

Proposal for a unified CCN nomenclature

The variety of names and biological functions that have been attributed to the CCN proteins have led several researchers in the field to propose a nomenclature unification.

Further to the nomenclature meeting held during the first international workshop on the CCN family of genes in Saint-Malo, a consensus has been reached in favour of keeping the CCN acronym.

It is now proposed to designate the members of the CCN family with a number attached to the CCN acronym, the number reflecting the chronology of their discovery. Some genes have been assigned different names in different species (for example, *ctgf* in human and *fisp12* in mouse; *cyr61* in mouse and *CEF10* in chicken). It is recommended that a single name should be used throughout the different species. For example, CCN1 would represent *cyr61* in all species, with a lower case letter in front of the name to identify species if needed (human CCN1 (hCCN1), mouse CCN1 (mCCN1), etc). According to this proposal *cyr61* will be designated CCN1, *ctgf* will become CCN2, *nov* will be CCN3, and *WISP-1-3* will be CCN4-6.

During a transition period, it might be helpful for readers and authors to quote in brackets the initial name of the CCN gene—for example, hCCN1 (*cyr61*), bearing in mind that the eventual official name would be CCN1.

The steering committee of the CCN society (see below) will be acting as a nomenclature committee for the attribution of CCN names to new member genes of the CCN family yet to be discovered.

Steering committee of the CCN Society

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Mol Path 2001 54: 108
doi: 10.1136/mp.54.2.108

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