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### CIC-5 mutations associated with Dent's disease: a major role of the dimer interface

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#### Abstract

Dent's disease is an X-linked recessive disorder affecting the proximal tubules. Mutations in the 2CI/H<sup>+</sup> exchanger CIC-5 gene *CLCN5* are frequently associated with Dent's disease. Functional characterization of mutations of *CLCN5* have helped to elucidate the physiopathology of Dent's disease, and provided evidence that several different mechanisms underlie the CIC-5 dysfunction in Dent's disease. Modeling studies indicate that many *CLCN5* mutations are located at the interface between the monomers of CIC-5, demonstrating that this protein region plays an important role in Dent's disease. Class 1 mutations impair processing and folding, and as a result, the CIC-5 mutatis are retained within the endoplasmic reticulum and targeted for degradation by quality control mechanisms. Class 2 mutations induce a delay in protein processing and reduce the stability of CIC-5. As a consequence, the cell surface expression and currents of the CIC-5 mutatis are lower. Class 3 mutations do not alter the trafficking of CIC-5 to the cell surface and early endosomes, but induce altered electrical activity. Here, we discuss the functional consequences of the three classes of *CLCN5* mutations on CIC-5 structure and function.

Key words

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Dent's disease; Chloride/proton exchanger; CLCN5; ClC-5; mutation.

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#### **Genetics of Dent's disease**

Dent's disease is a heterogeneous group of X-linked inherited disorders characterized by low molecular weight proteinuria, hypercalciuria, nephrocalcinosis, nephrolithiasis, and in many cases, renal failure [8,31,32,43,47,58]. Positional cloning analysis in families affected by Dent's disease has identified mutations of *CLCN5* (MIM #300009), which is located on chromosome Xp11.22 and encodes the electrogenic 2Cl<sup>7</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchanger ClC-5 [41,46]. Although approximately two-thirds of patients with Dent's disease exhibit mutations of *CLCN5*, mutations of the gene for the Lowe syndrome *OCRL1* located on chromosome Xq25, which encodes the phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate 5-phosphatase OCRL1, have also been found in about 15% of patients with Dent's disease (MIM #300555) [24]. Of note, the other patients with Dent's disease do not harbour mutations in either of these genes, suggesting an involvement of other genes [59].

#### Pathophysiology of Dent's disease

CIC-5 belongs to the CIC family of membrane proteins originally thought to function as CI<sup>-</sup> channels and consequently this was presumed to be its function upon its first identification [49]. In the kidney, CIC-5 is predominantly present in the early endosomes of proximal tubule cells and, to a lesser extent, in the thick ascending limb of Henle's loop and in the intercalated cells of the collecting duct [9,11,21,45,50,55]. CIC-5 knock-out mouse models have provided important clues about the mechanisms underlying Dent's disease. These mice reproduce the most common features of Dent's disease, such as low molecular weight proteinuria [22,42,53]. Because of its co-distribution with v-type H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase in early endosomes, it has long been suggested that CIC-5 may provide CI<sup>-</sup> shunt conductance that

permits efficient intraluminal acidification of these organelles by v-type H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase. ClC-5 loss-of-function would therefore impair endosomal acidification [21-23,42]. This could explain the defective endocytosis observed in Dent's disease, because progression along the endocytic pathway depends on an acidic endosomal lumen. However, the direct measurement of pH in endocytic vesicles in ClC-5 knock-out mice showed that acidification was reduced, but not abolished [22,23]. In addition, ClC-5 disruption also led to a trafficking defect of megalin and cubilin, two multiligands receptors for endocytosis that are heavily expressed at the brush border of proximal tubule cells [6,42].

