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## Distal Myopathies

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### - Abstract -

The distal myopathies(DM) are clinically defined as inherited or sporadic primary muscle disorders characterized by progressive muscular weakness and atrophy beginning in the hands or feet and pathologically by myopathic changes in skeletal muscles. The pathologic changes are somewhat similar to those seen in chronic muscular dystrophy, but necrotic and regenerative processes are less prominent and creatine kinase levels are either normal or only mildly elevated.

The most representative diseases are dominantly inherited Welander distal myopathy and tibial muscular dystrophy, and the recessively inherited distal myopathy with rimmed vacuoles and distal muscular dystrophy(Miyoshi myopathy).

At present, further study is necessary to determine why rimmed vacuoles are so common in the DM, and what role they play in the pathogenesis of muscle fiber atrophy and loss, predominantly in the distal portions of the extremities.

**Key Words :** Distal myopathies, Muscular dystrophy, Rimmed vacuoles

(distal myopathies)

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1902 Gowers가

가

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1949 Milhorat Wolff가  
6 1951 Welander 249  
myopathia distalis tarda hereditaria 가  
(steppage gait) 가  
1-5 creatine kinase(CK)  
가 가 2p13  
Welander 가  
(rimmed vacuoles) 가  
(Miyoshi ) 가  
(Laing) 가  
(Table 1). 가  
(Table 1) 가  
(myofibrillar degeneration), 가  
(autophagic vacuoles) 가  
(tubulofilamentous) 가  
15 ~ 20 nm 가  
가 가  
가 가  
1. Welander ( , 1 )<sup>1-10</sup> 가  
가  
40 가

**Table 1.** Summary of distal myopathies<sup>4,5</sup>

Type	Inheritance	Gene locus	Initial weakness	CK levels	Biopsy findings Dystrophic	RV
Welander distal myopathy (late adult onset, type 1)	AD	2p13	Hands: fingers/wrist extensors	N-	-	++
Tibial muscular dystrophy (Markesberry-Griggs/Udd ; late adult onset, type 2)	AD	2q31-33	Legs: anterior compartment	N-	+	++
Distal myopathy with RV (Nonaka ; early adult onset, type 1)	AR	9p1-q1	Legs: anterior compartment	N-	-	+++
Autosomal recessive muscular dystrophy (Miyoshi; early adult onset, type 2)	AR	2p13 (dysferlin)	Legs: posterior compartment		+++	+
Autosomal dominant distal myopathy(Laing; early adult onset, type 3)	AD	14q11	Legs: anterior compartment		+	-
Vocal cord and pharyngeal muscle weakness with AD distal myopathy	AD	5q31	Legs: anterior compartment	N-	-	+++

Under biopsy findings, dystrophic indicates evidence of dystrophic changes including fiber necrosis and regeneration. AD, autosomal dominant; AR, autosomal recessive; CK, creatine kinase; N, normal; RV, rimmed vacuoles; -, slightly increased; +, rarely; ++, occasionally; +++, always(pathognomonic).

2. ( , 2 )<sup>1-6,11-16</sup>  
 1974 Markersbery<sup>11</sup>  
 3  
 가  
 1993 Udd<sup>12</sup> 가  
 66  
 ,  
 CK 가 가 가  
 가 가 가  
 (intrinsic muscles)  
 2q31-33  
 13-16  
 35  
 (dorsi-  
 flexion) (heel walking) 가 가  
 가 가  
 (splitting)

