

A black alarm clock with two bells is the central focus, resting on a wooden surface. The clock face is white with black numbers and hands. In the background, a person is blurred, suggesting a bedroom setting. A semi-transparent dark blue horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome and CRY1 gene

Sara Acosta Villarreal

What is Delayed Sleep Phase Disorder (DSPS)?



Typical sleep phase



Delayed sleep phase type



12:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 12:00 a.m. 4:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.

Time of day

What are the signs of DSPS?

Trouble falling asleep

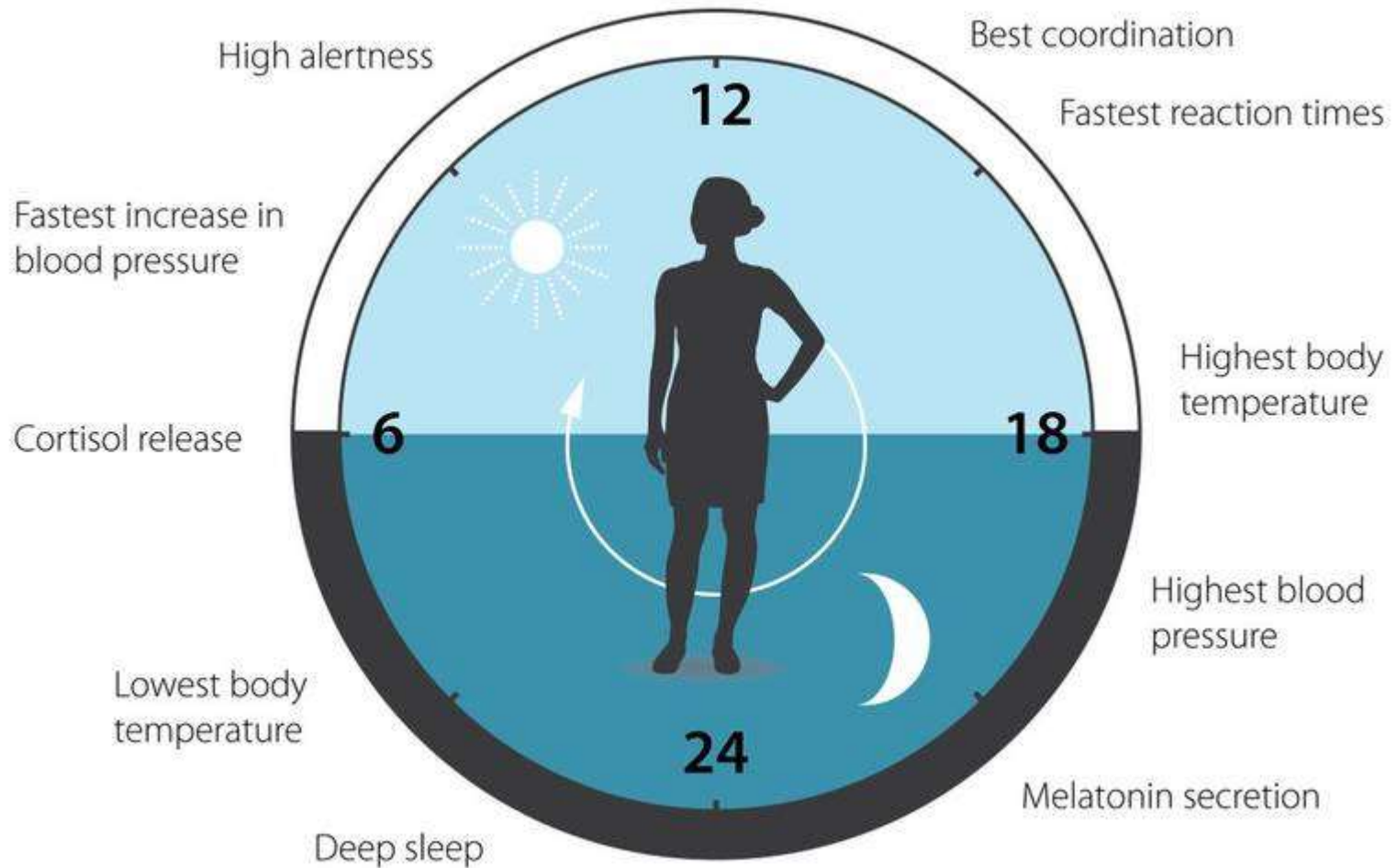
Depression



Behavioral problems

Inability to wake up at desired time (school, work)

What is the Circadian Clock?



