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# **Gene Section**

**Short Communication** 

# SSX2IP (synovial sarcoma, X breakpoint 2 interacting protein)

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## **Identity**

Other names: ADIP HGNC (Hugo): SSX2IP

Location: 1p22.3

Note

SSX2IP gene encodes the protein SSX2IP which interacts with the cancer-testis antigen SSX2. It is thought that SSX2IP regulates the function of SSX2 in the testes and malignant cells. The rodent equivalent is known as afadin DIL domain-interacting protein (ADIP) and the chicken orthologue is called clock-controlled gene (LCG) (Breslin et al., 2007).

## DNA/RNA

#### Note

The SSX2IP gene is located on chromosome 1p22.3 (Entrez Gene).

## Description

SSX2IP includes over 46 kb and consists of 14

exons however the first one is not translated (de Bruijn et al., 2002).

## **Transcription**

The gene contains 33 introns. 18 different mRNAs are produced; 17 spliced and 1 un-spliced form (Thierry-Mieg and Thierry-Mieg, 2006).

#### Pseudogene

A pseudogene of this gene is found on chromosome 3 (provided by RefSeq, Oct 2009 from Entrez Gene).

## **Protein**

#### Note

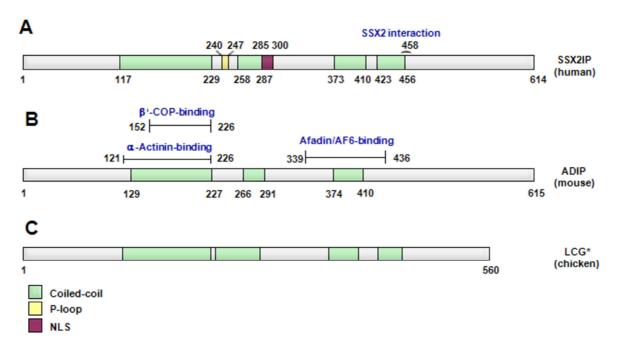
SSX2IP was discovered due to its interaction with SSX2 in a yeast two-hybrid system and believed to regulate the function of SSX2 in the testes and malignant cells (de Bruijn et al., 2002).

#### Description

There are 3-4 coil coiled regions in each version of SSX2IP. Only human SSX2IP has a nuclear localisation signal (NLS).



Location of SSX2IP gene on chromosome 1 and the surrounding region.



Structural representation of SSX2IP protein in human, mouse and chicken showing the binding regions (Breslin et al., 2007).

## Expression

Expression observed in various normal tissues, the highest being in the brain (de Bruijn et al., 2002).

It is expressed less but significantly in kidney, testes, spinal cord, liver, heart, lung, pancreas, skeletal muscle, ovary, placenta, foetal liver and foetal brain (Breslin et al., 2007).

## Localisation

SSX2IP co-localises with SSX2 to the nucleus and some fragments to the cytoplasm (de Bruijn et al., 2002).

It has also been seen to localise on the surface of myeloid cell lines and primary AML (Denniss et al., 2007).

ADIP co-localises with a fadin at adherens junctions and in perinuclear regions (Asada et al., 2003).

## **Function**

It has been suggested that SSX2IP regulates the function of SSX2 (de Bruijn et al., 2002).

Rodent ADIP binds with F-actin binding proteins afadin and  $\alpha$ -actinin and could therefore be involved in forming actin structure at cell-cell adherens junction as well as construction of actin bundle at nectin-based cell adhesion sites (Asada et al., 2003).

Through its interaction with the actin-binding protein  $\beta$ -spectrin, ADIP may have a role in actin-dependent organization of the Golgi complex. ADIP binds  $\beta$ '-cop, which is a subunit of the coatomer complex, proposing a role in vesicle trafficking (Asada et al., 2004).

# Implicated in

## Acute myeloid leukaemia

#### Note

SSX2IP expression has been seen to be elevated in 33% of acute myeloid leukaemia patient samples at presentation (Guinn et al., 2005).

Peak expression on the surface of myeloid leukaemia cells is during mitosis (Denniss et al., 2007). Patients with the t(15;17) translocation have increased levels of SSX2IP whereas expression is decreased in patients with the t(8;21) translocation (Guinn et al., 2008).

## **Prognosis**

Patients with no chromosomal abnormalities showed improved survival rates with elevated expression of SSX2IP.

High level of SSX2IP expression is associated with other positive prognostic markers such as days in remission and age at diagnosis (Guinn et al., 2009).

#### Cytogenetics

The t(15;17) translocation leads to PML-RAR $\alpha$  product.

Overexpression of PML during the cell cycle leads to G1 arrest in normal fibroblasts which cannot occur once PML attaches to  $RAR\alpha$ .

Genes regulating cyclin dependent kinase activity are upregulated in correlation with overexpression of SSX2IP.

The t(8;21) translocation generates the AML1-ETO fusion product.

Cells with this gene product develop an euploidy due to decreased regulation at the spindle checkpoint.

Low levels of SSX2IP relate to reduced expression of CDC20, a substrate-targeting subunit of the anaphase-promoting complex (Guinn et al., 2008).

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