

Gene Section

Mini Review

EXT2 (exostoses (multiple) 2)

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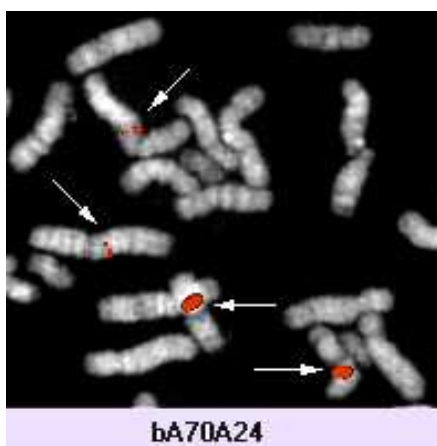
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Identity

HGNC (Hugo): EXT2

Location: 11p11-p12



EXT2 (11p12) - Courtesy Mariano Rocchi, Resources for Molecular Cytogenetics.

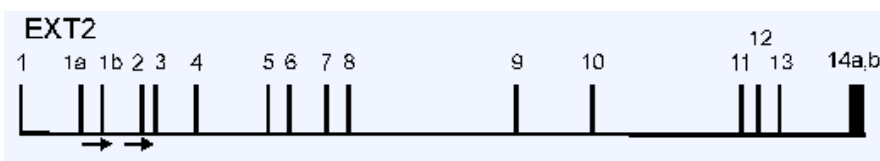
DNA/RNA

Description

Sixteen exons across the EXT2 locus were identified, two of which (1a and 1b) are alternatively spliced; spans approximately 108 kb of genomic DNA.

Transcription

3.5 and 3.7 kb.



Protein

Description

718 amino acids; 82.2 kDa.

Expression

mRNA is ubiquitously expressed. In mouse embryo's, a high level of expression of Ext2 mRNA has been found in developing limb buds and expression was demonstrated to be confined to the proliferating and prehypertrophic chondrocytes of the growth plate.

Localisation

Endoplasmic reticulum.

Function

A tumour suppressor function is suggested; exostosin-2 (EXT2) is an endoplasmic reticulum localized type II transmembrane glycoprotein which together with exostosin-1 (EXT1) forms a Golgi-localized hetero-oligomeric complex that catalyzes heparan sulphate (HS) polymerization.

It is thus hypothesized that EXT controls HSPG synthesis and display at the cell surface, which in turn is involved in FGF and IHH/PTHrP signalling within the normal growth plate.

Homology

Human EXT1, EXTL1, EXTL2 and EXTL3, mouse Ext2.

Mutations

Germinal

Germline mutations in EXT2 are causative for hereditary multiple exostoses, a heterogeneous autosomal dominant disorder; mutations include nucleotide substitutions (57%), small deletions (19%) and small insertions (24%), of which the majority is predicted to result in a truncated or non-functional protein.

Somatic

No somatic mutations were found in 34 sporadic and hereditary osteochondromas and secondary peripheral chondrosarcomas tested.

Implicated in

Hereditary multiple exostoses

Prognosis

The main complication in hereditary multiple exostoses is malignant transformation of an osteochondroma (exostosis) into chondrosarcoma, which is estimated to occur in 1-3% of the HME cases.

Cytogenetics

11p rearrangement was found in 1 sporadic osteochondroma (exostosis) using cytogenetic analysis; loss of heterozygosity at the EXT2 locus was absent in 14 osteochondromas.

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