

1 ***In silico* analysis of SNPs in human phosphofructokinase, Muscle (*PFKM*) gene: An**
2 **apparent therapeutic target of aerobic glycolysis and cancer**

3 Yogita Rani ^a, Kamaljit kaur ^a, Madhvi Sharma ^a, Namarta Kalia ^{a, b,*}

4 ^aP.G. Department of Bio-Technology, Khalsa College, Amritsar, India

5 ^bDepartment of Molecular Biology & Biochemistry, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar,

6 India

7 ***Email:** kalianamarta62@gmail.com, **Orcid:** <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7132-8543>

8

9 **ABSTRACT**

10 Phosphofructokinase, muscle (PFKM), a key glycolytic regulatory enzyme is a potential
11 target for cancer therapeutic studies accredited to the employed inefficient phenomenon known
12 as Warburg effect. PFKM is encoded by *PFKM* gene located at chromosome 12q13.11. Single
13 nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) are known to profoundly affect gene expression and protein
14 function. Therefore, the first attempt was made to computationally identify putative functional
15 PFKM variants. These SNPs were further explored to find their probable association with
16 different cancer types. A total of 9694 SNPs were retrieved from dbSNP database. Of which,
17 only 85 validated SNPs with $\geq 10\%$ minor allele frequency (MAF) were subjected to analysis by
18 softwares including Ensembl Genome browser, FuncPred (SNPinfo), regulomeDB (v 2.0), SIFT
19 and PolyPhen-2. The relative analysis of output obtained classified the selected-SNPs into 11
20 highly prioritized (HP), 20 moderately prioritized and 54 not/poorly prioritized SNPs. The 11

21 HP-SNPs were found to have the highest likelihood of being functionally important, evidenced by
22 previous association of rs2269935, rs11168417, rs11609399 and rs2228500 HP-SNPs with
23 cachexia, lung and breast cancer. The study warrants further experiments to confirm the
24 predictive role of prioritized SNPs in cancer etiology and also provides directions to fellow
25 researchers.

26 **Keywords:** Aerobic glycolysis, Bioinformatics, Cancer, cachexia, Muscle wasting, Mis-sense,
27 coding, Non-coding, Glycolytic Pathway, Genetic Polymorphisms, Warburg effect.

28 INTRODUCTION

29 Human cancers involve uncontrollable growth of abnormal cells that divides rapidly and
30 have potential to deteriorate other body tissues. More than 100 types of cancers were reported in
31 humans. The data interpreted by world health organization accounts for more than 9.6 million
32 people that died globally owing to different type of cancers [1]. Beside this, 17 million new cases
33 of people suffering from cancer were reported worldwide in 2018, which provides the estimation
34 that the number of cancer patients would possibly increase by 2040. Different types of cancers
35 are reported worldwide involving brain tumor, breast cancer, cervical cancer, colon cancer, lung
36 cancer, prostate cancer *etc.* Amongst this, breast cancer is considered as most prevalent type of
37 cancer in mammals [2]. It may affect both men and women but higher number of cases was
38 reported in females. Various studies in oncology recommended the fact that growth of cancer
39 cells and their metabolism is directly dependent on genetic variations [3-6].

40 In oncology, the phenomenon of cancer cells' metabolism was earlier explained by
41 German scientist Otto Warburg in 1920 in terms of aerobic glycolysis [7]. The metabolism of
42 cancer cells was quite different from normal body cells. Normal body cells in humans require

43 enough amount of oxygen for respiration and various cellular activities. Usually under aerobic
44 conditions, cells follows oxidative phosphorylation pathway for energy production as it act as
45 major source for ATP production. Nevertheless, under anaerobic conditions, normal cells
46 undergoes glycolytic pathway that leads to lower energy production. This metabolic pathway
47 involves breakdown of glucose into pyruvate molecules with an array of enzymatic reactions
48 employing three main regulatory enzymes including *Hexokinase*, *Phosphofructokinase 1*(PFK1)
49 and *Pyruvate kinase*. Both these pathways are essential for cellular metabolism as well as
50 growth. On the contrary, even in aerobic conditions, cancer cells predominantly follows
51 glycolytic pathway culminating in pyruvate production. This phenomenon of cancer cell
52 respiration *via* glycolysis in aerobic conditions is designated as ‘Warburg effect’, which is a
53 hallmark of cancer in humans [8]. Thus, this metabolism of cancer cells causes more
54 consumption of energy (normal cells^{×10}) and less ATP production, consequently leading to
55 damage of body tissues and cellular apoptosis. Therefore, study of cancer cell metabolism and
56 Warburg effect provides hypothesis that glycolysis plays an essential role in dissemination of
57 human cancers [9-12].

58 Of the three main regulatory enzymes of glycolysis, PFK1 is the main rate limiting
59 enzyme of glycolysis as it controls maximum percentage of glycolytic activity. PFK1 is a
60 tetrameric protein that is allosteric in nature with enzyme activity is controlled by many
61 activators, inhibitors and metabolites [13]. The main role of PFK1 in glycolysis is conversion of
62 fructose-6-phosphate to fructose-1, 6-bisphosphate with the release of energy. Mammalian PFK1
63 spans about 30 kb and contains 24 exons, having molecular weight of 340 kDa [14-16].
64 Primarily, three isozymes of PFK1 have been identified in humans that include PFK-muscle
65 (PFKM), PFK-Liver and PFK-Platelet, which function as subunits of tetrameric PFK. The

66 molecular weight of PFKM is 85 kDa, PFKL is 80 kDa and PFKP is 85 kDa, each encoded by
67 separate gene [17].

68 Of the three isozymes, a genome-wide association study has reported *PFKM* as a novel
69 marker accountable for breast cancer in humans [18]. The *PFKM* is encoded by *PFKM* gene,
70 located at chromosome 12q13.11 (NCBI reference sequence number NC_000012.12, **Figure 1**).
71 *PFKM* composed of 41,151 bases spanning the region between 48,105,253 to 48,146,404 base
72 pairs (bp) of chromosome 12. The coding region of *PFKM* consists of 2340bp, which encodes
73 approximately 780 amino acids [17]. Studies have explained both direct and indirect association
74 of *PFKM* genetic mutations with different types of cancers in humans, for instance breast cancer,
75 bladder cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, human glioma, human glioblastoma and human
76 melanomas [3-6,18-19]. The most common type of genetic variation investigated in these studies
77 is single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP).

