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## Genotype-phenotype correlations in patients with Retinoblastoma and interstitial

## 13q deletions

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Running title: Interstitial 13 q deletions in Rb patients


#### Abstract

Patients with an interstitial 13q deletion that contains the RB1 gene show retinoblastoma and variable clinical features. Relations between phenotypic expression and loss of specific neighboring genes are unresolved, yet. We obtained clinical, cytogenetic and molecular data in 63 patients with an interstitial 13 q deletion involving $R B 1$. Whole genome array analysis or customized high-resolution array analysis for 13q14.11q14.3 was performed in 38 patients, cytogenetic analysis in 54 patients. Deletion sizes ranged between 4.2 kb and more than 33.43 Mb , breakpoints were non-recurrent. Sequence analysis of deletion junctions in five patients revealed microhomology and insertion of 2 to 34 base pairs suggestive of Non-Homologous End Joining. Milder phenotypic expression of retinoblastoma was observed in patients with deletions larger than 1 Mb that contained the MED4 gene. Clinical features were compared between patients with small (within 13q14), medium (within 13q12.3q21.2) and large (within 13q12q31.2) deletions. Patients with a small deletion can show macrocephaly, tall stature, obesity, motor and/or speech delay. Patients with a medium deletion show characteristic facial features, mild to moderate psychomotor delay, short stature and microcephaly. Patients with a large deletion have characteristic craniofacial dysmorphism, short stature, microcephaly, mild to severe psychomotor delay, hypotonia, constipation and feeding problems. Additional features included deafness, seizures, brain and heart anomalies. We found no correlation between clinical features and parental origin of the deletion. Our data suggest that hemizygous loss of NUFIP1 and PCDH8 may contribute to psychomotor delay, deletion of MTLR1 to microcephaly and loss of $E D N R B$ to feeding difficulties and deafness.


Key words: retinoblastoma, interstitial $13 q$ deletion, array CGH analysis

## Introduction

Retinoblastoma ( Rb ) is caused by mutational inactivation of the $R B 1$ gene, a tumor suppressor located on chromosome 13q14.2. About $5-15 \%$ of the patients with Rb are heterozygous for a gross deletion that includes the entire or substantial parts of $R B 1 .{ }^{1}$ It has been reported that the proportion of patients with unilateral Rb in carriers of 13 q deletions is higher compared to patients with intragenic loss of function mutations. ${ }^{1-3}$ In addition to Rb , patients with a 13 q deletion involving the region 13 q 14.2 often present with pleiotropic features. Based on karyotype-phenotype associations a classification for patients with a 13 q deletion with and without Rb was proposed. ${ }^{4}$ Patients with a deletion proximal to 13 q 32 (group 1) show mild to moderate mental retardation, variable dysmorphic features and growth retardation. Patients with deletions extending into 13 q 32 (group 2) show one or more major malformations including severe microcephaly, and malformations of the brain, genitourinary and gastrointestinal tract. Group 3 comprises patients with distal deletions involving 13q33q34. The facial and neurological phenotype in patients with Rb and a 13 q deletion was described first in three Japanese patients by Motegi et al.. ${ }^{5}$ These patients show prominent eyebrows, a broad nasal bridge, a bulbous tip of the nose, a large mouth, a thin upper lip, and a long philtrum. Baud et al. ${ }^{6}$ described a series of 22 Rb patients with the most prominent features being anteverted ear lobes, a high and broad forehead, a prominent philtrum and severe mental retardation and/or motor impairment. In a study by Bojinova et al. ${ }^{7}$ frequent features included frontal bossing, a deeply grooved and long philtrum, a depressed and broad nasal bridge, a bulbous tip of the nose, a thick lower lip, a thin upper lip, broad cheeks, large ears and lobules. Additional case reports on patients with an interstitial 13q deletion involving band 13q14 describe macrocephaly, hypertelorism,
proptosis, cleft palate, macroglossia, hypotonia, and mild to severe developmental delay. ${ }^{8-10}$ In two patients with Rb and an interstitial deletion extending to 13 q 22 Hirschsprung disease was reported. ${ }^{11,12}$ All these patients were analyzed using standard cytogenetic analysis. To date, only five patients with an interstitial 13q deletion involving the region 13 q14.2 defined by array-based analyses have been reported. ${ }^{13-15}$ Caselli et al. ${ }^{14}$ reported on one patient with normal clinical features and a small 1.7 Mb deletion, and two other patients with larger deletions of 19 to 45 Mb who showed variable clinical features including craniofacial dysmorphism, psychomotor delay, hypotonia, short stature, and anomalies of feet and brain A correlation of the extent of the deletion to the facial phenotype and other clinical features in patients with an interstitial 13 q deletion proximal to the region 13 q 32 (group 1 of Brown's classification) is still wanting. It is also still unknown whether specific genes in the region account for specific aspects of the phenotype seen in Rb patients with an interstitial 13q deletion.

