



Figure 9. ZFN and TALE nuclease-mediated gene targeting. (A) (1) DNA-binding proteins—either zinc-finger or TALE proteins in blue fused to a FokI restriction nuclease in orange—are designed to specifically recognize two adjacent DNA-binding sequences with a defined spacing. (2) On binding of the zinc fingers, the FOKI nuclease domains dimerize, become active, and cut the DNA. (3) If a donor plasmid carrying DNA (red, DNA) homologous to the DSB is ectopically provided to the cell, this can be used to repair the DNA lesion. A donor plasmid can be designed so that it carries additional sequence in between the homology arms. On repair of the DSB with such a donor, the genomic locus will be altered to carry this additional sequence as an insertion at the site of the DSB. (4) Alternatively, the DSB is repaired, incurring deletion or sequence alteration that disrupts gene function. (B) Using ZFN (or TALEN)-mediated gene targeting, a disease causing mutation is either corrected in a patient-derived iPSC (left illustration), or disease-causing mutations are introduced into wild-type (WT) ES cells (right illustration). The result of either manipulation will be the generation of isogenic sets of iPSCs, providing a genetically matched control for functional studies. (B, Adapted, with permission, from Soldner et al. 2011.)