#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

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# Catalog of 320 single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in 20 quinone oxidoreductase and sulfotransferase genes

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Abstract Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in genes encoding drug-metabolizing enzymes, transporters, receptors, and other drug targets have been widely implicated as contributors to differences among individuals as regards the efficacy and toxicity of many medications, as well as the susceptibility to complex diseases. By combining the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technique with direct sequencing, we screened genomic DNAs from 48 Japanese volunteers for SNPs in genes encoding three quinone oxidoreductases (NQO1, NQO2, and PIG3) and 17 sulfotransferases (SULT1A1, SULT1A2, SULT1A3, SULTICI, SULTIC2, SULT2A1, SULT2B1, ST1B2, TPST1, TPST2, SULTX3, STE, CST, HNK-1 ST, CHST2, CHST4, and CHST5). In all, we identified 320 SNPs from these 20 loci: 22 within coding elements, 21 in 5' flanking regions, 10 in 5' untranslated regions, 223 in introns, 19 in 3' untranslated regions, and 25 in 3' flanking regions. The ratio of transitions to transversions was approximately 2.3 to 1. Of the 22 coding SNPs, 6 were nonsynonymous substitutions that resulted in amino-acid substitutions. The highdensity SNP maps we constructed from this data for each of the quinone oxidoreductases and sulfotransferases examined here should provide useful information for investigations designed to detect association(s) between genetic variations and common diseases or responsiveness to drug therapy.

**Key words** Single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) · Quinone oxidoreductase · Sulfotransferase · Drugmetabolizing enzymes · Nonsynonymous substitution

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# Introduction

Common genetic variations may, in large part, explain genetic predispositions to common diseases and individual differences in pharmacological responsiveness (Dean et al. 1996; Risch and Merikangas 1996; Kruglyak 1997). Singlenucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) are the most frequent type of genetic variation, and are thought to be present every several hundred bases, on average, throughout the human genome (Halushka et al. 1999). SNPs can provide medically important information through: (1) their contribution to high-density maps for studies of susceptibility to common diseases; (2) the provision of genetic data for personalized medical service; and (3) the identification of genes associated with efficacy and side-effects of drugs (Kruglyak 1999). Nearly a million SNPs have already been registered in databases as a result of numerous projects to screen the entire human genome in a systematic way. However, instead of genome-wide screening, we have focused on regions that contain genes of interest, particularly genes encoding proteins involved in the metabolism of drugs, drug receptors, and transporters, and molecules that respond to oxidative stresses. Such genes are likely to have significant roles in the responsiveness to drugs, and may also influence susceptibility to common diseases such as arteriosclerosis and diabetes mellitus.

Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate, reduced [NAD(P)H]: quinone oxidoreductase (NQO1) and dihydronicotinamide riboside (NRH): quinone oxidoreductase (NQO2) are flavoproteins that catalyze two-electron reduction and detoxification of quinones and their derivatives (for reviews, see Chen et al. 2000; Jaiswal 2000). These enzymes help to protect cells and tissues against various types of oxidative stress, as well as redox cycling caused by free radicals and reactive oxygen metabolites generated by one-electron reduction processes. NQO1 requires NADH or NADPH as a cofactor for its enzymatic activity, and is strongly inhibited by low concentrations of dicoumarol. NQO2, on the other hand, requires NRH as a cofactor. Human *NQO2* cDNA and protein are, respectively, 54%

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and 49% similar to human liver cytosolic *NQO1* cDNA and protein (Jaiswal et al. 1990). PIG3 (p53 induced gene 3/ quinone oxidoreductase homolog), a molecule that shares significant homology with oxidoreductases, was recently identified as a downstream target involved in p53-mediated apoptosis (Polyak et al. 1997). Although PIG3 expression is likely to be correlated with the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) (Flatt et al. 2000), its biological function is unknown at present.

Sulfotransferases catalyze the sulfation of a variety of endogenous and exogenous compounds, including steroids, neurotransmitters, bile acids, and biogenic amines, as well as a large number of therapeutic drugs and environmental chemicals (for reviews, see Weinshilboum et al. 1997; Coughtrie et al. 1998; Dooley 1998). Molecules that belong to the sulfotransferase superfamily, on the basis of aminoacid sequence similarities and substrate preferences, can be divided into two major categories, SULT1 (phenol SULTs) and SULT2 (hydroxysteroid SULTs) (Weinshilboum et al. 1997; Freimuth et al. 2000). Members of the SULT1 subfamily share at least 60% identity in amino-acid sequence, but are further subdivided into four groups; namely, phenol (1A), thyroid hormone (1B), hydroxyarylamine (1C), and estrogen (1E) sulfotransferases. The enzymes are distinct, but they recognize some common substrates. From the viewpoint of pharmacogenetics, a G638A (Arg213His) substitution in the SULTIA1 gene (conserved region in the cytosolic sulfotransferase gene family that includes SULTIA1, SULTIA2, STM, and STE) appears to be associated with reduction of enzymatic activity and thermal stability (Raftogianis et al. 1997).

