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A Hereditary Form of Small Intestinal Carcinoid Associated with a Germline Mutation in Inositol Polyphosphate Multikinase

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Supplementary Material

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Abstract

Background & Aims—Small intestinal carcinoids are rare and difficult to diagnose and patients often present with advanced, incurable disease. Although the disease occurs sporadically, there have been reports of family clusters. Hereditary small intestinal carcinoid has not been recognized and genetic factors have not been identified. We performed a genetic analysis of families with small intestinal carcinoids to establish a hereditary basis and find genes that might cause this cancer.

Methods—We performed a prospective study of 33 families with at least 2 cases of small intestinal carcinoids. Affected members were characterized clinically and asymptomatic relatives were screened and underwent exploratory laparotomy for suspected tumors. Disease-associated mutations were sought using linkage analysis, whole-exome sequencing, and copy number analyses of germline and tumor DNA collected from members of a single large family. We assessed expression of mutant protein, protein activity, and regulation of apoptosis and senescence in lymphoblasts derived from the cases.

Results—Familial and sporadic carcinoids are clinically indistinguishable except for the multiple synchronous primary tumors observed in most familial cases. Nearly 34% of asymptomatic relatives older than 50 y were found to have occult tumors; the tumors were cleared surgically from 91% of these individuals (21/23). Linkage analysis and whole-exome sequencing identified a germline 4 bp deletion in the gene inositol polyphosphate multikinase (*IPMK*) that truncates the protein. This mutation was detected in all 11 individuals with small intestinal carcinoids and 17/35 family members whose carcinoid status was unknown. Mutant IPMK had reduced kinase activity and nuclear localization, compared with the full-length protein. This reduced activation of p53 and increased cell survival.

Conclusions—We found that small intestinal carcinoids can occur as an inherited autosomal dominant disease. The familial form is characterized by multiple synchronous primary tumors, which might account for 22%–35% of cases previously considered sporadic. Relatives of patients with familial carcinoids should be screened to detect curable early-stage disease. *IPMK* haplo-insufficiency promotes carcinoid tumorigenesis.

Keywords

familial; screening; tumor suppressor gene; linkage

Serotonin producing neuroendocrine tumors (NETs) arise from enterochromaffin cells (EC) of the distal small intestine (SI), appendix and proximal colon. Tumor secretion of serotonin, bioactive amines and tachykinins lead to mesenteric and cardiac fibrosis and the carcinoid syndrome (diarrhea, flushing, bronchoconstriction). SI-NETs are the most frequent tumor of the SI and their incidence has increased ~5-fold from 1973 – 2004^{1–3}. Although well differentiated and slow growing (10–20 years before detection), the term carcinoid, is a misnomer for a frequently small, micro-invasive, metastasizing tumor.⁴ The relative rarity, and nonspecific symptomatology (abdominal pain and diarrhea) result in either missed or delayed diagnosis (9.2 yrs)⁵. As a consequence, the majority of patients present with advanced disease and a poor prognosis (36% 5-year survival)³. Most cases of SI-NETs are non-familial and 22–35% of patients present with multiple synchronous primary tumors^{6,7}.

To date, no causal molecular genetic basis for non-familial carcinoid tumor has been identified^{8, 9}. The genetic basis for other familial endocrine tumor syndromes, with clinical features similar to SI-NETs, such as multiple endocrine neoplasia (MEN), has been described leading to speculation that a discrete genetic basis exists for SI-NETs encountered in the absence of MEN mutations. Although only 6 non-MEN reported families with multiple primary SI-NETs had been described prior to 2008^{10-15} , it is plausible that SI-NETs occur on a familial basis, with their own separate genetic cause. To date, however, familial SI-NETs have not been well recognized as a distinct clinical entity and their genetic basis and pathogenesis remain unknown¹⁶.

Studies of familial cancers have enabled discovery of driver mutations often applicable to sporadic disease, such as for the genes *APC* and colon cancer, *VHL* and clear cell kidney cancer and *MEN1* and Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome. We hypothesized that 1) the presence of multiple synchronous primary tumors in "sporadic disease" represented unrecognized and thus more common familial disease; 2) familial SI-NET susceptibility is transmitted in an autosomal dominant mode at least in some families; 3) screening of at-risk asymptomatic family members would detect occult tumors; 4) screening would accelerate phenotypic ascertainment and add statistical power for genetic linkage analysis in otherwise underpowered small pedigrees; and 5) earlier diagnosis and surgical resection in asymptomatic family members might cure or delay clinical onset of the disease. We initiated a prospective study in 2008 to define the clinical features of familial SI-NET, assess the impact of screening on the natural history of the disease, and elucidate the molecular genetic basis for SI-NET.

Materials & Methods

Deatails relating to study subject enrollment, clinical evaluation and genetic analysis and the evaluation of IPMK function can be found in the Supplementary Appendix.

