

1 **Clinical findings and mutational spectrum of neurofibromatosis type 1 patients in**
2 **a single center of south part of Turkey**

3 **Abstract**

4 **Aim:** The aim of this study is to determine the mutation spectrums and clinical
5 characteristics of NF1 patients followed up in our center and to investigate whether
6 there is a genotype-phenotype relationship.

7 **Material and Methods:** Sixty-three children and 34 relatives diagnosed with NF1 were
8 included in the study. Age, gender, family history, clinical features, tumors detected in
9 the patient at the time of diagnosis or during follow-up, orbital and cerebral magnetic
10 resonance imaging (MRI) findings were recorded. Also results of the *NF1* gene analysis
11 results were recorded.

12 **Results:** Fifty-three different mutations were found as a result of the *NF1* gene analysis
13 studied from patients and their family members. Among these 53 mutations, stop codon
14 mutation was the most frequently detected mutations. Sixteen out of 50 (32%)
15 mutations were found to be novel mutations. Twenty-eight tumors developed in our
16 patients. Twenty of them were optic gliomas and others were medullary thyroid
17 carcinoma, glioblastome multiforme, pons glioma, acute lymphoblastic leukemia,
18 pilocytic astrocitoma, hypothalamic glioma, cerebral hamartoma and cardiac fibroma.
19 No genotype-phenotype relationship was detected in patients

20 **Conclusion:** Comprehensive mutation analysis of *NF1* will increase our knowledge due
21 to its different phenotypic characteristics even in the same mutation.

22 **Key Words:** Neurofibromatosis type 1, Genotype-phenotype correlations, mutations,
23 novel mutations

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26 **1. Introduction**

27 Neurofibromatosis Type I (NF1) (NF1; OMIM #162200) is a most common
28 neurocutaneous disease showing autosomal dominant inheritance pattern (1). Two or
29 more criteria of the National Institute of Health (NIH) below are required to diagnose
30 NF1; (1) Six or more café-au-lait macules (CALM) (1.5 cm or larger in postpubertal
31 individuals, 0.5 cm or larger in prepubertal individuals), (2) Two or more
32 neurofibromas of any type or one plexiform neurofibromas, (3) Freckling in the axillary
33 or inguinal region, (4) Optic glioma (tumor of the optic pathway), (5) Two or more
34 Lisch nodules, (6) A distinctive bony lesion (Dysplasia of the sphenoid bone, Dysplasia
35 or thinning of long bone cortex), (7) First-degree relative with NF1 (2). Although these
36 criteria are used for clinical diagnosis of NF1, due to the clinical heterogeneity seen
37 even with the same mutation, and due to the emergence of the findings over time, it may
38 be difficult or even impossible to diagnose NF1(3).

39 There are also patients who cannot be confirmed genetically, although their
40 clinical findings support NF1. On physical examination, there are diseases such as
41 Legius syndrome, McCune Albright syndrome, mismatches repair gene defects, which
42 can be clinically confused with NF1 at first glance with cafe-au-lait spots and some
43 clinical findings. Therefore, it is important to confirm the diagnosis of NF1 genetically
44 and distinguish it from other clinically similar diseases (4).

45 Neurofibromatosis type 1 is caused by the mutation of a gene on chromosome
46 17q11.2 which is responsible for production of a protein called neurofibromin that plays
47 a role in cell signaling. *NF1* is a regulator of the *RAS* oncogene and cAMP-dependent
48 protein kinase A (PKA)-associated signal transduction pathways, thus controlling
49 apoptosis, cell growth, proliferation and differentiation in many human cells (5,6). NF1
50 is an autosomal dominant disorder which means that mutation or deletion of one allele

51 of *NF1* gene is sufficient for the development of NF1. GTPase-activating protein
52 catalytic site of *NF1* gene acts as a tumor suppressor gene and this may explain why the
53 incidence of neoplasms is higher in NF1 patients.

54 Over 3000 pathogenic variant of *NF1* gene have been reported in the Human
55 Gene Mutation Database (HGMD) (7). Mutations that have been observed in *NF1* gene
56 include nonsense (stop codon), missense and splicing (intronic) mutations, deletions,
57 insertions and rearrangements. Some of the deletions and insertions lead to frameshift
58 mutations. About 50% of newly diagnosed NF cases have a de novo mutation. Since the
59 *NF1* gene locus is quite large (60 exons and 350 kb of genomic DNA), it has a higher
60 spontaneous mutation rate than most gene locus (8,9).