In this study, we report on 63 individuals with isolated or familial Rb who carry an interstitial 13 q deletion involving $R B 1$. In order to define genotype-phenotype correlations and to contribute to a functional gene map in the region, cytogenetic analysis in 54 patients was compared with array CGH analysis in 38 patients. Breakpoints were sequenced in five unrelated patients to analyze for the underlying deletion mechanism.

## Material and Methods

## Patients

A total of 63 Rb patients from 55 families was ascertained through the Rb outpatient clinic and Rb lab (Essen). All patients carried an interstitial 13q deletion involving RB1
with at least one breakpoint outside of $R B 1$. Deletions had been identified during routine genetic testing using microsatellite analysis of short tandem repeat (STR) loci within $R B 1$, quantitative multiplex $\mathrm{PCR}^{1}$, multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification (MLPA) (kit P047, MRC Holland) or standard cytogenetic analysis. Informed consent for study participation was obtained. DNA from peripheral blood lymphocytes and tumor tissue was prepared following standard procedures.

## Cytogenetic Analysis

Standard cytogenetic analysis was performed in 54 patients on cultured lymphocytes with $G$ banding techniques and a resolution of 500-550 bands per haploid genome.

## Array CGH Analysis

Custom made high-resolution oligonucleotide CGH Microarray Kit 4x44K (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA) was performed to map deletion breakpoints in the region $13 q 14.11 \mathrm{q} 14.3$. Whole genome array CGH analysis was performed in 15 patients with larger deletions using Affymetrix 250K Nsp Array (Affymetrix) or Agilent Human genome CGH Microarray Kit 244K (Agilent Technologies) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

## Molecular Characterization of Breakpoint Sequences

To sequence deletion breakpoints in five patients, Long-Range PCR was performed using expanded long template PCR system (Roche, Mannheim, Germany). Primers (Biomers, Ulm, Germany) were designed for each patient to bind upstream and downstream of the deleted segments as mapped by high-resolution array CGH. PCR was performed according to the manufacturer's instructions. In patients 21 and 26, fragments were cloned into a PCR II vector by using the TOPO TA kit (Invitrogen, Montreal, Canada). In patients $26,34,47$, re-PCR with nested primers was performed.

Sequence analysis was performed on a 3100 Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, Darmstadt, Germany).

## Detection of Parental Origin of Interstitial 13q Deletions

If parental DNA was available, parental origin of the deletion was determined by genotyping of DNA polymorphisms within RB1. Three short tandem repeat (STR) loci were analyzed: RBi2 (D13S153), located in intron 2 of $R B 1,{ }^{16}$ RB1.20, located in intron 20, ${ }^{17}$ and a CA-repeat located at -890 bp upstream of L11910.

In patients uninformative for the above markers and in families where no parental DNA was available (patients $4,19,22,26,4351,54,55,56,66,72,73$ ), parental origin of the deletion was determined by analysis of the methylation status of a differentially methylated CpG-island in intron 2 of $R B 1$ using methylation-specific PCR. ${ }^{18}$

## Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis including contingency analysis of association between genotype and phenotype and oneway analysis of variance was performed using JMP software (www.jmp.com, SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA) and Stata 11.1 (StataCorp LP, College Station, TX, USA).

## RESULTS

## Cytogenetic Analysis

Conventional cytogenetic analysis showed a normal karyotype in 17 patients, a small deletion in 13q14.1q14.3 in 11 patients, and an interstitial 13q deletion in 13q12.3q31.2 involving 13q14.2 in 26 patients (Table 1).

## CGH Array Analysis

Results of array CGH analysis in 38 patients including nine Rb families are summarized in Table 1. Size and location of the deletions are shown in Figure 1. Nine patients
carried a deletion with one breakpoint within RB1 (patients 17, 21, 26, 34, 47, 49, 50, 56,58 ). In only two patients, 14 and 18 , analysis revealed recurrence of the breakpoint region.

For analysis of genotype-phenotype associations, we categorized deletions according to size to better compare clinical features. Deletions within 13q14 and smaller than 6 Mb or normal karyotype were considered to be small deletions (27 patients, including 14 patients from five families). Deletions within 13q12.3q21.2 and 6 to 20 Mb were considered as medium deletions (16 patients, including two patients from one family). All deletions larger than 20 Mb including large cytogenetic deletions within 13q12q31.2 were classified as large deletions ( 20 patients, including two patients from one family).

