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OPEN Proteomic and phosphoproteomic analyses of myectomy tissue reveals difference between sarcomeric and genotype-negative hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

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Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is a genetically heterogenous condition with about half of cases remaining genetically elusive or non-genetic in origin. HCM patients with a positive genetic test (HCM_{Sarc}) present earlier and with more severe disease than those with a negative genetic test (HCM_{Nea}). We hypothesized these differences may be due to and/or reflect proteomic and phosphoproteomic differences between the two groups. TMT-labeled mass spectrometry was performed on 15 HCM_{Sarcr} , 8 HCM_{Neq} , and 7 control samples. There were 243 proteins differentially expressed and 257 proteins differentially phosphorylated between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} . About 90% of pathways altered between genotypes were in disease-related pathways and HCM_{Sarc} showed enhanced proteomic and phosphoproteomic alterations in these pathways. Thus, we show HCMsarr has enhanced proteomic and phosphoproteomic dysregulation observed which may contribute to the more severe disease phenotype.

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is one of the most common genetic heart diseases and is associated with pathogenic genetic variants in genes that encode sarcomeric proteins. To date, at least 27 HCM-susceptibility genes have been discovered¹. However, about half of patients remain genetically elusive with no identified HCMassociated genetic variant^{2,3}. Importantly, there are clear phenotypic differences between sarcomere-positive HCM (HCM_{Sarc}) and genotype-negative HCM (HCM_{Neg}). Patients with HCM_{Sarc} have a more severe disease phenotype, more severe disease progression, and worse outcomes⁴⁻⁷. Recent proteomic analysis of HCM have uncovered a wide network of pathways altered in HCM likely responsible for disease development⁷⁻¹⁰. Additionally, we recently demonstrated that HCM is characterized by widespread alterations in the proteome⁷. Despite clear differences between HCM and healthy individuals, the overall proteomic architecture of HCM was similar irrespective of genotype. However, given the clinical differences between genotypes, we hypothesized there may

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be subtle differences in the (phospho)proteome when comparing the (phospho)proteome between those with a positive genetic test (HCM_{Sarc}) versus those with a negative genetic test (HCM_{Neg}).

Methods

We performed a subgroups analysis using our previously published proteomics cohort⁷. All patients provided written informed consent for this Mayo Clinic Institutional Review Board (IRB 811-98) approved study which abides by the Declaration of Helsinki. Detailed methods are provided in Supplemental Data. Briefly, patients with diagnosed obstructive HCM who underwent clinically indicated surgical myectomy for the relief of outflow tract obstruction were genotyped by genome sequencing followed by variant adjudication using American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) criteria¹¹ and divided into genotype subgroups: HCM_{Sarc} (N = 15) defined as patients having an ACMG graded pathogenic (P)/likely pathogenic (LP) variant in a definitive or strong evidence HCM-susceptibility gene encoding a sarcomeric protein, and HCM_{Neg} (N=8) defined as patients with no variants of any classification in a panel of 54 HCM-associated genes^{1,7}. Any patient with variants in HCM mimicker genes were excluded¹. Genome sequencing was used to confirm the HCM_{Neg} did not have deep intronic variants. Additionally, control tissue samples (N=7) from normal donor hearts for which a suitable heart transplant recipient was not identified, were included in this study. All samples underwent TMT-labeled mass-spectrometry for proteomic and phosphoproteomic analysis. Differential expression analysis was performed to identify differences between subgroups followed by pre-ranked gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) to identify which Gene Ontology (GO) biological processes were enriched in the proteome and phosphoproteome of HCM_{Sarc} compared to HCM_{Neg}. Finally, differentially expressed (phospho)proteins were inputted into Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) for identifying altered pathways.

