

1 **Functional interpretation, cataloging, and analysis of 1,341 known and**

2 **new glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase variants**

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8 **ABSTRACT**

9 Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency affects over 500 million individuals who can
10 experience anemia in response to oxidative stressors such as certain foods and drugs. Recently, the World
11 Health Organization (WHO) called for revisiting G6PD variant classification as a priority to implement genetic
12 medicine in low- and middle-income countries. Towards this goal, we sought to collect reports of G6PD
13 variants and provide interpretations. We identified 1,341 G6PD variants in population and clinical databases.
14 Using the ACMG standards and guidelines for the interpretation of sequence variants, we provided
15 interpretations for 268 variants, including 186 variants that were not reported or of uncertain significance in
16 ClinVar, bringing the total number of variants with non-conflicting interpretations to 400. For 414 variants with
17 functional or clinical data, we analyzed associations between activity, stability, and current classification
18 systems, including the new 2022 WHO Classification. We corroborated known challenges with classification
19 systems, including phenotypic variation, emphasizing the importance of comparing variant effects across
20 patients and studies. Biobank data made available by All of Us illustrate the benefit of large-scale sequencing
21 and phenotyping by adding additional support connecting variants to G6PD-deficient anemia. By leveraging
22 available data and interpretation guidelines, we created a repository for information on G6PD variants and
23 nearly doubled the number of variants with clinical interpretations. These tools enable better interpretation of
24 G6PD variants for the implementation of genetic medicine.

25 **INTRODUCTION**

26 Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency is the most common enzymopathy worldwide,
27 affecting over 500 million individuals.¹ G6PD is important in red blood cells since it is the sole source of
28 NADPH needed for detoxification of reactive oxygen species.² Individuals with G6PD deficiency have variants
29 with decreased activity, which can lead to three main clinical manifestations: neonatal jaundice, chronic non-
30 spherocytic hemolytic anemia (CNSHA), and acute hemolytic anemia (AHA) in response to stressors such as
31 certain foods, antibiotics, antimalarials, and infections that elevate reactive oxygen species.^{3,4} Underlying
32 G6PD deficiency is great genetic diversity, with hundreds of identified variant alleles, mostly missense
33 variants in the coding sequence.¹ Interpreting the function and clinical effects of G6PD variants is critical to
34 prevent adverse drug reactions, which are avoidable by prescribing alternate drugs, and to promote neonatal
35 health by prompting increased monitoring.^{3,5}

36 The G6PD gene is located on the X chromosome, so variant phenotypes are most clearly observed in
37 hemizygotes and homozygotes; heterozygotes are largely unaffected, though phenotypes vary between
38 individuals and over time due to random X-inactivation⁴, but identification is important to avoid anemia and
39 jaundice in hemizygous fetuses.^{1,5} Some G6PD variants reach high frequency in specific populations since
40 they provide protection from severe malarial infection and thus are under balancing selection.^{2,6} Many of
41 these G6PD variants are well-studied and have been reported in dozens of publications along with their
42 activity, clinical manifestations, and distribution across local and global populations.² However, many variants
43 are rare and have little data or conflicting reports on their connection to G6PD deficiency and anemia.

44 To aid in understanding the effects of G6PD variants, Yoshida and colleagues suggested a five-category
45 classification system in 1971, based on variant activity and severity of anemia.⁷ The classification scheme,
46 called the World Health Organization (WHO) Classification, was modified in 1985 to contain four classes:
47 Class I variants with very low activity resulting in CNSHA, Class II with very low and severe deficiency, Class
48 III with decreased activity and moderate to mild deficiency, and Class IV with near normal activity.⁸ However,
49 even the original authors cautioned that the classification groups were for "convenience" and cutoffs made
50 "somewhat arbitrarily."⁷ The identification of variants associated with CNSHA that have activity over the 10%
51 cutoff, and the overlap of clinical presentations between Class II and III, led to blurring of distinctions between
52 classes.⁹ Additionally, many variants were classified based on activity or clinical presentation measured in
53 only one individual.⁹

