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1 A mosaic variant in *CTNNB1*/β-catenin as  
2 a novel cause for osteopathia striata with  
3 cranial sclerosis

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17

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19 sclerosis; *CTNNB1*; β-catenin

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## 23 Abstract

24 **Context.** Osteopathia striata with cranial sclerosis (OSCS) is a rare bone disorder with X-linked  
25 dominant inheritance, characterized by a generalized hyperostosis in the skull and long bones  
26 and typical metaphyseal striations in the long bones. So far, loss-of-function variants in *AMER1*  
27 (also known as *WTX* or *FAM123B*), encoding the APC membrane recruitment protein 1 (AMER1),  
28 have been described as the only molecular cause for OSCS. AMER1 promotes the degradation  
29 of  $\beta$ -catenin via AXIN stabilization, acting as a negative regulator of the WNT/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling  
30 pathway, a central pathway in bone formation.

31 **Results.** In this study, we describe a Dutch adult woman with an OSCS-like phenotype, i.e.  
32 generalized high bone mass and characteristic metaphyseal striations, but no genetic variant  
33 affecting *AMER1*. Whole exome sequencing led to the identification of a mosaic missense variant  
34 (c.876A>C; p.Lys292Asn) in *CTNNB1*, coding for  $\beta$ -catenin. The variant disrupts an amino acid  
35 known to be crucial for interaction with AXIN, a key factor in the  $\beta$ -catenin destruction complex.  
36 Western blotting experiments demonstrate that the p.Lys292Asn variant does not significantly  
37 affect the  $\beta$ -catenin phosphorylation status, and hence stability in the cytoplasm. Additionally,  
38 luciferase reporter assays were performed to investigate the effect of p.Lys292Asn  $\beta$ -catenin on  
39 canonical WNT signaling. These studies indicate an average 70-fold increase in canonical WNT  
40 signaling activity by p.Lys292Asn  $\beta$ -catenin.

41 **Conclusion.** In conclusion, this study indicates that somatic variants in the *CTNNB1* gene could  
42 explain the pathogenesis of unsolved cases of osteopathia striata.

43

## 44 1. Introduction

45 Osteopathia striata with cranial sclerosis (OSCS, OMIM #300373) is a rare bone disorder,  
46 characterized by a generalized hyperostosis, affecting both the long bones and the skull, and the  
47 presence of characteristic metaphyseal striations in the pelvis and the long bones (1, 2). The  
48 majority of patients present with macrocephaly, cleft palate, hearing impairment and typical facial  
49 features, such as frontal bossing and a broad nasal bridge. Up to 30% of patients experience  
50 (mild) developmental delay or cardiac abnormalities. OSCS is currently known to be inherited in  
51 an X-linked dominant manner and males usually show a more severe phenotype compared to  
52 female patients. In 2009, Jenkins *et al.* identified loss-of-function pathogenic variants in *AMER1*  
53 (previously known as *WTX* or *FAM123B*) as the genetic cause for OSCS (3). Although somatic  
54 mosaicism for *AMER1* pathogenic variants has been frequently reported in mildly affected males,  
55 germline pathogenic variants have also been described. The latter often do not result in the  
56 development of metaphyseal striations. Males with a severe phenotype typically have multiple  
57 congenital malformations leading to foetal or neonatal death (1, 4-7).

58 *AMER1* encodes the adenomatous polyposis coli (APC) membrane recruitment protein 1  
59 (*AMER1*), an important intracellular inhibitor of the  $\beta$ -catenin-dependent or canonical WNT  
60 signaling pathway, which is well-known in the context of sclerosing bone disorders (8, 9). The  
61 pathway is activated upon binding of a WNT ligand to the Frizzled-LRP5/6 receptor complex,  
62 allowing  $\beta$ -catenin to stabilize and accumulate in the cytoplasm, and translocate to the nucleus  
63 (Figure 1). Here, it binds to TCF/LEF transcription factors to initiate the transcription of target  
64 genes, which in the context of bone tissue, contributes to bone formation by the osteoblasts.  
65 However, in the case of inactivity or inhibition of the canonical pathway,  $\beta$ -catenin binds to the  
66 destruction complex. This cytoplasmic protein complex consists of casein kinase 1 (CK1),  
67 glycogen synthase kinase 3 $\beta$  (GSK3 $\beta$ ), APC and AXIN. Upon binding, the N-terminus of  $\beta$ -catenin

68 is sequentially phosphorylated by CK1 and GSK3 $\beta$ , labeling it for subsequent proteasomal  
69 degradation, thereby preventing or inhibiting the transcription of target genes (10, 11) (Figure 1).  
70 AMER1 has a dual inhibitory function on canonical WNT signaling activity (12, 13). On the one  
71 hand, a direct interaction with different components of the  $\beta$ -catenin destruction complex – *i.e.*  $\beta$ -  
72 catenin, APC and AXIN – has been reported (13-15). Using its phosphatidylinositol(4,5)-  
73 bisphosphate-binding domains, AMER1 promotes the translocation of the destruction complex to  
74 the plasma membrane, hence facilitating the ubiquitination and proteasomal degradation of  $\beta$ -  
75 catenin (13, 16). On the other hand, it was demonstrated that AMER1 is involved in the  
76 stabilization of AXIN (13). It is suspected that the latter is the limiting component in  $\beta$ -catenin  
77 degradation and that AMER1 maintains its expression levels, thus counteracting WNT-induced  
78 destabilization of AXIN (13, 17). Based on current findings, it is thus not unexpected that loss-of-  
79 function variants in *AMER1* are involved in the development of the high bone mass phenotype in  
80 OSCS patients.

