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Analysis of Intellectual Disability Copy Number Variants for Association With Schizophrenia

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IMPORTANCE At least 11 rare copy number variants (CNVs) have been shown to be major risk factors for schizophrenia (SZ). These CNVs also increase the risk for other neurodevelopmental disorders, such as intellectual disability. It is possible that additional intellectual disability-associated CNVs increase the risk for SZ but have not yet been implicated in SZ because of previous studies being underpowered.

OBJECTIVE To examine whether additional CNVs implicated in intellectual disability represent novel SZ risk loci.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS We used single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) array data to evaluate a set of 51 CNVs implicated in intellectual disability (excluding the known SZ loci) in a large data set of patients with SZ and healthy persons serving as controls recruited in a variety of settings. We analyzed a new sample of 6934 individuals with SZ and 8751 controls and combined those data with previously published large data sets for a total of 20 403 cases of SZ and 26 628 controls.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES Burden analysis of CNVs implicated in intellectual disability (excluding known SZ CNVs) for association with SZ. Association of individual intellectual disability CNV loci with SZ.

RESULTS Of data on the 20 403 cases (6151 [30.15%] female) and 26 628 controls (14 252 [53.52%] female), 51 intellectual disability CNVs were analyzed. Collectively, intellectual disability CNVs were significantly enriched for SZ ($P = 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$; odds ratio [OR], 1.9 [95% CI, 1.46-2.49]). Of the 51 CNVs tested, 19 (37%) were more common in SZ cases; only 4 (8%) were more common in controls (no observations were made for the remaining 28 [55%] loci). One novel locus, deletion at 16p12.1, was significantly associated with SZ after correction for multiple testing (rate in SZ, 33 [0.16%]; rate in controls, 12 [0.05%]; corrected P = .017; OR, 3.3; 95% CI, 1.61-7.05), and 2 loci reached nominal levels of significance (deletions at 2q11.2: 6 [0.03%] vs 1 [0.004%]; OR, 9.3; 95% CI, 1.03-447.76; corrected P > .99; and duplications at 10q11.21q11.23: 5 [0.2%] vs 0 [0.03%]; OR, infinity; 95% CI, 1.26-infinity; corrected P = .71). Our new data set also provided independent support for the 11 SZ risk loci previously reported to be associated with the disorder and for the protective effect of 22q11.2 duplication.

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE A large proportion of CNV loci implicated in intellectual disability are risk factors for SZ, but the available sample size precludes statistical confirmation for additional individual loci.

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he risk for developing schizophrenia (SZ) is increased by both rare and common alleles distributed across the genome.¹ Although many common alleles are associated with very small increases in risk (odds ratios [ORs], <1.2),² a few copy number variants (CNVs) are associated with substantial increases in risk, with ORs of 1.5 to higher than 50.³,⁴ Only 11 specific CNVs have currently been robustly identified as SZ risk factors.⁴ These SZ-associated CNVs are very rare, being found in 1 in 200 to 1 in several thousand people with SZ, and have required very large sample sizes to confidently implicate them.³,⁴ The genome-wide burden of CNVs greater than 500 kilobase (kb) has been shown⁵ to be significantly increased in patients with SZ compared with the burden in controls after excluding known SZ risk loci, suggesting the existence of additional SZ-risk CNVs.

All 11 known SZ-associated CNV risk loci have been implicated in other neurodevelopmental disorders, such as intellectual disability (ID) and autism spectrum disorder, ^{3,6-9} usually with similar or higher ORs than for SZ. ¹⁰ Studies involving tens of thousands of patients with autism spectrum disorder, ID, and congenital malformations referred to clinical genetics clinics for chromosomal microarray analysis have suggested that more than 90 loci could be enriched for CNVs in these disorders. ^{6-9,11} Most of these CNVs are large, recurrent, and formed through nonallelic homologous recombination between directly orientated, paralogous low-copy repeats. ¹²

We hypothesized that, beyond those already identified as risk factors for SZ, CNVs that are implicated in other neurodevelopmental disorders also increase the risk for SZ but have not been discovered owing to the limited power of existing studies of SZ. To test this hypothesis, we selected 51 CNVs that are significantly associated with ID⁶ and tested them for association with SZ in a new sample of 6934 patients with SZ and 8751 individuals serving as controls. We added those data to a synthesis of the largest studies on SZ for which we had access to the raw CNV calls, for a total of 20 403 cases and 26 628 controls.