78 Human *PFKM* consists of both coding as well as non-coding region that are responsible
79 for total 9694 SNPs *as per* NCBI dbSNP database (dated October 2019). However, it is unlikely
80 of all SNPs being functional (+/-) enough to be investigated in detail, therefore bioinformatics
81 tools have been developed that can help us foretell SNPs with biological functions such as
82 splicing, transcriptional, translational, miRNA binding, protein stability *Electra* [20].
83 Additionally, there are some other factors such as significance of function identified, validation
84 status, presence of SNPs in evolutionary conserved region, minor allele frequency (MAF) that
85 can further support SNP prioritization [21]. Thus, the present study is based on scrutinizing the
86 functionally important SNPs of *PFKM* from the list of casual variants and finding their probable
87 association with cancer using *in silico* analysis and literary evidences. The results of the research
88 are predicted after comparison of output provided by different bioinformatics tools used in the

89 present study. As per our finest knowledge, this is the first computational analysis performed on
90 human *PFKM* to identify functionally important casual variants of the human *PFKM*, which
91 might be related to cancer proliferation in humans.

92 **METHODS**

93 *In silico* analysis was performed to identify the functional SNPs of *PFKM* present in
94 human muscles at chromosome 12q13.11 (NCBI). SNPs that represent any functional and
95 structural impacts were selected on the basis of methods adapted in our research for
96 computational analysis of human *PFKM* as illustrated in **Figure 2**.

97 ***Recruiting PFKM polymorphisms from dbSNP database***

98 The data of putatively functional SNPs for *PFKM* (*Homo sapiens*) was obtained from
99 dbSNP (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/snp>), which is most extensive database of genomic
100 variations [22]. SNP gene view showed the presence of total 9694 SNPs of *PFKM* in gene region
101 (**S. Fig. 1**). From this aggregate, four parameters were used to prioritize SNPs that includes
102 confirmation of validation status, presence in evolutionary conserved region, $MAF \geq 0.10$ and
103 significance of functions identified. Thus, those SNPs that fulfilled the above criteria were
104 selected and further explored in the present study.

105 ***Identifying evolutionary conserved SNPs of PFKM***

106 Manual spotting of *PFKM* SNPs was performed in the evolutionary conserved regions
107 using the Ensembl Genome browser 98 (<https://asia.ensembl.org/index.html>). For this, 91
108 eutherian mammals showing genomic alignments were comparatively analyzed with the human
109 *PFKM*, which involves various species including Drill, Pig-tailed macaque, Angola colobus,

110 Bolivian squirrel monkey, Mouse lemur, American beaver, Kangaroo rat, Squirrel, Chinese
111 hamster PICR, Golden hamster, Tarsier, Bushbaby, Greater bamboo lemur, Damara mole rat,
112 Naked mole-rat male, Naked mole-rat female, Mongolian gerbil, Gibbon, Chimpanzee, Gorilla,
113 Olive baboon, Gelada, Vervet-AGM, Capuchin, Degu *etc.* (**S. Fig. 2**).

114 The base pair view from database was preferred for manual verification of SNPs and
115 detailed comparison of alignments of various species with human *PFKM* was performed.
116 Ensembl genome browser 98 helps in investigating conserved SNPs (cSNPs) and provides
117 information regarding polymorphisms in gene sequences. Moreover, genomic alignments also
118 help to differentiate between the conserved and non-conserved regions in genome. The data
119 available on the browser is in FASTA format can also be retrieved whenever needed for further
120 study. The highlighted regions (yellow, green, purple, pink and red) with hyperlinks in the region
121 of sequence alignments represents the variant SNPs, which can be studied in detail, by clicking
122 them a dialogue box that appeared on the screen as depicted in **Figure 3**.

123 ***Recognition of likely functional PFKM variants***

124 Identification of functional effects of *PFKM* SNPs was performed using two standard
125 bioinformatics tools *i.e.* SNPinfo (FuncPred) and RegulomeDB (version 2.0). These tools
126 predicts SNPs with potential functions such as transcription factor binding sites (TFBS),
127 Intron/exon border consensus sequences (splice sites), exonic splicing enhancers (ESEs) and
128 miRNA binding.

129 **1. SNP analysis using SNPinfo (FuncPred)**

130 SNPinfo (FuncPred) (<https://snpinfo.niehs.nih.gov/snpinfo/snpfunc.html>) provides
131 collection of functional information associated with query SNPs of different genes using variety

132 of resources and algorithms [23]. In our research, this web server was used in Asian population
133 (ASW). The investigators can query finite list of SNPs for a particular set of gene of interest for
134 identifying SNPs with potential functions. This web browser also helps in the selection of SNPs
135 for genetic association studies. It consists of a composite tool for SNP function prediction thus
136 named as ‘FuncPred’. For the present study, a list of rsIDs of validated SNPs with $MAF \geq 0.10$
137 was uploaded in FuncPred for batch analysis with default settings in Asian population as shown
138 in **S. Fig. 3**. The output obtained represents the list of putatively functional SNPs of human
139 *PFKM*.

140 **2. SNP analysis using RegulomeDB (v 2.0)**

141 To predict the role of various polymorphisms in a specific gene Beta Regulome or
142 RegulomeDB (v 2.0) is mostly availed. This database describes the transcriptional role of
143 variants as regulatory elements of gene [24]. For this SNPs were analyzed using RegulomeDB (v
144 2.0) (<https://beta.regulomedb.org/regulome-search/>); an online composite bioinformatics
145 database [25]. The database include high quality updated datasets from Encyclopedia of DNA
146 Elements transcription factor, chromatin immunoprecipitation sequencing, DNase I
147 hypersensitive site data and many other sources like dsQTL, CHIP-exo. A list of dbSNP rsIDs
148 was used as an input for analysis by software (**S. Fig. 4**). The annotation scores to the variants
149 were assigned according to the information available in the database that classifies the variants
150 mainly into six categories ranging from 1 to 6 as per scoring scheme.

151 Category 7 has been also assigned to some variants which represents that no current data
152 availability about these variants but it may be possible that these variants may show functional
153 effects in future. The category 1 variants represents that they were ‘likely to affect binding and
154 linked to target gene expression’, category 2 variants were ‘likely to affect binding, category 3

155 variants were ‘less likely to affect binding’. Moreover, category 4, 5 and 6 variants represents the
156 ‘minimal binding evidence’. The annotation scores assigned to variants may be subdivided into
157 sub-categories on the basis of their behavior of binding and functional effects. The scoring was
158 based on the data available database but it was not considered as final information of variants;
159 because it may varies alongwith apprising of database; as per further researches carried out in
160 future. The data provided in **S. Table 1** represents the scheme of RDB scoring [24] which was
161 used in our research for computational analysis of functional SNPs of *PFKM*.

162 ***Functional effect prediction of the translated SNPs of PFKM***

163 The damaging and deleterious effects of SNPs of coding region of gene was predicted using
164 *SIFT* and *Polyphen-2*. These are basic computational tools with high concordance of testing
165 human genes’ mutations and their lethal effects on structure of proteins and genes [26]. These
166 tools provide information of genetic variants and thus help in prioritization of variants with
167 functional characters. The variants lying in coding region were tested for their concordance,
168 sensitivity and specificity, data provided in (+/-) predictive values [27]. These two softwares
169 similarly predict pathogenicity of gene of interest [28].