RESULTS

Clinical Disease Characterization

One hundred eighty one members from 33 families with SI-NET, including 44 affected individuals diagnosed before entering the study (6 of whom died during the study) and 137 asymptomatic first-degree relatives were evaluated at the NIH CRC. An additional 33 of 35 affected deceased relatives were evaluated on the basis of outside medical records (Supplementary Fig. S1). Twenty-nine of the 137 asymptomatic members screened positive for suspected carcinoid tumor. The most sensitive screening tests were wireless capsule endoscopy (WCE) and 18F-DOPA PET/CT followed closely by CT. Traditional biomarkers were only useful in two patients with elevated 24 hour urine 5-HIAA (supplementary Table S2). Among these 29 individuals screening positive, 26 underwent exploratory laparotomy. Of these 26, 23 were positive (16.8% of total screened) and 3 were negative for SI-NET by surgical pathology. Another two are considering surgery and another one was lost to follow-up. Nineteen of 56 (33.9%) asymptomatic members older than 50 screened positive and were confirmed by surgical pathology. Representative diagnostic images, (CT with intravenous contrast, 18F-DOPA PET/CT and capsule endoscopy) of these multiple, small,

submucosal, primary tumors and their surgical gross and microscopic appearance (typical nests of uniform, indolent tumor cells positive for serotonin, chromogranin A, synaptophysin and rare Ki-67) are shown in Figure 1.

Familial disease has a clinical presentation and course similar to sporadic disease^{1, 7}. The 77 symptomatic relatives diagnosed before enrollment were diagnosed at an average age of 61 with approximately the same number of males and females. The most common symptoms were abdominal pain (70%), flushing (32%) and diarrhea (29%). They also presented at a late stage (stage IV, 70%) with low grade (grade I, 91%), small diameter (< 1 cm on average) primary tumors predominantly in the distal small bowel (jejunum and ileum) (Table 1). However, a higher proportion of familial patients (36 of 54, 67%) presented with multiple primary tumors (Table S1) compared to patients with no affected relatives $(22–35\%)^{1,6,7}$. This high proportion is likely an underestimate due to incomplete surgical exploration as suggested by the multiple tumors (average of 6.4 per patient) found in the majority of first-degree relatives (18 of 23, 78.3%) positively screened in our study (Supplementary Table S2).

While screening did not result in significantly earlier diagnosis (58 vs. 61 yo), it diagnosed significantly earlier stage disease compared to symptomatic relatives (8.7% vs. 70% stage IV, p < 0.001). Twenty of 23 patients (87%) with stage I –IIIB disease identified by screening were surgically cleared of disease and have no evidence of disease for an average follow-up of 4 years compared to 9 of 39 (23%) living symptomatic relatives with an average follow-up of 8.5 years. Thirty eight of 77 (49%) symptomatic relatives died within an average of 5.6 years of diagnosis while all of the 23 asymptomatic screened-positive patients are alive for an average of more than 4 years after their diagnosis (Table 1 and Supplementary Table S2).

Although nearly all patients had SI-NET, patient 9:III-25 had only a previously diagnosed pulmonary typical carcinoid (Figs. 2A, S1 and Supplementary Table S1). Patient 4:III-3 also had a previously diagnosed pulmonary typical carcinoid that was resected two years prior to screening positive for SI-NET in our study (Supplementary Fig. S1 and Table S2).

Genetic Linkage Analysis

Genetic linkage analysis was performed on the largest family (pedigree #9, Fig. 2A and Supplementary Fig. S1) to identify the chromosomal location of a causal gene. DNA was obtainable from 5 of the 7 members who were recognized as affected at the initial ascertainment. However, intense screening (detailed in the online methods) of 47 asymptomatic family members identified 6 additional affected members (4, tumor pathology; 1, elevated 24 hr urinary 5-hydroxyindoleacetic acid; 1, positive CT imaging). Nine unrelated spouses and 3 related members negative for disease on the basis of either a negative surgical exploration or negative evaluation at an advanced age were considered unaffected (Fig. 2A, green filled symbols). Initial multipoint linkage analyses using SNP markers and a subset of individuals resulted in suggestive evidence of linkage in a region on chromosome 10 (logarithm of odds (LOD)=1.6). Results of model-based multi-marker linkage analysis using all available individuals and a combination of SNP and fine-mapping microsatellite markers on chromosome 10 are shown in Fig. 2B. In this analysis, the interval

on chromosome 10 reached genome-wide significance with a multipoint LOD=3.57. The one-LOD-drop region extends from rs1345561 to D10s464 and contains 132 protein-coding genes within this 14 cM (25 Mb) interval. The maximum observed LOD score was similar to that seen in simulation studies to evaluate power and varying parameters had little effect on the LOD score or the interval boundaries (Fig. 2C, supplementary Fig. S2 and the Supplementary Appendix). Genetic linkage analysis of pedigrees 1 and 7 did not identify a significant or shared linkage region with pedigree 9 (Fig. S3).

