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# The venom gland transcriptome of the Desert Massasauga Rattlesnake (Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii): towards an understanding of venom composition among advanced snakes (Superfamily Colubroidea)

BMC Molecular Biology 2007, 8:115 doi:10.1186/1471-2199-8-115

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**ISSN** 1471-2199

Article type Research article

Submission date 28 May 2007

Acceptance date 20 December 2007

Publication date 20 December 2007

Article URL <a href="http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2199/8/115">http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2199/8/115</a>

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#### **Abstract**

Background: n e eno s re co p e . Tres of ph r co og.c y c. e pro e.ns nd pep .des h.ch e ong o s  $n_{N_c}$  er of  $s_{N_c}$  perf ..es, o c  $og_{N_c}$  ng of he eno r nscr.p o e f c. . es he .den .f. c .on of ne f . .es of o .ns s e she ps.n nders nd.ng he e o no of eno pro eo es,

Results:, e h e cons rac ed cDNA r ry of he eno g nd of hre ened r esn e p. .per Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii Deser M ss s 🛝 g sequenced E \( \) s, O \( \) res\_ s de ons r e h.gh \( \) and nce of ser.ne pro e.n se nd e opro e.n se r nscr.p s .nd.c .ng h he d.sr.p.on of he os s.s.s pr.nc.p e ech n.s  $\,$  of  $\,$  c.on of he  $\,$  eno  $\,$  ,  $\,$  n  $\,$  dd. on  $\,$  o he  $\,$  r  $\,$  nscr.p s encod.ng co eno pro e.ns e de ec ed o r.e.es of o nnd nce nn que r nscr.ps.n he . r ry. hese encode for hree finger o ins nd no e o in poss. y gener ed fro f so o genes e so o ser ed po y deny ed r. oso RNAs n he eno g nd . r ry n . n eres . ng pre . . n ry o se . . on of h s n pheno enon . n rep. n sys e,

Conclusion:  $\blacktriangle$  he hree finger o instrection rections of e p.d eno s  $\nearrow$  re r re .n .per.d eno s, e de ec ed se er  $E \triangleq s$  encod.ng h.s gropp of o .ns .n h.s s Ady, e so o ser ed he presence of r nscr.p encod.ng fased pro e.n R fasons of R

o ser ed.n h.s nd o her s d.es .nd.c es gre er co pos..on s. r. y of eno s hongh po ency . d.ffer ong d nced sn es h n h s een pre .ons y recogn.zed.

# **Background**

he d nced sn es saperf . y Co a ro. de cons. s of onophy e.c group of four f ...es Arc sp.d.d e Co x r.d e." E p.d e nd .per.d e , hese sn es h e e o ed .oche .c e pon o .ns r her h n ech n.c e ns of h nd .ng prey, Phy ogene .c s Ad es sho h he eno g nd here o .ns re prod ced e o ed once he se of he  $Co_{X}$  ro. de  $o_{X}$  . . on ye rs go nd h s indergone Phy ogene c recons r<sub>A</sub>c on e een o n genes nd sn e f ees sho ed h he s e.g., e opro e.n ses CR P nn z ype ser.ne pro e se.nh. . ors N F nd .ndependen e,g, PLA n r, re.c pep.des  $recr_{s,}$  en e en s . Appro . e y f ...es of o .ns h e een c ogged.n sn e eno pro eo es nd se er f ...es ppe r o e spec.f.c o p r.c., rf . y of eno ox s sn es Add. on d f. e , r fo o .ns re fond on y .n eno s of A r c sp.d.d eser.ne pro e.n ses re ed oood co  $g_{X}$  . on f c ors X co r eno f c or pr.ns nd A  $\blacktriangle$  pro .ne .c.n f . y pep . des ppe r o e . . ed o he E p. d e  $\bullet$  nd sc $^{\bullet}$  r endo he . gro h f c or E F d.s.n egr.ns g er.ns d.pep.dy pep.d se nd cro .ne occar pr. r. y.n eno s of he .per.d e Add. on d f. e , he occarrence re . e And nce nd ph r co og.c po ency of r.o.s e ers of hese o .n f ..es.n e en eno .on re r y co p e En eno .on y e p.d sn es.s y ch r c er. zed y r p.d negro o .c co p.c .ons de o presence of rge og n s of pos syn p.c negro o .ns h. e en eno .on y .per.d sn es e o es co p e he orrh g.c hypo ens. e nd.nf ory effec s c sed y he c.ons of n eros s ser ne pro e n ses e opro e n ses nd C ype ec ns CLP . Effec s of

en eno .on y sn es .n he gen s Atractaspis c n .nc de socons r.c .on res ng .nc rd. c rres . Desp. e o er s. . r. y .n c .n.c sy p o s e h . ed f er