## Breakpoint Sequence Analysis

Results of breakpoint sequencing analysis in five patients are presented in Figure 2. Sequences were compared with the reference genomic sequence using a BLAT Search Genome (UCSC Genome Browser). In patient 47, we found a 2 bp microhomology at the breakpoint junction. The proximal breakpoint was located in intron 2 of the $I T M 2 B$ gene, the distal breakpoint in intron 13 of RB1 and involved a Tigger 3b Repeat (human transposable element). In patient 34, a 13 bp microhomology at the breakpoint junction was found with the proximal breakpoint located in a nonrepetitive sequence in intron 17 of RB1 and the distal breakpoint in a MER34C Repeat. In patient 26, a 4 bp microhomology at the breakpoint junction was found with the proximal breakpoint located in a L1MC4a Repeat and the distal breakpoint in intron 2 of $R B 1$ in a L1P1 Repeat. In patient 21, a 4 bp microhomology was found with the proximal breakpoint located in a L1PA6 Repeat and the distal breakpoint in a nonrepetitive sequence within Intron 17 of RB1. In patient 78, we found a 34 bp insertion of unknown origin at the
breakpoint junction. The proximal breakpoint mapped in a non-repetitive sequence in intron 12 of RB1, the distal breakpoint in an AluSq Repeat.

## Parental origin of the mutation

The human RB1 gene is imprinted. ${ }^{18}$ As this might be relevant for genotype-phenotype correlations we determined the parental origin of the interstitial 13q deletions (Table 1). In $17 / 63$ patients $(27.0 \%)$, the deletion was present on the maternal chromosome, in 44/63 patients (69.8\%) on the paternal chromosome. In two patients, analysis was uninformative. In 43 patients with a de novo deletion, the deletion was present on the paternal (33 patients, $76.7 \%$ ) or maternal (10 patients, 23.3\%) chromosome.

## Genotype-Phenotype Associations

Phenotypes of the study patients are listed in Table 1 and 2. All patients with one breakpoint inside of $R B 1$ had bilateral Rb . Of 54 patients with both breakpoints outside of RB1, $61.1 \%$ had bilateral Rb and $38.9 \%$ unilateral or no Rb (Figure 4a, likelihood ratio test, $\mathrm{P}=0.018$ ). Comparing deletion sizes and Rb phenotype it appears that milder phenotypic expression, i.e. unilateral Rb or incomplete penetrance, seems to be restricted to patients with deletions larger than about 1 Mb (Figure 4b). Neither the twosample Wilcoxon rank-sum test nor the median test showed significance, but this may be due to poor statistical efficiency of these non-parametric tests.

Age at diagnosis of Rb was obtained in 50 patients. With the exception of patient 72 , who was diagnosed with unilateral Rb at the age of 7 years, Rb was detected between 9 months and 3 years. In 43 patients with a de novo deletion or who were the first affected family member (Table 3, Suppl.), median age at diagnosis of unilateral Rb was 16 $(5 ; 18)$ months, of bilateral $\mathrm{Rb} 9(5 ; 14)$ months. The difference between the two distributions was not significant (Wilcoxon rank sum test: $\mathrm{z}=-1.510$, Prob> $|\mathrm{z}|=$
0.1311; Median test: $\operatorname{chi}^{2}=2.2750, \mathrm{P}=0.131$ ). Distribution of age at diagnosis in patients with bilateral and unilateral Rb who carry a maternal or paternal deletion was distinct, yet not statistically different (Kruskal-Wallis equality of population rank test: chi $^{2}=$ 7.693 with 3 degrees of freedom, $\mathrm{P}=0.0527$ ). The difference of age at diagnosis between patients with a maternal or paternal deletion was also not significant (Wilcoxon rank sum test: $\mathrm{z}=-0.167, \operatorname{Prob}>|\mathrm{z}|=0.8671$; Median test: chi $\left.^{2}=0.3667, \mathrm{P}=0.545\right)$. Age at diagnosis of Rb was similar between patients with a small, medium and large deletion (data not shown).

Patient 62 was born after 27 weeks of gestation; all other patients were born after 32 weeks of gestation. Mean gestational age was not distinct between patients with a small, medium and large deletion. In view of this homogeneity, comparison of birth measurements among all patients in this cohort is meaningful and showed a trend towards lower birth weight, length and head circumference in patients with a medium or large deletion compared to patients with a small deletion (Figure 6a, Suppl.). Patients with a medium and a small deletion showed similar birth measurements. Measurements at time of examination showed a similar trend with a tendency to lower weight, short stature and microcephaly with increasing size of the deletion (likelihood ratio test, $\mathrm{P}=0.0365, \mathrm{P}<.001$ and $\mathrm{P}<.001$, respectively). Of interest, some patients with a small or medium deletion showed obesity, tall stature and macrocephaly (Figure 6b, Suppl.).

