

# AABB Annual Meeting Education Program 2014

October 25-28, 2014 | Pennsylvania Convention Center | Philadelphia, PA



## Presentation Handouts

(9104-TC) Blood Group Systems Update: JR,  
LAN, VEL

October 25, 2014 ✧ 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM



Advancing Transfusion and  
Cellular Therapies Worldwide



## Event Faculty List

**Event Title:** (9104-TC) Blood Group Systems Update: JR, LAN, VEL  
**Event Date:** October 25, 2014  
**Event Time:** 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

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Disclosure: No


Blood Group Systems Update: JR, Lan, Vel



JR Blood Group System



Lilian Castilho, PhD



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Disclosures

Relevant Financial Relationship

*None*



Lilian Castilho  
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JR Blood group system

Overview

- ♥ History and terminology
- ♥ Antigen and antibodies
- ♥ Molecular basis
- ♥ Gene and alleles
- ♥ Structure of ABCG2 protein and function



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### JR Blood group system



History and terminology



<b>Year 1<sup>st</sup> antigen reported</b>	1970 (Stroup and MacLroy, 23 <sup>rd</sup> AABB Annual Meeting)
<b>How 1<sup>st</sup> antigen was found</b>	An antibody to a new high prevalence antigen
<b>Naming of 1<sup>st</sup> antigen</b>	After the first maker of anti-Jr <sup>a</sup> , Rose Jacobs 1990: ISBT 901.005
<b>Naming of the system</b>	Jr <sup>a</sup> was promoted to a system in 2012 when it was shown that <i>ABCG2</i> null alleles define the Jr(a-) phenotype
<b>ISBT System name, symbol, number</b>	JR, JR, 032

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### JR Blood group system

JR antigens 

<b>Number of antigens</b>	1
<b>Common (all populations: &gt;99%)</b>	Jr <sup>a</sup>
<b>Basis of antigen expression</b>	Not reported
<b>Cord blood cells</b>	Fully developed
<b>Effect of proteases</b>	Resistant
<b>Effect of thiol compounds</b>	Resistant

Rare JR phenotypes

**Jr(a-) and Jr(a+<sup>w</sup>/-)**

**Human monoclonal anti-Jr<sup>a</sup>, clone HMR0921 (Miyazaki and colleagues, 1994):**  
 Jr(a-) occurs in 0.07% of Japanese donors

**Jr(a-):** Various populations (Northern European extraction, Bedouin Arabs and one Mexican) but is found most often in Japanese and other Asians. No data are available on the frequency of Jr(a-) phenotype in African blacks

**Atypical:** Jr(a+<sup>w</sup>/-)

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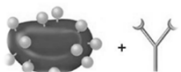
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### JR Blood group system

Jr<sup>a</sup> antibody



<b>Immunoglobulin class</b>	IgG more common than IgM
<b>Optimal technique for detection</b>	IAT
<b>Complement binding in vitro</b>	Some
<b>Autoantibodies</b>	Not reported

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### JR Blood group system

Clinical relevance of anti-Jr<sup>a</sup> 

<b>Transfusion reaction</b>	Rare because antibody is rare
<b>Type &amp; severity</b>	Anti-Jr <sup>a</sup> may cause moderate hemolytic transfusion reactions, mostly as DHTR
<b>Matching RBCs for transfusion</b>	Hemagglutination and DNA predictions
<b>HDFN</b>	DAT positive but rarely HDFN
<b>Type</b>	Immune destruction
<b>Severity</b>	Mild to severe; rare fatal cases of HDFN

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### JR Blood group system



**Attempts to define the Jr<sup>a</sup> antigen**

For many years, numerous laboratories, using various techniques have failed to characterize Jr<sup>a</sup>

Attempts to immunoprecipitate and immunoblot the antigen using human anti-Jr<sup>a</sup> were unsuccessful until 2012

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### JR Blood group system

JR is carried on ABCG2 transporter and encoded by ABCG2 gene

Zelinski and coworkers (Nature genetics 2012; 44:131-2)	Saison and coworkers (Nature genetics 2012; 44:174-7)
<b>Genetic approach</b>	<b>Biochemical approach</b>
Homozygosity-by-descent mapping study to identify the chromosomal region containing the gene responsible for Jr <sup>a</sup> expression	<b>HMR0921 MoAb weakly reactive with human RBCs but strongly reactive with cat RBCs</b> 
Four candidate genes were found but only the product of ABCG2 was known to be expressed on RBCs	<b>Immunoprecipitation of cat RBCs with HMR0921 enabled the identification of a protein, identified by mass spectrometry as abcg2, encoded by the cat ortholog (abcg2) of the human ABCG2 gene</b>
6 Jr(a-): 3 different mutations in ABCG2	<b>18 Jr(a-): 8 different mutations in ABCG2</b> c.376C>T (Asians); c.706C>T (Gypsies)

**42 years later: Jr<sup>a</sup> is carried on the ABCG2 transporter and encoded by ABCG2**  
Promoted from ISBT 901.005 to a blood group system (JR or ISBT 032)

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### JR Blood group system

JR gene and alleles

Gene name	JR (ABCG2)
Entrez Gene ID; GenBank #s	9429; NM_004827.2 (DNA)
Chromosome location	4q22.1
Number of exons and size	16 exons spread over approximately 68.6 kbp of gDNA
Type of null alleles (in order of decreasing frequency)	Nonsense, deletions, insertions
Type of mod alleles	Missense

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### JR Blood group system

23 different null alleles of ABCG2 have been reported to encode the rare Jr(a-)

Alleles	Nucleotide change (exon/intron)	Amino acid	Ethnicity	Report
ABCG2*01N.01	c.376C>T (4)	Gln126X	Asian	Zelinski et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.02.01	c.706C>T (7)	Arg236X	Caucasian	Zelinski et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.02.02	c.346>A(2), 706C>T (7)	Val12Met, Arg236X	Asian	Zelinski et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.03	c.736C>T (7)	Arg246X	Caucasian	Zelinski et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.04	c.337C>T (4)	Arg113X	Caucasian	Tobita et al, 2013
ABCG2*01N.05	c.784G>T (7)	Gly262X	Caucasian	Hue-Roye et al, 2013
ABCG2*01N.06	c.34G>A (2), 1591C>T (13)	Val12Met, Gln531X	Caucasian	Hue-Roye et al, 2013
ABCG2*01N.07	c.187_197delATTATATCGAA (2)	Ile631YfsX	Caucasian	Salson et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.08	C.542_543insA (6)	Phe182ValfsX	Caucasian	Salson et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.09	c.730C>T (7)	Gln244X	Caucasian	Zelinski et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.10	c.791_792delTT (7)	Leu264HisfsX	Caucasian	Salson et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.11	c.875_878dupACTT (8)	Phe293LeufsX	Caucasian	Salson et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.12	c.1111_1112delAC (9)	Thr371LeufsX	Asian	Salson et al, 2012
ABCG2*01N.13	c.346>A(2), c.244_245insC (3)	Val12Met, Thr82HisfsX	Asian	Zelinski et al, 2012
ABCG2	c.27T>C (2)	Met11Thr	Asian	Tanaka et al, 2014
ABCG2	c.263+1G>A (intron 3)	r.spI?	Asian	Tobita et al, 2013
ABCG2	c.289A>T (4)	Lys97Ter	Asian	Tobita et al, 2013
ABCG2	c.565_566del (6)	Gly189fs	Asian	Tobita et al, 2013
ABCG2	c.1515delC (13)	Gln141Lys, Ala505fs	Asian	Tobita et al, 2013
ABCG2	c.421C>A (5), c.1515delC (13)	Gln141Lys, Ala505fs	Asian	Tanaka et al, 2014
ABCG2	c.1723C>T (14)	Arg575X	Asian	Tobita et al, 2013
ABCG2	c.1789_1790insT (15)	Ala597fs	Asian	Tobita et al, 2013
ABCG2	27-kb deletion in the promoter region om a ABCG2*01W.01		Asian	Ogasawara et al, 2014

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### JR Blood group system

Alleles encoding Jr(a<sup>w</sup>/-) or unclear Jr<sup>a</sup> status  
 4 different alleles of ABCG2 have been reported to encode the rare Jr(a<sup>w</sup>/-) phenotypes  
 9 different alleles of ABCG2 have been reported to encode unclear Jr<sup>a</sup> status