81 In this study, we investigated an adult female with an OSCS phenotype, in which no pathogenic  
82 variants in *AMER1* were identified. In order to unravel the underlying genetic cause, whole exome  
83 sequencing (WES) was performed, which led to the identification of a pathogenic mosaic variant  
84 in *CTNNB1*, encoding  $\beta$ -catenin. Finally, further functional studies were performed to assess the  
85 effect of the identified variant on the stabilization of  $\beta$ -catenin and on canonical WNT signaling  
86 activity. Here, we showed a strong induction of canonical WNT signaling activity by mutant  $\beta$ -  
87 catenin. This study therefore demonstrates that a mosaic gain-of-function variant in *CTNNB1*/ $\beta$ -  
88 catenin can cause a high bone mass phenotype of OSCS.

## 89 2. Materials and methods

### 90 2.1. Study subject

91 The subject is an adult female originating from The Netherlands, from whom informed consent  
92 was obtained. Our study was conducted according to the World Medical Association Declaration  
93 of Helsinki on ethical principles for medical research involving human subjects (18), and approved  
94 by the Institutional Review Board (or Ethics Committee) of the University of Antwerp  
95 (B300201521651, 04/08/2014). Clinical assessment of the subject consisted of a radiographic  
96 examination (long bones, hands, skull, pelvis), MRI (vertebral column, skull), CT (skull) and two  
97 DXA scans 3 years apart. Blood was drawn for the quantification of serum markers (calcium,  
98 phosphate, alkaline phosphatase, creatinine, sodium, potassium, magnesium, vitamin D,  
99 parathyroid hormone, C-terminal telopeptide of type I collagen (beta crosslaps, CTx, bone  
100 resorption marker), procollagen type I N-propeptide (PINP, bone formation marker). Genomic  
101 DNA was isolated from peripheral blood of the patient.

### 102 2.2. Genetic analysis

103 Based on the suspected diagnosis of OSCS, as a first step, the coding regions of the *AMER1*  
104 gene were screened for putative pathogenic variants using Sanger sequencing as described  
105 previously (2). Given the normal results, whole exome sequencing was performed as a next step.  
106 Library preparation was carried out using the TruSeq Exome Library Prep Kit (Illumina), followed  
107 by sequencing using the 'sequencing by synthesis' technology (Illumina). Initially, variant filtering  
108 was performed with VariantDB software in a large set of genes known to be associated with  
109 skeletal dysplasias (WESSD\_panel) (19). In addition, genome-wide Human Phenotype Ontology  
110 (HPO)-based filtering (MOON software, Invitae) was performed. A minimal coverage of 20X for  
111 at least 90% of the target regions of the WESSD gene panel was obtained. The WES data  
112 confirmed the absence of genetic variation in *AMER1*. Next, a variant of interest in exon 6 of

113 *CTNNB1* (c.876A>C, transcript ENST00000349496.11, hg38) was confirmed with Sanger  
114 sequencing. MutationTaster (20), the combined annotation dependent depletion (CADD) score  
115 (21), SIFT (22) and PolyPhen-2 (23) were used to assess the pathogenic potential of the variants  
116 *in silico*.

### 117 2.3. Expression constructs and *in vitro* mutagenesis

118 The c.876A>C variant was introduced in a wild type full-length human *CTNNB1* expression  
119 construct (transcript variant 1, NM\_001904, #SC107921, OriGene Technologies) using the Q5  
120 Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (BioLabs). Sanger sequencing was used to verify the complete insert  
121 for the presence of the variant of interest and the absence of PCR errors.

### 122 2.4. Western blot

123 For the western blot experiments,  $7 \times 10^5$  HEK293T cells/well were plated in 6-well plates. Twenty-  
124 four hours later, cells were transfected with wild type or mutant *CTNNB1* construct (3000 ng)  
125 using FuGene6 (Promega) according to the manufacturer's protocol. The next day, serum-free  
126 DMEM was added to the cells and 6 hours later, cells were lysed using radioimmunoprecipitation  
127 assay (RIPA) buffer (Thermo Fischer Scientific), supplemented with protease (cOmplete™,  
128 EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail, Roche) and phosphatase (PhosSTOP™, Roche)  
129 inhibitors. Equal amounts (20 µg) were loaded on a 4-12% Bis-Tris Midi Gel (Invitrogen) and  
130 proteins were then transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane. Blocking was carried out in 5%  
131 bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 0.1% TBST (Tris-buffered saline with 0.1% Tween®20  
132 Detergent), followed by overnight incubation at 4°C with a primary antibody against (phospho-)β-  
133 catenin (#9562, 1:2000 or #9561, 1:1000; Cell Signaling Technology) and subsequent probing  
134 with a secondary goat anti-rabbit antibody, conjugated with horseradish peroxidase (1:10 000).  
135 Anti-β-actin was included to normalize for the amount of protein loaded and three independent  
136 experiments were performed. The amount of total and phosphorylated β-catenin, wild type versus  
137 mutant, was statistically compared using Student's t-tests (GraphPad Prism 9).

