# Surgical management and molecular diagnosis of persistent Müllerian duct syndrome in Chinese patients 

Hong-Juan Tian ${ }^{1}$, De-Hua Wu ${ }^{1}$, Wei Ru ${ }^{1}$, Ding-Wen Wu ${ }^{2}$, Chang Tao ${ }^{1}$, Guang-Jie Chen ${ }^{1}$, Jin-Na Yuan ${ }^{3}$, Jun-Fen Fu ${ }^{3}$, Da-Xing Tang ${ }^{1}$


#### Abstract

Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome (PMDS) is a rare clinically and genetically overlapping disorder caused by mutations in the anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH) gene or the anti-Müllerian hormone receptor type 2 (AMHR2) gene. Affected individuals present uterus and tubes in normally virilized males and are discovered unexpectedly during other surgeries. Since it is rare and complex, a definitive clinical diagnosis can be missed, and there are no guidelines regarding how to deal with the uterus. In the present study, exome sequencing and Sanger verification were performed for causal variants in 12 PMDS patients. Preoperative diagnoses were made by positive exome sequencing in 8 patients. Of them, 7 patients evoked on the basis of ultrasound indicating bilateral testes on the same side of the body. Twelve different AMH variants ( 2 frameshift/nonsense, 1 deletion, 8 missense, and 1 in-frame) in 9 patients and 6 different $A M H R 2$ variants ( 5 missense and 1 splicing) in 3 patients were identified. Seven variants were classified as "pathogenic" or "likely pathogenic", and 4 of them were novel. All but two patients with AMH defects showed low serum AMH concentrations, but all patients with AMHR2 defects showed elevated AMH levels. During surgery, an abnormal vas deferens was observed in half of the patients. Eight patients underwent orchidopexy with uterine preservation. Of them, 2 patients presented complications including irreducible cryptorchidism, and 3 patients developed Müllerian remnant cysts. Three patients underwent subtotal hysterectomy. Of them, one patient had complication of injury to the vas deferens, and one had hemorrhage after operation. This is the first report of PMDS involving a large Chinese population. The present study not only expands the variation spectrum but also provides clinical experience about the management of the uterus.


Asian Journal of Andrology (2022) 24, 78-84; doi: 10.4103/aja202175; published online: 19 November 2021
Keywords: AMH; AMHR2; disorders of sex development; persistent Müllerian duct syndrome

## INTRODUCTION

Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome (PMDS; OMIM\# 261550) is a rare recessive disorder characterized by the persistence of Müllerian remnants (MRs), uterus, and tubes, in normally virilized males. ${ }^{1}$ The karyotype of individuals with PMDS is $46, \mathrm{XY}$, the urethra opens normally at the glans, and both gonads are testes. PMDS has three main clinical presentations: bilateral cryptorchidism, unilateral cryptorchidism with inguinal hernia, and transverse testicular ectopia (TTE). ${ }^{2}$ During the corrective surgery for cryptorchidism and inguinal hernia, the presence of MRs is usually an unexpected discovery. ${ }^{2}$ The accurate diagnosis can be missed during the initial surgery, leading to reoperations. The uterus is usually an obstacle to testicular descent and at risk of malignant degeneration. ${ }^{2-5}$ However, removing the uterus almost unavoidably damages the vas deferens or the deferential artery. ${ }^{2}$ Nowadays, it is difficult to identify PMDS preoperatively and the debate continues about how to deal with the uterus.

Biallelic loss-of-function variants in the anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH) gene and the anti-Müllerian hormone receptor type 2 (AMHR2)
gene have been identified in patients with PMDS. The $A M H$ gene is a $2.8-\mathrm{kb}$-long gene containing five exons located on chromosome 19p13.3, and its protein product is a glycoprotein dimer belonging to the transforming growth factor-beta (TGF- $\beta$ ) family that acts via its specific receptor (AMHR2). The AMHR2 gene contains 11 exons located on 12q13 and encodes a serine/threonine kinase belonging to the TGF- $\beta$-related protein family. To date, 85 different variants in $A M H$ and 84 variants in AMHR2 have been identified according to the Human Gene Mutation Database (HGMD). However, few variants have been reported in Chinese individuals with PMDS. ${ }^{6}$

In this report, we studied the management experiences and genetic findings of 12 patients with PMDS in China. After a review of the literature, we presented procedures for the diagnosis and treatment of PMDS.

## PATIENTS AND METHODS

The study included all patients with PMDS admitted to the Department of Urology at Children's Hospital, Zhejiang University School of

[^0]Medicine (Hangzhou, China), from January 2012 to December 2020. The inclusion criteria were (1) normal male external genitalia; (2) a 46,XY karyotype; and (3) the presence of MRs ascertained by surgical exploration. The exclusion criteria included (1) a lack of molecular diagnosis, or (2) an absence of treatment or follow-up. Data on demographics, clinical presentations, molecular findings, AMH levels, surgical findings, and outcomes were retrospectively reviewed. This study was approved by the Ethical Committee of Children's Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine (Approval No. 2018-IRB-076). Written informed consent was also obtained.

AMH levels were determined via the Immunotech AMH/Müllerian inhibiting substance (MIS) enzyme immunoassay (UniCel DXI800; Beckman Coulter, Fullerton, CA, USA). G-banding karyotyping was carried out using peripheral lymphocytes.

Targeted next-generation sequencing was performed. Genomic DNA was extracted from peripheral blood samples of patients using a QIAamp DNA Blood Mini Kit (Qiagen GmbH, Hilden, Germany). Paired-end libraries were generated with the Agilent Sure Select Target Enrichment System and an XT Inherited Disease Panel containing 2742 genes (Agilent Technologies Inc., Santa Clara, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Sequencing was performed on an Illumina HiSeq 2500 System (Illumina Inc., San Diego, CA, US). The analysis was carried out using an in-house pipeline adapted from BWA, GATK 4.0.0.0 and SAMtools 1.8. Sanger sequencing was used to confirm the identified variants in the patients and their parents. When a confirmed origin of the observed variants was lacking in the patients, their parents also underwent exome sequencing. AMH/ AMHR2 copy numbers were determined through CapCNV analysis followed by the CNVkit protocol (https://cnvkit.readthedocs.io/en/ stable/pipeline.html).

To predict the possible impact of identified variants, multiple prediction tools such as ClinPred and REVEL were implemented. According to the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics/ Association for Molecular Pathology (ACMG/AMP) 2015 guidelines, the pathogenicity of the variants was classified as five levels: pathogenic, likely pathogenic, variants of uncertain significance (VUS), likely benign, and benign. ${ }^{7}$

All analyses were carried out using the SPSS software, version 20 (SPSS, Chicago, IL, USA).

## RESULTS

## Clinical findings

There were 12 patients with a median age of 10 (range: 2-49) months included during the study period (Table 1). All the parents of the patients were unrelated. Among the patients, 6 patients presented with unilateral cryptorchidism ( $50.0 \%$; Figure 1), 3 patients with bilateral cryptorchidism (25.0\%), and 3 patients with TTE (25.0\%). The preoperative diagnosis of


Figure 1: Normally virilized external genitalia and unexpected Müllerian remnants in the pelvic cavity. (a) The length and size of the penis are normal-for-age and its urethra opens at the glans. The scrotum is empty. (b) There is a uterus between two intra-abdominal testes.

PMDS was evoked by ultrasound in 7 patients and another one patient presenting with bilateral unpalpable cryptorchidism was diagnosed preoperatively by exome sequencing. The preoperative diagnosis rate of PMDS was $66.7 \%$, as shown in Figure 2. Notably, patient 1 and 2 are brothers. Patient 1 was diagnosed as PMDS during surgery for henia. Later, his elder brother,patient 2, was confirmed to had PMDS postoperatively by exome sequencing.

