PYGM gene
glycogen phosphorylase, muscle associated

Normal Function

The *PYGM* gene provides instructions for making an enzyme called myophosphorylase. This enzyme breaks down a complex sugar called glycogen. Myophosphorylase is one of three related enzymes called glycogen phosphorylases that break down glycogen in cells. Myophosphorylase is found only in muscle cells, where it breaks down glycogen into a simpler sugar called glucose-1-phosphate. Additional steps convert glucose-1-phosphate into glucose, a simple sugar that is the main energy source for most cells.

Health Conditions Related to Genetic Changes

Glycogen storage disease type V

Approximately 130 mutations in the *PYGM* gene have been found to cause glycogen storage disease type V (GSDV). One mutation that is common in North American and European populations is written as Arg50Ter or R50X. This mutation creates a premature stop signal in the instructions for making myophosphorylase, which decreases the production of the enzyme. A shortage of myophosphorylase impairs the normal breakdown of glycogen. Other mutations that cause GSDV may severely reduce enzyme activity or change the way the enzyme folds into a 3-dimensional shape. The defective enzyme is unable to break down glycogen. As a result, muscle cells cannot produce enough energy, so muscles become easily fatigued. Reduced energy production in muscle cells leads to the major features of GSDV.

Chromosomal Location

Cytogenetic Location: 11q13.1, which is the long (q) arm of chromosome 11 at position 13.1

Molecular Location: base pairs 64,746,389 to 64,760,715 on chromosome 11 (Homo sapiens Annotation Release 109, GRCh38.p12) (NCBI)

Credit: Genome Decoration Page/NCBI
Other Names for This Gene

- glycogen phosphorylase, muscle form
- myophosphorylase
- phosphorylase, glycogen, muscle
- PYGM_HUMAN

Additional Information & Resources

Educational Resources

  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK22467/#A2918
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK22467/figure/A2925/

Clinical Information from GeneReviews

- Glycogen Storage Disease Type V
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK1344

Scientific Articles on PubMed

- PubMed
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=%28%28PYGM%5BTIAB%5D%29+OR+%28myophosphorylase%5BTIAB%5D%29%29+AND+%28%28Genes%5BMH%5D%29+OR+%28Genetic+Phenomena%5BMH%5D%29%29+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+human%5Bmh%5D+AND+%22last+1800+days%22+AND+%22last+1800+days%22

Catalog of Genes and Diseases from OMIM

- GLYCOGEN PHOSPHORYLASE, MUSCLE
  http://omim.org/entry/608455

Research Resources

- Atlas of Genetics and Cytogenetics in Oncology and Haematology
  http://atlasgeneticsoncology.org/Genes/GC_PYGM.html
- ClinVar
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/clinvar?term=PYGM%5Bgene%5D
- HGNC Gene Family: Glycogen phosphorylases
  https://www.genenames.org/cgi-bin/genefamilies/set/437
- HGNC Gene Symbol Report
Sources for This Summary


- OMIM: GLYCOGEN PHOSPHORYLASE, MUSCLE http://omim.org/entry/608455


Reprinted from Genetics Home Reference:

Reviewed: July 2010
Published: October 16, 2018

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