Results

Direct comparison of HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg}. HCM_{Sarc} patients were diagnosed at a younger age $(33 \pm 16 \text{ vs. } 47 \pm 19 \text{ years}; p = 0.04)$ and had their myectomies done at a younger age $(40 \pm 17 \text{ vs. } 52 \pm 16 \text{ years}; p = 0.02)$ compared with HCM_{Neg} patients (Supplemental Table 1). To test the hypothesis that HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} have alterations in pathways that may be responsible for observed clinical differences, we directly compared the proteomes and phosphoproteomes of HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} myectomy samples. Consistent with previous studies^{7,8}, the proteome of HCM was similar regardless of genotype with no clear separation on principal component analysis (PCA) plotting (Supplemental Fig. S1A). Nonetheless, a direct comparison of the proteome of HCM_{Sarc} with HCM_{Neg} revealed 243 differentially expressed proteins (DEPs) with 102 up-regulated and 141 down-regulated proteins (Supplemental Fig. S1B).

Overall, 4213 phosphorylated proteins were detected across all samples with PCA analysis showing slight, but not entirely complete separation between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} (Supplemental Fig. S1C). Differential analysis identified 257 differentially phosphorylated proteins (DPPs): 134 hypophosphorylated and 123 hyperphosphorylated (Supplemental Fig. S1D). A complete list of DPPs can be found in the Supplemental Data.

Next pre-ranked, GSEA identified 128 biological processes altered at the proteome level with 97 being upregulated and 31 down-regulated in HCM_{Sarc} compared with HCM_{Neg} (Supplement). The top up-regulated processes were involved in either cell adhesion, extracellular matrix formation, and activation of fibrosis or regulation of cytoskeletal processes (Fig. 1A). In contrast, the top down-regulated processes were entirely metabolic processes with predominant down-regulation of aerobic respiration and mitochondrial function and catabolic processes, especially of fatty acids (Fig. 1B). At the phosphoproteome level, 57 biological processes were altered with 3 up-regulated and 54 down-regulated (Fig. 1C) with the main up-regulated processes involved in chromatin organization and gene expression while the majority of down-regulated processes were metabolic pathways akin to what was observed in the proteome.

Finally, DEPs and DPPs were inputted into Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) to identify alterations in canonical pathways. Overall, 72 pathways were altered at the proteome level with 7 up-regulated (z-score \geq 1), 6 down-regulated (z-score \leq -1), and 59 pathways for which directionality was indeterminate (Supplement). The valine degradation I, methylmalonyl pathway, actin cytoskeletal signaling, 2-oxobutanoate degradation I, and dilated cardiomyopathy signaling pathways were the most statistically altered pathways (largest -log [BH p-value]) (Fig. 2A). RhoA signaling (z-score = 2.5) and signaling by Rho Family GTPases (z-score = 2.1) were the two most up-regulated pathways in HCM_{Sarc}. In addition, oxytocin signaling pathway (z-score = 1.89), integrin-linked kinase (ILK) pathway (z-score = 1.6), integrin signaling (z-score = 1.3), coronavirus replication pathway (z-score = 1.3), and BAG2 signaling pathway (z-score = 1.0) were moderately up-regulated (Fig. 2B).

In addition, ketolysis, ketogenesis, mitochondrial dysfunction, glycerol-3-phosphate shuttle, fatty acid β -oxidation, acetate conversion to acetyl-CoA, branched-chain α -keto acid dehydrogenase complex were altered significantly. Oxidative phosphorylation was the most down-regulated pathway (z-score = – 2.7; Fig. 2B). Collectively, HCM_{Sarc} showed widespread down-regulation of aerobic respiration, mitochondrial function, and catabolic pathways compared with HCM_{Neg}.

Pathway analysis of the DPPs demonstrated that 109 pathways had significant alterations in protein phosphorylation with 14 pathways predicted to be activated (z-score ≥ 1) and 8 inactivated (z-score ≤ -1); for 87 pathways the directionality was unclear (Supplement). The pathways with the most alteration in phosphorylation status (largest – log [BH p-value]) are presented in Fig. 2C and included actin cytoskeleton signaling, RhoA signaling, estrogen receptor signaling, glycolysis I, ILK signaling, and signaling by Rho family GTPases. The pathways predicted to be activated or inactivated due to changes in phosphorylation are shown in Fig. 2D with activation of integrin signaling, actin cytoskeleton signaling, epithelial adherens junction signaling, signaling by Rho family GTPases, oxytocin signaling pathway, G-protein coupled receptor signaling, phagosome formation, calcium signaling, ILK signaling, coronavirus pathogenesis pathway, synaptic long-term depression, and epithelial