Hypotonia, motor and speech delay were present in almost all patients with a medium or large deletion (likelihood ratio test, $\mathrm{P}<.001, \mathrm{P}<.001$ and $\mathrm{P}=0.0022$, respectively). Among patients with a small deletion, $6 / 15$ patients showed mild to moderate motor and/or speech delay. Additional clinical features included recurrent infections, feeding difficulties and constipation, predominantly among patients with a medium and large
deletion. In 17 patients, minor anomalies of the limbs were noted, including low set thumbs, crowded toes, sandal gaps and flat arched feet (Figure 5, Suppl.). Less frequent clinical features were seizures, deafness, and brain and heart anomalies. Second tumors included acute myeloid leukemia at the age of 3 years (patient 13) and pineoblastoma WHO V at the age of 3 years (patient 40).

We found no correlation between the parental origin of the deletion and deletion size, Rb phenotype (unilateral or bilateral), body measurements, and psychomotor development. Specifically, proportions of small, medium, and large deletions and proportions of unilateral and bilateral Rb were similar among maternal and paternal de novo deletions (data not shown).

## DISCUSSION

We have analyzed genotype-phenotype correlations in a cohort of 63 patients with an interstitial 13q deletion involving RB1. Deletions were variable with respect to size and location of breakpoints, no recurrent breakpoints nor any breakpoints' cluster was observed. Sequence analysis of breakpoints in a subset of five patients revealed a mutational signature typical of non-homologous recombination mechanisms, such as Non-Homologous End Joining (NHEJ). ${ }^{19,20}$ Analysis of parental origin of de novo deletions showed a slight excess of deletions arising on the paternal chromosome 13 but these results were less biased in favour of paternal chromosomes compared to new germline RB1 gene mutations on the whole. ${ }^{21}$ We found no significant effect of parental origin on phenotypic features.

Small RB1 mutations that lead to premature termination mutations almost invariably cause bilateral $\mathrm{Rb}^{22}$ Among patients with cytogenetic deletions, bilateral Rb is considerably less frequent with reported proportions ranging from 18/27 (66\%) ${ }^{3}$ to $9 / 22$
$(41 \%) .{ }^{6}$ These figures are in line with the proportion of bilateral affected patients in our cohort (42/63, 66\%).

Recently, varying cancer predisposition depending on the size of the deletion was also recognized in patients with 17 p13.1 microdeletions involving the TP53 gene. ${ }^{23}$ It was recognized that partial deletions of this gene lead to stronger cancer predisposition than full-length loss that include the first exon and intron, possibly because an aberrant function of this part of the TP53 accelerates tumorigenesis. ${ }^{23}$ In patients with $13 q 13$ microdeletions, however, pattern of genotype-phenotype correlation is distinct in that full-length loss of only the $R B 1$ gene is associated with bilateral retinoblastoma as are intragenic mutations that result in loss of function due to premature termination.

It has been suggested that the increased frequency of unilateral Rb and non-penetrance in carriers of large contiguous deletions compared to patients with intragenic loss of function mutations is a consequence of a reduced spectrum of effective second mutations. ${ }^{2}$ In a patient with a deletion, second mutations that lead to homo- or hemizygosity such as mitotic recombination or nondisjunction will result in homozygous loss of all genes within the deleted region. If a patient's deletion contains a gene essential for basic cellular functions fewer tumor foci will develop because only those second mutations will trigger tumor formation that leave the single copy of this gene intact. One would expect that deletions associated with milder phenotypic expression must exceed a minimum size to reach into a neighboring essential gene. This is in fact what we found. All deletions in patients with unilateral Rb or nonpenetrant carriers are larger than 1 Mb . Further it seems that once a deletion has exceeded this threshold of size there will be no further reduction of tumor foci as we observe no
increase of the proportion of unilateral disease in patients with very large deletions (Figure 4b).

Our data also provide clues as to the identity of the neighboring cell essential genes. All four patients (patients 15, 21, 26, 47) with haploinsufficiency for $I T M 2 B$ but no involvement of MED4 have bilateral Rb. This finding suggests that loss of the $I T M 2 B$ gene does not inhibit development of tumor foci. One familial deletion (patients 38, 39) involves ITM2B and MED4 but not SUCLA2 and is associated with unilateral Rb phenotype. Of a total of 27 deletions resulting in haploinsufficiency for $I T M 2 B, M E D 4$, and SUCLA2, nine deletions (33\%) are associated with unilateral disease (patients 10 , $14,16,18,36,41,57,63$, family 70,73 ) or no Rb (patient 60 ). Thus, deletions including MED4 are associated with milder phenotypic expression. MED4 (mediator of RNA polymerase II transcription, subunit 4) is ubiquitously expressed and encodes for vitamin D receptor-interacting protein (DRIP) complex that binds nuclear receptors. ${ }^{24}$ This suggests that alteration of vitamin D signalling through homozygous loss of MED4 is not tolerated by Rb precursor cells. It will be interesting to examine if hemizygous loss of MED4 has an effect on the growth of Rb , pointing out to vitamin D signalling as a potential target for Rb therapy.

