F12 gene
coaugulation factor XII

Normal Function

The *F12* gene provides instructions for making a protein called coagulation factor XII. Coagulation factors are a group of related proteins that are essential for normal blood clotting (coagulation). After an injury, clots protect the body by sealing off damaged blood vessels and preventing further blood loss. Factor XII circulates in the bloodstream in an inactive form until it is activated, usually by coming in contact with damaged blood vessel walls. Upon activation, factor XII interacts with coagulation factor XI. This interaction sets off a chain of additional chemical reactions that form a blood clot.

Factor XII also plays a role in stimulating inflammation, a normal body response to infection, irritation, or other injury. When factor XII is activated, it also interacts with a protein called plasma prekallikrein. This interaction initiates a series of chemical reactions that lead to the release of a protein called bradykinin. Bradykinin promotes inflammation by increasing the permeability of blood vessel walls, allowing more fluids to leak into body tissues. This leakage causes the swelling that accompanies inflammation.

Health Conditions Related to Genetic Changes

**Hereditary angioedema**

At least two mutations in the *F12* gene are associated with hereditary angioedema type III. These mutations change single protein building blocks (amino acids) in factor XII, which increases the activity of the protein. As a result, more bradykinin is produced, which allows additional fluids to leak through blood vessel walls. The accumulation of fluids in body tissues leads to the episodes of swelling in people with hereditary angioedema type III.

**Other disorders**

Approximately 20 mutations in the *F12* gene that cause factor XII deficiency have been identified. Factor XII deficiency is an inherited condition characterized by a shortage of factor XII in the blood. Individuals with this condition usually do not experience abnormal bleeding or other symptoms. Factor XII deficiency is typically discovered during routine blood testing because reduced levels of factor XII cause the blood to take longer to clot in a test tube. Most of the mutations that cause factor XII deficiency change single amino acids, which alters the structure of factor XII. It remains unclear why individuals with factor XII deficiency do not experience abnormal bleeding like those with deficiencies of other coagulation factors.
**Chromosomal Location**

Cytogenetic Location: 5q35.3, which is the long (q) arm of chromosome 5 at position 35.3

Molecular Location: base pairs 177,402,138 to 177,409,576 on chromosome 5 (Homo sapiens Updated Annotation Release 109.20190905, GRCh38.p13) (NCBI)

Credit: Genome Decoration Page/NCBI

**Other Names for This Gene**

- coagulation factor XII (Hageman factor)
- FA12_HUMAN
- HAE3
- HAEX
- HAF
- Hageman factor

**Additional Information & Resources**

**Educational Resources**


- Canadian Hemophilia Society: Factor XII deficiency
  [https://www.hemophilia.ca/factor-xii-deficiency/](https://www.hemophilia.ca/factor-xii-deficiency/)

- National Hemophilia Foundation: Factor XII deficiency
  [https://www.hemophilia.org/Bleeding-Disorders/Types-of-Bleeding-Disorders/Other-Factor-Deficiencies/Factor-XII](https://www.hemophilia.org/Bleeding-Disorders/Types-of-Bleeding-Disorders/Other-Factor-Deficiencies/Factor-XII)
Scientific Articles on PubMed

- PubMed
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=%28%28factor+XII%5BTIAB%5D%29+OR+%28coagulation+factor+XII%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+1440+days+22%5Bdp%5D

Catalog of Genes and Diseases from OMIM

- COAGULATION FACTOR XII
  http://omim.org/entry/610619
- FACTOR XII DEFICIENCY
  http://omim.org/entry/234000

Research Resources

- Atlas of Genetics and Cytogenetics in Oncology and Haematology
  http://atlasgeneticsoncology.org/Genes/GC_F12.html
- ClinVar
- HGNC Gene Symbol Report
- Monarch Initiative
  https://monarchinitiative.org/gene/NCBIGene:2161
- NCBI Gene
- UniProt
  https://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P00748

Sources for This Summary

- OMIM: COAGULATION FACTOR XII
  http://omim.org/entry/610619
  Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17186468
  Free article on PubMed Central: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1698720/
  Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16638441
OMIM: FACTOR XII DEFICIENCY
http://omim.org/entry/234000

Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18832903

Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17825897

Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17605651

Citation on PubMed: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18725991
Free article on PubMed Central: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2518076/

Reprinted from Genetics Home Reference:

Reviewed: April 2009
Published: December 10, 2019

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