

Case Report

Prenatal diagnosis of short-rib polydactyly syndrome type III or short-rib thoracic dysplasia 3 with or without polydactyly (SRTD3) associated with compound heterozygous mutations in *DYNC2H1* in a fetus

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ABSTRACT

Objective: We present the perinatal imaging findings and molecular genetic analysis in a fetus with short-rib polydactyly syndrome (SRPS) type III or short-rib thoracic dysplasia 3 with or without polydactyly (SRTD3).

Case report: A 29-year-old, primigravid woman was referred for genetic counseling at 15 weeks of gestation because of abnormal ultrasound findings of short limbs, a narrow chest and bilateral polydactyly of the hands and feet, consistent with a diagnosis of SRPS type III. Chorionic villus sampling was performed, and targeted next-generation sequencing (NGS) was applied to analyze a panel of 25 genes including *CEP120*, *DYNC2H1*, *DYNC2L1*, *EVC*, *EVC2*, *FGFR2*, *FGFR3*, *HOXD10*, *IFT122*, *IFT140*, *IFT172*, *IFT52*, *IFT80*, *KIAA0586*, *NEK1*, *PAPSS2*, *SLC26A2*, *SOX9*, *TCTEX1D2*, *TCTN3*, *TTC21B*, *WDR19*, *WDR34*, *WDR35* and *WDR60*. The NGS analysis identified novel mutations in the *DYNC2H1* gene. The fetus was compound heterozygous for a missense mutation c.8077G > T (p.Asp2693Tyr) of paternal origin in *DYNC2H1* and a frameshift mutation c.11741_11742delTT (p.Phe3914X) of maternal origin in *DYNC2H1*. The fetus had a karyotype of 46,XY, and postnatally manifested characteristic SRPS type III phenotype.

Conclusion: Targeted NGS is useful in genetic diagnosis of fetal skeletal dysplasia and SRPS, and the information acquired is helpful in genetic counseling.

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Introduction

Short-rib polydactyly syndromes (SRPSs) are a group of autosomal recessive or digenic recessive skeletal dysplasias caused by ciliary dysfunction and characterized by short ribs, short limbs,

polydactyly and associated anomalies of kidneys, heart, liver, pancreas, genitalia and intestines [1–6]. Currently, SRPSs have been classified into short-rib thoracic dysplasias with or without polydactyly types 1–17 (SRTD1–17): SRTD1 [Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man (OMIM) 208500] (gene locus: 15q13), SRTD2 (OMIM 611263) [gene locus: 3q25.33, *IFT80* (OMIM 611177), SRTD3 (OMIM 613091) [gene locus: 11q22.3, *DYNC2H1* (OMIM 603297), SRTD4 (OMIM 613819) [gene locus: 2q24.3, *TTC21B* (OMIM 612014), SRTD5 (OMIM 614376) [gene locus: 4p14, *WDR19* (OMIM 608151), SRTD6 (OMIM 263520) [gene locus: 4q33, *NEK1* (OMIM 604588), SRTD7

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(OMIM 614091) [gene locus: 2p24.1, *WDR35* (OMIM 613602), *SRTD8* (OMIM 615503) [gene locus: 7q36.3, *WDR60* (OMIM 615462), *SRTD9* (OMIM 266920) [gene locus: 16p13.3, *IFT140* (OMIM 614620), *SRTD10* (OMIM 615630) [gene locus: 2p23.3, *IFT172* (OMIM 607386), *SRTD11* (OMIM 615633) [gene locus: 9q34.11, *WDR34* (OMIM 613363), *SRTD12* (OMIM 269860), *SRTD13* (OMIM 616300) [gene locus: 5q23.2, *CEP120* (OMIM 613446), *SRTD14* (OMIM 616546) [gene locus: 14q23.1, *KIAA0586* (OMIM 610178), *SRTD15* (OMIM 617088) [gene locus: 2p21, *DYNC2L1* (OMIM 617083), *SRTD16* (OMIM 617102) [gene locus: 20q13.12, *IFT52* (OMIM 617094) and *SRTD17* (OMIM 617405) [gene locus: 3q29, *TCFEX1D2* (OMIM 617353). We previously reported prenatal diagnosis of SRPS associated with *NEK1* mutations [5,6]. Here, we present a case of *SRTD3* associated with *DYNC2H1* mutations.