61 As a result of genomic DNA analysis by direct sequencing analysis, mutations
62 can be detected in only 60% of patients with NF1 (10,11). While it may be possible to
63 diagnose more patients with the next generation sequencing method used in recent
64 years, it can also identify many de novo mutations.

65 In this retrospective study, we wanted to determine the diagnostic accuracy rates
66 with next generation sequencing method, our new mutation rates according to the
67 results of genetic analysis of patients who were clinically followed with NF1 diagnosis
68 in our department and to investigate whether there is a genotype-phenotype correlation.

69 **2. Material and Method**

70 **2.1. Patients**

71 Between January 2017 and December 2019 according to the NIH criteria, 63
72 children and 34 relatives diagnosed with NF1 in Pediatric Oncology department were
73 included in the study. This study was approved by the Ethics Committee of Mersin
74 University (grant no: 2019/533). Patients' age, gender, family history, clinical features
75 and additional NF1 findings, malignant and benign tumors detected in the patient at the

76 time of diagnosis or during follow-up, orbital and cerebral magnetic resonance imaging
77 (MRI) findings were recorded. Also *NF1* gene analysis was also performed from these
78 patients and family members, and the results were recorded.

79 **2.2. Genetic Analysis**

80 Molecular genetic testings were performed at Cukurova University Adana
81 Genetic Diseases Diagnosis and Treatment Center. All gene sequence analysis was
82 performed for *NF1* by using a peripheral blood sample. Before peripheral blood
83 sampling written informed consent was taken from all the participants (patient/patient's
84 family). Peripheral blood samples were collected from the patients; DNA was isolated
85 from leukocytes using QIASymphony DSP DNA Midi Kit (Qiaagen, Hilden, Germany)
86 according to the manufacturer's instructions. The quality and quantity of the DNA
87 samples was determined by Qubit™ Fluorometric Quantitation (Thermo Fisher
88 Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). All samples were targeted enriched for *NF1* gene (all
89 exons and exon-intron junctions) with a custom designed kit. Amplicons were labeled
90 with sample specific molecular barcodes for library generation. Finally, next generation
91 sequencing was performed via Illumina Miseq (Illumina, California, USA) platform
92 with the minimum coverage of 100x. The data sizes of FASTQ files and variant
93 qualities were checked; bioinformatics analyses were made using QCI-A and QCI-I
94 (Qiagen, Hildenberg, Germany). The identified variants were interpreted comparatively
95 with 18 databases. All identified genetic alterations were categorized based on their
96 pathogenicity according to the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) criteria.
97 For patients with no detected pathogenic variants by sequencing, their samples were
98 further analyzed using SALSA MLPA P081 and P082 NF1 Kit for exon deletions or
99 duplications, according to the manufacturer's instructions (MRC Holland, Amsterdam,

100 The Netherlands). Peak areas for each separated fragment were measured using the
101 Coffalyser software (v.140721.1958, MRC Holland).

102 **Results**

103 The mean age of patients (28 girls [44.4%], 35 boys [55.6%],) and first-degree
104 relatives (13 female, 21 male) included in the study was 9.43 ± 4.58 and 28.57 ± 16.05
105 years, respectively. All of our patients admitted to the outpatient clinic because of
106 CALMs on their bodies and none of them had a diagnosis of NF1 in their medical
107 history. Similarly when the parents of the patients with a family history were
108 questioned, it was found that there were many CALMs on their bodies, but they had not
109 been diagnosed as NF1 until that day.

110 According to physical examination and family history, 45 of 63 cases included
111 in the study were thought to be sporadic, and the remaining 18 were in the familial
112 group. *NF1* gene mutation was found in 35 of 45 patients in the sporadic NF1 group.
113 The clinical findings and mutation analysis results of sporadic NF1 cases are shown in
114 Table 1. All of the patients had CLAMs. Neurofibromas, freckles in the armpit or groin
115 areas, optic glioma, Lisch nodules and bone lesions were detected in 37.1%, 62.9%,
116 25.7%, 42.9% and 22.9% of the patients diagnosed with sporadic NF1, respectively. In
117 the sporadic NF1 group, 3 patients had learning difficulties, 3 patients had epilepsy and
118 hemangioma, scoliosis, motor retardation, fibrous cortical defect, macrophthalmia and
119 macrocephaly, atrial septal defect, empty sella, ectopic, hypoplastic kidneys, congenital
120 hypothyroidism, ring chromosome 18, aort coarctation, renal fusion and atrophic testis
121 were found as additional findings in each patient. CALMs were found in the physical
122 examination of all 52 patients from 18 families. Clinical findings of familial NF1 cases
123 and other family members are shown in Table 2. In 18 index cases in the familial NF1
124 group, neurofibroma, axillary and/or inguinal freckling, optic glioma and Lisch nodule

