

1 **Clinical and genetic characterization of 153 patients with persistent or transient congenital**
2 **hyperinsulinism**

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23 **Abstract**

24 **Context** Major advances have been made in the genetics and classification of congenital hyperinsulinism
25 (CHI).

26 **Objective** To examine the genetics and clinical characteristics of patients with persistent and transient
27 CHI.

28 **Design** A cross-sectional study with the register data and targeted sequencing of 104 genes affecting
29 glucose metabolism.

30 **Patients** Genetic and phenotypic data were collected from 153 patients with persistent (n = 95) and
31 transient (n = 58) CHI diagnosed between 1972 and 2015. Of these, 86 patients with persistent and 58
32 with transient CHI participated in the analysis of selected 104 genes affecting glucose metabolism,
33 including ten CHI-associated genes, and nine patients with persistent CHI were included with their
34 previously confirmed genetic diagnosis.

35 **Main outcome measures** Targeted next-generation sequencing results and genotype-phenotype
36 associations.

37 **Results** Five novel and 21 previously reported pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants in *ABCC8*,
38 *KCNJ11*, *GLUD1*, *GCK*, *HNF4A* and *SLC16A1* genes were found in 68% (n = 65) and 0% of the patients
39 with persistent and transient CHI, respectively. K_{ATP} channel mutations explained 82% of the mutation
40 positive cases.

41 **Conclusions** The genetic variants found in this nationwide CHI cohort are in agreement with previous
42 studies, mutations in the K_{ATP} channel genes being the major causes of the disease. Pathogenic CHI-
43 associated variants were not identified in patients who were both diazoxide-responsive and able to
44 discontinue medication within the first four months. Therefore, our results support the notion that genetic
45 testing should be focused on patients with inadequate response or prolonged need for medication.

46 **Introduction**

47 Congenital hyperinsulinism (CHI) is a rare genetically, clinically and histologically heterogeneous
48 disorder in which pancreatic beta cells secrete increased amounts of insulin resulting in hypoglycemia
49 (1,2). CHI comprises persistent (P-CHI) and transient (T-CHI) cases, and it can be also related to certain
50 syndromes (2).

51 Previously published studies show that 38-79% of P-CHI cases are associated with a pathogenic
52 or likely pathogenic CHI-associated variant, and currently, 14 genes have reported to associate with CHI
53 (*ABCC8*, *KCNJ11*, *GCK*, *GLUD1*, *HNF4A*, *HNF1A*, *HADH*, *SLC16A1*, *UCP2*, *HK1*, *PGM1*, *PMM2*,
54 *FOXA2*, and *CACNAD1*) (3-7). Variants in the K_{ATP} channel genes *ABCC8* and *KCNJ11* account for the
55 most cases of P-CHI for which a genetic cause has been identified. P-CHI is further classified into four
56 distinct subgroups, 1) recessive diazoxide-responsive, 2) dominant diazoxide-responsive, 3) dominant
57 diazoxide-unresponsive, and 4) focal CHI caused by uniparental disomy, resulting from a somatic loss
58 of maternal allele in chromosome region 11p15 (1,8). We have previously shown that the two founder
59 mutations in the K_{ATP} channel gene, *ABCC8*/p.Val187Asp and *ABCC8*/p.Glu1506Lys, explain 58% of
60 all P-CHI cases (9,10). A recessive p.Val187Asp variant results in a more severe, typically diazoxide-
61 unresponsive disease, and a dominant p.Glu1506Lys variant results in a relatively mild form of CHI
62 (9,10).

63 T-CHI is typically associated with maternal gestational diabetes or perinatal stress, and is usually
64 resolved within weeks after birth, but it may also be severe and last up to few months and hence resemble
65 the clinical course of P-CHI (11,12).

66 Clinical symptoms of hypoglycemia appear usually during the neonatal period or early infancy. These
67 include generalized (e.g. hypothermia, hypotonia, or poor feeding) or neuroglycopenic symptoms (e.g.
68 lethargy, seizures), especially in the most severe cases (1,2). Clinical manifestations of CHI can have a
69 wide spectrum, and therefore, the identification of the persistent form of the disease from other causes
70 of neonatal hypoglycemia may be challenging. Genetic testing has been suggested for patients who do
71 not respond, who need a high dose, or have a prolonged need for diazoxide (13). The genetic diagnosis

72 may have an important role when planning the treatment, especially in the patients with paternal K_{ATP}
73 channel gene variant and focal form of CHI, which can be cured by localized resection of pancreas.

