

Complementation of Repair Gene Mutations on the Hemizygous Chromosome 9 in CHO: A Third Repair Gene on Human Chromosome 19

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A human DNA repair gene, *ERCC2* (*Excision Repair Cross Complementing 2*), was assigned to human chromosome 19 using hybrid clone panels in two different procedures. One set of cell hybrids was constructed by selecting for functional complementation of the DNA repair defect in mutant CHO UV5 after fusion with human lymphocytes. In the second analysis, DNAs from an independent hybrid panel were digested with restriction enzymes and analyzed by Southern blot hybridization using DNA probes for the three DNA repair genes that are located on human chromosome 19: *ERCC1*, *ERCC2*, and *X-Ray Repair Cross Complementing 1* (*XRCC1*). The results from hybrids retaining different portions of this chromosome showed that *ERCC2* is distal to *XRCC1* and in the same region of the chromosome 19 long arm (q13.2-q13.3) as *ERCC1*, but on different *MluI* macrorestriction fragments. Similar experiments using a hybrid clone panel containing segregating Chinese hamster chromosomes revealed the hamster homologs of the three repair genes to be part of a highly conserved linkage group on Chinese hamster chromosome number 9. The known hemizyosity of hamster chromosome 9 in CHO cells can account for the high frequency at which genetically recessive mutations are recovered in these three genes in CHO cells. Thus, the conservation of linkage of the repair genes explains the seemingly disproportionate number of repair genes identified on human chromosome 19. © 1989 Academic Press, Inc.

INTRODUCTION

A number of recessive DNA repair mutants have been isolated from Chinese hamster CHO and V79 cell

lines (Thompson, 1985; Collins and Johnson, 1987; Zdzienicka and Simons, 1987; Hickson and Harris, 1988). Generally, mutants are of two types: those defective in nucleotide excision repair, which are hypersensitive to ultraviolet light (UVL) and large-adduct chemicals, and those defective in other repair functions rendering them sensitive to a wide variety of DNA-damaging agents (such as X- or γ -rays, bleomycin, and methylating agents). Eight genetic complementation groups have been described for UVL-sensitive mutants of rodent origin (Thompson *et al.*, 1988) and six groups for ionizing-radiation-sensitive Chinese hamster mutants (Jones *et al.*, 1988).

Human DNA repair genes have been identified by their ability to correct the defects in these rodent mutants. Originally, these genes were named for that specific ability, e.g., *Excision* or *X-Ray Repair Complementation Defective Repair in the Chinese Hamster 1* (*ERCC1* or *XRCC1*), with the number indicating the chronological order in which the gene was identified. Since the same human genes have subsequently been shown to complement defects in homologous loci of mouse mutant lines as well as hamster (Thompson *et al.*, 1987), the nomenclature has been broadened, while keeping the same alphabetic symbols, to *Excision* or *X-Ray Repair Cross Complementing*. A further change in the nomenclature system has been to number the genes according to the complementation group assigned to the rodent mutant used to identify the human gene (Thompson and Bootsma, 1988). To accommodate this, CHO UVL complementation groups 1 and 2 were switched to agree with the gene names as published.

Concordant segregation of the human chromosomes with the repair phenotype from hybrids made between human cells and CHO mutant UV20 (now representing UVL complementation group 1) allowed the chromosomal assignment of *ERCC1* to human chromosome

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19 (Thompson *et al.*, 1985). Similarly, methods with mutants representing other complementation groups have allowed the assignments of the human genes for *XRCC1* (Siciliano *et al.*, 1986a), *ERCC3*, and *ERCC5* (Thompson *et al.*, 1987) to human chromosomes 19, 2, and 13, respectively.

Here, we present the chromosomal assignment of a third repair gene, *ERCC2*, to human chromosome 19 by identification of the correcting human chromosome in hybrids made with CHO mutant UV5, formerly in UVL complementation group 1 (Thompson *et al.*, 1981) which is now redesignated complementation group 2. We also regionally assign all three chromosome 19 DNA repair genes within the linear order of markers for the long arm of the chromosome using their DNAs to probe a panel of hybrids informative for different regions of chromosome 19, and add to the data suggesting that all three genes are distinct physical entities. Cross-hybridization of the human cDNAs for the repair genes to Chinese hamster DNA on a hybrid clone panel informative for hamster chromosomes enabled us to determine the evolutionary conservation of the linkage group, chromosomal assignments of these loci in the Chinese hamster, and the genetic consequences of those assignments on the frequency of mutations at these loci in CHO cells.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Isolation of Hybrids of UV5

