

A putative aminophospholipid transporter is linked to the *p* locus on mouse chromosome 7

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Random sequencing of a selected set of overlapping bacterial artificial chromosomes (BACs) anchored on the *pink-eye (p) dilution* locus on mouse chromosome 7 has identified a single transcript coding for a *p*-locus fat-associated ATPase (*Pfatp*). Sequence analysis showed that this is a member of a Class V type of the third new subfamily of ATPases, suggested to be amphipath transporters. *Pfatp* maps distal to *p* between *Gabrb3* and *Ube3a/Ipw*, the region homologous to the Prader-Willi (PWS) and Angelman (AS) Syndromes' region on human 15q11-q13. A human homologue (about 85% homologous at the protein level) of *Pfatp* has also been identified. Reverse-transcriptase PCR results demonstrate that *Pfatp* is ubiquitously expressed in human and mouse tissues, predominantly in the testes and the white abdominal adipose tissue. Physiological data will be presented suggesting that *Pfatp* is a strong candidate for the body-fat phenotype associated with certain heterozygous deletions around the *p* locus on mouse chromosome 7.