## Molecular findings and AMH levels

We identified 12 different $A M H$ variants ( 2 frameshift/nonsense, 1 deletion, 8 missense, and 1 in-frame) in 9 patients and 6 different AMHR2 variants ( 5 missense and 1 splicing) in 3 patients (Figure 3 and Supplementary Table 1). The variants in $A M H$ and AMHR2 occurred in the compound heterozygous form in all patients except for patient 7 , who harbored a homozygous variant in AMH. The same nonsense variant (p.E389X) in AMH occurred in patient 5 and patient 7 , while the same missense variant (p.G101R) occurred in patient 3,6 , and 8 . The numbers of detected and independent variants in the N -terminal region of $A M H$ were 8 and 5 , respectively, while those in the TGF-beta-like domain were both 3 . Three missense variants occurred in the activin type I and II receptor domain of AMHR2, and two occurred in the protein kinases catalytic domain. Of the 12 identified variants in $A M H, 8$ variants are novel, and 4 missense variants have been reported previously. According to the ACMG 2015 criteria, 7 variants were classified as pathogenic, or likely pathogenic, which were $c .301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$, c. $1165 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{c} .707 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{c} .992 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{c} .1447 \mathrm{~T}>\mathrm{C}$, and c.102dupC in $A M H$, and c. $160 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{T}$ in $A M H R 2$. Of them, 4 variants were novel: $\mathrm{c} .707 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$, c. $992 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{c} .1447 \mathrm{~T}>\mathrm{C}$ and c .102 dupC in $A M H$. Three detected variants occurred in activin types I and II receptor domain of AMHR2, and two variants occurred in protein kinase catalytic domain. Five of the 6 identified variants in $A M H R 2$ were novel and VUS, and the other missense variant was classified as likely pathogenic.

All but two patients with $A M H$ gene defects showed low or undetectable serum AMH concentrations. Patient 3 with $80.88 \mathrm{ng} \mathrm{ml}^{-1}$ AMH and patient 9 with more than $168.57 \mathrm{ng} \mathrm{ml}^{-1}$ AMH were the exceptions. All patients with AMHR2 gene defects presented elevated AMH levels.

## Intervention and follow-up

All patients underwent laparoscopic exploration and bilateral orchidopexy. Eight patients preserved the uterus until now. Three patients underwent subtotal hysterectomy, which was accompanied by complications of injury to the vas deferens in one patient and


Figure 2: Timing of PMDS diagnosis and detection methods. A preoperative diagnosis was made in $66.7 \%(8 / 12)$ of cases, including 7 cases evoked by ultrasonography and confirmed by exome sequencing, and 1 case diagnosed by exome sequencing. The postoperative diagnosis obtained by exome sequencing was unilateral testis because of his PMDS brother. The last three cases were identified due to the presence of the uterus during corrective surgery for hernia or cryptorchidism. PMDS: persistent Müllerian duct syndrome.

Asian Journal of Andrology
Table 1 Clinical and genetic findings of patients with PMDS

| Patient | $\begin{gathered} \text { Age } \\ \text { (month) } \end{gathered}$ | Presentation | Diagnosis method | Preoperatively diagnosed | $\begin{gathered} A M H \\ \left(n g \mathrm{ml}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | Gene | Mutation | Amino acid change | Protein | Parental validation | Variant classification | Intervention | Vas | Outcome |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 8 | Left cryptorchidism, bilateral hernia | Müllerian structurs noted during surgery for hernia | No | 5.18 | AMH | $\begin{gathered} \text { C. } \\ 1522 \_1524 \text { dupGTG } \\ \text { c. } 1637 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{A} \end{gathered}$ | p.V508dup p.A546E | In-frame Missense | F M | VUS <br> VUS | ```Gonadal biopsy + bilateral orchipexy + bilateral hernia repair``` | Normal | Good |
| 2 | 49 | Left orchiatrophy, right hernia | Exon sequencing was positive because his brother was patient 1 | No | <0.06 | AMH | $\begin{gathered} \text { c. } \\ 1522 \_1524 \mathrm{dupGTG} \\ \text { c. } 1637 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{A} \end{gathered}$ | p.V508dup p.A546E | In-frame Missense | $\begin{aligned} & \text { F } \\ & M \end{aligned}$ M | VUS <br> VUS | Right orchipexy + right hernia repair | Abnormal | Good |
| 3 | 10 | Bilateral cryptorchidism, left hernia | Both testes detected at left groin by ultrasound | Yes | 80.88 | AMH | c. $1352 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ <br> c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { p.R451H } \\ & \text { p.G101R } \end{aligned}$ | Missense Missense | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{F} \\ & \mathrm{M} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VUS } \\ \text { LP } \end{gathered}$ | Gonadal biopsy + bilateral orchipexy | Abnormal | Recurrence of left cryptorchidism |
| 4 | 0.6 | Left cryptorchidism, right hernia, TTE | Both testes detected at right scrotum by PE and ultrasound | Yes | 0.91 | AMH | c. $1604 \mathrm{~T}>\mathrm{C}$ <br> c. $584 \mathrm{~A}>\mathrm{G}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { p.L535P } \\ & \text { p.Y195C } \end{aligned}$ | Missense <br> Missense | $\begin{aligned} & F \\ & M \end{aligned}$ | VUS <br> VUS | ```Gonadal biopsy + bilateral orchipexy + right hernia repair``` | Normal | Scrotum cyst |
| 5 | 16 | Left cryptorchidism, right hernia | Müllerian structurs noted during surgery for hernia | No | <0.06 | AMH | c. $1165 \mathrm{G}>\boldsymbol{\top}$ <br> NA | $\begin{gathered} \text { p.E389X } \\ \text { NA } \end{gathered}$ | Nonsense Deletion | $\begin{aligned} & F \\ & M \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & P \\ & P \end{aligned}$ | ```Gonadal biopsy + bilateral orchipexy + right hernia repair``` | Abnormal | Recurrence of right cryptorchidism ${ }^{\text {a }}$, bilateral TM ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| 6 | 2 | Bilateral cryptorchidism, bilateral hernia | Both testes detected at right groin by ultrasound | Yes | <0.06 | AMH | c. $707 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ <br> c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { p.G236D } \\ & \text { p.G101R } \end{aligned}$ | Missense Missense | $\begin{aligned} & F \\ & M \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LP } \\ & \text { LP } \end{aligned}$ | Gonadal biopsy + bilateral orchipexy | Abnormal | Recurrence of bilerteral hernia, bilateral TM |
| 7 | 2 | Bilateral cryptorchidism | Gene sequencing was positive | Yes | 0.05 | AMH | c. $1165 \mathrm{G}>\boldsymbol{\top}$ <br> c. $1165 \mathrm{G}>\boldsymbol{\top}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { p.E389X } \\ & \text { p.E389x } \end{aligned}$ | Nonsense Nonsense | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{F} \\ & \mathrm{M} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & P \\ & P \end{aligned}$ | ```Cystoscopy + radiography + bilateral orchipexy + hysterectomy``` | normal | Good |
| 8 | 10 | Right cryptorchidism, left hernia, TTE | Both testes detected at right scrotum by ultrasound | Yes | 8.01 | AMH | c. $992 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{T}$ <br> c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { p.S331L } \\ & \text { p.G101R } \end{aligned}$ | Missense Missense | $\begin{aligned} & F \\ & M \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LP } \\ & \text { LP } \end{aligned}$ | ```Bilateral orchipexy + left hernia repair + hysterectomy``` | Normal | Injury to right side vas |
| 9 | 11 | Left cryptorchidism | Müllerian structurs noted during surgery for cryptorchidism. | No | >168.57 | AMH | c. $1447 \mathrm{~T}>\mathrm{C}$ <br> c. 102dupC | $\begin{gathered} \text { p.Y483H } \\ \text { p.S35Qfs*46 } \end{gathered}$ | Missense Frameshift | $\begin{aligned} & F \\ & M \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{LP} \\ \mathrm{P} \end{gathered}$ | Bilateral orchipexy | Abnormal | Inguinal cyst |
| 10 | 2 | Left cryptorchidism, right hernia | Left testis detected at groin by ultrasound | Yes | >24.5 | AMHR2 | c. $356 \mathrm{~A}>\mathrm{G}$ <br> c. $733 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.N119S <br> p.A245T | Missense Missense | $\begin{aligned} & F \\ & M \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { VUS } \\ & \text { VUS } \end{aligned}$ | Bilateral orchipexy + bilateral hernia repair | Abnormal | Inguinal and pelvic cyst |
| 11 | 12 | Left cryptorchidism, TTE | Both testes detected at right scrotum by ultrasound | Yes | 214.67 | AMHR2 | c. $706 \mathrm{~T}>\mathrm{A}$ <br> c. $160 C>T$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { p.S236T } \\ \text { p.R54C } \end{gathered}$ | Missense Missense | F $M$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VUS } \\ \text { LP } \end{gathered}$ | Bilateral orchipexy | Normal | Good |
| 12 | 2 | Left cryptorchidism, right hernia | Left testis detected at right internal ring by ultrasound | Yes | 117.62 | AMHR2 | $\begin{gathered} \text { c. } 337 A>C \\ \text { c. } 1288+23 C>A \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { p.T113P } \\ \text { NA } \end{gathered}$ | Missense <br> Intron variant | $\begin{gathered} M \\ F \end{gathered}$ | VUS VUS | Gonadal biopsy + left orchipexy + hysterectomy | Normal | Hemorrhage; bilateral TM |




