

A recurrent splice-site mutation in EPHA2 causing congenital posterior nuclear cataract

Journal:	<i>Ophthalmic Genetics</i>
Manuscript ID	NOPG-2017-0092.R2
Manuscript Type:	Case Report
Date Submitted by the Author:	n/a
Complete List of Authors:	Berry, Vanita; UCL, Institute of Ophthalmology, Genetics Pontikos, Nikolas; UCL Genetics Institute Albarca-Aguilera, Monica; Saphetor.com Plagnol, Vincent; UCL Genetics Institute Massouras, Andreas; Saphetor.com Prescott, DeQuincy; UCL, Institute of Ophthalmology Moore, Anthony; University of California, San Francisco Arno, Gavin; Moorfields Eye Hospital & UCL Institute of Ophthalmology Cheetham, Michael; UCL, Institute of Ophthalmology Michaelides, Michel; UCL, Institute of Ophthalmology, Genetics; Moorfields Eye Hospital
Keywords:	EPHA2, Congenital Cataract, WGS

SCHOLARONE™
Manuscripts

A recurrent splice-site mutation in *EPHA2* causing congenital posterior nuclear cataract

Vanita Berry^{1*\$}, Nikolas Pontikos^{1,3\$}, Monica Albarca-Aguilera⁴, Vincent Plagnol³, Andreas Massouras⁴, DeQuincy Prescott¹, Anthony T. Moore⁵, Gavin Arno¹, Michael E. Cheetham¹ and Michel Michaelides^{1,2*}

\$ These authors contributed equally to this work.

¹UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, 11-43 Bath Street, London EC1V 9EL, UK;

²Moorfields Eye Hospital, London EC1V 2PD, UK;

³UCL Genetics Institute, London WC1E 6BT, UK;

⁴Saphetor.com;

⁵UCSF, USA;

Corresponding authors:

Dr Vanita Berry, Department of Genetics, Institute of Ophthalmology, University College London, 11-43 Bath Street, London EC1V 9EL, UK; Phone: +44 207 608 4041 FAX: +44 207 608 6863; email: v.berry@ucl.ac.uk

Professor Michel Michaelides, Department of Genetics, Institute of Ophthalmology, University College London, 11-43 Bath Street, London EC1V 9EL, UK; Phone: +44 207 608 6864, FAX: +44 207 608 6903; email: michel.michaelides@ucl.ac.uk

Abstract

Introduction: Inherited cataract, opacification of the lens, is the most common worldwide cause of blindness in children. We aimed to identify the genetic cause of autosomal dominant posterior nuclear cataract in a four generation British family.

Methods: Whole genome sequence (WGS) was performed on two affected and one unaffected individual of the family and further validated by direct sequencing. Haplotype analysis was performed via genotyping.

Results: A splice-site mutation c.2826-9G>A in the gene *EPHA2*, encoding EPH receptor A2 was identified and found to co-segregate with disease.

Conclusions: We have identified a recurrent splice-site mutation c.2826-9G>A in *EPHA2* causing isolated posterior nuclear cataract, providing evidence of further phenotypic heterogeneity associated with this variant.

KEYWORDS: Congenital cataract, *EPHA2*, Whole genome sequencing

Introduction

Cataract is the most common cause of blindness in the world, representing almost half of all causes of blindness globally: the WHO estimates that 18 million people are bilaterally blind from cataract (1). The incidence of congenital cataract in the UK is 1-15 /10,000 births; this is a significant cause of childhood visual impairment (2,3). Congenital cataract alone and/or the associated surgical treatment can lead to irreversible amblyopia, glaucoma and retinal detachment.

Congenital cataract can occur in isolation or in association with other systemic abnormalities, and is a predominant feature in more than 200 genetic disorders. However, the majority (about one-third) of congenital cataracts are familial and display substantial genotypic and phenotypic heterogeneity (4,5). Inheritance is most commonly autosomal dominant (AD), usually with complete penetrance but with highly variable expressivity. Less frequently, autosomal recessive and X-linked

1
2
3 inheritance patterns are seen. The phenotypic classification is based on the position
4 and type of the lens opacity including: anterior polar, posterior polar, nuclear,
5 lamellar, coralliform, blue-dot (cerulean), cortical, pulverulent, polymorphic, complete
6 cataract and posterior nuclear cataract (6,7).
7
8

