

CRISPR legal battle front: UC Berkeley wins pair of patents

There's been a legal battle going on to determine which of the scientists whose research led to CRISPR's discovery gets to own it (and collect money from licensing it).

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) just decided to grant not one, but two new CRISPR patents to UC Berkeley, home of biochemist Jennifer Doudna.

...

On [June 12], the office granted UC Berkeley its first CRISPR-related [patent](#), which the university applied for in 2014. This one focuses on using CRISPR-Cas9 to edit single-stranded RNA (and not DNA).

The USPTO will reportedly grant UC Berkeley the other patent, which the university applied for in 2015, next week, according to [a STAT News report](#). That patent centers on using the standard CRISPR-Cas9 system to edit regions specifically 10 to 15 base pairs long. UC Berkeley sees a number of potential applications in research, diagnostics, and industry for their new CRISPR patent.

But the rest of the scientific community sees it differently. A spokesman for the Broad told STAT the issued patent's claims "are extremely narrow and would have little or no effect on the CRISPR field."

...

No matter how important these specific patents are, the sheer number of granted patents is a testament to the amount of research dedicated to CRISPR. With each new discovery, we get one step closer to that imagined future free of [disease](#).

Read full, original post: [UC Berkeley Finally Scores a Win With Two CRISPR Patents](#)