The discovery that ClC-5, together with other intracellular ClC proteins, functions as an obligatory 2CI/H<sup>+</sup> exchanger presented the problem that shunting the electrical current of v-type H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase via Cl<sup>-</sup> flux would entail wasteful H<sup>+</sup> recycling. To unravel the role of ClC-5 in proximal tubule endocytosis, Novarino et al. have more recently generated mice that carry a mutation of a critical glutamate residue (i.e, the "gating glutamate", see below) that converts ClC-5 into a pure Cl<sup>-</sup> conductor [40]. Surprisingly, despite normal endosomal acidification, the mice exhibited impaired proximal tubule endocytosis like ClC-5 knock-out mice. As observed in patients with Dent's disease and ClC-5 knock-out mice, these mice also showed low molecular weight proteinuria, hypercalciuria and hyperphosphaturia. This work indicates that modulation of the endosomal Cl<sup>-</sup> concentration in the endosomes of the proximal tubule cells during H<sup>+</sup> transport by ClC-5 may play a crucial role in proximal tubule endocytosis. In addition to its prominent endosomal expression, small amounts of ClC-5 are also found on the apical surface of proximal tubule cells, where it may play additional roles. This might arise from a role in the protein-protein interactions required for receptor-mediated endocytosis and in microtubular transport as a result of associations with other proteins such as cofilin, a protein involved in the depolymerization of actin in the vicinity of endosomes,

with the PDZ-domain protein NHERF2, with the ubiquitin-protein ligase Nedd-4, and with KIF3B, a member of the kinesin superfamily [25,26,28,44].

#### Structure-function relationship of CIC 2CI/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers

ClC-5 is a 746 amino-acid protein that belongs to the highly conserved ClC family of Cl<sup>-</sup> channels and electrogenic 2Cl<sup>-</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers that are expressed in prokaryotic and eukaryotic organisms [30]. In mammals, ClC-1, ClC-2, and the ClC-K/barttin complex all function as plasma membrane Cl<sup>-</sup> channels, whereas ClC-3 to -7 function as electrogenic 2Cl<sup>-</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers that reside mainly in the membranes of the endosomal/ lysosomal compartments and in synaptic vesicles.

X-ray crystal structures of three CIC 2CI/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers (*E. coli* EcCIC-1, *S. typhimurium StClC*, and *C. merolae* CmCIC) have provided significant insights into the structure of CIC proteins, by demonstrating that they function as homodimers with separate ion pathways within each subunit and suggesting molecular mechanisms for the ion permeation process [12-14,16]. In CIC 2CI/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers, a glutamate residue acts simultaneously as the outside CI<sup>-</sup> gate and the extracellular H<sup>+</sup> acceptor [13,14,16]. Interestingly, neutralizing this "gating glutamate" of EcCIC-1 (E148) and CmCIC (E210) by mutation to alanine abolished H<sup>+</sup> flux, and purely anionic conductance was observed [2,16]. Abolition of the rectification of the currents and similar loss of H<sup>+</sup> flux were obtained when equivalent mutations of the "gating glutamate" were introduced in human CIC-3 (E224A), CIC-5 (E211A), and CIC-6 (E200A) [35,39,41,46]. Another glutamate facing the intracellular medium has been identified as being an additional H<sup>+</sup>-binding site in EcCIC-1 (E203), in CIC-4 (E281), in CIC-5 (E268), and in CIC-6 (E267) [3,39,62]. Neutralization of

this "proton glutamate", which is strictly conserved among ClC 2Cl<sup>-</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers, abolished H<sup>+</sup> flux in EcClC-1 [3], and Cl<sup>-</sup> and H<sup>+</sup> flux in ClC-4, ClC-5 and ClC-6 [39,62].

All eukaryotic ClCs have a large cytoplasmic carboxy-terminus containing a pair of cystathionine beta-synthase (CBS) domains. Recent data have provided evidence that CBS domains bind nucleotides like ATP and are involved in regulating the activity of several ClC, including ClC-5 [36,56,64].

#### Spectrum of mutations of the CLCN5 gene in Dent's disease

To date, 148 *CLCN5* mutations have been reported in patients with Dent's disease. They consist of about 36% nonsense mutations, 30% missense mutations, 18% deletional mutations, 7% splice site mutations and 6% insertional mutations [10]. An early modeling study of ClC-5 by Wu *et al.* postulated that a majority of ClC-5 missense mutations involve residues positioned at the interface of the homodimers [60]. Wu *et al.* speculated that mutated residues clustering at the dimer interface of ClC-5 would cause a loss of electrical activity by disrupting the assembly of the homodimers. This would lead to the formation of misfolded proteins in the endoplasmic reticulum, and their rapid degradation within the cell. However, at that time, the subcellular localization of the ClC-5 mutants had not been investigated, and so the model did not take into account the possibility that some of the mutants showed reduced currents as a result of a gating defect.

