

Mutation Report

**A RECURRENT 1992delCT MUTATION OF THE TYPE X
COLLAGEN GENE IN A JAPANESE PATIENT
WITH SCHMID METAPHYSEAL CHONDRODYSPLASIA**

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Summary We report here a recurrent frameshift mutation within the carboxyl-terminal noncollagenous domain coding region of the type X collagen gene (*COL10A1*) in a Japanese patient with Schmid metaphyseal chondrodysplasia. The mutation involves deletion of a CT dinucleotide from position 1992 (1992delCT), and produces a frameshift which creates a premature termination codon close to the site of the deletion. The predicted length of the mutant polypeptide is 664 amino acids, which is shorter than the wild type polypeptide (680 amino acids). A 1992delCT mutation of *COL10A1* has been previously reported in one family. The independent occurrence of *de novo* mutation of this specific dinucleotide repeat suggests that this region is a possible mutational hot spot on *COL10A1*.

Key Words Schmid metaphyseal chondrodysplasia (SMCD), mutation, type X collagen gene (*COL10A1*), Japanese population, heteroduplex analysis

Schmid metaphyseal chondrodysplasia (SMCD) is an autosomal dominant disorder characterized by mild dwarfism and coxa vara. Seventeen different SMCD mutations reported to date have all been located within the carboxyl (C)-terminal noncollagenous domain coding region of the type X collagen gene (*COL10A1*) (Warman *et al.*, 1993; Wallis *et al.*, 1994; McIntosh *et al.*, 1994, 1995; Dharmavar-

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am *et al.*, 1994; Chan *et al.*, 1995; Bonaventure *et al.*, 1995). It has been suggested that mutations of this domain prevent the mutant polypeptides from participation in stable triple-helix formation and lead to a reduction in the amount of normal protein. Alternatively, the presence of abnormal type X homotrimers may interfere with the formation of large multimeric aggregates. We report here a recurrent frameshift mutation within the C-terminal noncollagenous domain coding region of *COL10A1* in a Japanese patient with SMCD.

A 3-year-old Japanese girl was diagnosed as having SMCD on the basis of clinical features and radiographic data at the Osaka Medical Center and Research Institute for Maternal and Child Health. Her parents were clinically normal and were unrelated. DNA was extracted from peripheral blood leukocytes by a standard method (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989). Since all SMCD mutations reported to date have been located within the C-terminal noncollagenous domain of *COL10A1*, we used two sets of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) primers to study the portion of the genomic DNA that included a sequence encoding this entire C-terminal domain. The sequences of the primers used (primer H15: 5'-TCAATGGACCCA-CCGGGC-3', primer H18: 5'-TGATGGCACTCCCTGAAGCCTG-3', primer H17: 5'-GCCTGTGTCTGCTTTTACTG-3', and primer H23: 5'-TTCAGCCTA-CCTCCATATGC-3') were identical to those reported previously (McIntosh *et al.*, 1994). Primers H15 and H18 amplified a 471-bp product, while primers H17 and H23 amplified a 490-bp product. Amplification was performed with 0.5 U of TaKaRa *Taq* (Takara, Shiga, Japan) in the following reaction mixture with a total volume of 25 μ l: 50 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.3), 100 μ M of each dNTP, 100 ng DNA, and 12.5 pmol of each primer. Thirty cycles of 30 sec each at 94°C, 62°C, and 72°C were used. The PCR products were identified on 3% low melting point agarose gel and subjected to heteroduplex analysis using MDE™ gel (AT Biochem, Malvern, PA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, the amplified products were purified with a QIAEX II gel extraction kit (Qiagen, Chatsworth, CA) and directly sequenced using a Taq Dye Terminator cycle sequencing kit (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) and an Applied Biosystems 373A DNA sequencer.

MDE™ gel electrophoresis of the PCR products amplified with primers H17 and H23 indicated the presence of heteroduplex bands in the proband, but not in her parents (Fig. 1). Direct DNA sequencing of the PCR product suggested that the patient was heterozygous for the deletion of a CT dinucleotide from position 1992 (1992delCT) (data not shown). In order to confirm this mutation, the PCR product of primers H17 and H23 from the patient was digested with *HindIII*/*NsiI* and was subcloned into the *HindIII*/*PstI* cloning sites of pBluescript II SK⁺ (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). The presence of 1992delCT mutation was confirmed by sequencing of DNA from individual subclones (Fig. 2). This frameshift mutation created a premature termination codon close to the site of the deletion. The predicted length of the mutant polypeptide is 664 amino acids, which is shorter

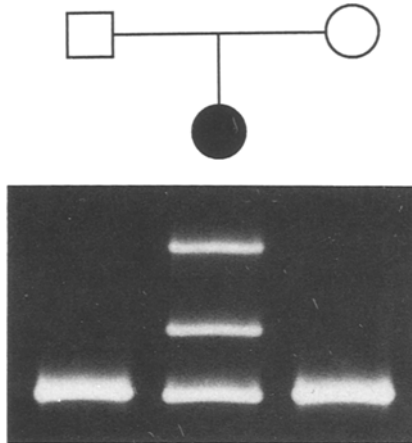


Fig. 1. Heteroduplex analysis of PCR products amplified with primers H17 and H23 from the SMCD patient and her parents. Note the additional heteroduplex bands of the SMCD patient, but not parents.

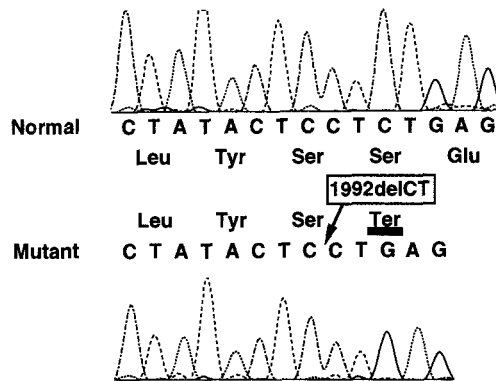


Fig. 2. DNA sequencing of normal and mutant clones from the SMCD patient. The sequence shown is from nucleotide 1984 to 1998 of COL10A1 and the position of the mutation is indicated.

than the wild type polypeptide (680 amino acids). Neither of the parents had this mutation. A previously reported polymorphic amino acid substitution (Gly545Arg) (Sweetman *et al.*, 1992) was detected in the patient and her father, but not in her mother (data not shown).

All of the known SMCD mutations are different (Warman *et al.*, 1993; Wallis *et al.*, 1994; McIntosh *et al.*, 1994, 1995; Dharmavaram *et al.*, 1994; Chan *et al.*, 1995; Bonaventure *et al.*, 1995). However, three of the reported deletions were initiated at nucleotide 1856 of COL10A1. Thus, it seems that this nucleotide may

be more prone to mutational events. A 1992delCT mutation of *COL10A1* has been previously reported in one family (McIntosh *et al.*, 1994). The data presented here indicate that an apparently unrelated Japanese SMCD patient has a recurrent 1992delCT mutation of *COL10A1*. This dinucleotide locates within the direct repeat sequence (CTCT at nt 1992–1995), and the gene deletions have been suggested to occur preferentially at such sites (Krawczak and Cooper, 1991). The independent occurrence of *de novo* mutation in this specific dinucleotide repeat suggests that this region is a possible mutational hot spot on *COL10A1*. Although some SMCD patients are reported to have no mutation of *COL10A1* (Bonaventure *et al.*, 1995), these observations indicate allelic heterogeneity and confirm the role of mutation within the C-terminal noncollagenous domain coding region of *COL10A1* in the pathogenesis of most SMCD.

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