Mutational Analysis

Whole exome sequencing (WES) was performed on germline DNA from 5 affected members (9:II-3, 9:III-2, 9:III-11, 9:III-12 and 9:III-22, Fig. 2A) and one unaffected member (9:III-3, 2A) (Additional information in online methods and Supplementary Appendix). WES and bioinformatics analysis identified a single novel mutation within the linkage interval consisting of a 4 bp (CAGT) deletion in exon 6 of the 76.4 Kb gene coding for a 416 a.a protein, IPMK (HGNC:20739; NM 152230). The 4 bp deletion c.990-993del results in a frame-shift with replacement of the native a.a. sequence, SQT331-333 to RLH, subsequent premature termination close to the nuclear localization signal sequence (a.a. 320-330) and elimination of the downstream ATP binding domain (Fig. 3). Sanger sequencing confirmed the 4 bp deletion in all 11 affected individuals and detected the deletion in 17 of the 35 unknown and none of the 3 unaffected family members used in the linkage analysis. No mutations outside the linkage interval shared by all 5 affected members analyzed by WES were present in all 6 other affected family members analyzed by targeted Sanger sequencing (Supplementary Table S3). This variant also had the highest two-point LOD score of all variants typed in the region (Supplementary Fig. S2). There were no mutations in IPMK cDNA in the other 32 families analyzed by Sanger sequencing.

Furthermore, Sanger sequencing and SNP-based copy number variation analysis of DNA isolated from laser capture micro-dissected tumor confirm the presence of the WT *IPMK* allele (Supplementary Fig. S4). Therefore, unlike the somatic loss of the second allele seen in some other familial cancers, there was no loss of heterozygosity in the patient's carcinoid tumors.

Expression of WT and Mutant IPMK

The 4 bp deletion had no significant effect on *IPMK* transcript expression between patients and age matched controls (Fig. 4A) using semi-quantitative RT-PCR of EBV transformed B lymphoblast (shown to express *IPMK*, Fig. 4C) total RNA. *IPMK* transcripts are expressed in patient's primary submucosal SI-NETs as detected by fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH) using *IPMK* and *TPH1*-specific cRNA probes (Fig. 4B). Western blot of lysates of the same lymphoblasts in Fig. 4C using amino terminal epitope (a.a. 26-265) specific antibody shows expression of the truncated IPMK mutant and an approximate 50% reduction in full-length IPMK proteins. (Fig. 4C). IPMK protein was specifically expressed in carcinoid tumor relative to surrounding tissue stroma (4D). Although *IPMK* is widely expressed and the carcinoid tumor cell of origin, the EC cell, is present throughout multiple tissues, carcinoids are most common in the distal small intestine³. Consistent with SI-NET locations⁷, *IPMK* is most highly expressed in human SI (Fig. 5) and increases distally

(Supplementary Fig. S5, mouse SI quantitative *Ipmk* FISH and NextBio Body Atlas microarrays, www.NextBio.com).

Functional Analysis of Mutant IPMK

IPMK has inositol phosphate kinase activity leading to the formation of IP4¹⁷ and the subsequent rate-limiting formation of IP5 (Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P5)¹⁸ necessary for higher phosphorylated, IP6, and pyrophosphorylated InsPs, IP7 and IP8. Heterozygous loss of the ATP binding site in patients with mutant IPMK (Fig. 3A) results in a significant reduction of 32% in the formation of IP5 in patient vs. control B lymphoblasts (Fig. 6A).

IPMK is a regulated nucleocytoplasmic protein with predominant nuclear localization^{19,20,21}. The 4 bp deletion in mutant *IPMK* affects amino acids occurring immediately following the nuclear localization signal (NLS) with alteration of the subsequent 3 a.a. followed by premature truncation (Fig. 3A). This significantly affects IPMK localization. Expression of transfected, amino-terminally fused tGFP to the *IPMK*-4bp del. mutant in the human embryonic kidney cell line (HEK293) results in nearly an 80% reduction (p<0.01) in nuclear localization vs. tGFP-WT IPMK (Fig. 6B).

Independent of its catalytic activity, the amino terminus of IPMK binds and co-activates p53 in the nucleus to enhance target gene transcription of pro-apoptotic and cell cycle arrest target genes²². Reduction in the nuclear localization of mutant IPMK has no significant effect on p53 transcript expression in patient vs. control B lymphoblasts under genotoxic stress from cisplatin (Fig. 6C). However, under these conditions, p53 pro-apoptotic and cell cycle arrest target gene transcripts, PUMA (p53 up-regulated modulator of apoptosis), BAX (B cell lymphoma 2-associated X) and p21 (cyclin dependent kinase inhibitor 1, CDKN1A), respectively, are significantly reduced by 40-45% in patients with mutant IPMK vs. control B lymphoblasts (Fig. 6C). The IPMK mutant-related reduction in p53 target gene transcription is associated with resistance to apoptosis due to DNA damage as evidenced by equivalent induction of γ H2AX, reduction in cleavage of poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) (Fig. S6 A and B) and increase in survival of patient vs. control B lymphoblasts treated with cisplatin (Fig. 6D). The IPMK mutant effect on p53-mediated apoptosis was also assessed in the HEK293 cell line treated with staurosporine. Overexpression of the IPMK mutant vs. WT IPMK results in less caspase-3 cleavage and greater survival as measured by propidium iodide (PI) exclusion (Supplementary Fig. S6 C and D).

