

- Brook JD, McCurrach ME, Harley HG, Buckler AJ, Church D, et al. 1992. Molecular basis of myotonic dystrophy: expansion of a trinucleotide (CTG) repeat at the 3' end of a transcript encoding a protein kinase family member. *Cell* 68: 799-808
- Cartegni L, Wang J, Zhu Z, Zhang MQ, Krainer AR. 2003. ESEfinder: A web resource to identify exonic splicing enhancers. *Nucleic Acids Res* 31: 3568-3571
- Cartegni L, Hastings ML, Calarco JA, de Stanchina E, Krainer AR. 2006. Determinants of exon 7 splicing in the spinal muscular atrophy genes, SMN1 and SMN2. *Am J Hum Genet* 78: 63-77
- Chang YF, Imam JS, Wilkinson MF. 2007. The nonsense-mediated decay RNA surveillance pathway. *Annu Rev Biochem* 76: 51-74
- Chen S, Anderson K, Moore MJ. 2000. Evidence for a linear search in bimolecular 3' splice site AG selection. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 97: 593-598
- Chen WL, Lin JW, Huang HJ, Wang SM, Su MT, et al. 2008. SCA8 mRNA expression suggests an antisense regulation of KLHL1 and correlates to SCA8 pathology. *Brain Res* 1233: 176-184
- Clarke LA, Veiga I, Isidro G, Jordan P, Ramos JS, et al. 2000. Pathological exon skipping in an HNPCC proband with MLH1 splice acceptor site mutation. *Genes Chromosomes Cancer* 29: 367-370
- Crick F. 1970. Central dogma of molecular biology. *Nature* 227: 561-563
- D'Souza I, Poorkaj P, Hong M, Nochlin D, Lee VM, et al. 1999. Missense and silent tau gene mutations cause frontotemporal dementia with parkinsonism-chromosome 17 type, by affecting multiple alternative RNA splicing regulatory elements. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 96: 5598-5603

- Dlott B, d'Azzo A, Quon DV, Neufeld EF. 1990. Two mutations produce intron insertion in mRNA and elongated beta-subunit of human beta-hexosaminidase. *J Biol Chem* 265: 17921-17927
- Fairbrother WG, Yeh RF, Sharp PA, Burge CB. 2002. Predictive identification of exonic splicing enhancers in human genes. *Science* 297: 1007-1013
- Fisher CW, Fisher CR, Chuang JL, Lau KS, Chuang DT, et al. 1993. Occurrence of a 2-bp (AT) deletion allele and a nonsense (G-to-T) mutant allele at the E2 (DBT) locus of six patients with maple syrup urine disease: multiple-exon skipping as a secondary effect of the mutations. *Am J Hum Genet* 52: 414-424
- Gabellini D, Green MR, Tupler R. 2002. Inappropriate gene activation in FSHD: a repressor complex binds a chromosomal repeat deleted in dystrophic muscle. *Cell* 110: 339-348
- Gabellini D, D'Antona G, Moggio M, Prella A, Zecca C, et al. 2006. Facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy in mice overexpressing FRG1. *Nature* 439: 973-977
- Gao K, Masuda A, Matsuura T, Ohno K. 2008. Human branch point consensus sequence is yUnAy. *Nucleic Acids Res* 36: 2257-2267
- Gharehbaghi-Schnell EB, Finsterer J, Korschineck I, Mamoli B, Binder BR. 1998. Genotype-phenotype correlation in myotonic dystrophy. *Clin Genet* 53: 20-26
- Gilbert W. 1986. Origin of life: The RNA world. *Nature* 319: 618
- Goren A, Ram O, Amit M, Keren H, Lev-Maor G, et al. 2006. Comparative analysis identifies exonic splicing regulatory sequences--The complex definition of enhancers and silencers. *Mol Cell* 22: 769-781

