



TITLE:

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CITATION:

Kobayashi, Hatasu ...[et al]. Expansion of Intronic GGCCTG Hexanucleotide Repeat in NOP56 Causes SCA36, a Type of Spinocerebellar Ataxia Accompanied by Motor Neuron Involvement.. American journal of human genetics 2011, 89(1): 121-130

ISSUE DATE:

2011-06-15

URL:

<http://hdl.handle.net/2433/141931>

RIGHT:

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Expansion of Intronic GGCCTG Hexanucleotide Repeat in *NOP56* Causes a Type of Spinocerebellar Ataxia (SCA36) Accompanied by Motor Neuron Involvement

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Abstract

Autosomal dominant spinocerebellar ataxias (SCAs) are a heterogeneous group of neurodegenerative disorders. In this study, we performed genetic analysis of a unique form of SCA (SCA36) that is accompanied by motor neuron involvement. Genome-wide linkage analysis and subsequent fine mapping for three unrelated Japanese families in a cohort of SCA cases, in whom molecular diagnosis had never been done, mapped the disease locus to the region of a 1.8 Mb stretch (LOD score of 4.60) on 20p13 (D20S906–D20S193) harboring 37 genes with definitive open reading frames. We sequenced 33 of these and revealed a large expansion of an intronic GGCCTG hexanucleotide repeat in *NOP56* and an unregistered missense variant (Phe265Leu) in *C20orf194*, but no mutations in *PDYN* and *TGM6*. The expansion showed complete segregation with the SCA phenotype in family studies, whereas Phe265Leu in *C20orf194* did not. Screening the expansions in the SCA cohort cases revealed additional four occurrences, but none in the cohort of 27 Alzheimer's cases, 154 ALS cases, or 300 controls. Totally nine unrelated cases were found in 251 cohort SCA patients (3.6%). A founder haplotype was confirmed in these cases. RNA foci formation was detected in lymphoblastoid cells from affected subjects by fluorescence *in situ* hybridization. Double-staining and gel shift assay showed that (GGCCUG)_n binds the RNA-binding protein SRSF2, but that (CUG)₆ did not. In addition, transcription of *MIR1292*, a neighboring microRNA, was significantly decreased in lymphoblastoid cells of SCA patients. Our finding suggests that SCA36 is caused by hexanucleotide repeat expansions through RNA gain-of-function.

Autosomal dominant spinocerebellar ataxias (SCAs) are a heterogeneous group of neurodegenerative disorders characterized by loss of balance, progressive gait, and limb ataxia¹⁻³. We recently encountered two unrelated patients with intriguing clinical symptoms from a community in the Chugoku region in western mainland Japan⁴. These patients both showed complicated clinical features with ataxia as the first symptom, followed by characteristic late-onset involvement of the motor neuron system, with symptoms similar to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS[MIM 105400])⁴. Some SCAs (SCA1 [MIM 164400], SCA2 [MIM 183090], SCA3 [MIM 607047], and SCA6 [MIM 183086]) are known to slightly affect motor neurons; however, their involvement is minimal and the patients usually do not develop skeletal muscle and tongue atrophies⁴. Of particular interest is that RNA foci have been recently demonstrated in hereditary disorders caused by microsatellite repeat expansions/insertions in the non-coding region of their responsible gene⁵⁻⁷. The unique clinical features in these families have seldom been described in previous reports; therefore, we undertook a genetic analysis.

A similar form of SCA was observed in five Japanese cases from a cohort of 251 patients with SCA, in whom molecular diagnosis had not been performed, and who were followed by the Department of Neurology, Okayama University Hospital. These five cases originated from a city of 450,000 people in the Chugoku region. Thus, we suspected the presence of a founder mutation common to these five cases, prompting us to recruit these five families (Pedigrees 1–5) (**Figure 1, Table 1**). This study was approved by the Ethics Committee of Kyoto University and the Okayama University Institutional Review Board. Written informed consent was obtained from all subjects. An index of cases per family was investigated in some depth: IV-4 in Pedigree 1, II-1 in Pedigree 2, III-1 in Pedigree 3, II-1 in Pedigree 4, and II-1 in Pedigree 5. Mean age at

onset of cerebellar ataxia was 52.8 ± 4.3 years, and the disease was transmitted by an autosomal dominant mode of inheritance. All affected individuals started their ataxic symptoms, such as gait and truncal instability, ataxic dysarthria, and uncoordinated limbs, in their late forties to fifties. Magnetic resonance imaging revealed relatively confined and mild cerebellar atrophy (**Figure 2A**). Unlike previously known SCAs, all affected individuals with longer disease duration showed obvious signs of motor neuron involvement (**Table 1**). Characteristically, all affected individuals exhibited tongue atrophy with fasciculation to a greater or lesser extent (**Figure 2B**). Despite severe tongue atrophy in some cases, their swallowing function was relatively preserved, and they were allowed oral intake even at a later point after onset. In addition to tongue atrophy, skeletal muscle atrophy and fasciculation in the limbs and trunk appeared in advanced cases⁴. Tendon reflexes were generally mild-to-severely hyperreactive in most affected individuals, without severe lower limb spasticity and extensor plantar response. Electrophysiological studies were performed in an affected individual. Nerve conduction studies revealed normal findings in all the cases examined; however, an electromyogram showed neurogenic changes only in cases with skeletal muscle atrophy, indicating that lower motor neuropathy existed in this particular disease. Progression of motor neuron involvement in this SCA was typically and limited to the tongue and main proximal skeletal muscles in both upper and lower extremities, which is clearly different from typical ALS, which usually involves most skeletal muscles in a few years, leading to fatal results within several years.

We conducted genome-wide linkage analysis for nine affected subjects and eight unaffected subjects in three informative families (Pedigrees 1–3; **Figure 1**). For genotyping, we used an ABI Prism Linkage Mapping Set (Version 2; Applied

Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA) with 382 markers, 10 cM apart, for 22 autosomes. Fine-mapping markers (approximately 1 cM apart) were designed according to information from the uniSTS reference physical map in the NCBI database. A parametric linkage analysis was carried out using GENEHUNTER⁸, assuming an autosomal dominant model. The disease allele frequency was set at 0.000001 and a phenocopy frequency of 0.000001 was assumed. Population allele frequencies were assigned equal portions for individual alleles. We performed multipoint analyses for autosomes and obtained logarithm of the odds (LOD) scores. We considered LOD scores above 3.0 to be significant⁸. Genome-wide linkage analysis revealed a single locus on chromosome 20p13 with a LOD score of 3.20. Fine mapping increased the LOD score to 4.60 (**Figure 3**). Haplotype analysis revealed two recombination events in pedigree 3, delimiting a 1.8-Mb region (D20S906– D20S193) (**Figure 1**). We further tested whether the five cases shared the haplotype. As shown in **Figure 1**, pedigrees 4 and 5 were confirmed to have the same haplotype as pedigrees 1, 2, and 3, indicating that the 1.8 Mb region is very likely to be derived from a common ancestor.

The 1.8-Mb region harbors 44 genes (NCBI, Build 37.1). We eliminated two pseudogenes and five genes (LOC441938, LOC100289473, LOC100288797, LOC100289507 and LOC100289538) from the candidates. Evidence view showed that the first, fourth, and fifth genes were not found in the contig in this region, while the second and third of these genes had mismatches over the mouse genes. Sequence similarities among paralogue genes defied direct sequencing of four genes: *SIRPD* [NM 178460.2], *SIRPB1* [NM 603889], *SIRPG* [NM 605466], and *SIRPA* [NM 602461]. Thus, we sequenced 33 of 37 genes (*PDYN* [MIM 131340], *STK35* [MIM 609370], *TGM3* [MIM 600238], *TGM6* [NM_198994.2], *SNRPB* [MIM 182282],

SNORD119 [NR_003684.1], *ZNF343* [NM_024325.4], *TMC2* [MIM 606707], *NOP56* [NM_006392.2], *MIR1292* [NR_031699.1], *SNORD110* [NR_003078.1], *SNORA51* [NR_002981.1], *SNORD86* [NR_004399.1], *SNORD56* [NR_002739.1], *SNORD57* [NR_002738.1], *IDH3B* [MIM 604526], *EBF4* [MIM 609935], *CPXMI* [NM_019609.4], *C20orf141* [NM_080739.2], *FAM113A* [NM_022760.3], *VPS16* [MIM 608550], *PTPRA* [MIM 176884], *GNRH2* [MIM 602352], *MRPS26* [MIM 611988], *OXT* [MIM 167050], *AVP* [MIM 192340], *UBOX5* [NM_014948.2], *FASTKD5* [NM_021826.4], *ProSAPiP1* [MIM 610484], *DDRGK1* [NM_023935.1], *ITPA* [MIM 147520], *SLC4A11* [MIM 610206], and *C20orf194* [NM_001009984.1]) (**Figure 2C**). All noncoding and coding exons, and the 100 bp up- and down-stream of the splice junctions of these genes were sequenced in two index cases (IV-4 in pedigree1 and III-1 in pedigree 3) and in three additional cases (II-1 in pedigree 2, II-1 in pedigree 4 and II-1 in pedigree 5) using specific primers (**Supplemental Table 1**). Eight unregistered variants were found among the two index cases. Among these, there was a coding variant (Phe265Leu), g.3324373 C > G of *C20orf194*, while the other seven included one synonymous variant (Leu565Leu in *ZNF343*; g.2463912 T>A) and six non-splice-site intronic variants (**supplemental Table 2**). We tested segregation by sequencing exon 11 of *C20orf194* in IV-2 and III-5 in the pedigree 1. Neither IV-2 nor III-5 had this variant. We thus eliminated *C20orf194* as a candidate. Missense mutations in *PDYN* and *TGM6*, which have been recently reported as causes of SCA, mapped to 20p12.3-p13^{9; 10}, but none were detected in the five index cases studied here (**Supplemental Table 2**).

Possible expansions of repetitive sequences in these 33 genes were investigated when intragenic repeats were indicated in the database (UCSC Genome

Bioinformatics). Expansions of the hexanucleotide repeat GGCCTG (rs68063608) were found in intron 1 of *NOP56* (**Figure 2D**) in all five index cases, using a repeat-primed PCR method¹¹⁻¹³. An outline of the repeat-primed PCR experiment is described in **Figure 2D**. Briefly, the fluorescent dye-conjugated forward primer corresponded to the region upstream of the repeat of interest. The first reverse primer consisted of four units of the repeat (GGCCTG) and a 5'-tail used as an anchor. The second reverse primer was an “anchor” primer. These primers are described in **Supplemental Table 3**. Complete segregation of the expanded hexanucleotide was confirmed in all pedigrees, and the maximum repeat size in nine unaffected members was eight (data not shown).

In addition to the SCA cases in five pedigrees, four unrelated cases (SCA#1–SCA#4) were found to have a (GGCCTG)*n* allele by screening in the cohort SCA patients (**Table 1**). Neurological examination was reevaluated in these four cases, revealing both ataxia and motor neuron dysfunction with tongue atrophy and fasciculation (**Table 1**). Totally nine unrelated cases were found in the 251 cohort patients with SCA (3.6%). To confirm the repeat expansions, Southern blot analysis was conducted in six affected subjects (Ped2_II-1, Ped3_III-1, Ped3_III-2, Ped5_I-1, Ped5_II-1 and SCA#1). The data showed >10 kb of repeat expansions in the lymphoblastoid cell lines (LCLs) obtained from the SCA patients (**Figure 2E**). Furthermore, the numbers of GGCCTG repeat expansion were estimated by Southern blotting in other 11 cases. The expansion analysis revealed approximately 1500 to 2500 in 17 cases (**Table 1**). There was no negative association between age of onset and the number of GGCCTG repeats ($n=17$, $r=0.42$, $p=0.09$; **Supplemental Figure 1**), and no obvious anticipation in the current pedigrees.

To investigate the disease specificity and disease spectrum of the hexanucleotide repeat expansions, we tested the repeat expansions in an Alzheimer's disease [MIM 104300] cohort and an ALS cohort followed up by the Department of Neurology, Okayama University Hospital. We also recruited Japanese controls, who were confirmed to be free from brain lesions by magnetic resonance imaging and magnetic resonance angiography, as described previously¹⁴. Screening of the 27 Alzheimer's disease cases and 154 ALS cases failed to detect further cases with repeat expansions. The GGCCTG repeat sizes ranged from three to eight in 300 Japanese controls (5.9 ± 0.8 repeats), suggesting that the >10-kb repeat expansions were mutations.

