

1 **The rs6505162 C>A polymorphism in the**
2 ***miRNA-423* gene exhibits a protective**
3 **element of coronary artery in a southern**
4 **Chinese population with Kawasaki disease**

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36 Abstract

37 **Background:** Manifesting as acute rash, fever and vasculitis, belonging to autoimmune
38 syndrome, Kawasaki disease(KD) is prone to occur in infants and young children. Males and
39 females is affected by KD at a ratio of 1.4 to 1.7 : 1. KD is known to own many common clinical
40 manifestations and complications, like coronary artery lesion(CAL) and coronary artery
41 aneurysm(CAA). Polymorphisms of the rs6505162 locus in the *miRNA-423* gene are associated
42 with enhance susceptibility to coronary artery disease and the alterations of the four cytokines
43 IL-4, IL-10, IL-21, IL-22 in the early stages of diabetes. However, no researcher has reported
44 whether rs6505162 is related to KD susceptibility or no. Therefore, we carried out the trial
45 concentrating on the connection between *miRNA-423* rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and KD
46 susceptibility.

47 **Methods:** To obtain the genotypes of rs6505162 in objects enrolled by 532 KD children and 623
48 control, we applied Taqman real-time PCR and all statistical analyses was carried out by SAS.

49 **Results:** The comparison between all cases and all controls hinted that the rs6505162C>A
50 polymorphism has no relationship with KD susceptibility. Nevertheless, a subgroup analysis
51 revealed that the CA/AA genotypes of rs6505162 could reduce the occurrence of CAA (Adjusted
52 age and gender odds ratio=1.30, 95%CI=1.02-1.67, $P=0.037$) and CAL (Adjusted OR=1.56,
53 95%CI=1.19-2.03, $P=0.001$) in KD patients.

54 **Conclusion:** Our final results stated clearly that *miRNA-423* rs6505162 polymorphism appears
55 to be a protective element of CAL and CAA in southern Chinese suffers with KD.

56

57 **Keywords:** *miRNA-423* rs6505162, Kawasaki disease, polymorphism, coronary
58 artery lesion, coronary artery aneurysm

59

60 **Running head:** *miRNA-423* rs6505162 and Kawasaki disease

61

62 Introduction

63 In the year of 1967, the illness named Kawasaki disease(KD) was detected by Dr. Kawasaki.(1)
64 Manifesting as acute rash, fever and vasculitis, belonging to autoimmune syndrome, Kawasaki
65 disease(KD) which trigger acquired heart disease at most in non-developing countries is prone to
66 occur in infants and young children.(2) In recent years, 18.4% suffers are subjected to coronary
67 artery disease and 20-25% untreated sick children suffered from coronary artery dilatation. The
68 phenomenon above-mentioned could give rise to myocardial ischemia, and some of them develop
69 into coronary aneurysm which perhaps rupture, even gigantic coronary aneurysms.(3, 4) KD can
70 occur at any age including adults and neonate.(5-7) In patients with KD, complications of
71 coronary artery disease which Initial corticosteroid therapy can prevent are related to the duration
72 of disease before treatment.(8) The incidence of KD in most international areas such as Korea

73 have been increasing slowly year by year, with a sex ratio of 1.4 to 1.7.(9-11)

74

75 The cause of KD is not totally clear and definite so far, and the exploration for the pathogen also
76 has been upset.(12) According to the epidemiology and pathogenesis, the majority of human
77 approve of the standpoint that the vasculitis of this illness is caused by the unsuitable immune
78 reaction in individuals with hereditary susceptibility encountering one or more infectious
79 irritants.(12, 13) In the culture of endothelial cells, somebody found that KLF4-miR-483 axis
80 could be restrained by Kawasaki disease serum to speed up the development of
81 Endothelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition(EndMT) which can injure vessel in KD patients.(14)
82 Damage of endothelial cell homeostasis might concern the unusual circumstance of coronary
83 artery in KD.(15) In a network analysis regarding protein interaction, the close contact between
84 these genes concerning KD was verified to tell the pathogenesis of KD.(16) Several genes in the
85 hypermethylated region were studied by Chen, and the correlation between the hypermethylated
86 CpG locus and the pathogenesis of KD was mentioned for the first time. (17) These are some of
87 the mechanisms of KD above.

