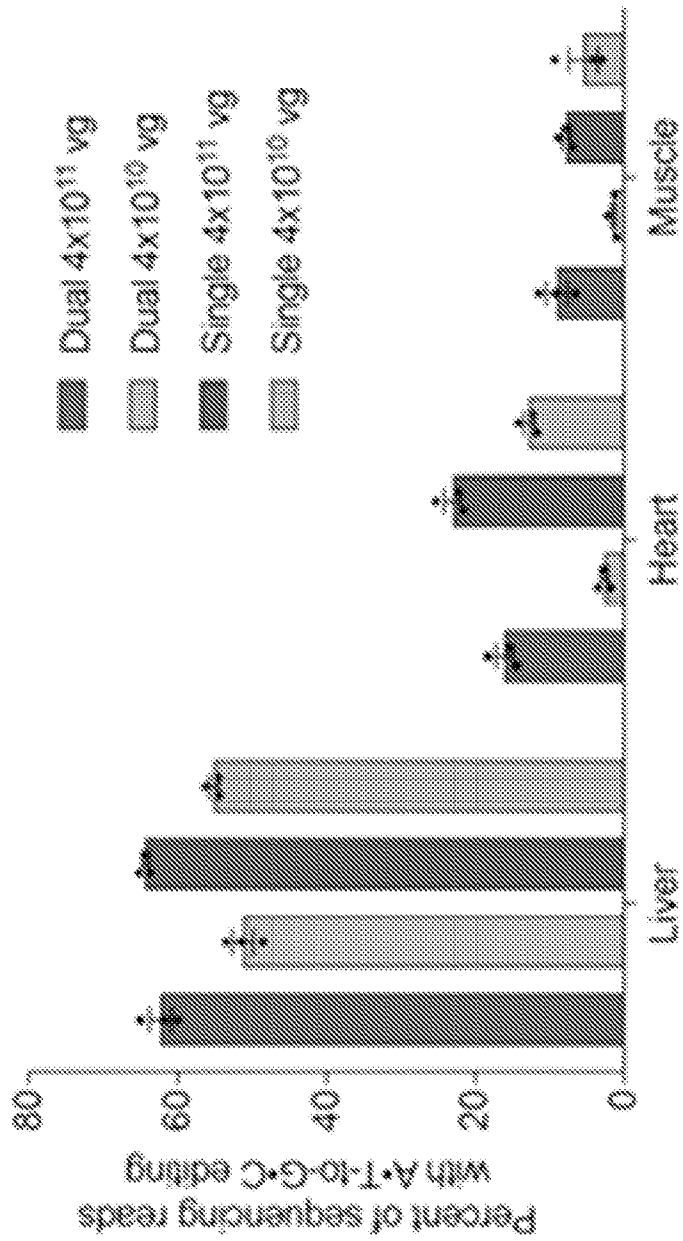


FIG. 2B

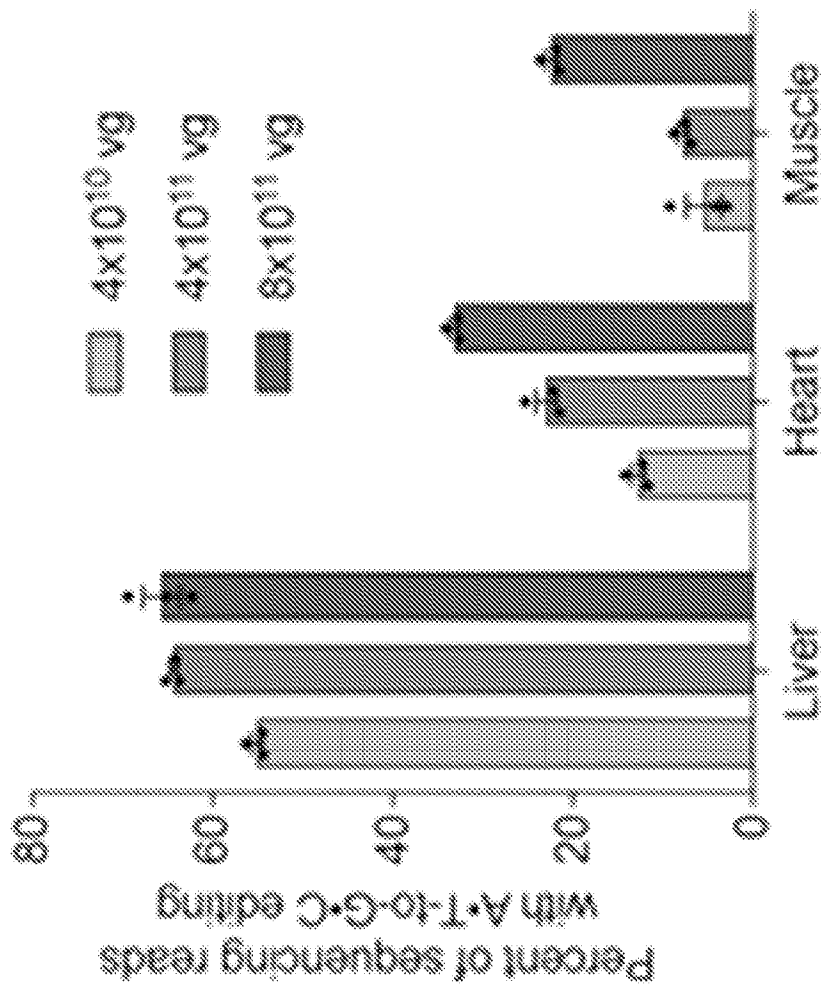


FIG. 2C

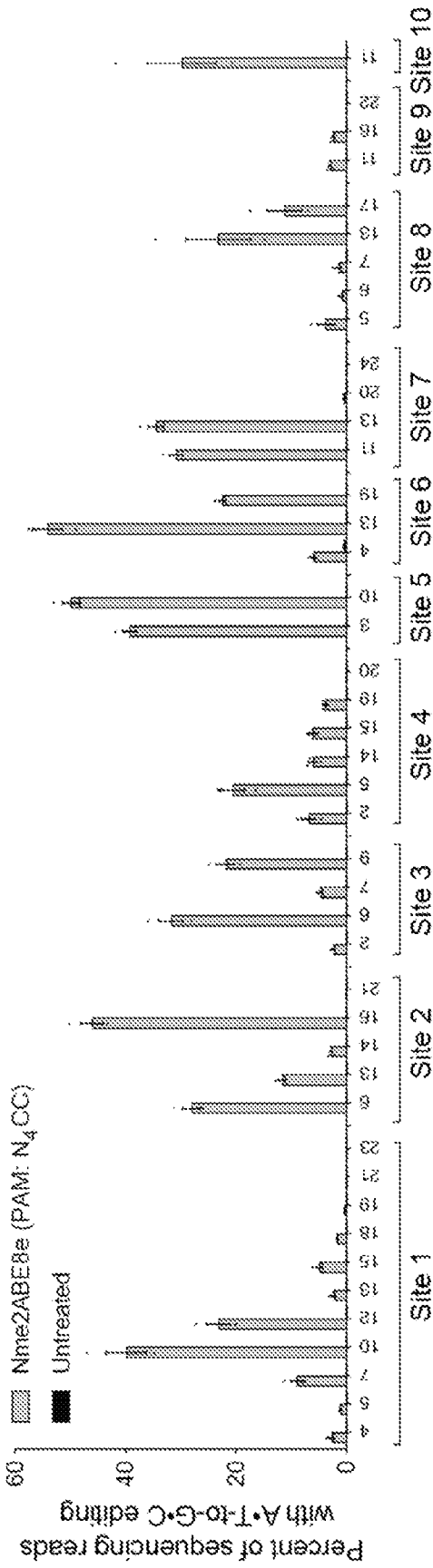


FIG. 3A

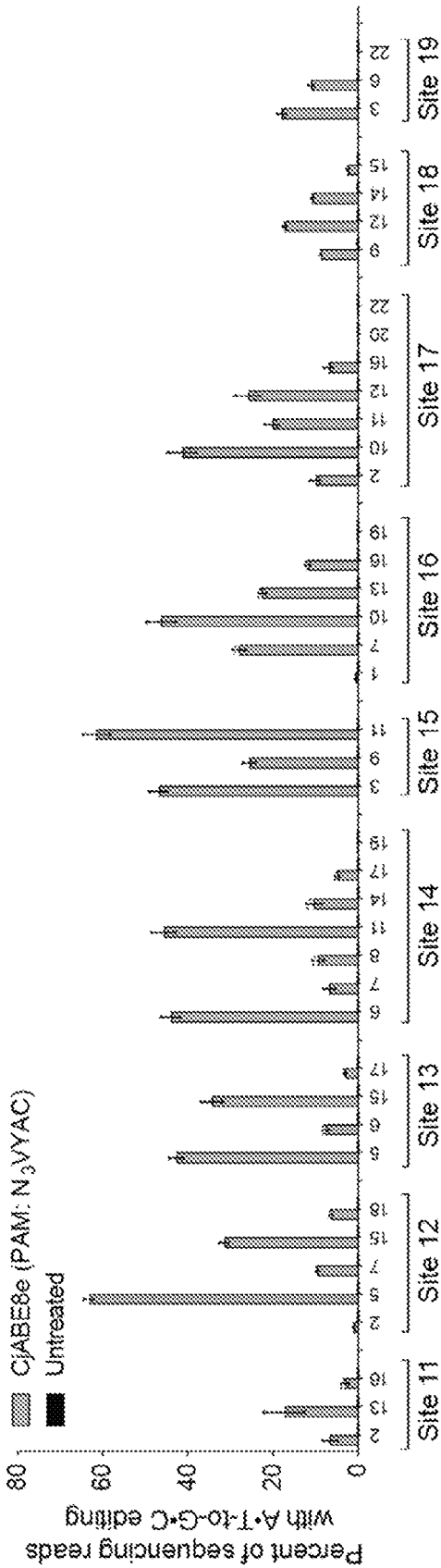


FIG. 3B

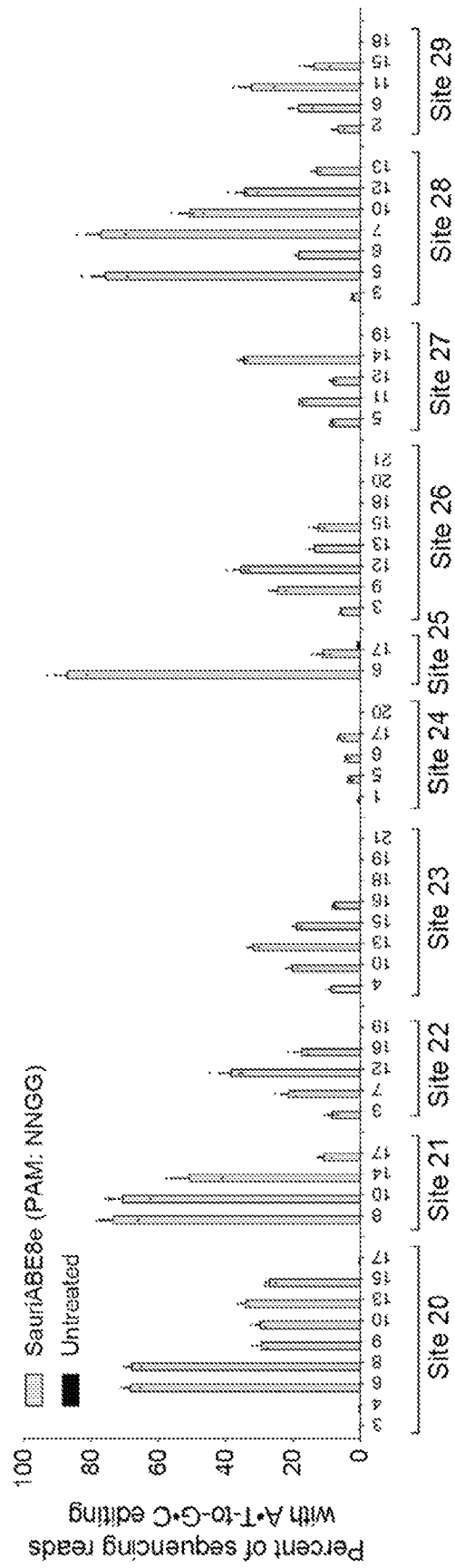


FIG. 3C

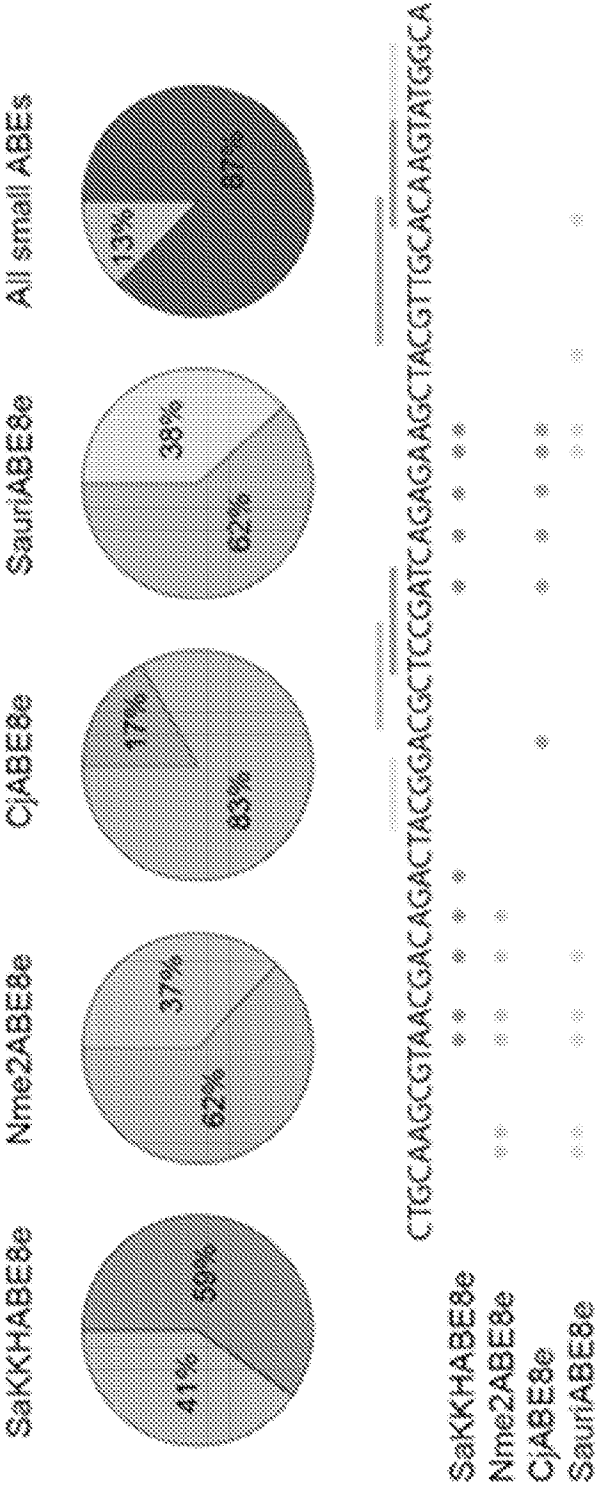


FIG. 3D

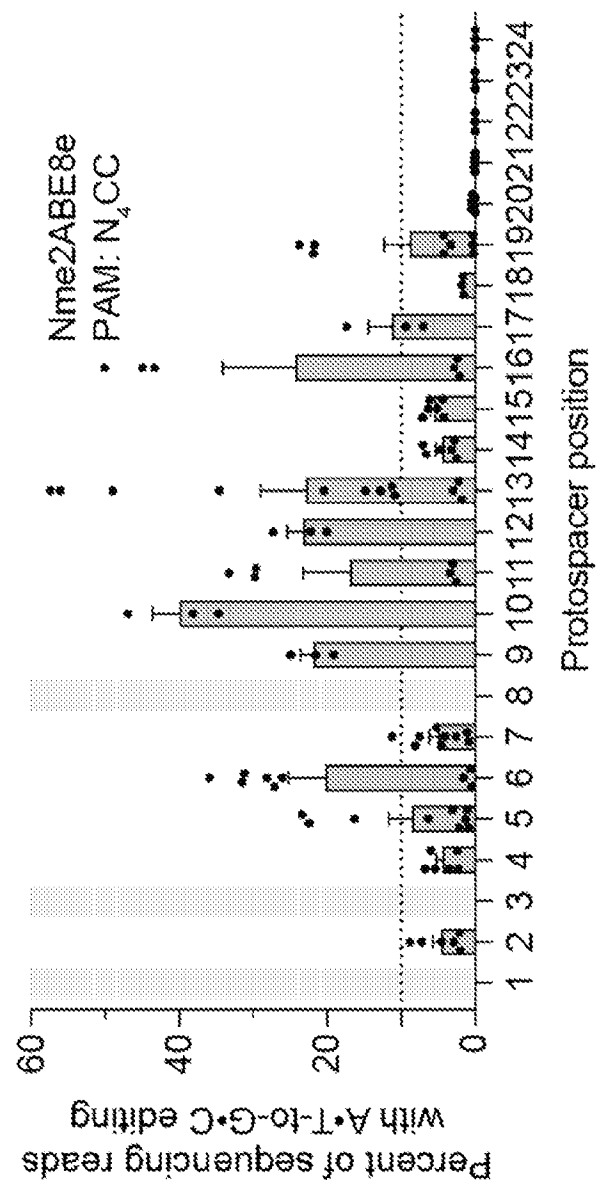


FIG. 4A

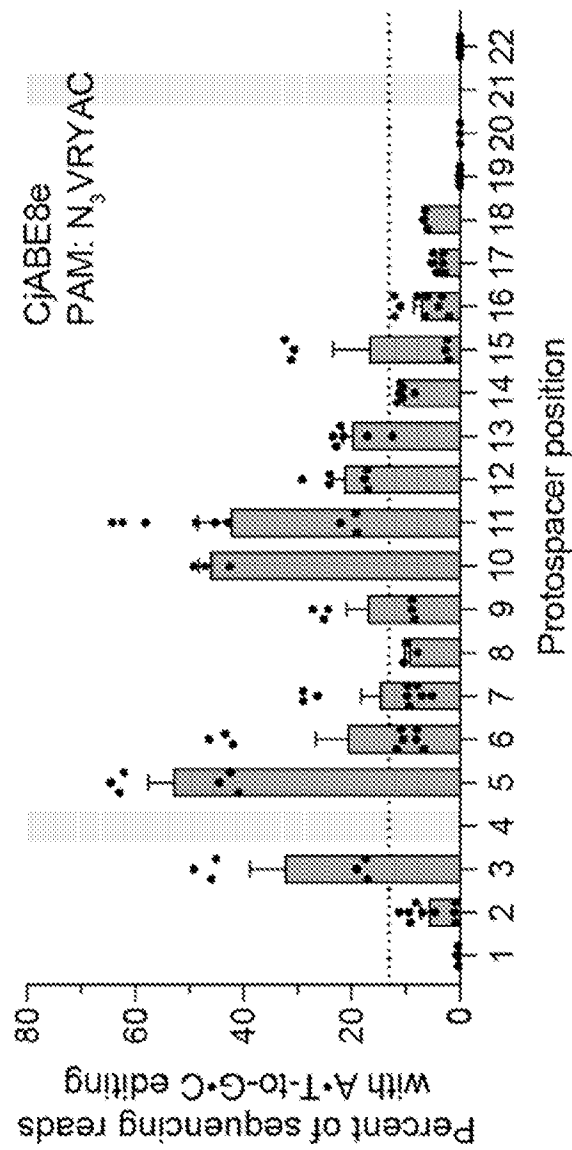


