Mini-Review: The "5-Steps Rule" is A Very Useful Tool in Molecular Biology and Biomedicine

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The “5-steps rule” or “5-step rules” was originally proposed in 2011 [1]. However, when reading thru the entire paper, one cannot even find the term of “rules”. Only after carefully reading the entire paper [1], can one find it [1] is indeed the cradle or pregnancy period of “5-steps rule”.

Ever since then, it has been stimulating the development in many areas of molecular biology and medicine (see, e.g., [1-46]), clearly indicating the “5-steps rule” is extremely important. It can be schematically and more intuitively expressed in Figure 1.

![Figure 1](adapted from International Academic & Research Consortium with permission)

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