By means of direct sequencing, we attempted an extensive SNP analysis of genes encoding 3 quinone oxidoreductases and 17 sulfotransferases, and report here high-density maps of these 20 genes that include a total of 320 SNPs.

## **Materials and methods**

## DNA samples

Blood samples were obtained from 48 healthy Japanese individuals. Informed consent was obtained from each participant in this study, which was approved by the SNP Research Center, RIKEN. Genomic DNA was extracted from each sample according to standard protocols.

Genes encoding drug-metabolizing enzymes

The 20 genes analyzed in this study were as follows:

NAD(P)H: quinone oxidoreductase 1 (NQO1, accession numbers M81596, J05348-M81600, and J05348)
NRH: quinone oxidoreductase 2 (NQO2, AB050248)
Quinone oxidoreductase homolog (PIG3, AF010309)
Sulfotransferase 1A1 (SULT1A1, U52852)
Sulfotransferase 1A2 (SULT1A2, U33886)

Sulfotransferase 1A3 (SULTIA3, L34160) Sulfotransferase 1C1 (SULTIC1, AC019100) Sulfotransferase 1C2 (SULT1C2, AF186263) Sulfotransferase 2A1 (SULT2A1, AC024582) Sulfotransferase 2B1 (SULT2B1, AC040922) Thyroid hormone sulfotransferase (ST1B2, AC027059) Tyrosylprotein sulfotransferase 1 (TPST1, AC026281) Tyrosylprotein sulfotransferase 2 (TPST2, AC022814) Sulfotransferase-related protein 3 (SULTX3, AC083393) Estrogen sulfotransferase (SULT1E1, AC074273) Cerebroside sulfotransferase (CST, AC005006) HNK-sulfotransferase-1 (HNK-1 ST, AC012493) Carbohydrate sulfotransferase 4 (CHST4, AC010547) Carbohydrate sulfotransferase 5 (CHST5, AC025287)

On the basis of the DNA sequences of these genes in the GenBank database, we designed primers to amplify each gene in its entirety and up to 2 kilobases upstream from the first exon (putative promoter region).

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR), direct sequencing, and detection of SNPs

PCR experiments and DNA sequencing were performed according to methods described previously (Ohnishi et al. 2000). Each PCR was carried out using 20 ng of DNA pooled from three individuals. All SNPs detected by the PolyPhred Computer Program (Nickerson et al. 1997) were confirmed by sequencing both strands of each PCR product.

# **Results and discussion**

By direct sequencing of DNA from 48 healthy individuals, we screened SNPs in a total of 257 kilobases of genomic DNA, corresponding to 20 selected genes. Three of the genes belonged to the quinone oxidoreductase family and 17 to the sulfotransferase family. We identified 320 SNPs altogether (Fig. 1). Of these, 22 were located in coding elements, 21 in 5' flanking regions, 10 in 5' untranslated regions, 223 in introns, 19 in 3' untranslated regions, and 25 in 3' flanking regions. Of the total, 295 (92.1%) had not been deposited in the dbSNP database, and 44 were observed within regions corresponding to repetitive sequences predicted by the RepeatMasker Program (http://ftp.genome.washington.edu/cgi-bin/RepeatMasker). The ratios of transitions to transversions were approximately 7:3 in both exons and introns. Of the 22 SNPs identified within coding regions, 6 were nonsynonymous and resulted in amino-acid substitutions that might affect the structure and/or biological function of the respective gene products.

On average, we identified 16 SNPs per gene and 1 SNP in every 800 bp. However, the distribution was uneven. For example, we found 9 SNPs within one 525-bp region (1 SNP/58 bp) in intron 6 of the *SULT1A1* gene, and 11 in a





