Open Access

Biallelic and monoallelic pathogenic variants in CYP24A1 and SLC34A1 genes cause idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia



Qiao Wang¹, Jia-jia Chen¹, Li-va Wei¹, Yuan Ding¹, Min Liu¹, Wen-jing Li¹, Chang Su¹ and Chun-xiu Gong^{1*}

Abstract

Objective Idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia (IIH) is a rare disorder of PTH-independent hypercalcemia. CYP24A1 and SLC34A1 gene mutations cause two forms of hereditary IIH. In this study, the clinical manifestations and molecular aspects of six new Chinese patients were investigated.

Methods The clinical manifestations and laboratory study of six patients with idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia were analyzed retrospectively.

Results Five of the patients were diagnosed with hypercalcemia, hypercalciuria, and bilateral medullary nephrocalcinosis. Their clinical symptoms and biochemical abnormalities improved after treatment. One patient presented at age 11 years old with arterial hypertension, hypercalciuria and nephrocalcinosis, but normal serum calcium. Gene analysis showed that two patients had compound heterozygous mutations of CYP24A1, one patient had a monoallelic CYP24A1 variant, and three patients had a monoallelic SLC34A1 variant. Four novel CYP24A1 variants (c.116G>C, c.287T>A, c.476G>A and c.1349T>C) and three novel SLC34A1 variants (c.1322 A>G, c.1697_1698insT and c.1726T > C) were found in these patients.

Conclusions A monoallelic variant of CYP24A1 or SLC34A1 gene contributes to symptomatic hypercalcemia, hypercalciuria and nephrocalcinosis. Manifestations of IIH vary with onset age. Hypercalcemia may not necessarily present after infancy and IIH should be considered in patients with nephrolithiasis either in older children or adults.

Keywords Hypercalcemia, Nephrolithiasis, Idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia, CYP24A1, SLC34A1, Vitamin D, NaPi-II

Backgrounds

Hypercalcemia is a relatively common clinical problem. Excluding primary hyperparathyroidism, tumor, vitamin D intoxication and low alkaline phosphatase, unexplained hypercalcemia, combined with the increase of urinary calcium excretion and suppressed parathyroid hormone

*Correspondence: Chun-xiu Gong

chunxiugong@sina.com

¹Department of Endocrinology, Genetics and Metabolism, Beijing Children's Hospital, 56# Nan Lishi Road, west district, Beijing 100045, China

(PTH), were previously named idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia (IIH). With the development of gene detection technology, the loss of function genetic variants in cytochrome P450 family 24 subfamily A member 1 (CYP24A1) gene and solute carrier family 34 member 1 (SLC34A1) gene have been identified as the molecular basis of IIH [1, 2].

CYP24A1 genetic variants cause IIH type 1 (OMIM 143,880), which was first reported in 2011 [1]. CYP24A1 gene encodes cytochrome P450 Family 24 Subfamily A Member 1. This mitochondrial protein initiates the degradation of 25-hydroxyvitamin D $(25(OH)D_3)$ and



© The Author(s) 2024. Open Access This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons licence, and indicate if changes were made. The images or other third party material in this article are included in the article's Creative Commons licence, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons licence and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. To view a copy of this licence, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/. The Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication waiver (http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/) applies to the data made available in this article, unless otherwise stated in a credit line to the data.

1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D (1,25(OH)₂D₃) by hydroxylation of the side chain. Loss of CYP24A1 function blocks catabolism of 25-hydroxyvitamin D (25(OH)D₃) and 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D $(1,25(OH)_2D_3)$. Accumulation of these active forms of vitamin D3 enhances intestinal Ca absorption and bone reabsorption, resulting in hypercalcemia, hypercalciuria, nephrocalcinosis, and suppressed intact parathyroid hormone. In 2016, Schlingmann et al. [2] described another type of IIH (IIH type 2), which was caused by loss of function mutation of SLC34A1 and characterized by hypercalcemia, hypercalciuria, suppressed intact parathyroid hormone and hypophosphatemia. SLC34A1 gene encodes a member of the NaPi-II family (NaPi-IIa), which plays a central role in phosphate reabsorption in the proximal tubule by using the sodium-electrochemical gradient to drive phosphate translocation against its concentration gradient [3]. SLC34A1 mutations cause NaPi-II loss of function, and result in renal malabsorption of phosphorus and suppressed FGF23. Hypophosphatemia together with decreased concentration of FGF23 leads to the stimulation of 1a-hydroxylase (CYP27B1) and inhibition of CYP24A1, that results in an increment of $1,25(OH)_2D_3$ levels, leading to hypercalcemia and hypercalciuria.

