

Analyzing Missense Mutations of the MAPT/Tau Gene to Predict Variant Pathogenicity in Alzheimer's Disease

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ABSTRACT: Alzheimer's Disease (AD) continues to affect millions of people and is a leading cause of death in the United States. This stands true mainly in light of the fact that the underlying mechanisms of AD are unclear and there is no effective method of preventing neurodegeneration. The Tau protein, however, has shown to play an important role in the pathogenesis of the disease. Mutations in the MAPT/Tau gene can lead to complications in the functionality of Tau, potentially fast-tracking AD development. The goal of this study was to investigate potential missense mutations in this gene in order to identify those that were most pathogenic. Since missense mutations carry unknown effects on protein function, they were closely examined. Several amino acid (AA) changes such as hydrophobicity, charge, and polarity were investigated. Of 109 reported missense mutations, 72 resulted in significant AA changes. Due to their unknown effects, additional criteria such as AA conservation and mutation location with respect to tubulin-binding domains were also factored in to investigate overall impact. Through this comprehensive methodology, three mutations that were more likely to carry deleterious effects and potentially causing AD susceptibility in individuals with these alterations were identified.

KEYWORDS: Biomedical and Health Sciences; Genetics and Molecular Biology of Disease; Alzheimer's Disease; Tau; Bioinformatics.

Introduction

Alzheimer's Disease (AD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder associated with memory loss and dementia. At least 5.8 million individuals over the age of 65 within the United States live with the illness today and there were more than 120,000 recorded mortalities in 2018 alone, making it the sixth leading cause of death in the nation. There is no known cure for the disorder as of now, but the frequency of cases is rising exponentially per decade, making it increasingly important to further understand the underlying causes of the illness.

During initial stages of progression, AD targets areas of the brain that are responsible for controlling thought, memory, and language, including the hippocampus and the entorhinal cortex, making these structures vulnerable to atrophy. This results in an inability to recall basic information such as recent events or familiar names. As the disease progresses, the patient may be unable to recognize friends and family. They may also have trouble with verbal communication including reading, writing, and in some cases, speaking. During late-stage AD, the patient will need around the clock care, and this can be very demanding of family members and/or caregivers. The patient will eventually lose the ability to carry out essential tasks such as bathing, eating, or dressing and will be in constant need of attention.

The exact cause of AD is unknown, but genetics is speculated to be one of the most prominent factors to be associated with the illness. Mutations in the Microtubule Associated Protein Tau (MAPT/Tau) gene can affect the functioning of the Tau protein. In healthy brains, the protein is primarily responsible for microtubule assembly and construction. Recent

studies have also shown that Tau plays a vital role in cellular signaling, synaptic plasticity, and genomic stability. However, under certain conditions, it can become insoluble, resulting in synaptic dysfunction and eventually, neural cell death, often referred to as tauopathies. This process occurs in a wide range of neurodegenerative disorders, including AD and Parkinson's.8 The amount of phosphate within the brain also has an impact on the behavior of the Tau protein. In healthy adults, the brain consists of 2 to 3 moles phosphate per mole of Tau, and its biological activity is suppressed by hyperphosphorylation. However, in the brains of Alzheimer's patients, Tau is hyperphosphorylated to approximately 3 to 4 times it should typically be. Because the function of the protein becomes compromised, abnormal Tau folding may occur, which can lead to a genesis of paired helical and straight filaments within neurons.9 This prompts the formation of neurofibrillary tangles and Tau accumulation within synapses and can lead to synaptic blockage, inhibiting cellular communication and resulting in cell death.

Genetic mutations always occur in cells but are often harmless. Occasional mutations in gene sequences that encode for crucial amino acids can, however, have severe repercussions as they may alter the way the protein functions altogether. This study looked at the various missense mutations of the MAPT/ Tau isoform 6 gene through the use of Geno2MP, an online software that searches a database of rare variants from exome sequencing data. Missense mutations were specifically targeted in this study due to their unknown effect on protein function and pathogenicity. Changes in hydrophobicity, charge, and polarity were determined, then analyzed through the addition of special criteria. The Clustal Omega server and NCBI

were used to gauge AA conservation within the MAPT/Tau FASTA sequence in humans and other organisms including Caenorhabditis elegans (Ce), Danio rerio (Dr), Drosophila melanogaster (Dm), Mus musculus (Mm), Rattus norvegicus (Rn), and Xenopus tropicalis (Xt). This would allow for the determination of the importance of each mutation and formulate a more accurate conclusion on mutation significance. In an effort to further improve the accuracy and validity of the analysis, the four tubulin-binding domains to which some of these altered amino acids belong were also identified through use of databases such as MARRVEL (Model organism Aggregated Resources for Rare Variant ExpLoration) and NCBI. Typically, AAs within these domains are known to be essential for protein functionality therefore mutations taking place here were more closely examined. A combination of all these factors were used while evaluating and identifying the most harmful missense mutations in the MAPT/Tau gene to see if they could potentially contribute to dementia and AD.

