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Laboratory aspects of new defect in Purine & Pyrimidine metabolism Jörgen Bierau, Ph.D. ERNDIM Workshop, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Athens, Greece

# Outline

- 1. Short introduction to purines and pyrimidines
- 2. New defects identified over last decade
- 3. Looking ahead







nucleotide

nucleoside

#### **Purines and pyrimidines in nucleic acids**





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# Recently described defects in purine and pyrimidine metabolism

- Dihydro-orototate dehydrogenase (DHODH) deficiency
- Adenosine kinase deficiency
- ITPA encephalopathy
- CAD-deficiency



### **ITPA encephalopathy**

- Described by Kevelam et al in 2015
- Severe encephalopathy,
- cerebral atrophy
- delayed myelination
- Seizures
- Lack of psychomotor development
- Cardiomyopathy



- Caused by truncating mutations in ITPA
- Severely decreased ITPase activity in cultured skin fibroblasts
- Immensely different from effect of *ITPA* polymorphisms

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# **CAD-deficiency**

- Defect of pyrimidine *de novo synthesis*
- No abnormalities in selective metabolic screening
- Saskia's topic





# Dihydro-orotate dehydrogenase deficiency-Clinical picture

- Identified as cause of Miller syndrome
  - Ng et al Nature Genetics 42, 30-35 (2010)
  - Rainger et al Hum Mol Genet 18, 3969 3983 (2012)
- Main clinical symptoms:
  - Cranofacial dysmorphisms
    - Micrognathia
    - Orofacial clefts
    - Malar hypoplasia
    - Cup-shaped ears
  - Absence of ray 4 or 4+5 in hands and feet
  - Hypo-/aplasia of posterior limb elements
  - Normal intelligence





# Dihydro-orotate dehydrogenase deficiency-Urinary metabolites

	Rainger 2012	Duley 2016*	Maastricht lab 2012	
Dihydro-orotate	Not detected	39 (<0.5)	87(< 4)	
Orotate	0 – 38 (< 5)	33 (< 5)	78 (< 4)	
N-carbamoylaspartate	Not reported	Not reported	152 (n.d.)	
Orotidine	Not reported	Not reported	38 (< 8)	
(µmol/mmol creatinine) (ref) *Duley et al				

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\*Duley et al. Mol Gen Met 119, 83 -90 (2016)





# Adenosine kinase deficiency -Clinical picture

- Described as inborn error of metabolism in 2011 by Bjursell et al.
- Clinical spectrum revisited in 2016 by Staufner et al.
- Main clinical symptoms:
  - Mild to severe (neonatal onset) liver dysfunction
  - Recurrent hypoglycaemia due to hyper insulinism
  - Epilepsy
  - Global developmental retardation
  - Frontal bossing





# Adenosine kinase deficiencymetabolism



Staufner, C., Lindner, M., Dionisi-Vici, C. et al. J Inherit Metab Dis (2016) 39: 273. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10545-015-9904-y

Sleep Research Online 2(2): 33-41, 1999

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# Adenosine kinase deficiency – special laboratory

Key Metabolite	Reported values (min – max)	Reference
Methionine (p)	6 – 886 µM	< 45 µM
AdoMet (p)	160 – 1892 nM	71 – 118 nM
AdoHCy (p)	40 – 438 nM	9 – 14 nM
Adenosine (u)	4 – 45 mmol/mol cr	< 4 mmol/mol cr

Included in EQA schemes

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#### Looking ahead to the near future

# What new defects can we still expect in purine and pyrimidine metabolism?





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#### Thank you

