Expanding the PRAAS spectrum: *De novo* mutations of immunoproteasome subunit β -type 10 in six infants with SCID-Omenn syndrome

Graphical abstract



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This study highlights the identification of recurrent heterozygous *de novo* mutations in immunoproteasome subunit β2i (*PSMB10*) as a cause for SCID-Omenn syndrome. These variants are predicted to profoundly disrupt immunoproteasome structure and function, emphasizing its importance for lymphocyte development. Pathogenic variants in *PSMB10* should be sought in SCID newborn screening.



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Expanding the PRAAS spectrum: *De novo* mutations of immunoproteasome subunit β -type 10 in six infants with SCID-Omenn syndrome

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Summary

Mutations in proteasome β -subunits or their chaperone and regulatory proteins are associated with proteasome-associated autoinflammatory disorders (PRAAS). We studied six unrelated infants with three *de novo* heterozygous missense variants in *PSMB10*, encoding the proteasome β 2i-subunit. Individuals presented with T-B-NK \pm severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) and clinical features suggestive of Omenn syndrome, including diarrhea, alopecia, and desquamating erythematous rash. Remaining T cells had limited T cell receptor repertoires, a skewed memory phenotype, and an elevated CD4/CD8 ratio. Bone marrow examination indicated severely impaired B cell maturation with limited V(D)J recombination. All infants received an allogeneic stem cell transplant and exhibited a variety of severe inflammatory complications thereafter, with 2 peri-transplant and 2 delayed deaths. The single long-term transplant survivor showed evidence for genetic rescue through revertant mosaicism overlapping the affected PSMB10 locus. The identified variants (c.166G>C [p.Asp56His] and c.601G>A/c.601G>C [p.Gly201Arg]) were predicted *in silico* to profoundly disrupt 20S immunoproteasome structure through impaired β -ring/ β -ring interaction. Our identification of *PSMB10* mutations as a cause of SCID-Omenn syndrome reinforces the connection between PRAAS-related diseases and SCID.

The human proteasome facilitates the controlled degradation of intracellular proteins that are targeted for breakdown by ubiquitination. The standard proteasome (SP) is composed of an enclosed cylinder-shaped central 20S core complex harboring the acidic, basic, and hydrophobic cleaving β -subunits $\beta 1$, $\beta 2$, and $\beta 5$, which together with two 19S regulatory units or the PA28 regulator form the 26S proteasome.¹ The proteolytic β -subunits can be exchanged for their inducible counterparts $\beta 11$ (LMP2/ PSMB9), $\beta 2i$ (MECL1/PSMB10), and $\beta 5i$ (LMP7/PSMB8) to form the immunoproteasome (IP).² The IP is constitutively expressed in hematopoietic cells and can be induced in non-immune cells upon exposure to proinflammatory cytokines.³ Compared to the SP, IP assembly is faster with more efficient antigen processing, explaining a fundamental role in the generation of pathogen-derived peptides and major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class I antigen presentation.^{3–5} Moreover, thymic cortical epithelial cells express thymoproteasomes that are essential in establishing central tolerance, containing the β 1i

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and β 2i subunits together with the thymus-specific β 5t subunit (PSMB11) instead of β 5i.⁶ Dysfunction of several proteasome β -subunits or their respective chaperone and regulatory proteins leads to proteasome-associated autoin-flammatory syndrome (PRAAS), characterized by nodular dermatitis, lipodystrophy, recurrent fever, and type-I interferon-induced immune dysregulation.

The majority of individuals with PRAAS have underlying autosomal-recessive or digenic heterozygous mutations impairing the 20S core particle (please refer to Table 1 for an overview of PRAAS-related diseases).⁷⁻¹¹ Autosomal-dominant mutations in proteasome subunits or accessory proteins have been associated with phenotypes distinct from classical PRAAS. Heterozygous (de novo) mutations affecting 19S subunits have been described in persons with primary neurodevelopmental syndromes with a type-I interferon (IFN) signature. Moreover, individuals with de novo nonsense-mediated decay (NMD)-escaping mutations affecting proteasome assembly protein POMP exhibited signs of autoinflammation, immune dysregulation, and combined immunodeficiency (PRAID).¹² Recently, a recurrent de novo mutation in PSMB9 was described in two infants presenting with combined immunodeficiency.¹³

