

1 **Mutational Analysis of a Familial Adenomatous Polyposis Pedigree with Bile Duct Polyp**
2 **Phenotype**

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17 **Running Title:** XIE *et al*: FAP MUTATIONAL PEDIGREE WITH BILE DUCT POLYP

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33 Abstract

34 A large number of colorectal cancers have a genetic background in China. However,
35 due to insufficient awareness, the diagnostic rate remains low and merely 5–6% of patients are
36 diagnosed with hereditary colorectal cancer. Familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) is an
37 autosomal dominant genetic disease caused by mutations in the adenomatous polyposis coli
38 (*APC*) gene. Different mutation sites in *APC* are associated with the severity of FAP, risks of
39 carcinogenesis, and extraintestinal manifestations. We used next-generation sequencing (NGS)
40 and capture techniques to screen suspected mutation points in the proband in this pedigree.
41 Using modified Sanger sequencing, we identified members of the family who were carriers of
42 this variant, and whether this segregated well with disease occurrence. FAP family members
43 had multiple adenomatous polyps in their gastrointestinal tracts, some of which developed into
44 cancer with age. Two subjects presented a rare common bile duct polyp phenotype. No
45 extraintestinal manifestations were observed. A heterozygous frameshift mutation in *APC* exon
46 16 (NM_000038.6) was observed in the proband and in other patients:
47 c.3260_3261del(p.Leu1087GlnQfs*31) (rs587782305); the variant call format was CCT/C.
48 Due to the deletion of two bases, a stop codon appeared after 31 amino acids, and the protein
49 was truncated prematurely, which affected the conformation of the protein. Pedigree genetic
50 linkage analysis showed that the clinical phenotype co-segregated with the *APC* mutation
51 p.L1087fs. This mutation may be the pathogenic in this FAP family and responsible for this
52 rare common bile duct polyp.

53

54 **Key words:** Familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP), *APC* gene, Frameshift mutation, Common
55 bile duct adenomas

56 Introduction

57 In China, the morbidity and mortality rates of colorectal cancer have been on a rise;
58 many of these cases have a genetic background. However, only 5–6% of patients are diagnosed
59 with hereditary colorectal cancer in China [1]. Due to the inadequate awareness regarding this
60 disease in China, the actual rate of hereditary colorectal cancer remains low. Hereditary
61 colorectal cancer can be divided into two types based on the presence or absence of polyps: the
62 first type is characterized by polyposis and includes familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP),
63 Peutz-Jeghers syndrome (PJS), juvenile polyposis syndrome (JPS), and serrated polyposis
64 syndrome (SPS); it can be further divided into classical FAP (CFAP), attenuated FAP (AFAP),

65 MUTYH-associated polyposis (MAP), Gardner syndrome, and Turcot syndrome subtypes.
66 Clinically, FAP (including CFAP and AFAP) is the most commonly observed syndrome [2].
67 The second type is a non-polyposis colorectal cancer, and Lynch syndrome is an important
68 representative. Pathogenic genes related to hereditary colorectal cancer include *MLH1*, *MSH2*,
69 *MSH6*, *PMS2*, *EPCAM*, *APC*, and *MUTYH* [1].

70 FAP was first reported in 1925 [3]. It is a special type of hereditary colorectal cancer that
71 characterized by a highly explicit autosomal dominant inheritance. FAP is characterized by an
72 early onset and it can manifest even in newborns, with no apparent gender orientation. FAP
73 manifests as a diffuse growth of hundreds or thousands of adenomatous polyps in the colorectal
74 mucosa, without observable early symptoms. However, with the passage of time, the number
75 and size of polyps continue to increase, along with the emergence of abdominal symptoms such
76 as pain, diarrhea, and obstruction in the intestine. More than 70% patients may have
77 extraintestinal manifestations of congenital hypertrophy of the retinal pigment epithelium
78 (CHRPE), multiple osteoma, and dental deformity. In the past, FAP has also been termed
79 Gardner syndrome, Turcot syndrome, gastric adenocarcinoma, or proximal polyposis of the
80 stomach. The rate of malignancy remains extremely high, and if left untreated, the malignancy
81 can reach as high as 100% around the age of 40, combined with a poor prognosis [4,5]. The
82 risk of cancer increases by 2.4-fold every 10 years and the optimal age for surgery is before 25
83 years of age; hence, early detection is of great significance [6]. Prevention, early diagnosis, and
84 early treatment can be achieved through the detection, genetic diagnosis, and risk management
85 of the probands of families as well as through genetic screening and follow-up monitoring for
86 other family members.