170 **1. SNP analysis using SIFT(Sorting Intolerant From Tolerant)**

171 SIFT (<https://sift.bii.a-star.edu.sg/>) is a web based computational tool used for analyzing
172 coding SNPs of human *PFKM* using different algorithms. Interpretation by this tool was
173 expressed in the form of table classifying the effect of mutation of SNP listed along with SIFT
174 score, median and prediction details. The rsID of SNP was uploaded to get possible predictions.
175 Predictions were generated with default settings of SIFT program such as SNP may be
176 designated either as ‘Tolerated’ or ‘Not Tolerated’ [29]. The sensitivity and specificity of any
177 variant can be determined by the percentage and scoring (0–1) predicted by program. Scores

178 lying within range (0.00-0.005) consider variant as ‘damaging’, score (0.0051-0.10) considered
179 as ‘potentially damaging’, score (0.101-0.20) considered as ‘borderline’ and score (0.201-1.00)
180 was considered as ‘tolerant’ [21].

181 **2. SNP analysis using Polyphen-2 (Polymorphism Phenotyping v-2)**

182 Polyphen-2 (<http://genetics.bwh.harvard.edu/pph2/>) is the standard tool which is sequenced
183 based, used for coding variants analysis. It estimates protein sequence variation and protein
184 function [30]. The algorithm of tool relies on both physical and comparative considerations to
185 predict possible functional consequences of amino acid substitutions on gene structure and
186 function. This tool calculates the position specific independent count (PSIC) score for genetic
187 variants. The scoring provided by this tool (0 – 1) represents the probability of damaging effects
188 of variant depending upon the threshold value. If the score predicted by the tool lies above the
189 threshold value (score > 0.2) then effect is considered as ‘probably damaging’ and ‘possibly
190 damaging’ (score > 0.2 and < 0.96) but if score lies below threshold value the effect is said to be
191 ‘Benign’ (score < 0.2) or ‘Neutral’ [27]. The possible effects of variants are predicted by
192 inputting rsIDs of SNPs along with amino acid substitution position details. A vertically marked
193 colored gradient bar is shown as result by Polyphen-2 for the variant, the green region in the bar
194 represents effect to be ‘Benign’ and red region represents the ‘Damaging’ effect alongwith
195 Polyphen-2 score.

196 **RESULTS**

197 Human *PFKM* consists of total 9694 SNPs in dbSNP database. From these 9694 SNPs,
198 85 SNPs were found to be validated and further had $MAF \geq 0.10$ were filtered out for subsequent
199 *in silico* analysis (**Table 1**). Other SNPs were excluded from the present analysis as they neither
200 had $MAF \geq 0.10$ nor they were found to be validated. These 85 SNPs were spanning both coding

201 as well as non-coding regions. For instance, two SNPs were of non-coding region particularly the
202 mis-sense or non-synonyms mutations (*ns-SNPs*; rs11609399 and rs2228500), two SNPs were
203 synonymous SNPs (*syn-SNPs*; rs1049392 and rs8716), four SNPs identified of 5' near gene
204 region (rs146586156, rs11168408, rs10875743 and rs10875744) while, rest of the 77 SNPs were
205 identified as intronic. Thus, our investigation accounted for 85 SNPs of human *PFKM* belonging
206 to different regions. The *PFKM* sequence of 91 eutherian mammals showed alignment with
207 human *PFKM* in Ensembl genome browser 98, which depicted only four SNPs conserved among
208 these species in spite of evolutionary divergence, hence, referred as conserved SNPs (cSNPs) in
209 the present study. These cSNPs includes rs11609399, rs2228500, rs1049392 and rs8716.

210 FuncPred analysis of 85 selected SNPs predicted total 22 SNPs with important regulatory
211 function (**Table 2**). Amongst these 22 SNPs, 21 SNPs were found to be affecting transcription
212 factor binding site. Moreover, two SNPs, rs11609399 and rs2228500 were predicted as exonic
213 splicing effectors. The rest 63 SNPs from the selected SNPs list did not show any information
214 regarding functional effects in FuncPred database. The selected 85 SNPs were also analyzed in
215 Beta Regulome database or RegulomeDB (v 2.0) to check the annotation scores assigned by the
216 database. The rsIDs of SNPs were incorporated as an input in the database, which divided 85
217 validated SNPs into six broad categories *i.e.* category 1 to category 6 [25]. It was found that from
218 overall 85 SNPs, only 73 SNPs showed an annotation scores within category 1 to 6 (**Table 3**),
219 while for the rest 12 SNPs (not shown in **Table 3**) the database provided no information, which
220 is classified into category 7 *i.e.* no data availability. From the 73 identified SNPs, rs11168417
221 and rs2286020 were predicted as top ranked SNPs with annotation score '1d' and '1f'
222 respectively. Both the scores indicate that these two SNPs have important regulatory functions
223 for the expression of targeted gene. Further, 6 SNPs (rs11609399, rs4760619, rs5798062,

224 rs12306290, rs11168416, rs57642441) had annotation score of ‘2b’ (likely to affect binding), 10
225 SNPs showed annotation score 3a (less likely to affect binding), 55 SNPs showed ‘minimum
226 functional evidence’ with category 4, 5 and 6 (**Table 3**).

227 Of the 85 select SNPs, four SNPs lies in exonic region, with rs11609399 and rs2228500
228 were ns-SNPs, while rs1049392 and rs8716 were syn-SNPs. These SNPs were analyzed using
229 SIFT and Polyphen-2 to predict the damaging effect of these mutations on PFKM (**Table 4**). It is
230 well-known that syn-SNPs do not affect the morphology of encoded protein as it codes for same
231 amino-acid, therefore the chances of syn-SNPs to be found damaging was null and the same was
232 interpreted by the softwares. The ns-SNP rs11609399 was found to be putatively deleterious with
233 low confidence SIFT score (**S. Fig. 5**). However, Polyphen-2 did not show any information for
234 this SNP and showed no data availability (**Table 4**). Furthermore, both SIFT and Polyphen-2
235 predicted ns-SNP rs2228500 as non-deleterious SNP (**S. Fig. 6**). The colored gradient vertical
236 bar predicted by Polyphen-2 represents the variant threshold lying within green zone thus
237 suggesting non-damaging effect of the SNP on protein structure.