4 (3' untranslated region 1948)dbSNP ID:rs10517

ttgctaaactgatgacttac C/T atgggatggggtccagtccc



1 (5' untranslated region -93)

tccgcgaggatacagcggcc (CCTGY), cagacaatatgttagccgtg

Fig. 1a–t. Genomic organization and locations of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in three quinone oxidoreductase genes (a-c) and 17 sulfotransferase genes (d-t). Exons are represented by *open rectangles* and introns by *horizontal lines*. The identified SNPs are indicated *above each gene*, and variable number tandem repeate (*VNTR*) sequences and insertion-deletion polymorphisms are shown *below*. For cDNA and coding sequences in genomic DNA, the adenine of the initiator Met codon is denoted nucleotide +1. The first nucle-

otide of the 5' untranslated region is numbered -1. Likewise, for intronic DNA, positive numbers start from the guanine of the donorsite invariant GT, and negative numbers start from the guanine of the acceptor-site invariant AG. *Italic numbers and letters* indicate SNPs located within repetitive sequences predicted by the RepeatMasker Program. The complete genomic structure of the *NQO2* gene was determined in this study, and has been submitted to the DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ) under accession number AB050248



Fig. 1a-t. Continued

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9 (intron 2b 745)ctgtccctgtctggaccctg C/A tggggggccacagagcaggc10 (exon 3 85)tcactagtttcctgctgctg G/A (Val 29 Met) tgtactcctatgccgtgccc11 (intron 3 308)tcgtctgaggtcaggagttc G/A agaccagcctggccaacatg12 (intron 3 853)ttttgtcctataaaatggca G/A tttcatgtggcccaagctga

232



cactttgggaggccgaggcg G/C gtggatcacaaagtcaggag

8 (intron 4 429)





1 (intron 2 578)	tcacctatcatcctcactgc G/A aggatgccaggatacctccc	
2 (intron 2 789)	cttaagccatcgtgcaggtc A/G ttgctgtcttctgctcactt	
3 (intron 3 2009)		
4 (intron 3 2017)	cccaggetggagtgtagtgg T/C gtgatet C/T ggetcactgcaaceteegee	2
5 (intron 3 2035)	ctcggctcactgcaacctcc G/A cctcccgggttcaagcagtt	
6 (intron 4 104)	aatgttcagtctctcaattc C/T tggtcatctgatttgttcct	
7 (intron 4 379)	taaataaataaactattggt C/T cctttcttgtcttataaggt	
8 (intron 4 588)	tactgcagcctgatacttct C/T ggcttaagccatcctctcac	
9 (intron 4 626)	caccccaggctcctgagtag C/T taggactgcaggtgcacgcc	
10 (intron 4 718)	cccaggctggtctagaactc C/G tggccgtaagggatgcccct	
11 (intron 4 873)	gttgatggccttatttatac G/A tttccattacagcttctagt	
12 (intron 4 949)	caaatatttgaaaatgggac C/G caggcctgaggaagagcttt	
13 (intron 4 1033)	taagctcagcatttctgagc G/A tgtgctgattttaggaaata	
14 (intron 4 1051)	gcgtgtgctgattttaggaa A/G taaacagttatcgtattgaa	
15 (intron 4 1356)	gattcaacgtacataccagc C/T gacattgacaggtgaatggc	
16 (intron 4 1707)	gtctccttaaaaggtggctc G/T ctgcccctggcttgccccag	
17 (intron 5 215)	aagaccagcctgaccaaaac G/A gtgaaaccccgtctctacta	
18 (intron 5 341)	tgggaggcagaggtcgcagt G/A agctgagatcacgccgttgc	
19 (intron 6 31)	ggacttcactggggggttccc G/A ctgcttctgggtggccccgg	
20 (intron 6 273)	gtttgtctgacactgggggac A/G gggcaggaagcaccactatg	
21 (intron 6 693)	aaagggatttttttgaactt G/C gtaattcaaagatttaagat	
22 (intron 6 1635)	tcctgggtacagagttggcc T/G tgaacaaacatgagtccttc	
23 (3 untranslated region 1147)	cttccccactttcagatctc C/T gcaaatgacttcattgccaa	