FIG. 4B

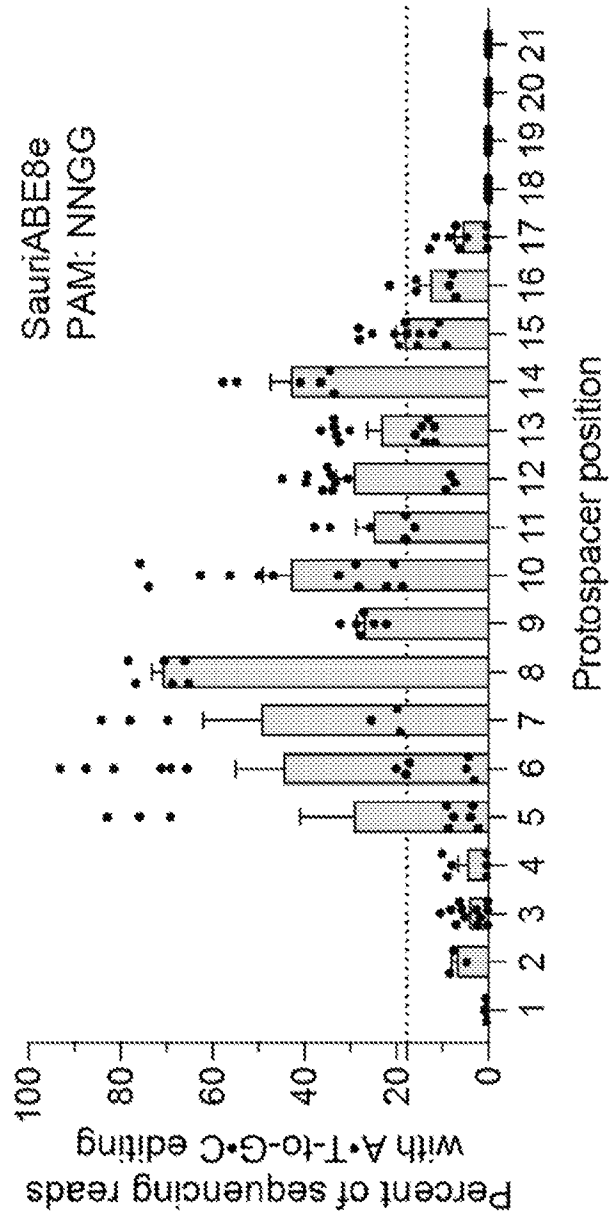


FIG. 4C

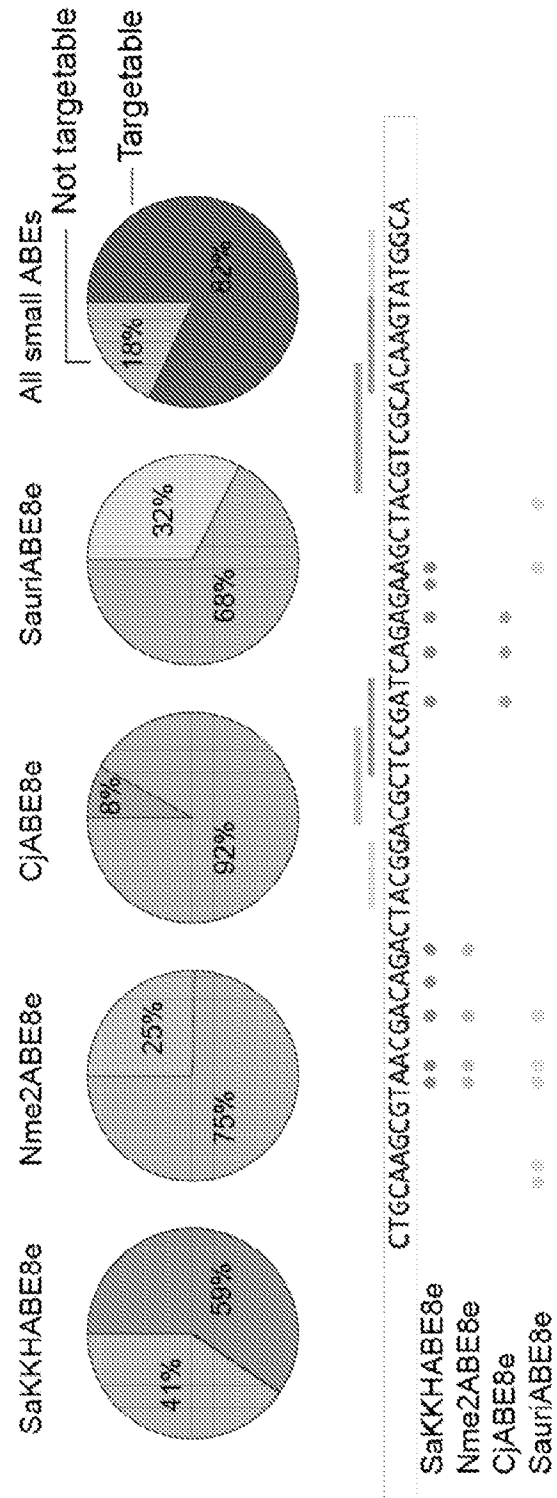


FIG. 4D

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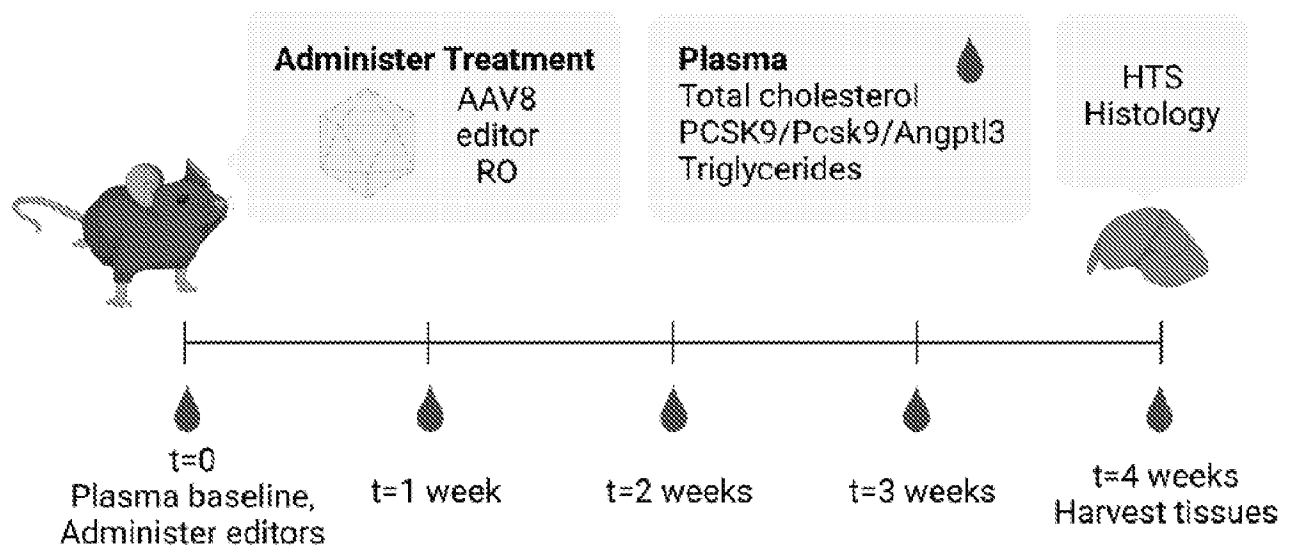


FIG. 5A

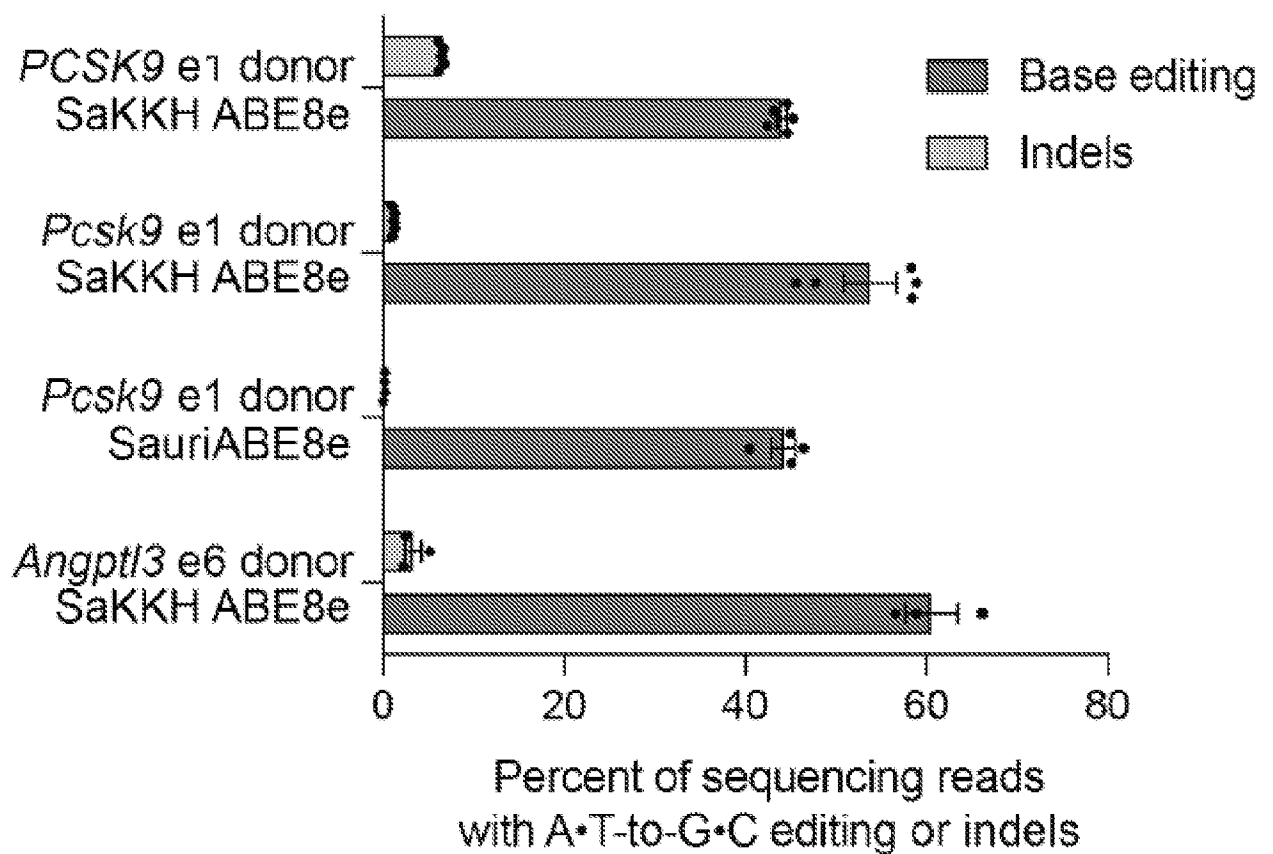


FIG. 5B

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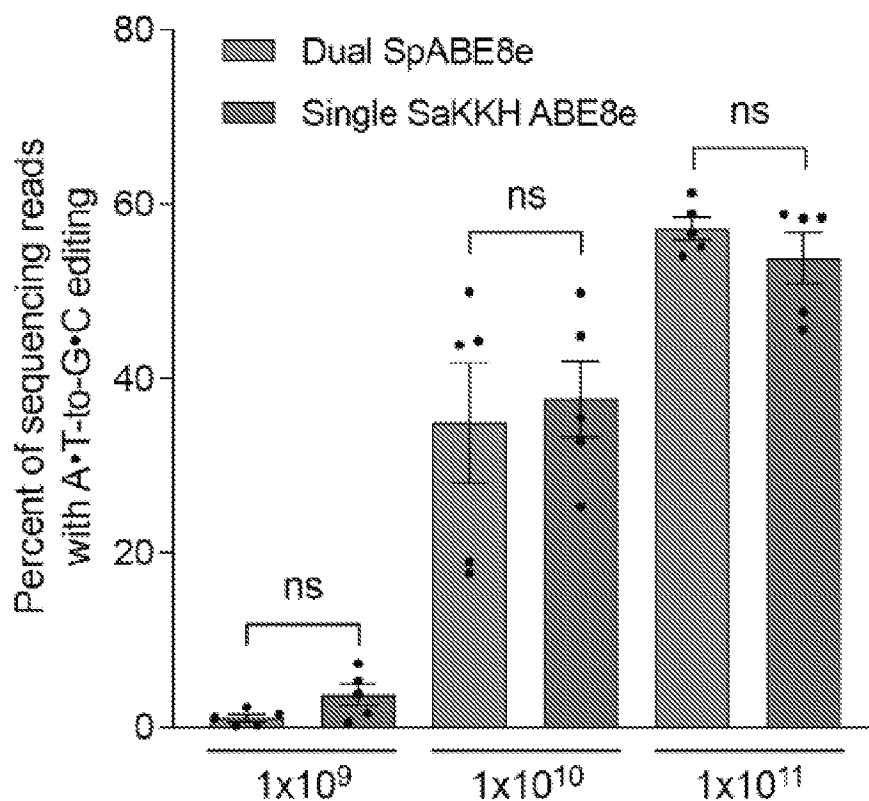