74 In the present study, we investigated the genetic etiology and the genotype-phenotype associations in
75 a nationwide cohort of patients with CHI.

76 **Material and Methods**

77 *Study participants*

78 The study cohort was recruited from the national CHI registry of 238 patients in Finland (P-CHI, n
79 = 106; T-CHI, n = 132). The patients were identified by a diagnosis-based search for 'other' or
80 'unspecified hypoglycemia', including hyperinsulinism, (Disease classification ICD-8 from 1969, ICD-
81 9 from 1987, and ICD-10 from 1996) of the hospital registries from all five Finnish University Hospitals,
82 and 14 central hospitals. These patients are likely to represent all affected individuals diagnosed in
83 Finland during that time, although the possibility of undiagnosed cases especially in the 1970-80s cannot
84 be excluded.

85 The inclusion criteria for the registry and the current study were the diagnosis of CHI based on a
86 combination of diagnostic findings of prolonged or recurrent hypoglycemia and signs of inappropriate
87 insulin secretion, i.e. detectable serum insulin level and/or low free fatty acids during non-ketotic
88 hypoglycemia. The increased need for intravenous glucose (>8 mg/kg/min) was used as supportive
89 criteria in neonatal cases. Only patients who needed medication for hyperinsulinism (diazoxide or
90 octreotide, which were used as alternatives for each other) were included. The definition of
91 hypoglycemia was based on the recommendations of the Pediatric Endocrine Society: ≤ 2.8 mmol/l (\leq
92 50 mg/dL) in the first 48 hours of life, and ≤ 3.3 mmol/l (≤ 60 mg/dL) thereafter (14).

93 Targeted sequencing of selected 104 genes affecting glucose metabolism, including ten CHI-
94 associated genes (15), was offered to all registry patients. Some of the 94 other genes have rare variants
95 which could potentially cause hypoglycemia and increased insulin levels, and over time lead to
96 hyperglycemia. Of the whole registry, 86 patients with P-CHI and 58 patients with T-CHI were willing
97 to participate. Additionally, nine P-CHI patients whose genetic diagnosis was already available in the

98 medical records were included. Hence, altogether 153 patients (P-CHI, n = 95; T-CHI, n = 58) diagnosed
99 between the years 1972 and 2015 were included in this study. Participation rates were 90% (95 of 106)
100 in P-CHI and 44% (58 of 132) in T-CHI group. One parent of five patients and both parents of one
101 patient were of non-Finnish origin, but all other participants (96%) were of Finnish origin.

102 For our study protocol, we classified the patients retrospectively into the T-CHI group, when
103 hyperinsulinism was detected during the neonatal period (< 28 days after birth), there was no need to
104 increase the dosing of medication (mg/kg/d) after achieving remission, the medication was successfully
105 discontinued within the first four months, i.e. there was no evidence of recurrent hypoglycemia in blood
106 glucose measurements by finger-prick tests or continuous glucose monitoring during or after medication.
107 All other patients with a late onset, long duration of medication or surgical treatment were classified as
108 having P-CHI.

109 Severe symptoms at onset referred to seizure or coma and mild symptoms to any other
110 hypoglycemia symptoms. Diazoxide-responsiveness was defined clinically, when an asymptomatic
111 child had normal blood glucose levels and did not need intravenous glucose infusion.

112 ***Targeted next-generation sequencing***

113 The gene panel included 10 CHI-associated genes published by the time of the genetic analysis and
114 additionally selected 94 genes affecting glucose metabolism (15). Genomic DNA was extracted from
115 blood samples (P-CHI, n = 86; T-CHI, n = 58) by automated QIAcube System and QIAamp DNA Blood
116 Mini Kits (Qiagen Inc, CA, USA). HaloPlex Target Enrichment System (Agilent Technologies, Santa
117 Clara, CA, USA) was used to capture regions of interest for next generation sequencing. Online design
118 tool SureDesign (<https://earray.chem.agilent.com/suredesign/>) was used for capture probe design. Target
119 regions consisted of exons, UTRs and 10bp flanking regions of 104 glucose metabolism associated genes
120 from the RefSeq database (GRCh37/hg19), including ten CHI-associated genes (*ABCC8*, Online
121 Mendelian Inheritance in Man[®], OMIM: 600509; *KCNJ11*, OMIM: 600937; *GCK*, OMIM: 138079;
122 *GLUD1*, OMIM: 138130; *HNF4A*, OMIM: 600281; *HNF1A*, OMIM: 142410; *HADH*, OMIM: 601609;
123 *SLC16A1*, OMIM: 600682; *UCP2*, OMIM: 601693; and *HK1*, OMIM: 142600) (15). The total length