For making hybrids of UV5, we used a thioguanine-resistant (TG^r), hypoxanthine phosphoribosyltransferase (HPRT)-deficient clone of UV5 so that hybrids could be selected on the basis of complementation of both HPRT and DNA repair functions. This approach minimized the chance of recovering repair-proficient revertants. To each of 10 dishes containing 1×10^6 UV5-TG^r cells were added 5×10^6 of human lymphocytes. Following incubation for 4 h medium was slowly removed by aspiration, and serum-free medium containing 47% polyethylene glycol 1000 + 10% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) was added for 60 s. Cells were rinsed three times with medium containing 10% DMSO. After a 24-h incubation, the cells from each dish were counted and replated into two 100-mm dishes and one 24-well tray containing HAT medium (hypoxanthine/aminopterin/thymidine) and decarbamoyl mitomycin C (dcMMC; obtained from A. Carrano, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) at 120 nM. UV5 cells had been found to be approximately eightfold hypersensitive to this nonfunctional derivative of mitomycin C (Hoy *et al.*, 1984). After 4 days under double selection, the medium was replaced with medium containing 60 nM dcMMC and thymidine + hypoxanthine. Colonies were isolated with Pipetman tips or rubber O-rings coated with silicon grease. Several days before freezing,

the cultures were exposed again to 60 nM dcMMC to eliminate possible sensitive segregants. Four additional hybrid clones were isolated in parallel by repeated exposure to 3 J/m^2 of UVL under the conditions described for hybrids of UV135 (Thompson *et al.*, 1987).

Isolation of Hybrid Subclones

Subclones in which UVL resistance had been lost due to segregation of the complementing human chromosome were isolated. This was accomplished by growing primary hybrids in the absence of dcMMC for periods of 3 to 7 weeks before isolating subclones. Subcloning was done in 96-well trays. Single colonies were isolated, tested for resistance to 3 or 4 J/m^2 of UVL radiation or to dcMMC, and grown to mass culture. Both sensitive and resistant subclones were obtained for three independent hybrids.

Marker Characterization of Hybrids for Human Chromosomal Content

The presence or absence of human chromosomes in hybrid clones and subclones was first determined by a combination of isozyme and Southern blot analyses of chromosomally assigned biochemical and molecular markers as previously described (Siciliano and White, 1987; Thompson *et al.*, 1987).

Biotinylated Probe Cytogenetic Analysis

Cytogenetic analysis of the hybrid cell line 5HL9-4 and subclone 20XP3542-1-4 was performed using biotinylated total human DNA as a probe for *in situ* hybridization. The details of the procedure were as originally described by Pinkel *et al.* (1986). In general, RNase-treated metaphase spreads were hybridized with biotinylated (by nick translation) total human HeLa cell sonicated DNA. Sites of hybridization were visualized under fluorescence microscopy following staining with fluorescein-avidin.

UVL Survival Curves

Cloning efficiencies following various doses of UVL were determined for the CHO nucleotide excision repair complementation group 2 mutant (UV5), the wild-type CHO cell line from which it was derived (AA8), and a series of UVL-sensitive and -resistant hybrid clones and subclones. Procedures were those routinely used in this laboratory and described most recently in Thompson *et al.* (1987).

Plasmid Extraction and Probe Preparation

Probes for the following genes were used to determine the presence or absence of various chromosome 19 markers: pC3.59, a cDNA for *Complement Component 3* (C3, Yamaoka *et al.*, 1985); pHP450(1), a cDNA

for *Phenobarbital-Inducible Cytochrome p450 (CYP2A)*, Davis *et al.*, 1985; Phillips *et al.*, 1985); pCII-711, a cDNA for *Apolipoprotein C2 (APOC2)*, Jackson *et al.*, 1984); pHMCK1, a cDNA for *Creatine Kinase Muscle Form (CKMM)*, Perryman *et al.*, 1986); pBR322-cBHCG, a cDNA for *Beta Chorionic Gonadotropin (CGB)*, Fiddes and Goodman, 1980); pcD4A4, a 3'-untranslated probe (Westerveld *et al.*, 1984), and pE12-12, a cDNA probe (van Duin *et al.*, 1986) for *ERCC1*; pKER2, a 3'-untranslated probe (Weber *et al.*, 1988), and pER2-6, a cDNA (Weber, in preparation) for *ERCC2*; and pXR1-30, a cDNA for *XRCC1* (Thompson *et al.*, in preparation).

