

Current Development and Trends of Pharmacotherapy in Gene Cataract

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Abstract :

Recently, point mutations in the D crystalline gene have been connected to a number of hereditary cataracts in human's .Here; we present a mechanistic explanation for the lens opacity in two genetic cataracts and propose that the opacity results from the mutant proteins spontaneous crystallization. Just as each novel mutation reveals new information about the structural or functional biology of the affected gene, each newly identified gene adds to our understanding of the evolution and cellular biology of the lens. There is still much that needs to be learned through additional genetics research regarding the set of gene that are currently known to be connected to cataract, particularly for age- related cataract. The current challenge is to develop studies to lower the incidence of age - related cataract in the population using the new genetic knowledge. Clearly, researchers are racing to find the genes linked to a higher incidence of cataract. Direct gene therapy, however, may not be feasible in the near future to prevent the beginning of cataract since more study is required to identify the gene product, targets for intervention, and transport to the lens. This paper contains genetic information and how emerging trends play an important role in today's era. It include introduction part, age related factor and diagnosis.

Keyword : Mutation, Crystalline, Hereditary, Cataract, Spontaneous, Mutants, Population.

Introduction :

The term cataract refers to lens degeneration that is characterized by clouding which result in cloudy or impaired vision. One of the leading factors in avoidable blindness is cataract. The eye is a visual organ in humans. It is essential to existence because it offers us the ability to see and comprehend our surroundings. The eyes make it possible to visualize and comprehend the colors, forms and proportions of many different objects. Three-quarters of all reported human genetic abnormalities are inherited eye illnesses.(khan.et.al,2017) Congenital cataract is a form of cataract that develops during infancy(Churchill.et.al,2011) . It is described as a crystalline lens opacity that impairs eyesight and the abnormalities of the lens can interfere with the eyes' ability to develop normally (javadiyamet.al,2017). In industrialized countries, the prevalence ranges from 1-6 instances per 10,000 live births, while in poorer nation, the ranges from 5-15 cases per 10,000 births. Congenital cataracts can be of the autosomal dominant, autosomal recessive, or x-linked genetic types and can be isolated (nonsyndromic) or connected to systemic disorders or syndromes (Crislleppe.et.al,2014). The location and types of lens impermeability-including posterior polar, anterior polar, lamellar, nuclear, coralliform, cerulean, pulverulent, cortical, polymorphic, and complete cataracts- are the foundations of the phenotypic arrangement. With other factors such intrauterine infection, malnourishment, and metabolic disorders, roughly 50% of cases have a hereditary basis. It has been determined that non - syndromic variants of

innate cataract are caused by mutations in more than 30 genes (Hansen et al., 2009). The identification of the mutations affecting congenital cataracts should improve our understanding of cataractogenesis and provide new information on the lens. Hereditary research has identified mutations in a number of genes linked to cataracts, including cry-talline, which accounts for around half of the genetic kind of genetics kinds of cataracts that have been identified. Congenital cataracts can be unilateral or bilateral, and they can be classed according to their appearance, certain metabolic problems that they are associated with, or other optical defects. About half of the families with known mutations worry crystalline. (White et al., 1999). The accuracy of the lens depends on the crystallin's order and compactness. In an extraordinarily penetrant Mendelian genetics, mutations in crystalline that are strong enough to cause accumulation may result in congenital cataracts. We attempted to describe the genetic heterogeneity of congenital cataract condition in the review, as well as to provide some insight into the diagnosis and treatment options (Eckstein et al., 1918). Nearly 200 syndromic genetic disorders such as illness of cholesterol features of almost half of congenital cataracts, which are classified as hereditary.