Expression of *Nop56*, an essential component of the splicing machinery¹⁵, was examined by RT-PCR using primers for wild-type mouse *Nop56* cDNA (**Supplemental Table 3**). Expression of *Nop56* mRNA was detected in various tissues including central nervous system, while a very weak signal was detected in spinal cord (**Figure 4A**). Immunohistochemistry using an anti-mouse Nop56 antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa Cruz, CA, USA) detected the Nop56 protein in Purkinje cells of the cerebellum as well as motor neurons of the hypoglossal nucleus and the spinal cord anterior horn (**Figure 4B**), suggesting that these cells may be responsible for tongue and muscle atrophy in the trunk and limbs, respectively. Western blotting also confirmed the presence of the Nop56 protein in neural tissues (**Figure 4C**), where Nop56 is localized in both the nucleus and cytoplasm.

Alterations of *NOP56* RNA expression and protein levels in LCLs from patients were examined by real-time RT-PCR and western blotting. The primers for quantitative PCR of human *NOP56* cDNA are described in **Supplemental Table 3**. Immunoblotting was performed using an anti-human NOP56 antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa

Cruz, CA, USA). We found no decrease in *NOP56* RNA expression or protein levels in LCLs from these patients (**Figure 5A**). To investigate abnormal splicing variants of *NOP56*, we performed RT-PCR using the primers covering the region from the 5' UTR to exon 4 around the repeat expansion (**Supplemental Table 3**); however, no splicing variant was observed in LCLs from the cases (**Figure 5B**). Furthermore, immunocytochemistry for NOP56 and coilin, a marker of the Cajal body, where NOP56 functions¹⁶, was carried out. NOP56 and coilin distributions were not altered in LCLs of the SCA patients (**Figure 5C**), suggesting that qualitative or quantitative changes in the Cajal body did not occur. These results indicated that haploinsufficiency could not explain the observed phenotype.

We performed fluorescent *in situ* hybridization to detect RNA foci containing the repeat transcripts in LCLs from patients, as previously described^{17; 18}. Lymphoblastoid cells from two SCA patients (Ped2_II-2 and Ped5_I-1) and two control subjects were analyzed. An average of 2.1 ± 0.5 RNA foci/cell were detected in 57.0% of LCLs ($n = 100$) from the SCA subjects using a nuclear probe targeting the GGCCUG repeat, whereas no RNA foci were observed in control LCLs ($n = 100$) (**Figure 6A**). In contrast, a probe for the CGCCUG repeat, another repeat sequence in intron 1 of *NOP56*, detected no RNA foci in either SCA or control LCLs ($n = 100$ each) (**Figure 6A**) indicating that the GGCCUG repeat was specifically expanded in the SCA subjects. The specificity of the RNA foci was confirmed by sensitivity to RNase A treatment and resistance to DNase treatment (**Figure 6A**).

Several reports have suggested that RNA foci play a role in the etiology of SCA through sequestration of specific RNA-binding proteins⁵⁻⁷. *In silico* searches (ESEfinder 3.0) predicted an RNA-binding protein, SRSF2 [MIM 600813], as a strong candidate

for binding the GGCCUG repeat. Double-staining with the probe for the GGCCUG repeat and an anti-SRSF2 antibody (Sigma-Aldrich Inc., Tokyo, Japan) was performed. The results showed co-localization of RNA foci with SRSF2, while NOP56 and coilin were not co-localized with the RNA foci (**Figure 6B**), suggesting a specific interaction of endogenous SRSF2 with the RNA foci *in vivo*.

To further confirm the interaction, gel-shift assays were carried out to investigate the binding activity of SRSF2 with (GGCCUG)_n. Synthetic RNA oligonucleotides (200 pmol), (GGCCUG)₄ or (CUG)₆, which is the latter part of the hexanucleotide, as well as the repeat RNA involved in myotonic dystrophy type 1 (DM1) [MIM 160900]¹⁸ and SCA8 [MIM 608768]⁵, were denatured and immediately mixed with different amounts (0, 0.2, or 0.6 μg) of recombinant full-length human SRSF2 protein (Abcam, Cambridge, UK). The mixtures were incubated and the protein-bound probes were separated from the free forms by electrophoresis on 5–20% native polyacrylamide gels. The separated RNA probes were detected with SYBR Gold staining (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA). We found a strong association of (GGCCUG)₄ with SRSF2 *in vitro* in comparison to (CUG)₆ (**Figure 6C**). Collectively, we concluded that (GGCCUG)_n interacts with SRSF2.

It is notable that *MIR1292* is located just 19 bp 3' of the GGCCTG repeat (**Figure 2D**). MicroRNAs such as *MIR1292* are small non-coding RNAs that regulate gene expression by inhibiting translation of specific target mRNAs^{19; 20}. MicroRNAs are believed to play important roles in key molecular pathways by fine-tuning gene expression^{19; 20}. Recent studies have revealed that microRNAs influence neuronal survival and are also associated with neurodegenerative diseases^{21; 22}. *In silico* searches (Target Scan Human 5.1) predicted glutamate receptors (*GRIN2B* [MIM 138252] and

GRIK3 [MIM 138243]) as potential target genes. Real time RT-PCR using TaqMan probes for miRNA (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) revealed that the levels of both mature and precursor *MIR1292* were significantly decreased in SCA LCLs (**Figure 6D**), indicating that the GGCCTG repeat expansion decreased the transcription of *MIR1292*. A decrease in *MIR1292* expression may upregulate glutamate receptors in particular cell types, *e.g.* *GRIK3* in stellate cells in the cerebellum²³, leading to ataxia because of perturbation of signal transduction to the Purkinje cells. In addition, it has been suggested, based on ALS mouse models^{24; 25}, that excitotoxicity mediated by a type of glutamate receptor, the NMDA receptor including *GRIN2B*, is involved in loss of spinal neurons. A very slowly progressing and mild form of the motor neuron disease, *i.e.*, mostly limited to fasciculation of tongue, limbs and trunk, may also be compatible with such a functional dysregulation rather than degeneration

In the present study, we have conducted genetic analysis to find a genetic cause for the unique SCA with motor neuron disease. With extensive sequencing the 1.8 MB linked region, we found a large hexanucleotide repeat expansions in *NOP56*, which were completely segregated with SCA in five pedigrees and was found in four unrelated cases with the similar phenotype. The expansion was neither found in 300 controls or other neurodegenerative diseases. We further proved that repeat expansions of *NOP56* induce RNA foci and sequester SRSF2. Taken together, we thus concluded that hexanucleotide repeat expansions are considered to cause SCA by a toxic RNA gain-of-function mechanism and name this unique SCA as SCA36. Haplotype analysis indicates that hexanucleotide expansions are derived from a common ancestor. The prevalence of the SCA36 was estimate 3.6% in the SCA cohort in Chugoku district, suggesting that prevalence of SCA36 may be geographically limited to the western part

of Japan and is rare even in Japanese SCAs.

Expansion of tandem nucleotide repeats in different regions of respective genes (most often the triplets CAG and CTG) has been shown to cause a number of inherited diseases over the past decades. An expansion in the coding region of a gene causes a gain of toxic function and/or reduces the normal function of the corresponding protein at the protein level. RNA-mediated noncoding repeat expansions have been also been identified to cause eight other neuromuscular disorders, namely DM1, DM2 [MIM 602668], fragile X tremor/ataxia syndrome (FXTAS) [MIM 300623], Huntington's disease-like 2 (HDL2) [MIM 606438], SCA8, SCA10 [MIM 603516], SCA12 [MIM 604326], and SCA31 [MIM 117210]²⁶. The repeat numbers in affected alleles of SCA36 are among the largest seen in this group of diseases (i.e. thousands of repeats). Moreover, SCA36 is not merely a non-triplet repeat expansion disorder after SCA10, DM2, and SCA31, but is now proven to be a human disease caused by a large hexanucleotide repeat expansion. In addition, no or only weak anticipation has been reported for non-coding repeat expansion in SCA, while clear anticipation has been reported for most polyglutamine expansions in SCA². As such, absence of anticipation in SCA36 is in accord with previous studies on SCAs with noncoding repeat expansions. The common hallmark in these noncoding repeat expansion disorders is transcribed repeat nuclear accumulations with respective repeat RNA-binding proteins, which are considered to primarily trigger and develop the disease at the RNA level. However, multiple different mechanisms are likely to be involved in each disorder. There are at least two possibilities to explain motor neuron involvement of SCA 36: gene and tissue specific splicing specificity of *SRSF2* and involvement of microRNA. In SCA36, there is the possibility that the adverse effect of the expansion mutation is mediated by

downregulation of microRNA expression. The biochemical implication of microRNA involvement cannot be evaluated in this study, because availability of tissue samples from affected cases was limited to LCLs. Given definitive downregulation of microRNA 1291 in LCLs, we should await further study to substantiate its involvement in affected tissues. Elucidating which mechanism(s) play a critical role in the pathogenesis will be required to determine whether cerebellar degeneration and motor neuron disease occur with a similar scenario.

In conclusion, expansion of the intronic GGCCTG hexanucleotide repeat in *NOP56* causes a unique form SCA (SCA36), which shows not only ataxia, but also motor neuron dysfunction. This characteristic disease phenotype can be explained by the combination of RNA gain-of-function and *MIR1292* suppression. Further studies are required to investigate the roles of each mechanistic component in the pathogenesis of SCA36.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported mainly by grants to AK and partially by grants to MT, IY, HK and KA. We thank Mr. Norio Matsuura, Dr. Kokoro Iwasawa, and Dr. Kouji H. Harada (Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine).

Web Resources

NCBI, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>

UCSC Genome Bioinformatics, <http://genome.ucsc.edu>

ESEfinder 3.0, <http://rulai.cshl.edu/cgi-bin/tools/ESE3/esefinder.cgi?process=home>

Target Scan Human 5.1, <http://www.targetscan.org/>

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Figure Legends

Figure 1. Pedigree Charts of the Five SCA Families (Pedigrees 1–5)

Haplotypes are shown for nine markers from D20S906 (1,505,576 bp) to D20S193 (3,313,494 bp), spanning 1.8 Mb on chromosome 20p13. *NOP56* is located at 2,633,254–2,639,039 bp (Build 37.1). Filled and unfilled symbols indicate affected and unaffected individuals, respectively. Squares and circles represent males and females, respectively. A slash indicates a deceased individual. The putative founder haplotypes among patients are shown in boxes constructed by GENHUNTER⁸. Arrows indicate the index case. The pedigrees were slightly modified for privacy protection.

Figure 2. Motor Neuron Involvement and (GGCCTG)_n Expansion in the First Intron of *NOP56*

(A) Magnetic resonance imaging of an affected subject (SCA#3) showed mild cerebellar atrophy (arrow), but no other cerebral or brainstem pathology. (B) Tongue atrophy (arrow) was observed in SCA#1. (C) Physical map of the 1.8-Mb linkage region from D20S906 (1,505,576 bp)–D20S193 (3,313,494 bp), with 33 candidate genes shown, as well as the direction of transcription (arrows). (D) The upper portion of the panel shows the scheme of primer binding for repeat-primer PCR analysis. In the lower portion, sequence traces of the PCR reactions are shown. Red lines indicate the size markers. The vertical axis indicates arbitrary intensity levels. A typical saw tooth pattern is observed in an affected pedigree. (E) Southern blotting of lymphoblastoid cell lines (LCLs) from SCA cases and three controls. Genomic DNA (10 μg) was extracted from Epstein-Barr virus immortalized LCLs derived from six affected subjects (Ped2_II-1, Ped3_III-1, Ped3_III-2, Ped5_I-1, Ped5_II-1 and SCA#1) and digested with 2 units of

AvrII overnight (New England Biolabs Inc., Beverly, MA, USA). A probe covering exon 4 of *NOP56* (452 bp) was PCR amplified from human genomic DNA using primers (Supplemental Table 3), and labeled with 32 P-dCTP.

Figure 3. Multipoint Linkage Analysis with 10 Markers on Chromosome 20p13.