FIG. 5C

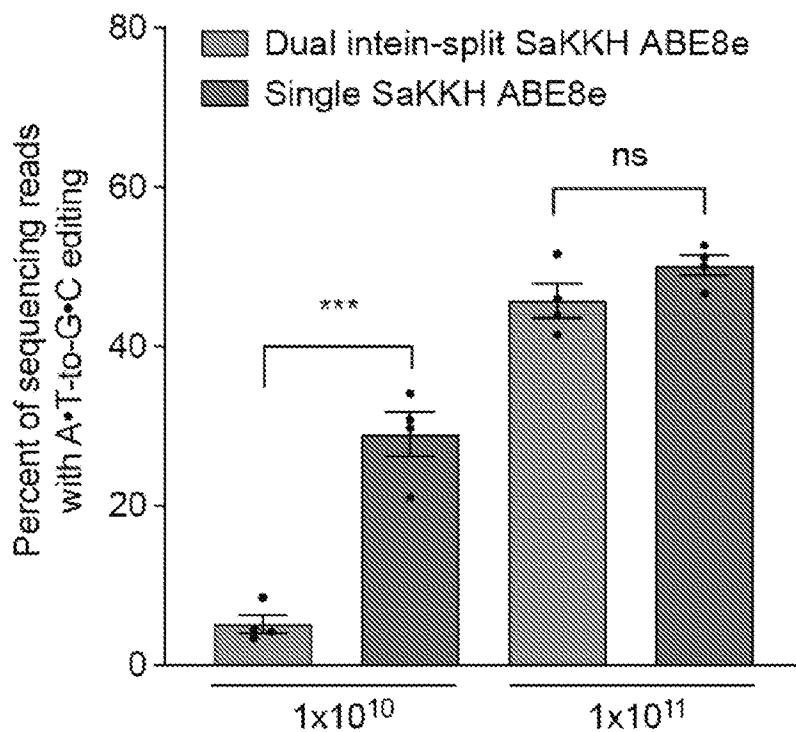


FIG. 5D

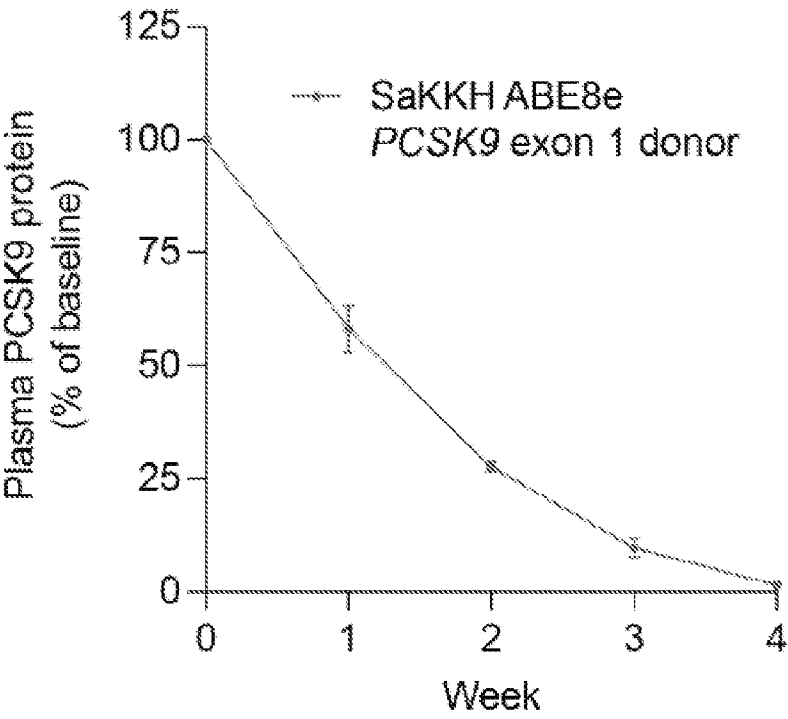


FIG. 5E

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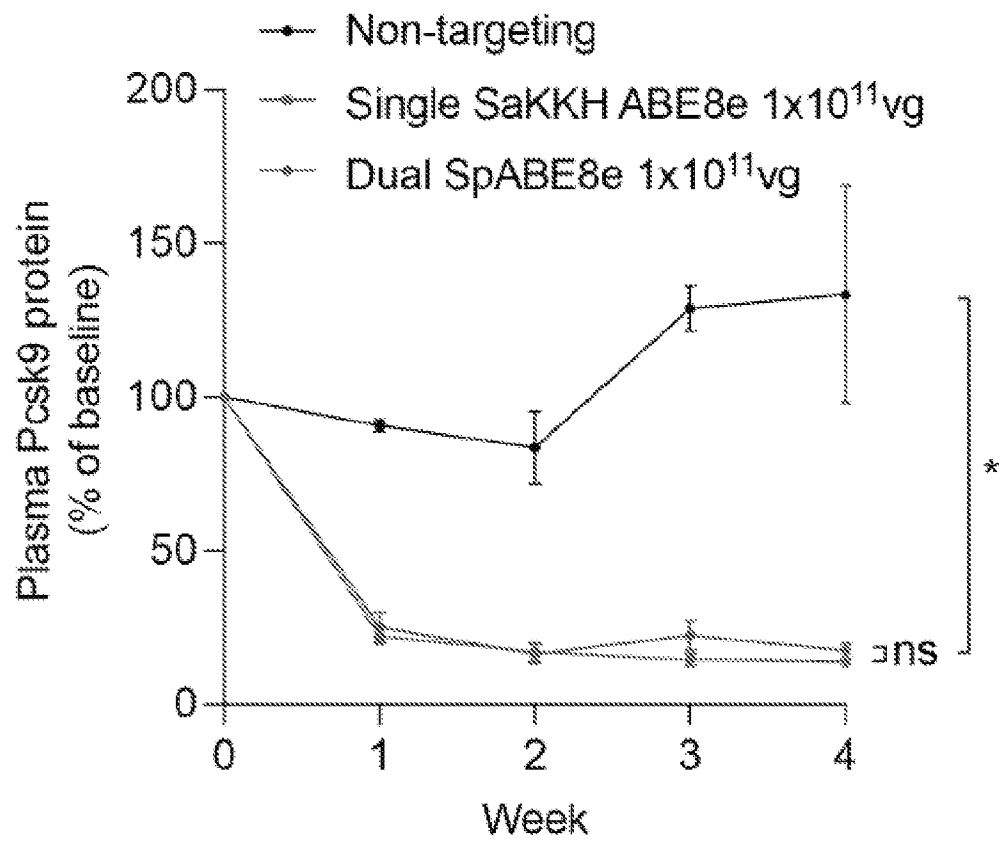


FIG. 5F

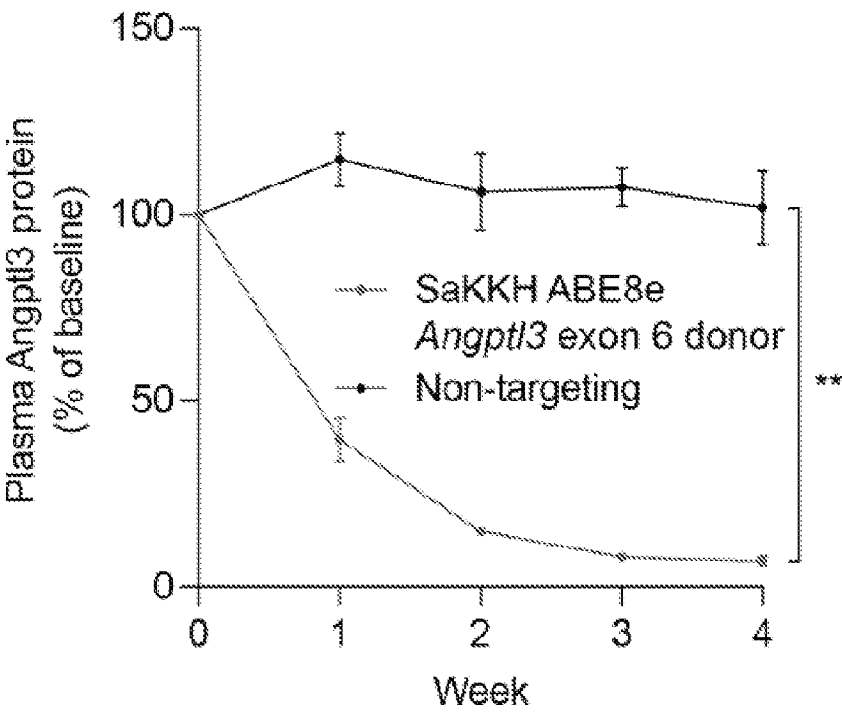


FIG. 5G

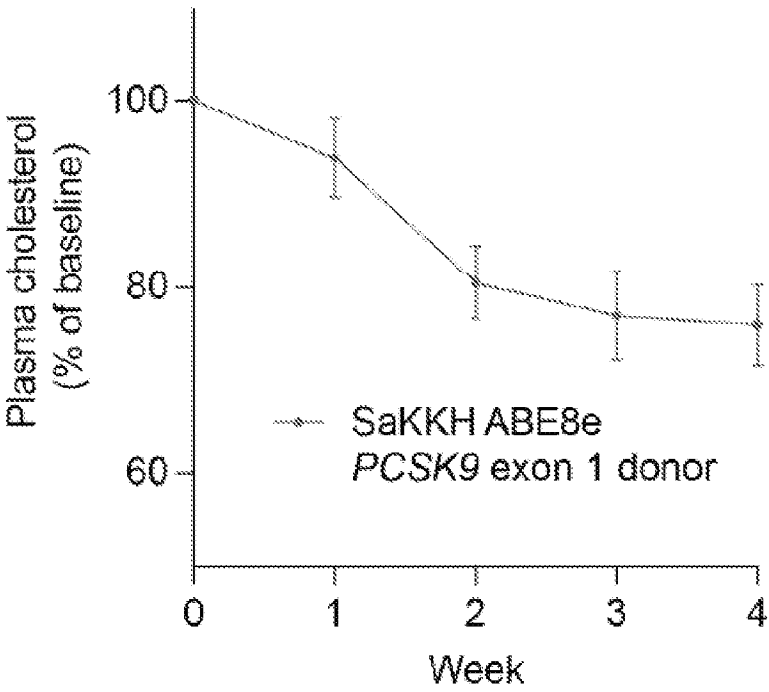


FIG. 5H

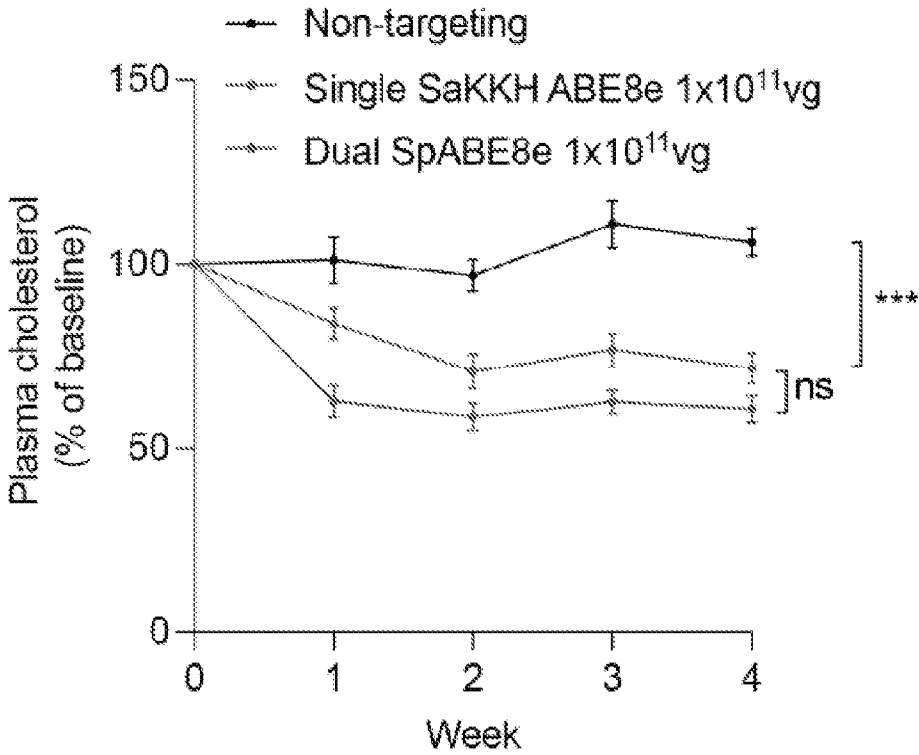


FIG. 5I

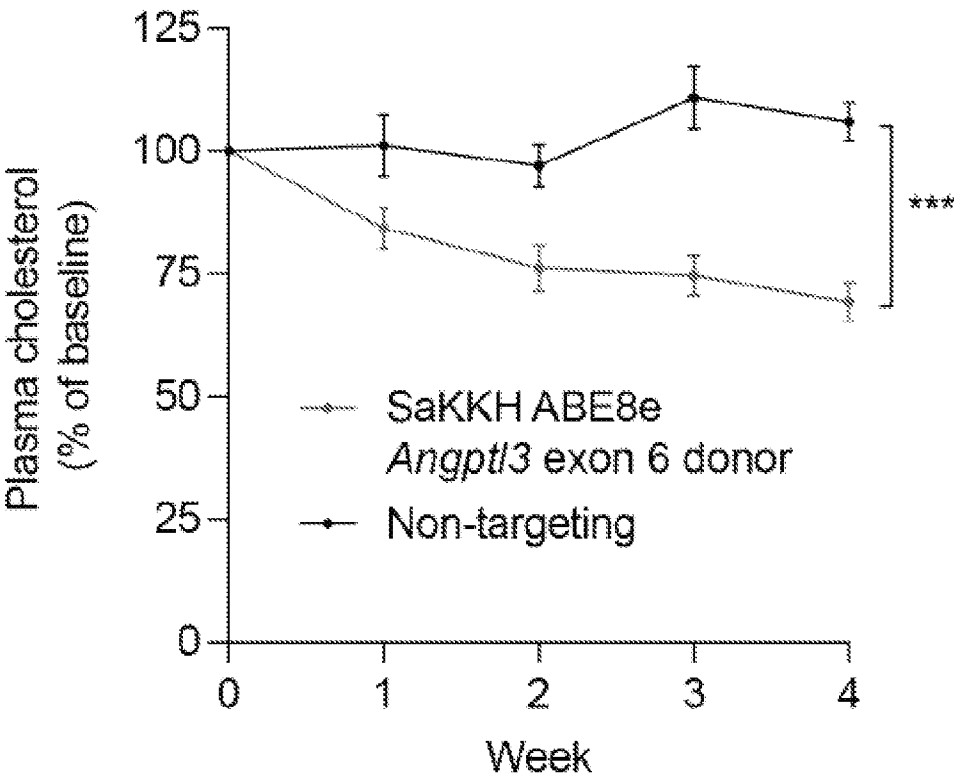


FIG. 5J

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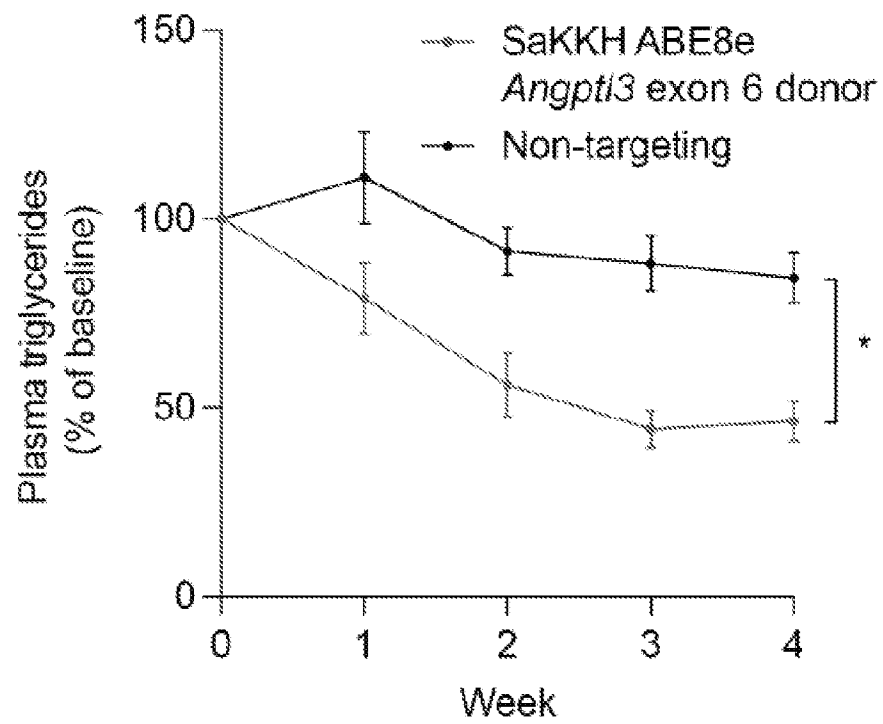