Pop. ons of *S. catenatus* gener y re hre ened or dec.n.ng r nge .de pr. r. y s res. of h . oss nd h, n encro ch en nd herefore end ngered spec.es s .s h s een reco ended . n sys e .c s .dy o ycross nd M c essy sho ed h ong Co or do Ar.zon nd Ne Me .co pop. ons of *S. c. edwardsii* .z rds re he or prey fo o ed y s s nd cen.pedes, n he presen or he eno g nd h s een co ec ed fro sn es or g.n .ng fro he Co or do pop. on,

ener sy posofeneno on restang from Norh A er.c np. pers e reponocos significante e por nocos e effects progress e ede ery he nd necros so h cogra op hy hypofor. nogene ond pro ongo on of pro hromo no end hromocy open os systemedes, one er here is no specific report of dennihe er are concerning en eno on y S. c. edwardsii, Profong of oon e pression of his hremends no especies of e go one for he e pression of genres of oons one adding room not oding noncoding sequences indicate on one processes of room estangles, and he restangles of his stady of so he pon he anders inding of en eno on processes of room estangles end not not not not one effect economic reconstitution of the end of the e

# **Results and discussion**

A o of on of E As produced red e sequences. The sizes of sequences sho ed disr. In one eer and sepins in hin er ge of sepins d no sho n, A o of cas s for o he produce e e cas s e.

Homo sapiens ce s nd. s proposed o h e q. y con ro ro e n rRNA

degr d .on h.s.s pre . n ry repor sho .ng he poss. y of

po y deny .on of r. oso RNA .n rep . n sys e . On c oser e .n .on e

found p. e po y deny .on s.gn AALAAA Add. on d f. e ...

sequence s. ses ps re of he po y A . .

#### **Identification of toxin families**

Serine proteinase: The serine protein sesin he enough in a right of S. c. edwardsii relepressed. In he highes rinscrip and nice of E T s. Figure in die ong of casters, Manipeleones pipe red in casters hie ere single ons. Addition die one represente E T from each caster sicologie on sequenced DQ DQ DQ One of he casters DQ continuous pipe red in casters. One of he casters DQ continuous pipe red in casters by the end of the casters both serine protein see fro Bothrops jararaca enough die of the casters by the protein serine protein see fro Bothrops jararaca enough die of the casters by the protein see from Bothrops jararaca enough die of the casters by the protein see from Bothrops jararaca enough die of the casters by the protein see from Bothrops jararaca enough die of the casters by the protein seed of the casters by the casters by the casters by the protein seed of the casters by the casters

Mos sn e eno ser ne pro e.n ses

Ps o d e re s.ng e po ypep .de ch .ns

e cep for o f. r.no y.c enzy es fro he eno of ore n .per Agkistrodon

blomhoffi brevicaudus re .n se A nd s on se AF n o h c ses

f. rdserdnon preceptor sor so so e y c e had a had he had s

nn nogen nd p e e recep ors , o e Ps e h. ore h n one c. y, For pen dd. on o her hro nec. y o hro neco send LM L .nd<sub>3</sub>ce p e e ggreg .on .n.n re e se nd gyr ory c . . .es respec . e y ... e . so for s fro S. c. edwardsii, o ss. gn  $p_{\overline{A}_i}$  . e  $f_{\overline{A}_i}$  nc . ons nd o e . ne rends . n he e o  $\chi$  on of ne sofor s F. g re  $\chi$  he phy ogene c ree sho ed sc ered d.s r.  $_{\cline{-1.5}}$  on of r.o $_{\cline{-1.5}}$ s .sofor s . h d.fferen ph r co og.c c . . .es fro se er spec. es of p. . pers, h. s p ern . nd. c es h Ps d. erged f er sn e . ne ges spec. ed, M ny Ps re co on y cons. dered s hro .n. e enzy es \( \) LEs ec se hey . .c he f. r. nogeno y .c f nc .on of hro .n pro o .ng ood co g .on, herefore .n os c ses on y f. r.nogeno y .c f nc .on of Ps .s es ed P.s.c. egor.zed  $s.\Delta LE$ , o e er so e hro .n. e enzy es .n dd. on ore e sing firinopepide A ind or B fro i firinogen so cili e pro ein C co pe en conde nd pe e s conde e n eres ng o  $de\ er\ .ne\ he\ spec.f.c\ ph\ r\ co\ og.c\ proper\ .es\ of\ r.o_{\c N}s \ P\ .sofor\ s\ .h.n\ e\ ch$ group nd p hese on hear e o st. on ry re onsh ps.

