



Potential Mediation of HLA and Cancer Associations via Non-coding RNAs

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ASHI 2015, Savannah, GA

BACKGROUND

The HLA complex is the most gene dense and polymorphic part of the genome which also contains the strongest trans-eQTLs

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

PLoS GENETICS

***Trans*-eQTLs Reveal That Independent Genetic Variants Associated with a Complex Phenotype Converge on Intermediate Genes, with a Major Role for the HLA**

Rudolf S. N. Fehrmann¹, Ritsert C. Jansen^{2,3}, Jan H. Veldink^{3,9}, Harm-Jan Westra^{1,9}, Danny Arends², Marc Jan Bonder¹, Jingyuan Fu¹, Patrick Deelen¹, Harry J. M. Groen⁴, Asia Smolonska¹, Rinse K. Weersma^{1,5}, Robert M. W. Hofstra¹, Wim A. Buurman⁶, Sander Rensen⁶, Marcel G. M. Wolfs⁷, Mathieu Platteel¹, Alexandra Zhernakova⁸, Clara C. Elbers⁹, Eleanora M. Festen¹, Gosia Trynka¹, Marten H. Hofker⁷, Christiaan G. J. Saris³, Roel A. Ophoff^{3,10,11}, Leonard H. van den Berg³, David A. van Heel¹², Cisca Wijmenga¹, Gerard J. te Meerman^{1†}, Lude Franke^{1,12,*†}

Genetics of gene expression in primary immune cells identifies cell type-specific master regulators and roles of HLA alleles

Benjamin P Fairfax¹, Seiko Makino¹, Jayachandran Radhakrishnan¹, Katharine Plant¹, Stephen Leslie², Alexander Dilthey³, Peter Ellis⁴, Cordelia Langford⁴, Fredrik O Vannberg^{1,5} & Julian C Knight¹

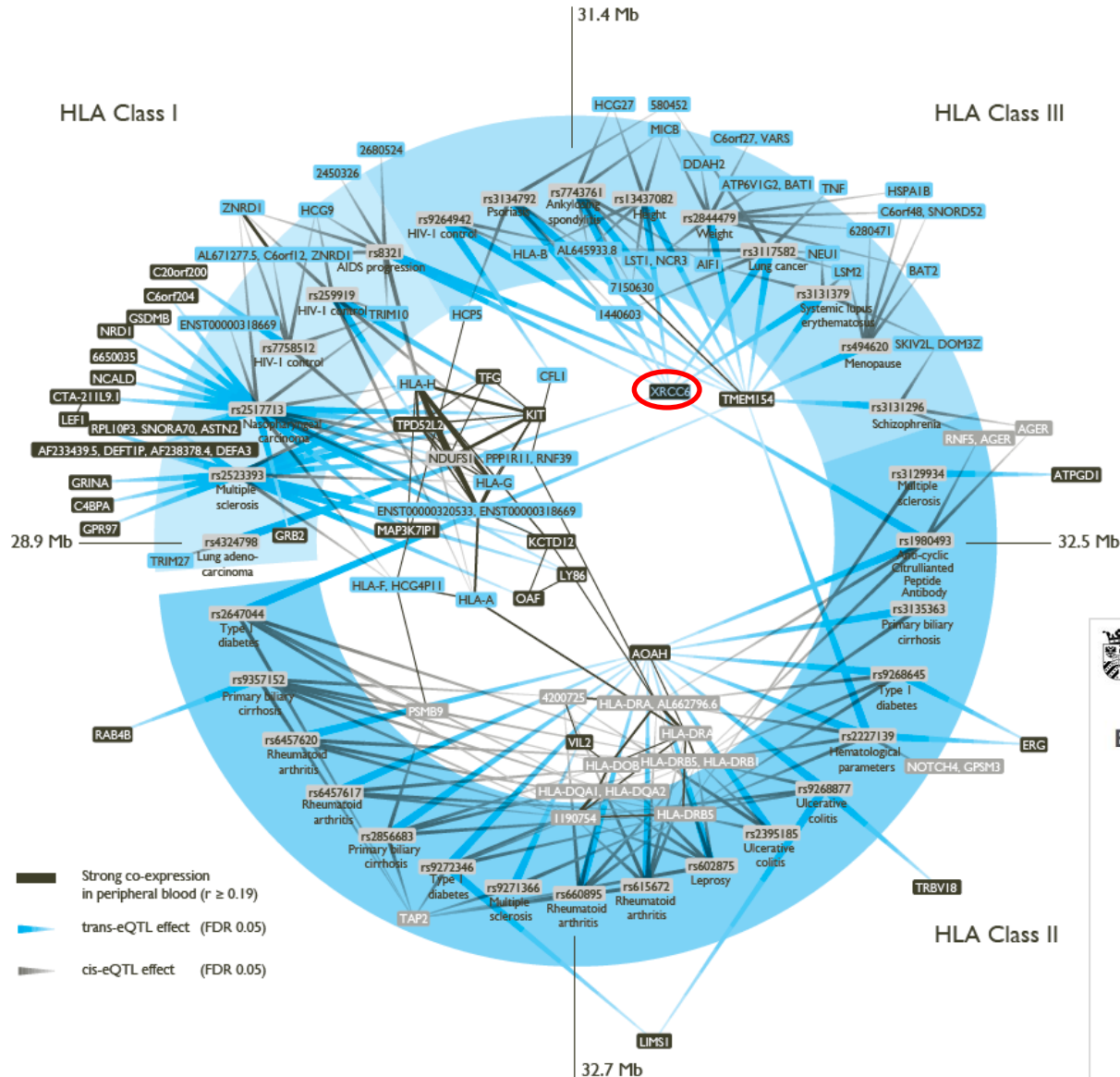
nature
genetics

Systematic identification of *trans* eQTLs as putative drivers of known disease associations

