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# Gene Section

# MIR135A1 (microRNA 135a-1)

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# Abstract

Review on MIR135A1, with data on DNA/RNA and where the gene is implicated.

# Identity

Other names: MIRN135-1, MIRN135A1

HGNC (Hugo): MIR135A1

Location: 3p21.1

**Local order:** Genes flanking MIR135A1 oriented from centromere to telomere on 3p21.1:

- PHF7: PHD finger protein 7, 3p21.1

- BAP1: BRCA1 associated protein-1 (ubiquitin carboxy-terminal hydrolase), 3p21.31-p21.2

- DNAH1: dynein, axonemal, heavy chain 1, 3p21.1

- MIR135A1

- GLYCTK-AS1: GLYCTK Antisense RNA 1 (Non-protein coding), 3p21.1

- GLYCTK: glycerate kinase, 3p21.1
- TCONS\_00006853; lnc-GLYCTK-1, 3p21.1
- WDR82: WD repeat domain 82, 3p21.2
- MIRLET7G: microRNA let-7g, 3p21.1.

# **DNA/RNA**

#### Description

The gene is located in the intron 1 of GLYCTK-AS1/RP11 gene (sense) and in the exon 4 of GLYCTK (antisense). The precursor length is 90 nt.

#### Transcription

The transcription of miR-135a is regulated by FOXM1 in hepatocellular carcinoma (Liu et al., 2012). BMP2 inhibits miR-135a expression during osteoblast differentiation (Li et al., 2008).

#### Pseudogene

No reported pseudogenes.

### miR-135a-5p



#### miR-135a-3p

Stem-loop structure of hsa-mir-135a-1.





Genomic location of MIR135A 1 and its host genes.

# Protein

#### Note

MicroRNAs are not translated into amino acids.

### Mutations

#### Note

Deletions of miR-135a-1 gene have been described in medulloblastomas, where 16/48 (33%) of medulloblastoma patients had a deletion of miR-135a-1 gene (Lv et al., 2012).

# Implicated in

#### Cancer

#### Colorectal cancer (CRC)

#### Note

Interestingly, treating CRC cell lines with mistletoe lecitin-I, degrades precursor of some microRNAs, including pre-mir-135a, thus dowregulating miR-135 and upregulating APC and increasing beta-catenin phosphorylation (Li et al., 2011).

#### Prognosis

A prognostic miRNA signature composed of miR-135a, miR-21, miR-335, miR-206 and let-7a was useful to detect the presence of metastasis (Vickers et al., 2012).

#### Oncogenesis

#### Oncogene.

**miRNA** expression: Overexpression among colorectal adenome and carcinome in comparison with normal tissue. miR-135 family (miR-135a and miR-135b) overexpression during CRC progression (in patients) (Nagel et al., 2008). Consistently, a study comparing patient samples, healthy controls and cell lines showed overexpression in CRC samples (Zhou et al., 2012). Another study also showed overexpression associated with progression and metastasis (Vickers et al., 2012).

**Targets:** Adenomatous polyposis coli (APC) (Nagel et al., 2008). Metastasis suppressor 1 (MTSS1) (Zhou et al., 2012).

**Function:** miR-135a and miR-135b inhibits APC translation (independently of mutational status of APC) activating downstream Wnt pathway activity and induce beta-catenin signaling (Nagel et al., 2008). In CRC cell lines, miR-135a overexpression increased proliferation and promoted mobility and invasion in part by targeting MTSS1 (Zhou et al., 2012).

#### Gastric cancer

#### Oncogenesis

Tumor suppressor (Wu H et al., 2012).

**miRNA expression:** Downregulation in gastric cancer patient samples in comparison with adjacent normal tissue.

Targets: JAK2 (Janus kinase 2)

**Function:** miR-135a overexpression produces downregulation of JAK2 levels reducing cell proliferation and colony formation. It also reduces p-STAT3 (phospho signal transducer and activator of transcription 3) activation and cyclin D1 and Bcl-x (BCL2-like1).

#### Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)

#### Prognosis

In a cohort of 50 patients, overexpression of miR-135a identified a group of patients with worse OS end DFS among patients with PVTT.

#### Oncogenesis

Oncogene (Liu et al., 2012).

**miRNA expression:** Overexpression of miR-135a in samples from HCC with portal vein tumor thrombus (PVTT) - that is considered a special type of HCC metastasis - compared with parenchyma tumor nodes.

#### Targets: MTSS

**Function:** miR-135a promotes invasion and metastasis in vitro and in mouse models of HCC. Reducing miR-135a leads to reduced PVTT. The transcription of miR-135a is regulated by FOXM1.

#### Breast cancer

#### Oncogenesis

Oncogene (Chen et al., 2012).

**miRNA expression:** Overexpression in metastasic breast tumors in comparison with benign tumor patient samples. Upregulation in the highly invasive breast cancer cell line BT 549 in comparison with other breast cancer cell lines.

Targets: HOXA10 (homeobox A10).