Case report

A 29-year-old, primigravid woman was referred for genetic counseling at 15 weeks of gestation because of abnormal ultrasound findings of short limbs, a narrow chest and bilateral polydactyly of the hands and feet, consistent with a diagnosis of SRPS type III (Fig. 1). Her husband was 31 years old. The woman and her husband were non-consanguineous, and there was no family history of congenital malformations. An ultrasound examination revealed biparietal diameter (BPD) of 3.33 cm (15 weeks), an abdominal circumference (AC) of 9.67 cm (15 weeks), a femur length of 1.16 cm (13 weeks), a narrow chest, a protruding abdomen and bilateral polydactyly of the hands and feet. Chorionic villus sampling was performed at 15 weeks of gestation, and the DNA extracted from the chorionic villi was analyzed by targeted next-generation sequencing (NGS) by Illumina NGS platform (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA) and Agilent SureSelect capture array (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA). The bioinformatics analysis was made by Burrows-Wheeler Aligner (BWA) and GATA software in combination with Ensembl VEP affect estimation system. Targeted exon capturing and NGS were performed in 25 known

skeletal disorder-related genes including *CEP120*, *DYNC2H1*, *DYNC2L1*, *EVC*, *EVC2*, *FGFR2*, *FGFR3*, *HOXD10*, *IFT122*, *IFT140*, *IFT172*, *IFT52*, *IFT80*, *KIAA0586*, *NEK1*, *PAPSS2*, *SLC26A2*, *SOX9*, *TCFEX1D2*, *TCTN3*, *TTC21B*, *WDR19*, *WDR34*, *WDR35* and *WDR60*. The fetus was compound heterozygous for a missense mutation c.8077G > T (p.Asp2693Tyr) of paternal origin in *DYNC2H1* and a frameshift mutation c.11741_11742delTT (p.Phe3914X) of maternal origin in *DYNC2H1* (Fig. 2). The father carried the mutation c.8077G > T, and the mother carried the mutation c.11741_11742delTT. The c.8077G > T mutation in codon 2693 is a missense mutation that results in an aspartic acid to tyrosine substitution at amino acid position 2693, and the c.11741_11742delTT mutation in codon 3914 causes a frameshift that introduces a stop codon at amino acid position 3914, resulting in a truncated protein. These two mutations have not been reported in the Human Gene Mutation Database (HGMD) and ClinVar and dbSNP databases. The c.8077G > T mutation and the c.11741_11742delTT mutation in *DYNC2H1* are likely resulting in probably damaging according to the PolyPhen 2 and PROVEN pathogenesis prediction programs. The pregnancy was terminated at 16 weeks of gestation, and a 122-g malformed fetus was delivered with a phenotype consistent with SRPS type III (Fig. 3). The external genitalia were normal. The fetus had a karyotype of 46,XY. Postnatal mutational analysis of *DYNC2H1* using the DNA extracted from the placenta confirmed compound heterozygous mutations of c.8077G > T and c.11741_11742delTT in *DYNC2H1* (Fig. 4).

Discussion

SRTD3 with alternative titles of short-rib polydactyly syndrome type III (SRPS3) [Verma–Naumoff syndrome], asphyxiating thoracic dystrophy 3 (ATD3), short-rib polydactyly syndrome type I (SRPS1) [Saldino–Noonan syndrome], polydactyly with neonatal chondrodystrophy type I, polydactyly with neonatal chondrodystrophy type III, or short-rib polydactyly syndrome type IIB (SRPS2B) is caused by homozygous or compound heterozygous mutation in



Fig. 1. Prenatal ultrasound at 15 weeks of gestation shows (A) short limbs (B) and (C) a narrow chest, and (D) polydactyly.

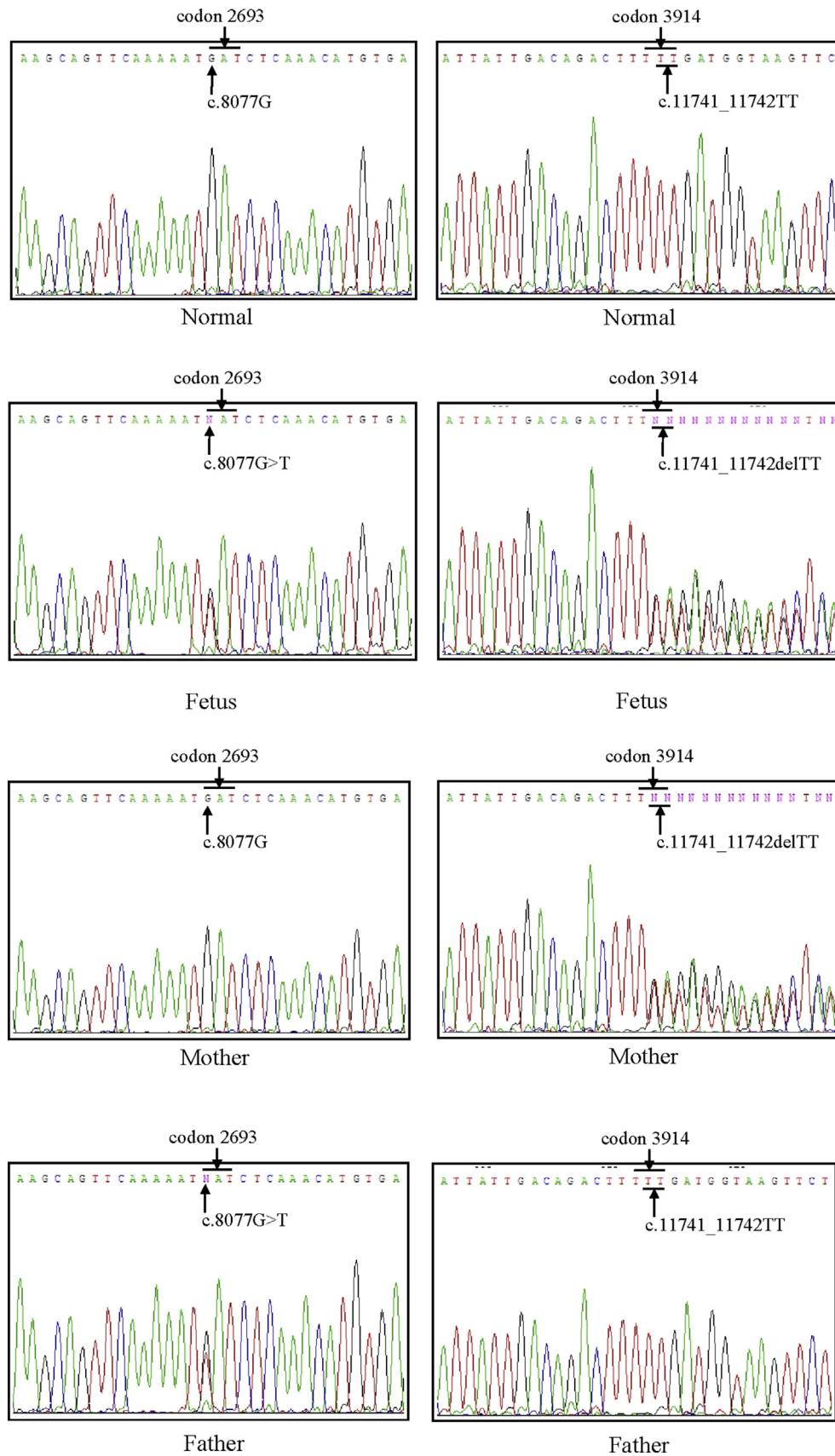


Fig. 2. Mutational analysis of the *DYNC2H1* gene on the DNAs extracted from the chorionic villi and parental bloods shows that the fetus is compound heterozygous for a missense mutation c.8077G > T (p.Asp2693Tyr) in codon 2693 and a frameshift mutation c.11741_11742delTT (p.Phe3914X) in codon 3914, the father carries the mutation c.8077G > T, and the mother carries the mutation c.11741_11742delTT.



Fig. 3. The fetus at birth. (A) Whole body view, (B) right hand with polydactyly, (C) bilateral feet with polydactyly, and (D) a narrow chest.

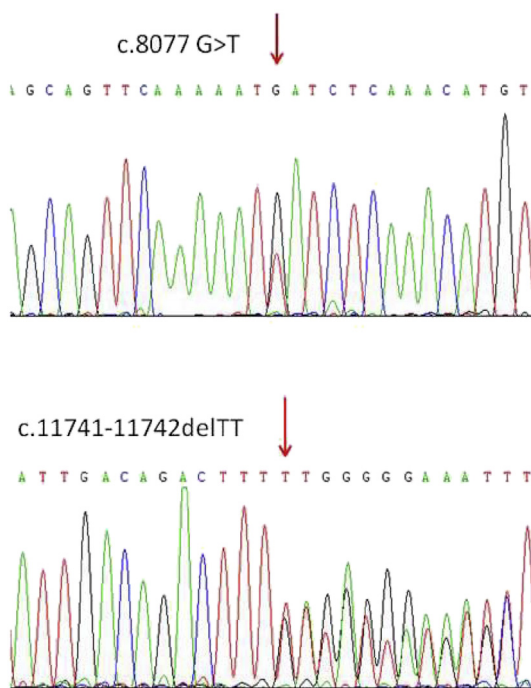


Fig. 4. Postnatal mutational analysis of the *DYNC2H1* gene on the DNA extracted from the placenta confirms the compound heterozygous mutations of c.8077G > T and c.11741_11742delTT in *DYNC2H1*.

DYNC2H1 on chromosome 11q22.3. SRTD3 can also be caused by digenic biallelic mutations in *DYNC2H1* and *NEK1* [7]. *DYNC2H1* is located at 11q22.3 and encodes dynein, cytoplasmic 2, heavy chain 1, which is a cytoplasmic dynein involved in retrograde transport in the cilia [8]. The *NEK1* gene is located at 4q33 and encodes mammalian protein relative of the fungal NIMA (never in mitosis gene A) receptor [9].