9
10
11 Significant progress has been made in identifying the molecular genetic basis of
12 human cataract. Multiple genes (>38) have been implicated including those coding
13 for crystallins (*CRYAA*, *CRYAB*, *CRYBA1*, *CRYBA4*, *CRYBB1*, *CRYBB2*,
14 *CRYBB3*, *CRYGC*, *CRYGD* and *CRYGS*), membrane gap junction proteins (*GJA3*,
15 *GJA8*), water channel proteins (*AQP0*), solute carrier protein (*SLC16A12*), various
16 cytoskeletal proteins (e.g., phakinin, filensin, vimentin), transmembrane proteins
17 (*TMEM114*), lens intrinsic membrane protein (*LIM2*), chromatin modifying protein-4B
18 (*CHMP-4B*), transcription factor genes (*PAX6*, *FOXE3*, *EYA1*, *MAF*, *PITX3*) (8), an
19 endoplasmic reticulum membrane-embedded protein, Wolframin (*WFS1*) (9), and
20 receptor tyrosine kinase gene EPH receptor A2 (*EPHA2*) (10).
21
22
23
24
25
26
27

28 Here we report a recurrent mutation in the *EPHA2* gene causing an isolated
29 autosomal dominant posterior nuclear cataract in a four generation British family.
30
31
32
33
34
35

36 **Methods**

37
38
39 *Phenotyping:* The family in this study was identified through the proband attending
40 the Genetic Service at Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, UK. Local ethics committee
41 approval was obtained and all individuals taking part gave written informed consent.
42 All the family members underwent full ophthalmic examination, with careful slit lamp
43 examination. In this pedigree, all affected individuals were diagnosed as having
44 posterior nuclear cataract.
45
46
47
48

49
50
51 *DNA Extraction:* Genomic DNA was extracted from EDTA sequestered blood
52 samples taken with informed consent and local ethical approval using the Nucleon II
53 DNA extraction kit (Scotlab Bioscience, Strathclyde, Scotland, UK).
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS): Genomic DNA was processed using the Illumina TruSeq DNA PCR-Free Sample Preparation kit (Illumina) and sequenced using an Illumina HiSeq 2500, generating mean genome coverage of 35x. WGS was done by a service provider (Macrogen.Inc., Korea). Raw data in fastq format was analysed using Saphetor's online-bioinformatics platform (<https://portal.saphetor.com>). Sequence reads were aligned to UCSC hg19 human reference sequence (build GRCh37) and variants were called using Saphetor's variant discovery pipeline. The variants identified in the three analysed samples were analysed together using joint genotyping. A total of 402,106 heterozygous mutations segregated in the two affected individuals while being absent from the unaffected individual. After filtering for novel mutations, not seen in Kaviar (<http://db.systemsbio.net/kaviar/>) or in the Gnomad databases (<http://gnomad.broadinstitute.org>), 14,265 variants remained. Only coding variants or non-coding variants within 50 base pairs into an intron were kept, reducing the variant list down to 344. Finally, this list was further filtered using a gene panel of 117 genes linked to congenital cataract which yielded a single variant. The congenital cataract gene list was created by merging genes associated to congenital cataract by three different sources: HPO January 2017 version (<http://human-phenotype-ontology.github.io/>), Centogen (https://www.centogene.com/centogene/centogene-test-catalogue-detail.php?test=NGS&ID=3d960353&search=Panel&disease=Cataract_panel) and CatMap (<http://cat-map.wustl.edu/>).

Sanger sequencing: In order to validate the variant identified by next-generation sequencing, bi-directional direct Sanger sequencing was performed in all the individuals. Genomic DNA was amplified by PCR using GoTaq 2X master mix (AB gene; Thermo Scientific, Epsom, UK) and *EPHA2*-specific primers using the primer3 program (Table 1). PCR conditions were as follow: 94 C for 10 minutes followed by 30 cycles of amplification of 30 seconds at 94°C, 30 seconds at 60°C, and 45 seconds at 72°C. The final step was disabled. Direct Sanger sequencing of PCR products was performed using the BigDye version 3.1 (Applied Biosystems) on a ABI 3730 DNA Analyzer and analyzed using sequence analysis version 5.2. After confirming the variant, segregation analysis was performed in all the individuals in the family. We also screened 200 healthy individuals from the European population for the identified variant. Furthermore, 96 isolated patients were screened from our

1
2
3 autosomal dominant congenital cataract (ADCC) panel for *EPHA2* by bi-directional
4 direct Sanger sequencing of all coding exons and intron/exon boundaries.
5
6

7
8 **Haplotype Analysis:** Haplotype analysis was performed, in this family carrying the
9 splice mutation c.2826-9G>A, to compare with the previously published families
10 harbouring the same mutation as in our study. Five microsatellite markers from the
11 1p36.1 region namely D1S2697, D1S436, D1S1592, D1S2826 and D1S2644 were
12 used to check the haplotype in the pedigree. PCR-based genotyping was performed
13 using qPCR Master mix and fluorescent ABI marker set HD-10 version 2.5 (Applied
14 Biosystems, Warrington, UK) for the chromosome 1p region encompassing *EPHA2*
15 gene. PCR products were mixed with HD-400 size standard and were separated on
16 ABI PRISM 3730 Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems). Genotypes were assigned
17 with GeneMarker software V1.85 (Applied Biosystems). The region was refined
18 using markers from [Marshfield](#), GDB Human genome database and Ensemble
19 databases.
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

