

Supplementary Material

MOLECULAR CHARACTERIZATION AND RE-INTERPRETATION OF *HNF1A* VARIANTS IDENTIFIED IN INDIAN MODY SUBJECTS TOWARDS PRECISION MEDICINE

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1. Supplementary Data:

Detailed Functional Characterization methods:

1.1 Functional Analysis:

1.1.1 Plasmids:

Human *HNF1A* cDNA (NCBI Entrez Gene BC104910.1) (NM_000545.5) in pcDNA

3.1 His/C vector (Invitrogen Inc, Carlsbad, CA, USA), was used as a template for

constructing individual *HNF1A* variants using the QuikChange Lightning Site-directed Mutagenesis Kit (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA), and all constructs were verified by Sanger sequencing.

Two reporter constructs were used for transactivation experiments: (1) pGL3-RA, which contains the promoter of the rat albumin gene (nucleotide -170 to +5) next to the Firefly luciferase gene in vector pGL3-Basic (Promega), and (2) pGL3-HNF4AP2, which contains the human *HNF4A* (MIM: 600281) P2 promoter (nucleotide -418 to +13). pRL-SV40 reporter vector encoding the Renilla luciferase gene was used as an internal control (Promega).

1.1.2 Cell culture and Transfection

The transactivation experiment was performed on HeLa and INS-1 832/13 cell lines. HeLa cells were grown in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (Gibco Life Technologies, NY, USA) supplemented with penicillin–streptomycin solution (100 U/ml) and 10% heat-inactivated Fetal Bovine Serum (Gibco). INS-1 832/13 cells were cultured in RPMI-1640 medium (Sigma: R0883) with 2 mM L Glutamine (TMS-002-C), 1 mM sodium pyruvate (TMS-005-B), 10 mM HEPES (TMS-003-C), 0.05 mM mercaptoethanol (ES-007-E), and 10% FBS (ES-009-B). Twice a week, cells were divided in a 1:10 ratio.

The day before transfection, cells were divided into 12-well culture plates to reach 80–85 % confluency at the time of transfection. 3 µl of Fugene HD (Roche, Indianapolis, IN, USA) transfection reagent and a total of 1 µg of plasmid DNA (0.25 µg of WT or mutant *HNF1A* plasmid, 0.25 µg of pGL3-RA reporter gene construct, 0.4875 µg of empty pcDNA3.1 His/C vector and 0.0125 µg of control vector pRL SV40) served as optimal conditions for the transfection.

1.1.3 Transactivation Assay:

The transcriptional activity (TA) of *HNF1A* variants were assessed in HeLa cell line representing cells negative for endogenous *HNF1A* expression and in INS-1 (rat insulinoma

pancreatic cell line as β -cell model). Transactivation assay was performed as described in ¹⁴ Balamurugan et al., 2016. In brief, 24 h post-transfection, cells were lysed with 1X Passive Cell Lysis Buffer (Promega) and the cell lysate was used to measure the luciferase activity using dual luciferase reporter assay kit (Promega) in SpectraMax i3X platform (Molecular Device). Luciferase activity was normalized for transfection efficiency by the Renilla luciferase activity. All transactivation experiments included three parallels performed on three independent experimental days (nine readings in total).

1.1.4 DNA Binding Assay

A double-stranded biotinylated oligonucleotide of *HNF1A* binding site in the rat albumin promoter (5'-TGTGGTTAATGATCTACAGTTA-3') was used as a probe. Nuclear extracts were prepared by fractionation method and the total protein in each sample was quantified by BCA protein assay. Protein-DNA binding was analyzed by Episeeker DNA-protein binding assay kit (Abcam, ab117139) followed by manufacture's protocol. Briefly, 40 ng of probe and 50ug of nuclear extract were incubated on streptavidin-coated plate. The extract was then removed and washed with 1X washing buffer. Finally, the Xpress-tagged HNF1A was detected with anti-xpress (Invitrogen, USA) and HRP-conjugated anti-mouse-IgG (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) using TMB as substrate. Binding was assessed by reading the absorbance on a micro-plate reader at 450 nm.

1.1.5 Immunoblotting

The level of wild-type and individual HNF1A variant protein expressions in total HeLa cell lysates was determined. Total protein was quantified using BCA method (Thermo Scientific, US) and 10 - 30 μ g of total protein per variant was denatured at 80°C for 20 minutes and then loaded onto a 4-20% Criterion TGX Stain-free Precast gel (Bio-Rad, Hercules, US) and electrophoresed. Then immunoblotted with antibodies for HNF1A (Cell Signaling) and beta-actin (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) and visualized using the ChemiDoc Imaging System (Bio-Rad). The blots were then scanned and densitometry of the protein

bands was analyzed using ImageJ Lab Software (Bio-Rad).