DISCUSSION

This prospective study shows that the familial occurrence of SI-NET is similar to sporadic disease except for multiple synchronous primary tumors, hinting at a germline predisposition. While inspection of the 33 pedigrees (Supplementary Fig. S1) suggests autosomal dominant transmission with late onset and variable penetrance^{23,24}, other causes for familial occurrence cannot be excluded. Analysis of the only family with a sufficient number of affected individuals to detect significant linkage established for the first time a genetic basis for familial carcinoid consistent with autosomal dominant inheritance. Autosomal dominant transmission and slow tumor growth allowed not only a high rate of

detection, especially in older family members, but also diagnosis of early-stage disease unlike their symptomatic relatives and patients with non-familial disease^{1,4}.

The 3-year trend in earlier diagnosis of screened patients versus their relatives with symptomatic late-stage disease suggests that there is a critical period prior to metastasis when primary tumors are smaller (less likely to metastasize⁷) but detectable and thus surgically curable. WCE and 18F-DOPA/PET CT followed by CT were the most sensitive pre-operative screening tests, however, no one test was uniformly positive nor sufficiently sensitive to detect all tumors palpated at surgery. Biomarkers such as serotonin, chromogranin A and 24 hour urine 5-HIAA considered useful for symptomatic sporadic SI-NET were rarely positive for detection of early disease in asymptomatic patients. Despite the relatively short follow up for this slow growing tumor, positive screening of asymptomatic relatives and earlier surgery results in a disease-free and survival advantage that positively impacts the natural history of the disease (Table 1). The ability to screen for asymptomatic carriers by gene sequencing not only reduces the need for close clinical follow-up for at risk carriers but also ensures the earliest detection of disease.

The reported 22–35% occurrence^{6,7} of multiple synchronous tumors on presentation of putatively non-familial disease likely represents germline origin and suggests that the familial form is much more common than previously appreciated. A recent Scandinavian population study estimated a 10–30 fold increased incidence among first degree relatives of patients with SI carcinoid²⁵.

Carcinoid tumors occur throughout the body as a result of the diffuse distribution of the precursor neuroendocrine derived EC cell. After the small intestine, the lung is the second most common site for sporadic carcinoid tumors and accounts for approximately 25% of carcinoids². Pulmonary carcinoids originate from the embryonic foregut unlike SI-NET tumors that originate from the midgut. In addition to this difference in embryonic origin, the tumor development, secretory products, genetic mutations and molecular pathogenesis are also different²⁶. There has been a single report of two families with pulmonary carcinoids²⁷ and a single report of both pulmonary and SI-NET in a family with one member with a pulmonary carcinoid and another person with both a pulmonary and SI carcinoid as reported here for family 4^{16} . While the genetic basis has not been established for the family of patient 4:III-3 (Supplementary Fig. S1) who developed both a pulmonary and SI-NET, the presence of a single mutation in the *IPMK* gene giving rise to a pulmonary carcinoid (*IPMK* is well expressed in lung, Fig. 5) in patient 9:III-25 (Fig. 2 and Supplementary Fig. S1) and SI-NETs in his affected relatives indicates that a single gene mutation can initiate both types of tumors. Therefore, the pathogenesis of both types of tumors may be more similar than previously appreciated. The occurrence of pulmonary carcinoids also indicates the need for screening of pulmonary tumors in addition to SI-NET in families with carcinoid.

WES identified a single novel mutation within the linkage interval causing a 4 bp deletion in exon 6 of *IPMK*. The absence of other novel gene coding sequence mutations shared by all affected family members and the coincident high-level expression of *IPMK* consistent with tumor distribution along the SI lends additional support for *IPMK* as the causal gene.

Tumors expressed WT IPMK and *IPMK* LOH was not observed in tumors by sequencing and SNP based CNV analysis. The heterozygous IPMK in patient's lymphoblasts and transfected HEK293 cells caused only partial loss of protein expression and function (Figs. 4 and 6). Together, these findings indicate IPMK haplo-insufficiency as a likely basis for IPMK diminished function. The 4 bp deletion leading to the loss of a functional NLS and early protein truncation with loss of the ATP binding site decreased IPMK nuclear localization and kinase activity (respectively), diminished p53 activation/apoptosis and increased survival under genotoxic stress conditions (Fig. 6). The decrease in nuclear localization (Fig. 6) is most likely the result of the mutation/truncation near the NLS^{20, 28} that would diminish p53 transcriptional co-activation of downstream effectors of apoptosis and cell cycle arrest²². This interaction between *IPMK* and p53 is consistent with the identification of IPMK in a loss of function screen for genes required for p53-dependent oncogene-induced senescence.²⁹ It is also in line with the number of sporadic carcinoid tumors with either copy number variations or mutations observed along the p53 apoptotic pathway⁸ as well as the identification of recurrent haplo-insufficient cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor 1B (CDKN1B) somatic mutations⁹ and germline mutations in several cyclindependent kinase inhibitors responsible for MEN4.30 Mutant p53 can behave as a haploinsufficient tumor suppressor gene resulting in delayed onset of cancers³¹. This effect may be mimicked by the decreased interaction of haplo-insufficient *IPMK* with WT p53 resulting in the late onset of carcinoid tumors.