87 **Material and methods**

88 *Research subjects*

89 In this study, we investigated an FAP family pedigree (Figure 1a). The proband (III1)
90 visited our hospital 6 years ago and we then conducted a genealogical investigation. Endoscopy
91 of the proband (III1) at 28 years of age revealed several hundred polyps in the colon and rectum
92 and was considered for FAP diagnosis (Figure 1b-e). At age 31, colon cancer was identified
93 and total colectomy + ileorectal anastomosis was performed. Pedigree analysis revealed a
94 family history of familial gastrointestinal polyposis and colon cancer. The grandmother (I2) of
95 the proband had a history of "bile duct polyps and adenomatous polyps of the colon" and died
96 of "colon cancer." Five out of six siblings in the second generation also had the illness; three

97 of them (II3, 5, and 10) died of "colon cancer and adenomatous polyps of the colon." The
98 mother (II1) had multiple adenomatous polyps in her gastrointestinal tract at the age of 32 years
99 and underwent total colectomy and ileorectal anastomosis when colon cancer was diagnosed
100 at an age of 52 years. Endoscopy results for one of the aunts (II12) suggested an ectopic gastric
101 mucosa in the upper esophagus. The female cousins (III4 and 5, aged 24 and 25 years old) and
102 male cousins (III3, 40 years old) had adenomatous polyps of the colon. Another aunt (II 8) of
103 the proband had undergone "laparoscopic cholecystectomy + common bile duct exploration +
104 common bile duct mass resection + T-tube drainage" in November 2012 at the age of 40 years
105 because of "right upper abdominal pain, acute cholangitis, and space-occupying lesion in the
106 common bile duct." Multiple polypoid lesions were observed in the lower part of the common
107 bile duct during the operation. Postoperative pathology showed that adenoma in the lower
108 segment of the common bile duct was accompanied by mild to moderate atypical hyperplasia
109 of the glandular epithelium. Three months later, the common bile duct adenoma was resected
110 through the T-tube sinus tract. Postoperative pathology showed villous adenoma of the bile
111 duct with moderate to severe atypical hyperplasia. In July 2013 (at age 41), the aunt was
112 admitted to Fujian Provincial Hospital with the main complaint of "repeated abdominal pain
113 for two years plus fever for last three days." Her test results showed normal serum bilirubin,
114 alanine aminotransferase 168 U/L, aspartate aminotransferase 88 U/L, alkaline phosphatase
115 858 U/L, and glutamyl aminotransferase 520 U/L. Magnetic resonance
116 cholangiopancreatography (MRCP) showed irregular intrahepatic and extrahepatic bile duct
117 dilatation, with the greatest common bile duct diameter of 1.7 cm. In addition, multiple space-
118 occupying lesions of the common bile duct were observed. A diagnosis of "acute cholangitis,
119 common bile duct villous adenoma, and possible FAP" was made, and pancreatoduodenectomy
120 was performed; this was published by us as a case report [7]. In 2014 (aged 42), she was
121 admitted again due to "increased number of bowel movements with bloody stools for more
122 than 10 years," and a diagnosis of "multiple gastrointestinal polyps: FAP possible." Total
123 colorectal resection was performed (Figure 1f-g). With the approval of the Fujian Provincial
124 Hospital Ethics Committee, each members of the FAP family undergoing investigation signed
125 an informed consent form.

126

127 *Clinical phenotype detection*

128 We collated clinical manifestations and related biochemical tests of the proband and
129 family members, including results of ultrasound, computed tomography (CT), nuclear
130 magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and gastrointestinal endoscopy.

131 Histology and immunohistochemistry: the collected tissues were dehydrated routinely,
132 embedded with paraffin tissue blocks, and sliced continuously. The slices with thickness of 3-
133 4 μm were stained with Hematoxylin-eosin staining (HE), and the slices with the thickness of
134 2-3 μm were removed on the anti-stripping slices with positive control, and were baked in an
135 oven at 60-70°C for 1-2h. Dyeing according to the pre-set procedure, and colorectal cancer
136 specimens were stained with CK20, CK7, CEA, CDX2, P53, Ki67, β -catenin, PMS-2, MLH-
137 1, MSH-2, MSH-6. The stained sections were routinely dehydrated, transparent and sealed
138 after cleaning. The automatic immunohistochemistry instrument is Ultra (Roche Company,
139 US). The above-mentioned staining protein primary antibodies were purchased from MXB
140 Biotechnologies (Fuzhou, China), and the secondary antibodies, chromogenic system, and HE
141 re-staining solution were all equipped with the corresponding instruments.

142

143 *DNA extraction*

144 A sample of 12 mL of peripheral blood was collected into EDTA anticoagulant tubes
145 from the proband and other family members who agreed to be investigated. Genomic DNA
146 was extracted according to the instructions of the TIANGEN extraction kit.