Individuals with typical severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) lack T cells altogether and present during early infancy with recurrent opportunistic infections and failure to thrive (FTT). In atypical forms of SCID, immunodeficiency is similar in severity, but the block in T cell development is incomplete, leading to low naive T cells (<20%) usually within a reduced total T cell number. Omenn syndrome (OS [MIM 603554]) is a specific form of atypical SCID, in which T cells expand oligoclonally in the periphery, infiltrating end-organs such as the skin. The clinical diagnosis of OS requires a generalized erythrodermic rash, exclusion of maternofetal engraftment, and 2 or more of hepatosplenomegaly and lymphadenopathy, eosinophilia or high IgE levels.²⁷ These disorders can be detected based on clinical presentation or newborn screening (NBS) programs for SCID. In this study, we describe six unrelated infants with predominant signs of SCID and clinically diagnosed Omenn(-like) syndrome who carried heterozygous de novo missense variants in PSMB10, with an overlapping revertant mosaicism (RM) in one infant. The latter individual was previously reported as part of a trio sequencing study in subjects with inborn errors of immunity (IEI).²⁸ Molecular modeling suggests that the encoded PSMB10 missense variants cause profound disruption of the 20S proteasome structure through impaired β-ring/ β-ring interaction, similar to previously reported human mutations in PSMB9. These results identify de novo variants in PSMB10 as a monogenic cause of autosomal-dominant SCID-OS within the spectrum of PRAAS-related diseases. All six individuals presented with early-onset erythroderma, FTT, diarrhea, alopecia, and opportunistic infections (detailed clinical history and laboratory values are available in Table 2; Figure 1A; Tables S1-S3 and Supplemental note: Case reports).

The skin rash manifested within two months after birth and was characterized as a generalized erythroderma with desquamation (individual 1 [Figure 1B], 3, and 4), a raised generalized maculopapular rash (individuals 5 and 6), or only a mild facial erythroderma diagnosed as acne neonatorum (individual 2). The infections consisted of oral candidiasis (individuals 1, 3, and 4), disseminated and chronic viral infections (varicella zoster virus [VZV]), adenovirus, cytomegalovirus (CMV) (individuals 2, 4, and 5), Pneumocystis pneumonia (individual 4), or secondary skin infections (individuals 1 and 4). Individuals 2 and 5 displayed severe, intractable diarrhea that required total parenteral nutrition (TPN). A sixth infant (individual 6) was identified via NBS as having low T cell receptor excision circles (TRECs) and thrived despite developing blood and mucus in his stools and generalized dry skin by 2 months of age. On laboratory testing, T lymphocytes were low in number with an elevated CD4:CD8 ratio (except individual 2) and skewing toward a memory phenotype with low CD45RA and/or elevated CD45RO expression and reduced proliferative capacity (Table 2). T cell receptor (TCR) repertoires were limited (tested in individuals 1, 2, and 3). Circulating B lymphocytes were reduced or absent, associated with marked hypogammaglobulinemia. Natural killer (NK) cell numbers were lownormal. Individuals 1-4 had hypereosinophilia, which is typical for SCID-OS. Bone marrow (BM) examination showed a near complete block of B lymphocyte development in individuals 1 and 5, although slightly less severe when compared with other individuals with OS caused by RAG1, RAG2, or Artemis deficiency (Figure S1). In individual 6, a non-accredited interferon-stimulated gene transcriptional signature was assessed pre-transplant and was not markedly raised (5 of 6 transcripts showed normal abundance while IFI27 transcripts were 3× above the upper limit of normal).

Histological examination of the skin indicated a flattened epidermis with vacuolization of the basal epidermal layer and hyperparakeratosis in individuals 1 (Figure 1C) and 3 and vacuolar dermatitis with eosinophils and pigment laden macrophages in individual 2. Lymph node biopsy in individual 5 was stroma-rich with a paucity of (CD4⁺) lymphocytes, abortive primary follicle formation, and absence of germinal centers (Figures 1D and S2A–S2C). Small bowel biopsies in individuals 3 and 5 showed partial villous atrophy and crypt hyperplasia with apoptotic bodies, while colon biopsies showed preserved crypt architecture (Figures 1E, 1F, S2D, and S2E). Immunohistochemistry demonstrated an empty lamina propria with lack of plasma cells, low T cell numbers, and absence of B lymphocytes, consistent with an immunodeficiency-related enteropathy (Figures 1G and S2F–S2H).