Figure 3: Summary of reported variants and novel variants in the (a) AMH gene and (b) AMHR2 gene. Green dots represent variants found in the present study; yellow dots represent variants previously reported in the literature. Each point represents one affected family. The number in the circle represents the times of reports. Novel variants are indicated in red. Missense variants are indicated on the top, and others are indicated on the bottom. *Intron variants are indicated. Variants in each domain cluster together. PMDS: persistent Müllerian duct syndrome; AMH: anti-Müllerian hormone; AMHR2: anti-Müllerian hormone receptor type 2 ; TGF- $\beta$ : transforming growth factor-beta.
hemorrhage in another patient. The uterus in the last patient could not be detected by laparoscopy or imaging. During surgery, the vas deferens was observed to be blind and dissociated from the testes in six patients (50.0\%). For histopathology, testicular biopsies were performed in

6 patients, and the examination of sections confirmed testicular microlithiasis (TM) in 3 patients ( $25.0 \%$ ), while the others presented normal infantile testes. Patient 7 underwent retrograde urethrography showing a long narrow prostatic utricle (Figure $\mathbf{4 a}$ and $\mathbf{4 b}$ )

All patients were followed up, and the median follow-up time was 31 (range: 7-95) months. We observed complications in six patients. One patient suffered bilateral hernia recurrence, which was repaired during reoperation. Five of eight patients whose uterus was retained presented complications of irreducible cryptorchidism (2/8) and MR cysts (3/8). One patient with irreducible cryptorchidism was followed up without further intervention; the other underwent two additional surgeries to repair the normal-side testis. MR cysts occurred in the scrotum, groin, or pelvis. The size of the cyst in patient 4 was small and stable ( $2.3 \mathrm{~cm} \times 0.8 \mathrm{~cm}$ ), and the size in patient 9 was enlarged at one time point ( $6.3 \mathrm{~cm} \times 4.0 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) but has now been reduced $(1.5 \mathrm{~cm} \times 1.1 \mathrm{~cm})$. Patient 10 exhibited a progressively enlarged cyst ( $6.2 \mathrm{~cm} \times 1.6 \mathrm{~cm}$ ) for 25 months after the operation and continued to undergo follow-up without further intervention (Figure 4c and 4d).

## Description of the variant spectrum of the literature

Based on a review of 157 cases in $2017,{ }^{8}$ nine published peerreviewed articles were identified. Adding with our patients in China, there were 93 families with 78 different variants in AMH (Supplementary Table 2) and 94 families with 80 different variants in AMHR2 have been reported (Supplementary Table 3). ${ }^{6,8-16}$ The relationship between the phenotypes and genotype of all patients was analyzed statistically (Supplementary Figure 1). There was no significant difference in anatomy between patients with either AMH or AMHR2 variants. A total of $56.6 \%$ of the patients presented with bilateral cryptorchidism, $20.8 \%$ with unilateral cryptorchidism, and $22.5 \%$ with TTE. Variants in $A M H$ and AMHR2 were detected in $87.9 \%$ of all cases. Meanwhile, all TTE with PMDS has possible causative variants.


Figure 4: Images of Müllerian remnants. (a) Posterior urethral cystoscopy (patient 7). Cystoscopy demonstrated the verumontanum to be in a normal location with an edematous slit-like opening in its center (cursor). (b) Retrograde urethrography (patient 7). The 3F catheter was inserted into the opening, which was long and narrow in the oblique coronal plane in retrograde urethrography. The cursor points to the confluence of the vagina and urethra. (c) Pelvic MRI (patient 10). This T2 coronal view demonstrates that the Müllerian remnants (yellow arrow) extend from the scrotum. (d) Pelvic MRI (patient 10). This T2 coronal view demonstrates that the Müllerian remnants (yellow arrow) extend along the groin and extend within the pelvic cavity on the normal side. The area measured $6.2 \mathrm{~cm} \times 1.6 \mathrm{~cm}$. MRI: magnetic resonance imaging.

Variants occur along the whole length of $A M H$ and $A M H R 2$ (Figure 3). The large N -terminal fragment is hit 70 times. The TGF- $\beta$ like domain in C-terminus is hit 26 times. The variant rate in the N-terminal region was nearly 2.5 times that of the TGF- $\beta$-like domain. The activin types I and II receptor domain in AMHR2 is an extracellular domain and is hit 8 times. The protein kinase catalytic domain in $A M H R 2$ is located in the intracellular domain and is hit 37 times and 4 times more than the receptor domain.

## DISCUSSION

PMDS is one of the rarest causes of disorders of sex development (DSD) with clinical and genetic heterogeneity and is characterized by the presence of a bicornuate uterus, fallopian tubes, and the upper third of the vagina in normally masculinized $46, \mathrm{XY}$ subjects. ${ }^{1}$ The incidence has not been accurately determined. Since its initial description, the details of more than 250 cases have been published, and variants in $A M H$ and $A M H R 2$ have been identified in these patients. Thus far, few studies from China have reported the variant spectrum and management experiences of PMDS patients. In the current study, we report the clinical experiences and genetic findings of 12 new patients from China.

In our literature review, $56.6 \%$ of the included patients presented with bilateral cryptorchidism, $20.8 \%$ with unilateral cryptorchidism, known as hernia uteri inguinalis, and $22.5 \%$ with TTE (Supplementary Figure 1). The data were updated and included newly reported patients and our Chinese patients. ${ }^{2}$ However, in the current study, unilateral cryptorchidism present in more than half of the patients was the most common phenotype. We also found that the position of the testis was flexible and was always reset during laparoscopic exploration, although it was preoperatively detected on the contralateral side of the body (mostly in the groin) by ultrasound (Table 1). It is easy to confuse TTE with unilateral cryptorchidism, and it is possible that there is no need to distinguish them. Moreover, the high flexibility of the testes due to the abnormal mobility of the uterus facilitates their torsion and may lead to uni- or bilateral testicular degeneration. ${ }^{17}$ The testis of patient 2 was ascertained to be atrophied.

In children, PMDS is usually diagnosed due to an accidental discovery of uterus during corrective surgery for inguinal hernia or cryptorchidism. Most surgeons may not see any patient with PMDS due to its low incidence. The clinical manifestations of PMDS are a common presentation compared with other cryptorchidism. Testicular histology is generally performed for diagnosis during the first surgery without therapeutic surgery, and the morphology is usually normal. ${ }^{2}$ Therefore, preoperative diagnosis is critical and can help to avoid unnecessary testicular biopsy and reoperations. Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchidism is not particularly evocative, although unilateral cryptorchidism with contralateral hernia, particularly TTE, should evoke suspicion. In the present study, the rate of preoperative diagnosis was as high as $66.7 \%$. Further assessment was carried out when suspicion of PMDS arose from ultrasound in 7 patients, which revealed that the testis crossed to the contralateral side of the body. The results of exome sequencing were positive in these 7 patients and one bilateral cryptorchidism, which enable us to make a preoperative diagnosis. Pelvic ultrasound is routinely used to describe the internal anatomy in these patients, but limited in the identification of MRs. The sensitivity and specificity of ultrasound in localizing MRs is 54\% and $50 \%$, respectively. ${ }^{18}$ If physical examination and ultrasound show any sign of a testis crossing the body midline to the contralateral side, PMDS should be considered. Moreover, preoperative gene sequencing can contribute to an accurate diagnosis when a damaging variant of $A M H$ or $A M H R 2$ is detected.