88

89 Non-coding miRNAs, of which length are ~22 or so nucleotides, are produced by substances in
90 the nucleus and cytoplasm and affect the course of genetics expression.(18) miRNA having a
91 connection with plenty of mechanism and disease, include inflammatory response, severe asthma,
92 diabetes mellitus, congenital heart disease, coronary artery disease(CHD). (19-23) Colorectal
93 carcinoma whose potential biomarker might be *miR-423* rs6505162 has been studied by Jia, W.(24)
94 Jha, Chandan K detected that The gene mutation in *microRNA-423* was in connection with
95 enhance susceptibility to CHD.(25)The *miRNA-423* rs6505162 having a certain relationship
96 with CHD in prognosis, as studied in this article, is associated with HDL.(26) However, the
97 connection of the *miRNA-423* rs6505162 C>A polymorphism with KD susceptibility has not been
98 investigated so far. On the foundation of the medical center we employing resources from 532 KD
99 patients and 623 controls implemented a new case-control study to appraise the relationship
100 between the *miRNA-423* rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and the risk of KD in Han children from
101 southern China at the point.

102

103

104 **Materials and methods**

105 **Ethics declaration**

106 The present study satisfying the standard of the Declaration of Helsinki was implemented in
107 Guangzhou Women and Children's Medical Center(2014073009), of which Review Committee
108 acknowledged this study. And we ought to gather the written informed consent which legal
109 guardians of participants endorsed.

110

111 **Study sample**

112 A majority of participators coming from southern China have been recruited in the trial. All of
113 participants who were from January 2012 - January 2017 were Chinese Han with unrelated blood
114 relationship. There were a plenty of samples that composed by 532 sufferers with recently
115 diagnosed KD and 623 healthy controls in the research, according to the American Heart

116 Association (AHA) reference.(27) Each participant offered 2ml fresh blood, of which 200ul was
117 extracted for genomic DNA, and the specimens remained were stored for further study.

118

119 **Extraction and genotyping in DNA**

120 On the basis of TIANGEN Company's specification, genomic DNA was abstracted from 200ul
121 blood of each participant by making use of TIANamp Blood DNA Kit (Centrifugal column,
122 TIANGEN). Positive and negative samples were put into 384-well plates, which could be
123 beneficial to contrast. Taqman real-time PCR was applied to genotype the
124 *miRNA-423*rs6505162by ABI Q6 (Applied Biosystems).

125

126 **Statistical analysis in subgroups**

127 In the group of the controls, genotype distributions that ought to be in line with the
128 Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium were checked by a goodness-of-fit χ^2 test. The diversity of selective
129 variables were tested by utilizing two-sided χ^2 test as well as frequency distributions of the
130 genotype. By means of univariate logistic regression, the relationship between the *miRNA-423*
131 rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and the susceptibility of KD was described by odds ratios(ORs)
132 and 95% confidence intervals (CIs). The adjustment of multivariate analysis was calculated
133 through gender and age. Connections between susceptibility of KD and the genotypes were deeply
134 assessed by stratification, when data were divided into subgroups about age, gender, coronary
135 lesion and coronary artery aneurysm. The groups mentioned above are based on American Heart
136 Association (AHA) and can be concretely grouped according to coronary artery and age.(27,
137 28)SAS software (version 9.4; SAS Institute, Cary, NC) in motion carried out all Statistical
138 analyses quickly.

139

140

141 **Results**

142 **Population feature**

143 532 KD children and 623 healthy controls made up the participators in our research. The
144 demographics entire participators possess were exhibited in the Table 1. 28.39 months was the
145 average age of KD participators in onset. The quantity of 365(68.61%) in KD male patients was
146 more than the one of 167(31.39%) in KD female patients. There was no distinct diversity in age
147 ($P=0.602$) or gender ($P=0.143$) between KD children and healthy controls. There were 51(9.59%)
148 patients with coronary artery aneurysm(CAA)when we took notice of the complications of KD. In
149 addition, on the basis of coronary injury, 168(31.58%), 364(68.42%) cases were divided into CAL,
150 NCAL, respectively.