Harm-Jan Westra^{1,40}, Marjolein J Peters^{2,3,40}, Tõnu Esko^{4,40}, Hanieh Yaghootkar^{5,40}, Claudia Schurmann^{6,40}, Johannes Kettunen^{7,8,40}, Mark W Christiansen^{9,40}, Benjamin P Fairfax^{10,11}, Katharina Schramm^{12,13}, Joseph E Powell^{14,15}, Alexandra Zhernakova¹, Daria V Zhernakova¹, Jan H Veldink¹⁶, Leonard H Van den Berg¹⁶, Juha Karjalainen¹, Sebo Withoff¹, André G Uitterlinden^{2,3,17}, Albert Hofman^{3,17}, Fernando Rivadeneira^{2,3,17}, Peter A C 't Hoen¹⁸, Eva Reinmaa⁴, Krista Fischer⁴, Mari Nelis⁴, Lili Milani⁴, David Melzer¹⁹, Luigi Ferrucci²⁰, Andrew B Singleton²¹, Dena G Hernandez^{21,22}, Michael A Nalls²¹, Georg Homuth⁶, Matthias Nauck²³, Dörte Radke²⁴, Uwe Völker⁶, Markus Perola^{4,8}, Veikko Salomaa⁸, Jennifer Brody⁹, Astrid Suchy-Dicey²⁵, Sina A Gharib²⁶, Daniel A Enquobahrie²⁵, Thomas Lumley²⁷, Grant W Montgomery²⁸, Seiko Makino¹⁰, Holger Prokisch^{12,13}, Christian Herder²⁹, Michael Roden^{29–31}, Harald Grallert³², Thomas Meitinger^{12,13,33,34}, Konstantin Strauch^{35,36}, Yang Li³⁷, Ritsert C Jansen³⁷, Peter M Visscher^{14,15}, Julian C Knight¹⁰, Bruce M Psaty^{9,38,41}, Samuli Ripatti^{7,8,39,41}, Alexander Teumer^{6,41}, Timothy M Frayling^{5,41}, Andres Metspalu^{4,41}, Joyce B J van Meurs^{2,3,41} & Lude Franke^{1,41}

nature
genetics

BACKGROUND



rijksuniversiteit
 groningen

Endothelial-specific delivery of siRNA by novel SAINT-based lipoplexes

An in vitro and in vivo study

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van de graad van doctor aan de
 Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
 op gezag van de
 rector magnificus prof. dr. E. Sterken
 en volgens besluit van het College voor Promoties.