In our literature review, variants of $A M H$ and $A M H R 2$ were reported in $87.9 \%$ of all patients and were approximately equally distributed among the genes coding AMH and its type II receptor, AMHR2. ${ }^{6,8-16}$ Statistics indicated that $A M H$ presented 78 different variants in 93 families, and 80 different alleles of AMHR2 were discovered in 94 families. In our Chinese patients, mutational analyses revealed possible causative variants in all patients. $A M H$ variants occurred more frequently than AMHR2 variants, consistent with a previous report. ${ }^{2}$ Variants are known to occur along the entire length of $A M H$, although exons 3 and 4 are very rarely involved (Figure 3). The short C-terminal fragment is a TGF- $\beta$-like domain with biological activity. The large N -terminal region is not thought to be essential for activity, but exerts the ability to stabilize the C-terminus, ${ }^{19}$ and shows nearly 2.5 times the hit of the C-terminus (Figure 3). In our study, twelve variants, including eight new variants, were identified in $A M H$. The c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ (p.G101R) and c.1165G>T (p.E389X) were recurrent in three and two unrelated families, respectively. The variant c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ (p.G101R) has been previously described in four families, while $\mathrm{c} .1165 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{T}$ (p.E389X) has been reported in two families. The variant c. $1637 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{A}$ (p.A546E) was also previously detected in one family. AMHR2 encodes a membrane protein and has 11 exons, which are all affected by variants (Figure 3). Only two hits were observed in the transmembrane domain. The protein kinase catalytic domain was more conserved and showed nearly 5 times more hits than the activin types I and II receptor domains. In our Chinese patients, six variants in the AMHR2 gene were found, including five new VUS. The variant $\mathrm{c} .160 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{T}$ (p.R54C) was previously described in one family. ${ }^{20}$ Functional studies have not been reported, so further studies are needed to investigate the harmfulness of these variants.

Normally, AMH concentrations are maintained at high levels during childhood and decrease at puberty. ${ }^{21}$ Patients with $A M H$ gene defects show low AMH levels from birth, whereas patients with variants in AMHR2 show elevated AMH levels, indicating insensitivity of the target tissues. ${ }^{22}$ In contrast, patients 3 and 9 with variants in AMH presented increased AMH levels, indicating that the interactions between variants p . ( R 451 H ) and p .(G101R) and between p .(S35Qfs*46) and $p .(\mathrm{Y} 483 \mathrm{H})$ might affect hormone bioactivity but not the hormone secretion rate. ${ }^{23}$

The genotypes of AMH and AMHR2 are not related to the observed phenotypes. ${ }^{2,24}$ The phenotype can differ within the same family and shows no relationship to the type of genetic defect involved. The anatomical abnormalities common to all patients with PMDS result from the failure of the gubernaculum to anchor the testes at the base of the scrotum. The abnormal mobility of the uterus with the testes facilitates their torsion and may lead to uni- or bilateral testicular degeneration. ${ }^{17}$ In the current study, the left testis of patient 1 was located in the left groin, while the testis of his brother, patient 2 , was atrophied on the left side. Furthermore, neither laparoscopy nor imaging was able to detect Müllerian derivatives in patient 2, even though he harbored the same variants as his brother (patient 1) with PMDS. This suggests highly variable penetrance of the abnormal alleles and/or the existence of other genetic or epigenetic modifiers of gene expression.

The management of PMDS consists of the correction of cryptorchidism to prevent testis degeneration and preserve fertility. ${ }^{2,25}$ Because of the high mobility of the uterus with the testes, bilateral orchidopexy is recommended, as we performed in the current study. The rate of testicular malignancy is up to $33.0 \%$ in PMDS patients older than 18 years, which is higher than the rate among general cryptorchidism cases. Close follow-up of the testes is necessary with age. ${ }^{2}$

There is no consensus regarding whether MRs should be excised in PMDS patients. Previous reports have advocated retaining MRs to prevent damage to the vas deferens, considering that MRs present no risk of malignancy. ${ }^{26,27}$ In the current study, MRs were preserved in eight patients, but complications occurred in five patients. To our knowledge, this is the first study to report the emergence of MR cysts after MR preservation. The cysts were thought to be hydrocolpos caused by the accumulation of fluid due to congenital vaginal obstruction. In our experience, such cysts may decrease in size and remain stable, but long-term outcomes still need to be followed up. Irreducible cryptorchidism occurred in two patients following MR preservation, which may have been due to the mobilization of MRs.

Since 2002, three PMDS patients have been reported to have developed malignancy of MRs originating from the mucosa. ${ }^{3-5}$ The preferred surgical procedure is to split the uterus in the middle, destroy the mucosal lining, and leave an intact pedicle of the myometrium. ${ }^{25,28,29}$ This not only releases the testes to the ideal position but also protects the integrity and vascularity of the vas deferens and reduces the chance of malignancy. In the current study, three patients underwent partial hysterectomy, but two of them experienced side effects. One presented the complication of hemorrhage, indicating that complete hemostasis should be noticed. The vas deferens is injured in TTE because it is enclosed in MRs, so surgeons need to improve their surgical techniques and perform dissection carefully. In addition to malignant degeneration, retained MRs are known to cause hematuria, recurrent urinary tract infection, stones, and voiding disturbances, ${ }^{29,30}$ but these conditions were not noticed in our series.

Infertility is another problem observed in PMDS patients. The possible causes include congenital malformations of excretory ducts, long-term cryptorchidism, and damage to the testicular blood supply or the vas deferens during hysterectomy. In the present study, the incidence of vas deferens malformation was high, occurring in half of the patients. We also noted a high incidence of TM (25.0\%), which may contribute to another cause of infertility. ${ }^{31}$

Follow-up is extremely important for these patients, especially the monitoring of malignancies of the testes and uterus, with concern for their fertility. Close follow-up of all of our patients continues in our clinic.

## CONCLUSION

We report 12 new Chinese PMDS patients with 13 novel possible causative variants in the AMH and AMHR2 genes. Bilateral orchidopexy with destruction of the uterine mucosa may be the optimum surgical procedure for PMDS.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

HJT and DXT conceived and designed this study. DXT and JFF supervised this study. HJT and DHW wrote the manuscript. HJT and CT extracted clinical data. DWW analyzed the genetic variants. WR and JNY performed statistical analysis of the results with assistance and/or inputs from other authors. CT and GJC provided necessary study supports. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

## COMPETING INTERESTS

All authors declare no competing interests.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors thank Jian Wang (Shanghai Children's Medical Center, Shanghai Jiaotong University School of Medicine, Hangzhou, China) for the consultation on molecular knowledge, Rui Xiao (Boisan Biotechnology Co., Ltd., Hangzhou, China) for the guidance on writing, and Shu-Jie Zhang (Maternal and Child

Heath Hospital of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Nanning, China) for the consultation on chart drawing. This study was supported by National Key R\&D Program of China (grant No. 2018YFC1002702).

Supplementary Information is linked to the online version of the paper on the Asian Journal of Andrology website.