Despite the large number of *CLCN5* mutations identified, their functional impact at the cellular and molecular levels in Dent's disease remains unclear. The aim of this review is to describe the findings of a series of recent functional investigations using heterologous expression systems carried out by us and by others that have made it possible to divide the *CLCN5* mutations into different classes, and have helped to elucidate the pathophysiology of

Dent's disease. We have based the classification of *CLCN5* mutations on the well-established classification of mutations of the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator gene (*CFTR*) that encodes the CFTR CI<sup>-</sup> channel. *CFTR* mutations can be divided into five classes that reflect their molecular dysfunction [57,63]. *CFTR* class I mutations comprise nonsense, frameshift and aberrant mRNA splicing mutations that lead to impairment of protein synthesis. Class II mutations cause a defect of processing in the endoplasmic reticulum and the Golgi apparatus. As a consequence, the CFTR mutants are misfolded, achieve partial N-glycosylation, and undergo retention in the endoplasmic reticulum, which is followed by their rapid degradation within the cell. Class III and class IV mutations lead to a normal amount of CFTR protein at the plasma membrane, but alter channel regulation and conduction, respectively. Class V mutations result in a decreased amount of functional protein, in most cases resulting from aberrant mRNA splicing.

To date, mutations in the *CLCN5* gene can be classified into three different classes that are discussed below. However, additional classes of *CLCN5* mutations might exist, as only 20% of the identified mutations have been functionally investigated. In addition, some mutations have been only partially explored (Table 1). Therefore, many mutations remain to be functionally analyzed.

#### Class 1 mutations inducing defective protein processing

After their translation, ClC-5 proteins move through the endoplasmic reticulum and the Golgi apparatus, where proper folding of the proteins occurs with the help of chaperones and other modifications take place, such as glycosylation. These post-translational modifications allow the  $2Cl^{-}/H^{+}$  exchanger to traffic to the early endosomes and to the plasma membrane.

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A remarkable number of naturally-occurring *CLCN5* mutations (about 60%) that have been functionally investigated in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes, in HEK-MSR cells, and in HEK293 cells can be assigned to a first class of *CLCN5* mutations that induce defective protein processing (Table 1) [18,19,34,38,48,51]. Although more recent studies have demonstrated that some mutations do not cluster at the dimer interface [18,19], the conclusions from the modeling study by Wu *et al.* [60] remain partially unchallenged, because it appears that many mutations are indeed localized at the interface between the monomers of CIC-5 (Fig. 1 and 2, Table 1) [18,19,34,48]. Immunocytochemical and biochemical analyses have revealed that this class of mutations results in the retention of CIC-5 within the endoplasmic reticulum, where it is subjected to early degradation by quality control systems. As a consequence, the mutant proteins are improperly N-glycosylated, and are non-functional due to defective trafficking to the cell surface and to the early endosomes.

The position of these *CLCN5* mutations in the protein sequence may explain their deleterious impact on ClC-5. As outlined by their position in ClC-5 and in view of the modeling study by Wu *et al.* [60], it looks as though the first subgroup of mutations may impair monomer dimerization. Because ClC-5 normally functions as a homodimer, the misfolded proteins could be then subjected to early degradation by the cells. Concerning the second subgroup of mutations (away from the dimer interface), they may significantly affect the stability of the  $\alpha$ -helices, thus enhancing the degradation of the abnormal ClC-5 proteins. These studies have provided evidence that the proper folding of several protein regions, such as the interface, is crucial for the normal function of ClC-5 at the plasma membrane and in the early endosomes.

Defects in protein folding and processing have been shown to be a common cellular mechanism involved in the pathogenesis of several inherited disorders [20]. One well-known example is that of the most common p.F508del *CFTR* class II mutation in cystic fibrosis,

which results in the misprocessing of CFTR, producing a lack of functional protein at the cell surface [4]. Thus, the mechanisms that lead to ClC-5 dysfunction in this category of *CLCN5* mutations are similar to those responsible for the *CFTR* class II mutations in cystic fibrosis.

# Class 2 mutations inducing delayed protein processing and lower stability of the mature protein

About 20% of the *CLCN5* mutations that have been functionally analyzed in heterologous expression systems generate ClC-5 proteins displaying delayed processing and reduced biological stability of the mature glycosylated form (Fig. 3, Table 1). As a consequence, the cell surface expression and the currents mediated by ClC-5 at the plasma membrane are reduced. However, the distribution of the mutants in the early endosomes is normal [18,48]. These functional defects of ClC-5 resemble those observed with *CFTR* class V mutations that lead to lower protein levels at the plasma membrane due to a reduced synthesis of the CFTR Cl channel [63].