Methods

Samples

The new data set (which we call CLOZUK2) is fully independent of any samples used for earlier CNV studies of SZ and comprises (after quality control) 6934 SZ cases and 8751 controls. In CLOZUK2, 6680 new cases were ascertained on the basis of patients receiving clozapine and having a clinical diagnosis of treatment-resistant SZ. This new sample comes from our ongoing anonymized collection (CLOZUK) and was recruited as part of the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (EU-FP7) study, CRESTAR, in collaboration with Leyden Delta, a company that is contracted in large parts of the United Kingdom to supply clozapine and provide blood monitoring in patients receiving this drug. The CLOZUK samples were collected anonymously across the United Kingdom (thus, without express patient consent), consistent with the UK Human Tissue Act and with the approval of the UK National

Key Points

Question Given that all known schizophrenia copy number variant (CNV) loci are also intellectual disability risk factors, are there additional schizophrenia loci among the remaining known intellectual disability CNVs?

Findings In this analysis of single-nucleotide polymorphism array data on 20 403 individuals with schizophrenia, after excluding known schizophrenia CNVs, intellectual disability loci were en masse significantly enriched in patients with schizophrenia compared with controls. For specific loci, deletions at 16p12.1 were significantly associated with schizophrenia after correcting for multiple testing.

Meaning Many intellectual disability CNVs are likely to represent novel schizophrenia risk loci, but larger samples are required for their identification.

Research Ethics Committee for use in genetic studies. The remaining 254 new cases were obtained from the Cardiff Cognition in Schizophrenia (CardiffCOGS) study and were recruited from community, in-patient, and voluntary sector mental health services in the United Kingdom. That study was also approved by the UK National Research Ethics Committee, and the participants provided written informed consent. Further details about the CLOZUK and CardiffCOGS samples have been published⁴ and are available in eAppendix 1 in the Supplement. All case samples were genotyped on HumanOmniExpress-12v1-1_B arrays (Illumina) at DeCode Genetics. For controls, we used data sets from dbGaP that did not involve individuals specifically selected for neurodevelopmental phenotypes (eAppendix 1 and eTable 1 in the Supplement). All control samples were genotyped on Illumina Omni arrays for compatibility with the present data set. These cohorts were from studies on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (n = 992), melanoma (n = 2416), breast cancer (n = 954), and corneal dystrophy (n = 3529). We also used data from 860 psychiatrically unscreened blood donors recruited by our department.

For our primary analysis of ID CNVs, the new case-control sample was combined with 3 large, previously published data sets^{4,13,14} for which we had access to the raw CNV calls, allowing us to control for possible bias from differential calling of CNVs in different studies and for possible sex differences in CNV burden. ¹⁵⁻¹⁷ These data sets included our previous CLOZUKI/CardiffCOGS sample, ⁴ the International Schizophrenia Consortium sample (ISC), ¹³ and the Molecular Genetics of Schizophrenia (MGS) sample. ¹⁴ In total, we analyzed ID CNVs in 20 403 SZ cases (6151 [30.15%] female) and 26 628 controls (14 252 [53.52%] female).

CNV Analysis

Full details of the CNV calling and quality control are provided in eAppendix 2 in the Supplement. Briefly, raw intensity data were processed using Illumina Genome Studio software, version 2011.1. Log R ratios and B allele frequencies were used to call CNVs using PennCNV software, version 1.0.3. ¹⁸ We called CNVs in the new sample using 666 868 probes that are

common to all Illumina arrays used in either cases or controls. The CNVs were joined if the distance between them was less than 50% of their combined length and excluded if they were called with fewer than 10 probes, were less than 10 kb in size, overlapped low copy repeats by more than 50% of their length, or had a probe density of less than 1 probe/20 kb. The CNV loci with a frequency greater than 1% in the new sample were excluded using PLINK. ¹⁹ The CNVs from the remaining data sets (ISC, MGS, and CLOZUK1) were analyzed using the methods reported in Rees et al. ⁵

