

# Cornell Guided Notes

Genetics of Disease (Medical Interventions) | 2026-12-04

Name

Period

Date

Lesson

## Lesson focus

SDS-PAGE gel results

## Key words and questions

## Prepared details and student notes

**Essential question**  
**What is today's target?**

Read an SDS-PAGE gel to judge the size and purity of your isolated protein. Big idea: SDS-PAGE translates a protein mixture into a pattern of bands that reveals size and contamination level.

**My notes, examples, and questions**

**Key words**  
**What vocabulary unlocks the lesson?**

- GFP
- chromatography
- elution
- protein marker
- purity
- QC

**My notes, examples, and questions**

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## Cornell Notes - Continued

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**Must-know ideas**  
**What should I understand by the end?**

- SDS denatures proteins and gives all of them a uniform negative charge proportional to size.
- Smaller proteins migrate farther through the gel matrix in a given time.
- A pure target fraction shows one dominant band at the expected molecular weight.

**My notes, examples, and questions**

**Process notes**  
**What happens during class?**

- 0-10: Read gel-interpretation notes; define marker lane and band
- 10-28: Annotate gel image: label marker lane, estimate target protein size
- 28-45: Compare fraction lanes; count extra bands per lane
- 45-58: Identify most-pure fraction; justify with band count
- 58-70: Write QC statement: passed or failed purity goal with evidence
- 70-80: Add annotated gel to tracker; preview Friday lab report

**My notes, examples, and questions**

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#### Steps and evidence What do I do and turn in?

- Read the gel-interpretation notes in the PLTW course shell and define the protein marker lane.
- Compare your fraction lanes to the marker to estimate your protein's size.
- Decide which fraction is most pure based on how few extra bands it shows.
- Write one QC statement on whether the purification met the purity goal.
- Add your annotated gel reading to your Unit 4 PLTW tracker evidence.

Evidence: Data table - Annotated SDS-PAGE gel image with labeled marker lane, estimated protein size, band counts by fraction, most-pure fraction identified, and a QC statement.

#### My notes, examples, and questions

#### Checks for understanding How do I know I got it?

- You'll be able to estimate protein size against a marker lane.
- You'll be able to judge purity and write a QC statement from a gel.

#### My notes, examples, and questions

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**Lab or safety notes**  
**What must I handle carefully?**

**Safety:**

- No new chemical hazards today; gel image analysis is a paper or digital exercise.
- If handling a physical stained gel, wear gloves as Coomassie stain is a skin irritant.
- Dispose of any staining waste according to lab guidelines.

**Supplies:**

- Printed or digital SDS-PAGE gel image from the lab run (or PLTW-provided sample gel)
- Ruler or digital annotation tool for band-position measurement
- Colored pencils or digital markup for lane annotation
- Molecular-weight marker reference chart

**My notes, examples, and questions**

## Summary

Today's lesson focused on SDS-PAGE gel results. The main target was: Read an SDS-PAGE gel to judge the size and purity of your isolated protein. The evidence of learning is Data table: Annotated SDS-PAGE gel image with labeled marker lane, estimated protein size, band counts by fraction, most-pure fraction identified, and a QC statement.. In my own words, the most important idea from today is:

**My summary**

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My final question or connection