



Correspondence

New mutations identified in a case of Glycogenin-1 deficiency

We read with great interest Lefevre et al.'s [1] report on a case of glycogenin-1 deficiency mimicking limb-girdle muscular dystrophy [2–6]. Here, we report another description of a 64-year-old woman, born to non-consanguineous French parents, with normal acquisition during childhood and without any family history of muscle disease, who presented gait disorders from a decade. First, a rheumatismal origin with coxopathy was suspected, a right hip replacement was done, which didn't solve the problem. Physical examination emphasises a waddling gait with hyperlordosis, a slight facial asymmetry, right scapular winging, right trapezius amyotrophy, a mild asymmetric, predominant in proximal, limb weakness, no sensory or cognitive symptoms. Serum creatinine kinase was at first normal at 100 UI/L, then slightly elevated at 204 UI/L. Electrophysiological examination found myopathic features in the right vastus medialis, peripheral neurogenic signs on the tibialis anterior muscle and spinal nerve root right L5. A pelvic girdle and limb-girdle MRI (Fig. 1B) shows fat replacement of several muscles as gluteal and deltoid muscles. The study of a panel of 234 genes of myopathy revealed two not previously described compound heterozygous variations in *GYG1* gene (NM_004130.4: c.7G > A and c.319G > T) which are predicted both to lead to missense changes, p.(Asp3Asn) and p.(Val107Phe) respectively, and possibly effect on splicing with a strong predicted effect on donor splice site of exon 1 and a moderate predicted effect on acceptor splice site of exon 4 respectively. A left deltoid muscle biopsy showed the presence of PAS positive inclusions (Fig. 1A).

The expression of glycogenin-1 in skeletal-muscle tissues of the patient was also studied by Western blot analysis [Fig. 1C] a profound reduction of glycogenin-1 was found for our patient.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

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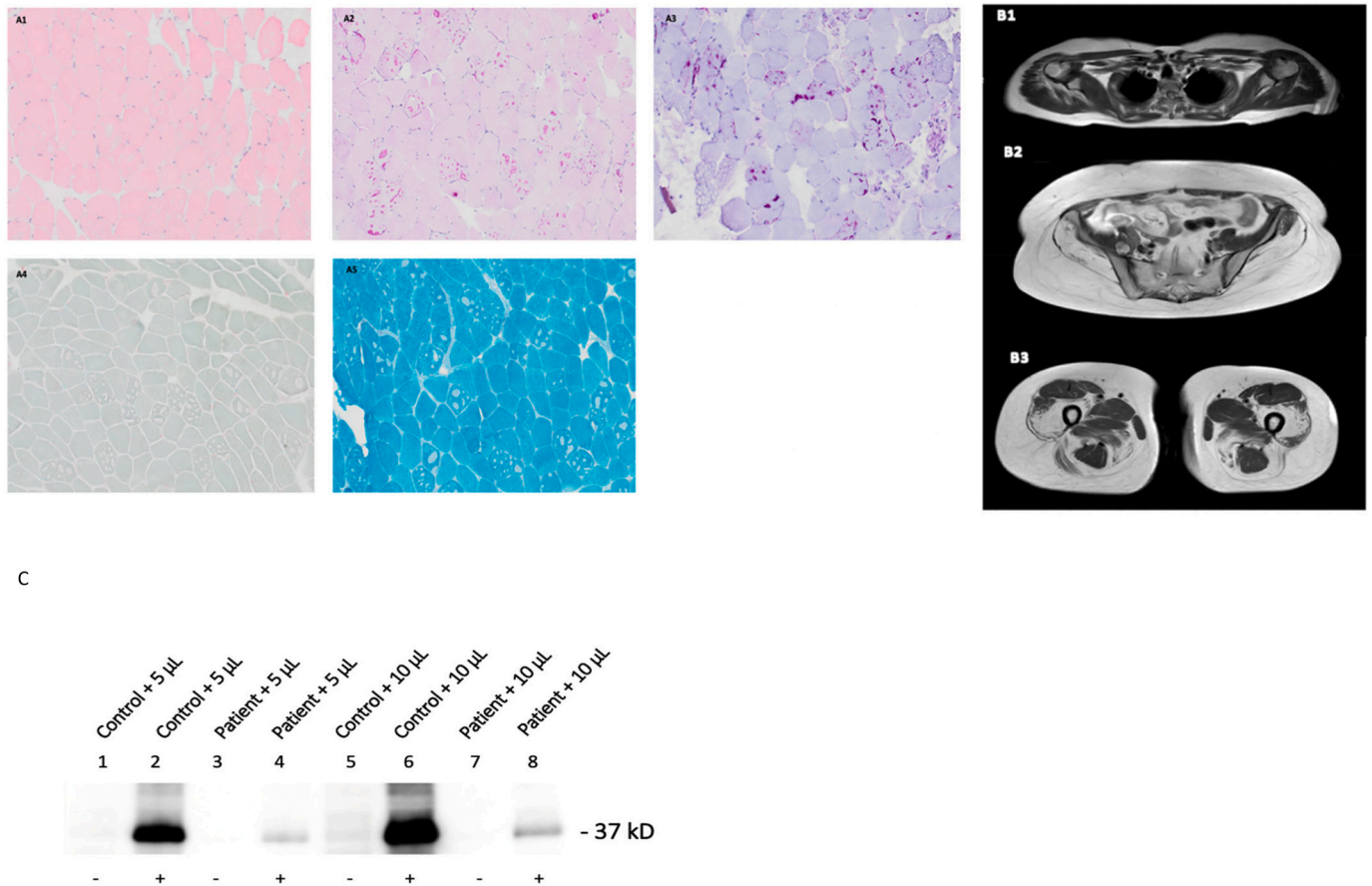


Fig. 1. A. Muscle morphology: deltoid muscle biopsy.

HES staining 100× (A1) revealing vacuolar appearance of some muscle fibers.

PAS staining, 100× (A2) showing round PAS positive inclusions inside some muscle fibers.

PAS after alpha-amylase digestion, 100× (A3) showing alpha-amylase resistant polysaccharide corresponding to polyglucosan bodies.

Acid phosphatase 100× (A4) and Gomori 100× (A5) indicating the absence of vacuole staining.

B. Muscular MRI: limb-girdle and thighs examination.

In phase T1-weighted MR axial slices (DIXON technique).

In scapular girdle: (B1) mild involvement with partial fatty infiltration in the right deltoid muscle only,

In pelvic girdle: (B2) severe involvement: glutei muscles are completely fat-replaced.

In thigh: (B3) severe involvement: gluteus maximus, gluteus medius, vastus intermedius and biceps of the thigh are totally fat replaced. Adductor magnus, semi-membranosus, vastus medialis, vastus lateralis are mostly fat replaced too but better preserved, symmetrically.

C. Protein analysis.

Western-blot analysis of glycogenin-1 in skeletal muscles from a normal control and the patient, performed with (+) or without (–) alpha-amylase treatment, and with 5 µL or 10 µL of monoclonal antibodies against human glycogenin-1 (Abnova, M07/3B5, 1:500). Without alpha-amylase treatment of the sample (–), glycogenin-1 was undetectable for the patient, but detectable for the control. With alpha-amylase treatment (+), glycogenin-1 was detectable for the patient, but reduced compared to the control, but the small amount of residual glycogenin-1 is functional, since it is only seen after digestion with alpha amylase, which removes the sugar residues from the glycogen molecules and hydrolyze the internal α-1,4-glycosidic linkages between the autoglucosylated residues.

Declaration of competing interest

None.

Data availability

No data was used for the research described in the article.

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