Phenotype	Alleles	Nucleotide change (exon/intron)	Amino acid	Ethnicity
Jr(a <sup>w</sup> /-)	ABCG2*01W.01	c.421C>A (5)	Gln141Lys	Caucasian <sup>1,2</sup>
Jr(a <sup>w</sup> /-)	ABCG2*01W.02	c.1858G>A (16)	Asp620Asn	Caucasian <sup>1</sup>
Jr(a <sup>w</sup> /-)		c.383A>T (5)	Asp128Val	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Jr(a <sup>w</sup> /-)		c.1859G>A (16)	Asp620Gly	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Unclear		c.421C>A; 440G>A(5)	Gln141Lys; Arg147Gln	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Unclear		c.421C>A; 458C>T(5)	Gln141Lys; Thr153Met	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Unclear		c.455T>C(5); 1819T>C(16)	Met152Thr; Cys608Arg	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Unclear	ABCG2*01N.14	c.1017_1019delCTC (9)	Ser340del	Caucasian <sup>1</sup>
Unclear		c.1384G>A (12)	Gly462Arg	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Unclear		c.1714A>C (14)	Ser572Arg	Caucasian <sup>1</sup>
Unclear		c.1819T>C (16)	Cys608Arg	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Unclear		c.1820+1G>A (intron 15)	r.spI	Asian <sup>2</sup>
Unclear		c.1841T>G (16)	Leu614Trp	Asian <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Hue-Roye, 2013; <sup>2</sup>Tobita et al, 2013

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### JR Blood group system


**Summary**  
JR alleles encoding Jr(a-), Jr(a+<sup>w</sup>/-) or unclear Jr<sup>a</sup> status

**Mutations in *ABCG2***

**2012:** 14 *ABCG2* null alleles: (11 in Caucasians and 3 in Asians)  
Zelinski et al, 2012; Saison et al, 2012; Hue-Roye et al, 2012

**2013:** 6 *ABCG2* null alleles in Asians, 4 *ABCG2* "weak" alleles (2 in Caucasians and 2 in Asians) and 9 *ABCG2* alleles with unclear status: (2 in Caucasians and 7 in Asians)  
Tobita et al, 2013; Hue-Roye et al, 2013

**2014:** 3 *ABCG2* null alleles in Asians  
Tanaka et al, 2014; Ogasawara et al, 2014




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### JR Blood group system


**Predominant alleles encoding Jr(a-) and Jr(a+<sup>w</sup>/-) phenotypes**

**Mutations in *ABCG2***

c.376C>T nonsense mutation in *ABCG2* is the most frequently detected mutation in Jr(a-) individuals  
1.7% of Japanese: "high"-incidence of the Jr(a-) phenotype

c.706C>T and c.736C>T nonsense mutations in *ABCG2* are more frequently detected in Caucasian Jr(a-) individuals

c.421C>A, c.1714A>C and c.1858G>A in *ABCG2* are linked to weakened expression of the Jr<sup>a</sup> antigen  
The majority of Jr(a-) individuals is homozygous for a single mutation




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### JR Blood group system

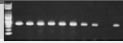


**DNA-based genotyping to identify Jr(a-) individuals**

**DNA-based genotyping**  
PCR assay for c.376C>T: 90% of Japanese Jr(a-)

High-throughput genotyping assay targeting frequently occurring mutations in *ABCG2* (c.376T, c.706T and c.736T) that cause the Jr(a-) phenotype

Haer-Wigman et al, Transfusion 2014, 54:1836-46

The extended heterogeneity of mutations causing Jr(a-) phenotype in most populations makes genetic screening for the Jr(a-) phenotype inefficient  
Genetic screening for a specific mutation that causes the Jr(a-) in specific ethnicities can be more efficient


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### JR Blood group system

Haer-Wigman L, Ait Soussan A, Ligthart P, de Haas M, van der Schoot CE.  
**Molecular analysis of immunized Jr(a-) or Lan- patients and validation of a high-throughput genotyping assay to screen blood donors for Jr(a-) and Lan-phenotypes.** *Transfusion* 2014;54:1836-46.

**Investigation of copy number variation in ABCG2 in Dutch Jr(a-) individuals**

No copy number variation was detected in ABCG2

Negativity is not due to loss of heterozygosity of ABCG2, but to the presence of two affected alleles of ABCG2

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### JR Blood group system

**JR Protein (ABCG2)**

<b>Name(s)</b>	Jr glycoprotein, ATP-binding cassette, sub-family G, member 2 [ABCG2]; breast cancer resistance protein [BCRP]
<b>Membrane orientation</b>	Multipass protein with 6 predicted passes
<b>Structure</b>	Glycoprotein of 655 amino acids with one nucleotide binding domain with Walker A, Walker B, and Signature motifs oriented to the cytoplasmic surface followed by one membrane spanning domain. The functional molecule is likely a homodimer in the membrane
<b>M, on SDS-PAGE</b>	72,000 reduced; 180,000 non-reduced

Predicted topology of ABCG2 protein with location of amino acid changes encoded by nonsense and missense alleles

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### JR Blood group system

**ABCG2 Protein**

<b>In other tissues</b>	High expression in placenta Low expression in epithelial cells of small and large intestines, liver ducts, colon, lobules of the breast, endothelial cells of veins and capillaries, and brain microvessel endothelium, stem cells, lung and in the apical membrane of proximal tubules of the kidney Unregulated in breast and brain tumors
<b>Function</b>	An ATP-dependent transport protein of a broad range of substrates Involved in multidrug resistance in tumor cells, particularly in breast cancer Function in the defense of normal cells against toxic agents A role in folate homeostasis
<b>Disease association</b>	The Gln126Stop and Gln141Lys variants of ABCG2 are associated with an increased risk for gout

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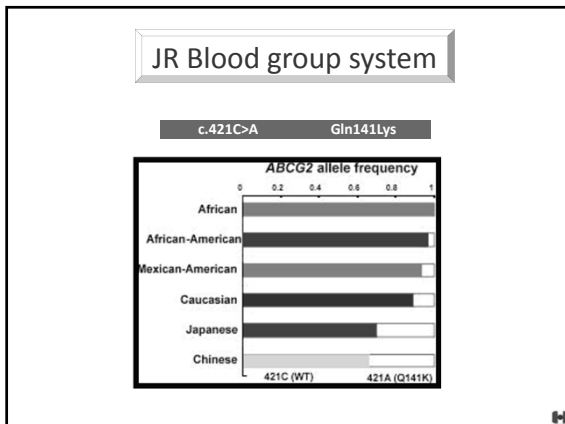
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### JR Blood group system

**About the alleles** To date, more than 1,000 synonymous and non-synonymous single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in the gene sequence of ABCG2 have been described (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/snp>)  
Additional diversity within the JR blood group system is still expected

**About the function** Jr(a-) individuals provide a large cohort of "natural knockouts" for ABCG2 (ABCG2<sup>-/-</sup>)  
Opportunity to study the exact role and function of ABCG2 in humans under normal physiology and pathologic conditions

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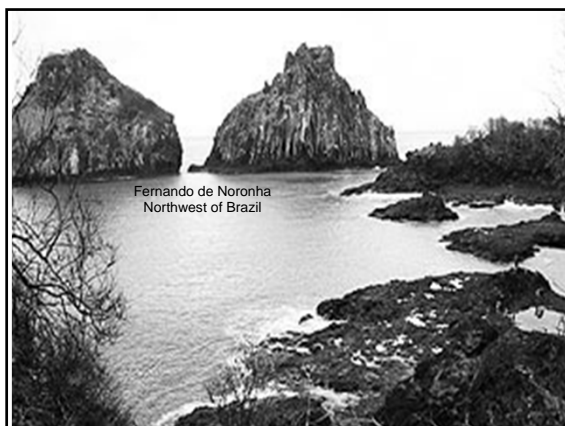
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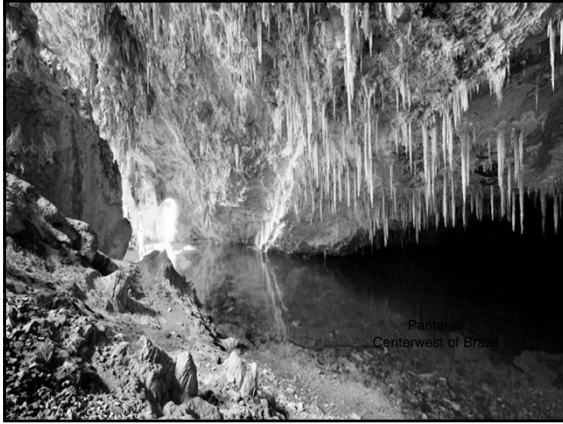
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**Acknowledgements**