238 The comparative analysis of results predicted by different algorithms was carried out to
239 prioritize important SNPs that are probable to be more functional than others (**Table 5**).
240 FuncPred predictions (*i.e.* transcription factor binding site or splicing effectors), RDB annotation
241 score from 1 to 3, cSNPs, deleterious and damaging prediction of *SIFT* and *Polyphen-2* were
242 interpreted as functional. Based on this interpretation, the 85 SNPs were ordered from highly
243 prioritized (HP) to Not/poorly prioritized (NP) SNPs. Those SNPs that were identified to be
244 putatively functional by two or more tools were categorized as HP including rs11609399,
245 rs11168417, rs4760619, rs12306290, rs11168416, rs10492080, rs11168415, rs10875745,
246 rs2269935, rs10082861 and rs2228500 (**Table 5**). These 11 HP-SNPs have higher odds of being

247 functional than other SNPs of *PFKM*. Those SNPs that were identified to be putatively
248 functional by one tool only were categorized as moderately prioritized (MP). Total 19 SNPs
249 were MP, which means these SNPs have sufficient odds of being functional enough. Finally, the
250 55 SNPs that were not identified by any software to have function were referred as NP depicting
251 the negligible odds of these SNPs to be functional enough to be studied. Thus, overall 11 SNPs
252 including rs11609399, rs11168417, rs4760619, rs12306290, rs11168416, rs10492080,
253 rs11168415, rs10875745, rs2269935, rs10082861 and rs2228500 of human *PFKM* were
254 scrutinized through a plethora of SNPs and are predicted as casual variants to be studied in
255 detail.

256 **DISCUSSION**

257 Elevated aerobic glycolysis, a characteristic of cancer cells (Warburg effect) is
258 energetically inefficient, that triggers cachexia (irreversible muscle wasting) in cancer patients
259 leading to death [31-32]. This wasting syndrome reduces drug effectiveness in patients fighting
260 against cancer. The prevalence of muscle loss varies with the type of cancer (*e.g.* 16% in breast
261 cancer), stage of cancer and host's response to cancer [33]. Therefore, abnormalities in metabolic
262 genes particularly those encoding glycolytic regulatory proteins can be targeted as a potential
263 therapeutic intervention strategies for the killing cancer cells and coping co-morbid conditions.
264 For this, one such probable therapy can be inhibition and/or down regulation of human *PFKM* to
265 lowers the survival of cancer cells. *PFKM* is an imperative glycolytic regulatory target for the
266 reason that it serves as energetic activator of muscle glycolysis, which is crucial for the
267 dissemination of the cancer [34].

268 It's the genes that codes for the formation of functional proteins. Therefore, identification
269 of genetic variations that interfere in the expression and/or structure of PFKM that subsequently
270 alter protein structure/function will be clinically important. The commonly found genetic
271 variations is SNPs, as for instance human *PFKM* consists total of 9694 SNPs *per se* (source
272 dbSNP database, dated October 2019). For this, selection of variants could be made on the basis
273 of putative functional effects *e.g.* altering transcription, translation or miRNA binding from the
274 SNPs that may not have any functions or are rare. As the interpretation of clinically important
275 novel variants often remain challenging, many bioinformatics tools have been developed that
276 predict biological consequences of these polymorphisms. Therefore, an effort was made to haul
277 out the most likely functional variants of human *PFKM* using *in silico* analysis, so that the focus
278 can be put on describing those SNPs which probably may have an important role in controlling
279 the disease condition.

280 However, no single bioinformatics tool can completely depict the functional significance of
281 allelic variants. Hence, the current analysis was conducted using a number of complementary
282 bioinformatics tools, for instance, Ensembl Genome browser was used for the screening of
283 conserved SNPs (cSNPs), Two composite tools [FuncPred (SNPinfo), and RegulomeDB (v 2.0)]
284 were used the function prediction, SIFT and PolyPhen-2 were used to predict the phenotypic effect
285 of coding SNPs, on the physio-chemical properties of *PFKM* and thus its function. Different
286 algorithms for different softwares can sometime leads to the mis-interpretation of biological data
287 accredited to non-overlapping functions prediction. To evade such discrepancies, two major
288 parameters were considered before commencing *in silico* functional predictions. These
289 parameters includes, verifying the validation status of a given SNP to avoid inclusion of
290 fabricated ones [35]. Secondly, use of MAF cut-off of ≥ 0.10 that denotes its 10% frequency in a

291 given population, which is ultimately crucial for SNP study in relation to disease with lower
292 prevalence [36]. Considering these factors and outcomes of softwares employed, the present
293 study filtered 11 SNPs of *PFKM* that has highest likelihood of being functionally important. These
294 11 SNPs include both non-coding (rs11168417, rs4760619, rs12306290, rs11168416,
295 rs10492080, rs11168415, rs10875745, rs2269935 and rs10082861) as well as coding
296 (rs11609399 and rs2228500) SNPs. Of the prioritized SNPs, most variants did not have any
297 previous reports in relation to cancer, while the role of some SNPs in cancer etiology has been
298 previously reported, which was used as an evidence to authenticate the findings of the present
299 study.

300 The non-coding variants were found to be altering transcription factor binding sites
301 (TFBS), resultantly affecting the gene expression. A study by Konieczna *et al.* [37] performed
302 the partial silencing of *PFKM* experimentally and observed down-regulation of *PFKM*
303 expression leading to impaired DNA synthesis and thus subsequent arrest of cells in G1 phase.
304 The study further suggested genetic polymorphisms in *PFKM* can leads to the same results
305 causing alteration in cells metabolism *via* inhibition of cell cycle and cellular apoptosis, an
306 essential property of tumor cells. Apart from this, studies have investigated the effect of these
307 polymorphisms in relation to different diseases. HP-SNP rs2269935 of *PFKM* was found to be
308 associated with relative lowering in body fat [38]. Moreover, the HP variant of *PFKM* *i.e.*
309 rs11168417 has been depicted as a prognostic marker for non-small cell lung cancer in humans
310 undergoing surgical resection/chemotherapy [4, 39]. The studies suggested the important role of
311 this polymorphism in determining the prognosis of patients with lung cancer as it affects
312 macromolecular biosynthesis, energy production, and other non-glycolytic functions in cancer
313 cells.

314 Of the HP-coding variants, ns-SNP rs11609399 was found to be deleterious accredited to
315 amino-acid conversion from non-polar, Leucine to positively charged, Histidine at amino-acid
316 position '2' of protein, thus affecting protein structure and function. Moreover, both HP-coding
317 (rs11609399 and rs2228500) variants were found to be evolutionary conserved and affecting
318 exon splicing. The cSNPs are more likely to have biological functions [40], while aberrant splicing
319 by these variants may abrogate PFKM synthesis/function, and thus can effect cancer
320 susceptibility. In consonance to this, gene based analysis of *PFKM* by Ahsan *et al.* (2014) [18]
321 suggested *PFKM* serves as a hub of genetic variations including rs2228500, and thus serve as
322 susceptibility locus for early onset of breast cancer (EOBC) in Caucasian women of all ages.
323 Since *PFKM* is a glycolytic enzyme, which regulates aerobic glycolysis in cancer cells, it can be
324 hypothesized that genetic alterations detected in human PFKM may contribute to other cancer
325 types as well.