All affected infants received allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) with different donor types and pre-conditioning regimens (Table 2). Post-transplant outcomes were characterized by severe inflammatory complications, including graft-versus-host disease (GVHD)

Gene	PSMB8 ^{7,10,14–16}	POMP ^{12,17}	PSMB4 ^{8,18}	PSMG2 ⁹	PSMB10 ^{11,19}	PSMB1 ²⁰	PSMD12 ^{21–24}	PSMC3 ^{,25}	PSMC3 ^{26,}	PSMB9 ¹³
Disease	PRAAS1 (MIM: 256040	PRAAS2 (MIM: 618048)	PRAAS3 (MIM: 617591)	PRAAS4 (MIM: 619183)	PRAAS5 (MIM: 619175)	NDD (MIM: 620038)	Stankiewicz–Isidor syndrome (MIM: 617516)	NDD	DCIDP (MIM: 619354)	PRAAS-ID
Mutational mechanism	AR LoF	AD LoF DN	AR LoF	AR LoF	AR LoF	AR LoF	AD LoF HI	AD LoF	AR LoF	<i>De novo</i> LoF DN
Encoded protein	Subunit β5i	proteasome maturation protein	subunit β7	assembly chaperone 2	subunit β2i	subunit β6	19S/26S subunit, non-ATPase 12	19S/26S subunit, ATPase 3	19S/26S subunit, ATPase 3	subunit β1i
Proteasome defect	20S, 26S IP defect	20S, 26S IP + SP defect	20S, 26S IP + SP defect	20S, 26S IP + SP defect	20S, 26S IP defect	20S, 26S SP defect	20S IP + SP defect	20S, 26S SP + IP defect	decreased ubiquitylation, proteotoxic stress	20S IP defect
Clinical findings										
Periodic fever	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	_	-	+
Skin rash	+	+	+	+	+	_	+	_	-	+
Myositis/muscle dystrophy	+	-	+	+	_	N/A	N/A	_	-	+
Arthritis	+	+	+	_	_	_	_	_	-	_
Liver dysfunction	+	N/A	+	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	+
Infections	+/-	+	+	-	N/A	_	_	_	-	+
Pneumonia	+	+	+	_	_	_	_	_	-	+
Splenomegaly	+	-	+	+	+	_	_	_	-	+/-
Lipodystrophy	+	+	+	+	N/A	_	_	_	-	_
Basal ganglia calcification	+/-	_	_	+	N/A	N/A	_	N/A	N/A	+
IFN-I signature	+	++	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	N/A	=/+
Viremia	N/A	N/A	_	_	N/A	N/A	_	_	_	+
Congenital malformations (incl. facial dysmorphism)	+	+	N/A	N/A	+	++ (short stature, deafness)	+++ (deafness)	+++ (deafness)	+++ (cataract, deafness)	N/A
Neurological abnormalities	+	+	N/A	+	N/A	+++ (IDD)	+++ (ID D, autism)	+++ (IDD)	+++ (I DD, PNP)	-
Laboratory evaluation										
Elevated inflammatory markers	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	N/A	N/A	+
Microcytic anemia	+	N/A	+/-	_	+	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thrombocytopenia	=/↑	+	+	+	=/↑	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	+

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Table 1. Continued										
Gene	PSMB8 ^{7,10,14–16}	POMP^{12,17}	PSMB4 ^{8,18}	PSMG29	PSMB10 ^{11,19}	PSMB1 ²⁰	PSMD12 ^{21–24}	PSMC3 ^{,25}	PSMC3 ^{26,}	PSMB9 ¹³
T cell	N/A	CD4 ↑, CD8 ↓, CD4/CD8 ratio ↑, naive T cell phenotype	low CD8, CD4/CD8 ratio↑	N/A	N/A	N/A	variable	N/A	N/A	variable
B cell	N/A	→	variable	N/A	N/A	N/A	=/↓	N/A	N/A	†/=
Serum Ig	←	Dysgamma- globulinemia	↓/=	N/A	normal	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	IgG ↓
Auto-antibodies	variable	+	+	÷	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I
AD, autosomal-dominant; AR, disability; IFN-I, type-I interferc	autosomal-recessive; [ɔn; LoF, loss-of-functic	DCIDP, deafness, cata on; NDD, neurodevelc	ract, impaired ir opmental disord	ntellectual devel lers; PNP, polyn	opment, and polyn europathy.	europathy; DN	l, dominant-negative	; HI, haploinsuffici	ency; IDD, intellectu	al and developmenta

in individuals 1, 3, 4, and 5 and fatal thrombotic micro-angiopathy (TMA) in individual 2. Shortly after HSCT, individual 4 died following encephalopathy caused by treatment-refractory reactivation of VZV and associated encephalitis confirmed at autopsy. Individual 6 developed an acute neurological deterioration one month after transplant with evidence of widespread white matter changes on magnetic resonance imaging and the main differential diagnosis of chemotherapy-related neurotoxicity or immune-mediated encephalitis. He improved with high-dose corticosteroids and supportive care, but the long-term neurological prognosis remains guarded. Individuals 3 and 5 had signs of severe chronic enteropathy during long-term follow up. Immunosuppressive treatment yielded a partial response in individual 5 that was complicated by chronic norovirus infection, and he died due to sepsis at age 4. Individual 3, who had learning difficulties, acquired other chronic comorbidities, including liver cirrhosis and hemodialysis-dependent end-stage renal disease and died at the age of 16. Individual 1 suffered from severe cyclosporin-related toxicity and still experiences notable infection- and drug-induced hypersensitivity, resulting in toxic skin reactions. He is currently 18 years after HSCT and has normal cognitive and intellectual development.