32 Results

33
34
35 A large four-generation pedigree comprising 15 members, including 8 affected
36 individuals, 5 unaffected individuals, and 2 spouses were examined and all affected
37 members had evidence of posterior nuclear cataract (PNC). Opacities were seen in
38 the embryonic and fetal nucleus along with the posterior pole of the lens. All affected
39 individuals had bilateral congenital cataract and age at onset was from birth; one
40 patient (IV-4) shown in the pedigree also had glaucoma (Figure 1).
41
42
43
44
45

46 Two affected individuals (III-1, IV-4) and one unaffected (IV-5) were sequenced by
47 whole genome sequencing (WGS). Variant annotation and filtering yielded a single
48 heterozygous variant in *EPHA2* (chr1p36), NM_004431.4: c.2826-9G>A, 9 base
49 pairs from the acceptor splice site into the 16th intron of the gene. This variant was
50 classified as affecting splicing by dbSNV v.1.1 (11).
51
52
53
54

55 Direct sequencing confirmed a single base substitution (c.2826-9G>A;
56 p.D942fsXC71) in intron 16 of *EPHA2* that cosegregated with all affected members
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 of the family (Figure 2). This single base substitution has been reported by Zhang et
4 al (14) and is predicted to create a novel splice acceptor site in the intronic sequence
5 causing an extra 7bp to be included in the processed transcript. It is predicted to
6 result in a frame-shift in codon 942 and likely produce an aberrant protein with an
7 additional 71 amino acid residues. The sequence variant is located in the SAM
8 domain of *EPHA2*. The structural prediction of the SAM domain for this protein
9 shows that the structure of the mutant protein is considerably different than that of
10 the wild type protein (Figure 3). The identified variant was not seen in 200 healthy
11 individuals from the European population. We also screened *EPHA2* in our entire
12 ADCC panel (n=96); no other likely disease-causing variants were found.

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21 Haplotype analysis was undertaken using five microsatellite markers D1S2697,
22 D1S436, D1S1592, D1S2826 and D1S2644 from the 1p36.1 region spanning
23 6.67Mb encompassing *EPHA2* in order to compare with the previously published
24 Australian families carrying the same mutation (14,15). Recombinant chromosomes
25 were identified with the markers D1S2697 in unaffected individuals II-4, and III-2 and
26 III-9; D1S436 in only one unaffected III-9; D1S1592 in 2 unaffected members II-2
27 and III-9; D1S2826 was completely uninformative and finally D1S2644 in three
28 unaffected members II-4, III-2 and III-9. The Individuals III2 and III9 did not carry the
29 mutation despite carrying the disease haplotype of the microsatellite markers (Figure
30 1). The *EPHA2* gene resides between markers D1S436-0.58Mb- *EPHA2* -1.6Mb-
31 D1S1592. We covered this region with all available markers on the Marshfield list to
32 further narrow down the distance between these two markers harbouring the gene,
33 which basically appeared to be very tightly linked. Whole genome mapping also
34 missed this locus and showed significant lod score 2.9 on two different loci 10q11.23
35 with SNP_1725084 and 10q21.1 with SNP_1720615 respectively. Further,
36 microsatellite markers were used to check these regions on chromosome 10q and
37 were excluded (data not shown). The haplotype alleles were different than in the
38 previously published three Australian families, suggesting that this recurrent mutation
39 was an independent event and resulted in a different phenotype.
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Discussion

Here we report a recurrent splice-site mutation c.2826-9G>A in EPH receptor A2 (*EPHA2*) on chromosome 1p36.1 (12,13) caused an isolated posterior nuclear cataract (PNC) in a four generation English family. This recurrent mutation has been identified to cause posterior nuclear cataract for the first time and further emphasises the heterogeneity associated with congenital cataract. Previously, the same mutation has been reported in three Australian families causing total congenital cataract (14, 15).

Bilateral posterior nuclear cataract (PNC) is a clinically distinct phenotype. Opacities were seen in the embryonic and fetal nucleus along with the posterior pole of the lens in all the affected family members. *EPHA2* thereby plays a significant role in lens development and transparency, having been shown to be highly expressed in epithelial cells and fiber cells, with an *EPHA2* knock-out mice resulting in progressive cortical cataract in mice (16).

EPHA2 comprises 17 exons, encoding a transmembrane protein of 976 amino acids with an extracellular amino-terminal and cytoplasmic carboxy-terminal. The extracellular region comprises a conserved Eph-ligand binding domain, a cysteine-rich domain, two fibronectin type-III repeats, a transmembrane segment, a juxtamembrane region, a tyrosine kinase, a cytoplasmic sterile- α -motif (SAM) and PDZ domain in the cytoplasmic region (17). The SAM domain of the protein shows majority of the cataract causing mutations.