Selection of ID CNVs

We defined ID CNVs as those that were significantly associated with ID (P < .05) in a large study⁶ that involved patients referred to clinical genetics clinics. We excluded ID CNVs with a population frequency of more than 0.5% given our focus on rare CNV loci. We chose a relaxed cutoff level of P < .05 to not exclude loci that are likely to be true if tested in larger samples (eTable 2 in the Supplement). The full list involves 63 CNVs, 12 of which are already strongly associated with SZ (11 risk and 1 protective locus, listed in eTable 3 in the Supplement). Given that these 12 CNVs provided the basis for our hypothesis, they were excluded from the primary analysis to allow an independent test of our hypothesis. However, as a reference, we provide a full list of all 63 CNVs (eTable 2 in the Supplement); their rates in patients with SZ as well as those with ID, autism spectrum disorder, or congenital malformations; healthy controls; and the general population. The relative risk (RR) for SZ is also given.

Statistical Analysis

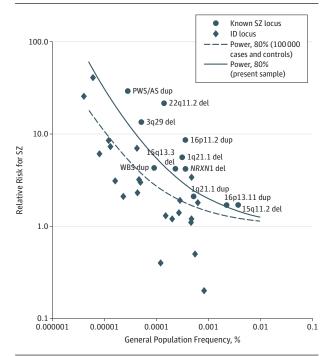
For the primary test of whether, en masse, ID CNVs increase the risk for SZ, we analyzed 20 403 cases and 26 628 controls using a 2-sided Fisher exact test. We used the same sample to test the association of individual ID CNVs with SZ using a Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel exact test, stratified by sex and study. For analysis of individual loci, we adjusted *P* values using Bonferroni correction for the 51 ID CNVs tested in our analysis of novel SZ loci. All statistical analyses were performed using R, version 3.1.2 (R Foundation).

For a separate analysis of known SZ CNVs in the new data set alone (6934 SZ cases and 8751 controls), we evaluated 11 risk loci and the protective 22q11.2 duplication using a 1-tailed Fisher exact test (loci tested listed in eTable 3 in the Supplement). In addition, we individually tested an additional set of 11 loci that received suggestive support for association with SZ in a previous publication⁵ using a 1-tailed Fisher exact test and performed a combined analysis with the published data⁵ using a 2-tailed Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test stratified by study.

Power Calculation

Our power estimates for each CNV locus (Figure and eFigure in the Supplement) are based on an α level of .05, 20 403 cases and 26 628 controls, the RR of CNV carriers to have SZ, the CNV frequencies observed in the present samples, and assuming a dominant model (ie, the RR of heterozygotes = RR of homozygotes). Power calculations were performed using the online Genetic Power Calculator

Figure. Analysis of Intellectual Disability Copy Number Variants (CNVs)
Power Calculation



Power calculations for CNV loci under a dominant model are based on 20 403 cases and 26 628 controls, an a level of .05, and the relative risks for schizophrenia (SZ) and general population frequencies reported in eTable 2 in the Supplement. The solid line indicates 80% power given a sample size of 20 403 cases and 26 628 controls with an a level of .05. The dashed line indicates 80% power given a sample size of 100 000 cases and 100 000 controls with an a level of .05. We excluded loci that were not observed in a patient with SZ or a control. del indicates deletion; dup, duplication.

(http://pngu.mgh.harvard.edu/~purcell/gpc/).²⁰ Estimates of RR for SZ were generated by comparing the CNV rates in patients with SZ with those in the general population (instead of those in the controls). We used this comparison because more than half of the CNVs have zero observations in controls, thus precluding the estimation of RR (division by 0). Further details on these estimates are presented in eAppendix 3 in the Supplement. Clearly, the true frequencies and RRs for each locus will differ, but the purpose of this analysis is to give an approximation of the overall distribution of RRs and frequencies for all loci.

