# EMBO
## *reports*

Manuscript EMBO-2017-44940

# METTL16 is a $N^6$-methyladenosine (m$^6$A) methyltransferase that targets pre-mRNAs and various non-coding RNAs

Ahmed S. Warda, Jens Kretschmer, Philipp Hackert, Christof Lenz, Henning Urlaub, Claudia Höbartner, Katherine E. Sloan & Markus T. Bohnsack

*Corresponding author: Markus T. Bohnsack, University Medical Center Göttingen*

**Review timeline:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Submission date: | 04 August 2017 |
| Editorial Decision: | 24 August 2017 |
| Revision received: | 17 September 2017 |
| Accepted: | 28 September 2017 |

Editor: Esther Schnapp

**Transaction Report:**

(Note: With the exception of the correction of typographical or spelling errors that could be a source of ambiguity, letters and reports are not edited. The original formatting of letters and referee reports may not be reflected in this compilation.)

No Peer Review Process File is available with this article, as the authors have chosen not to make the review process public in this case.

**YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL CELLS WITH A PINK BACKGROUND ↓**

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS CHECKLIST WILL BE PUBLISHED ALONGSIDE YOUR PAPER

| |
|---|
| Corresponding Author Name: Markus Bohnsack |
| Journal Submitted to: EMBO reports |
| Manuscript Number: EMBOR-2017-44940V1 |

**Reporting Checklist For Life Sciences Articles (Rev. July 2015)**

This checklist is used to ensure good reporting standards and to improve the reproducibility of published results. These guidelines are consistent with the Principles and Guidelines for Reporting Preclinical Research issued by the NIH in 2014. Please follow the journal's authorship guidelines in preparing your manuscript.

**A- Figures**
**1. Data**
**The data shown in figures should satisfy the following conditions:**
➔ the data were obtained and processed according to the field's best practice and are presented to reflect the results of the experiments in an accurate and unbiased manner.
➔ figure panels include only data points, measurements or observations that can be compared to each other in a scientifically meaningful way.
➔ graphs include clearly labeled error bars for independent experiments and sample sizes. Unless justified, error bars should not be shown for technical replicates.
➔ if n< 5, the individual data points from each experiment should be plotted and any statistical test employed should be justified
➔ Source Data should be included to report the data underlying graphs. Please follow the guidelines set out in the author ship guidelines on Data Presentation.

**2. Captions**

**Each figure caption should contain the following information, for each panel where they are relevant:**
➔ a specification of the experimental system investigated (eg cell line, species name).
➔ the assay(s) and method(s) used to carry out the reported observations and measurements
➔ an explicit mention of the biological and chemical entity(ies) that are being measured.
➔ an explicit mention of the biological and chemical entity(ies) that are altered/varied/perturbed in a controlled manner.

➔ the exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a number, not a range;
➔ a description of the sample collection allowing the reader to understand whether the samples represent technical or biological replicates (including how many animals, litters, cultures, etc.).
➔ a statement of how many times the experiment shown was independently replicated in the laboratory.
➔ definitions of statistical methods and measures:
• common tests, such as t-test (please specify whether paired vs. unpaired), simple $\chi2$ tests, Wilcoxon and Mann-Whitney tests, can be unambiguously identified by name only, but more complex techniques should be described in the methods section;
• are tests one-sided or two-sided?
• are there adjustments for multiple comparisons?
• exact statistical test results, e.g., P values = x but not P values < x;
• definition of 'center values' as median or average;
• definition of error bars as s.d. or s.e.m.

Any descriptions too long for the figure legend should be included in the methods section and/or with the source data.

**In the pink boxes below, please ensure that the answers to the following questions are reported in the manuscript itself. Every question should be answered. If the question is not relevant to your research, please write NA (non applicable). We encourage you to include a specific subsection in the methods section for statistics, reagents, animal models and human subjects.**

**B- Statistics and general methods**

Please fill out these boxes ↓ (Do not worry if you cannot see all your text once you press return)

| Question | Answer |
|---|---|
| 1.a. How was the sample size chosen to ensure adequate power to detect a pre-specified effect size? | The sample size was chosen based on long-term experience with the biochemical approaches utilised in this study. In general, at least three biological replicates of each experiment were performed. |
| 1.b. For animal studies, include a statement about sample size estimate even if no statistical methods were used. | N/A |
| 2. Describe inclusion/exclusion criteria if samples or animals were excluded from the analysis. Were the criteria pre-established? | The data dervied from independent experiments were analysed and included in the statistical analyses. Results were excluded if experiments failed for technical reasons or could not be analysed (e.g. due to poor resolution of a gel preventing quantification of signals). |
| 3. Were any steps taken to minimize the effects of subjective bias when allocating animals/samples to treatment (e.g. randomization procedure)? If yes, please describe. | Datasets were generally analysed independently by different scientists to avoid subjective analysis. |
| For animal studies, include a statement about randomization even if no randomization was used. | N/A |
| 4.a. Were any steps taken to minimize the effects of subjective bias during group allocation or/and when assessing results (e.g. blinding of the investigator)? If yes please describe. | N/A |
| 4.b. For animal studies, include a statement about blinding even if no blinding was done | N/A |
| 5. For every figure, are statistical tests justified as appropriate? | Statistical analyses were performed where relevant and, to the best of our knowledge, appropriate approaches were applied. |
| Do the data meet the assumptions of the tests (e.g., normal distribution)? Describe any methods used to assess it. | The standard deviations were calculated based on the data of the replicates. |
| Is there an estimate of variation within each group of data? | Standard deviation and standard error of the mean were calculated as indicated. |
| Is the variance similar between the groups that are being statistically compared? | See above |