**Function:** miR-135a promotes the migration and invasion of breast cancer cells at least in part through HOXA10.

#### Malignant glioma

#### Oncogenesis

Tumor suppressor (Wu S et al., 2012).

**miRNA expression:** Downregulated in glioma in comparison with normal glia. miRNA-135a correlated negatively with the pathological grading of human glioma tissue samples.

**Targets:** STAT6 (signal transducer and activator of transcription 6), SMAD5 (SMAD family member 5), BMPR2 (bone morphogenetic protein receptor, type II).

**Function:** miR-135a selectively induces mitochondria-dependent apoptosis of malignant glioma by targeting various genes (STAT6, SMAD5, BMPR2). Interestingly it doesn't affect normal glia cells.

#### Lung cancer

#### Oncogenesis

Tumor suppressor (Cheng et al., 2013; Zhou et al., 2013).

**miRNA expression:** miR-135a/b downregulated in the cisplatin-resistant cell line A549R compared with the cisplatin-sensitive A549 cell line (Zhou, Qiu et al. 2013).

**Targets:** MCL1 (myeloid cell leukemia sequence 1) (Zhou et al., 2013), CD133 (Cheng et al., 2013).

**Function:** Overexpression of miR-135a/b reduced MCL1 and sensitized cell lines to cisplatin by modulation of apoptosis (Zhou et al., 2013). miR-135a/b suppressed CD133 only in CD133 with binding polymorphism rs2240688 CC or CA but not in genotype AA (Cheng et al., 2013).

#### Classic Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL)

#### Prognosis

In a cohort of 89 cHL patients, low miR-135a was associated with a higher risk of relapse and worse disease free survival.

#### Oncogenesis

Tumor suppressor (Navarro et al., 2008; Navarro et al., 2009).

**miRNA expression:** Downregulated miR-135a in cHL patient lymph nodes in comparison with reactive non-tumor lymph nodes used as control. Targets: JAK2.

Function: Overexpression of miR-135a increases apoptosis and decreases cellular growth in HL cell

lines through regulation of JAK/STAT pathway and activation BcL-xL expression.

#### Acute myeloid leukemia (AML)

#### Prognosis

In a cohort of 85 intermediate risk AML (IR-AML) patients (later extended to 238 IR-AML patients), low expression of miR-135a identified a group of patients with a higher risk of relapse - both in the entire cohort and also within the unfavourable molecular subgroup (FLT3-ITD or wild-type NPM and CEBPA) (Díaz-Beyá et al., 2014).

#### Oncogenesis

Tumor suppressor.

#### Renal cell carcinoma

#### Oncogenesis

Tumor suppressor (Hidaka et al., 2012).

miRNA expression: Lower expression of miR-135a observed in 10 cancer tissue samples compared to 5 adjacent non-cancer tissue samples. Function: Effect on cell proliferation, where the miR-135a overexpression reduces cell viavility.

#### Cervival cancer cell

#### Oncogenesis

Oncogene (Leung et al., 2014).

**miRNA expression:** miR-135a is overexpressed in cervical squamous cell carcinoma in comparison with cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (precancerous lesions).

**Targets:** SIAH1 (in cervical cancer cells and cervical epithelial cells).

**Function:** Overexpression of miR-135a induced increased colony formation, anchorage-independent growth, and proliferation, cell-invasion and migration in cervical cancer cell lines.

The inhibition of miR-135a on SIAH1 led to upregulation of beta-catenin activity, indicating that miR-135a induces transformation and enhances tumor growth.

The authors analyzed the miR-135a-induced malignant transformation activity in cell lines with or without human papiloma virus (HPV) proteins (E6 and E7) and concluded that these proteins are necessary for miR-135a oncogenic activity.

Also in xenografts, miR-135a improved the growth of cancer cells and the tumorigenic activity of HPV cells.

#### Various tumor cell lines (HeLa cervical carcinoma, SW480 colon cancer, A375 melanoma, PANC-1 pancreatic tumor, and 293 epithelial kidney cells)

Note

FAK is overexpressed in many cancers.

#### Oncogenesis

Tumor suppressor (Golubovskaya et al., 2014).

Targets: FAK (focal adhesion kinase).

**Function:** miR-135a overexpression decreased FAK mRNA and protein levels, decreased cell invasion and increased sensitivity to doxorubicin, 5-fluorouacil and FAK inhibitor Y15.

#### Various tumor cell lines

#### Oncogenesis

#### Oncogene (Holleman et al., 2011).

**miRNA expression:** miR-135a levels were significantly upregulated in paclitaxel-resistant ovarian, lung, uterine, breast and prostate tumor cells lines derived from A549, PC-14, MCF-7, PC-3, SKOV-3 and MES-SA.

#### Targets: APC.

**Function:** miR-135a upregulation in vitro and in vivo is associated with paclitaxel resistance. Anti-miR-135a treatment in paclitaxel-resistant lung cancer xenografts restored sensitivity to paclitaxel, in part through the direct inhibition of APC expression.

