

Multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1 caused by mosaic mutation: clinical follow-up and genetic counseling?

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1	Multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1 caused by mosaic mutation:
2	what about clinical follow up and genetic counseling?
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60 Abstract (136/250):

61 MEN1 is an autosomal dominant hereditary syndrome characterized by several endocrine 62 tumors, in most cases affecting the parathyroid glands, pancreas, and anterior pituitary. It is the result of inactivating mutations in the tumor suppressor gene MEN1. More than 1300 63 different mutations have been identified in this gene. Mosaic MEN1 mutations have been 64 65 previously described in only a few patients in the literature. In this paper we provide a review 66 of six cases of MEN1 mosaicism reported in the literature supplemented with six additional cases described by the French TENgen network of laboratories. This review highlights that (i) 67 MEN1 mosaicism is not associated with a mild phenotype, (ii) results in the same natural 68 69 history as heterozygous MEN1 mutation, and (iii) that more systematic detection of MEN1 70 mosaic mutation enables improvements in both patient monitoring and genetic counseling.

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MAIN TEXT

74 BACKGROUND

Multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1 (MEN1) is a rare disease caused by inactivating mutations in the *MEN1* gene (1). MEN1 is characterized by a broad spectrum of clinical manifestations from which the three cardinal lesions are primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT), pituitary neuroendocrine tumors (PitNETs), and neuroendocrine duodeno-pancreatic tumors (2). Other neuro-endocrine tumors (NETs) such as adrenal cortical tumors, bronchopulmonary NETs, or thymic NETs may also be associated. Twenty-eight to 70% of

81 MEN1 patients die due to the disease, particularly due to the pancreatic and carcinoid lesions 82 (3). In 2012 a group of experts provided guidelines for the evaluation, treatment, and genetic 83 testing of MEN1 disease (4). MEN1 is diagnosed based on clinical criteria in all patients with two or more MEN1-related tumors, on family criteria in patients having one MEN1-related 84 85 tumor and a first-degree relative with MEN1, and on genetic criteria in all patients, 86 symptomatic or not, who carry a MEN1 pathogenic variant. The MEN1 diagnosis allows 87 patients to benefit from a multidisciplinary follow-up program which enables early detection 88 and treatment of lesions (4, 5).

89 MEN1 is a tumor suppressor gene (1, 6) and MEN1 pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants are detected in 90% to 95% of family cases, and in 30-45% of sporadic cases bearing 90 91 the classical triad (7, 8, 9). A false-negative genetic test can occur in cases where a *de novo* 92 mutation occurs during postzygotic development, that is, after fertilization. In these cases, 93 only a proportion of cells in the organism harbor the variation; a feature termed mosaicism or 94 somatic mosaicism. In mosaicism, germline genetic testing may be negative if the fraction of 95 mutated alleles in the blood is below the detection threshold. Only a few cases of MEN1 96 mosaicism have been reported in the literature (10, 11, 12, 13, 14). The impact of MEN1 97 mosaicism on patient phenotype and on the natural history of the disease is unknown. Here 98 we review all published cases of mosaicism and additionally consider six unpublished cases 99 from the TENgen group (French network of laboratories working on NETs), in order to clarify 100 the clinical presentation and natural history of MEN1 mosaicism and then discuss appropriate 101 genetic counseling.

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103 REPORT

104 To date, only 6 cases of MEN1 mosaicism have been reported in the literature (see 105 Table). The first description was published by Klein et al in 2005 (10) who used molecular 106 subcloning to identify a MEN1 truncating mutation with a 10 % allele frequency in a 27 year-107 old woman who presented all typical MEN1 lesions (PHPT, prolactinoma, and a pancreatic 108 lesion, patient #1). The second case (patient #2), a woman diagnosed with PHPT at age 52, 109 was reported by Farook *et al* in 2011(11). She presented several recurrences of PHPT and her 110 daughter also developed PHPT, leading to genetic testing. The index case later developed a 111 pituitary microadenoma and two pancreatic lesions. A mosaic mutation in MEN1 was 112 identified at a level of 10% and the same mutation found in her daughter at the heterozygous 113 level. Mauchlen et al also reported a case of MEN1 mosaicism with 15 % of mutated alleles in 114 a 43-year-old patient with a parathyroid adenoma and pancreatic gastrinoma (patient #3) 115 (12).

116 The three other cases were reported in relatively older patients. Two were identified 117 by Coppin et al (13) using NGS. The first was a patient who developed PHPT at age 57 and a 118 pancreatic NET at age 66 (patient #4). The mutation (6 % mutated alleles) had previously been 119 identified at the heterozygous level in her daughter. The second case was a 68-year-old 120 patient with hyperparathyroidism and a PitNET (patient #5) with 15 % mutated alleles. Later 121 Beijers et al described an entire MEN1 gene mosaic deletion, using MLPA, in a 63-year-old 122 patient with PHPT and metastatic pancreatic NETs (patient #6, 14). Again, the deletion had previously been identified at a heterozygous level in his 2 children. 123

124 In addition to cases from the literature review, we present here 6 new cases of *MEN1* 125 mosaicism identified by next-generation sequencing (NGS) during recent years in the French 126 TENgen network. Three were identified in young patients. The first showed a severe clinical 127 presentation: the patient developed PHPT at age 28, an endocrine thymic tumor at age 35 and

a pituitary adenoma at age 37 (patient #7). The proportion of mutated alleles was 6%. The
second case was a 24-year-old man harboring a *MEN1* mosaic mutation at a level of 10 %
(patient #8). He presented with PHPT and a duodenopancreatic NET and developed a PitNET
at age 27. In the third case, a *MEN1* mosaic mutation was found in a 24-year-old man at a level
of 11 % with a milder clinical presentation, only a PitNET being diagnosed (patient #9).