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INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA TRANSFUSION SANGUINE

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AABB – Philadelphia  
October 25<sup>th</sup> 2014

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INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA TRANSFUSION SANGUINE

**The LAN blood group system**  
A review and 2014 update

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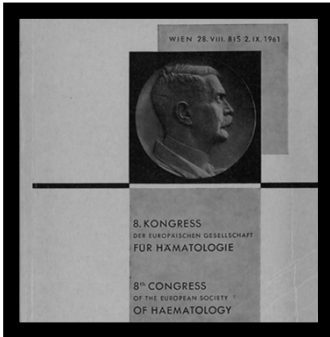
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**The Lan antigen: a 50-year old mystery**




WIEN 28. VIII. 8.15. 2. IX. 1961

8. KONGRESS  
DER EUROPÄISCHEN GESELLSCHAFT  
FÜR HÄMATOLOGIE

8<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS  
OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY  
OF HAEMATOLOGY

van der Hart & al  
1961

Lan for  
« Langereis »,  
name of the first  
proband  
(Dutch origin)



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## The Lan antigen

The 901 series of high incidence antigens

**Lan ANTIGEN**

**The Lan antigen used to belong to the 901 series**


**Terminology**  
 ISBT symbol (Number) Lan (901.002)  
 Other names Langereis Gi<sup>a</sup>, Gomsowski, So, 900.003  
 History Reported in 1961, named after the first antigen-negative proband to make anti-Lan

**Occurrence**  
 All populations: > 99%.  
 The Lan- phenotype occurs in about 1 in 20,000 people, found in Blacks,<sup>1,2</sup> Caucasians and Japanese.

**Effect of enzymes/chemicals on Lan antigen on intact RBCs**

Ficin/papain	Resistant
Trypsin	Resistant
α-Chymotrypsin	Resistant
Pronase	Resistant
Sialidase	Resistant
DTT 200 mM	Resistant
Acid	Resistant

**Lan- is a rare blood type worldwide**



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## What is the 901 series?

- Antigens with a prevalence >90% in most populations, that do not fit into any system or collection
- In 2012, this series included 8 antigens officially recognized by the ISBT Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Blood Group Terminology

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## The 901 series of RBC antigens in 2012

N°	Name	Symbol	Prevalence (%)
901002	Langereis	<b>Lan</b>	<b>&gt; 99</b>
901003	August	<b>At*</b>	> 99
901005		<b>Jr*</b>	> 99
901008		<b>Emm</b>	> 99
901009	Anton	<b>AnWj</b>	> 99
901011	Sid	<b>Sd*</b>	90
901014		<b>PEL</b>	> 99
901016		<b>MAM</b>	> 99

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### Why studying Lan?

- 30 Lan- people in the French National Registry of People with a Rare Blood Type, most originating from the Maghreb area (North Africa)
- 25/30 with anti-Lan
- Anti-Lan considered a clinically significant alloantibody



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### Clinical significance of anti-Lan

1. Hemolytic disease of the newborn caused by anti-Lan, anti-Ika, and anti-c.

Shartz WT, Carly L, Wolford F.  
 Transfusion. 1987 Jun;Feb:273-117. No abstract available.  
 PMID: 3191246 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]  
 Related citations Remove from clipboard

2. Clinical significance of anti-Lan.

Judd WJ, Oberman HA, Sieniewski A, Steiner EA.  
 Transfusion. 1984 Mar-Apr;24(2):181. No abstract available.  
 PMID: 6585080 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]  
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Mild to moderate HDFN

3. Hemolytic disease of the newborn due to anti-Lan.

Page PL.  
 Transfusion. 1983 May-Jun;23(3):256-7. No abstract available.  
 PMID: 6679383 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]  
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Mild to moderate hemolytic transfusion reactions

4. Hemolytic disease of the newborn caused by anti-Lan antibody.

Smith DS, Stratton F, Johnson T, Brown R, Howell P, Riches R.  
 Br Med J. 1969 Jul 12;3(5502):90-2.  
 PMID: 5792273 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Free PMC Article  
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5. Lan antigen of erythrocytes and clinical significance of anti-Lan antibody.

Kušnierz-Alejska G, Wiecek B.  
 Acta Haematol Pol. 1993;24(2):169-76. Polish.  
 PMID: 8372617 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]  
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### How did we find out the molecular basis of Lan?




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### The ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporter family

The diagram illustrates the structure of ABC transporters. It shows two types: 'full transporters' and 'half transporters'. Each transporter is represented as a series of transmembrane alpha-helices. The 'full transporters' have two ABC cassettes, while the 'half transporters' have one. The ABC cassettes are located in the cytoplasm. The central protein is labeled ABCB6. The cytoplasm is indicated at the bottom.

ATP-binding cassette transporters actively facilitate the transmembrane flux of numerous substances

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### ABCB6 is absent in the membrane of all tested Lan- RBCs

The Western blot shows the presence of ABCB6 in various samples. The top row shows a 'Multimer?' band. The middle row shows 'WB anti-ABCB6' bands. The bottom row shows 'WB positive control' bands. The lanes are numbered 1 through 8. The text indicates that Lan- are « Lan null » and can be considered « human knockouts » for ABCB6.

Lan- are « Lan null » and can be considered « human knockouts » for ABCB6

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### Examples of null alleles of ABCB6 identified by genomic DNA sequencing

#### ABCB6 (2q36)

The genomic map shows the ABCB6 gene structure with 19 exons. Several mutations are identified:

- c.197\_208delG, p.A69G366 (frameshift)
- c.278C>T, p.R93W (nonsense mutation)
- c.1170A>A, p.V3729X (nonsense mutation)
- c.993\_994delGTCG, p.G331A348 (frameshift)
- c.1533\_1534delGGCTCTCTCTG, p.L512P3417 (frameshift)
- c.1599\_1601delAG, p.R533K34 (nonsense mutation)
- c.1709\_1710delAG, p.E576G3421 (frameshift)
- c.1871delGACACAGCTGA, p.G623M343 (frameshift)
- c.1982C>T, p.R668K (missense mutation)
- c.1985\_1986delATC, p.L662P345 (frameshift)
- c.2750A>T, p.Y917H346 (missense mutation)

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## Variant ABCB6 alleles

### Alleles officially recognized by the ISBT Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Blood Group Terminology

- **15 null alleles** responsible for a **Lan-** phenotype *ABCB6\*01N.01* to *ABCB6\*01N.15* => **difficult to implement Lan testing on the current genotyping platforms (which one(s) should we choose)**
- **4 alleles** responsible for a **Lan weak** phenotype *ABCB6\*01W.01* to *ABCB6\*01W.04*

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Table 1. List of reported ABCB6 null alleles that encode the Lan- phenotype<sup>13,15</sup>

Nucleotide change	Location	Predicted protein change	Ethnic background	References	Allele number proposed by ISBT
c.197_198insG	Exon 1	p.Ala66Gly fs stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.01
c.85_87delTTC	Exon 1	p.Phe29del	Caucasian	Saison et al. <sup>13</sup>	ABCB6*01N.14
c.376delG	Exon 1	p.Val126Ser fs stop	African	Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01N.15
c.574C>T	Exon 2	Arg192Trp	North African	Saison et al. <sup>13</sup> Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01N.13
c.717G>A	Exon 3	p.Gln239 stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.02
c.953_956delGTGG	Exon 4	p.Gly318Asp fs stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.03
c.1236G>A	Exon 6	p.Trp412 stop	African	Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01N.11
c.1533_1543dupCGGCTCCCTGCG	Exon 9	p.Leu515Pro fs stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.04
c.1558_1559insT	Exon 9	p.Val520Cys fs stop	Unknown	Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01N.12
c.1709_1710delAG	Exon 11	p.Glu570Gly fs stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.05
c.1690_1691delAT	Exon 11	p.Met564Val fs stop	Japanese	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.06
c.1867delinsAACAGGTGA	Exon 14	p.Gly623Asn fs stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.07
c.1942C>T	Exon 14	p.Arg648 stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.08
c.1985_1986delTTC	Exon 15	p.Leu692Pro fs stop	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.09
c.2256 + 2insG	Intron 16	RNA splicing defect	Caucasian	Helias et al. <sup>15</sup>	ABCB6*01N.10

