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11 “Increased prevalence of *TG* and *TPO* mutations in Sudanese children with congenital
12 hypothyroidism”

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34 **Abstract**

35 **Context:** Congenital hypothyroidism (CH) is due to dysmorphogenesis in 10-15% of subjects
36 worldwide, but accounts for 60% of CH cases in the Sudan.

37 **Objective:** To investigate molecular basis of CH in Sudanese families.

38 **Design:** Clinical phenotype reporting and serum thyroid hormone measurements. DNA
39 extraction for whole exome sequencing and Sanger sequencing.

40 **Setting:** University research center.

41 **Patients:** 26 Sudanese families with CH.

42 **Intervention:** Clinical evaluation, thyroid function tests, genetic sequencing and analysis. Our
43 samples and information regarding samples from the literature were used to compare *TG* and
44 *TPO* mutation rates in Sudanese against all populations.

45 **Results:** Mutations were found in *DUOX1*, *DUOX2*, *IYD*, *SLC26A4*, *SLC26A7*, *SLC5A5*, *TG*,
46 and *TPO* genes. The molecular basis of the CH in 7 families remains unknown. *TG* mutations
47 were significantly higher on average in the Sudanese compared to the average number of *TG*
48 mutations in other populations ($P < 0.05$).

49 **Conclusions:** All described mutations occur in domains important for protein structure and
50 function, predicting the CH phenotype. Genotype prediction based on phenotype include low or
51 undetectable thyroglobulin levels for *TG* gene mutations and markedly higher thyroglobulin
52 levels for *TPO* mutations. The reasons for higher incidence of *TG* gene mutations include gene
53 length and possible positive genetic selection due to endemic iodine deficiency.

54 **Précis**

55 Of 14 pathogenic mutations in Sudanese, *TG* and *TPO* genes are the most common. Higher
56 prevalence of *TG* mutation appears to be related to gene length and possible positive selection.

57 **Introduction**

58 Congenital hypothyroidism (CH) is due to abnormal development or architecture of the
59 thyroid gland (dysgenesis) or impaired thyroid hormone (TH) synthesis (dyshormonogenesis).
60 Between 15-20% of worldwide cases with CH are caused by dyshormonogenesis (1). In the
61 Sudanese the rate of dyshormonogenesis is 60% or three times that in the non-Sudanese
62 populations (2). Several factors account for this disproportionate prevalence, including high
63 rates of consanguinity and low levels of iodine intake. There are over 60 known genes that
64 influence thyroid development and TH function (Table 1). *Dual-oxidase 1 (DUOX1)* and *Dual-*
65 *oxidase 2 (DUOX2)* have homology in their structure with 7 transmembrane domains and both
66 are responsible for H₂O₂ generation, crucial for TH synthesis (3). *Iodotyrosine Deiodinase (IYD)*
67 acts to recycle iodide for future use in TH synthesis with its nitroreductase domain playing a
68 critical role in the recycling (4). Several solute carrier family member genes (*SLC*) including
69 *SLC26A4*, *SLC26A7*, and *SLC5A5* facilitate transport necessary for proper thyroid hormone
70 synthesis. *SLC26A4* and *SLC26A7* are homologous each with over 10 transmembrane domains
71 and both are expressed highly in the thyroid, however, *SLC26A4* is also expressed in the inner
72 ear and thus deleterious mutations present as deafness in the Pendred Syndrome (5,6). *SLC5A5*
73 is known to function as a sodium-iodide symporter, facilitating the uptake of iodide into
74 thyrocytes needed for TH synthesis (4). Two of the most frequent gene defects causing
75 dyshormonogenesis worldwide involve *thyroglobulin (TG)* and *thyroid peroxidase (TPO)*. *TG*
76 encodes thyroglobulin (TG), a large protein which serves in the synthesis of TH, its storage and
77 that of iodine as well (7). The structure of TG consists of three regions and a cholinesterase-like
78 (ChEL) domain. All three regions assist in stabilizing the ChEL domain, which serves as a
79 transporter for TG into areas of TH formation (8). Previously reported mutations of the *TG* gene

80 showed a variety of phenotypes due to time of diagnosis, location of mutation within the
81 molecule, and iodine intake (9).

82 TPO oxidizes iodide so that it can be covalently bound to tyrosine residues within TG for
83 TH production (10). TPO consists mainly an alpha-helical conformation with little beta-sheets.
84 Its complex structure has three domains: myeloperoxidase (MPO)-like domain, complement
85 control protein (CCP)-like domain, and epidermal growth factor (EGF)-like domain (10). These
86 domains all play a key role in TPO for TG iodination, using hydrogen peroxide generated mainly
87 by DUOX2, and coupling of iodinated tyrosines (11).

