

## FOR THE RECORD

Erna Melendez,<sup>1</sup> M.S.; Esther Martinez-Espin,<sup>2</sup> Ingrid S. Karlson,<sup>1</sup> Jose A. Lorente,<sup>2</sup> M.D., Ph.D.; and Bruce Budowle,<sup>3</sup> Ph.D.

# Population Data on 15 STR Loci (PowerPlex<sup>TM</sup> 16<sup>TM</sup> Kit) in a Costa Rica (Central America) Sample Population

**POPULATION:** Costa Rica, Central America

**KEYWORDS:** forensic science, DNA typing, population genetics, Costa Rica, Central America

Blood samples were obtained by venipuncture from unrelated individuals ( $n = 253\text{--}279$ ) living in Costa Rica. Approximately 1 ng of DNA were used in each amplification. The samples were amplified using the Powerplex 16<sup>TM</sup> kit (Promega) and the alleles were separated and detected using an Applied Biosystems ABI310 genetic analyzer.

The frequency of each allele for each locus was calculated from the numbers of each genotype in the sample set (i.e., the gene count method). Unbiased estimates of expected heterozygosity were computed as described by Edwards et al. (1). Possible divergence from Hardy-Weinberg expectations (HWE) was tested by calculating the unbiased estimate of the expected homozygote/heterozygote frequencies (1–4) and the exact test (5), based on 2000 shufflings

experiments. An interclass correlation criterion (6) for two-locus associations was used for detecting disequilibrium between the STR loci. The program for this analysis was kindly provided by R. Chakraborty (University of Texas, School of Biomedical Sciences, Houston Texas).

The distributions of the observed allele frequencies for the 15 STR loci are shown in Table 1. The most informative loci are Penta E and D18S51, and the least discriminating are TPOX and CSF1PO. The 15 loci meet Hardy-Weinberg expectations. There is little evidence for association of alleles between pairs of the 15 loci. Only four (D8S1179/D5S818;  $p = 0.028$ ; TPOX/FGA;  $p = 0.045$ ; FGA/TH01;  $p = 0.026$ ; D5S818/D16S539;  $p = 0.010$ ) of 105 pairwise comparisons demonstrated a departure from expectations of independence. This number of departures is within expectations of departure by chance and these four departures are not significant after correction for sampling (i.e., Bonferroni (7)). The combined power of discrimination is  $>0.9999999$ , and the combined power of exclusion is 0.9999967.

The complete data are available by accessing <http://www.gitad.org/poblaciones>.

TABLE 1—Observed allele frequencies for the 15 PowerPlex<sup>TM</sup> loci.

Allele	D3S1358	TH01	D21S11	D18S51	PENTA E	D5S818	D13S317
2.2					0.03360		
5		0.00368					
6		0.30331					
7		0.22426			0.14032	0.02347	
8		0.09375			0.02569	0.01444	0.10252
9		0.16176			0.00791	0.09747	0.15647
9.3		0.20956					
10	0.00179	0.00368		0.01832	0.04743	0.03610	0.07374
11				0.01832	0.11462	0.38989	0.21403
12				0.08059	0.15810	0.31769	0.26978
13	0.00538			0.11905	0.09289	0.11372	0.11331
14	0.11290			0.16850	0.09881	0.00722	0.06835
15	0.30466			0.13370	0.10474		0.00180

TABLE 1—Continued.