Figure 4. Nop56 in Mouse Nervous System

(A) RT-PCR analysis of Nop56 (422 bp) in various mouse tissues. cDNA (25 ng) collected from various organs of C57BL/6 mice were purchased from GenoStaf (Tokyo, Japan). (B) Immunohistochemical analysis of Nop56 in cerebellum, hypoglossal nucleus, and spinal cord anterior horn in a wild male Slc:ICR mice at 8 weeks of age (Japan SLC Inc., Shizuoka, Japan). The arrows indicate anti- Nop56 antibody staining. The negative control was the cerebellar sample without the Nop56 antibody treatment. Bar, 100 μ m (C) Western blotting of Nop56 protein (66 kDa) in cerebellum and cerebrum. Protein sample (10 μ g) was subjected to immunoblotting. LaminB1, a nuclear protein, and beta-tubulin, were used as loading controls.

Figure 5. Analysis of NOP56 in LCLs from SCA patients.

(A) mRNA expression (upper panel) and protein levels (lower panel) in LCLs from cases ($n = 6$) and controls ($n = 3$) were measured by RT-PCR and western blotting, respectively. cDNA (10 ng) was transcribed from total RNA isolated from LCLs and used for RT-PCR. Western blotting was performed using protein sample (40 μ g) extracted from LCLs. The data indicate the mean \pm SD relative to the levels of *PPIA* and *GAPDH*, respectively. There was no significant difference between LCLs from

controls and cases. (B) Analysis for splicing variants of NOP56 cDNA. RT-PCR with 10 ng cDNA and primers corresponding to the region from 5' UTR to exon 4 around the repeat expansion were performed. The PCR product has an expected size of 230 bp. (C) Immunocytochemistry for NOP56 and coilin. Green signals represent NOP56 or coilin. Shown are representative samples from 100 observations of controls or cases.

Figure 6. RNA Foci Formation and Decreased Transcription of *MIR1292*

(A) Cells were fixed on coverslips and then hybridized with solutions containing either a Cy3-labeled C(CAGGCC)₂CAG or G(CAGGCG)₂CAG oligonucleotide probe (1 ng/μl). For controls, the cells were treated with 1000 U/ml DNase or 100 μg/ml RNase for 1 h at 37°C prior to hybridization, as indicated. After a wash step, coverslips were placed on the slides in the presence of ProLong Gold with DAPI mounting media (Molecular Probes, Tokyo, Japan), and photographed with a fluorescence microscope. The upper panels indicate LCLs from an SCA case and a control hybridized with C(CAGGCC)₂CAG (left) or G(CAGGCG)₂CAG (right). Red and blue signals represent RNA foci and the nucleus (DAPI staining), respectively. Similar RNA foci formation was confirmed in LCLs from another index case. The lower panels show RNA foci in SCA LCLs treated with DNase or RNase. (B) Double-staining was performed with the probe for (GGCCUG)_n (red) and anti-SRSF2, NOP56, or coilin antibody (green). (C) Gel-shift assays revealed specific binding of SRSF2 to (GGCCUG)₄ but little to (CUG)₆. (D) RNA samples (10 ng) were extracted from LCLs of controls ($n = 3$) and cases ($n = 6$). MicroRNAs were measured using a TaqMan probe for precursor (Pri-) and mature *MIR1292*. The data indicate the mean \pm SD, relative to the levels of *PPIA* or *RNU6*. *: $P < 0.05$.

Table 1. Clinical characteristics of affected subjects

Pedigree No.	Patient ID	Gender	Onset age (y)	Current age (y)	Ataxia	Motor neuron involvement			
						Skeletal muscle atrophy	Skeletal muscle fasciculation	Tongue atrophy/fasciculation	Genotype of GGCCTG repeats
1	III-5	M	50	70	+++	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	g.263397_263402[6]+(1800)
	III-6	F	52	68	++	+	+	+	g.263397_263402[6]+(2300)
	IV-2	F	57	63	+	-	-	+	g.263397_263402[6]+(2300)
	IV-4	M	50	59	+	-	-	+	g.263397_263402[6]+(2300)
2	II-1	M	55	77	+++	++	+	+	g.263397_263402[6]+(2200)
	II-2	F	53	70	++	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	g.263397_263402[6]+(2200)
3	II-3	M	58	77	++	++	+	+	g.263397_263402[3]+(2300)
	III-1	M	56	62	+	-	-	±	g.263397_263402[8]+(2200)
	III-2	M	51	61	++	+	+	+	g.263397_263402[6]+(1800)
4	I-1	M	57	died in 2001 at 83	++	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	g.263397_263402[5]+(1800)
	II-1	F	48	61	++	+	±	++	g.263397_263402[6]+(2000)
5	I-1	M	57	86	++	+++	+	+	g.263397_263402[5]+(2000)
	II-1	F	47	58	++	+	+	+	g.263397_263402[8]+(1700)
	SCA#1	M	52	69	+++	+++	+++	+++	g.263397_263402[5]+(2200)
	SCA#2	F	43	53	+++	-	-	+	g.263397_263402[6]+(1800)
	SCA#3	M	55	60	++	-	-	++	g.263397_263402[8]+(1700)
	SCA#4	M	57	81	+++	+	+	+++	g.263397_263402[5]+(2200)
	Mean		52.8						
	SD		4.3						