So far, 8 different autosomal dominant pathogenic mutations have been reported in *EPHA2*; one American family, three Australian families, one British and three Chinese families, whereas an autosomal recessive mutation was reported in a Pakistani family with a nuclear cataract (14,15,18,19). Recently, Bu et al identified a novel splice donor site mutation c. 2825+1G >A in a Chinese family with autosomal dominant nuclear cataract (20) (Summarised in Table 2). In the population of South-East Australia, approximately 5% of inherited cataracts are caused by the pathogenic mutations occurring in *EPHA2* gene (15).

1
2
3 Eph receptors represent the largest family of receptor tyrosine kinases and are
4 divided into EphA receptors and EphB receptors (9 EPHAs and 5 EPHBs),
5 preferentially binding to type A and type B ephrins respectively (5 EFNAs and 3
6 EFNBs). The Eph family is capable of bidirectional signaling upon interaction
7 between receptor-ligand pair (17). Eph-ephrin ligands play a major role in
8 morphogenesis and in numerous developmental processes along with lens
9 homeostasis (21,22,23). It has been shown that ephrin-A5 acts as a regulator for
10 *EPHA2*, as loss of ephrin-A5 function can lead to progressive cataract in mice, thus
11 describing the significance of *EPHA2* signalling in maintaining lens transparency and
12 architecture. Further studies have shown that the interaction of ephrin-A5 with *EPHA2*
13 receptor regulates the adherens junction complex; this is caused by enhanced
14 recruitment of β -catenin to N-cadherin (24).
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

24 As most of the pathogenic mutations were found in the SAM domain, Park *et al* have
25 investigated the effect of SAM domain mutations on *EPHA2* activity. These
26 mutations cogently destabilised the transiently expressed mutant proteins, impaired
27 cell migration, reduced to half-life, and underwent degradation through the
28 proteasomal pathway. These mutations did not show any effect on receptor
29 activation, but caused a reduction in phosphorylation of Akt, a downstream effector
30 molecule in *EPHA2* signaling (25, 26). Recently Dave et al have further investigated
31 the effects of two mutations, p.T940I and p.D942fsXC71 (as identified in our study),
32 located within the SAM domain. These mutations resulted in protein mis-localization
33 to the perinuclear space and co-localized with the cis-Golgi apparatus which
34 indicated the sub-organellar/cellular retention of the mutant proteins. Mis-localization
35 of these mutant proteins in epithelial cells suggested that some pathogenic
36 mutations in *EPHA2* probably affect lens epithelial cell homeostasis and plays a
37 significant role in catarctogenesis.
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47

48 Two studies have shown the deleterious effect of p.D942fsXC71; leading to total
49 cataract in three Australian families (14,15) Here we have found the recurrent
50 p.D942fsXC71 in a British family with a different phenotype, posterior nuclear
51 cataract. These results show further heterogeneity in inherited cataract, with the
52 same mutation, on a different genetic background, causing a different phenotype,
53 presumably through diverse mechanisms.
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Acknowledgments

Funding/ Support: Supported by grants from the National Institute for Health Research Biomedical Research Centre at Moorfields Eye Hospital National Health Service Foundation Trust and UCL Institute of Ophthalmology (UK), Moorfields Eye Hospital Special Trustees (UK), Moorfields Eye Charity (UK), and the Foundation Fighting Blindness (USA). Michel Michaelides is supported by an FFB Career Development Award.

We would like to thank the members of the family for taking part in this study.

References

1. Gilbert C, Foster A. Childhood blindness in the context of VISION 2020—the right to sight. Bull World Health Organ 2001; 79:227-32. [\[PubMed\]](#)
2. Rahi JS, Dezateux C. Measuring and interpreting the incidence of congenital ocular anomalies: lessons from a national study of congenital cataract in the UK. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2001; 42:1444–1448. [\[PubMed\]](#)
3. Reddy MA, Francis PA, Berry V, Bhattacharya SS, Moore AT. Molecular genetic basis of inherited cataract and associated phenotypes. Surv Ophthalmol 2004; 49:300-315. [\[PubMed\]](#)
4. Krumpaszky HG, Klauss V: Epidemiology of blindness and eye disease. Ophthalmologica 1996; 210: 1–84. [\[PubMed\]](#)
5. Churchill A and Graw. J Clinical and experimental advances in congenital and paediatric cataracts Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B 2011; 366: 1234–1249. [\[PubMed\]](#)
6. Ionides A, Francis P, Berry V, Mackay D, Bhattacharya SS, Shiels A, Moore AT. Clinical and genetic heterogeneity in autosomal dominant congenital cataract. Br J Ophthalmol. 1999; 83:802-8. [\[PubMed\]](#)