147

148 *Target region capture sequencing and bioinformatics analysis* [8]

149 First, the concentration of DNA samples was determined using Nanodrop 2000, and
150 DNA fragmentation was performed. Next-generation sequencing (NGS) and sequence capture
151 technology were used to detect the proband. TargetSeq® liquid-phase chip capture sequencing
152 is a target region gene detection project developed by iGeneTech®. TargetSeq® designs the
153 target region genome based on a multi-factor algorithm and then synthesizes effective specific
154 probes, which are hybridized with genomic DNA in the liquid phase. After the target region
155 sequence is captured and enriched, mainstream sequencing platforms such as Illumina are used
156 for high-throughput sequencing. By sequencing the target region, candidate genes, or candidate
157 sites can be detected. The DNA fragments were sheared and recovered using Covaris, and an
158 Illumina sequencing library was constructed. DNA capture microarray containing multiple
159 genes underwent multiple rounds of targeted gene enrichment followed by DNA sequencing
160 (Illumina MiSeq). Short oligonucleotide analysis package (Soap) software was used to analyze
161 the copy number, polymorphisms, and insertion/deletion data to screen for suspected disease-
162 causing mutations. SIFT (<http://sift.jcvi.org/>) and Polyphen software
163 (<http://genetics.bwh.harvard.edu/pph/>) were used to predict the effect on the function of mutant

164 proteins. The above steps were completed in collaboration with Beijing Bestnovo Medical
165 Technology Co. Target genes included *APC*, *MLH1*, *MSH2*, *MSH6*, *PMS2*, *EPCAM*, and
166 *MUTYH*, and the related genetic and colorectal cancer pathogenic gene coding regions and
167 flanking regions were detected (T192V1Plus- Liquid phase analysis platform, iGeneTech,
168 Beijing, China).

169

170 *Sanger sequencing validation*

171 Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) was performed to amplify the fragments of suspected
172 candidate mutation loci and Sanger DNA sequencing validation was performed to detect the
173 corresponding loci in the proband and family members participating in the study. Primer
174 Premier 5 software was used to design the target sequence primers. The *APC* sequence was
175 obtained from GenBank (NM_000038.6), and the target amplicon length was 446 bp in *APC*
176 exon 16 (c.3260_3261del: p.L1087fs). The following primers were used: F: 5'-
177 TCAGATGAGCAGTTGAACTCTGGAAGG-3', R: 5'-
178 CTATAATCAATAGGCTGATCCACATGAC-3'. The PCR was performed in a 50 μ L reaction
179 volume to amplify the target fragments on a thermocycler instrument (PTC-200 PCR, BIO-
180 RAD) and the annealing temperature of PCR was 58 °C. The PCR products were purified using
181 Takara reagents and the PCR products of the target fragments were sequenced on an ABI
182 3730XL platform. The DNA extracted from the pedigree members (II1, II2, II8, II12, III1,
183 III3, III4, III5, III6, III7, and III8) was subjected to PCR amplification and Sanger
184 sequencing in the target region to detect whether they carried the frameshift mutation
185 p.L1087fs.

186 **Results**

187 *FAP family pedigree analysis*

188 At age 28, the proband (III1) was diagnosed to have colon and rectal polyposis, which
189 developed into frank "colon cancer" after three years. Pathology investigations after total colon
190 + partial rectal resection revealed stage II tubular adenocarcinoma of the large intestine, with
191 perineural invasion, vascular cancer thrombi, and invasion of the subserosal layer accompanied
192 by extensive adenoma polyps in the large intestine. Three out of 28 lymph nodes from the large
193 intestine exhibited cancer metastasis. Immunohistochemistry revealed CK20 (+++), CK7 (+),
194 CEA (+++), CDX2 (+++), P53 (wild type), Ki67 (60%+), β -catenin (membrane+), PMS-2 (+),