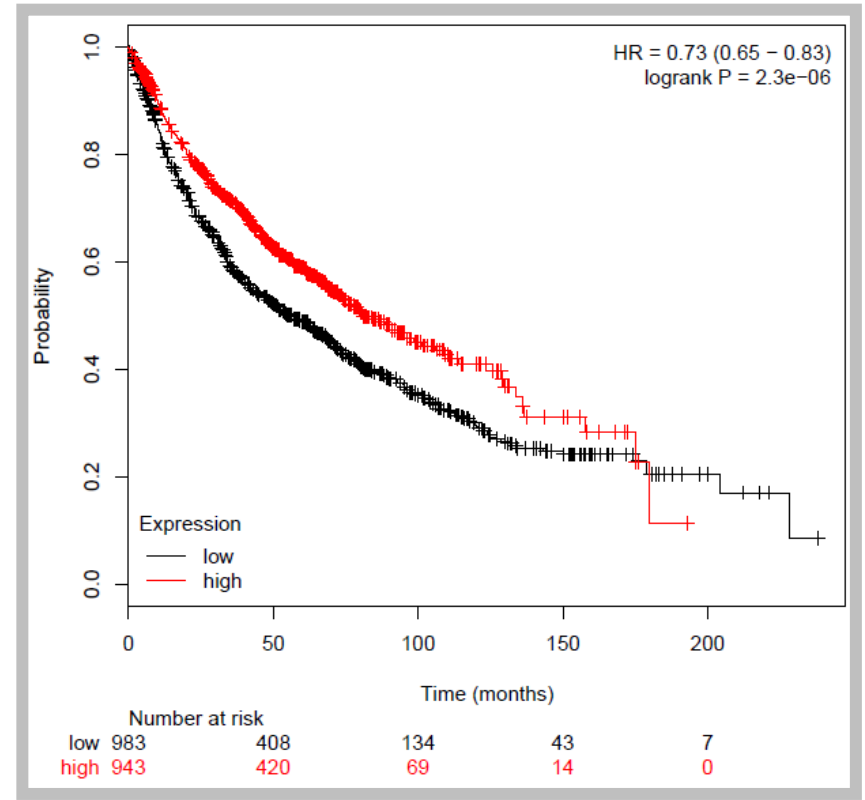
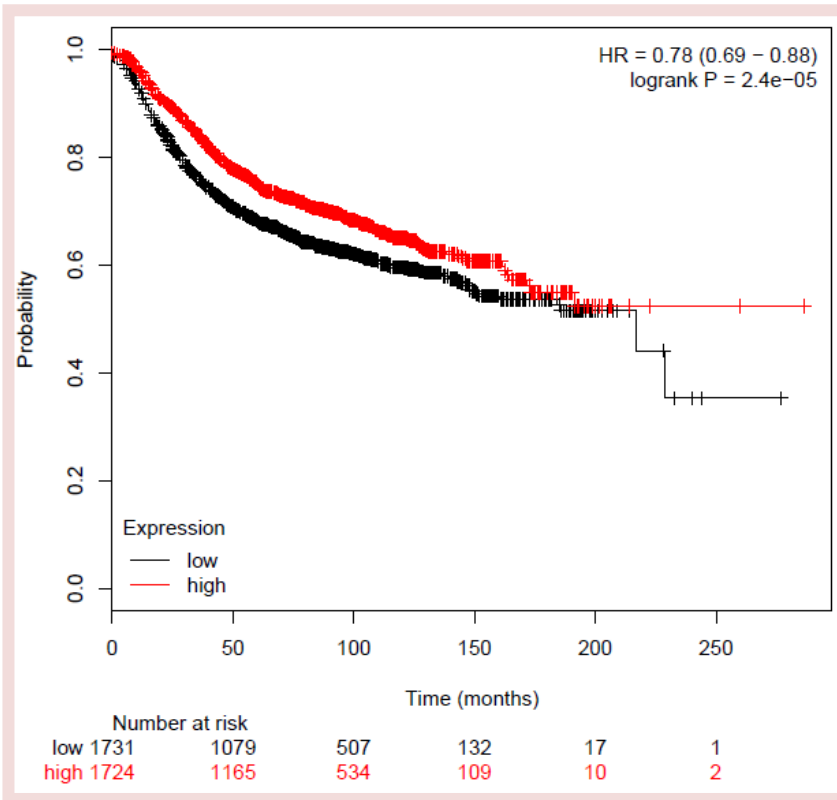
De openbare verdediging zal plaatsvinden op
 woensdag 8 oktober 2014 om 14.30 uur

door

Niek Gerrit Jan Leus

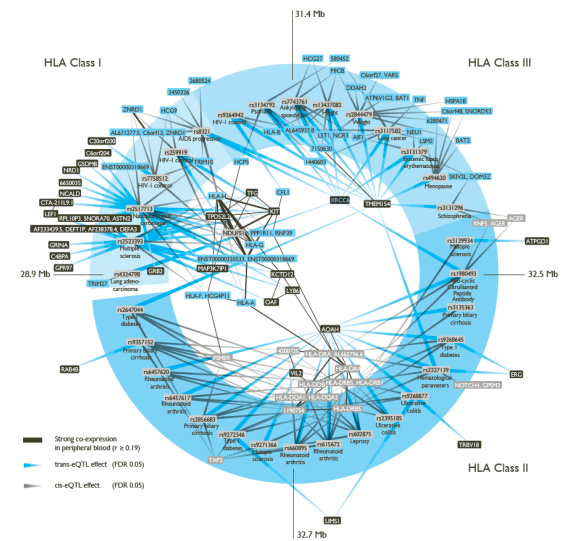
BACKGROUND

***XRCC6* expression levels show correlations with survival of cancer patients**



AIM

To annotate the trans-eQTLs for *XRCC6* and check whether they may play a role in HLA-linked cancer susceptibility



METHODS

eQTL Browsers

Chicago Blood NCBI GTEx

SNP Functional Annotations

CADD RegulomeDB SNPnexus PheGenI SNIIPA

Disease Associations

GWAS catalog dbGAP GRASP Kaplan-Meier plotter

Gene Expression Co-variance

Microarray Innovations in Leukemia (MILE) Study
CORD (Co-regulation databases)



RESULTS

XRCC6 has no cis-eQTLs

All trans-eQTLs map to the HLA region

Query eQTL Results

Or, you can query the *cis*- and *trans*-eQTLs below (examples: rs7807018 or VWCE):

Gene or SNP name:

Your query: XRCC6

Trans-eQTLs

P-value	SNP	SNP Chr.	SNP Chr. position	Probe	Probe Chr.	Probe Chr. position	SNP Alleles	Minor Allele	Z-score	Gene name	FDR
4.993959233035421E-19	rs2524054	6	31360375	3380347 22	40389758		C/A	A	-8.91	XRCC6	0.00
3.203718409825412E-16	rs1063635	6	31487910	3380347 22	40389758		G/A	A	8.17	XRCC6	0.00
7.58793280063431E-13	rs2844665	6	31114834	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	T	-7.17	XRCC6	0.00
1.0667196745260456E-11	rs2227139	6	32521437	3380347 22	40389758		G/A	G	-6.80	XRCC6	0.00
5.3663632204727914E-11	rs2523608	6	31430538	3380347 22	40389758		G/A	G	-6.56	XRCC6	0.00
3.45612186194326E-10	rs6457327	6	31182009	3380347 22	40389758		A/C	A	-6.28	XRCC6	0.00
2.378359526821619E-9	rs1343708	6	31462539	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	T	5.97	XRCC6	0.00
3.1727674114665877E-9	rs1521	6	31458683	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	C	-5.92	XRCC6	0.00
3.250885642853635E-9	rs7743761	6	31444079	3380347 22	40389758		C/A	A	5.92	XRCC6	0.00
9.478842759131973E-9	rs9264942	6	31382359	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	C	5.74	XRCC6	0.00
1.0654024278121931E-7	rs2269426	6	32184477	3380347 22	40389758		G/A	A	5.32	XRCC6	0.01
1.2019434463360447E-7	rs3135388	6	32521029	3380347 22	40389758		A/G	A	-5.29	XRCC6	0.01
1.8924818645448748E-7	rs3117181	6	32178995	3380347 22	40389758		C/G	C	-5.21	XRCC6	0.02
2.0057919721729475E-7	rs9268853	6	32537621	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	C	5.20	XRCC6	0.02
2.4354319375644347E-7	rs2395185	6	32541145	3380347 22	40389758		G/T	T	5.16	XRCC6	0.03
3.035974364549539E-7	rs9271366	6	32694832	3380347 22	40389758		G/A	G	-5.12	XRCC6	0.03
3.48373280795737E-7	rs185819	6	32158045	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	T	-5.10	XRCC6	0.04
8.05624393582649E-7	rs7756521	6	30956232	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	C	4.93	XRCC6	0.07
1.9340121245290004E-6	rs9275572	6	32786977	3380347 22	40389758		A/G	A	-4.76	XRCC6	0.15
3.2682296890855E-6	rs2076529	6	32471933	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	C	4.65	XRCC6	0.21
3.6320141057043426E-6	rs9275596	6	32789609	3380347 22	40389758		C/T	C	-4.63	XRCC6	0.23
7.969560945092498E-6	rs2647012	6	32772436	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	T	-4.47	XRCC6	0.36
1.056863231492124E-5	rs9469003	6	31515807	3380347 22	40389758		T/C	C	4.41	XRCC6	0.41
1.0785250021248313E-5	rs9268645	6	32516505	3380347 22	40389758		C/G	G	4.40	XRCC6	0.42

Cis-eQTLs

P-value SNP SNP Chr. SNP Chr. Position Probe Probe Chr. Probe Chr. position SNP Alleles Minor Allele Z-score Gene name FDR
No records found

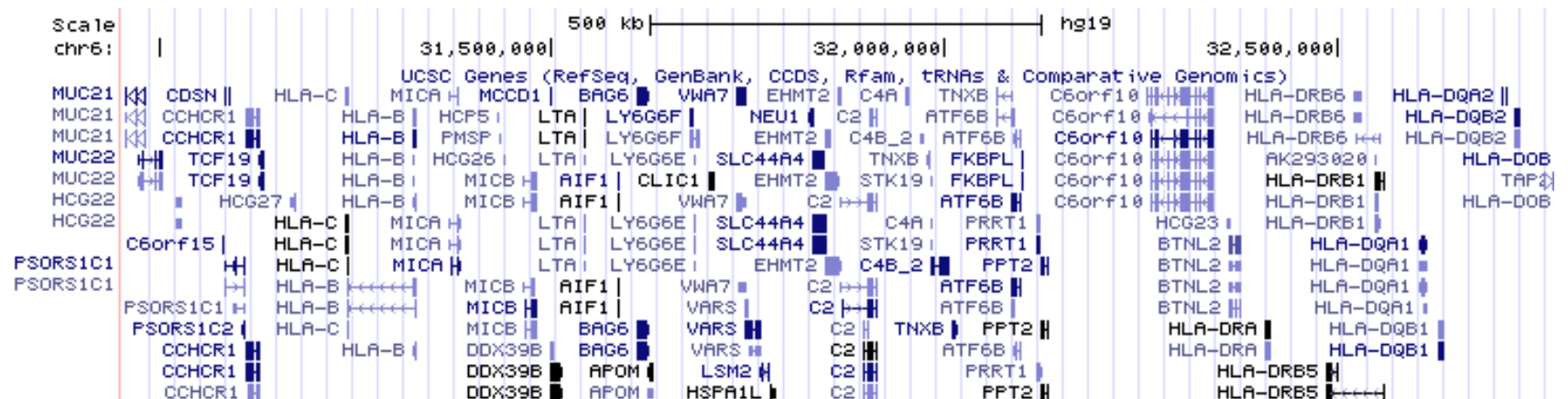
Systematic identification of *trans* eQTLs as putative drivers of known disease associations

