

By Steven Bhutra

XERODERMA PIGMENTOSUM

General Information

- Xeroderma pigmentosum (Group A), or XP-A, is an **autosomal recessive** genetic disorder in which the DNA cannot repair the damage done by **UV** rays.
- XP is characterized by sensitivity to the sun, early aging of the skin and neoplasia
- XP is caused by a problem in the NER



Diagnosis based on symptoms

⦿ · **Skin**

- In the first year - severe sunburn with blistering
- In the second year -marked freckling of the face
- Generally -xerosis (dry skin) and poikiloderma (patches of pigmentation)

⦿ · **Eye**

- photophobia
- The lids develop increased pigmentation and loss of lashes.

⦿ · ***Nervous system***

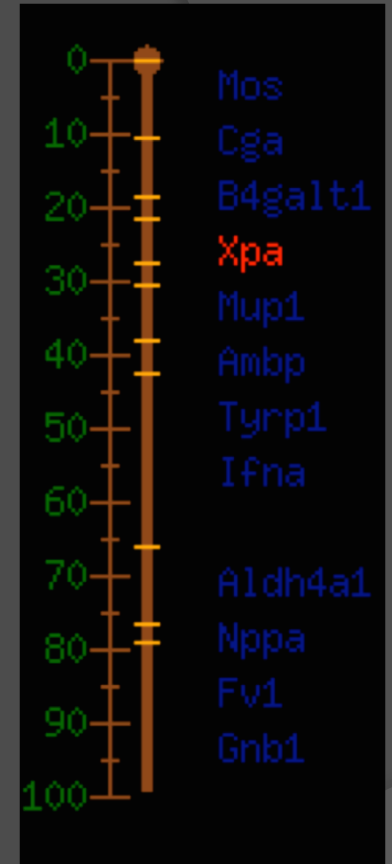
- 30% of individuals have characteristic neurologic problems that gradually worsen.

Traditional Treatment

- ① Small, premalignant skin lesions
 - Topical 5 –fluorouracil or cryotherapy
- ① Large, malignant lesions
 - Dermabrasion
- ① Prevention
 - Avoid sun and UV exposure

Gene in question

- ⦿ XPA is located on chromosome 9q22.3
- ⦿ Most mutations resulted from frameshifts within the DNA-binding region
- ⦿ XPA gene contains 6 exons.
 - Exons 2 through 6 are essential for the DNA repair function.
 - Traced back to glutamic acid cluster, located in exon 2.



Genomic Testing/Trials

- ◎ **Sequence analysis.**
- ◎ **Targeted mutation analysis.**
 - > 90% of Japanese individuals with XPA have the same single-base substitution mutation
 - With this knowledge, molecular genetic testing has been developed for quick confirmation of XPA diagnosis
- ◎ **Trial Treatments have been successful**
 - ATEIAAG
 - Anti XPA monoclonal antibodies

References

- ① OMIN
- ① GeneReviews
- ① Department of Dermatology, Faculty of Medicine, Kyoto University, Japan.
- ① Clinicaltrials.com

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