125 were found to be 11.1%, 72.2%, 22.2% and 22.2%, respectively. In addition, in 34
126 family members in this group, neurofibroma, axillary and/or inguinal freckling, optic
127 glioma, and Lisch nodule were detected in 34.6%, 48.1%, 11.5% and 13.5%,
128 respectively. In the familial NF1 group, two patients had epilepsy, and vascular
129 malformation, pseudoarthrosis, both scoliosis and learning disability, both strabismus
130 and learning disability, and congenital melanocytic nevus were found as additional
131 findings in each patient. In familial cases, older members of the family stated that they
132 also had similar spots after the children were diagnosed, but none of them stated that
133 they had been diagnosed with NF1 before.

134 Although ten cases showed clinical features of NF1, no mutation was detected
135 via NGS in these patients (Table 3). MLPA assay was applied to ten patients without
136 *NF1* mutation in genetic analysis, and two of them were found to have complete
137 deletion in the *NF1* gene (Patient 9 and 10 in Table 3). Case number two in Table 3
138 admitted to our clinic with the complaint of abdominal swelling and was treated with
139 the diagnosis of Wilms tumor. Although he had NF1 stigmas, no NF1 gene mutation
140 was detected in the patient and he was included in the group with clinical NF1 but no
141 mutation. After a two-year remission period, the patient was diagnosed with
142 glioblastoma and treated. Two years after treatment for glioblastoma, she was diagnosed
143 with T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia as the third primary cancer, and the patient
144 died during treatment. A new mutation in the MSH-6 gene (c.2590G>T) was detected
145 five years after the first admission of the patient, who was followed up with a
146 prediagnosis of NF1, and a mismatch repair gene defect was diagnosed (12). Three
147 patients had diffuse CALMs on physical examination and focal signal intensity areas on
148 cranial MRI.

149 Twenty-eight tumors developed in our patients. Twenty of them were optic
150 gliomas (71.42%) and others were medullary thyroid carcinoma, glioblastoma
151 multiforme, pons glioma, acute lymphoblastic leukemia, pilocytic astrocytoma,
152 hypothalamic glioma, cerebral hamartoma and cardiac fibroma. Twenty-one of these
153 tumors (75%) were detected at the time of diagnosis and seven of them (25%) were
154 detected during follow-up period. During the follow-up period, optic glioma developed
155 in three patients and glioblastoma multiforme, pons glioma, acute lymphoblastic
156 leukemia developed in one patient each. Eighteen of the patients with optic glioma were
157 asymptomatic and detected on orbital MRI. While it was determined that there was a
158 decrease in visual field in 4 patients with asymptomatic optic glioma in the follow-up
159 period; symptomatic two patients presented with decreased vision. The case with
160 medullary thyroid carcinoma was in the familial NF1 group and had germ-line
161 homozygous *RET* proto-oncogene mutation in addition to *NF1* gene mutation (13).

162 Fifty-three different mutations were found as a result of the *NF1* gene analysis
163 studied from patients and their family members. Among these 53 mutations, the stop
164 codon was the most frequently detected mutation (28.3%, n=15). Other detected
165 mutations are frameshift (24.5%, n=13), missense (24.5%, n=13), intronic (13.2%,
166 n=7), deletion (3.8%, n=2), splicing (1.9%, n=1), non-sense (1.9%, n=1) and duplication
167 (1.9%, n=1), respectively. Sixteen out of 53 (30.18%) mutations were found to be novel
168 mutations (Table 1,2). Most of these de novo mutations were observed in sporadic cases
169 (n=10, 62.5%). The novel mutations identified in sporadic NF1 cases were 50%
170 frameshift (n=5), 30% stop codon (n=3), 10% missense (n=1), and 10% intronic (n=1).
171 Among the previously identified mutations (n=23) in sporadic NF1 cases, frameshift,
172 missense and stop codon mutations were equally detected in 27.3% (n=9), while
173 intronic mutation was detected in 15.2% (n=5) and deletion was found to be 3% (n=1).

