

ROLE OF E121K MUTATION OF D-AMINO ACID OXIDASE IN AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS

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ROLE OF E121K MUTATION OF D-AMINO ACID OXIDASE IN AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS

by

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis titled “**Role of E121K mutation of D-Amino Acid Oxidase in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis**”, submitted by **Ms. Upma Dave** to the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi for the award of the degree of “**Doctor of Philosophy**” is a record of the bonafide research she conducted, which has been prepared under my supervision and guidance following the rules and regulations of the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, India. The results prescribed in it have not been submitted in part or whole to any other University for the award of any degree or diploma.

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ABSTRACT

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a terminal, adult-onset neuromuscular disorder. Our group has been studying this illness and has previously reported a novel E121K mutation in DAO mutations in a study using next-generation sequencing of DNA samples from Indian ALS patients. However, variations in molecular mechanisms caused by this mutation which leads to ALS have not been studied. This report focuses on the computational, biophysical, and cellular study of ALS-associated E121K variant in the human D-amino acid oxidase (DAO) to understand the disease pathogenesis mechanisms. Mutations in the DAO gene, which encodes the D-amino acid degrading enzyme, have been associated with ALS. DAO is a peroxisomal enzyme containing FAD as a co-factor, and it reacts with D-amino acid donors by targeting the CH-NH₂ group. Dysfunction of the DAO protein disrupts D-serine regulation and leads to motor neuron degeneration. Our computational molecular dynamic simulation study results indicate different conformation, activity site loop dynamics, and FAD cofactor binding affinity for E121K DAO. Further to understand this in detail, we conducted comparative biophysical characterization and enzyme activity assay studies of the wildtype- and mutant E121K-DAO. We observed that the purified E121K-DAO was inactive and exhibited a lower affinity for the FAD cofactor and benzoate inhibitor. Structural studies revealed that the E121K mutant has higher beta-sheet content, melting temperature, and oligomeric states than the wildtype. Kinetic study of aggregation of the variants using thioflavin-T confirmed that the E121K-DAO was more prone to aggregation. Microscopic visualization showed that the aggregation proceeds through an intermediate step involving forming fibrillar structures in the E121K mutant. Our results give insights into the pathogenic processes that lead to ALS. Further, our experiments in SH-SY5Y cells proved that E121K mutation causes accumulation of mutant protein aggregates, a change in cell morphology, and the death of neuronal cells. These protein aggregates get ubiquitinated and cause autophagy deregulation in mutant cells. We observed an

increase in the cellular concentrations of p62, OPTN, and LC3II. Through confocal microscopy, we showed that the binding of p62 with ubiquitinated aggregates and its recruitment to LC3II mediates autophagosome generation. These relative changes in the critical partners in autophagy increase cell death in cells harboring the E121K mutation, a probable ALS disease mechanism.

एमियोट्रोफिक लेटरल स्क्लेरोसिस (ALS) एक टर्मिनल, वयस्क-शुरुआत न्यूरोमस्क्युलर विकार है। हमारा समूह इस बीमारी का अध्ययन कर रहा है और पहले भारतीय एएलएस रोगियों से अगली पीढ़ी के अनुक्रमण डीएनए नमूनों का उपयोग करते हुए एक अध्ययन में कुछ अन्य नए और दुर्लभ उत्परिवर्तन के साथ डीएओ (DAO) म्यूटेशन में एक नए E121K उत्परिवर्तन की सूचना दी है। हालांकि, इस उत्परिवर्तन के कारण आणविक तंत्र में भिन्नताएं जो एएलएस की ओर ले जाती हैं, का अध्ययन नहीं किया गया है। यह रिपोर्ट रोगजनन तंत्र को समझने के लिए मानव डी-एमिनो एसिड ऑक्सीडेज (DAO) जीन में एएलएस-लिंकड E121K उत्परिवर्तन के कम्प्यूटेशनल, बायोफिजिकल और सेलुलर अध्ययन पर केंद्रित है। डीएओ जीन में उत्परिवर्तन, जो डी-एमिनो एसिड नाशक एंजाइम को बनाता है, एएलएस से जुड़ा हुआ है। डीएओ एक पेरोक्सिसोमल एंजाइम है जिसमें FAD एक सह-कारक के रूप में होता है, और यह डी-अमीनो एसिड दाताओं के CH-NH-2 समूह पर ऑक्सीजन के साथ एक स्वीकार्य के रूप में कार्य करता है। डीएओ प्रोटीन की शिथिलता डी-सेरीन नियमन को बाधित करती है और मोटर न्यूरोन अधःपतन की ओर ले जाती है। हमारे कम्प्यूटेशनल आणविक गतिशील सिमुलेशन अध्ययन के परिणाम E121K उत्परिवर्ती डीएओ के लिए FAD कॉफ़ैक्टर के विभिन्न रचना, गतिविधि साइट लूप गतिकी और बाध्यकारी आत्मीयता का संकेत देते हैं। इसे और विस्तार से समझने के लिए, हमने वाइल्डटाइप- और उत्परिवर्ती E121K-DAO के तुलनात्मक बायोफिजिकल लक्षण वर्णन

और परख अध्ययन किए। हमने देखा कि शुद्ध E121K-DAO निष्क्रिय था और FAD कॉफ़ैक्टर और बेंजोएट अवरोधक के लिए कम बांधता था। संरचनात्मक अध्ययनों से पता चला है कि E121K उत्परिवर्ती में वाइल्डटाइप प्रकार की तुलना में अधिक बीटा-शीट, पिघलने का तापमान और ओलिगोमेरिक स्थिति हैं। थायोफ्लेविन-टी का उपयोग करने वाले वेरिएंट के एकत्रीकरण के काइनेटिक अध्ययन ने पुष्टि की कि E121K-DAO इकट्ठा के लिए अधिक प्रवण था। माइक्रोस्कोपिक विज़ुअलाइज़ेशन ने दिखाया कि E121K म्यूटेंट में फ़िब्रिलर संरचनाओं को बनाने वाले एक मध्यवर्ती चरण के माध्यम से इकट्ठा आगे बढ़ता है। हमारे परिणाम एएलएस रोगजनन के लिए अग्रणी अंतर्निहित तंत्र में अंतर्दृष्टि प्रदान करते हैं। इसके अलावा, SH-SY5Y कोशिकाओं में हमारे प्रयोगों ने साबित किया कि E121K उत्परिवर्तन के परिणामस्वरूप उत्परिवर्ती प्रोटीन समुच्चय, कोशिका आकृति विज्ञान में परिवर्तन और न्यूरोनल कोशिकाओं की मृत्यु हो जाती है। ये प्रोटीन समुच्चय इकट्ठा हो जाते हैं और ऑटोफैगी विनियमन में असंतुलन पैदा करते हैं। हमने p62, OPTN और LC3II की सेलुलर सांद्रता में वृद्धि देखी। कन्फोकल माइक्रोस्कोपी के माध्यम से, हमने दिखाया कि सर्वव्यापी समुच्चय के साथ p62 का बंधन और LC3II में इसकी भर्ती ऑटोफागोसोम पीढ़ी की मध्यस्थता करती है। ऑटोफैगी में महत्वपूर्ण साझेदारों में ये सापेक्ष परिवर्तन E121K म्यूटेशन, एक संभावित ALS रोग तंत्र को नुकसान पहुँचाने वाली कोशिकाओं में कोशिका मृत्यु को बढ़ाते हैं।

HIGHLIGHTS

The main findings of the study are as follows:

- Molecular dynamic simulation study reveals the distinct conformational state of E121K mutant than Wildtype DAO
- Wildtype DAO has both open and closed active site loop dynamics while E121K DAO mutant is present only in the closed conformation
- Mutant E121K DAO has lower affinity for FAD cofactor than wildtype
- The ALS-associated E121K mutation in the human DAO protein exhibits a complete loss-of-function
- The mutant protein has a reduced ability to bind to the FAD cofactor and benzoate inhibitor
- The E121K variant has higher β -sheet content and oligomeric conformation compared to the wildtype
- The E121K-DAO forms prefibrillar aggregates at physiological pH, which disrupts cellular structure
- The E121K mutation results in the accumulation of mutant protein aggregates and causes a change in SH-SY5Y neuroblastoma cell morphology
- E121K mutation promotes cell death in SH-SY5Y cells.
- The DAO E121K protein is associated with peroxisomal aggregates and ubiquitin binding.
- The DAO E121K protein activates ubiquitin-mediated autophagy and upregulates the expression of p62, OPTN, and LC3II proteins, which subsequently bind with the protein for degradation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title	Page No.
Abstract	iv
सार	vi
Highlights	viii
List of figures	xiv
List of tables	xvi
List of abbreviations	xvii
CHAPTER 1 Introduction and Objectives	1-6
1.1 Background	2
1.2 Scope of the study	4
1.3 Objectives	6
CHAPTER 2 Review of Literature	7-28
2.1 Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis	8
2.1.1 Epidemiology of ALS	9
2.1.2 Signs and Symptoms	10
2.1.3 Diagnosis	11
2.1.4 Treatment of ALS	11
2.1.5 Brain regions implicated in ALS	12
2.1.6 Genetics of ALS	13
2.1.7 Major pathways associated with ALS	14

2.1.7.1 Oxidative Stress	14
2.1.7.2 Excitotoxicity	14
2.1.7.3 Protein folding, misfolding, aggregation, and abnormal protein Inclusions	16
2.1.8 The ubiquitin-proteasome system (UPS) and autophagy pathway and its impairment in ALS	17
2.1.9 ALS-linked genes function and disease progression mechanism	19
2.2 D-amino Acid Oxidase	20
2.2.1 Overview	20
2.2.2 DAO genetics	21
2.2.3 Distribution of DAO	21
2.2.4 DAO and D-serine role in the brain	22
2.2.5 Structural properties of human DAO	23
2.2.6 Relevance of DAO and its mutation to ALS pathogenesis	27
CHAPTER 3 Materials and Methods	29-46
3.1 Three-dimensional structure modeling and molecular dynamics simulations	30
3.2 The principal component and free energy landscape analyses	31
3.3 Binding free-energy Analysis	32
3.4 Figures preparation	32
3.5 Competent cell preparation	33
3.6 Transformation	33
3.7 Preparation of DAO variant constructs	34

3.8 Subcloning Procedure	34
3.9 Site-directed mutagenesis	35
3.10 Buffer Compositions	36
3.11 Expression of DAO variants in <i>Escherichia coli</i> BL21 (DE3)	36
3.12 Spectral analysis	36
3.13 Activity assay	37
3.14 Oligomeric state and thermal stability study	38
3.15 FAD and ligand (benzoate) binding	39
3.16 Sample preparation for aggregation studies and its visualization through epifluorescence microscopy	40
3.17 Aggregate fibrillation kinetic assay by thioflavin-T fluorescence	40
3.18 Transmission electron microscopy for imaging aggregates	41
3.19 Expression of DAO variant in SH-SY5Y neuroblastoma cells	41
3.20 Mammalian cell lysis	42
3.21 RNA extraction	42
3.22 Reverse transcription, and real-time PCR	44
3.23 Time-Lapse Imaging and aggregate analysis	44
3.24 Cell viability assay	44
3.25 Cell lysis and immunoblotting	45
3.26 Immunofluorescence	45
3.27 Statistical Analysis	46

CHAPTER 4: Molecular dynamic simulation study of E121K DAO variant	47-60
4.1 Introduction	48
4.2 results and discussion	49
4.2.1 Analysis of active-site loop configurations	49
4.2.2 Molecular dynamic simulation analysis	50
4.2.3 Principal component analysis and active-site loop dynamics	51
4.2.4 Interactions and binding energetics of FAD with WT- and E121K-DAO	55
4.2.5 Interactions and binding energetics of imino-serine with WT- and E121K-DAO	57
4.3 Conclusion	59
CHAPTER 5: Structure-function relationship study of Human D-amino acid oxidase E121K variant	61-76
5.1 Introduction	62
5.2 Results	64
5.2.1 Cloning and site-directed mutagenesis	64
5.2.2 Protein expression optimization	64
5.2.3 Conformation of WT-DAO and E121K-DAO	66
5.2.4 Comparison of enzymatic activity	68
5.2.5 FAD and benzoate binding study	69
5.2.6 Oligomeric state and stability	71