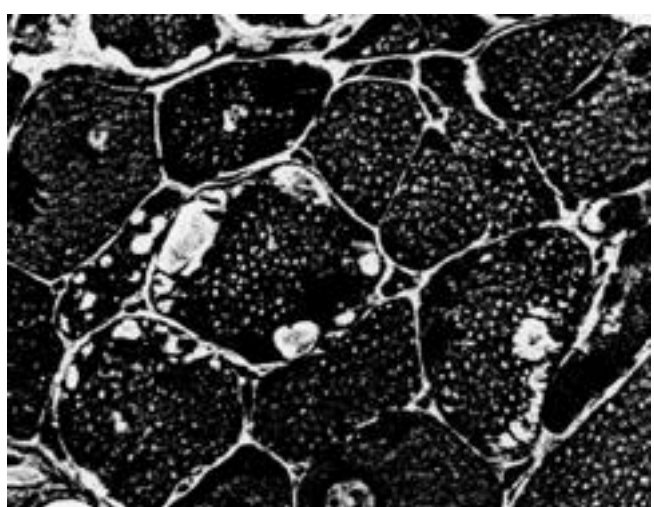


Figure 1. Light micrograph from dominantly inherited late adult onset distal myopathy illustrating multiple vacuoles in fibers(mod - ified Gomori trichrome).<sup>1</sup> × 520

3. (Nonaka  
 , 1 )<sup>1-7,17-20</sup>  
 1981 Nonaka<sup>17</sup>  
 15 ~ 40  
 가  
 9p1-q1 (Fig. 2).<sup>20</sup>  
 (quadriceps)  
 가  
 가  
 12  
 가  
 (foot  
 drop)가  
 (ham-

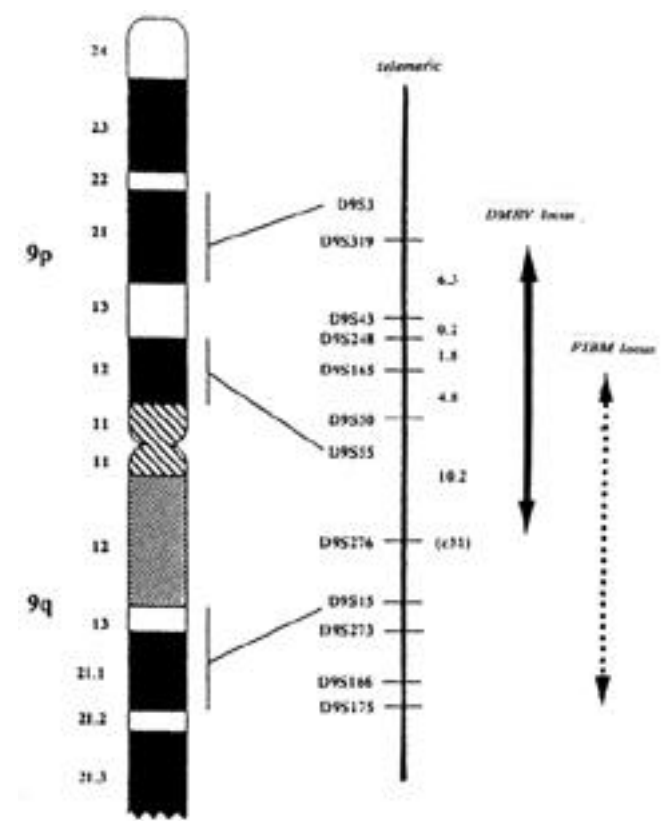


Figure 2. Gene loci in distal myopathy with rimmed vacuoles(DMRV) and familial inclusion body myositis(IBM) in chromosome 9<sup>20</sup>.

strings), (gastrocnemius muscle)  
(sternocleidomastoid muscle)

CK 가  
1 2  
가  
가

4. (Miyoshi)  
(Miyoshi)  
1977 Miyoshi<sup>21</sup>  
20 ~ 40 (Fig. 3)

dysferlin<sup>23</sup> 2p13 dysferlin



Figure 3. Gastrocnemius muscle wasting in type II early adult onset distal myopathy.<sup>2</sup>

3 1  
가 (limb-girdle) dysferlin  
lin dysferlin (phenotype)  
가 (soleus muscle) 가 (tiptoe)  
가 가  
가  
10 ~ 20  
가 (stretch reflex)  
CK 10 ~ 150 가  
CK 가  
가 가  
가  
(interstitial) Duchenne  
가 Nonaka  
Illa<sup>26</sup> dysferlin  
(anterior compartment)  
dysferlin  
DYSF exon  
50 dysferlin  
5. Laing (3)<sup>1-6,27</sup>  
1995 Laing<sup>27</sup>  
14  
4 ~ 25 가  
CK 가