FIG. 5K

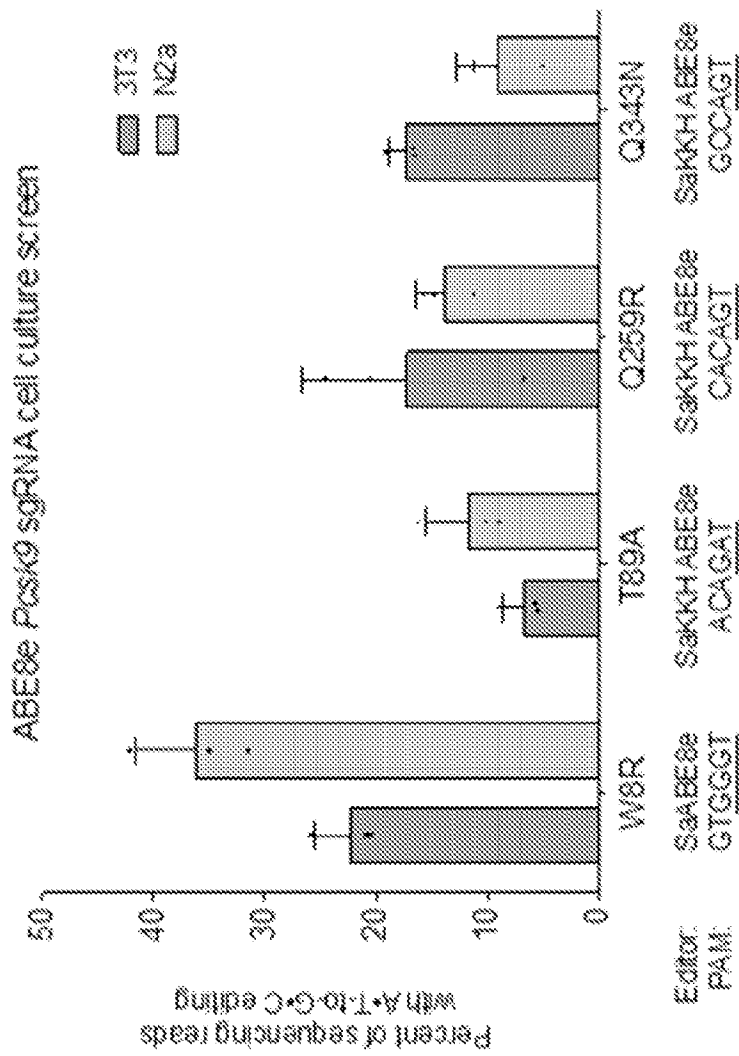


FIG. 6

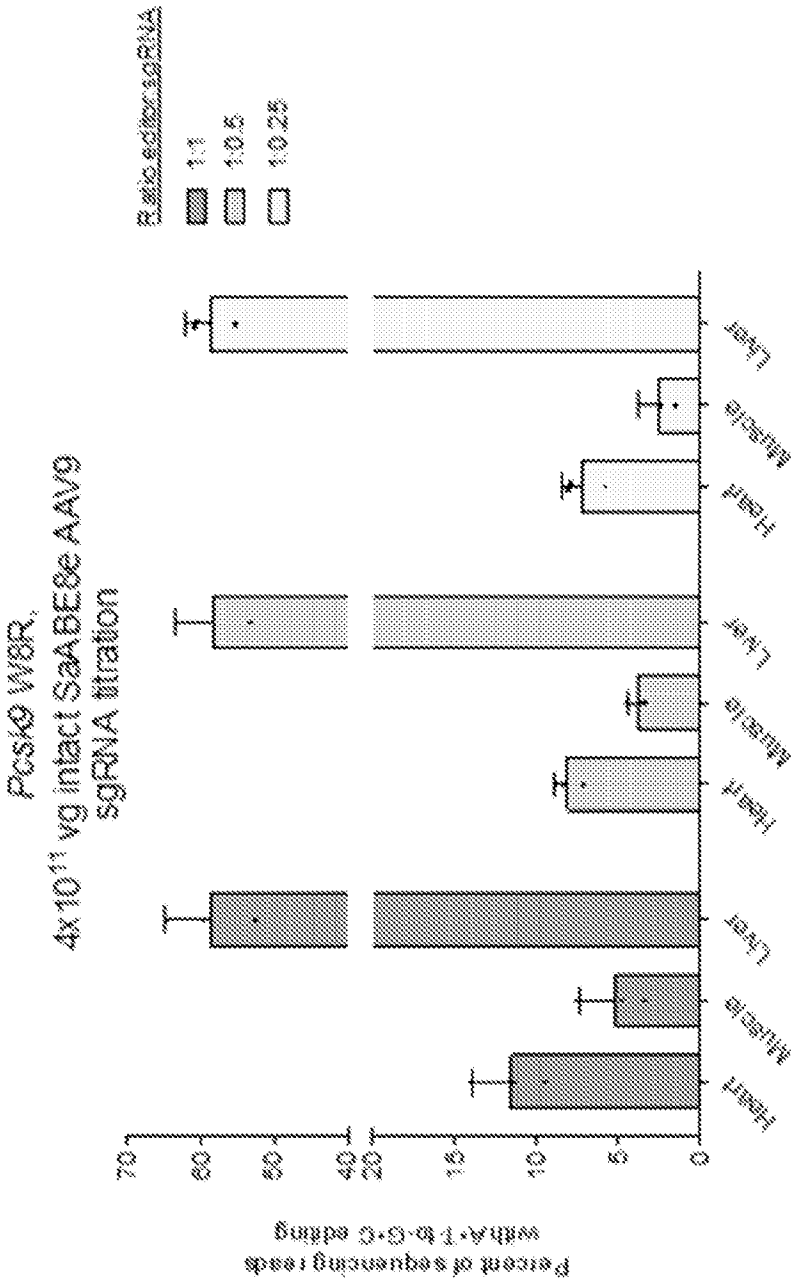


FIG. 7

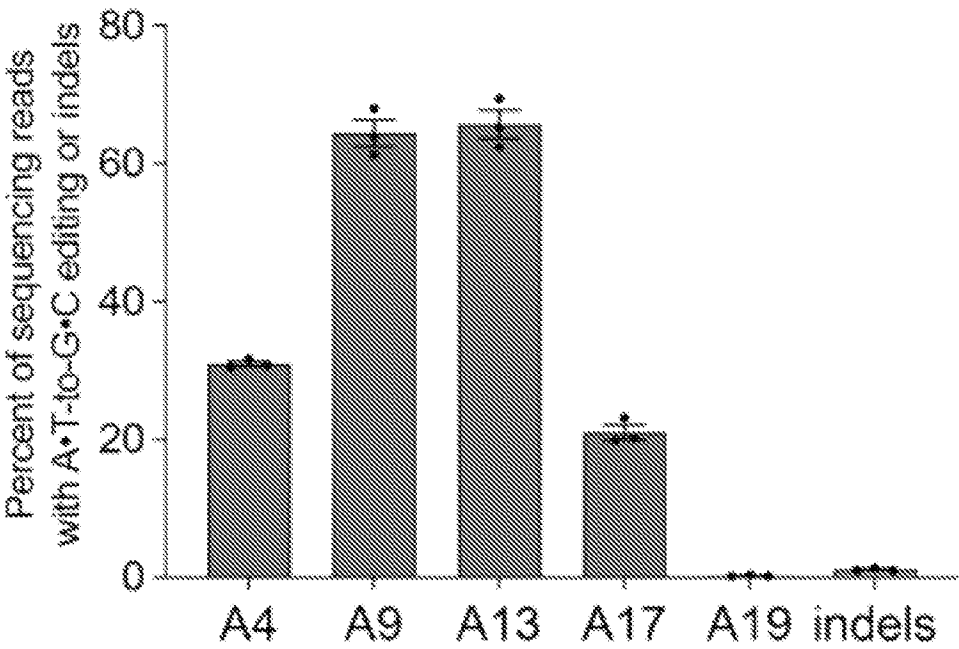


FIG. 8A

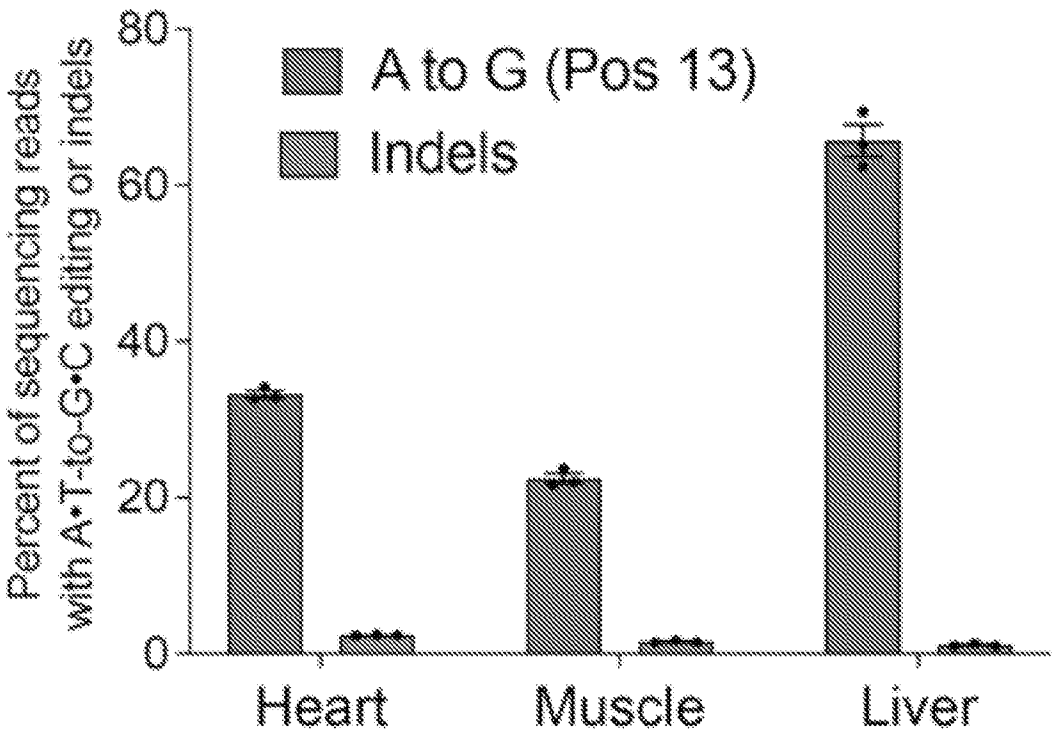


FIG. 8B

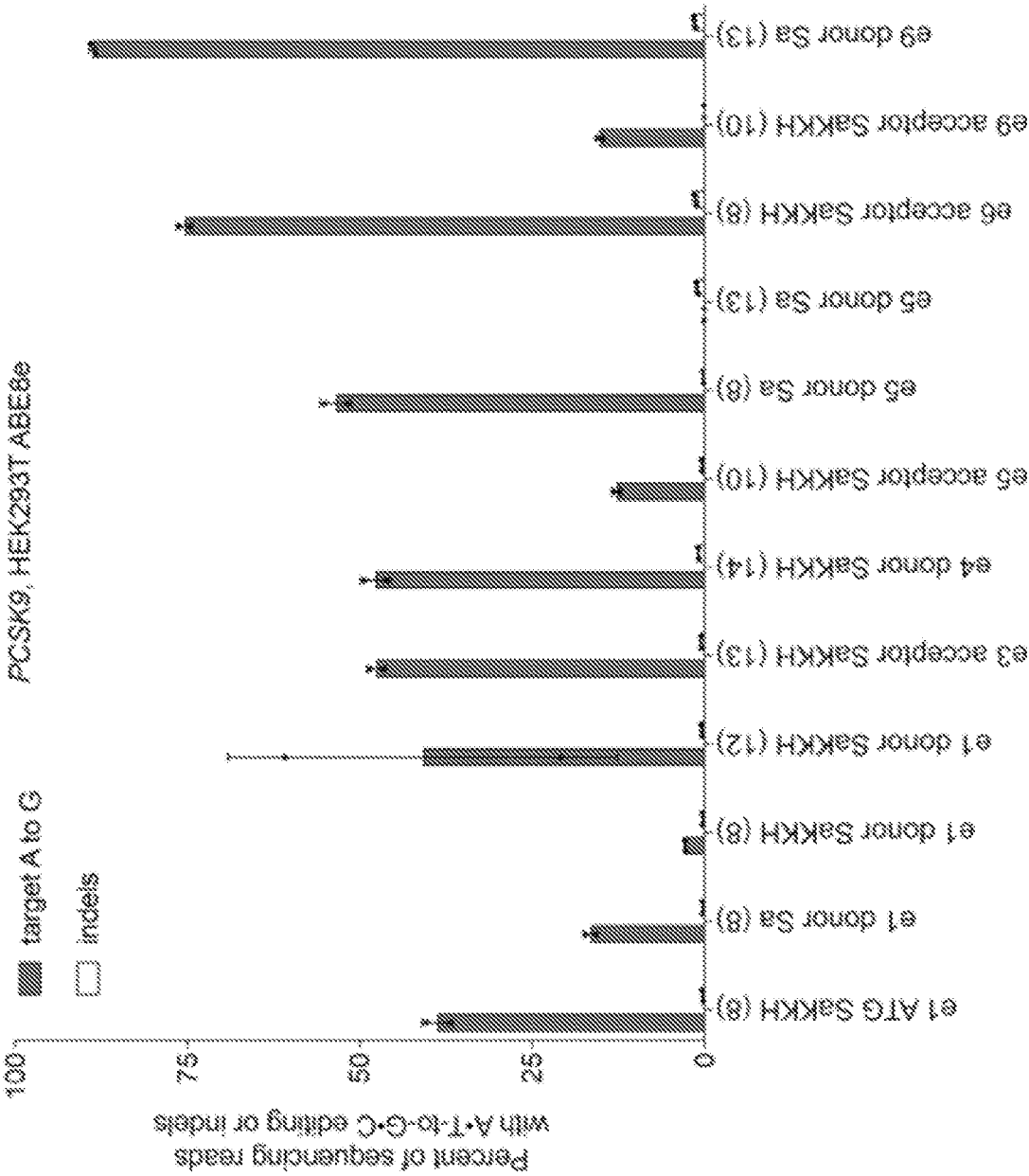


FIG. 9A

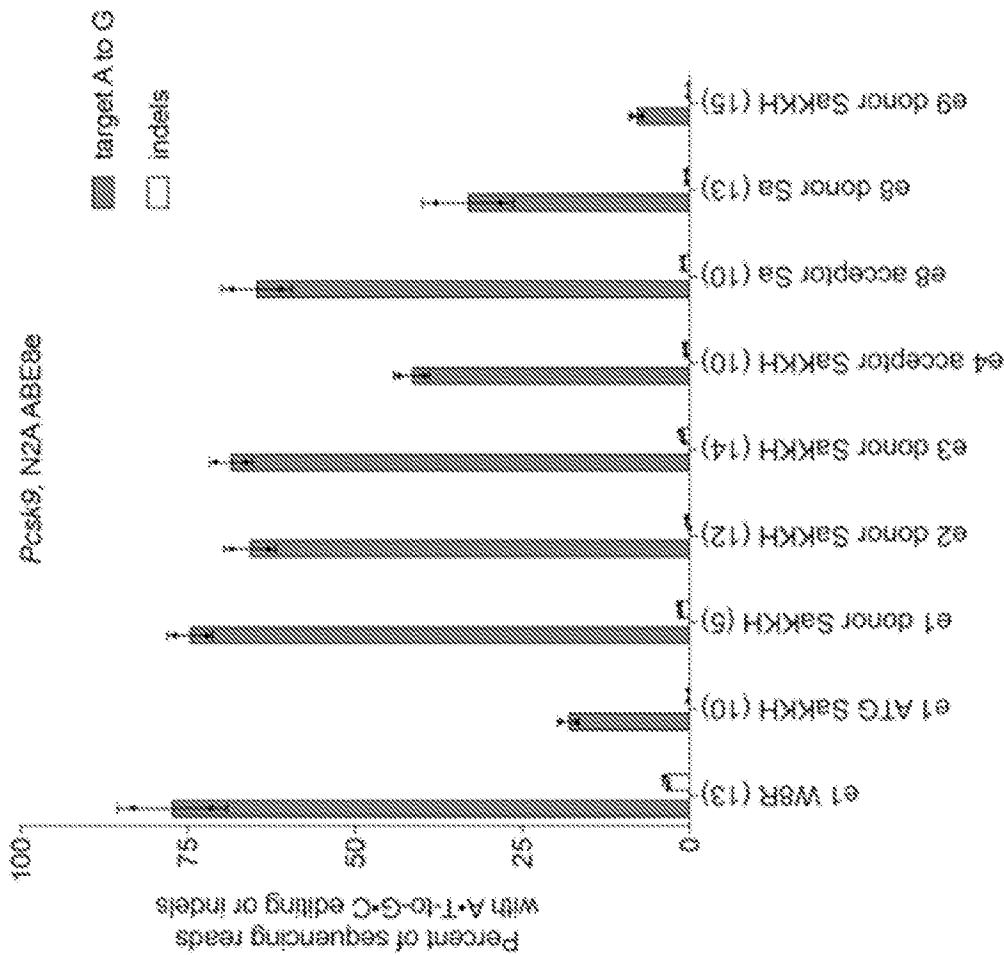


FIG. 9B

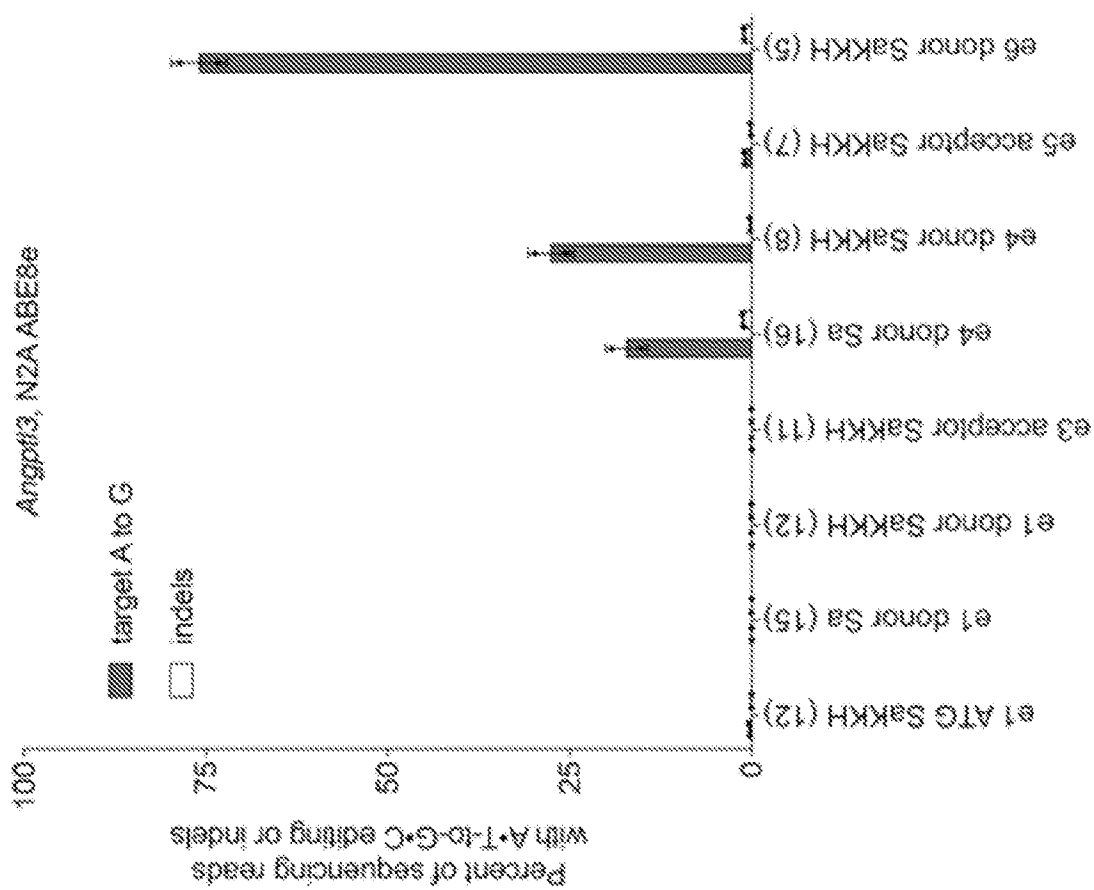


FIG. 9C

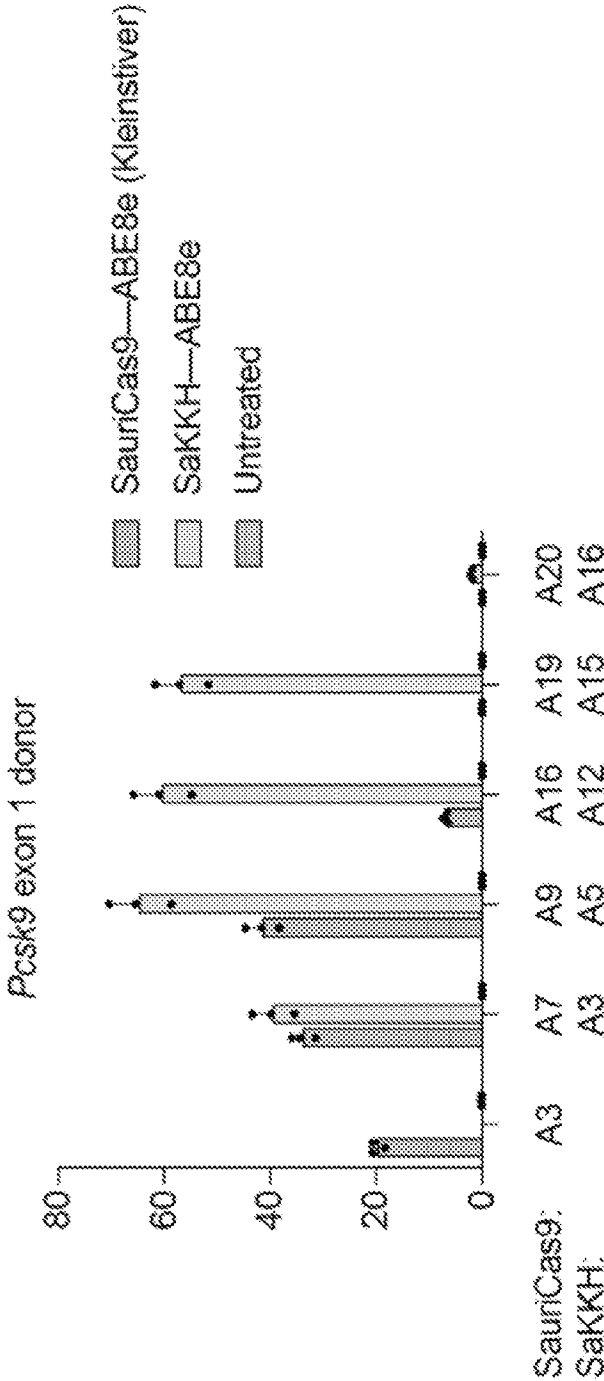


FIG. 10A

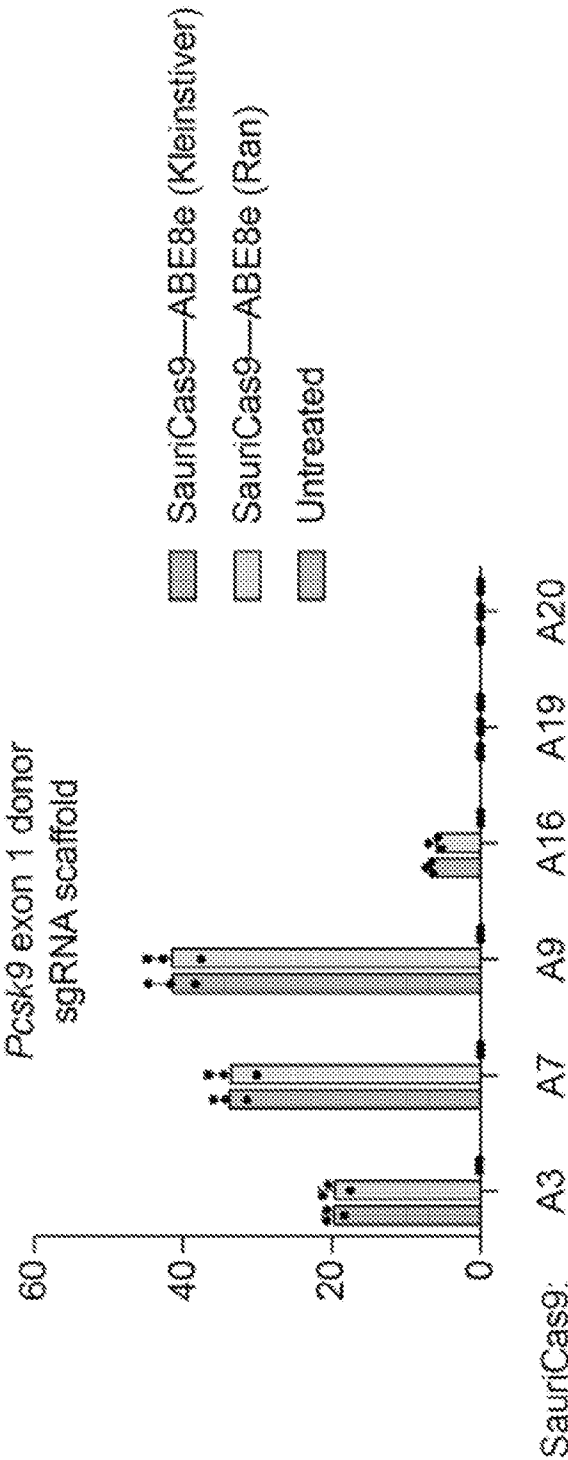


FIG. 10B

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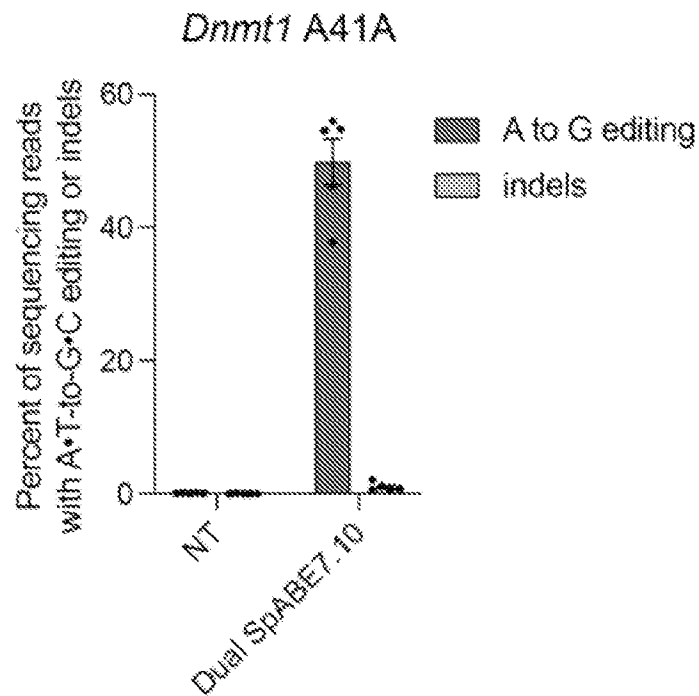


