Preface

In the last decade, skeletal muscle stem cells have joined hematopoietic, intestinal, and skin stem cells as a standard model to study stem cell function in healthy and aging tissue and the role of stem cells in tissue-specific diseases. Muscle Stem Cells: Methods and Protocols provides leading-edge protocols in the study of the molecular and cellular biology of muscle stem cells. Protocols representing current and updated methods for muscle stem cell isolation, culture, molecular analysis, cellular analysis, and reintroduction in vivo as well as protocols for studying myogenic stem cells in non-mammalian model systems. Due to the application of techniques such as these, the potential for exploring muscle stem cell biology continues to expand, as does the state of our understanding of this critical stem cell population.

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Muscle Stem Cells
Methods and Protocols
Perdiguero, E.; Cornelison, D. (Eds.)
2017, XII, 365 p. With online files/update., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-1-4939-6769-8
A product of Humana Press