## 138 2.5. Luciferase reporter assay

139 HEK293T cells were plated at  $3 \times 10^4$  cells/well in 96-well plates. Upon approximately 70%  
140 confluency, co-transfection of TOPflash (20 ng) and pRL-TK (2 ng) plasmids with either wild type  
141 or mutant *CTNNB1* (2.5 ng or 5 ng) was performed using FuGene6 (Promega). In addition, WNT1-  
142 V5 (2 ng), mesdc-2 (2 ng) and LRP5 (2 ng) were co-transfected to stimulate the canonical WNT  
143 signaling pathway. When needed, empty pcDNA3.1 vector was added to make the total DNA  
144 amount equal for all transfection experiments. Forty-eight hours after transfection, luciferase  
145 activity was measured using the Dual-Luciferase Reporter Assay System (Promega Corporation)  
146 on the Glomax Multi+ Luminometer (Promega Corporation). Three separate experiments were  
147 performed and ratios of the firefly and renilla luciferase measurements were expressed as relative  
148 to a negative control (empty vector and luciferases). The different conditions were statistically  
149 compared using Student's t-tests (GraphPad Prism 9).

## 150 3. Results

### 151 3.1. Clinical description

152 The proband is a 46-year-old Dutch woman presenting with headaches for clinical assessment.  
153 She has four healthy siblings and a twin sibling that died during pregnancy (Figure 2A). She also  
154 has a 22-year old son, who reportedly had learning difficulties as a child. Her adult height is 166  
155 cm (-0.6SD) and her weight is 52 kilograms. Her head circumference is 58 cm (+2SD). She shows  
156 a facial dysmorphism, as evidenced by a broad, high nasal bridge, wide-set eyes and a large  
157 mouth. Dental abnormalities, short toes and an abnormally low-pitched voice were also observed.  
158 Although not further examined, moderate intellectual disability was suspected.

159 Radiographic examination showed hyperostosis of the long bones, the pelvis, the spine and the  
160 skull (Figure 2C-F). DXA measurements demonstrated a highly increased bone mineral density  
161 of the left femoral neck (FN-BMD, T-score: +7). Linear striations were observed at the metaphyses



162 of humerus, femur and proximal tibiae (Figure 2C-D). MRI of the skull showed intracranial  
163 ossification of the tentorium edge, abnormal bone of the skull with thickening of the  
164 corticomedullary differentiation, increased bone density in the upper jaw, the sphenoid bone and  
165 zygoma. MRI of the vertebral column also demonstrated sclerotic margins of the vertebral  
166 corpora. A CT of the skull demonstrated denser facial bones and temporal bone, as well as an  
167 abnormal course of the facial nerve and anomalies of the inner ear. Furthermore, unilateral  
168 choanal atresia, hearing impairment and retinal coloboma were reported. The proband also has  
169 abnormalities of the left hand with cutaneous syndactyly of the 3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> fingers and preaxial  
170 polydactyly (extra thumb).

171 There is no evidence or history of tumors in the proband. Serum levels of (albumin-corrected)  
172 calcium, phosphate, alkaline phosphatase, sodium, potassium and magnesium were all within  
173 normal reference ranges. Biochemical analysis showed no renal abnormalities (eGFR > 90  
174 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>). Over the past 6 years, the proband's symptoms did not worsen, nor were there  
175 signs of malignancies.

### 176 3.2. Genetic analysis of the proband

177 Based on the clinical suspicion of OPCS, genetic screening of *AMER1* was carried out, but did  
178 not result in the identification of pathogenic variants. For this reason, whole exome sequencing  
179 was performed which revealed low level mosaicism for a missense variant in exon 6 of *CTNNB1*  
180 (c.876A>C) predicted to substitute Lys at position 292 into Asn (Figure 3A-B). The p.Lys292Asn  
181 variant is located in the 4<sup>th</sup> Armadillo repeat of the encoded  $\beta$ -catenin protein (Figure 3C). This  
182 variant is not listed in the gnomAD (26) or dbSNP databases, neither in heterozygous nor in  
183 homozygous state. The c.876A>C variant has a CADD score of 23.6 and *in silico* predictions by  
184 PolyPhen-2 and MutationTaster categorizes the variant as “probably damaging” (score of 0.981)  
185 and “disease causing” (score of 0.84), respectively.