54 Due to these issues, in 2019 the WHO issued a call to reconsider the G6PD classification system to
55 standardize reporting of activity measurements.⁹ Updated guidelines were released in 2022 to account for
56 variability by requiring activity measurements in at least three unrelated hemizygotes and setting new
57 thresholds for median activity to create new classes: A, variants leading to CNSHA with under 20% activity; B,
58 AHA with less than 45% activity; C, no hemolysis and 60-150% activity.¹⁰ However, these new guidelines
59 were developed and tested on only 17 variants, and any that do not conform to these classes are grouped as
60 Class U, uncertain.

61 The WHO Genomics Initiative also identified G6PD classification as a priority for implementation of genetics
62 and genomics medicine in low- and middle-income countries.⁹ The Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation
63 Consortium (CPIC) recently released updated guidelines for medication use in G6PD-deficient individuals,
64 including seven drugs with high risk of inducing AHA in G6PD-deficient patients.⁴ To improve genetic
65 assessment of G6PD deficiency and risk of AHA, we sought to collect all reports of G6PD variant activity
66 measurements and clinical presentation. We also tested the implementation of the 2022 WHO classification
67 system, and applied the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) clinical guidelines to incorporate data
68 from multiple patients across studies to support clinical interpretation of G6PD variants. Here we provide
69 interpretations for 186 variants previously of uncertain significance or not reported on ClinVar, and a collection
70 of information on variant activity, stability, and clinical presentation. We found that biobank data in All of Us
71 captures diverse G6PD variation in sequence and activity, and aligns with interpretations from previous
72 variant reports. These interpretations can increase the applicability of genetic medicine to individuals with rare
73 G6PD variants.

74 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

75 **Variant curation:** Variants were curated from the following databases and PubMed searches: CPIC (last
76 updated February 25, 2021)¹¹, ClinVar¹², dbSNP¹³, gnomAD (v2.1.1 and v3.1.1)¹⁴, LOVD (v3.0 build 26c)¹⁵,
77 bravo (TOPMed Freeze 8) (bravo.sph.umich.edu), HGMD¹⁶, and All of Us (see section below). Intronic
78 variants were only included if a clinical annotation (listed on ClinVar) or functional annotation (activity or
79 stability) was provided. Variants synthesized in vitro but not yet identified in patients were listed in
80 Supplemental Table 3 but not Supplemental Table 1 or included in total variant counts. Final database
81 searches were conducted on August 12, 2022.

82 Variants were denoted by nucleotide change on the negative strand of hg19/GRCh37 and cDNA position for
83 transcript NM_001042351; cDNA position is reported throughout the manuscript. The most common name
84 for each variant is reported in Supplemental Table 1, but all alternate names are also included in
85 Supplemental Table 2. Variant types were determined by nucleotide changes in the coding region (e.g. single
86 missense, synonymous), and noncoding variant types by VEP annotation listed in gnomAD v2.1.1. Alternate
87 exons from NM_000402 and NM_001360016, and the 5'- and 3'-UTR of NM_001042351, were confirmed
88 using the NCBI Genome Data Viewer.¹⁷

89 The only notable corrections made when adding variants to the list were as follows: ClinVar contains two
90 entries for G6PD Puerto Limon on two different transcripts (variation IDs 10381 and 804134), so we listed the
91 variant only once. Variant c.463C>G was presented as G6PD Acrokorinthos though it contained only one of
92 the two nucleotide changes found in the initial characterization of G6PD Acrokorinthos; thus we labeled it as
93 "Acrokorinthos single".^{18,19} A report of c.1186C>T referenced a case study on the same patients which listed
94 the variant as c.1186C>G, which matched the residue change reported in both studies so thus the data are
95 used as support for c.1186C>G.^{20,21} ClinVar variants 1237186 and 1280478 were not included since they do
96 not encode a nucleotide change.