Results

Analysis of Novel SZ CNVs

Table 1 presents the results for potential novel SZ-associated CNVs, limited to the 23 ID CNV loci in which at least 1 CNV was observed in the combined sample (20 403 cases or 26 628 controls). For completeness, the frequencies for all 63 ID CNVs in each data set are presented in eTable 2 in the Supplement. Collectively, CNVs at the 51 ID loci (excluding known SZ loci) were found 141 times in cases (0.69%) and 97 times in controls (0.36%) (2-sided Fisher exact test, $P = 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$; OR, 1.9; 95%

Table 1. Association of ID CNV Loci With Schizophrenia^a

		CNVs		%						P Value	
CNV	Critical/Unique Sequence Region, hg19, Mb	Control	SZ	Controls Rate	SZ Rate	Rate in ID/ASD	Rate in General Population	Relative Risk SZ	CMH OR (95% CI)	СМН	Bonferroni Corrected ^b
16p12.1 del	chr16:21.95-22.43	12	33	0.05	0.16	0.124	0.047	3.4	3.3 (1.61-7.05)	.00034	.017
10q11.21q11.23 dup	chr10:49.39-51.06	0	5	0	0.025	0.024	6.0 × 10 ⁻⁴	40.7	Inf (1.26-Inf)	.014	.71
2q11.2 del	chr2:96.74-97.68	1	6	0.004	0.029	0.018	0.0042	7	9.3 (1.03-447.76)	.037	>.99
TAR dup	chr1:145.39-145.81	. 16	23	0.06	0.113	0.155	0.062	1.8	1.9 (0.93-3.93)	.066	>.99
Potocki-Lupski syndrome dup	chr17:16.81-20.21	0	2	0	0.01	0.055	0.0012	8.5	Inf (0.5-Inf)	.074	>.99
17q12 del	chr17:34.82-36.22	0	2	0	0.01	0.065	0.0013	7.3	Inf (0.42-Inf)	.095	>.99
17q12 dup	chr17:34.82-36.22	7	11	0.026	0.054	0.089	0.028	1.9	2.2 (0.74-6.76)	.14	>.99
2q37 (HDAC4) del	chr2:239.72-243.2	0	1	0	0.005	0.113	0.0023	2.1	Inf (0.067-Inf)	.28	>.99
3q28-29 (FGF12) del	chr3:191.86-192.13	1	3	0.004	0.015	0.045	0.0046	3.2	4.1 (0.3-231.36)	.31	>.99
2q13 del	chr2:111.39-112.01	. 1	3	0.004	0.015	0.057	0.0049	3	3.6 (0.26-206.03)	.34	>.99
2q13 dup	chr2:111.39-112.01	. 4	4	0.015	0.02	0.022	0.015	1.3	1.7 (0.3-9.98)	.46	>.99
16p11.2 del	chr16:29.65-30.2	13	6	0.049	0.029	0.347	0.055	0.5	0.61 (0.19-1.79)	.47	>.99
16p11.2 distal del	chr16:28.82-29.05	5	5	0.019	0.025	0.094	0.02	1.2	1.7 (0.37-7.6)	.51	>.99
8p23.1 dup	chr8:8.1-11.87	0	2	0	0.01	0.017	0.00038	25.7	Inf (0.13-Inf)	.52	>.99
3p11.2 del	chr3:87.27-87.53	1	2	0.004	0.01	0.031	0.0043	2.3	2.4 (0.11-163.95)	.60	>.99
2p15-16.1 proximal dup	chr2:61.25-61.41	3	1	0.011	0.005	0.031	0.012	0.4	0.37 (0.0066-5.02)	.61	>.99
TAR del	chr1:145.39-145.81	. 7	8	0.026	0.039	0.076	0.027	1.4	1.2 (0.36-3.9)	.80	>.99
16p11.2 distal dup	chr16:28.82-29.05	12	10	0.045	0.049	0.083	0.046	1.1	1.2 (0.44-3.08)	.82	>.99
8p23.1 del	chr8:8.1-11.87	0	1	0	0.005	0.039	8.0×10^{-4}	6.1	Inf (0.017-Inf)	>.99	>.99
12p13 dup	chr12:6.47-6.83	0	1	0	0.005	0.079	0.0016	3.1	Inf (0.019-Inf)	>.99	>.99
16p13.11 del	chr16:15.51-16.29	12	12	0.045	0.059	0.142	0.047	1.2	1.1 (0.43-2.73)	>.99	>.99
17q11.2 (NF1) del	chr17:29.11-30.27	1	0	0.004	0	0.039	0.0044	0	0 (0-46.05)	>.99	>.99
Distal 22q11.2 del	chr22:21.92-23.65	1	0	0.004	0	0.041	0.0045	0	0 (0-102.32)	>.99	>.99