IPMK has additional non-catalytic activity stabilizing the mTORC1 complex³² and catalytic activity acting as a soluble inositol phosphate and lipid kinase³³. Inositol polyphosphates regulate chromatin remodeling, ^{34,35} transcription, ^{36,37} and mRNA export³⁸ as does IPMK nuclear PI3 kinase activity^{19, 39,40,41}. These varied catalytic and non-catalytic functions have been shown *in vitro* to regulate both proliferation^{32, 33, 42} and apoptosis^{43–46}. Further investigation is needed to understand how these opposing actions are perturbed by the mutation in *IPMK* in this family and whether the balance of these actions contributes to carcinoid tumor initiation beyond the demonstrated effect of the mutation on p53 activation. (An expanded Discussion is in the Supplementary Appendix.)

In vivo mouse studies show that homozygous deletion of either exon 4 or exon 6 of *Ipmk* is embryonic lethal^{31,47}. The truncated proteins from the exon-4 (~107 a.a.) and exon-6 (~197 a.a.) *Ipmk* hemizygous deleted mice do not have any catalytic activity, and would not be expected to have non-catalytic/physical interaction activity reported for WT Ipmk ^{22, 32,41}. Mice with a hemizygous deletion of exon 4 have a normal phenotype for at least 1.5 years of study⁴⁵. The phenotype of the longer Ipmk protein expected in heterozygous exon-6-deleted mice has not been reported³³. The 4 bp deletion leading to a 333 a.a. truncated IPMK reported here for family 9 would be expected to retain some non-catalytic activity^{22, 32} and therefore, the lack of a disease phenotype for the *Ipmk* hemizygous mice would not be applicable. Furthermore, the late onset slow growth characteristics of carcinoid tumor make the adequacy of a 1.5 year observation in a mouse model questionable ⁴⁷. It is conceivable that the reduced nuclear and increased cytosolic localization of the truncated 333 a.a. IPMK protein results not only in the demonstrated reduction in activation of p53 but also increased stabilization of mTOR/Raptor in the TORC1 complex³² leading to decreased apoptosis and increased proliferation, respectively. While this hypothesis needs experimental validation,

sporadic carcinoid tumors demonstrate increased PI3K/AKT/mTOR signaling and are sensitive to mTOR inhibitory therapy with everolimus^{48–50}.

The absence of *IPMK* mutations in 32 unrelated families underscores the genetic heterogeneity of this disease and is consistent with recent studies that found either no recurrent mutations among 48 sporadic carcinoid tumors analyzed by WES⁸, or only one gene (*CDKN1B*) with multiple somatic mutations in 8% of 180 patients analyzed by exome and genome-sequence analysis⁹. No somatic mutations have been reported in IPMK in sporadic carcinoid tumors. Interestingly, a search of the Catalog of Somatic Mutations in Cancer (COSMIC, http://www.sanger.ac.uk/cosmic) revealed 54 unique somatic variants in a variety of tumor types, including 6 indel or missense mutations in the part of IMPK near and immediately preceding the germline deletion we report (Figure S7). Among these somatic mutations, IPMK deletion mutations, 920_921deIAG and 986deIA, result in strikingly similar truncations of 337 and 335 a.a. compared to the 333 a.a. truncation reported here.

Hopefully, future exome sequencing and comparative germline variant analysis among remaining families with fewer affected members will be a successful strategy for the identification of additional susceptibility genes for familial SI-NET, so that screening can be limited to at-risk family members and new insights into the pathogenesis and treatment can be realized.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

Acknowledgments

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Abbreviations used in this paper

SI	small intestine
IPMK	inositol polyphosphate multikinase
WES	whole exome sequence
NET	neuroendocrine tumor
EC	enterochromaffin cell
MEN1	multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1
APC	adenomatous polyposis coli

VHL	von Hippel-Lindau
LOD	logarithm of the odds
SNP	single nucleotide polymorphism
GFP	green fluorescent protein
TPH-1	tryptophan hydroxylase type 1
RT-PCR	reverse- transcription polymerase chain reaction

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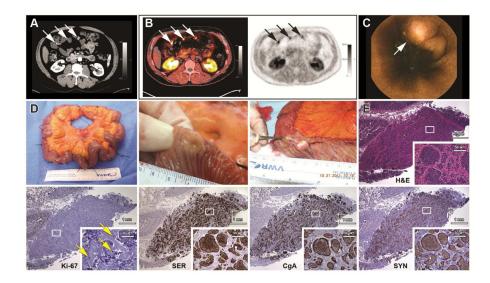


Figure 1.