Plasmid preparation, probe excision, and squeeze-freeze isolation were conducted according to standard techniques (Maniatis *et al.*, 1982; Smith, 1980). Approximately 25 ng was used for each labeling reaction. DNA was labeled with [³²P]dCTP to a specific activity of approximately 10⁹ cpm/μg DNA using a multiprimer random priming kit from Amersham Corp. (Arlington Heights, IL).

Hybrid Clone Mapping Panels

Hybrid clone mapping panels, informative for identifying chromosomal assignments in the human genome and for the specific locations on chromosome 19 of sequences that hybridize to DNA probes, have been characterized and described by Stallings *et al.* (1988). Another panel informative for the chromosomal assignments of genes in the Chinese hamster genome has been assembled from material and data reported in a series of manuscripts and summarized in Siciliano *et al.* (1985).

Field-Inversion Electrophoresis

Cultured cells were trypsinized, counted, rinsed in SE buffer (75 mM NaCl, 25 mM EDTA, pH 7.4), and cast as plugs in 0.5% "InCert" agarose (AMC Bio-products, Rockland, ME) at 10⁶ cells per 100-μl plug. Plugs were processed to extract DNA *in situ* (in place in the plugs) according to published procedures (Carle *et al.*, 1986). After several rinses in TE buffer and equilibration for 30 min in 1× restriction enzyme reaction buffer (as described by the supplier), the plugs were covered with 100 μl fresh buffer. Spermidine was added to 2 mM, DTT to 0.5 mM, and BSA to 0.1%. Digestion of plug DNA was carried out at 37°C for 6 h using 40 units of *MluI* (Boehringer-Mannheim, Indianapolis, IN). The restriction enzyme was then removed by digestion for 2 h at 56°C in 200 μl ESP (1% *N*-laurylsarcosine, 0.5 M EDTA, 1% proteinase K, pH 9.0).

Approximately ¼ plug was loaded into each 1 × 6-mm slot of a 25 × 20-cm² 1% agarose gel (Seakem) and field-inversion gel electrophoresis (FIGE) was carried out at 150 V for 24 h using a pulse-controller by Hoefer

(Scientific Instruments, San Francisco, CA). Initial pulse time was 2.4 s forward and 0.8 s reverse, with a ramp of 1.5 s. After ethidium bromide staining and photography, the gel was subjected to UVL at 240 nm for 5 min and then soaked in denaturing solution (0.4 N NaOH, 1.5 M NaCl) for 2 h before Southern transfer to Zetabind (AMF Cuno) for 48 h in denaturing solution. Size standards were *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, strain AB792 chromosomes prepared according to Bellis *et al.* (1987) and concatenated λ c1857 DNA prepared according to Waterbury and Lane (1987).

RESULTS

Human Chromosome Complementing the DNA Repair Defect in UV5

Following fusion of human lymphocytes with UV5, a total of 21 independent colonies survived selection. Initial selection of most hybrids was in HAT + dcMMC; after 4 days, selection was continued in dcMMC alone. Biochemical, molecular, and cytogenetic analyses indicated that all surviving clones contained both human and Chinese hamster gene products, indicating that they were all interspecific somatic cell hybrids. Specific marker analyses (isozymes and DNA probes) identifying individual human chromosomes present in the hybrids were conducted, and the results are summarized in Table 1. Since all hybrids are dcMMC resistant, all should have the human chromosome carrying the gene that complements the DNA repair deficiency. As can be seen from Table 1, chromosome 19 is the only chromosome that meets that expectation. The X chromosome is also present in a significantly higher number of hybrids than any other human chromosome except 19. That is expected as a consequence of the initial HAT selection, which would have been effective in causing emerging hybrids to retain human *HPRT* which is on the X chromosome.

To demonstrate that a gene on human chromosome 19 actually segregates with dcMMC or UVL resistance in hybrid cells and that the frequent presence of the X chromosome is not related to the repair function, UVL-resistant and -sensitive subclones were developed from hybrids 5HL2, -9, and -17. They were studied for the presence or absence of human chromosomes 19, using glucose phosphate isomerase (GPI) as a marker, and X, using the glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) as a marker. The results are summarized in Table 2 and clearly indicate the concordant segregation of human chromosome 19 with UVL resistance, while the X chromosome was present independent of UVL resistance.