Four mutations of this type (c.779G>T, p.G260V; c.1581A>T, p.E527D; c.1637A>G, p.K546E and c.1639T>G, p.W547G) are located at the transporter dimer interface, and one mutation (c.834G>C, p.L278F) at the periphery of the interface (Fig. 1 and 2, Table 1). As shown by their complex N-glycosylation, plasma membrane and early endosome expression in HEK-293 transfected cells, a significant fraction of these mutants is not retained in the endoplasmic reticulum [18]. Despite lower abundance at the cell surface, the residual electrical activity and early endosomal distribution resulting from the mutation located at the edge of the dimer interface (p.L278F) are in accordance with the conclusions from the modeling study by Wu *et al.* [60]. These authors hypothesized that mutations of amino acids located at the periphery of the subunit interface may induce a relatively minor disruption of

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the protein structure. This could explain why the p.L278F mutation is associated with residual function in HEK-293 transfected cells. The residual plasma membrane expression induced by the other mutations (p.G260V, p.E527D, p.K546E and p.W547G) makes the functional consequences of amino acid substitutions at the dimer interface of ClC-5 very difficult to predict in the absence of functional studies.

Smith *et al.* have investigated the effect of another mutant (c.1581A>T, p.E527D) on endosomal pH in HEK-MSR cells by means of a vesicular acidification assay [48]. The p.E527D mutation results in current abolition and reduced plasma membrane expression, but normal expression in early endosomes (Table 1). Expression of this mutant in HEK-MSR cells impairs endosomal acidification. To explain the abnormal intraluminal pH, the authors hypothesize that this occurred by loss of currents of the mutant CIC-5.

Ion conduction mediated by CIC-5 at the plasma membrane is not thought to be physiologically relevant. However, as we have already mentioned, several studies have provided evidence that the CIC-5 population at the cell surface of proximal tubule cells is a rate-limiting step in receptor-mediated endocytosis of low molecular weight proteins by establishing protein-protein interactions with proteins that are essential for renal endocytosis [27]. According to this view, in contrast to class 3 mutants that are normally targeted to the cell surface, the lower abundance of these mutants at the plasma membrane could severely reduce the rate of receptor-mediated endocytosis by disrupting the protein-protein interactions required for the formation of the endocytic macromolecular complex. This type of reasoning could explain the low molecular weight proteinuria observed in patients, but this point remains to be investigated.

# Class 3 mutations inducing altered conduction without any change in subcellular distribution

In this third class of *CLCN5* mutations, ClC-5 mutants can be produced, transformed into a complex glycosylated form in the endoplasmic reticulum and in the Golgi apparatus, and then finally transported to the plasma membrane and to the early endosomes, much as wild-type ClC-5 proteins (Table 1). However, two-electrode voltage-clamp recordings in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes have demonstrated that the mutant proteins display either reduced or no current.

This class of CLCN5 mutations account for approximately 20% of the mutations that we and others have analyzed [18,19,32,37,38,53,54,61]. These mutations are analogous to the CFTR class III and class IV mutations that alter regulation and conduction, respectively [57]. Even though two missense mutations (c.815A>G, p.Y272C and c.1558T>C, p.S520P) are positioned at the transporter interface (Fig. 1 and 2, Table 1), the resulting mutant proteins that were expressed in HEK293 cells and in the pig renal proximal tubule cell line, LLC-PK<sub>1</sub>, escaped from endoplasmic reticulum retention and the subsequent degradation [18,53]. This finding breaks the rule that mutation of amino acids located at the subunit interface of ClC-5 necessarily cause protein-folding defects. A set of data for other ClCs also support these latter findings. For instance myotonia congenita is underlain by various missense mutations of the *CLCN1* gene that encodes the skeletal muscle Cl<sup>-</sup> channel, ClC-1. It appears that many of the mutations that occur at the dimer interface of ClC-1 alter the function of ClC-1 at the plasma membrane by inducing a dramatic shift in the voltage dependence of channel activation [33]. Similarly, several artificially designed mutations positioned at the subunit interface in the Torpedo electric organ Cl<sup>-</sup> channel ClC-0 induce altered gating behavior by inverting the voltage sensitivity of channel activation [5]. Further experiments are needed to find out

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whether the p.Y272C and p.S520P mutations also cause altered gating behavior, as suggested by similarly located mutations in ClC-0 or ClC-1.