Harm-Jan Wientjes^{1,40}, Marijke J. Peters^{1,40}, Tim Eker^{4,40}, Hanih Yaghoobkaz^{4,40}, Claudia Schurmann^{4,40}, Johannes Kettunen^{26,40}, Mark W. Christiansen^{9,40}, Benjamin P. Fairfax^{30,41}, Katharina Schramm^{12,41}, Joseph E. Powell^{14,41}, Aleksandra Zernakova¹, Daria V. Zernakova¹, Jan H. Veldink¹⁶, Leonard H. Van den Berg¹⁶, Juhani Karjalainen⁹, Seho Withers⁹, Andre G. Uitterlinden^{2,12,41}, Albert Hofman¹⁷, Fernando Rivadeneira^{12,17}, Peter A. C. 't Hoen¹⁸, Eva Reinmaa⁴, Krista Fischer⁴, Mari Nello⁴, Lili Milani⁴, David Melzer¹⁹, Luigi Ferrucci²⁰, Andrew B. Singleton²¹, Denis G. Hernandez^{22,41}, Michael A. Nalls²³, Georg Homuth²⁴, Matthias Nauck²⁵, Dietrich Radke²⁴, Uwe Völker²⁴, Markus Perola²⁴, Veikko Salonen²⁴, Jennifer Brody²⁴, Astrid Suchy-Derzy²⁴, Sina A. Ghareh²⁴, David A. Enquobahye²⁴, Thomas Lumley²⁴, Grant W. Montgomery²⁴, Seiko Makino²⁴, Holger Prokisch^{12,41}, Christian Herder²⁴, Michael Roden^{24,41}, Harald Grallert²⁴, Thomas Meitinger^{12,41,43,44}, Konstantin Strassburg^{15,45}, Yang Lij¹⁷, Robert C. Jansen¹⁹, Peter M. Visscher^{14,41}, Julian C. Knight¹⁹, Bruce M. Psaty^{4,46}, Samuli Ripatti^{4,46,41}, Alexander Teumer^{4,41}, Timothy M. Frayling^{4,41}, Andres Metspalu^{4,41}, Joyce B. J. van Meurs^{1,3,41} & Lude Franke^{1,41}

RESULTS

All trans-eQTLs for *XRCC6* were within the classical HLA complex

chr6:30,956,232-32,789,609 1,833,378 bp.



RESULTS

Trans-eQTLs for *XRCC6* are not related to one another (not on the same haplotype or lineage), however, some show correlations with HLA types or lineages.



Liverpool Hope University
EST. 1844

**A Catalog of HLA Region SNPs
with Functional Annotations, Disease Associations
and Correlations with HLA Types**

Amy E. Kennedy ¹, Sushmita Mustafi ², Sandeep K. Singh ², Ioanna Konidari ³,
Jacob L. McCauley ³, Alejandro M. Barbieri ², Mehmet T. Dorak ⁴

¹ National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA; ² Florida International University, Miami, FL, USA; ³ John P. Hussman Institute for Human Genomics, University of Miami, Miami, FL, USA;
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P-121

RESULTS

Some of the trans-eQTLs map to non-coding RNA genes

LINC01149 long intergenic non-protein coding RNA 1149 [*Homo sapiens* (human)]

Gene ID: 101929111, updated on 17-Mar-2015

Summary

Official Symbol LINC01149 provided by [HGNC](#)
Official Full Name long intergenic non-protein coding RNA 1149 provided by [HGNC](#)
Primary source [HGNC:HGNC:39757](#)
Gene type ncRNA
Organism [Homo sapiens](#)
Lineage Eukaryota; Metazoa; Chordata; Craniata; Vertebrata; Euteleostomi; Mammalia; Eutheria; Euarchontoglires; Primates; Haplorhini; Catarrhini; Hominidae; Homo

LINC00243 long intergenic non-protein coding RNA 243 [*Homo sapiens* (human)]

Gene ID: 401247, updated on 12-May-2015

Summary

Official Symbol LINC00243 provided by [HGNC](#)
Official Full Name long intergenic non-protein coding RNA 243 provided by [HGNC](#)
Primary source [HGNC:HGNC:30956](#)
See related [Ensembl:ENSG00000214894](#)
Gene type ncRNA
RefSeq status VALIDATED
Organism [Homo sapiens](#)
Lineage Eukaryota; Metazoa; Chordata; Craniata; Vertebrata; Euteleostomi; Mammalia; Eutheria; Euarchontoglires; Primates; Haplorhini; Catarrhini; Hominidae; Homo
Also known as C6orf214; NCRNA00243

HCG9 HLA complex group 9 (non-protein coding) [*Homo sapiens* (human)]

Gene ID: 10255, updated on 12-May-2015

Summary

Official Symbol HCG9 provided by [HGNC](#)
Official Full Name HLA complex group 9 (non-protein coding) provided by [HGNC](#)
Primary source [HGNC:HGNC:21243](#)
See related [Ensembl:ENSG00000204625](#); [HPRD:17092](#); [MIM:615797](#)
Gene type ncRNA
RefSeq status VALIDATED
Organism [Homo sapiens](#)
Lineage Eukaryota; Metazoa; Chordata; Craniata; Vertebrata; Euteleostomi; Mammalia; Eutheria; Euarchontoglires; Primates; Haplorhini; Catarrhini; Hominidae; Homo
Also known as HCGIX; HCGIX4
Summary This gene lies within the MHC class I region on chromosome 6p21.3. This gene is believed to be non-coding, but its function has not been determined. [provided by RefSeq, Jul 2009]

[XXbac BPG248L24.11](#)

[XXbac-BPG181B23.7](#)

[RNU6-1133P](#)

[RNU6-1133P](#)

[HCP5](#)

[XXbac BPG248L24.11](#)