Abbreviations: ASD, autism spectrum disorder;

CMH, Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel; CNV, copy number variant; del, deletion; dup, duplication; ID, intellectual disability; Inf, infinity; OR, odds ratio; SZ, schizophrenia; TAR, thrombocytopenia-absent radius syndrome.

CI, 1.46-2.49). Of the 23 informative loci, 19 had higher frequencies in SZ and only 4 in controls.

Several loci reported in Table 1 have been previously implicated⁴ in SZ but did not meet our predefined criteria for multiple testing correction. We now found 16p12.1 deletions to be significantly associated with SZ after correction for studywide multiple testing (SZ rate, 0.16%; control rate, 0.045%; corrected *P* = .017; OR, 3.3; 95% CI, 1.61-7.05). This association would also survive a more stringent, predefined Bonferroni correction for testing of 120 genomic loci prone to nonallelic homologous recombination 8 (P = .041, corrected for 120 loci). The excess burden of all ID CNVs in SZ remains significant after excluding the 16p12.1 deletion (50 CNV loci tested, $P = 4.6 \times 10^{-4}$; OR, 1.66; 95% CI, 1.24-2.24), suggesting that additional ID loci drive this collective excess, as reported in Table 1. Two additional loci were nominally significantly associated with SZ risk: 10q11.21q11.23 duplication (SZ rate, 0.025%, control rate, 0%; uncorrected *P* = .014; OR, infinity; 95% CI, 1.26-infinity); 2q11.2 deletion (SZ rate, 0.029%; control rate, 0.004%; uncorrected P = .037; OR, 9.3; 95% CI, 1.03-447.76). The CNVs at 7 ID loci were found only in cases and for 2 loci only in controls.

We estimate that our study (20 403 cases and 26 628 controls) has 80% power at an α level of .05 to detect an association with most of the previously identified SZ CNV loci, but few of the remaining 51 ID CNV loci (Figure). Under the simplifying assumption that the observed RR for SZ and the population frequencies in the present study are accurate, we estimate that even a sample of 100 000 cases and 100 000 controls would identify only 5 additional novel SZ CNV associations (Figure) among the set of ID CNVs at nominal significance.

Analysis of Previously Implicated SZ CNVs in the New Independent Data set

In the new independent CLOZUK2 data set (6934 cases, 8751 controls), each of the 11 known SZ risk loci had higher rates in the cases than in the controls (**Table 2**). For 6 of these loci, the differences were nominally significant at P < .05. Collectively, these 11 risk CNVs were observed 147 times in the new

^a Results are shown for 23 of the 51 ID CNVs that had at least 1 CNV observed in 20 403 schizophrenia cases or 26 628 controls.

^b *P* values are Bonferroni corrected for 51 multiple comparisons.