88 We present 26 Sudanese families with CH in 19 of which deleterious mutations in the
89 functional domains of *TG* and *TPO* as well as other genes related to dyshormonogenic CH.
90 Fifteen of the families are being reported for the first time, with most of the mutations being
91 either novel or have been previously reported without a documented phenotype related to CH.
92 Each of these mutations alter the structure and function of the molecules based on in silico
93 modeling and its location along important functional domains of the protein. The data suggest
94 that gene size, consanguinity and possible positive genetic selection could account for the large
95 proportion of dyshormonogenesis in the Sudanese population.

96 **Materials and Methods**

97 All patients were referred to a pediatric endocrinologist at the University of Khartoum,
98 Sudan presenting with stigmata of CH. Consent from patients or their guardians and their family
99 members was obtained prior to blood sampling. Studies were approved by the University of
100 Miami Institutional Review Board. Thyroid tests done at the time of diagnosis (TSH and FT₄)
101 were done in Sudan and subsequent serum thyroid function tests (TFTs) were completed in
102 Miami, Florida on the Immulite[®] 1000 (Siemens, Munich, Germany) platform. TFTs included

103 measuring levels of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH), total thyroxine (TT₄), total
104 triiodothyronine (TT₃), free thyroxine (FT₄), thyroxine-binding globulin (TBG), thyroglobulin
105 (TG), thyroid peroxidase antibodies (TPOAb), and thyroglobulin antibodies (TGAb). Isolation
106 of genomic DNA from whole blood using the Qiagen QIAamp[®] DNA Blood Mini Kit (Hilden,
107 Germany) were carried out at the University of Miami. Blood samples were obtained from
108 members of the nuclear family of each individual with CH. This included both parents and all
109 siblings, if available. For each of the families, gDNA from the proband or an affected sibling
110 along with one parent was submitted to whole exome sequencing (WES) (Novogene, Agilent
111 SureSelect Human All Exon V6 Kit). A compilation of thyroid genes linked to thyroid disorders
112 shown on Table 1 was evaluated and possible mutations linked to the phenotype were identified
113 based on predicted functional scores, allele frequency, and zygosity. These mutations were
114 confirmed by Sanger sequencing (Genewiz, Abi 3730xl DNA Analyzer) to verify the WES
115 results and establish the genotype of all sampled family members along with the mode of
116 inheritance. All identified variants were further evaluated by in-silico prediction scores for how
117 detrimental the identified variation, using Sorting Intolerant From Tolerant (SIFT) (12),
118 PolyPhen2_HDIV (13), MutationTaster (14), Combined Annotation Dependent Depletion Score
119 (CADD) (15) and The Human Splicing Factor (16).

120 The variant prevalence comparison of *TPO* and *TG* genes was done using frequencies of
121 all individuals' whole exome and whole genome sequencing in the gnomAD database against
122 whole exome sequencing data of Sudanese samples collected in our lab along with single-
123 nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) data of Sudanese individuals collected by Hollfelder N, et al.
124 (17). 654 randomly selected SNPs were compared across the *TG* gene, including 152 in exons.
125 234 randomly selected SNPs were also compared within the *TPO* gene. A paired t-test was

126 performed to compare the prevalence of mutations in individuals from all ethnic groups versus
127 Sudanese samples. For each of the 26 Sudanese families with CH, each unique causative
128 mutation identified was tallied and the total number of unique causative mutations for each gene
129 was plotted against amino acid length of the gene. Differences in gender were not considered in
130 this analysis.

131 **Results**

132 Gene mutations were found in 19 kindreds (Table 2) with CH (7,18-20). In 7 families we
133 were unable to find the genetic cause of the CH phenotype after valuating all genes on WES with
134 variants which were rare and predicted as deleterious by in-silico prediction tools of the affected
135 individuals. In these 7 families we also evaluated proteins encoded by the genes whether they
136 interacted with the known proteins related to thyroid development, function, serum and cell TH
137 transport and hormone synthesis by using STRING, a database of protein-protein interactions
138 (21). The most frequent mutations identified were in *TG* and *TPO* genes, with 7 and 6 mutations
139 respectively not previously reported (Table 2). For both *TG* and *TPO* mutations the clinical
140 presentations were similar with goiter and/or developmental delay along with characteristic TFTs
141 (Figure 1). In patients with *TG* mutations serum TG levels were low or undetectable (Figure 1)
142 averaging 1.3 ng/mL (reference range 1.7-56 ng/mL) compared to patients with *TPO* mutations,
143 with average TG levels of 165 ng/mL. Comprehensive clinical data and records related to the
144 CH phenotype from many of Sudanese families were not always readily available prior to
145 starting medication, especially if referred from rural clinics.