326 Thus, the prioritized putative functional SNPs may have profound biological significance
327 in relation to cancer for several reasons. The foremost reason is the expression of *PFKM* in
328 cancer cell lines [41]. Secondly, *PFKM* variants have been linked with post-translational
329 modifications resulting in dissemination of cancer cells and altered metabolism [11]. Thirdly, an
330 association between *PFKM* and cancer risk is reasonable due Warburg effect being employed by
331 cancer cells for performing high rate of glucose metabolism *via* aerobic glycolysis [11]. Finally,
332 p53 is known to prevent the embryo development in model organism with defects/mutations in
333 genes including *PFKM* [42]. Since the science behind PFKM and its regulators is well described
334 [43-44], establishment of *PFKM* as a cancer gene and its highly ranked functional SNPs as
335 genetic markers may provide potential translational implications for cancer prevention and
336 treatment.

337 In **conclusion**, PFKM plays a pivotal role in feeding cancer cells *via* Warburg
338 phenomena. Therefore, an effort was made to identify its casual variants that may affect protein
339 function and cancer possibility. The study identified 11 *PFKM* SNPs including rs11609399,
340 rs11168417, rs4760619, rs12306290, rs11168416, rs10492080, rs11168415, rs10875745,
341 rs2269935, rs10082861 and rs2228500 as putative functional variants, which is worthy of further
342 investigation to confirm their predictive role in cancer etiology. Once confirmed, these SNPs can
343 serve as genetic markers for cancer prevention, prognosis, diagnosis and treatment strategies.
344 Hence, the present research serve as base for future studies associated with glycolytic genes in
345 cancers.

346 **Author's contributions**

347 YR reviewed the literature, was involved in design, performing analysis, interpretation,
348 and drafted the manuscript. KK and MS contributed manuscript editing. NK supervised the
349 research, reviewed the literature, designed the experiment, data analysis, manuscript editing and
350 supervision. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

351 **Competing interests**

352 The authors declare they have no competing interests.

353 **Availability of data and materials**

354 The data that support the findings of this study are available as supplementary material.
355 Additional information can be obtained from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

356 **Consent for publication**

357 All authors give their consent for manuscript publication.

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360 **Ethics approval and consent to participate**

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512 **Table 1 – List of 85 SNPs (validated with MAF \geq 0.10) source dbSNP database.**

S.No.	SNP rsID	SNPs' Types	Chromosome Position	Heterozygosity	Validation Status	MAF
1.	rs146586156	5' near	48104312	0.453	1 2 6	0.3462
2.	rs11168408	5' near	48104544	0.295	1 2 4 5 6	0.1799
3.	rs10875743	5' near	48104630	0.329	1 2 4 5 6	0.2077
4.	rs10875744	5' near	48104657	0.478	1 2 4 5 6	0.3954
5.	rs4760619	intron	48106148	0.188	1 2 6	0.1036
6.	rs726354	intron	48106551	0.459	1 2 3 4 6	0.3562
7.	rs534307036	intron	48106710	0.395	1 2 6	0.2708
8.	rs11609399	Mis-sense	48107378	0.391	1 2 4 5 6	0.3562
	□					
9.	rs10492080	intron	48107628	0.459	1 2 4 5 6	0.3562
10.	rs725454	intron	48108317	0.272	1 2 4 6	0.1621
11.	rs757556	intron	48108710	0.459	1 2 4 5 6	0.3562
12.	rs17122666	intron	48108791	0.251	1 2 6	0.1474
13.	rs12099462	intron	48109321	0.330	1 2 4 6	0.2087
14.	rs879242	intron	48109518	0.459	1 2 4 6	0.3562
15.	rs72644845	intron	48110098	0.459	1 2 6	0.3562
16.	rs4760681	intron	48111447	0.273	1 2 4 6	0.1633
17.	rs58331734	intron	48111609	0.459	1 2 6	0.3564
18.	rs11613781	intron	48113122	0.459	1 2 4 5 6	0.3562
19.	rs57655233	intron	48113603	0.459	1 2 6	0.3562
20.	rs2158515	intron	48113885	0.478	1 2 4 6	0.3954
21.	rs7302354	intron	48114047	0.305	1 2 4 5 6	0.1875
22.	rs2107638	intron	48114136	0.309	1 2 4 6	0.1909
23.	rs78649179	intron	48114413	0.459	1 2 6	0.3564
24.	rs72644846	intron	48114500	0.459	1 2 6	0.3562
25.	rs11168412	intron	48114703	0.229	1 2 6	0.1318
26.	rs61343568	intron	48114863	0.496	1 2 6	0.4565
27.	rs60106007	intron	48115981	0.373	1 2 6	0.2482
28.	rs12228924	intron	48115987	0.304	1 2 6	0.1873
29.	rs76341202	intron	48116137	0.283	1 2 6	0.1707
30.	rs113785514	intron	48117174	0.373	1 2 6	0.2482
31.	rs11168413	intron	48117212	0.309	1 2 4 6	0.1909
32.	rs11168414	intron	48118548	0.297	1 2 6	0.1484
33.	rs11168415	intron	48118738	0.373	1 2 6	0.2484
34.	rs5798062	intron	48118890	0.296	1 2 6	0.1807
35.	rs12306290	intron	48119303	0.373	1 2 4 6	0.2480
36.	rs11168416	intron	48120196	0.373	1 2 4 6	0.2478
37.	rs10875745	intron	48121622	0.308	1 2 4 6	0.1901
38.	rs11168417	intron	48121937	0.370	1 2 4 6	0.2446
39.	rs11168418	intron	48121971	0.273	1 2 6	0.1629
40.	rs11168419	intron	48121980	0.370	1 2 4 6	0.2446
41.	rs11168420	intron	48122113	0.292	1 2 6	0.1777