Table 2. CNVs in 11 Schizophrenia Risk Loci and the 22q11.2 Duplication Protective Locus in the New Data Set

		CNVs, No. (%)		
CNV	Region (hg19)	Controls (n = 8751)	Cases ^a (n = 6934)	OR (95% CI)	P Value ^b
1q21.1 del	chr1:146,527,987-147,394,444	1 (0.011)	11 (0.16)	13.90 (2.02-596.86)	.0009
1q21.1 dup	chr1:146,527,987-147,394,444	4 (0.046)	6 (0.087)	1.89 (0.45-9.13)	.24
NRXN1 exonic del	chr2:50,145,643-51,259,674	4 (0.046)	5 (0.072)	1.58 (0.34-7.96)	.36
3q29 del	chr3:195,720,167-197,354,826	1 (0.011)	4 (0.058)	5.05 (0.50-248.45)	.12
WBS dup	chr7:72,744,915-74,142,892	0	1 (0.014)	Inf (0.032-Inf)	.44
15q11.2 del	chr15:22,805,313-23,094,530	24 (0.27)	45 (0.65)	2.38 (1.42-4.08)	.00034
PWS/AS dup	chr15:22,805,313-28,390,339	0	6 (0.087)	Inf (1.49-Inf)	.0075
15q13.3 del	chr15:31,080,645-32,462,776	1 (0.011)	3 (0.043)	3.79 (0.30-198.64)	.23
16p13.11 dup	chr16:15,511,655-16,293,689	17 (0.19)	32 (0.46)	2.38 (1.28-4.58)	.0023
16p11.2 dup	chr16:29,650,840-30,200,773	3 (0.034)	20 (0.29)	8.43 (2.50-44.37)	2.8×10^{-5}
22q11.2 del	chr22:19,037,332-21,466,726	0	14 (0.20)	Inf (4.19-Inf)	1.1×10^{-5}
22q11.2 dup	chr22:19,037,332-21,466,726	4 (0.05)	1 (0.01)	0.32 (0.0064-3.19)	.27

Abbreviations: CNV, copy number variant; del, deletion; dup, duplication; Inf, infinity; OR, odds ratio; PWS/AS, Prader-Willi syndrome/Angelman syndrome; WBS, Williams-Beuren syndrome.

6934 cases (2.1%) and 55 times in the new 8751 controls (0.6%) ($P = 2.1 \times 10^{-16}$; OR, 3.42; 95% CI, 2.49-4.77). We also found lower rates of the 22q11.2 duplication in the SZ cases compared with controls, supporting work that implicated it as a protective factor.²¹

Previous work⁵ reported a different set of 12 CNV loci (mostly nonrecurrent) with suggestive evidence for association with SZ (ie, nominally significant but not after correction for multiple testing). One of these loci was the recurrent 16p12.1 deletion that is now supported in our primary analysis of ID CNV loci (Table 1). Of the remaining 11 previously suggestive loci (all of which are nonrecurrent), 3 were nominally significantly associated (P < .05) in our new independent casecontrol sample (eTable 4 in the Supplement). Our analysis of these 11 nonrecurrent suggestive CNV loci, using our combined sample (new CLOZUK2 data and the data published in the previous study⁵), increased the strength of association for 5 CNVs, some by several orders of magnitude (eTable 4 in the Supplement). However, none of these nonrecurrent associations with stood correction for multiple testing (herein we applied a more stringent correction for 20 000 genes given the potential for nonrecurrent CNVs to disrupt any gene).

Discussion

Previous work⁵ reported that 11 rare CNVs are robust risk factors for developing SZ. Because of the low frequencies of these CNVs (some are found in <1 per 1000 patients), very large samples were required to obtain the statistical power needed for their discovery. Copy number variant burden analyses that excluded known SZ loci have provided evidence that additional SZ-associated CNVs exist.⁵ It has not been possible to confidently identify such CNVs because they are too rare, have smaller effect sizes for the development of SZ, or both.

Given strong evidence for an overlap between CNVs that are known to confer risk for SZ and those that confer risk for neurodevelopmental disorders, including ID,³ we hypothesized that additional CNVs that have shown⁶ significant evi-

dence for association with ID also increase the risk for SZ. That hypothesis was strongly supported with a collective enrichment in SZ cases for CNVs at 51 loci associated with ID ($P=1.0\times10^{-6}$; OR, 1.9; 95% CI, 1.46-2.49). Given general support for the hypothesis, we tested individual loci within this set of CNVs and obtained significant evidence for 16p12.1 deletion as a novel SZ risk factor. However, even after excluding this locus, cases were still enriched for ID-associated CNVs ($P=4.6\times10^{-4}$; OR, 1.66; 95% CI, 1.24-2.24), indicating the presence of additional risk loci among this set. Overall, 30 of 63 of the CNVs (47.6%) known to be associated with ID disorders (ie, including the known SZ CNVs) have higher frequencies in SZ, and only 5 CNVs have greater frequencies in controls (no observations were made for the remaining 28 loci).