## REFERENCES

1 Knebelmann B, Boussin L, Guerrier D, Legeai L, Kahn A, et al. Anti-Müllerian hormone Bruxelles: a nonsense mutation associated with the persistent Müllerian duct syndrome. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A 1991; 88: 3767-71.
2 Picard JY, Josso N. Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome: an update. Reprod Fertil Dev 2019; 31: 1240-5.
3 Shinmura Y, Yokoi T, Tsutsui Y. A case of clear cell adenocarcinoma of the müllerian duct in persistent müllerian duct syndrome: the first reported case. Am J Surg Pathol 2002; 26: 1231-4.
4 Romero FR, Fucs M, Castro MG, Garcia CR, Fernandes Rde C, et al. Adenocarcinoma of persistent müllerian duct remnants: case report and differential diagnosis. Urology 2005; 66: 194-5.
5 Thiel DD, Erhard MJ. Uterine adenosarcoma in a boy with persistent müllerian duct syndrome: first reported case. J Pediatr Surg 2005; 40: e29-31.
6 Xu Y, Wang Y, Li N, Yao R, Li G, et al. New insights from unbiased panel and wholeexome sequencing in a large Chinese cohort with disorders of sex development. Eur J Endocrinol 2019; 181: 311-23.
7 Richards S, Aziz N, Bale S, Bick D, Das S, et al. Standards and guidelines for the interpretation of sequence variants: a joint consensus recommendation of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for Molecular Pathology. Genet Med 2015; 17: 405-24.
8 Picard JY, Cate RL, Racine C, Josso N. The persistent müllerian duct syndrome: an update based upon a personal experience of 157 cases. Sex Dev 2017; 11: 109-25.
9 Ren X, Wu D, Gong C. Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome: a case report and review. Exp Ther Med 2017; 14: 5779-84.
10 Hughes LA, McKay-Bounford K, Webb EA, Dasani P, Clokie S, et al. Next generation sequencing (NGS) to improve the diagnosis and management of patients with disorders of sex development (DSD). Endocr Connect 2019; 8: 100-10.
11 Fernández-Cancio M, Viswanath N, Puzhankara R, Valiyaprambil Pavithran P, Mora-Palma C, et al. A novel homozygous AMRH2 gene mutation in a patient with persistent müllerian duct syndrome. Sex Dev 2019; 13: 87-91.
12 Acero MG, Moreno 0, Gutiérrez A, Sánchez C, Cataño JG, et al. Novel homozygous mutation in a colombian patient with persistent müllerian duct syndrome: expanded phenotype. Int Braz J Urol 2019; 45: 1064-70.
13 Tosca L, Giltay JC, Bouvattier C, Klijn AJ, Bouligand J, et al. Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome due to anti-Müllerian hormone receptor 2 microdeletions: a diagnostic challenge. Hum Reprod 2020; 35: 999-1003.
14 Unal E, Karakaya AA, Beştaş A, Yıldırım R, Taş FF, et al. Identification of four novel variant in the AMHR2 gene in six unrelated Turkish families. J Endocrinol Invest 2021; 44: 1301-7.
15 Altincik A, Karaca F, Onay H. Persistent müllerian duct syndrome: a novel mutation in the Anti-Müllerian Hormone gene. Hormones (Athens) 2017; 16: 205-8.
16 Nixon R, Cerqueira V, Kyriakou A, Lucas-Herald A, McNeilly J, et al. Prevalence of endocrine and genetic abnormalities in boys evaluated systematically for a disorder of sex development. Hum Reprod 2017; 32: 2130-7.

17 Imbeaud S, Rey R, Berta P, Chaussain JL, Wit JM, et al. Testicular degeneration in three patients with the persistent müllerian duct syndrome. Eur J Pediatr 1995; 154: 187-90.
18 Steven M, O'Toole S, Lam J, Mackinlay GA, Cascio S. Laparoscopy versus ultrasonography for the evaluation of mullerian structures in children with complex disorders of sex development. Pediatr Surg Int 2012; 28: 1161-4.
19 di Clemente N, Jamin SP, Lugovskoy A, Carmillo P, Ehrenfels C, et al. Processing of anti-mullerian hormone regulates receptor activation by a mechanism distinct from TGF-beta. Mol Endocrinol 2010; 24: 2193-206.
20 Imbeaud S, Belville C, Messika-Zeitoun L, Rey R, di Clemente N, et al. A 27 basepair deletion of the anti-müllerian type II receptor gene is the most common cause of the persistent müllerian duct syndrome. Hum Mol Genet 1996; 5: 1269-77.
21 Aksglaede L, Sørensen K, Boas M, Mouritsen A, Hagen CP, et al. Changes in antiMüllerian hormone (AMH) throughout the life span: a population-based study of 1027 healthy males from birth (cord blood) to the age of 69 years. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2010; 95: 5357-64.
22 Rey RA, Codner E, Iñíguez G, Bedecarrás P, Trigo R, et al. Low risk of impaired testicular sertoli and leydig cell functions in boys with isolated hypospadias. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2005; 90: 6035-40.
23 Belville C, Van Vlijmen H, Ehrenfels C, Pepinsky B, Rezaie AR, et al. Mutations of the anti-mullerian hormone gene in patients with persistent mullerian duct syndrome: biosynthesis, secretion, and processing of the abnormal proteins and analysis using a three-dimensional model. Mol Endocrinol 2004; 18: 708-21.
24 Abduljabbar M, Taheini K, Picard JY, Cate RL, Josso N. Mutations of the AMH type II receptor in two extended families with persistent Müllerian duct syndrome: lack of phenotype/genotype correlation. Horm Res Paediatr 2012; 77: 291-7.
25 Sancar S, Özçakır E, Kaya M. Management of the patients with persistent Müllerian duct syndrome: is the ultimate goal testicular descent? Turk J Urol 2018; 44: 166-71.
26 Vandersteen DR, Chaumeton AK, Ireland K, Tank ES. Surgical management of persistent müllerian duct syndrome. Urology 1997; 49: 941-5.
27 Berkman F. Persistent müllerian duct syndrome with or without transverse testicular ectopia and testis tumours. Br J Urol 1997; 79:122-6.
28 Parelkar SV, Gupta RK, Oak S, Sanghvi B, Kaltari D, et al. Laparoscopic management of persistent mullerian duct syndrome. Pediatr Surg Int 2009; 19: 533-6.
29 Manjunath BG, Shenoy VG, Raj P. Persistent müllerian duct syndrome: how to deal with the müllerian duct remnants - a review. Indian J Surg 2010; 72: 16-9.
30 Gricourt S, Treton D, Renard-Pennat R, Samuel Lajeunesse J, Bitker MO, et al. Novel anti-mullerian hormone mutation revealed by haematospermia in a 60-yearold patient. Clin Endocrinol (Oxf) 2011; 74: 404-5.
31 D'Andrea S, Martorella A, Castellini C, Cordeschi G, Totaro M, et al. Clinical and seminal parameters associated with testicular microlithiasis and its severity in males from infertile couples. Hum Reprod 2021; 36: 891-8.

This is an open access journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.
©The Author(s)(2021)
Supplementary Table 1: Detailed genetic findings of patients