146 Mutations were also identified in the *DUOX1* and *DUOX2* genes, with two families
147 (Table 2, Family A and B) having homozygous mutations. Affected members in both Family A
148 and B presented with high TSH and low FT₄ prior to being diagnosed and put on treatment. One

149 affected from each family also presented with a developmental delay due to a late diagnosis.
150 Another family from the same Sudanese cohort (Family J) also was compound heterozygous for
151 one *DUOX2* and two *TPO* mutations, where the affected with all three mutations all presented
152 with a goiter in addition to abnormal TFTs. One mutation in each of *IYD*, *SLC26A4*, and
153 *SLC26A7* were identified in Family C, D, and E respectively (Table 2). The affected proband in
154 each of these families also presented with high TSH and low FT₄ in addition to other relevant
155 CH phenotypic considerations. All three affected children in Family C including the proband
156 suffered with a development delay and a large goiter along with the abnormal TFTs. The
157 affected proband in Family D presented with abnormal TFTs, a goiter, development delay, and
158 deafness. The proband of Family E presented with abnormal TFTs as well as a developmental
159 delay. Two families had different mutations in the *SLC5A5* gene (Family F and G) with all
160 affected family members originally presenting with high TSH, low FT₄, and a goiter. All
161 affected individuals except Family J were homozygous for each pathogenic variant (Figure 1 and
162 Bruellman R. Data from: Supplemental Figure 3. Figshare. Deposited 27 September 2019.
163 <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9916265.v1>). All mutations described were linked with the
164 phenotype of CH and were designated as deleterious by in silico prediction tools (Table 2 and
165 Bruellman R. Data from: Supplemental Table 1 - TG Splicing Score. Figshare. Deposited 27
166 September 2019. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9916253.v1>) and had significant
167 alterations in protein structure (Figure 2, Bruellman R. Data from: Supplemental Figure 1.
168 Figshare. Deposited 27 September 2019. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9916256.v1>, and
169 Bruellman R. Supplemental Figure 2. Figshare. Deposited 27 September 2019.
170 <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9916259.v1>).

171 The mutations summarized in Table 2 directly impact the CH phenotype due to their
172 location in the functional domains of the respective genes. Figure 2 denotes each mutation's
173 approximate location along its respective gene with missense and splicing mutations occurring in
174 highly conserved domains essential for proper protein function. Each frameshift mutation led to
175 protein truncation.

176 **Prevalence of *TPO* and *TG* Mutations**

177 The average prevalence of 654 SNPs in *TG* and 234 SNPs in *TPO* genes for both the
178 Sudanese population and all other population groups are shown on Table 3. The prevalence of
179 *TG* mutations was significantly higher in the Sudanese populations than all other ethnic groups
180 ($p < 0.01$). Analysis of the prevalence of mutations identified in this Sudanese cohort relative to
181 gene length demonstrated a direct correlation of more frequent mutations seen in larger genes;
182 the r^2 value (0.46694) of the trendline calculated in Excel illustrates a positive relationship
183 between gene size and the number of unique mutations (Figure 3).

184 **Discussion**

185 In this report, we have identified new mutations affecting 8 genes that are associated with
186 CH. Mutations reported in *DUOX1*, *DUOX2*, *IYD*, *SLC26A4*, *SLC26A7*, and *SLC5A5* occur
187 along critical domains in the respective genes resulting in a clear CH phenotype in the affected
188 individuals (Figure 2 and Bruellman R. Data from: Supplemental Figure 3. Figshare. Deposited
189 27 September 2019. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9916265.v1>). Only a few mutations
190 have been reported to date in *IYD* (22). While performing a radioactive iodide uptake was not
191 possible during the family visit to the clinician in Sudan, the TFTs and clinical presentation
192 confirm the CH diagnosis. The position of the mutation along the nitroreductase domain of *IYD*
193 would hinder the ability of iodide to be properly recycled for TH synthesis illustrated by TFT

194 values such as markedly high TG levels (Bruellman R. Data from: Supplemental Figure 3.
195 Figshare. Deposited 27 September 2019. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9916265.v1>)
196 similar to TG values in previous families with documented *IYD* mutations (22). The frameshift
197 insertion in *SLC26A7* (Family E) causes an early stop codon in exon 8, shortening the protein
198 significantly from 19 exons in the wild type. Links between *SLC26A7* and a CH phenotype were
199 recently established with 10 reported cases (5,23). The novel *SLC26A7* frameshift with early
200 truncation manifests a severe CH phenotype. The novel *SLC5A5* mutation reported herein
201 occurs along transmembrane domain 7, one of the domains essential for proper coupling and
202 translocation of sodium (24).

203 Similar to previous studies of CH in different populations, *TPO* and *TG* gene mutations
204 are the most frequent (25-28). Results from consanguineous families with CH in Turkey
205 reported significantly high levels of *TPO* mutations overshadowing all other gene mutations
206 causing CH (25). Non-consanguineous populations have also shown high rates of *TPO* mutations
207 within such populations as the Portuguese, Japanese, and Finnish (26-28). Studies in Korea,
208 China, and Japan also have identified *DUOX2* as a frequent cause of CH (27,29). The Sudanese
209 have a high degree of consanguinity (2) which may have contributed to a preponderance of a
210 particular mutation compared to other populations. Marrying within tribes is a common practice
211 in the Sudan (2), perpetuating a founder's effect within each isolated tribe. However, we cannot
212 ignore other factors that may be responsible for the high prevalence of *TPO* and *TG* gene
213 mutations.