Age-related cataract

The lens is clear during childhood and remains so until around the age of 45 in cases of age-related cataracts. Age at which progressive lens opacities start to appear. The cumulative harm that environmental assaults have caused to lens proteins and cells is probably certainly the cause of these opacities, at least in part. It is well known that lens proteins change in a wide range of ways as they get older, and many of these changes are sped up by oxidative, osmotic, or other stressors. It is well recognized that cataracts are related to these stresses in and of themselves. These include proteolysis, a rise in disulfide bridges, deamidation of asparagine and glutamine residues, and racemization of aspartic acid in the case of lens crystallins. acid residues, phosphorylation, carbamylation, and non-enzymatic glycosylation. The same pressures epidemiologically linked to cataracts have been discovered to generate many of these alterations in vitro or in model systems, increasing their frequency in cataractous lenses. (Ottonello et al., 2000) Crystallins are the primary soluble structural proteins in the lens and in humans, there are three major classes of crystallins that are encoded by various genes: the α -, β -, and γ -crystallin. Due to crystallins gradually suffer damage throughout the course of a person's lifespan, losing the capacity to take part in typical intermolecular interactions and even the capacity to stay in solution. The γ -crystallins, which have a chaperone-like action, bind these crystallins when they start to denature (leave their native structure) and precipitate (come out of solution). (Rao et al., 1995) The insoluble protein fraction, which is known to rise with ageing and in cataractous lenses, is formed when the available α -crystallin is eventually swamped by rising levels of modified β -crystallin. It is currently unknown whether proteins in the insoluble fraction become insoluble on total or partial denaturation, as suggested by the earlier stated schema, or whether they merely become less soluble as a result of alterations that leave their protein folds mostly intact. Exactly intact is unknown at this time. However, it is apparent from numerous mouse models of cataract that the presence of large amounts of unstable or precipitated protein damages the lens cell and causes cataracts indirectly through disruption of cellular architecture as well as directly through protein aggregates' ability to scatter light. (Graw et al., 2004) Similar to what is explained later for galactokinase, mutations that affect the intracellular homeostasis of lens cells might gradually harm their constituents and cause age-related cataract. Congenital cataracts



can be particularly dangerous to vision, and up to 50% of all congenital cataracts are inherited, but they only affect a small percentage of the population compared to age-related cataracts, which blind 17 million people worldwide and account for just under 50% of all blindness.(Congdon.et.al,2003) The most common surgical operation in the country, cataract surgery is performed on roughly 5% of Americans over the age of 40. Cataracts are the main cause of impaired vision in the United States. According to its demographics, it has been calculated that delaying the onset of cataract by 10 years will result in a 45% reduction in the requirement for cataract surgery.(kupfer.et.al,1987) A multitude of environmental risk factors, such as smoking or prolonged exposure to wood smoke, being obese or having high blood sugar, stunted child growth, UV exposure, and alcohol use are linked to age-related cataract.(The Italian. Et.al,1991) In contrast, antioxidant vitamins appear to have a protective impact, albeit not all investigations have supported this.(West.et.al,1995) The significance of genetic variables in the path physiology of age-related cataract is supported by epidemiological data. (Mc.et.al,2001), (epidemiol. et.al,1991) The Italian-American Cataract Study Group16 and the Lens Opacities Case-Control Study(Leske.et.al,1991) both lend support to the idea that family history can operate as a risk factor for cortical, mixed nuclear and cortical, and posterior sub capsular cataracts. According to the Framingham Offspring Eye Study (Fmiliar.et.al, 1994) those who have a sibling who has a cataract are three times as likely to develop one themselves. According to the Beaver Dam Eye Study (klein. et.al, 2001), a single main gene might be responsible for up to 35% of nuclear and up to 75% of cortical cataract variability. According to the twin eye study (Hammond.et.al, 2001), heredity explains between 53% and 58% of the liability for cortical cataract and 48% of the risk for nuclear cataract, indicating a considerable genetic influence on age-related cataract.

Pharmacotherapy Of Cataract

In parts of the world where surgical choices are scarce, pharmaceutical approaches to cataract care may be very important.