Methods

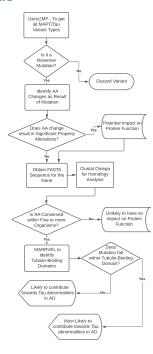


Figure 1: Workflow diagrams for identifying most deleterious mutations of the MAPT/Tau gene. Analysis was mutually exclusive.

Identifying Missense Mutations in the MAPT/Tau gene:

The online software, Geno2MP, was used to generate a list of all possible mutations and their properties within the MAPT/Tau isoform 6 gene (NP_001116538.2). Geno2MP is an online tool that searches a database for rare variants from exome sequencing data linked to phenotypic information from a variety of Mendelian gene discovery projects. The database contains information from more than 19,000 individuals that includes both persons affected by Mendelian conditions and unaffected relatives of these persons. A table containing all possible MAPT/Tau isoform 6 mutations was generated and then exported to Microsoft Excel, where further analysis took place. Data was then filtered by looking at the "fxnAnnotation" column, where only missense

mutations were included, while the rest were discarded. Missense mutations were closely examined because their effects on the protein are still unclear as they could carry negative or negligible effects. Identifying these mutations would later allow for a closer look at what effects they can inflict on the overall functioning of the Tau protein. They were evaluated in terms of resulting AA property changes, AA conservation, and their locations with respect to tubulin-binding domains. Mutations that satisfied these criteria (Figure 2) were deemed likely to alter the function of the Tau protein and contribute towards AD pathogenesis.

Identifying specific Amino Acid (AA) changes:

Upon studying the "hgvsProteinVar" column in the table, specific AA changes, and their locations in the gene were identified. Following this process, the effects of these changes were then noted. The three properties that were investigated in this analysis were hydrophobicity, polarity, and charge. These properties were confirmed true with verified online tables and sources. A change in any of these factors as a result of a missense mutation could have potentially impaired the function of the Tau protein. If a change in AA property took place, the mutation was noted as significant in the next column. All 109 mutations were still taken to the next step of analysis even though some were found insignificant.

Gauging Gene Conservation:

The FASTA sequence of the MAPT/Tau isoform 6 gene in Homo Sapiens was obtained through NCBI and recorded. In order to determine conservation amongst *Homo sapiens* (Hs) and the other organisms, the FASTA sequences of *Caenorhabditis elegans* (Ce), *Drosophila melanogaster* (Dm), *Danio rerio* (Dr), *Mus musculus* (Mm), *Rattus norvegicus* (Rn), and *Xenopus tropicalis* (Xt) were also taken note of. These sequences (including Hs) were entered into Clustal Omega, an online tool that aligned the AA sequences to test the level of AA conservation amongst different organisms. With this alignment data, each AA from the table was investigated to see which were shared with the other organisms at their respective locations. If organisms shared one or more of the same AA in the same position, it was marked as conserved at that location.

Finding Altered AAs in Tubulin-Binding Domains:

The MAPT/Tau protein has four tubulin-binding domains. For each domain, AA sequences were found through the MARRVEL/DIOPT software for MAPT/Tau isoform X1. Typically, AAs within these domains are known to be essential for protein functionality so mutations taking place here were closely examined. These AA sequences were then identified within the MAPT/Tau isoform 6 gene and their beginnings and ends were defined. Then, it was investigated whether any of the reported mutations took place within the tubulin-binding domains.

Results

Reported MAPT/Tau mutations:

The MAPT/Tau gene on chromosome 17 has a reported 109 missense mutations that were found through the Geno2MP online database. Each of these reported muta

tions were from mRNA NM_001123066.3, the MAPT/ Tau isoform 6 gene was used as a reference in this study. See Supplemental Table 1, for full list of identified missense mutations. These mutations were analyzed throughout the duration of this study.

Analysis of AA changes:

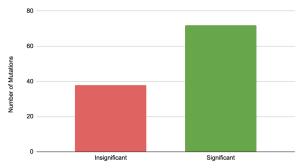


Figure 2: · Significance of Mutations· Of the 109 missense mutations reported, 72 were found to be significant based solely on resulting property alterations in hydrophobicity, polarity, and charge. 37 were said to be insignificant as they resulted in no changes in the traits listed above. For full list of mutation property changes, see Supplemental Table 2.