174 The novel mutations detected in famial NF1 cases were frameshift 50% (n=3) and stop
175 codon, deletion and missense mutation were equally detected in 16.7% (n=1). Among
176 the previously identified mutations in familial NF1 cases frameshift and stop codon
177 mutations were equally detected in 29.4% (n=5) while missense mutation, intronic
178 mutation and deletion was detected 23.5% (n=4), 11.8 (n=2) and 5.9% (n=1),
179 respectively.

180 As seen in Table 2, although there was no NF1 finding in the mother and father,
181 NF1 findings and *NF1* gene mutation were found in three siblings in the 6th family and
182 in two siblings in the 13th family, and these two families were thought to have gonadal
183 mosaicism. Again as seen in Table 2, NF1 clinical findings are present in both children
184 and parents in families 1,3,7,8,9,10,12,14 and 18. However, the fact that *NF1* gene
185 mutation was found only in children in these families suggested that this situation was
186 related to somatic mosaicism.

187 There was no correlation between the clinical findings of our cases and the
188 detected mutations. The same mutation was detected in families 9 and 10 in Table 2. In
189 Table 2, three family members in the 9th family had the same clinical findings. On the
190 other hand, one of the 10th family members had the same clinical findings as the 9th
191 family members, while the other family member had different clinical findings.

192 **3. Discussion**

193 A high mutation rate is observed in *NF1* gene, while 50% of NF1 is caused by a
194 known *NF1* gene mutation, the remaining 50% are caused by a novel mutation. The
195 *NF1* gene has a wide range of various mutations due to its 350 kb size and high number
196 of coding exons (14,15). Of these, 85-90% tends to be point mutations, 5-10%
197 microdeletions, and 2% exon deletions or replications (16). It is reported that 80% of
198 1485 mutations identified in the literature belong to early termination codons and

199 truncated neurofibromine (17). It is important to perform genetic analysis in patients
200 with NF1 diagnostic criteria, to analyze the types of mutations detected in that center, to
201 create a national database, to identify novel mutations and to determine the genotype-
202 phenotype relationship due to the same mutation.

203 In the study conducted by Varan A et al on Turkish children with NF1, the
204 mutation rate was found to be 52% by genomic DNA analysis and they reported that
205 frameshift mutations were the most common mutations with 38.5%. They reported that
206 this was followed by micro deletions with 26.9% and splice site and nonsense mutations
207 with 11.5%. It was found that 11 of 50 mutations identified in this study are novel
208 mutations. (18). On the other hand, Ulusal SD et al. investigated mutations in DNA
209 obtained from 24 unrelated Turkish patients and affected family members with
210 suspected NF1, and found three novels and 12 known mutations in these individuals
211 (19). Terzi YK et al. in a study conducted on 100 Turkish patients with a diagnosis of
212 NF1, they identified three novel mutations (496delGT and 499delTGTT in exon 4b and
213 5866delA in exon 31) (20).

214 Sixteen of 50 (32%) mutations found in this study have not been described to
215 date. Among them, 8 are frameshift mutations, 4 stop codon, 2 missense mutations, one
216 intronic splice site mutation and 1 is deletion. All these mutations cause to premature
217 terminations and truncated protein product. More than 80% of the previously described
218 mutations have been shown to cause the truncation or shortening of the gene product,
219 and it can be predicted that these new alterations we detected are similarly pathogenic
220 and may affect NF1 protein function. (15).

221 Mutations were detected in 69 (81.17%) of a total of 85 patients, including 52
222 patients in 18 families and 33 patients in the sporadic NF1 group. In our study, although

223 there were mutations in their children and/or other family members in the familial
224 group, no mutation was found in 11 individuals.

