

# Diagnostic Challenges in Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1 (MEN1) : Usefulness of Genetic Analysis

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Meet The Experts  
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Disclosures: None

**wellcome**trust



## Clinical Practice Guidelines for Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1 (MEN1)

Rajesh V. Thakker, Paul J. Newey, Gerard V. Walls, John Bilezikian, Henning Dralle, Peter R. Ebeling, Shlomo Melmed, Akihiro Sakurai, Francesco Tonelli, and Maria Luisa Brandi

***J Clin Endocrinol  
Metab, 2012, 97:  
2990-3011***

Review

## Challenges and controversies in management of pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours in patients with MEN1



Christopher J Yates, Paul J Newey, Rajesh V Thakker

***The Lancet  
Diabetes &  
Endocrinology,  
2015, 3: 895-904***

## REVIEWS

## Current and emerging therapies for PNETs in patients with or without MEN 1

Morten Frost<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Kate E. Lines<sup>1\*</sup> and Rajesh V. Thakker<sup>1</sup>

***Nat Rev Endo,  
2018, 14:216-227***

# **Overview - Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia (MEN) Syndromes and MEN type 1 (MEN1)**

- **Recognition**
- **Evaluation**
- **Management**
  - **Cases (5 patients)**
- **Summary**

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Two or more endocrine tumours in a patient

## MEN1

## MEN2 & 3

## MEN4

### *Tumours*

Parathyroids (95%)  
Pancreatic islet (40%)  
Pituitary anterior (30%)

Medullary thyroid carcinoma,  
MTC (99%)  
Pheochromocytomas (50%)  
Parathyroids (20%)

Parathyroids  
Pituitary (anterior)  
Adrenal, renal,  
Gonads

### *Autosomal dominant Inheritance and Chromosome location*

Yes, 11q13

Yes, 10<sub>cen</sub>-10q11.2

Yes, 12p13

### *Gene Product*

MENIN

RET

CDKN1B (p27,KIP1)

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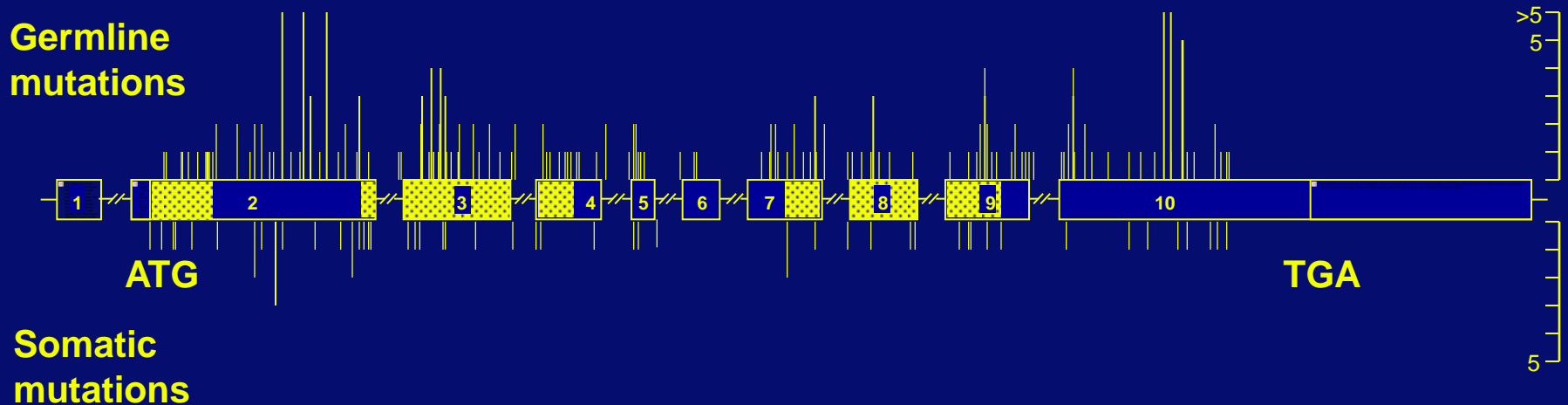
- Recognition
- **Evaluation** : Biochemical, Radiological and Genetic
- Management
  - Cases (5 patients)
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# Biochemical, Radiological and Genetic Testing in Individuals at High Risk of Developing MEN1