Both types of IIH present hypercalcemia, suppressed intact parathyroid hormone, hypercalciuria, and nephrocalcinosis. As nephrolithiasis is a common manifestation of IIH, IIH has been considered as a rare genetic cause of nephrolithiasis typically occurring in pediatric subjects with an estimated incidence of 1:33,000 live births [4]. Without timely and effective diagnosis and treatment, chronic renal failure may develop [5]. Only four cases have been reported in the Chinese region [6, 7]. Here we report six new Chinese patients with IIH, and describe the detailed clinical analysis, laboratory data collected, and the outcome after treatment.

Results

Clinical description

This study was conducted in 6 IIH patients diagnosed between 1 month and 11 years of age at the Beijing Children's hospital of China from 2016 to 2022 (Table 1). Five patients (patient 1,2,3,5 and 6) were admitted with a suspected diagnosis of feeding difficulty, vomiting, poor weight gain, drowsiness and polyuria in infancy (Table 1). They all experienced symptoms and progressive exacerbation in early infancy. Among them, patient 5 was mistakenly applied cholecalciferol cholesterol emulsion (Vitamin D3 300000IU) at his 8 months old, which lead to a hypercalcemic crisis.

One girl (Patient 4) was diagnosed at 11 years with arterial hypertension and nephrocalcinosis. She presented feeding difficulty, vomiting, and slow weight gain at 2 months old, but she didn't test blood or urine electrolytes at that time. The symptoms improved spontaneously at 10 months old. When she was 6 years old, bilateral renal medullary calcification was determined by ultrasound. When she was 11 years old, she was referred for elevated blood pressure (130/80mmHg) and her creatinine clearance rate was at a lower limit (89.7 ml/(min*1.73m²).

The clinical characteristics of the patients are displayed in Table 1, and Fig. 1 showed bone X-ray of the patients.

Treatment and follow-up

All patients stopped taking vitamin D and calcium preparations and avoided sunlight after discharge. The symptoms of patients 1, 2, 3 and 6 improved within a few days with hydration treatment, and the levels of serum calcium gradually decreased to normal (Fig. 2). Judging from the curves of serum calcium and urine calcium, the decrease of serum calcium levels is earlier than urine calcium, and patients still have persistent hypercalciuria when their blood calcium dropped to normal (Fig. 2). Hypercalcemic crisis in Patient 5 is difficult to be treated. His blood calcium fluctuates after hydration, furosemide, calcitonin and hemodialysis treatments. Finally, three months after diagnosis, his blood calcium decreased to normal after bisphosphonate therapy.

Among the 6 patients, patient 3 was lost to follow up, and the follow-up time for the other patients was 5 months to 2 years. During follow-up, Patient 1, 2, 5 and 6 remained asymptomatic with normal serum calcium level during follow-up, their physical and intellectual development were normal. Serum calcium level of Patient 4 remained normal during monitoring. However, her blood creatinine level is higher two years later, creatinine clearance rate declined to 77.7 ml/(min*1.73m²). Her blood pressure fluctuated within the range of 120–130/75-80mmHg.

Gene results

All patients underwent next-generation sequencing. Mutations in *CYP24A1* or *SLC34A1* gene were identified in all patients, combined with clinical manifestations, conforming to the diagnosis of IIH. The genetic test results of the patients and the verification results of their parents are shown in Fig. 3. Patient 4 and Patient 5 were found have biallelic mutations of *CYP24A1*. Patient 1 was found have a heterozygous *CYP24A1* mutation (c.116G>C) and patient 2 and patient 3 each have a heterozygous *SLC34A1* mutation (c.1322 A>G and c.1697_1698insT, respectively). Patient 6 simultaneously have a mutation of *CYP24A1* and a mutation of *SLC34A1*, and both mutations originated from his father. Parents' carriers of patient 2,3 and 6 have renal calcification.