Clinical whole-exome sequencing (WES) was performed in all individuals, but in silico analysis did not reveal any actionable variants within known genes associated with IEI.²⁹ Written informed consent and publication consent were obtained from individuals 1-2 and/or their parents and were approved by the local ethics committees. Parents of individuals 3-6 provided generic consent for future research through ethically approved procedures (REC ref. 10/H0906/22). Subsequently, exome-wide research-based analysis identified three heterozygous missense variants in PSMB10: two variants affected the same nucleotide in exon 7 (c.601G>A [GenBank: NM_002801] [p.Gly201Arg] and c.601G>C [GenBank: NM_002801] [p.Gly201Arg]) and one was located in exon 3 (c.166G>C [GenBank: NM_002801] [p.Asp56His]) (Figure 1A). All variants impacted highly conserved nucleotides and amino acid residues in the protein structure. The variants were predicted by in silico tools to be deleterious and were absent from population and our in-house WES databases (Table 1; Figure 1H). Trio-based exome sequencing in individuals 1 and 2 and segregation analysis in individuals 3, 4, 5, and 6 determined all variants to be de novo, while no other disease-causing candidate variants were identified (Table S4). Using a commercial antibody, we performed immunoblotting for PSMB10 protein on dermal fibroblasts that were available from individuals 3, 4, and 5 and controls, with or without prior IFN-gamma treatment (Figure 1I). There was no difference in overall PSMB10 protein accumulation nor the ratio of immature to mature forms, but we noted an additional band of intermediate size present only in samples from individuals bearing a PSMB10 variant. This implies that mutated protein is expressed but shows altered physico-chemical characteristics, consistent with

	Individual 1	Individual 2	Individual 3	Individual 4	Individual 5	Individual 6
Genetics						
Ancestry	European	Jewish-Sepharadi	European	European	European	European
Variant	c.601G>A (p.Gly201Arg)	c.601G>A (p.Gly201Arg)	c.601G>C (p.Gly201Arg)	c.601G>A (p.Gly201Arg)	c.166G>C (p.Asp56His)	c.601G>A (p.Gly201Arg)
Allele frequency ^a	0	0	0	0	0	0
CADD-Phred score	35	35	34	35	28	35
Clinical presentation						
Age at investigation (weeks)	8	2	6	13	4	0 ^c
Sex	М	М	М	F	М	М
Failure to thrive	+	+	+	+	+	-
Diarrhea	+	+++	+	+	+++	+
Skin rash	+++	+	+++	+++	++	+
Age at onset rash (weeks)	<1	2	3	1	8	<1
Recurrent infections	+	+	+	+	+	_
Systemic inflammation	-	+	-	_	_	_
Hepatomegaly	-	_	+	+	_	_
Lymphadenopathy	+	_	-	_	+	-
Alopecia	+	+	+	+	N/A	-
Dysmorphology	+	+	_	_	-	-
Laboratory investigation ^b						
Eosinophils (/µL) (40–800)	896	2,930	1,700	1,700	720	1,000
IgG (g/L) (3.7–12.6)	1.35	0.974	2.6	2.76	5.1	2.4
IgA (g/L) (0.02–0.15)	<0.07	< 0.01	<0.07	0.23	0.41	< 0.04
IgM (g/L) (0.05–0.29)	<0.07	<0.02	0.09	0.12	0.98	< 0.04
CD3 (/µL) (1,700–3,600)	1,300	1,552	595	1,239	188	309
CD4 (/µL) (1,700–2,800)	1,100	730	551	1,143	137	272
CD8 (/µL) (800–1,200)	40	820	72	83	26	60
CD4:CD8 ratio	27.5	0.89	7.7	13.8	5.3	4.5
CD19 (/µL) (500–1500) (%)	40	430 (cells/mm ³)	0	<1	19	34

