Quantitative proteomic analysis of regulated intramembrane proteolysis with QARIP web-server

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Regulated intramembrane proteolysis (RIP) is a critical mechanism for intercellular communication and regulates the function of membrane proteins through sequential proteolysis (1,2). RIP typically starts with ectodomain shedding of membrane proteins by extracellular membrane-bound proteases followed by intramembrane proteolysis of the resulting membrane-tethered fragment. However, for the majority of RIP proteases the corresponding substrates and thus, their functions, remain unknown. Proteome-wide identification of RIP protease substrates is possible by mass spectrometry-based quantitative comparison of RIP substrates or their cleavage products between different biological states. However, this requires quantification of peptides

from only the ectodomain or cytoplasmic domain. Current analysis software does not allow matching peptides to either domain.

Here we describe the QARIP (Quantitative <u>A</u>nalysis of <u>R</u>egulated <u>I</u>ntramembrane <u>P</u>roteolysis) web-server, available at <u>http://webclu.bio.wzw.tum.de/qarip/</u>, which matches identified peptides to the protein transmembrane topology (3). QARIP allows determination of quantitative ratios separately for the topological domains (cytoplasmic, ectodomain) of a given protein and is thus a powerful tool for quality control, improvement of quantitative ratios and identification of novel substrates in proteomic RIP datasets. To our knowledge, the QARIP webserver is the first tool directly addressing the phenomenon of regulated intramembrane proteolysis.

References

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