Most patients in our cohort are still young and this might be sufficient to explain why only a few second tumors were observed. Acute myelogenous leukemia, seen in patient 13 , has been reported as a rare secondary malignancy among patients with Rb . Gombos et al. ${ }^{25}$ identified several patients with secondary acute myelogenous leukemia in childhood, many of whom were treated with chemotherapy, as was patient 13. This supports the link between chemotherapy and acute myelogenous leukemia in children with Rb . In patient 16 the $B R C A 2$ gene, located in 13q13.1, was also deleted.

Heterozygous point mutations in BRCA2 predispose to breast and/or ovarian cancer ${ }^{26}$ but, to our knowledge, no patient with a deletion in the region and breast cancer has been reported to date. Nevertheless, surveillance in Rb patients with deletions extending to 13 q 13.1 should include tumors associated with $B R C A 2$ gene mutations.

The patients in our cohort showed variable craniofacial dysmorphism. In patients with small deletions facial features were highly variable and nonspecific (Figure 3a). This finding contrasts previous reports by Motegi et al., ${ }^{5}$ Baud et al. ${ }^{6}$ and Bojinova et al. ${ }^{7}$ who suggested that a distinctive facial phenotype is associated with a deletion of band 13q14. In patients with a medium deletion craniofacial features included a high forehead, a short nose, a small upper lip, and curly hair (Figure 3b). Patients with a large interstitial 13 q deletion showed a round face, a high forehead, a short nose, a small upper lip, and down-turned corners of the mouth (Figure 3c). Patients with a deletion extending to the region $13 q 22 q 31.2$ showed mild hypertelorism, low set ears and micrognathia, similar to patients reported with an interstitial deletion involving 13q22 and Hirschsprung disease or Waardenburg-Shah syndrome. ${ }^{27-29}$ Micrognathia was reported as a common dysmorphic feature in patients with 13 q deletions and was associated with loss of the region 13q21.33q31.1. ${ }^{30}$ Additional mild anomalies of the feet were found in 17 patients. Caselli et al. 2007 also reported on toe crowding and a short V toe in $2 / 3$ patients with an interstitial 13q deletion.

Microcephaly was present in $57.1 \%$ of the patients with a large deletion. Our findings suggest that the region 13q21.32q21.33 is critical for microcephaly. Eight genes are located within this critical region, PCDH9, KLHL1, ATXN8OS, DACH1, C13orf34, DIS3, PIBF1, KLF5. A good candidate gene is PCDH9 which encodes for a cadherinrelated neuronal receptor that localizes to synaptic junctions and a putative role in
specific neuronal connections and signal transduction. ${ }^{31}$ Of note, all deletions found in our cohort are centromeric to 13 q 33.3 q 34 , a region that was reported to be critical for microcephaly by Kirchhoff et al.. ${ }^{30}$

Interestingly, a few patients in this cohort and in previous reports showed macrocephaly. ${ }^{8,9}$ However, the pattern of deleted regions was the same as in patients with normocephaly. Of note, the MTLR1/MLNR gene, which encodes for the growth hormone secretagogue receptor found in the pituitary gland and brain is involved in the control of growth hormone release, ${ }^{32}$ and is deleted in $5 / 6$ patient with macrocephaly in our cohort.

Short stature was seen in $35.6 \%$ of the patients with a medium deletion and in $75 \%$ of the patients with a large deletion. This corresponds to findings in other patient with deletions proximal to the $13 q 31 .{ }^{4}$ Interestingly, two patients in our study showed tall stature (patient 15 and 73). The deletions in these two patients were small and overlapped in a small region within 13q14.2 that includes four genes, ITM2B, RB1, P2RY5, RCBTB2.

Comparison of psychomotor development shows that $6 / 15$ patients with a small deletion showed motor and/or speech delay. This is in contrast to previous studies that suggested that patients with small deletions limited to band 13 q 14 show normal neurological development during infancy. ${ }^{6,7}$ Motor delay was seen in $85.7 \%$ of the patients with a medium deletion and all patients with a large deletion. Speech delay was also common among patients with a medium (84.6\%) and a large (86.7\%) deletion. A plausible candidate gene for psychomotor delay in 13q14.12 is NUFIP1 deleted in 17/22 patients with motor and/or speech delay. NUFIP1 interacts with FMRP, an RNA-binding protein encoded by FMR1 which is responsible for the fragile X syndrome. ${ }^{33}$ Another candidate
gene located in 13q21.1 is PCDH8 which encodes for an integral membrane protein and is thought to function in cell adhesion in a CNS-specific manner. ${ }^{31}$

Constipation and feeding difficulties were frequent findings in patients with a medium (23.1\%) and a large (44.4\%) deletion. A candidate gene for constipation is $E D N R B$, a G protein-coupled receptor located in 13q22.3. Dosage sensitive mutations in EDNRB have been associated with Hirschsprung disease type 2, pigment anomalies and hearing loss. ${ }^{34}$ Hirschsprung disease has been reported in other patients with an interstitial deletion involving the region 13q22. ${ }^{8,27,28,35,36}$ The milder form of constipation without evidence of intestinal aganglionosis seen in the reported patients may be explained by regulatory effects.