able 2	Genetic and clinical characteristics	of individuals with	monoallelic <i>PSMR10</i> va	riants
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	Individual 1	Individual 2	Individual 3	Individual 4	Individual 5	Individual 6
CD3/CD56 (/µL) (300–700)	70	1,826	46	414	22	368
CD45RA (%CD3)	8.6	N/A ^c	1	0	8	0
CD45RO (%CD3)	95	N/A ^c	91	N/A	N/A	4
TCR αβ (%CD3)	98	N/A	97	99	74	96
TCR γδ (%CD3)	2	N/A	3	1	26	4
Mitogen response (PHA)	decreased	decreased	decreased	decreased	decreased	decreased
Therapy–Hematopoietic st	em cell transplantatio	n (HSCT)				
Age at transplant (weeks)	12	130	11	16	12	9
Donor information	HLA identical sibling	URD	URD cord	maternal haplo	9/10 mM cord blood	paternal haplo
Serotherapy	ATG	ATG	alemtuzumab	ATG	none	ATG + Rituximab
Chemotherapy	Cyclo	Cyclo + MMF	Flu + Mel	Bu + Cyclo	Treo + Flu	Treo + Flu
Outcome and follow up	alive, age 18 years	died, age 2 years	died, age 16 years	died, age 11 weeks	died, age 4 years	alive, age 0–1 year
	100% donor skin/gut GVHD marked infection- and drug-induced hyperresponsivity of the skin	100% donor fatal transplant- associated TMA	100% donor skin GVHD severe VOD long-term enteropathy liver cirrhosis ESRD (hemodialysis)	pneumonitis with capillary leak peri-engraftment GVHD skin and gut recurrence of VZV with fatal encephalopathy	100% donor skin GVHD (late) marked mucositis and skin toxicity adenoviraemia long-term enteropathy with norovirus infections	100% donor no GVHD episode of acute encephalopathy currently <3 months post-HSCT

ATG, antithymocyte globulin; Bu, busulfan; CADD, combined annotation dependent depletion; Cyclo, cyclophosphamide; ESRD, end-stage renal disease; Flu, fludarabine; GVHD, graft-versus-host disease; Mel, melphalan; MMF, mycophenolate mofetil; TREC, T cell receptor excision circles; Treo, treosulfan; URD, unrelated donor; VOD, veno-occlusive disease; VZV, varicella zoster virus. ^aAllele frequency in GnomAD, dbSNP or ExAC databases.

⁶Parameters are presented with units and normal reference ranges if applicable. ⁶For this individual, TREC copies were available with significantly reduced levels.



Figure 1. Clinical features and identification of PSMB10 de novo missense variants

(A) PSMB10 variants in six infants with SCID.

(B) Erythematosquamous rash in individual 1 at 12 weeks after birth.

(C) Histology of the initial skin biopsy of individual 1 showed a graft-versus-host-disease-like pattern with vacuolar interface inflammation, multiple scattered apoptotic keratinocytes, and involvement of the adnexal structures, in the presence of a limited lymphocytic infiltrate (hematoxylin and eosin staining; original magnification ×41).

(D) Histopathological evaluation of an inguinal lymph node extracted from individual 5 showed a paucicellular, stroma-rich lymph node.

(E) A jejunal biopsy from individual 3 was hallmarked by partial villous atrophy and crypt hyperplasia with relatively few lymphocytes. (F) Colonic mucosa biopsied from individual 5 showed preserved crypt architecture with an empty lamina propria with few lymphocytes, in keeping with an immunodeficiency-related enteropathy.

(G) Immunohistochemistry showed the absence of $CD3^+$ and $CD20^+$ positive cells in the colon samples from individual 5, although significant numbers of $CD4^+$ cells were observed that may be of a macrophage/monocyte lineage.

(H) Visualization of the three identified *PSMB10* variants at the cDNA and protein level. The conservation across species is shown and scaled by color. The asterisk indicates the position of a previously studied Psmb10 variant in TUB6 mice.

(I) Immunoblot for PSMB10 in dermal fibroblasts of 3 controls, individual 3 (F3.II.1; p.Gly201Arg), individual 4 (F4.II.1; p.Gly201Arg), and individual 5 (F5.II.1; p.Asp56His), with or without prior IFN-gamma induction. Upper band (white arrowhead) represents immature and lower band (black arrowhead), mature, PSMB10; subject samples also show an additional, intermediate band (black arrow). Representative of 4 independent experiments.

(although not pathognomonic of) dominant-negative behavior.

Moreover, a genome-wide single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) microarray in individual 1, performed on blood-derived DNA before transplant at the age of 2 months, identified a partial somatic uniparental disomy (UPD) of chromosome 16 (UPD16) overlapping the *PSMB10* locus, indicating an aberrant B-allele frequency (BAF) profile on the q arm of chromosome 16 spanning \sim 24 Mb from 16q21 to the terminal end of 16q (16qter) (Figure 2A). Further validation in buccal tissue at the age of 8 and 13 years demonstrated a different UPD, roughly \sim 10 Mb more proximal (16q12.1) (Figure 2A). The two independent UPDs presumably originated during mitotic

recombination where in a single progenitor cell, the germline mutation was restored with a wild-type copy of the unaffected parental chromosome. Ultra-deep amplicon sequencing demonstrated a slightly higher rate of RM in blood, with respective variant allele frequencies (VAFs) of 39.98% for blood-derived DNA obtained before transplant and 42.90% for buccal-swab DNA collected at age 13, suggesting that 79.96% and 85.80% of cells are heterozygous for the *PSMB10* mutation (Figure 2B). We cannot exclude the fact that this slight difference might be due to contamination of buccal swab DNA with post-HSCT wild-type blood-derived DNA. Subsequently, we have adapted our haplarithmisis method for trio WES data to confirm the somatic UPD and to determine its parental origin. The level