Six *CYP24A1* variants (c.116G>C, c.287T>A, c.376 C>T, c.476G>A, c.823T>C, and c.1349T>C) and three *SLC34A1* variants (c.1322 A>G, c.1697_1698insT

Table 1 Clinical and biochemical features of the six patients

		Patient 1	Patient 2	Patient 3	Patient 4	Patient 5	Patient 6	
Sex		Μ	F	Μ	F	Μ	Μ	
Age of onset		3 mo	3 mo	5 days	2 mo	1 mo	1 mo	
Age at diagnosis		9 mo	6 mo	1 mo	11 yr	8 mo	1 yr	
Symptoms	Fever					+		
	Feeding difficulty	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	Vomiting	+	+	+	+	+		
	Poor weight gain	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	Drowsiness	+						
	Deep respiration	+						
	Polydipsia	+						
	Polyuria	+						
	Urinary tract infection			+				
	Constipation			+		+	+	
	Hypertension				+			
Physical exa	amination							
	Growth retardation	+	+	+		+	+	
	Dehydration		+			+		
	Hypotonia		+			+		
History of vitamin D application		400-500U/d (from neo- natal period to 7 mo)			Oral calcium in infancy	Vitamin D 500IU/d in neonatal period, vitamin D3 300000IU once orally at 8 mo	vitamin D 500 1 mo to 1 yr	01U/d from
Family history of renal calcification		-	Mother	Father	-	Father Grandmother Aunt	Father	
Laboratory	findings							
	At initial presen	tation						Normal range
Serum Ca (m	nmol/L)	3.79	4.19	4.31	2.35	3.36	2.88	2.1-2.8
Serum Pi (m	mol/L)	1.52	1.05	1.57	1.72	1.19	1.15	1.37-1.99
Serum Mag	(mmol/L)	0.74	0.85	0.86	0.91	0.58	0.81	0.8-1.2
ALP (U/L)		260	124	178	436	154	329	143-406
PTH (pg/ml)		1.00	1.00	0.01	31.58	2	ND	10–69
25(OH)D ₃ (n	mol/L)	30.8	25.3	24.4	ND	>400	77.4	≥50
1,25(OH) ₂ D ₃	(pg/ml)	ND	ND	ND	110	ND	ND	
Urine Ca/Cr	(mmol/mmol)	1.67	ND	ND	3.19	1.35	0.24	0.00-0.20
24 h urine C	a (mmol/kg/24 h)	0.22	0.22-0.31	0.17-0.22	ND	0.21	ND	< 0.2
GFR (mL/mi	n/1.73 m2)	84.2–127.0	42.5–94.7	45.9	89.7	66.9-136.3	104.2	< 90
	At last observati	ion						
Age		2 year 6 mo	6 year 8 mo	4 mo	13 year	1 year 5 mo	1 year 5 mo	
Serum Ca (m	nmol/L)	2.2	2.40	2.55	2.45	2.56	2.45	2.1-2.8
Serum Pi (m	mol/L)	ND	1.57	1.9	ND	1.87	1.37	1.37–1.99
ALP (U/L)		ND	270	320	ND	ND	44.8	143–406
PTH (pg/ml)		ND	ND	1.2	ND	ND	ND	10–69
Urine Ca/Cr	(mmol/mmol)	ND	0.09	0.44	0.16	ND	0.09	0.00-0.20
GFR (mL/min/1.73 m2)		ND	131.7	100.6	77.7	ND	137.1	< 90
Imaging ex	amination							
Nephrocalcinosis		+	+	+	+	+	+	
Skeletal abnormality		-	-	+	-	+	ND	

Table	1 (contin	ued)
-------	-----	--------	------

	Patient 1	Patient 2	Patient 3	Patient 4	Patient 5	Patient 6
Parathyroid ultrasound	-	-	-	ND	-	ND
Gene analysis	CYP24A1	SLC34A1	SLC34A1	CYP24A1	CYP24A1	SLC34A1
	c.116G>C	c.1322 A>G	c.1697_1698insT	c.1349T>C	c.823T>C and c.476G>C	c.1726T>C
	het	het	het	and		het and
				c.287T>A		CYP24A1
						c.376 C>T
						het

*Ca: calcium; Pi: phosphorus; Mag: magnesium; ALP: alkaline phosphatase; ALB: albumin; GFR: Glomerular filtration rate; ND: not done



Fig. 1 X-ray examination of limbs. (A) Long bone panorama of Patient 3 showed dense transverse banded shadows in Bilateral distal femur and tibial metaphysis. (B) Radiography of Patient 5 showed temporary calcification zone is slightly narrow and dense of in the metaphysis of the bone

and c.1726T>C) were found. *CYP24A1* c.823T>C (p.W275R) and c.376 C>T (p.P126S) were previously reported in patients with hypercalcemia [8]. The other four *CYP24A1* mutations and three *SLC34A1* mutations have not been reported before.

