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Scriptwriter Name: Sulakshana Karkala

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Title: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Models of Alzheimer's Disease to Screen Genes, Mutations, and Chemicals Affecting Amyloid Beta Production by γ -Secretase

Authors and Affiliations:

Eugene Futai, Mio Shiina, Ying Dai, Khadijia Daoudi, Masafumi Hidaka, Tomohisa Ogawa

Department of Agricultural Chemistry, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Tohoku University

Corresponding Authors:

Eugene Futai (eugene.futai.e1@tohoku.ac.jp)

Email Addresses for All Authors:

Eugene Futai (eugene.futai.e1@tohoku.ac.jp)

Mio Shiina (shiina.mio.s4@dc.tohoku.ac.jp)

Ying Dai (dai.ying.q5@dc.tohoku.ac.jp)

Khadijia Daoudi (daoudi.khadija.b8@tohoku.ac.jp)

Masafumi Hidaka (masafumi.hidaka.a4@tohoku.ac.jp)

Tomohisa Ogawa (tomohisa.ogawa.c3@tohoku.ac.jp)

Author Questionnaire

- 1. Microscopy:** Does your protocol require the use of a dissecting or stereomicroscope for performing a complex dissection, microinjection technique, or something similar? **No**

- 2. Software:** Does the part of your protocol being filmed include step-by-step descriptions of software usage? **Yes**
Videographer: Please film the shots labeled SCREEN as backup
SCREEN: 2.11.2, 4.1.1

- 3. Filming location:** Will the filming need to take place in multiple locations? **No**

Current Protocol Length

Number of Steps: 30

Number of Shots: 59

Introduction

Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.

1. **Eugene Futai:** We are reconstituting human γ -secretase in yeast to investigate how FAD-related mutations impact its activity and whether suppressor mutations or chemical modulators can restore cleavage and reduce pathogenic A β 42 levels.

- 1.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Suggested B.roll:5.1*

Videographer's Note : last take best

What technologies are currently used to advance research in your field?

- 1.2. **Eugene Futai:** We combine functional analysis using mammalian cell and yeast systems with structural analysis via cryo-EM to study the mechanism of γ -secretase modulation.

- 1.2.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

Videographer's Note : Last take best. Slated as 1.1.2

What significant findings have you established in your field?

- 1.3. **Ying Dai:** We analyzed FAD mutations using γ -secretase reconstitution in yeast and identified suppressors that restore the activity of FAD mutants and reduce A β 42 levels, mimicking the effect of γ -secretase modulators.

- 1.3.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Videographer's Note : Last two takes were good*

What advantage does your protocol offer compared to other techniques?

- 1.4. **Mio Shiina:** Our protocol enables rapid, scalable functional screening of γ -secretase activity in yeast, allowing analysis of human mutations and modulators without relying on complex mammalian systems.

- 1.4.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-sty two takes le shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Suggested B.roll:5.6 Videographer's Note : first and last best*

What research questions will your laboratory focus on in the future?

- 1.5. **Mio Shiina:** We will focus on identifying new genetic or chemical modulators and inhibitors of γ -secretase, elucidating mechanisms of A β 42 production, and expanding yeast-based reconstitution systems for other human intramembrane proteases.

1.5.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. **Videographer's Note : First and last best**
Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.

Protocol

2. Measuring γ -Secretase Activity in Yeast Using a Reporter Assay

Demonstrator: Mio Shiina

- 2.1. To begin, transform the plasmids into the yeast PJ-69-4A (*P-J-sixty-nine-four-A*) strain using the standard lithium acetate method to express γ -secretase (*gamma-secretase*) and its substrate [1-TXT].

2.1.1. WIDE: Talent holding a plate with the transformed yeast. **TXT: Select transformants on synthetic complete medium without Leu, Trp and Ura**

- 2.2. Streak the transformed yeast strains onto SC-LWHUAde (*S-C-L-W-H-U-Aid*) medium also lacking histidine and adenine to assess substrate cleavage based on growth [1]. Incubate the plates at 30 degrees Celsius for 3 days [2].