RESULTS

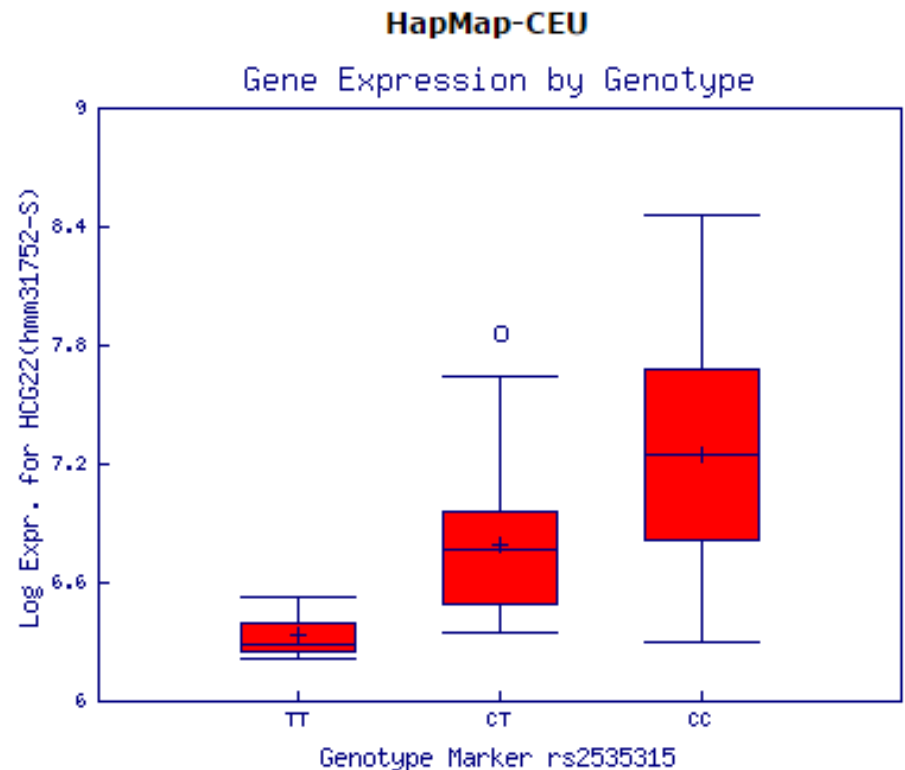
Four of the trans-eQTLs are also cis-eQTLs for the non-coding RNA gene *HCG22*

HCG22 HLA complex group 22 [*Homo sapiens* (human)]

Gene ID: 285834, updated on 19-Jul-2015

Summary

Official Symbol HCG22 provided by [HGNC](#)
Official Full Name HLA complex group 22 provided by [HGNC](#)
Primary source [HGNC:HGNC:27780](#)
See related [Ensembl:ENSG00000228789](#); [MIM:613918](#)
Gene type ncRNA
RefSeq status VALIDATED



RESULTS

Among HLA region SNPs that show an associations with cancer:

- > None alter transcription factor binding sites for TP53, c-Myb, c-Myc, c-Jun, or c-Fos
- > None is in a CpG island
- > None is in a miRNA sequence or miRNA binding site

BUT:

Most HLA region cancer associations were with SNPs that have trans-eQTL effects on a cancer-related gene (*XRCC6*, *ERG*, and others)

Analysis of HLA Region Polymorphisms Associated with Cancer

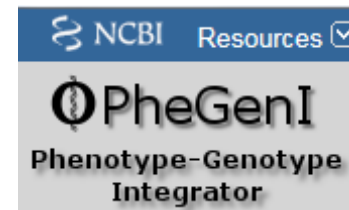
Amy E. KENNEDY, Sandeep K. SINGH, Karina VILLALBA,
M. Tefvik DORAK

ASHI 2013

RESULTS

Most trans-eQTLs have already shown cancer associations with cancer susceptibility in GWAS.

SNP	SNP ID	Trait	Pubmed
rs10484561	rs10484561	Follicular lymphoma	20639881
rs130067	rs130067	Prostate cancer	21743467
rs2395185	rs2395185	Lung cancer	23143601
rs2395185	rs2395185	Hodgkin's lymphoma	22286212
rs2517713	rs2517713	Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	19664746
rs2647012	rs2647012	Follicular lymphoma	21533074
rs2860580	rs2860580	Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	20512145
rs2894207	rs2894207	Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	20512145
rs29232	rs29232	Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	19664746
rs3117582	rs3117582	Lung adenocarcinoma	19836008
rs3129055	rs3129055	Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	19664746
rs6457327	rs6457327	Follicular lymphoma	20639881
rs674313	rs674313	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia	21131588
rs6903608	rs6903608	Nodular sclerosis Hodgkin lymphoma	22086417
rs6903608	rs6903608	Hodgkin's lymphoma	21037568
rs9267673	rs9267673	Hepatocellular carcinoma	21105107
rs9268853	rs9268853	Lymphoma	23349640
rs9272535	rs9272535	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia	21131588
rs9275572	rs9275572	Hepatocellular carcinoma	21499248



GRASP Search - v2.0.0.0

Screening of GRASP database for associations of the 42 trans-eQTLs with cancer risk revealed an additional association with breast cancer (rs3130544), and another SNP (rs2596503) has a reported association with glioblastoma.

