

Figure 1. Epigenetic regulation of neurogenesis. (*A*) The temporal involvement of various major epigenetic regulator molecules, acting at key fate-defining genes, such as Dlx2, are indicated alongside the neurogenic differentiation pathway (i.e., cells shaded in pink). PcG, Polycomb group; TrxG, Trithorax group; DNMT, DNA methyltransferase; PSC, pluripotent stem cell; NSC, neuronal stem cell; NPC, neuronal precursor cell; GPC, glial progenitor cell. (*B*) The interplay and modes of action of the three types of epigenetic-regulating molecules involved in the neuronal differentiation process are illustrated. Dnmt3a methylates the gene bodies and upstream regulatory sequences of neurogenic genes, such as Dlx2. This nonpromoter methylation protects these genes from Polycomb-mediated silencing. MLL1, through the trimethylation of H3K4 and demethylation of H3K27me3 (by association of KDM6), also antagonizes Polycomb-mediated silencing of Dlx2 to promote neurogenesis.

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