Tumor	Age to begin (yr)	Biochemical test (plasma or serum) annually	Imaging test (time interval)
Parathyroid	8	Calcium, PTH	None
Pancreatic NET			
Gastrinoma	20	Gastrin ( $\pm$ gastric pH)	None
Insulinoma	5	Fasting glucose, insulin	None
Other pancreatic NET	<10	Chromogranin-A; pancreatic polypeptide, glucagon, VIP	MRI, CT, or EUS (annually)
Anterior pituitary	5	Prolactin, IGF-I	MRI (every 3 yr)
Adrenal	<10	None unless symptoms or signs of functioning tumor and/or tumor >1 cm are identified on imaging	MRI or CT (annually with pancreatic imaging)
Thymic and bronchial carcinoid	15	None	CT or MRI (every 1–2 yr)

- MEN1 mutations** : diverse spectrum and scattered over the coding region, with almost each family having its own unique mutation



*Thakker et al, 2012, JCEM; Lemos and Thakker, 2008 Hum Mutation*

# Genetic : Role of MEN1 Mutational Analysis

**MEN1 mutational analysis can :**

- **1) aid in confirming the diagnosis**
- **2) identify mutation carriers in a family , who should be screened for tumour development for earlier treatment e.g. non-functioning pancreatic NETs**
- **3) exclude burden of disease and anxiety in the ~ 50% of non-mutation carriers**

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# Case 1

**Primary Hyperparathyroidism in a Young (Man)  
Person - Suspect MEN1**

## **Investigations and Treatment:**

- Hypocalcaemia ( $\text{Ca}^{++} = 2.72\text{mol/L}$ ) with raised PTH - Total parathyroidectomy and oral Calcitriol replacement
- Raised plasma glucagon, CT scan shows tumour in tail of pancreas - Distal pancreatectomy. Histology - pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour (NET) immunostains for chromogranin and glucagon

## **Progress:**

- Screened annually for development of MEN1 associated tumours
- Remains well, normocalcaemic without renal stones, and no recurrence of pancreatic NET

# Family Medical History

**Diagnosis: Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1 (MEN1)**

# Patient's Questions

**I have children, Will they:**

- 1. Get the same tumours as me**
- 2. What age are they likely to get tumours**
- 3. What is the plan for my children**

# Answer – 1, Tumour types

Children may not get same tumours as their father, as there is variability of tumour development within a family, and is no genotype-phenotype correlation.

Moreover, studies in 2 identical twins with the same MEN1 mutation revealed that one developed a parathyroid tumour and a prolactinoma, and the other only a parathyroid tumour.

*Trump et al QJM 1996, Flanagan et al Clin Endo 1996*



# Phenotype genotype correlation not observed in the MEN1 families

Five unrelated families with a 4bp (CAGT) deletion at codons 210 and 211

	Family				
	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Tumours</b>					
Parathyroid	+	+	+	+	+
Gastrinoma	+	-	+	+	+
Insulinoma	-	+	-	-	-
Glucagonoma	-	-	-	-	+
Prolactinoma	-	+	+	+	+
Carcinoid	+	-	-	-	-

# Answer – 2, Age of Tumour Development

Age at which tumours develop is also variable, as there is an age-related penetrance for MEN1, with a ~5% of individuals having tumours by age 20 years and >50% by age 40 years.

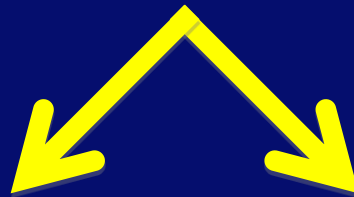
## Age related penetrance for MEN1

*Bassett et al,  
1998 Am J  
Hum Genet*

# Answer – 3, Plan Regular Screening

Screening should be undertaken for all the MEN1-associated tumours in the children.