FIG. 11A

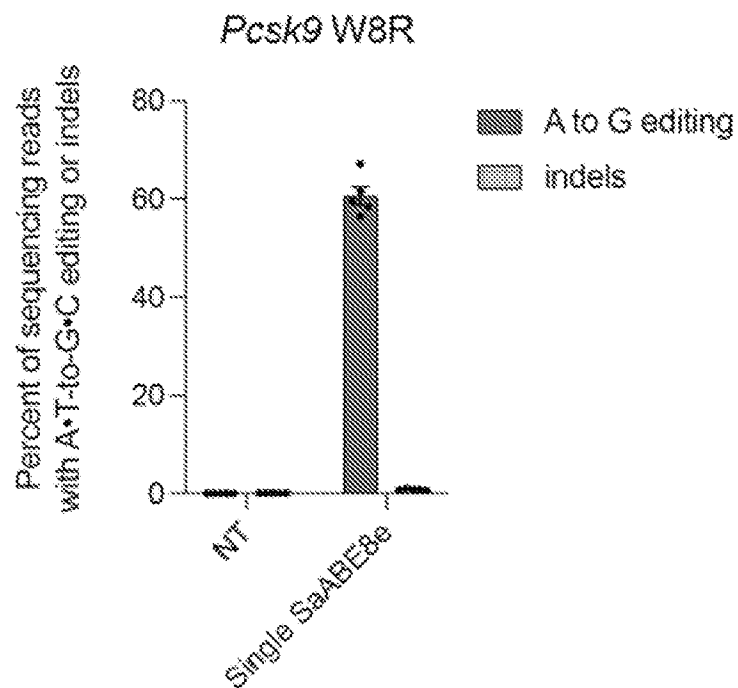


FIG. 11B

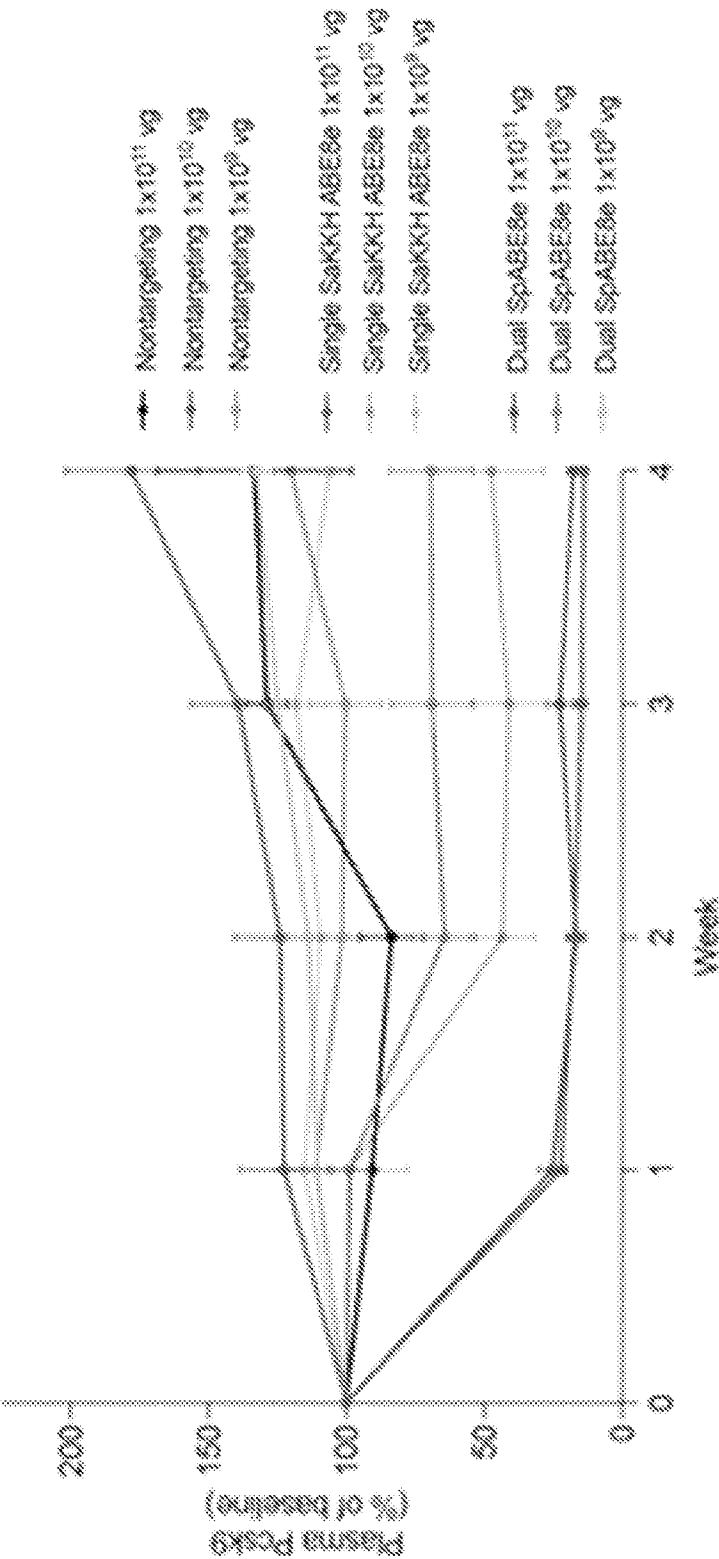


FIG. 12A

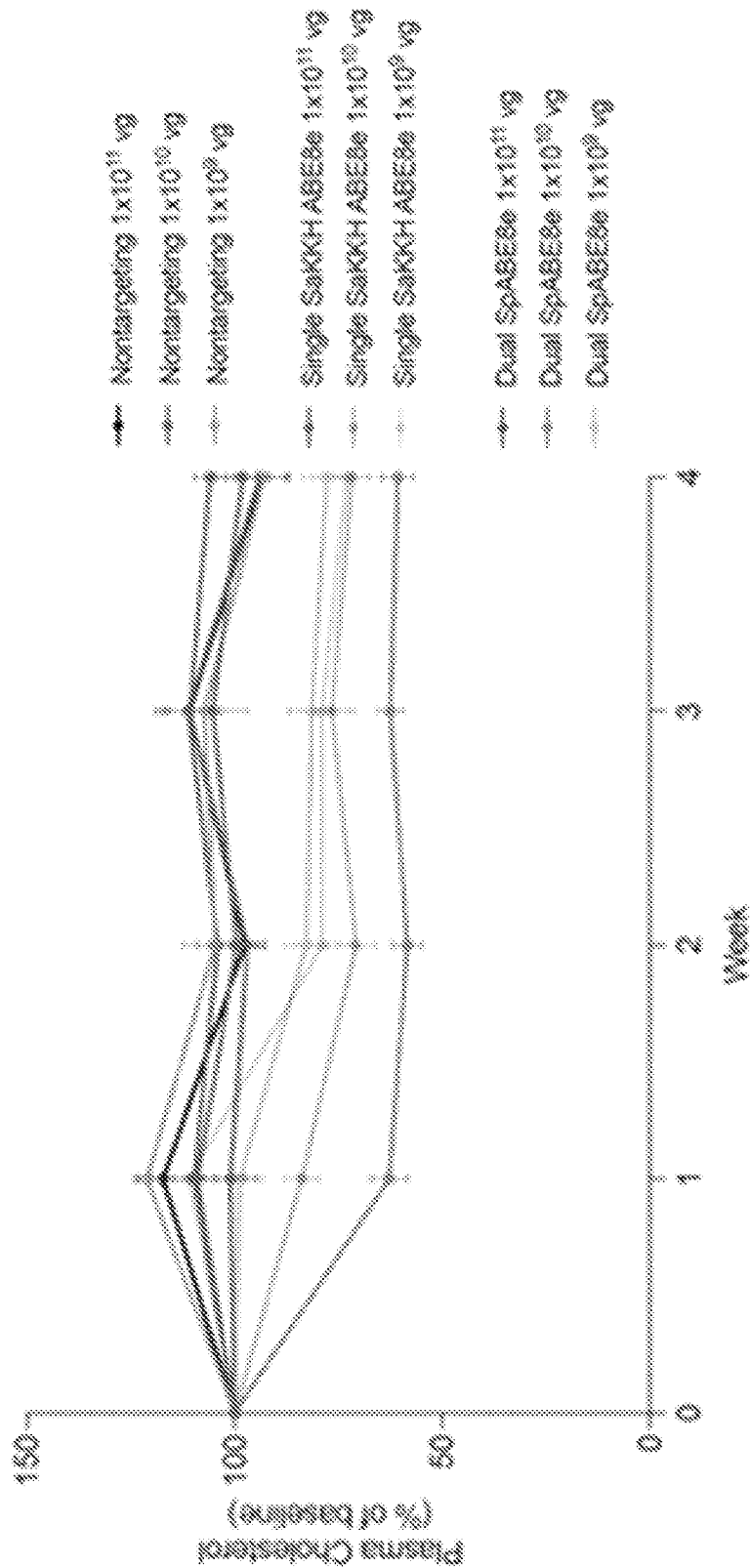


FIG. 12B

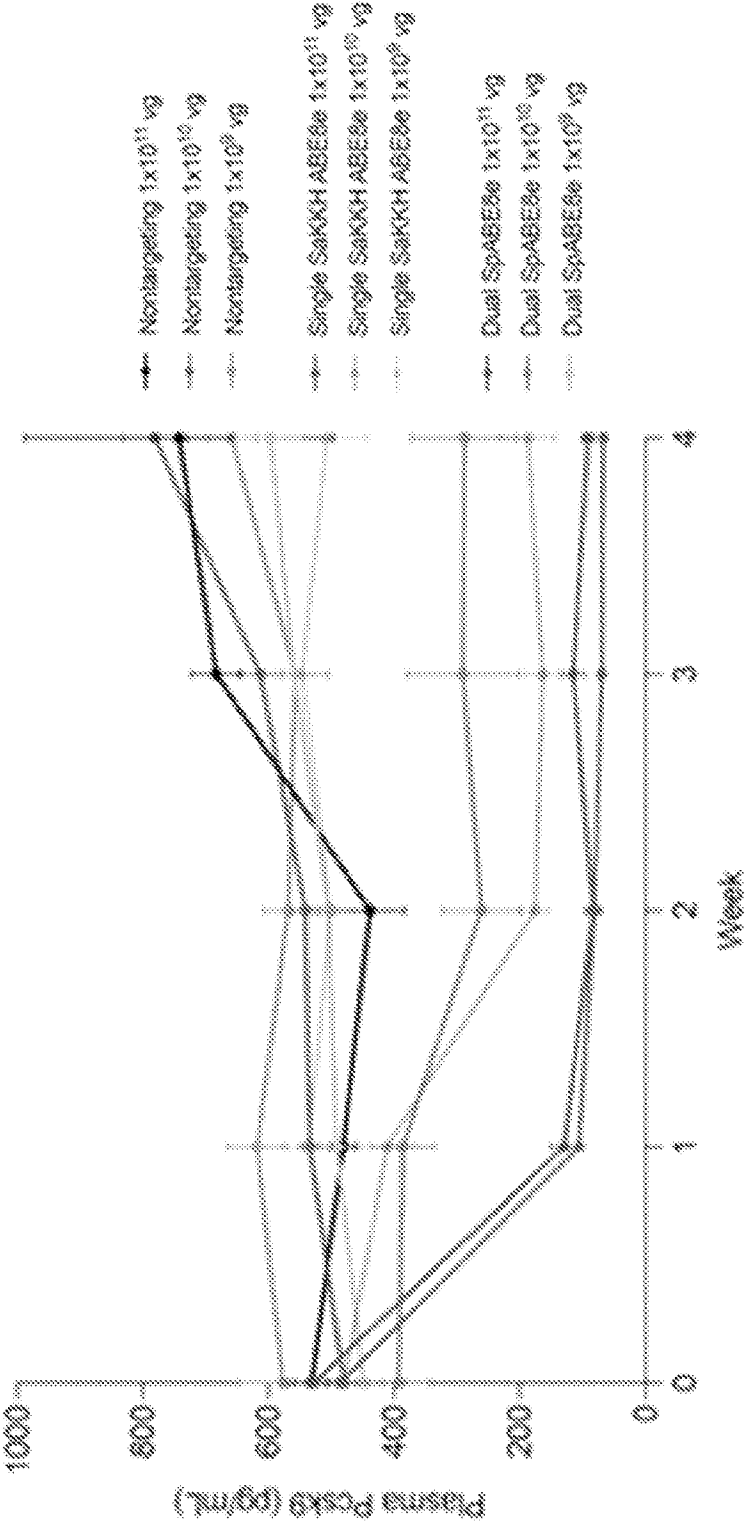


FIG. 12C

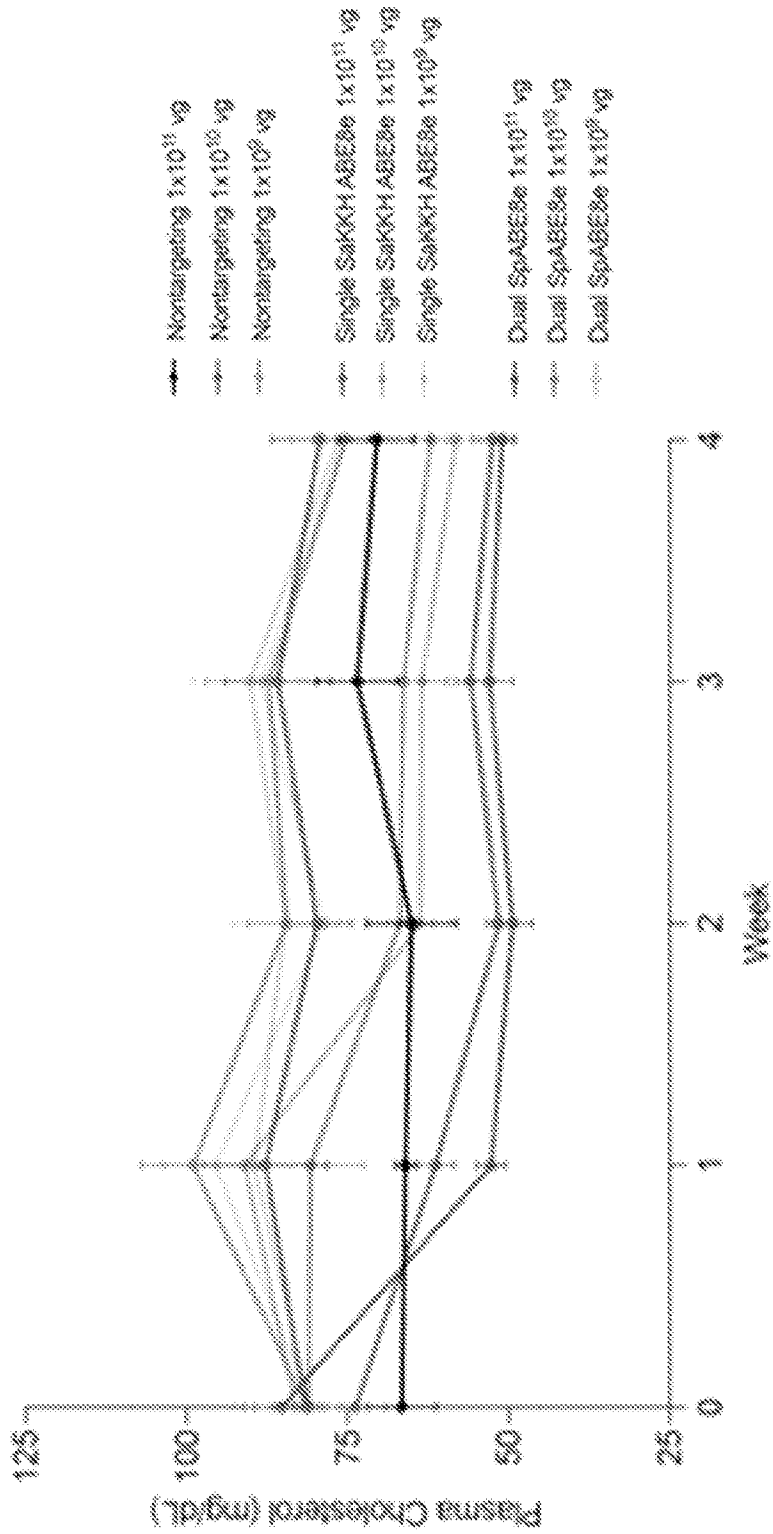


FIG. 12D

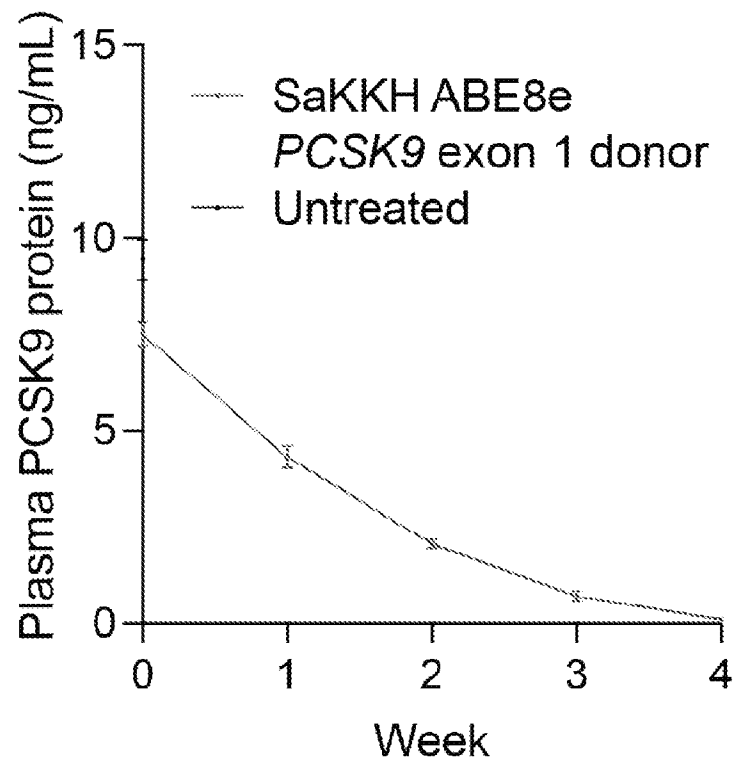


FIG. 13A

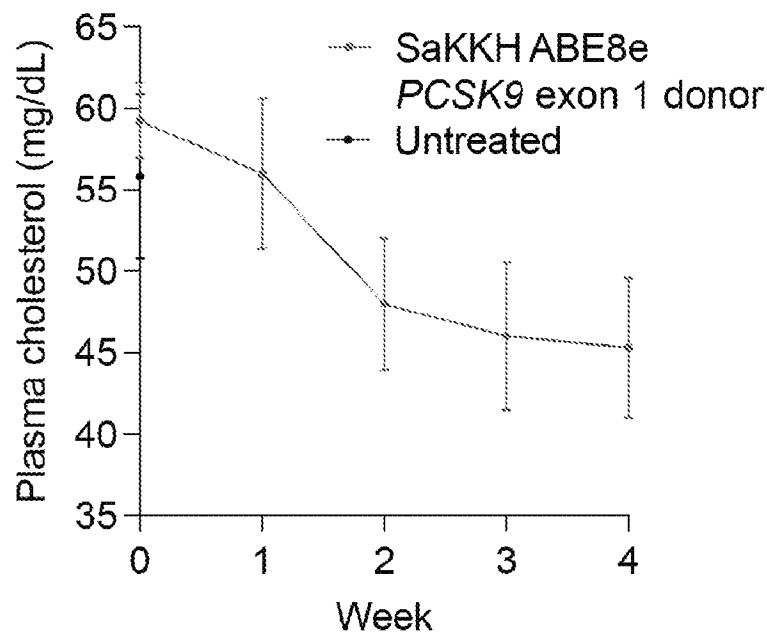


FIG. 13B

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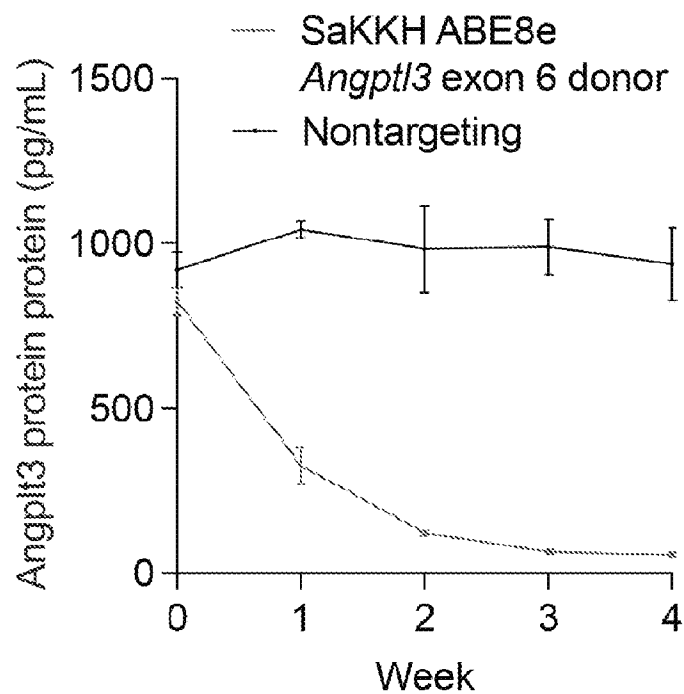