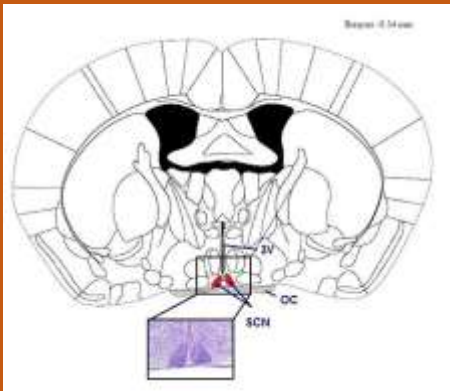
CRY1 gene is associated with DSPS

Photolyase

FAD binding domain

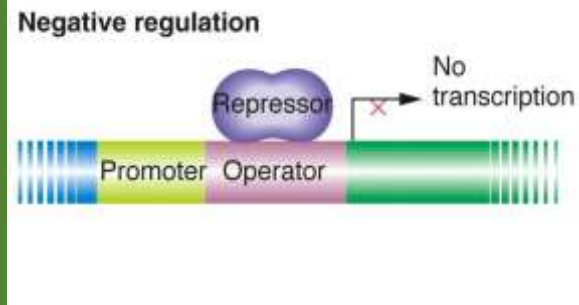
632 AA

Cellular Component



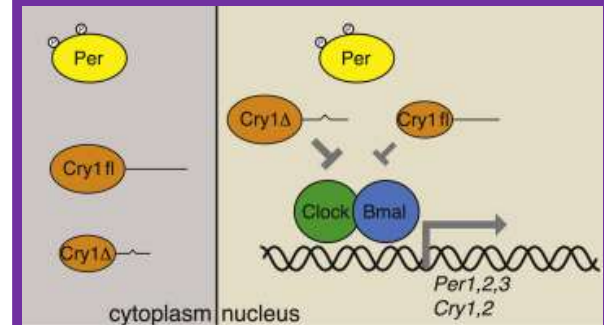
