

SNP SUMMARY: ANGIOTENSIN 1 CONVERTING ENZYME (ACE) INSERTION/DELETION

Overview	Salt sensitivity is estimated to be present in 51% of hypertensive and 26% of normotensive populations. The Angiotensin 1 converting enzyme (ACE) gene codes for the ACE and is part of the renin-angiotensin system (RAS), which controls blood pressure by regulating fluid volume in the body. The ACE gene variant contributes to salt sensitivity.
Name of gene	Angiotensin 1 converting enzyme (ACE) gene
Symbol of gene	ACE
Gene database	http://www.genecards.org/cgi-bin/carddisp.pl?gene=ACE&search=7b55fd83b2237ace61a214ca0325b4ea
rs number	rs4646994
Base change	The presence or absence (insertion or deletion) of the enzyme is based on a 287 bp Alu repeat element in the gene.
SNP's nomenclature	ACE Insertion/Deletion (I/D)
Name of enzyme	Angiotensin 1 converting enzyme
Nutrient cofactor	Zinc

Population Frequency	Non-Hispanic whites: DD=28.8%, ID=51%, II=19.6%		
	Non-Hispanic black: DD=33.8%, ID=49.8%, II=16.4%		
	Mexican American: DD=20.7%, ID=51.9%, II=27.4%		
Impact of SNP on biological pathway/s	 The ACE gene encodes an enzyme involved in catalysing the conversion of angiotensin I into a physiologically active peptide angiotensin II. 		
	Angiotensin II is a potent vasopressor and aldosterone-stimulating peptide that controls blood pressure and fluid- electrolyte balance.		
	This enzyme plays a key role in the RAS.		
	• Levels of circulating enzyme are associated with the presence or absence of the (rs4646994) 287 bp Alu repeat in this gene.		
Biochemical pathway	Schematic diagram of the RAS and kallikrein–kinin system. Angiotensin-converting enzyme is strategically poised to regulate the balance between Ang II and bradykinin.		



	than those homozygous for the deletion allele (DD).		
Potential dietary recommendations	The American Heart Association recommends that individuals with high blood pressure ideally:		
	 Aim to eat no more than 2,300 milligrams (approximately 1 level teaspoon of salt) of sodium per day. This may assist in lowering blood pressure. However, reducing daily sodium intake to approximately 1,500 mg is more desirable because it can lower blood pressure even further. 		
	Dietary recommendations:		
	 It is useful to establish whether an individual is salt sensitive or not, as the use of salt in the diet increases palatability, and unnecessary sodium restriction should be avoided. 		
	If sodium restriction is indicated:		
	 Choose and prepare foods with little or no salt, including salt-containing spices, rather flavour with fresh herbs or low-sodium seasonings. 		
	Avoid the addition of extra salt or salt-containing spices at the table e.g. garlic salt.		
	 Limit the intake of high-sodium containing foods e.g. Convenience foods, processed foods, pizza, and dry- packaged foods, mixes, sauces, and soups. 		
	 Limit the intake of foods with a naturally high-sodium content e.g. olives, cheese, seafood, and some canned legumes. 		
	Use fresh foods instead of canned and processed foods.		
	Choose unsalted food products e.g. raw nuts and seeds.		
	 Pay attention to nutritional labelling, the sodium content will be indicated. Low sodium foods are those with less than 120mg of sodium per 100g of food. 		
Examples of medium to	Food	Sodium content per 100g	
foods	Canned cream of chicken soup	460 (medium)	
	Tomato sauce	615 (high)	

	Pizza, mixed toppings	640 (high)	
	Potatoe chips	670 (high)	
	Salami	1850 (high)	
	Yeast extract spread e.g Bovril	3300 (high)	
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