- 1
2
3 7. Francis PJ, Berry V, Bhattacharya SS, Moore AT: The genetics of
4 childhood cataract. J Med Genet 2000a; 37: 481–488. [\[Pub Med\]](#)
5
- 6 8. Shiels A, Bennett TM, Hejtmancik JF. Cat-Map: putting cataract on the
7 map. Mol Vis 2010; 16:2007-15. [\[PubMed\]](#).
8
- 9 9. Berry V, Gregory-Evans C, Emmett W Waseem N, Raby J, Prescott D,
10 Moore AT, and Bhattacharya SS. Wolfram Gene (WFS1) Mutation
11 Causes Autosomal Dominant Congenital Nuclear Cataract in Humans;
12 2013;21(12):1356-60. [\[PubMed\]](#)
13
- 14 10. Shiels A, Bennett TM, Knopf HL, Maraini G, Li A, Jiao X and
15 Hejtmancik JF. The *EPHA2* gene is associated with cataracts linked to
16 chromosome 1p. Mol Vis; 2008 14: 2042–2055. [\[PubMed\]](#)
17
- 18 11. Xueqiu J, Boerwinkle E, and Liu X. “In Silico Prediction of Splice-
19 Altering Single Nucleotide Variants in the Human Genome.” Nucleic
20 Acids Research 2014; 42(22):13534–44. [\[PubMed\]](#)
21
- 22 12. Ionides AC, Berry V, Mackay DS, Moore AT, Bhattacharya SS, Shiels
23 A. A locus for autosomal dominant posterior polar cataract on
24 chromosome 1p. Hum Mol Genet 1997; 6:47-51. [\[PubMed\]](#)
25
- 26 13. McKay JD, Patterson B, Craig JE, Russell-Eggitt IM, Wirth MG, et al.
27 The telomere of human chromosome 1p contains at least two
28 independent autosomal dominant congenital cataract genes. Br J
29 Ophthalmol 2005; 89: 831–834. [\[PubMed\]](#)
30
- 31 14. Zhang T, Hua R, Xiao W, Burdon KP, Bhattacharya SS, Craig JE,
32 Shang D, Zhao X, Mackey DA, Moore AT, Luo Y, Zhang J, Zhang X.
33 Mutations of the *EPHA2* receptor tyrosine kinase gene cause
34 autosomal dominant congenital cataract. Hum Mutat 2009; 30:E603-
35 11. [\[PubMed\]](#).
36
- 37 15. Dave A, Laurie K, Staffieri SE, Taranath D, Mackey DA, Mitchell P,
38 Wang JJ, Craig JE, Burdon KP, Sharma S. Mutations in the *EPHA2*
39 gene are a major contributor to inherited cataracts in South-Eastern
40 Australia. PLoS One 2013; 8:e72518-[\[PubMed\]](#)
41
- 42 16. Jun G, Guo H, Klein BE, Klein R, Wang JJ, et al. *EPHA2* is associated
43 with age-related cortical cataract in mice and humans. PLoS Genet
44 2009; 5: e1000584. [\[PubMed\]](#)
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

17. Pasquale EB. Eph receptors and ephrins in cancer: bidirectional signalling and beyond. *Nat Rev Cancer* 2010; 10:165- 80. [\[PubMed\]](#)
18. Kaul H, Riazuddin SA, Shahid M, Kousar S, Butt NH, et al. Autosomal recessive congenital cataract linked to *EPHA2* in a consanguineous Pakistani family. *Mol Vis* 2010; 16: 511–517. [\[PubMed\]](#)
19. Shentu XC, Zhao SJ, Zhang L, Miao Q. A novel p.R890C mutation in *EPHA2* gene associated with progressive childhood posterior cataract in a Chinese family. *Int J Ophthalmol* 2013;6: 34–38. [\[PubMed\]](#)
20. Bu J, He S, Wang L, Li J, Liu J, Zhang X. A novel splice donor site mutation in *EPHA2* caused congenital cataract in a Chinese family. *Indian J Ophthalmol*. 2016; 64(5):364-8. [\[PubMed\]](#)
21. Pasquale EB. 2005. Eph receptor signalling casts a wide net on cell behaviour. *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol* 2005; 6:462-475. [\[PubMed\]](#)
22. Lackmann M, Boyd AW. Eph, a protein family coming of age: more confusion, insight, or complexity? *Sci Signal* 2008; 1(15):re2. [\[PubMed\]](#)
23. Pasquale EB. Eph-ephrin bidirectional signaling in physiology and disease. *Cell* 2008; 133:38-52. [\[PubMed\]](#)
24. Cooper MA, Son AI, Komlos D, Sun Y, Kleiman NJ, Zhou R. (2008) Loss of ephrin-A5 function disrupts lens fiber cell packing and leads to cataract. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2008; 105: 16620–16625. [\[PubMed\]](#)
25. Park JE, Son AI, Hua R, Wang L, Zhang X, Zhou R. Human Cataract Mutations in *EPHA2* SAM Domain Alter Receptor Stability and Function. *PLoS One* 2012; 7: e36564. [\[PubMed\]](#)
26. Park JE, Son AI, Zhou R. Roles of *EPHA2* in Development and Disease *Genes* 2013; 4:334-357. [\[PubMed\]](#)
27. Dave A, Martin S, Kumar R., Craig JE, Burdon KP, Sharma S. *EPHA2* mutations contribute to congenital cataract through diverse mechanisms. *Molecular Vision* 2016; 22:18-30 [\[PubMed\]](#)