SCN; cell nucleus

Molecular Function



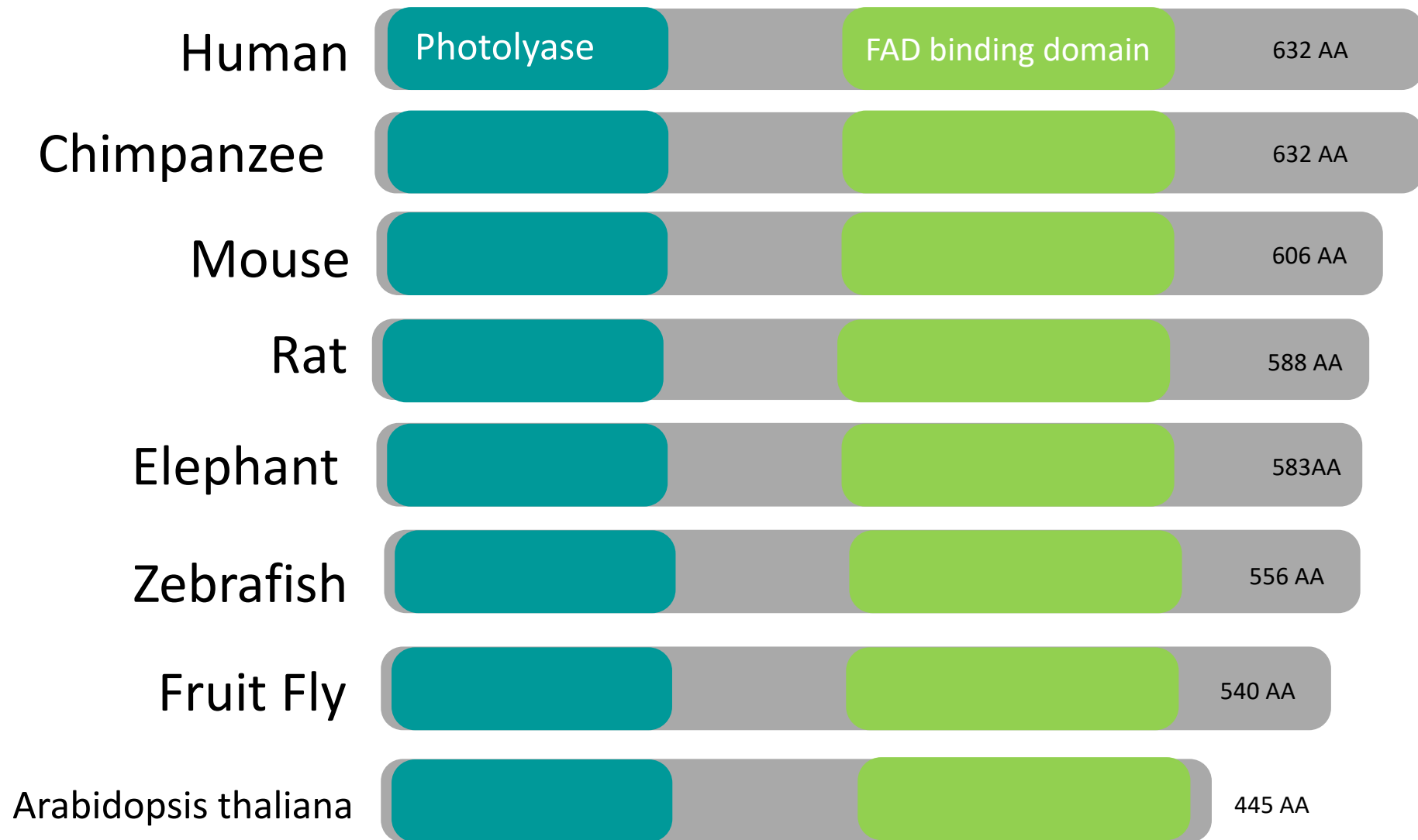
Transcriptional Repression

Biological Process

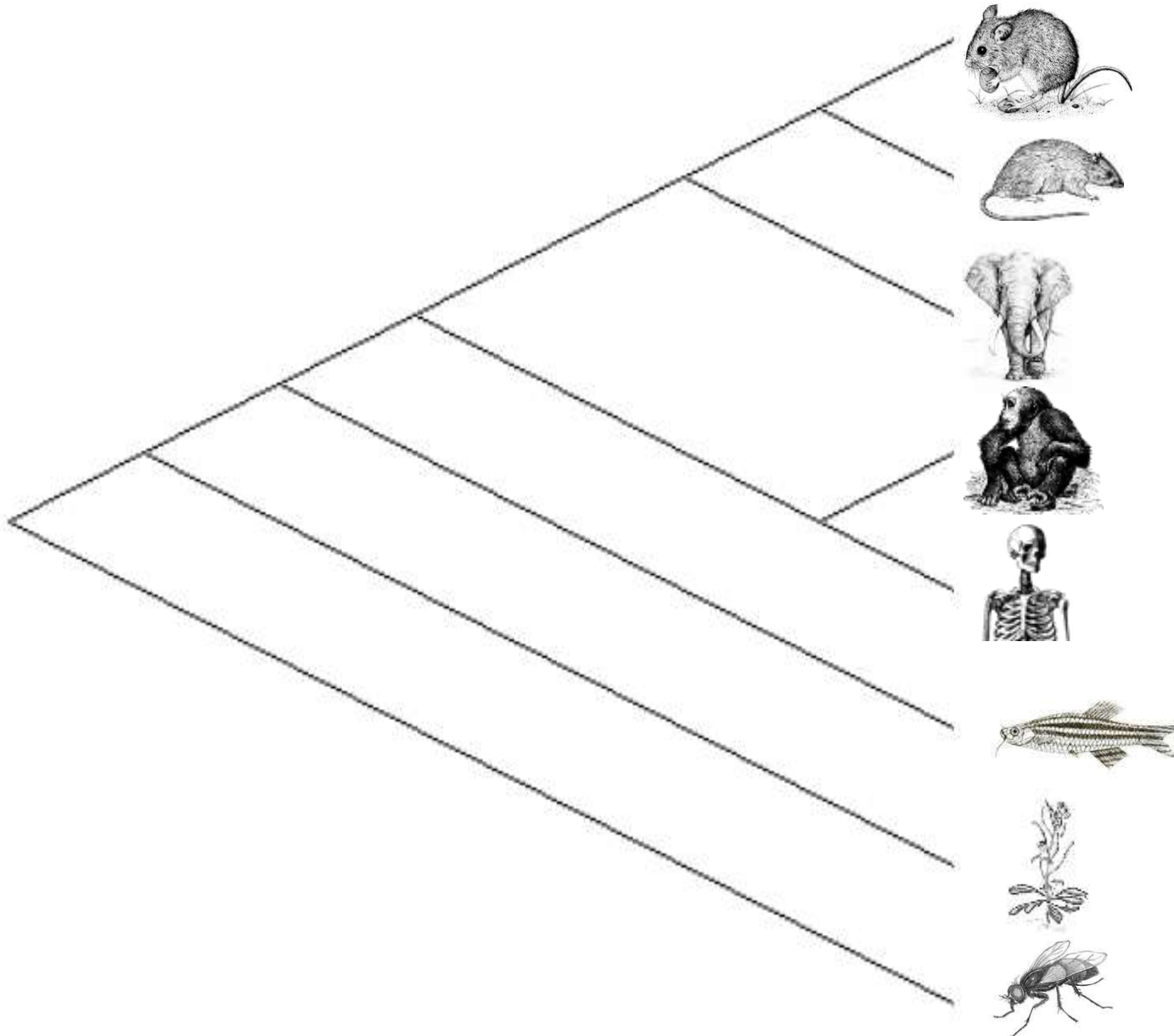


BMAL1-CLOCK