The p.G212A mutation induces reduced electrical activity. The mutated glutamate at position 212 is strictly conserved in ClCs. It lies very close to the ion pathway of ClC-5, because it directly follows the "gating glutamate", a residue that is involved in the coupling of the Cl<sup>-</sup> flux to the H<sup>+</sup> flux in ClC 2Cl<sup>-</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers. The exact mechanism responsible for the decreased currents of ClC-5 remains to be elucidated, but one can hypothesize that mutation of a residue very close to the ion pathway could severely interfere with the gating process. Mutagenesis analysis from ClC-1 supports this hypothesis. Heterologous expression of the ClC-1 p.G233A mutation, which is located at the equivalent G212 position in ClC-5, caused a dramatic alteration of anion-selectivity sequence and gating of ClC-1 [15].

As we have already mentioned, the first hypothesis advanced to explain the defect of receptor-mediated endocytosis in patients with Dent's disease was that it resulted in altered endosomal acidification due to a loss of proton neutralization by ClC-5 [30]. However, recent work by Novarino *et al.* contradicts this hypothesis by suggesting that the endosomal Cl<sup>-</sup> concentration, raised by ClC-5 in exchange for H<sup>+</sup> accumulated by H<sup>+</sup>-ATPase, could be an important parameter in the physiology of the endosomal and lysosomal pathway, rather than vesicle acidification [40]. Thus, the altered currents of these ClC-5 mutants may induce severe impairment of endocytosis due to impaired function of v-type H<sup>+</sup>-ATPases in early endosomes, or a reduction in Cl<sup>-</sup> accumulation in early endosomes. It is interesting to note that Wang *et al.* have demonstrated that the S520P (c.1558T>C, p.S520P) mutant, which still displays residual currents and normal cell surface expression, cannot be internalized from the plasma membrane into the early endosomes in LLC-PK1-transfected cells [54]. This suggests that disorders in endocytosis could be caused either by inefficient endosomal acidification or endosomal Cl<sup>-</sup> accumulation due to lack of targeting of ClC-5 to the early endosomes.

Analysis of the effects of these CIC-5 mutants on pH or Cl<sup>-</sup> concentration in the early endosomes of proximal tubule cells would provide very useful information about the cellular mechanisms that lead to Dent's disease in this class of *CLCN5* mutations, but such investigations remain unaddressed.

Several mutations affecting the CBS1 and CBS2 domains also belong to this category of mutations. The p.R648X was shown to severely reduce currents [34], and the p.Y617X and p.R704X mutations displayed impaired electrical activity [32,37,54,61]. Data from the p.R718X mutation which causes truncation of the intracellular C terminus and loss of a part of CBS2 domain are not in accordance with these latter mutants that are able to traffic to the plasma membrane, because the R718X mutant protein is not detected at the cell surface due to retention in the endoplasmic reticulum. These findings raise the possibility that the p.R718X mutation may interfere with the proper folding of the C terminus of CIC-5 that is required to pass the process of protein quality control in the endoplasmic reticulum prior to trafficking to the early endosomes and to the plasma membrane.

Finally, four missense mutations (c.64T>G, p.W22G; c.731C>T, p.S244L; c.815A>G, p.Y272C; c.1558T>C, p.S520P) are not located in close proximity to the Cl<sup>-</sup> or H<sup>+</sup> transport pathways of the ClC 2Cl<sup>-</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchangers [2,13,14,16,41,46,62] and do not belong to any region with assigned functional association.