97 **Classifying variants according to ACMG guidelines:** Criteria provided by the American College of Medical
98 Genetics (ACMG) were applied to reports of curated variants (Supplemental Table 4).²² Scores were
99 computed according to a Bayesian classifier with Prior_P 0.1 and translated to interpretations.²³

100 Evidence codes PVS1, PS1, PS2, PS3, PS4, PM1, PM2, PM4, PM5, PM6, PP1, PP3, PP4, and PP5 were
101 used in support of pathogenicity. Reports of decreased activity by clinical testing in red blood cells were
102 considered evidence for PS3 (functional study supports damaging effect); reports of decreased activity for
103 variants expressed in model systems were decreased to moderate support (PS3_M). As recommended for
104 interpreting prevalence in affected individuals compared to controls (PS4), reports of variants in unrelated
105 individuals were considered moderate support since case-control studies are rare (PS4_M).²² The critical
106 domains used for PM1 (located in critical functional domain) were the NADP binding domain (GxxGDLA) from
107 residues 38-44, substrate binding domain from residues 198-206, dimerization domain from residues 380-
108 425, and structural NADP binding site from residues 488-489.^{15,24-26} Other residues shown to be critical for
109 functional domains in individual variant publications were also included with appropriate references. PM2
110 (absent or extremely low frequency in controls) was determined using gnomAD v2.1.1 and v3.1.1, with a
111 conservative cutoff of 0.001 for below carrier frequency since the global prevalence estimate is 0.024-0.079

112 (average 0.05), but allele frequency can be below 0.01 depending on the region.^{27,28} For variants with multiple
113 nucleotide alterations, the lowest frequency site was used to determine if the complex variant frequency was
114 likely below carrier frequency.

115 Evidence codes BA1, BS2, BS3, BP4, BP5, and BP6 were used in support of benign classification. BA1 (>5%
116 frequency in controls) was determined using gnomAD v2.1.1 and v3.1.1; BS1 (frequency in controls greater
117 than expected) was not used since variants over the average carrier frequency of approximately 0.05 were
118 already captured by BA1.²⁷ Reports of normal activity by clinical testing in red blood cells of hemizygotes were
119 considered evidence for BS3 (functional study shows no damaging effect). If the only evidence supporting a
120 pathogenic classification was PM2 (absent or extremely low frequency in controls) but other evidence
121 supported a benign classification, PM2 was disregarded as recommended by previous application of the
122 guidelines.²⁹

123 **Current variant classifications:** World Health Organization classifications by 1985 guidelines were taken
124 from published variant lists or individual publications on the variant.^{1,15,30} In rare cases when multiple classes
125 were proposed, the lower was listed. WHO 2022 criteria were applied to classify variants with activity
126 measurements in at least three unrelated individuals by computing weighted median activity and most severe
127 clinical presentation.¹⁰

128 ClinVar classifications are given as the interpretation listed for each variant as of August 12, 2022; review
129 status (from 0-4 stars with increasing support, though no G6PD variants had three or four stars) was noted at
130 the same time. “Conflicting interpretations of pathogenicity” was shortened to “conflicting.” If two
131 nonconflicting interpretations were given (e.g. “benign / likely benign”), only the first was listed.

132 **Variant activity and stability:** All reports that measured variant activity are listed in Supplemental Table 3,
133 including activity of variants expressed in model systems. To compare average variant activities, only reports
134 of activity measured from red blood cells of hemizygotes were considered. If not computed by the study
135 authors, average activity compared to the commonly used reference B variant was calculated using the
136 provided normal range in the same study, or in rare cases the normal range from a previous publication from
137 the same laboratory. Average variant activity reported in Supplemental Table 1 was calculated as average
138 across studies weighted by number of hemizygotes with measured activity per study.

139 All reports that measured variant stability are listed in Supplemental Table 3. A consensus stability for each
140 variant across studies is listed in Supplemental Table 1; in case of conflicts, stability measured in patient red
141 blood cells was reported, or “conflicting” listed if reports from patient cells differed.