5.2.7 Prediction of aggregation and the change in the charge and PI of the $\alpha 6$ helix	72
5.2.8 Epifluorescence, kinetic, and structural analysis of the aggregate Formation	72
5.3 Discussion	74
5.4 Conclusion	76
CHAPTER 6: Pathogenic effects of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis-associated E121K D-amino acid oxidase mutation	77-88
6.1 Introduction	78
6.2 Results	79
6.2.1 E121K mutation causes inclusion body formation	80
6.2.2 Decrease in viability in transiently transfected SH-SY5Y cells	82
6.2.3 Ubiquitination and subcellular localization of the protein aggregates	82
6.2.4 Upregulation of autophagy-related proteins p62, LC3 and OPTN	84
6.3 Discussion	86
6.4 Conclusion	88
CHAPTER 7 Conclusions and Future Directions	89-93
References	94-106
Author's Resume	107-110

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No.	Title	Page No.
1.1	Location of E121 residue in amino acid sequence and DAO protein structure	5
2.1	Mechanism of ALS implicated in disease progression.	15
2.2	Protein misfolding and aggregation-related neurodegeneration models	16
2.3	Neurodegenerative disorders cause neuronal death through protein aggregation mechanisms.	17
2.4	Topology of the DAO subunit	24
2.5	The structure of the enzyme is diagrammatically represented	26
4.1	Human D-amino acid oxidase (DAO) crystal structure	50
4.2	RMSD and RMSF profile	51
4.3	Principal Component Analysis	52
4.4	Active-site loop in WT DAO	54
4.5	Active-site loop in E121K DAO	55
4.6	Active-site loop SASA and RMSD profile of Tyr224	56
4.7	FAD and imino-serine (purple-colored backbone) interactions	57
5.1	Dimeric structure of Human DAO (PDB ID 2E49: Chain A-B).	63
5.2	Confirmation of cloning and protein expression	64
5.3	Protein expression and comparison of the absorbance spectrum	67
5.4	Circular dichroism spectra of the WT- and E121K-DAO	68
5.5	Comparison of the DAO activity of the variants.	69
5.6	Analysis of binding of FAD and benzoate to DAO variants.	70

5.7	Size exclusion and thermal denaturation profiles of WT and E121K DAO variants.	71
5.8	Aggregation profiles of DAO variants	73
5.9	Epifluorescence images of DAO aggregate at 72 h	74
6.1	Expression of WT- and E121K-DAO at 24 h	80
6.2	Timepoint epifluorescence imaging, DAO expression analysis up to 48hrs, and cell viability study by MTT analysis.	81
6.3	Confocal analysis of the effect of E121k mutation on ubiquitin-binding of E121K	83
6.4	Immunoblotting analysis of the effect of overexpression of E121K mutant protein	84
6.5	Confocal analysis of E121K mutant protein colocalization with autophagy-related	85

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Title	Page No.
2.1	ALS-linked genes function and disease progression mechanism	19
3.1	Design of primers for sub-cloning, site-directed mutagenesis, and RT-PCR	43
4.1	Binding free energy analysis from MD simulation trajectories (DAO with FAD and Serine)	58
4.2	List of interactions (Wildtype with FAD and imino-serine)	58
4.3	List of interactions (E121K and FAD and imino-serine)	59
5.1	Conditions for expressing wild-type and E121K DAO variants in BL21(DE3) <i>E. coli</i> cells.	65
5.2	Comparative kinetic parameters of WT- and E121K-DAO	70
5.3	Comparison of α -helix, β -sheet composition, and WT and E121K DAO melting temperatures determined by CD spectra	71
5.4	ANuPP aggregation Score, PI, and Net charge of the WT and E121K α 6 helix	72

