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Genotypes of Alcohol-Metabolizing enzymes and the risk for alcoholics in Korean

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Alcohol dehydrogenase 2 (ADH2) and mitochondrial aldehyde dehydrogenase 2 (ALDH2) are the major enzymes involved in oxidative degradation of ethanol, and they catalyze the conversion of ethanol to acetaldehyde and further into The frequencies of ADH2*2 and ALDH2*2 varied across ethnic acetic acid. groups and the distortion frequencies were shown in alcoholics. We examined the exon 3 of the ADH2 and exon 12 of the ALDH2 genotypes by PCR-RFLP from 53 alcoholics and 232 controls in Korean. The *ADH2*1/ADH2*1* homozygote was significantly predominant in alcoholic patients (45.3%) compared to control subjects (6.0%) (p<0.001), whereas there was inverse relation in *ADH2*2/ADH2*2* (p<0.001). The ALDH2*1/ALDH2*1 homozygote was 94.3% for alcoholics compared with 75.9% of controls (p<0.001). All alcoholics had $ALDH2^*1$ allele in our study. The high relative risks for alcoholics were found in ADH2*1 and ALDH2*1 and their relative risks (R.R.) are 2.9 and 8.1, respectively. On the other hands, the allele frequencies of ADH2*2 and ALDH2*2 for alcoholics were lower than those of controls. suggest that ADH2 and ALDH2 gene polymorphisms may be associated with the development of alcoholics in Korean. Same genetic predisposition to alcoholics was shown in other Orientals (Japanese and Chinese) but not in Caucasians.

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DNA Polymorphism Analysis of BoLA DRB3 Gene between Hanwoo and Holstein in Korea

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The bovine leukocyte antigen (BoLA) system is the major histocompatibility complex (MHC) of cattle. MHC genes encode highly polymorphic cell-surface molecules which present antigenic peptides to T-cell, thereby playing an essential role in immune response to foreign agents and the differentiation among the species. The BoLA-DR region contains at least three DRB genes but only the DRB3 gene is expressed at a high level in peripheral blood lymphocytes. In this study, we analyzed the genetic polymorphism of the BoLA DRB3 exon2 gene from 20 Hanwoo (Korean native cattle) and 21 Holstein by polymerase chain reaction combined with restriction fragment length polymorphism (PCR-RFLP) with Rsal, BstYl and Haelll. In the 42 alleles of Holstein, DRB3*0101 (21.4%) and *1501 (11.9%) were major genotypes, whereas DRB3*1401 (20%) and *2001 (10%) were major genotypes in 40 alleles of Hanwoo. We are found two new allele types of Hanwoo, which were named with DRB3kor1 (GenBank accession number AF008234) and DRB3kor2 (AF008235), using DNA sequence analysis.