Clinical consequences of deletion 1p35

We would like to make a correction to our paper previously published in the journal. Upon analysis of another blood specimen at higher resolution, we found a balanced translocation. The corrected karyotype is 46,XY,t(1;11)(p34.3;q25).  

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Maxillonasal dysplasia (Binder’s syndrome) and chondrodyplasia punctata

In a recent letter to the editor, Sheffield et al. discussed the true relationship between maxillonasal dysplasia (Binder’s syndrome) and chondrodyplasia punctata. The authors noted that the number of patients diagnosed as chondrodyplasia punctata had been underestimated because punctate epiphyses disappear with age, and they suggested looking at old radiographs that had been performed in infancy.

We have another suggestion. If the patient is a male, it would be advisable to examine the hands of his maternal relatives, especially uncles and nephews, to look for brachytelephy. Moreover, if the disease seems to be inherited in an X linked recessive manner, an analysis of Xp could be indicated as the gene CDXP 1 has been mapped to Xp22.3–22.5. In one familial case, Petit et al. found an interstitial deletion in Xp22.3.

BOOK REVIEWS

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Aspects of Oral Molecular Biology: Frontiers of Oral Physiology, volume 8


This book presents an overview of molecular biology in relation to fundamental oral and laboratory. There is a wealth of publications available concerning congenital chromo-somal aberrations and cancer predisposi-tion and a number of important scientific developments have not been included in this volume. For instance, the association between Beckwith-Wiedmann syndrome and Wilms’ tumour and the suggestion of two possible loci for Wilms’ tumour on chromo-some arm 11p (Mannens et al. Hum Genet 1988;8:41–8) are not mentioned. Also, many of the incidence figures quoted for particular disorders relate only to Hungary and there-fore may not have much relevance for a wider readership. It must be mentioned, however, that there may be problems in obtaining some current journals in eastern Europe which may have contributed to this lack of up to date references.

A number of serious scientific inaccuracies are also present in this book. The author states incorrectly that carriers of constitu-tional 13q14 deletions usually develop unila-teral retinoblastoma rather than bilateral tu-mours. When describing the (t9:22) transloca-tion in chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) the author states that the breakpoint on 9q34 is located close to the c-abl oncogene. How-ever, it is known that the breakpoints on 9q34 are scattered and can be located both 3’ and 5’ of the c-abl exon as well as located within the c-abl oncogene (Heim and Mitelman. Cancer cytogenetics. New York: Liss, 1987). It is also stated that in CML the c-abl oncogene is associated with the immuno-globulin heavy chain locus. This statement is incorrect as the t(9;22) translocation involved in CML places c-abl next to the breakpoint cluster region on chromosome 22 (Mitelman et al. Nature 1985; 315:550–4) and not in association with the immunoglobulin heavy chain locus.

The translation into English is poor and consequently the book is difficult to read in places. Also, the quality of many of the figures, including those reproduced from other publications together with ones from the author’s own laboratory, is very poor. For example, in a figure showing deletions of chromosome 13 involved in retinoblastoma it is very difficult to see the GTG banding pattern on the chromosomes. The poor reproduction of figures on pages 52 and 53, depicting induced chromosome aberrations, makes their interpretation difficult. Finally, the representation of Q, G, and R bands reproduced from the Painter-Simpson figure (1971) has been altered by the addition of extra and incorrectly positioned light G bands on the long arms of chromosomes 13,14,15, and 16.

The book is primarily aimed at paediatri-cians, oncologists, and medical geneticists. However, as it is sadly out of date, it will only be useful as a general reference on the topic. If greater detail is required by the reader then it will be necessary to read more up to date publications.

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