

Bloome syndrome protein is critical for meiotic recombination

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Researchers from Cornell University (NY) provide the first analysis of the function of Bloome syndrome protein (BLM) in mammalian meiosis. Bloome syndrome (BS) is a rare genetic disorder characterized by stunted growth, cancer predisposition, and sterility that is caused by a mutation in the Blm gene and a deficiency of BLM.

The study appears in the March 22 issue of the [Journal of Cell Biology](#).

Although BLM has been shown to play an important role in DNA recombination in somatic cells, there has been no information on the impact of BLM in mammalian meiosis. Now, a team led by Paula Cohen provides new data that indicate mouse BLM is involved in the proper pairing, synapsis, and segregation of homologous [chromosomes](#) during meiosis, but does not affect entry into the prophase I stage.

More information: Holloway, J.K., et al. 2010. J. Cell Biol. [doi:10.1083/jcb.200909048](https://doi.org/10.1083/jcb.200909048).

Provided by Rockefeller University

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