Table 2. List of reported ABCB6 alleles that encode the Lan weak phenotype<sup>13,15</sup>

Nucleotide change	Location	Predicted protein change	Ethnic background	References	Allele number proposed by ISBT
c.826C>T	Exon 3	p.Arg278Trp	Caucasian	Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Saison et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01W.01
c.1020C>A	Exon 5	p.Arg343Gln	African	Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01W.02
c.1762G>A	Exon 12	p.Gly588Ser	Caucasian	Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Saison et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01W.03
c.2216G>A	Exon 16	p.Arg739His	Hispanic	Reid et al. <sup>13</sup> Zelniski et al. <sup>17</sup>	ABCB6*01W.04

## Variant ABCB6 alleles: Update 2014

### Novel alleles to be considered by the ISBT Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Blood Group Terminology

- **13 null alleles** responsible for a **Lan-** phenotype reported in 2013 and 2014
- **3 alleles** responsible for a **Lan weak** phenotype reported in 2014
- **6 alleles with unclear status** reported in 2013 and 2014

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### 13 novel *ABCB6* null alleles (1)

Exon 1	c.301_302ins G	p.Ala101fs
Exon 1	c.459del	p.Leu154fs
Exon 1	c.459del	p.Leu154fs
Exon 3	c.718C > T	p.Arg240ter
Exon 4	c.881_884del	p.Thr294fs
Exon 10	c.1617delG	p.Gly539del

Yamamuro Y, *Vox Sang* 2013;105(Suppl 1):230-231

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### 13 novel *ABCB6* null alleles (2)

Exon 1	c.1A > C	p.0
Exon 3	c.827G > A	p.Arg276Glu
Intron 4	c.971-1G > A	r.sp1?
Exon 13	c.1825G > A	p.Val609Met
Exon 14	c.1912C > T	p.Arg638Cys
Exon 16	c.2155C > T	p.Glu719Ter
Intron 17	c.2351 + 1g > a	r.sp1?

Lonneke Haer-Wigman et al. *Transfusion* 2014

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### 3 novel *ABCB6* alleles encoding a Lan weak phenotype

Exon 1	c.317A > G	p.Tyr106Cys
Exon 15	c.2206G > C	p.Ala736Pro
Exon 1	c.403C > A	p.Arg135Ser

Yamamuro Y, *Vox Sang* 2014;107(Suppl 1):186-87

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### What was unexpected with the discovery of the molecular basis of Lan!

- **ABCB6 was not considered to be present on RBCs (only described on outer mitochondrial membrane and Golgi apparatus)**
- **ABCB6 reported to be an essential protein in erythropoiesis, especially through mitochondrial porphyrin uptake**

However, Lan- people, who may be considered human “knockouts” for *ABCB6*, appear to be healthy!

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### Biological data in Lan- people

- **Four Lan- subjects were tested for porphyrin levels**
  - ✓ RBCs 2.1 μmol ± 0.2 N: 0.1 – 1.9
  - ✓ Plasma < 5 nmol/l N: 6.5 – 20.0
- **Slight increase in RBCs but not comparable at all to porphyria!**  
=> Probable compensatory mechanism
- **Four Lan- subjects were tested for blood count, since Lan was described to be essential for erythropoiesis: nothing abnormal**

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### Biological data in Lan- people

Parameters	Units	Sex	Lan- subject #1	Lan- subject #2	Lan- subject #3	Lan- subject #4
		Age	Female 40 years	Female 27 years	Female 87 years	Male 76 years
RBC	10 <sup>12</sup> /L		4.37	4.79	4.07	4.52
HGB	g/dL		12.3	13.9	12.9	12.9
HCT	%		36.0	40.1	40.9	39.6
MCV	fL		82.4	84.0	100.5	87.6
MCH	pg		28.1	29.0	31.7	28.5
MCHC	g/dL		34.0	34.7	32.0	32.6
Reticulocytes	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		45	49	59	56
Platelets	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		415	289	282	220
WBC	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		6.84	7.10	5.75	7.83
Neutrophils	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		3.73	4.00	3.77	5.21
Eosinophils	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		0.31	0.10	0.34	0.26
Basophils	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		0.03	0.00	0.02	0.02
Lymphocytes	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		2.34	2.70	1.20	1.66
Monocytes	10 <sup>9</sup> /L		0.43	0.30	0.42	0.66
Neutrophils	%		54.6	56.0	65.6	66.5
Eosinophils	%		4.5	2.0	5.9	3.8
Basophils	%		0.4	0.0	0.3	0.3
Lymphocytes	%		34.2	38.0	20.9	21.2
Monocytes	%		6.3	4.0	7.3	8.4

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**Publication of the work**

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LETTERS

nature  
genetics

Received 6 May 2011; accepted 9 December 2011; published online 15 January 2012; doi:10.1038/ng.1069

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**ABCB6 is dispensable for erythropoiesis and specifies the new blood group system Langereis**

Virginie Hélias<sup>1</sup>, Carole Saison<sup>1</sup>, Bryan A Ballif<sup>2</sup>, Thierry Peyrard<sup>1,3</sup>, Junko Takahashi<sup>4</sup>, Hideo Takahashi<sup>4</sup>, Mitsunobu Tanaka<sup>4</sup>, Jean-Charles Deybach<sup>5</sup>, Hervé Puy<sup>5</sup>, Maude Le Gall<sup>6</sup>, Camille Surcou<sup>1</sup>, Bach-Nga Pham<sup>1,3</sup>, Pierre-Yves Le Pennec<sup>1,3</sup>, Yoshihiko Tani<sup>1</sup>, Jean-Pierre Carton<sup>1</sup> & Lionel Arnaud<sup>1</sup>

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**Lan is the 33<sup>rd</sup> blood group system**

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**(Lan) LAN was officially elevated to the status of 33<sup>rd</sup> human blood group system by the ISBT Working Party on Red Cell Immunogenetics and Blood Group Terminology in July 2012 (ISBT Meeting, Cancun, Mexico)**

901 series before July 2012

#	Name	Symbol	Prevalence (%)
901002	Langereis	<b>La<sup>n</sup></b>	> 99
901003	August	Al <sup>*</sup>	> 99
901005	J <sup>*</sup>	J <sup>*</sup>	> 99
901008	Emm	Emm	> 99
901009	Anten	AntWJ	> 99
901011	Sid	Sd <sup>*</sup>	90
901014	PEL	PEL	> 99
901016	MAN	MAN	> 99

→ 33<sup>rd</sup> blood group system

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**Variant ABCB6 functional alleles and diseases (1)**

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ARTICLE


**ABCB6 Mutations Cause Ocular Coloboma**    **Leu811Val mutation in ABCB6**

Leijing Wang,<sup>1,14\*</sup> Fei He,<sup>2,3,14</sup> Juan Bu,<sup>1,14</sup> Xiaqi Liu,<sup>2,3</sup> Wei Du,<sup>1,13</sup> Jiamei Dong,<sup>1,4</sup> Jeffrey D. Cooney,<sup>5,6</sup> Sushil Kumar Dubey,<sup>7</sup> Yi Shi,<sup>2,3</sup> Bo Gong,<sup>2,3</sup> Jing Li,<sup>1</sup> Paul F. McBride,<sup>5,6</sup> Yanlei Jia,<sup>8</sup> Fang Lu,<sup>2,3</sup> Kathleen A. Solts,<sup>5,6</sup> Ying Lin,<sup>2,3</sup> Prasanthi Namburi,<sup>7</sup> Chen Liang,<sup>7</sup> Periasamy Sundaresan,<sup>7</sup> Barry H. Paw,<sup>5,6</sup> Dean Y. Li,<sup>5,10,11</sup> John D. Phillips,<sup>12</sup> and Zhenglin Yang<sup>2,3,\*</sup>