214 While missense and total mutations in *TPO* were found to be much higher than for other
215 genes of comparable length (Figure 3), the $P = 0.063$ in comparing SNPs between Sudanese and
216 all other populations showed no significant difference (Table 3). The damaging effects being

217 profound as shown in our Sudanese population can be explained by high prevalence of
218 consanguinity causing high incidence of homozygous rare mutations as well as deficient iodine
219 intake.

220 Figure 3 illustrates the importance of considering gene length as a reason for higher rates
221 of mutation, as our results show increasing number of mutations with increasing gene amino acid
222 length. The sheer size of the *TG* gene being over 2,700 amino acids spanning 48 exons is one of
223 the reasons for the high incidence of *TG* mutations. However, other studies previously discussed
224 (25-29) also show high rates of mutation in other genes of shorter lengths in consanguineous and
225 non-consanguineous families alike.

226 Of note, the overall incidence of SNPs in the *TG* gene was significantly higher in the
227 Sudanese compared to other reported populations (Table 3) and the possibility of positive
228 selection was raised. As we do not have enough genetic data in Sudanese, positive selection in
229 the *TG* gene cannot be confirmed. However, Bertranpetit and his group performed XP-EHH test
230 on another African population (not Sudanese) and a clear signal of recent selection in the *TG*
231 gene was found (personal communication). This data supports the possibility of positive
232 selection in the *TG* gene in the Sudanese population, although direct proof cannot be obtained at
233 this point. Many Sudanese families live in impoverished rural areas that lack the proper intake
234 of iodine (30). This has the potential to aggravate the severity of the clinical manifestation of
235 CH. As previously noted, *TG* protein devoid of the ChEL domain would result in no *TG*
236 secretion to iodination sites (31). Further work could potentially determine if *TG* mutations do,
237 in fact, confer a positive selection advantage due to the potential of the goiter to retain what little
238 iodine is available or to potentially counteract the harmful effects of high *TG* and thyroid
239 differentiation from high TSH stimulation. It has been reported that signature of positive

240 selection was observed at some genes involved in growth and metabolism related to thyroid or
241 pituitary function in some African populations, which may contribute to local adaptation to these
242 mutations (32,33). Although differences in diet, climate, and exposure to pathogens among
243 ethnically and geographically diverse African populations are considered to produce distinct
244 selection pressure, the mechanism is unclear. Geography might be another factor of positive
245 selection; however further studies will be necessary to confirm this.

246 The rate of dyshormonogenesis in the Sudanese population is three times that in other
247 populations. We find increased prevalence of *TG* and *TPO* mutations in Sudanese children with
248 congenital hypothyroidism and our data suggest that gene size, consanguinity and possible
249 positive genetic selection could account for this large proportion of dyshormonogenesis in the
250 Sudanese population.

251

252 **Conflict of Interest**

253 The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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365 **Legends for Figures and Tables**

366 Table 1 - List of genes related to thyroid disorders

367 Table 2 - Variant Type: MS = Missense Mutation; FSD = Frameshift Deletion Mutation; FSI =
368 Frameshift Insertion Mutation; SG = Stop-gain Mutation; SPL = Splice Site Mutation

369 Table 3 - P-value was calculated by t-test to assess significant difference between the two
370 average frequencies. Significant p-value (<.05) is in bold and underlined.

371 Figure 1 - Generations are denoted by roman numeral. Each subject is identified by the number
372 just above the corresponding symbol. Laboratory thyroid function tests are aligned below each
373 symbol. Abnormal values are in bold and underlined. Abbreviations: TT₄; total thyroxine, TT₃;
374 total triiodothyronine, FT₄; free thyroxine, TSH; thyroid-stimulating hormone, TBG; thyroxine
375 binding globulin, TG; thyroglobulin, TPO Ab; anti-TPO antibody, TG Ab; anti-thyroglobulin
376 antibody.

377 Figure 2 - Amino acid numbers are denoted by numbers spanning schematic. Important domains
378 are denoted by roman numerals or by their name for each gene. For the *TPO* gene, the
379 Myeloperoxidase (MPO) domain is denoted by the black box from amino acid position 142 to
380 737. Catalytic site necessary for proper TPO function is within MPO Domain. The *TPO*
381 Transmembrane domain is also marked along the gene approximately between amino acid 846
382 and 872. Each of the documented mutations in this report and previously reported by our lab are
383 noted by boxes in their approximate locations. *, a novel mutation.

384 Figure 3 - Relationship of unique mutations in 19 Sudanese families compared to the gene's
385 amino acid length. Mutations were only counted once in the instance of the same mutation being
386 present in two different families. Trend line is denoted by the dotted line and the r² is noted next
387 to the line.

Table 1.

