AMH gene

anti-Mullerian hormone

Normal Function

The AMH gene provides instructions for making a protein that is involved in male sex differentiation. During development of male fetuses, the AMH protein is produced and released (secreted) by cells of the testes. The secreted protein attaches (binds) to its receptor, which is found on the surface of Müllerian duct cells. The Müllerian duct, found in both male and female fetuses, is the precursor to the female reproductive organs. Binding of the AMH protein to its receptor induces self-destruction (apoptosis) of the Müllerian duct cells. As a result, the Müllerian duct breaks down (regresses) in males. In females, who do not produce the AMH protein during fetal development, the Müllerian duct becomes the uterus and fallopian tubes.

Health Conditions Related to Genetic Changes

Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome

Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome type 1, a disorder of sexual development that affects males, is caused by mutations in the AMH gene. Males with this condition have female reproductive organs in addition to normal male reproductive organs. At least 38 mutations in the AMH gene have been identified in people with persistent Müllerian duct syndrome type 1. Most mutations change single protein building blocks (amino acids) in the AMH protein. Other mutations result in a premature stop signal that leads to an abnormally short protein. Still other mutations delete regions of DNA from the AMH gene, which changes the instructions for the protein.

The mutated AMH protein cannot be released from the cells of the testes or cannot bind to the receptor on the Müllerian duct cells. As a result, the Müllerian duct cells never receive the signal for apoptosis. The Müllerian duct persists and becomes a uterus and fallopian tubes. Because the AMH protein is not involved in the formation of male reproductive organs, affected males also have male reproductive organs.
Chromosomal Location

Cytogenetic Location: 19p13.3, which is the short (p) arm of chromosome 19 at position 13.3

Molecular Location: base pairs 2,249,323 to 2,252,073 on chromosome 19 (Homo sapiens Updated Annotation Release 109.20200228, GRCh38.p13) (NCBI)

Other Names for This Gene

• anti-Muellerian hormone
• MIF
• MIS
• muellerian-inhibiting factor
• muellerian-inhibiting substance
• Mullerian inhibiting factor
• Mullerian inhibiting substance

Additional Information & Resources

Educational Resources

• An Introduction to Genetic Analysis (seventh edition, 2000): Development of the Urogenital System
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21846/figure/A3724/

• StemBook (2008): Müllerian Duct Formation and Neonatal Development
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK27042/#uterinetemcells.sec2-1
Scientific Articles on PubMed

- PubMed
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=%28%28AMH%5BTIAB%5D%29+OR+%28anti-Mullerian+hormone%5BTIAB%5D%29+AND+%28%28Genes%5BMH%5D%29+OR+%28Genetic+Phenomena%5BMH%5D%29+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+human%5Bmh%5D+AND+%22last+1080+days+AND+22%5Bdp%5D

Catalog of Genes and Diseases from OMIM

- ANTI-MULLERIAN HORMONE
  http://omim.org/entry/600957

Research Resources

- Atlas of Genetics and Cytogenetics in Oncology and Haematology
  http://atlasgeneticsoncology.org/Genes/GC_AMH.html

- ClinVar
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/clinvar?term=AMH%5Bgene%5D

- HGNC Gene Symbol Report

- Monarch Initiative
  https://monarchinitiative.org/gene/NCBIGene:268

- NCBI Gene

- UniProt
  https://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P03971

Sources for This Summary

- OMIM: ANTI-MULLERIAN HORMONE
  http://omim.org/entry/600957


  Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9302384

  Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16544032

Reprinted from Genetics Home Reference: 

Reviewed: March 2011
Published: April 15, 2020

Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications
U.S. National Library of Medicine
National Institutes of Health
Department of Health & Human Services