- 1. Potential pharmacological treatment for cataract :** There have been attempts to use herbal remedies and or antioxidants, amino acids, and minerals to slow the development of cataracts based on models of cataract development and the theorized process for its production.
- 2. Antioxidant :** It has been well shown in the literature , how oxidative stress affects the beginning and development of cataractogenesis. As a result, scavengers of free radicals and antioxidants offer a potential therapeutic approach to the treatment of cataracts. GSH alters lens transparency and promotes cataract development. In fact, lenticular GSH prevents oxidative stress caused by H₂O₂ by keeping the sulfhydryl groups on lens proteins in a reduced state and avoiding the development of inter- and intramolecular disulfide cross-links. Additionally, GSH protects against membrane permeability and the active transport of sulfhydryl groups in lens protein.
- 3. Keto acid and amino oxidant :** Pyruvate and -ketoglutarate, two ketoacids that are intricately connected to a number of bodily metabolic pathways, have antioxidant properties in a variety of biological systems. A number of metabolic pathways, such as gluconeogenesis, the glyoxylate cycle, amino acid synthesis, and fatty acid synthesis, utilize oxaloacetate as an intermediary. Many required and optional amino acids can be made from pyruvate and oxaloacetate as precursors.

Intriguingly, in H₂O₂ (10 mM)-induced cataract formation in cultured goat lenses, pyruvate (10 mM), -ketoglutarate (20 mM), and oxaloacetate (20 mM) reduced the level of lenticular lipid peroxidation and increased activity of GSH-peroxidase. It has also been noted that amino acids and their derivatives have a protective effect on mammalian lenses. Since amino acids are necessary for the formation of lens proteins, they have a significant impact on lens clarity. An important amino acid called l-cysteine acts as a building block for the formation of the tripeptide thiol antioxidant GSH.

- 4. Plant derived compound and herbal extract :** Numerous pieces of evidence suggest that many medicinal plants have anti-cataract properties, most likely through mechanisms involving the antioxidant strength of these plant-derived substances and/or extracts. Many fruits, vegetables, and cereals contain the flavonoid quercetin, which has been found to be a powerful antioxidant and anticancer agent. In glucose-induced goat lenses incubated in artificial aqueous humour, quercetin inhibited cataract progression and formation in a manner characterised by a decrease in lipid peroxidation and an increase in Na⁺-K⁺-ATPase activity. These studies indicate that natural polyphenols and flavonoids may prevent cataract development.
- 5. Drevogenin :** A triterpenoid aglycone called drevogenin D is produced from the Asclepiadaceae family plant *Dregea volubilis*. *Dregea volubilis* extracts have been used as medicines for a number of ailments, including tumors, inflammation, asthma, and dyspepsia.
- 6. Moringa oleifera :** The plant *ringa oleifera*, which is a member of the Moringaceae family, has shown effective in treating a variety of ailments, including diabetes, hyperlipidemia, inflammation, tumours, and epilepsy. Up to 72 hours after the onset of cataract formation caused by hyperglycemia (55 mM), the ethanol extract of *Moringa oleifera* inhibited lens opacification. Additionally, *Moringa oleifera* extracts include soluble proteins and restored GSH.

Cause of Cataract :

Age : The most frequent cause of cataracts is old age. over time, lens protein denature and deteriorate, and conditions like diabetes mellitus and hypertension speed up this process. The cumulative variables, such as chemicals, radiation, and ultraviolet light, as well as changes in gene expression and chemical reactions within the eyes are made worse by the loss of protective and restorative mechanism. The major pathogenic process in the development of cataracts are linked to a reduction in the lens's antioxidant capability.

Genetics : The development of cataracts has a considerable hereditary component, typically through lens-protection and lens-maintenance processes. There are some syndromes that might occasionally cause cataracts to appear in childhood or the early years of adulthood. Trisomy 18 (Edward's syndrome), Turner's syndrome, Down syndrome, Patau's syndrome, the deletion syndrome, and the cri-du-chat syndrome are a few examples of chromosome abnormalities linked to cataracts. In the case of neurofibromatosis type 2, juvenile cataract on one or both sides may also be present. Alport's syndrome, Conradi's syndrome, cerebrotendineous xanthomatosis, myotonic dystrophy, and oculocerebrorenal syndrome, often known as Lowe syndrome, are examples of single-gene disorders.