**Table 2.** Comparison of patients with OPDM, DMRV and OPMD<sup>33</sup>

	OPDM	DMRV	OPMD
Transmission	AR	AR	AD
Number of patients	2	4	36
Mean age at examination(years)	50	41	58
Mean age of onset(years)	38	27	50
Ptosis	+	-	+
External ophthalmoplegia	+	±	+
Dysphagia	+	-	+
Serum CK			or
Mean frequency of RV	5%	20%	<1%
15~18 nm cytoplasmic inclusions	+	+	±
8.5 nm intranuclear inclusions	-	-	+
Gene locus	?	9p1-q1	14q11.2-13q

OPDM, oculopharyngodistal myopathy; DMRV, distal myopathy with rimmed vacuoles; OPMD, oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophy; AR, autosomal recessive; AD, autosomal dominant; CK, creatine kinase; RV, rimmed vacuoles.

가  
 6. desmin 3-5,7,28-30  
 desmin  
 (spheroid)  
 (amorphous)  
 desmin  
 (myofibrillar degenera-  
 (granulofilamen  
 tion)  
 tous)  
 desmin

가 16~18 nm (cytoplas  
 mic filament)가  
 가  
 (Table 2).

7.  
 4,5,31  
 1998 Feit<sup>31</sup>

9.<sup>1,7</sup>  
 (juvenile)  
 (infantile)  
 (Table 3)<sup>1,3,5</sup>

35~57  
 5q  
 CK

가  
 8.  
 (oculopharyngodistal myopathy)<sup>4,5,32,33</sup>  
 가 . 1977 Satoyoshi Kinoshita<sup>32</sup>  
 (bulbar)  
 가  
 . 1998 Uyama<sup>33</sup>

가  
 Charcot-Marie-Tooth  
 가  
 가  
 가  
 (infilttrate)

40~50  
 가

**Table 3. Differential diagnosis of the distal myopathies<sup>1,3,5</sup>**

Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease(neuronal form)
Myotonic dystrophy
Distal chronic spinal muscular atrophy
Inflammatory myopathies
polymyositis
sporadic inclusion body myositis
Motor neuropathies
porphyria
lead toxicity
Fascioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy
Scapuloperoneal syndromes
Metabolic myopathies
Debrancher deficiency
Acid-maltase deficiency
Lipid storage myopathy
Congenital myopathies
Nemaline myopathy
Central core myopathy
Centronuclear myopathy
Myofibrillary(desmin) myopathy
Childhood onset distal myopathy
infantile-onset(before age 2 years)
juvenile-onset(before age 15 years)
Oculopharyngeal dystrophy
Emery-Dreifuss humeroperoneal dystrophy

(myofibril  
lary)(desmin) ,  
1,4,34,35  
(autophagic vacuole) (myeloid body)  
(lysosome)  
가  
sin 가 ATP-ubiquitin-protea  
some proteasome 가  
(digestion) 가  
(glycogenosis) (neurogenic)  
dria) (mitochon  
가  
, reducing body Marinesco-Sjoren

**Table 4. Myopathies with vacuoles and 15-to 18-nm filaments<sup>5</sup>**

Sporadic inclusion body myositis(IBM)
Welander myopathy
Nonaka myopathy/familial inclusion body myositis/quadriceps sparing myopathy
Oculopharyngeal and oculopharyngodistal dystrophies*
Myofibrillary myopathy*
*8-to 10-nm intranuclear filaments are also present

(neurogenic)  
(mitochon  
가  
, reducing body Marinesco-Sjoren

15 ~ 18 nm  
가 Nonaka 가  
가 Welander Finnish 가  
(Table 4).

가 congophilic deposit 가  
-amyloid tau  
가  
(de-

brancher deficiency),  
b  
nemalin (central core)  
(centronuclear)

가  
(senile plaque)



- phy type 2B and distal myopathy. *Neurology* 2000;55:1931-1933.
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