FIG. 13C

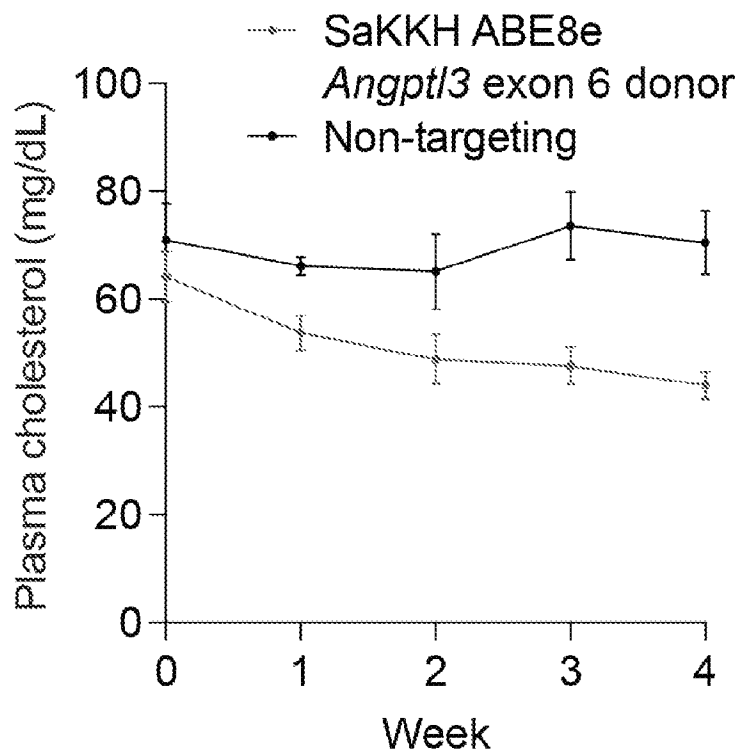


FIG. 13D

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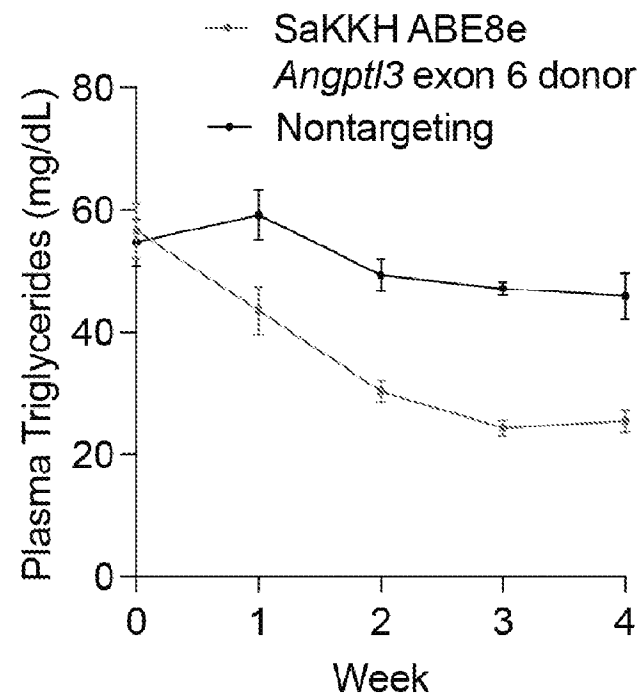


FIG. 13E

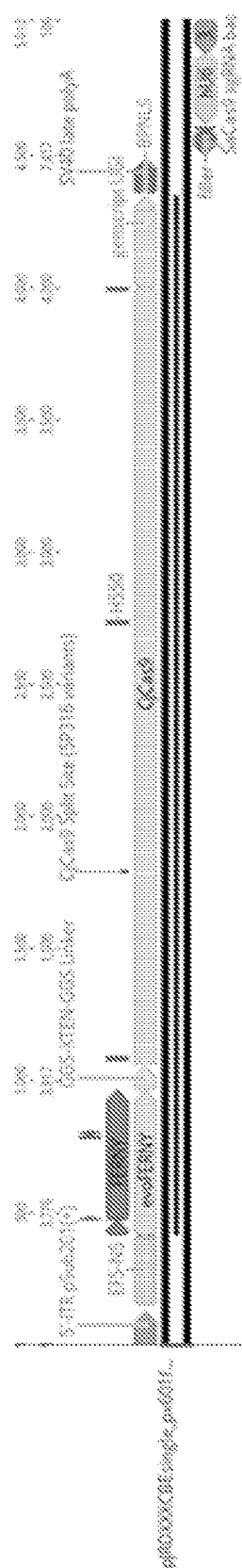


FIG. 14

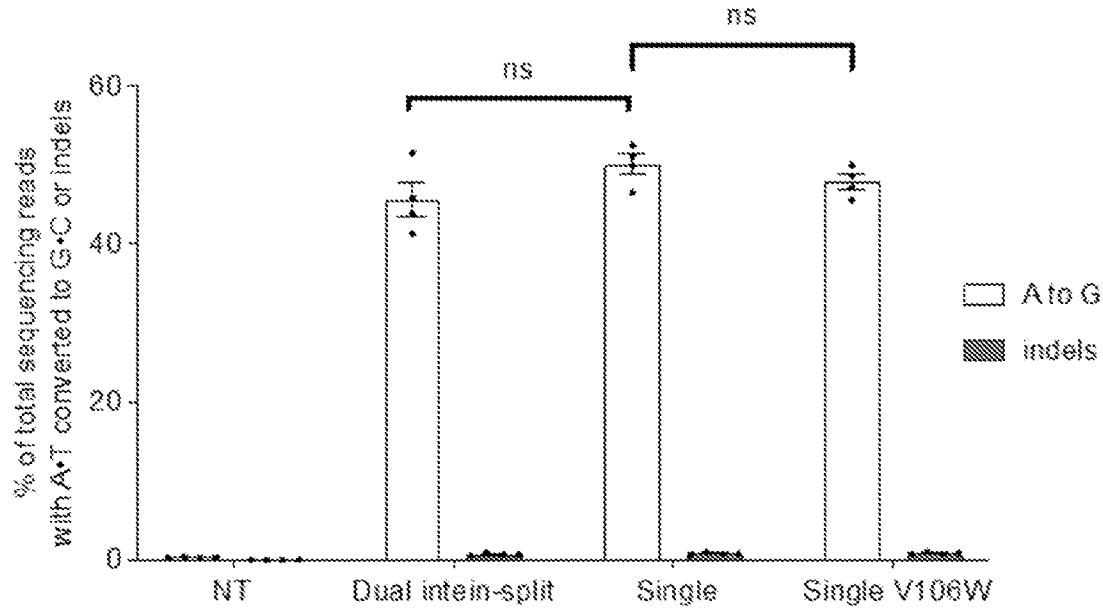


FIG. 15

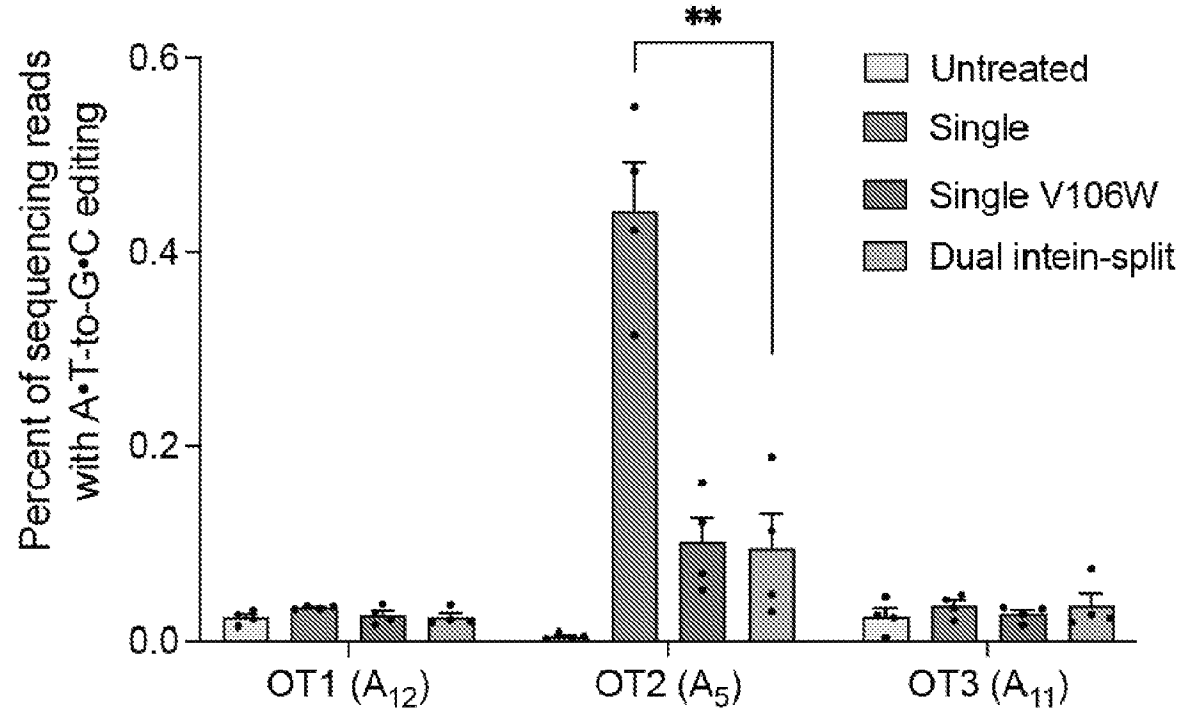


FIG. 16A

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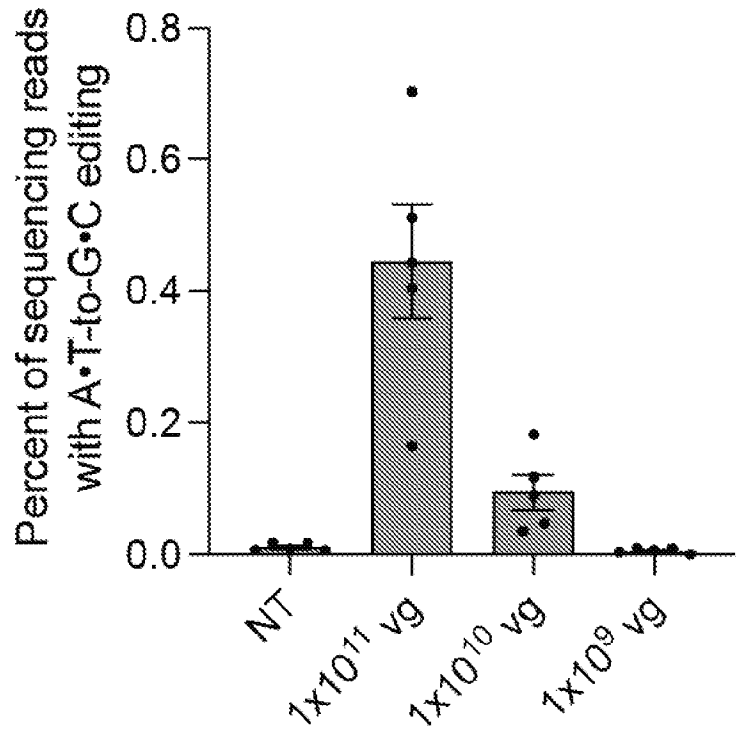