Our power analysis (Figure) demonstrates that there may be numerous additional CNVs that have very high RRs for SZ but cannot be identified with the available sample sizes owing to their rarity. Data in the Figure assume accurate estimates of RR for SZ and CNV population frequencies; thus, each observation has very wide 95% CIs, but the power analysis gives a good representation of the overall distribution. Therefore, it appears that the known SZ CNV associations represent the low-hanging fruit, with their frequencies and RRs for SZ placing them to the right side of the power curve (solid line in the Figure), allowing them to be identified in sample sizes typical for research conducted in this area. We conclude that many more ID CNVs with an RR for SZ greater than 1 (Figure and Table 1) are likely to be risk factors for SZ, but much larger samples are required for robust associations to be made at these loci. In fact, even 100 000 cases and 100 000 controls would not implicate many loci, even if their RRs are as high as observed in the present analysis (dashed line in the Figure).

We report that, on its own, this new sample supported 11 CNVs previously shown⁴ to be highly significantly associated with SZ in that CNV rates were greater in cases compared with controls, with 6 of the CNV loci reaching a nominal level of significance: deletions at 1q21.1, 15q11.2, and 22q11.2, and duplications at the Prader-Willi syndrome/Angelman syndrome critical region, 16p13.11, and 16p11.2 (Table 2). Duplications of

^a All results are in the expected direction of higher/lower rates in cases

^b Fisher exact test (1-tailed).

22q11.2, a protective factor, were found at a higher rate in controls, as expected (0.05% vs 0.01%; P = .27, 1-tailed Fisher exact test; OR, 0.32; 95% CI, 0.006-3.19). Most of these risk loci and the protective locus have recently been supported in a large Chinese SZ sample, ²² providing further evidence that the associations are robust. Finally, we used the new data to evaluate 11 nonrecurrent loci identified as potential novel SZ risk factors in a previous genome-wide CNV study.⁵ In the present study, we found support for 5 of these loci: deletions of IRGM/ZNF300 /SMIM3 and SLC1A1, and duplications of FAM149A/CYP4V2 /FLJ38576, PHACTR2, and GALR1 (according to UCSC Genome Browser [GRCh37/hg19 Assembly]). Nonrecurrent CNV associations require more-stringent correction for multiple testing, since they can potentially affect any genomic region. We⁴ have suggested that such CNV associations should be corrected for multiple testing of 20 000 genes ($P < 2.5 \times 10^{-6}$). Despite support in our new data for several of these previously identified risk CNVs, the significance of their association still falls short of that threshold. We are not aware of any CNVs that convincingly increase the risk for SZ and not for ID, but expect that such CNVs exist and will be found after larger data sets are analyzed.

We acknowledge limitations in our study, especially the potential problems of analyzing cases and controls genotyped in different laboratories and on different arrays. We have tried to minimize these problems by using only overlapping probes (in the CLOZUK samples), independently producing log R ratios and B-allele frequencies in each data set separately to avoid batch effects, correcting results for study in Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel tests, and checking for differential missingness of all CNV loci, including ensuring adequate probe coverage of each CNV in each data set (further data available in eAppendix 2 in the Supplement).

Conclusions

We provide evidence that a large proportion of the ID loci are likely to be risk factors for SZ. Significant association was noted between 16p12.1 deletions and SZ after correcting for multiple testing; in addition, the results indicate that larger samples will identify additional ID CNVs that are true SZ risk factors. These findings strengthen the evidence for an etiologic overlap between neurodevelopmental disorders. Finding a known ID-associated CNV in a patient with SZ should raise the suspicion that it is relevant for the psychiatric disorder in that individual.

ARTICLE INFORMATION

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