1.1.6 Sub cellular Localization

HeLa cells were plated at 20 to 35% of confluency into 12 well culture plate containing 18mm cover slips, pre coated with poly L-Lysine (Biokeystone, US). After 48hrs of post transfection, cells washed twice with 1xPBS and fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 20mins. Permeabilized with 0.1% Tween 20 and 0.1% Triton X 100 for 30mins. Then, cells were blocked with 5% blocking solution for 2 hours. The Immunofluorescence assay was performed using anti Xpress antibody (Invitrogen, USA) as a primary antibody, and anti-mouse IgG secondary antibody (Alexa flour 488, Thermo, USA). Nuclei stained by fluoroshield with DAPI (Sigma, USA). Nuclear –DAPI and HNF1A protein-stained cells were visualized by using a LSM 700 Flexible Confocal microscope with appropriate filters system (Carl Zeiss, US). The *HNF1A* variant c.1396 C>T (p.Q466*), was included as a positive control for impaired nuclear localization (cytosolic retention).

1.1.7 Insulin Secretion

The glucose-stimulated insulin secretion (GSIS) capacity of the INS1 β -cells were measured using insulin ELISA kit (Merckodia, Sweden). After appropriate treatment for 24 h, INS1 cells were washed with Kreb's Ringer Buffer (KRB) and then pre-incubated in the same buffer containing 2.5 mM glucose for 1 h. The pre-incubation buffer was removed and fresh KRB buffer with 2.5 mM (low) glucose or 16.5 mM (high) glucose, (100 μ M Glibenclamide) was added and incubated for 1 h. After incubation, supernatant was taken for insulin ELISA. ELISA was performed as per the manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, 10 μ L of the calibrators, controls, and samples were added to the coated wells. 100 μ L of enzyme conjugate solution was added to all the wells and incubated for 2 h on shaker at room temperature. After washing 6 times with wash solution, 200 μ L of substrate was added to all the wells and incubated for 15 minutes at room temperature. Then 50 μ L of stop solution was added and shaken for 5 sec. The optical density (OD) was measured at 450 nm using multimode plate reader (PerkinElmer,

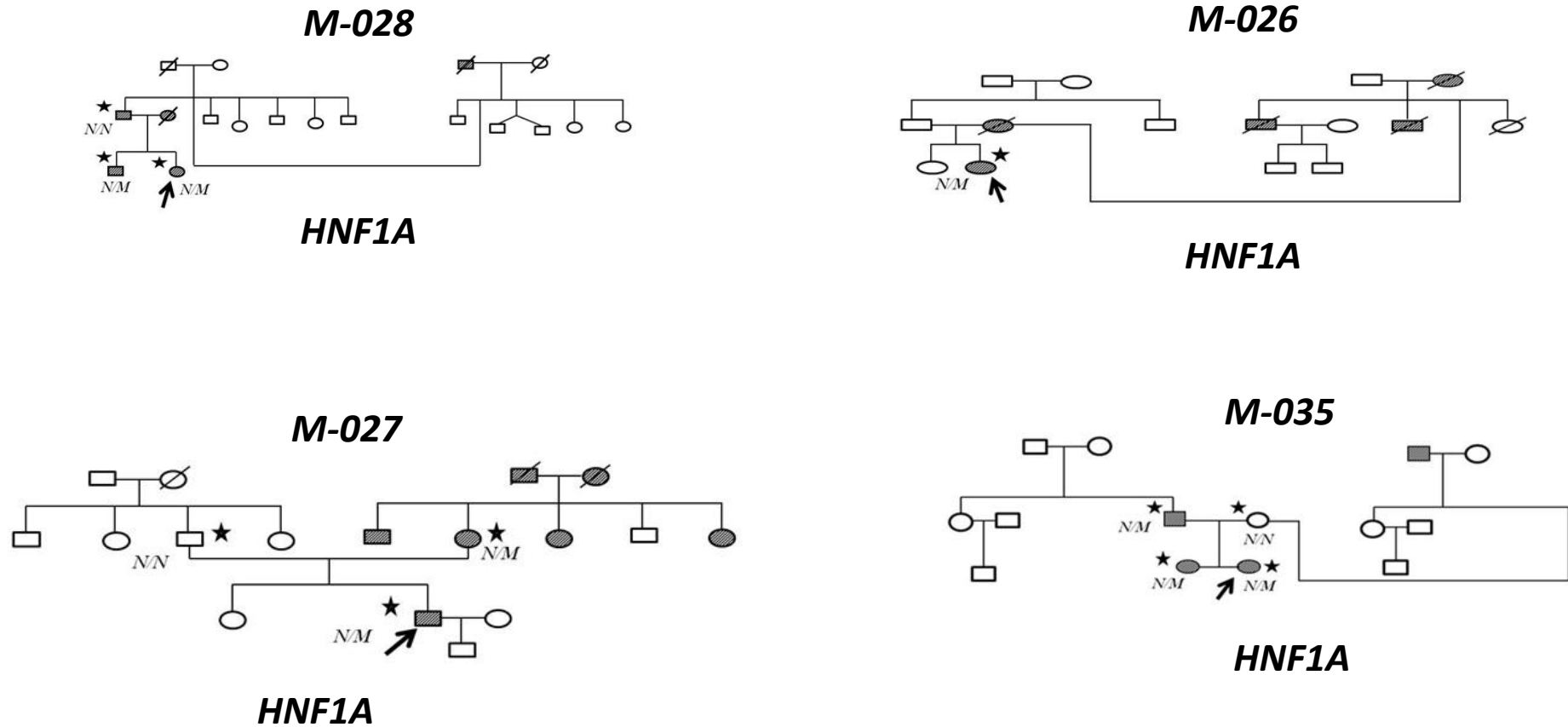
Waltham, MA, USA). The concentration of insulin secreted under different experimental conditions was determined by plotting a standard graph with known concentrations of the calibrators used.

