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## Abstract

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# The Mouse Neuronal Protein 15.6 Gene Family

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During the course of reviewing the results of automatic annotation of 1989 clusters derived from 16,078 sequences of an adult mouse testis cDNA library, we found a cluster of 24 cDNA clones showing similarity to the mouse neuronal protein 15.6 (NPI5.6) gene and named it the NPI5.6-like gene. This NPI5.6-like gene corresponded to an intronless gene, mapped to chromosome 15, and was expressed predominantly in the testes. Interestingly, the mouse NPI5.6 gene itself is a split gene consisting of three exons, mapped to chromosome X, and was expressed at high levels in various tissues and organs. We found two more intronless NPI5.6-like genes; one was mapped to chromosome 5, and the other to chromosome X. These two intronless genes were probably processed-type pseudogenes. Our present observations support the idea that NPI5.6 family proteins have a shorter half-life and span a membrane.

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