124 of the target regions was 484566 kbp and involved 1418 regions. Design yielded 18838 amplicons
125 covering 481.37 kbp of target regions. Library preparation was performed using HaloPlex Target
126 Enrichment Kit by following manufacturer's instructions. Paired-end sequencing (2x300 bp) was
127 performed on MiSeq instrument (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA) using the MiSeq Reagent Kits v3 (600
128 cycles).

129 ***Data analysis and variant calling***

130 In-house developed analysis pipeline was used for the analysis of raw fastq files generated by the MiSeq-
131 sequencer. Cutadapt (<https://code.google.com/p/cutadapt/>) software was used for Illumina sequencing
132 adapter removal and read trimming. Reads shorter than 20bp were abandoned. Remaining reads were
133 mapped to human reference genome hg19 using BWA-MEM algorithm ([http://bio-
134 bwa.sourceforge.net/](http://bio-bwa.sourceforge.net/)). Variant calling (SNVs and indels) was performed using four different variant
135 callers: GATK HaplotypeCaller (<https://www.broadinstitute.org/gatk/>), SAMTools mpileup
136 (<http://samtools.sourceforge.net/>), Atlas2 (<http://sourceforge.net/projects/atlas2/>), Platypus
137 (<https://bio.tools/platypus>). All called variants were annotated using SnpEff
138 (<http://snpeff.sourceforge.net/>), ANNOVAR (<http://annovar.openbioinformatics.org/>), and multiple
139 different public databases (e.g. 1000 Genomes, dbSNP, ClinVar and gnomAD). Variants had to meet
140 the following criteria to be included in the downstream analysis: located within the exonic or splicing
141 regions, have high or moderate effect on gene function, and have unknown or variant allele frequency
142 below 2% in the 1000 genomes variant database. The alignments at variant positions were visually
143 inspected using the Integrative Genomics Viewer (<https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/>).

144 *In silico analyses of genetic variants.* The pathogenicity of the variants was assessed according to the
145 guidelines of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association of Molecular
146 Pathology, ACMG (16). We classified the variants into five different groups (pathogenic, likely
147 pathogenic, uncertain significance, likely benign, benign) based on evidence population frequency of
148 the variant, computational data, functional data, and segregation data. We used the following *in silico*
149 programs to evaluate the pathogenicity of each variant, Sorting Intolerant From Tolerant (SIFT) (17),

150 Polymorphism Phenotyping2 (PolyPhen2), HumVar module (18), Mutation taster (19), and MutPred
151 (20). *In silico* analysis of intronic, synonymous, and canonical splice-site variants on splicing was done
152 by Alamut visual version 2.9, which is a commercial software from Interactive Biosoftware
153 (alamut.interactive-biosoftware.com). Additionally, we searched for functional evidence for
154 pathogenicity based from previously published studies. Only pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants
155 are reported.

156 *Variant validation.* All pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants were validated by Sanger sequencing
157 using BigDye Terminator v1.1 Cycle Sequencing Kit and analyzed by 3500XL Genetic Analyzer
158 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc, MA, USA) with 3500 data collection software 2. We performed sequence
159 analysis using Chromas Lite 2.1.1 © 1998-2013, program from Technelysium Pty Ltd.

160 *Ethical considerations.* The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Northern Savo Hospital
161 District and was conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration. All patients (and/or their
162 parents) who participated in the genetic analysis, gave their written consent. The nine patients with an
163 available genetic diagnosis and without genetic analysis in this study were included based on the
164 permission for registry study.