225 We think that the underlying reason for the absence of mutation in parents with
226 these clinical findings is mosaic NF1. Mosaic NF1 occurs as a result of postzygotic *NF1*
227 gene mutation, usually manifests itself with a milder clinical picture and is divided into
228 somatic and gonadal mosaicism. Somatic mosaicism is caused by an *NF1* gene mutation
229 in an early postzygotic stage. In our study nine family has a somatic mosaicism. In such
230 cases the confirmation of the *NF1* gene mutation can only be done by molecular
231 analysis of the affected tissues (21-24). However, in our study, no mutation was studied
232 from the somatic DNA sample in the parents of the children who were found to have
233 mutations, showed clinical findings and did not have a germline *NF1* mutation. If two
234 or more children of unaffected parents develop NF1, gonadal mosaicism is suspected as
235 a result of a postzygotic mutation in the ovum or sperm (25). In our study, *NF1*
236 mutation was detected in two siblings without any clinical findings or mutations in the
237 parents in two families (Family 6 and 13 in Table 2). In these families, gonadal
238 mosaicism was considered because there was no clinical finding in the parents.
239 Technically, it is almost impossible to show the mutation in the parents because the
240 gonadal mosaicism needs to be studied directly from the germ cell. However, although
241 it is difficult to determine the mutation in germ cells in the parents of these patients, it
242 may be considered as it has important implications for genetic counseling. In our study,
243 mutation analysis could not be performed from the germ cells of the parents suspected
244 of having gonadal mosaicism. At the same time, additional tests could not be
245 performed in our study because patients with suspected somatic mosaicism did not
246 consent to tissue biopsy.

247 While this autosomal dominant disorder is fully expressed in adulthood, the
248 variable clinical expressivity observed even within the same family is a common
249 phenomenon, possibly depending on the type of the mutation that occurs in the *NF1*
250 gene, even amongst family members. This variable clinical expression is thought to be
251 due to allelic heterogeneity, epistaxis, and epigenetic factors such as methylation (26).
252 Recently, genotype-phenotype correlation with microdeletion in 17q11.2, 3-bp deletion
253 in exon 17, splice site mutation, in-frame duplication in exon 28 and 80 bp deletion
254 have been detected (1). If a genotype-phenotype correlation is detected with the
255 mutations detected in patients, it will be possible to predict the clinical findings that
256 may develop in these patients and to make the necessary follow-up accurately. Although
257 the same mutation was detected in families 9 and 10 in our study, their findings were
258 different except learning disabilities. It has been suggested that modifying genes,
259 epigenetic modifications, and environmental factors may be underlying factors that
260 cause the variable phenotype in individuals with the same mutation (15,27). We think
261 that the phenotypic difference between the two families in our study is due to this.

262 It is known that patients with NF1 have an increased predisposition of benign
263 and malignant tumors compared to the healthy population (28,29). Gliomas, malignant
264 peripheral nerve sheath tumor, leukemias, pheochromocytomas, rhabdomyosarcoma,
265 gastrointestinal stromal tumors, breast cancers, melanomas, non-Hodgkin lymphomas
266 and carcinoid tumors are malignant tumors associated with NF1. In a study, malignancy
267 incidence in children with NF1 younger than 16 years reported to be 14.7% (30).
268 Intracranial tumors and soft tissue sarcomas are the most common in children with NF1
269 under 10 years of age.

270 Central nervous tumors have been reported in approximately 20% of patients
271 with NF1 and are usually detected in early childhood (31). Optic pathway gliomas,

272 which make up about 70% of these, take the first place in terms of incidence, while the
273 brainstem gliomas take the second place with a 17% incidence (31). The incidence of
274 OPG in NF1 can be as high as 15-20% and it can occur at any age, although it often
275 develops before the age of 7 (32). Varan A *et al.* reported the rate of non-neurofibroma
276 malignancy other than optic glioma as 5% in 473 patients diagnosed with NF1 (28). In
277 this study, it was reported that soft tissue sarcomas were the most common in 26
278 patients with malignant tumors, followed by brain tumors. In a study by Incecik F *et al.*,
279 they reported that 19 of 120 patients with NF1 had 20 different malignancies (16.66%)
280 and 50% of these malignancies had optic gliomas (29). Varan A *et al.* reported that
281 52.5% of the patients with optic glioma were patients with NF1 in a study in which they
282 examined patients with optic glioma (33). In our series, optic glioma was the most
283 common tumor as stated in the literature.