p	Sulfotransferase-related protein 3 ( $S$	ULTX3)	
'	0 КЬ		40 Kb
	332,G 1167,86 1786 65242 6501 6501 65058 85156 65058 85156 85156 85156 85156 85156 8516 10308 1008 10	13108 700 C 848 6 C 1677 1	4954 ( 12 C 5 1 25 35 364 ( 1874 ) 25 35 3652 2 3652 2 3652 2 3652 2 3652 2 3652 2 3652 2 3652 2 3657 4 2573 3 2573 5 2770 0 2770 0 27700 0
		╶─────────────────────────────	──── <u>─</u>
	1 gtgtggggggggcagctc > gtgtggggggggcagctc	2 3 4	5 6 7
	dG one base deletion polymorphism		
			tcatccttctctgc > ttcatcttctctgc
			dC one base deletion polymorphism
	1 (intron 1 332)	cctgcttctccctttacctg G/I	ctggctgtgtgaccttggac
	2 (intron 1 1167)	taggaatggctaagcgtgtc G/A	ttggettetgtggeeactea
	3 (intron 1 1786)dbSNP ID:rs138017	gggtgagaacgcttagccca C/G	gtccagacacacgctggaaa
	4 (intron 1 2872)	cattetcactgatgcagacg G/A	aagcttctgggcctgggcgt
	5 (intron 1 6242)	caccettggettttaccage A/G	tggaaacattttacctgaat
	6 (intron 1 6601) 7 (intron 1 6768)	gcgtgggcttctggagggag C/T	
	(intron 1 6005)	agettgaaatgageeagaet C/I	
	9 (intron 1 7464)	agtacttigttttateetee C/1	
	10 (intron 1 7833)	tacttogagetaggettage G/A	acacyaacacagecaggage
	11  (intron 1 8189)	caaactggggcccttaatgc C/T	
	12 (intron 1 8316)	ctctcacacaagggcggagc C/G	
	13 (intron 1 8617)	agacagaggctggggccaag C/T	cagggttgccggagcttccc
	14 (intron 1 8631)	gccaagccagggttgccgga G/T	cttcctggactggtcaggcc
	15 (intron 1 9493)	ttttcctcttagagcttccc G/A	tcgtgctctgtgtcgagggc
	16 (intron 1 10306)	caggcgggggggggcctgaatgc C/I	gcagtcgtgagggtggccag
	17 (intron 1 11987)	tcataaaataatgatatcag T/C	acactttttggaaatttgag
	18 (intron 1 13085)	ctctgtgcccggtgttgaga C/A	aggccatgccctagagtcct
	19 (intron 1 13108)	gccatgccctagagtcctgg G/A	gagttccaccccagaacagc
	20 (intron 2 700)	gaaccatctgggagtcgttc C/T	gtactgccgtgccgagggcc
	21 (intron 2 818)	agccatagtagctagccagc G/A	atcagcgctgggaggggggg
	22 (intron 2 866)dbSNP ID:rs138075	gggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggg	tggggatgtctgaggcaggt
	23 (intron 2 1241)dbSNP ID:rs138074	cctccgacgccactccaage C/I	ggggcagtagctcccaggcc
	24 (intron 2 1677)	actccacttcccctgaaccc C/I	accettecttectetg
	25 (intron 4 4954)	gcgtgccgaaggcgggaggg C/I	tgggatggctcaagacgtga
	26 (intron 5 12)dbSNP ID:rs138070	atgcatcgggtgagtgctgc C/I	ggagcagctgtcctccgggt
	27 (intron 5 1964)dDSNP 1D:rs13806/	ctgtctggcttctgcgcaga T/C	ggcgaggeteeteeteete
	20 (intron 5 2555)dDSNP 1D:rs138065	cgtcagggtcaaggccacca G/1	ccctgcctggaactttaaga
	30  (introp 5 3662)	acattetetttaagettte	galagagagagagagagagagagagagagagagagagag
	31 (introp 6 1874)	totgatotoagaggttee C/1	
	32 (intron 6 2100)dbSNP ID:rs138061	tttcgtttttccaaagcctt C/T	ataaaccagcgtagaccggt
	33 (intron 6 2133)	agaccggtgcctgcagttta T/G	cccacagetcagecetecet
	34 (intron 6 2524)	qqaaqqqccaqqqctqcctq T/C	gatgcccagagcagtgcact
	35 (intron 6 2573)	agatcatactcgctcctggg A/G	f tgtttattaaacacctgcca
	36 (3' untranslated region 1493)dbS	NP ID:rs138057	
		ggtcttcagaatggacgtcc T/C	tctgccagagacttccagcg
	37 (3' untranslated region 2067)dbSN	NP ID:rs138056	
		cccaaagtggtggtcaggag G/I	gtcgctgctgtggaaggggt
	38 (3' flanking region 12)	gttcccggcgttgcgtcgag C/G	; gtttctgcttgtgggggtag
	39 (3' flanking region 98)dbSNP ID::	rs38055	
	$40$ (2) flophing $m_{\rm c} = 445$	gtgggccccgttgacacccc A/G	ttccctggggttgacagcag
	40 (3 Hanking region 445)	tecaaageetgtetteetga T/G	- TTCCTGTGGaaggagagtCC
	One base deletion polymorphisms		

1	(intron	1	6419)	ctgttagtgtgggggcagctc 3	>	ctgttagtgtggggcagctc
2	(intron	5	2458)	ggaagttcatccttctctgcc	>	ggaagttcatcttctctgcc



gcagagaccaatgttttggt G/C ctgaggctggttcagaaaaa

tactgaaacattctgcagaa T/C gttatactatgagaagaaat

Fig. 1a-t. Continued

5 (3' flanking region 383)

