The association between the ADH1B and ALDH2 genes and mental illnesses

Ru-Band Lu, a,b,c,d,e; Sheng-Yu Lee c,d,e; Yun-Hsuan Chang c,e; Yu-Shan Wang a, Shiou-Lan Chen a,d

a Institute of Behavioral Medicine, b Institute of Allied Health Sciences, c Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine and Hospital, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan; d Department of Psychiatry, National Cheng Kung University Hospital, Tainan, Taiwan; e Addiction Research Center, College of Medicine and Hospital, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan

Corresponding Author: Professor Ru-Band Lu, MD
Institute of Behavioral Medicine, Department of Psychiatry
College of Medicine and Hospital, National Cheng Kung University
138 Sheng-Li Road, Tainan 704, Taiwan

Tel: +886-6-235-3535 ext. 5108; Fax: +886-6-302-8012;
E-mail: rblu@mail.ncku.edu.tw
Abstract

Enzymes involved in the metabolic breakdown of alcohol have been considered one of the major biological factors influencing drinking behavior and development of alcoholism. The authors reviewed the effect of different metabolized enzymes on being alcoholics. In addition, the impact of different genetics associated with various mental illnesses was also reviewed. Moreover, from different aspects of genetics issues raised a debate of ethnic variety, indicating the impact of clinical viewpoint on treating mental disorders and call for attention in clinics.

Key words: alcoholic, enzymes, mental disorders