| Patient | Gene | Assembly ID | Transcript ID | Chromosomal location | rs | Mutation | a.a. change | Exon-intron | Variant type | Type | Parental validation | Mutation type | Evidence level | Variant classification |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19:2251795-2251797chr19:2251910 | None | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { c. } 1522 \_1524 \\ \text { dupGTG } \end{gathered}$ | p.V508dup | Exon 5 | In-frame | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP1 PP4 | VUS |
|  |  |  |  |  | rs748647281 | c. $1637 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.A546E | Exon 5 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Known | PM2 PP1 PP4 | VUS |
| 2 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | $\begin{gathered} \text { chr19: } \\ \text { 2251795-2251797 } \\ \text { chr19:2251910 } \end{gathered}$ | None | $\begin{gathered} \text { c. } 1522 \_1524 \\ \text { dupGTG } \end{gathered}$ | p.V508dup | Exon 5 | In-frame | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP1 PP4 | VUS |
|  |  |  |  |  | rs748647281 | c. $1637 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.A546E | Exon 5 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Known | PM2 PP1 PP4 | VUS |
| 3 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19:2251625 | rs1235377959 | c. $1352 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.R451H | Exon 5 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PM3 PP4 | VUS |
|  |  |  |  | chr19:2249632 | rs778071215 | c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.G101R | Exon 1 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Known | PM2 PP1_strong PP3 PP4 | LP |
| 4 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19:2251877 | None | c. 1604 T $>\mathrm{C}$ | p.L535P | Exon 5 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP3 PP4 | VUS |
|  |  |  |  | chr19:2250679 | None | c. $584 \mathrm{~A}>\mathrm{G}$ | p.Y195C | Exon 3 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP4 | VUS |
| 5 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19:2251438 | rs1415701260 | c. $1165 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{T}$ | p.E389x | Exon 5 | Nonsense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Known | PM2 PM3 PM4 PP1 PP3 PP4 | Pathogenic |
|  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { chr19: } \\ 2114728-2456964 \end{gathered}$ | None | ${ }^{-}$ | - | Whole gene | Gross deletion | Het | Maternal inheritance | Novel | PVS1 PM2 PP4 | Pathogenic |
| 6 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19:2250890 | None | c. $707 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.G236D | Exon 4 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PM3 PP3 PP4 | LP |
|  |  |  |  | chr19:2249632 | rs778071215 | c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.G101R | Exon 1 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Known | PM2 PP1_strong PP3 PP4 | LP |
| 7 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19: 2251438 | rs1415701260 | c. $1165 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{T}$ | p.E389x | Exon 5 | Nonsense | Hom | Paternal inheritance | Known | PVS1 PM2 PP1 PP3 PP4 | Pathogenic |
|  |  |  |  | chr19: 2251438 | rs1415701260 | c. $1165 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{T}$ | p.E389x | Exon 5 | Nonsense | Hom | Maternal inheritance | Known | PVS1 PM2 PP1 PP3 PP4 | Pathogenic |
| 8 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19:2251265 | None | c.992C>T | p.S331L | Exon 5 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PM3 PP3 PP4 | LP |
|  |  |  |  | chr19:2249632 | rs778071215 | c. $301 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.G101R | Exon 1 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Known | PM2 PP1_strong PP3 PP4 | LP |
| 9 | AMH | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_000479.3 | chr19:2251720 | rs764585665 | c. $1447 \mathrm{~T}>\mathrm{C}$ | p.Y483H | Exon 5 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PM3 PP3 PP4 | LP |
|  |  |  |  | chr19: 2249433 | None | c.102dupC | p.S35Qfs*46 | Exon 1 | Frameshift | Het | Maternal inheritance | Novel | PVS1 PM2 PP4 | Pathogenic |
| 10 | AMHR2 | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_020547.3 | chr 12:53818616 | None | c. $356 \mathrm{~A}>\mathrm{G}$ | p.N119S | Exon 3 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP3 PP4 | VUS |
|  |  |  |  | chr 12:53819584 | rs1439647673 | c.733G>A | p.A245T | Exon 6 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP4 | VUS |
| 11 | AMHR2 | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_020547.3 | chr 12:53819557 | None | c. $706 \mathrm{~T}>\mathrm{A}$ | p.S236T | Exon 6 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PM3 PP4 | VUS |
|  |  |  |  | chr 12:53818182 | rs534999427 | c. $160 \mathrm{C}>$ T | p.R54C | Exon 2 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Known | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PS3 PM2 PP3 } \\ & \text { PP4 } \end{aligned}$ | LP |
| 12 | AMHR2 | GRCh37/hg19 | NM_020547.3 | chr 12:53818597 | None | c. $337 \mathrm{~A}>\mathrm{C}$ | p.T113P | Exon 3 | Missense | Het | Maternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP3 PP4 | VUS |
|  |  |  |  | chr 12:53823785 | rs571389839 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { c. } 1288+ \\ 23 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{A} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | - | Intron 9 | Missense | Het | Paternal inheritance | Novel | PM2 PP4 | VUS |

[^1]Supplementary Table 2: Reported variants in AMH

| Patient | Origine | Exon-intron | Mutation | Effect | Alleles | Publication |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| H089 | China |  | whole gen deletion | ? | Hetero | Current study |
| H001 | Mexico |  | NC_000019.10:c.-225del | (SF1 response element) | Homo | Valeri et al. 2016 |
| H002 | Morocco | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.3G>T | NM_000479.3:p.Met1? | Homo |  |
| H003 | France N | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.17_18del | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu6Hisfs*17) | Hetero |  |
| H004 | Turkey |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H005 | Italy | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.35T>G | NM_000479.3:p.(Val12Gly) | Hetero | Imbeaud et al. 1994 |
| H006 | France S |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H007 | Scotland |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H008 | Egypt |  |  |  | Homo | Mazen et al. 2011 |
| H093 | China | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.102dupC | NM_000479.3:p.(Ser35GInfs*46) | Hetero | Current study |
| H009 | Germany | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.118C>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Arg40*) | Hetero |  |
| H010 | Egypt | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.208del | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu70Cysfs*7) | Homo | Mazen et al. 2017 |
| H011 | Maghreb | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.208dup | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu70Profs*11) | Homo |  |
| H012 | Netherlands |  |  |  | Homo | van der Zwan et al. 2012 |
| H013 | Tunisia | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.209T>C | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu70Pro) | Homo |  |
| H014 | Algeria |  |  |  | Homo | Zeller et al. 1994 |
| H015 | Tunisia | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.209del | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu70Argfs*7) | Homo |  |
| H003 | France N | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.283C>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Arg95*) | Hetero |  |
| H017 | Germany |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H018 | France S |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H019 | Brazil |  |  |  | Hetero | Nishi et al. 2012 |
| H020 | Egypt |  |  |  | Homo | Mazen et al. 2011 |
| H083 | Great Britain |  |  |  | Hetero | Hughes et al. 2019 |
| H021 | Pakistan | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.301G>A | NM_000479.3:p.(Gly101Arg) | Homo |  |
| H022 | Turkey |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H023 | Turkey |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H024 | Afghanistan |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H087 | China |  |  |  | Hetero | Current study |
| H090 | China |  |  |  | Hetero | Current study |
| H092 | China |  |  |  | Hetero | Current study |
| H025 | France N | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.302G>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Gly101Val) | Hetero |  |
| H026 | France S | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.343_344del | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu115Thrfs*58) | Hetero |  |
| H027 | Switzerland |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H028 | Germany |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H029 | Portugal/ Philippine |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H030 | Switzerland |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H031 | Great Britain | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.343_346delinsAT | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu115Metfs*58) | Hetero |  |
| H028 | Germany | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.353T>C | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu118Pro) | Hetero |  |
| H033 | Denmark | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.358G>C | NM_000479.3:p.(Ala120Pro) | Hetero |  |
| H034 | Morocco | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.363G>A | NM_000479.3:p.(Trp121*) | Homo |  |
| H035 | Turkey | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.367C>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Arg123Trp) | Homo |  |
| H036 | Italy |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H037 | USA |  |  |  | Homo | Loeff et al. 1994 |
| H038 | France S |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| H039 | France S |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H019 | Brazil |  |  |  | Hetero | Nishi et al. 2012 |
| H041 | Brazil |  |  |  | Homo | Nishi et al. 2012 |
| H042 | Israel | 1 | NM_000479.3:c.382C>T | NM_000479.3:p.(GIn128*) | Homo |  |
| H043 | Belgium | $1^{\text {st }}$ intr | NC_000019.10(NM_000479.3):c.412+3A>G | ? | Homo | Guerrier et al. 1989 |
| H044 | Algeria | $1{ }^{\text {st }}$ intr | NC_000019.10(NM_000479.3):c.412+3A>C | ? | Homo | Gricourt et al. 2011 |
| H026 | France S | 2 | NM_000479.3:c.444C>G | NM_000479.3:p.(Phe148Leu) | Hetero |  |
| H046 | Great Britain |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H009 | Germany | 2 | NM_000479.3:c.451C>G | NM_000479.3:p.(Pro151Ala) | Hetero |  |
| H048 | Netherlands | 2 | NM_000479.3:c.451C>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Pro151Ser) | Hetero |  |
| H049 | Great Britain |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H050 | Italy | 2 | NM_000479.3:c.472_485del | NM_000479.3:p.(Pro158Alafs*11) | Hetero | Carré-Eusèbe et al. 1992 |

Supplementary Table 2: Contd...

| Patient | Origine | Exon-intron | Mutation | Effect | Alleles Publication |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| H051 | Great Britain | 2 | NM_000479.3:c.500A>G | NM_000479.3:p.(Tyr167Cys) | Homo |
| H033 | Denmark |  |  |  | Hetero |
| H007 | Scotland |  |  |  | Hetero |
| H025 | France N |  |  |  | Hetero |
| H055 | Scotland |  |  |  | Hetero |
| H056 | Greece |  |  |  | NM_000479.3:c.521T>G |

Contd...