Diagnostic imaging, gross and microscopic pathology of small intestinal carcinoid tumors from patients with familial carcinoid tumor. (A) Arterial enhancement of primary tumors on CT enterography. (B) ¹⁸F-DOPA PET/CT (left) and PET alone (right) of tumors in panel A. (C) WCE of a SI-NET. (D) Resected ileum demonstrating the wide distribution of tumors (identified with sutures) and a luminal view of a small umbilicated submucosal tumor before and after sectioning. (E) Insular appearance of tumoral cells and surrounding fibrosis in serial sections stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E), immunostained for Ki-67, serotonin (SER), and neuroendocrine marker proteins, chromogranin A (CgA) and synaptophysin (SYN).

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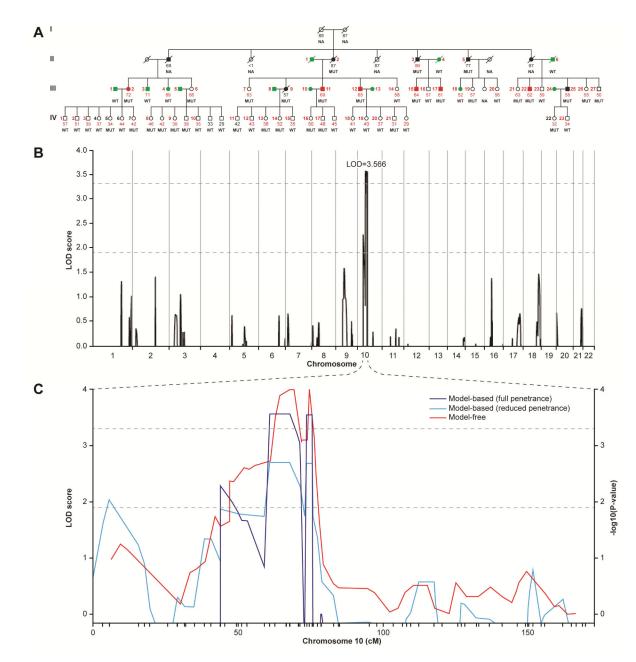


Figure 2.

Pedigree and linkage analysis for family 9. (A) Pedigree for family 9. Affected males (squares) and females (circles) with previously diagnosed disease appear as black filled symbols while asymptomatic family members who screened positive appear as red filled symbols. Subjects with unaffected and unknown disease status appear as green empty symbols, respectively. Slashes indicate deceased family members. Small Arabic numerals alongside a symbol identify individuals included in the linkage analysis (panel B) on the basis of SNP data alone (black) or SNP plus microsatellite data (red). Small Arabic numerals below symbols indicate subject age, if alive, or at death. Age in red numerals denote patients evaluated at the NIH CRC. *IPMK* genotypes are indicated below the patient's age as either

WT or MUT (4 bp deletion). (NA, DNA not available). (B) Genome-wide linkage analysis for family 9 pedigree shown in panel a. Shown are multi-marker LOD scores using a dominant inheritance model for all autosomes based on combined analysis of SNPs and microsatellites. A linkage peak was found within chromosome 10 with a significant LOD score of 3.566. Negative multipoint LOD scores are truncated at zero. LOD score thresholds for suggestive and genome-wide significance appear as dotted lines. (C) Sensitivity Evaluation of Linkage Analysis in Family 9 using SNP and Microsatellite Markers on Chromosome 10. LOD scores for a full penetrance and a reduced penetrance model appear as blue and cyan lines, respectively. The red line gives –log10(P-values) for a model-free linkage analysis.

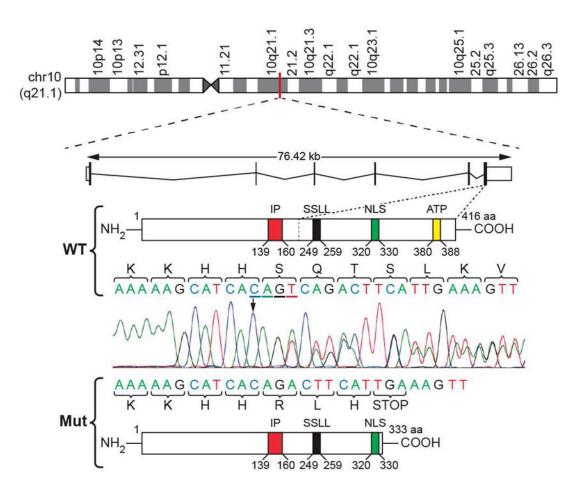


Figure 3.