**C- Reagents**

| Question | Answer |
|---|---|
| 6. To show that antibodies were profiled for use in the system under study (assay and species), provide a citation, catalog number and/or clone number, supplementary information or reference to an antibody validation profile. e.g., Antibodypedia (see link list at top right), 1DegreeBio (see link list at top right). | The origin of commercial antibodies, the corresponding catalogue numbers or references to previous characterisations are given in the manuscript. |
| 7. Identify the source of cell lines and report if they were recently authenticated (e.g., by STR profiling) and tested for mycoplasma contamination. | HeLa CCL2 cells originated from ATCC and the Flp-In T-REx 293 cellline was aquired from Life Technologies (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Cells are tested regularly for their identity and are confirmed as mycoplasma free using a commercial kit. |

\* for all hyperlinks, please see the table at the top right of the document

**D- Animal Models**

| Question | Answer |
|---|---|
| 8. Report species, strain, gender, age of animals and genetic modification status where applicable. Please detail housing and husbandry conditions and the source of animals. | N/A |
| 9. For experiments involving live vertebrates, include a statement of compliance with ethical regulations and identify the committee(s) approving the experiments. | N/A |
| 10. We recommend consulting the ARRIVE guidelines (see link list at top right) (PLoS Biol. 8(6), e1000412, 2010) to ensure that other relevant aspects of animal studies are adequately reported. See author guidelines, under 'Reporting Guidelines'. See also: NIH (see link list at top right) and MRC (see link list at top right) recommendations. Please confirm compliance. | N/A |

**E- Human Subjects**

| 11. Identify the committee(s) approving the study protocol. | N/A |
|---|---|
| 12. Include a statement confirming that informed consent was obtained from all subjects and that the experiments conformed to the principles set out in the WMA Declaration of Helsinki and the Department of Health and Human Services Belmont Report. | N/A |
| 13. For publication of patient photos, include a statement confirming that consent to publish was obtained. | N/A |
| 14. Report any restrictions on the availability (and/or on the use) of human data or samples. | N/A |
| 15. Report the clinical trial registration number (at ClinicalTrials.gov or equivalent), where applicable. | N/A |
| 16. For phase II and III randomized controlled trials, please refer to the CONSORT flow diagram (see link list at top right) and submit the CONSORT checklist (see link list at top right) with your submission. See author guidelines, under 'Reporting Guidelines'. Please confirm you have submitted this list. | N/A |
| 17. For tumor marker prognostic studies, we recommend that you follow the REMARK reporting guidelines (see link list at top right). See author guidelines, under 'Reporting Guidelines'. Please confirm you have followed these guidelines. | N/A |

**F- Data Accessibility**

| 18. Provide a "Data Availability" section at the end of the Materials & Methods, listing the accession codes for data generated in this study and deposited in a public database (e.g. RNA-Seq data: Gene Expression Omnibus GSE39462, Proteomics data: PRIDE PXD000208 etc.) Please refer to our author guidelines for 'Data Deposition'.<br><br>Data deposition in a public repository is mandatory for:<br>a. Protein, DNA and RNA sequences<br>b. Macromolecular structures<br>c. Crystallographic data for small molecules<br>d. Functional genomics data<br>e. Proteomics and molecular interactions | The UV- and PAR-CRAC data are being deposited in the Gene Expression Omnibus database. The data base entry has been initiated and the accession codes will be provided. |
|---|---|
| 19. Deposition is strongly recommended for any datasets that are central and integral to the study; please consider the journal's data policy. If no structured public repository exists for a given data type, we encourage the provision of datasets in the manuscript as a Supplementary Document (see author guidelines under 'Expanded View' or in unstructured repositories such as Dryad (see link list at top right) or Figshare (see link list at top right). | See above |
| 20. Access to human clinical and genomic datasets should be provided with as few restrictions as possible while respecting ethical obligations to the patients and relevant medical and legal issues. If practically possible and compatible with the individual consent agreement used in the study, such data should be deposited in one of the major public access-controlled repositories such as dbGAP (see link list at top right) or EGA (see link list at top right). | N/A |
| 21. Computational models that are central and integral to a study should be shared without restrictions and provided in a machine-readable form. The relevant accession numbers or links should be provided. When possible, standardized format (SBML, CellML) should be used instead of scripts (e.g. MATLAB). Authors are strongly encouraged to follow the MIRIAM guidelines (see link list at top right) and deposit their model in a public database such as Biomodels (see link list at top right) or JWS Online (see link list at top right). If computer source code is provided with the paper, it should be deposited in a public repository or included in supplementary information. | N/A |

**G- Dual use research of concern**

| 22. Could your study fall under dual use research restrictions? Please check biosecurity documents (see link list at top right) and list of select agents and toxins (APHIS/CDC) (see link list at top right). According to our biosecurity guidelines, provide a statement only if it could. | N/A |
|---|---|