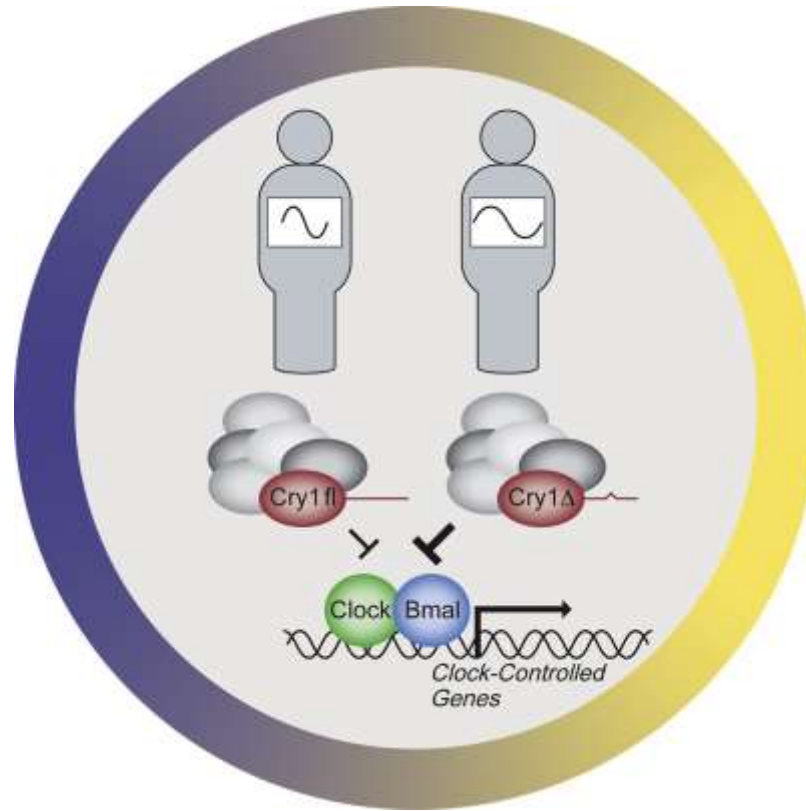
CRY1 is well conserved among species



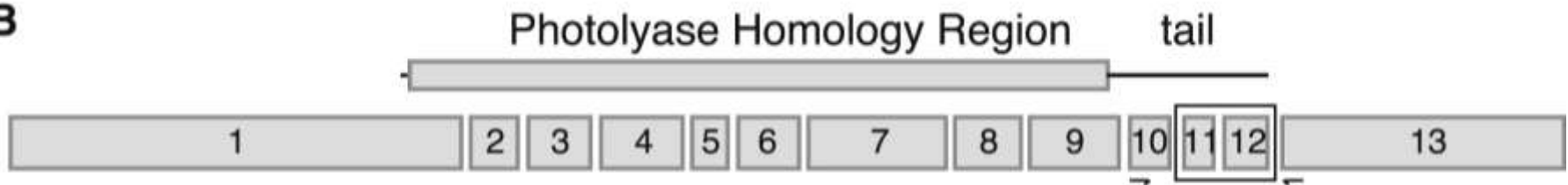
CRY1 is conserved in species



Gap in Knowledge



B



What is my primary goal?