P genes e ong o A . gene f . y nd he pro e.n cod.ng reg.ons h e een sho n o e e per enc.ng cce er ed e o A . on . h.n he eno g nds of p. . pers . Ach cce er ed e o A . on coa d e d o he ch nges .n sarf ce oops sarroanding he sa s r e .nd.ng s. e resa . ng .n he r. . on of sa s r e recogn. . on nd hence he fanc . on of he pro e.n. Ahe r. o e een nonsynony oas nd synony oas sa s . A. on  $d_N d_S$  of he pro e.n cod ng sequences of ser ne pro e.n se . sofor s of h.s spec. es s foand o e . . .nd.c . ng rend o rd cce er ed e o A . on nd herefore d. ergence .n ph r. co og.c fanc . on dar ng en eno . on

Metalloproteinase and Disintegrin: A o of E \( \) s f .n o c \( \) s ers nd

s.ng e ons for h.s f .y of pro e.ns r nscr.p \( \) nd nce F.g. re Add. on

d \( f \) e \( \) One represen \( e \) E \( \) fro \( e \) ch c \( \) s er \( s \) sequenced DQ

DQ \( n \) e \( e \) opro e.n \( s \) e \( o \) pos. on P \( e \) opro e.n \( s \) do \( n \) on \( o \) y

groups \( c \) cord.ng \( o \) s. ze \( n \) do \( n \) co \( p \) os. on P \( e \) opro e.n \( s \) do \( n \) on \( o \) y

P \( e \) opro e.n \( s \) nd \( d \) ns. \( P \) e \( o \) opro e.n \( s \) d. \( s \) negr. \( n \) nd

cys \( e \) ne r. ch \( d \) ons. \( n \) nd P \( P \) ype do \( n \) s. \( n \) edo \( n \) y

d. \( s \) f. \( d \) onds \( n \) None of \( h \) c. \( e \) dwardsii \( D \) \( ches \) den. \( y \) he

ono er c d s n egr ns r  $o_N$ r n nd erge .n.n ere ch r c er zed pre .o $_N$ s y fro he eno of S. miliarius barbouri nd S. c. tergeminus respec . e y

Ahe ...n.negr.n recep or ..nd.ng o..f of d.s.n egr.ns R D..s for nd o e he..p of fe..eh..rp.n oop, r..on of ..no c.d res.d.es.n h.s o..f R M. D

MLD M D or R on he fe..e oop confers spec.fc. y o rds spec.fc recep ors e.g. rep ce en of R ..h...n R D o..f of ro...n.nd..sss.r.s ..n s.gn.fc n y..ncre ses he se ec...y for α β f. r.nogen recep or ..ho. ffec..ng. s ..nd.ng o α<sub>s</sub>β<sub>1</sub> f. ronec.n recep or or αβ<sub>3</sub> ..ronec.n recep or ...

Add. on y he res.d.es. ed. e.y.d.cen o he R D oop so..nf..ence o h se ec...y nd ff.n.y for .n egr.n recep ors ..., For e p.e.d.s.n egr.ns ..h

R D nd R DNP h. e.se ec..e.y h.gher ff.n.y for α β nd α β respec..e.y

... he R DNP con .n.ng d.s.n egr.ns re fo d ore po en h.n.R D con .n.ng d.s.n egr.ns.n. oc..ng he dhes.on of ce s..e.d. ed. y αβ. he p. ... e

d.s.n egr.n fro S. c. edwardsii h.s.R DNP co..p red o R. D...nd. D...n

erge .n.n.nd.ro..n.recep or se ec...y. herefore f. f. r her s...d.es of he phys.o.og.c.