Genes Related to thyroid disorder							
AADAT	ALB	ALMS1	ATXN2	CDCA8	DIO1	DIO2	DIO3
DUOX1	DUOXA1	DUOX2	DUOXA2	EXOSC2	FGF8	FOXE1	GLIS3
GNAS	HHEX	HOXA3	IGSF1	IRS4	IYD	JAG1	KDM6A
KMT2D	NCOR2	NKX2-1	NKX2-5	NKX2-6	NTN1	P4HB	PAX8
POU1F1	PROP1	PSMA1	PSMA3	PSMD2	PSMD3	PTH1R	PTRH2
RYR2	SALL1	SECISBP2	SERPINA7	SLC16A2	SLC17A4	SLC26A4	SLC26A7
SLC30A10	SLC5A5	SLCO1C1	STAMPB	TBL1X	TBX1	TG	THRA
THRB	TPO	TRH	TRHR	TRIP11	TRIP12	TSHB	TSHR
TTR	TUBB1	UBR1	VAV3				

Table 2.

Gene Variant Information and Frequencies											
Family	Gene	Variant	CH previously reported	Variant Type	RS or Accession number ¹	SIFT ²	Polyphen 2_HDIV ³	Mutation Taster ⁴	CADD ⁵	Freq_Afr ⁶	Freq_All ⁷
A	DUOX1	c.C1525T p.R509W	Yes ⁸	MS	rs757808802	0.0, D	1.0, D	1, D	16.38	0.00	0.00
A	DUOX2	c.G3329A p.R1110Q	Yes ⁸	MS	rs368488511	0.003, D	0.994, D	1, D	36	0.00	0.00
B	DUOX1	c.C3388G p.H1130D	No	MS	MN115831	0.0, D	1.0, D	1, D	23.1	.	.
B, J	DUOX2	c.1395_1396delCC p.P465fs	Yes ⁹	FSD	MH290757	.	.	1, D	.	.	.
C	IYD	c.C835T p.R279C	No	MS	MN115832	0.0, D	1.0, D	1, D	25.3	.	.
D	SLC26A4	c.1197delT p.S399fs	Yes ¹⁰	FSD	rs397516413	.	.	1, D	.	0.00	0.00
E	SLC26A7	c.818_819insTTAT p.C273fs	No	FSI	MN115835	.	.	1, D	.	.	.
F	SLC5A5	c.G749T p.G250V	No	MS	MN115830	0.0, D	1.0, D	1, D	18.58	.	.
G	SLC5A5	c.T1042G p.Y348D	Yes ¹¹	MS	MH046063	0.001, D	0.999, D	1, D	15.71	.	.
H, I	TPO	c.C1277G p.A426G	No	MS	rs61758082	0.048, D	0.087, B	1, N	13.5	0.03	0.00
J	TPO	c.C1535A p.P512H	Yes ⁹	MS	rs150489706	0.0, D	1.0, D	1, D	25.3	0.00	0.00
J	TPO	c.G1759A p.G587R	Yes ⁹	MS	rs770562452	0.001, D	1.0, D	1, D	27.4	0.00	0.00
K	TPO	c.G2578A p.G860R	No	MS	rs556552435	0.077, T	0.999, D	1, N	12	0.00	0.00
I	TPO	c.2422del p.C808AfsTer24	No	FSD	rs763662774	.	.	1, D	23.2	0.00	0.00
L	TG	c.5975+401del p.G1992GfsTer75	No	FSD	MN115834	.	.	.	.	.	.
M	TG	c.T6989A p.V2330E	No	MS	MH137705	0.001, D	1.0, D	1, D	28.4	.	.
N	TG	c.G7021A p.G2341S	Yes ¹²	MS	NM003235	0.001, D	1.0, D	1, D	34	.	.
O	TG	c.7268del p.V2423VfsTer45	No	FSD	MN115833	.	.	.	.	.	.
P	TG	c.C7655G p.S2552X	No	SG	MH298849	.	.	1, A	46	.	.
Q	TG	c.7909ins p.Y3637Ffs	No	FSI	Pending	.	.	.	.	.	.
Family	Gene	Variant	CH previously reported	Variant Type	RS or Accession number ¹	The Human Splicing Finder ¹³					
R, S	TG	c.4816+1G>T	No	SPL	MH137704	-27.7% variation; alteration of wild type donor site, most probably affecting splicing					
J	TPO	c.483-2A>G	Yes ⁹	SPL	MH137703	-31.7% variation; alteration of wild type donor site, most probably affecting splicing					

¹RS number, reference single nucleotide variants number; Accession number, GenBank Accession Number on GenBank sequence database

²Sorting Intolerant From Tolerant (SIFT). Scores and predictions are separated by a comma. There are two possible predictions: D (damaging, score ≤ 0.05); T (tolerated, score > 0.05) (12)