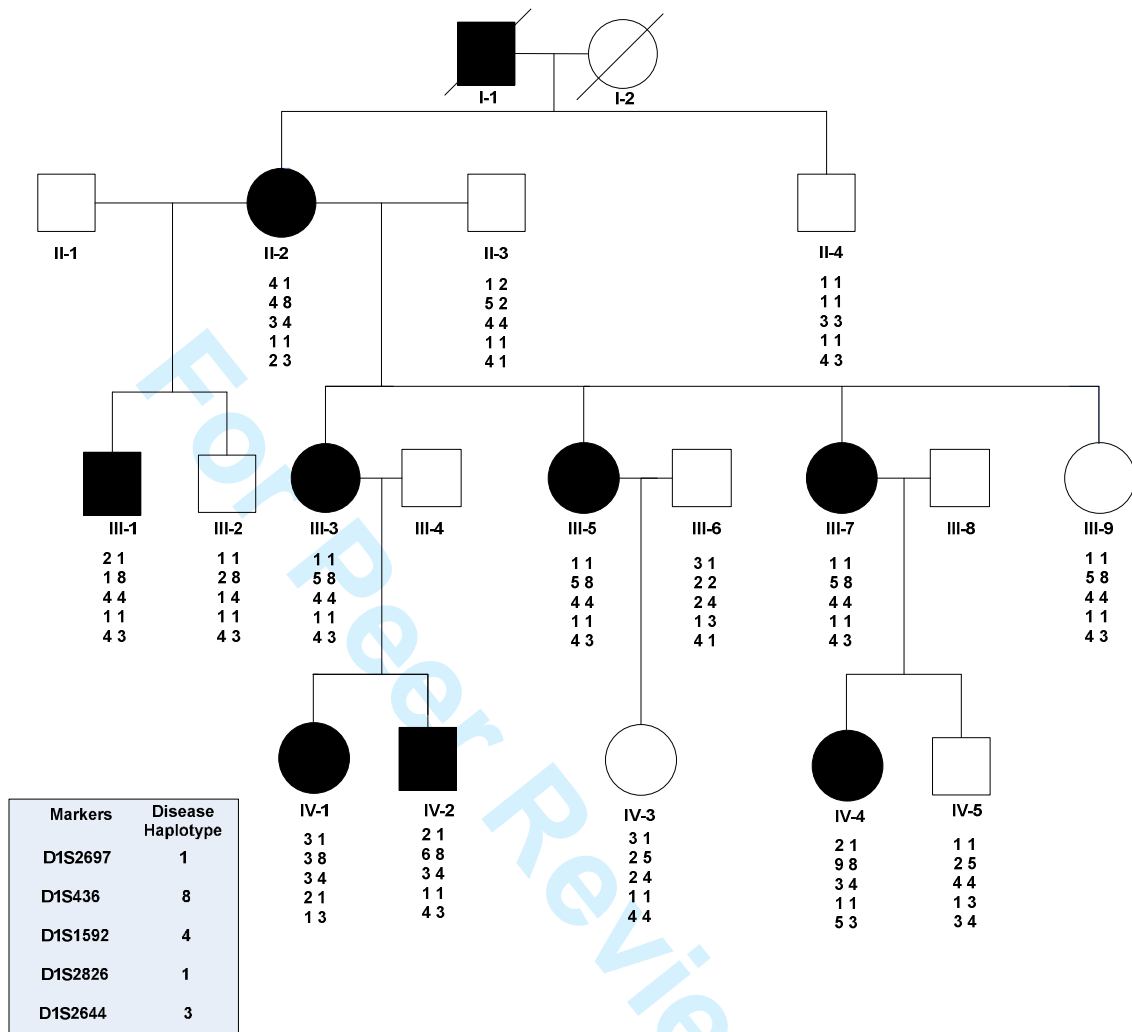


Figure-1: Abridged pedigree of the posterior nuclear cataract family in this study showing the segregation of five chromosome 1p markers encompassing *EPHA2* gene listed in descending order. Squares and circles symbolize males and females respectively. Open and filled symbols indicate unaffected and affected individuals. Markers and the disease haplotype is shown in the box.