195 MLH-1 (+), MSH-2 (+), and MSH-6 (+). Immunohistochemical staining of MMR proteins
196 (PMS2, MSH6, MLH1, and MSH2) suggested that the tumor was microsatellite stable (MSS).
197 Elastic fiber staining (+) showed that the malignant tissue had infiltrated into the venous duct
198 structures (Figure 2a-c). A rare clinical phenotype, adenoma of the common bile duct, was
199 observed in FAP pedigree members I2 and II8. Member II8 underwent biliary tract surgery and
200 coral-like neoplasia was observed in the middle and lower part of the common bile duct, with
201 a diameter of approximately 1.0 cm, broad-based, which was brittle and easy to bleed.
202 Postoperative pathology showed "villous adenoma of the common bile duct."
203 Pancreaticoduodenectomy was performed at our hospital. The common bile duct was dilated
204 to a diameter of approximately 2.0 cm, and several hard masses were identified around the
205 duodenal ampulla. Postoperative specimens showed duodenal papilla of approximately 5.0 ×
206 4.0 cm in size, and the texture was firm with discernable borders. Multiple polyps ranging
207 between 0.3 to 0.5 cm in diameter were observed in the descending part of the duodenum.
208 Multiple pedunculated tumors with a diameter ranging from 1.0 to 1.5 cm were found in the
209 common bile duct. Multiple polyps with diameters ranging from 0.5-0.7 cm were observed in
210 the gastric wall. Postoperative pathology results showed duodenal papillary tubular adenoma
211 with local high-grade intraepithelial neoplasia and common bile duct tubular adenoma with
212 high-grade intraepithelial neoplasia (Figure 2d-h). Colonoscopy indicated multiple colon
213 polyps with a diameter of approximately 0.3–2.5 cm spanning the entire colon, with a greater
214 concentration in the sigmoid colon and rectum. In addition, a sessile flat bulge in the ascending
215 colon was observed, which was considered to be FAP. It had a diameter of approximately 1.5
216 × 2.0 cm, with nodular surface mucosa. Capsule enteroscopy revealed no abnormalities.
217 Postoperative pathology confirmed FAP of the large intestine. The polyps presented as tubular
218 adenoma with low-grade intraepithelial neoplasia (moderate dysplasia) (Figure 2i). All
219 deceased members of the family (I2, II3, II5, and II10) had colon cancer and adenomatous
220 gastrointestinal polyposis. Gastrointestinal pathology of member III1 revealed multiple
221 gastrointestinal adenomatous polyps and colonic tubular adenocarcinoma. No extraintestinal
222 manifestations of CHRPE, bone marrow and tooth deformities, epidermoid cysts, lipomas,
223 scleroderma, or other malignant tumors such as thyroid cancer and hepatoblastoma were
224 observed in the family members under investigation.

225 *Gene analysis of the FAP family pedigree*

226 Whole-exome sequencing of liquid-phase chip capture sequencing was performed on
227 the Illumina platform (Target area 42M, covering gene coding region + splicing site + mtDNA

228 gene site). Using Trimmomatic, Bwa, samblaster, GATK, and other software, the splice
229 sequence and low-quality data were removed, and the remaining data were compared with the
230 reference genome. As a result total of 80.71M target mapped reads and 13928.71M total
231 accurate mapped bases were generated. The coverage rate of the target area was 99.76%, and
232 the effective sequencing depth was 168.91. The coverage of 4X, 10X, and 20X was 99.64%,
233 99.46%, and 99.08%, respectively. We used GATK, Samtools, Varscan, Annovar, and snpEff
234 to analyze data for SNP, InDel, CNV, and mutation annotation. After selecting known related
235 genes *APC*, *MLH1*, *MSH2*, *MSH6*, *PMS2*, *EPCAM*, and *MUTYH*, other gene mutations, and
236 filtering population data and synonymous mutations, the *APC* mutation was identified.
237 Through NGS detection, the proband revealed a heterozygous frameshift mutation in exon 16
238 of the *APC* (NM_000038.6): c.3260_3261del(p.Leu1087Glnfs*31) (rs587782305) (Figure 3).
239 The variant call format (VCF) was CCT/C due to the deletion of two bases; a stop codon
240 appeared after 31 amino acids and the protein was prematurely truncated, which affected
241 protein conformation. It was included in the HGMD database, and its clinical significance was
242 annotated as pathogenic. For more information, please refer to
243 <http://www.hgmd.cf.ac.uk/ac/gene.php?gene=APC>. Mutations are commonly associated with
244 pathogenesis in FAP patients and have been detected in several FAP family pedigrees. Sanger
245 DNA sequencing indicated that patients II1, II8, III1, III3, III4, and III5 carried the
246 frameshifting mutant p.L1087fs but other family members, II12, II2, III6, III7, and III8, did
247 not. Pedigree gene-phenotype correlation analysis showed that the clinical phenotype co-
248 segregates with the gene mutation p.L1087fs. This supports the classification of this variant as
249 pathogenic.