³Polymorphism Phenotyping v2 HDIV (Polyphen2_HDIV). Scores and predictions are separated by a comma. There are three possible predictions: D (probably damaging, score ≥ 0.909), P (possibly damaging, $0.447 \leq \text{score} \leq 0.908$), B (benign, score ≤ 0.446) (13)

⁴MutationTaster. Scores and predictions are separated by a comma. The closer a score is to the value 1, the higher the confidence in the prediction. There are four possible predictions: A (disease causing automatic), D (disease causing), N (polymorphism), P (polymorphism automatic) (14)

⁵Combined Annotation Dependent Depletion (CADD) Score. Indicates rarity of variant. Score of 20 indicates variant among top 1% of deleterious variants in human genome. Score of 30 indicates variant among top 0.1% of deleterious variants in human genome (15)

⁶Alternative allele frequency in African population in The Genome Aggregation Database

⁷Alternative allele frequency in all populations in The Genome Aggregation Database

⁸Dual homozygous DUOX1 and DUOX2 Sudanese family previously reported by our lab (18)

⁹Compound heterozygous TPO and DUOX2 Sudanese family previously reported in our lab (18)

¹⁰Homozygous SLC26A4 mutation found in an affected Sudanese family, previously reported as pathogenic (19)

¹¹Homozygous SLC5A5 mutation in Sudanese family previously reported in our lab (20)

¹²Homozygous TG mutation in Sudanese family previously reported in our lab (7)

¹³The Human Splicing Finder. Possible predictions: site broken (variation score $< -10\%$), new site (variation score $> 10\%$) (16)

Table 3.

T-Test Results - Sudanese TG and TPO Mutation Rate vs. Other Populations

Gene	Number of SNPs	Frequency of mutations		P-value
		Sudanese (n=234)	All (n=123,136)	
TG	654	0.1512	0.1406	<u><0.01</u>
TPO	234	0.1864	0.175	0.063