- Gorlov IP, Gorlova OY, Frazier ML, Amos CI. 2003. Missense mutations in hMLH1 and hMSH2 are associated with exonic splicing enhancers. *Am J Hum Genet* 73: 1157-1161
- Hagerman PJ, Hagerman RJ. 2004. The fragile-X premutation: a maturing perspective. *Am J Hum Genet* 74: 805-816
- Haire RN, Ohta Y, Strong SJ, Litman RT, Liu YY, et al. 1997. Unusual patterns of exon skipping in bruton tyrosine kinase are associated with mutations involving the intron 17 3' splice site. *Am J Hum Genet* 60: 798-807
- Harper PS, Monckton DG. 2004. Myotonic dystrophy. Pags 1039-1076, in Engel AG (ed.) *Myology*. 3rd Ed. McGraw-Hill, New York
- Horsthemke B, Wagstaff J. 2008. Mechanisms of imprinting of the Prader-Willi/Angelman region. *Am J Med Genet A* 146A: 2041-2052
- Hsu BY, Iacobazzi V, Wang Z, Harvie H, Chalmers RA, et al. 2001. Aberrant mRNA splicing associated with coding region mutations in children with carnitine-acylcarnitine translocase deficiency. *Mol Genet Metab* 74: 248-255
- Ikeda Y, Daughters RS, Ranum LP. 2008. Bidirectional expression of the SCA8 expansion mutation: One mutation, two genes. *Cerebellum* 7: 150-158
- Iwahashi CK, Yasui DH, An HJ, Greco CM, Tassone F, et al. 2006. Protein composition of the intranuclear inclusions of FXTAS. *Brain* 129: 256-271
- Jacquemont S, Hagerman RJ, Hagerman PJ, Leehey MA. 2007. Fragile-X syndrome and fragile X-associated tremor/ataxia syndrome: two faces of FMR1. *Lancet Neurology* 6: 45-55
- Jensen KB, Dredge BK, Stefani G, Zhong R, Buckanovich RJ, et al. 2000. Nova-1 regulates neuron-specific alternative splicing and is essential for neuronal viability. *Neuron* 25: 359-371

- Jiang H, Mankodi A, Swanson MS, Moxley RT, Thornton CA. 2004. Myotonic dystrophy type 1 is associated with nuclear foci of mutant RNA, sequestration of muscleblind proteins and deregulated alternative splicing in neurons. *Hum Mol Genet* 13: 3079-3088
- Kashima T, Rao N, Manley JL. 2007. An intronic element contributes to splicing repression in spinal muscular atrophy. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 104: 3426-3431
- Kimbell LM, Ohno K, Engel AG, Rotundo RL. 2004. C-terminal and heparin-binding domains of collagenic tail subunit are both essential for anchoring acetylcholinesterase at the synapse. *J Biol Chem* 279: 10997-11005
- Kimura T, Nakamori M, Lueck JD, Pouliquin P, Aoike F, et al. 2005. Altered mRNA splicing of the skeletal muscle ryanodine receptor and sarcoplasmic/endoplasmic reticulum Ca²⁺-ATPase in myotonic dystrophy type 1. *Hum Mol Genet* 14: 2189-2200
- Kishore S, Stamm S. 2006. The snoRNA HBII-52 regulates alternative splicing of the serotonin receptor 2C. *Science* 311: 230-232
- Kondo S, Yamamoto N, Murakami T, Okumura M, Mayeda A, et al. 2004. Tra2 beta, SF2/ASF and SRp30c modulate the function of an exonic splicing enhancer in exon 10 of tau pre-mRNA. *Genes Cells* 9: 121-130
- Koushika SP, Soller M, White K. 2000. The neuron-enriched splicing pattern of *Drosophila* erect wing is dependent on the presence of ELAV protein. *Mol Cell Biol* 20: 1836-1845
- Kremer EJ, Pritchard M, Lynch M, Yu S, Holman K, et al. 1991. Mapping of DNA instability at the fragile X to a trinucleotide repeat sequence p(CCG)_n. *Science* 252: 1711-1714

- LaFerla FM, Green KN, Oddo S. 2007. Intracellular amyloid-beta in Alzheimer's disease. *Nat Rev Neurosci* 8: 499-509
- Licatalosi DD, Darnell RB. 2006. Splicing regulation in neurologic disease. *Neuron* 52: 93-101
- Licatalosi DD, Mele A, Fak JJ, Ule J, Kayikci M, et al. 2008. HITS-CLIP yields genome-wide insights into brain alternative RNA processing. *Nature* 456: 464-469
- Lin X, Miller JW, Mankodi A, Kanadia RN, Yuan Y, et al. 2006. Failure of MBNL1-dependent post-natal splicing transitions in myotonic dystrophy. *Hum Mol Genet* 15: 2087-2097
- Liquori CL, Ricker K, Moseley ML, Jacobsen JF, Kress W, et al. 2001. Myotonic dystrophy type 2 caused by a CCTG expansion in intron 1 of ZNF9. *Science* 293: 864-867
- Manabe T, Katayama T, Sato N, Gomi F, Hitomi J, et al. 2003. Induced HMGA1a expression causes aberrant splicing of Presenilin-2 pre-mRNA in sporadic Alzheimer's disease. *Cell Death Differ* 10: 698-708
- Masuda A, Shen XM, Ito M, Matsuura T, Engel AG, et al. 2008. hnRNP H enhances skipping of a nonfunctional exon P3A in CHRNA1 and a mutation disrupting its binding causes congenital myasthenic syndrome. *Hum Mol Genet* 17: 4022-4035
- Moseley ML, Zu T, Ikeda Y, Gao W, Mosemiller AK, et al. 2006. Bidirectional expression of CUG and CAG expansion transcripts and intranuclear polyglutamine inclusions in spinocerebellar ataxia type 8. *Nat Genet* 38: 758-769