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#### Mutations altering the expression at the plasma membrane and in the early endosomes

It is not clear whether two other mutations (c.170G>T, p.G57V and c.839G>C, p.R280P) should also be assigned to another class of mutations. These two mutations have been shown to lead to a reduction both in plasma membrane expression and electrical activity in HEK-MSR transfected cells [48]. However they also induce alterations in the endosomal distribution of the mutant proteins: the R280P mutant accumulates in the early endosomes, whereas the G57V mutant accumulates in the late endosomes. Surprisingly, wild-type ClC-5 was found to localize in both early and late endosomes in HEK-MSR transfected cells. The expression of wild-type ClC-5 in late endosomes is at variance with its distribution in kidney tissue. Indeed, when investigated by immunofluorescence with specific antibodies, late endosomes of proximal tubule cells have clearly been shown to be devoid of ClC-5 [9,21,45,55]. Further investigations are needed to unravel the correct classification of these two *CLCN5* mutations, and to exclude the possibility that late endosomal expression of wild-type ClC-5 is not the consequence of an intracellular trafficking defect in HEK-MSR transfected cells due to overexpression or some other mechanism.

#### Conclusion

Functional studies of *CLCN5* mutations have made it possible to distinguish between three different classes of mutations (Fig. 3). ClC-5 class 1 mutants are characterized by a failure to induce currents, because of defective processing during N-glycosylation, resulting in their retention at the endoplasmic reticulum. ClC-5 class 2 mutants display delayed protein processing and lower stability of their mature form. ClC-5 class 3 mutants are correctly targeted to the plasma membrane and early endosomes, but display reduced electrical activity. Further investigation is needed to elucidate the mechanisms (altered gating or conduction) leading to dysfunction of CIC-5.

Furthermore, the localization of the mutations deduced from molecular modeling studies demonstrates that about half of them cluster in the helices that form the dimer interface of CIC-5 (Table 1). This highlights the fact that impaired integrity of this region of CIC-5 is a mechanism that can frequently underlie Dent's disease. This observation clearly contrasts with the conclusions of modeling and functional studies of the mutations of CIC-1 that underlie myotonia congenita, and those of CIC-7 that cause recessive and dominant osteopetrosis. Although some mutations are localized at the dimer interface of CIC-1 and CIC-7, most of them appear to be excluded from this region [7,17,33,52].

Numerous studies have demonstrated that pharmacological therapies can rescue dysfunctional channels and transporters, as is the case, for instance, for the CFTR proteincarrying mutations for cystic fibrosis [4]. For example, chemical (e.g., quinazoline), pharmacological (e.g., benzo[c]quinolizinium compounds) and molecular chaperones (e.g., sodium 4-phenylbutyrate) have been shown to stabilize and facilitate the folding of class II CFTR mutants, thereby allowing them to escape from degradation in the endoplasmic reticulum and to be targeted to the plasma membrane. Furthermore, several compounds (e.g., genistein) have also been found to directly activate class III and class IV CFTR mutants that display defective regulation and conduction at the plasma membrane, respectively. A major future challenge will be to search for specific therapeutic molecules that will be able to restore sufficient function of mutant CIC-5 in patients with Dent's disease.

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#### **Figure legends**

**Fig. 1** Location of the *CLCN5* mutations in a three-dimensional model of CIC-5 based on the structure of StCIC [13] viewed from the side of the membrane with the extracellular solution at the top. **a** Class 1 mutations inducing defective protein processing. **b** Class 2 mutations inducing delayed protein processing and lower stability of the mature protein. **c** Class 3 mutations inducing altered conduction without any change in subcellular distribution. Mutated residues are shown in spheres. The mutation numbers refer to those of Table 1. The helices involved in the formation of the dimer interface and those located at the edge are shown in yellow and in pale yellow respectively. Yellow numbers indicate mutated residues positioned at the dimer interface. A monomeric structure of the model was built using as template the crystallographic data of StCIC channel (PDB ID code 1KPL) using the ICM programme [1]. The dimeric structure and the figures shown here were produced using VMD software [29]

**Fig. 2** Location of the *CLCN5* mutations in the three-dimensional model of ClC-5 viewed from the subunit interface [13]. **a** Class 1 mutations inducing defective protein processing. **b** Class 2 mutations inducing delayed protein processing and lower stability of the mature protein. **c** Class 3 mutations inducing altered conduction without any change in subcellular distribution. Mutated residues are shown in spheres. The mutation numbers refer to those of Table 1. The helices involved in the formation of the dimer interface and those located at the edge are shown in yellow and in pale yellow respectively. Yellow numbers indicate mutated residues positioned at the dimer interface

**Fig. 3** Molecular mechanisms responsible for the impaired function of ClC-5 in Dent's disease. A full description of each of the molecular mechanisms observed in the different *CLCN5* mutation classes is provided in the text