TPO / TG Family Pedigree and Phenotype Information

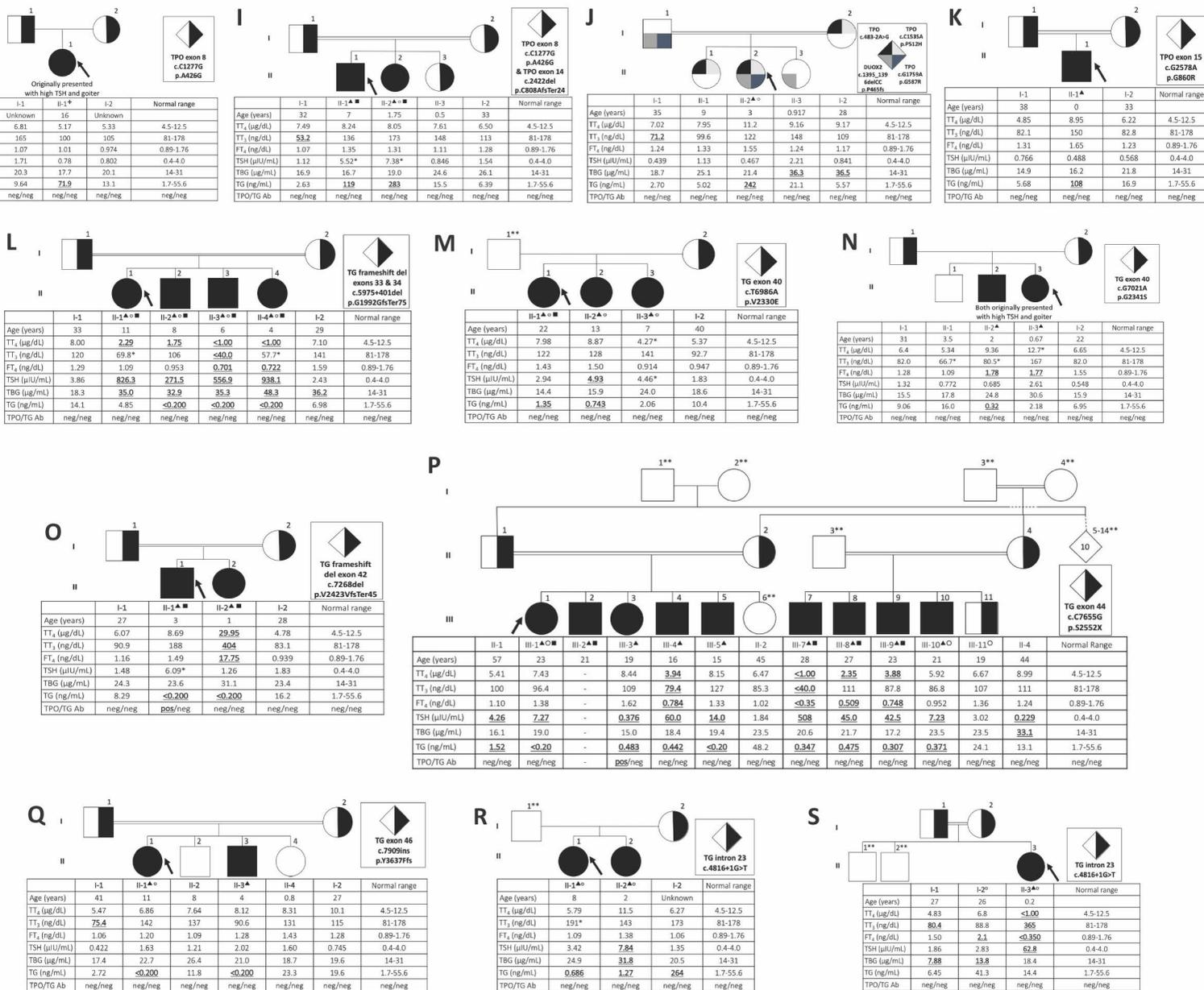


Figure 2

Gene Structures with Mutations Reported

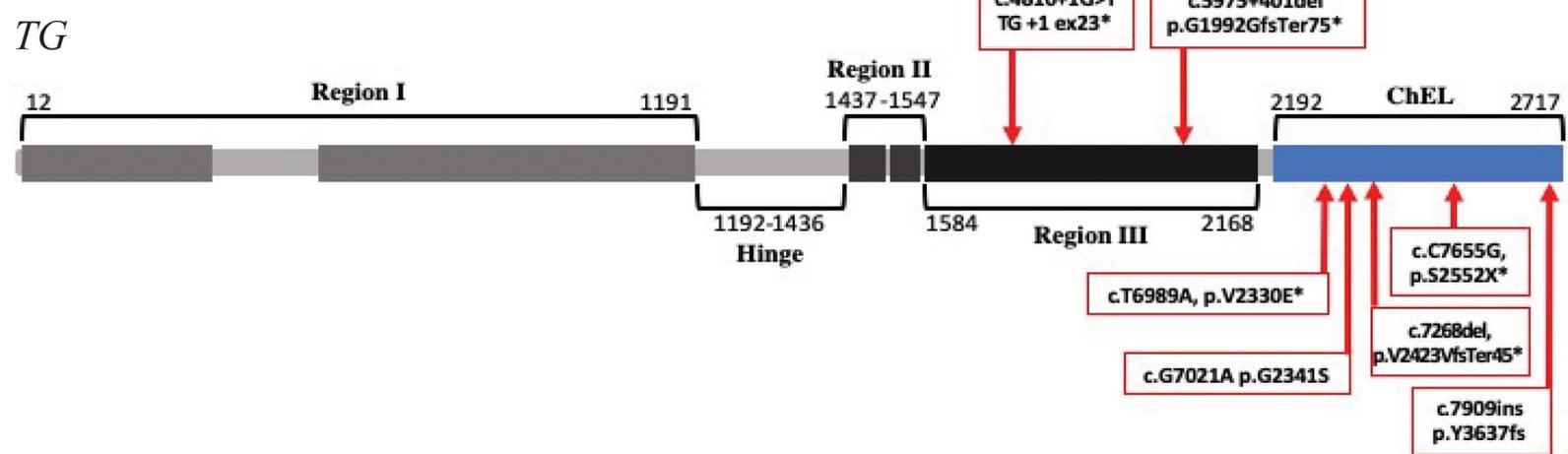
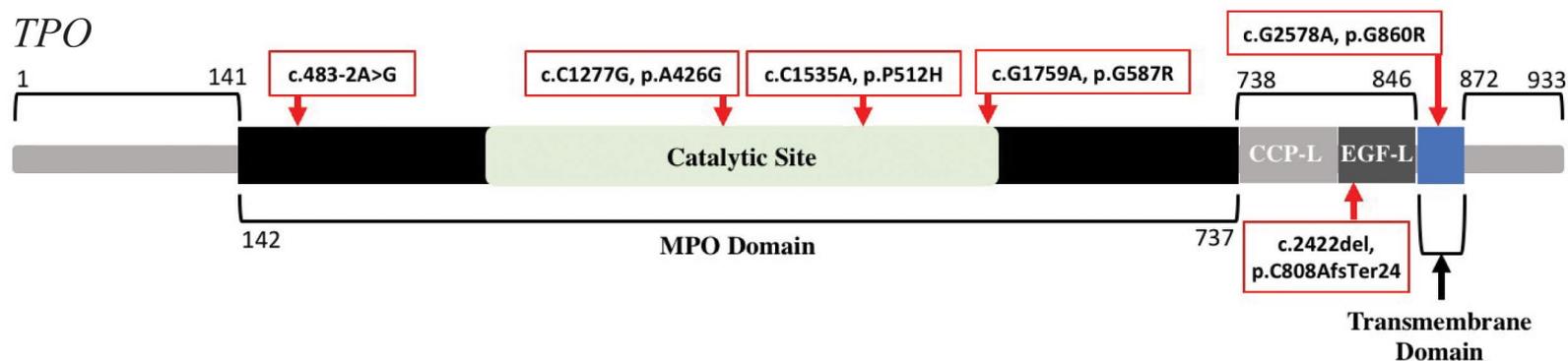