Two possible options



**MEN1 mutation status ascertained and then undertake regular biochemical and radiological screening for those with the mutation, and reassure and discharge those without the mutation**

**Do not ascertain MEN1 mutation status, but undertake regular biochemical and radiological screening in ALL the children**



**Asymptomatic relative of MEN1 patient  
in whom germ-line mutation identified**

**Test for MEN1 mutations**

**Mutant carrier**

**Non-mutant carrier**

**No further  
investigations**

**Age <40 years**

**Age ≥ 40 years**

**Serum Ca<sup>++</sup>, PRL and  
assess for insulinoma**

**Serum Ca<sup>++</sup>, PRL and assess for  
gastrinoma and acromegaly**

**Normal**

**Abnormal**

**Normal**

**Abnormal**

**Re-screen at  
6–12 months**

**Re-screen at  
6–12 months**

**Proceed to further appropriate  
investigations and treatment**

***Thakker et al, 2012,  
J Clin Endo Metab***

## Patient 2 - Daughter of Patient 1

- MEN1 mutation. Asymptomatic.
- Annual review for next 2 years
- Asymptomatic but oligomenorrhoea on detailed questioning
- Biochemistry: PRL 3676mU/l, cCa<sup>2+</sup> =2.64mmol/l, PTH = 6  
Fasting gut hormones - normal
- MRI pituitary: Right sided pituitary adenoma
- MRI abdomen: <2cm mass in neck of pancreas
- Discussed at Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meeting
- Commenced cabergoline. Normal menstrual cycle restored.
- Serial MRI and fasting gut hormones to assess pancreatic lesion
- Over 2 years - increase in tumour size >2cm - surgical referral

# Non-Functioning Pancreatic NET with loss of menin

Patient remains well eight years following surgery with no evidence of tumour recurrence

*Newey et al, JCEM 2010*

# Comment

**The case histories from this family with MEN1 help to illustrate the importance of undertaking combined genetic analysis with regular screening for tumours using:**

- Plasma biochemistry**
- Radiological imaging**

**Aim is to potentially reduce the harmful effects of metastatic disease and hormonal secretion.**



# Patient 3 – Family with MEN1

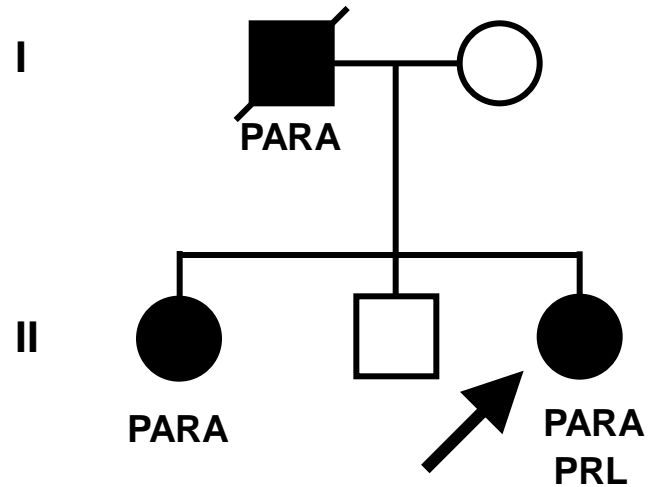
Individual : 2<sup>o</sup> amenorrhoea due to  
microprolactinoma, prolactin = 3526 IU/ml (N<360)

