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Regional Assignment of Rat Androsterone UDP-glucuronosyltransferase Gene (UGT2B2) to Chromosome 14 p21.2-p22*

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UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (UGT) consists of a multigene family and there appear to be more than eight UGT isoenzymes in the rat. Rat liver androsterone UGT (UGT2B-2) catalyzes the glucuronidation of androsterone, etiocholanolone, lithocholic acid and naphthylamines. The whole construct of the recombinant plasmid pGT2 containing UGT2-B2 cDNA was used as a probe. The DNA probe was labeled by nick-translation with biotin-16-dUTP. Prometaphase chromosomes were prepared from primary lung fibroblast cultures of male Wistar rats. Chromosome slides were prepared, hybridized with the DNA probe and incubated with fluorescein avidin DCS. The intensity of the fluorescence was amplified by addition of a layer of biotinylated goat anti-avidin D and the slides were stained with propidium iodide. The signals were stained as yellow-green spots on red chromosomes and the location of the signals were recognized on Q-banded chromosomes. In the present study, we regionally assigned UGT2B2 gene to chromosome 14p21.2-p22. UGT2B genes have been mapped to human chromosome 4 and mouse chromosome 5, respectively. It is known that the albumin and α-fetoprotein genes are closely linked on human chromosome 4, mouse chromosome 5 and rat chromosome 14. These results indicate that there remains a certain degree of linkage homology in these genes among human, mouse and rat.

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