165 **Results**

166 *Clinical characteristics.* Clinical characteristics of the patients are presented in Table 1 and online
167 repository (15). In P-CHI (n = 95) and T-CHI groups (n = 58), 56% and 64% of the subjects were males,
168 the median age at the onset of hypoglycemia was 1 day (range, 1 d to 8 yrs) and 1 day (1 to 2 d), and the
169 median age at the start of medication was 17 days (1 d to 8 yrs) and 7 days (1 to 27 d), respectively.
170 Altogether, 64% and 100% of the patients with P-CHI and T-CHI responded to diazoxide treatment. Of
171 the 32 operated patients with P-CHI, 13 had partial resection for a focal or multifocal CHI and 19 near-
172 total or total pancreatectomy.

173 **Persistent CHI**

174 *Genetic variants.* In total, five novel and 21 previously reported (4,9,10,21-35) pathogenic or likely
175 pathogenic variants were identified in 65 patients with P-CHI from 55 families (Table 2, (15)). None of
176 the 58 unrelated patients with T-CHI carried a pathogenic or likely pathogenic variant.

177 The distribution of pathogenic or likely pathogenic gene variants of patients with P-CHI is presented
178 in Figure 1. As a whole, these variants in six CHI-associated genes, *ABCC8*, *KCNJ11*, *GLUD1*,
179 *SLC16A1*, *GCK*, and *HNF4A*, explained the genetic etiology in 68% (n = 65) of the patients. K_{ATP}
180 variants were the most common causes of CHI (82%, n = 53).

181 *ABCC8 variants.* Altogether, 17 different *ABCC8* variants were identified, including four novel variants,
182 explaining 75% (n = 49) of the mutation positive cases (Table 2, Figure 1, (15)). The previously
183 characterized two Finnish founder mutations (*ABCC8*/p.Val187Asp (9) and *ABCC8*/p.Glu1506Lys (10))
184 explained 58% (n = 38) of the genetic etiology of P-CHI patients. The autosomal recessive
185 *ABCC8*/p.Val187Asp (9) variant was found in 24 patients from 23 families, explaining the genetic
186 etiology in 37% of the mutation positive patients. Five patients were homozygous and four compound
187 heterozygous for *ABCC8*/p.Val187Asp. They tended to be born preterm (67%) and were large for
188 gestational age (67%). All had neonatal-onset within two days after the birth and all were diazoxide-
189 unresponsive. This subgroup and especially the patients with the homozygous variant tended to have the
190 highest plasma insulin levels at diagnosis (Table 1, (15)). Fifteen patients were heterozygous for
191 *ABCC8*/p.Val187Asp. All these patients were diazoxide-unresponsive. Sixty-seven percent had neonatal
192 onset, but only 13% were born large for gestational age.

193 The autosomal dominant founder mutation *ABCC8*/p.Glu1506Lys (10) was detected in 14 patients
194 from six families, explaining the genetic etiology in 22% of the cases. Of these, 93% had a neonatal
195 onset, 50% were born large for gestational age, and 93% were diazoxide-responsive (Table 1).

196 Four novel *ABCC8* variants were identified (Table 2, (15)). One patient carried a novel pathogenic
197 frameshift variant *ABCC8*/p.Lys1094Glufs*19 and a pathogenic *ABCC8*/p.Arg526Cys variant. The
198 patient was born large for gestational age, responded well to diazoxide, and had a milder phenotype than
199 other patients with compound heterozygous variants. The other novel heterozygous variants were

200 *ABCC8*/p.Glu1516Ala and *ABCC8*/p.Gln1458Lys (*de novo*). The carriers of these variants were large
201 for gestational age, had neonatal-onset, and were responsive to diazoxide. In the latter patient, ¹⁸F-
202 DOPA-PET scan referred to a multifocal disease.

203 Ten patients were heterozygous and one compound heterozygous for other *ABCC8* variants than the
204 previously mentioned founder mutations p.Val187Asp or p.Glu1506Lys, and four of these *ABCC8*
205 variants were novel (Table 2, (15)). These patients tended to be large for gestational age (64%) and have
206 neonatal onset (91%) (Table 1). None had severe symptoms at onset and 64% were diazoxide-
207 responsive. Six of the 11 patients had paternal inheritance referring to focal CHI. Focal lesion was
208 confirmed in surgery in four of them and two other were successfully treated with diazoxide.