FIG. 16B

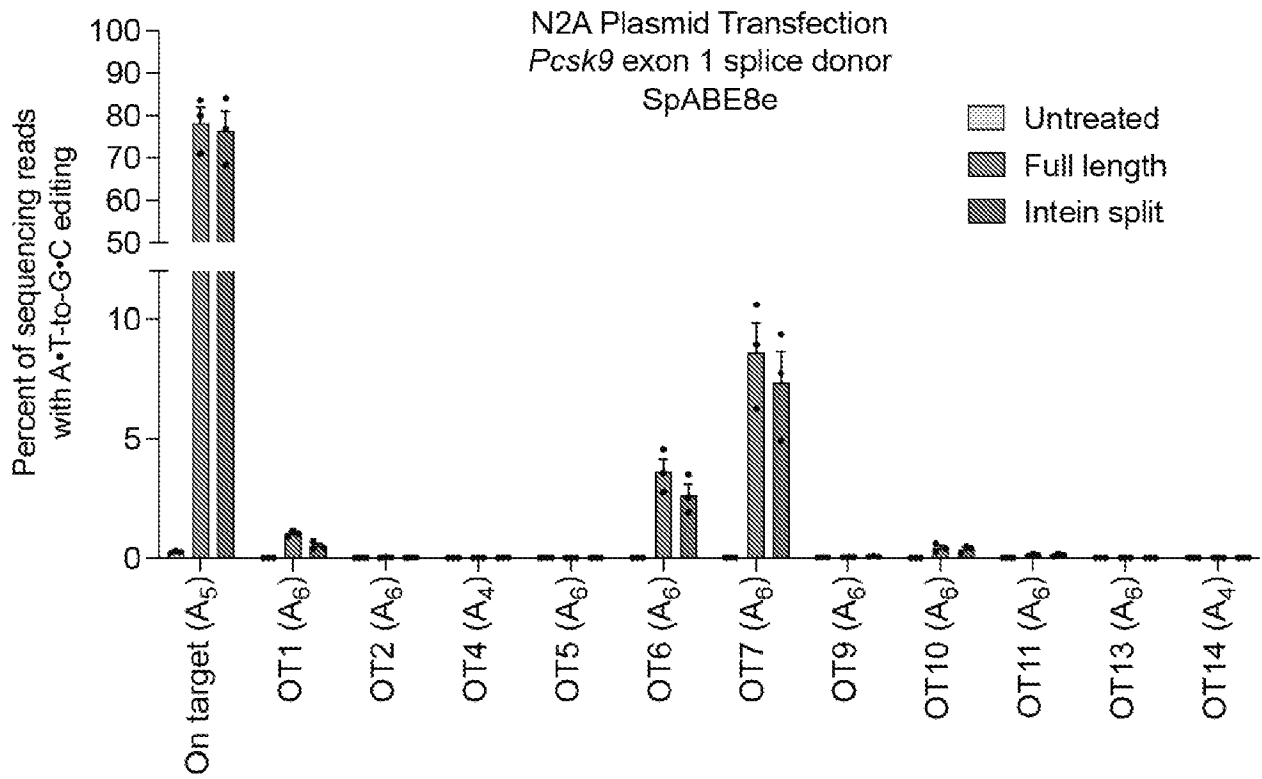


FIG. 16C

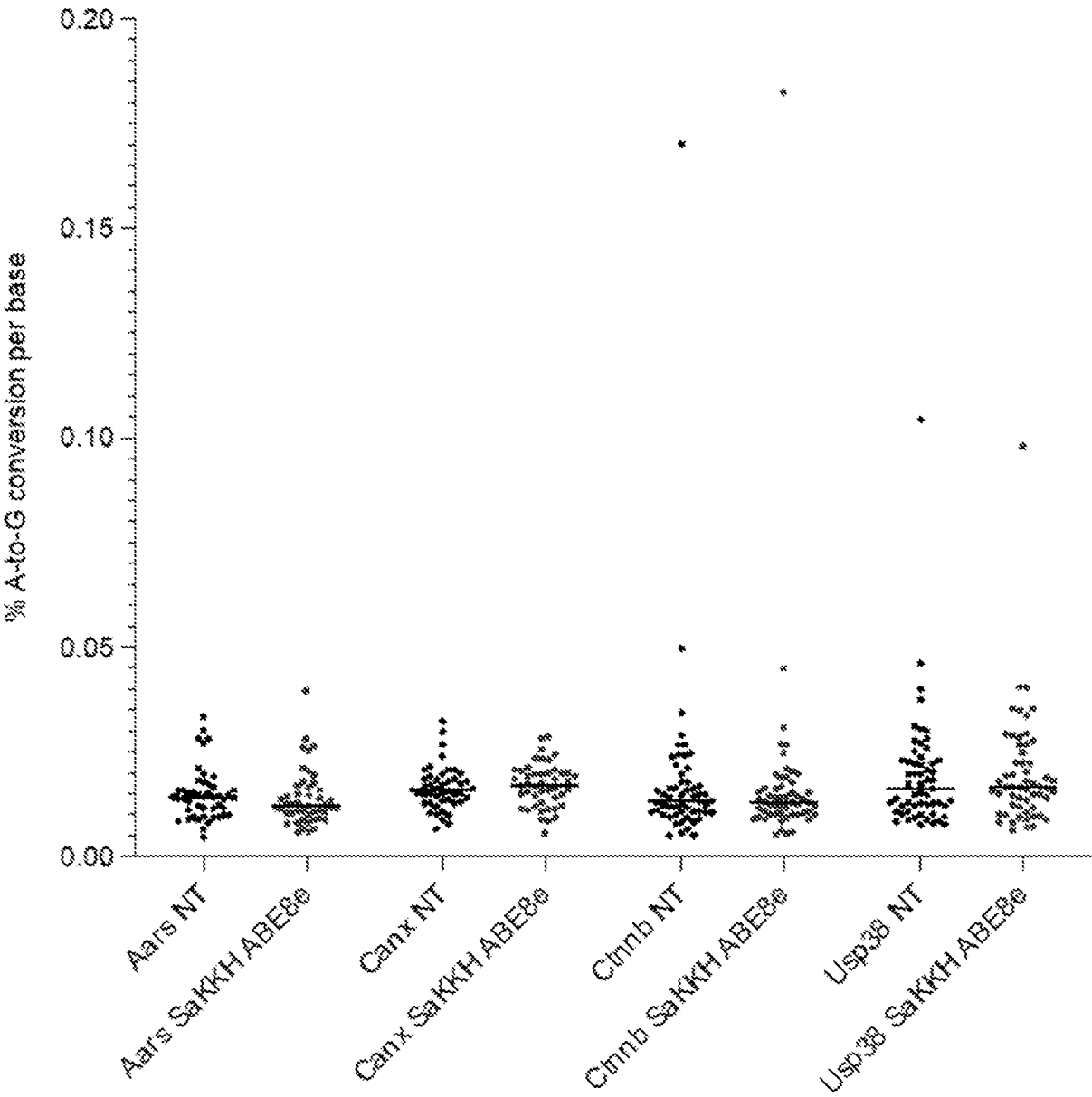


FIG. 17

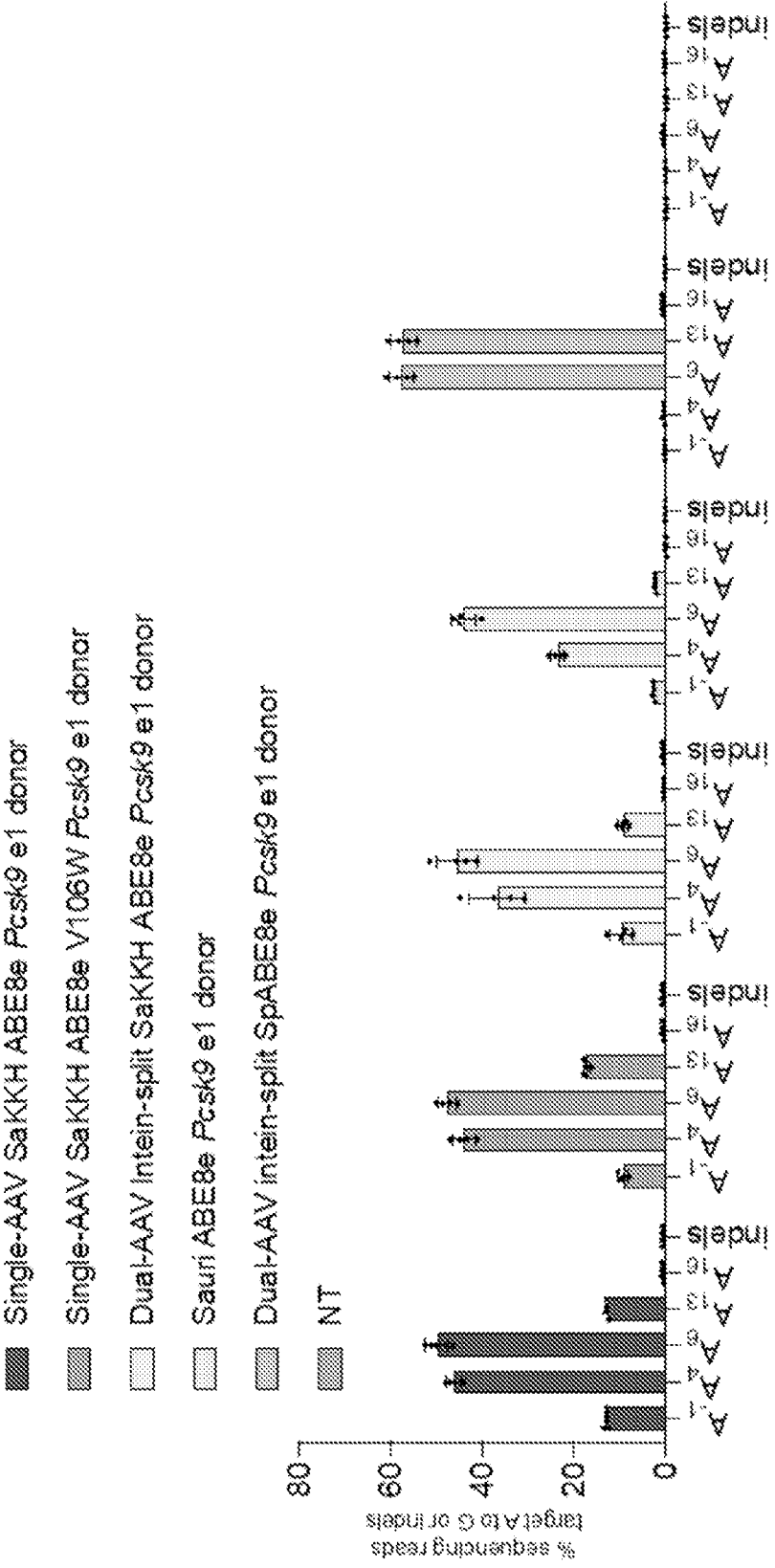
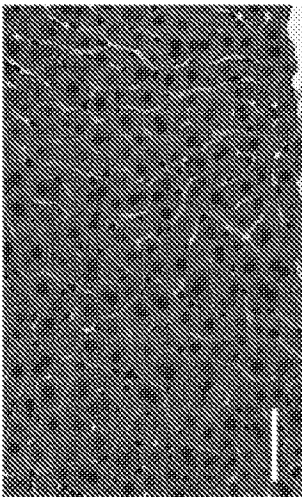
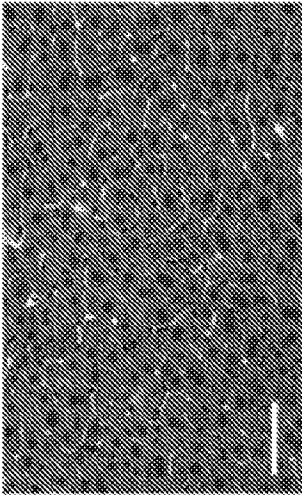
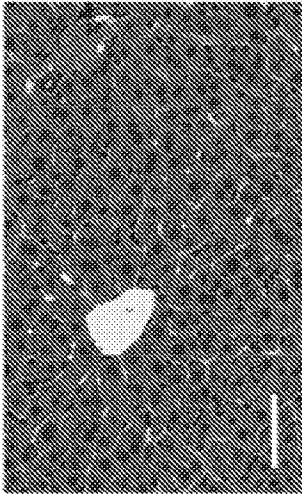
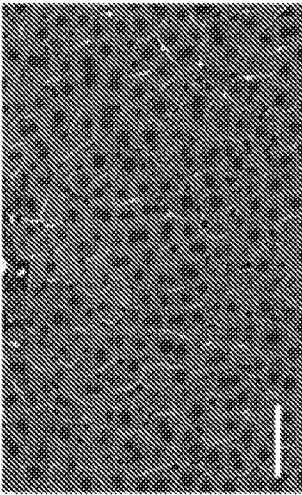
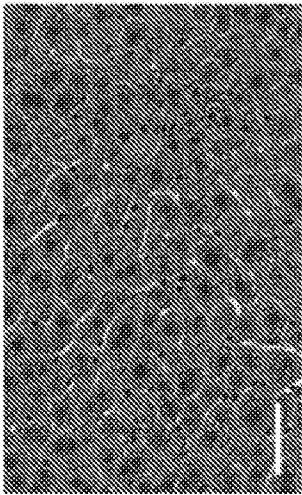
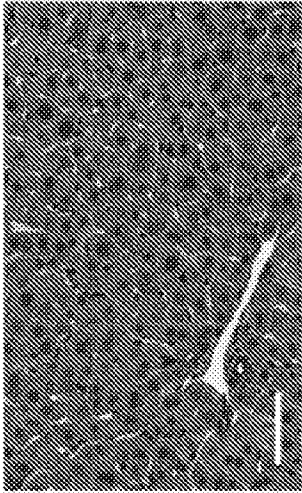