1.2 In silico analysis of the variants:

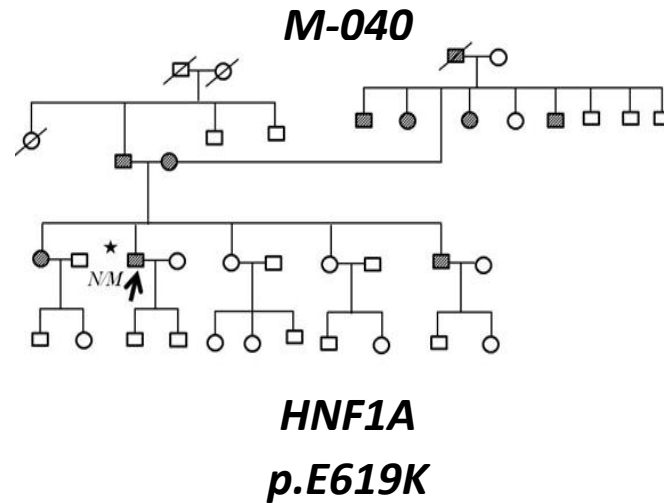
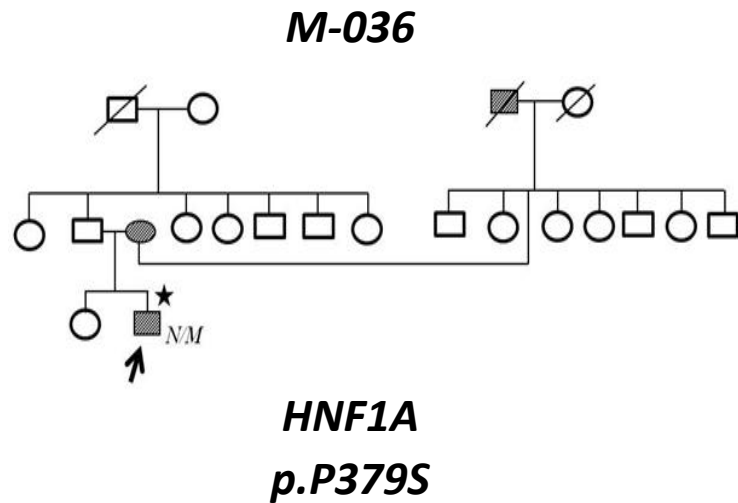
Among the 6 mutants of Hepatocyte nuclear factor 1-alpha (HNF1A) (Table 1), one mutation that occurs at Asn127 is a deletion mutation. Apart from the deletion mutation, the 2 mutants namely R200W (rs193922598), and R272H (rs137853238) are well-known mutants of HNF1A. Thereby, all the missense non-synonymous mutations namely, K120N, Q125H, V134I, R200W, and R272H were subjected to sequence-based pathogenicity, structural stability, and functional impact of these mutations subsequently. Prior to pathogenicity and stability analysis, HNF1A was subjected to conservation analysis using ConSurf. Following this, all the selected mutants were subjected to pathogenicity analysis using PredictSNP. In addition, their effects on protein stability were calculated using three in silico prediction tools. I-Mutant 2.0, SDM, mCSM, and DUET. Finally, their impact on functionality was predicted using the Mutpred server. Based on the overall analysis of the mutants, only the ones that are pathogenic and have a higher impact on protein stability and functionality were modelled based on wild-type HNF1A (PDB ID-1IC8) which was remodelled and refined using Modeller10v. The refined Wild type (WT) HNF1A and mutants were subjected to molecular dynamics simulation studies using Gromacs2020 (10.1080/07391102.2021.1965030) Subsequently, PCA and FEL analysis was carried out to determine the near-native conformation, wherein the HNF1A-DNA interactions were analysed using DNAproDB.