- Mutsuddi M, Rebay I. 2005. Molecular genetics of spinocerebellar ataxia type 8 (SCA8). *RNA Biol* 2: 49-52
- O'Neill JP, Rogan PK, Cariello N, Nicklas JA. 1998. Mutations that alter RNA splicing of the human HPRT gene: a review of the spectrum. *Mutat Res* 411: 179-214
- Ohno K, Milone M, Shen X-M, Engel AG. 2003. A frameshifting mutation in *CHRNE* unmasks skipping of the preceding exon. *Hum Mol Genet* 12: 3055-3066
- Ohno K, Tsujino A, Shen X-M, Milone M, Engel AG. 2005. Spectrum of splicing errors caused by *CHRNE* mutations affecting introns and intron/exon boundaries. *J Med Genet* 42: e53
- Philips AV, Timchenko LT, Cooper TA. 1998. Disruption of splicing regulated by a CUG-binding protein in myotonic dystrophy. *Science* 280: 737-741
- Query CC, Moore MJ, Sharp PA. 1994. Branch nucleophile selection in pre-mRNA splicing: evidence for the bulged duplex model. *Genes Dev* 8: 587-597
- Query CC, Strobel SA, Sharp PA. 1996. Three recognition events at the branch-site adenine. *EMBO J* 15: 1392-1402
- Ranum LP, Cooper TA. 2006. RNA-mediated neuromuscular disorders. *Annu Rev Neurosci* 29: 259-277
- Rogan PK, Schneider TD. 1995. Using information content and base frequencies to distinguish mutations from genetic polymorphisms in splice junction recognition sites. *Hum Mutat* 6: 74-76
- Sahashi K, Masuda A, Matsuura T, Shinmi J, Zhang Z, et al. 2007. In vitro and in silico analysis reveals an efficient algorithm to predict the splicing

- consequences of mutations at the 5' splice sites. *Nucleic Acids Res* 35: 5995-6003
- Sato N, Hori O, Yamaguchi A, Lambert JC, Chartier-Harlin MC, et al. 1999. A novel presenilin-2 splice variant in human Alzheimer's disease brain tissue. *J Neurochem* 72: 2498-2505
- Savkur RS, Philips AV, Cooper TA. 2001. Aberrant regulation of insulin receptor alternative splicing is associated with insulin resistance in myotonic dystrophy. *Nat Genet* 29: 40-47
- Schwarze U, Starman BJ, Byers PH. 1999. Redefinition of exon 7 in the COL1A1 gene of type I collagen by an intron 8 splice-donor-site mutation in a form of osteogenesis imperfecta: influence of intron splice order on outcome of splice-site mutation. *Am J Hum Genet* 65: 336-344
- Shapiro MB, Senapathy P. 1987. RNA splice junctions of different classes of eukaryotes: sequence statistics and functional implications in gene expression. *Nucleic Acids Res* 15: 7155-7174
- Smith PJ, Zhang C, Wang J, Chew SL, Zhang MQ, et al. 2006. An increased specificity score matrix for the prediction of SF2/ASF-specific exonic splicing enhancers. *Hum Mol Genet* 15: 2490-2508
- Soller M, White K. 2003. ELAV inhibits 3'-end processing to promote neural splicing of ewg pre-mRNA. *Genes Dev* 17: 2526-2538
- Sperling J, Azubel M, Sperling R. 2008. Structure and function of the Pre-mRNA splicing machine. *Structure* 16: 1605-1615
- Szabo A, Dalmau J, Manley G, Rosenfeld M, Wong E, et al. 1991. HuD, a paraneoplastic encephalomyelitis antigen, contains RNA-binding domains and is homologous to Elav and Sex-lethal. *Cell* 67: 325-333