209 *KCNJ11* variants. Four patients from three families carried a pathogenic or likely pathogenic *KCNJ11*
210 variant (Table 2, (15)). All had neonatal onset and 50% were born large for gestational age (Table 1).
211 One of the patients was compound heterozygous for *KCNJ11*/p.Lys67Asn and a promoter variant
212 (substitution C to T at -54 bases proximal of the translation initiation site) that has been previously
213 predicted to lead to a novel start codon and reduced number of K_{ATP} channels (27). This patient had a
214 severe phenotype requiring near-total pancreatectomy.

215 *GLUD1* variants. Two previously reported heterozygous *GLUD1* variants were identified in six patients
216 from three families (Table 2, (15)). These associated with an onset after the neonatal period (> 28 days
217 after birth) (83%), severe symptoms at onset (50%), and diazoxide-responsiveness (100%) (Table 1).
218 Diazoxide was started for two children after a positive test result of the variant found in the parent.
219 Plasma ammonium levels were elevated at diagnosis (range from 95 to 318 umol/l).

220 *GCK* variants. Two patients carried pathogenic *GCK* variants. One patient carried a novel pathogenic
221 activating *GCK*/p.Thr65Ala variant (Table 2, (15)). The patient had normal birth size and remained
222 asymptomatic until the age of 8 years. This patient was treated with diazoxide but the treatment could
223 be discontinued after normoglycemia was achieved with dietary treatment. An activating
224 *GCK*/p.Tyr213Cys variant (*de novo*) in another patient caused an extremely severe and drug-resistant
225 form of CHI, as previously reported (33).

226 *HNF4A* variants. A previously reported likely pathogenic variant *HNF4A*/p.Arg331His, which has been
227 associated with MODY (35), was found in one patient having a mild neonatal-onset CHI, which
228 responded well to diazoxide treatment (Table 2, (15)).

229 *SLC16A1* variants. Two previously reported heterozygous *SLC16A1* variants,
230 *SLC16A1*/p.Asp15Argfs*34 and a *SLC16A1* promoter variant (25 bp insertion at the position c.-391_-
231 390) were found in three patients (Table 2, (15)). The phenotype associating to these variants has been
232 previously described (36,37). In our cohort, the other patient with the promoter variant did not have clear
233 clinical signs of exercise-induced hyperinsulinism (EIHI).

234 **Transient CHI**

235 None of the patients with T-CHI carried a disease-causing CHI variant. In this group, 45% were born
236 preterm and only 14% were large for gestational age. The median birth weight was -1.2 SDS and none
237 had severe symptoms at onset (Table 1). The median plasma insulin levels at diagnosis tended to be
238 lower compared with the patients with P-CHI (16 vs. 25 mU/l; ranges 2-116 and 2-531 mU/l). One or
239 more risk factors for hyperinsulinism of a newborn (maternal gestational diabetes or the use of beta
240 blockers, small for gestational age, prematurity < 37 gestational weeks, or perinatal stress) was identified
241 in 66% (n = 38) of the patients with T-CHI. The corresponding proportion in the P-CHI group was 53%
242 (n = 50).

243 **Syndrome-related CHI**

244 Three participants had a syndrome previously associated with hyperinsulinism (Beckwith-Wiedemann
245 syndrome (38), Turner mosaicism (39)). No CHI-associated genetic variants were identified in these
246 patients (15).

247 **Mutation negative patients with persistent CHI**

248 Altogether, 32% (n = 30) of the subjects with P-CHI did not have a pathogenic or likely pathogenic
249 variant (Figure 1). Of these, 53% had a neonatal-onset of the disease. Eighty-six percent were diazoxide-
250 responsive. Two patients underwent pancreatectomy, and two had focal resection of pancreas. ¹⁸F-

251 DOPA-PET scan referred to a focal CHI in two patients but they were successfully treated with
252 medication.

253 **Discussion**

254 We investigated the genetics of CHI and the genotype-phenotype relationships in a nationwide cohort
255 consisting almost entirely of Finnish patients with P-CHI or T-CHI. CHI-associated pathogenic or likely
256 pathogenic variants were identified in 68% and 0% of the patients with P-CHI and T-CHI, respectively,
257 including five novel variants.