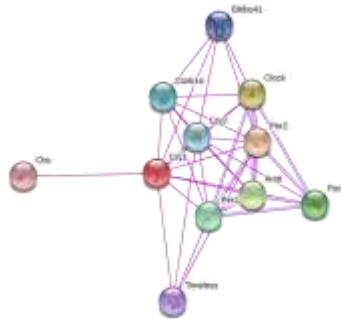
To understand the role of phosphorylation of the **Cry1** protein tail in the regulation of the circadian clock.

Aim 1



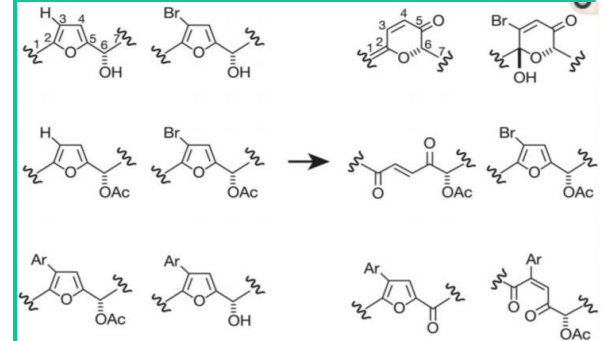
Determine amino acid conservation between normal and mutant lines

Aim 2



Establish protein interactions with mutant line

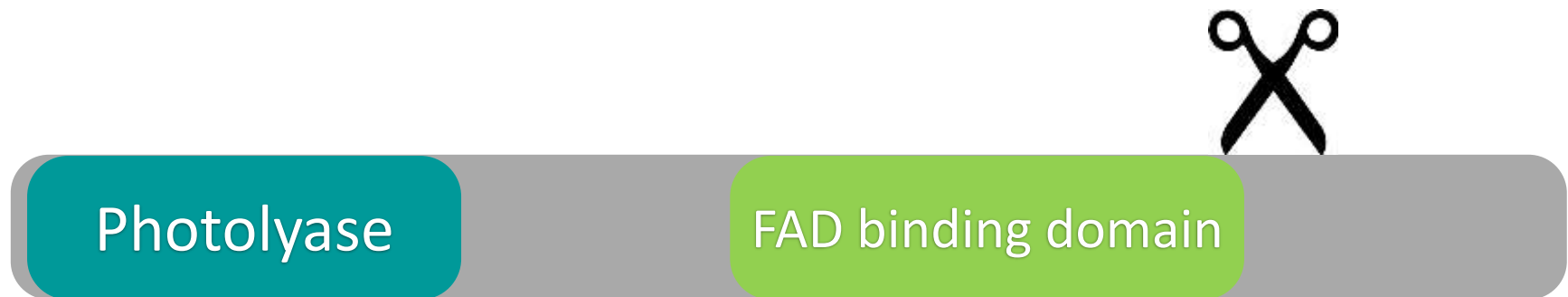
Aim 3



Identify interaction of mutant lines with chemical compounds

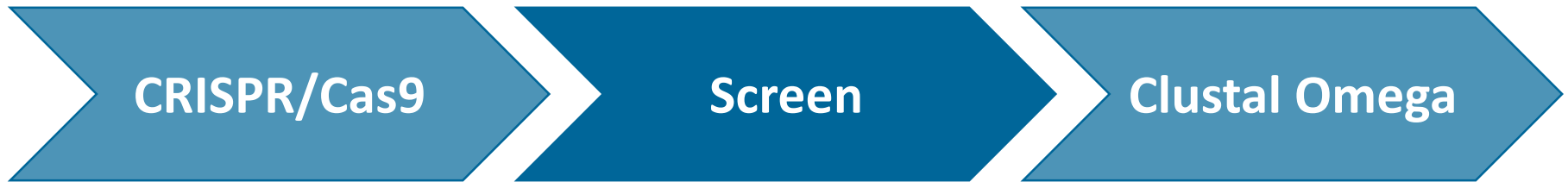
Aim 1

Determine conserved amino acids of **CRY1** and mutant sequences to determine effects of deletion.



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Determine conserved amino acids of **CRY1** and mutant sequences to determine effects of deletion.