2.2.1. Talent streaking yeast onto SC-LWHUAde agar plates.

2.2.2. Shot of plates being placed inside an incubator set to 30 degrees Celsius.

- 2.3. Evaluate colony size to assess expression of HIS3 (*H-I-S-Three*) and ADE2 (*A-D-E-Two*) genes [1].

2.3.1. Talent inspecting yeast plates and comparing colony sizes.

Videographer's Note : two different frames in one take

AND

TEXT ON PLAIN BACKGROUND:

Classify colony growth as:

+++ : Wild-type growth with colonies > than 1 mm

++ : Partial growth with colonies > than 0.5 mm

+ : Colonies < 0.5 mm

– : No growth

Video Editor: Please play both shots side by side

- 2.4. To assess substrate cleavage via β (*beta*)-galactosidase activity, grow the yeast strains in SC-LWU (*S-C-L-W-U*) liquid medium at 30 degrees Celsius until the culture reaches a concentration of 10^7 cells per milliliter [1-TXT]. Pipette out 1.5 milliliters of the culture into centrifuge tubes [2] then centrifuge the tubes at 21,100 g for 3 minutes at 4 degrees Celsius in a 1.5-milliliter tube [3].

- 2.4.1. Talent placing culture tubes in a shaker. **TXT: Culture OD₆₀₀: 0.8 - 1.0**
Videographer's Note : two takes with different angles
- 2.4.2. Talent pipetting out 1.5 mL culture into tubes.
- 2.4.3. Talent placing the tubes in a centrifuge.
- 2.5. Wash the pellet with 100 microliters of ice-cold water [1] and resuspend it in 30 microliters of D-buffer containing 1 millimolar dithiothreitol and protease inhibitor cocktails made with water and dimethyl sulfoxide [2].
 - 2.5.1. Talent pipetting water into the tube with pellet.
 - 2.5.2. Shot of the pellet being resuspended in D-buffer with additives.
Videographer's Note : extreme closeup. Audio slate only
- 2.6. Now add an acid-washed glass bead so that it is just below the surface of the solution [1]. Vortex the mixture ten times for 1 minute each at maximum speed [2-TXT].
 - 2.6.1. Talent dropping the bead into the tube.
Videographer's Note : extreme closeup. Audio slate only two takes
 - 2.6.2. Talent vigorously vortexing with tube placed on ice between intervals. **TXT: Place on ice in between mixing for 1 min intervals**
- 2.7. With a hot 25-gauge needle, make a hole in the bottom of the tube [1]. Centrifuge the lysed cells again at 865 g for 2 minutes then again 21,100 g for 10 minutes at 4 degrees Celsius [2]. Collect the supernatant as the crude lysate [3].
 - 2.7.1. Shot of a hole being made at the bottom of the tube with a heated 25 G needle.
 - 2.7.2. Talent placing tube into centrifuge. **Videographer's Note : two takes**
 - 2.7.3. Talent pipetting the clear supernatant into a fresh tube. **Videographer's Note : two takes**
- 2.8. Next, combine 5 to 10 microliters of crude lysate with 0.4 milliliters of Z-buffer [1]. Then add 80 microliters of 0.4% o-nitrophenyl- β -D-galactopyranoside solution and vortex the mixture [2]. Incubate at 37 degrees Celsius until the solution turns pale yellow due to nitrophenol formation [3].
 - 2.8.1. Talent pipetting lysate and Z-buffer into a tube.
 - 2.8.2. Talent adding ONPG solution then mixing by vortexing.
 - 2.8.3. Talent placing cuvette into 37 degrees Celsius water bath.
Videographer's Note : shot together with 2.8.2

2.9. Stop the reaction by adding 0.2 milliliters of 1 molar sodium carbonate solution [1]. Measure absorbance at 420 nanometers to determine β -galactosidase activity [2].

2.9.1. Talent adding sodium carbonate to reaction mixture and vortexing.

2.9.2. Talent pipetting the solution in a cuvette and into a spectrophotometer.

Videographer's Note : Two takes

2.10. Quantify protein concentrations in crude lysates using a protein assay kit based on the Bradford method with bovine serum albumin as a standard [1]. Prepare the dye reagent by diluting one part of the stock with four parts of double-distilled deionized water [2].