RESULTS

The examination of the Microarray Innovations in Leukemia (MILE) data revealed highly significant inverse correlations between HCG22 and XRCC6 expression levels:

$P = 0.0001$, $r = -0.43$, $n = 74$ in normal bone marrow

$P < 10^{-36}$, $r = -0.27$, $n = 2022$ in leukemia

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ORIGINAL REPORT

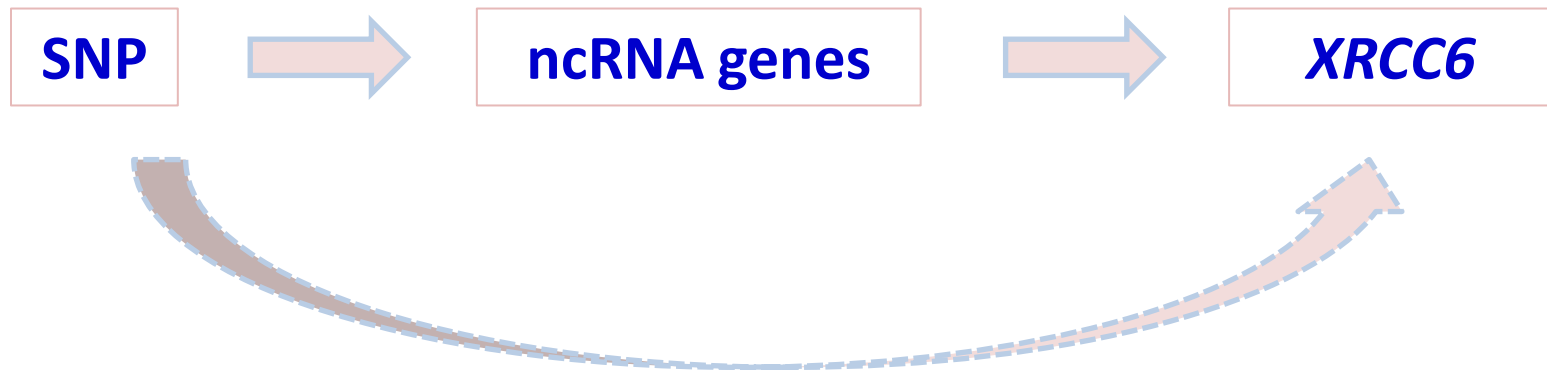
From the European LeukemiaNet, Gene Expression Profiling Working Group; MLL Munich Leukemia Laboratory, Munich; Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Benjamin Franklin, Charité, Berlin, Germany; Laboratorio di Ematologia e Oncologia Pediatrica, Università di Padova, Padova; Division of Hematology, "Sapienza" University, Rome, Italy; Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Montpellier, Hôpital St Eloi, Institut de Recherche en Biothérapie, Montpellier, France; Centro de Investigación del Cáncer-Instituto de Biología Molecular y Celular del Cáncer, Universidad de Salamanca-Consejo Super-

Clinical Utility of Microarray-Based Gene Expression Profiling in the Diagnosis and Subclassification of Leukemia: Report From the International Microarray Innovations in Leukemia Study Group

Torsten Haferlach, Alexander Kohlmann, Lothar Wieczorek, Giuseppe Basso, Geertruy Te Kronnie, Marie-Christine Béné, John De Vos, Jesus M. Hernández, Wolf-Karsten Hofmann, Ken I. Mills, Amanda Gilkes, Sabina Chiaretti, Sheila A. Shurtleff, Thomas J. Kipps, Laura Z. Rassenti, Allen E. Yeoh, Peter R. Papenhausen, Wei-min Liu, P. Mickey Williams, and Robin Foà

DISCUSSION

The data presented suggest that HLA region SNPs act as cis-eQTLs for ncRNA genes and as trans-eQTLs for *XRCC6*, *ERG* and other cancer-related genes



DISCUSSION

XRCC6 (*aka* Ku70) is one of 430 extremely multifunctional proteins in humans



ARTICLE

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OPEN

Extreme multifunctional proteins identified from a human protein interaction network

Charles E. Chapple^{1,2}, Benoit Robisson^{1,2}, Lionel Spinelli^{1,2,3,4,5}, Céline Guien^{1,2,†}, Emmanuelle Becker^{1,2,†} & Christine Brun^{1,2,6}

Moonlighting proteins are a subclass of multifunctional proteins whose functions are unrelated. Although they may play important roles in cells, there has been no large-scale method to identify them, nor any effort to characterize them as a group. Here, we propose the first method for the identification of 'extreme multifunctional' proteins from an interactome as a first step to characterize moonlighting proteins. By combining network topological information with protein annotations, we identify 430 extreme multifunctional proteins (3% of the human interactome). We show that the candidates form a distinct sub-group of proteins, characterized by specific features, which form a signature of extreme multifunctionality. Overall, extreme multifunctional proteins are enriched in linear motifs and less intrinsically disordered than network hubs. We also provide MoonDB, a database containing information on all the candidates identified in the analysis and a set of manually curated human moonlighting proteins.

