

13th International Conference on

Laboratory Medicine & Pathology

June 25-26, 2018 | Berlin, Germany

IgG₄ deficiency with gene deletion in down syndrome

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Background & Aim: IgG₄ deficiency is more frequent among persons with Down syndrome (DS), without identifying explanation. The role of IgG₄ deficiency which is not fully established for many affected persons in the general population are asymptomatic. Nevertheless, in the context of DS it may be an important factor in repeated infections and even stroke. The aim of the present study was to investigate the molecular mechanism of IgG₄ deficiency at the level of the heavy chain gene (IGHG4) gene.

Methodology: Quantitative real-time polymerase chain reaction (Q-PCR) was carried out to measure IGHG4 copies number with SYBR Green detection and comparison to a reference gene (36B4). A IGHG4/36B4 ratio was considered normal (2 copies of IGHG4) when between 0.8 and 1.2. We studied 44 DS persons: 21 males and 23 females from 7 years to 57 years, composed of 23 DS persons (11 males and 12 females) carrying severe IgG₄ deficiency (<0.02 g /L), 5 having an IgG₄ level not detectable and 21 DS subjects (10 males and 11 females) with no IgG₄ deficiency (level >0.1 g /L). The patient group was compared with 38 healthy donors (controls) without DS.

Results: IGHG4 heterozygous deletion was found in 16 (69.6%) DS patients with IgG₄ deficiency versus in 2 (9.5%) DS subjects without IgG₄ deficiency (p=0.0001 with Yates correction) in the control group, no deletion was seen.

Conclusions: IGHG4 haploinsufficiency is highly correlated to IgG₄ deficiency in our population with DS, but other factors exist that needs to be identified.

Biography

Jeraiby M has completed his Residency Program in Medical Biology (MD) at Saint-Étienne University Hospital Center, France. He is currently an Assistant Professor in Medical Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, Jazan University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He has published more than 7 papers in international journals and has been serving as a Reviewer in clinical case report journal.

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