2.10.1. Talent arranging BSA standards, lysate samples and a 96-well plate for assay.

2.10.2. Talent preparing dye reagent.

2.11. Mix 1 to 5 microliters of each lysate or standard with 100 microliters of diluted dye in a microtiter plate well [1]. After incubating the plate at room temperature for 5 minutes, measure absorbance at 595 nanometers to determine protein concentration using the standard curve [2].

2.11.1. Talent pipetting lysate into wells.

2.11.2. Talent placing the plate in a spectrophotometer.

Videographer's Note : Two takes and screen

AND

SCREEN: Excel file showing calculation for determination of protein concentration

Videographer: Please film the screen as backup

3. Measurement of A β Production By *In Vitro* Microsome Assay

Demonstrator: Mio Shiina

3.1. Start by combining two microsomes, each containing 40 to 80 micrograms of protein, with γ -buffer in a final volume of 12.5 microliters [1-TXT]. Pipette an equal volume of 2% CHAPSO (*Chap-so*) in γ -buffer before incubating for 1 hour [2].

3.1.1. Talent pipetting microsomes and buffer into reaction tube. **TXT: Microsomes: APPC55 or γ -secretase**

Videographer's Note : changed zoom at the end for closer shot

- 3.1.2. Talent adding CHAPSO solution, mixing gently and placing tube on shaker or incubator.
- 3.2. To start the reaction, dilute the mixture four-fold to a final volume of 100 microliters with γ -buffer containing protease inhibitor mix [1]. Incubate the reaction at 37 degrees Celsius for 24 hours [2-TXT].
- 3.2.1. Talent pipetting dilution buffer into reaction tube and mixing contents.
Videographer's Note : two frames
- 3.2.2. Talent placing tubes in 37 degrees Celsius incubator. **TXT: If necessary, add 0.1% PC, 10 μ M L685, 458 DAPT or γ -secretase inhibitors and γ -secretase modulators**
Videographer's Note : two takes slight frame adjustment
- 3.3. Pipette 500 microliters of chloroform-methanol mixture in a 2 to 1 ratio to stop the reaction [1] and incubate for 1 hour, vortexing intermittently [2].
- 3.3.1. Talent adding chloroform/methanol mixture.
- 3.3.2. Talent vortexing tubes.
- 3.4. Next, add 900 microliters of methanol and mix thoroughly [1]. Centrifuge the tubes at 21,100 *g* for 15 minutes to pellet amyloid- β peptides [2].
- 3.4.1. Talent adding methanol and mixing thoroughly.
- 3.4.2. Talent placing the tubes in a centrifuge.
- 3.5. Wash the pellet with 500 microliters of chloroform-methanol-water mixture in a 1 to 2 to 0.8 ratio and centrifuge again [1]. After air-drying the pellet, suspend it in 40 microliters of SDS sample buffer [2] then boil for 10 minutes [3].
- 3.5.1. Talent adding 500 μ L of chloroform-methanol-water mix to the pellet.
- 3.5.2. Shot of the pellet being resuspended in 40 μ L of SDS sample buffer.
Videographer's Note : Extreme closeup audio slate only
- 3.5.3. Talent boiling samples in heat block or water bath. **Videographer's Note : Two takes second closer in**
- 3.6. Now run the samples on a 16.5% Tris-Tricine (*Tris-Try-seen*) polyacrylamide gel to analyze amyloid- β production [1-TXT].

- 3.6.1. Talent loading gel and starting electrophoresis on 16.5% gel. **TXT: Use 10% Tris-Tricine with 8M Urea (pH 8.45) for specific identification of amyloid- β**

Videographer's Note : two takes second extreme closeup up audio

- 3.7. Immunoblot with the 82E1 (*Eight-Tow-E-One*) primary antibody specific to the aspartic acid-1 site of human amyloid- β [1]. Use horseradish peroxidase-conjugated secondary antibody against mouse immunoglobulin G for detection [2].

- 3.7.1. Talent incubating membrane with primary antibody 82E1.