186 Interestingly, based on our exome data, a total of 82 reads were obtained at the level of our  
187 variant, of which 24% (n=20) carried the c.876A>C alteration (IGV, version 2.15.4). As this is  
188 significantly lower than the theoretically expected 50% altered alleles for a heterozygous variant  
189 ( $p=0.0011$ , Fisher's Exact Test), it is strongly indicated that the variant is mosaic in our patient. In  
190 line with this observation, direct Sanger sequencing of the region surrounding the c.876A>C  
191 variant in *CTNNB1*, confirmed the presence of the variant, although peak height was lower than  
192 seen for a regular heterozygous variant in both the forward and the reverse sequence (Figure  
193 3B). Using QSVanalyzer software (27), it was demonstrated that the peak height of the altered  
194 allele was 10% and 23% for the reverse and forward sequences, respectively, which is in line with  
195 our WES data. Unfortunately, absence of the *CTNNB1* variant could not be confirmed in the  
196 proband's parents, siblings or son, as no DNA was available from these relatives.

### 197 3.3. Functional evaluation of the p.Lys292Asn variant in $\beta$ -catenin

198 To investigate the functional impact of the p.Lys292Asn variant, we first determined whether the  
199 identified variant affects the activity of  $\beta$ -catenin at the level of its stability in the cytoplasm. This  
200 was done by determining the phosphorylation status of the Ser33/37/Thr41 residues of  $\beta$ -catenin,  
201 labeling  $\beta$ -catenin for proteasomal degradation when phosphorylated by GSK3 $\beta$ . Western blotting  
202 and quantification of total and phosphorylated  $\beta$ -catenin, did not support an effect of the  
203 p.Lys292Asn variant on stabilization of  $\beta$ -catenin. This was shown by the similar ratios of  
204 phosphorylated  $\beta$ -catenin over the total amount of  $\beta$ -catenin for wild type versus mutant  $\beta$ -catenin  
205 ( $p=0.21$ ; Figure 4A-B).

206 In a next step, the effect of the p.Lys292Asn variant on the canonical WNT signaling activity was  
207 investigated, as  $\beta$ -catenin plays a pivotal role in its activation. Using luciferase reporter assays  
208 (TOPflash) in HEK293T cells, it was shown that overexpression of two different amounts of mutant  
209 *CTNNB1* results in a dose-dependent 60- to 80-fold increase in canonical WNT signaling activity,  
210 compared to overexpression of equal amounts of wild type *CTNNB1* (Figure 4C). Taken together,

211 these functional results demonstrate a gain-of-function effect of the p.Lys292Asn  $\beta$ -catenin  
212 variant on canonical WNT signaling.

## 213 4. Discussion

214 In this study, we report on a 46-year-old Dutch female with phenotypic features that strongly  
215 resemble OSCS (Table 1). She presented with hyperostosis of the long bones, the pelvis, the  
216 spine and the skull, and linear striations were observed at the metaphyses of humerus, femur and  
217 proximal tibia. As for our subject, additional OSCS features were reported, including  
218 macrocephaly, dental abnormalities, hearing loss and a broad nasal bridge. Interestingly, the  
219 proband also presented with polysyndactyly, which has been described in some severely affected  
220 male cases with OSCS (3, 5). Overall, the clinical and radiographic findings suggest that the  
221 proband in our study presents with a skeletal bone disorder reminiscent of *AMER1*-related OSCS  
222 (Table 1).

223 Because of the genomic location of *AMER1*, OSCS has an X-linked mode of inheritance. The  
224 proband in our study tested negative for pathogenic variants in *AMER1* and whole exome  
225 sequencing led to the identification of a somatic, mosaic pathogenic variant in *CTNNB1*.  
226 Interestingly, the metaphyseal striations observed in *AMER1*-related OSCS are due to mosaicism  
227 in male subjects, or by Lyonization in female subjects. Unfortunately, no DNA material is available  
228 to further investigate if the son also has the variant. However, we consider the chance that the  
229 son is a heterozygous carrier of the variant small, as one would expect a more severe phenotype  
230 if this was the case.

231 *CTNNB1* encodes  $\beta$ -catenin, a key regulator of the WNT/ $\beta$ -catenin or canonical WNT pathway,  
232 which is indispensable in bone formation (29-32). However, until recently, genetic variation in  
233 *CTNNB1* was mainly associated with non-skeletal phenotypes. Somatic gain-of-function variants  
234 in *CTNNB1* have been linked to a variety of cancers, including colorectal and ovarian cancer (33-