According to 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, *CYP24A1* c.1349T>C (p.F450S), c.476G>C (p.R159P) and SLC34A1 c.1322 A>G (p.Y441C), c.1726T>C (p.W576R) are of uncertain significance (PM2+PP3), with extremely low frequency and were predicted as "damaging" to the protein by SIFT, PolyPhen_2, MutationTaster, GERP++and REVEL. CYP24A1 c.287T>A (p.I96N) was reported with MAF (Minimum allele frequency) of 0.0017 (0.17%) in East Asians, and is predicted as "damaging" with software evidence of conservation and protein structure prediction (PP3). CYP24A1 c.116G>C (p.R39P) was predicted as PM2+BP4. SLC34A1 c.1697_1698insT (p.G567Rfs*38) is located within exon 13, which causes a gene frameshift and results in a premature termination codon.

Discussion

In this article we report six Chinese patients with IIH, that were subjected to molecular and genetic analysis, and their IIH diagnosis was additionally verified by clinical and biochemical manifestations (Fig. 4). Among the six patients, five presented typical infantile hypercalcemia, while one patient (Patient 4) did not show hypercalcemia at diagnosis, but hypercalciuria was still obvious when she was 11 years old with a low-normal creatinine clearance rate. These data reflect the different manifestations of IIH at different life stages. Hypercalcemia can be temporary. The prognosis of hypercalciuria varies. In previous report, the hypercalciuria of IIH was difficult to improve [9]. Our patient 4 still had hypercalciuria at the age of 11 years, however urinary calcium levels of our patient 2 gradually decrease to normal during follow-up. Besides the pathogenicity of gene mutations, IIH phenotype is also influenced by many environmental factors like diet, lifestyle, vitamin D intake, and activity of the





Fig. 2 Changes of serum calcium, phosphorus and urine calcium during hospital. Line charts showed levels of serum calcium, rates of urinary calcium excretion and serum phosphorus during hospital. The numbers in the line charts represents the measured values, and the unit of calcium and phosphorus is mmol/L, and the unit of urine Ca/Cr is mmol/mmol



Fig. 3 Pedigree of the patient's family. The affected patients are shown as a filled square

other vitamin D metabolism enzymes [10]. Renal maturation may contribute to the onset of IIH, and haploinsufficiency is more obvious in infancy, suggesting that the occurrence of diseases caused by heterozygous variants is related to age [11]. However, nephrocalcinosis is a consistent manifestation of IIH, as was previously reported [9]. In patient 3, an ultrasound showed bilateral renal nephrocalcinosis at one-month-old, which occurred very



Fig. 4 Diagnosis flow chart of hypercalcemia. The black line represents the diagnosis process of hypercalcemia in general, and the red line represents the diagnosis process of patients in this study. As PTHrP cannot be tested in China at present, and some patients do not have record of $1,25(OH)_2D_3$ level, assistance is given according to the medical history and related biochemical indicators and imaging examination to exclude other diseases

early, probably before birth. In patient 4, nephrocalcinosis was first found at 6 years old and remained when she was 11 years old. There is insufficient evidence supporting that nephrocalcinosis tends into remission spontaneously with age. Renal calcification may be the only manifestation of the later stages of IIH [5]. The GFR of patient 4 was lower than 90 ml/min/1.73 m². Janiec A et al. [5] showed that IIH patients have a greater risk of progressive chronic kidney disease, with a rate of 77%. The severity of the initial kidney injury rather than nephrocalcinosis appears to play a significant role as a trigger of progressive chronic kidney disease (CKD). Patient 4 presented feeding difficulty, vomiting and slow weight increase when she was 2 months old, however, GFR wasn't recorded. The other patients' GFR were low when admitted, and their GFR increased to normal range after hydration treatment. Renal function monitoring is needed in long-term follow-up.