Missense mutations occur at a nucleotide level and can therefore lead to potential AA changes, causing certain alterations in protein function. The first mutation reported was G>A (guanine to adenine), which led to a change of the AA arginine (Arg) to histidine (His), (Supplemental Table 2). Three specific properties were investigated while evaluating AA changes that included hydrophobicity, polarity, and charge. Each AA property was determined and confirmed true through the use of verified sources. 10 Mutation #1 did not cause any changes in these properties, so it was marked as insignificant. The second mutation reported was G>T (guanine to thymine) and caused an AA change of arginine (Arg) to leucine (Leu). However, unlike the previous mutation, Mutation #2 was found to bring changes to the AA (Suplementel Table 2, Column 5), so it was marked as significant. This process was repeated several times in order to determine each mutation's theoretical impact on the protein and all findings are listed (Supplemental Table 2). Of the 109 identified missense mutations, 72 were found to alter the respective AA in regard to hydrophobicity, polarity, or charge and were therefore deemed significant (Figure 2).

AA Conservation amongst other organisms:

Caenorhabditis_Elegans(Worm)	NENERVEEKKOMSPTPSQPQHKTPQRSGIRPPTAILRQPK	21
Drosophila_Melanogaster(Fly)	KSKPDKSGTSRPPSA	48
Danio Rerio(Zebrafish)	KTNGDAEKRAPSSSRPHAAGTKIPAMTAVAKNGKDTAENSGHSSPGTP	12
Xenopus Tropicalis(Tropical Frog)	NATSASRIPAKTSSIPKTPPSA-VRRDQRKPPPSGAKPDRAESPKSGERSGYSSPGSP	47.
NP Homo Sapiens	GQANATRIPAKTPPAPKTPPSSATKQVQRRPPPAGPRSERGEPPKSGDRSGYSSPGSP	531
Mus Musculus(Mouse)	GTSNATRIPAKTTPSPKTPPGSASKQPQRKLPPAGAKSERGEPPKSGERSGYSSPGSP	52
Rattus Norvegicus(Rat)	GTSNATRIPAKTTPSPKTPPGSASKQPQRKLPPAGAKTERGEPPKSGERSGYSSPGSP	53
Caenorhabditis_Elegans(Worm)	PIPASLPRPATATPSSQRAISTPRQTASTAPSPRPISKMSRERSD	26
Drosophila_Melanogaster(Fly)	-TPSNKSAP-KSRSASKNRLLLKTPEPEPVKKVPMNKVQVGHAPSPNLKAVRSK	53
Danio_Rerio(Zebrafish)	KSPASKAAGG-KPPSTGNEIKKVAVIRSTPKSPKNRSPTSLSAAAPLPDLKNVRSK	18
Xenopus_Tropicalis(Tropical_Frog)	GTPTGRSSSQTPPTREPKKIAVIRTPPKSPASAKSRLQPVTSPAAMPDLKNVRSK	52
NP_Homo_Sapiens	GTPGSRSRTPSLPTPPTREPKKVAVVRTPPKSPSSAKSRLQTAPVPMPDLKNVKSK	59
Mus_Musculus(Mouse)	GTPGSRSRTPSLPTPPTREPKKVAVVRTPPKSPSASKSRLQTAPVPMPDLKNVRSK	58
Rattus_Norvegicus(Rat)	GTPGSRSRTPSLPTPPTREPKKVAVVRTPPKSPSASKSRLQTAPVPMPDLKNVRSK	58
	n 11 - n nh 15	
Caenorhabditis_Elegans(Worm)	VQKSTSTRSIDNVGRMT-PKVNAKFVNVKSKVGSVTNHKAGGGNVEIFSEK	31
Drosophila_Melanogaster(Fly)	IGSLDNATYKPGGGHVKIESKKIDIKAAPRIEAKNDKYMPKGGEKKIVTTKLQW	55
Danio_Rerio(Zebrafish)	VGSTDNLKHQPGGGRIQILDQKVDFSNVQSKCGSKANLKHTPGGGNVKILDQKVDFTKVQ	24
Kenopus_Tropicalis(Tropical_Frog)	IGSIDNIRHQPGGGKVQIVHKKIDLSSVQSKCGS	56
NP_Homo_Sapiens	IGSTENLKHQPGGGKVQIINKKLDLSNVQSKCGS	62
Mus_Musculus(Mouse)	IGSTENLKHQPGGGKVQIINKKLDLSNVQSKCGS	61
Rattus_Norvegicus(Rat)	IGSTENLKHQPGGGKVQIINKKLDLSNVQSKCGS	62
	1 *11	
Caenorhabditis_Elegans(Worm)	RLYNAQSKVGSLKNATHVAGGGNVQIENRKLDFS-	34
Drosophila_Melanogaster(Fly)	NAKSKIGSLENAAHKPGGGDKKIETLKMDFKD	62
Danio_Rerio(Zebrafish)	SKCGSKDNIKHAPGGGNVQILDQKLDLTNVQARCGSKDNLKHVPGGGKVQILHKKIDLS-	30
Xenopus_Tropicalis(Tropical_Frog)	KDNLKHMPGGGTIQITHKPIDLT-	58
NP_Homo_Sapiens	KDNIKHVPGGGSVQIVYKPVDLS-	65
Mus_Musculus(Mouse)	KDNIKHVPGGGSVQIVYKPVDLS-	64
Rattus_Norvegicus(Rat)	KDNIKHVPGGGSVQIVYKPVDLS-	64