A. Most Statistically Altered Pathways in Proteome

sion to A

4 5 6

-log(B-H p-value)

Actir

2-oxobutanoate L Dilated Cardiomyopathy Signal

Superpathway of I

Remodeling of Epith Acetate C Branched-chain α-keto acid I



C. Most Altered Biological Processes in Phosphoproteome





B. Up- and Down-Regulated Pathways in Proteome







Figure 2. Comparison of pathways altered between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg}. (A) Most statistically altered pathways (largest-log [BH p-value]) in proteome. (B) Top up- and down-regulated pathways in proteome. (C) Most statistically altered phosphorylation (largest-log [BH p-value]) of pathways. (D) Top activated and inactivated pathways based on phosphorylation (z-score $\geq |1|$). *Regulation of the epithelial mesenchymal transition by growth factors pathway was shortened.

mesenchymal transition by growth factors. Many metabolic pathways, including oxidative phosphorylation, glycolysis, gluconeogenesis, and dilated cardiomyopathy signaling pathways were predicted to be inactivated based on changes in phosphorylation (Fig. 2D). Overall, these results show significant concordance between proteomic and phosphoproteomic alterations supporting distinct differential regulation between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg}.

Additionally, the DEPs and DPPs were analyzed to identify enrichment for altered diseases and processes with the top 20 most statistically altered shown in Fig. 3. Of note, the disease processes altered at the proteome level were relevant to HCM such as hereditary myopathy, fibrogenesis, hypertrophy of heart, enlargement of heart. While growth and cancer processes were altered in both the proteome and phosphoproteome, they were more prominent at the phosphoproteome level. Thus, the proteomic and phosphoproteomic differences are predicted to impact cardiac function and cardiac hypertrophy demonstrating the changes between these genotypes are in disease relevant pathways.

Comparisons of HCM with controls. In addition to HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} comparisons, we subsequently compared the phospho(proteomes) of HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} to non-hypertrophied normal cardiac tissue (controls) to identify disease-specific pathways. As expected, there was prominent dysregulation in the proteome and phosphoproteome of both HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} compared with controls. Overall, HCM was characterized by up-regulation of cytoskeletal and hypertrophy pathways and down-regulation of metabolic pathways. These findings are summarized in the Supplemental Results and Supplemental Figs. S2–S5.

Commonalities and differences in the proteome and phosphoproteome of HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg}. Next, the three comparisons: HCM_{Sarc} versus HCM_{Neg} , HCM_{Sarc} versus controls, and HCM_{Neg} versus controls were juxtaposed to identify genotype-specific differences and similarities. Venn diagrams were generated to summarize the findings. Changes found in the HCM_{Sarc} versus controls and HCM_{Neg} versus control comparisons are considered disease-relevant changes. Overall, there was significant overlap between the proteins and phosphoproteins altered in HCM_{Sarc} versus HCM_{Neg} and those altered in disease (Fig. 4A,B; red circle). In fact, 232/243 (95%) DEPs in HCM_{Sarc} versus HCM_{Neg} were also altered when comparing disease to controls (Fig. 4A). Integrating the DPPs across the three phosphoproteome comparisons revealed most of the direct differences between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} (245/257 [95%]) were in phosphoproteins also observed to be altered in disease compared with controls (Fig. 4B; red circle). Thus, both at the protein and phosphoprotein level, most of the changes between subtypes were in disease-altered proteins (proteins altered in HCM compared to controls).

Overall, there were 376/664 (57%) DEPs found in HCM_{Sarc} compared with controls that were not seen when comparing to HCM_{Neg} (Fig. 4A; orange circle). These HCM_{Sarc} specific DEPs were used to generate a protein–protein interaction network followed by enrichment analysis for biological processes which demonstrated predominant enrichment for metabolic gene sets (Supplemental Fig. 6). Since there were only 3 DEPs unique to HCM_{Neg} versus controls, no genotype specific network was generated (Fig. 4A; blue circle).