142 **Clinical presentations:** The most severe clinical presentation observed for each variant is reported by study
143 in Supplemental Table 1. In decreasing severity, they are CNSHA, AHA, and asymptomatic deficiency.
144 Nondeficiency was also recorded. In cases where patients were reported as deficient without testing for
145 anemia, the presentation was simply listed as “deficient”; this may also include other presentations such as
146 jaundice without anemia, which are reported in Supplemental Table 3.

147 **All of Us:** All of Us data (allofus.nih.gov) were queried using the All of Us researcher workbench cloud
148 computing environment using Python and R coding languages. To find novel variants that have not been
149 previously reported in humans, we used the online All of Us data browser to identify variants in the G6PD
150 gene in the full whole genome sequencing (WGS) cohort. 118 non-intronic variants (considering exons of
151 NM_001042351, NM_000402 and NM_001360016) were identified that had not been found in previous
152 PubMed or database searches as detailed above.

153 A cohort was created for participants with WGS results available and a G6PD deficiency diagnosis with or
154 without anemia (“deficiency of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase” or “glucose-6-phosphate
155 dehydrogenase deficiency anemia”) resulting in 29 participants. Genomic data were extracted from variant
156 call format (VCF) files available to All of Us researchers and loaded into the workspace notebook using Hail
157 and filtered to the G6PD gene region (ChrX:154527010-154552570, GRCh38). Variants comprising multiple
158 nucleotide changes (multiallelic variants) were split and the resulting Hail matrix was written to Plink format.
159 The Plink files were converted to .raw format for upload into R. 101 variants were identified among these 29
160 people (Supplementary Table 5); for Table 1 the list was then filtered to missense variants. Variant phasing
161 for G6PD was done using Aldy version 4.1.^{31,32} When multiple phasing results were returned, we chose the
162 haplotype that matched the more commonly observed LD structure. For example, for a small number of
163 individual(s) Aldy considered that the variants c.202G>A and c.376A>G were either on the same or separate
164 alleles, however in these instances we chose the haplotype option with these variants on the same allele
165 because that is more commonly observed.

166 Activity data were collected from the following laboratory concept names: “Glucose-6-phosphate
167 dehydrogenase (G6PD); quantitative”, “Glucose-6-Phosphate dehydrogenase [Entitic Catalytic Activity] in
168 Blood”, “Glucose-6-Phosphate dehydrogenase [Enzymatic activity/mass] in Red Blood Cells”, “Glucose-6-
169 Phosphate dehydrogenase [Enzymatic activity/volume] in Red Blood Cells”, “Glucose-6-Phosphate
170 dehydrogenase [Enzymatic activity/volume] in Serum”, “Glucose-6-Phosphate dehydrogenase [Presence] in
171 DBS”, “Glucose-6-Phosphate dehydrogenase [Presence] in Red Blood Cells”, and “Glucose-6-Phosphate
172 dehydrogenase [Presence] in Serum”. Values were normalized to the average of the observational medical
173 outcomes partnership (OMOP) standardized lower and upper limits of the normal range provided for each
174 laboratory measurement and multiplied by 100 to give a percent activity of normal. For values that did not
175 have OMOP normal ranges, but were categorized as “normal”, a value of 100% was assigned. For values
176 without ranges or categorization, the value was normalized to the median of all values in that laboratory
177 concept name group. For participants with multiple lab values, we used the lowest value.

178 **Statistics:** P-values for figures were computed in R using t-test or one-way ANOVA with Tukey’s honestly
179 significant difference (HSD) as noted in figure legends. P-values for Table 2 were calculated using Fisher’s
180 exact test in R on 2x2 contingency tables based on allele counts of the variants in alleles from individuals with
181 versus without a diagnosis of G6PD deficiency or G6PD deficiency anemia.

182 **RESULTS**

183 **An updated catalog of G6PD variants**

184 Through database analysis and literature searches, we identified 1,341 G6PD variants that have been
185 reported in humans (Fig. 1A, Supplemental Table 1). 296 of these variants have been described in
186 publications, most in individuals with G6PD deficiency (75%, 221/296).

