RNAi in the days of CRISPR: Making optimal use of a great technology.

The discovery of RNAi coincided with the sequencing of the human genome. Within a short time, RNAi became the standard tool for gene function analysis. Almost 2 decades later, CRISPR-based gene editing has exploded in popularity, raising the question of whether RNAi is still required. In our presentation, we will highlight the many qualities and advantages of RNAi that complement the shortcomings and risks of emerging knock-out approaches. The second part of the presentation will focus on the use of complex but defined siRNA pools (siPOOLs) to overcome off-target effects, which often dominate the phenotypic response from conventional RNAi reagents.