284 Mutation testing in the *NF1* gene is challenging, the detection rate of mutation is
285 reported as less than 50%. The large size of the gene, the absence of mutation hotspots,
286 and the presence of pseudogenes in the genome complicates mutation identification and
287 its interpretation (34). An estimated 4.7–11% of all NF1 patients have large deletions
288 affecting the *NF1* gene and its flanking regions at 17q11.2 (35). Large deletions of the
289 *NF1* gene and its flanking regions are frequently associated with a severe clinical
290 manifestation of NF1. In our series, 8 patients had clinical findings of NF1, but no
291 mutation was detected. In patients with NF1 clinical findings and no mutations detected
292 by sequence analysis, an appropriate method such as MLPA (Multiplex Ligation-
293 Induced Probe Amplification) is used to detect large deletions of the *NF1* gene. MLPA
294 analysis revealed the presence of gross deletions in 2 of these 10 patients.
295 Whole *NF1* gene deletion was detected in both patients. Differential diagnoses of NF1
296 include other types of NF, diseases with one of the clinical manifestations of CALMs,

297 or pigment changes confused with CALMs (36). For example, constitutional mismatch
298 repair deficiency (CMMRD) is a rare childhood cancer predisposition syndrome caused
299 by biallelic germline mutations in one of the mismatch-repair genes. CMMRD
300 phenotypes usually resembles to NF1 beside very high tumour risks (37). As a result of
301 the genetic analysis performed on the development of different tumors in one of our
302 patients who were followed up with a diagnosis of NF1 with clinical findings, although
303 *NF1* mutation was not detected, this patient was found to be CMMRD (12). This
304 situation makes us think that patients with clinical features of NF1 should be followed
305 up closely for diseases included in the differential diagnosis or to perform mutation
306 analysis again with different methods if necessary. Existing diagnostic CMMRD criteria
307 were adapted to serve as a guideline as to when to consider CMMRD as differential
308 diagnosis of NF1 (38). Genetic analysis was not performed in our other patients with no
309 *NF1* mutation, as there were no findings suggestive of CMMRD.

310 *NF1* mutation analysis is usually performed in patients with a high clinical
311 suspicion of NF1, especially in people seeking prenatal counseling or children less than
312 8 years of age. To provide an accurate prenatal consultation, you need to identify the
313 mutations in your country and know if there is a genotype-phenotype relationship.
314 Therefore, in our study, we aimed to determine the mutations seen in our region and
315 how these mutations are reflected in the clinic. As a result of our study, we detected
316 novel mutations beside the known mutations, but we could not detect any genotype-
317 phenotype correlation.

318 In conclusion, we consider that long-term and close follow-up of patients in a
319 disease in which clinical findings are related with age is an important factor in
320 determining the relationship between genotype-phenotype. We think that a long-term
321 follow-up analysis of a large cohort of patients will contribute to a better understanding

322 of both the nature of NF1 and how known and novel mutations are reflected in the
323 clinic.

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470 **Table 1:** Clinical Features and Mutational Analysis of Sporadic Neurofibromatosis Type 1 Cases

