Electronic Letter

Refined mapping of the gene for otopalatodigital syndrome type 1

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Otopalatodigital syndrome type 1 (OPD-1) (MIM 31130) is a rare X linked disorder characterised by a peculiar face with supraorbital ridges, flat nasal bridge, hypertelorism, micrognathia, and cleft palate (pugilistic face) and by hand and foot deformities with spatulate distal digits and short first digits arising from the second digits (tree frog hands and feet), together with conductive deafness, short stature, and mild mental retardation. Affected males invariably have a distinct phenotype, and heterozygous carrier females frequently exhibit a mild phenotype with an estimated penetrance of ~80%,.

The gene for OPD-1 has been mapped to the Xq27-28 region by linkage analyses in two families. Hoar et al. localised the OPD-1 gene to a region distal to DXS100 on Xq25, with a maximum lod score of 1.99 at OPD-I gene to a region distal to DXS539 on Xq27, with a score of 3.19. Here, we report a Japanese family with OPD-I.

CASE REPORTS

The family pedigree is shown in fig 1. Case I.1 was dead and, allegedly, had had clinical features compatible with OPD-1. Case II.3 exhibited mild but definite supraorbital ridges and bilateral short first toes. Case III.2 showed overt supraorbital ridges, bilateral short first toes, and hearing loss. Cases IV.1 and IV.2 had typical OPD-1 features such as supraorbital ridges, flat nasal bridge, hypertelorism, downward slanting palpebral fissures, thick and arched eyebrows, microtia, spatulate distal digits, short first digits arising from the second digits, bilateral conductive deafness, pectus excavatum, and short stature. Mental development appeared normal in case IV.1 and mildly retarded in case IV.2. Other family members had no discernible abnormalities. The G banded karyotype was mildly retarded in case IV.2. Other family members had no discernible abnormalities. The G banded karyotype was mildly retarded in case IV.2. Other family members had no discernible abnormalities.

METHODS

Familial linkage was performed with the program MLINK of the LINKAGE package version 5.10 under the assumption of 100% penetrance in affected males and 80% penetrance in carrier females and showed a maximum lod score of 0.90 at 0 = 0 for DXS1177, DXS15, BGN, DXS1073, and DXS8087.

The X inactivation pattern was examined in the female family members by previously described methods. Analysis of the methylation pattern of the AR gene indicated skewed X inactivation in case III.2. The results of the X inactivation pattern, though examined for leucocytes, were consistent with random expression of the mutant OPD-1 allele in case II.3 with a mild OPD-1 phenotype and preferential expression of the mutant OPD-1 allele in case III.2 with an overt OPD-1 phenotype.

SUMMARY

In summary, the present study suggests that the OPD-1 critical region is further narrowed down from the ~12 Mb region distal to DXS539 to the ~6 Mb region between DXS8011 and DXS8087.

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REFERENCES


Abbreviations: OPD-1, otopalatodigital syndrome type 1


Figure 1  Family with otopalatodigital syndrome type I (OPD-I). Black squares indicate males with the typical OPD-I phenotype, circles with a dot depict obligate carrier females with a mild or overt OPD-I phenotype, and white squares and circles represent clinically normal subjects. The loci examined at Xq26-28 are shown at the bottom right. DXYS154 and DXYS225 lie in the long arm pseudoautosomal region, and the remaining 16 loci reside in the X differential region. The alleles are arbitrary, indicated by Arabic numbers according to their sizes. The region between DXS8011 and DXS1108 is shared by affected males and females and is absent in clinically normal subjects examined.


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