Supplementary Table 2: Contd...

| Patient | Origine | Exon-intron | Mutation | Effect | Alleles | Publication |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| H068 | Great Britain |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| H081 | Australia |  |  |  | Hetero | Eggers et al. 2016 |
| H086 | China | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1522_1524dupGTG | NM_000479.3:p.(Val508dup) | Hetero | Current study |
| H069 | Pakistan | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1574G>A | NM_000479.3:p.(Cys525Tyr) | Homo | Carré-Eusèbe et al. 1992 |
| H082 | Turkey | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1577G>T | NM_000479.3:p.Cys526Phe | Homo | Altincik et al. 2017 |
| H053 | Japan | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1579G>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Val527Leu) | Hetero | Morikawa et al. 2014 |
| H072 | Turkey | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1591T>C | NM_000479.3:p.(Tyr531His) | Homo | Nalbantoglu et al. 2015 |
| H075 | Morocco | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1598G>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Gly533Val) | Homo |  |
| H088 | China | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.c.1604T>C | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu535Phe) | Hetero | Current study |
| H073 | Great Britain | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1606C>T | NM_000479.3:p.(Leu536Phe) | Hetero |  |
| H070 | Pakistan | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1637C>A | NM_000479.3:p.(Ala546Glu) | Hetero |  |
| H086 | China |  |  |  | Hetero | Current study |
| H055 | Scotland | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1669T>A | NM_000479.3:p.(Cys557Ser) | Hetero |  |
| H074 | Comores | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1679G>C | NM_000479.3:p.(Arg560Pro) | Homo |  |
| H076 | U. A. Emirates | 5 | NM_000479.3:c.1683A>T | NM_000479.3:p.(*561Cysext*?) | Homo |  |


| Patient | Origin | Exon-intron | Mutation | Effect | Alleles | Publication |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R001 | Maghreb | 1 | NM_020547.2:c.2T>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Met1Thr) | Homo |  |
| R002 | Belgium | 1 | NM_020547.2:c.3G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Met1Ile) | Homo |  |
| R003 | Guadeloupe | 1 | NM_020547.2:c.6_9del | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly3Leufs*40) | Hetero |  |
| R004 | Algeria | 1 | NM_020547.2:c.14del | NM_020547.2:p.(Leu5Trpfs*39) | Hetero |  |
| R005 | Turkey | 1 | NM_020547.2:c.24G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Trp8*) | Homo |  |
| R006 | Turkey |  |  |  | Homo | Korkmaz et al. 2017 |
| R090 | Turkey |  |  |  | Hetero | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R091 | Turkey |  |  |  | Hetero | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R094 | Turkey |  |  |  | Hetero | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R093 | Turkey | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.71G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Cys24Tyr) | Hetero | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R092 | Turkey | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.78del | NM_020547.2:p.(Phe27Leufs*17) | Homo | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R007 | Pakistan | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.82G>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Glu28GIn) | Homo |  |
| R008 | Marocco | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.118G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly40Arg) | Homo |  |
| R009 | Italy | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.118G>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly40*) | Hetero |  |
| R084 | Indian | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.119G>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly40Ala) | Homo | Mónica et al. 2019 |
| R010 | Great Britain | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.160C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg54Cys) | Hetero |  |
| R086 | China |  |  |  | Hetero | Current study |
| R011 | Germany | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.175C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg59Cys) | Hetero |  |
| R012 | Argentina |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R013 | France | 2 | NM_020547.2:c.226A>G | NM_020547.2:p.(Met76Val) | Hetero |  |
| R014 | Pakistan | $2^{\text {nd }}$ intr | $\begin{gathered} \text { NC_000012.12(NM_O20547.2):c. } \\ 232+1 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A} \end{gathered}$ |  | Homo | Imbeaud et al. 1995 |
| R081 | Turkey | $2^{\text {nd }}$ intr | $\begin{gathered} \text { NC_000012.12(NM_020547.2):c. } \\ 233-1 G>A \end{gathered}$ |  | Homo | Unal et al. 2018 |
| R076 | Australia | 3 | NM_020547.2:c.237C>G | NM_020547.2:p.(Cys79Trp) | Homo | Eggers et al. 2016 |
| R015 | France N | 3 | NM_020547.2:c.238C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg80*) | Hetero | Guerrier et al. 1989 |
| R016 | France N |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R017 | Italy | 3 | NM_020547.2:c.243_244 del | NM_020547.2:p.(Asp81Glufs*2) | Hetero |  |
| R018 | Italy | 3 | NM_020547.2:c.289C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg97*) | Homo |  |
| R078 | Great Britain |  |  |  | Homo | Hughes et al. 2019 |
| R087 | China | 3 | NM_020547.2:c.337A>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Thr113Pro) | Hetero | Current study |
| R019 | Argentina | 3 | NM_020547.2:c.352G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Ala118Thr) | Hetero |  |
| R085 | China | 3 | NM_020547.2:c.356A>G | NM_020547.2:p.(Asn119Ser) | Hetero | Current study |
| R020 | Denmark | 4 | NM_020547.2:c.425G>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly142Val) | Hetero |  |
| R083 | Spanish | 4 | NM_020547.2:c.502G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Ala168Thr) | Hetero | Orós-Millán et al. 2017 |
| R021 | Turkey | 5 | NM_020547.2:c.514C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg172*) | Homo |  |
| R015 | France N |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R023 | Maghreb |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R024 | Netherlands | 5 | NM_020547.2:c.532C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg178*) | Hetero |  |
| R088 | Dutch |  |  |  | Hetero | L.Tosca et al. 2020 |
| R025 | Great Britain | 5 | NM_020547.2:c.596del | NM_020547.2:p.(Glu199Glyfs*10) | Hetero | Messika-Zeitoun et al. $2001$ |
| R026 | Switzerland |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R027 | USA | $5^{\text {th }}$ intr | $\begin{gathered} \text { NC_000012.12(NM_O20547.2):c. } \\ 622-51 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{T} \end{gathered}$ |  | Hetero | Hoshiya et al. M 2003 |
| R086 | China | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.706T>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Ser236Thr) | Hetero | Current study |
| R085 | China | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.733G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Ala245Thr) | Hetero | Current study |
| R028 | France S | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.745C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Leu249Phe) | Hetero |  |
| R029 | Saudi Arabia | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.762C>G | NM_020547.2:p.(His254GIn) | Homo | Abduljabbar et al. 2012 |
| R030 | Egypt | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.767A>C | NM_020547.2:p.(His256Pro) | Homo | Mazen et al. 2016 abstr. ESPE |
| R031 | Pakistan | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.770T>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Ile257Thr) | Hetero |  |
| R028 | France S | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.771T>G | NM_020547.2:p.(Ile257Met) | Hetero |  |
| R033 | Turkey | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.796G>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly266Arg) | Homo |  |
| R034 | Denmark | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.796G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly266Arg) | Homo |  |
| R077 | Great Britain | 6 | NM_020547.2:c. 813_817del | NM_020547.2:p.(Leu272Trpfs*24) | Hetero | Hughes et al. 2019 |

Supplementary Table 3: Contd...