Ocular coloboma is a developmental defect of the eye and is due to abnormal or incomplete closure of the optic fissure. This disorder displays genetic and clinical heterogeneity. Using a positional cloning approach, we identified a mutation in the ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporter *ABCB6* in a Chinese family affected by autosomal-dominant coloboma. The Leu811Val mutation was identified in seven affected members of the family and was absent in six unaffected members from three generations. A LOD score of 3.2 at  $\theta = 0$  was calculated for the mutation identified in this family. Sequence analysis was performed on the *ABCB6* exons from 116 sporadic cases of microphthalmia with coloboma (MAC), isolated coloboma, and aniridia, and an additional mutation (A57T) was identified in three patients with MAC. These two mutations were not present in the ethnically matched control populations. Immunostaining of transiently transfected, Myc-tagged *ABCB6* in retinal pigment epithelial (RPE) cells showed that it localized to the endoplasmic reticulum and Golgi apparatus of RPE cells. RT-PCR of *ABCB6* mRNA in human cell lines and tissue indicated that *ABCB6* is expressed in the retina and RPE cells. Using zebrafish, we show that *atcb6* is expressed in the eye and CNS. Morpholino knockdown of *atcb6* in zebrafish produces a phenotype characteristic of coloboma and replicates the clinical phenotype observed in our index cases. The knockdown phenotype can be corrected with coinjection of the wild-type, but not mutant, *ABCB6* mRNA, suggesting that the phenotypes observed in zebrafish are due to insufficient *atcb6* function. Our results demonstrate that *ABCB6* mutations cause ocular coloboma.

The American Journal of Human Genetics 90, 40–48, January 13, 2012

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**Variant *ABCB6* functional alleles and diseases (2)**


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Research Article

Missense mutations in the *ABCB6* transporter cause **dominant** familial pseudohyperkalemia

Immacolata Andolfo,<sup>1,2</sup> Seth L. Alper,<sup>3,4,5</sup> Jean Delaunay,<sup>6</sup> Carla Auremma,<sup>1,2</sup> Roberta Russo,<sup>1,2</sup> Roberta Asci,<sup>1</sup> Maria Rosaria Esposito,<sup>1</sup> Alok K. Sharma,<sup>3,4,5</sup> Boris E. Shimukler,<sup>3,4,5</sup> Carlo Brugnara,<sup>7</sup> Lucia De Franceschi,<sup>8</sup> and Achille Iolascon<sup>1,2\*</sup>

Am. J. Hematol. 88:66–72, 2013.

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**Variant *ABCB6* functional alleles and diseases (3)**

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Journal of Dermatological Science  
Articles in Press

Article in Press

Novel missense mutations of *ABCB6* in two chinese families with dyschromatosis universalis hereditaria


Chenxia Lu<sup>1</sup>, de Lu<sup>1</sup>, Fang Lu, Yueluo Liu, Donglai Ma<sup>2,3</sup>, Yue Zhang<sup>2,3</sup>

\*These authors contributed equally to this work.

Received: May 26, 2014; Published Online: September 13, 2014  
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jdermsci.2014.08.015>  
Publication stage: In Press Corrected Proof

**Abstract** | Full Text | Images | References | Supplemental Materials

Dyschromatosis universalis hereditaria (DUH) is a very rare genodermatosis characterized by generalized hypopigmented and hyperpigmented macules of varying sizes and shapes occurring over almost all the body. It was first described in 1933 by Ichikawa and Higazi. It is most commonly reported in Japan [1], but has also been reported in other parts of Asia, Europe, America, and Africa. The skin lesions in DUH show no seasonal change or spontaneous regression with age [2]. Systemic abnormalities, including short stature, high-frequency deafness, erythrocyte, platelet and tyrosinase metabolism abnormalities, insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, bilateral glaucoma and unilateral cataract, photosensitivity along with neurosensory hearing defects, and grand-mal seizures, are rare [3].

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**This illustrates the “gain-of function mutation” concept**

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It sometimes appears to be much "better" not to have the protein at all than having an altered form of the protein!

=> This defines the so-called "gain-of-function mutations", that change the gene product such that the protein gains a new and abnormal function (also called “neomorphic mutations). Such mutations usually demonstrate a dominant trait.

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## ABCB6 and anticancer drug resistance

ANTICANCER RESEARCH  
International Journal of Cancer Research and Treatment

ANTICANCER RESEARCH 34: 4767-4774 (2014)

### Expression of ABCB6 Is Related to Resistance to 5-FU, SN-38 and Vincristine

KENTARO MINAMI<sup>1\*</sup>, YOSHIE KAMIO<sup>2\*</sup>, YUKIHIKO NISHIZAWA<sup>1,2</sup>, SHO YABATA<sup>1,2</sup>, FUMITO HORIKUCHI<sup>3\*</sup>, MASATAKI YAMAMOTO<sup>4</sup>, KOHEI KAWAHARA<sup>5</sup>, YOSHINARI SHINSAKI<sup>6</sup>, TORIYUKI TACHIBANA<sup>7</sup>, JIE-SEUNG CHOI<sup>8</sup>, KAZUYUKI TATEKAWA<sup>2</sup>, MASAYUKI NAKAGAWA<sup>9</sup>, NAHIBO SEKI<sup>1</sup>, SHIN-ICHI AKIYAMA<sup>1\*</sup>, KAZUNARI ARIMA<sup>1</sup>, YASUO TAKEJIMA<sup>1</sup> and TATSUHIKO FURUKAWA<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Molecular Oncology, <sup>2</sup>Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology and <sup>3</sup>Undergraduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Kagoshima University, Kagoshima, Japan; <sup>4</sup>Department of Organic and Biological Chemistry, Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Kagoshima University, Kagoshima, Japan; <sup>5</sup>Institute for Advanced Bioscience, Kinki University, Yamaguchi, Japan; <sup>6</sup>College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, St. John's University, Queens, NY, U.S.A.; <sup>7</sup>Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Science, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan; <sup>8</sup>Department of Functional Genomics, Chiba University Graduate School of Medicine, Chiba, Japan; <sup>9</sup>Clinical Research Center, National Kyushu Cancer Center, Fukuoka, Japan

**Abstract.** A previously established arsenite-resistant cell line, KAS, is also resistant to a variety of anticancer drugs. In order to understand responsible molecules for the multidrug resistance phenotype of KAS cells, we examined the expressions of ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporters and found that the ABCB6 and ABCG1 multidrug resistance protein 1 (ABCC1/MRP1) were increased. ABCG1/MRP1 was not completely responsible for the drug resistance spectrum of KAS cells and several reports have suggested that ABCB6 is related to anticancer drug and metal resistance. We, therefore, established and examined ABCB6-expressing KB cells and ABCB6-knockdown KAS cells. ABCB6 expression enhanced resistance to 5-fluorouracil (5-FU), SN-38 and vincristine (Vcr) but not to arsenite. Conversely, down-regulation of ABCB6 in KAS cells increased the sensitivity of KAS cells to 5-FU, SN-38 and

Are the Lan- people more sensitive to 5-FU anticancer drug?  
Could the usual dose of 5-FU be toxic in Lan- patients (overdosage)?

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INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA TRANSFUSION SANGUINE

## Acknowledgements

## Acknowledgements

Lionel Arnaud, Carole Saison, Virginie Helias, Jean-Pierre Cartron,  
and all the staff of the French National IRL  
National Institute of Blood Transfusion - Paris

Bryan Ballif  
University of Vermont, Burlington, USA

Toru Miyazaki  
Japanese Red Cross, Hokkaido Blood Center, Japan

Yoshihiko Tani  
Japanese Red Cross, Kinki Block Blood Center, Japan

All Lan- patients/donors who kindly accepted to participate to our  
research works

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## Blood group system update: The Vel blood group system

Jill R. Storry, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Chair, ISBT Working Party on Red Cell  
Immunogenetics and Blood Group nomenclature

AABB meeting  
25 October 2014  
Philadelphia

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### Case study 2014-10-15

- ◆ Female; born 1944, admitted for cardiac ablation
  - In OP, "low risk" for bleeding
- ◆ Tx 2006 with 2 x B+ RBCs, 2 x Plts
  - Negative type and screen
- ◆ Tx 2004 with 2 x Plts
- ◆ 15/10: screening cells 3+ IAT-gel
- ◆ Blood grouping:

Anti-A	Anti-B	Anti-D	Anti-D	A1c	Bc
0	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+

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### Acute antibody investigation

Provd datum: 15/10      Labtext: *Antitetras*

Testery	IAT gel	Pap gel	IAT/PEG	IAT rör	NaCl rör	Testery	Gel Station	IAT gel	Pap gel	IAT/PEG	IAT rör	NaCl rör
Auto	---					S 1	11					
AK 1	+++	+++				S 2	##					
AK 2	+++	+++				S 3	##					
AK 3	+++	+++				B 1						
AK 4	+++	+++				B 2						
AK 5	+++	+++				B 3						
AK 6	+++	+++				B 4						
AK 7	+++	+++				Kontroll						
AK 8	---	---				Datum	15/10					
AK 9	+++	+++				Serolist	15/10					
AK 10	+++	+++				Fenotypning						
AK 11	+++	+++				Antigen	K <sub>u</sub>					
Uant	15/10	15/10				Pos	4H					
Enant	---	---				Neg	---					
Serolist	15/10	15/10				Susp 1	---					
DAT	Rör	Gel	IgG	C3d	ctl gel	Susp 2	---					
Datum						Datum	15/10					
Serolist						Serolist	15/10					
						Läst	15/10					
NOTERING						UTLÄTANDE						

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### Antibody investigation contd.