Patient	Age/Sex	Nucleotide Change	Aminoacid change	Mutation type	Symptoms
1	15, M	c.6504dupT	p.G2169fs*4	Frameshift, <i>Novel</i>	a,b,c,e,learning disability
2	1, F	c.3457_3460delCTCA	p.L1153fs*4	Frameshift	a,c,hemangioma
3	11, M	c.1185+1G>A	-	Intronic, <i>Novel</i>	a,e
4	7.5, M	c.1721G>A	p.S574N	Missense	a,c
5	5.5, F	c.7233_7234delTA	p.Q2413fs*13	Frameshift, <i>Novel</i>	a,b,c,e,
6	3, F	c.3916C>T	p.R1306*	Stop codon	a,e,motor retardation
7	9, F	c.2970_2972delAAT	p.M992del	Deletion	a,fibrous cortical defect
8	6, M	c.5305C>T	p.R1769*	Stop codon, <i>Novel</i>	a,c,d, macrophthalmia, macrocephalia
9	10, M	c.5760delG	p.K1921fs*8	Frameshift, <i>Novel</i>	a,c,d,e,
10	15, F	c.3739_3742delTTTG	p.F1247fs*18	Frameshift	a,b,c,d,e,f,pilocytic astrocytoma, atrial septal defect
11	14, M	c.6858+2T>C	-	Intronic	a,b,c,empty sella
12	3.5, M	c.654+1G>T	-	Intronic	a,c,epilepsia
13	20, F	c.1845+2T>A	-	Intronic, <i>Novel</i>	a,c
14	16, M	c.3331delA	p.M1111*	Stop codon, <i>Novel</i>	a,b,c,e,
15	6.5, F	c.6976dupA	p.S2326fs*7	Frameshift, <i>Novel</i>	a
16	7, F	c.1246C>T	p.R416*	Stop codon	a,c,d
17	2, F	c.7237C>T	p.Q2413*	Stop codon	a,c
18	18, F	c.2540T>C	p.L847P	Missense	a,b,c,e,f,learning disability
19	12, F	c.2446C>T	p.R816*	Stop codon	a,b,c,f
20	8, M	c.6778G>T	p.G2260*	Stop codon, <i>Novel</i>	a,d,e,f
21	5, M	c.1466A>G	p.Y489C	Missense	a,e
22	13, F	c.6253G>A	p.V2085I	Missense	a,b,c,d,f
23	4.5, M	c.3503G>T	p.G1168V	Missense, <i>Novel</i>	a,d
24	9, F	c.2991-2A>C	-	Intronic	a,c
25	16, F	c.2939_2940delCT	p.S980*	Stop codon, <i>Novel</i>	a,b,c,d,e,f
26	9, M	c.5546G>A	p.R1849Q	Missense	a,b,e
27	4.5, M	c.2033delC	p.P678fs*10	Frameshift	a,d,ectopic and hypoplastic kidney, hipotalamic glioma
28	10, F	c.6519dupA	p.E2174fs*47	Frameshift, <i>Novel</i>	a,c,f
29	3, F	c.1721+3A>G	p.Y575C	Missense	a,c,f
30	12,M	c.1218delT	p.H407fs*5	Frameshift	a,b,d,e,learning disability
31	6, M	c.1885G>A	p.G629R	Missense	a,c,e
32	14, F	c.3046T>C	p.C1016R	Missense	a,b,c,e,epilepsia
33	9,M	c.574C>T	p.R192*	Stop codon	a,c,e
34	3, F	c.480-1G>A	-	Splicing variant	a,epilepsia,congenital hypothyroidism, ring chromosome 18
35	7,M	c.31C>T	p.Gln11Ter	Non-sense	a,b, aort coarctation,renal fusion,atrophic testis

472 National Institutes of Health criteria: (a)Six or more café-au-lait spots over 5mm in greatest diameter in prepubertal individuals and over 15mm in postpubertal individuals, (b)Two or more neurofibromas of any type or one or
473 more plexiform neurofibromas, (c)Freckling in the axillary or inguinal regions, (d)Optic glioma, (e)Two or more Lisch nodules, (f)A distinctive osseous lesions such as sphenoid dysplasia or thinning of long bone cortex with
474 or without pseudarthrosis, (g)A first-degree relative with NF-1

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492 **Table 2:** Clinical Features and Mutational Analysis of Familial Neurofibromatosis Type 1 Cases

Family Number	Index Case Age (year)/Sex	Family member Age (year)/Sex	Nucleotide change	Protein Change	Mutation type	Diagnostic criteria	Additional Findings
1	18, M	Brother, 15.5, M Mother, 39, F	c.5610-2A>G c.5610-2A>G -	p.S891A p.S891A -	Intronic <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a, b,c,e,g a, b,c,e,g a, b,c,e	Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma
2	9,F	Mother, 35, F	c.1020dupT c.1020dupT	p.V341fs*12	Frameshift	a,b,c,g a,b,c	Glioblastome Multiforme
3	6.5, F	Mother, 32, F Aunt, 36, F Cousine, 4, M	c.60+1G>T - NA NA	-	Intronic <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,g a,b,c,g a,b,c,g a,c,g	Pseudoartroz
4	13,5, M	Brother, 8, M Sister, 10.5, F Mother, 38, F	c.4191_9193delITGT c.4191_9193delITGT c.4191_9193delITGT c.4191_9193delITGT	p.V1398del p.V1398del p.V1398del p.V1398del	Deletion, <i>Novel</i>	a,c,g a,c,g a,c,g a,b,c	Pons Glioma Epilepsia
5	19, M	Father, 46, M	c.2326delG c.2326delG	p.A776fs*15 p.A776fs*15	Frameshift	a,c,d,g a,c,d	Cardiac Fibroma
6	12,M	Brother, 15, M Brother 8.5, M	c.3916C>T c.3916C>T c.3916C>T	p.R1306* p.R1306* p.R1306*	Stop codon <i>Gonodal mosaicism</i>	a,c,g a,c,g a,c,d,e,g	Epilepsia
7	11, M	Mother, 33, M	c.6428_6432delTGTTT -	p.L214fs*3 -	Frameshift <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,	
8	9, F	Father, 43, M Uncle, 40, M	c.6901_6911delGTGCTGCAG CT - NA	p.V2301*	Stop codon, <i>Novel</i> <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,c,g a,b,c,g a,b,c,g	Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, Vascular malformation
9	14, M	Father, 52, M Uncle, 46, M	c.3826C>T - NA	p.R1276*	Stop codon <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,c,g a,c,g a,c,g	Scoliosis , Cerebral hamartoma, learning disability
10	11, M	Mother, 42, M	c.3826C>T -	p.R1276*	Stop codon <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,c,g a,b,c	Learning disability, Strabismus,
11	6.5, F		c.541C>T	p.Q181*	Stop codon	a,d,g	Congenital pigmented