(A) Aberrant BAF profile of the genome-wide SNP-array analysis in individual 1 reveals two independent UPD events at the q arm of chromosome 16 in blood (pre-HSCT at 2 months of age; 16q12.1) and in the buccal mucosa (16q12.1) spanning to the terminal end of 16q (16qter). Arrows indicate the respective breakpoints of UPD and are color-coded for each tissue; the red bar in the ideogram represents the distinct location of *PSMB10*.

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of mosaicism was estimated by calculating the distortion of segmented haplarithm values from the expected 1:1 allelic ratio, i.e., 0.5:0.5 vertical distance in each segmented parental haplarithm. This approach confirmed that the p arm of chromosome 16 shows both parental haplotypes present in 0.5:0.5 vertical distance (green vertical arrows), but also suggests a somatic UPD by RM in blood-derived DNA, resulting in a paternal allele bias of 0.59 (9% distortion from BAF, upper orange vertical bar) and maternal allele bias of 0.44 (6% distortion from BAF, lower orange vertical bar), resulting in a 15% mosaic maternal UPD on chromosome 16q21-qter (Figure 2C). The proportion of cells that were estimated to be restored to wild-type following the 15% maternal UPD event correlated with the 20% of cells that were homozygous wild-type based on amplicon sequencing data. There was no indication of the presence of RM in the other individuals.

Next, we modeled the structural impact of both missense variants using experimentally determined 3D structures of PSMB10 and the 20S proteasome (Figure 3A). Both the aspartic acid at position 56 and the glycine at position 201 hold highly conserved positions in \u03b82i/PSMB10 and are positioned at the β -ring interface in close proximity to residues in regulating domains that facilitate incorporation into the proteasome 20S complex through interaction with surrounding subunits (Figure 3B). Substitutions of the acidic aspartic acid to the larger, basic histidine and the highly flexible wild-type glycine for the substantially larger mutant arginine are expected to cause significant disruption to the local structural environment due to the inability to fit within the same spatial constraints (Figure 3B). In particular, the β -ring/ β -ring interaction between β2i and β7 (PSMB4) is predicted to be affected by steric clashes, leading to misfolding of the β 2i subunit. This is supported by energy calculations of protein stability, indicating that the variants induce a high change in Gibbs free energy ($\Delta\Delta G$) and are thus highly destabilizing for the 20S IP structure (Figures 3C–3F).

Subsequently, we compared the effect of the p.Gly201Arg variant to a published TUB6 mouse model harboring the ENU (N-ethyl-N-nitrosourea) mutagenesisgenerated c.625G>T (p.Gly209Trp) variant in Psmb10 (reported as p.Gly170Trp based on sequence alignment to *Thermoplasma acidophilum*), causing a phenotype reminiscent of human OS and sterile autoinflammation.^{30–33} When superposing the structures of the human and mouse PSMB10 and 20S IP, we observed a high degree of structural similarity (Figure 4A). Structural alignment showed that both glycine variants were in close proximity (Figure 4B). We noted that p.Gly209Trp conferred similar destabilizing effects as p.Gly201Arg, owing to the bulky nature of tryptophan amino acid at position 209 that introduces steric clashes with the neighboring residues (Figure 4C). The variant was predicted to have a more destabilizing impact on 20S IP structure as compared to the human variants (Figure 4D). Moreover, the p.Asp56His and p.Gly201Arg variants were predicted to be slightly less destabilizing for the full 26S proteasome as compared to the 20S IP (Figure 4D).