In IIH patients, treatment included removing vitamin D supplementation, a low-Ca diet, and Pi supplementation in NaPi-IIa defect patients [12]. Patients with hypercalcemic episodes may be treated with hydration and diuretics. If symptomatic hypercalcemia persists, bisphosphonates, calcitonin, glucocorticoids, and hemodialysis can be administered [13]. In patients 1, 2, 3 and 6, hydration and diuretics reduced the blood calcium level to normal within a few days. Patient 5 still had persistent hypercalcemia, which could not be reduced to normal range after adding calcitonin or hemodialysis. Patient 5 began to receive routine vitamin D (500u/d) treatment after birth. He then gradually developed feeding difficulty and astriction, reflecting hypersensitivity of IIH patients to vitamin D supplementation. However, patient 5 was given oral administration of Cholecalciferol Cholesterol Emulsion (300,000 units of vitamin D3) at 8 months old without testing for vitamin D or serum calcium level. Following this treatment, his hypercalcemia symptoms aggravated and his 25(OH)D₃ level exceeded 400nmol/L, meeting the diagnostic criteria of intoxication by the Endocrine Society [14]. Combined vitamin D intoxication aggravates treatment difficulties. We agree with the view that empirical therapy of vitamin D deficiency with high vitamin D doses is discouraged without previous documentation of 25(OH)D₃ concentrations and monitoring of 25(OH)D₃ and serum calcium levels [15]. In the absence of detection, a single high dose of vitamin D given to patients with IIH can cause serious consequences. Due to renal calcification being a common manifestation of IIH, urinary ultrasound is a useful tool to document nephrocalcinosis and should be done before implementing such treatment.

IIH type 1and type 2 are described as an autosomal recessive disorder, however, individuals of a single heterozygote presenting chronic and latent symptoms have also been reported [16]. In our patients, biallelic variants of *CYP24A1* were found in two patients, while four were found to have mono mutant allele of *CYP24A1* and/or *SLC34A1*. Functional validation tests are needed, however, clinical evidence helped confirm the disease.

In 2011, Schlingmann et al. [1] first reported biallelic mutations of CYP24A1 were agenetic cause of IIH. Cases with monoallelic variants in CYP24A1 gene were noticed and suggested an autosomal dominant inheritance with reduced penetrance [11, 17]. Here, our patient 1 with monoallelic CYP24A1 variant presented symptomatic hypercalcemia in infancy, providing a clinical reference for the view of the potential risk of developing hypercalcemia and related clinical manifestations if exposed to triggering factors [18]. Unlike the cases of Molin A et al. [11] reported without renal disease, our patient 1 has significant renal calcification. In addition, the father of patient 5 carrying CYP24A1 mutation had kidney calculus, as well as his mother and sister. However, we cannot obtain DNA samples from the two women to verify whether their kidney calculus is related to the mutation. In a family survey by Brancatella A et al. [18], the rate of nephrolithiasis showed no difference between heterozygotes and the wild-type subjects, however, serum total calcium concentrations and 25(OH)D₃ concentrations were significantly higher in heterozygotes than in the wild-type subjects. These clinical cases reflect that monoallelic variants in CYP24A1 gene can cause infantile hypercalcemia, but the presence of renal calcification is still controversial. More clinical and laboratory evidence needs to summarize and the molecular mechanism needs to be explored.

The phenotype of IIH induced by *SLC34A1* mutations (IIH type 2) was first described by Schlingmann et al. [2] in 2016, which is characterized by infancy onset with failure to thrive, polyuria, and medullary nephrocalcinosis. Hypercalcemia, suppressed PTH, hypophosphatemia, and impairment of renal phosphate conservation were demonstrated in laboratory data. IIH type 2 was also described as a recessive disease. Monoallelic heterozygous variants in *SLC34A1* were first described to cause hypophosphatemic nephrolithiasis/osteoporosis-1 (NPHLOP1), Prie, D et al. [19] reported one patient and her only daughter showed symptoms and proposed the dominant inheritance of the disease. Schlingmann et al. [2] also described some heterozygous relatives of

IIH type 2 patients having nephrolithiasis. However, no more clinical evidence was reported. Our patients with monoallelic SLC34A1 variant also presented with symptomatic hypercalcemia. Additionally, their parents carrying the SLC34A1 mutation were also found having nephrocalcinosis. Our reports provided clinical evidence of the effect of monoallelic heterozygous variants in SLC34A1. Increased urinary phosphate and calcium excretion, elevated plasma 1,25(OH)₂D₃ and urolithiasis were shown in heterozygous SLC34A1-deficient mice (SLC34A1+/-), indicating the dominant negative effect of the mutant SLC34A1 protein on the function of the wildtype [19]. The underlying mechanism of the dominantnegative effect needs further exploration. Patient 6 and his father were found carrying heterozygous c.1726T>C in SLC34A1 gene and heterozygous c.376C>T in CYP24A1 gene. Combined with the patient's hypercalcemia and hypophosphatemia, heterozygous c.1726T>C in SLC34A1 is considered responsible for IIH. Heterozygous c.376C>T in CYP24A1 gene might contribute to the severe phenotype of both patients.