- Takahara K, Schwarze U, Imamura Y, Hoffman GG, Toriello H, et al. 2002. Order of intron removal influences multiple splice outcomes, including a two-exon skip, in a COL5A1 acceptor-site mutation that results in abnormal pro-alpha1(V) N-propeptides and Ehlers-Danlos syndrome type I. *Am J Hum Genet* 71: 451-465
- Takasugi N, Tomita T, Hayashi I, Tsuruoka M, Niimura M, et al. 2003. The role of presenilin cofactors in the gamma-secretase complex. *Nature* 422: 438-441
- Ule J, Jensen KB, Ruggiu M, Mele A, Ule A, et al. 2003. CLIP identifies Nova-regulated RNA networks in the brain. *Science* 302: 1212-1215
- Ule J, Stefani G, Mele A, Ruggiu M, Wang X, et al. 2006. An RNA map predicting Nova-dependent splicing regulation. *Nature* 444: 580-586
- Wang Z, Rolish ME, Yeo G, Tung V, Mawson M, et al. 2004. Systematic identification and analysis of exonic splicing silencers. *Cell* 119: 831-845
- Wijmenga C, Hewitt JE, Sandkuijl LA, Clark LN, Wright TJ, et al. 1992. Chromosome 4q DNA rearrangements associated with facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy. *Nat Genet* 2: 26-30
- Wu S, Romfo CM, Nilsen TW, Green MR. 1999. Functional recognition of the 3' splice site AG by the splicing factor U2AF35. *Nature* 402: 832-835
- Young JI, Hong EP, Castle JC, Crespo-Barreto J, Bowman AB, et al. 2005. Regulation of RNA splicing by the methylation-dependent transcriptional repressor methyl-CpG binding protein 2. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 102: 17551-17558
- Zhang XH, Chasin LA. 2004. Computational definition of sequence motifs governing constitutive exon splicing. *Genes Dev* 18: 1241-1250

Zhang XH, Kangsamaksin T, Chao MS, Banerjee JK, Chasin LA. 2005. Exon inclusion is dependent on predictable exonic splicing enhancers. *Mol Cell Biol* 25: 7323-7332

Zorio DA, Blumenthal T. 1999. Both subunits of U2AF recognize the 3' splice site in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Nature* 402: 835-838

Legends for Figures

Fig. 1. Representative splicing *cis*-elements and *trans*-factors. Tissue-specific and developmental stage-specific expressions of splicing *trans*-factors including SR proteins and hnRNP A1 enable precise regulations of alternative splicing. ISE and ISS have similar activities as ESE and ESS, but are omitted from the figure.

Fig. 2. U1 snRNA recognizes three nucleotides at the 3' end of an exon and six nucleotides at the 5' end of an intron

Fig. 3. Human consensus BPS. (A) Pictogram and (B) WebLogo presentations of BPS. Position 0 represents the branch point. (C) Representative sequences and positions of splicing *cis*-elements.

Fig. 4. *CHRNA1* carries a 75-nt exon P3A. Its inclusion generates a non-functional alpha subunit of the acetylcholine receptor. hnRNP H and PTB silence recognition of exon P3A and induce its skipping. The IVS3-8G>A mutation identified in a patient with congenital myasthenic syndrome weakens the binding of hnRNP H and causes inclusion of exon P3A. Tannic acid facilitates the expression of PTB and partially ameliorates aberrant splicing due to IVS3-8G>A.

Fig. 5. NASRE. Wild-type *CHRNE* generates the normally spliced transcript (a) and the exon 6-skipped transcript (b), because exon 6 carries weak splicing signals. The exon-skipped transcript carries a premature termination codon (PTC) and is degraded by NMD. A 7-nt deletion (arrowhead) in exon 7 generates a PTC in the normally

spliced transcript (c) and is degraded by NMD. The deletion resumes the open reading frame from the exon 6-skipped transcript, and the transcript escapes NMD (d).

Fig. 6. In DM1, expanded CUG repeats in the 3' UTR of DMPK sequester muscleblind and upregulate CUG-binding protein. Dysregulation of these splicing *trans*-factors cause aberrant splicing of their inherent target genes. Four representative target genes are indicated.

Fig. 7. Mutations on *MAPT* exon 10 cause excessive skipping (N279K and L284L) or inclusion (K280del) of exon 10.

Fig. 8. Expanded CTG on *ATXN8OS* exerts three toxic effects on the bidirectional transcripts.