Skin diseases : Since the skin and the lens have the same embryological ancestry, they are also susceptible to the same disorders. Shield ulcer cataracts can occasionally occur in people who have eczema or atopic dermatitis. Cuneiform cataracts and nuclear sclerosis are two symptoms of the autosomal recessive condition ichthyosis. Pemphigus and basal-cell nevi share some connections.

Smoking and alcohol : It has been demonstrated that smoking increases the risk of nuclear and age-related cataract. There is conflicting evidence regarding alcohol's impact. While some polls that followed people for extended periods of time did not find a correlation, others that did not.

Inadequate vitamin C : Lower serum and dietary vitamin C levels have been associated with higher cataract rates. But there is no proof to back up the use of vitamin C supplements.

Sign and Symptom

The sign and symptom of cataract formation vary according to the type of cataract ,although there is considerable overlap. People with nuclear sclerotic or brunescant cataracts frequently notice a reduction in vision. In most cases, nuclear cataracts affect distance vision more than close vision. People with posterior subcapsular cataracts typically complain of glare as their symptom,. Frequent eyeglass replacements and coloured halo rings as result of lens hydration are additional symptoms. Congenital cataracts are not treated right away, amblyopia may develop (sliney.et.al,1994)

Other Symptoms Include -

- Cloudy or blurred vision
- Floaters or spot in a person's field of vision
- Reduced intensity of colors
- Sensitivity to light glare, which can make night time driving difficult.
- Noticing a circle of light surrounding lights
- Yellowing of the eye's color
- Changes in eyesight that call for eyeglass prescription
- Double vision

Diagnostics Test And Differential Diagnosis -

- (1) Prenatal reasons, such as viruses or other infectious diseases; this is more common in developing countries, are among the differential diagnoses for a hereditary congenital cataract. While other viral diseases (including toxoplasmosis, mumps, measles, influenza, chickenpox, herpes simplex, herpes zoster, cytomegalovirus, and echovirus type 3) cause ocular inflammation (uveitis), rubella directly affects the lens. These can be detected by a variety of cultures and other assays, such as TORCH (toxoplasmosis, other agents, rubella, cytomegalovirus, herpes simplex) titers, depending on the clinical situation.
- (2) Prematurity-related developmental problems. These could be linked to birth anoxia, low birth weight, seizures brought on by central nervous system involvement, cerebral palsy, hemiplegia, or retinopathy of prematurity, as well as other conditions.

- (3) Hyperglycemia and hypocalcaemia are two prenatal-postnatal conditions that might result in cataracts. These can both be detected through serum chemistries and are linked to symptoms of diabetes and tetany, respectively.
- (4) The presence of other ocular abnormalities, such as those of the anterior chamber (such as Reiger syndrome or anomaly, primary hyperplastic vitreous, aniridia, and retinopathies such retinal dysplasia, Norrie disease, and microphthalmia), in conjunction with the abnormality.
- (5) Clinical examination, chromosomal analysis, and particular blood and urine chemistries, as defined by which syndromes are suspected, may all point to an association with multisystem syndromes suspected.
- (6) Age-related macular Degeneration (ADE)- The symptoms of AMD include decreased vision and an increased need for brighter lights or magnifying glasses. Scotomas, reading or driving difficulties could be observed.(Quillen.et.al,1999). On examination, Drusen is discernible. Wet AMD will exhibit central visual abnormalities that can be clinically diagnosed using an Amsler grid.

Treatment :

Surgery- In order to improve vision, cataract surgery is performed to remove the hazy layer and replace it with transparent lenses known as Intra Ocular Lenses (IOLs).

The incision is created with a knife during conventional cataract surgery. In laser surgery, a laser is used to create the incision.