| Patient | Origin | Exon-intron | Mutation | Effect | Alleles | Publication |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R035 | Netherlands | 6 | NM_020547.2:c.846T>G | NM_020547.2:p.(His282GIn) | Hetero | Imbeaud et al. 1995 |
| R036 | Netherlands |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R089 | Romanian | $6^{\text {th }}$ intr | Exon 7-11 deletion |  | Homo | L.Tosca et al. 2020 |
| R083 | Spanish | 7 | NM_020547.2:c.877C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Gln293*) | Hetero | Orós-Millán ME et al. $2017$ |
| R037 | Turkey | 7 | NM_020547.2:c.892_893del | NM_020547.2:p.(Trp298Glyfs*19) | Homo |  |
| R038 | USA | 7 | NM_020547.2:c.907C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg303Trp) | Hetero |  |
| R080 | Colombian | 7 | NM_020547.2:c.916del | NM_020547.2:p.(Leu306Cysfs*29) | Homo | Acero et al. 2019 |
| R039 | Israel | 7 | NM_020547.2:c.928C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Gln310*) | Homo | Elias-Assad et al. 2016 |
| R077 | Great Britain | 7 | NM_020547.2:c.931G>A | NM_020547.2:p (Gly311Ser) | Hetero | Hughes et al. 2019 |
| R040 | Brazil | 7 | NM_020547.2:c.967G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly323Ser) | Homo | Nishi 2012 |
| R041 | Argentina-Sweden | $7^{\text {th }}$ intr | $\begin{gathered} \text { NC_000012.12(NM_O20547.2): } \\ \text { c.967+2T>G } \end{gathered}$ |  | Hetero |  |
| R042 | Brazil | 8 | NM_020547.2:c.983G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly328Asp) | Homo |  |
| R043 | Canada | 8 | NM_020547.2:c.997G>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Asp333Tyr) | Hetero |  |
| R044 | Italy | 8 | NM_020547.2:c.1024C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg342Trp) | Homo |  |
| R045 | Israel | 8 | NM_020547.2:c.1034G>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly345Ala) | Homo |  |
| R046 | France N | 8 | NM_020547.2:c.1037C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Ser346Leu) | Hetero |  |
| R047 | Palestine | 8 | NM_020547.2:c.1111C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Gln371*) | Homo |  |
| R048 | Africa | $8^{\text {th }}$ intr | $\begin{gathered} \text { NC_000012.12(NM_020547.2):c. } \\ 1140+1 \mathrm{G}>\mathrm{A} \end{gathered}$ |  | Homo |  |
| R011 | Germany | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1150C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Gln384*) | Hetero |  |
| R050 | Comores | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1164_1165del | NM_020547.2:p.(Pro389Argfs*20) | Homo |  |
| R082 | China | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1186-1187del | NM_020547.2:p.(Leu396Glyfs*13) | Hetero | Ren et al. 2017 |
| R025 | Great Britain | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1217G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg406GIn) | Hetero | Messika-Zeitoun et al. 2001 |
| R052 | Morocco | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1219C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg407*) | Homo |  |
| R053 | Saudi Arabia |  |  |  | Homo | Abduljabbar et al. 2012 |
| R054 | France S |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R009 | Italy |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R017 | Italy |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R057 | Brazil |  |  |  | Homo | Nishi 2012 |
| R058 | Denmark | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1225G>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Asp409Tyr) | Homo |  |
| R059 | Spain | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1267C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg423Cys) | Hetero |  |
| R060 | Pakistan | 9 | NM_020547.2:c.1277A>G | NM_020547.2:p.(Asp426Gly) | Homo |  |
| R087 | China | $9{ }^{\text {th }}$ intr | $\begin{gathered} \text { NC_000012.12(NM_020547.2):c. } \\ 1288+23 \mathrm{C}>\mathrm{A} \end{gathered}$ | ? | Hetero | Current study |
| R061 | Iran | 10 | NM_020547.2:c.1317_1325del | NM_020547.2:p.(Tyr440_Ala442del) | Homo |  |
| R094 | Turkey | 10 | NM_020547.2:c.1319A>G | NM_020547.2:p.(Tyr440Cys) | Hetero | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R062 | USA | 10 | NM_020547.2:c.1332_1358del | NM_020547.2:p.(Gly445_ <br> Leu453del) | Hetero | Imbeaud et al. 1996 |
| R063 | Sweden |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R054 | France S |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R065 | France S |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R066 | Netherlands |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R067 | France N |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R068 | France N |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R069 | Germany |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R019 | Argentina |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R071 | Russia |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R013 | France |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R020 | Denmark |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R074 | Germany |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R075 | Sweden |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R022 | Portugal |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R026 | Switzerland |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R032 | France N |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R049 | Sweden |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R051 | Reunion |  |  |  | Homo |  |

Contd...

Supplementary Table 3: Contd...

| Patient | Origin | Exon-intron | Mutation | Effect | Alleles | Publication |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R046 | France N |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R059 | Spain |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R012 | Argentina |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R055 | Switzerland |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R010 | Great Britain |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R035 | Netherlands |  |  |  | Hetero | Imbeaud et al. 1995 |
| R056 | Netherlands |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R041 | Argentina-Sweden |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R016 | France N |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R027 | USA |  |  |  | Hetero | Hoshiya et al. 2003 |
| R064 | Portugal |  |  |  | Homo | Rosal-Goncalves et al. $2010$ |
| R079 | Turkey | 10 | NM_020547.2:c.1372G>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Val458Leu) | Homo | Çakir et al. 2017 |
| R062 | USA | 10 | NM_020547.2:c.1373T>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Val458Ala) | Hetero | Imbeaud et al. 1996 |
| R082 | China | 10 | NM_020547.2:c.1388G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg463His) | Hetero | Xiaoya Ren et al. 2017 |
| R070 | Italy | 10 | NM_020547.2:c.1412G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg471His) | Hetero | Avolio et al. 2003 |
| R093 | Turkey | 11 | NM_020547.2:c.1460dup | NM_020547.2:p.(Cys487Trpfs*13) | Hetero/homo | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R032 | France N | 11 | NM_020547.2:c.1471G>C | NM_020547.2:p.(Asp491His) | Hetero |  |
| R043 | Canada | 11 | NM_020547.2:c.1481C>G | NM_020547.2:p.(Ala494Gly) | Hetero |  |
| R004 | Algeria | 11 | NM_020547.2:c.1499G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Cys500Tyr) | Hetero |  |
| R038 | USA |  |  |  | Hetero |  |
| R072 | France N |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R031 | Pakistan | 11 | NM_020547.2:c. 1504C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Gln502*) | Hetero |  |
| R074 | Germany | 11 | NM_020547.2:c. 1510C>T | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg504Cys) | Hetero |  |
| R073 | Turkey |  |  |  | Homo |  |
| R070 | Italy |  |  |  | Hetero | Avolio et al. 2003 |
| R090 | Turkey |  |  |  | Hetero | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R091 | Turkey |  |  |  | Hetero | E. Unal et al. 2020 |
| R066 | Netherlands | 11 | NM_020547.2:c. 1511G>A | NM_020547.2:p.(Arg504His) | Hetero |  |



Supplementary Figure 1: Bar chart of the relationship between the genotypes and phenotypes of 173 reported PMDS cases. The number in each category is indicated at the top of the bar. There was no significant difference in anatomy among the patients with either AMH or AMHR2 gene variants. All TTE with PMDS cases had possible causative variants. PMDS: persistent Müllerian duct syndrome; TTE: transverse testicular ectopia; $A M H$ : anti-Müllerian hormone; AMHR2: anti-Müllerian hormone receptor type 2.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Department of Urology, Children's Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine, National Clinical Research Center for Child Health, Hangzhou 310052, China; ${ }^{2}$ Department of Genetics and Metabolism, Children's Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine, National Clinical Research Center for Child Health, Hangzhou 310052, China; ${ }^{3}$ Department of Endocrinology, Children's Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine, National Clinical Research Center for Child Health, Hangzhou 310052, China.
    Correspondence: Dr. DX Tang (tangdx0206@zju.edu.cn)
    Received: 31 May 2021; Accepted: 26 August 2021

[^1]:    