2. Supplementary Figures and Tables

2.1: Supplementary Figures:



Supplementary Figure 1 : Pedigrees of MODY patients with variations in HNF1A gene. Pedigrees of the families showing diabetes status of each member, as well as genetic status: M/N (heterozygous), N/N (homozygous normal).

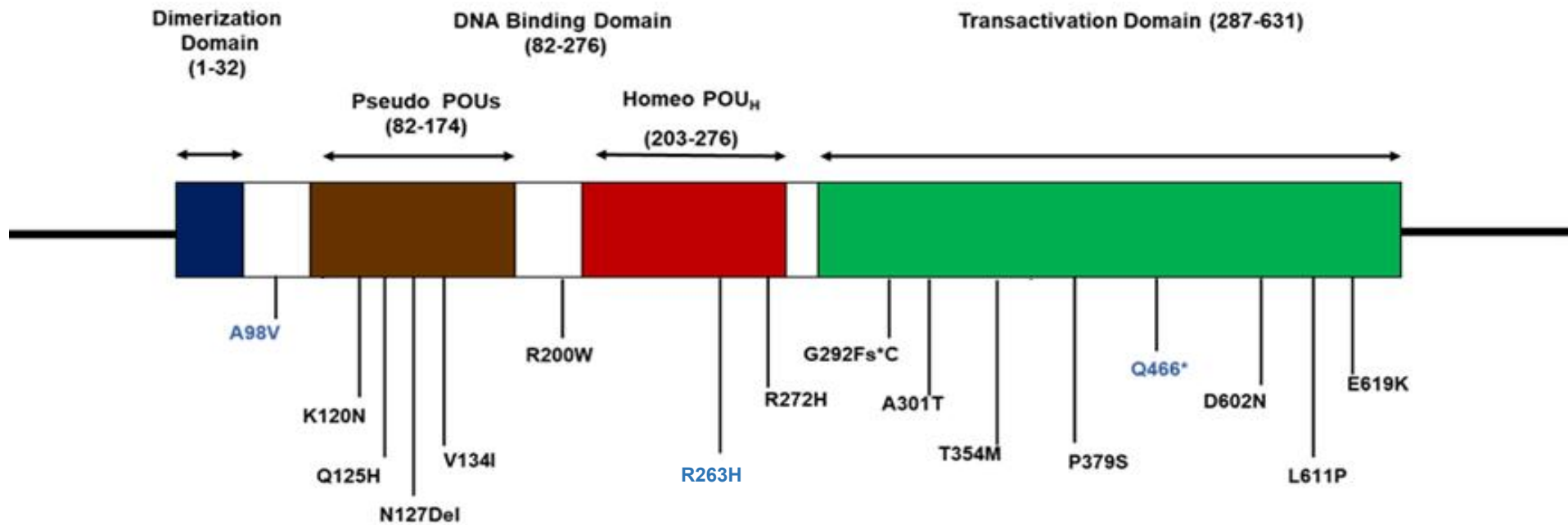


- - Non Diabetes
- ▨ - Diabetes
- N/N - Normal
- N/M - Heterozygous
- ↗ - Proband
- ★ - Genetic testing done

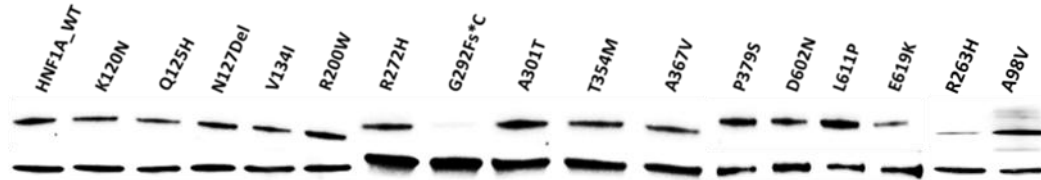
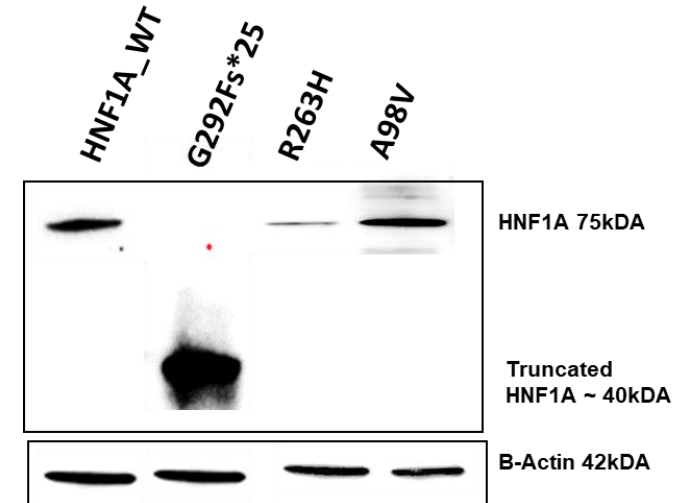
Supplementary Figure 1 : Pedigrees of MODY patients with variations in HNF1A gene (Contd...)