258 Previous large studies have reported CHI-associated variants in 45% (from 2 to 8 genes
259 sequenced) (3,5) and 79% (9 genes sequenced, syndromic CHI excluded) (4). Other smaller studies have
260 reported pathogenic variants in 38-66% of the patients (6 to 9 genes sequenced) (6,7,40,41). Our results
261 are in agreement with these reports. Furthermore, variants in the K_{ATP} channel genes explained 82% of
262 the variants in our study, as has also been reported in previous studies (6,7,40,41).

263 Homozygosity or compound heterozygosity for the recessive K_{ATP} channel gene variants were
264 associated with the most severe phenotypes, whereas variants in other than K_{ATP} channel genes were
265 associated with diazoxide-responsivity, except for an inactivating *GCK* variant. The patients with a
266 *GLUD1* variant showed elevated ammonium levels. Of the 20 paternally inherited heterozygous K_{ATP}
267 gene variants, 65% were associated with focal or multifocal forms of CHI which was successfully treated
268 with partial resection (15). Three patients carried a pathogenic variant in *SLC16A1* gene, and two of
269 them presented classical exercise-induced hyperinsulinism, but the clinical signs of EIHI were lacking
270 in one patient most likely due to his young age.

271 Interestingly, seven patients with heterozygous missense K_{ATP} variants and one with compound
272 heterozygous *ABCC8* variant were treated with diazoxide. The heterozygous variants may be dominant,
273 as previously demonstrated by functional analysis in all monoallelic diazoxide-responsive K_{ATP} variants
274 of a large cohort (4). In addition, a similar compound heterozygous case has been previously
275 demonstrated to be diazoxide-responsive in functional analysis (42). Moreover, it is also possible that
276 cell adaptation and gene regulatory factors may contribute to the severity of CHI in all these eight

277 patients (13,42). Several patients in our study carried a heterozygous, paternally inherited *ABCC8* variant
278 and were diazoxide-unresponsive, but did not have a focal CHI. This may be explained by another yet
279 unidentified variant, unidentified focal disease, dominant variant (in others than patients with
280 p.Val187Asp), or contributing epigenetic factors (43,44). Our findings are in agreement with previous
281 studies showing the heterogeneity of CHI (1,4,13,42,43).

282 To our knowledge, our study is the first one performing extensive genetic analyses of patients with
283 T-CHI. These patients responded well to diazoxide and the treatment could be discontinued within the
284 first four months, the maximal diazoxide dose tended to be lower than in most patients with P-CHI, and
285 none of these patients carried a pathogenic variant. Our findings are in agreement with a recently
286 provided algorithm suggesting that genetic testing is appropriate only for the patients who are diazoxide-
287 unresponsive or need a high diazoxide dose, and in patients who continue on medication (regardless of
288 the dose) after 6 months (13).

289 Targeted next-generation sequencing of selected 104 genes associated with glucose metabolism (15)
290 did not reveal any novel candidate genes for CHI in our study. Gene panels including previously known
291 disease-causing genes are important in clinical diagnostics, but identification of new causative genes is
292 only possible through exome or whole genome sequencing.

293 Our study has some limitations. First, we did not perform functional studies of the identified novel
294 variants. However, we used a wide range of *in silico* methods to predict the pathogenicity of all detected
295 variants. Second, we applied targeted next-generation sequencing, which does not detect larger
296 deletions/insertions or variants in non-coding region. This may underestimate the number of patients
297 with pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants. Third, it is possible that some of the patients who were
298 not identified with a pathogenic or likely pathogenic variant may have actually had T-CHI, since exact
299 classification criteria are missing to differentiate T-CHI and P-CHI. Although the national diagnosis
300 registries are mandatory and reliable, it cannot be excluded that some patients especially with a milder
301 phenotype in the 1970-80's have been un- or misdiagnosed. Finally, four currently known CHI-
302 associated genes were not included in our panel for the reason that these genes were mostly published

303 after we had completed our genetic analysis. However, our gene panel was the largest compared to the
304 previous studies.

305 In conclusion, the results of our study demonstrated that K_{ATP} channel genes were the major
306 identified cause of CHI, and that the genotype-phenotype associations were consistent in several specific
307 CHI subgroups. Pathogenic CHI-associated variants were not identified in patients who were both
308 responsive for drug treatment and able to discontinue medication within the first four months, and
309 therefore our results support the notion that genetic testing should be primarily done on patients with
310 inadequate response or prolonged need for medical therapy.

311 **Acknowledgements**

312 -

313 **Data availability**

314 Restrictions apply to the availability of data generated or analyzed during this study to preserve patient
315 confidentiality or because they were used under license. The corresponding author will on request
316 detail the restrictions and any conditions under which access to some data may be provided.

317 **Table legends**

318 Table 1. Clinical characteristics of the patients with persistent CHI (n = 95) and transient CHI group (n
319 = 58) according to the genetic variants.

320 Table 2. Pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants of the patients with CHI.

321 **Figure legend**

322 Figure 1. The frequencies of pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants in all patients with P-CHI (A)
323 and the distribution of these variants (B).

324

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Table 1. Clinical characteristics of the patients with persistent CHI (n = 95) and transient CHI group (n = 58) according to the genetic variants.

	Persistent CHI										Transient CHI	
	KATP channel variants										Persistent CHI Mutation negative	Mutation negative
	<i>ABCC8</i> p.V187D (HOM or CH)	<i>ABCC8</i> p.V187D (HET)	<i>ABCC8</i> p.E1506K	<i>ABCC8</i> other (HET or CH)	<i>KCNJ11</i> (HET or CH)	<i>GLUD1</i>	<i>GCK</i>	<i>SLC16A1</i>	<i>HNF4A</i>			
<i>n</i>	9	15	14	11	4	6	2	3	1	30	58	
Gender M/F (%)	33 / 67	53 / 47	50 / 50	46 / 54	75 / 25	67 / 33	50 / 50	33 / 67	0 / 100	67 / 33	64 / 36	
Gestational age, weeks	36 (29-39)	40 (36-42)	38 (33-40)	38 (36-41)	37 (27-40)	39 (37-41)	40 (40-40)	40 (39-41)	39	39 (31-42)	37 (31-41)	
Preterm, % (n) ¹	66.7 (6)	13.3 (2)	35.7 (5)	18.2 (2)	50.0 (2)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	20.0 (6)	44.8 (26)	
Birth weight SDS	+2.5 (+0.4-6.6)	+0.5 (-2.4-2.3)	+1.4 (-0.4-4.5)	+2.3 (-0.5-7.2)	+2.4 (+0.7-6.1)	-2.6 (-2.9-0.8)	+1.7 (+1.7-1.7)	-0.4 (-1.6-0.9)	+1.7	+0.4 (-3.3-3.9)	-1.2 (-3.9-4.6)	
Large for gestational age, % (n) ²	66.7 (6)	13.3 (2)	50.0 (7)	63.6 (7)	50.0 (2)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	10.0 (3)	13.8 (8)	
Neonatal onset, % (n)	100.0 (7)	66.7 (10)	92.9 (13)	90.9 (10)	100.0 (4)	16.7 (1)	50.0 (1)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	53.3 (16)	NA	
Age at detection of hypoglycemia, d	1 (1-2)	1 (1-203)	1 (1-183)	1 (1-1)	1 (1-1)	160 (27-219)	1617 (1-3233)	808 (616-931)	43	42 (1-878)	NA	
Severe symptoms at onset, % (n)	33.3 (3)	26.7 (4)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	50.0 (3)	50.0 (1)	33.3 (1)	0.0 (0)	33.3 (10)	0.0 (0)	
Max iv-glucose rate, mg/kg/min ³	14.5 (10.0-25.9)	11.8 (4.0-21.0)	9.0 (7.4-10.0)	12.9 (8.3-15.8)	16.3 (12.0-20.0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	14.1 (6.2-21.0)	12.7 (5.1-20.0)	
Plasma insulin during hypoglycemia, mU/l	57 (25-531)	24 (5-200)	21 (2-140)	21 (12-38)	46 (30-106)	28 (17-80)	25 (25)	74 (16-131)	41	20 (5-60)	16 (2-116)	
Diazoxide, max dose, mg/kg/d	11.3 (6.3-34.0)	13.2 (3.8-23.8)	6.4 (3.3-15.6)	14.0 (5.1-21.0)	14.5 (11.4-17.6)	10.0 (6.7-12.0)	NA	6.7 (4.0-12.0)	6.2 (NA)	12.5 (4.4-22.0)	9.5 (2.3-20.1)	
Diazoxide-responsive, % (n) ⁴	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	92.9 (13)	63.6 (7)	0.0 (0)	100.0 (6)	50.0 (1)	100.0 (3)	100.0 (1)	86.2 (25)	100.0 (54)	
Surgery, % (n)	100.0 (9)	80.0 (12)	7.1 (1)	36.4 (4)	25.0 (1)	0.0 (0)	50.0 (1)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	13.3 (4)	NA	

Categorical variables represented as percentage (%) and number (n) of the patients. Continuous variables represented as median (range) values. HOM, homozygous; HET, heterozygous; CH, compound heterozygous; P/LP, pathogenic/likely pathogenic; ¹ Born before 37 gestational weeks; ² Birth weight SDS > 2.0; ³ In neonates; ⁴ When used.

