**Gene Section**

**Mini Review**

**SLC4A1 (solute carrier family 4, anion exchanger, member 1 (erythrocyte membrane protein band 3, Diego blood group))**

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### DNA/RNA

**Description**  
SLC4A1 is a gene that spans 19.757 kb of genomic DNA on the long arm of chromosome 17, in the telomere-to-centromere orientation. The gene consists of twenty exons of which the first exon is non-coding. The start codon is located at the beginning of exon 2 and the stop codon in the beginning of exon 20.

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**Identity**

Other names: AE1, BND3, CD233, DI, EMPB3, EPB3, FR, MGC116750, MGC116753, MGC126619, MGC126623, RTA1A, SW, WD, WD1, WR

HGNC (Hugo): SLC4A1  
Location: 17q21.31  
Local order: 17q21-q22, chromosome 17: 42325753-42345509.
SLC4A1 (solute carrier family 4, anion exchanger, member 1 (erythrocyte membrane protein band 3, Diego blood group))


<table>
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<th>Transcript</th>
<th>Length (bp)</th>
<th>Protein</th>
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<th>Length (aa)</th>
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<td>4965</td>
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<td>Retained intron</td>
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</table>

The C-terminal structure of AE1.

**Transcription**

The SLC4A1 mRNA is 4.953 kb long. In the Ensembl database, its mRNA is 4.965 kb long. Compared with NCBI database, the beginning additional bases are GCTGTCA; the stop bases are GTGGC. However the coding sequences of them are the same. There are also five other transcripts: 419 bp, 1922 bp and 460 bp, that encode no protein, and 393 bp and 462 bp, that encode other proteins.

**Protein**

**Description**

911 amino acids; 95 kDa.

**Function**

Anion exchanger protein 1 (AE1), is a classical cell membrane transporter, also called band 3, that participates in the regulation of intracellular pH and ion homeostasis in vivo by transmembrane Cl/HCO₃⁻ exchange.

The C-terminal region of AE1 directly interacts with tumor suppressor p16, and then, it sequesters p16 protein in the cytoplasm and causes gastric cancer. The transmembrane of AE2 interfered with AE1. They can form heterodimers. AE2 was degradated through ubiquitination by APC in the cytoplasm.

Clinical data analysis showed that abnormal expression of AE1 with p16 is correlated with occurrence and development of gastric cancer.

**Homology**

Anion exchanger.

**Mutations**

**Germinal**

Point mutations in promoter of AE1 gene were detected in AE1 positive gastric and colon cancer cells.

**Somatic**

These mutations were only detected in cancer, not in normal cells.
Implicated in

**Gastric and colon cancer**

**Disease**
Gastric cancer is the most common gastrointestinal cancer; it has a high incidence area in China. In China, multiple gastric cancers patients were more than 40 years old; during all of the gastric cancers, two-third of the patients were 40-60 years old, and the ratio of male to female is 3.6:1.

**Prognosis**
In China, 5-year survival rate of gastric cancer: I a was 99%~100%; I b was 81%~89%; II was 65%~73%; III a was 43%~50%; III b was 25%; V was 13%. With the increase of the staging of the trend rate of 5-year survival gradually decreased. The 5-year survival rate was closely negatively related to the expression of SLC4A1.

**Cytogenetics**
AE1 immunoreactivity was negative in normal gastric tissue. Positive immunostaining of AE1 was detected in gastric carcinoma regardless of the location. AE1 was most frequently expressed in the gastric antrum carcinoma compared with gastric body cancer (P=0.034). Expression of AE1 was significantly associated with bigger tumor size, deeper invasion, shorter survival period, and non-lymph metastasis. In para-cancer tissues of intestinal type gastric cancer, the expression frequency of AE1 was higher than that in diffuse-type (P=0.011) (Xu et al., 2009; Liu et al., 2009).

**Hybrid/Mutated gene**
During the process of gastric cancer, AE1 was translated accompanied by the abnormal expression of P16 protein.

**Oncogenesis**
p16INK4A (p16) binds to cyclin-dependent kinase 4/cyclin-dependent kinase 6 and negatively regulates cell growth. During the process of gastric and colon cancer and in gastric and colon cancer cell lines, forced expression of AE1 in the cytoplasm interacted with p16, and sequestrated the protein in the cytoplasm (Fu et al., 2005). So, AE1 plays a crucial role in the pathogenesis of gastric and colon adenocarcinoma (Shen et al., 2007; Wu et al., 2010).

**To be noted**

**Note**
Most of our information was obtained from National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). Tables and diagrams were designed after the databases of Ensembl.

**References**


This article should be referenced as such: