

## Match Overview



Name of journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 14965

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**Epigenetics of epithelial Na<sup>+</sup> channel-dependent sodium uptake and blood pressure regulation**

Wenzheng Zhang

**Abstract**

The epithelial Na<sup>+</sup> channel (ENaC) consists of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  subunits. Its expression and function are regulated by aldosterone at multiple levels including transcription. ENaC plays a key role in Na<sup>+</sup> homeostasis and blood pressure. Mutations in ENaC subunit genes result in hypertension or hypotension, depending on the nature of the mutations. Transcription of  $\alpha$ ENaC is considered as the rate-limiting step in the formation of functional ENaC. As an aldosterone target gene,  $\alpha$ ENaC is activated upon aldosterone-mineralocorticoid receptor binding to the cis-elements in the  $\alpha$ ENaC promoter, which is packed into chromatin. However, how aldosterone alters chromatin structure to induce changes in transcription is poorly understood. Studies by others and us suggest that Dot1a-Af9 complex represses  $\alpha$ ENaC by directly binding and regulating targeted histone H3 K79 hypermethylation at the specific subregions of  $\alpha$ ENaC promoter. Aldosterone decreases Dot1a-Af9 formation by impairing expression of Dot1a and Af9 and by inducing Sgk1, which, in turn, phosphorylates Af9 at S435 to weaken Dot1a-Af9 interaction. MR attenuates Dot1a-Af9 effect by competing with Dot1a for binding Af9.

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