Allele	D3S1358	TH01	D21S11	D18S51	PENTA E	D5S818	D13S317	
16	0.25627			0.13553	0.02569			
17	0.17921			0.13187	0.03360			
18	0.13262			0.08242	0.03162			
19	0.00717			0.04945	0.02964			
20				0.03114	0.02372			
21				0.01099	0.01581			
22				0.01282	0.01383			
23				0.00183	0.00198			
24		0.00183		0.00366				
24.2		0.00366						
25			0.00183					
25.2		0.00366						
26		0.00366						
27		0.02747						
28		0.08974						
29		0.19963						
29.2		0.00366						
30		0.29121						
30.2		0.00549						
31		0.06227						
31.2		0.08425						
32		0.01465						
32.2		0.14103						
33		0.00183						
33.2		0.05495						
34		0.00183						
35		0.00183						
35.2		0.00183						
36		0.00549						
Homozygosity Test*	0.495	0.290	0.584	0.404	0.184	0.383	0.833	
Exact Test**	0.370	0.559	0.822	0.384	0.057	0.905	0.450	
PD	0.91561003	0.91481942	0.95144172	0.97328557	0.97883110	0.88037118	0.94280834	
PE	0.56804391	0.56507345	0.67549430	0.76953324	0.80674228	0.49317995	0.65108883	
Allele	D7S820	D16S539	CSF1PO	PENTA D	vWA	D8S1179	TPOX	FGA
2.2				0.00735				
3.2				0.00184				
5				0.01287				
6				0.00551			0.01321	
7	0.00730		0.00538	0.00735			0.00189	
8	0.12226	0.03058	0.00896	0.02206		0.00903	0.48113	
9	0.08759	0.13849	0.01434	0.16912		0.01083	0.06792	
10	0.25000	0.19964	0.20968	0.20037		0.04693	0.03585	
11	0.30657	0.23022	0.30287	0.20037	0.00365	0.09747	0.32075	
12	0.18248	0.24640	0.38351	0.19118		0.11552	0.07736	
13	0.03832	0.12770	0.07168	0.12132	0.00182	0.31408	0.00189	
14	0.00547	0.02518	0.00358	0.04228	0.08029	0.23105		
15		0.00180		0.01471	0.15146	0.11191		
16				0.00368	0.33759	0.05957		
17					0.25000	0.00181	0.00197	
18					0.11131	0.00181	0.00984	
19					0.05474		0.08071	
20					0.00912		0.05512	
21							0.11614	
22							0.11614	
22.2							0.00591	
23							0.15551	
23.2							0.00197	
24							0.21260	
25							0.13976	
26							0.07677	
27							0.02559	
28							0.00197	
Homozygosity Test*	0.149	0.057	0.237	0.402	0.325	0.275	0.221	0.274
Exact Test**	0.288	0.308	0.215	0.033	0.200	0.169	0.332	0.646
PD	0.92042730	0.93685627	0.87013271	0.95204369	0.91344771	0.93232024	0.80894268	0.96717093
PE	0.58417474	0.62035246	0.46248157	0.67328325	0.57743034	0.62833192	0.40411711	0.73432389

PD = power of discrimination; PE = power of exclusion; \* $\chi^2_{\text{df}}$  based on unbiased estimate with 2000 shufflings; \*\* Exact test based on 2000 shufflings.

### Acknowledgments

This study was partially supported by the “Fundacion M. Botin”, Santander, Spain. We thank Promega Corp. for kindly providing the PowerPlex16 kit.

### References

- Edwards A, Hammond HA, Jin L, Caskey CT, Chakraborty R. Genetic variation at five trimeric and tetrameric tandem repeat loci in four human population groups. *Genomics* 1992;12:241–53.
- Chakraborty R, Smouse PE, Neel JV. Population amalgamation and genetic variation: observations on artificially agglomerated tribal populations of Central and South America. *Amer J Hum Genet* 1988;43:709–25.
- Chakraborty R, Fornage M, Guegue R, Boerwinkle E. Population genetics of hypervariable loci: analysis of PCR based VNTR polymorphism within a population. In Burke T, Dolf G, Jeffreys AJ, Wolff R, editors. *DNA fingerprinting: approaches and applications*, Birkhauser Verlag, Berlin 1991;127–43.
- Nei M, Roychoudjary AK. Sampling variances of heterozygosity and genetic distance. *Genetics* 1974;76:379–90.
- Guo SW, Thompson EA. Performing the exact test of Hardy Weinberg proportion for multiple alleles. *Biometrics* 1992;48:361–72.
- Karlin S, Cameron EC, Williams PT. Sibling and parent-offspring, correlation estimation with variable family size. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 1981;78:2664–8.
- Weir BS. Multiple tests. In: *Genetic data analysis*. Sinquer Inc., Sunderland, Massachusetts, 1990;109–10.

Additional information and reprint requests:  
 Professor Dr. Jose A. Lorente  
 Dept. Medicina Legal—University of Granada  
 Av. Madrid 11  
 E-18012 Granada, Spain  
 E-mail: jllorente@ugr.es