- 3.7.2. Talent transferring the membrane into HRP-conjugated secondary antibody.

- 3.8. For chemiluminescent detection, prepare the substrate by mixing equal amounts of solution A and B [1] and incubate the membrane in the prepared solution for 1 minute [2]. Develop the blot and quantify the signal intensity using a luminescent image analyzer [3].

- 3.8.1. Talent mixing chemiluminescent reagents A and B. Ok

- 3.8.2. Talent immersing membrane briefly in the mixture. Ok

- 3.8.3. Talent placing the membrane in a luminescent image analyzer. Ok

4. Identifying Modulatory Mutations in γ -Secretase or APP

Demonstrator: Ying Dai

- 4.1. Design primers for error-prone polymerase chain reaction that incorporate 40 base pair overlapping sequences from the gene of interest at the 5-prime ends of both forward and reverse primers [1].

- 4.1.1. SCREEN: The primer sequences are being input into oligo design software.

Videographer: Please film the screen as backup

- 4.2. Now, prepare a 50-microliter error-prone polymerase chain reaction [1]. Run the thermal cycler for the specified number of cycles [2].

- 4.2.1. Talent assembling PCR reaction in PCR tubes.

Videographer's Note : Two shots one closer

AND

TEXT ON PLAIN BACKGROUND:

PCR Reaction Mixture

50 ng of template DNA

0.2 mM dGTP

1 mM dATP/dTTP/dCTP

3 mM MgCl₂
0.5 mM MnCl₂
1.25 U Taq polymerase
400 nM primers

Use 1X Taq buffer
Final volume: 50 µL

Video Editor: Please play both shots side by side

- 4.2.2. TEXT ON PLAIN BACKGROUND: shot placing tube into pcr
94 °C for 5 min
30 cycles of 94 °C for 30 s
55 °C for 30 s
72 °C for 120 s (1 min/kb)
72 °C for 10 min
- 4.3. Transform 4 micrograms of mutagenized DNA fragments along with 4 micrograms of linearized plasmid into the PJ69-4A (*P-J-sixty-nine-four-A*) yeast strain expressing familial Alzheimer's disease APP or PS1 mutations [1]. Then select transformants on SC-LWU plates [2].
- 4.3.1. Talent pipetting DNA into yeast cells for transformation and plating on SC-LWU.
Videographer's Note : Shot out of order taking in 2 separate takes. 4.3.1a 4.3.1b use from 13:45:41 for 4.3.1a. Third take 4.3.2 should be the best
- 4.3.2. Talent taking out plates from the incubator and labeling SC-LWU plates with transformants.
- 4.4. Count the colonies on SC-LWU plates [1]. Replicate them by pressing the original plate onto a velvet-covered block [2] then press a fresh SC- LWHUAd plate medium lacking histidine and adenine plate to transfer colonies [3].
- 4.4.1. Talent counting colonies and labeling SC-LWU plates with transformants.
Videographer's Note : From 4.3.2 two takes pen wasn't working
- 4.4.2. Shot of the plate being pressed onto velvet-covered block.
- 4.4.3. Talent transferring colonies onto new plate using velvet technique.
- 4.5. To recover plasmid DNA from positive clones, inoculate the strains in 3 milliliters of SC-LWU medium [1]. Incubate overnight at 30 degrees Celsius until optical density at 600 nanometers exceeds 1 [2].

- 4.5.1. Talent inoculating the strains in 3 mL SC-LWU medium.
- 4.5.2. Shot of the culture being placed at 30 °C.

- 4.6. Centrifuge the cells in a 15-milliliter tube at 2,100 *g* for 10 minutes at 4 degrees Celsius [1]. Then wash the pellet with 0.8 milliliters of ice-cold water [2].
 - 4.6.1. Shot of the tube being placed in a centrifuge.
 - 4.6.2. Talent adds 0.8 mL of ice-cold water to the pellet.
Videographer's Note : Use from 14:25:10 this also includes 4.7.1

- 4.7. Transfer the suspension into a new 1.5-milliliter tube before centrifuging again for 3 minutes [1]. Resuspend the pellet in 0.3 milliliters of lysis solution [2].
 - 4.7.1. Talent transferring the suspension to microcentrifuge tube.
 - 4.7.2. Talent adding lysis solution to the pellet.

