

CASE REPORT

Novel compound heterozygous mutations in the CYP4F22 gene in a patient with autosomal recessive congenital ichthyosis

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Abstract

Autosomal recessive congenital ichthyosis (ARCI) is a rare form of keratinization disorder of the skin, which can be caused by mutations in 14 ARCI genes. We present a rare case of ARCI that carried a novel null mutation and a novel splice site mutation in the CYP4F22 gene.

KEYWORDS

case report, congenital ichthyosis, CYP4F22, null mutation, splice site mutation

1 | INTRODUCTION

Autosomal recessive congenital ichthyoses (ARCI) are rare, clinically heterogeneous keratinization disorders of the skin.^{1,2} The estimated incidence is one in 200,000–300,000 individuals in the United States.³ Classically, ARCI is divided into two clinical subtypes, lamellar ichthyosis (LI) and congenital ichthyosiform erythroderma (CIE). The patients with LI have big, dark, plate-like scales with no severe erythroderma, while those with CIE show variable erythroderma and

generalized fine scaling^{2,4}). To date, thirteen different genes, ABCA12 (OMIM #601277), ALOX12B (OMIM #242100), ALOXE3 (OMIM #606545), CASP14 (OMIM #617320), CERS3 (OMIM #615023), CYP4F22 (OMIM #604777), LIPN (OMIM #613943), NIPAL4 (OMIM #612281), PNPLA1 (OMIM #615024), SDR9C7 (OMIM #617574), ST14 (OMIM #602400), SULT2B1 (OMIM #604125), and TGM1 (OMIM #242300), have been known to be associated with ARCI. Due to its high heterogeneity, the clinical presentation of ARCI is variable, and the molecular diagnosis is very challenging.⁵

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Next-generation sequencing is valuable in the molecular diagnosis of ARCI, with complex correlation of genotype and phenotype.

2 | CASE PRESENTATION

The patient was a 3-year-old girl of Chinese origin. She was from non-consanguineous Chinese parents and born full term to a G1P1 mother. The patient was ichthyotic at birth. After birth, she presented clinical aspects of generalized LI with brown, plate-like scale, which was more pronounced in the periumbilical region (Figure 1A), on the lower part of the body, and on the buttocks. Hyperlinearity of palms and soles was observed in the patient (Figure 1B, C), similar to that found in ichthyosis vulgaris. Her parents had no history of skin disorders. The patient had no other disorders. Skin biopsies of the proband's trunk was for H&E histology and examined by transmission electron microscopy.

The proband was phenotyped as part of her clinical evaluation in a standard medical genetics clinic after obtaining the approval of the Ethics Committee of the Second Xiangya Hospital, Central South University (Changsha, China). All experiments were carried out in accordance with the approved protocol. Written informed consent was obtained from all subjects who participated in this study or from their legal guardians for minors.

Venous blood was collected from the patient and her parents. All genomic DNA samples were extracted from peripheral blood leukocytes using a blood DNA extraction kit according to the protocol provided by the manufacturer (TianGen). Whole exome sequencing was performed on DNA sample of the proband by using an Agilent SureSelect Human All Exon V6 kit. The captured libraries were sequenced using Illumina HiSeq 2000 Sequencer. The mapping reference sequence version was hg19. The sanger sequencing was used to validate the mutation detected by next-generation sequencing and confirm that the two detected mutations were on different alleles of CYP4F22. Specific primers (fwd:5'-cagttagccgagattgtgcc-3' and rev: 5'-aagtgctgtctgaggta-3') were used to amplify the candidate variation and validate the c.1084C>T, and primers (fwd:5'-gccctgagagagagaga-3' and rev: 5'-agagctatccatctgcagg-3') were used to for the c.1137-2delA.

Histopathology of the proband revealed orthohyperkeratosis and keratotic plugging of follicular orifices on the light microscopic level (Figure 2), which was compatible with ARCI.

