Z301 Partial Cloning of Neuregulin in *Xenopus laevis*

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The neuregulins are a family of multipotent epidermal-growth-factor -like (EGF-like) factors that arise from alternative splicing of a single gene. These proteins play an important role in controlling the growth and differentiation of glial, epithelial, and muscle cells. Neuregulins exist in diverse organisms, from fruit fly to human. Here we report partial cloning of neuregulin gene in the frog, *Xenopus laevis*. *Xenopus* neuregulin is predicted to contain an epidermal growth factor (EGF) motif and a transmembrane domain.

Z302 Differential Distribution of Gangliosides in Adult Rat Oviduct.

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Gangliosides are ubiquitous membrane components in mammalian cells and are suggested to play important roles in various cell functions, such as cell-cell recognition, differentiation and transmembrane signalling. Rat oviduct contained GM3, GM1 and GD1a as major gangliosides. In order to study their distribution in the rat oviduct and its possible changes during the ovulation, frozen sections were stained with specific monoclonal antibodies against 11 ganglio-series gangliosides including those mentioned above. GM3 and GM1 were expressed in different manner, but GD1a and other gangliosides were not immunohistochemically detected.

The total amounts of gangliosides from oviducts of varies times after hormone injection were not much changed. In ampullar region, GM3 and GM1 were similarly expressed in all stroma cells, but not in epithelial cells. GM1 was not observed in epithelial cells. GM3 and GM1 were localized in the plasma membrane and/or its close vicinity. Other ganglio-series gangliosides, including GD1a, were not detected to an appreciable extent in the oviducts by immunohistochemistry.