250 Discussion

251 The earliest identification by Groden confirmed that FAP is directly related to the *APC* [9,10].
252 The *APC* is located on 5q21-q22 of autosome 5 and contains 16 exons. The 100 kDa APC
253 protein is composed of 2,843 amino acids [11]. Recently, a new type of polyposis syndrome
254 was proposed: gastric adenocarcinoma and proximal polyposis of the stomach (GAPPS). The
255 typical endoscopic manifestation of GAPPS is the presence of polyps at the proximal end of
256 the stomach, whereas the distal end is not affected. Compared with other polyposis diseases,
257 GAPPS can significantly increase the risk of gastric adenocarcinoma, whereas the risk of rectal
258 cancer is low. GAPPS is associated with mutations involving specific sites in exon 1B of the
259 *APC* [12]. However, incidental extrahepatic adenomatous biliary polyp is very rare in clinical

260 practice and there are very few published case reports. Except for endoscopic ultrasonography,
261 MRI, and CT, clinical diagnoses at the early stage of the disease is difficult, and the
262 understanding of its natural progress remains limited[13,14]. In patients with FAP, the
263 incidence rate of adenomas and microadenomas in the duodenal papilla and Vater
264 periampullary region (extending to the extrahepatic bile duct area) is high[15]. The relative risk
265 of duodenal adenocarcinoma and ampullary carcinoma in FAP patients is 331 times and 124
266 times higher, respectively [16]. Soravia *et al.*[17] described severe duodenal polyposis in
267 patients with 5' mutations in the *APC*. Mutations in the central part of the *APC* and exon 16
268 (especially the distal end of codon 1400) make individuals prone to a severe duodenal
269 phenotype [18]. Björk *et al.* reported 12 *APC* mutations downstream of codon 1051 in exon 16
270 in 15 FAP patients, revealing that the mutation downstream of codon 1051 may be related to
271 severe periampullary lesions [19].

272 *APC* is a classic tumor suppressor protein. The destructive complex formed by the
273 combination of *APC* protein with axin and glycogen synthase kinase- β 3 (GSK3 β) is ubiquitin-
274 mediated and can degrade cytosolic β -catenin (β -catenin), thereby preventing β -catenin from
275 accumulating in the nucleus. This prevents overexpression of downstream target genes,
276 maintains the normal Wnt/ β -catenin signaling pathway, and regulates cell division and
277 migration [20,10,21]. *APC* mutation or deletion can lead to excessive activation of the Wnt/ β -
278 catenin signaling pathway and the high expression of nuclear β -catenin can modify intercellular
279 junctions to induce the progression of epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT). This
280 eventually leads to abnormal cell proliferation, perturbed embryonic development, and
281 tumorigenesis. Intestinal epithelial cell over-proliferation combined with insufficient apoptosis
282 leads to the formation of intestinal adenoma nodules and colon adenocarcinoma, which
283 ultimately contribute to invasive colon cancer [22]. *APC* mutations alter the balance between
284 *APC* protein and β -catenin and E-cadherin, leading to changes in cell-cell and intercellular
285 adhesion and contact inhibition. This disrupts the balance between cell division and cell death
286 and becomes the rate-limiting factor of proliferation process in the colorectum [23]. *APC* is an
287 important tumor suppressor protein in the Wnt signaling pathway and mediates the
288 development of colorectal cancer. The *APC* deletion leads to proliferation and volume increases
289 of intestinal crypt cells, resulting in the formation of polyps. *APC* mutations can cause
290 hereditary cancer-predisposing syndrome and are closely related to the occurrence of FAP
291 because all FAP patients and nearly 80% of colorectal cancer patients have *APC* mutations [24].
292 *APC* mutations first cause multiple intestinal adenomas that eventually progress to colorectal

293 cancer [25].

294 FAP is an autosomal dominant genetic disease caused by mutations in the *APC* [26]. As
295 of April 2019, 1765 (2037) pathogenic *APC* mutations were recorded in the free version of the
296 HGMD database. These include 421 missense/nonsense, 112 splice sites, eight regulatory sites,
297 721 small deletions, 310 small insertions, 43 small indels, 125 gross deletions, 12 gross
298 insertions/duplications, 13 complex rearrangements, and repeat variations 0 pcs. A high
299 frameshift mutation rate leads to enhanced *APC* inactivation. Among them, exon 16 represents
300 75% of the *APC* coding sequence and is also a hotspot mutation region [27]. In addition, 40–
301 77% mutations are concentrated at the 5' end of this region, which is a mutation-intensive
302 region [28,29]. Hutter P *et al* found the mutation of c.3260_3261del (p.Leu1087GlnQfs*31)
303 in a male 18-year-old proband of a FAP family for the first time, which is consistent with what
304 we found [30]. The phenotypes of Duodenal Adenomas and Colorectal Adenomas are
305 consistent with the family we found, but the difference is that there are two cases of bile duct
306 polyp phenotype in the family we found. Earlier, we reported a rare case of bile duct polyp
307 with special operation twice [7]. In the family we found, two cases with biliary polyps suggest
308 that carriers of c.3260_3261del may be easily infected with biliary polyps. In addition, Jarry J
309 *et al* found that there was a pathogenic mutation (c.3260_3263delTCAA) including the lose of
310 two bases (c.3260_3261delTC) that we found in a FAP pedigree [31].

