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Screening of GJB6 Gene for the 342-kb Deletion in Patients from Jordan with Non Syndromic Hearing Loss

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ABSTRACT Hearing loss is a common congenital disorder frequently associated with mutations in the connexin 26 gene (GJB2). However, recent studies found a 342-kb deletion in another gene, connexin 30 (GJB6) that causes non-syndromic recessive hearing loss in either a homozygous monogenic inheritance of Cx30 deletion or digenic inheritance of Cx30 deletion and a Cx26 mutation. The objective of this study was to screen for the 342-kb deletion in Cx30 gene in patients with non-syndromic hearing loss from Jordan. Two different PCR conditions were used to detect the 342-kb deletion of connexin 30 gene by amplifying the deletion breakpoints using specific primers. None of the patients with non-syndromic hearing loss was found to carry deletion in connexin 30 gene indicating that the occurrence of this deletion is restricted to Spanish, Caucasians, and Ashkenazi Jews.