Table 2. Pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants of the patients with congenital hyperinsulinism.

Gene	Transcript	Allele	Protein	<i>In silico</i> analyses	Carriers (n)	Ref.
ABCC8	NM_000352.4	c.560T>A	p.(Val187Asp)	P	24	(9)
		c.1576C>T ‡	p.(Arg526Cys)	P	1	(4)
		c.3280_3281del ‡	p.(Lys1094Glufs*19)	P	1	Novel
		c.3336dup	p.(Glu1113*)	P	1	(21)
		c.3551C>T	p.(Ala1184Val)	P	1	(22)
		c.3640C>T	p.(Arg1214Trp)	P	1	(23)
		c.4307G>A	p.(Arg1436Gln)	P	1	(24,25)
		c.4406G>T	p.(Gly1469Val)	P	1	(26)
		c.4369G>A §	p.(Ala1457Thr)	P	1	(27)
		c.4372C>A	p.(Gln1458Lys)	P	1	Novel
		c.4411G>A §	p.(Asp1471Asn)	P	2	(28,29)
		c.4451G>A	p.(Gly1484Glu)	P	1	(30)
		c.4516G>A	p.(Glu1506Lys)	P	14	(10)
		c.4547A>C	p.(Glu1516Ala)	LP	1	Novel
		c.4649T>A §	p.(Val1550Asp)	P	1	(27)
c.4651C>G	p.(Leu1551Val)	P	2	(27)		
KCNJ11	NM_000525.3	c.201G>C ¥	p.(Lys67Asn)	P	2	(27)
		c.539C>T	p.(Thr180Ile)	P	2	Novel
		C>T ¥	-54 bases proximal of the translation initiation site	P	1	(27)
GLUD1	NM_005271.4	c.965G>A	p.(Arg322His)	P	4	(31)
		c.1493C>T	p.(Ser498Leu)	P	2	(32)
GCK	NM_033508.1	c.193A>G	p.(Thr65Ala)	P	1	Novel
		c.638A>G	p.(Tyr213Cys)	P	1	(33)
SLC16A1	NM_003051.3	c.-391_-390ins25bp	p.?	P	2	(34)
		c.-202G>A	p.?	P	1	(34)
HNF4A	NM_000457.4	c.992G>A	p.(Arg331His)	P	1	(35)

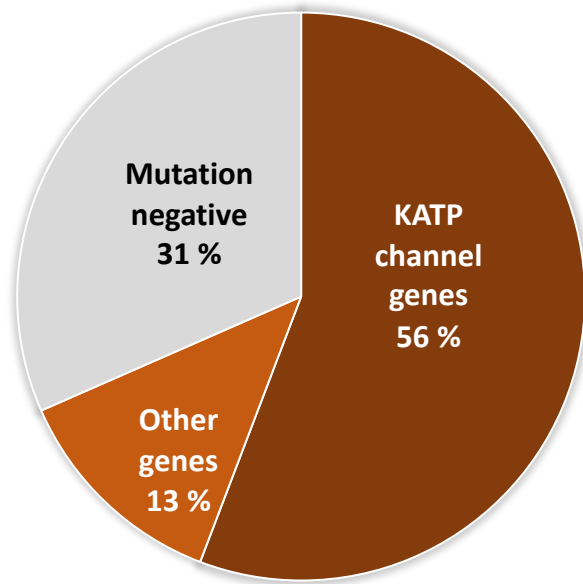
P, pathogenic; LP, likely pathogenic

‡ The variants are compound heterozygous.

§ The variant is compound heterozygous for the founder mutation ABCC8 /c.560T>A, p.(Val187Asp).

¥ The variants are compound heterozygous.

A (n = 95)



B (n = 65)

