



Bethlehem University



Palestinian Polytechnic University

Intronic mutations affecting splicing of INTS12 cause VACTERL-like phenotype in a
Palestinian family

By

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Abstract:

Background: VACTERAL association involves anal atresia, cardiac defects, renal anomalies, and limb abnormalities. The aim of our study was to identify the genetic causes of this disorder in a Palestinian family affected with similar phenotype which could also be a new syndrome.

Methods: Blood samples were collected from five members of a family with VACTERAL association and then DNA was extracted and subjected to Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) for suspected genes. Karyotyping analysis was performed. Whole exome sequencing was performed to investigate the causative mutation.

Results: Whole exome sequencing revealed a novel splice site mutation in integrator complex subunit 12 (INTS12) gene located on chromosome 4. This SNP (106,629,790 C>G) alteration leads to an inclusion for 66 bp from the intron into the coding sequence resulting in a larger polypeptide chain. 100 control cases were found negative for this INTS12 change.

Conclusion: Our results revealed an autosomal recessive association which affects many body systems in the embryo in the early prenatal life. This association results in presence of a cluster of congenital malformations. A splice site mutation in INTS12 that may affect the TGF-B1 pathway which is important in collagen expression and thus affect body tissue formation

Keywords: SALL1, SALL4, TOWNS BROCKS, VACTERAL association, INTS12, TGF-B.

DECLARATION

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Dedication

I dedicate this thesis to my parents who were always there for me, to my beloved and supportive husband Kareem, and to all who supported me.

Acknowledgment

I wish to express my sincere thanks to my supervisor Prof. Mazin Qumsiyeh, to Prof. Moein Kanaan and the [Hereditary Research Laboratory](#) members Amal Abu Rayan and Lara Kamal for their help and support.

List of Abbreviations

ACTR	Activin Receptors
ALK	Activin Receptor-Like Kinase
AMH	Anti-Muellerian Hormone
ASD	Atrial Septal Defect
BMPs	Bone Morphogenetic Proteins
CBD	Congenital Birth Defect
FA	Fanconi Anemia
GDFs	Growth and Differentiation Factors
INTS12	Integrator Complex Subunit 12
LSVC	Left Superior Vena Cava
SALL1	Spalt Like Transcription Factor 1
SALL4	Spalt Like Transcription Factor 4
TBS	Townes-Brocks Syndrome
TGF-B1	Transforming Growth Factor Beta 1
VACTERAL	Vertebral anomalies, Anal atresia, Cardiac defects, Tracheoesophageal fistula, Esophageal atresia, Renal & Radial anomalies, Limb defects.
VCD	Ventricular Septal Defect

List of tables:

Table 1	Summary of role and clinical syndromes associated with errors in expression of some genes involved in limb patterning	16
Table 2	Summary for common features and uncommon features shared between VACTERL with FA and TBS.	19
Table 3	Forward and reverse primers for sall1 gene	31
Table 4	Forward and reverse primers for sall4 gene	32
Table 5	Forward and reverse primers for INTS12 gene	32
Table 6	Touch down 60 program	33

List of figures:

Figure		
1	Core signaling in the mammalian TGF β –SMAD pathways.	22
2	(TGF- β 1)/SMAD pathway affects the synthesis of collagen.	23
3	Family pedigree	25
4A	Absent right ear for II-2	26
4B	Patient II-2 has chorioretinal coloboma	26
4C	Patient II-2, 3 has thumb hypoplasia bilateral	27
5	Normal karyotyping results	34
6	Splicing assay and sequencing result for the frequent splice-site mutation	35
7	Segregation of the INTS12 mutation in the Family.	36
8	Verification by Sanger sequencing of INTS12 splice site mutation C>G.	37
9	Electropherograms of RT-PCR products	37

Table of contents:

	Content	Page
	Abstract	III
	Background	III
	Methods	III
	Results	III
	Conclusion	III
	Keywords	III
	Declaration	IV
	Statement Of Permission To Use	V
	Dedication	VI
	Acknowledgment	VII
	List of Abbreviations	VIII
	List of tables	IX
	List of figures	IX
	Table of content	X
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
Chapter 2	Literature review	3
2.1	Limb abnormalities	3

2.2	Imperforate anus or anal atresia	4
2.3	Cardiac defects	4
2.4	Ear and eye abnormalities	5
2.5	VACTERL association	5
2.6	Differential diagnosis	5
2.7	Genetics of VACTERL-Like phenotype and INTS12 gene	7
Chapter 3	Problem statement and Objectives	12
Chapter 4	Materials and Methods	13
4.1	Subjects	13
4.2	Karyotyping	15
4.3	Molecular analysis	16
Chapter 5	Results	22
5.1	Karyotyping	22
5.2	Sanger sequencing results	23
5.3	Exome sequencing results	24
Chapter 6	Discussion	26
Chapter.7	References	27