151

152 **Connection between the *miRNA-423* rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and KD 153 susceptibility**

154 In the groups of KD children and controls, to probe the association between *miRNA-423*

155 rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and KD susceptibility, we analyzed the genotype frequency
156 distributions. As illustrated in Table 2, the controls satisfied the elements for Hardy-Weinberg
157 equilibrium ($P=0.791$). The genotype frequency distributions of the *miRNA-423* rs6505162 C>A
158 polymorphisms were 61.06% (CC), 34.97% (CA) and 3.97% (AA) in the KD group and 66.13%
159 (CC), 30.50% (CA) and 3.37% (AA) in the controls. We observing the data from the rs6505162
160 C>A polymorphism and KD susceptibility, no significant connections was detected.

161

162 Stratification analysis in subgroups

163 Stratifying by age, gender, coronary injury(CAL), and coronary artery aneurysm (CAA)which are
164 closely related to KD ,we explored the connection between rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and
165 KD susceptibility in a deeper level. In Table 3, there are two significant numbers we found. We
166 noticed that the CA/AA genotypes of rs6505162 decreased the occurrence of CAA. (Adjusted
167 OR=1.30, 95%CI=1.02-1.67, $P=0.037$). The CA/AA genotypes of rs6505162 could also decrease
168 the occurrence of CAL(Adjusted OR=1.56, 95%CI=1.19-2.03, $P=0.001$). No other notable
169 connections was detected, after we observed other subgroups such as gender and age.

170

171 Discussion

172 The nexus between KD susceptibility and the *miRNA-423* rs6505162 C>A polymorphism in our
173 case-control investigation was further probed. No relevant association between the rs6505162
174 C>A polymorphism and KD susceptibility was noticed in the sick (Table 2). Using the subgroup
175 analysis, we pointed out that the *miRNA-423* rs6505162 CA/AA genotypes is one of protective
176 factors of CAA and CAL in KD patients (Table 3). These can serve as a basis for studying other
177 relevant matters. Nevertheless, no conclusion that CAA and CAL in KD patients might have
178 certain connection with age and gender has been analyzed in our subgroup research. More samples
179 from KD patients with various age groups ought to be gathered to verify this discovery.

180

181 *miRNA-423* rs6505162 polymorphisms in KD children is first referred in this study. According to
182 many reports, *miRNA-423* is closely related to heart failure and can also be used as a
183 corresponding indicator, such as BNP.(29-31) Other finding hinted that *miRNA-423* A allele and
184 CA genotypes could enhance the risk of coronary artery disease(CAD).(25) Hakimzadeh reported
185 that up-regulation of *miR423-5p* could identify the sick with low coronary collateral volume.(32)
186 Alterations in the expression extent of 8 miRNAs including *miRNA-423* participating in the
187 immune pathway might be involved in the immune process in the early stages of diabetes, through
188 the alterations of the four cytokines IL-4, IL-10, IL-21, IL-22 and three pancreatic autoantibodies
189 IA-2A, ICA, GAD65A.(33) In membranous glomerulonephropathy upregulation of *miRNA-423*
190 had a certain significant association with down regulated IL6.(34)We found that the descending
191 expression of the designated genes on proliferation and differentiation in myoblast was caused by
192 the upregulated *miR-423-5p* suppressing the suppressor of fused homolog in expression.(35) In the
193 polymorphism of *pre-MIR423* rs6505162, genetic mutations, C to A transition, inhibited the
194 function of HEC-1b cell proliferation and migratory.(36) The abduction of EndMT progression
195 accelerating cell proliferation and migratory capacity was caused by KD serum in endothelial cells,

196 which could be one of the pathogenesis in KD.(14) On the basis of the series of articles above,
197 there is a clear connection between *miRNA-423* and coronary artery and coronary collateral. At the
198 same time, *miRNA-423* is associated with a range of inflammatory factors. Manifesting vasculitis,
199 belonging to autoimmune syndrome, KD refers to inflammatory disease. Finally, the pathway of
200 EndMT can be used to explain that *miRNA-423* can be a protective factor of KD as well as the
201 stability of coronary arteries.

202

203 Our nowadays research suggested that the *miRNA-423* rs6505162 C>A polymorphism might not
204 act on the susceptibility to KD in a majority of Han in southern China. KD is known to have many
205 familiar clinical manifestations and complications, such as CAL and CAA.(3) We also noted that
206 the CA/AA genotypes of rs6505162 reduced the occurrence of CAA and CAL in KD children.
207 Nevertheless, our discovery including two positive point is required to affirm by more evidences
208 owing to various factors restricting our study.