235 35). Furthermore, germline heterozygous loss-of-function variants have been described to be  
236 causative for neurodevelopmental disorder with spastic diplegia and visual defects (OMIM  
237 #615075), and to be associated with intellectual disability and autism spectrum disorder (36-40).  
238 Given its major importance in canonical WNT signaling and bone biology, it is surprising that the  
239 first disease-causing variant in *CTNNB1* in a (sclerosing) skeletal dysplasia was only reported in  
240 2020 by Peng and colleagues (Table 1) (24). In their study, the authors identified a *de novo* variant  
241 (c.131C>T; p.Pro44Leu) at the N-terminus of  $\beta$ -catenin in a girl with hyperostosis of the long  
242 bones, pelvis and skull. Interestingly however, no metaphyseal striations could be observed in  
243 the pelvis or long bones of this case. The p.Pro44Leu variant is located at the N-terminus of  $\beta$ -  
244 catenin and affects the threonine/serine residues that are phosphorylated by GSK-3 $\beta$  to initiate  
245 proteasomal degradation (41, 42). Hence, impaired phosphorylation results in the stabilization of  
246 the protein and increased canonical WNT signaling activity (24, 41-43). In addition, the patient  
247 presented with an adrenocortical adenoma. This could be attributed to a location-specific effect,  
248 as the variant is located in the third exon, where an increased frequency of variants has also been  
249 observed in various cancer types (34). However, since somatic variants in cancer do not occur  
250 exclusively in exon 3, the development of a malignancy in our proband cannot be ruled out, which  
251 is why strict monitoring is recommended.

252 Due to the remarkable overlap between the phenotypes of our subject and the *AMER1*-related  
253 OSCS cases, it can be hypothesized that a similar underlying mechanism must be involved in the  
254 pathogenesis. It is generally thought that the main purpose of the  $\beta$ -catenin destruction complex  
255 is to bring  $\beta$ -catenin in close proximity to the kinases (CK1 and GSK3 $\beta$ ) in order to facilitate  
256 phosphorylation (13). An essential, yet limiting, component of this protein complex is AXIN, which  
257 serves as a scaffold protein (44). Currently, it is clear that changes in AXIN levels directly lead to  
258 alterations in canonical WNT signaling activity, and maintaining these AXIN levels and thus  
259 suppressing WNT signaling is a crucial task of *AMER1* (13, 17). Furthermore, Fagotto and

260 colleagues demonstrated that  $\beta$ -catenin-binding sites are essential for proper function of AXIN  
261 (45). According to a previous study, the p.Lys292Asn variant is located in a so-called “hot spot”  
262 for interaction with AXIN (25). In their extensive study, Von Kries *et al.* mutated exactly the Lys292  
263 residue and showed subsequent defective binding with AXIN, using alanine scanning and  
264 subsequent yeast two-hybrid analysis. Eventually, it was demonstrated that the Lys292  $\beta$ -catenin  
265 mutant was resistant to degradation. Hence, this supports our hypothesis that the p.Lys292Asn  
266 variant in  $\beta$ -catenin prevents degradation of the protein, leading to increased WNT signaling  
267 activity and the sclerosing bone phenotype in the proband.

268 Although we successfully demonstrated that a mosaic variant in *CTNNB1* is pathogenic in a  
269 patient with OSCS, the study is subject to some limitations. First, given the complexity of the  
270 destruction complex and the canonical WNT signaling pathway in general, it is challenging to  
271 draw a clear-cut conclusion regarding the exact underlying pathological mechanism. However,  
272 although further research into stabilization of  $\beta$ -catenin would be of interest, we can reasonably  
273 expect, based on current knowledge, that disrupted axin binding (at least partially) contributes to  
274 the development of the phenotype. Second, there was no possibility to conduct (genetic) studies  
275 in the family members. Although presence/absence of the variant in the healthy son may provide  
276 supportive evidence for our hypotheses, both current knowledge and the newly obtained data  
277 strongly indicate that the p.Lys292Asn variant is responsible for the phenotype in our patient.

278 In conclusion, we report the identification of a novel mosaic p.Lys292Asn variant in  $\beta$ -catenin in  
279 an adult female with a phenotype that shares clinical and radiographic features with OSCS. Until  
280 now, the striations phenotype in classical OSCS has been linked to the mechanism of X-  
281 inactivation as a pathogenic mechanism. However, our findings add somatic variants as a  
282 possible cause. Furthermore, it implies that impaired  $\beta$ -catenin-AXIN binding can be identified as  
283 a disease-causing mechanism for a high bone mass disorder. The identification of the mosaic  
284 p.Lys292Asn variant expands the mutational spectrum of  $\beta$ -catenin-related (bone) disorders,

285 which is of major importance for better understanding the role of  $\beta$ -catenin in various processes,  
286 as well as for future diagnostic testing of individuals affected with an OSCS-like phenotype.

## 287 5. Data availability

288 Some datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are not publicly  
289 available but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