Footnote for NMD in Section 4.2

Nonsense-mediated mRNA decay (NMD). NMD is a quality-assurance mechanism that degrades mRNAs harboring a premature termination codon (PTC) (Chang et al., 2007). Proteins translated from mRNAs harboring PTCs potentially have dominant-negative or deleterious activities. In pre-mRNA splicing, an exon-junction complex (EJC) is deposited 20-24 nucleotides upstream of each exon-exon junction.

Ribosomes remove EJCs, but, in the presence of a PTC, EJCs stay on the transcript and trigger the NMD pathway in the cytoplasm.

Figure 1

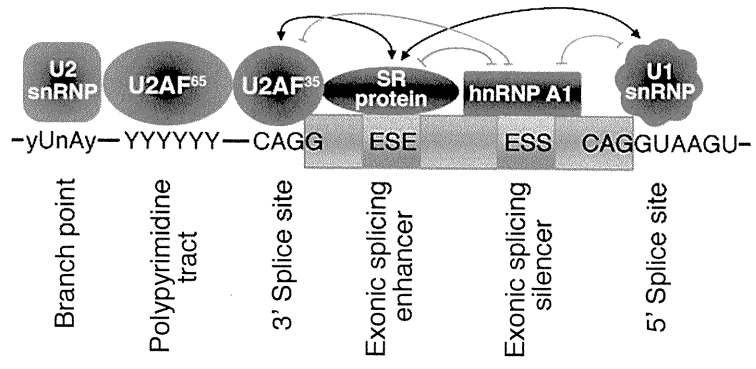


Figure 2

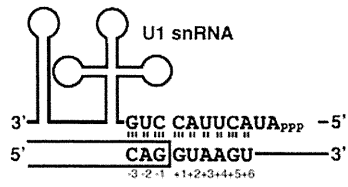


Figure 3

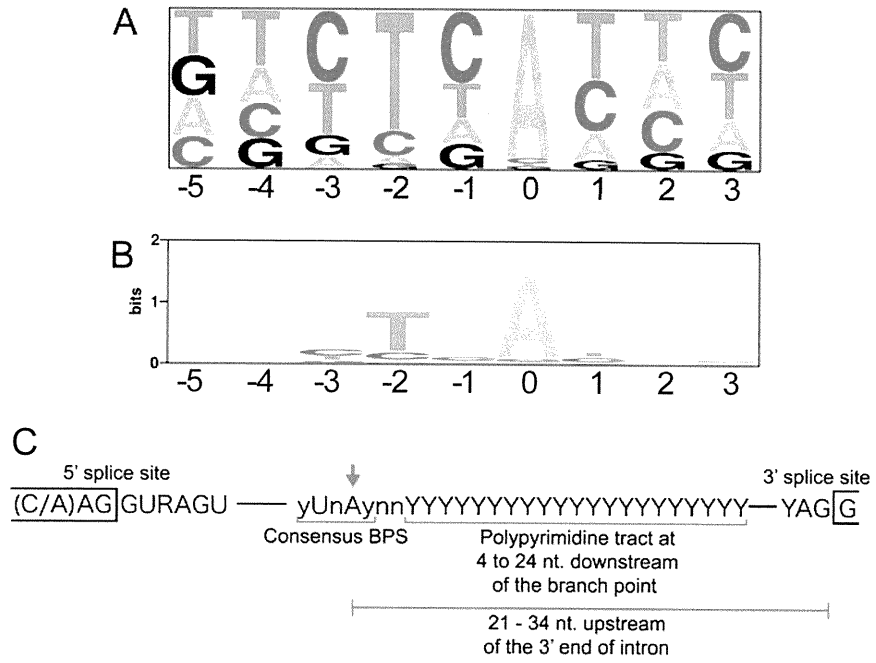


Figure 4

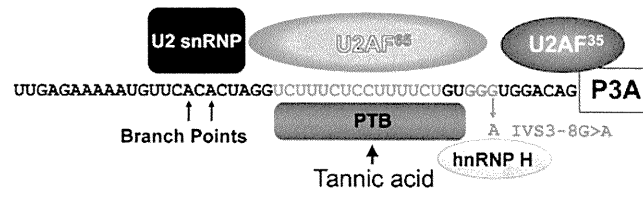


Figure 5

mRNA from normal allele

a 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

b 1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10 11 12 → Degraded
6 PTC