		Father, 36, M	c.541C>T	p.Q181*		a,b	nevus
12	10, M	Mother, 38, F	c.79C>T -	p.Q27* -	Stop codon <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,c,d,e,g a,b	
13	8, M	Sister, 3, F	c.2033dupC c.2033dupC	p.1679fs*21 p.1679fs*21	Duplication <i>Gonadal mosaicism</i>	a,c,g a,b,c	
14	6, F	Mother, 41, F	c.6032C>T -	p.A2011V -	Missense, <i>Novel</i> <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,g a,c	
15	10, M	Brother, 7, M Mother, 36, F	c.1733T>C c.1733T>C c.1733T>C	p.L578P p.L578P p.L578P	Missense	a,c,e,g a,c,d,e,g a,b	
16	10, M	Sister, 4, F Father, 38, M Uncle, 35, M Cousine, 12, F Cousine12, M Grandmother, 62, F	c.2903T>G c.2903T>G c.2903T>G c.2903T>G c.2903T>G c.2903T>G NA	p.M968R p.M968R p.M968R p.M968R p.M968R p.M968R NA	Missense	a,c,g a,d,g a,b,c,g a,b,g a,c,d,e,g a,c,d,e,g a,b	Hydronephrosis Strabismus Strabismus
17	9, F	Father, 33, M Uncle, 30, M Cousine, 7, M	c.1658A>G c.1658A>G NA NA	p.H553R p.H553R NA NA	Missense	a,d,g a,b,c,g NA NA	
18	12, M	Mother, 34, M	c.6428_6432delTGTTT -	p.L214fs*3 -	Frameshift <i>Somatic mosaicism</i>	a,c,e,g a,b,c,e	

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National Institutes of Health criteria: a) Six or more café-au-lait spots over 5mm in greatest diameter in prepubertal individuals and over 15mm in postpubertal individuals. b) Two or more neurofibromas of any type or one or more plexiform neurofibromas. c) Freckling in the axillary or inguinal regions. d) Optic glioma. e) Two or more Lisch nodules. f) A distinctive osseous lesions such as sphenoid dysplasia or thinning of long bone cortex with or without pseudarthrosis. g) A first-degree relative with NF-1, NA: Not Available

501 **Table 3:** Clinical Features of Neurofibromatosis Type 1 Cases with No Mutation Detected

Patient	Age (years)/Sex	Diagnostic Criteria	Additional findings
1	14, F	a,c	Milral valve prolapsus, focal areas of the signal intensity in cranial MRI
2	2, M	a,c	Wilms tumor, Glioblastoma, ALL
3	8, M	a,b,c,g	-
4	11, M	a	Focal areas of the signal intensity in cranial MRI
5	6, F	a,c,e	-
6	13, M	a,c,e,g	-
7	7, M	a	Epilepsia, focal areas of the signal intensity in cranial MRI
8	5.5, F	a,g	-
9	16, F	a,c,e	Focal areas of the signal intensity in cranial MRI
10	2, M	a,c,e	Focal areas of the signal intensity in cranial MRI

502 National Institutes of Health criteria: (a) Six or more café-au-lait spots over 5mm in greatest diameter in prepubertal individuals and over 15mm in
503 postpubertal individuals, (b) Two or more neurofibromas of any type or one or more plexiform neurofibromas, (c) Freckling in the axillary or inguinal
504 regions, (d) Optic glioma, (e) Two or more Lisch nodules, (f) A distinctive osseous lesions such as sphenoid dysplasia or thinning of long bone cortex
505 with or without pseudarthrosis, (g) A first-degree relative with NF-1
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