42.	rs72644847	intron	48122310	0.425	1 2 6	0.3059
43.	rs4760683	intron	48122513	0.483	1 2 4 6	0.4077
44.	rs2269935	intron	48122681	0.241	1 2 6	0.1402
45.	rs57642441	intron	48123524	0.370	1 2 6	0.2446
46.	rs10082861	intron	48123615	0.370	1 2 4 6	0.2448
47.	rs4760684	intron	48124297	0.370	1 2 4 6	0.2452
48.	rs10875746	intron	48124481	0.301	1 2 4 6	0.1849
49.	rs11168421	intron	48124550	0.368	1 2 4 6	0.2430
50.	rs73104071	intron	48124786	0.307	1 2 6	0.1893
51.	rs58540891	intron	48124796	0.307	1 2 6	0.1893
52.	rs1859445	intron	48124808	0.313	1 2 3 4 6	0.1943
53.	rs562841214	intron	48125621	0.484	1 2 6	0.4107
54.	rs11168422	intron	48125722	0.278	1 2 6	0.1671
55.	rs4760685	intron	48127186	0.491	1 2 4 5 6	0.4333
56.	rs11374838	intron	48127237	0.252	1 2 6	0.1480
57.	rs527761146	intron	48128263	0.452	1 2 6	0.3317
58.	rs4141065	intron	48129716	0.458	1 2 6	0.3548
59.	rs1476607	intron	48131021	0.297	1 2 3 4 6	0.1811
60.	rs10875747	intron	48132078	0.295	1 2 4 6	0.1546
61.	rs10875748	intron	48132577	0.261	1 2 4 6	0.1546
62.	rs2228500 □	Mis-sense	48132929	0.292	1 2	0.1478
63.	rs2269933	intron	48133276	0.387	1 2 4 6	0.2444
64.	rs1049392 □	syn-SNP	48133403	0.253	1 2 6	0.1879
65.	rs11168424	intron	48133932	0.307	1 2 6	0.1893
66.	rs2286021	intron	48134437	0.252	1 2 6	0.1480
67.	rs2286020	intron	48134636	0.307	1 2 3 6	0.1891
68.	rs10219623	intron	48135766	0.313	1 2 6	0.1943
69.	rs80140486	intron	48135913	0.311	1 2 6	0.1923
70.	rs78294086	intron	48135915	0.308	1 2 6	0.1899
71.	rs77966213	intron	48135916	0.307	1 6	0.1895
72.	rs75261947	intron	48135920	0.253	1 6	0.1484
73.	rs79336782	intron	48135919	0.307	1 6	0.1895
74.	rs75333732	intron	48135922	0.307	1 6	0.1895
75.	rs79751478	intron	48135925	0.297	1 6	0.1811
76.	rs76706444	intron	48135928	0.298	1 2 6	0.1821
77.	rs10219645	intron	48135954	0.368	1 2 4 6	0.2434
78.	rs10875749	intron	48138134	0.334	1 2 4 5 6	0.2119
79.	rs11168425	intron	48138414	0.369	1 2 6	0.2442
80.	rs58556309	intron	48140505	0.306	1 2 6	0.1889
81.	rs34700912	intron	48141031	0.491	1 2 6	0.4341
82.	rs148905596	intron	48143390	0.313	1 2 6	0.1939
83.	rs4075913	intron	48143841	0.389	1 2 4 5 6	0.3546
84.	rs11168427	intron	48145196	0.292	1 2 6	0.1490
85.	rs8716 □	syn-SNP	48145699	0.436	1 2 4 6	0.2043

MAF = Minor allele frequency ≥ 0.10 , syn-SNP=Synonymous SNP, □ denote conserved SNPs (cSNPs),
1 to 6 numbers represents validation status as below:

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1. Validated by multiple, independent submissions to the ref SNP cluster
 2. Validated by frequency or genotype data: minor alleles observed in at least two chromosomes.
 3. Validated by submitter confirmation
 4. All alleles have been observed in at least two chromosomes apiece
 5. Genotyped by HapMap project
 6. SNP has been sequenced in 1000Genome project.
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514 **Table 2- List of validated SNPs predicted by SNPinfo (FuncPred) as functional**

S. No.	SNPs	SNP types	Chromosome Position	MAF	TFBS	Splicing (ESE/ESS)
1.	rs4760619	intron	48106148	0.1036	✓	-
2.	rs726354	intron	48106551	0.3562	✓	-
3.	rs11609399 □	Mis-sense	48107378	0.3562	✓	✓
4.	rs10492080	intron	48107628	0.3562	✓	-
5.	rs725454	intron	48108317	0.1621	✓	-
6.	rs757556	intron	48108710	0.3562	✓	-
7.	rs17122666	intron	48108791	0.1474	✓	-
8.	rs12099462	intron	48109321	0.2087	✓	-
9.	rs879242	intron	48109518	0.3562	✓	-
10.	rs11168414	intron	48118548	0.1484	✓	-
11.	rs11168415	intron	48118738	0.2484	✓	-
12.	rs12306290	intron	48119303	0.2480	✓	-
13.	rs11168416	intron	48120196	0.2478	✓	-
14.	rs10875745	intron	48121622	0.1901	✓	-
15.	rs11168417	intron	48121937	0.2446	✓	-
16.	rs11168418	intron	48121971	0.1629	✓	-
17.	rs11168419	intron	48121980	0.2446	✓	-
18.	rs11168420	intron	48122113	0.1777	✓	-
19.	rs4760683	intron	48122513	0.4077	✓	-
20.	rs2269935	intron	48122681	0.1402	✓	-
21.	rs10082861	intron	48123615	0.2448	✓	-
22.	rs2228500 □	Mis-sense	48132929	0.1478	----	✓

MAF = minor allele frequency, TFBS = transcription factor binding site, ESE = Exonic splicing enhancer, ESS=exonic splicing silencer, ✓=SNPs with function, ‘-’ = SNPs with no function, nsSNP= Non-synonymous SNP, , □ denote conserved SNPs (cSNPs)

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519 **Table 3- Validated SNPs listed based on the score provided by RegulomeDB (v 2.0)**

S. No.	SNPs	RDB Score	Description	Category
1.	rs11168417	1d	eQTL + TF binding + Any motif + DNase peak	Likely to affect binding and linked to expression of a gene target
2.	rs2286020	1f	eQTL + TF binding/DNase peak	Likely to affect binding and linked to expression of a gene target
3.	rs11609399	2b	TF binding + any motif + DNase footprint + DNase peak	Likely to affect binding
4.	rs4760619	2b	TF binding + any motif + DNase footprint + DNase peak	Likely to affect binding
5.	rs5798062	2b	TF binding + any motif + DNase footprint + DNase peak	Likely to affect binding
6.	rs12306290	2b	TF binding + any motif + DNase footprint + DNase peak	Likely to affect binding
7.	rs11168416	2b	TF binding + any motif + DNase footprint + DNase peak	Likely to affect binding
8.	rs57642441	2b	TF binding + any motif + DNase footprint + DNase peak	Likely to affect binding
9.	rs2269935	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
10.	rs10082861	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
11.	rs4760684	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
12.	rs10875746	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
13.	rs4760685	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
14.	rs60106007	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
15.	rs76341202	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
16.	rs11168415	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
17.	rs10875745	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
18.	rs10492080	3a	TF binding + any motif + DNase peak	Less likely to affect binding
19.	rs146586156	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
20.	rs11168408	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence

21.	rs10875743	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
22.	rs10875744	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
23.	rs726354	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
24.	rs12228924	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
25.	rs11168414	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
26.	rs11168418	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
27.	rs11168419	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
28.	rs11168420	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
29.	rs72644847	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
30.	rs4760683	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
31.	rs11374838	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
32.	rs4141065	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
33.	rs10219623	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
34.	rs11168427	4	TF binding + DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
35.	rs725454	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
36.	rs12099462	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
37.	rs879242	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
38.	rs72644845	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
39.	rs4760681	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
40.	rs11613781	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
41.	rs57655233	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
42.	rs7302354	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
43.	rs2107638	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
44.	rs78649179	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
45.	rs72644846	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
46.	rs11168412	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
47.	rs61343568	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
48.	rs11168413	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
49.	rs11168421	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
50.	rs73104071	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
51.	rs58540891	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
52.	rs1859445	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
53.	rs11168422	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
54.	rs1476607	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
55.	rs2228500 □	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
56.	rs2269933	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
57.	rs2286021	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
58.	rs80140486	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
59.	rs78294086	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
60.	rs75261947	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
61.	rs79336782	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
62.	rs75333732	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
63.	rs79751478	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
64.	rs76706444	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
65.	rs10219645	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
66.	rs10875749	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence

67.	rs58556309	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
68.	rs8716 □	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
69.	rs4075913	5	TF binding or DNase peak	Minimal binding evidence
70.	rs17122666	6	Motif hit	Minimal binding evidence
71.	rs2158515	6	Motif hit	Minimal binding evidence
72.	rs562841214	6	Motif hit	Minimal binding evidence
73.	rs34700912	6	Motif hit	Minimal binding evidence

RDB – Beta Regulome database annotation score, TF= transcription factor, eQTL expression = quantitative trait loci, □ denote conserved SNPs (cSNPs)

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521 **Table 4– Predictions of analysis of translated SNPs of human *PFKM* in *Polyphen-2* and**
 522 ***SIFT***

S. No.	SNPs	Amino-acid substitution and position (NCBI)	<i>Polyphen-2</i>	<i>SIFT</i>		
				SIFT Score	SIFT Median	SIFT Prediction
1.	rs11609399	Leucine to Histidine at position '2'	Data not available	0	4.32	Deleterious
2.	rs2228500	Glutamine to Arginine at position '171'	Benign Score = 0.003	0.352	2.55	Tolerated
3.	rs1049392 □	Threonine to Threonine at position '243'	Benign Score = 0.000	1	2.56	Tolerated
4.	rs8716 □	Alanine to Alanine at position '849'	Benign Score = 0.000	1	4.32	Tolerated

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534 **Table 5– Comparative analysis of 85 selected SNPs based on the results of tools used.**

S. No.	SNP rsID	SNPs' types	FuncPred	RDB Score	SIFT	Polyphen-2	SNP-Ranking
1.	rs11609399 □	Mis-sense	□	2b	Deleterious	NF	HP
2.	rs11168417	intron	□	1d	----	----	HP
3.	rs4760619	intron	□	2b	----	----	HP
4.	rs12306290	intron	□	2b	----	----	HP
5.	rs11168416	intron	□	2b	----	----	HP
6.	rs10492080	intron	□	3a	----	----	HP
7.	rs11168415	intron	□	3a	----	----	HP
8.	rs10875745	intron	□	3a	----	----	HP
9.	rs2269935	intron	□	3a	----	----	HP
10.	rs10082861	intron	□	3a	----	----	HP
11.	rs2228500 □	Mis-sense	□	5	Tolerated	Benign	HP
12.	rs2286020	intron	----	1f	----	----	MP
13.	rs5798062	intron	----	2b	----	----	MP
14.	rs57642441	intron	----	2b	----	----	MP
15.	rs60106007	intron	----	3a	----	----	MP
16.	rs76341202	intron	----	3a	----	----	MP
17.	rs4760684	intron	----	3a	----	----	MP
18.	rs10875746	intron	----	3a	----	----	MP
19.	rs4760685	intron	----	3a	----	----	MP
20.	rs726354	intron	□	4	----	----	MP
21.	rs11168414	intron	□	4	----	----	MP
22.	rs4760683	intron	□	4	----	----	MP
23.	rs11168418	intron	□	4	----	----	MP
24.	rs11168419	intron	□	4	----	----	MP
25.	rs11168420	intron	□	4	----	----	MP
26.	rs725454	intron	□	5	----	----	MP
27.	rs12099462	intron	□	5	----	----	MP
28.	rs879242	intron	□	5	----	----	MP
29.	rs17122666	intron	□	6	----	----	MP
30.	rs757556	intron	□	7	----	----	MP
31.	rs12228924	intron	----	4	----	----	NP
32.	rs72644847	intron	----	4	----	----	NP
33.	rs4141065	intron	----	4	----	----	NP
34.	rs11374838	intron	----	4	----	----	NP
35.	rs10219623	intron	----	4	----	----	NP
36.	rs11168427	intron	----	4	----	----	NP

37.	rs146586156	5' near	----	4	----	----	NP
38.	rs11168408	5' near	----	4	----	----	NP
39.	rs10875743	5' near	----	4	----	----	NP
40.	rs10875744	5' near	----	4	----	----	NP
41.	rs8716 □	syn-SNP	----	5	Tolerated	Benign	NP
42.	rs72644845	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
43.	rs4760681	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
44.	rs11613781	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
45.	rs57655233	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
46.	rs7302354	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
47.	rs2107638	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
48.	rs78649179	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
49.	rs72644846	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
50.	rs11168412	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
51.	rs61343568	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
52.	rs11168421	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
53.	rs73104071	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
54.	rs58540891	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
55.	rs1859445	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
56.	rs11168413	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
57.	rs4075913	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
58.	rs11168422	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
59.	rs1476607	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
60.	rs2269933	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
61.	rs2286021	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
62.	rs80140486	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
63.	rs78294086	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
64.	rs75261947	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
65.	rs79336782	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
66.	rs75333732	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
67.	rs79751478	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
68.	rs76706444	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
69.	rs10219645	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
70.	rs10875749	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
71.	rs58556309	intron	----	5	----	----	NP
72.	rs2158515	intron	----	6	----	----	NP
73.	rs562841214	intron	----	6	----	----	NP
74.	rs34700912	intron	----	6	----	----	NP
75.	rs1049392 □	syn-SNP	----	7	Tolerated	Benign	NP
76.	rs58331734	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
77.	rs534307036	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
78.	rs113785514	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
79.	rs527761146	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
80.	rs10875747	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
81.	rs10875748	intron	----	7	----	----	NP

82.	rs11168424	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
83.	rs77966213	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
84.	rs11168425	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
85.	rs148905596	intron	----	7	----	----	NP
<p>□ denote conserved SNPs, ✓ SNPs which affect function, ---- SNPs with no detected function, NP = SNP not found, HP = Highly prioritized (Detected functional by two or more tools) MP = Moderately prioritized (Detected functional by one tool only) NP = Not/Poorly prioritized (Not found to be functional by any tool)</p>							