Metod	NaCl	1% gel	1% gel	Antigen
Testery				
10/20/14 A	+			Group O card RBCs
10/20/14 A	+			Group O card RBCs
10/20/14 A	+			B <sub>1</sub> -b14r
Datum	10/20/14	10/20/14	10/20/14	
Satt	Cip	Cip	Cip	
Läst	Cip	Cip	Cip	




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### Further testing showed:



- ◆ Patient typed Vel-, E-, s-, Fy(a-)
- ◆ Other antibodies excluded
- ◆ Antibody was completely inactivated with 10 mM DTT: IgM!!!
- ◆ Titre: 2 with untreated RBCs, 64 with papain-treated RBCs




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### Case #2



- ◆ Positive antibody screen prior to elective surgery on a group B RhD- 72 year-old woman
- ◆ Investigated 8 years previously at another regional hospital 8 years when treated for a hip fracture
- ◆ Previous investigation looked like an autoantibody:
  - DAT-positive
  - Positive auto control
  - Hemolysis with papain-treated RBCs
- ◆ Untransfused, pregnancy history unknown




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### Case #2 Serology



Current investigation:

- Strong reactivity with papain-treated RBCs in gel
  - Negative autocontrol
- 8 av 9 panel RBCs reactive with gel-IAT
  - Reactivity from +<sup>W</sup> to 2+
  - Negative autocontrol
- Rouleaux in saline 4°C and RT
- DAT negative
- 6 av 10 RBC concentrates compatible by gel-IAT




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### Antibody ID panel



	D	C	E	c	e	M	N	S	P	K	k	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	Gel IAT	Pap-37C
1	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	2+	3+
2	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	2+	3+
3	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	1+	3+
4	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	2+	3+
5	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	2+	3+
6	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	1+ <sup>W</sup>	3+
7	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	1+ <sup>W</sup>	3+
8	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+
9	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	1+	3+
Egna																0	




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### Additional testing



- Papain autoadsorption was ineffective
  - Performed based on previous report
- Not inhibited by pooled plasma
  - AK8 known to be Rg- and Kn(a-)
- Surgery started despite low Hb
  - Deemed low bleeding risk




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### Investigation cont.d

Enzyme- and DTT-treated RBCs:

	Gel-IAT
Papain	3+
Trypsin	3+
α-chymotrypsin	2+
Pronase	4+
200mM DTT	1+W

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### Interpretation

Papain	Trypsin	α-cl	Pronase	DTT	Probable specificity
0	0	0	0	+	Ch/Rg, Xg <sup>a</sup>
0	0	0	0	0	In, JMH
0	0	+	0	+	MN, En <sup>a</sup> TS, Ge2, Ge4
0/+	+	0	0	+	'N', Ss, Fy <sup>a</sup> /Fy <sup>b</sup> , Fy6
0/+	+	0	0	0	Yt <sup>a</sup>
0	+	+	0	+	En <sup>a</sup> FS
+	0	0	0	+ <sup>w</sup>	Lu, MER2
+	0	0	+	+ <sup>w</sup>	Knops
+	+	+	+	0	Kell
+	+	+	+ <sup>w</sup> /0	0	Sc
+	0	+ <sup>w</sup>	0	0	Do, Ge3
+	+	0	0	0	Cromer,
+	+	+ <sup>w</sup>	0	0	LW
+	+	+	+	+	Jk3, Fy3, Di <sup>a</sup> , Co <sup>a</sup> , Ge3; Ok <sup>a</sup> , P, LKE, Ai <sup>a</sup> , Cs <sup>a</sup> , Emm, Er <sup>a</sup> , Jr <sup>a</sup> , Lan, Vel, PEL
+	+	+	+	++	Kx

Reid, Lomas Francis & Olsson: The blood group antigen factsbook 3rd ed. 2012 Academic Press

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### The patient was transfused...

- ◆ Postop day 1: the patient suffered from heart complications due to her anemia
  - Transfused with one of the compatible units
- ◆ After ~50 mL, the patient suffered from chills and vomiting
- ◆ Transfusion stopped and samples sent to the lab

➔ The serological picture combined with the clinical reaction made us suspect anti-Vel...

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### Why anti-Vel...



- The patient's plasma reacted more weakly with DTT-treated RBCs
- Rainer T. et al. The effects of dithiothreitol-treated red blood cells with anti-Vel. Transfusion 2004;44:122A (Suppl.)
  - 4/10 anti-Vel showed weaker reactivity with DTT-treated RBCs




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### Confirmed in Lund



Antibody	Untreated			DTT-treated		
	Vel+, K-	Vel-, K+	Vel-, K-	Vel+, K-	Vel-, K+	Vel-, K-
1.Vel + K	3+	2+	0	3+	0	0
2.Vel	3+	0	0	2+	0	0
3.Vel + K	1+	3+	0	0	1+	0
4.Vel	2+	0	0	2+	0	0
5.Vel	3+	0	0	1+w	0	0




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### Antibody confirmation



- Patient's RBCs typed Vel-neg
- Plasma was compatible with 3 examples of 3 Vel- RBCs
- Patient also had HLA antibodies

The patient refused further transfusion




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### Vel antigen varies considerably on normal RBCs



	D	C	E	c	e	M	N	S	s	P	K <sub>1</sub>	k	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	Pt	Kand anti-Vel	
1	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	2+	3+
2	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	2+	3+
3	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	1+	2+
4	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	2+	2+st
5	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	2+	2+
6	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	1+st	2+	
7	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	1+st	2+st	
8	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	1+	
9	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	2+	



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### Bakground Vel: a 60-year-old puzzle



- ◆ Anti-Vel described in 1952 by Sussman and Miller
  - Patient with antibodies to an unknown high-prevalence antigen who suffered a severe hemolytic transfusion reaction
- ◆ Anti-Vel are often a mixture of IgG and IgM
  - Hemolytic *in vivo* and *in vitro*
  - Evidence that perhaps it was a carbohydrate antigen
- ◆ Clinically important in transfusion and in hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn
- ◆ In Sweden, 1 in ~1700 individuals lack the Vel antigen
  - Prevalence in other European populations is 1 in ~5000



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### A clinical problem that has long awaited a solution



- ◆ Difficult to perform Vel phenotyping:
  - No commercial reagents
  - No monoclonal antibodies
  - Well-known variability in Vel expression
- ◆ Global shortage of Vel-negative blood
  - In southern Sweden, we had only one active Vel-negative donor...
  - Umeå, in Northern Sweden has provided Vel-negative blood world-wide
- ◆ We have searched for the Vel molecule and its gene for a long time



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**Turned to SNP arrays....**

**Hypothesis**  
The Vel-negative phenotype is caused by a homozygous founder mutation surrounded by an identifiable SNP signature


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Umeå

Lund


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**Sample cohort for SNP analysis with Illumina HumanOmni 2.5M BeadChip**