The ability of hybrid subclones to survive UVL relative to their human chromosome 19 content was determined quantitatively as survival curves. As can be seen in Fig. 1, sensitive hybrid subclones that had seg-

TABLE 1
Human Chromosomes Present in Repair-Proficient Hybrids Made between Human Lymphocytes and UV5 Cells

Hybrid clone	Human chromosome																						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	X
5HL1	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-
5HL2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
5HL3	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+
5HL4	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+
5HL5	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+
5HL6	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+
5HL9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
5HL10	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+
5HL11	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+
5HL12	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+
5HL13	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
5HL14	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+
5HL15	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
5HL16	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
5HL17	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
5HL18	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+
5HL20	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
5HL25	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
5HL26	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+
5HL27	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
5HL31	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+
Percentage with chromosome	29	5	38	48	60	67	19	48	57	33	38	62	33	52	52	5	5	62	100	52	33	48	90

regated human chromosome 19 produced survival curves that were similar to the curve seen with the parental UV5 mutant. Resistant subclones that retained human chromosome 19 showed greatly enhanced survival, approaching the level of resistance of the wild-type AA8 cells from which UV5 was derived. This in-

complete complementation may be due to the expression of and interference from other human genes on human chromosomes because full complementation was seen in UV5 cells transformed with the cloned *ERCC2* gene (Weber *et al.*, 1988).

Since hybrid line 5HL9 appeared to contain only human chromosomes 19 and X (Table 1) and its sub-

TABLE 2
Human Chromosome 19 and X Retention in UVL-Resistant (R) and -Sensitive (S) Hybrid Subclones

Hybrid subclone	R or S	Chromosome	
		19	X
5HL2-1	S	-	-
5HL2-2	S	-	-
5HL2-3	R	+	-
5HL2-4	R	+	-
5HL9-2	S	-	-
5HL9-3	S	-	-
5HL9-4	R	+	-
5HL9-5	R	+	-
5HL17-1	S	-	+
5HL17-2	S	-	-
5HL17-3	R	+	-

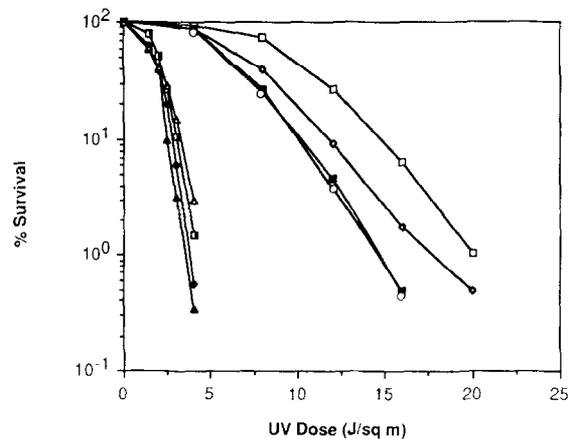


FIG. 1. Survival curves of colony-forming ability of UVL-irradiated parental lines and hybrid subclones. Symbols: wild-type CHO line AA8 (□); mutant UV5 (◆); hybrid subclones 5HL2-3 (○), 5HL9-4 (◊), 5HL17-3 (■), 5HL2-1 (◻), 5HL9-2 (▲), 5HL17-1 (△).

clone, 5HL9-4, appeared to have retained the 19 while losing the X, 5HL9-4 was examined cytogenetically using biotinylated total human DNA as probe to demonstrate the presence of human chromosome 19 as the only human genetic material present in the hybrid resolvable by this sensitive assay (Fig. 2).

The human gene that complements the repair defect in UV5 has been isolated in a cosmid vector (Weber *et al.*, 1988). A 2.4-kb *KpnI* fragment containing the 3'-untranslated end of the gene was isolated and inserted into the *KpnI* site of vector pKSV-10 (Pharmacia, Piscataway, NJ). The resultant probe (pKER2) was hybridized to Southern blots of *HindIII*-cut DNA from a hybrid clone panel containing 33 independently derived human \times CHO somatic cell hybrids containing different human chromosomes (previously described in Stallings *et al.*, 1988). The *ERCC2* probe segregated perfectly concordantly with human chromosome 19, while all other chromosomes were discordant at levels of from 30 to 73%.

All these analyses taken together allow us to assign to human chromosome 19 a gene that complements the DNA repair defect present in UV5. By the rules of nomenclature described in the Introduction, this gene has been designated *Excision Repair Cross Complementing 2 (ERCC2)*.