N.D.: not determined

Figure 1

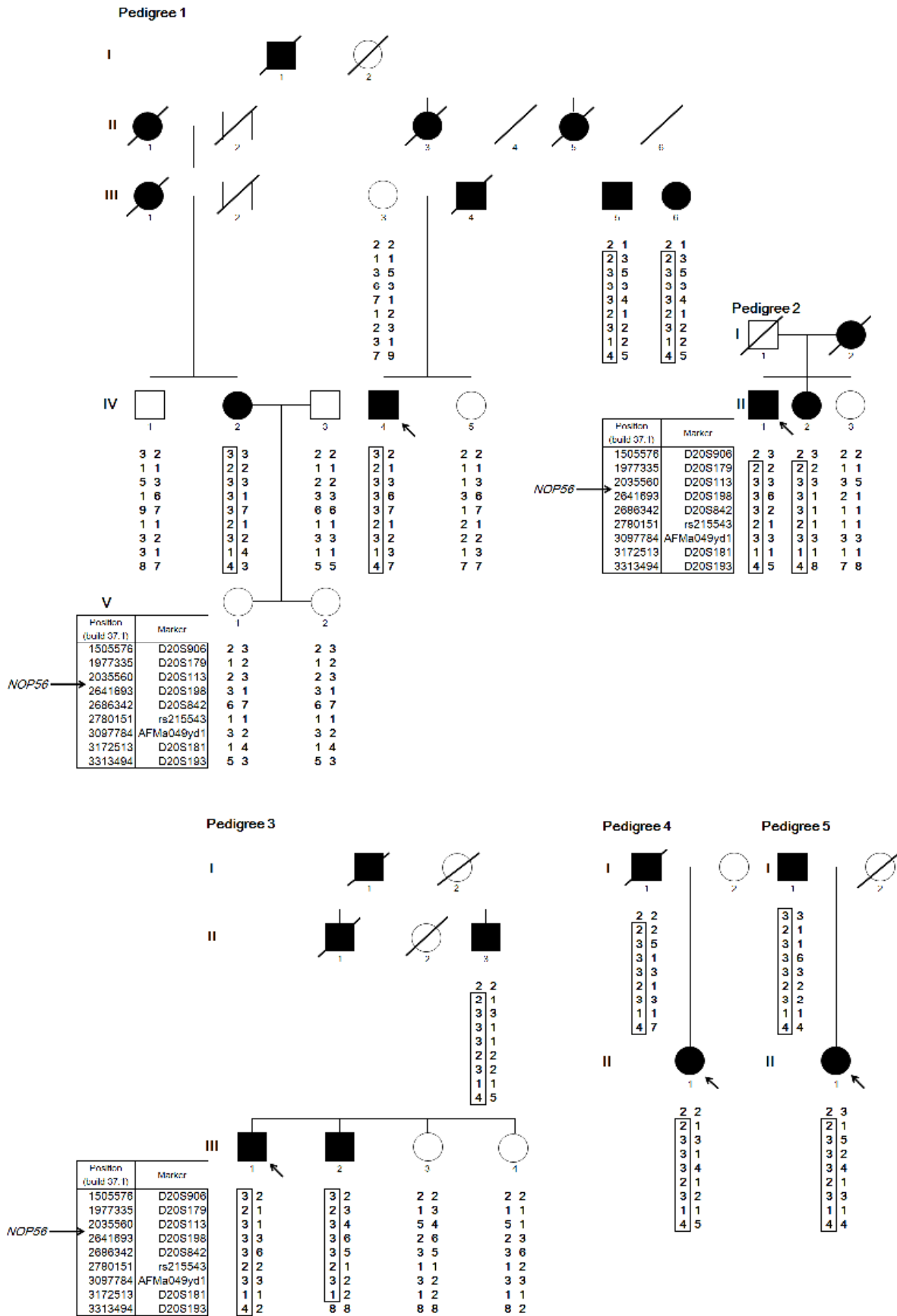


Figure 2

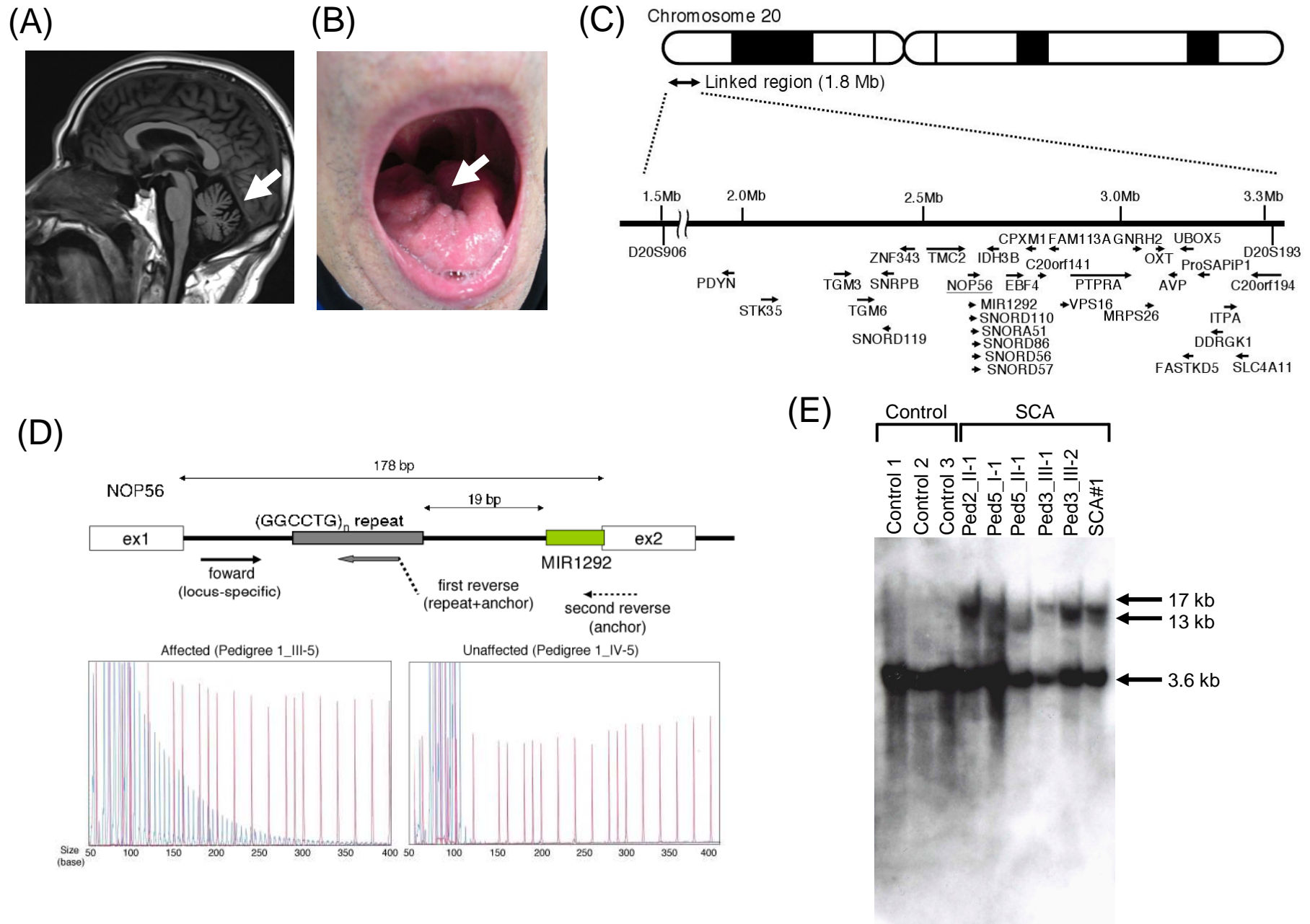


Figure 3

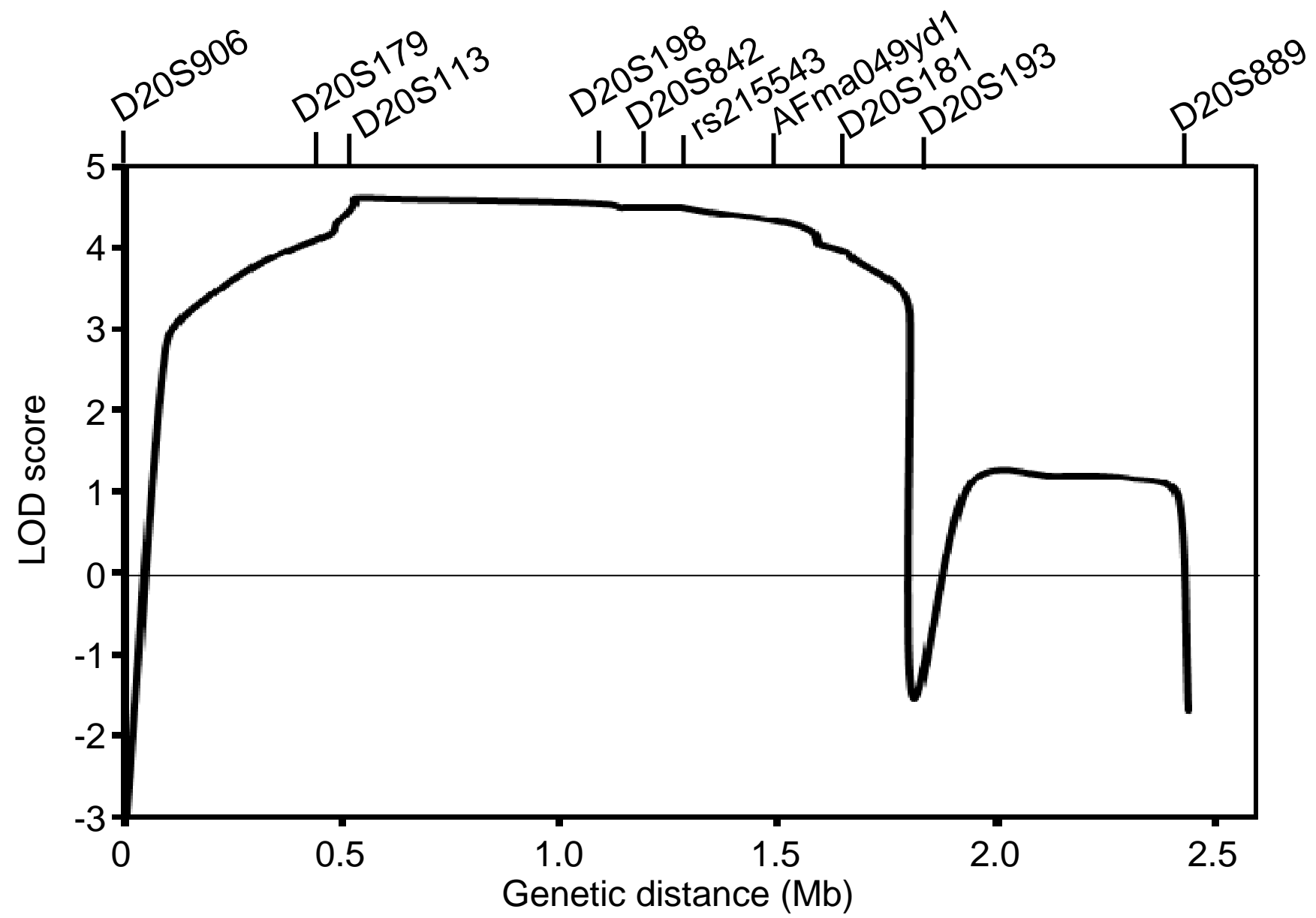
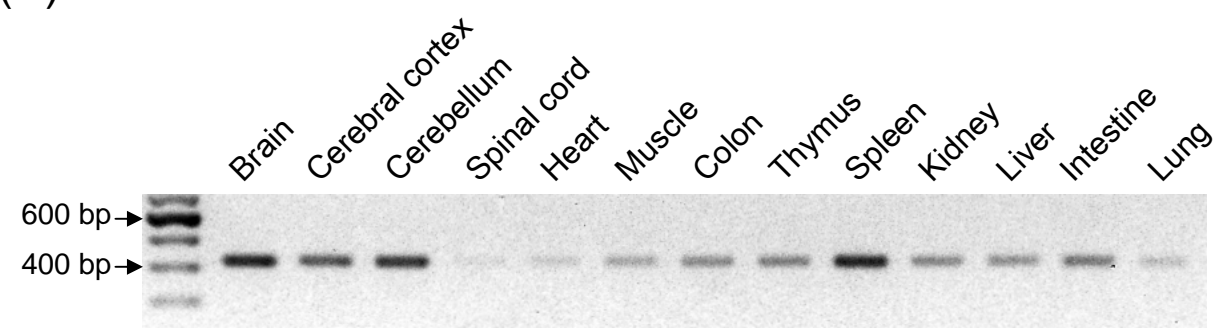
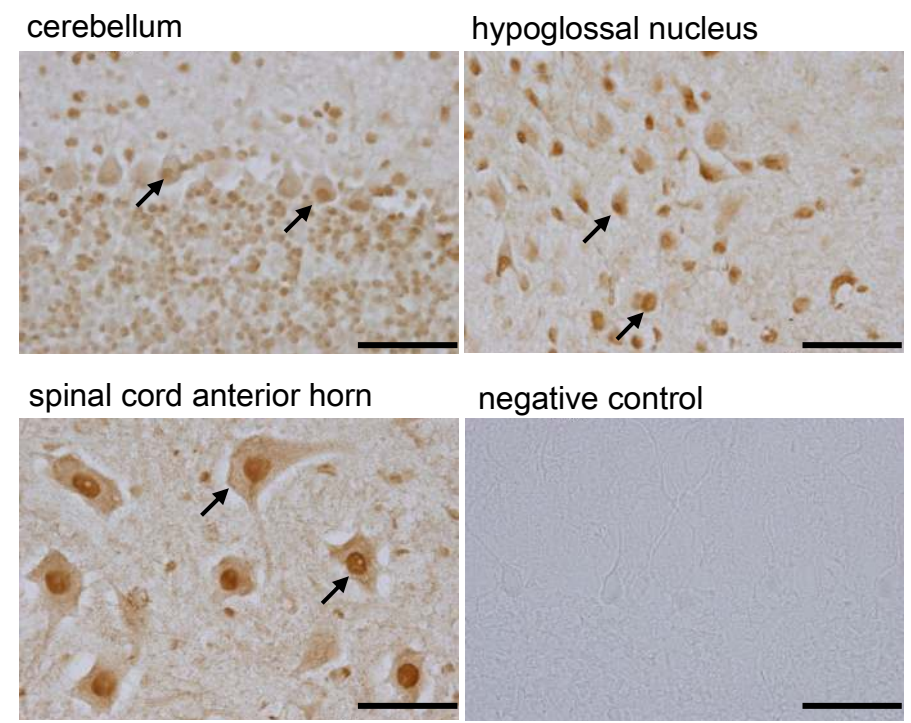


Figure 4

(A)



(B)



(C)

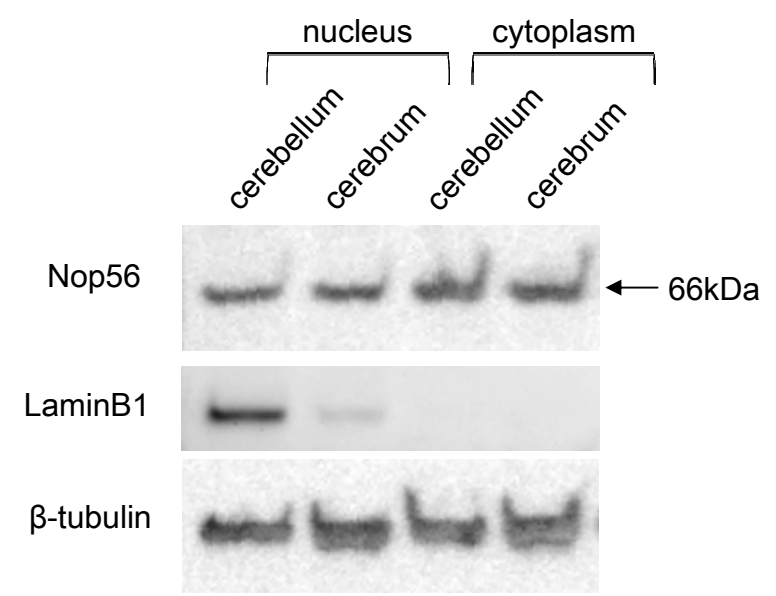
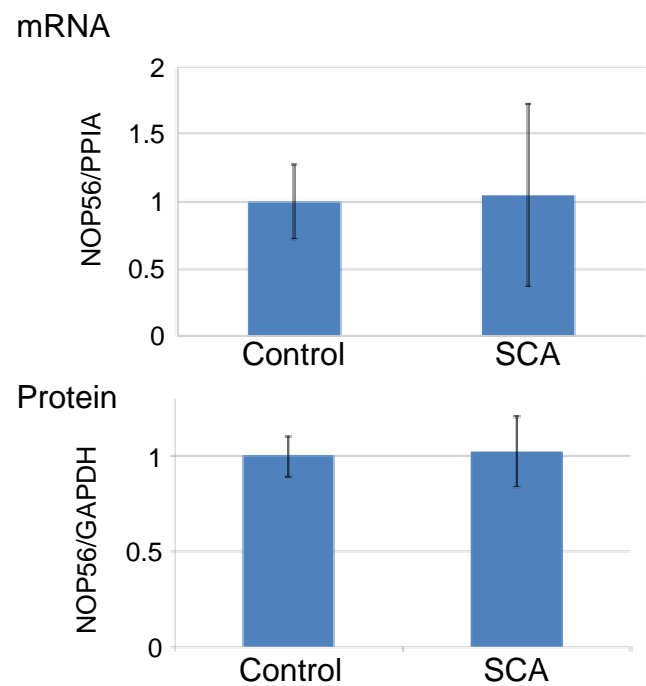
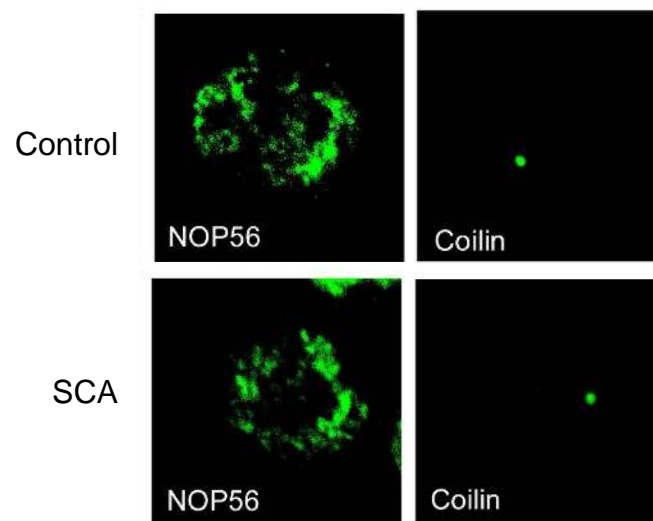


Figure 5

(A)



(C)



(B)