Array 1			Array 2		
Sample nr.	Vel phenotype	Source	Sample nr.	Vel phenotype	Source
1	Vel-	Lund donor	17	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå
2	Vel-	brother 1	18	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå
3	Vel+ weak	son	19	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå
4	Vel+ weak	daughter	20	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå
5	Vel-	Umeå sibling donor	21	Vel-	unrelated donor Lund
6	Vel-	Umeå sibling donor	22	Vel+	unrelated donor Umeå
7	Vel-	Umeå sibling donor	23	Vel-	Lund donor
8	Vel+ weak	Umeå sibling donor	24	Vel-	brother 1
9	Vel-	patient with anti-Vel	25	Vel+	brother 2
10	Vel-	patient with anti-Vel	26	Vel+ weak	son
11	Vel-	Unrelated donor Lund	27	Vel+ weak	daughter
12	Vel+	unrelated donor Umeå	28	Vel-	unrelated donor Detroit
13	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå	29	Vel-	unrelated donor Minneapolis
14	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå	30	Vel-	unrelated donor Houston
15	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå	31	Vel+ weak	unrelated donor Philadelphia
16	Vel-	unrelated donor Umeå	32	Vel+ weak	unrelated donor Lund

DNA from 20 Vel- individuals; 2 families


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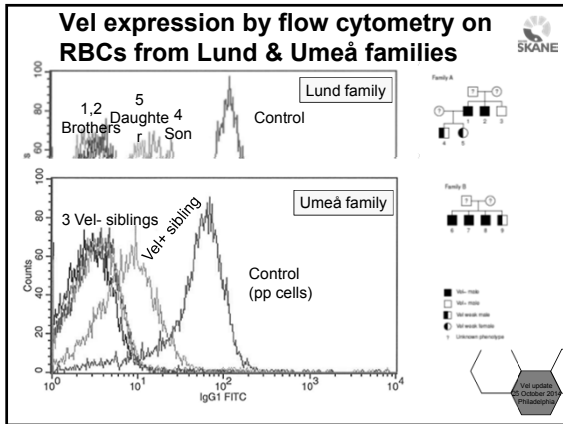
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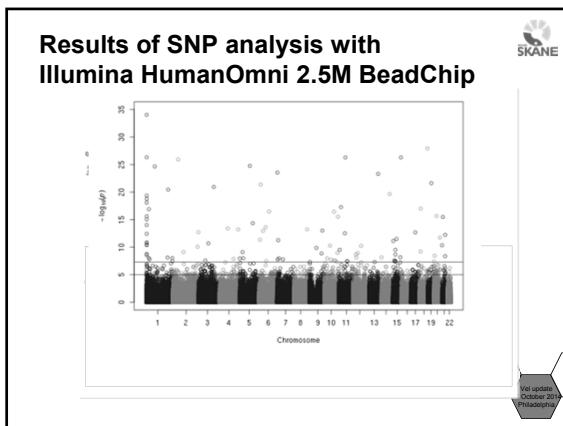
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### Candidate genes

Candidate	AA (kDa)	Protein product	Function/localisation
CCDC27	656 (75.4)	Coiled-coil domain-containing protein 27	Unknown
SMIM1	78 (8.7)	Uncharacterised protein	Type 1 transmembrane protein
LRRC47	583 (63.4)	Leucine-rich repeat-containing protein 47	RNA-binding, phenylalanine-tRNA ligase
CEP104	925 (104.4)	Centrosomal protein 104kDa	Centriole, cytoskeleton
DFFB	338 (39.1)	DNA fragmentation factor, 40 kDa, beta polypeptide	Nucleus, apoptosis factor

CCDC27

SMIM1

LRRC47

CEP104

DFFB

Vel update: October 2014 (Pre-publication)

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**SMIM1 consists of four exons with an open reading frame contained within exons 3 & 4**

Non-coding  
 Coding

**SMIM1 mRNA found in:**

- peripheral blood
- erythroleukemia cell lines of CML origin (e.g. K562, HEL)
- Primary bone marrow from healthy volunteers cultured towards erythroid cells

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**Sequence analysis of SMIM1 in Vel-negative individuals**

Non-coding  
 Coding

- All Vel- samples have the same 17-bp deletion (c.64-80) in exon 3!
  - Gene sequenced in 43 Vel- individuals
  - Predominantly Swedish but also from USA, UK, Switzerland, Israel
  - The mutation disturbs the open reading frame and causes a frameshift
- No mutation identified in 2 ABTI- samples (from the same family)

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**What does SMIM1 encode?**

- NCBI = uncharacterised protein
  - Ensembl = No gene product
- No homology with other human proteins!
  - No known functional motifs ⇒ no known function
- However – high homology with all other mammals
  - 56% homology i zebrafish

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### SMIM1

- 78 amino acids
- Type 1 transmembrane protein

Figure: Anja Nylander

Vel updates: 05 October 2014, Philadelphia

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### SMIM1 can be detected by med Western blot

- ◆ Four overlapping peptides synthesised to the extracellular domain
  - Inhibition studies showed partial inhibition with some anti-Vel
- ◆ Polyclonal antibodies raised in rabbits to peptides 1 & 3
  - High specificity by Western blotting
  - Very high titre, especially antibody to SMIM1 peptide 1

Vel updates: 05 October 2014, Philadelphia

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### Transfection of K562 cells show Vel expression is dependent on SMIM1

- ◆ cDNA from Vel+ or Vel- individuals was cloned into the pEF1α-IRES-ZsGreen1 expression vector
- ◆ Transfected into K562 cells
- ◆ Analysed after 48 hours with flow cytometry with human anti-Vel
- ◆ Analysed by Western blot using anti-SMIM1

Condition	Anti-Vel reactivity
Mock	~1.5
mut. cDNA	~1.5
wt cDNA	~8.5

Vel updates: 05 October 2014, Philadelphia

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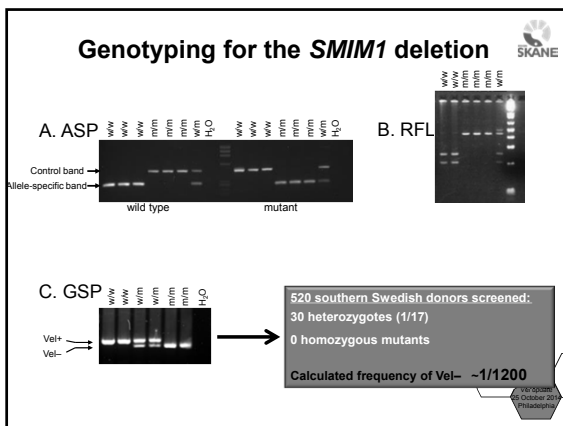
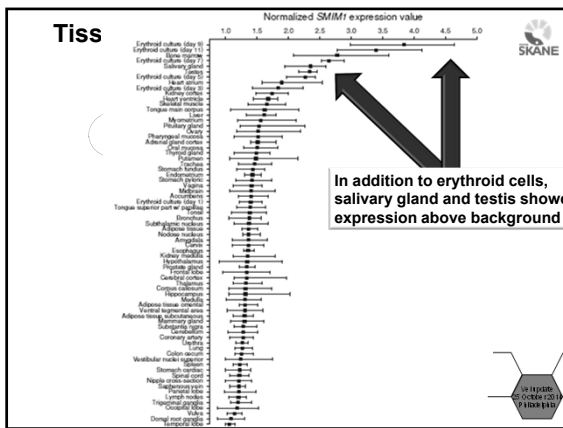
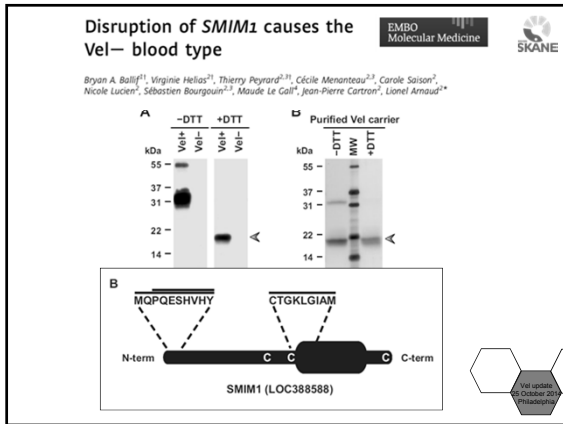
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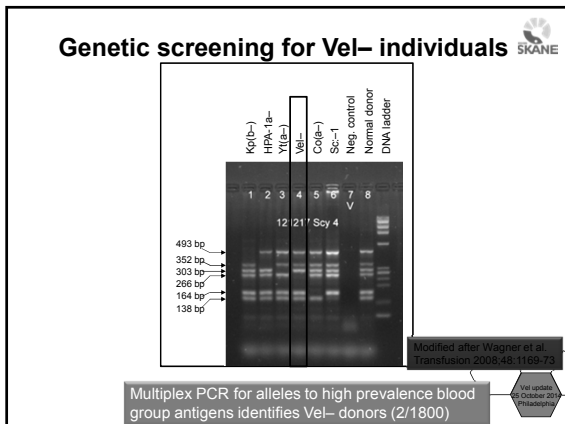
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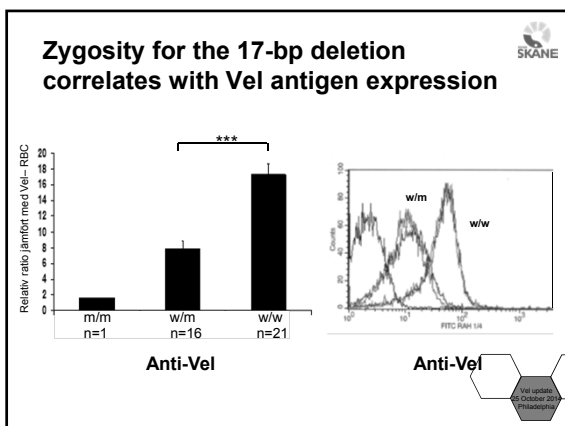
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### Other nucleotide variations that affect Vel antigen expression

