Nucleotide sequence of a cDNA encoding Wnt-1 of the Mexican axolotl *Ambystoma mexicanum*

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Wnt-1 (*int-1*, *wingless*) is a proto-oncogene first identified in mammary gland tumors due to its inappropriate expression after activation by the mouse mammary tumor virus (1). A cDNA coding for the Mexican axolotl (*Ambystoma mexicanum*) Wnt-1 (AWnt-1) was found by screening a stage 18-embryo cDNA library with a 200 bp fragment of the axolotl *Wnt-1* obtained by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification. The axolotl Wnt-1 is rich in cysteine residues and has four possible sites for N-linked glycosylation (bold underlined). Comparison of the predicted amino acid sequences of the axolotl, mouse (2), *Xenopus* (3) and *Drosophila* (4) Wnt-1 proteins showed that AWnt-1 is 78% identical to the mouse protein, 76% to *Xenopus* and 56% to *Drosophila*.

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