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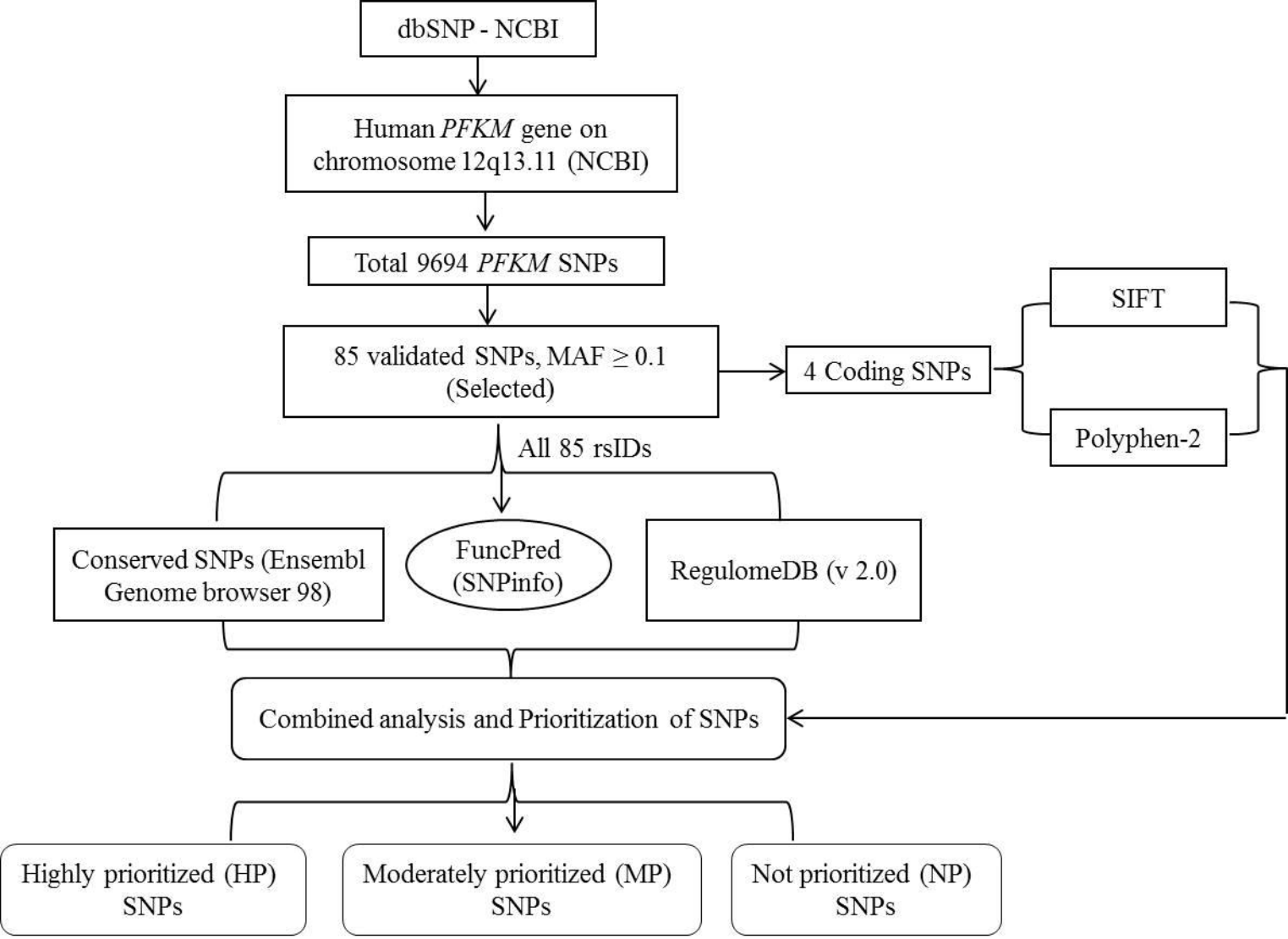
537 **Figure Legends**

538 **Figure 1:** Cytogenetic Location: 12q13.11, which is the long (q) arm of chromosome 12 at
 539 position 13.11 Molecular Location: base pairs 48,105,253 to 48,146,404 on
 540 chromosome 12 (Homo sapiens Updated Annotation Release 109.20200228,
 541 GRCh38.p13) (NCBI)

542 **Figure 2:** Schematic representation of computational analysis for scrutinizing validated
 543 functional SNPs of human *PFKM*.

544 **Figure 3:** The image showing comparison of the human *PFKM* gene with some species from 91
 545 Eutherian mammals; Human *PFKM* gene sequences indicated in red color,
 546 Conserved region represented by blue highlighted region. The highlighted (yellow,
 547 green, purple) nucleotides indicate variant SNPs. This screenshot was taken from
 548 Ensembl Genome browser 98.





Human
Sooty mangabey
Drill
Fig-tailed macaque
Angola colobus
Ugandan red Colobus
Black snub-nosed monkey
Golden snub-nosed monkey
Ma's night monkey
Capuchin
Bolivian squirrel monkey
Tarsier
Mouse Lemur
Greater bamboo lemur
Coquerel's sifaka
Bushbaby
Tree Shrew
American beaver
Kangaroo rat
Long-tailed chinchilla
Degu
Damara mole rat

ACAASRACYYGTGGTTCTYRYCTSMAYATCATCAYYGTGGCTGAGGGYGCMPYTGACAAGAATGGAAAAMCRRTCACYTCAGRRGAY
ACAAGGACTCGTGGTTCT Variation: rs754222770 X TTGACAGGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACTCGTGGTTCT Class SNP TTGACAGGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACTCGTGGTTCT Source dbSNP TTGACAGGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACTCGTGGTTCT Location 12:48134961 TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACTCGTGGTTCT Alleles C/T (Forward strand) TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGAATCGTGGTTCT Consequences missense variant TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGAATCGTGGTTCT 3 prime UTR variant TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACCCGTGGTTCT non coding transcript exon variant TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACTCGTGGTTCT intron variant TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACCCGTGGTTCT NMD transcript variant TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGATCCGTGGTTCC Explore this variant TTGACAAGAATGGAAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACCCGTGGTTCT Gene/Transcript Locations TTGACAAGCATGGGAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAAACA
ACAAGGACTCGCGTTCTCGTCTCAACATCATCATTGTGGCCGAGGGTGCATTGACAAGAATGGGAAACCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
ACAAGGACCCGAGGTTCTCGTCTGAACATCATCATTGTGGCTGAGGGTGCATTGACAAGAATGGCAAGCCAATCACCTCAGAAGACA
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