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Cloning and characterization of the novel *CYP2J2* gene in *Camelus dromedarius*

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(2018)

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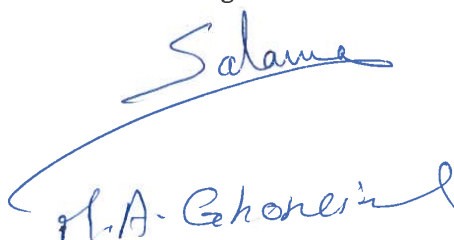
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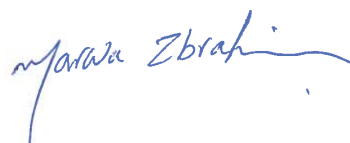
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Abstract: Despite its economic, cultural and biological importance, many genes haven't been depicted, sequenced or analyzed to date for *Camelus dromedarius*. The *CYP2J2* had been described in different mammalian species; however, no studies have described this gene in *Camelus dromedarius*. In the present study, the full-length c-DNA of the novel *CYP2J2* (GenBank accession number MH511989) was cloned from the liver, heart, and kidney mRNA by the RACE-PCR. The full-length cDNA of the cloned *CYP2J2* was sequenced and analyzed using bioinformatics methods. The full-length cDNA sequence was 2135 bp with no introns. The open reading frame (ORF) had 1341 nucleotides which coded for a putative protein of 446 amino acids. The deduced protein is located in the endoplasmic reticulum. It has two transmembrane regions. The nucleotides and deduced amino acids sequences of the cloned *CYP2J2* were 1400 nucleotides and 47 amino acids shorter than the predicted homolog, respectively. This study is considered the first report investigating the differential expression profiles of the *CYP2J2* mRNA and protein in the liver, heart, and kidney of *Camelus dromedarius*. A total of 30 samples were used to determine the expression of both *CYP2J2* mRNA and protein using the qRT-PCR and western blotting methods, respectively. The mRNA level of the *CYP2J2* was significantly elevated in the liver compared to that in the heart and kidney. The tissue distribution of the *CYP2J2* protein was coherent to its transcript level in the kidney, but not in the liver and heart samples. The difference between the *CYP2J2* mRNA and protein distributions in the three studied organs may be attributed to the mechanism by which the *CYP2J2* might be involved in the adaptability of the camel to the arid environment. This study is the first description of the putative *CYP2J2* gene, which opens the way to a new investigation-so far-never accomplished in *Camelus dromedarius*.

Keywords: camel; *Camelus dromedarius*; *CYP2J2*; epoxygenase; EETs; expression; cloning; sequencing; bioinformatics; liver; kidney; heart.

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I would thank ALLAH, to him every success should be attributed. I pay my obeisance to GOD, the almighty to have bestowed upon me good health, courage and inspiration to complete this work. It is a pleasure to thank many people who made this thesis possible.

*Deep appreciation and gratitude to **Prof. Dr. Samy Ahmed Abdel-Aziz**, Professor of Biochemistry and Chemistry of Nutrition, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University for his invaluable spiritual and academic advice, continuous encouragement from the very beginning to reviewing the thesis. I am especially grateful for the freedom, confidence, support and help he offered to me to achieve this work. I have really learned from him how the supervisor should be to his student.*

*Deep gratitude is to **the soul of Prof. Dr. Hatim Mohamed Ahmed El-Hindi**, Professor of Biochemistry and Chemistry of Nutrition, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University for his patience and steadfast encouragement and guidance to complete this study.*

*As a thesis supervisor, **Prof. Dr. El-Said Thabet Awad**, Professor of Biochemistry and Chemistry of Nutrition, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University supported me in all stages of this work. Deep gratitude is for his invaluable guidance and constant encouragement to complete this study.*

*Deep gratitude is to **Dr. Marwa Ibrahim**, Ass. Prof. of Biochemistry and Chemistry of Nutrition, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University, for her fruitful guidance and I am heartily thankful to her for support and encouragement. She is the initiator of this work whose constant encouragement, understanding, patience and healthy criticism added considerably to my experience.*

*I am immensely indebted to **Prof. Dr. Mohamed Warda**, Professor of Biochemistry and Chemistry of Nutrition, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University, His advice on both research as well as on my career have been invaluable. I am grateful to his insightful suggestions.*

*I am obliged to **Prof. Dr. Adel Khalil**, Professor of Clinical Pathology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University, I am particularly grateful for his patient guidance and useful critiques of an important part of the research work.*

*Sincere graduated to **Dr. Mahmoud El-Hariri**, Ass. Prof. of Microbiology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University, I am heartily thankful to him for providing, unconditionally, necessary laboratory facilities during my research work.*

*Profound gratitude to **Dr. Mohamed Hassan**, At Reference Lab. For veterinary quality control on poultry production (RLQP), Animal Health Research Institute, I deeply appreciate his support and suggestions that have been very helpful for this study.*

*Finally, my thanks extend to **all members of the Biochemistry and Chemistry of Nutrition Department**, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University for extending their unstinted support, timely motivation and sympathetic attitude.*

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

19(S)-HETE	19(S)-hydroxy-eicosatetraenoic acid
2-AG	2-Arachidonoylglycerol
BKCa	Calcium-sensitive potassium channels
CNIs	Calcineurin inhibitors
CO	Carbon monoxide
CRP	C-reactive protein
CYP2J2	Cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily J member 2
CYPs	Cytochromes P450
DHA	Docosahexaenoic acid
DHETs	Dihydroxyeicosatrienoic acids
DiHOME	Dihydroxyoctadecaenoic acid
EDHFs	Endothelium-derived hyperpolarizing factors
EDPs	Epoxydocosapentaenoic acids
EEQs	Epoxyeicosatetraenoic acids
EET-G	Epoxyeicosatrienoic glycerol
EETs	Epoxyeicosatrienoic acids
EGF	Epidermal growth factor
eNOS	Endothelial nitric-oxide synthase
EPA	Eicosapentaenoic acid