FIG. 18



Untreated

FIG. 19A



Single-AAV ABE8e
1x10¹¹ vg

FIG. 19B

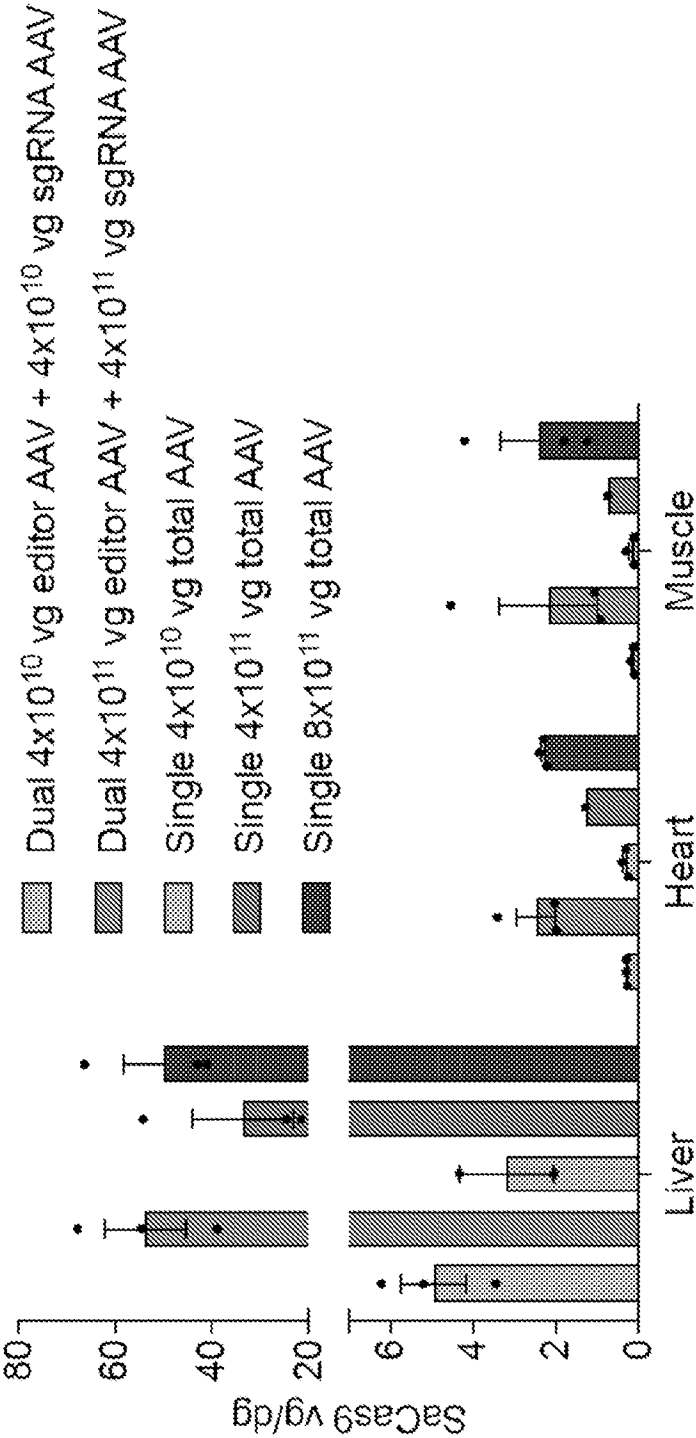
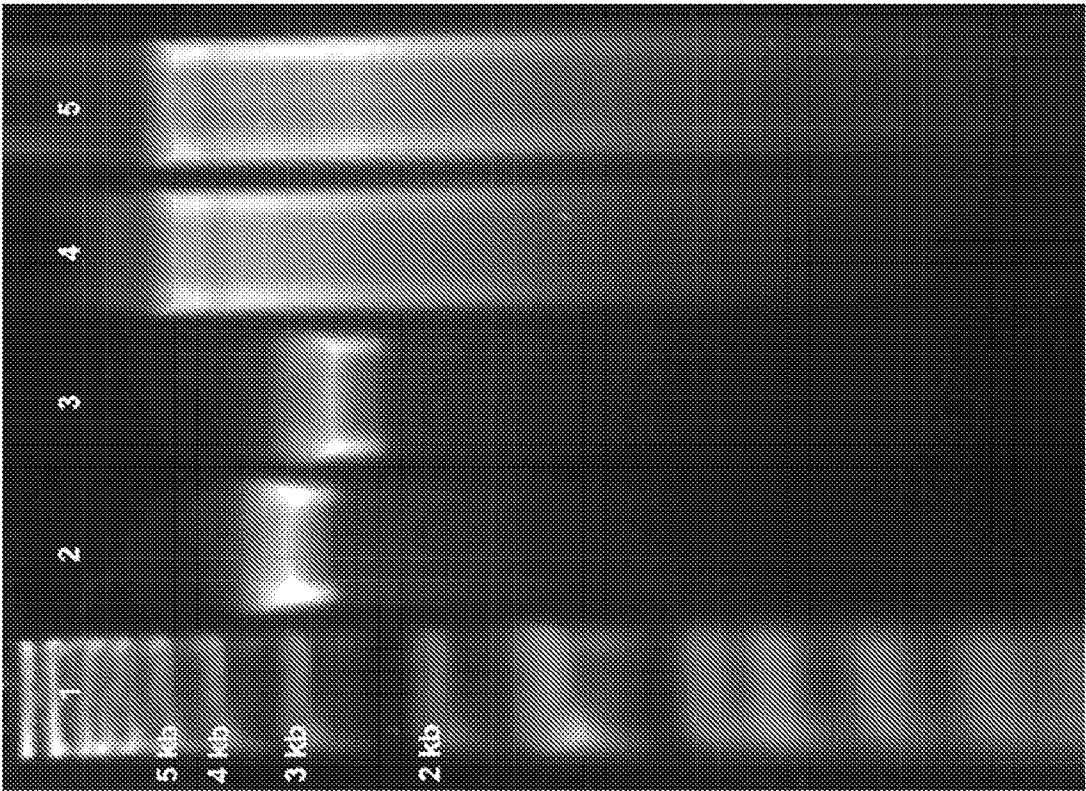


FIG. 20



Lane	Sample	Expected length (bp)
1	1kb+ ladder	
2	AAV8/SaKKH-ABE8e NpuN	3,415
3	AAV8/SaKKH-ABE8e NpuC U6 Pcsk9 e1 donor	2,976
4	AAV8/SaKKH-ABE8e U6 Pcsk9 e1 donor	5,064
5	AAV8/Sauri ABE8e U6 Pcsk9 e1 donor	5,088

FIG. 21

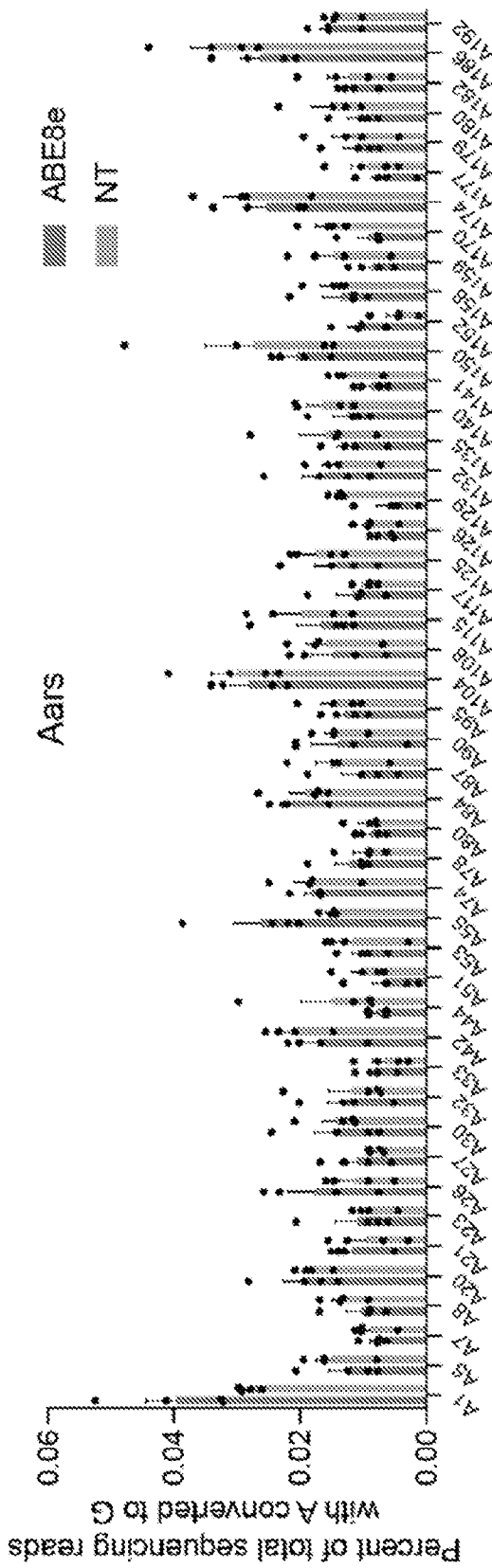


FIG. 22A

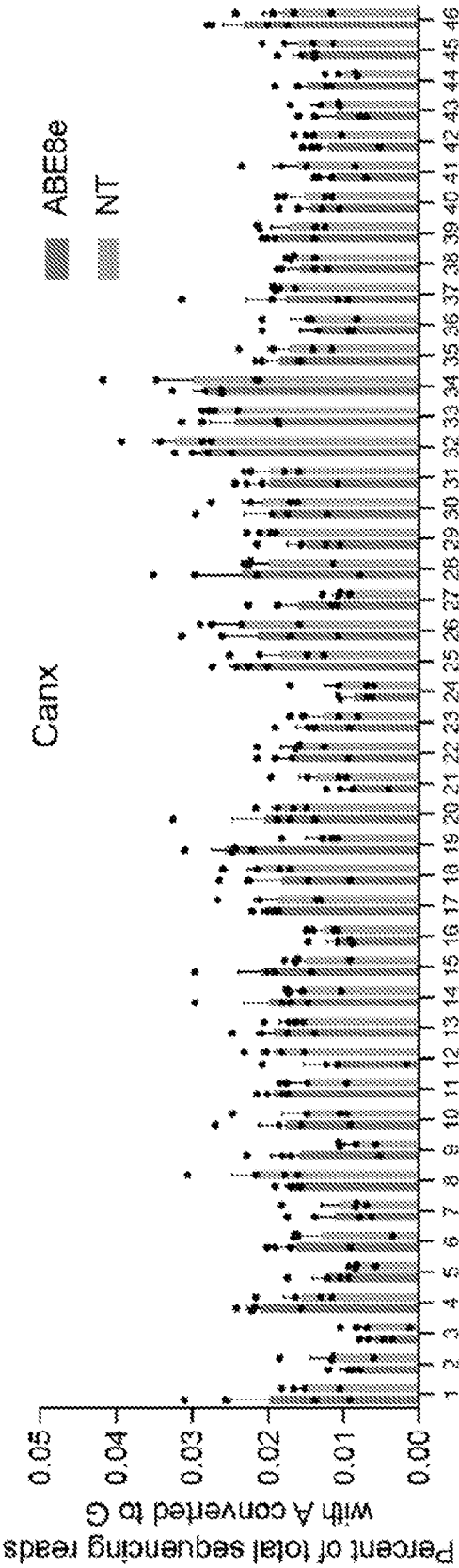


FIG. 22B

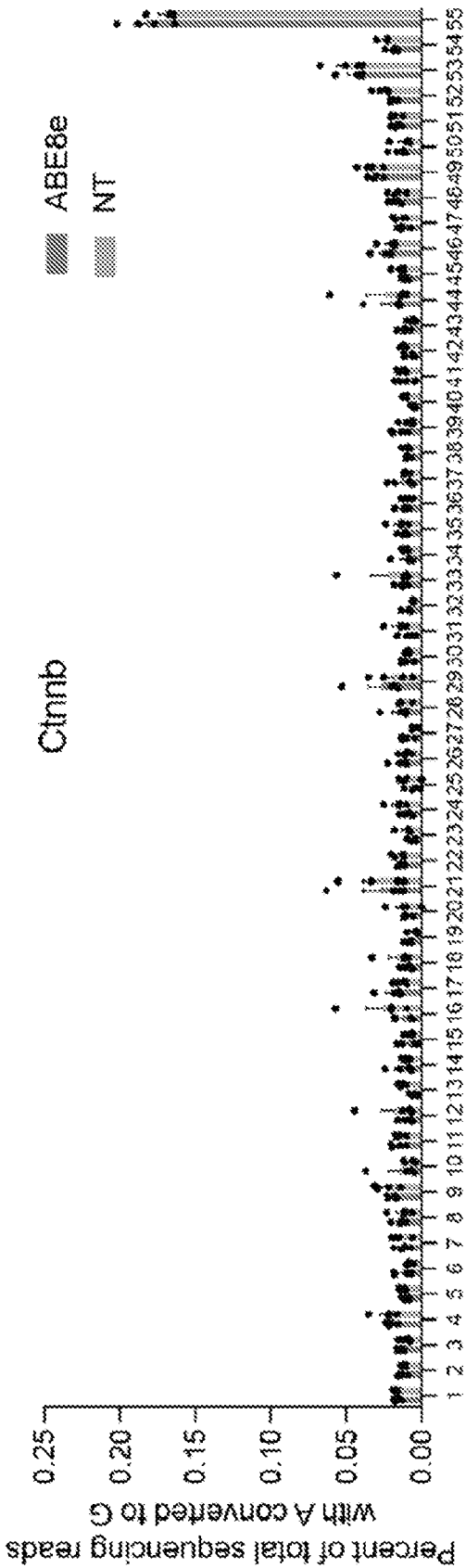


FIG. 22C

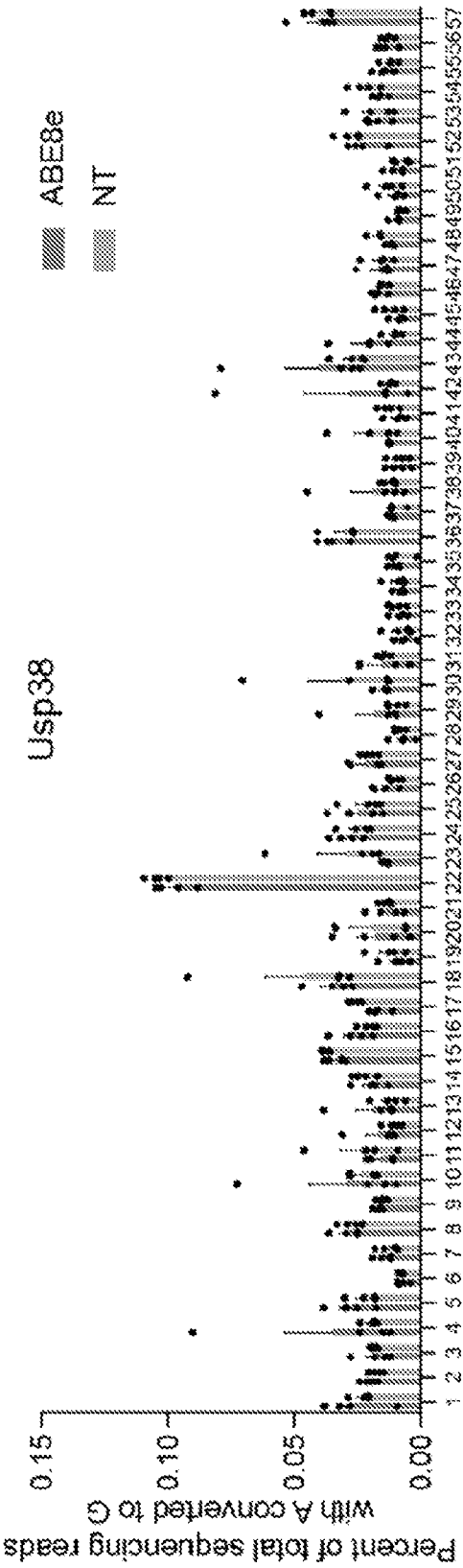


FIG. 22D

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2023/066389

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61K48/00 C12N9/22 C12N9/78 C12N15/11 C12N15/86 C12N15/90 ADD. According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61K C12N Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Kim Do Yon ET AL: "AAV-deliverable hypercompact adenine base editors based on transposase B guided by engineered RNA", Research Square, 12 April 2022 (2022-04-12), pages 1-20, XP093069291, DOI: 10.21203/rs.3.rs-1326630/v1 Retrieved from the Internet: URL:https://www.researchsquare.com/article/rs-1326630/v1 [retrieved on 2023-08-01] page 3; figure 3 page 8 – page 9 ----- -/-	1-4, 11, 14, 19-23, 41-45, 55, 56, 60-62, 66-97, 101-103, 109, 110
☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents : "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance;; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance;; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 2 August 2023		Date of mailing of the international search report 11/08/2023
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Deleu, Laurent

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2023/066389

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Zhang Han ET AL: "Adenine Base Editing in vivo with a Single Adeno-Associated Virus Vector", bioRxiv, 13 December 2021 (2021-12-13), XP093069332, DOI: 10.1101/2021.12.13.472434 Retrieved from the Internet: URL:https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.12.13.472434v1.full [retrieved on 2023-08-01]	1-7, 11-16, 19-24, 27-30, 40-45, 48, 55-63, 66-90, 109,110
Y	figures 3, 5	8-10,17, 18,25, 26, 31-37, 46,47, 49-54, 64,65, 98-100, 104-108

X	Nguyen Tran Minh Thuan ET AL: "Engineering domain-inlaid SaCas9 adenine base editors with reduced RNA off-targets and increased on-target DNA editing", Nature communications, 25 September 2020 (2020-09-25), pages 4871-4871, XP055799432, London DOI: 10.1038/s41467-020-18715-y Retrieved from the Internet: URL:https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-020-18715-y.pdf [retrieved on 2021-04-28] cited in the application page 6; figure 4	1-6, 11-16, 19,20, 23,38, 39, 41-45, 55-61, 66-80, 82,96, 110

Y	LKHAGVASUREN DAMDINDORJ ET AL: "A Comparative Analysis of Constitutive Promoters Located in Adeno-Associated Viral Vectors", PLOS ONE, vol. 9, no. 8, 29 August 2014 (2014-08-29), page e106472, XP055502111, DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0106472 page 4	8-10

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2023/066389

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 2020/236982 A1 (BROAD INST INC [US]; HARVARD COLLEGE [US]) 26 November 2020 (2020-11-26) paragraph [0121] paragraph [0126] paragraph [0310] paragraph [0352] paragraph [0423] paragraph [0470] - paragraph [0518] -----	17, 18, 25, 26, 31-37, 46, 47, 49-54, 64, 65, 98-100, 104-108
X, P	DAVIS JESSIE R. ET AL: "Efficient in vivo base editing via single adeno-associated viruses with size-optimized genomes encoding compact adenine base editors", NATURE BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, vol. 6, no. 11, 28 July 2022 (2022-07-28), pages 1272-1283, XP093069006, DOI: 10.1038/s41551-022-00911-4 Retrieved from the Internet: URL: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41551-022-00911-4 the whole document -----	1-110

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2023/066389

Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.c of the first sheet)

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of a sequence listing:
 - a. ☒ forming part of the international application as filed.
 - b. ☐ furnished subsequent to the international filing date for the purposes of international search (Rule 13*ter*.1(a)).
☐ accompanied by a statement to the effect that the sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.
2. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, this report has been established to the extent that a meaningful search could be carried out without a WIPO Standard ST.26 compliant sequence listing.
3. Additional comments:

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2023/066389

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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