Chromosomal position, structure and sequence of WT and mutant *IPMK. IPMK* is positioned on the long arm of chromosome 10 at band 21.1 (ideogram, top). WT *IPMK* is a 76.42 kb gene consisting of 6 exons and 5 introns encoding a 416 amino acid (a.a) protein with at least 4 structural domains including an inositol phosphate (IP, red) binding site, SSLL (Ser-Ser-Leu-Leu) catalytically important domain (black), nuclear localization signal (NLS, green) and adenosine triphosphate (ATP) binding site (yellow)(middle panel). Deletion of the 4 bp, CAGT (cDNA bp 990-993; black arrow and underlined), results in a frameshift (denoted by the double lined chromatogram of Sanger sequenced germline cDNA) mutation with arginine (R), leucine (L) and histidine (H) substituted for native serine (S), glutamine (Q) and threonine (T) in positions 331-333 and subsequent premature termination (STOP).

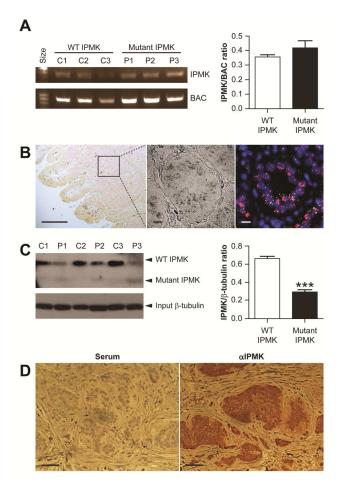


Figure 4.

Expression of wild type and mutant IPMK. (A) Agarose gel electrophoresis of RT-PCR exon amplicons of *IPMK* and β -actin (BAC) in B lymphoblasts from controls (C1–C3) and patients (P1-P3) with the heterozygous IPMK c.990-993del mutation. IPMK transcript expression did not differ between patients and controls (mean \pm SEM, p=0.343). (B) Brightfield (left) and corresponding fluorescent in situ hybridization (right) images of a FFPE SI-NET from a patient with a heterozygous IPMK c.990-993del mutation. cRNA probes for IPMK and TPH-1 appear green and pink, respectively, and nuclei stained with DAPI appear blue. (C) Western blot of IPMK and β -tubulin protein expression from the same three controls and patients from panel A. Lysates of B lymphoblasts were immunoprecipitated using anti-IPMK (aa 301-337) and immunoblotted using anti-IPMK (aa 26-265). Full length IPMK (~49 kDa) was detected in both controls and patients, while faint bands of truncated IPMK were detected only in patients with heterozygous IPMK c. 990-993del mutation. IPMK protein expression was reduced at least 50% in patients compared to controls (mean±SEM, p<0.001). (D) Immunohistochemical detection of IPMK expression (right, rabbit aIPMK) compared to control (left, normal rabbit serum) in FFPE sections of a SI-NET from a patient with a heterozygous IPMK c.990-993del mutation.

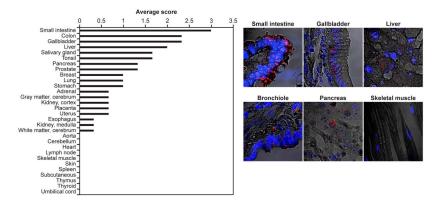


Figure 5.

Expression of *IPMK* Transcripts in Normal Human Organs. Left. Quantitative analysis of *IPMK* RNA *in situ* hybridization of normal organ tissue array. *IPMK* expression signal was scored as 0 (undetectable); 1 (rare); 2 (moderate) or 3 (abundant). Each bar represents the average score from three experiments on three tissue array slides (#ACI-D97, ACI-D98 and ACI-D110) performed in duplicate. Right. Representative fluorescent images of *IPMK* expression (red dots) from six tissues (blue, DAPI nuclear staining).

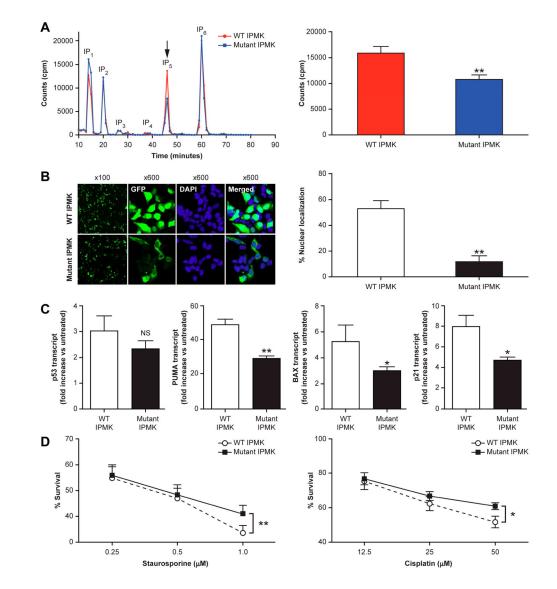


Figure 6.