WT



Mutagenic Cry1 Δ 11

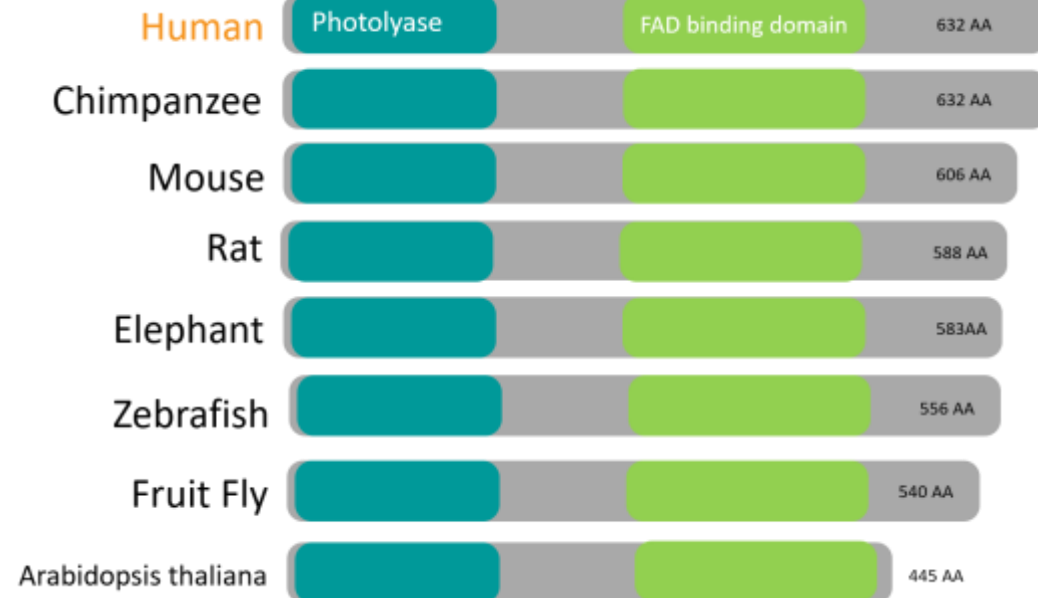
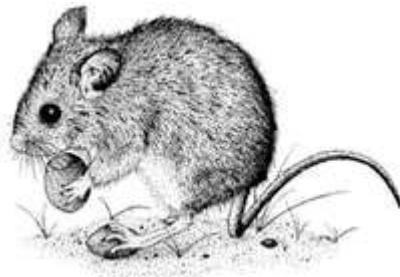
Aim 1

Determine conserved amino acids of **CRY1** and mutant sequences to determine effects of deletion.

CRISPR/Cas9

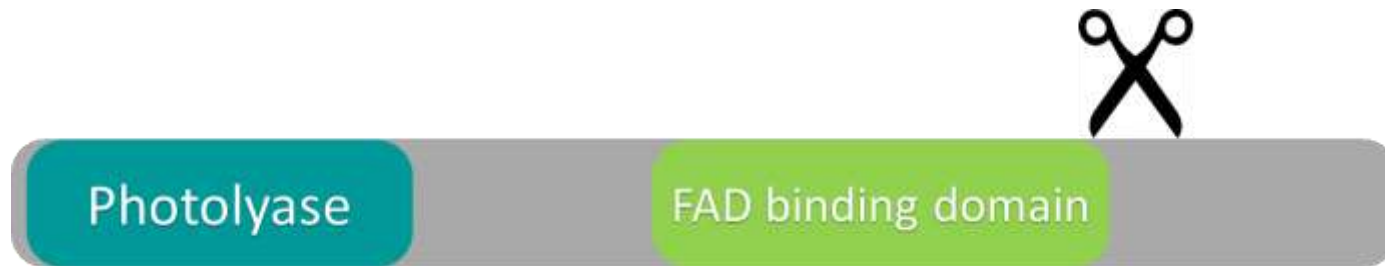
Screen

Clustal Omega



Aim 2

Establish protein interactions resulting from mutations in **CRY1**.