Figure 3: Segment of Aligned FASTA sequence of Ce, Dm, Dr, Hs, Mm, Rn, and Xt - Image captured from Clustal Omega. Red letters signify small and hydrophobic AAs, blue represents acidic AAs, magenta letters represent basic AAs, and green represents AAs with a hydroxyl, sulfhydryl, or amine functional group. An asterisk (*) indicates positions which have a single, fully conserved residue (See highlighted columns for fully conserved AAs from mutation list), a colon (:) indicates conservation between groups of strongly similar properties a period (.) indicates conservation between groups of weakly similar properties.

Conservation is an important feature of AAs in a protein as it can be very useful for evaluating the cruciality of certain missense mutations. An essential AA is expected to be highly conserved amongst organisms, while relatively less important AAs are not as conserved. Significant changes in conserved AAs are more likely to alter the functioning of the protein because crucial AAs are at greater risk of resulting in property changes. In order to analyze the most important AA changes, then aligned the MAPT/Tau FASTA sequence of Caenorhabditis elegans (Ce), Drosophila melanogaster (Dm), Daniorerio (Dr), Mus musculus (Mm), Rattus norvegicus (Rn), Xenopus tropicalis (Xt), and Homo sapien (Hs) using the online software Clustal Omega (Figure 3). Of the 109 mutations, 83 were found to be conserved in at least one or more of the listed organisms (Supplemental Table 3), however only Mutation #91, Mutation #92, and Mutation #102 were conserved in all five (Table 1)

Table 1: Fully Conserved AAs from Mutation List. Within the 109 missense mutations, it was found that only three AAs were fully conserved amongst all tested organisms. For a full list of AA conservation, see Supplemental Data Table 3, Appendix 1.

Mutation #	hgvsProteinVar	hgvsAlleleChange	AA Conserved?	AA Conserved in
91	p.(P512S)	C>T	Yes	Ce, Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn, Xt
92	p.(P512H)	C>A	Yes	Ce, Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn, Xt
102	p.(I643T)	T>C	Yes	Ce, Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn, Xt

Mutations Within Tubulin-Binding Domains:

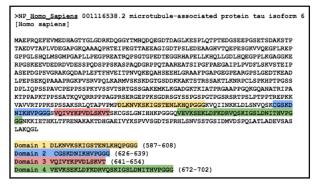


Figure 4: The four tubulin-binding domains of MAPT/Tau isoform 6 marked in its FASTA sequence (Source: NCBI/Protein). Domains are represented with corresponding colors. Domain 1 (587-608) is highlighted in yellow; Domain 2 (626-639) is highlighted in blue; Domain 3 (641-654) is highlighted in red; and Domain 4 (672-702) is highlighted in green.

The MAPT/Tau protein has four tubulin-binding domains, highlighted in Figure 3. It was found that only Mutation #101, #102, and #103 fall into one of these domains (Table 2). Mutations within these domains were explicitly inspected because AAs found within functional domains are known to be more essential for protein functionality.

Table 2: Mutations that took place in tubulin-binding Domains. Of the 109 different missense mutations, it was determined that only three (101-103) took place in the tubulin-binding domain. Mutation #101 occurred in Domain 2, Mutation #102 occurred in Domain 3, and Mutation #103 occurred in Domain 4. None of the recorded missense mutations took place in Domain 1.

Mutation#	hgvsAlleleChange	hgvsProteinVar	Domain of the Mutation		
101	G>A	p.(V635I)	Domain 2		
102	T>C	p.(I643T)	Domain 3		
103	G>A	p.(V698I)	Domain 4		

Discussion

In this study, an approach to predict the pathogenicity of possible MAPT/Tau missense mutations was developed. It was found that depending on the type of mutation and its location in the gene, the overall effects may vary. AA changes were analyzed in the context of polarity, hydrophobicity, charge, and conservation amongst various organisms. Specific AA changes were investigated based on their position in the different functional domains of the protein. This information could be used to predict the probability of having a damaged or impaired Tau protein and could further help in predicting the risk of AD occurrence in individuals. This general bioinformatics approach can be replicated to predict the occurrence of other genetic diseases/illnesses by utilizing the gene sequence of an affected protein. This technique could be used to predict certain cancers with a known genetic component and other proteins that play a role in AD such as amvloid beta.