MRI or CT scan showed hypoplastic or partial aplastic corpus callosum in $3 / 25$ patients. Corpus callosum hypoplasia has also been reported in two patients with a deletion $13 q 13.1 q 21.1$ and $13 q 14.11 \mathrm{q} 31.1$ mapped by array CGH. ${ }^{14}$ In the study by Rodjan et al. ${ }^{37}$ MRI scan in seven patients with a 13 q deletion showed corpus callosum agenesis in one patient and a Dandy-Walker variant in another patient, but locations of the deletions were not reported. Ballarati et al. ${ }^{13}$ and Kirchhoff et al. ${ }^{30}$ refined the region $13 q 32.3 q 33.1$ as a critical region for corpus callosum agenesis but no specific candidate gene was found. From the results in this cohort and the patients reported by Caselli et al. ${ }^{14}$ a second critical region for corpus callosum anomalies can be suspected further centromeric.

Following our data, patients with a proximal interstitial 13q deletion involving the RB1 gene present with a spectrum of characteristic clinical features that contrasts the wider spectrum of major dysmorphism and severe congenital malformations in patients with a $13 q$ deletion involving the terminal chromosomal region $13 q 32$-qter ${ }^{4,13,30,38-44}$ Thus,
analysis of the precise location and size of the deletion is needed to better inform families and physicians about the clinical expectations and survival in patients with a $13 q$ deletion.

Further studies of candidate genes in the region around $R B 1$ are needed to correlate gene functions to specific clinical phenotypes. Analysis of the parental origin in more patients with an interstitial 13 q deletion is needed to further analyze for a possible functional relevance of RB1 imprinting.

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## Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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b