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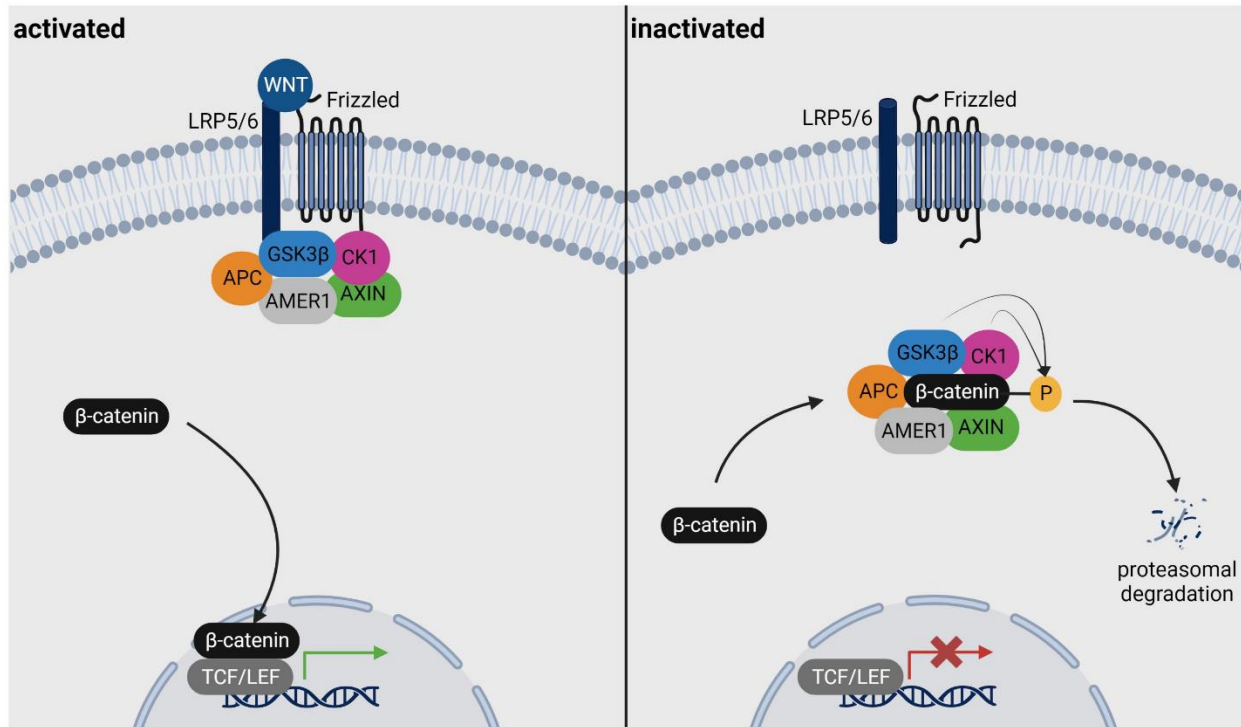
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410

## 411 [Figures and Tables](#)

### 412 [FIGURE 1](#)

413

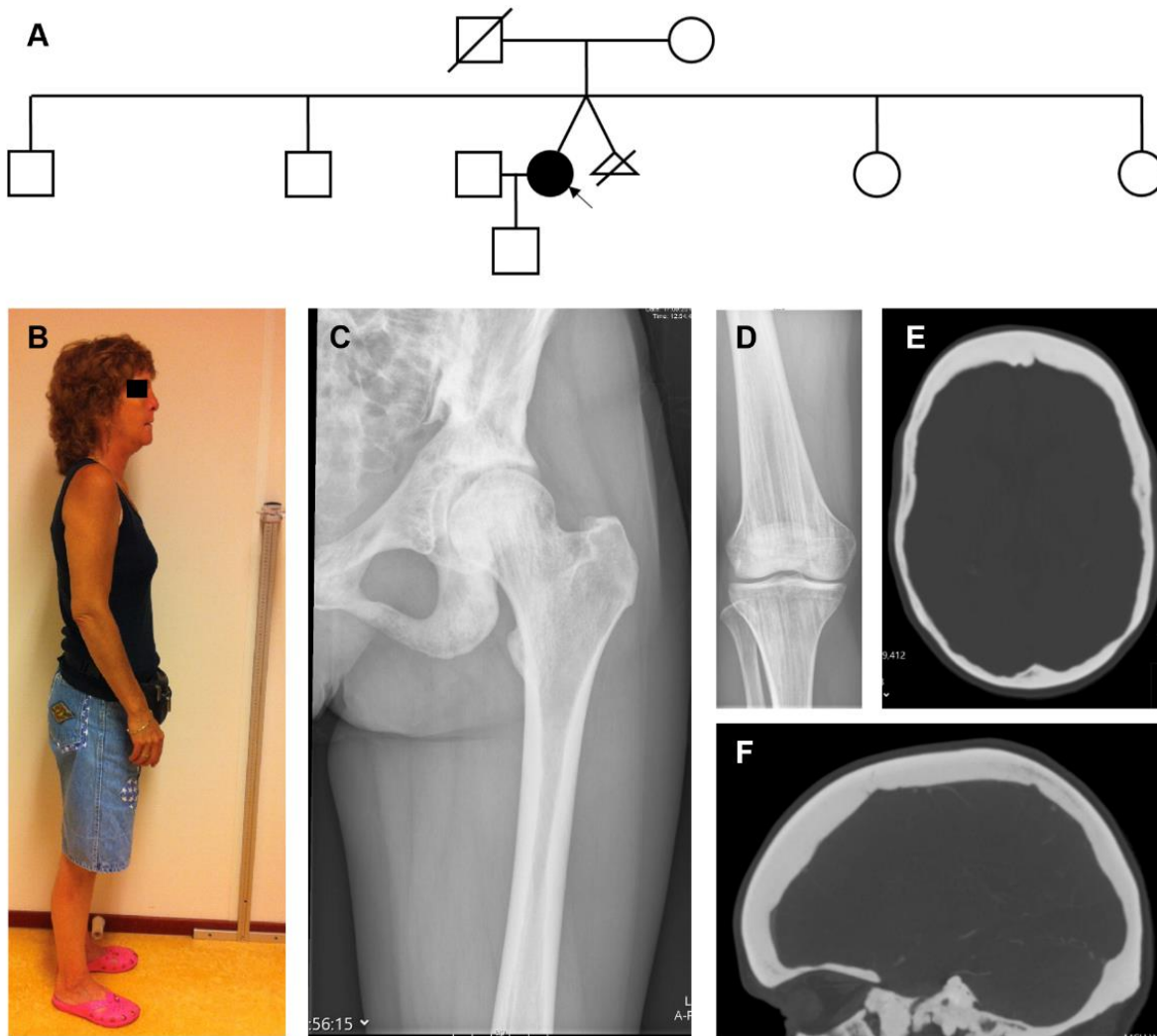


414

415 **FIGURE 1. Canonical WNT signaling pathway.** In the presence of WNT ligand (left panel), the destruction complex  
 416 – consisting of adenomatous polyposis coli protein (APC), glycogen synthase kinase 3β (GSK3β), casein kinase 1  
 417 (CK1), APC membrane recruitment protein 1 (AMER1) and AXIN – is inactivated, so that β-catenin can translocate to  
 418 the nucleus, in which it initiates the transcription of target genes, which contributes to bone formation by osteoblasts.  
 419 In the absence of WNT ligand (right panel), the destruction complex is active, resulting in phosphorylation and  
 420 subsequent proteasomal degradation of β-catenin, and inhibition of the transcription of target genes.

421

422 FIGURE 2  
423

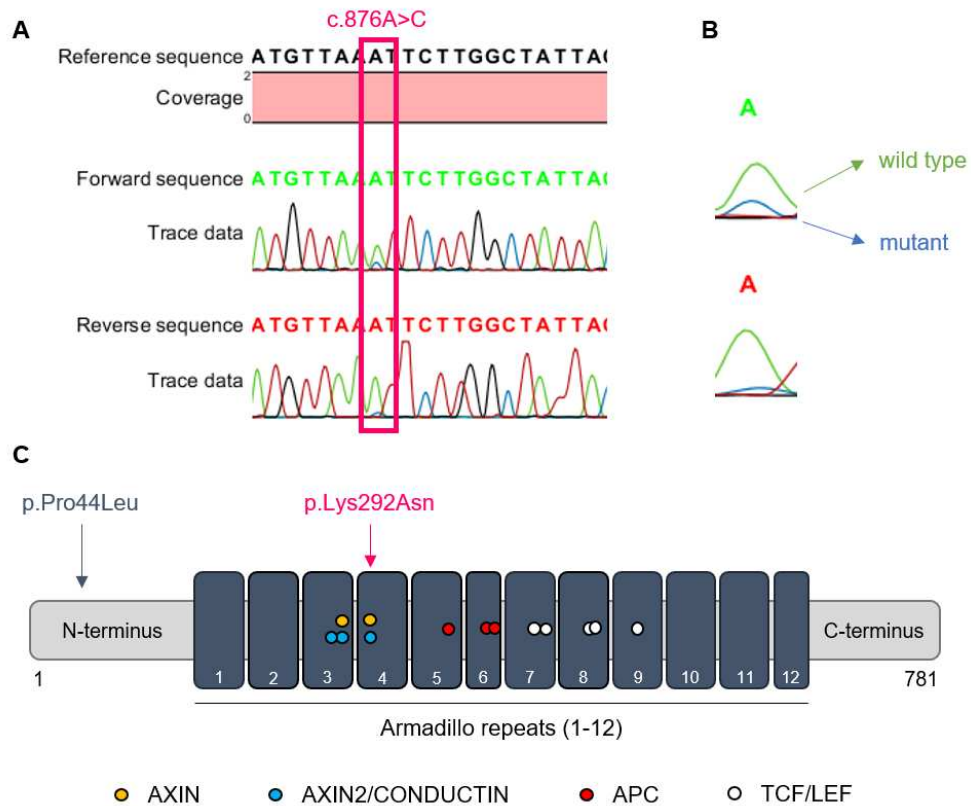


424

425 **FIGURE 2. Clinical and radiographic features of the proband.** (A) Pedigree of the family. (B) Profile view of the  
426 proband. Note the high nasal bridge. (C-D) Radiograph of the pelvis, proximal part of the femur and right knee shows  
427 patchy hyperostosis in the femoral head, acetabular roof and distal part of the iliac wing, a thickened cortex of the femur  
428 diaphysis and metaphyseal linear striations in the femoral neck and knee. (E-F) Skull radiographs demonstrate  
429 hyperostosis of the cranial vault.

