QT INTERVAL



What determines the duration of QT interval?





Molecular Cardiology

Genes involved in QT abnormalities







Extended phase two cause long QT syndrome.



SHORT QT SYNDROME





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OPEN ISSUES •Prevalence (probably low) •What is Short QT?

Gain of function of K⁺ channels and ECG





1.

"Mild" genetic defects or incompletely penetrant forms of LQTS predisposing to TdP





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Napolitano C et al. JCE, 2000

Kindred: MA012: Mutation in KvLQT1 gene

Proband: 69 yrs, **a** QTc: 445 ms Gene Carrier

> Son: 50 yrs, QTc: 430 ms Gene Carrier

Son: 44 yrs, QTc: 398 ms Gene Carrier

Nephew: 9 yrs, QTc: 392 ms Non Gene Carrier





Drug-Induced TdP: KCNQ1 mutation





Napolitano C et al. JCE, 2000



Mutation carriers with normal QT interval: 12% incidence of syncope – 4% incidence of cardiac arrest



Napolitano et al JAMA 2005



Common variants of genes called SNPs may predispose to TdP





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Genetic variation: 0.3 % (~10 mill SNPs)





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SNPS Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms



Frequent
Well distributed
Stable
Functional?

Nitric oxyde synthase and QT interval

- Genome-wide association study on 200 subjects at the extremes of a population-based QT interval distribution of 3,966 subjects from the KORA cohort in Germany
- ✓ Validated cohort in two independent samples of 2,646 subjects from Germany and 1,805 subjects from the US Framingham Heart Study.
- This genome-wide study identified NOS1AP (CAPON), a regulator of neuronal nitric oxide synthase, as a new target that modulates cardiac repolarization.

The minor allele of the NOS1AP genetic variant explains up to 1.5% of QT interval variation.



Arking DE et al. Nat Genet 2006

Polymorphisms in LQTS genes and QT interval

The analysis of additive effects by an allelic score explained a 10.5 ms difference in QTc between extreme groups and 0.95% of trait variance (P<0.00005).</p>

Samples from the KORA study



Pfeufer, A. et al. Circ Res 2005;96:693-701



KCNH2 K897T polymorphism is functionally active



Allelic variants and TdP: how often?

"DNA variants in the coding regions of congenital long-QT disease genes predisposing to aLQTS can be identified in 10% to 15% of affected subjects, predominantly in genes encoding ancillary subunits."

Yang et al Ciculation 2002



Genetic variants that modify drug metabolism of QT prolonging drugs.

- Genetic factors may play a very important role in inlfuencing the eficiency of metabolism of QT prolonging drugs.
- Genetic variants of the gene for CYP2D6 are present in poor metabolizers who are more prone to accumulation of compounds.



Conclusions

- Beside gender, drugs and metabolic abnormalities may rpedispose to TdP
- Forme fruste" of LQTS cause approximately 8% of drug induced TdP (Circulation 2002)
- SNPs of genes that regulate QT durations (increase or decrease) are likely to contribute to TdP susceptibility
- SNPs of genes that regulate metabolism of drugs that affect repolarization are likely to play a role in TdP