187 For 414 variants, additional detailed information on molecular function or clinical interpretation was available
188 (Fig. 1A). However, only 27% (113/414) have been characterized in multiple reports.

189 **Interpreting G6PD variants using ACMG guidelines**

190 By applying the ACMG standards and guidelines for the interpretation of sequence variants^{22,23} to our
191 collected information, we classified 268 variants, 186 of which were previously unclassified (166) or listed as
192 uncertain significance or other on ClinVar (20) (Fig. 1B, Supplemental Table 4). We also provided
193 interpretations of 12 variants with conflicting interpretations on ClinVar, lending additional support for
194 classification.

195 We observed a general consensus for 75 variants interpreted on ClinVar with sufficient information for us to
196 also interpret them using ACMG guidelines (Fig. 1C). The 61 variants ClinVar interpreted as pathogenic or
197 likely pathogenic we also interpreted in one of those groups. There were far fewer published reports in
198 support of benign interpretation, but our interpretation agreed with ClinVar for 9/14 benign and likely benign
199 variants. For three variants interpreted on ClinVar as benign, we found conflicting reports of hemizygotes with
200 and without deficiency and wide variation in activity (Supplemental Tables 3 and 4); these conflicts led us to
201 interpret them as variants of uncertain significance. For the other two conflicting variants, one was deposited
202 as likely benign but without evidence to assess independently (variation ID 1546331), while we found a report
203 of decreased activity and G6PD deficiency³³; the other conflicting variant was deposited to ClinVar by OMIM
204 as benign for its “nearly normal properties” (variation ID 10362), but investigating the referenced reports
205 shows that activity was decreased to 20% of normal.^{34,35} Applying ACMG guidelines to the information on
206 these two variants suggested they are likely pathogenic.

207 By combining the 219 variants already interpreted on ClinVar with our additional interpretation of 186 variants
208 and five benign variants called into question, 400 G6PD variants now have proposed interpretations other
209 than uncertain or conflicting (Fig. 1B). Most are nonsynonymous coding variants (60%, 239/400), and most of
210 those are single missense variants (85%, 202/239).

211 **Evaluating G6PD activity in the context of variant classifications**

212 Since G6PD deficiency results from insufficient G6PD activity, we used our collected data on G6PD variant
213 activity to assess different strategies that infer or categorize G6PD variant function by activity. Most G6PD
214 variants associated with deficiency alter the amino acid sequence, and few regulatory variants have been
215 characterized.¹ We confirmed that variants not affecting the coding sequence had significantly higher activity
216 and were rarely associated with anemia (Fig. 2A). Variants altering the coding sequence led to a range of

217 activity and clinical presentations, but all nonsense variants and deletions led to less than 10% normal activity
218 and CNSHA (Fig. 2B).

219 Using the 1985 WHO classification scheme, we found that G6PD variant activity increases as class levels
220 increase (Fig. 2C), but our data corroborate known issues with the 1985 WHO classification method.^{9,10}
221 Several Class I variants associated with CNSHA have over 10% activity, and for some reported as Class I we
222 were unable to find clinical reports to support the diagnosis of CNSHA. Classes II and III both contained
223 variants that led to AHA, rendering them redundant. Applying the 2022 WHO classification method, which
224 requires variants to have measured activity in at least three unrelated hemizygotes¹⁰, we observed clearer
225 separation between variants leading to CNSHA and AHA (Fig. 2D). However, many variants that have not
226 been reported to lead to anemia also have activity below 60% of normal and thus were classified as
227 uncertain.

228 Although the interpretations provided by ClinVar do not require reporting of variant activity, pathogenic and
229 likely pathogenic variants have significantly lower activity than benign variants (Fig. 2E). Variant activity is
230 considered when applying the ACMG guidelines, so pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants have
231 significantly lower activity than benign variants (Fig. 2F).