A total of 109 missense mutations were analyzed in the MAPT/Tau gene and 72 of them were determined to be significant based on changes in their corresponding AA (Figure. 1). Mutation #101 (p.(V635I)), Mutation #102 (p.(I643T)), and Mutation #103 (p.(V698I)) were the only alterations that were found to occur within a tubulin-binding domain. Furthermore, Mutation #102 was the only variant change determined to be both significant and fully conserved amongst these three. Significance in this context refers to property changes in AAs as a direct result of a mutation. To test for overall significance on protein function and the vitality of the AA, conservation was also evaluated. Since the AA Isoleucine was fully conserved at its location (p.643), Mutation #102 is more likely to carry a deleterious effect on the overall functionality of the Tau protein. It is important here because based of this evidence, it can be concluded that Mutation #102 will most likely alter AA function, potentially impairing the functionality of the protein.

Mutation #91 (p.(P512S)) and Mutation #92 (p.(P512H)) were also found to be both fully conserved and significant based on property changes. However, unlike Mutation #102, neither belonged to a tubulin-binding domain. Because fully conserved AAs are more likely to alter the overall functionality of the protein and these mutations were determined to be significant, changes are more likely to carry through. Therefore, it was concluded that Mutation #91 and #92 also carry a high probability of damaging the Tau protein and can potentially lead to AD.

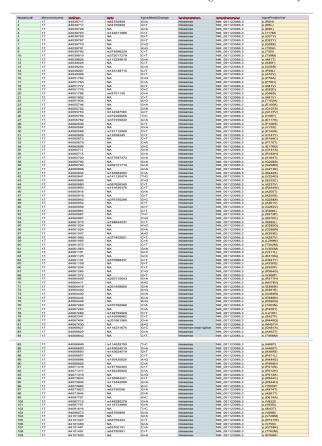
Several other mutations were noted as significant as well, however they did not all meet the conservation threshold, nor did they belong to a tubulin-binding domain. Significant property changes alone, are not always enough to considerably alter protein functionality. This needs to be taken into account along with AA conservation to obtain a more accurate result as to which mutations can be most deleterious.

■ Conclusion

Three missense mutations that were likely to damage the functionality of the Tau protein were identified. Mutation #91, #92, and #102 were fully conserved and brought changes to AA properties. Alterations as such in the MAPT/Tau gene could potentially increase the risk of developing Tau abnormalities and ultimately, AD. These specific changes can be detected early on through methods of gene analysis to predict AD occurrence and prevent or delay symptoms. By using this approach, there is a hope to pave the way for better understanding the underlying mechanisms of AD and predict its development in patients by looking at changes in relevant gene sequences.

Supplemental Data:

Supplemental Table 1: Geno2Mp Generated Missense Mutation list. It was discovered that there were 109 reported missense mutations in this specific gene. This table was found in the online database Geno2MP. It includes Mutation Number (#), Chromosome number (#), Chromosome position (chrPos), Reference SNP cluster ID (rsID), Allele Change (hgvsAlleleChange), Type of Mutation (fxnAnnotation), mrnaAccession, and the AA change and as a result of an alteration at the numbered locations(hgvsProteinVar). The symbols included here are change (>), adenine (A), cytosine (C), guanine(G), thymine (T), and position (p.). The mutation numbers shown here are constant throughout the entire analysis.



Supplemental Table 2. Mutation Property Changes.: The AA changes were evaluated based on polarity, hydrophobicity, and charge. Specific AA changes are highlighted in yellow and corresponding property shifts are highlighted in blue. Mutation significance is specified by a green highlight, while insignificant mutations are marked in red. Columns without a highlight were generated by Geno₂MP, and the others were a result of the analysis.