There were 106 DEPs found when comparing both HCM_{Sarc} versus controls and HCM_{Neg} versus controls (Fig. 4A; black circle). Figure 4C shows that the direction of change for all the DEPs is the same between both



Figure 3. Altered diseases and functions in proteome and phosphoproteome identified using ingenuity pathway analysis.



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Figure 4. Commonalities and differences in the proteome and phosphoproteome of HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} . (A) Venn diagram comparing differentially expressed proteins (DEPs) between different comparisons. (B) Venn diagram comparing differentially phosphorylated proteins (DPPs) between different comparisons. (C) Heatmap showing directionality of differentially expressed proteins (DEPs) altered in both HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} compared with controls. (D) Heatmap showing directionality of differentially expressed proteins (DEPs) altered in both HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} compared with controls. (D) Heatmap showing directionality of differentially phosphorylated proteins (DPPs) altered in both HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} compared with controls. Log2fc, log2 fold change.

comparisons. There were 304 DPPs altered in both HCM_{Sarc} versus controls and HCM_{Neg} versus controls (Fig. 4B; black circle). Figure 4D shows that the direction of change for all the DPPs is the same between both comparisons.





Figure 4. (continued)

Considering GO biological processes, there was a similar, prominent overlap across the different genotype comparisons (Supplemental Fig. S7A). Since GSEA uses the entire protein list and not only differentially expressed proteins, more differences were observed. Still, 84/128 (66%) biological processes altered in HCM_{Sarc} versus HCM_{Neg} were also altered in disease versus controls (red circle). There were 44/128 (34%) biological processes altered specifically in HCM_{Sarc} compared with HCM_{Neg} (green circle). Notably, across the comparisons, the biological processes were similar throughout and were mostly extracellular matrix and cytoskeletal processes or metabolic processes. Interestingly, GO biological processes altered due to phosphorylation only had 24/57 (42%) of those altered in HCM_{Sarc} compared with HCM_{Neg} also altered in disease compared with controls (Supplemental Fig. S7B; yellow circle). Specifically, there were epigenetic processes (i.e., chromatin organization) processes along with metabolic processes altered uniquely between the genotypes but not in disease compared with controls.

At the pathway level, the overlap between the genotype comparisons was very clear with 59/72 (82%) pathways altered between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} also altered between disease and controls (Fig. 5A; red circle). There were 43 pathways altered at the proteome level both when comparing HCM_{Sarc} with controls and HCM_{Neg} with controls suggesting these pathways likely serve a central role in maladaptive cardiac hypertrophy regardless of genetic background (black circle). Twenty-four pathways were common to all proteomic comparisons including HCM_{Sarc} versus HCM_{Neg} such as oxidative phosphorylation, mitochondrial dysfunction, sirtuin signaling pathway, actin cytoskeleton, gluconeogenesis I, remodeling of epithelial adherens junctions, ILK signaling, integrin signaling, dilated cardiomyopathy pathway, signaling by Rho Family GTPases, and calcium signaling (Fig. 5A; gray circle and Supplement).

There were even greater numbers of pathways impacted due to phosphorylation with 89/109 (82%) pathways altered in both HCM_{Sarc} compared with HCM_{Neg} and disease compared with controls (Fig. 5B; red circle). Fifty-one pathways were altered due to phosphorylation in all comparisons including aldosterone signaling in epithelial cells, estrogen receptor signaling, protein kinase A signaling, and actin cytoskeleton signaling (Fig. 5B; gray circle and Supplement).

There were 43 pathways altered when comparing both HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} compared with controls (Fig. 5A; black circle). Of these 43 pathways the directionality of all changes were concordant between both comparisons (Fig. 5C; Supplemental Table S2). These included pathways such as actin cytoskeleton signaling, BAG2 signaling, calcium signaling, dilated cardiomyopathy signaling, gluconeogenesis, glycolysis, ILK signaling, integrin signaling, oxidative phosphorylation, RhoGDI signaling, and signaling by Rho Family GTPases. There were 148



Figure 5. Commonalities and differences in the proteome and phosphoproteome of HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} continued. (**A**) Venn diagram comparing pathways altered in proteome between different comparisons. (**B**) Venn diagram comparing pathways with altered phosphorylation between different comparisons. (**C**) Heatmap showing directionality of pathways altered in both HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} compared with controls. (**D**) Heatmap showing directionality of phosphorylated pathways altered in both HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} compared with controls.

phosphorylated pathways common between both comparisons (Fig. 5B; black circle). Interestingly, for three pathways, actin cytoskeleton signaling, ERK/MAPK signaling, and G-protein coupled receptor signaling, it is predicted that these particular pathways are activated due to phosphorylation in HCM_{Sarc} versus control samples but inactivated in HCM_{Nee} compared to controls (Fig. 5D; Supplemental Table S3).

