

MOLECULAR STUDY OF FACTOR VIII GENE IN EGYPTIAN PATIENTS WITH HEMOPHILIA A

Thesis

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ABSTRACT

Hemophilia A is an X-linked hereditary bleeding disorder caused by deficient or defective coagulation factor VIII. Multiple molecular defects may affect factor VIII gene such as point mutations, premature stop codons, deletions, insertions and inversions. The most common sequence alterations leading to a severe disease condition are the partial gene inversion with a breakpoint in intron 22 of the factor VIII gene, responsible for about 40-50% of the severe hemophilia A cases. The aim of this work was genotyping of *int22h*-related rearrangements of factor VIII gene by Inverse shifting-PCR (IS-PCR) in Egyptian patients with hemophilia A in order to facilitate carrier detection and prenatal diagnosis.

Our study was conducted on 30 Hemophilia A patients following up regularly at the Hematology Clinic, New Children Hospital, Cairo University, and revealed that among severe cases, 6/13 patients (46.1%) had intron 22 inversion, 3/13 patients (23.1%) had intron 22 deletion and 4/13 patients (30.8%) carried the wild type (normal) allele. Only one out of 10 patients (10%) with moderate disease was positive for intron 22 inversion, whereas the rest of moderate cases carried the wild type (normal) allele. All mild cases were negative for *int22h*-related rearrangements and carried the wild type (normal) allele. We concluded that the genotyping of *int22h*-related rearrangements of factor VIII gene by Inverse shifting-PCR (IS-PCR) can be used in molecular diagnosis of severe and moderately severe hemophilia A and it is able for rapid discrimination between inversions (type 1 and 2) and deletions (type 1 and 2) and duplication of intron 22. We suggest that the spectrum of intron 22

inversion/deletion in the Egyptian hemophilic patients is similar to that reported in other populations.

Keywords:

Hemophilia A - FVIII gene - Intron 22 inversion - Inverse shifting-PCR.

CONCLUSION

Inverse shifting-PCR (IS-PCR) diagnostic and complementary tests of intron 22 of Factor VIII gene have proven to be rapid, robust and reliable technique and represent the method of choice at first line mutation screening of severe and moderately-severe HA cases.

The genotyping of *int22h*-related rearrangements of factor VIII gene by Inverse shifting-PCR enables rapid discrimination between inversions (type I and II) and deletions (type I and II) and duplication of intron 22. This work suggests that the spectrum of intron 22 inversion/deletion in the Egyptian hemophilic patients is more or less similar to that reported in other populations.

IS-PCR is cheap and suitable for carrier detection, preimplantation and prenatal diagnosis in developing countries with limited health resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All patients with hemophilia A should be first screened for intron 22 inversion, as intron 22 inversion occurs in 40 – 50% of severe hemophilia A patients.
2. Genotyping of intron 22-related rearrangements by Inverse-shifting PCR could be used for carrier detection and prenatal diagnosis.
3. Further molecular studies are needed for intron 22 inversion negative patients with hemophilia A, in order to study the spectrum of different factor VIII gene mutations in Egyptian population.
4. In Egypt, molecular studies of low cost such as IS-PCR should be widespread, to facilitate genetic diagnosis and more understanding of the molecular background of hemophilia A.
5. Special health programs should be directed to severe hemophilia A patients, in order to facilitate replacement therapy to prevent complications of the disease.
6. Studies in gene therapy in developing countries with limited resources should take place, as gene therapy is the treatment of choice for hemophilia A patients in the near future.

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Table of contents

	Page
Abstract	I
Acknowledgment	III
List of abbreviation	IV
List of Tables	VI
List of Figures	VIII
Introduction and aim of work	IX
Review of Literature	
<u>Chapter 1 :Hemophilia A</u>	1
• Etiology and Pathogenesis	1
• Genetics	2
• Clinical Features	3
• Laboratory Features	13
• Differential Diagnosis	15
• Therapy	20
• Course and Prognosis	31
• Infectious Complications of Therapy	41
• Hemophilia and Thrombophilia: Unexpected Association.	43
• Pregnancy in Carriers of Hemophilia A.	44
• Acquired Hemophilia A.	45
<u>Chapter 2: Genetic Background for Hemophilia A</u>	46
• Introduction	46
• Structure and Function of The Factor VIII Gene and Protein	47
• Molecular Pathology of Hemophilia A	56
○ Gene Rearrangements (<i>Factor VIII gene inversion</i>)	60
<i>Intron 22 Inversion</i>	62
<i>Intron 1 Inversion</i>	63
○ Point Mutations: Single Base Substitutions	64
<i>Missense Mutations</i>	64
<i>Non sense Mutations</i>	64
<i>mRNA Splice Site Mutations</i>	68