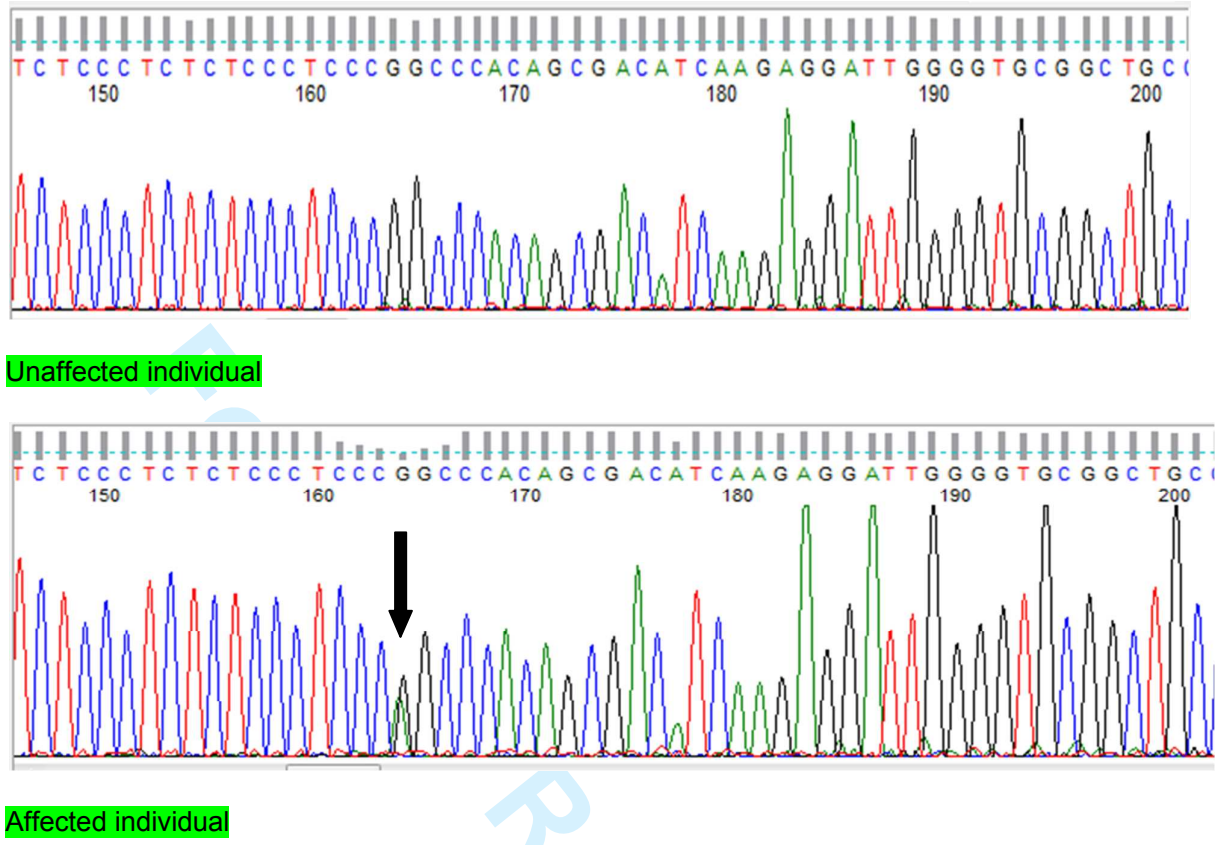


Figure 2: Sequence analysis of *EPHA2* gene with an unaffected individual (upper chromatogram) illustrates a normal control and a splice-site mutation c.2826-9G>A shown in an affected individual with posterior nuclear cataract.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Review Only