re e. n.c. of r...on.n recep or se ec...y. ong d.s.n egr.ns fro ... s., nog...e.y. s. f.n.e.y.

edwardsii eno hough sn e eno PLA sone of he os r p.d y e o ng enzy e

f ...es, n os species se er sofor s of PLA re o ser ed n cDNA r r.es nd

eno s ...nd hese h e cquired d erse physio og c funcions ...h.s

o ser ...on s so suppor ed y pro eo ...c n ys.s of S. c. edwardsii eno h e

eno s fro ...nd ...du s of o her species of Sistrurus con ...n u p e PLA ...sofor s

Phosphodiesterase equence of pr. s.nge on E r nscr.p and nce.

Add. on d f. e F.gare DQ sho s den. y o he C er .n

reg on of he phosphodies er se gene fro ch. pinzee XP h.s.s he f.rs

cDNA sequence for phosphodies er se fro snie eno. Phosphodies er se c. . y his een o ser ed .n eno s of E p.d e per.d e nd Co ar.d e snies

ho e er he role of h.s enzy e .n en eno. .on .s no ye c e r, eno

phosphodies er ses hydrolyze phosphodies er nd pyrophosphie onds .n nac eo .des

nd nac e.c. c.ds ind rele se par. nes religions on phosphodies er so present .n snie eno sind hey y con r. are o en eno. .on

seque e for de .s see

#### L-amino acid oxidase:

C-type lectin: n o r r ry CLP cco n for ppro ey nd nce nd h e one c s er DQ nd o s.ng e ons DQ nd DQ Add on d f. e F.g. re On BLA \( \text{P}\) se rch hey ch he \( \text{h}\) he \( \text{B}\) s n of sh.g.n \( \text{Sh.g.n}\) den y dhe Ach n of F c or X F c or X and ng pro e.n XX p A. den y respectey,

Mash.g.n C B nd XX p rehe erod. er.c. ho e er an o r ry ed.d no f.nd ny ch o E \( \text{S}\) sencod ng he corresponding cope en ry s n s, \( \text{herefore}\) herefore y e.n eresting o e ane he CLP reference in his eno nd de er ane he.r. lo og c propertes.

Growth factors: , e o . ned one c s er r nscr.p , nd nce encod.ng sc, r endo he . gro h f c or E F Add. on d f. e F.g. re , equenc.ng of c ones fro h.s c s er sho ed here re o sofor s DQ nd DQ . h on y o . no c.d res.d.e n.c eo .de d.fferences pos. .ons Q CA

E A nd AA E A , e so sequenced s.ng e on DQ

encod.ng ner e gro h f c or N F, Ano her s.ng e on DQ . ched . h he

C er .n.s of connec . e .ss.e gro h f c or re ed pro e.n C F, h.s.s he f.rs

repor of C F re ed pro e.n.n eno cDNA . r ry, s or.g.n.n he eno g nd

.ns e d of o her s.rro.nd.ng .ss.es needs o e er.f.ed,

Add on d f. e F.g. re for CR P DQ h.ch ches hC r.n

AAO ...den y fro C. atrox eno CR Ps re de y d.s r. ed n

s rep. es ph. ns r hropods ne odes cone sn. s nd p n s nd hey

e h. d. erse .o og.c f.nc.ons ...hey re s.ng e ch. n M of - D

 $d.s_{N}f.de r.dge.s.n oop F.g_{N}re$ , A .sofor s.h e he po en . N g ycosy .on o .f N X A  $F.g_{N}re$ ,

For some series of the series

suggesting co on origin fo o ed y d. ers.f.c ton of Fig. s ong d need

pro e.n. s r. ch. n Cys res. d es s. r o ny o her sn e eno o .ns, s N er .n do .n ches .h n. z BP o .ns .den .y nd he .dd e do .n ches .h pr.ns .den .y nd he no e r nscr.p h s n e ended C er .n. s F.g. re , Bo h n. z BP nd pr.ns re for nd sep r e y s s.ng e do .n pro e.ns .n sn e eno s. no of he Cys res. d es h.ch for one of he for d.s. f. de onds .n pr.ns re .ss.ng .n he ne r nscr.p F.g. re , R p PCR ns.ng fresh RNA o her h n n sed o e cDNA .r ry s e p e nd sequenc.ng e per. en s sho he presence of h.s f. sed r nscr.p .n he eno g nd nd hence ..s no n r.f c d e o e p e s .ch.ng y he Re erse r nscr.p se sed for .ng he cDNA .r ry , A hongh n er of cDNA sequences of n.n z BP fro sn e eno sh e een co p e ed none of he h e he pr.n do .n nd he C er .n e ens.on, Carren y cDNA sequences of pr.ns re no no n, o e er h.s.s he f.rs e per. en e .dence for he presence of pr.n do .n hongh f. sed .h no her o .n .n .per.d eno