MANY TECHNIQUES ARE USED IN THE TREATMENT OF CATARACT -

1. Manual small incision cataract surgery- MSICS utilizes a self-sealing scleral tunnel rather than a significant incision. A natural seal is produced by combining a bigger internal incision (9 mm to 11 mm) with a considerably smaller external incision (6.5 mm to 7 mm). An IOL is then placed once the lens is delivered through the V-shaped incision.(Bernhisel.et.al,2020). shows MSICS and phacoemulsification had equal results for long-term best-corrected visual acuity as well as postoperative complications, despite the fact that phacoemulsification may be superior in early postoperative uncorrected visual acuity.
2. Phacoemulsification- An ultrasonic probe must be inserted after a 2 to 3 mm tiny incision is made. The probe can then emulsify and aspirate the lens after that. (Kelman.et.al,2018). A self-healing wound was possible because of the smaller incision. To fit into the tiny incision, foldable lenses were created.(kohnen.et.al,1997) improved visual acuity, a lower likelihood of astigmatism, and less postoperative inflammation are benefits compared to ECCE. Additionally, difficulties from sutures are avoided.(Jaggernath.et.al,2014)
3. Femtosecond assisted laser cataract surgery- It significantly lowers the possibility of collateral injury by microscopically dissecting tissue while using a laser.(Donaldson.et.al,2013) The laser, which was first utilised in LASIK, is used to make the corneal incision, carry out the capsulotomy, and fragment the first lens. Due to this, phacoemulsification now takes less time and energy and

requires fewer hand incisions.(Roberts.et.al,2020)Many physicians, however, dispute the current viability of phacoemulsification due to its higher cost and marginally greater benefit.

3. Refractive lens exchange- When laser ablative surgery is not an option or when cataract surgery is imminent, RLE replaces the lens of the patient with a high refractive defect using cataract surgery techniques. These patients also have a higher risk of retinal detachment due to cumulative risk over time, in addition to the hazards associated with cataract procedures. Even more at risk for retinal detachment are patients with moderate to severe myopia. Developing choroidal edema is more prevalent in patients with severe hyperopia. Additionally, patients are more likely to experience early age-related macular degeneration, which is considered to be caused by the lens removal process losing its ability to scavenge free radicals. (Alio.et.al,2014) Additionally, patients are more likely to get damage-related open-angle glaucoma.

Risk Factor -

- Increasing age
- Diabetes
- Smoking
- Obesity
- High blood pressure
- Previous eye surgery
- Excessive exposure to sunlight
- Prolonged use of corticosteroids medication

Prevention

- Have regular eye examination
- Quit smoking
- Reduce alcohol use
- Wear sunglasses
- Reduce sun exposure
- Choose a healthy diet that includes plenty of fruits and vegetables.

Future prospect of cataract -

The chance or potential for a future surgically-induced cataract problem. We consider the condition in youngsters to be adult because it is age-related. If it occurs in children, the most frequent risks linked with cataract surgery are posterior capsule opacification (pco), which affects the artificial lens implant and results in blurry vision returning. Glaucoma, in which pressure develops inside the eye and causes irritation and damage to the eye's tissue, is another danger associated with surgery.

There are various degrees of postoperative complications. For instance, endophthalmitis, an uncommon bacterial infection in the eye that can cause blindness, and sight swallowing of the eyes.

When your retina is yanked away from its natural position, it can cause retinal detachment, an issue with your eyes. Among others are corneal and macular edema.

Conculsion :

Affected persons with inherited cataract s often have symmetrical cataract. Children's cataract can develop for a reasons, including trauma, drugs, radiation exposure, and disease carried from mother to kid during pregnancy. To understand the condition inside the gene implicated in the development of cataract in the eyes, studies and research pertaining to gene functions are crucial. However, opacification can be avoided by using medically prescribed substances including antioxidants, vitamin supplements, carotenoids, diet, and gene therapy. The study offered a methodical, impartial, and thorough survey of the literature pertaining to cataract gene research. Additionally, this study illustrated and existing hotspots and anticipated developments in the field of cataract gene research. The review will identify areas for further investigation and assai ophthalmologists in understanding the dynamic evolution of cataract gene research.

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