Regional Localization of ERCC2 among Chromosome 19 Markers

We had shown that repair-proficient hybrids made between human cells and repair-deficient CHO lines often contained broken chromosomes such that varying portions of the human chromosome carrying the complementing gene were retained (Thompson *et al.*, 1987). Those human segments often became integrated into the CHO genome, making the hybrids useful for establishing the order of genes in these chromosomal regions. Five such hybrids, three selected for *ERCC1* (prefix 20XP in Table 3) and two for *XRCC1* (prefix

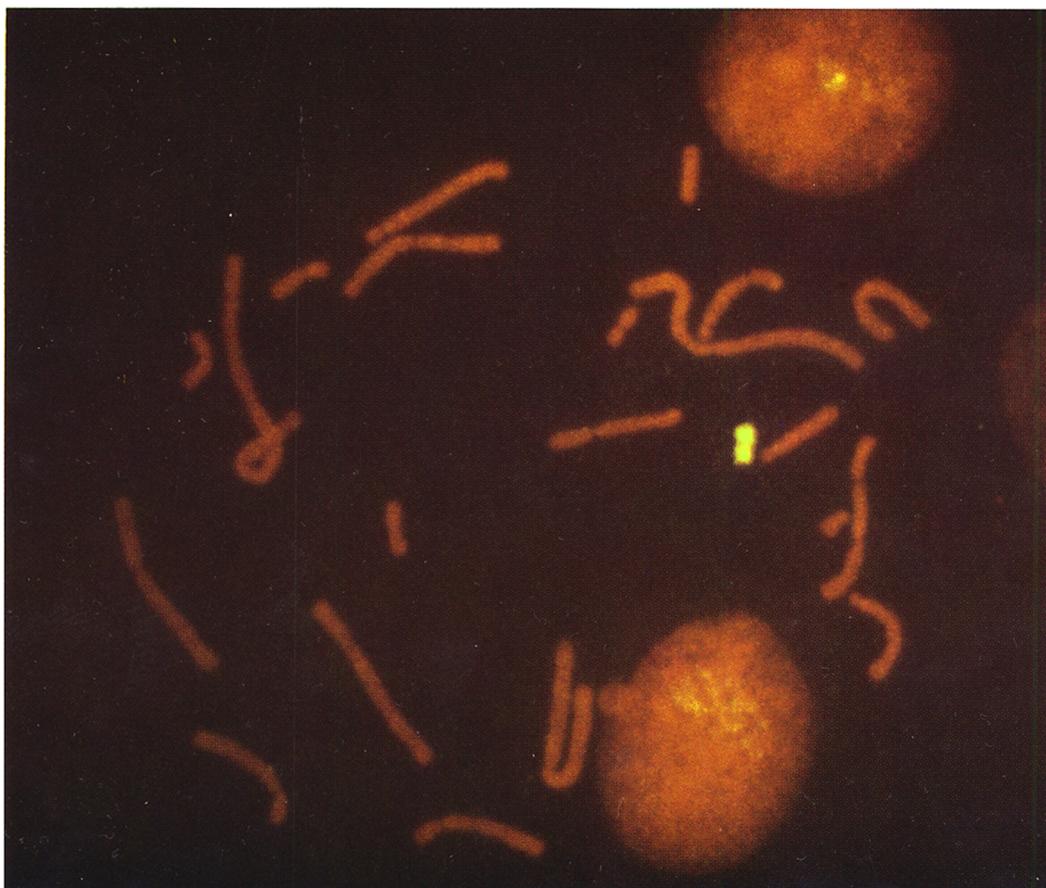


FIG. 2. Metaphase cell from the UVL-resistant hybrid line 5HL9-4 stained with fluorescein following *in situ* hybridization with biotinylated total human DNA. Only a single yellow-green fluorescing human element, which marker analysis confirms as being human chromosome 19, is seen. This single chromosome was present in all 20 diploid hybrid cells examined.

9HL), and probes for *ERCC1*, as well as a series of other markers, were used to determine the position of *ERCC1* relative to a series of markers on the long arm of chromosome 19 (Stallings *et al.*, 1988). Here, those data are extended using the cloned probes for *XRCC1* and *ERCC2* with those hybrids. The data are illustrated in Fig. 3 and summarized in Table 3.

The smallest segment of human chromosome 19 was retained in the three 20XP hybrids which were selected for the presence of *ERCC1*. As previously reported (Stallings *et al.*, 1988) those hybrids contained *ERCC1*, *APOC2*, and *CKMM*. Of the markers tested here, the only additional gene in those three hybrids was *ERCC2*. The other hybrids, selected for *XRCC1*, retained larger pieces of human chromosome 19, as indicated by the greater number of human chromosome 19 markers present. Taken together with the information that suggests *CGB* and *FTL* are at the distal end, 19q13.3-qtel (Worwood *et al.*, 1985; Brook *et al.*, 1986), of this series of markers, that *GPI* is at the proximal end, 19qcen-q13.1 (Kaneda *et al.*, 1987), and that *APOC2* is proximal to *ERCC1* (Hulsebos *et al.*, 1986), the data indicate a gene order on the long arm of chromosome 19 for the markers studied of

cen-*GPI*-(*CYP2A*,*TGFB*,*XRCC1*)-

[*APOC2-ERCC1*]*ERCC2*,*CKMM*]-(*CGB*,*FTL*)-tel.

Therefore, of the three repair genes on the long arm of chromosome 19, *XRCC1* appears to be the most proximal and in the same region of the chromosome as *CYP2A* and *TGFB*. The latter two markers have been identified by *in situ* hybridization as being at 19q13.1-q13.3 (Davis *et al.*, 1985; Fujii *et al.*, 1986). *ERCC1* and *ERCC2* are more distal in a region marked by *in situ* hybridization studies with *CKMM* to 19q13.2-13.3 (Nigro *et al.*, 1987), yet physically distinguishable from each other as indicated by their presence on two different macrorestriction fragments, 75 and 580 kb, respectively, following *Mlu*I digestion of both HeLa and 20XP3542-1-4 cell DNA (Fig. 4).

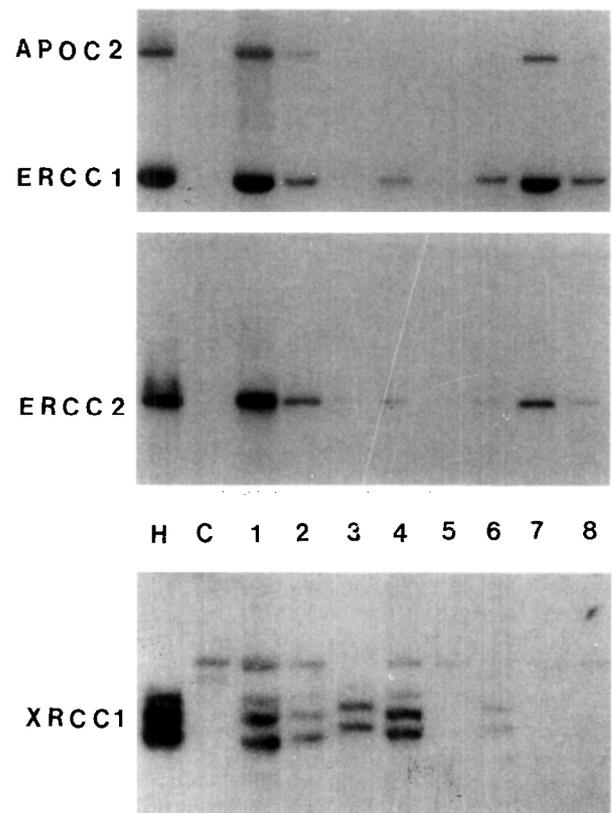


FIG. 3. Three panels represent the same Southern blot filter hybridized with probes for *APOC2* and *ERCC1* (top), *ERCC2* (middle), and *XRCC1* (bottom). Channels contain *Hind*III-digested DNAs from HeLa (H) and CHO (C) cell controls, seven hybrids containing chromosome 19 of varying lengths (1-4 and 6-8), and one hybrid (5) not having a 19. Two hybrids (20XP2992-1 and 20XP0435-2, numbered here 7 and 8, respectively) selected for *ERCC1* retain human *APOC2*, *ERCC1*, and *ERCC2* while not retaining *XRCC1*.

Chromosomal Assignment of the Three Human Chromosome 19 DNA Repair Genes in the Chinese Hamster

The chromosomal assignment of *ERCC2* now puts three of the five mapped human DNA repair genes complementing different mutations in CHO cells on

TABLE 3

Hybridization of Human Repair Gene Probes Relative to the Presence of Chromosome 19 q-arm Markers among Hybrids with a Disrupted 19^a

Hybrid	Markers and repair genes present (+) or absent (-)									
	GPI	CYP2A	TGFB	XRCC1	APOC2	CKMM	ERCC2	ERCC1	CGB	FTL
9HL5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
9HL1.1	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
20XP0435-2	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-
20XP2992-1	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-
20XP3542-1-4	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-

^a Nonrepair gene markers were previously characterized in this series of hybrids (32).

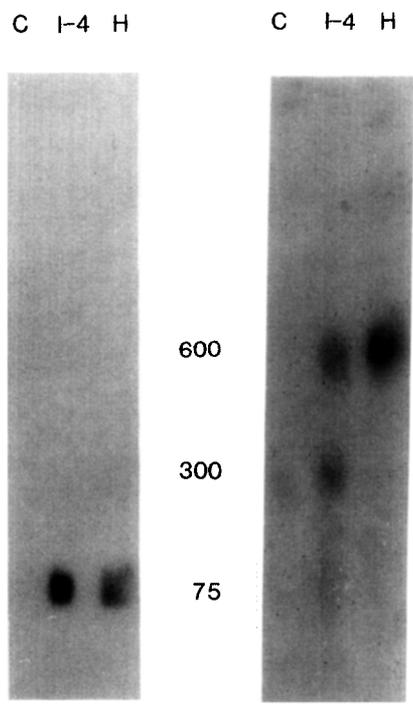


FIG. 4. Southern blot filters following field-inversion electrophoresis of *Mlu*I-digested DNA from CHO (C), hybrid 20XP3542-1-4 (I-4), and HeLa (H) cells hybridized with probe for *ERCC1* (left) and *ERCC2* (right). *ERCC1* hybridizes to a 75-kb *Mlu*I fragment, while *ERCC2* is on a fragment of approximately 600 kb. The *ERCC2* cDNA probe also detects a 300-kb Chinese hamster fragment present in both the CHO cell and the hybrid line.

the same human chromosome. We then asked whether the homologs of these three genes were conserved on the same syntenic group in the Chinese hamster; and if so, was there something about that chromosome in CHO cells that contributed to the isolation of a high frequency of recessive mutations at loci on that chromosome, which could explain the seemingly disproportionate number of repair genes assigned to the human chromosome 19.

In order to investigate this question, we used a panel of somatic cell hybrids made between euploid Chinese hamster cells and the mouse cell line LMTK Cl1D and which was informative for Chinese hamster chromosomes. All hybrids were characterized cytogenetically as well as with the known biochemical markers (Siciliano *et al.*, 1985) for the presence of hamster chromosomes. cDNA probes for all three repair genes cross-hybridized with both mouse and Chinese hamster genomic DNA and detected Chinese hamster-specific *Hind*III restriction fragments. The presence or absence of the different Chinese hamster chromosomes and the sequences that hybridized to the three different human repair gene probes are summarized in Table 4. As tabulated, all three genes segregated perfectly concordantly with hamster chromosome 9, while the other chromosomes had levels of discordance ranging from 15 to 62%. Therefore, we conclude that the three

Chinese hamster genes homologous to *ERCC1*, *ERCC2*, and *XRCC1* are in an evolutionarily conserved linkage group on Chinese hamster chromosome 9. This observation and its consequences with respect to mutagenesis in CHO cells are discussed below.

DISCUSSION

Is the Third Repair Gene on Chromosome 19 Different from the Other Two?

There appears to be little question, from the multiple approaches and data presented here, that a gene on human chromosome 19 complements the DNA repair deficiency in the CHO mutant UV5, which is a member of rodent complementation group 2. Furthermore, this assignment has been independently supported (Mahrenweiser *et al.*, 1989) by another method—*in situ* hybridization with a biotinylated *ERCC2* cosmid clone to human metaphase chromosomes. Since two other genes that complement DNA repair deficiencies in CHO cells have already been assigned to chromosome 19, one could ask for assurance that *ERCC2* represents a physically distinct genetic entity.

Differences among the three CHO mutant groups (with respect to complementation groups into which they fall, agents to which they are hypersensitive, and the biological manifestations and biochemical bases of their defects—Thompson, 1985) are certainly compelling reasons to consider the three human genes that complement them to be distinct. The findings that cosmid clones of each nucleotide excision repair gene correct only the corresponding rodent complementation group and the observation that there are no clear similarities in the restriction enzyme site patterns of *ERCC1* and *ERCC2* cosmid clones are also consistent with the physical uniqueness of these two genes (van Duin *et al.*, 1988; Weber *et al.*, 1988). In this report we provide additional evidence for the distinct physical uniqueness of all three genes by our localization of *XRCC1* to a more proximal position on chromosome 19 than *ERCC1* and *ERCC2* and by demonstrating the presence of the latter two genes on different *Mlu*I macrorestriction fragments.