209

210

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227 **Conflicts of interest**

228 No conflicts of interest have been declared so far.

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- 314

Table 1: Frequency distribution of selected variables for cases and controls.

Variables	Cases (n=532)		Controls (n=623)		<i>P</i> ^a
	No.	%	No.	%	
Age range, month	1.00-166.0		0.07-166		0.602
Mean ± SD	28.39 ± 24.68		28.48 ± 25.33		
<12	137	25.75	165	26.48	
12-60	351	65.98	397	63.72	
>60	44	8.27	61	9.79	
Gender					0.143
Female	167	31.39	221	35.47	
Male	365	68.61	402	64.53	
Coronary artery aneurysm					
CAA	51	9.59			
NCAA	481	90.41			
Coronary artery lesion					
CAL	168	31.58			
NCAL	364	68.42			

^a Two-sided χ^2 test for distributions between cases and controls.

Abbreviations: CAA, coronary artery aneurysm; CAL, coronary artery lesion; NCAA, patients without CAA; NCAL, patients without CAL.

Table 2. Genotype distributions of rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and Kawasaki disease susceptibility

Genotype	Cases (N=529)	Controls (N=623)	<i>P</i>^a	Crude OR (95% CI)	<i>P</i>	Adjusted OR (95% CI)^b	<i>P</i>^b
CC	323 (61.06)	412 (66.13)		1.00		1.00	
CA	185 (34.97)	190 (30.50)		1.25 (0.98-1.61)	0.075	1.25 (0.97-1.60)	0.085
AA	21 (3.97)	21 (3.37)		1.29 (0.69-2.40)	0.425	1.28 (0.69-2.38)	0.443
Additive			0.202	1.20 (0.97-1.48)	0.087	1.20 (0.98-1.48)	0.084
Dominant	206 (38.94)	211 (33.87)	0.074	1.25 (0.98-1.59)	0.074	1.25 (0.98-1.59)	0.071
Recessive	508 (96.03)	602 (96.63)	0.688	1.19 (0.64-2.20)	0.588	1.18 (0.64-2.20)	0.591

^a χ^2 test for genotype distributions between Kawasaki disease patients and controls

^b Adjusted for age and gender

Abbreviations: HWE, Hardy – Weinberg equation; KD, Kawasaki disease; OR, odds ratio.

Table 3. Stratification analysis for the association between rs6505162 C>A polymorphism and Kawasaki disease susceptibility

Variables	CC cases/controls	CA/AA	Crude OR (95% CI)	<i>P</i>	Adjusted OR ^a (95% CI)	<i>P</i> ^a
Age, month						
<12	84/107	52/58	1.14 (0.71-1.83)	0.580	1.11 (0.69-1.78)	0.673
12-60	212/263	137/134	1.27 (0.94-1.71)	0.119	1.28 (0.95-1.72)	0.111
>60	27/42	17/19	1.39 (0.62-3.14)	0.426	1.32 (0.57-3.07)	0.514
Gender						
Females	96/148	71/73	1.50 (0.99-2.27)	0.056	1.46 (0.96-2.22)	0.081
Males	227/264	135/138	1.14 (0.85-1.53)	0.393	1.13 (0.84-1.52)	0.425
Coronary artery aneurysm						
CAA	36/412	15/211	0.81 (0.44-1.52)	0.518	0.82 (0.44-1.53)	0.529
NCAA	287/412	191/211	1.30 (1.02-1.66)	0.038	1.30 (1.02-1.67)	0.037
Coronary artery lesion						
CAL	122/412	46/211	0.74 (0.51-1.07)	0.112	0.74 (0.50-1.07)	0.112
NCAL	201/412	160/211	1.55 (1.19-2.03)	0.001	1.56 (1.19-2.03)	0.001

^a Adjusted for age and gender. Statistically significant values are exhibited in bold ($P < 0.05$).

Abbreviations: CAA, coronary artery aneurysm; CAL, coronary artery lesion; KD, Kawasaki disease; NCAA, patients without CAA; NCAL, patients without CAL; OR, odds ratio.