Pedigrees of the families showing diabetes status of each member, as well as genetic status: M/N

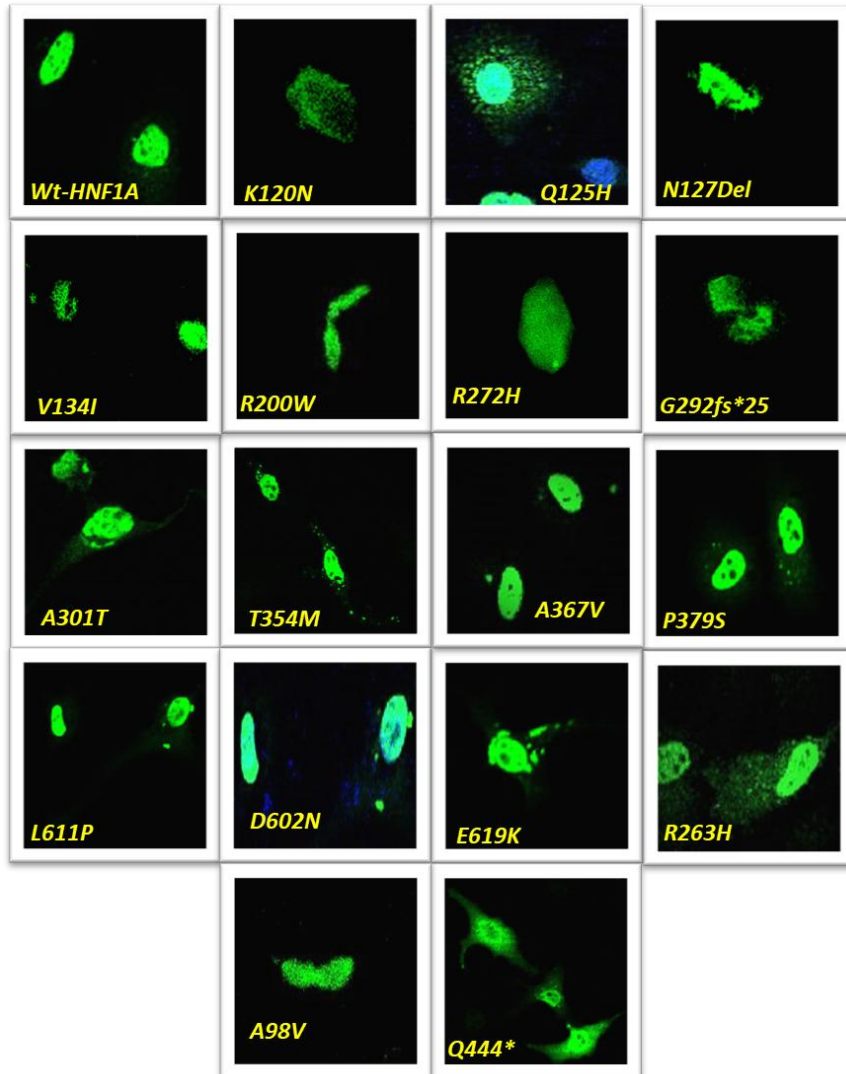
(heterozygous), N/N (homozygous normal).



Supplementary Figure 2 : Schematic position of *HNF1A* variants in the HNF1A protein sequence identified and functionally tested in the Indian MODY subjects. Blue colour indicates the control variants used for functional analysis.