Mutation analysis of the patient identified a heterozygous nonsense mutation (chr19:15655038, NM_173483: c.1084C > T) in exon 10th and a heterozygous donor splicing mutation (chr19:15658917, NM_173483: c.1137-2delA) around exon 11th in the CYP4F22 gene. Sanger sequencing was also performed on the patient's parents (Figure 1D). Sequencing analysis showed that the father

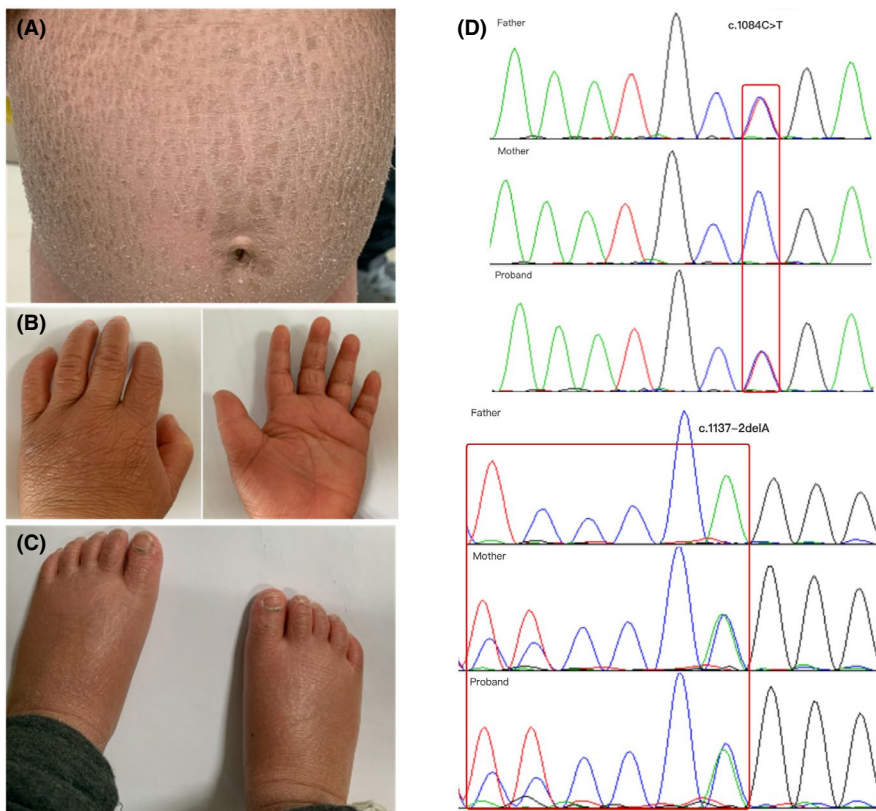


FIGURE 1 (A) Lamellar ichthyosis in the peri-umbilical region. (B and C) Hyperlinearity of the palms and soles. (D) Sequences of the mutation sites are shown for the proband and her parents

carried the heterozygous nonsense mutation (NM_173483: c.1084C > T). Her mother was heterozygous for the splicing mutation (NM_173483: c.1137-2delA). The heterozygous nonsense mutation and the heterozygous donor splicing were compound heterozygous in the proband. These two variations have not been detected in 1000 Genome Project and ExAC. For the nonsense mutation (NM_173483: c.1084C > T) identified in this pedigree, a premature termination codon was predicted to generate in the 362 amino acid. The 362 amino acid is in the most evolutionarily conserved domain of the CYP4F22 enzyme. The length of the protein would change from 532 to 362. The c.1137-2delA mutation of CYP4F22 was in the classical acceptor splice site. Splice site mutations represent a significant proportion of gene alterations leading to Mendelian disorders. Based on the interpretation of sequence variants criteria of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) guidelines, both mutations were calculated as likely pathogenic. Also, these two mutations were in trans, so it is highly likely that the two novel variations of CYP4F22 identified herein were responsible for the pathogenesis of ARCI in this pedigree. No extra potential pathogenic variants were identified in other congenital ichthyosis-related genes.

3 | DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The patient was diagnosed as congenital ichthyosis based on detection of brown, plate-like scale over the entire body. No family history was mentioned. The proband's exome sequencing indicated a compound heterozygous nonsense mutation (NM_173483: c.1084C>T) and an