- 4.8. Add 0.3 milliliters of phenol-chloroform-isoamyl alcohol mixture in a 25 to 24 to 1 ratio and 0.3 grams of glass beads to lyse the cells [1]. Vortex the mixture at maximum speed for 10 minutes, then centrifuge [2-TXT].
 - 4.8.1. Talent adding extraction solvent and glass beads.
 - 4.8.2. Talent vortexing vigorously. **TXT: Centrifugation: 21,000 x *g*, 10 min, RT**

- 4.9. Transfer the upper aqueous phase to a new tube [1]. Mix it with 30 microliters of 3 molar sodium acetate and 700 microliters of 100% ethanol to precipitate DNA [2].
 - 4.9.1. Talent pipetting clear aqueous layer without disturbing interphase.
Videographer's Note : Extreme closeup up audio slate only. Did second take later on. Please use second take.
 - 4.9.2. Talent adding sodium acetate and ethanol to precipitate DNA.
Videographer's Note : Shot out of sequence

- 4.10. After centrifuging the DNA pellet as before, wash it with 70 % ethanol, air-dry [1] and vortex to resuspend the DNA in 15 microliters of TE buffer [2].
 - 4.10.1. Talent adding 70% ethanol to the DNA pellet.
 - 4.10.2. Talent vortexing dried pellet in TE buffer.

4.11. Transform the purified plasmid DNA into *Escherichia coli* DH5 α (*D-H-Five-Alpha*) using high-efficiency transformation techniques [1-TXT].

4.11.1. Shot of a plate with transformed *E.coli*. **TXT: If targeting specific protein regions, design Quikchange or inverse PCR primers**

Results

5. Representative Results

- 5.1. The double mutant F411Y/S438P (*F-Four-eleven-Y-S-four-three-Eight-P*) supported robust yeast growth in the absence of nicastrin, forming colonies larger than 1 millimeter [1], and showed full β -galactosidase activity comparable to wild-type PS1 (*P-S-One*) [2].
 - 5.1.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2A. *Video editor: Highlight the sector labeled "F411Y/S438P no NCT" in the circle and mark the large white colonies in that quadrant of the agar plate.*
 - 5.1.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2B. *Video editor: Highlight the two tallest bars labeled "PS1 WT" and "F411Y/S438P"*
- 5.2. S438P (*S-four-three-Eight-P*) showed weak growth while F411Y (*F-Four-eleven-Y*) showed none [1], and S438P (*S-four-three-Eight-P*) showed low β -galactosidase activity while F411Y (*F-Four-eleven-Y*) showed no activity [2].
 - 5.2.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2A. *Video editor: Highlight the sectors labeled "F411Y no NCT" and "S438P no NCT"*
 - 5.2.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2B. *Video editor: Highlight the two shortest bars labeled "S438P" and "F411Y"*
- 5.3. Rescreening cells from the PS1 F411Y mutant reconfirmed F411Y/S438P as the dominant active clone, with 40 positive hits [1], while only 1 additional clone showed alternative triple mutations [2].
 - 5.3.1. LAB MEDIA: Table 5. *Video editor: Highlight the first row under section 1 showing "F411Y/S438P (the original mutant)"*
 - 5.3.2. LAB MEDIA: Table 5. *Video editor: Highlight the second row under section 1 showing "V236M/F428Y/F411Y" with just 1 clone.*
- 5.4. Screening from the S438P mutant revealed multiple combinations with low clone counts, except for V236M/S438P (*V-Two-Three-Six-M-S-four-three-Eight-P*) which appeared in 13 positive clones, indicating S438P's dominant role over other mutations [1].
 - 5.4.1. LAB MEDIA: Table 5. *Video editor: Highlight row "V236M/S438P"*

