

## Identification of a Novel *KRT9* Frameshift Mutation in a Chinese Pedigree with Epidermolytic Palmoplantar Keratoderma

Haiou Jiang<sup>1</sup>, Xiaoqing Zhao<sup>2</sup>, Dan Yin<sup>5</sup>, Song Wang<sup>4</sup>, Hai Luo<sup>1</sup>, Juan He<sup>1</sup>,  
Jie Li<sup>1</sup>, Linghan Gao<sup>3</sup> and Anli Shu<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Basic Medicine, Hunan University of Medicine, Huaihua, China*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Dermatology, Ruijin Hospital Affiliated to Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, Shanghai, China*

<sup>3</sup>*Bio-X Institutes, Key Laboratory for the Genetics of Developmental and Neuropsychiatric Disorders, Ministry of Education, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China*

<sup>4</sup>*Department of Dermatology, The First Affiliated Hospital, Hunan University of Medicine, Huaihua, China*

<sup>5</sup>*Health Center of Jinzhou Town, Ningxiang, China*

**KEYWORDS** Deletion Mutation. Epidermolytic Palmoplantar Keratoderma (EPPK). Frameshift. Keratin. *KRT9*. Linkage Analysis

**ABSTRACT** Epidermolytic palmoplantar keratoderma (EPPK) is a genodermatosis with autosomal dominant inheritance model. It results from variants of keratin 9 (*KRT9*) or *KRT1* gene. In this study causative gene mapping in a Chinese EPPK family was performed with Two-point linkage analysis and haplotyping. Positive linkage results were obtained on 17q ( $Z_{\max}=2.06$ ,  $\theta_{\max}=0.0$ ) at D17S799, which indicated *KRT9* to be the most responsible gene for the family. Subsequently, direct sequencing identified a novel frameshift mutation caused by a 5bp deletion ( $\Delta GGAGG$ ) in *KRT9* in all affected individuals but neither in the unaffected subjects nor in the 50 healthy unrelated controls. The frameshift changed the encoding of the following nine amino acids and resulted in a readthrough translation in exon 7. The data revealed that the novel frameshift mutation in *KRT9* was responsible for the Chinese EPPK pedigree. The researchers' findings broaden the spectrum of *KRT9* variants and provide further evidence for the highly genetic heterogeneity of EPPK.