Rb phenotype

| Patient ID | Origin of deletion／heredity | age at diagnosis of Rb in months | Rb Phenotype | Conventional cytogenetic analysis | Array proximal breakpoin | analysis distal breakpoin | Location and size of deletior |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Patients with a small deletion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 （father of 5，6） | paternal，n．k． | n．k． | unilateral retinal scar | 46，XY | 45362825－48363232 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 48696986－48697628 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．12q14．2， 3.33 Mb |
| 5 （son of 3） | paternal，inherited | 18 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q14．2q14．2） | n．p． | n．p． | 13q14．12q14．2，3．33 Mb |
| 6 （son of 3） | paternal，inherited | 1 | unilateral | n．p． | n．p． | n．p． | 13q14．12q14．2，3．33 Mb |
| 15 | maternal，de novo | 8 | bilateral | 46，XX | 47709742－4770991兎 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 48590296－4859670c ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,0.89 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 17 | maternal，n．k． | 24 | bilateral | 46，XX | 47946955－4794848c ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 47956038－4795650¢ ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．2， 7.99 kb |
| 19 | paternal，de novo | 5 | bilateral | 46，XY | 46405919－4642013 $3^{\text {a }}$ | 49151941－49151998 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．2q14．3， 2.75 Mb |
| 21 | maternal，de novo | 11 | bilateral | 46，XY | 47672542－47681006 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 47912363－4791249f ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 13.2,0.24 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 26 | paternal，de novo | n．r． | bilateral | n．p． | 47635376－4763667¢ ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 47808181－47812029 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,0.18 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 34 | paternal，de novo | 14 | bilateral | n．p． | 47915282－47917513 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 48068498－4807186C ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,0.15 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 35 | paternal，de novo | 9 | bilateral | 46，XY | 47743725－47746919 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 50149499－50149928 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2 \mathrm{q14.3,2.41} \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 36 | paternal，de novo | 18 | unilateral | n．p． | 46963616－46963771 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 48367780－4836852E ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．2，1．41 Mb |
| 38 （nephew of 39） | maternal，inherited | 5 | unilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q14．2q14．2） | 47485354－47485997 ${ }^{\text {² }}$ | 48659232－4865928¢ ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.17 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 39 （aunt of 38） | paternal，inherited | n．k． | unilateral retinal scar | 46，XX，del（13）（q14．2q14．2） | n．p． | n．p． | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.17 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 47 | maternal，de novo | 2 | bilateral | 46，XX | 47710100－47710396 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 47849823－47851046 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,0.14 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 49 | n．k． | n．r． | bilateral | 46，XX | 47772350－47772827 | 47776329－4777656C ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,4.21 \mathrm{~kb}$ |
| 50 | maternal，inherited | n．r． | bilateral | n．p． | 47888152－4789472E ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 47996364－47996791 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,0.11 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 52 | paternal，de novo | n．r． | bilateral | 46，XX | 47072184－47073478 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 49029921－4903222ca | 13q14．2q14．3，1．96 Mb |
| 55 | maternal，inherited | n．r． | bilateral | n．p． | 47272350－47272781 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 48734057－4873594¢ ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.46 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 57 | paternal，de novo | 16 | unilateral | 46，XX | 46054012－46054336 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 51272913－5127512 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．2q14．3，5．22 Mb |
| 60 （mother of 63） | paternal，inherited | － | no Rb | 46，XX | 47143683－47143754 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 481545510－4815456E ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.01 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 63 （son of 60） | maternal，inherited | n．r． | unilateral | 46，XY | n．p． | n．p． | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.01 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 62 （son of 74） | paternal，inherited | 8 | bilateral | 46，XY |  | 48256793－48258148 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.88 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 74 （father of 62） | n．k． | n．r． | bilateral | n．p． | n．p． | n．p． | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.88 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 64 | paternal，de novo | 10 | bilateral | 46，XY | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 70 （daughter of 73） | maternal，inherited | 42 | unilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14．2q14．2） | $46317606^{\text {a }}$ | $48052536{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．2，1．74 Mb |
| 73 （mother of 70） | paternal，n．k． | 30 | unilateral | 46，XX | n．p． | n．p． | $13 \mathrm{q} 14.2,1.74 \mathrm{Mb}$ |
| 82 | paternal，de novo | 9 | bilateral | 46，XX | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| Patients with a medium deletion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | maternal，de novo | 32 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q14．2q21．2） | 40733729－4079013－p | 60179935－60193507 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q14．11q21．2， 19.46 Mb |
| 10 | paternal，de novo | 15 | unilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q14q21．1） | 43497450－4349750 ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 59492754－5950201c ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q14．11q21．2，16．01 Mb |
| 12 | maternal，de novo | 30 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q13q14．2） | 43346651－43346827 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 53285970－5328621发 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．11q21．1， 9.94 Mb |
| 13 | maternal，de novo | 5 | bilateral | $46, \mathrm{XX}$ ，del（13）（q12．3q14．3） | 32292404－3231817c ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 49897351－4993752 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q13．1q14．3，17．65 Mb |
| 14 | maternal，de novo | 5 | unilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14q14） | 42337828－42348574 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 55546169－5556411发 | 13q14．11q21．1，13．23 Mb |
| 18 | maternal，de novo | 4 | unilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q14．1q14．2） | 42337769－4234863 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 55034743－5504419 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q14．11q21．1， 12.71 Mb |
| 40 | paternal，de novo | 3 | bilateral | 46，XY | 43386853－43388686 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 53749602－5376468 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．11q21．1，10．38 Mb |
| 41 | paternal，de novo | 18 | unilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q13q14．3） | 36576884－36621396 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 48717057－4871711发 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q13．3q14．2，12．14 Mb |
| 42 （daughter of 43） | paternal，inherited | 2 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14q14） | 41390788－41398008 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 48224780－4822929 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．11q14．2，6．84 Mb |
| 43 （father of 42） | paternal．n．k． | 24 | unilateral | 46，XY，del（14）（q14．2q14．2） | n．p． | n．p． | 13q14．11q14．2， 6.84 Mb |
| 45 | paternal，de novo | 15 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13（q14．1q14．2） | 40667660－40732744 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 49535641－4953570c ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．11q14．3，8．87 Mb |
| 51 | paternal，de novo | 18 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q14．1q14．3） | 41516365－41516844 ${ }^{\circ}$ | 48840695－4884104¢ ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．11q14．2，7．32 Mb |
| 56 | paternal，n．k． | n．r． | bilateral | n．p． | 47936652－47937062 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 63956349－63978332 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q14．2q21．31，16．04 Mb |
| 58 | paternal，de novo | 12 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q14．1q14．2） | 40370025－40431052 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 47875264－4787532 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13q14．11q14．2， 7.51 Mb |
| 61 | paternal，de novo | 6 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14q21．1） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 68 | paternal，de novo | 2 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q12．3q14．3） | 37071383－37093430 ${ }^{\circ}$ | 53807548－53854488 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q13．3q21．1，16．78Mb |
| Patients with a large deletion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | paternal，n．k． | 8 | bilateral | n．p． | $39671015^{\text {c }}$ | $73097233^{\text {c }}$ | 13q14．11q22．1， 33.43 Mb |
| 7 | paternal，de novo | 17 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q12．3q21） | 37466693－3750100c ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 65918879－65948122 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q13．3q21．32， 28.48 Mb |
| 8 | paternal，de novo | 3 | bilateral | 46； XY ，del（13）（q14q22） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 11 | paternal，de novo | 1 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q12．3q22．1） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 16 | paternal，de novo | 4 | unilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q12．3q14．3） | 29036036－29045596 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 52932732－5298329¢ ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 13q12．3q21．1，23．95 Mb |
| 20 | paternal，de novo | 1 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14．11q31．2） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 22 | maternal，de novo | 10 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14q21） | 42331613－4235922c ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 65608944－6562117 ${ }^{\text {¢ }}$ | 13q14．11q21．32，23．29 Mb |
| 24 | maternal，de novo | 9 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14．11q22） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 25 | paternal，de novo | n．r． | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14．1q22） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 27 | paternal，de novo | n．r． | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q12．3q21．2） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 48 | paternal，de novo | 14 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q12q21．32） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 54 | paternal，de novo | 9 | bilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q13．1q21．1） | 33775711－33790664 | 54656139－546622570 | 13q13．2q21．1，20．88 Mb |
| 65 | paternal，de novo | 6 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q13q21．1） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 66 （mother of 67） | paternal，de novo | 10 | bilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q12．3－21．1） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 67 （son of 66） | maternal，inherited | 8 | unilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q12．3－21．1） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 71 | paternal，de novo | 18 | unilateral | 46，XX，del（13）（q14．1q21．3） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 72 | paternal，de novo | 84 | unilateral | 46， XX ，del（13）（q14．1q22） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 76 | paternal，de novo | 3 | unilateral | 46，XY，del（13）（q12q21） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 77 | paternal，de novo | 10 | unilateral | 46，XX，del13（q14q22） | n．p． | n．p． |  |
| 81 | paternal，de novo | 22 | bilateral | 46， $\mathrm{XY}(13)(\mathrm{q} 13.3 q 31.2)$ | n．p． | n．p． |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | a $4 \times 44 \mathrm{k}$ <br> b 250k SNP <br> c 250k Agilent |  |  |