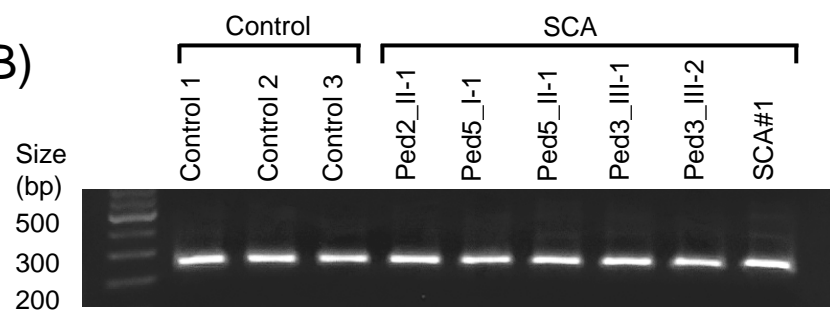
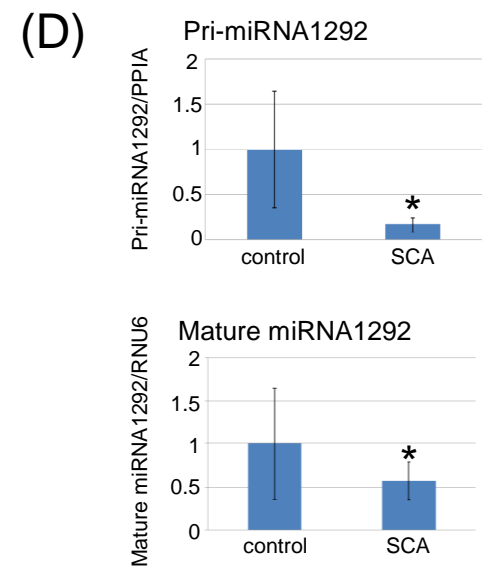
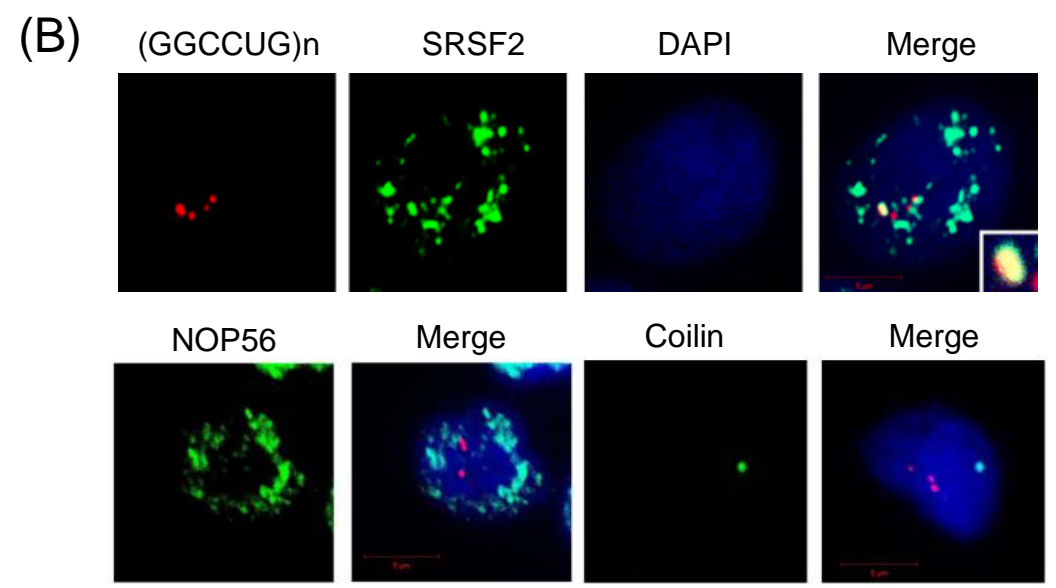
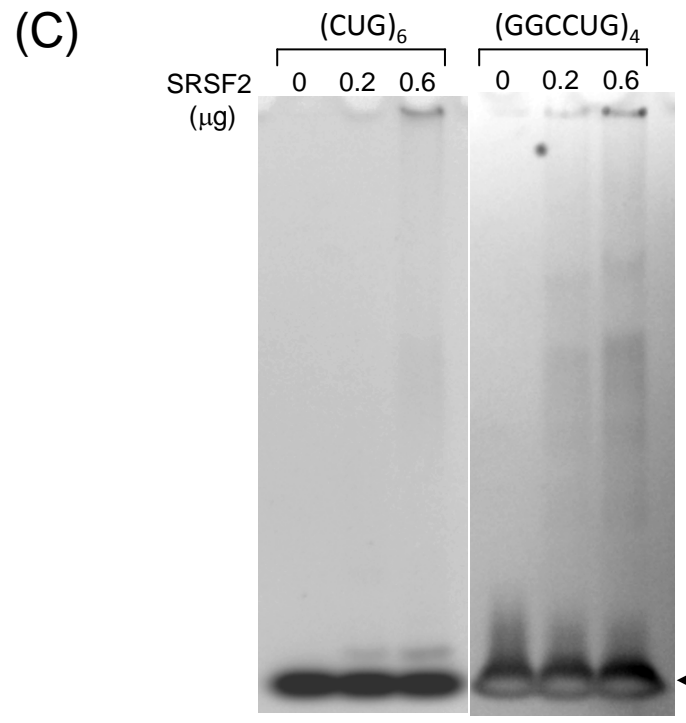
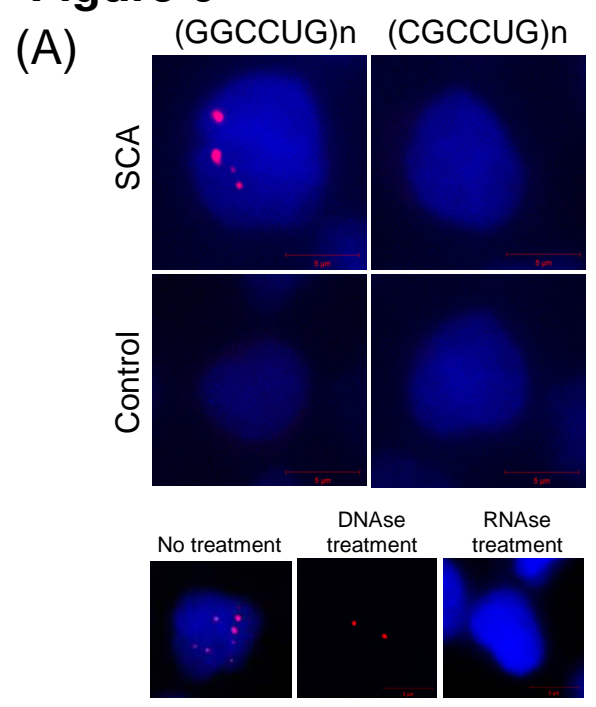


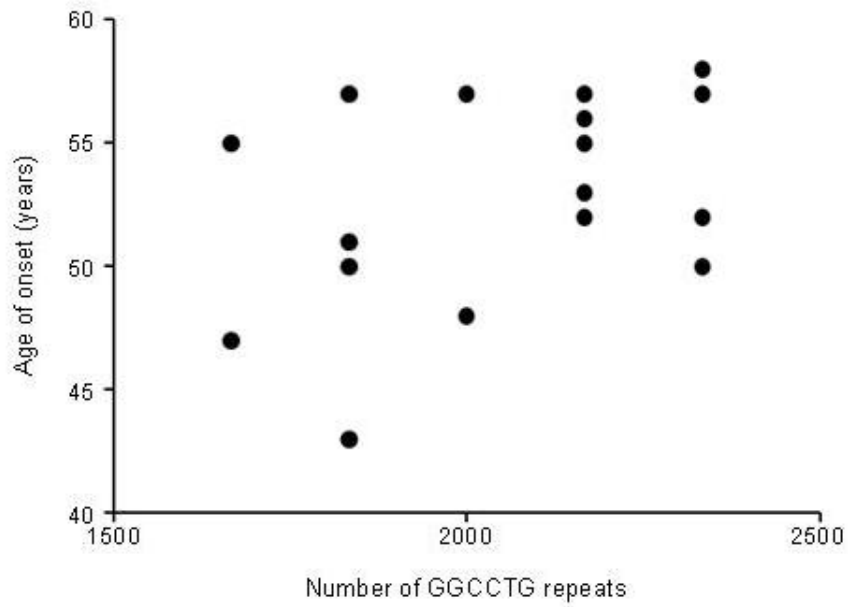
Figure 6



Supplemental Data

Expansion of Intronic GGCCTG Hexanucleotide Repeat in *NOP56* Causes a Type of Spinocerebellar Ataxia (SCA36) Accompanied by Motor Neuron Involvement

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Supplemental Figure 1. Correlation of the Number of Repeats with Age of Onset.

A scatter plot shows no negative correlation between GGCCTG repeat number and onset age (n=17, r=0.42, p=0.09).

Supplemental Table 1. Primers used for amplification of candidate genes (Human build 37.1)