○ Sequence Deletions	68
<i>Large Deletions</i>	69
<i>Small Deletions</i>	69
○ Sequence Insertions	70
○ Duplications:	70
• Factor VIII Gene Polymorphisms:	71
• Somatic Mosaicism in Hemophilia A:	74
• Genotype-Phenotype Correlations	76
<u>Chapter 3: Molecular Diagnosis of Hemophilia A</u>	78
1. Genetic Prediction by Linkage Analysis:	78
2. Methods for Mutation Detection	84
a) <u>The Inversion Mutation Detection</u>	84
<i>Southern Blotting Technique</i>	84
<i>Long-Distance Polymerase Chain Reaction</i>	85
<i>Inverse PCR</i>	87
b) <u>The Point Mutation Detection</u>	89
i) Single Strand Conformational Polymorphism (SSCP):	90
ii) Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP) Analysis	93
iii) Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis (DGGE)	94
iv) DNA Sequencing	96
v) DNA Microarray Analysis	98
vi) Denaturing High Performance Liquid Chromatography (DHPLC)	99
vii) Amplification Mismatch Detection (AMD)	100
viii) High Resolution Melting Analysis	102
ix) Multiplex PCR by Capillary Electrophoresis	102
x) Conformation Sensitive Gel Electrophoresis (CSGE),	103
xi) Chemical mismatch cleavage (CMC)	104
Carrier Detection in Hemophilia A	105
Prenatal Diagnosis:	112
Genetic Counseling:	113
Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD):	114
Patients and Methods	115
<i>Patients</i>	115

Methods	116
• Pedigree analysis	116
• Hematological studies	116
• Molecular studies	117
○ DNA extraction from peripheral blood leucocytes:	118
○ Genotyping of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements of factor VIII gene by Inverse shifting-PCR (IS-PCR)	123
<u>First:</u> Genomic–DNA restriction	124
<u>Second:</u> DNA-Ligation (preparation of DNA-circles)	127
<u>Third:</u> Analysis by Polymerase Chain Reaction	129
1) Inverse shifting-PCR Diagnostic test	130
2) Inverse shifting-PCR Complementary test	133
Results	137
Clinical Data of The Patients	141
Results of Molecular Studies	144
Discussion	158
Summary	170
Conclusion	172
Recommendations	173
References	174
Arabic summary	198

List of abbreviations

AMD:	:Amplification mismatch detection
aPTT	:activated partial thromboplastin time
APC	:Activated protein C
AS-APEX	:Allele-specific arrayed primer extension
APCCs	:Activated prothrombin complex concentrates
BiP	:immunoglobulin-binding protein
BT	:Bleeding time
BU	:Bethesda Unit
CG	:Cytosine guanine
CJD	:Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease
CMC	:Chemical mismatch cleavage
CRM:	:Cross reacting material
CSGE	:Conformation Sensitive Gel Electrophoresis
CVS	:Chorionic villi sampling
DDAVP	:1,8-desamino-d-arginine vasopressin
ddNTP	:dideoxy nucleotide triphosphate
Del22	:Intron 22 deletion
DGGE	:Denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis
DHPLC	:Denaturing high performance liquid chromatography
dNTP	:deoxy nucleotides triphosphate
Dup22	:Intron duplication
ED	:Extragenic downstream.
ELISA:	:Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay
FVIII	:Factor VIII
FIX	:Factor IX
FVIII:C	:level of FVIII activity
HA	:Hemophilia A
HAMSTeRS:	Haemophilia A Mutation, Structure, Test and Resource Site
HRM	:High resolution melting analysis
ID	:intragenic downstream
Int:	:Intron
int22h-1	:Sequence within intron 22 (within FVIII gene)
int22h-2	:Homologous sequence (copy) outside FVIII gene
int22h-3	:Homologous sequence (copy) outside FVIII gene
Inv22	:Intron 22 inversion
Inv1	:Intron 1 inversion
IU	:Intragenic upstream
IVS	:Intervening sequence
I-PCR	:Inverse polymerase chain reaction
IS-PCR	:Inverse shifting-polymerase chain reaction
Kb:	:Kilo base