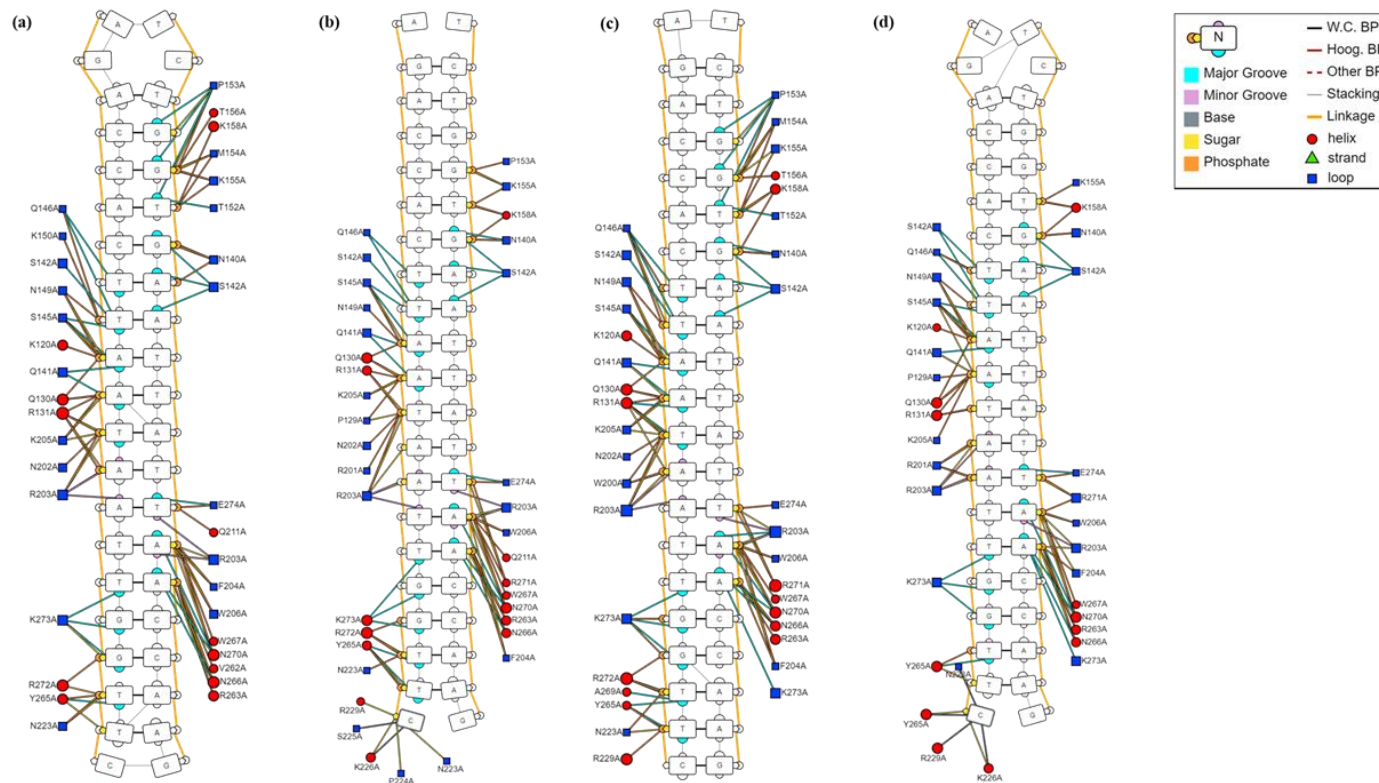
A**B**

Supplementary Figure 3: Western Blot representation of HNF1A-protein variants with B actin used as loading control. A & B - WT or variant HNF1A was transiently transfected into HeLa cells, and the protein expression levels were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting using an HNF1A-specific antibody. The HNF1A protein levels were normalized to the internal loading control (actin), variant R263H analyzed in previous study was used as a control [14]. The figure is a representative image of the results obtained in 3 independent experiments.



Supplementary Figure 4: Variant effect on HNF1A protein nuclear translocation (Confocal images)

Representative images of the nuclear localization variants in HeLa cells. One MODY3 variant (p.Q466*) with abnormal subcellular localization was included as a control. HNF1A was detected using tag-specific antibody and Alexa Fluor 488 (green). DNA staining (DAPI) is shown in blue.



Supplementary Figure 5 : Residue Contact map.

The Residue Contact Map shows individual nucleotide-residue interactions, DNA secondary structure, protein secondary structure and DNA interaction moieties of the near-native structures of WT and MT forms of HNF1A . (a) WT HNF1A ; (b) Mutant –K120N ; (c) Mutant – R200W; (d) Mutant – R272H. The DNA is displayed as a graph, with nucleotides being nodes and edges between them indicating backbone links, base pairing or base stacking. Different base pairing geometries are indicated via the base-pair edges, and other structural features such as backbone breaks, missing phosphates, and the DNA strand sense are represented. Protein residues are displayed as small nodes with the node shape and color representing residue secondary structure. Edges between residue and nucleotide nodes represent an interaction between the two and which DNA moiety(s) the interaction involves.