The clinical and immunological phenotypes of the individuals we studied contrast with classical PRAAS (Table 1) and instead fulfills diagnostic criteria for SCID-OS syndrome.²⁷ Infants presented early with FTT, erythroderma, diarrhea, oral candidiasis, opportunistic infections, and inflammatory phenomena involving the skin and GI tract. Consistent with OS, they had a reduced number and function of T and B lymphocytes, hypereosinophilia, variability in NK lymphocyte numbers, T cell clonal expansion, and impaired T cell proliferation. Histological features in skin were compatible with OS without PRAAS-characteristic signs of neonatal-onset neutrophilic dermatosis or lipoatrophy.¹¹ B cell maturation in the BM was severely reduced in a pattern similar to that seen in classical OS caused by defects of V(D)J recombination (Figure S1). Compared to OS, an important difference is the poor HSCT outcome in our studied individuals, with higher incidence of GVHD and mortality.^{34,35} In particular, the chronic enteropathy and skin hypersensitivity remaining post-GVHD in these tissues were remarkable. Previously, persons with PRAAS due to POMP deficiency and recessive mutations in PSMB4 have successfully undergone HSCT without severe post-transplant complications.^{17,18,36,37} Although potential benefit of treatment with JAK inhibitors has been demonstrated in individuals with type I interferonopathies, including PRAAS, the role of dysregulated type I IFN signaling in individuals with (severe) combined immunodeficiency due to proteasome-associated mutations remains to be elucidated.^{13,38}

Autosomal-recessive mutations in *PSMB10* have been described in individuals with PRAAS without immunodeficiency.^{11,19} All four reported individuals carried compound heterozygous or homozygous mutations affecting the phenylalanine residue at position 14, located in the N-terminal pro-peptide sequence. These mutations interfered with cleavage of PSMB10, thereby impairing β 2i maturation, proteasome assembly, and trypsin-like catalytic function.^{11,19} In contrast, the clinical features of our studied individuals, with in part recurrent *de novo* mutations, recall

⁽B) Exome inclusion of the unaffected parents of individual 1 resulted in the identification of a unique heterozygous *de novo* missense mutation in *PSMB10* (c.601G>A [GenBank: NM_002801.3] [p.Gly201Arg]). *De novo* status was verified by Sanger sequencing, while deep amplicon sequencing using the Ion Torrent accurately determined the respective mosaic levels in both tissues.

⁽C) Results from haplarithmisis on blood-derived DNA from individual 1 (pre-HSCT at 2 months of age) and parents. From top to bottom we depict BAF, paternal haplarithm, maternal haplarithm, and logR (relative copy number) values of the child, followed by BAF and logR-values of the parents. BAF of a single-nucleotide variant (SNV) is the number of allele B over the number of alleles A and B for that SNV, and logR is the base 2 logarithm of the summed normalized number of both alleles in a window of 100 kb over the expected signal intensity values.



the recent description of two immunodeficient children with *de novo* missense mutation in *PSMB9*, which the authors termed PRAAS with immunodeficiency (PRAAS-ID) to distinguish it from the classic PRAAS phenotype.¹³ Shared features with our *PSMB10*-mutated infants included infections and chronic viremia, liver dysfunction, skin rash, absence of lipoatrophy and a combined T and B cell defect with an increased CD4/CD8 ratio, skewing toward a CD8 T cell memory phenotype, and hypogammaglobulinemia. The authors demonstrated that the c.494G>A (p.Gly156Asp) substitution impaired maturation of the PSMB9/β1i, β2i, and β5i subunits and abrogated activity (A) Crystal structure of human IP 20S particle (PDB: 6E5B) is shown with its alpha subunits in shades of yellow/orange and beta subunits in shades of blue/green.

(B) Positions of interest, Gly201 and Asp56, in the β 2i subunits are highlighted as red spheres. The local structural environment of Gly201 (sticks) is depicted in (C) including distances from its interacting residues in the α -helix, which is located close to the β -ring interface.

(D) Local structural clashes (in red discs) potentially brought about by p.Gly201Arg are shown. Together with the drastic changes in free energy of the complex, p.Gly201Arg appears to be structurally damaging. Similar structural representations are illustrated for the variant p.Asp56His in (E) and (F), which also include the position Gly201 for visual reference.

of the 20S but not the 26S IP.^{13,39} The clinical and functional phenotype was recapitulated in mice that had a knockin of the identified p.Gly156Asp variant, except for the autoinflammatory symptoms including fever and myositis.¹³ In silico structure modeling indicated that the p.Gly156Asp variant disturbed the β -ring/ β -ring interaction without affecting the active site conformation. Similar variant effects were predicted for our PSMB10 mutations. Given the co-dependent incorporation of the $\beta 1i$ and $\beta 2i$ subunits that together facilitate β5i incorporation, overall misfolding of all three ßi-subunits was predicted, rather than a selective impact on ß2i's enzymatic (trypsin-like) activity.⁴ Since the IP incorporates two of each subunit into the catalytic core, we hypothesize that the p.Asp56His and p.Gly201Arg PSMB10 variants would exert similar dominant-negative effects.