Effect of the heterozygous *IPMK* c.990-993del mutation on IPMK Function. (A) Inositol phosphate (IP) metabolism in carcinoid patients (blue) compared to WT family members (red). B Lymphoblasts were cultured with $[H^3]$ inositol and radiolabeled IPs were separated using strong anion exchange HPLC. Representative chromatograms are shown with positions of IP standards. The arrow indicates the position of IP⁵ analyzed in the bar graph to the right for 4 pairs of *IPMK*-mutant patients and WT controls (mean+/–SEM; ** p=0.01). (B) Left. Representative images of tGFP tagged-IPMK in HEK293 cells transfected with either WT (top) or mutant (bottom) form of IPMK. Cells (DAPI stained, blue) were imaged 24 hours after transfection for localization of IPMK- tGFP (green) using a confocal microscope. Right. Quantitative analysis of nuclear versus cytoplasmic localization for WT versus mutant IPMK-tGFP (mean+/–SEM; ** p<0.01). (C) Effect of mutant *IPMK* on Gene expression of p53 and its target genes PUMA, BAX and p21. B lymphoblasts from carcinoid patients with mutant *IPMK* and normal controls were treated with cisplatin (50 mM X 24

hrs.), extracted for total RNA and analyzed by qRT-PCR. Data are expressed as fold increase over untreated baseline, *p<0.05 (patients, n=4 vs. controls, n=3), **p<0.01, (patients vs. controls, n=3), mean+/–SEM. (D) Differential resistance to cellular stress of B lymphoblasts from carcinoid patients with mutant *IPMK* compared to normal controls. B lymphoblasts were treated with either staurosporine or cisplatin at 37° C for 24 hrs. and cell viability measured colorimetrically using WST-1. Data (n=3 experiments) are expressed as % survival, mean+/–SEM, **p</= 0.01).

Table 1

Summary of Clinical Data for Patients with Familial SI-NET

Parameter	Asymptomatic, Screened Positive	Symptomatic
Number of Patients	26	77
Gender (M:F)	15:11	37:40
Age Symptomatic (yrs)	NA	56 (55, 16-83)(n=73
Age at Diagnosis (yrs)	58.5 (57.5, 43–75)	61 (61, 27-
Diagnostic Delay (yrs)*	NA	5 (2, 0–29)(n=73)
Age (LwD) (yrs)	61 (60, 44–76)	61 (61, 36–84)
Age at Death (yrs)	NA	72 (73, 45–87) (n=38
Survival (yrs)		
Dead	0	5.6 (3, <1-18)(n=37
AwD (yrs since dx.)	5.25 (n=2)	6.75 (6, 2–16) (n=30
NED (yrs)	4 (4.5, 2–5.7)(n=21)	8.5 (6, 2–26)(n=9)
Presenting Sxs.	NA	n=76
Abdominal Pain	NA	53 (70%)
Flushing	NA	24 (32%)
Diarrhea	NA	22 (29%)
Obstruction	NA	19 (25%)
GI Bleeding	NA	8 (11%)
Incidental	NA	3 (4%)
Stage at Diagnosis	n= 23	n=73
I	8 (32%)	3 (4%)
IIA:B	4:1 (22%)	2:0 (3%)
IIIA:B	0:8 (39%)	1:16 (23%)
IV	2 (8%)	51 (70%)
Tumor Grade		
Grade 1	22 (96%)	50 (91%)
Grade 2	1 (4%)	5 (9%)
Tumor Size (largest, cm)	0.85 (0.8, 0.1–2.5)(n=23)	1.9 (1.7, 0.9-
No. of Primary Tumors	5.7 (4, 1–29)(n=23)	6.8 (2, 1–50)(n=55)
Tumor Location	n = 23	n = 47
Jejunum	6	3
Jejunum-Ileum	5	3
Ileum	12	37
Appendix	_	2
Lung	_	2
Bowel Resection (cm) \ddagger	76.5 (75, 7.5–195)(n=23)	Insufficient Data
Diagnostic Modalities	n=26	n=72

Parameter	Asymptomatic, Screened Positive	Symptomatic
Imaging	25 (96%)	41 (57%)
Surgery/Biopsy †	23 (92%)	33 (46%)
Biochemistry	2 (8%)	6 (8%)
Autopsy	NA	3 (4%)

M, Male: F, Female: Age LwD (Living with Disease), average age of patients still living with known disease; AwD, Alive with Disease; dx., diagnosis; NED, No Evidence of Disease; Sxs., symptoms;

* Age at diagnosis minus age of symptom onset; Where applicable, data are expressed as mean (median, range). n, # of patients contributing to the result.

 $^{\wedge}$ Two patients had pulmonary carcinoid and two patients had appendiceal carcinoid, the remaining 5 patients had SI carcinoids with an average of 5.6 years with NED.

^{\ddagger}Length of bowel resected.

 † Only 23 of 26 positively screened patients underwent surgical exploration. Diagnostic modality percentages add to more than 100% since more than one modality was used for some patients.