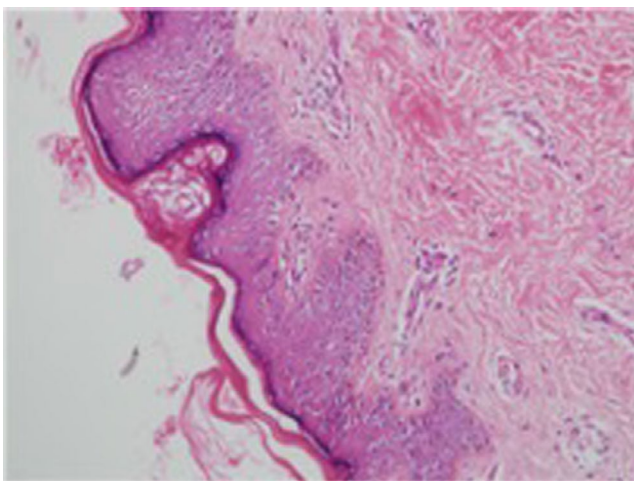


FIGURE 2 Orthohyperkeratosis, prominent granular layer, and lack of dermal inflammation, demonstrated by H&E staining. Indicated magnification =200×

acceptor splicing mutation (NM_173483: c.1137-2delA) in the CYP4F22 gene. Sanger sequencing confirmed that the parents were heterozygous carriers. No extra potential pathogenic variants were identified in other congenital ichthyosis-related genes. Although no RNA was available from family members for analysis, the introduction of a nonsense mutation in exon 10 of CYP4F22 is likely to result in nonsense-mediated mRNA decay. The mutation in the classical splice site (NM_173483: c.1137-2delA) is predicted to result in complete skipping of 11th exons. As 11th exon contains 130 base pairs, frame shift will be produced.^{6,7} Taken together, it is highly likely that the two novel variations of CYP4F22 identified herein are responsible for the pathogenesis of ARCI in this pedigree.

CYP4F22 deficiency is an autosomal recessive inherited genetic defect. Since the first mutation in the human CYP4F22 gene reported by Caroline,⁸ 57 CYP4F22 pathogenic mutations have been identified among ARCI patients in Human Gene Mutation Database to date. We further analyzed the 27 CYP4F22 mutations in 44 patients with available ethnicity information and found that all the patients were from Asia, Europe, and Africa (Figure 3). Fifteen mutations were detected in 16 patients from Asia. Nine mutations were unique to the Asians and three mutations were hot spots (c.59dup, c.728G>A, and c.1303C > T). In 2013, Sugiura et al.⁹ reported the first Japanese ARCI patient with c.728G > A mutation compound heterozygous with the first novel c.1138del mutation.⁹ In 2017, two CYP4F22 mutations (c.466 > T and c.844C > T) were reported in China,¹⁰ which were separately reported by Israell and Buckova in Jewish and Czech populations.^{11,12} The present study reported the first ARCI patient with two novel mutations in the CYP4F22 gene in Asia.

In conclusion, this study expands the mutation spectrum of CYP4F22 resulting in ARCIs in Chinese, which could provide insights into the molecular diagnosis and genetic counseling of families.

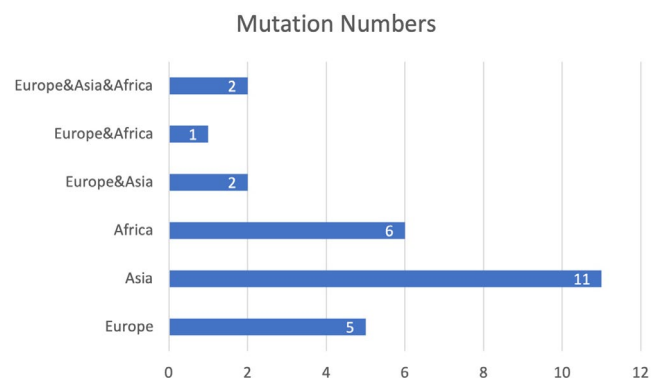


FIGURE 3 CYP4F22 mutations found in patients with autosomal recessive congenital ichthyosis with available ethnicity information to date

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We thank our patient and her family for their cooperation and participation in our study.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

HYT was involved in DNA isolation, genetic analysis of data, and manuscript drafting. GYZ carried out family recruitment, blood sampling, and clinical analysis. XLS supervised the whole study, helped in data analysis, edited, and refined the manuscript. All authors have read and approved the refined manuscript.

ETHICAL APPROVAL

This study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Second Xiangya Hospital, Central South University (Changsha, China). The reference number was S046 in 2014.

CONSENT

Written informed consent was obtained from the patient's parents for publication. A copy of the written consent is available for review by the Editor of this journal. The authors know and consent for publication.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The data generated or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

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