The observed p.Gly201Arg substitution is located in close proximity to the *Psmb10* p.Gly209Trp variant in TUB6 mice.³⁰ Homozygous mice presented with T-B-NK-SCID, sterile autoinflammation, hyperkeratosis of the skin, alopecia, neutrophilic infiltration, lipoatrophy, and a reduced life span, while heterozygous mice exhibited an isolated T cell defect with decreased T cell number, elevated CD4/CD8 ratio, and susceptibility to *Listeria* infection.³⁰ The overlap of these features in mice compared with our studied individuals is striking, although the heterozygous mice exhibited less severe features, likely due to a more robust compensation of



Figure 4. Comparison of predicted structural impact of variants on human and mouse PSMB10

(A) Superposition of human (PDB: 6E5B) and mouse (PDB: 3UNH, purple) 20S IP crystal structures is shown (root-mean-square deviation [RMSD] = 0.59 Å), with the positions of interest highlighted in red spheres. The local structural environment of Gly201 and Gly209 is depicted in (B), which highlights the clear overlap of residues between human (cyan) and mouse (purple) PSMB10.

(C) The steric clashes potentially brought about by Gly209 in human 20S IP are illustrated as red discs, suggesting a structurally damaging outcome of the p.Gly209Trp variant. The table in (D) lists the predicted differences in free energies of the proteasome complexes for each variant type for each protein system.

heterozygous mutations generally observed in mice. Although mice did show neutrophilic infiltration and lipoatrophy at 8 weeks, the apparent lack of autoinflammatory symptoms in affected children could be due to the early intervention with HSCT. Interestingly, individual 2 displayed hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)like inflammation and was transplanted last at the age of 2.5 years. In addition, the severe post-HSCT inflammatory complications might be related to the underlying IP defect, perhaps resulting from an impaired function in extra-hematopoietic tissues such as in the epithelial cells of the skin and gut. Furthermore, the p.Gly209Trp Psmb10 variant was predicted to disrupt β -ring/ β -ring interaction similar to p.Gly201Arg and was expected to dramatically impact 20S IP complex formation and, to a lesser extent, the 26S proteasome. Since β 2i is incorporated into the thymoproteasome along with *bli* and *bst*, and TUB6 mice lacked cortical thymic epithelial cells that are important for T cell development, thymic dysfunction might contribute to the observed T cell phenotype in our individuals.⁴⁰ In addition, dominant-negative missense mutations are hypothesized to prevent substitution of the mutated subunits by their constitutive counterparts and affect the stability of core 20S proteasome that interferes with homeostatic IP functions beyond CD8 T cell function and MHC-I antigen presentation as observed in single, double, or triple PSMB8/\beta5i, PSMB9/\beta1i and PSMB10/β2i knockout mouse models.^{3,41–43} These include removal of unfolded and oxidized proteins and T cell proliferation, differentiation and survival independent of MHC-I antigen presentation capabilities, especially in the context of inflammation.44-46 Therefore, the observed defects in T and B cell development and

maturation in our individuals might suggest a mutationspecific defect in these homeostatic functions cumulating in proteotoxic stress.⁴⁷ In addition, PSMB10 might have a direct role in V(D)J recombination.

This study also demonstrates that the evaluation of RM in trio-based exome data using the haplarithmisis method offers a unique, sensitive mapping strategy that, depending on the quality of UPD mapping and the detection sensitivity, has the potential to trace previously undetected mutations. RM delineates the rare phenomenon in which the occurrence and/or accumulation of spontaneous somatic mutations coincides with the direct or indirect rescue of a pathogenic germline mutation,⁴⁸ in essence suggesting natural evidence for the repair of a functional defect caused by the de novo mutation in PSMB10. RM has been observed to have a beneficial clinical impact for a range of IEI, including OS.^{49–51} The co-occurrence of a de novo PSMB10 mutation with RM is unlikely to be a chance finding, demonstrates an elegant but possibly underestimated disease gene mapping strategy, and is suggestive for a strong cellular effect of the respective PSMB10 mutation and an associated evolutionary pressure of mutated cell lineages.⁴⁸ To our knowledge, exome data have not been used to detect and visualize haplotype revertant mosaics, and we propose that this approach should be applied more often to individuals with IEI as a mapping strategy for disease gene identification. It is intriguing that the only person to achieve full T cell reconstitution post-transplant also demonstrated partial somatic reversion of the PSMB10 mutation.

In summary, our study reports *de novo* autosomal-dominant, suspected dominant-negative, *PSMB10* missense mutations as a cause of SCID-OS (PSMB10-OS) that should be sought in NBS. Furthermore, these findings expand the spectrum of proteasome-associated monogenic diseases.

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Data and code availability

The article includes all datasets generated or analyzed during this study. The exome-sequencing data of the five families supporting the current study have not been deposited in a public repository because of privacy issues but are available from the corresponding author on request.

Supplemental information

Supplemental information can be found online at https://doi.org/ 10.1016/j.ajhg.2024.02.013.

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Declaration of interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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