232 **G6PD structure impacts variant function and clinical presentation**

233 G6PD contains several domains required for its function, including NADP binding sites, a substrate binding
234 site, and dimerization domain.²⁶ The dimerization domain is especially important since G6PD is only active as
235 a dimer and tetramer.¹ Variants that disrupt the dimerization domain are often predicted to be detrimental,
236 which is evident in our collected data by a cluster of variants in the dimer interface with low activity and
237 stability associated with CNSHA (Fig. 3A-C).

238 Loss of stability is a major mechanism of G6PD deficiency¹, and we observed that most variants associated
239 with CNSHA were unstable (89%, 34/38) (Fig. 3D-E). Some variants had decreased activity but normal
240 stability, suggesting a decrease in specific activity (Fig. 3D).

241 **Variation across reports contributes to challenges in variant interpretation**

242 A challenge in interpreting G6PD variant effects is the variability between individuals sharing the same
243 genotype, even when only considering hemizygotes with deficiency.¹⁰ This was part of the rationale for
244 requiring activity to be measured in three unrelated individuals for the 2022 WHO variant classification, and
245 the variability is clear when observing reported activity for variants with five or more studies (Fig. 4A). Some
246 variants associated with anemia have reports of activity ranging from less than 2% to over 60% of normal
247 (G6PD Chatham, Canton, and Kaiping). Separating variants by clinical presentation still reveals high
248 variability across variants and studies (Fig. 4B), and the activity of variants reported with AHA is not
249 significantly different from ones reported without symptoms.

250 **Diverse biobank data provide additional support for genotype-phenotype relationships** The majority of
251 G6PD variants with publications supporting their link to deficiency have been reported in fewer than three
252 individuals (70%, 167/240, Supplemental Table 3). The All of Us Research Project has collected clinical
253 codes and whole-genome sequencing from thousands of diverse individuals, enabling us to connect variants

254 with clinical presentations. Whole genome sequencing data included 118 novel variants not identified in any
255 of our prior database or literature searches, including 18 missense and one frameshift variant (Table S1). 29
256 individuals were reported as diagnosed with G6PD-deficiency, with or without anemia, and carry four G6PD
257 missense variants in different combinations (Table 1 and 2). This includes rarer alleles such as A- 968
258 (c.[376A>G;968T>C]), which has previously only been reported with anemia in three individuals, one
259 homozygote and two heterozygotes.^{36,37} Three missense variants in G6PD (c.202G>A, c.376A>G, and
260 c.563C>T) were significantly enriched in All of Us alleles from participants with a diagnosis of G6PD
261 deficiency (p-values < 0.0001) (Table 2). Occurrence of common A- 202 variant c.[202G>A;376A>G] in both
262 G6PD-deficient individuals who are asymptomatic and who have AHA is in agreement with other reports
263 (Supplemental Table 3).

264 G6PD activity data were available for a subset of the 29 individuals with G6PD deficiency, and agreed with
265 previous reports. Individuals hemizygous or homozygous for the common A- 202 variant had decreased
266 activity (average 12% of normal), while heterozygotes had near-normal activity (average 131%) but ranged
267 widely (Fig. 4C). The heterozygous combination of A- 968 and A+ variants (c.[376A>G;968T>C];[376A>G])
268 led to slightly decreased activity (average 76% of normal), similar to activity previously reported in A- 968
269 heterozygotes with deficiency (44-66%).³⁸

270 There were 21 variants present in individuals with a G6PD-deficient anemia diagnosis without any previously
271 known or suspected missense variants causative of G6PD deficiency. These included one synonymous, 15
272 intronic, and five downstream variants (two in the 3'-UTR). One of the 3'-UTR variants (c.*357G>A) and the
273 synonymous variant (c.1311C>T) have been previously reported with deficiency and anemia in the absence
274 of missense variation, but also in many cases of nondeficiency (Supplementary Table 3). However, despite a
275 diagnosis of G6PD deficiency, individuals without missense variants for whom activity measurements were
276 available did not have decreased G6PD activity (average 115% of normal) (Fig. 4C).

