

# Genetic landscape of Congenital Muscular Dystrophy (CMDs) from central Aegean part of Turkey

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## Objectives

- Congenital muscular dystrophy is a group of genetically heterogeneous neuromuscular disorders involving distinct core phenotypes with variable prognosis.<sup>1</sup>
- Main clinical manifestations are early onset hypotonia and delay/arrest of gross motor functions with hyperCKemia and dystrophic muscle pathology.
- Overlap situations and geographic differences exist in the nature of the disease.<sup>2,3</sup>
- The main goal of our study is to identify the genotype-phenotype spectrum of CMDs in central Aegean part of Turkey.

## Materials and Methods

- 01 Assessment of all patients underwent further investigation for Congenital Muscular Dystrophy
- 02 Retrospective evaluation of subjects registered from 2010 to 2020 to our department
- 03 Data collection (clinical, laboratory, histopathology genetic) from electronic medical records
- 04 Analysis and summary of descriptive statistics regarding recent classifications\*

Figure-1: Methodology of our retrospective study

\*All patients in 3 categories:  
(a) definite core phenotypes with genetic analysis  
(b) probable core phenotypes with evidence of hyperCKemia and/or dystrophic pattern on muscle biopsy  
(c) unclassified other CMDs.

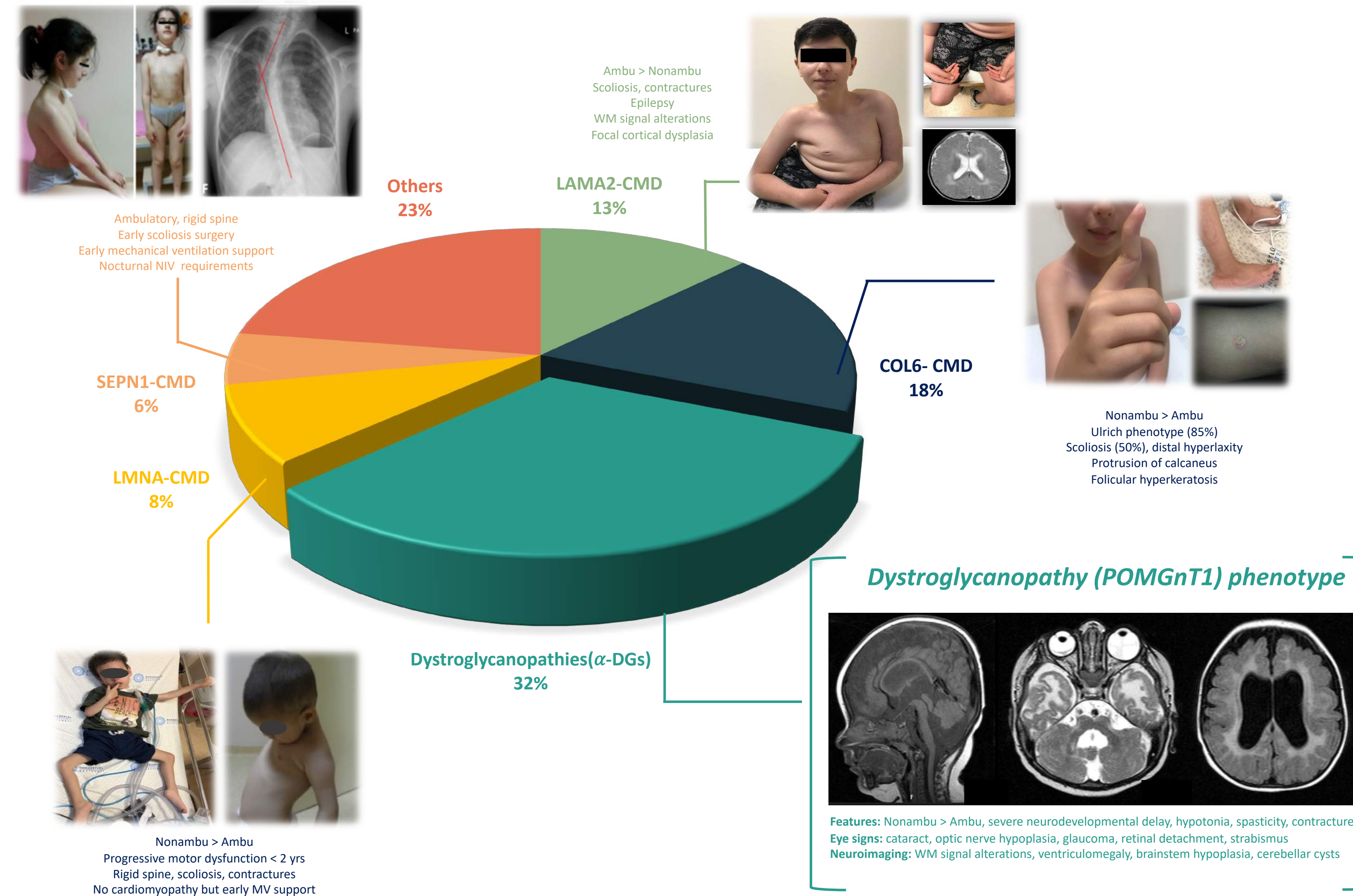


Figure-2: Summary of results with core phenotypes and clinical features of  $POMGnT1$  patients

## Conclusion

- In contrast to population based studies in Europe;
- **Alfa-dystroglycanopathies ( $\alpha$ -DGs)** were the most common phenotype in Turkey.
  - **$POMGnT1$**  was the most common identified gene.
  - ***c.1814 G>A* variant** in  $POMGnT1$  was fairly frequent in Turkish population suggesting a **founder effect**.

## Results

- We identified 71 subjects (37 male, 34 female) from 62 unrelated families.
- Definite diagnosis (distinct core phenotype plus genetic analysis) and consanguinity rate were 73 % (n=52) and 61 % (n=34) respectively.
- Common initial symptom was early onset muscle weakness with hypotonia.
- The most common phenotype was **alfa-dystroglycanopathies** (n=23) followed by **COL6** (n=13) and **LAMA-2** (n=9) related myopathies.
- Other CMD spectrum genes were **LMNA**, **SEPN1**, **CHKB**, **SYNE1** and **INPPK5**. (**Figure-2**)
- Among dystroglycanopathies in our cohort, main clinical manifestation was in consistent with **Muscle-Eye-Brain/Fukuyama (MEB/FCMD)** disease (n=15) followed by Walker Warburg syndrome (WWS/n=4).
- Patients with  **$POMGnT1$**  mutations had hypotonia at birth.
- In evaluation of neuroimaging for all phenotypes, periventricular white matter changes were seen in both  **$POMGnT1$**  and **LAMA-2** mutations as major abnormality. Among all patients, ventriculomegaly and cortical dysplasia were diagnostic hallmarks respectively for these genes.

## References

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