2.2 Supplementary Table

Supplementary Table 1: ACMG-AMP criteria for classifying the variants in the present study

| Evidence of pathogenicity | Category | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| <i>Very strong</i> | <i>PVS1</i> | Null variant (nonsense, frameshift, canonical ± 1 or 2 splice sites, initiation codon) |
| <i>Strong</i> | <i>PS3</i> | Well-established in vitro or in vivo functional studies supportive of a damaging effect on the gene or gene product (according to HGMD database [functional characterization]) |
| <i>Moderate</i> | <i>PM1</i> | Located in a mutational hot spot and/or critical and well-established functional domain (e.g., active site of an enzyme) without benign variation (according to ClinVar or HGMD database) |
| <i>Moderate</i> | <i>PM2</i> | Absent from controls (according to gnomAD database [v2.1.1]) |
| <i>Moderate</i> | <i>PM5</i> | Missense change at an amino acid residue where a different missense change determined to be pathogenic has been seen before (according to ClinVar or HGMD database) |
| <i>Supporting</i> | <i>PP3</i> | Multiple lines of computational evidence (using PolyPhen-2 (HumDiv), SIFT and Mutation Taster) support a deleterious effect of the missense variant |
| <i>Supporting</i> | <i>PP5</i> | Reputable source recently reports variant as pathogenic, but the evidence is not available to the laboratory to perform an independent evaluation |
| <i>Supporting</i> | <i>PP6</i> | The user has additional supporting pathogenic evidence |
| <i>Strong</i> | <i>BS3</i> | Well-established in vitro or in vivo functional studies show no damaging effect on protein function or splicing |
| <i>Supporting</i> | <i>BP4</i> | Multiple lines of computational evidence suggest no impact on gene or gene product (conservation, evolutionary, splicing impact, etc.) |

Supplementary Table 2: Bioinformatic analyses of HNF1A gene variants using disease databases and prediction tools

| S. No | Exon | Mutation at Protein level | Mutation at c.DNA level | Mutation Triplet codons | Chromosome Position | Databases | | | | | Prediction Analysis | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|--------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------|------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | | | | | | gnomAD | | ClinVar | 1000G | ExAc | LOVD | Mutation Taster | PolyPhen-2 | PROVEAN | SIFT | CADD Score | imutant 2.0 | Grantham Score |
| | | | | | | Allele Count | Allele Frequency | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | p.Lys120Asn | c.360G>C | AAG>AAC | chr12:121426669G>C | - | - | - | - | - | - | DC | PD | Del | D | 22.6 | Decrease Stability | 94 |
| 2 | 2 | p.Gln125His | c.375G>C | CAG>CAC | chr12:121426684G>C | - | - | - | - | - | - | DC | B | Del | D | 21.7 | Decrease Stability | 24 |
| 3 | 2 | p.Asn127del | c.377_379delACA | ACA>delACA | chr12:121426686_121426688delACA | - | - | - | - | - | P | DC | - | Del | - | - | - | - |
| 4 | 2 | p.Val134Ile | c.400G>A | GTC>ATC | chr12:121426709G>A | 1 | 0.000003978 | - | 0.0002 | 0.000008 | - | DC | PD | Neu | D | 25.9 | Decrease Stability | 29 |
| 5 | 3 | p.Arg200Trp | c.598C>T | CGG>TGG | chr12:121431394C>T | - | - | Found (VCV000036824) | - | - | P | DC | PD | Del | D | 23.2 | Decrease Stability | 101 |
| 6 | 4 | p.Arg272His | c.815G>A | CGC>CAC | chr12:121432068G>A | - | - | Found (VCV000014931) | - | - | P, VUS | DC | PD | Del | D | 29.2 | Decrease Stability | 29 |
| 7 | 4 | p.Gly292fs*25 | c.872-873dupC | GGG> insC | chr12:121432125_121432126dupC | - | - | Found (VCV000817605) | 0.1811 | 0.0001375 | P | DC | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 8 | 4 | p.Ala301Thr | c.901G>A | GCT>ACT | chr12:121432154G>A | 10 | 0.00004508 | Found (VCV000586796) | 0.0002 | - | - | Poly | B | Neu | T | 15 | Decrease Stability | 58 |
| 9 | 5 | p.Thr354Met | c.1061C>T | ACG>ATG | chr12:121434170C>T | 18 | 0.00006365 | Found (VCV000972811) | - | 0.000033 | P | Poly | PD | Neu | D | 21.4 | Decrease Stability | 81 |
| 10 | 5 | p.Ala367Val | c.1100C>T | GCC>GTC | chr12:121434209C>T | - | - | - | - | - | - | Poly | PD | Neu | D | 22.7 | Increase Stability | 64 |
| 11 | 6 | p.Pro379Ser | c.1135C>T | CCT>TCT | chr12:121434371C>T | 9 | 0.00003599 | - | - | 0.0069 | - | DC | PD | Del | D | 23.3 | Decrease Stability | 74 |
| 12 | 10 | p.Asp602Asn | c.1804G>A | GAC>AAC | chr12:121438903G>A | - | - | - | - | - | - | DC | B | Neu | T | 24 | Decrease Stability | 23 |
| 13 | 10 | p.Leu611Pro | c.1832T>C | CTG>CCG | chr12:121438931T>C | - | - | - | - | - | - | DC | PD | Neu | D | 27.5 | Decrease Stability | 98 |
| 14 | 10 | p.Glu619Lys | c.1855G>A | GAG>AAG | chr12:121438954G>A | - | - | Found (VCV000972764) | - | - | P | DC | PD | Neu | D | 24.9 | Decrease Stability | 56 |

P- Pathogenic; DC- Disease Causing; Poly- Polymorphism; PD- Probably Damaging; B- Benign; Del- Deleterious; Neu- Neutral; D- Damaging; T-Tolerated.