<i>PDYN</i>	exon 3	CTTTGGCCTCTGCTTACCT	TCCAGGCCATCTATAGGGCA	
	exon 4	TCCCCTACCTTTATGCACCA	AACATACTCCACCGCAGAAGA	
<i>STK35</i>	exon 1	CGGATCACGGGAATTTTCG	ATTGGCTGAATAAGTTCGGCT	
	exon 2	TGGCTTCCGCTTAAAGGG	CAGGAAAGGAGGGGTGTGCA	
	exon 3	GTCCCTTGGAGCAAGTGTGTT	AATCACTTGAACCTCGGAGGT	
	exon 4	TCTCTTTAGACCTCTGCCCA	TTGCCCAATTGAATTCTT	
	exon 5			
<i>TGM3</i>	exon 1	TTATTA TCTGCCCTTCTCC	CTCTGGCTAGCACCTTAAAT	
	exon 3	AACAGGATGCACAGAGGTTCA	TCCCTCTGATTTGAGGATGG	
	exon 4	TGGCTGTATGTTTGTCCA	TTGGGCTTGGAGAGATAGAA	
	exon 5	TCAGGGAGGGCTAAAGGT	AGGTGGCCAAATGAAAGTCTT	
	exon 6	TTCTGTGGTCTTGCCAGT	TGTAAAGAGGTGTGGTGCCTA	
	exon 7,8	TTCAA TCA TGGCCTTTGGCT	AATCAGCATTGCCAAGCAAT	
	exon 9	TGTTGTATGCTGCACTGTGTG	TTGTTTAAATCCCATCATGCA	
	exon 10	GGTTGCAATGGTCTTGAA	GCAATCCTATCATTCAGCA	
	exon 11	TGAAAGTGAATGCCTGCTA	TCCAAGCATTAATACATGGC	
	exon 12	AGATCTCTCCACCAAGCTCA	AAAACCTCTCTTTGCCCTCTG	
	exon 13	TCTCCCTTCTTCACTCTCA	CCAAACCAATGCAAAAGCAAG	
	exon 14	CTCCATCAGAACAGGACAGGA	CACTCCCTTTGGACAATTGAA	
	<i>TGM6</i>	exon 1	TGATTTTGTGTCTGTGGGTG	AGTTCATGTGTCTGTGGTGA
		exons 2,3	ATGAACAAATGACTGGCCGA	TAAAGTCTTGGCCAGCTCTTG
exon 4		AAAGCCCTCTTGA CTTCT	CCTGGCCAGTGAATAGTGA	
exon 5		TTGAGGAAGGGTTTCCAAGAC	CAGCGAATTAATAACAAAGGG	
exons 6,7		AAAAGCAAGAGTGA CCCCAGAT	AGATTCAGGAGACTGGGCT	
exons 8,9		GATTCACAACATGCA GCCACA	AAATAAGGCACTTGGCTCAGA	
exon 10		GAGAATCAACAAAGGCATG	AAAGGCACTGACCAATAGCT	
exons 11,12		TGGCCCTTAGGTTTCTCAT	ATAGTCTGTGGCTGGTCTCT	
exon 13		ATGTCAAGCCACAAGGTGAA	AGATGAAGGTTGGAGAGGCTC	
<i>SNRPB</i>		exon 1	AGCAGCTCTCACTA CCGATTT	CGCCAAGGCTGTGTCTT
	exon 2	GTGGCATGGGAAATTTCTA	AGCGTTCAATGTCCCATTT	
	exon 3	GGGCTATCTTGGGAAAGTTTG	CCTCTTGCAGGGTAACCTCTT	
	exon 4	AATGGTGTGGCA CACATGGA	CTTTTCACTTGTCTTACGGGC	
	exons 5,6 (<i>SNORD119</i>)	TGGTCTGAGAGTGTAGCAT	GCCCCAAGAAATATAGCTCAAG	
	exon 7	ACATAAGGAAGCCAGTCAAGCT	GGGAAGAAAGTGAAGATCAGGG	
<i>ZNF343</i>	exons 3,4	GATGGAGACTCCGTTTGTGT	TCAAGAAAGCCTAATGCTTCA	
	exon 5	TGTCAAAGGCCCTA GAAATGTTG	TAGAAAGTAAAGCCCATGGAG	
	exon 6	TTTGCAAGGGGAGAGATG	TTATGGCTGCAACTCAATGG	
	exon 7-1	GGCATGGCAGTAAACATTC	TCAACAAGCTTCGTCCACA	
	exon 7-2	GTGTGGCAAGCTTTAGAA	TACAAGGCTCTACTCCCAT	
<i>TMC2</i>	exons 1,2	AATCTCAAACCAAGAAAGCCCC	TCCATGTTAAACACCTTGGC	
	exon 3	TTTGGGTTGTCTGTCTGA	TTCTGGGATGAAAGAACCCAC	
	exon 4	TAGAATTTGGCCTCCGCT	AGTCTCCGAGTCTTCCATG	
	exon 6	TTCTGCCTACCATGCCTGTTA	AAATGGCAAGTACGATTTGG	
	exon 7	CGTTGGGAAAGTAAAGGTTTG	TGGCCTGACAAAGTCAAAAC	
	exon 8	TTCACTTTCTGACTGTGGCA	CAAATTACTTTGCAACCAAGC	
	exon 10	AGCTGAGACTGTGCTATTGCA	TGCAAGACATGGTTTGA	
	exon 11	AGGAGTGAAGGGAAGAAACA	ATGGCCTGGTCTATGCTTT	
	exon 12	TGTCCTGGCTATCCTCAAAGC	ACCAAGCAAGAACATCTTA	
	exon 13	ACCAAGTCTGACACATGGTGA	GTTGTAAGAACAGGTTCCCA	
	exon 14	CATGTTGATGCCTTTGCCA	AAACAATGGTCACTTTGGTTC	
	exon 15	TGAAAGCCTGAGAAAGGAAAT	CAAGAGATTTGGAGTTCCCA	
	exon 16	TCCGCTCTCTTCAACACAA	AGGAGCTCAGCAACTTGT	
	exon 17	TGCAAGGCCTGAAAGATAGA	CAGAAACTGTCTGCTTCTCA	
	exon 18	ATGGTTCTGGCTGATGATCG	ATTAGTTGGCATTGTGGTG	
exon 20	TCTGGTTCTTCCAGGAAAGCA	CCATGCAATTTCTCTTCCCT		
exon 21	CAAGACCTTCTCCACATGGA	TGCATGCTGTGAATCTCACA		
exon 22	AATCGCTTGAAGCCAGGA	ATTCACCTGCCAAGCTTCT		
exon 23	AGTGAATCCGACAGCTCTCA	TCAAGCAGTCCACCCACTT		
<i>NOP56</i>	exons 1,2 (<i>MIR1292</i>)	TTCCCAAGTCGTTTCCGC	A TCTAGAGCTTCCAGGCC	
	exons 3,4	TGAAGGAAGTGGAGGATCA	CCTTGAAGCTGTGAAAGACAA	
	exons 6,7	TGATGGGAGGGATCTAGGTA	AACACAGCTGTGGTAAAGCA	
	exon 9-1	TGGATCTTTGTCCTTTCC	TGGTCAAGCACTCCGTTGA	
	exon 9-2 (<i>SNORD86</i> , <i>SNORD56</i>)	ATGCTGGCAAGCTTCAACAA	CAGACAGTCACTCACTCCA	
	exon 9-3 (<i>SNORD57</i>)	GGAGAAAGCTTGAAGCAAGT	AAAAGAAAGCCCAAGCTGTG	
exon 9-4	TGGCTGAGGTAATTTCTCAT	ACTGAGGCTGTCAATTGCTGC		
<i>SNORD110</i>	exon 1	TCTGCTTCTGTTCGATTCG	TCAAGGGAAAGCAACAGTTC	
<i>SNORA51</i>	exon 1	CCACCCATAAATCTGGAGCTT	TGCAAAAGGCCACAGTCACT	
<i>IDH3B</i>	exons 1,2	AAAAGGAGAAACAGGGCTGA	ACGGATCTGGGATGAGAGAA	
	exons 3,4	AATCTGGCTGGGCTCTCT	TGGTTCCTGGAGTAAATA	
	exons 5,6	TTACTGATGTGGGATGGGA	TCAAGCACATCAAACTGGT	
	exons 7,8,9	CCCCAAAATCAAAATTTGAGAC	AGATGAAGAAAGCCCTGAGA	
	exon 12	ATCCTGGCTCTCTTCCATT	AAAGGCGGTTGGCAAGA	
<i>EBF4</i>	exon 1,2	GGAAATCGGGAGTACAGTCA	TCAAGAAATCTACCGGGCA	
	exon 3	TCCAACATTCAGGCTATCA	TTGAGTCTCAAGGGAGTCAAG	
	exon 4	TTTTTGGCCAAACTCTTGGC	GGACAAGATGGGAGGATGCT	
	exon 5,6	AAAGTTGGGTTAGGAGAAAGGG	TAGAACAGAGGGCAAAAGCCA	
	exon 7	TAGCTTGGGAGATGCCA	TAAACAGGCCAGGCTAATGG	
	exon 8	ACATCAGCACCTCAAGCTCA	TCCAGAAAGTTGGCACT	
	exon 9	CCATGATGGGATAATGGGAT	ACAAGTTGAGAAAGGAGTGGC	
	exon 10,11,12	TTTTTTGACGCGCTGGGGA	AAATGTTCAAGGTTGAGATGG	
	exon 13,14	GAGTTTTCCGGGGACTTG	TGCTGAAAGGCTGTGATGC	
	exon 15,16	AGFAACCAAGGATGGCGCTC	CGGCAAGAAAGGCTAAAGGT	
	exon 17	AACAAGATGACCCAGGTTGCA	AAGAGCAAGTTAGCCAGCAT	
exon 18	AAAGTCTATATCCCTGCC	AGGCTTGAACACAGGATGAA		
<i>CPXM1</i>	exon 1	TCTGTGTGGTCACTTGTG	TGTGTGATGTGTGTGAGTGC	
	exon 2	TGCTGTGGGCTCACATGTC	TAAAGTTGCTCTCCGCTA	
	exon 3	AACTTACAGCTCACTTCCCA	GACACAGGACATGGTGGTCA	
	exon 4,5	ATGGTCTCAGGGTAAAGGAGG	AAGGCAAGATGATGTGGGA	
	exon 6	TCTAGCTGACCCACTAGGGT	AAAAGGTTGTCCACAGTGA	
	exon 7	AGTCAAGCCAGGTTGGT	TGATGCTCTGTTGTTC	
	exon 8,9	ACTCTGTCTTCTGCCCTGGT	GAACAGAGCCAGCACTGTA	
	exon 10	TGAAAGTGTCCCTCAGAGAGG	CCTGTGTCTTCCAGACAAT	
	exon 11,12	TTCAATGTTCCATGGAGCTCA	TGGTACTGTAGCAAGAGCTG	
	<i>C20orf141</i>	exon 1	CACCAAGCTGCTTATGAGTCA	TGCTGCCACTTACCTATGGA
exon 2		TGGCAGGTGGCAATTGTA	TTGGCTCCCTGGTATGAT	
<i>FAM113A</i>	exon 2	TCACTCTCTCTTATGCAATT	ACTGGACGGAACAGACCAAGA	
	exon 3	TCTGTCCGTCCAATAGGTTT	TTGAGCAAGGACCATATCTGT	
	exon 4-1	ATCAACTCTGCTCTGGGAT	TTTCCACTCTCACACCCAT	
	exon 4-2	CGGAGCAATATTTCTGTCCA	TCAAAGGCTAAGCCATCAA	
	exon 4-3	TGTAACACTTGGTAGCCAGGA	TTGTTTTAGTTAGGCTTGGGA	
	exon 4-4	AAAGGACACACTTTGGGCTTG	TCCAGGTGACTTCTGTGTT	
exon 4-5	TCTTTGGCCCTAGCACT	GGAGGGCACATTCATGATT		
<i>VPS16</i>	exon 1	AAGTGAAGCTGCCACAGT	TGTGGCTAAGTGGCAGA	
	exon 2,3,4	AGCCTTGTGGAAGCAAAATGGA	CGAAACCAACTCAGTGTGAA	
	exon 5,6,7,8	GACACTTCAAGTGGCAATGTA	CGAATCAAGGAAGTGTGCTC	
	exon 9,10,11	GCTGTCCGAGACAAAGGATTA	TGGAAGCAGATGTGTCTTCA	
	exon 12	TGGGTTACTATTGGGAGGATTTCT	TGGAGATAAGCCCGCTT	
	exon 13,14	TATAGCCAGTATCCCTGTGACG	TGTTGGGTTACAGGCAATGA	
	exon 15,16,17,18	TAAAGGCTTGCAGGATGGA	AACAAGAAAGGCTGATTCCT	
	exon 19,20,21	ATCCCTCTAGGACATCAGATGG	AGCTGACAGGAGATGAA	
	exon 22,23	GGGTTGGGGATTAATATGTA	GGAAACACATGAGTGTGCTGT	