#### Metabolism

#### Diabetes

#### Note

**miRNA expression:** Overexpression in diabetic human and mouse skeletal muscle.

Targets: IRS2 (insulin receptor substrate 2).

**Function:** miR-135a inhibits IRS2, thus reducing glucose uptake into the cell. miR-135a overexpression attenuates insulin signaling and glucose uptake in skeletal muscle. In vivo, silencing miR-135a decreases hyperglicemia (Agarwal et al., 2013).

#### Essential hypertension, reninangiotensin-aldosteron system

#### Note

**Targets:** NR3C2 (mineral corticoid receptor). **Function:** In Hela cells, overexpression of miR-135a and miR-124 downregulates NR3C2 protein, indicating a role in the regulation of blood pressure (Sõber et al., 2010).

# Corticoid dependent stress response

#### Note

**Targets:** NR3C2 (mineral corticoid receptor, other alias MR)

**Function:** In a mouse model, downregulation of miR-135a and miR-124 in amygdale after two hours of stress stimulus.

Stress reaction by activation of corticosteroid signaling through NR3C2R. miR-135a and miR-124 are thus important components of the stress signaling response in the brain (Mannironi et al., 2013).

# Development, congenital disease and others

## Cryptorchid testis

#### Note

**miRNA expression:** In rat models, low expression of miR-135a in undescended testis in comparison with that in contralateral normal testis. Higher miR-135a expression in the testes than in other organs. miR-135a is detected in spermatogonial stem cells.

**Targets:** FoxO1 (forehead box protein O1).

**Functions:** miR-135a contributes to spermatogonial stem cell maintenance through modulation of FoxO1 (Moritoki et al., 2014).

#### Endometriosis

#### Note

**miRNA expression:** Overexpressed in endometriosis in comparison with normal endometrial tissue (50 controls and 32 women with endometriosis).

Targets: HOXA10 (homeobox A10).

**Function:** miR135a expression in controls was increased during the proliferative phase, decreased at the time of ovulation, and increased during the luteal phase (Petracco et al., 2011).

#### Osteogenesis

Note

**miRNA expression:** Very low levels in differentiated osteoblast, downregulated during BMP2-mediated osteogenic differentiation.

#### Targets: SMAD5.

**Function:** miR-135a suppresses osteogenesis and inhibits differentiation of osteoprogenitors and the osteogenic phenotype in pluripotent cells by attenuating SMAD5. BMP2 inhibits miR-135a expression and permits osteoblast differentiation (Li et al., 2008).

#### *Muscle differentiation (myogenesis) and Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD)*

#### Note

miRNA expression: miR-135a is upregulated during myogenic differentiation. Overexpression of miR-135a is observed when the myoblasts are differentiated in human samples, cell lines and mouse model (Greco et al., 2009). miR-135a is part of the DMD miRNA signature (Greco et al., 2009) and is overexpressed in Duchenne muscle (Cesana et al., 2011).

**Targets:** MEF2C (myocyte enhancer factor 2C) (Cesana et al., 2011).

**Function:** Critical in myogenesis by targeting MEF2C. miR-135a inhibits MEF2C, leading to inhibition of muscle genes. LincRNA MD1 sponges miR-135a, allowing transcription of muscle genes.

LincRNA MD1 is reduced in Duchenne muscle cells, so miR-135a is overexpressed and MEFC2 is downregulated (Cesana et al., 2011).

# Preimplantation embryo development

#### Note

**miRNA expression:** Overexpressed in mouse zygote and decreased thereafter, indicating that it is a zygote-specific miRNA.

**Targets:** SIAH1A (E3 ubiquitin ligase seven in absentia homolog 1A).

**Function:** miR-135a modulates the first cell cleavage through regulation of Siah1a. When miR-135a is inhibited, first cell cleavage is suppressed. mir-135a regulates proteosomal degradation (Pang et al., 2011).

#### Mouse embryonic stem cells

Note

**miRNA expression:** Upregulated during mouse embryonic stem cell differentiation.

Targets: SIRT1 (sirtuin 1).

**Function:** Together with miR-181a, miR-181b, miR-9, miR-204 and miR-199b, miR-135a suppressed SIRT1 protein expression during mouse embryonic stem cell differentiation (Saunders et al., 2010).

#### Bovine blastocyst development

#### Note

**miRNA expression:** miR-135a is part of a downregulated miRNA signature in more mature stage (Goossens et al., 2013).

#### Megakaryocytopoiesis

#### Note

**miRNA expression:** A comparison between differentiated megakaryocytes with AML megakaryocytic cell lines found miR-135a higher in AML samples (Garzon et al., 2006).

#### Hypoxia

#### Note

**miRNA expression:** Downregulation of miR-135a (and miR199a-5p) in response to hypoxia.

**Targets:** FLAP (5-lipoxygenase activating protein) (Gonsalves and Kalra, 2010).

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