he onger ORF h .ng n. z BP nd pr.n do .ns oge her cond ed ed e o he fiss on of o .nd .da genes encoding n. z BP nd pr.n, ene fiss on ed ed y e on shaffing .n ron ed ed reco .n .on or re ro r nspos. .on h s een es .shed s n essen gene c ech n.s for he or g.n of ne genes .n .n er e r es er e r es nd p n s ... Recen y ne gene c process r nscr.p.on .nd ced ch. er.s . C .n c ses of nde y oc ed gene p .rs h s een sho n o e respons. e for gene fiss on .n he had n geno e producing ch. er.c

Tron-binding protein For TE s Add on d f e F.g. re d E s CE YPO r nscr.p and nce , sho ed ho o ogy . h n ron . nd ng pro e.n . h po en . s.gn pep .de, A ho gh os .ron .nd ng pro e.ns re gener y c egor.zed s s or ge pro e.n so e of he sach s o or nsferr.n nd c oferr.n h e n . .cro . c . . .es , .s no c e r he her or no h s pro e.n .s for nd .n he eno , o e er o pr.n e er of he pr.n pro e.n f .y nd he C er .n reg.on of yo o .c PLA ere o h sho n o h e

#### **Identification of cellular transcripts**

e o . ned c \_s ers r nscr.p \_ nd nce sequences h.ch re.n o ed . n \_r.o. s ce \_ r f\_nc . ons . nc \_d ng r nscr.p . on nd r ns . on secre . on pos r ns . on \_ od.f.c . on gener \_ e \_ o . s \_ nd o her f\_nc . ons Add . on \_ d \_ f. e \_ eno \_ g nds \_ \_ . \_ r ho\_s se\_ eep ng pro e.n prod\_c s h \_ e \_ een o \_ ser\_ ed . n o her sn \_ e \_ eno \_ g nds \_ \_ . One of he E \_s CE \_ \_ ches \_ c \_ c \_ \_ nd \_ . n egr.n . nd ng pro e.n h.ch \_ss.s s p \_ e e \_ spre\_ d.ng \_ \_ . A ho\_sgh \_ od\_\_ . on of \_ p \_ e \_ nd . n egr.n f\_nc . ons . s \_ ey \_ c \_ . \_ y of se\_ er \_ sn \_ e \_ eno \_ co\_ ponen s \_ e \_ do no \_ e.e \_ e h \_ h.s pro e.n . s presen . n \_ eno \_ s \_ c \_ s he s.gn\_ pep . de,

A cen r he e .n he e o ... on of eno sys e s .s co p e e d... p .c .on of o .n genes fo o ed y cce er ed e o ... on h.ch f ors nonsynony o ... no c.d  $s_{x}$  s. s on o rds neof nc. on .z. on, Mod.f.c. on of seeced  $s_{x}$  rf cere s of o .ns .s respons. e for  $\operatorname{prod}_{\mathbf{x}}$  c.ng he  $\operatorname{f}_{\mathbf{x}}$  nc .on d. ers. y .n n. .n er e r es sn . s nd scorp.ons. er e r es sn es o .n  $_{\cline{N}}$  .gene f . .es , o e er one . por n o ser .on .n he presen repor .s he occentrence of no e o .n . e r nscr.p gener ed y f<sub>A</sub>s.on of o.nd. .d<sub>A</sub> o.n genes <sub>A</sub>n. z BP nd pr.n.n sn e eno g nd, hongh he ech n.s for cre on of h.s fased gene needs o e re so oper .ng.n he eno g nd o cre e no e o .n genes, enes or.g.n .ng y o her gene .c processes such se on shuffing re recen nd herefore he dd. .on of h.s fysed o.n. e r nscr.p o he eno pro eo e.s perh ps ne , A h.s s ge. s e p.ng o spec, e h he or.g.n of od, r org n.z on of d.fferen c sses of MPs h.ch ppe rs o e he res, of gene f, s.on e en s y e d, e o gene.c process o her h n gene dap .c .on, MPs re ery and n o .ns nd c rry o pr.nc.p roe.n en eno .on y .per.d sn es nd herefore s d.es of he.r gene.c or.g.n nd org n.z.on . e of gre .n eres, C.rc, s n. e .dence of r ns spicing for he generation of serine protein selsofor sin he enoting and of V. lebetina . ope ne , h e sho n h ern . e sp .c.ng nd h s een presen ed gene dap.c .on re.n erse y corre ed e o a .on ry ech n.s s. According o P rr