Although the reported data are not sufficient for a final evaluation of the genetic mode of CYP24A1 and SLC34A1-related hypercalcemia, clinical evaluation and long-term observation are important for patients carrying monoallelic variants. Only four IIH patients have been reported in the Chinese population [6, 7], who were identified with compound heterozygous mutations, without case report of monoallelic variants. Gene reports tend to ignore heterozygous variations. The frequency of kidney stones due to CYP24A1 deficiency was estimated between 420 and 1960 per 10,000 [20]. According to Expert Consensus on Clinical Application of Vitamin A and Vitamin D in Chinese Children, vitamin D 400-800IU per day is routinely supplemented after birth [21]. If we disregarded CYP24A1 variant carriers, a regular dose of vitamin D supplementation may promote the formation of renal medullary calcification. Investigation of CYP24A1 and SLC34A1 mutation frequency in the Chinese population and monitoring of blood calcium and urinary calcium during routine vitamin D supplementation need to be further explored.

Here, we described the clinical, biochemical, and genetic manifestations of six Chinese patients with IIH. Our study has certain limitations. Our study extended over a short period of time and included a limited sample size. Therefore, a cohort study with a long-term outcome of a larger sample size is needed in the future.

In conclusion, manifestations of IIH were different with age. Hypercalcemia and hypercalciuria can be gradually relieved, but nephrocalcinosis starts early and persists. Transient high calcium symptoms in infancy may go unnoticed in adult patients with nephrolithiasis. In addition, our reports provided some clinical evidence of the pathogenicity of monoallelic heterozygous variants in CYP24A1 and SLC34A1, suggesting that the monoallelic heterozygous SLC34A1 or CYP24A1 variant also contributes to symptomatic IIH.

Methods

All parents had signed an informed consent form for using patients' data. This study was approved by the ethics committee of Beijing Children's hospital, Capital Medical University, Beijing, China. Ethical approval ID: IEC-C-006-A04-V.06.

Next generation sequencing.

Genomic DNA was extracted from peripheral blood leucocytes using QIAamp DNA Blood Midi kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). Sequences were generated using the Agilent Bioanalyzer. Next generation sequencing was performed on an Illumina HiSeq 2000 platform. After HiSeq 2000 sequencing, high-quality reads were retrieved from raw reads by filtering out the low quality reads and adaptor sequences using the Solexa QA package and the cutadapt program (http://code.google.com/p/cutadapt/), respectively. SOAP aligner program was- to align the clean read sequences to the human reference genome (hg19). Sanger sequencing validation was performed for all patients found to harbour a gene mutation and for their affected siblings. Forward and reverse primers were manually designed on the flanking mutated regions. PCR amplification was optimized in accordance to the standard PCR protocol using FastStart Taq DNA Polymerase, dNTPack (Roche Applied Science). Sequencing reaction was performed using the BigDye[®] v.1.1 Terminator cycle sequencing kit and the ABI Prism® 3130xl Genetic Analyzer (Life Technologies).

Abbreviations

CYP27B1	1a-hydroxylase
1,25(OH)2D3	1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D
CYP24A1	cytochrome P450 family 24 subfamily A member 1
NPHLOP1	hypophosphatemic nephrolithiasis/osteoporosis-1
IIH	idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia
NaPi-II	Na+-coupled Pi cotransporters
PTH	parathyroid hormone
SLC34A1	solute carrier family 34 member 1

Acknowledgements

We gratefully thank the patients' families for their great and persistent cooperation. The authors declare that no funds, grants, or other support were received during the preparation of this manuscript.

Author contributions

QW and CG are the principal investigators of the study. QW and CG developed the study concept and the design. QW, JC, LW, YD, ML, WL, CS and CG collected the clinical and laboratory data of patients, participated in following up of patients. QW drafted the manuscript and CG revised the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final Manuscript.

Funding

There is no fund of this manuscript.

Data availability

The data that support the findings of this study are available on request from the corresponding author. The sequence data have been deposited in the Genome Sequence Archive (Genomics, Proteomics & Bioinformatics 2021) in National Genomics Data Center (Nucleic Acids Res 2022), China National Center for Bioinformation / Beijing Institute of Genomics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (https://ngdc.cncb.ac.cn/gsa-human/browse/HRA004188), Data reported in this paper will be shared by request to Data Access Committee via GSA-Human System.