311 *APC* mutation sites are mostly located in codons 178–309 and 409–1580, whereas the
312 most common pathogenic *APC* variant is located in codon 1309 (c.3927_3931delAAAGA).
313 The general age of onset is 20 years old, which begins with a large number of colonic adenomas
314 at the early stage. If not treated, the death of colorectal cancer patients with codon 1309
315 mutation, on average, occurs 10 years earlier than that of FAP patients carrying other mutations
316 [32,33]. The pathogenic variation in codons 1250–1464 can cause dense polyposis (average
317 5000 polyps) [34,35]; however, this situation is not absolute [36]. AFAP (<100 colorectal
318 adenomas) is associated with mutations in the mRNA alternative splice region before codon
319 157, after codon 1595, and exon 9. This is partly related to deletions within the *APC*. *APC*
320 pathogenic variant somatic mosaicism is usually associated with FAP. Extraintestinal
321 manifestations of CHRPE pathogenic variants are related to codons 148–2043 or the deletion
322 of the entire *APC* [37,36]. *APC* mutation sites also affect colorectal pathological phenotypes.
323 The missense mutation in codon 208 is related to the relatively mild colorectal pathological
324 phenotype, the codon 367 mutation is related to AFAP attenuation, and the codon 1309
325 mutation is related to colorectal adenoma. The most severe colorectal pathological phenotype

326 is significantly related to the truncation mutation in codon 1309. Mutations at codons 867 and
327 1114 and exons 6 and 9 affect the APC I β -catenin binding domain and are associated with a
328 less severe colorectal cancer phenotype [38].

329 In addition to gastrointestinal endoscopic monitoring, regular inspection of other organs
330 is particularly important because the disease spectrum due to *APC* mutation may involve
331 disorders of multiple organs outside the intestine. For example, the incidence of desmoid
332 tumors, osteoma, and epidermoid cysts is significantly higher in individuals carrying mutations
333 in *APC* codons 1395–1493 than in individuals with mutations in codons 177–452, and the
334 development of hepatoblastoma and/or brain tumors occurs when the pathogenic variant is
335 located only in codons 457–1309 [26,39,40,37]. Cancer in the mutation afflicted area is the
336 main cause of death in FAP patients and a biopsy should be performed in this area regardless
337 of whether the mucosa is normal.

338 Since the occurrence and development of this disease is quite varied, significant
339 differences are observed even among different individuals in the same family; therefore, the
340 timing of treatment should be determined based on colonoscopy results of individual patients,
341 rather than simply based on the gene mutation sites [41]. At present, preventive treatment
342 remains the most important strategy for clinical management of patients with FAP. Monitoring
343 via gastrointestinal endoscopy and weighing the risk of disease progression are the
344 cornerstones of choosing endoscopic local treatment or preventive radical resection of the
345 stomach and colon. Chemoprevention is defined as the use of drugs, natural medicines, or
346 dietary supplements to reduce the incidence rate or delay the onset of disease (including cancer).
347 Various chemoprevention strategies play key roles in delaying progression of polyps in patients
348 with FAP, delayed prophylactic colectomy, and prevention of recurrence of adenomas after
349 colectomy [15,42,43].

350

351 **Data Availability**

352 The datasets used and/or analyzed during the present study are available from the
353 corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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361 **Authors' contributions**

362 Collection, data analysis, and drafting of the article: LJX, JHZ, and DDR. Design, supervision,
363 and editing of the manuscript: JWL and HZZ. Provision of the table and figures: LC. Study
364 supervision: MDY and MLY. All authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