<i>PTPRA</i>	exons 1,2,3,4	ATCCAGATGTTTGTGACACCC	ACAGTGAAGGACAGATGGAGT	
	exons 5,6,7	AGCCATCCCTCTAGGACATCA	TGCCCTGCCCAAAATGTGTAT	
	exons 8,9	TGGTTTAGGTGATTTCTGCCC	GCTTCTCTGGTAACCTGTGGA	
	exon 12	TGCCCTGGCTACTTTTGTGGA	ATGCCACCACTCTGGCTAAT	
	exon 15	TGAGGAGCATGCAATATCAAGG	CAATGCTGAGCAATCAATCC	
	exon 16	TGTTGAGGGGGATTGGTCT	CTTCACTCATGCTAACCCAAA	
	exon 17	CCAGACCACTGTCCAAAAGTIT	AGGGGAAAACAACAACAAGA	
	exon 20-1	CACTCAATAAGCCCTGGCAT	TGGGCTTGGACAGATGGAA	
	exon 20-2	TTCCAAGTGTGCCAAGGGTAA	TGGAAGCTAAAACGGGGTCTA	
	exon 21	TCTTACAGGCTTGGTCCATGA	GGTGAAGCAAACTCACTTCA	
	exon 24	TAAAGGAGCTTGTGGCTGTTTC	ACCTTGGCTTCCAAAGTCT	
	exon 25	TGGCATCTTTATACAAGCGTG	ACATGGGAAACCATAGGGAA	
	exon 27	CCTGGCTGGATTTCTTATT	CAAGGACAGAGGGCCTTATTA	
	exon 28	CCTGGCACATACATGGTAA	TCTAGGCACACACTGAGGTT	
	exon 29	AAAGAGTCAAGGGCCCTTCT	TTTCCACAGTCTTGGTCA	
	exon 30	TTTTAGTCTGACCCCTGCCA	TAATCTGGAGGACTGCCCTA	
exon 31	TTCTAGCTGGAGGTCAAGATT	TTGGGGCTAGGGTACAGATT		
exon 32	TGCATTCAAGTCCCACTTCA	AGTGTATCCAACTGCGAGGAT		
exons 33,34	CCAAGTGAACATATGGGAAACA	AGTGGTGGTGGATCAAT		
exon 35	CAGAAAGCAACCAAGCTGTCA	TTGGGAGAGCTAATGACTGC		
exons 36,37	ACGAAAGCTATCAAGGTAAGA	TAGCAATCCATCTGTCTGG		
exon 38	TGAGTCCCTCCACAGCAT	TATGCTCCCATGCTGCCAT		
exon 39	CAGAAGCTCAAGTGAAGTTC	TTTCTGGCTGAGGATTTCA		
<i>GNRH2</i>	exon 2,3	GCAAGAGAGGGAAGGGATAA	TGAGAAATGGCTGGGGT	
	exon 4	TAGCTGGATCTCTCAAGCTTCT	GGGGCCATCCCTTAGTACT	
<i>MRPS26</i>	exon 1	TTCCGTTCCAGAGGCCACA	TTCTCTGCACTCGGACA	
	exon 2,3	TTACAGCACTACCCGACGA	TTTGGCCTGACTGGCACT	
	exon 4	AGAAGCAAGGAGCTGCTTCTCA	TGCGTTGGAAAGTCTGAC	
<i>OXT</i>	exon 1	AAATGAAGAGGAAAGCCCGTA	TCAAAAATCCGCTCACTCT	
	exon 2,3	GGAGCTGAGCGGATTTTGA	AGAACAGCAACCCGCTCTGT	
<i>AVP</i>	exon 1	TGTCCCAAGTGCCTGAAT	ATGCCATGCTCCCTTCT	
	exon 2,3	AAACCAAGTGGCGAGCAGAT	TCCCACTCTCTCCCTTTC	
<i>UBOX5</i>	exon 4	AAGGAAAGTCAAGTGTGACCG	TGATTTCTAGAGGTGACCTGC	
	exon 5-1	CCTGATCTGGGACAAATTCAGT	TGCGGTTACACTTCTCCAGT	
	exon 5-2	AGAAGCTGGCCGAGTCAATT	TCTGAAAGACAAAGCTGAGGGG	
	exon 6	TACCTCCCGGTGTTCTGTCAT	AGGGTGGGTGTGGAACTGA	
	exon 7	CCACTCCCTCACTGATCAAGA	AGCCAGAAAGCAATGTGCTAT	
<i>FASTKD5</i>	exon 2-1	TCATTTGTGATCCCTGGCTC	ATGCTGCTCTGACGGCAAA	
	exon 2-2	CCGTGTTACAGCTATAATGC	ATGTGATCCAGTGAAGTAA	
	exon 2-3	AGGTGGTACCACTCTGTTGG	ATACCAAGCAATTCAGACCC	
	exon 2-4	AGGGTTGTGACGGTAACTCA	AACTCTACCAACGGTACCCA	
	exon 2-5	TAGCAGATAAATCAAGGGCCA	TAGCTCTAACTGCTTGGAT	
<i>ProSAP1</i>	exon 1	ATTCTTCACTTGGATGCT	CACAAACCAACCTCCAAGAA	
	exon 2-1	GGGAACTTCAAGGTGAAAT	AGCTTCCGATGAGTCACTG	
	exon 2-2	TCCAGCAAGAGTGGTGTG	ATTGATTTTGTGCCCTCTG	
	exon 3	TTGAGTCCAGGCAAGGAAAT	AGGGAGGAACTGGTCAACA	
<i>DDRKG1</i>	exon 1	GGACATACCGTCTGATAAATTC	TTGGAGTGCAGAGAAAGGGGTA	
	exon 2	CCTTGCCAGTCAAGCTGAGA	AACAATAAGCAAGTCCCAA	
	exons 3,4	AGTGAATTTGCAAGTGGGT	AGGGACCAATAAACAAGGA	
	exons 5,6	TTGGGGAAATGGAAATG	GGGTTGGAGGGAGAGAACT	
	exons 7,8	TACAGTGTTTTCCAGCCACC	TCCTCTGTGACTGCAATCCA	
	exon 9	TGATTCGACTCTCTCAAGCAG	TTATCTAGGTCTTGGGGCA	
	<i>ITPA</i>	exon 1	AGAGAAAGCGGAAAGCAAGG	TTCTTCCGCCCAAGCTTTT
		exon 2,3	GTAAGCTTTTGAAGATGGGCA	CGGTCTTAGAAAGCTCAACA
		exon 4	CCAAAGTTAAGAGATGGCCG	AAAGAAAGGCAATGCTTCTC
exon 5		TGCTGGGATTAAGGCGGGA	TACAGGGTACGAGCTGCAAGT	
exon 6		CCGCTAACCAATTGAGA	TGAAAGCTGGAAAGGCTGA	
exon 7		AGCAAAACATTTGCAAGTCT	AGATTTCTGATGTCACCCCA	
exon 8		ACTCCCTTCTCTGGGGT	TCCACTTCCAGAGTTTCTCA	
<i>SLC4A1</i>		exon 1	AGTCAAGCTTTTCCAGAAAG	CAGAGCCCTAATGAACA
	exon 2,3	TTTTGGACCAACGGCTCTG	AGATAGGGGAGCAAGCCA	
	exon 4,5	TTCTCCGCTATGGGATG	TCCTGGAAGCAATGGGAAGA	
	exon 6,7	TGATGGCTTCCCTGAGAAAT	TCTTCTCCCAAGTGGTGG	
	exon 8	TTTTCCCTCCCTAGCAGAGG	CAACATGTTCTGACACCCCA	
	exon 9,10,11	AAAACCTGCTGCCAGTTCATG	AAATGGCTGCCAGAGAAAGA	
	exon 12	ATCGCTTTCCGGTCTCTCAA	TTGGGGACCAATATGGT	
	exon 13	ACCATAATGCTGCCCAA	TTGATCAGGGGACACACT	
	exon 14,15,16	TTGATCAGGGGACACACT	TTCAACAGCTGACAGCA	
	exon 17,18	TTGGTGAATGACCGGAGAA	ACCTTCCGGTGTAGTGTGT	
exon 19,20	CTCTATGGCTTCTCTCAACAT	AGTCAACCAACACCTACACCT		
<i>C20orf194</i>	exon 2	TTAAGAAGTGGGTCCTGT	TGAGCCGTCAAGCAAGAA	
	exon 3	ATCCCCAGCAAGTCAATCCT	ACAAATTTGGGGGACAAG	
	exon 4	GTTTCTGGCACAACCTGGT	ACTGGGCTTTGGACTATTT	
	exon 5	TTTGGTTTACAAGGCAAGTG	TCCTTTTGTCTCCAGGGCA	
	exon 6	CTTTGGAAACAACCTCTGGGT	TTGCAAGAAAGTCCCAAT	
	exon 7	TTTTGCTAGGTGAGCCCT	TAACTGCTTCAATGCCCTGT	
	exon 9	TCTGTATGTGCAATGTGTATGT	TGACCGAAGCAACTAAATATCC	
	exon 10	GAGATTATCCATAGGATGCA	GGGGGAACTACTTTATGGTAT	
	exon 11	CACTCTCTGAGCAATGTGTGTA	GCAGAGAAACAGACATTTACAG	
	exon 12	CTAGCTTGAAGTTAGTATGTCCC	GGGTTAAATCAACACTAAGCTG	
	exon 13	CCATCCTCATGACAGAGTAAAGC	ATCCAGAAATCAAGAGGGGAG	
	exon 14	TGGGGCAGAAAGCTAAACTG	TTATGTTGCCAGGCTGGT	
	exon 15	GCCCAAGCATGTGACTTTT	TGGTGTCAAAGAGGCCCAA	
	exon 17	TCATGCCTACCAAGTATCAT	TTTTGGCTTCTAAGTGAAGCTG	
	exon 18,19	AAAGGATGACACACCTCACTGT	TGGGATAGGACTGAGAGATCA	
	exon 20	AAAGTCACTCCAGTCAAGAA	AGTGCAGTGTGTGATCATCA	
	exon 21	AGCTCCTGAGAAAGGCAATTT	AACAGCTAGTCAAGGCTGACAT	
	exon 22	ACATGGAATGCTGGAGGGA	AGGGGAGAAATGCAAAATGGA	
	exon 23	ATACATTTGGGCAATCTGAGCCT	TCACTCAAAAGTGGGTGGT	
	exon 24	CACAGGCTCAGCATACAAATC	TGTGCTGGTCTGACACTGT	
	exon 25	AGCACATCTAATCTGAAACCAAG	ATTAGAGCAAGTCAACCCACA	
	exon 26	TCAGGCTCTATTTTGAAGCA	GCAAGTGGCAGCATTTGAA	
	exon 27,28	GTGTTTGGAGAGTGTACTCTG	AAAGGAGTGGAGAGTCTGTAA	
	exon 29	TGGCCTAAGGTCAAGAGTATGT	TACAGGAAGTCTCAGAGAGCAT	
exon 30	CCAAGATGGCTTCTCTGAATG	CTGCTCATGATGAGGCTGT		
exon 31	AGATTGGGGCTCTCTCTTT	TCCAAAGGGGTCTATTGAGGA		
exon 32	CATGGCTACTCTATGTCTCAGT	GCTCTTGGAGAAATGTGCCTA		
exon 33	TATTGGGGTGAAGGTGTGTCT	TGGCTCAAATACTGACTTCTC		
exon 34	ATTACCTGGGTATGATGGCACA	TTTGTGCTACAGGATGATT		
exon 35,36	GAGGGGTTTCACTTGTATG	TTTCTGAGAGTCTGACGACAT		
exon 37	ACCTACTCCATCTTCTAAGCTG	TCTCTCAAAGTGTCCCTGCAA		
exon 38	TTATATCCAGGCCATAAGGCA	AAATTTGTGACGAGCTTCCCT		
exon 39	AGGCAAGGCTTGAAGTIT	TTTGGCCCTGTGACTTCT		
exon 40	ACAAAGAGTCCATCAGGTCCCT	ACAAATGCACTCAAGCCA		