DYNC2H1 mutations have been observed in families with SRPS type III, ATD, SRPS type II and SRPS type I. Dagoneau et al. [10] reported *DYNC2H1* mutations in three families with ATD and two families with SRPS type III. The mutations in three families with ATD included homozygous c.5971A > T (p.Met1991Leu) and c.11284A > G (p.Met3762Val), compound heterozygous c.654_655insTTTATAACTTGGACAGTCTATCCTTACTA (p.Glu219-LeufsX2) and c.9044A > G (p.Asp3015Gly), and compound heterozygous c.3719T > C (p.Ile1240Thr) and c.10063G > T (p.Gly3355X). The mutations in two families with SRPS type III included compound heterozygous c.4610A > G (p.Gln1537Arg) and c.7382G > T (p.Gly2461Val), and compound heterozygous c.5959A > G (p.Thr1987Ala) and c.10130delT (p.Leu3377CysfsX34). Merrill et al. [11] reported *DYNC2H1* mutations in three families with SRPS type III. The mutations included homozygous c.1759C > T (p.Arg587Cys), compound heterozygous c.6614G > A (p.Arg2205His) and c.8512C > T (p.Arg2838X), and compound heterozygous c.624_625GT > AA (p.Phe209Ile) and c.IVS33 + 1G > T (splicing). Thiel et al. [7] reported *DYNC2H1* mutation and *NEK1* mutation in a family with SRPS type II. The digenic biallelic mutations included heterozygous c. 11747G > A (p.Gly3916Asp) in *DYNC2H1* and

heterozygous c.1640_1641insA (p.Asn547LysfsX2) in *NEK1*. El Hokayem et al. [12] reported *DYNC2H1* mutations in four families with SRPS type III. The mutations included compound heterozygous c.1012A > G (p.Arg338Gly), c.1288C > T (p.Arg430Cys) and c.4267C > T (p.Arg1423Cys), compound heterozygous c.7985G > A (p.Arg2662Gln) and c.7486C > T (p.Pro2496Ser), compound heterozygous c.988C > T (p.Arg330Cys) and c.8534delA (p.Asn2845IlefsX8), and compound heterozygous c.1483A > G (p.Lys495Arg) and c.12478-2A > G (splicing). Ellard et al. [13] reported heterozygous *DYNC2H1* variants in a couple with five fetuses with SRPS. The *DYNC2H1* variants included c.2819-14A > G (splicing) and c.7577T > G (p.Ile2526Ser). McInerney-Leo et al. [14] reported compound heterozygous c.1421T > G (p.Leu474Arg) and c.11312C > T (p.Ala3771Val) in *DYNC2H1* in a fetus with SRPS, and compound heterozygous c.2443G > C (p.Gly815Arg) and c.11417G > A (p.Arg3806His) in *DYNC2H1* in a child with Jeune asphyxiating thoracic dystrophy (JATD). Mei et al. [15] reported *DYNC2H1* mutations in a family with SRPS type III. The mutations included compound heterozygous c.1151C > T (p.Ala384Val) and c.4351C > T (p.Gln1451X). Okamoto et al. [16] reported *DYNC2H1* mutations in a family with SRPS type III. The mutations included compound heterozygous c.5682_5683delAA (p.Glu1894fsX10) and c.9010C > T (p.Arg3004Cys). Chen et al. [17] reported *DYNC2H1* mutations in a family with SRPS type III. The mutations included compound heterozygous c.8313A > T (p.Arg2771Ser) and c.10711_10714delTTTA (p.Phe3571ArgfsX3). Cossu et al. [18] reported homozygous mutation of c.3694G > A (p.Asp1232Asn) in *DYNC2H1* in a family with JATD. Badiner et al. [19] reported *DYNC2H1* mutations in three families with SRPS type I. The mutations included compound heterozygous c.6834G > T (p.Trp2278Cys) and c.10886G > C (p.Arg3629Pro), compound heterozygous c.6387G > T (p.Trp2129Cys) and c.8339T > C (p.Leu2780Ser), and compound heterozygous c.4267C > T (p.Arg1423Cys) and c.10594C > T (Arg3532X).

Recently, targeted next-generation panel sequencing and whole exome sequencing have been successfully applied in identification of *DYNC2H1* mutations in families with SRPS [13–15,17]. Our case provides an additional example that targeted NGS is useful in genetic diagnosis of fetal skeletal dysplasia and SRPS, and the information acquired is helpful in genetic counseling.

Conflicts of interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest relevant to this article.

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