Creation of Mutagenic Cry1 Δ 11 lines

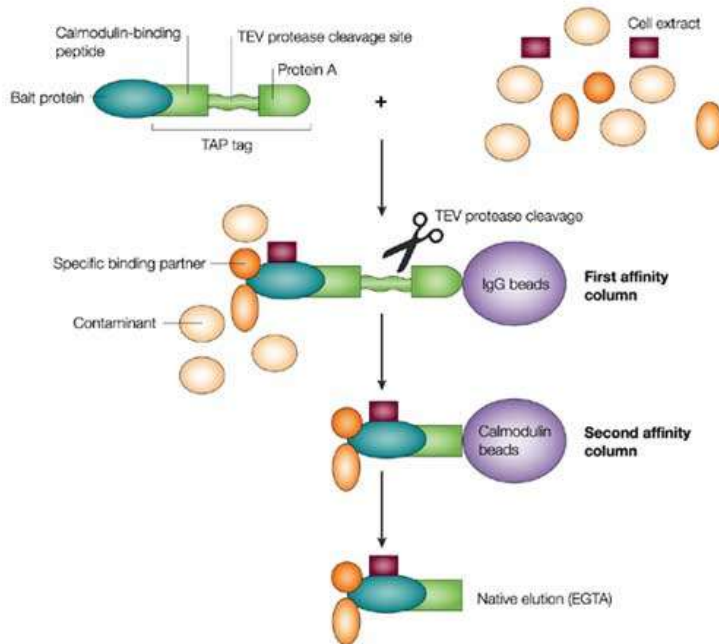
Aim 2

Establish protein interactions resulting from mutations in **CRY1**.

CRISPR/Cas9

TAP tag or
Mass Spec

GO terms for
interactions



Nature Reviews | Molecular Cell Biology



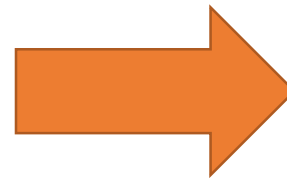
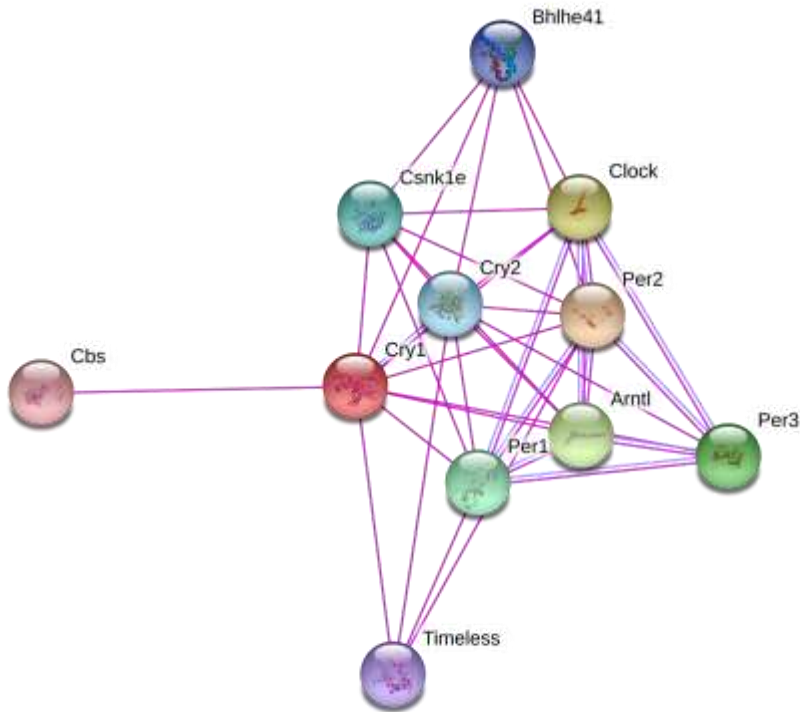
Aim 2

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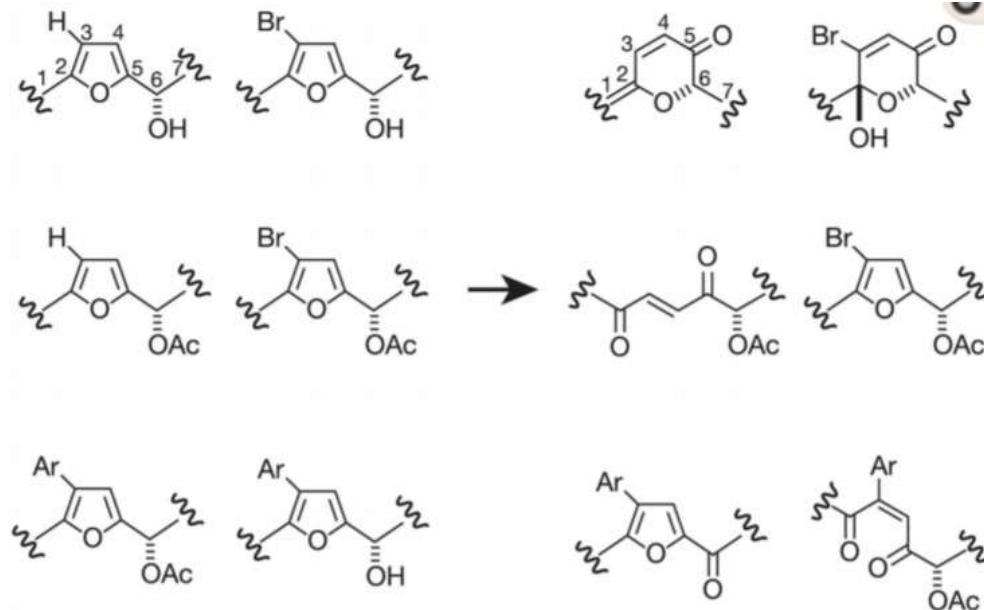
Aim 3