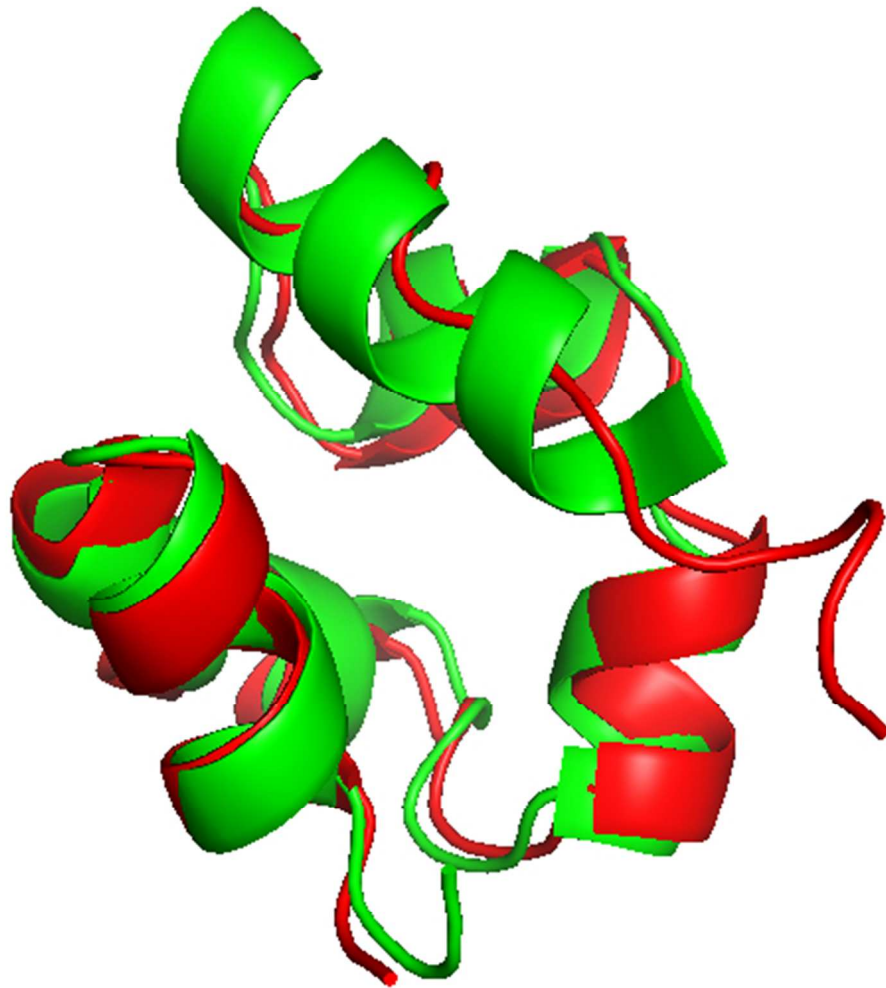


Figure 3: The predicted structure of the SAM domain of the mutant EPHA2 protein (red) shows considerable differences with that of the wild type protein (green).

Table 1. PRIMERS FOR EPHA2

Set	Forward primer	Reverse primer	Annealing temp °c	Product size(bp)
Exon1	gacgctcaaactttggaagg	ttattctccggagcccctat	60	614
Exon2	cgagggatgattttcttggga	ctgggcctcagtttctccat	60	305
Exon3a	tcagccacttatggatgcag	AAGGCCAGGTAGAAGCCTTT	60	559
Exon3b	ACGTGACTGCAACAGCTTCC	gcagggatgagcttaccgaag	60	616
Exon4	ttgccgatgagaaaacaggt	GCAGGTGACGCTGTAGACAA	60	506
Exon5	CTCCTGCGAGTGTGAGGAA	acttctctgctgcctctct	60	596
Exon6	tgagcacaggagttaaagc	gctgccttgggagatgtaac	60	481
Exon7	gagtcttggtcatgcattt	tgattcattcctttcccaag	60	439
Exon8	ccccacatacctgcaatacc	cgtatatcctgcaccatcc	60	447
Exon9	cctcctaggaccaaagtaggg	gagacttggaccaggctgtg	60	311
Exon10	TCTCCAAGTCAGgtgagacg	AGCATGCCCTTGTACACCTC	60	534
Exon11	CATCCATCCTGTGTCACCTCG	Caggatttggggagaagtgg	60	496
Exon12-13	Cacacctctccccatacctg	Aggaccattgcagccaag	60	687
Exon14	Ccctgcatggtgtcctct	Tggagcaagcctaagaaggt	60	419
Exon15	Ggtggcagctcaagaaagg	Ggcatcgtgtccagtctaa	60	496
Exon16	Tggaggggcagcagtagtta	Attgaggggcaggaaga	60	462
Exon17	ttctaggctgtggctcctc	TCCCTGGTCATCTCCTCAGT	60	487

Table 2: Spectrum of mutations in the *EPHA2* gene leading to Congenital Cataract

DNA change	Protein-consequence	Protein-domain	Inheritance	Phenotype	Origin	Reference
c.2842G>T	p.G948W	SAM	Dominant	posterior sub-capsular	American	[10]
c.2819C>T	p.T940I	SAM	Dominant	Posterior polar	China	[14]
c.2915_2916del TG	p.V972GfsX39	SAM	Dominant	Posterior polar	British	[14]
c.2826-9G>A	p.D942fs+C71	SAM	Dominant	Total	Australia	[14]
c.2353G>A	p.A785T	Tyrosine kinase	Recessive	Nuclear	Pakistan	[18]
c.2668C>T	p. R890C	Between-Tyrosine kinase and SAM domain	Dominant	Posterior polar	China	[19]
c.1751C>T	p.P584L	Juxtamembrane	Dominant	Nuclear	Australia	[15]
c.2826-9G>.A	p.D942fs+C71	SAM	Dominant	Total	Australia 2	[15]
c.2875G>A	p.A959T	SAM	Dominant	Subcapsular and Cortical	Australia	[15]
c. 2825+1G >A	p.D942E*	SAM	Dominant	Nuclear	China	[20]
c.2826-9G>A	p.D942fs+C71	SAM	Dominant	Posterior-nuclear	British	Present-study