430

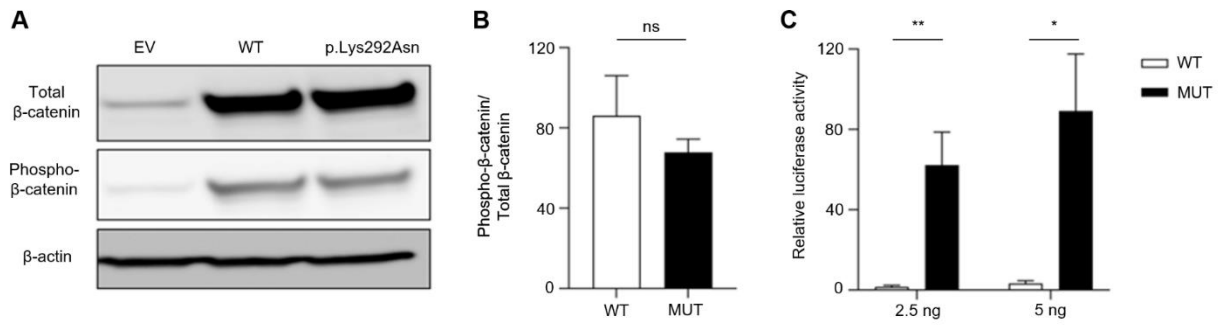
431 FIGURE 3  
432



433

434 **FIGURE 3.** (A) Identification of a *de novo* mosaic c.876A>C variant in *CTNNB1* in the proband. (B) Magnification of the  
435 sequence showing the mosaic c.876A>C variant. The wild type and mutant sequence tracks are indicated with arrows.  
436 (C) Schematic overview of the  $\beta$ -catenin protein structure and location of the previously reported p.Pro44Leu variant  
437 (24) and the p.Lys292Asn variant, identified in the current study. Amino acids previously reported as hot spots for  
438 binding with AXIN, AXIN2/Conductin, APC and TCF/LEF are indicated with specific colors (25).

439 FIGURE 4  
440



441

442 **FIGURE 4. Impact of the p.Lys292Asn variant on the  $\beta$ -catenin phosphorylation status and WNT/ $\beta$ -catenin**  
443 **signaling activity.** (A-B) Western blot experiments in HEK293T cells show no effect of the p.Lys292Asn variant on  
444 phosphorylation of  $\beta$ -catenin at the Ser33/37/Thr41 amino acid residues. Levels of (phospho-) $\beta$ -catenin were  
445 normalized for total amount of protein using  $\beta$ -actin levels (in %). (C) TOPflash luciferase reporter assays in HEK293T  
446 cells demonstrate that overexpression of mutant  $\beta$ -catenin results in significantly higher relative luciferase activity  
447 compared to wild type  $\beta$ -catenin. Ratios of firefly and renilla measurements are expressed as relative to a negative  
448 control. Data are represented as mean  $\pm$  SD and statistical testing is carried out using Student t-tests. ns, not significant;  
449 \*  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*  $p < 0.01$ .

450

**Table 1.** Clinical and genetic characteristics of individuals with  $\beta$ -catenin or AMER1 variants.

	<b><math>\beta</math>-catenin</b> (p.Lys292Asn)	<b><math>\beta</math>-catenin</b> (p.Pro44Leu) (24)	<b>AMER1</b> (p.Arg358X) (2)	<b>AMER1</b> (p.Gln335X) (28)
<b>Diagnosis</b>	OSCS	Osteosclerosis	OSCS	OSCS
<b>Inheritance</b>	NA	De novo	X-linked dominant	X-linked dominant
<b>Mosaicism</b>	+ (somatic)	-	+ (X-inactivation)	+ (X-inactivation)
<b>Mutation effect</b>	Gain-of-function	Gain-of-function	Loss-of-function	Loss-of-function
<b>Facial features</b>				
• <b>Eyes</b>	Wide-set	Wide-set	Deep-set	Wide-set
• <b>Nasal bridge</b>	Broad, high	Depressed	Broad	Broad, depressed
• <b>Cleft palate</b>	-	+	+	-
• <b>Ears</b>	NA	Low-set	NA	Low-set
<b>Macrocephaly</b>	+	+	+	+
<b>Intellectual disability</b>	+/-	-	-	-
<b>Hearing impairment</b>	+	NA	+	+
<b>Dental abnormalities</b>	+	-	-	+
<b>Height</b>	Normal	75 <sup>th</sup> percentile	0.4 <sup>th</sup> percentile	25 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Hyperostosis</b>				
• <b>Skull</b>	+	+	+	+
• <b>Long bones</b>	+	+	+	+
• <b>Pelvis</b>	+	+	+	+
<b>Syn-/polydactyly</b>	+	-	-	-
<b>Metaphyseal striations</b>	+	-	+	+
<b>Neoplasia</b>	-	+ (adrenocortical)	-	+ (pituitary macroadenoma)
<b>Other</b>	Retinal coloboma	Virilization	Cardiac anomaly	NA

This table compares the phenotype of *CTNNB1*-mutated subjects to the phenotype of randomly selected *AMER1* cases. Abbreviations: OSCS, osteopathia striata with cranial sclerosis; NA, not available.