365 **Conflicts of interests**

366 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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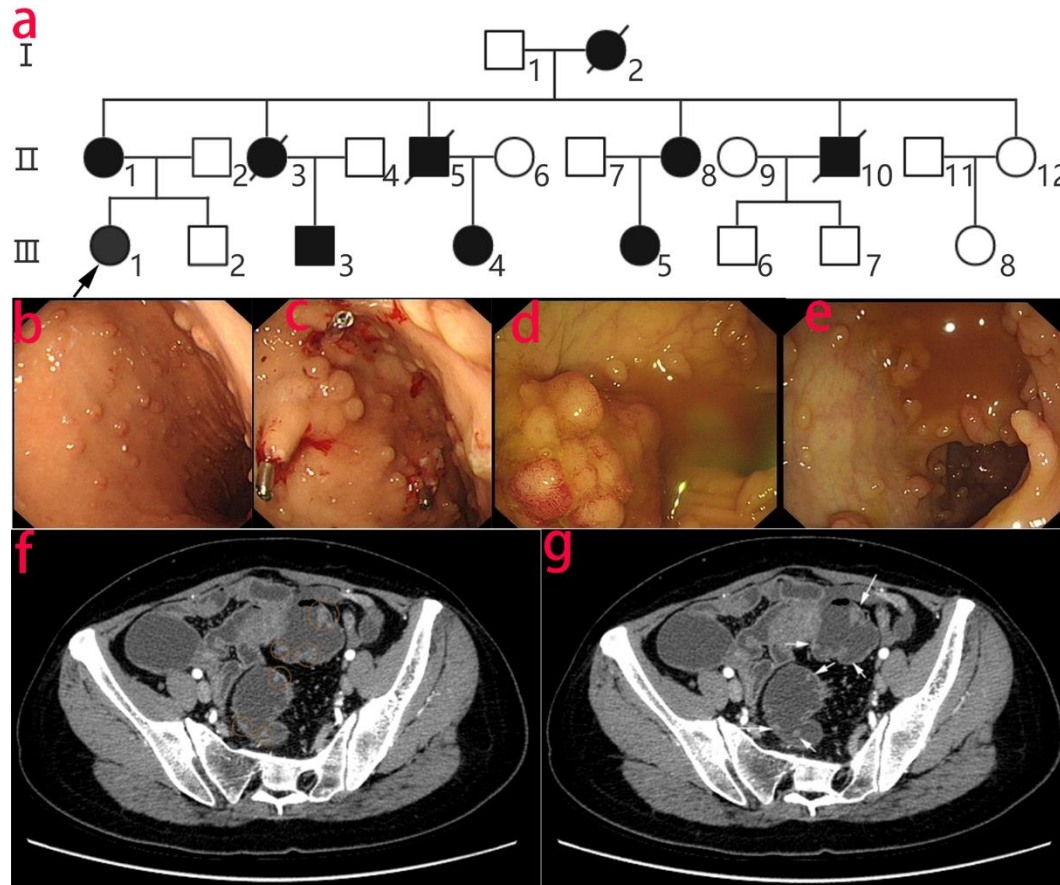
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Figure legends