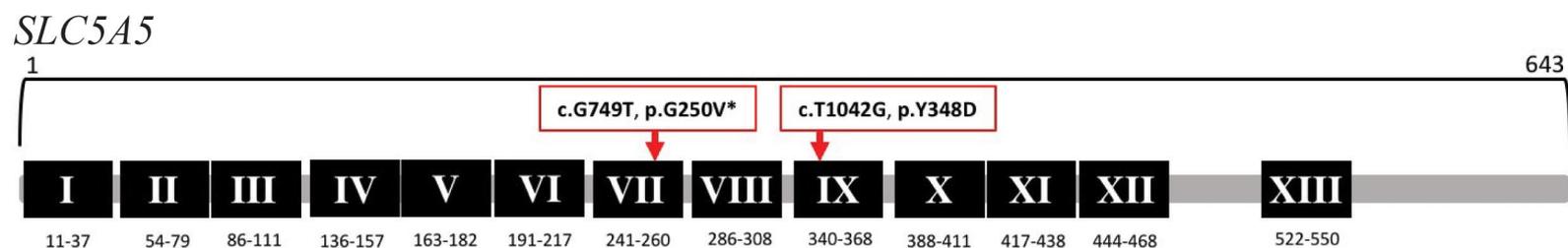
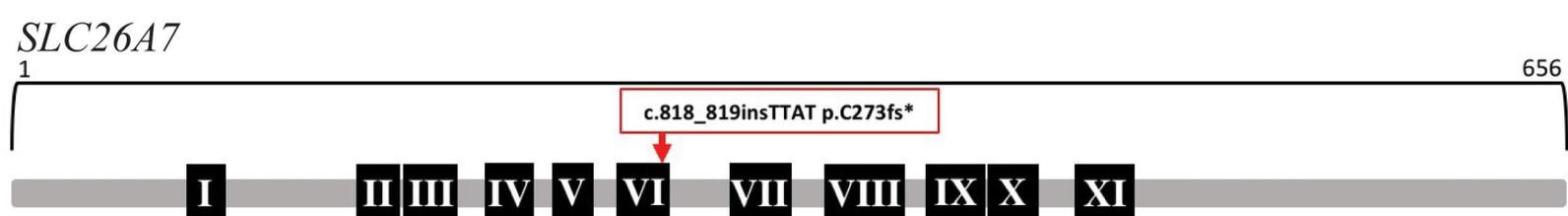
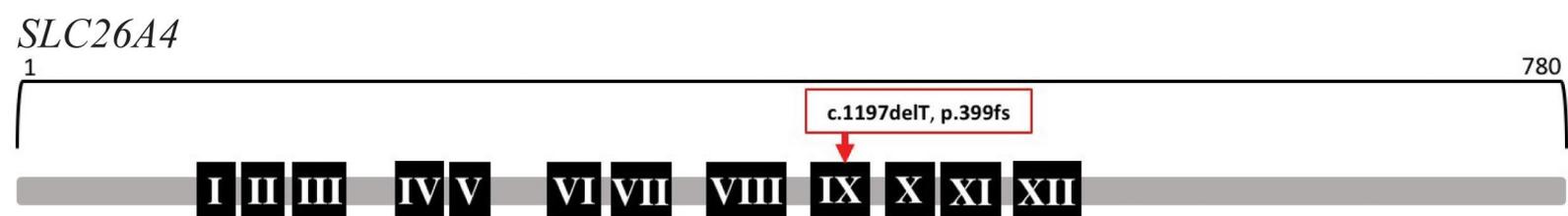
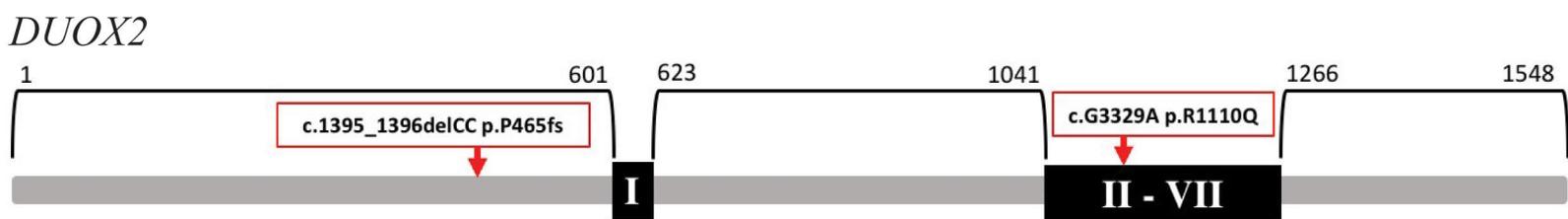


Figure 3

Unique Mutations vs. Gene Amino Acid Length

