

Contents

Acknowledgement	i
Abstract	iv
List of Figures	xii
List of Tables	xiv
List of Abbreviations	xv
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Definition of ID	1
1.3 Classification of ID	2
1.3.1 The WHO system of classification	2
1.3.2 The AAIDD multidimensional approach	3
1.3.3 The American Psychological Association (APA) multiax- ial system	3
1.4 Prevalence	4
1.4.1 Worldwide prevalence estimates	4
1.4.2 Indian scenario	7
1.5 Etiology	7
1.5.1 Environmental/teratogenic factors	7
1.5.1.1 Exposure to toxins	8
1.5.1.2 Exposure to pathogens	8
1.5.1.3 Malnutrition	8
1.5.1.4 Fetal alcohol syndrome	9
1.5.2 Complications of prematurity	9
1.5.3 Cultural/familial factors	10
1.5.4 Structural central nervous system abnormalities	10
1.5.5 Metabolic and endocrine factors	11
1.5.5.1 Phenylketonuria	11
1.5.5.2 Congenital hypothyroidism	11
1.5.6 Chromosomal abnormalities	12
1.5.7 Recognized syndromes	13
1.5.7.1 Fragile X syndrome	13
1.5.7.2 Williams-Beuren syndrome	13

1.5.7.3	Prader-Willi syndrome	14
1.5.8	Monogenic disorders	14
1.5.9	Unknown etiology/idiopathic ID	15
1.6	Evaluation	25
1.6.1	Family history	26
1.6.2	Psychological assessment	26
1.6.3	Clinical evaluation	28
1.6.3.1	Dysmorphic examination	28
1.6.3.2	Neurodevelopmental assessment	29
1.6.4	Genetic evaluation	32
1.6.4.1	Cytogenetic methods	32
1.6.4.2	Molecular genetic methods	34
1.7	Management of ID	38
1.8	Hypothesis	38
1.9	Aim of the thesis	39
1.10	Objectives	39
	References	40
2	Materials and Methods	58
2.1	Materials	58
2.2	Methods	63
2.2.1	Ethical Clearance	63
2.2.2	Study Subjects	63
2.2.3	Blood Sample Collection	64
2.2.4	Lymphocytes Preparation for Cytogenetic Analysis	64
2.2.4.1	Lymphocyte Culture	64
2.2.4.2	Lymphocyte Harvest	65
2.2.4.3	Slide Preparation	65
2.2.5	High Resolution Banding	65
2.2.5.1	Analysis and Interpretation of Results	66
2.2.6	DNA Isolation for Molecular Genetic Analysis	66
2.2.7	<i>FMRI</i> Gene Screening by PCR	67
2.2.7.1	Analysis and Interpretation of Results	69
2.2.8	Subtelomeric FISH Analysis	69
2.2.8.1	Pretreatment of Slides for FISH	69
2.2.8.2	Ethanol Dehydration of Slides	70
2.2.8.3	Probe Addition and Hybridization	71
2.2.8.4	Post-hybridization Wash	71
2.2.8.5	Analysis and Interpretation of Results	71
2.2.9	MLPA for Interstitial Rearrangements	72
2.2.9.1	Analysis and Interpretation of Results	75
2.2.10	QMPSF for Interstitial Rearrangements	76
2.2.10.1	Analysis and Interpretation of Results	76
2.2.11	qPCR for subtelomeric gene dosage	79
2.2.11.1	Analysis and Interpretation of Results	80
	References	87

3	Cytogenetic Evaluation by High Resolution Banding and Molecular Genetic Screening of <i>FMRI</i> Mutation	89
3.1	Introduction	89
3.2	Methodology	91
3.3	Results	92
3.4	Discussion	95
	References	101
4	Molecular Cytogenetic Evaluation of Subtelomeric Rearrangements by FISH	104
4.1	Introduction	104
4.2	Methodology	105
4.3	Results	105
4.4	Discussion	107
	References	122
5	Molecular Genetic Evaluation of Interstitial Rearrangements Using MLPA and QMPSF	126
5.1	Introduction	126
5.2	Methodology	126
5.3	Results	127
5.4	Discussion	133
	References	136
6	Molecular Genetic Evaluation of the Extent of Subtelomeric Rearrangements in Seven Study Subjects	139
6.1	Introduction	139
6.2	Methodology	139
6.3	Results	140
6.4	Discussion	145
	References	154
	Appendices	158
	A Publications	158
	B Presentations	162
	C Ethics Committee Approval	163
	D Pro forma and Informed Consent	165