Finally, when looking at the pathways that were either up- or down- regulated when directly comparing HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} (Fig. 3B) those pathways were not only altered when comparing disease with controls (Fig. 3 and Supplemental Table S2), but the direction also matched that observed in disease. Thus HCM_{Sarc} and

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| ways in common betwee | | |
|-----------------------|---|----|
| | Acetate Conversion to Acetyl-CoA | |
| | Actin Cytoskeleton Signaling | |
| | Agrin Interactions at Neuromuscular Junction | 2 |
| | Apelin Liver Signaling Pathway | |
| | Arsenate Detoxification I (Glutaredoxin) | |
| | BAG2 Signaling Pathway | 0 |
| | Calcium Signaling | |
| | Cellular Effects of Sildenani (Viagra) | -2 |
| | Clathrin-mediated EUocytosis Signaling | |
| | Creatine-phosphate Biosynthesis | |
| | Dilated Cardiomyopathy Signaling Pathway | -4 |
| | Estrogen Receptor Signaling | |
| | Pcy Receptor-mediated Phagocytosis in Macrophages au Monocytes | |
| | Germ Cell-Sertoli Cell Junction Signaling | -0 |
| | Glucoconicold Receptor Signaling | |
| | Gluconeogenesis I | |
| | Glycerol Degradation 1 | |
| | Giverbi-sphase Shutte | |
| | Giveoivsis I | |
| | GP6 Signaling Patriway Honotia Eliversia (Honotia Stallate Call Activition | |
| | Hepatic Fibrosis / Hepatic Standing Bathway | |
| | HED 2 Signaling in Branch Cancer | |
| | I Signaling | |
| | L-0 Signaling | |
| | Intercip Signaling | |
| | Integrit Signating | |
| | Leukocyte Extravasation Signaling | |
| | Melatonin Degradation U | |
| | Mitocho0rial Dysfunction | |
| | Natural Killer Cell Signaling | |
| | Oxidative Phosphorylation | |
| | Paxillin Signaling | |
| | Rapoport-Luebering Glycolytic Shunt | |
| | Regulation of Actin-based Motility by Rho | |
| | Remodeling of Epithelial Adheren's Junctions | |
| | RhoGDI Signaling | |
| | Role of IL-17A in Psoriasis | |
| | Semaphorin Neuronal Repulsive Signaling Pathway | |
| | Signaling by Rho Family GTPases | |
| | Sirtuin Signaling Pathway | |
| | Synaptogenesis Signaling Pathway | |
| | J Tight Junction Signaling | |

D

Phosphorylated Pathways In Common Between Comparisons Z-score





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 $\mathrm{HCM}_{\mathrm{Neg}}$ have alterations in disease specific pathways and the dysregulation at least for several pathways is more severe in $\mathrm{HCM}_{\mathrm{Sarc}}$ (Fig. 6).

Comparing the two most common genotypes of sarcomeric HCM: MYBPC3-HCM and MYH7-HCM. The proteomes and phosphoproteomes for the two most common HCM-susceptibility genes: *MYBPC3* and *MYH7*, were compared. Details are provided in the Supplemental Data. The proteome of the two different HCM_{sarc} genotypes did not separate on PCA plotting and no DEPs or DPPs were identified between the two genotypes. Thus, there is little difference in the proteomes of MYBPC3-HCM and MYH7-HCM.