Supplementary Table 3: Clinical and biochemical workup of subjects with *HNF1A* gene variants

| S. No | Patient ID | Gender | Mutation | Age at onset (Years) | Duration of Diabetes (Years) | BMI (Kg/m ²) | Fasting plasma glucose (mg/dl) | Post prandial plasma glucose (mg/dl) | HbA1C (%) | Fasting C-peptide (pmol/l) | Stimulated-C-peptide (pmol/l) | Total cholesterol (mg/dl) | Triglycerides (mg/dl) | HDL (mg/dl) | LDL (mg/dl) |
|-------|------------|--------|---------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | M-026 | F | p.Lys120Asn | 14 | 3.7 | 19.1 | 188 | 315 | 7.1 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 127 | 61 | 33 | 82 |
| 2 | M-027 | M | p.Gln125His | 26 | 6.3 | 24 | 134 | 248 | 6.9 | 1 | 2.2 | 150 | 167 | 32 | 85 |
| 3 | M-028 | F | p.Asn127Del | 14.9 | 18.1 | 19.1 | 277 | 414 | 9.5 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 177 | 134 | 47 | 101 |
| 4 | M-124 | M | p.Val134Ile | 26.7 | 6.3 | 21.9 | 194 | 390 | 9.8 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 136 | 174 | 27 | 94 |
| 5 | M-125 | M | p.Arg200Trp | 22.8 | 16.1 | 17.9 | 161 | 280 | 8.3 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 152 | 84 | 47 | 88 |
| 6 | M-126 | F | p.Arg200Trp | 11 | 1 | 23.2 | 114 | 171 | - | 0.9 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7 | M-129 | F | p.Arg272His | 26 | 8 | 26.9 | 106 | 204 | 6.4 | 1.2 | 2 | 250 | 71 | 45 | 49 |
| 8 | M-130 | F | p.Arg272His | 23 | 5 | 23 | 125 | 220 | 6.9 | 1 | 2.3 | 191 | 209 | 28 | 121 |
| 9 | M-131 | F | p.Gly292fs*25 | 19.1 | 13 | 17.3 | 204 | 197 | 10.8 | 1.1 | 2 | 211 | 176 | 44 | 132 |
| 10 | M-035 | F | p.Gly292fs*25 | 11 | 4 | 18.6 | 127 | 225 | 8.7 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 153 | 114 | 59 | 98 |
| 11 | M-132 | M | p.Ala301Thr | 28 | 19 | - | 114 | 155 | 7.3 | - | - | 193 | 136 | 47 | 125 |
| 12 | M-133 | M | p.Thr354Met | 24.8 | 5 | 16.2 | 159 | 243 | 6.9 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 125 | 77 | 39 | 71 |
| 13 | M-138 | F | p.Ala367Val | 11.6 | 5 | 24.1 | 219 | 291 | 11 | 1 | 1.6 | 138 | 65 | 43 | 82 |
| 14 | M-134 | M | p.Pro379Ser | 26 | 6.8 | 24 | 268 | 310 | 11.4 | - | - | 270 | 150 | 31 | 209 |
| 15 | M-135 | F | p.Pro379Ser | 23 | 3 | 26.3 | 250 | 310 | 11.2 | 2.16 | - | 145 | 95 | 41 | 85 |
| 16 | M-036 | M | p.Pro379Ser | 24 | 10 | 27.6 | 305 | 521 | 15.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 187 | 439 | 37 | 40 |
| 17 | M-136 | F | p.Pro379Ser | 14 | - | 21.2 | 289 | 431 | 12.7 | 0.56 | 1.31 | 145 | 95 | 41 | 85 |
| 18 | M-139 | F | p.Asp602Asn | 14 | 5 | 20 | 159 | 280 | 9 | 2 | 2.6 | 195 | 110 | 40 | 70 |
| 19 | M-137 | M | p.Leu611Pro | 28.8 | 18.2 | 31.6 | 108 | 147 | 6 | 1.1 | 3 | 154 | 95 | 30 | 105 |
| 20 | M-040 | M | p.Glu619Lys | 32 | 27 | 26.3 | 134 | 191 | 9.5 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 117 | 160 | 25 | 60 |