



UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI

BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

CHEMISTRY FACULTY

FINAL DEGREE PROJECT

STUDY OF CELL ADHESION IN DYSKERIN SILENCING

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ABSTRACT

Cell adhesion is essential for cell communication and control, as well as tissue formation and maintenance. The behavior and function of cells can be influenced and controlled by mechanical interactions between a cell and the ECM, interactions known as focal adhesions. Dyskerin is a protein whose overexpression has been related to spontaneous onset of cancer and whose deficiency is associated with a disorder, dyskeratosis congenita, and cytoskeleton remodeling. To further study the effects of dyskerin in cell adhesion, DKC1 (the gene that codes for dyskerin) was silenced in cells. Immunofluorescence analysis revealed that dyskerin deficiency results in alteration of FAs.