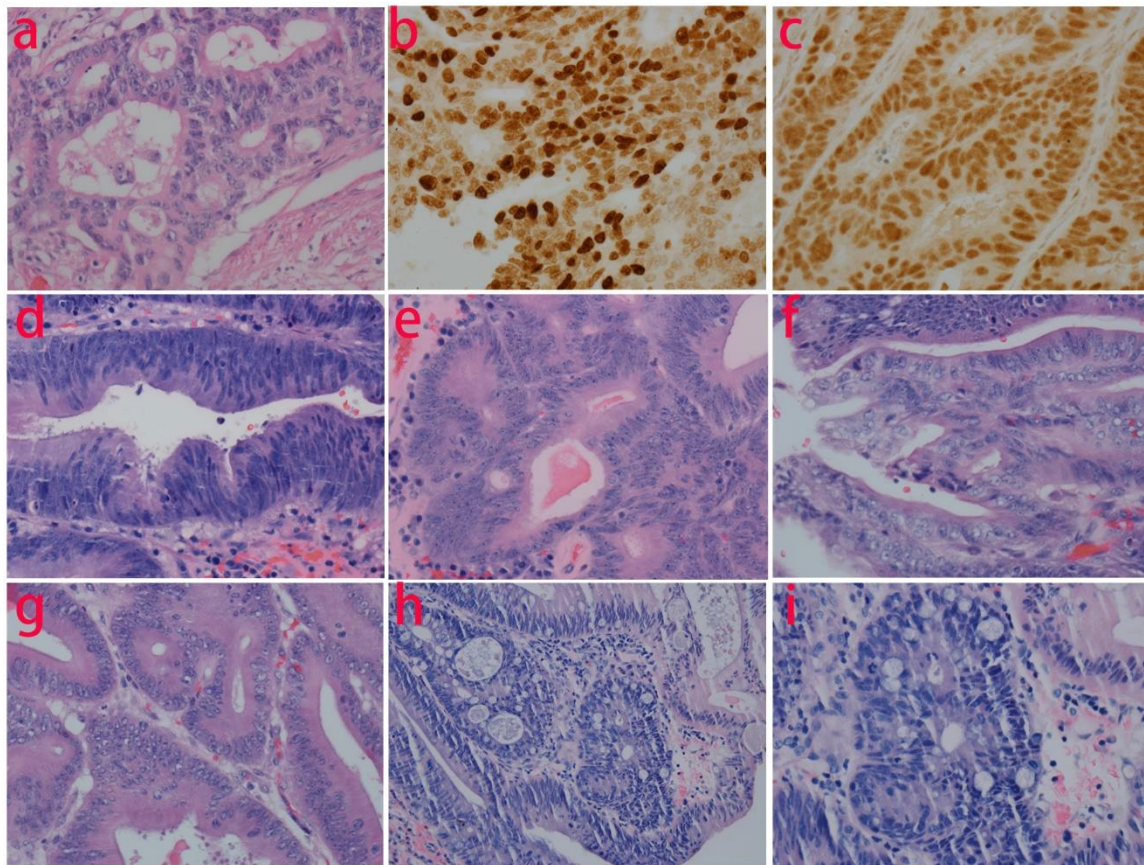
483 **Figure 1**



484

485 a. Familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) family pedigree. Proband (III1) had multiple sites of
486 adenomatous polyposis of the colon and rectum at 28 years of age (b, c: gastroscopy; d, e:
487 colonoscopy) and was diagnosed with "colon cancer" at age 31. Cohort members I2, II3, 5, 10
488 all died of "colon cancer and adenomatous colonic polyposis". Members II8, III4, 5, and 3 had
489 adenomatous colonic polyposis. Members I2 and II8 also suffered from adenomas of the
490 common bile duct. (f, g) CT images of II8 before total colorectal resection; the images show
491 changes in the distal stomach, pancreas, and duodenum, polyps in the rectum and sigmoid
492 colon wall, and heterogeneous fatty liver.

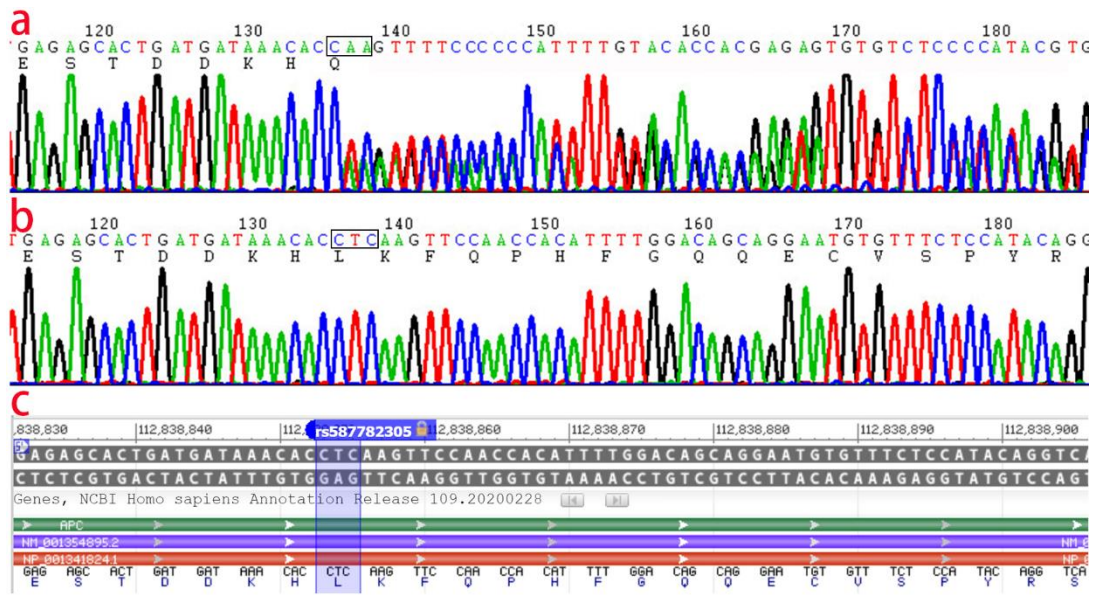
493 **Figure 2**



494

495 Pathology image. III1: Postoperative pathology of colon cancer showed raised tubular
496 adenocarcinoma grade II (a. shows HE staining, $\times 400$), Ki67 (60%+, $\times 400$) (b), and P53
497 (wild type, $\times 400$) (c). II8: common bile duct adenoma with high-grade intraepithelial neoplasia
498 (d $\times 400$, e $\times 400$, f $\times 100$), papillary tubular adenoma of duodenal papilla with local high-
499 grade intraepithelial neoplasia (g, h, $\times 400$), colon tubular adenoma-like polyp (i, $\times 400$).

500 **Figure 3**



501

502 In the FAP family pedigree, a heterozygous deletion was observed in exon 16 of the *APC*
 503 (NM_000038.6): c.3260_3261del: p.(Leu1087Glnfs*31). Deletion of two bases (TC) causing
 504 a frame shift (a); b is the wild type, and c is the corresponding schematic diagram of genomic
 505 regions, transcripts, and products.