Mutation#	hovsAlleleChange G>A	havsProteinV	ar AA Change	AA Property Change Polar: Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Positive>Positive	Is the AA chance significant?
	G>A G>T	p.(RSH) p.(RSL)	Aroo-Leu	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Positive>Positive Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic; Positive>Uncharged	No Yes
		n (EQIC)	Glu>Lvs Thr>Met	Polar-Polar: Hydrophilic-Hydrophilic: Negative-Positive	
	G>A C>T	p.(11/M)	Thr>Met	Polar>Polar: Hvdroohilic>Hvdroohilic: Negative>Positive Polar>Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged >Uncharged	Yes No
	G>T	p.(G21V)	Gly>Val	Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
	G>T C>G	p.(D22Y) p.(Q26E)	Asp>Tvr Gin>Glu	Polar-Non-Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic: Negative>Uncharged Polar-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged >Negative;	Yes Yes
		n (T30A)	Thr>Ala	Polar>Non-Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophobic	Yes
	A>G C>T	p.(T30I)	Thr>lie	Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes
0	C>T G>A	p.(T39M)	Thr>Met	Polar>Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophilic: Uncharged >Uncharged Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	No Yes
1	G-A C-T	p.(A41T)	Ala>Thr Ser>Phe	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes Yes
		p.(S46F) p.(G55R)	Giv>Ara	Polar-Non-Polar, Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic Non-Polar-Polar, Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic Non-Polar-Polar Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-Hydrophobic-	
3 4	G>A C>T	p.(P59L)	Pro>Leu	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic: Uncharged >Positive Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	Yes No
5	C>T	p.(A72V)	Ala>Val	Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
16	C>G C>A	p.(P78A) p.(P78H)	Pro>Ala	Non-Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	No
8		p.(P/6H)	Aenyl/al	Non-Polar-Polar, Hydrophilic Shipdrophilic	Yes
9	A>T G>C	p.(D81V) p.(E82D)	Aso>Val Glu>Asp	Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic Polar>Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged >Negative	Yes
10	G>A	p.(G86S)	Gly>Ser	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
!1 !2	C>T A>G	p.(A91V) p.(T102A)	Ala>Val Thr>Ala	Non-Polar>Non-Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Polar>Non-Polar, Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	No Yes
13	G>A	p.(E105K)	Glu>Lys	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Negative>Positive	Yes
4		p.(G107S)	GlyaSer	Non-Polar-Polar Hydrophobic-Hydrophilic	Yes
!4 !5	G>A G>T	p.(G107V)	Gly>Ser Gly>Val	Non-Polar>Polar: Hvdrophobic>Hvdrophilic Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
16	T>C	p.(I108T)	lle>Thr	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
7 8	G>A C>T	p.(E117K)	Glu>Lvs Pro>Ser	Polar>Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic: Neoative>Positive Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes Yes
	G-A	p.(P126S) p.(V132f)	Val>lle	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Non-Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No No
9	C>T	p.(P140S)	Pro>Ser	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
1	C>T	p.(H147Y)	His>Tyr	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic	No
2	C>T	p.(R168C)	Are>Cvs Pro>Thr	Polar>Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophilic: Positive>Uncharged	Yes
3	C>A G>C	p.(P170T) p.(E176Q)	Pro>Thr Glu>Gln	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Negative>Uncharged	Yes Yes
4 5	G>A	p.(E176Q) p.(G181S)	Glu>Gin Glv>Ser	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Negative>Uncharged Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
16	G-A	p.(R182H)	Arg>His	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Positive>Positive	No
17	G>A	n (A184T)	Ala>Thr	Non-Polar>Polar: Hvdrophobic>Hvdrophilic	Yes
8	G>A	p.(G208S)	Gly>Ser	Non-Polar>Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
19 10	G>A G>A	p.(G208D) p.(G213E)	Gly>Asp Gly>Glu	Non-Polar-Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic Non-Polar-Polar, Hydrophobic-Hydrophilic	Yes Ves
11	C>A	p.(R222S)	Arg>Ser	Non-Polar: Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic Polar: Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Positive>Uncharged	Yes Yes
12	T>G	p.(V224G)	Val>Gly	Non-Polar>Non-Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
13	C>G C>T	n (\$232C)	Ser>Cvs	Polar-Polar: Hydrophilic-Hydrophilic: Uncharaed>Uncharaed Non-Polar-Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
14 15	C>T	p.(A237V)	Ala>Val	Non-Polar-Non-Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No Yes
16		p.(R244W) p.(A250T)	Arg>Trp	Polar-Non-Polar, Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic New Polar-Polar, Hydrophobic-Hydrophilic	
17	G>A G>T	p.(A250S)	Ala>Thr Ala>Ser	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes Yes
18 19	G>C C>T	n (G258A)	Giv>Ala Ala>Val	Non-Polar-Non-Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Non-Polar-Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No No
19	C>T	p.(A261V)	Ala>Val	Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
10	G>T	p.(G263V) p.(P266L)	Gly>Val	Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No No