Identify chemical compounds that will interact with and potentially repress the effects of **CRY1** tail deletion.

Assemble
chemical library

Protein
binding assay

Phenotypic
Screen



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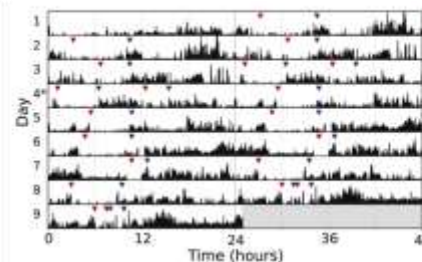
Phenotypic
Screen



Overexpression
of **CRY1**



Screen for binding
compounds



• in-bed time
• out-of-bed time
• Sunday

Assay for
phenotypic
outcome

Aim 3

Identify chemical compounds that will interact with and potentially repress the effects of **CRY1** tail deletion.

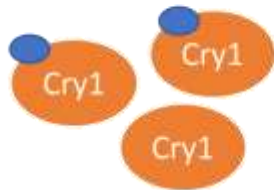
Assemble
chemical library

Protein
binding assay

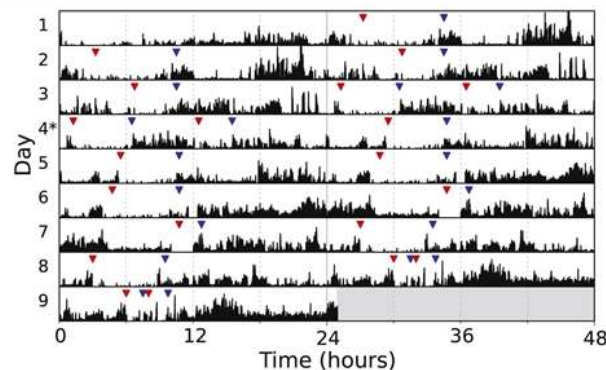
Phenotypic
Screen



Overexpression
of **CRY1**

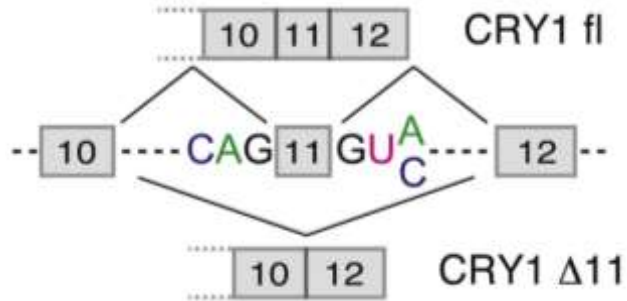


Screen for binding
compounds



Assay for
phenotypic
outcome

Summary



A deletion in **CRY1** gene results in the overexpression of the protein and lengthening of the circadian cycle.

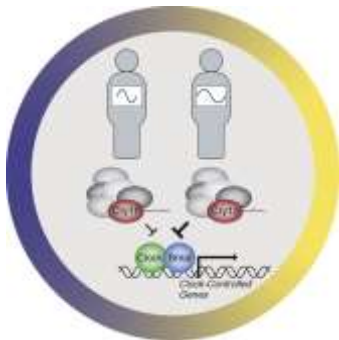


WT



Mutagenic Cry1 Δ11

The study of mutagenic lines allows for the study of protein interactions in diseased states.



Understanding the mechanisms behind the **CRY1** protein tail will allow for the development of therapies and treatment for circadian rhythm disorders.