**Phenotype: MEN1 in a familial context**

# Patient 3 – Family with MEN1

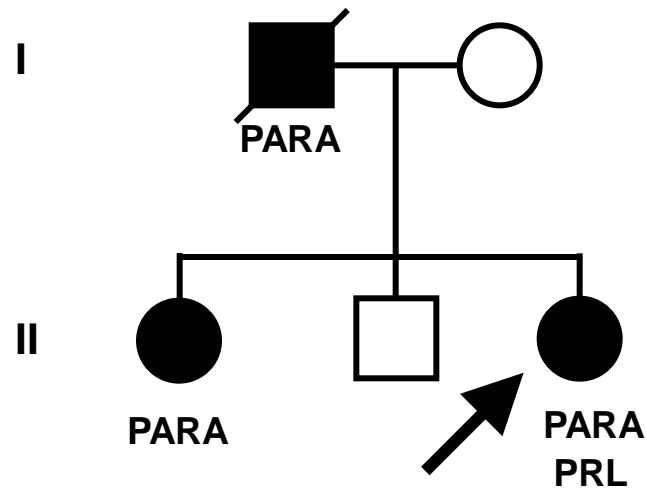
**Individual II.4 does not have MEN1 mutation and represents an MEN1 phenocopy due to sporadic prolactinoma in the context of familial MEN1**

# Patient 4 - Family with MEN1



**Mutational analysis of the MEN1 gene did not identify a mutation**

# Patient 4 - with MEN1



Mutational analysis of the MEN1 gene did not identify a mutation, but instead patient 4 had a mutation of *CDC73* (encodes cell division cycle protein 73, also referred to as parafibromin), associated with the Hyperparathyroidism Jaw Tumour (HPT-JT) syndrome

# Hyperparathyroidism-Jaw Tumour (HPT-JT) Syndrome

- Autosomal dominant disorder characterised by:
  - Parathyroid tumours (80%), often (15%) carcinomas
  - Jaw tumours, ossifying fibromas (>30%)
  
- Renal abnormalities (15%) eg. Wilm's tumours, cysts, hamartomas, adenomas, carcinomas
- Uterine tumours (75%)
- Pancreatic adenocarcinomas (<2%)
- Testicular mixed germ cell tumours (<2%)
- Hurthle cell thyroid adenomas (<2%)

HPT-JT maps to chromosome 1q24-q32, location of *Cdc73*, encoding Cell Division Cycle Protein 73 / Parafibromin

# Phenocopy: definition

“The development of disease manifestations that are usually associated with mutations of a particular gene, but instead are due to another aetiology.”

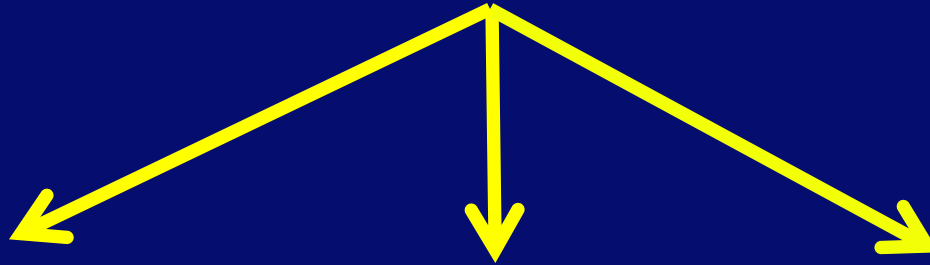
Examples:

*Familial MEN1* context, in which a patient with one MEN1-associated tumour does not have the familial mutation.

*Patient* with two MEN1-associated tumours, who does not have MEN1 mutation, but has involvement of another gene.

5% of families attributed with MEN1 have phenocopies.