Discussion

While treatments and outcomes for HCM are improving, its vast genotypic and phenotypic heterogeneity continues to make optimal treatments and sudden cardiac death prevention challenging. Furthermore, there are enormous alterations that occur in the proteome of HCM compared with healthy controls^{8-10,12} making it hard to identify therapeutic targets. Additionally, the mono/oligo/polygenic basis or non-genetic basis for the patients classified as HCM_{Neg} remains unknown, but there is growing evidence for some within this subset to be driven by either oligogenics, epigenetics, or environmental factors, or a combination of the above^{13,14}. Previous studies have shown that HCM_{Sarc} is characterized by earlier onset of disease and more severe hypertrophy^{4,5}. Given these differences, there is a need for a deeper understanding of the underlying mechanisms responsible as this could help in the identification of novel therapeutic targets that modify disease progression and may help with prioritization of therapeutic targets.

Given the clinical differences across HCM genotypes¹⁵, there have been several studies aimed at understanding mechanistic and structural differences across genotypes which have identified nuanced differences between different genotypes^{8,16-18}. While some mechanisms underlying these genotype-based differences have been elucidated, genotype comparisons of the (phospho)proteome of HCM have been limited. Using unsupervised machine learning methods, prior studies have demonstrated the proteome of HCM is similar regardless of genotype^{7,8,19} suggesting that regardless of underlying genetic etiology, HCM converges on a final common pathway. However,



Figure 6. Proteome of sarcomere-positive HCM and sarcomere-negative HCM have differences in disease specific pathways with most differences between them being more severe in sarcomere-positive HCM.

one of these studies, by Schuldt et al.⁸ identified that some proteins were in fact altered in HCM_{Sarc} compared with controls but not in HCM_{Neg} and vice-versa, suggesting there may in fact be subtle genotype-based differences in the proteome of HCM. However, this study did not identify proteins directly altered when comparing the two predominant HCM subtypes: those with a positive genetic test (HCM_{Sarc}) and those with a negative genetic test (HCM_{Neg}) and did not identify changes in hypertrophy pathways. Additionally, a second study looking at post-translational modifications and alternative splicing of sarcomeric proteins found minor genotype differences but an overall similar proteomic profile¹⁹. In the current study, consistent with previous proteomic studies, we found the proteomes of HCM genotypes are not distinct enough to be separated by unsupervised clustering analyses, however, our analysis did reveal direct differences in protein levels between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} . These proteomic changes were predicted to have significant effects on cardiac hypertrophy, cardiac function, and development of heart failure. Interestingly, most of the proteins and pathways altered between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} were also altered when comparing HCM to controls, and in fact at the protein level, the alterations were generally more severe in HCM_{Sarc} suggesting genotype differences between HCM genotypes may be due to degree of dysregulation of the disease associated pathways.

Interestingly, at the protein level, cytoskeletal processes and extra-cellular matrix processes were significantly up-regulated when comparing HCM_{Sarc} with HCM_{Neg} . This is consistent with the observation that HCM_{Sarc} shows increased fibrosis compared with HCM_{Neg} correlating with late gadolinium enhancement (LGE) which is associated with increased fibrosis on cardiac $MRI^{20,21}$. Additionally, we observed activation of RhoA signaling and found it to be even more activated in HCM_{Sarc} compared to HCM_{Neg} . RhoA signaling activates ROCK signaling which effects several cardiac cell types leading to altered cardiomyocyte contraction, cardiac gene expression, and protein phosphorylation and subsequently to cardiac hypertrophy and fibrosis^{22–24}. Up-regulation of RhoA signaling and integrin signaling influences stress induced hypertrophy and is protective against heart failure; however, activation can also result in fibrosis²⁵. Rho A signaling has a complex role in cardiac function and whether it is beneficial or deleterious depending on temporal and contextual factors and of cell type^{25,26}. Our observations suggest that Rho A signaling has a central role in HCM as a mechanism for disease and possible cause for genotype-based differences, although further studies are necessary to parse out Rho A signaling's precise role.

