Onoufriadis et al. Cilia 2015, 4(Suppl 1):P30 http://www.ciliajournal.com/content/4/S1/P30



POSTER PRESENTATION

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Gene discovery for motile cilia disorders: mutation spectrum in primary ciliary dyskinesia and discovery of mutations in CCDC151

A Onoufriadis¹, R Hjeij², CM Watson³, CE Slagle⁴, NT Klena⁵, GW Dougherty², M Kurkowiak², NT Loges², CP Diggle³, NF Morante⁴, GC Gabriel⁵, KL Lemke⁵, Y Li⁵, P Pennekamp², T Menchen², JK Marthin⁶, D Mans⁷, SJ Letteboer⁷, C Werner², T Burgoyne⁸, C Westermann², A Rutman⁹, IM Carr³, C O'Callaghan^{9,10}, E Moya¹¹, EMK Chung¹⁰, UK10K¹² , E Sheridan³, KG Nielsen⁶, R Roepman⁷, RD Burdine⁴, CW Lo⁵, H Omran², H Mitchison^{10*}

From Cilia 2014 - Second International Conference Paris, France, 18-21 November 2014

We present a stratification of the genetic basis of primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD), based on screening >230 individuals for gene mutations using various approaches including whole exome sequencing. PCD is a genetically heterogeneous recessive ciliopathy, characterized by chronic lung disease and laterality and fertility defects arising from cilia and sperm dysmotility. Most PCD is caused by loss of the ciliary outer dynein arm motors (ODA) essential for motility, arising from mutations in ODA subunits or ODA docking and targeting proteins. Gene panel resequencing of candidate ciliopathy genes in affected children from a consanguineous Bedouin-Arabic family has recently revealed a homozygous protein truncating variant in CCDC151 (c.925G>T; p.Glu308*). Parallel exome sequencing combined with autozygosity mapping in a consanguineous UK-Pakistani-origin family highlighted a large autozygous region on chr 19p13 harbouring a homozygous CCDC151 protein-truncating variant (c.1256C>T; pSer419*). Sanger sequencing of CCDC151 in 150 more PCD cases identified another individual carrying c.925G>T. Transmission electron microscopy of respiratory cilia from individuals carrying CCDC151 mutations showed loss of ODA. Consistent with laterality defects in these individuals, we find Ccdc151 expressed in vertebrate left-right organizers. Both homozygous zebrafish and mouse Ccdc151-deficient mutants display situs defects associated with complex heart defects. Immunofluorescence analysis in patients shows that CCDC151 mutations abolish assembly of CCDC151 into respiratory cilia, and furthermore cause a failure in assembly of the ODA component DNAH5 and ODA docking proteins CCDC114 and ARMC4. We conclude that CCDC151 mutations appear to cause PCD by disruption of the axonemal ODA docking complex machinery.

Authors' details

¹Kings College London, London, UK. ²University Children's Hospital Muenster, Muenster, Germany. ³University of Leeds, Leeds, UK. ⁴Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA. ⁵University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. ⁶Copenhagen University Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark. ⁷Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, The Netherlands. ⁸UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, London, UK. 9University of Leicester, Leicester, UK. 10UCL Institute of Child Health, London, UK. 11 Bradford Royal Infirmary, Bradford, UK. 12 uk10k.org.uk, Cambridge, UK.

Published: 13 July 2015

doi:10.1186/2046-2530-4-S1-P30

Cite this article as: Onoufriadis et al.: Gene discovery for motile cilia disorders: mutation spectrum in primary ciliary dyskinesia and discovery of mutations in CCDC151. Cilia 2015 4(Suppl 1):P30.

¹⁰UCL Institute of Child Health, London, UK Full list of author information is available at the end of the article