51 52	C>T T>C	p.(S273P)	Pro>Leu Ser>Pro	Non-Polar>Non-Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Polar>Non-Polar, Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes
53	C>G	p.(S276C)	Ser>Cys	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged>Uncharged	No
54 55	C>T A>G	p.(\$282L)	Ser>Leu Asp>Gly	Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes Yes
55	A>G	p.(UZ85G)	Asp>Gly	Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes
56 57	G>A A>G	p.(G286R) p.(K293E)	Glv>Ara Lys>Glu	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic Polar>Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Positive>Negative	Yes Yes
58	C>T	p.(A297V)	Ala>Val	Non-Pola>Non-Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
59 50	C>A	p.(L299M) p.(T302M)	Leu>Met Thr>Met	Non-Polar: Polar: Hvdrophobic>Hvdrophilic Polar>Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged>Uncharged	Yes
10	C>T	p.(T302M)	Thr>Met	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged>Uncharged	No
31	G>A	p.(V305M)	Val>Met	Non-Polar-Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
32 33	G-C	p.(V311L) p.(E319Q)	Val>Leu Glu>Gln	Non-Polar-Non-Polar: Hvdrophobic>Hvdrophobic Polar-Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Negative>Uncharged	No Yes
4	C>T	p.(H321Y)	His>Tyr	Polar>Polar, Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic	No
15	G>T	p.(A330S) p.(S355F)	Ala>Ser Ser>Phe	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
16 17	C>T C>G	p.(R364G)	Ser>Phe Arg>Gly	Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes Yes
18	G>T	p.(V368F)	Val>Phe	Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic; Positive>Positive	No
9	G>A	p.(R377H)	Aro>His Met>Val	Polar>Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophilic	No
0	A>G	p.(M378V)		Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes
11	G>A A>C	p.(\$380N)	Ser>Asn	Polar>Polar, Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged>Uncharged	No Von
12	A>G G>A	p.(K381E) p.(G385R)	Lvs>Glu Gly>Arg	Polar>Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophilic: Positive>Negative Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes Yes
4 5	G>A	p.(D389N)	Asp>Asn	Polar>Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophilic: Negative>Uncharged	Yes
5	A>G	p.(D390G)	Aso>Asn	Polar>Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophilic: Negative>Uncharged	Yes
16	C>A	p.(T403N)	Thr>Asn	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged>Uncharged	No
7 8	C>A C>T	p.(P408T) p.(L410F)	Pro>Thr Lys>Phe	Non-Polar>Polar: Hvdrophobic>Hvdrophilic Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes Yes
9	OT	p.(S427F)	Ser>Phe	Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes
10	G>A A>G	p.(R448Q)	Aro>Gin Met>Val	Polar>Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophilic: Positive>Uncharged Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes Yes
11	A>G	p.(R448Q) p.(M457V)	Met>Val	Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes
12	G>C G>A	p.(G461A)	Gly>Ala	Non-Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	No Van
3 4	G-A C-T	p.(A462T) p.(T466M)	Ala>Thr Thr>Met	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes Yes
15	T>C	p.(1468T)	lle>Thr	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
6	G>A	p.(A469T)	Ala>Thr	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
7	G>T	p.(A469S)	Ala>Ser	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
9	C>T A>G	p.(P471L)	Pro>Leu	Non-Polar-Non-Polar: Hydrophobic Polar-Non-Polar: Hydrophobic Polar-Non-Polar-Non-Polar: Hydrophobic	No No
9		p.(N484S) p.(P494H)	Asn>Ser Pro>His	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Uncharged>Uncharged Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	No Yes
1	C>A C>T	p.(P512S)	Pro>Ser	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
2	C>A	p.(P512H)	Pro>His	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
3	C>G C>T	n (P513A)	Pro>Ala	Non-Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
4		p.(R544C)	Arg>Cys	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Positive>Uncharged	Yes
6	G>A A>C	p.(R544H) p.(T555P)	Arg>His Tuo-Pro	Polar>Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic; Positive>Positive Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	No Van
6 7	A>C G>A	p.(A574T)	Thr>Pro Ala>Thr	Polar>Non-Polar: Hvdroshilic>Hvdroshobic Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes Yes
8	G>A	p.(A581T)	Ala>Thr	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
9	A>C G>A	p.(D618A)	Asp>Ala	Polar>Non-Polar: Hvdrophilic>Hvdrophobic	Yes
00		p.(V622I)	Val>ile	Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
01 02	G>A T>C	p.(V635I) p.(I643T)	Val>ile	Non-Polar>Non-Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	No Ven
02	G-A	p.(l6431) p.(V698I)	lie>Ihr Val>ile	Non-Polar>Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic Non-Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	Yes No
	0-71	p.(V728M)	Val>Met	Non-Polar>Polar: Hydrophobic>Hydrophilic	Yes
04 05	G>A C>T	p.(R741W)	Arg>Trp	Non-Polar>Polar: Hvdrophobic>Hvdrophilic Polar>Non-Polar; Hydrophilic>Hydrophobic	Yes
	G>A	p.(V755I)	Val>lle	Non-Polar>Non-Polar, Hydrophobic>Hydrophobic	No
106	C>A	p.(Q759K)	Gin>Lvs	Polar>Polar: Hydrophilic>Hydrophilic: Uncharged>Positive	Yes