6 (3' flanking region 952)

238



2 (5' flanking region -941) ctgccagagagaaacaggaa G/A ggaggaagagccacacaatt

- 3 (intron 1 -150) caggaaatgatttggagaag G/T actggtgccattgttggcac
- 4 (3' flanking region 1131)dbSNP ID:rs310334

acagcagatgacagtgtgaa C/T agagtgaagagggccattga



1910-bp segment (1 SNP/173bp) of the 3' untranslated region in *HNK-1 ST*. On the other hand, we found the only 1 SNP in a 12-kb region corresponding to the entire *SULT1A3* gene. We speculate that this uneven distribution reflects evolutionary selection and/or regional differences in mutational risk.

#### Quinone oxidoreductases

NQOs are flavoproteins that catalyze two-electron reduction and detoxification of quinones and quinone derivatives; NQOs play important roles in the protection of cells and tissues against various types of oxidative stress. Reactive oxygen species (ROS), such as hydrogen peroxide, superoxide, and hydroxyl radicals, can cause severe toxic damage to cells; ROS are implicated in cancer, various other diseases, and the process of aging. Hence, differences in the quality and quantity of NQO enzymes are likely to have a significant influence on the susceptibility to various common diseases, including arteriosclerosis, hypertension, and diabetes mellitus, as well as cancer. In fact, a Pro203Ser amino-acid substitution in the NQO1 gene has been implicated as a factor influencing risk for lung cancer (Rosvold et al. 1995; Chen et al. 1999; Lin et al. 1999), cutaneous basal cell carcinoma (Clairmont et al. 1999), and urological malignancy (Schulz et al. 1997). In addition, this change appears to be associated with risk for a subtype of colon cancer characterized by mutation at codon 12 of the K-ras gene (Lafuente et al. 2000). Moreover, on the basis of an epidemiological study in China, Rothman et al. (1997) reported that individuals homozygous for the allele encoding the serine residue lost NQO1 activity and carried an increased risk of benzene poisoning and subsequent hematological malignancy. Because genetic variations in promoter or enhancer sequences are likely to influence the amount of enzvme production, studies of SNPs in these upstream regions may shed light on susceptibility to various diseases.

## Sulfotransferases

Sulfation is catalyzed by members of the sulfotransferase family of enzymes. Sulfation has not only evolved as a key step in xenobiotic metabolism and chemical defense but it also has an important role in modulating the biological activity of numerous potent endogenous chemicals, including iodothyronines, steroids, and catecholamines. With respect to human disease, elevated activities of platelet phenol-sulfotransferases may be associated with neuropsychiatric abnormalities such as obsessive-compulsive disorder and mania (Marazziti et al. 1996). In addition, one or more of the sulfotransferases located on chromosome 16p are candidates for involvement in a pseudopheochromocytoma, in which patients have decreased serum levels of sulfo-conjugated catecholamines (Goldstein et al. 1996). Hence, variations that affect the production or structure of the gene product are likely to cause dysfunction of various signaling pathways, or to reduce the ability to detoxify various compounds.

Coughtrie et al. (1999) reported a difference in the frequencies of SULT1A1 genotypes between two age groups (below and above 60 years) in a Caucasian population; a significantly higher frequency of the SULT1A1\*1 (Arg213Arg) homozygote was observed in the older group. Their data suggested that homozygosity at this locus might be associated with protection against damage to cells or tissues during aging. Several phenol-preferring sulfotransferases (phenol-preferring PSTs), notably SULT1A1 and SULT1A2, are thought to play essential roles in the metabolism and clearance of xenobiotic agents (e.g., simple phenols such as naphthol or *p*-nitrophenol, and drugs such as acetaminophen and minoxidil) and endogenous compounds, including catecholamines and thyroid hormones. On the other hand, monoamine neurotransmitterpreferring PST STM, a member of the PST superfamily, preferentially catalyzes the sulfation of phenolic monoamines, such as dopamine, and is relatively insensitive to inhibition by 26-dichloro-4-nitrophenol (DCNP), although both SULT1A1 and SULT1A2 are inhibited by DCNP (Dooley 1998). Hence, we suggest that the substitutions identified in this study might be immediately useful as specific markers for association studies involving common diseases and sensitivity to drugs.

We are extending our SNP discovery efforts involving genes that encode drug-metabolizing enzymes, in order to catalog common variants that may explain susceptibility to disease and/or affect drug responses, drug disposition, and toxicity.

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