Table 1 Summary of the functional effects of CLCN5 mutations in patients with Dent's disease

Number	Nucleotide change <sup>a</sup>	Amino acid change	Position in protein structure <sup>b</sup>	Currents	Surface expression	Intracellular localization		N- glycosylation	Reference
						E.R.	E.E.		
	WT		$\wedge$	+	+	+	+	Complex	[31]
									[18]
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I	c.64T>G	p.W22G <sup>e,i</sup>	Helix A	-	+	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[41]
2	88insACC	30insH <sup>f</sup>	Helix A	Reduced	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[57] [33]
3	c.170G>T	p.G57V <sup>f</sup>	Helix B, edge of interface	Reduced	Reduced	+	-	N.T.	[55]
4	c.536G>A	p.G179D <sup>c</sup>	Loop D-E	-	-	+	-	Core	[17]
5	c.599T>G	p.L200R <sup>c</sup>	Helix E	-	_	+	-	Core	[18]
6	c.608C>T	p.S203L <sup>c</sup>	Helix E		-	+	-	Core	[18]
7	c.635G>A	p.G212A <sup>e</sup>	Helix F	Reduced	+	+	+	Complex	[18]
8	c.557C>T	p.C219R <sup>c</sup>	Helix F	-	-	+	-	Core	[18]
9	c.661T>C	p.C221R <sup>c</sup>	Helix F	-		+	-	Core	[18]
10	c.674T>C	p.L225P <sup>c</sup>	Helix F	-		+	-	Core	[17]
11	c.731C>T	p.S244L <sup>e</sup>	Helix G	Reduced	+	+	+	Complex	[17]
12	c.779G>T	p.G260V <sup>d</sup>	Helix H, interface	-	Reduced	+	+	Complex	[17]
13	c.810C>G	p.S270R <sup>c</sup>	Loop H-I, interface	-	-	+	-	N.T.	[51]
14	c.815A>G	p.Y272C <sup>e</sup>	Loop H-I, interface	-	+	+	+	Complex	[17]
15	c.834G>C	p.L278F <sup>d</sup>	Helix I, edge of interface	Reduced	Reduced	+	+	Complex	[17]
16	c.837G>A	p.W279X <sup>f</sup>	Helix I, edge of interface	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[34]
17	c.839G>C	p.R280P <sup>f</sup>	Helix I, edge of interface	Reduced	Reduced	+	Increased	N.T.	[51]
18	c.971T>G	p.L324R <sup>c</sup>	Helix J	-	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[37]
19	c.985G>C	p.G333R <sup>c</sup>	Helix J	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	Core	[54]
20	c.1020C>A	p.N340K <sup>c,i</sup>	Helix J	-	-	+	-	Core	[17]

## Table 1 Continued

Number Nucleofide change	Amino acid	Position in protein structure <sup>b</sup>	Currents	Surface expression	Intracellular localization		N-	Reference	
	change	structure			E.R.	E.E.	glycosylation		
21	c.1033C>T	p.R347X <sup>c,i</sup>	Helix J	-	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[41]
22	12050 5	C L COLIG	TT 11 . XT			NUT	N	NE	[37]
22	c.1385G>T	p.G462V <sup>c</sup>	Helix N	-	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[37]
23	c.1406T>C	p.L469P <sup>c</sup>	Helix N	-	-	+	-	Core	[18]
24	c.1517G>A	p.G506E <sup>c</sup>	Helix O, interface	-	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[37]
25	c.1534G>C	p.G512R <sup>f</sup>	Helix O, interface	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[35]
26	c.1538G>A	p.G513E <sup>c</sup>	Helix O, interface	-	-	+	-	N.T.	[51]
26	c.1539G>A	p.G513R <sup>c</sup>	Helix O, interface	-	-	+	-	Core	[17]
27	c.1546C>T	p.R516W <sup>c</sup>	Loop O-P, interface	-	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[37]
28	1842insT	M517fsX528 <sup>c</sup>	Helix P, interface		-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[37]
29	c.1558T>C	p.S520P <sup>e</sup>	Helix P, interface	Reduced	+	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[57]
30	1853-54delTT	L521RfsX526 <sup>c,h</sup>	Helix P, interface	-	-	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[37]
31	1567-1569delGTC	p.V523del <sup>f</sup>	Helix P, interface	Reduced	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[61]
32	c.1571T>A	p.I524K <sup>c</sup>	Helix P, interface	-		+	-	N.T.	[51]
33	c.1581A>T	p.E527D <sup>d,g</sup>	Helix P, interface	-	Reduced	+	+	N.T.	[51]
34	c.1637A>G	p.K546E <sup>d</sup>	Helix Q, interface	-	Reduced	+	+	Complex	[17]
35	c.1639T>G	p.W547G <sup>d</sup>	Helix Q, interface	Reduced	Reduced	+	+	Complex	[17]
36	c.1851C>G	Y617X <sup>e,i</sup>	CBS 1	-	+	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[63]
									[40]
37	c.1962C>T	R648X <sup>e,i</sup>	Between CBS 1-2	-	+	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[40]
		a i							[34]
38	c.2110C>T	R704X <sup>e,i</sup>	CBS 2	-	+	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	[40]
20	C 2152C T	7103/61	CDC 0					0	[34]
39	C.2152C>T	p.718X <sup>c,i</sup>	CBS 2	-	-	+	-	Core	[18]