- 5.5. The L30F/T164A Aph1a (*L-thirty-F-T-Sixteen-Four-A-A-P-H-1-A*) mutant increased total amyloid-beta production under both phosphatidylcholine-positive and phosphatidylcholine-negative conditions [1], particularly enhancing aggregation-prone A β 42 and A β 43 species in the phosphatidylcholine-negative condition [2].
 - 5.5.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2C upper bar graph. *Video editor: Highlight the black bars labeled "L30F/T164A" in both PC- and PC+ groups*
 - 5.5.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2C lower bar graph. *Video editor: Highlight black bars for "L30F/T164A" under PC- for A β 42 and A β 43*
- 5.6. Phosphatidylcholine enhanced amyloid-beta production for both wild-type and mutant forms [1], while γ -secretase inhibitor L685,458 blocked A β generation completely [2].
 - 5.6.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2C western blot (upper). *Video editor: Highlight lanes 3 and 7 (+PC) showing thick A β 40 bands*
 - 5.6.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2C western blot (lower).

Pronunciation Guide:

🔍 **Saccharomyces cerevisiae**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Saccharomyces>

IPA: /ˌsækəˈroʊmɪˌsiːz/ səˈriːˈvɪsiə/

Phonetic Spelling: sak-uh-roh-my-seez ser-ee-viss-ee-eye

🔍 **Alzheimer's**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Alzheimer%27s>

IPA: /ˈɑːltʃaɪmərz/, /ˈɔːltʃaɪmərz/, /ˈæltʃaɪmərz/

Phonetic Spelling: allts-hy-mers or alts-hy-mers

🔍 **Amyloid**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/amyloid>

IPA: /ˈæməˌloɪd/

Phonetic Spelling: am-uh-loid

🔍 **γ-Secretase (gamma-secretase)**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/secretase>

IPA: /ˈsekɹəˌteɪs/

Phonetic Spelling: gam-uh-sek-ruh-tayss

🔍 **Cryo-EM (Cryo-electron microscopy)**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cryo-EM>

IPA: /ˌkraɪoʊ iːˈɛm/

Phonetic Spelling: kry-oh-ee-em

🔍 **Dithiothreitol**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dithiothreitol>

IPA: /daɪˌθaɪoʊˈθriːtoʊl/

Phonetic Spelling: dye-thigh-oh-three-it-all

🔍 **Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dimethyl%20sulfoxide>

IPA: /daɪˈmɛθəl ˈsʌlfəksaɪd/

Phonetic Spelling: dye-meth-uhl sull-fok-side

🔍 **o-Nitrophenyl-β-D-galactopyranoside (ONPG)**

Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found

IPA: /ˌoʊ nɑɪtroʊˈfɛnəl ˌbeɪtə di ɡəˌlæktəˈpaɪrəˌnəsaɪd/

Phonetic Spelling: oh-ny-troh-fen-uhl bay-tuh-dee guh-lack-toh-pie-ruh-nuh-side

🔍 **Tris-Tricine**

Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found

IPA: /ˈtrɪs ˈtraɪsɪn/

Phonetic Spelling: tris-try-seen

🔍 **Immunoblot**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/immunoblot>

IPA: /ɪˈmjuːnəˌblɒt/

Phonetic Spelling: ih-myoo-noh-blot

🔍 **Horseradish peroxidase**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/peroxidase>

IPA: /ˈhɔːrsˌrædɪʃ pəˈrɒksɪˌdeɪs/

Phonetic Spelling: horse-rad-ish puh-rock-sih-dayss

🔍 **Chemiluminescent**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/chemiluminescence>

IPA: /ˌkɛmɪˌluːməˈnɛsənt/

Phonetic Spelling: keh-mee-loo-muh-ness-ent

🔍 **Escherichia coli**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Escherichia%20coli>

IPA: /ˌɛʃəˈrɪkiə ˈkɒʊˌlaɪ/

Phonetic Spelling: esh-uh-rik-ee-uh koh-lie

🔍 **Nicastrin**

Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found

IPA: /ˌnaɪˈkæstrɪn/

Phonetic Spelling: nigh-kass-trin

🔍 **Phosphatidylcholine**

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/phosphatidylcholine>

IPA: /ˌfɒsfəˌtaɪdəlˈkɒʊˌliːn/

Phonetic Spelling: foss-fuh-tie-dul-koh-leen