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACHR	Acetylcholine receptor
ALS	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
AMPA	α -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole propionic acid
ANG	Angiogenin
ATXN2	Ataxin 2
BSA	Bovine serum albumin
C9orf72	chromosome 9 open reading frame 72
CCNF	Cyclin F
CD	Circular Dichroism
cDNA	Complementary DNA
CHCHD10	Coiled-coil-helix-coiled-coil-helix domain-containing protein 10
CHMP2B	Charged multivesicular body protein 2B
DAO	D-amino acid oxidase
DAPI	4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole
DCTN1	Dynactin subunit 1
DMEM	Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium
DMSO	Dimethyl Sulfoxide
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DTT	Dithiothreitol
<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>
EC	Enzyme Commission
EGFP	Enhanced green fluorescent protein
ELP3	Elongated acetyltransferase complex subunit 3
EMG	Electromyography
EMG/NCS	Electromyogram and nerve conduction tests

ERBB4	Erb-B2 Receptor Tyrosine Kinase 4
EWSR1	EWS RNA binding protein 1
FAD	flavin adenine dinucleotide
FALS	Familial ALS
FBS	Fetal Bovine Serum
FEL	free energy landscape
FIG4	Factor-induced gene 4
FTD	Frontotemporal dementia
FUS	Fused in sarcoma
GAPDH	Glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase
GFP	Green fluorescent protein
Glu/E	Glutamate
GROMACS	GRoningen MACHine for Chemical Simulations
HCL	Hydrochloride
HNRNP	Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein
HRP	Horseradish peroxidase
HSP	Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia
IPTG	Isopropyl β - d-1-thiogalactopyranoside
K_d	Dissociation constant
kDA	Kilo Dalton
LC3-II	Light chain -II
LMN	Lower motor neurons
MATR3	Matrin 3
MD	Molecular Dynamic
MMPBSA	Molecular Mechanics Poisson-Boltzmann Surface Area
mRNA	Messenger RNA
MTT	3-(4, 5-dimethyl thiazolyl-2)-2, 5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide

NaCl	Sodium Chloride
NCS	Nerve conduction studies
NEK1	NIMA-related kinase 1
NMDA	N-methyl-D-aspartate
NTA	Nitrilo triacetic acid
OPMD	Oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophy
OPTN	Optineurin
P62	Sequestosome1
PAGE	Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
PCA	Principal component analysis
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PDB	Protein Data Bank
PFN1	Profilin 1
PMP70	Peroxisomal marker protein 70
PMSF	Phenyl methyl sulfonyl fluoride
PolyPhen	polymorphism phenotyping
PVDF	Polyvinylidene fluoride
RIPA	Radioimmunoprecipitation
RMSD	Root Mean Square Deviation
RMSF	Root mean square fluctuations
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RNS	repetitive nerve stimulation
RPM	Rotation per minute
RT-PCR	Reverse Transcription- Polymerase Chain Reaction
S.E.M.	Standard error of the mean
SALS	Sporadic ALS
SASA	Solvent accessible surface area

SBMA	Spinal-Bulbar Muscular Atrophy
SDM	Site-Directed Mutagenesis
SDS	Sodium dodecyl-sulfate
SETX	Senataxin
SIFT	Sorting intolerant from tolerant
SIGMAR1	Sigma non-opioid intracellular receptor 1
SMN	Survival motor neuron
SOD1	superoxide dismutase 1
SPG	Spastacin
SQSTM1	Sequestosome1
TAF15	Tata box binding protein factor associated 15
TBK1	Tank binding kinase 1
TDP43	TAR DNA binding protein 43
TEM	Transmission electron microscopy
ThT	Thioflavin T
T_m	Melting temperature
TUBA4A	Tubulin alpha 4A
UBQLN	Ubiquilin
UBQLN2	Ubiquilin2
UMN	Upper motor neurons
UPS	Ubiquitin-proteasome system
UV	Ultraviolet
VAPB	Vesicle-associated membrane protein B
VCP	Valosin containing protein
VGCC	Voltage-gated calcium channel
WT	Wildtype