ne o .ns nd pro .des ech n.s.ce p n .ons for he.re o ...on nd d. ers.f.c .on.

An ...nreso ed q.es.on.n o es he re .onsh.p e een he eno g nd r nscr.p o e

nd ho h.s.s.. e y r ns ed o he f.n pro eo e. ...h.s r. e pro eo .c

co pos..on.n ...rn de er .nes he co p e nd of en d.ff.c.. o reso e seque e h.ch

frequen y de e op fo o .ng en eno .on y he d.fferen spec.es of eno o...s sn es.

### **Methods**

#### Venom extraction and collection of venom glands

pec. ens of Sistrurus c. edwardsii Deser M ss s g ere co ec ed n L nco n

Con n y Co or do Annder per s gr n ed y he Co or do D. s. on of de o

PM per s P eno ser c ed fro de sn es s ng s nd rd

n e hods eno s ere hen cen r faged o re o e p r case s frozen nd

yoph zed. Pr or o g nd re o sn es ere e r c ed of eno Foar d ys er

hen RNA e e s re presa ed o sn es ere nes he zed h

sof or ne nd hen s cr. f. ced y dec p. on nds ere hen r p.d y d. ssec ed fro

nco peecDNAs ere re o ed y p ss.ng he r ry hrough C ROMA P N

co n he r ry s p c ged ss.ng .g p c go d p c g.ng e r c r gene

Ced r Cree he s A nd .d c ones ere rescred fro r ndo y se ec ed

h e p ques nd gro n .n Lar. ro h p.c. .n ed P s .ds ere par.f.ed

s.ng he Q Aprep sp.n .n. prep . Q. gen . den er ny .P. r.f.ed p s .ds ere sequenced y cycle sequencing re c .ons as ng he B.gDyeher .n or . App.ed

B. osys e Fos er C. y C .forn. A nd n o ed DNA sequencer Mode

A App.ed B. osys e Fos er C. y C .forn. A

#### RT-PCR

#### **Bioinformatic analysis**

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#### List of abbreviations

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# **Authors' contributions**

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# Acknowledgments

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### FIGURE LEGENDS

## Figure 1

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#### Figure 2

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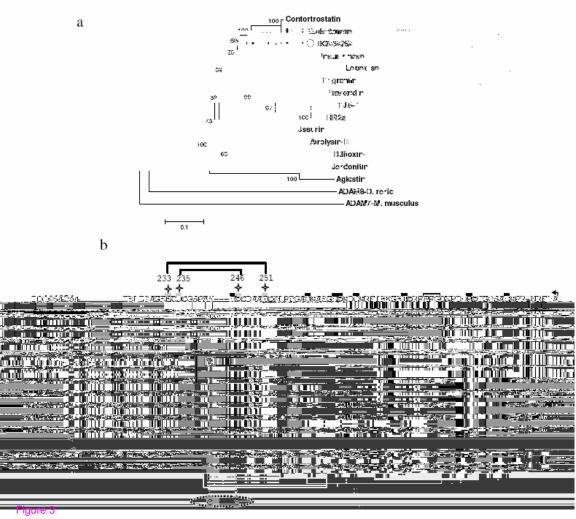
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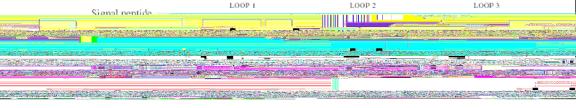


Figure 4





# Additional files provided with this submission:

Additional file 1: additional data file 1.pdf, 23K