Declarations

Ethical approval

The present study was approved by the hospital ethics committee. Ethical approval ID: IEC-C-006-A04-V.06.

Consent for publication

Families have been informed of this publication. They have given signed consent to publish.

Competing interests

The authors do not have any conflict of interest. There is not any financial relationship with any organisation for the study. The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Received: 19 April 2023 / Accepted: 11 March 2024 Published online: 19 March 2024

References

- Schlingmann KP, Kaufmann M, Weber S, Irwin A, Goos C, John U, Misselwitz J, 1. Klaus G, Kuwertz-Bröking E, Fehrenbach H, Wingen AM, Güran T, Hoenderop JG, Bindels RJ, Prosser DE, Jones G, Konrad M. Mutations in CYP24A1 and idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia. N Engl J Med. 2011;365:410-21. https:// doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1103864. Epub 2011 Jun 15.
- 2. Schlingmann KP, Ruminska J, Kaufmann M, Dursun I, Patti M, Kranz B, Pronicka E, Ciara E, Akcay T, Bulus D, Cornelissen EA, Gawlik A, Sikora P, Patzer L, Galiano M, Boyadzhiev V, Dumic M, Vivante A, Kleta R, Dekel B, Levtchenko E, Bindels RJ, Rust S, Forster IC, Hernando N, Jones G, Wagner CA, Konrad M. Autosomalrecessive mutations in SLC34A1 encoding sodium-phosphate cotransporter 2A cause idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia. J Am Soc Nephrol. 2016;27:604-14. https://doi.org/10.1681/ASN.2014101025. Epub 2015 Jun 5.
- Custer M, Lötscher M, Biber J, Murer H, Kaissling B. Expression of Na-P(i) 3. cotransport in rat kidney: localization by RT-PCR and immunohistochemistry. Am J Physiol. 1994;266(5 Pt 2):F767-74. https://doi.org/10.1152/ajprenal.1994 .266.5.F767
- Marcinowska-Suchowierska E, Kupisz-Urbańska M, Łukaszkiewicz J, Płudowski 4. P, Jones G. Vitamin D Toxicity-A clinical perspective. Front Endocrinol (Lausanne). 2018;9:550. https://doi.org/10.3389/fendo.2018.00550.
- Janiec A, Halat-Wolska P, Obrycki Ł, Ciara E, Wójcik M, Płudowski P, et al. Longterm outcome of the survivors of infantile hypercalcaemia with CYP24A1 and SLC34A1 mutations. Nephrol Dial Transpl. 2021;36:1484-92
- Sun Y, Shen J, Hu X, Qiao Y, Yang J, Shen Y, Li G. CYP24A1 variants in two 6. Chinese patients with idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia. Fetal Pediatr Pathol. 2019;38(1):44-56. Epub 2019 Jan 11.
- Wang XY, Wang FY, Wei WX, Li XZ, Wu HY, Xie RR, Chen XL, Chen T, Sun 7. H, Chen LQ. [Idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia]. Zhonghua Er Ke Za Zhi. 2019;57(5):377-9. https://doi.org/10.3760/cma.j.issn.0578-1310.2019.05.013. Chinese
- 8. Griffin TP, Joyce CM, Alkanderi S, Blake LM, O'Keeffe DT, Bogdanet D, Islam MN, Dennedy MC, Gillan JE, Morrison JJ, O'Brien T, Sayer JA, Bell M, O'Shea PM. Biallelic CYP24A1 variants presenting during pregnancy: clinical and biochemical phenotypes. Endocr Connect. 2020;9(6):530-41. https://doi. org/10.1530/EC-20-0150.
- 9. Gurevich E, Levi S, Borovitz Y, Alfandary H, Ganon L, Dinour D, Davidovits M. Childhood hypercalciuric hypercalcemia with elevated vitamin D and suppressed parathyroid hormone: long-term follow up. Front Pediatr. 2021;9:752312. https://doi.org/10.3389/fped.2021.752312.