Another *MEN1* mosaic mutation was identified in an older woman first reported in 2013 by Cuny et al (15) who developed PHPT and a PitNET before age 45. Her daughter was diagnosed with a heterozygous frameshift insertion of 26 nucleotides in *MEN1*, discovered after she developed a macroprolactinoma at age 13 and PHPT at age 20. Using NGS we retrospectively identified the same truncating mutation as in her child, at a level of 6.3 % mutated alleles (patient #10).

We also detected *MEN1* mosaicism in two older patients with severe MEN1. The first patient presented with PHPT, a PitNET and duodenopancreatic NETs at age 46 and an endocrine thymic tumor was diagnosed a year later (patient #11). The proportion of mutated alleles identified by NGS was 2.5%. Additionally, *MEN1* mosaicism was identified at 9.4% in a patient who presented at age 43 with PHPT and a metastatic thymic NET. He later developed duodenopancreatic NETs at age 53 (patient #12).

We compared the age of occurrence of the first, second and third lesions of the classic MEN1 triad (PHPT, PitNET, and duodeno-pancreatic NET) between these 12 patients with *MEN1* mosaicism and the 497 index cases with pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants from the UMD-MEN1 database as previously described (16). No difference in the cumulative incidence of lesions was found (Figure 1).

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153 DISCUSSION

154 Only six cases of MEN1 mosaicism have been reported in the literature to date (10, 11, 155 12, 13, 14). We report here six new patients, thus constituting the largest series ever reported. 156 Some studies have suggested that the MEN1 phenotype may be attenuated in patients with 157 MEN1 mosaicism (11). This review clearly demonstrates that patients with MEN1 mosaicism 158 can develop the classical triad (patients #1, #3, #4), even early in life (patients #1, #4). Patients 159 with *MEN1* mosaicism appear to develop the classic MEN1 lesions at the same age as others 160 (Figure 1). Moreover MEN1 can become a very aggressive disease with multiple lesions (6 patients reported here showed at least 3 MEN1 lesions) or show metastatic lesions (patients 161 #6, #12) even in patients harboring MEN1 mosaicism. For this reason careful monitoring in 162 163 these patients must not be relaxed.

164 In terms of the nature of the variant, we observed that all types of alterations were 165 represented in patients with mosaicism (5/12 frameshift variants, 3/12 non-sense variants, 2 166 variants affecting splice junctions, 1 entire gene deletion, 1 missense variant). A relationship 167 between mutated allele frequency and the severity of the disease was not established. In 168 patient #11, a very low mutated allele frequency of 2.5% was responsible for disease affecting 169 multiple tissues, whereas mosaicism at 10% can cause complete MEN1 disease at a young age. 170 For the moment, there is no argument in favor of modifying the follow-up program of MEN1 171 patients with mosaicism in relation to either age of onset or frequency.

MEN1 mosaicism can be discovered in index cases with a symptomatic child harboring a heterozygous mutation (patient #2, #4, #6, and #10). First-line negative genetic screening by Sanger sequencing could lead to the conclusion of a phenocopy in the symptomatic parent and the exclusion of other siblings from presymptomatic genetic screening. We suggest that

176 physicians should consider that a symptomatic parent with a child presenting with an 177 apparently *de novo* mutation may harbor a mosaic mutation until proven otherwise. We note 178 that in the literature there is only one symptomatic parent of a child carrying a MEN1 179 mutation, in whom genetic explorations were negative, even by deep NGS (17). This man 180 presented with hypercalcemia and elevated PTH levels (10.9 mg/mL, 80 pg/mL (normal assay 181 range 14–72)) at age 63, but imaging data (ultrasound and Sestamibi parathyroid scan) 182 provided no information. The analysis of abnormal tissue in this case could have made it 183 possible to definitively exclude mosaicism.

184 MEN1 mosaicism can also be identified in sporadic index cases bearing one or several 185 MEN1 lesions. Success in identifying MEN1 mosaicism in these patients is really fortunate for 186 the patient and his/her family. Firstly, it allows confirmation of the MEN1 diagnosis in the 187 patient, even in a patient with an isolated PitNET (patient #9), or late multiple lesions (patient 188 #5). Additionally it clarifies genetic counseling. Since the disease is a mosaic, it confirms the 189 appearance of the disease in the patient. Consequently, the patient's parents and siblings can 190 be reassured and excluded from a MEN1 follow-up program. Presymptomatic genetic 191 screening can also be started for the patient's children. In fact, the component of genetic 192 counseling that addresses the risk of recurrence remains challenging in mosaic genetic 193 diseases, since it depends on the proportion of germ cell progenitors that harbor the 194 mutation. One way in which to determine this would be to genotype the sperm of male 195 patients (18, 19). However, no study has thus far been conducted to determine the reliability 196 of a negative result. Nevertheless, as NGS can detect mosaic variants at low AF (13, 20, 21, 197 22, 23); we suggest geneticists and physicians keep in mind that mosaicism is likely 198 underestimated in unresolved MEN1 patients.

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312	Figure 1: Cumulative incidence of the first, second and third MEN1 cardinal lesions in patients
313	with MEN1 mosaicism and in index cases from the UMD-MEN1 database.
314	A total of 497 index cases with heterozygous MEN1 (likely) pathogenic variants, and for which
315	the age of occurrence of the lesions of the classic MEN1 triad was known were included.
316	Patients from the UMD MEN1 database with incomplete clinical data were excluded. A) Age
317	at occurrence of the first MEN1 cardinal lesion. B) Age at occurrence of the second MEN1
318	cardinal lesion. C) Age at occurrence of the third MEN1 cardinal lesion.
319	Log rank test performed with Prism V9 (Graphpad) showed no difference between the 2
320	groups for the 3 conditions.
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