Supplemental Table 3. AA Conservation Table : Within the 109 mutated AAs, 83 were found to be conserved within at least one or more of the tested organisms. The table was filtered to only display rows in which the AAs were conserved. Organisms that share an AA at their corresponding locations are listed in the column, highlighted in blue. Rows in which AAs were fully conserved amongst all organisms are highlighted in bright yellow. Columns without a highlight were generated by Geno₂MP, while the others were created through the analysis.

Mutation#	hgvsProteinVar	hgvsAlleleChange	AA Conserved?	AA conserved in	5E p.(A297V)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn
	1p.(R5H)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn	60 p.(T302M)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn
	2p.(R5L)	G>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	61 p.(V305M)	G>A	Yes	Dm, Mm, Rn, Xt
	5p.(G21V)	G>T	Yes	Dm	65 p.(A330S)	G>T	Yes	Rn
	8p.(T30A)	A>G	Yes	Mm, Rn	68 p.(V368F)	G>T	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	9p.(T30I)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	65 p.(R377H)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Dm
	12p.(S46F)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt	72 p.(K381E)	A>G	Yes	Xt
	13p.(G55R)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn	74 p.(D389N)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn
	14 p.(P59L)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	7€ p.(T403N)	C>A	Yes	Rn
	15p.(A72V)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	77 p.(P408T)	C>A	Yes	Ce, Dm, Mm, Rn
	16p.(P78A)	C>G	Yes	Dm, Mm, Rn	7E p.(L410F)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn
	17p.(P78H)	C>A	Yes	Dm, Mm, Rn	75 p.(S427F)	C>T	Yes	Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn
	18p.(D81V)	A>T	Yes	Mm	80 p.(R448Q)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn
	19p.(E82D)	G>C	Yes	Mm, Rn	81 p.(M457V)	A>G	Yes	Dr, Mm, Rn
	20p.(G86S)	G>A	Yes	Xt	82 p.(G461A)	G>C	Yes	Mm, Rn
	21p.(A91V)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	83 p.(A462T)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	22p.(T102A)	A>G	Yes	Dm, Mm, Rn, Xt	84 p.(T466M)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn
	23p.(E105K)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt	85 p.(I468T)	T>C	Yes	Mm, Rn
	24 p.(G107S)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt	8€ p.(A469T)	G>A	Yes	Dr, Mm, Rn
	25p.(G107V)	G>T	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt	87 p.(A469S)	G>T	Yes	Dr, Mm, Rn
	26p.(I108T)	T>C	Yes	Mm, Rn	88 p.(P471L)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn
	28p.(P126S)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	85 p.(N484S)	A>G	Yes	Mm, Rn
	29p.(V132I)	G>A	Yes	Dm	90 p.(P494H)	C>A	Yes	Ce, Mm, Rn
	30p.(P140S)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	91 p.(P512S)	C>T	Yes	Ce, Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn, X
	31 p.(H147Y)	C>T	Yes	Rn	92 p.(P512H)	C>A	Yes	Ce, Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn, X
	33p.(P170T)	C>A	Yes	Mm, Rn	93 p.(P513A)	C>G	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	34p.(E176Q)	G>C	Yes	Mm, Rn	94 p.(R544C)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	37p.(A184T)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn	95 p.(R544H)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	38p.(G208S)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn	9€ p.(T555P)	A>C	Yes	Ce, Mm, Rn, Xt
	39p.(G208D)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn	97 p.(A574T)	G>A	Yes	Xt
	40p.(G213E)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt	9E p.(A581T)	G>A	Yes	Ce, Dr, Mm, Rn,
	42p.(V224G)	T>G	Yes	Mm	95 p.(D618A)	A>C	Yes	Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn, Xt
	43p.(S232C)	C>G	Yes	Mm, Rn	100 p.(V622I)	G>A	Yes	Ce, Dr, Mm, Rn, Xt
	44p.(A237V)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	101 p.(V635I)	G>A	Yes	Ce, Dr, Mm, Rn
	48p.(G258A)	G>C	Yes	Mm, Rn	102 p.(I643T)	T>C	Yes	Ce, Dm, Dr, Mm, Rn, X
	49p.(A261V)	C>T	Yes	Rn	103 p.(V698I)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn
	50p.(G263V)	G>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	104 p.(V728M)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	51p.(P266L)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	105 p.(R741W)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	52p.(S273P)	T>C	Yes	Mm, Rn	10€ p.(V755I)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn
	53p.(S276C)	C>G	Yes	Mm, Rn	107 p.(Q759K)	C>A	Yes	Dr. Mm. Rn. Xt
	54 p.(S282L)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn	10E p.(T762M)	C>T	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt
	56p.(G286R)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn	109 p.(E766K)	G>A	Yes	Mm, Rn, Xt

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65

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