mRNA from mutant allele with 7-nt deletion

c 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 → Degraded
*PTC

d 1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10 11 12
6

Figure 6

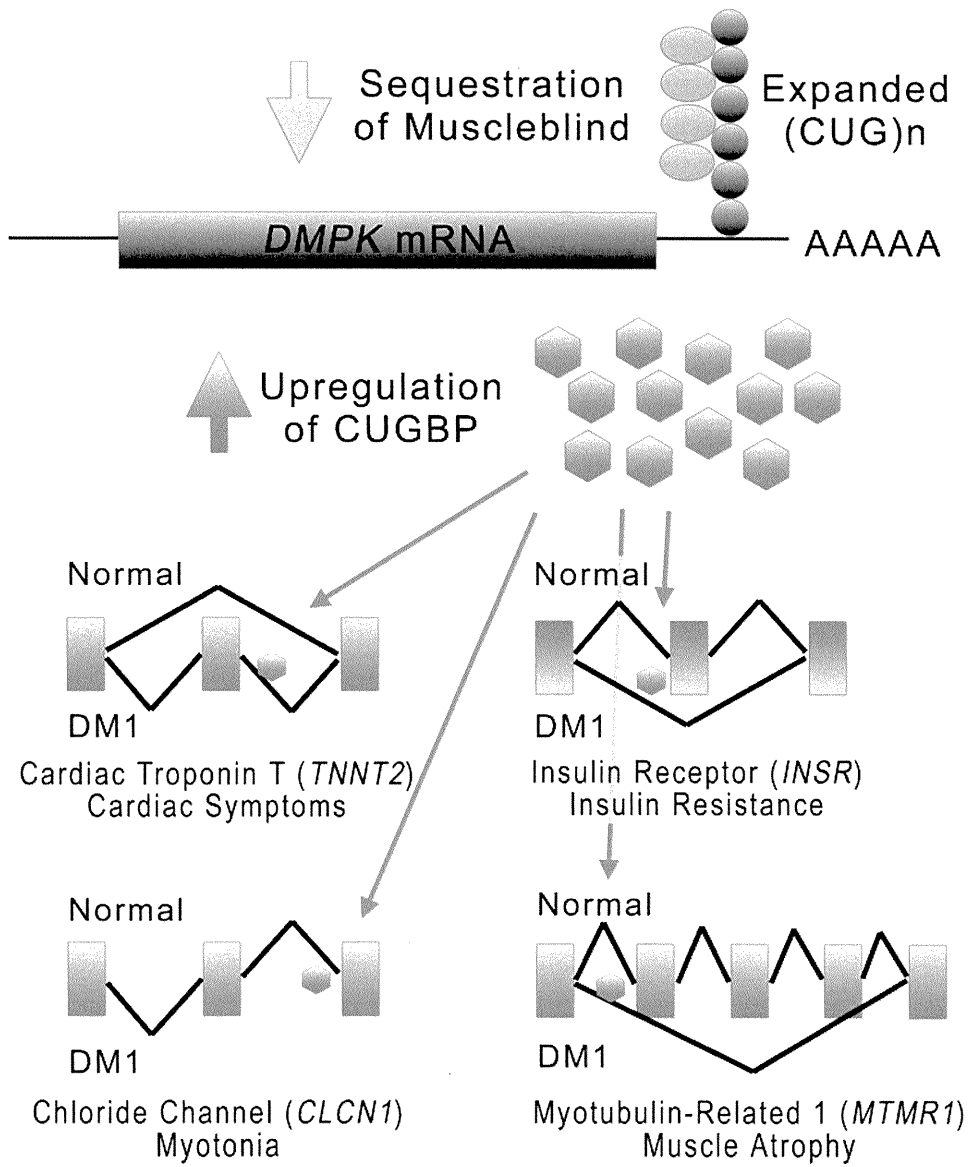


Figure 7

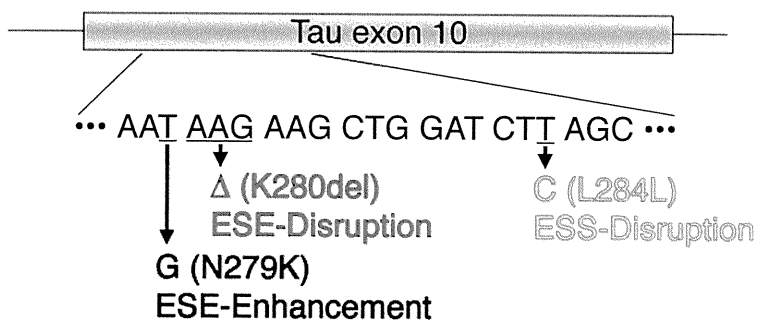


Figure 8