- Dinour D, Beckerman P, Ganon L, Tordjman K, Eisenstein Z, Holtzman EJ. Lossof-function mutations of CYP24A1, the vitamin D 24-hydroxylase gene, cause long-standing hypercalciuric nephrolithiasis and nephrocalcinosis. J Urol. 2013;190(2):552–7. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.juro.2013.02.3188.
- Molin A, Baudoin R, Kaufmann M, Souberbielle JC, Ryckewaert A, Vantyghem MC, Eckart P, Bacchetta J, Deschenes G, Kesler-Roussey G, Coudray N, Richard N, Wraich M, Bonafiglia Q, Tiulpakov A, Jones G, Kottler ML. CYP24A1 mutations in a cohort of hypercalcemic patients: evidence for a recessive trait. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2015;100(10):E1343–52. https://doi.org/10.1210/ jc.2014-4387. Epub 2015 Jul 27.
- De Paolis E, Scaglione GL, De Bonis M, Minucci A, Capoluongo E. CYP24A1 and SLC34A1 genetic defects associated with idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia: from genotype to phenotype. Clin Chem Lab Med. 2019;57(11):1650–67. https://doi.org/10.1515/cclm-2018-1208.
- Ahmad S, Kuraganti G, Steenkamp D. Hypercalcemic crisis: a clinical review. Am J Med. 2015;128(3):239–45. https://doi.org/10.1016/j. amjmed.2014.09.030. Epub 2014 Oct 17.
- Holick MF, Binkley NC, Bischoff-Ferrari HA, Gordon CM, Hanley DA, Heaney RP, Murad MH, Weaver CM. Endocrine Society. Evaluation, treatment, and prevention of vitamin D deficiency: an Endocrine Society clinical practice guideline. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2011;96(7):1911-30. https://doi. org/10.1210/jc.2011-0385. Epub 2011 Jun 6. Erratum in: J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2011;96(12):3908.
- Vogiatzi MG, Jacobson-Dickman E, DeBoer MD, Drugs, Therapeutics Committee of The Pediatric Endocrine Society. Vitamin D supplementation and risk of toxicity in pediatrics: a review of current literature. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2014;99(4):1132–41. https://doi.org/10.1210/jc.2013-3655. Epub 2014 Jan 23.
- Colussi G, Ganon L, Penco S, De Ferrari ME, Ravera F, Querques M, Primignani P, Holtzman EJ, Dinour D. Chronic hypercalcaemia from inactivating mutations of vitamin D 24-hydroxylase (CYP24A1): implications for mineral metabolism changes in chronic renal failure. Nephrol Dial Transpl. 2014;29(3):636–43. https://doi.org/10.1093/ndt/gft460. Epub 2013 Nov 13.

- Tebben PJ, Milliner DS, Horst RL, Harris PC, Singh RJ, Wu Y, Foreman JW, Chelminski PR, Kumar R. Hypercalcemia, hypercalciuria, and elevated calcitriol concentrations with autosomal dominant transmission due to CYP24A1 mutations: effects of ketoconazole therapy. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2012;97(3):E423–7. https://doi.org/10.1210/jc.2011-1935. Epub 2012 Feb 15.
- Brancatella A, Cappellani D, Kaufmann M, Borsari S, Piaggi P, Baldinotti F, Caligo MA, Jones G, Marcocci C, Cetani F. Do the heterozygous carriers of a CYP24A1 mutation display a different biochemical phenotype than wild types? J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2021;106(3):708–17. https://doi.org/10.1210/ clinem/dgaa876.
- Prié D, Huart V, Bakouh N, Planelles G, Dellis O, Gérard B, Hulin P, Benqué-Blanchet F, Silve C, Grandchamp B, Friedlander G. Nephrolithiasis and osteoporosis associated with hypophosphatemia caused by mutations in the type 2a sodium-phosphate cotransporter. N Engl J Med. 2002;347(13):983–91. https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa020028.
- Nesterova G, Malicdan MC, Yasuda K, Sakaki T, Vilboux T, Ciccone C, Horst R, Huang Y, Golas G, Introne W, Huizing M, Adams D, Boerkoel CF, Collins MT, Gahl WA. 1,25-(OH)2D-24 hydroxylase (CYP24A1) Deficiency as a cause of Nephrolithiasis. Clin J Am Soc Nephrol. 2013;8(4):649–57. doi: 10.2215/ CJN.05360512. Epub 2013 Jan 4.
- 21. Subspecialty Group of Children Health, the Society of Pediatrics, Chinese Medical Association. Practical guidelines for clinical issues related to vitamin D nutrition in Chinese children. Zhonghua Er Ke Za Zhi. 2022;60:387–94. https://doi.org/10.3760/cmaj.cn112140-20211230-01092. Chinese. Editorial Board, Chinese Journal of Pediatrics.

Publisher's Note

Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.