LD-PCR:	:Long distance polymerase chain reaction
LINE	:Long interspersed nuclear elements
PCCs	:Prothrombin complex concentrates
PCR:	:Polymerase chain reaction
PGD	:Preimplantation genetic diagnosis
PT	:Prothrombin time.
RFLP	:Restriction fragments length polymorphism
RT-PCR	:Reverse transcriptase- Polymerase chain reaction
S-PCR	:Subcycling-PCR
SSCP	:Single strand conformation polymorphism
SSRs	:Simple Sequence Repeats
STRs	:Short Tandem Repeats
VNTRs	:Variable number tandem repeats sequence
vWD	:von Willebrand disease
vWF	:von Willebrand Factor
Xase	:Tenase
XCE	:X controlling element
XCI	:X-chromosome inactivation

List of Figures

	Page
Figure (1): Schematic representation of Xase complex and mechanism of factor X activation.	2
Figure (2): Inheritance of hemophilia A.	4
Figure (3): Schematic representation of the chromosomal localization and structure of the factor VIII gene.	49
Figure (4): Amino acid homologies of factor VIII domains.	52
Figure (5): Distribution of the different <i>F8</i> mutation types in unrelated hemophilia A patients according to the clinical phenotypes.	59
Figure (6): Coagulation factor VIII (F8) intron 1 and intron 22 inversions.	65
Figure (7): Non-allelic homologous recombination events between <i>int22h</i> copies.	66
Figure (8): Diagram of factor VIII intron 1 proposed model for inversion.	67
Figure (9): Some of the known polymorphisms in the human genes for factor VIII	72
Figure (10): Hemophilia A families are first screened for intron 22 and intron 1 inversion mutation. In inversion-negative families, sequential analysis of polymorphic markers is performed.	82
Figure (11): Hypothetical hemophilia pedigree to demonstrate the methodology for defining families with and without history of hemophilia	108
Figure (12): Inverse shifting-polymerase chain reaction- (IS-PCR-) based system for genotyping <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements.	135
Figure (13): Severity of hemophilia A among studied patients	138
Figure (14): Collective bleeding data for hemophilia A studied patients.	142
Figure (15): The family history of hemophilia A studied patients.	143
Figure (16): Results of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements (diagnostic test) in the hemophilia A studied patients	147
Figure (17): Detailed Results of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements (complementary test) in the studied hemophilia A patients	147
Figure (18): Gel electrophoresis of IS-PCR diagnostic test of intron 22 showing:	148
Figure (19): Gel electrophoresis of IS-PCR complementary test of intron 22 showing:	149
Figure (20): Distribution of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements in relation to disease severity in the studied hemophilia A patients	152
Figure (21): Relation between presence of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements and clinical data among studied patients	152
Figure (22): Mean factor VIII level (%) in wild type allele (normal) and inversion/deletion patients	155
Figure (23): Mean factor VIII level (%) in introns 22 inversion and introns 22 deletion patients	155

List of Tables

	Page
Table (1): Clinical classification of hemophilia A	5
Table (2): Risk factors for the development of anti factor VIII antibodies in hemophilia A patients	33
Table (3): Summarizes molecular genetic testing for this disorder.	58
Table (4): Hemophilia A - Summary of Unique Mutations Reported at 1 January 2007.	61
Table (5): Inverse-polymerase chain reaction (I-PCR) oligonucleotide primers (diagnostic test)	131
Table (6): Inverse-polymerase chain reaction (I-PCR) oligonucleotide primers (complementary test)	133
Table (7): Signal patterns of inverse shifting-polymerase chain reaction tests for genotyping <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangement.	134
Table (8): The individual Patients' clinical and laboratory data	139
Table (9): Collective bleeding data for hemophilia A patients.	141
Table (10): Collective bleeding data in joints for hemophilia A studied patients.	142
Table (11): The family history of hemophilia A studied patients.	143
Table (12): Laboratory data of hemophilia A studied patients.	144
Table (13): The individual results of signal pattern of IS-PCR for genotyping <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements in hemophilia A studied patients.	145
Table (14): Genotyping of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements by IS-PCR diagnostic test in the studied hemophilia A patients.	146
Table (15): Genotyping of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements by IS-PCR complementary test in the studied hemophilia A patients.	146
Table (16): Relative proportions of the types of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements among the studied Hemophilia A patients.	146
Table (17): Genotype-phenotype relation of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements in the studied hemophilia A patients.	150
Table (18): Relation between presence of <i>int22h</i> -related rearrangements and clinical data among studied patients.	151