

Supplementary Materials

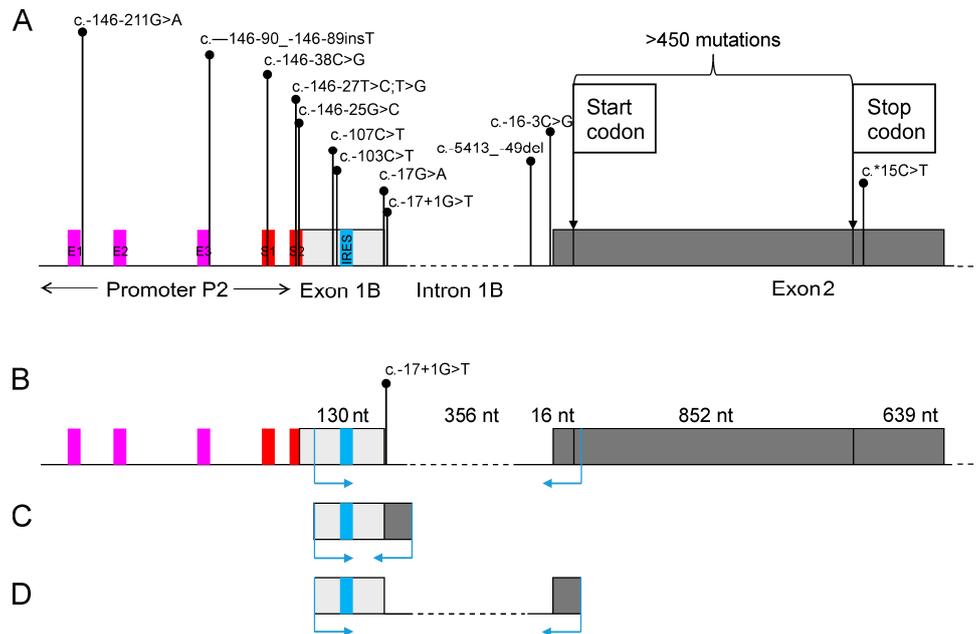


Figure S1. *GJB1* gene structure and schematic drawing of the experimental design, highlighting the different length of splice variants. (a) Gene structure and known mutations in the untranslated regions of *GJB1*. Pink boxes E1-E3 represent EGR2 binding sites, while red boxes S1-S2 mark SOX10 binding sites. Internal Ribosomal Entry Site (IRES) is highlighted by the homonym light blue box. (b) Experimental design: a couple of primers (*GJB1*-ex1B_1 Fw, *GJB1*-5'UTR_3 Rv) was used to amplify *GJB1* noncoding cDNA in order to assess the effect of the c.-17+1G>T mutation. (c) Regular splicing: correct removal of intron 1B generates a cDNA fragment of expected 131 nucleotides in wild type samples. (d) Transcriptional analysis in mutant samples: since c.-17+1G>T mutation abolishes a donor splice-site consensus sequence, intron 1B should be retained in its complete length, thus producing a longer fragment of cDNA.

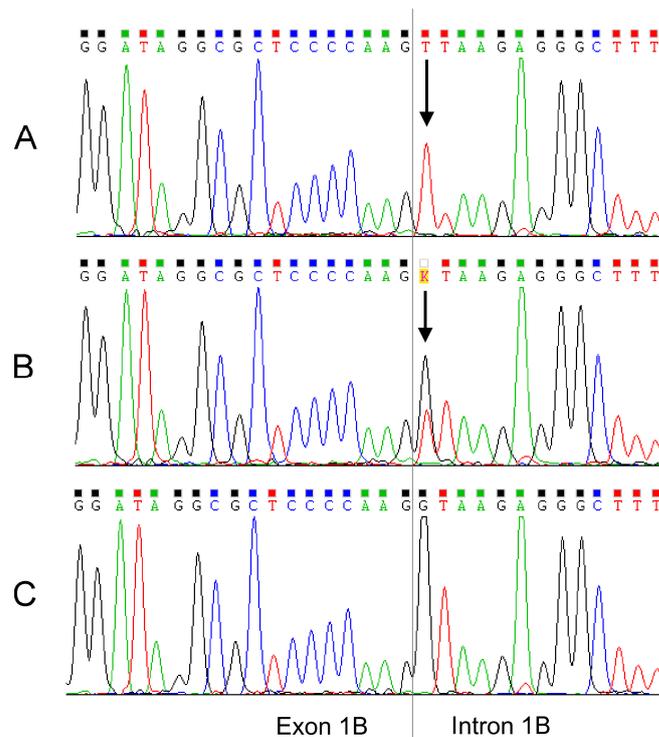


Figure S2. Sequencing chromatograms illustrating the results of *GJB1* genetic testing in some representative family members. (A) a hemizygous CMTX1 male (II-2, first family); (B) a heterozygous CMTX1 female (III-9, second family); (C) a healthy individual (II-4, first family). An arrow points to the c.-17+1G>T mutation.

Table S1. List of used primers. After exclusion of mutations in *GJB1* exon 2 coding sequence, 5'UTR was sequenced from nt g.12671 to g.13503. Nucleotide numbering was in relation to NG_008357.1, covering *GJB1* transcript NM_000166.5. *PMP22* and *GAPDH* nucleotide numberings were according to NM_000304.3 and NM_002046.5, respectively. Primer pairs GJB1-5'UTR_1, GJB1-5'UTR_2 and GJB1-5'UTR_3 were used to sequence 5'UTR genomic DNA, while primer pairs GJB1-ex2 were used to amplify cDNA coding sequence. GJB1-ex1B_1 was used with reverse primer GJB1-5'UTR_3 to amplify and sequence 5'UTR cDNA; GJB1-ex1B_2 was used in nested sequencing on the previous PCR amplification product.

| Primers pair name | Position (first nt; last nt of the amplicon) | Forward sequence | Reverse sequence |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| GJB1-5'UTR_1 | g.12671; g.12993 | taagctctgacggggccat | ctgctttataccagtgctgc |
| GJB1-5'UTR_2 | g.12907; g.13219 | gaagtcagggcgttgatct | gcccatctgttccgatatcag |
| GJB1-5'UTR_3 | g.13139; g.13503 | ttagttgccccagggtctg | agttcatcctgcctcattcacac |
| GJB1 ex2 | g.13615; g.13943 | cagagagtgtgtggggtgatg | gaagacggcctcaaacaacag |
| GJB1-ex1B_1 | g.13017 | ggtgatgaattgggacgca | |
| GJB1-ex1B_2 | g.13078 | ccataggggacctgtctggg | |
| PMP22 ex1-4 | c.21; c.458 | atcatcgtctccacgtcg | atagatgacaccgctgagaa |
| GAPDH ex6-8 | c.386; c.636 | ccatgttcgtcatgggtgtg | gccagtagaggcagggatg |