

C-1584G Polymorphism in Cytochrome P450 2D6 Promoter Is Not a Sole Determinant of Decreased Activity of CYP2D6*41 *in Vivo*

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Cytochrome P450 2D6 (CYP2D6) is well known to have genetic polymorphism with 44 allelic variations registered to CYP allele nomenclature committee. Among them, CYP2D6*2A and CYP2D6*41 have difference only in 5'-flanking region of CYP2D6 gene with C-1584G mutation in CYP2D6*2A. A previous study suggested that C-1584G mutation in CYP2D6*2A is associated with higher activity of CYP2D6 in vivo than CYP2D6*41. Ninty eight Korean subjects were genotyped at -1584 locus for discrimination between CYP2D6*2 and CYP2D6*41. One and seven subjects were homozygous and heterozygous CYP2D6*41, respectively. From a clinical trial using dextromethorphan as a probe drug, Cyp2D6*41, but not CYP2D6*2, showed a tendency to decrease CYP2D6 activity in vivo. In order to investigate the regulatory role of C-1584G mutation, we cloned 1.8kb-long promoter regions of CYP2D6*2A and CYP2D6*1 type. When the two promoters with either C-1584 or G-1584 were located upstream of luciferase reporter gene, the luciferase activities showed no difference as anticipated from no enzymatic difference between CYP2D6*2A and CYP2D6*1A. To test if single mutation of C-1584G has any regulatory role in CYP2D6 expression, C-1584G mutation was introduced into C-1584 promoter by site-directed mutagenesis. When comparing luciferase activity driven from two promoters different only at -1584 locus, there was no difference. Electro-mobility shift assay revealed that -1584 region could not bind to any transcription factors. These results suggest that C-1584G variant by itself is not functional in the regulation of CYP2D6 expression and C-1584G variant in CYP2D6*2A allele may be not a functional SNP responsible for increase of CYP2D6 activity. Considering that there exist several SNPs tightly linked to C-1584G variant shown in CYP2D6*2A (A-1235G, C-740T, and G-678A), it is likely that there might be unknown functional SNP(s) outside 1.8kb 5'-flanking region of CYP2D6 gene.