Supplemental Table 2. Variants identified by candidate gene sequencing

Gene	Position (NCBI 37.1)		region	position		rs	SNPs	Wild-type	Ped1_IV-4	Ped3_III-1	Ped2_II-1	Ped4_II-1	Ped5_II-1		
	Start	End		NT_011387.8	Chr (V37.1)										
<i>PDYN</i> NM_024411.2	1959402	1974702							No variation	No variation	No variation	No variation	No variation		
<i>STK25</i> NM_080836.3	2082528	2129201	exon 1	2022732	2082732	rs6112857	Arg69Cly	CC	GG	GC					
				2022767	2082767	rs6106228	Gln80Cln	GG	AG	AA					
			exon 3	2037688	2097688	rs1891227	Ala423Ala	TT	CT	CC					
<i>TGM3</i> NM_003245.3	2276613	2321725	intron 12	2255929	2315929	rs2076406	IVS12+10	GG	AA	AA					
			exon 7	2237790	2297790	rs214814	Ser249Asn	GG	GG	GA					
<i>TCM6</i> NM_198994.2	2361554	2413399	5' near gene	2301505	2361505	rs9680025	5' near gene	AA	AG	GG	AG	AG	GG		
			intron 1	2301684	2361684	rs2422753	IVS1+63	CC	CT	CC	CT	CC	CC	CC	
			exon 2	2315262	2375262	rs2076405	M58V	TT	TC	CC	CC	TC	CC	CC	
			intron 2	2315440	2375440	rs7266902	IVS2+169	GG	GT	TT	GT	GT	TT	TT	
			exon 6	2320323	2380323	rs6114033	lys263Lys	GG	GG	GA	GA	GG	GG	GG	
			intron 6	2320396	2380396	rs2076404	IVS6+12	CC	TT	CT	CT	CT	CT	CT	CT
				2320628	2380628	-	IVS6+242	CC	CC	CC	CT	CC	CC	CC	CC
				2320629	2380629	-	IVS6+243	GG	GA	GG	GG	GG	GG	GG	GG
			2324151	2384151	rs6137891	IVS8+5	GG	GA	GA	GA	GA	GA	GA	GA	
			intron 8	2338017	2398017	rs2295077	Lys492Lys	CC	CT	CT	CT	TT	CT	CT	CT
			2351368	2411368	rs2076648	IVS12+121	CC	CC	CC	CC	CC	CC	CC	CC	CC
			intron 2	2351737	2411737	rs11470465	IVS12+64	GA/GA	-/GA	-/GA	-/GA	-/GA	-/GA	-/GA	GA/GA
				2353125	2413125	rs2076653	IVS12-11	GG	GA	GA	GA	GA	GA	GA	GG
2353126	2413126	rs6036467	IVS12-10	CC	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT			
2353320	2413320	rs2076652	3'-UTR	AA	AG	AG	AG	AG	AG	AG	AG	GG			
2353472	2413472	rs45610835	3'-UTR	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT	TT	TG			
<i>SNRFB</i> NM_003091.3	2442281	2451499	5' near gene	2391504	2451504	rs6049290	5' near gene	CC	CC	TC					
			5' near gene	2391503	2451503	rs4815262	5' near gene	AA	AA	GA					
			exon 1	2391451	2451451	rs6049288	5'-UTR	GG	GG	TG					
			intron 3	2384665	2444665	rs73606142	IVS3-120	TT	CT	TT					
<i>SNORD119</i> NR_003684.1	2443598	2443693						No variation	No variation						
<i>ZNF343</i> NM_024325.4	2462463	2489778	intron 3	2414176	2474176	-	IVS3-11	TT	TT	TC					
			intron 4	2413587	2473587	rs41308639	IVS4-22	AA	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT		
			exon 7	2403921	2463921	-	Leu565Leu	TT	TT	TA					
<i>TCM2</i> NM_080751.2	2517253	2622430	exon 3	2539387	2479387	rs6050063	Arg123Lys	AA	AG	AG					
			intron 3	2539568	2479568	rs4815320	IVS3+148	TT	TA	TA					
			intron 4	2542669	2482669	rs7270277	IVS4+13	CC	CT	CC					
			2542747	2482747	rs4815323	IVS4+91	GG	GT	GG						
			intron 6	2552926	2492926	rs1883980	IVS6+11	AA	AG	GG					
			2559778	2499778	rs6083735	IVS6-14	GG	QC	CC						
			intron 9	2572816	2512816	rs6050433	IVS9-139	TT	TG	GG					
			intron 13	2591005	2531009	rs1883978	IVS13-59	TT	GG	GG					
			exon 14	2591232	2531232	rs6050576	Asp527Asp	CC	TT	TT					
			intron 15	2593006	2533006	rs1015159	IVS15+20	AA	AG	GG					
			exon 16	2593863	2533869	rs6515646	Ser589Ser	TT	TC	TC					
			2594254	2534254	rs6115181	non-coding	AA	AG	AG						
			intron 16	2596762	2536762	rs6050622	IVS16-21	GG	GA	GA					
			intron 17	2596969	2536969	rs4621228	IVS17+118	TT	TT	TA					
			exon 18	2597978	2537978	rs4815428	non-coding	GG	GG	GA					
				2598019	2538019	rs6083566	non-coding	CC	CC	CT					
				2598405	2538405	rs13040075	non-coding	GG	GA	GA					
			intron 20	2616556	2556556	rs910271	IVS20-26	TT	TC	CC					
			2616679	2556679	rs2422808	IVS21+29	CC	CG	GG						
			intron 21	2616776	2556776	rs13038659	IVS21+126	TT	TG	TG					
2618094	2558094	rs6037181	IVS21-26	GG	GG	AA									
exon 22	2618140	2558140	rs6083915	Ser802Ser	TT	TT	TT								
intron 22	2618308	2558308	rs6050771	IVS22+71	CC	CC	CC								
exon 23	2561998	2621998	rs6050798	3'-UTR	TT	TT	CT								
<i>NOP56</i> NM_006392.3	2633254	2639039	exon 1	2573296	2633296	rs6138678	5'-UTR	GG	GG	GG	GG	GG	GG		
			intron 1	2573397	2633397	rs68063608	IVS1-25	g.263397_263403[5]	g.263397_263403[6]+(2300)	g.263397_263403[8]+(2200)	g.263397_263403[6]+(2200)	g.263397_263403[6]+(2000)	g.263397_263403[8]+(1700)		
			exon 9	2577071	2637071	rs8958	Thr345Thr	TT	CT	TT	CT	CT	TT		
<i>MIR1292</i> NR_031699.1	2633423	2633488						No variation	No variation	No variation	No variation	No variation			
<i>SNORD119</i> NR_003078.1	2634858	2634932						No variation	No variation						
<i>SNORA51</i> NR_002981.1	2635713	2635844						No variation	No variation						
<i>SNORD86</i> NR_004399.1	2636743	2636828						No variation	No variation						
<i>SNORD56</i> NR_002739.1	2637270	2637340						No variation	No variation						
<i>SNORD57</i> NR_002738.1	2637585	2637656						No variation	No variation						
<i>IDH3B</i> NM_174856.1	2639041	2644843	intron 2	2584407	2644407	rs2073193	IVS2-3	GG	CC	CC					
<i>EBF4</i> NM001110514.1	2673524	2740754	intron 1	2614174	2674174	rs55820831	IVS1-133	AA	AG	AG					
			intron 2	2617329	2677329	rs874688	IVS2-11	TT	TC	CC					
			exon 3	2617566	2677566	rs2325900	non-coding	TT	TT	TC					
			intron 3	2618202:2618203	2678202:2678203	rs11474226	IVS3+5:8	-/-	-/AAAG	AAAG/AAAG					
			intron 12	2670870	2730870	rs6138883	IVS12+236	CC	CC	CC					
			intron15	2672934	2732934	rs60014511	IVS15+49	GG	AG	GG					
			exon17	2676104	2736104	rs13042767	non-coding	GG	CG	GG					
<i>CPXM1</i> NM_019609.4	2774715	2781292	intron 6	2717828	2777828	rs742707	IVS6+10	GG	AG	GG					
<i>C20orf141</i> NM_080739.2	2795657	2735657	exon 1	2736007	2796007	rs12625619	Leu59Leu	GG	AG	AA					
<i>FAM113A</i> NM_022760.3	2815971	2821332	exon 4	2758801	2818801	rs751899	non-coding	TT	TC	CC					
				2758480	2818480	rs2325970	non-coding	AA	AG	GG					
				2757100	2817100	rs78139021	non-coding	TT	TG	TT					
				2756821	2816821	rs2274669	Pro372Pro	CC	CT	CT					

VPS16 NM_022575.2	2821373	2847378	exon 3	2780773	2840773	rs3818605	Ser72Ser	CC	CT	CT
			intron 10	2782685	2842685	rs6051449	IVS10-15	AA	AC	CC
			intron 11	2783053	2843053	rs632080	IVS11-49	AA	AG	GG
			intron 16	2784983	2844983	-	IVS16-28	AA	AC	AC
			intron 17	2785130	2845130	rs730819	IVS17+22	GG	GA	AA
PIPRA NM_002836.3	2844841	3019315	intron 3	2785150	2845150	rs730819	IVS3+22	GG	AG	AA
			intron 26	2936423	2996423	rs1178015	IVS26-73	TT	AA	AA
			exon 27	2936497	2996497	rs1178016	Gly303Gly	CC	TT	TT
			intron 27	2936589	2996589	rs1178017	IVS27+58	GG	TT	TT
			intron 31	2942889	3002889	rs544090	IVS31+23	TT	GG	GG
				2943027	3003027	rs2277756	IVS31+161	TT	CT	CT
			intron 37	2957674	3017674	rs561843	IVS37-126	TT	GG	GG
GNRH2 NM_001501.1	3024268	3026391	exon 2	2965107	3025107	rs6051545	Ala16Val	CC	CT	CT
			intron 3	2966238	3026238	rs6138994	IVS3-94	GG	GT	GT
			exon 4	2966359	3026359	rs71195814	frameshift	-/-	-CCCCCG	-CCCCCG
				2966363	3026363	rs8184100	3'-UTR	CC	CT	CT
			2966415	3026415	rs8184100	3'-UTR	CC	CT	CT	
MRP56 NM_030811.3	3026673	3028896	intron 2	2967220	3027220	rs2277757	IVS3-40	GG	GA	GA
OXT NM_000915.2	3052266	3053162							No variation	No variation
AVP NM_000490.4	3063202	3065370							No variation	No variation
UBOX3 NM_014948.2	3088219	3140540	exon 7	3030848	3090848	rs708973	Arg510Arg	TT	TT	TG
FASTKDS NM_021826.4	3127165	3140532	exon 2	3068403	3128403	rs3746698	Gly438Gly	AA	AG	AA
ProSAP1 NM_014731.2	3143273	3149207	exon 1	3087468	3147468	rs17853865	Asn114Asn	GG	GG	GA
			intron 1	3087024	3147024	rs7260750	IVS1-13	AA	AA	AG
DDRKG1 NM_023935.1	3171012	3185295	intron 1	3124134	3184134	rs2295553	IVS1-73	CC	TC	CC
			intron 4	3116072	3176072	rs7263489	IVS4-73	CC	AC	CC
			intron 5	3115556	3175556	rs2295549	IVS5-42	CC	GC	CC
			intron 7	3112246	3172246	rs2295547	IVS7-16	TT	GT	TT
ITPA NM_033453.2	3190056	3204506	5' near gene	3130039	3190039	rs45620433	5' near gene	CC	CG	CC
			exon 3	3133978	3193978	rs8362	Gln46Gln	GG	GA	GG
			intron 5	3144176	3204176	rs75609817	IVS5-17	GG	GA	AA
			exon 8	3144084	3204084	rs9101	Glu187Glu	GG	GA	GG
SLC4A11 NM_001174089.1	3208063	3219887	5' near gene	3159894	3219894	rs6107260	5' near gene	TT	TC	CC
			exon 1	3159698	3219698	-	5'-UTR	GG	GG	GC
			exon 1	3159692	3219692	rs6084314	5'-UTR	GG	GA	AA
			exon 2	3158634	3218634	rs3810562	Pro26Arg	CC	CG	GG
			exon 3	3158355	3218355	rs3827076	non-coding	GG	GC	CC
			intron 3	3155548	3215548	rs3803957	IVS3-8	GG	GT	GT
			intron 5	3155088	3215088	rs6133022	IVS5+126	GG	GA	AA
			exon 6	3154819	3214819	rs3827075	Arg145Arg	AA	AC	CC
			intron 8	3154126	3214126	rs3803955	IVS8+34	GG	GA	GA
			intron 10	3151719	3211719	rs3803953	IVS10-15	AA	AC	AC
			intron 17	3149371	3209371	rs2281575	IVS17-18	CC	CT	CT
			intron 17	3149357	3209357	rs10048856	IVS17-4	GG	GG	GA
			C20orf194 NM_001009984.1	3229948	3388255	exon 4	3302033	3362033	rs6051818	Val92Val
intron 4	3302009	3362009				rs2008730	IVS4+17	AA	AA	AG
intron 6	3295567	3355567				rs2208030	IVS6+110	AA	AG	AG
exon 11	3264373	3324373				-	Phe265Leu	CC	CG	CC
exon 12	3261244	3321244				rs80335486	Thr296Thr	TT	CT	CT
intron 19	3239054	3299054				rs6139071	IVS19-7	AA	AG	AG
intron 22	3236279	3296279				rs2236115	IVS22+103	GG	AG	AG
intron 23	3236428	3296428				-	IVS23-99	-/-	T/-	T/-
exon 24	3225140	3285140				rs2422864	Arg577Gly	TT	CC	CC
intron 25	3217602	3277602				rs2236104	IVS25-6	CC	CA	CA
exon 27	3215239	3275239				rs2281504	Ser685Ser	GG	AG	GG
intron 34	3180723	3240723				rs6051685	IVS34-49	CC	CG	CG
intron 37	3176554	3236554				rs117680746	IVS37+98	GG	AG	AG
exon 38	3175916	3235916				rs2281496	Lys1092Lys	TT	CT	TT
intron 40	3173142	3233142				rs6037516	IVS40+76	GG	GC	GC

Supplemental Table 3. Primers used for repeat-primed PCR, Southern blotting, and RT-PCR.

For repeat-primed PCR

Primer name	Primer sequence
Forward primer	TTTCGGCCTGCGTTCGGG
First reverse primer	TACGCATCCCA GTTTGAGA CGCAGGCCCA GGCCCA GGCCCA GGCC
Second reverse primer	TACGCATCCCA GTTTGAGACG

For probes for Southern blot analysis.

Primer name	Primer sequence
Forward primer	TTTAAGAGCTTCCAAGGCTGA
Reverse primer	AGTGCCCA CAAGGAAACCGTTA

For quantitation of mouse NOP56 cDNA

Primer name	Primer sequence
mouse NOP56 F	GTTGGCGCTGAAAGGAAGTGG
mouse NOP56 R	CTTTGGCACGAGAGTAGCTG

For quantitation of human NOP56 cDNA

Primer name	Primer sequence
human NOP56 cex4F	TTGCCTTGAAAATGCCAAC
human NOP56 cex6R	TGTATTGCGGCACCAATCTT

For investigation of human NOP56 cDNA splicing variants

Primer name	Primer sequence
human NOP56 cex1F	TAGCCGCA TTGCGAGCCGAA
human NOP56 cex4R	GTTGCCTTGAAAATGCCAA

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Manuscript #: AJHG-D-11-00147

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