## Titles and legends to figures

Figure 1 Gene map of deletions in 38 patients and cases reported in the literature. Results of array CGH analysis were uploaded into UCSC Genome browser. Based on NCBI Build 36.1 March 2006, hg 18.

Figure 2 Results of breakpoint sequencing analysis in five patients. Sequence data show proximal and distal breakpoints. Sequence similarities to reference genomic sequence are indicated by vertical bars.

Figure 3 Facial phenotype. (a) Patients with a small deletion show a high forehead, a broad nose tip and a thin upper lip. (b) Patients with a medium deletion show a high forehead, deep set eyes, a short nose in younger children, a small upper lip, and often curly hair. (c) Patients with a large deletion show a round face in younger children, a long face in adult patients, a high forehead, a short nose, a long philtrum in older patients, a small upper lip, and down-turned corners of the mouth. Patients 4, 8 , $11,20,72,76,77,81$ have hypertelorism, low set ears and micrognathia.

Figure 4 Correlation of retinoblastoma phenotype with deletion size. (a) Box plot: proportions of patients with a deletion involving the whole $R B 1$ gene (both breakpoints out of RB1) or part of RB1 (one breakpoint in RB1). (b) One-factor analysis.

Table 1 Results of cytogenetic and molecular analysis in 63 study patients. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ custom made high-resolution oligonucleotide CGH Microarray Kit $4 \times 44 \mathrm{~K}$ Agilent Technologies, Affymetrix 250K Nsp Array, ${ }^{\text {c Agilent Human genome CGH Microarray }}$

Kit 244K [Based on NCBI Build 36.1 March 2006, hg 18]. n.p., not performed; n.k., not known.

Table 2 Clinical features in patients with a small, medium and large interstitial $13 q$ deletion.
n.p., not performed; n.r., not reported.

## Supplementary

Table 3 Statistical analysis of age at diagnosis of retinoblastoma.

Figure 5 Photographs of feet. Note mild anomalies including crowded toes, sandal gaps and flat arched feet.

Figure 6 Analysis of genotype-phenotype correlation. (a) One way analysis of (a) weight, (b) length and (c) head circumference at birth with size of the deletion. Patients with a large 13q deletion showed low birth weight (mean 2576 g ), low birth length (mean 47 cm ) and a small head circumference (HC) (mean 33.9 cm ). Red dots, maternal deletions; blue dots, paternal deletions. (b) Box plots: correlation of (a) body build, (b) length, (c) head circumference (HC), (d) muscle tonus, (e) motor development, and (f) speech development at examination with size of deletion.