277 DISCUSSION

278 By conducting a systematic review of literature and databases, we compiled a catalog of all G6PD variants
279 reported in humans. Applying the ACMG guidelines to information in published reports enabled us to classify
280 276 variants, 182 of which were previously unreported or of uncertain significance on ClinVar, bringing the
281 total number of G6PD variants with functional interpretations to 400. We are continuing to maintain an
282 updated catalog of G6PD variants and their effects, available at <https://github.com/reneegeck/G6PDcat>, so
283 that data on variant function and clinical presentation are available for research and interpretation.

284 For the variants with data on activity and stability, our collected findings generally support the WHO
285 classification systems that group variants by activity and phenotypic severity^{9,10}, but we note that many
286 variants with low activity have not been reported to lead to anemia and thus do not fit the WHO classification
287 thresholds. The data also highlight that while lower variant activity is associated with more severe clinical
288 manifestations, there is a range of activities in each variant class such that one cannot always be accurately
289 predicted from the other. To further confound this, reports of activity and clinical presentation for one variant
290 can vary greatly between individuals and over time.⁴ The 2022 WHO classification system takes inter-
291 individual variation into account, requiring that classification is based on clinical reports of the presence or

292 absence of anemia and the activity from at least three unrelated hemizygotes.¹⁰ Only 53 variants met these
293 criteria, so we encourage clinicians to continue reporting patients' variant activity and if they present with
294 anemia. Currently, the variability of activity for many variants emphasizes that point-of-care activity tests
295 remain critical to diagnose deficiency and inform drug prescription and dosage for each individual. Activity
296 tests are also necessary for heterozygotes since their activity varies based on X-inactivation, but knowing that
297 a variant can lead to deficiency in hemizygotes is valuable to support testing in heterozygotes.

298 Despite efforts to interpret the effects of G6PD variants, the function of most identified variants remains
299 unknown. There is a particular dearth of molecular evidence on variants not associated with anemia or other
300 symptoms. Many of these have been reported through population sequencing, but since individuals with
301 G6PD deficiency can be healthy unless they encounter a trigger, presence of a variant in a population
302 database does not preclude decreased activity. Diverse biobank data, such as that provided by All of Us,
303 enabled us to find 118 novel G6PD variants, 18 of which were rare missense variants. This biobank data will
304 increase our ability to interpret and classify variants, especially when data are provided on G6PD deficiency
305 status or G6PD activity. While most data on G6PD activity and genotype-phenotype correlations have been
306 collected through studies focused on G6PD deficiency, our analysis of All of Us highlights the role that large,
307 diverse biobank data can play in the future of variant interpretation. Recent successes in functionalizing
308 variants with multiplexed assays of variant effect are also being applied to coding variation in G6PD, which
309 will be particularly useful for extremely rare variants with little to no clinical data.^{29,39}

310 While most noncoding variants in G6PD are presumed to be benign or of little effect, this merits further
311 investigation, particularly for variants observed in multiple individuals with G6PD deficiency. Noncoding
312 variants found in individuals with G6PD deficiency but without missense variation, as is the case for some
313 individuals in All of Us, could be a starting point for functional assessment of noncoding variation. However,
314 discordance between diagnostic codes of G6PD deficiency and activity measurements presents a challenge
315 for interpretation. Activity measurements taken during a hemolytic crisis or following a transfusion can be
316 elevated due to high percentages of reticulocytes or donor cells, and lack of that information can confound
317 analysis of biobank data.⁴ Reporting multiple measurements over time compared to nondeficient controls aids
318 in interpretation of G6PD activity tests.^{1,4}

319 Our efforts to classify G6PD variants using published data benefited from the abundant literature, since G6PD
320 deficiency was first described in 1956.²⁸ Other genes with considerable variation and many reports with
321 clinical and functional data could be similarly reviewed and analyzed to provide variant interpretations.
322 Determining the gaps between numbers of identified variants and number of characterized variants could
323 highlight genes that would benefit from multiplexed functional studies to provide information on many variants
324 of unknown or uncertain function.