- 152 T>A/G Met51Lys/Arg  
 Cvejic et al. Nat. Genet 2013;45:542-5  
 Storry et al. Transfusion 2013;53:40A  
 van der Schoot et al. Vox Sang 2014;107 (Suppl):16
- Weakens Vel antigen expression, confirmed by transfection studies in HEK-293T cells (van der Schoot)
- Rs1175550, located in *SMIM1* intron 2

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### The *SMIM1* gene and SNPs in intron 2


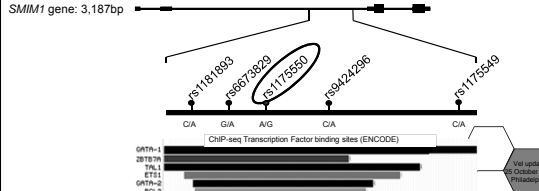


Table 1 | Genomic loci associated with red blood cell phenotypes

Region	Sentinel SNP	Position (kb)	Alleles (CA/AA)	MAF	Phenotype	Effect (SE)	P	Candidate genes
1p34	rs1175550	39,681,388	G/A	0.22	MCHC	0.008 (0.013)	$8.6 \times 10^{-10}$	<i>CCDC27</i> , <i>LINC48</i> <sup>†</sup>
1p34	rs3925109	39,842,826	G/A	0.71	MCH	0.008 (0.006)	$3.1 \times 10^{-10}$	<i>HEYL</i> <sup>†</sup>
1p32	rs741959	47,448,820	G/A	0.57	MCV	0.157 (0.025)	$6.0 \times 10^{-10}$	<i>TAL1</i> <sup>†</sup>
1q23	rs857684	156,842,353	C/T	0.74	MCHC	-0.006 (0.011)	$3.5 \times 10^{-16}$	<i>OR9Y1</i> , <i>OR10Z1</i> <sup>†</sup> , <i>SPTA1</i> <sup>††</sup>

*SMIM1* gene: 3,187bp



CHIP-seq Transcription Factor binding sites (ENCODE)

GATA-1, ZBTB78, TAL, ETS1, GATA-2, BCL3

† var der Haas et al. Nature 2012  
†† updated 05 October 2014 (PhosphoSitePlus)

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### SNP rs1175550



- Major rs1175550A and minor rs1175550G alleles
- Situated within a non-canonical binding motif of GATA-1:
 

-TAGATTGG-

-TAGGTTGG-



-GATA-1 binding motif from JASPAR database
- Presumably, the G allele disrupts this GATA-1 site  
 ⇒ less *SMIM1* expression?

† updated 05 October 2014 (PhosphoSitePlus)

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### Material & Methods



- 150 samples from Swedish blood donors
  - Screened for the 17 bp deletion to include only samples that were homozygous wild type
- Prepared nuclear extracts from the erythroid HEL cell line for EMSA

Tissue/material	Application
Genomic DNA	Sequencing
Extracted mRNA	RT-qPCR
Peripheral blood	Flow cytometry
RBC membranes	Western blot
Nuclear extract	Electrophoretic Mobility Shift Assay (EMSA)

† updated 05 October 2014 (PhosphoSitePlus)

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### Sequencing

◆ rs1175550 allelic distribution, n=150:

↓

TCCTAGATTGGGC

rs1175550	
AA	60,7%
AG	33,6%
GG	5,7%

↓

TCCTAGGTTGGGC

◆ Comparable to the frequencies reported by 1000Genomes  
 – 76% A and 24% G

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### qPCR and flow cytometry show high expression linked to rs1175550G

*SMIM1* transcript levels in blood

Vel antigen expression levels on RBCs

◆ rs1175550G => highest transcript level and anti-Vel reactivity  
 ◆ rs1175550A => lowest transcript level and anti-Vel reactivity  
 ◆ 63% of variation in anti-Vel reactivity can be contributed to rs1175550G (in the absence of the 17-bp deletion)

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### rs1175550 as a candidate regulator of *SMIM1* expression

◆ None of the other SNPs showed any correlation between *SMIM1* expression and genotype

C/A G/A **G** C/A C/A ⇒ HIGH

C/A G/A **A** C/A C/A ⇒ LOW

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**Function?**



SKANE

Vol Update  
15 October 2014  
Pharmacology

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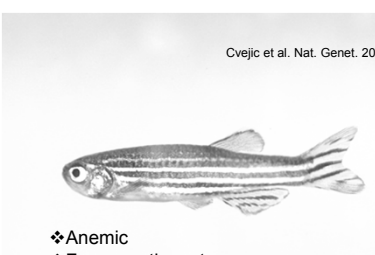
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**SMIM1 knockout zebrafish**



Cvejic et al. Nat. Genet. 2013;45:542-5

- ❖ Anemic
- ❖ Fewer erythrocytes

Role in Hb/heme/Fe metabolism ?

SKANE

Vol Update  
15 October 2014  
Pharmacology

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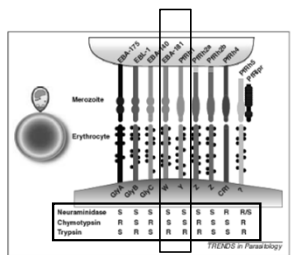
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**Malaria ligands and RBC receptors**



Tham WH, Healer J, Cowman AF. *Trends in Parasitology*, 2012;28, 23-30

SKANE

Vol Update  
15 October 2014  
Pharmacology

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### Is SMIM1 the chymotrypsin-sensitive *Plasmodium falciparum* receptor?

Anti-SMIM1 vs. protease-treated erythrocytes

Vel updates: 15 October 2014 Philadelphia

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### Conclusions

- Expression of the Vel blood group antigen is controlled by the erythroid gene, *SMIM1*
- The majority of Vel- individuals are homozygous for a 17-bp deletion in exon 3
  - Vel- individuals are human "knock-outs" and lack SMIM1
- SMIM1 is expressed at the RBC surface although the function is not yet known
- The sequence is conserved throughout evolution, which implies that it is a functionally relevant protein
- We can screen for Vel-negative donors using a simple DNA-based method
- These data form the basis of evidence that elevates Vel to a new blood group system, number 34

Vel updates: 15 October 2014 Philadelphia

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### Classification of blood group antigens 2014

342 antigens

303

39 "orphans"

High prevalence

Low prevalence

ABTIctions

Vel updates: 15 October 2014 Philadelphia

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**Thanks to...**

**Funding:**  
National Blood Foundation  
ALF  
Region Skåne  
The Crafoord Foundation  
Swedish Research Council  
Medical Faculty, Lund University  
Harald Jeansson's Foundation  
Marianne och Marcus Wallenbergs Foundation  
Foundation for Strategic Research

**Collaborators:**  
Björn Nilsson, Lund  
Johan Malmström, Lund  
Joyce Poole, Bristol  
Jan Hamilton, Detroit  
Hein Hustinx, Bern  
Vered Yahalom, Tel Aviv



Martin Olsson's group



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