Other studies of this kind have shown HCM is characterized by widespread down-regulation of metabolic pathways, especially aerobic respiration and fatty acid oxidation^{27,28}. In this study we not only replicated these findings, but also demonstrated genotype-specific differences with a more severe down-regulation of metabolic pathways observed in HCM_{Sarc}. Metabolic reprogramming is observed in other forms of pathologic cardiac hypertrophy such as pressure overload hypertrophy and can serve as a marker for early onset of heart failure²⁹. Consistent with our findings, down-regulation of amino acid metabolism and fatty acid metabolism and aerobic respiration have been observed as early markers towards heart failure. Thus, the more severe derangement in the proteome of HCM_{Sarc} reflects a more severe underlying metabolic reprogramming likely playing a role in

genotype specific clinical differences. Additionally, we identified almost four hundred proteins altered exclusively in HCM_{Sarc} which allowed us to generate a HCM_{Sarc} protein–protein network revealing enrichment in metabolic processes. The findings suggest specific metabolic pathways may explain genotype specific differences observed in HCM and warrant further investigation.

In addition to the proteomic differences, this study showed a phosphorylation-mediated activation of integrin and cytoskeletal signaling and phosphorylation-mediated down-regulation of metabolic pathways in HCM_{Sarc} . As changes in the same pathways were also observed on the protein level, this would be a strong indication that phosphorylation is regulating the function of these pathways.

Since predominant down-regulation of metabolic pathways appears central to HCM both in the proteome and phosphoproteome counteracting these changes could be a therapeutic strategy. For instance, a kinase inhibitor screen has shown promise in identifying novel therapeutics for dilated cardiomyopathy which is also characterized by metabolic reprogramming and so a similar strategy manipulating phosphorylation of metabolic pathways altered in HCM could be successful³⁰. Consequently, the functional and temporal effects of protein phosphorylation warrant further investigation and could open the door to identifying novel strategies to modifying disease progression.

The phosphoproteomic differences were more complex than the proteomic changes. In some cases, phosphorylation changes were more severe in HCM_{Neg} with predominant phosphorylation-mediated inactivation. In addition, for some pathways, there were differences in the direction of change between genotypes. In contrast with HCM_{Sarc} , HCM_{Neg} showed inactivation of growth pathways such as ERK/MAPK signaling and cardiac hypertrophy signaling due to changes in phosphorylation. As we identified previously, this signaling cascade appears central to many hypertrophy pathways up-regulated in HCM_{Neg} .

Limitations. This study was performed on myectomy tissues and thus provides a snapshot view of the myocardium at the time of myectomy, representing obstructive HCM generally in a later stage of disease progression. Therefore, these identified perturbations in the (phospho)proteomic architecture of obstructive HCM may not apply to the other morphologic subtypes of HCM such as non-obstructive HCM or apical HCM.

Conclusion

Although the proteome and phosphoproteome of obstructive HCM is similar regardless of genetic etiology, there were important differences between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} with a more severe dysregulation of disease relevant pathways observed in HCM_{Sarc} . Further studies are necessary to determine whether these changes underlie the clinical differences between HCM_{Sarc} and HCM_{Neg} .

Data availability

Proteomic and phosphoproteomic data are available at the MassIVE database (MSV000091821 and MSV000091822, respectively).

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Author contributions

R.G. participated in study conceptualization, formal analysis, generation of all figures, investigation, writing original draft. J.M.B. participated in conceptualization, review & editing, supervision, and project administration.S.D. wrote algorithm for data analysis and participated in formal analysis, data curation, and writing methodology. K.L.J. participated in data acquisition and writing methodology. D.J.T. participated in conceptualization and review & editing. J.R.G. participated in review & editing and data curation.C.D.R participated in review & editing and collection of samples.J.J.M participated in conceptualization and collection of samples.S.R.O. participated in review & editing.J.A.D. participated in sample collection and review & editing.M.J.A. participated in conceptualization, resources, data curation, review & editing, supervision, project administration, funding acquisition. All authors reviewed and approved the manuscript.

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Competing interests

MJA is a consultant for Abbott, Boston Scientific, Bristol Myers Squibb, Daiichi Sankyo, Invitae, Medtronic, Tenaya Therapeutics, and UpToDate. MJA and Mayo Clinic have a royalty/equity relationship with AliveCor, Anumana, ARMGO Pharma, Pfizer, and Thryv Therapeutics. However, none of these entities have contributed to this study in any manner. The remaining authors have no conflicts to declare.

Additional information

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