List of Abbreviations

ALP	Alkaline phosphatase
AP	Antero-posterior
APS	Ammonium persulphate
BCIP	5-bromo-4-chloro-3'-indolyphosphate
BLAST	Basic local alignment search tool
BMP	Bone Morphogenetic Proteins
bp	Base pairs
BPB	Bromophenol blue
BSA	Bovine Serum Albumin
Caspase	Cysteine-dependent aspartate-directed protease
CBB	Coommassie brilliant blue
CFD	Craniofacial defect
CNC	Cranial neural crest
CNS	Central Nervous System
CPCSEA	Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals
Cq	Quantification cycles
DAB	3, 3' Diaminobenzidine
DEPC	Diethyl Pyrocarbonate
DI water	De-ionised water
DPX	Mixture of distyrene, phthalate (tricresyl phosphate) and xylene
DV	Dorso-Ventral
ECM	Extracellular matrix
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
FGF	Fibroblast growth factor
FITC	Fluorescein isothiocyanate
GITC	Guanidinium thiocyanate
hr	hour/(s)
H-H stages	Hamilton-Hamburger stages

HRP	Horse Radish Peroxidase
IAEC	Institutional Animal Ethics Committee
LPM	Lateral plate mesoderm
min	minute
MSCs	Mesenchymal stem cells
NBT	Nitro blue tetrazolium
NC	Neural crest
PAGE	Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
PBS	Phosphate Buffered Saline
PCD	Programmed Cell Death
PFA	Paraformaldehyde
qRT-PCR	Quantitative real-time PCR
RIPA	Radioimmunoprecipitation assay buffer
RT	Room Temperature
RT-PCR	Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction
SDS-PAGE	Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate-Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis
Shh	Sonic hedgehog
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
TBE	Tris-borate-EDTA buffer
TBS	Tris buffered saline
TEMED	N, N, N′, N′-Tetramethylethane-1,2-diamine
TGFβ	Transforming growth factor β
Tris	Tris (hydroxymethyl) aminomethane
VBWD	Ventral body wall defect
Wnt	Wingless type