DISCUSSION

[Cell Cycle 4:3, 438-441; March 2005]; ©2005 Landes Bioscience

Perspective

The Double Life of the Ku Protein

Facing the DNA Breaks and the Extracellular Environment

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<http://www.landesbioscience.com/journals/cc/abstract.php?id=1565>

ABSTRACT

The Ku heterodimer (Ku70/Ku80) plays a central role in DNA double strand break recognition and repair. It has been shown, more than ten years ago, that Ku is also expressed at the cell surface of different cells types along with its intracellular pool within the nucleus and the cytoplasm but involvement of Ku in cell-cell and cell-extracellular matrix adhesion has been only recently demonstrated. In addition, we have shown that Ku may have a second and unexpected activity in cell/microenvironment interaction. Indeed, Ku appears to be involved in extracellular proteolytic processes through its specific interaction, on the cell surface, with the matrix metalloprotease 9. Taken together, these results suggest that Ku function at the cell surface is likely to be important in tumour invasion. Various fundamental questions arise from these observations. How Ku is expressed on the cell surface, why a protein with completely unrelated functions also serve as an integrin-like molecule once expressed at the cell surface and is this functional moonlighting of Ku related to cell transformation remain open issues that will be discussed here.

Table 1 Human cell lines or primary normal and tumor cells that express Ku on their cell surface

Cell Type	Origin
Normal human primary cells	Monocytes-derived macrophages ¹⁵ , Endothelial cells (HUVEC) ¹³
Primary human tumor cells	Freshly isolated multiple myeloma** ^{3,18}
Hematopoietic tumor cell lines	Acute monocytic leukemia (THP-1, ¹⁵ HL-60, ^{13,15} U-937* ^{1,13}), Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (Jurkat*, ^{1,13} MOLT-4 ¹³), Multiple myeloma (ARH-77, ³ HS-sultan, ³ RPMI8226 ¹⁸)**
Solid tumor cell lines	Rhabdomyosarcoma (RD) ¹³ , Neuroblastoma (Kelly)* ¹⁴ , Mammary carcinoma (MCF-7)* ¹⁴ , Cervix epitheloid carcinoma (Hela) ^{1,10,11}

*Ku expression on the cell surface is upregulated under hypoxia; **Ku is expressed on the cell surface only upon CD40L stimulation.

DISCUSSION

Overexpression of Ku leads to excessive DNA repair that can have detrimental effects on the organism by increasing its resistance to genotoxic agents, hence increasing the likelihood for the development of aggressive neoplasia. Thus, although most proteins contribute to the development of carcinogenesis when they are overexpressed (i.e., oncoproteins, e.g., c-myc), or underexpressed (i.e., tumor suppressor proteins, e.g., TP53), Ku may contribute to cancer in either condition (Fig. 2).

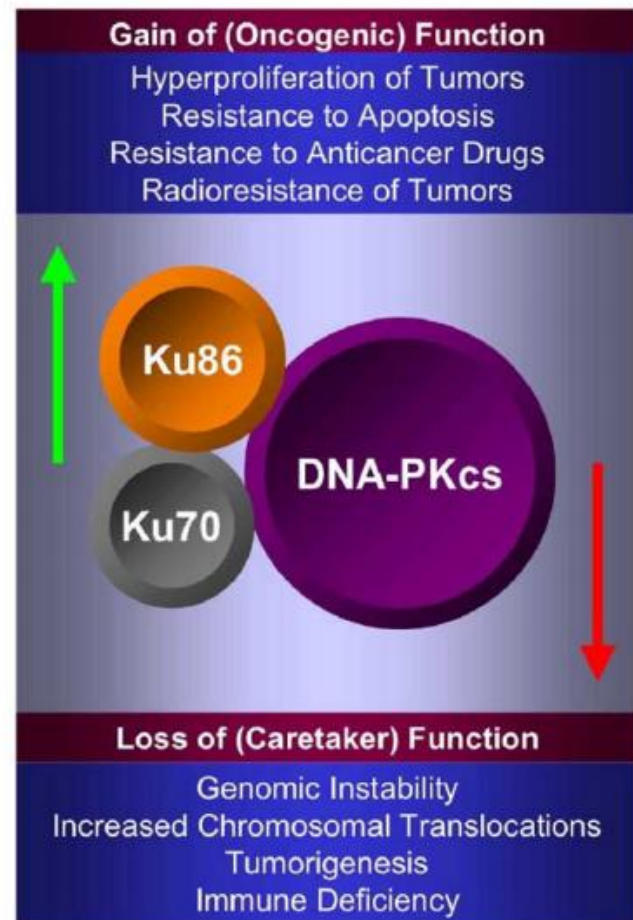


Fig. 2. Ku as an oncoprotein or a tumor suppressor protein. A schematic diagram of the DNA-PK holoenzyme is shown. DNA-PK is composed of the Ku70/Ku86 heterodimer and DNA-PKcs. In cancer, gain of DNA-PK function [22] is associated with gain of oncogenic function; whereas loss of DNA-PK function (red arrow) is associated with loss of caretaker or tumor suppressor function. The consequences of such changes are shown (blue boxes).

CONCLUSIONS

The HLA region sequence variation shows associations with cancer risk, and the present study provides an insight into the potential mechanism of these associations.

The overall observations suggest a non-immunological mechanism for the involvement of HLA region genetic variation in inherited cancer susceptibility, and implicate an ncRNA-mediated mechanism for trans-eQTL effect on *XRCC6*.



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