<sup>a</sup> Nucleotide numbering refers to the cDNA numbering with +1 being the A of the ATG translation initiation codon in the reference sequence. Codon 1 is the initiation codon. The GenBank accession number of human wild-type ClC-5 is NG 007159.2

<sup>b</sup> Position refers to the predicted topology of ClC-5 determined by Wu et al. [62]

<sup>c</sup> The mutation belongs to class 1 mutations inducing defective protein processing

<sup>d</sup> The mutation belongs to class 2 mutations inducing delayed protein processing and lower stability of the mature protein

<sup>e</sup> The mutation belongs to class 3 mutations inducing altered conduction without any change in subcellular distribution

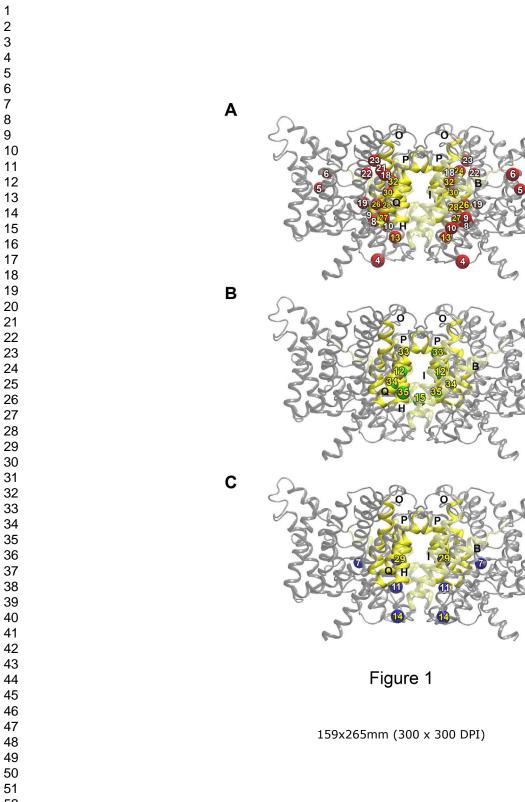
<sup>f</sup> The mutation needs further investigation to allow its classification

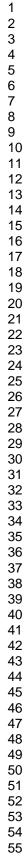
<sup>g</sup> The mutation leads to an absence of endosomal acidification

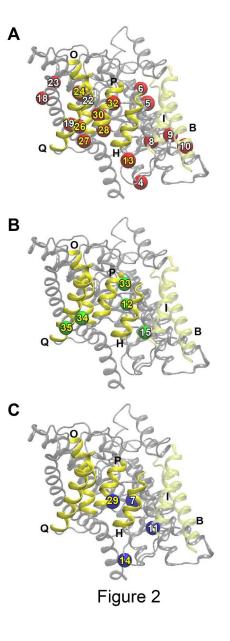
<sup>h</sup> This mutation was functionally tested as L521R

<sup>i</sup> This mutation is not displayed on the tridimentional model of CIC-5 due to lack of sequence homology between StCIC and CIC-5

E.E., early endosomes; E.R., endoplasmic reticulum; N.T., not tested; WT, wild-type







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