Consequences of Human 19-Hamster 9 Homology for Our Understanding of Repair Gene Distribution and Number

Conservation of the syntenic relationship of genes on human chromosome 19 has been observed to be fairly phylogenetically extensive. At least 10 long-arm markers of the human 19 (*GPI*, *PEPD*, etc.) have been shown to be linked on the mouse 7 (Lalley *et al.*, 1987). *GPI* and *PEPD* have also been shown to be on the same chromosome, not only in numerous mammalian species but also in evolutionary diverse forms such as amphibians (D. A. Wright *et al.*, 1983) and two different

TABLE 4
Chinese Hamster Chromosomal Content in, and Hybridization of Repair Gene cDNAs to,
Hybrids Segregating Chinese Hamster Chromosomes

Hybrid clone	Chinese hamster chromosome											Repair gene cDNAs		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	X	ERCC1	ERCC2	XRCC1
C2/B1	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
C2/B2	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
DA1/A3	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
DA1/M1A1	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
DA2/A2	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
D3/3/B1	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
D4/1	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
D4/9	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
D19/8	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
D19/11	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
E3/D	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
E9/D3/4	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
E12/D1	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Percentage disc ^a	54	54	62	31	31	15	38	38	0	25	42			

^a The percentage of hybrids that had the chromosome but not the repair gene markers plus the percentage that did not have the chromosome but had the repair gene markers.

families of teleost fish (J. E. Wright *et al.*, 1983; Morizot, 1986). The cDNA clones for the repair genes are now being studied in the fish system, where they have been found to hybridize and detect restriction fragment length polymorphisms (RFLPs) in crosses informative for linkage (Morizot, personal communication). As more genes are identified within this conserved linkage group and its boundaries are understood, this region may become attractive for studying the forces responsible for such conservation.

In this report we have extended the region of the human 19 that we see conserved in the hamster. Our original identification of the homology between regions of the human 19 and hamster 9 came from gene mapping studies which identified the hamster 9 as the location of *GPI* and *PEPD* (Siciliano *et al.*, 1983). Here, by detecting the repair genes on the hamster 9, we extend the conserved section of the human 19 from the proximal long arm in the region of the centromere where *PEPD* is located (Friedrich *et al.*, 1987) to 19q13.2-13.3 where the two most distal repair genes are located—a physical distance in humans of at least 20 Mb.

One of the more significant aspects of the presence of the repair genes on the hamster chromosome 9 relates to the cytogenetic observations of Deaven and Peterson (1973) indicating that there is only a single chromosome 9 in CHO cells. We (Siciliano *et al.*, 1983) determined that genes on the hamster chromosome 9 were present in CHO cells in a physically haploid state by two methods: (1) observing concordant segregation of *GPI* and *PEPD* with the single chromosome 9 from

somatic cell hybrids made between CHO cells and mouse LMTK Cl1D cells from which CHO chromosomes underwent segregation, and (2) observing that electrophoretic shift mutations induced at those loci in CHO cells resulted in hemizygous rather than heterozygous patterns.

The presence of the repair genes on a hemizygous chromosome in CHO cells would appear to account for the relative ease with which recessive mutations at these loci were uncovered in the cells (Thompson *et al.*, 1980, 1981). In the original mutagenesis experiments the mutant isolates in UVL complementation groups 1 and 2 comprised 94% of all UVL repair mutants recovered among 6 complementation groups (Thompson, 1985; Busch *et al.*, 1989). Physical hemizygosity in CHO cells appears to be limited to no more than 25% of the genome, a significant portion of which can be attributed to a single X chromosome, the hemizygous 9, and a large deletion in the long arm of chromosome 2 as determined by cytogenetic studies (Deaven and Peterson, 1973; Worton *et al.*, 1977). This estimate of the extent of hemizygosity is consistent with the frequency of more than 40 randomly selected CHO isozyme loci which produce hemizygous rather than heterozygous electrophoretic shift mutations (Siciliano *et al.*, 1978, 1986b). Consequently, there is a bias for the isolation of recessive DNA repair mutations at loci on the hamster chromosome 9 in CHO cells. Therefore, due to the established homology between human chromosome 19 and hamster chromosome 9, genes on human chromosome 19 that complement mutations on the hamster 9 would be more readily iden-

tified than human genes located on chromosomes homologous to nonhemizygous regions of the rodent genome.

The demonstrated bias for the apparent clustering of DNA repair genes on human chromosome 19 suggests that there may be many other DNA repair genes in the human genome. Since the mapping and cloning of the chromosome 19 repair genes were made possible by the ready isolation of rodent mutations in the homologous loci, the search for additional rodent lines that are hemizygous for other areas of the genome would seem important. Such lines might produce new spectra of mutants appropriate for identifying and cloning heretofore unknown human DNA repair genes.

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