# Diagnosis of MEN1



\* *Patient with two or more MEN1-associated tumours*

\* *Familial MEN1 ie: a patient who has one of the MEN1-associated tumours and a first degree relative with MEN1*

*Genetic: mutant gene carrier ie an individual who has an MEN1 mutation but does not have clinical or biochemical manifestations of MEN1*

\*The diagnosis of MEN1 may be confounded by the occurrence of phenocopies

# Patient 5 -

**Presentation:** Cushing's syndrome (recurrent after >10 years) with asymptomatic hypercalcaemia, elevated serum PTH

**Family History:** Not known to have MEN1.

**Diagnosis:** MEN1 on basis of primary hyperparathyroidism plus pituitary tumour causing Cushing's disease, **but no MEN1 mutation detected**

**Investigation:** Cushing's disease with detectable ACTH, normal MRI, Petrosal sinus sampling - marked central gradient with central / peripheral ratio ACTH >50

**Treatment:** Transphenoidal hypophysectomy. Post-op 9am serum cortisol <50nmol/L, with resolution of Cushingoid features

**Ultrasound & FNA:** Thyroid nodule - Cells suspicious of MTC

**Plasma calcitonin:** 27,500ng/L (normal <15ng/L)



# **$^{18}\text{F}$ FDG-PET Scan: Metastatic MTC with avid uptake in left adrenal gland**

**CT Scan:** Bilateral nodules, 2.0 to 2.5cm in diameter

**Plasma urinary (24h) metanephrines:**  
Elevated (2-4 fold increase)

**History:** No paroxysmal symptoms and normotensive

**Diagnosis:** Asymptomatic pheochromocytoma in association with MTC and primary hyperparathyroidism

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# Patient 5

**Revised Diagnosis:** MEN2A

**Genetic Testing:** RET mutation – Cys634Arg, common germline mutation for MEN2A

**Cushing's syndrome in MEN2A :** rare & may be due to

- ectopic ACTH secretion from MTC
- adrenal tumour secreting glucocorticoids
- pituitary tumour (Cushing's Disease)

**MEDICINE**

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STUDY OF A KINDRED WITH PHEOCHROMOCYTOMA, MEDULLARY THYROID CARCINOMA, HYPERPARATHYROIDISM AND CUSHING'S DISEASE: MULTIPLE ENDOCRINE NEOPLASIA, TYPE 2<sup>1</sup>

ALTON L. STEINER<sup>2</sup>, A. DAVID GOODMAN<sup>3</sup> AND SAMUEL R. POWERS

# Implications of Genetic Analysis for His Son

- Son known to have parathyroid hyperplasia
- Found to have RET mutation (Cys63Arg)
- Investigations:
  - plasma calcitonin – normal
  - plasma and urinary metanephrines – normal
  - MRI – bilateral adrenal nodules; pituitary normal
- Treatment: Total thyroidectomy
- History: MTC confirmed
- Progress: annual screening for MEN2 associated tumours.  
Remains well

**MESSAGE: IN PATIENTS WITH MEN, WHO DO NOT HAVE *MEN1* MUTATION, LOOK AT OTHER (*MEN*) GENES FOR MUTATIONS**

# **Summary (1) - Recognition, Evaluation and Management of Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia (MEN) Syndromes and MEN type 1 (MEN1)**

- **Combined genetic testing and biochemical screening is of value in clinical practice**
- **There still remain diagnostic challenges due to phenocopies and the involvement of other genes e.g. PARAFIBROMIN, CaSR, and RET/MEN2A in patients who do not have MEN1 mutation**

# Summary (2) – Genetic and Endocrine Evaluations : Who, When and Where?

## Who?

Any individual with :

Two or more endocrine tumours i.e. MEN

Development of an endocrine tumour at a young age

A relative (first degree) with MEN

(N.B. > 10% of patients will have de novo germline mutations and therefore no familial history)

## When?

As early as possible, as children below the age of 10 years may have developed tumours

## Where?

Contact Clinical Genetics Departments

# ACADEMIC ENDOCRINE UNIT

Andrew Nesbit Paul Newey

Manish Modi Charlotte Philpott

Kreepa Koobiall

Tracey Walker Sian Piret

Sarah Howles

Valerie Babinsky Caroline Gorvin

**Raj Thakker**

Kate Lines

Angela Rogers

Fadil Hannan

Mark Stevenson

Gerard Walls

## Clinical Practice Guidelines for Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1 (MEN1)

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