325 By making use of published studies of G6PD variants, especially those reporting clinical effects, our
326 interpretations can be used to inform clinical decision making. With our addition of 182 interpretations, the
327 number of G6PD variants with data available to aid interpretation has increased to 400 variants. Although
328 there is variability of effects between individuals, adding to the number of variants with proposed
329 interpretations increases the information available to clinicians as they make decisions on how to treat and

330 advise patients with G6PD deficiency. Coupled with robust drug prescribing recommendations⁴, these variant
331 interpretations enable the application of genetic medicine for individuals with G6PD variants.

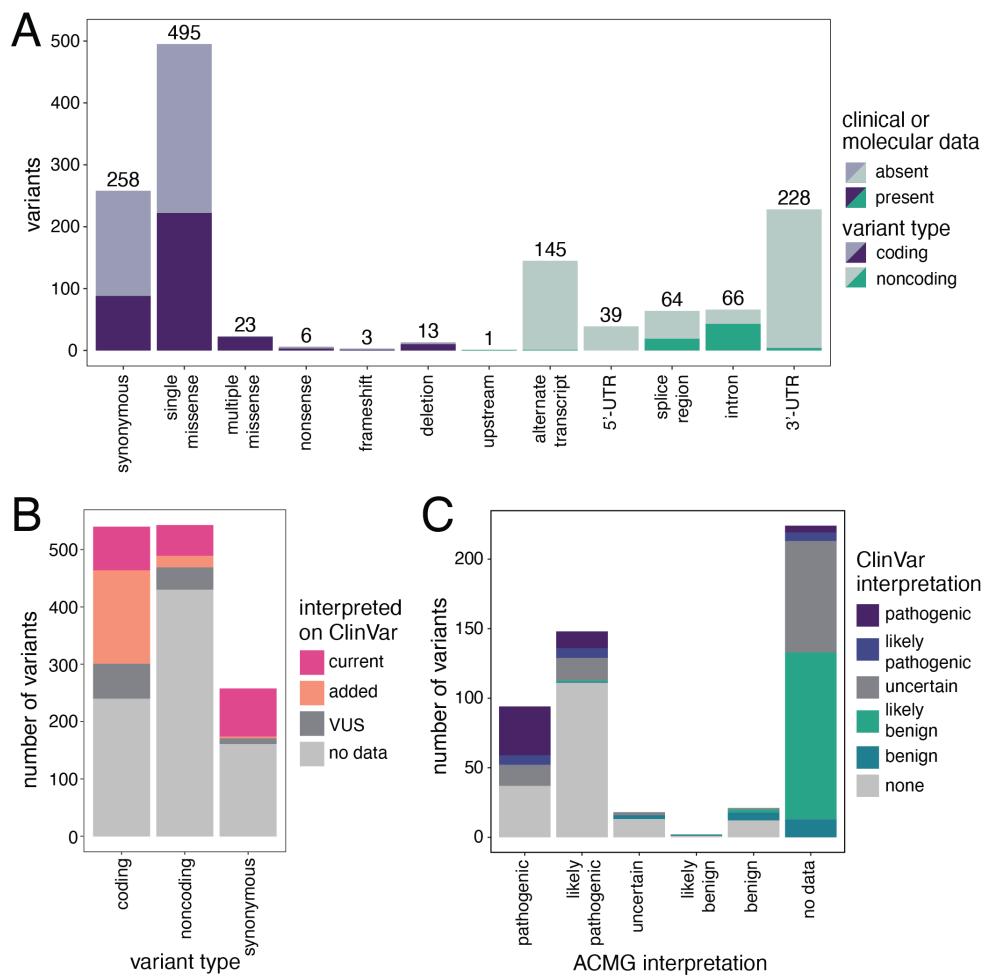
332 **Supplemental data:** Supplemental data includes five tables.

333 **Declaration of interests:** The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

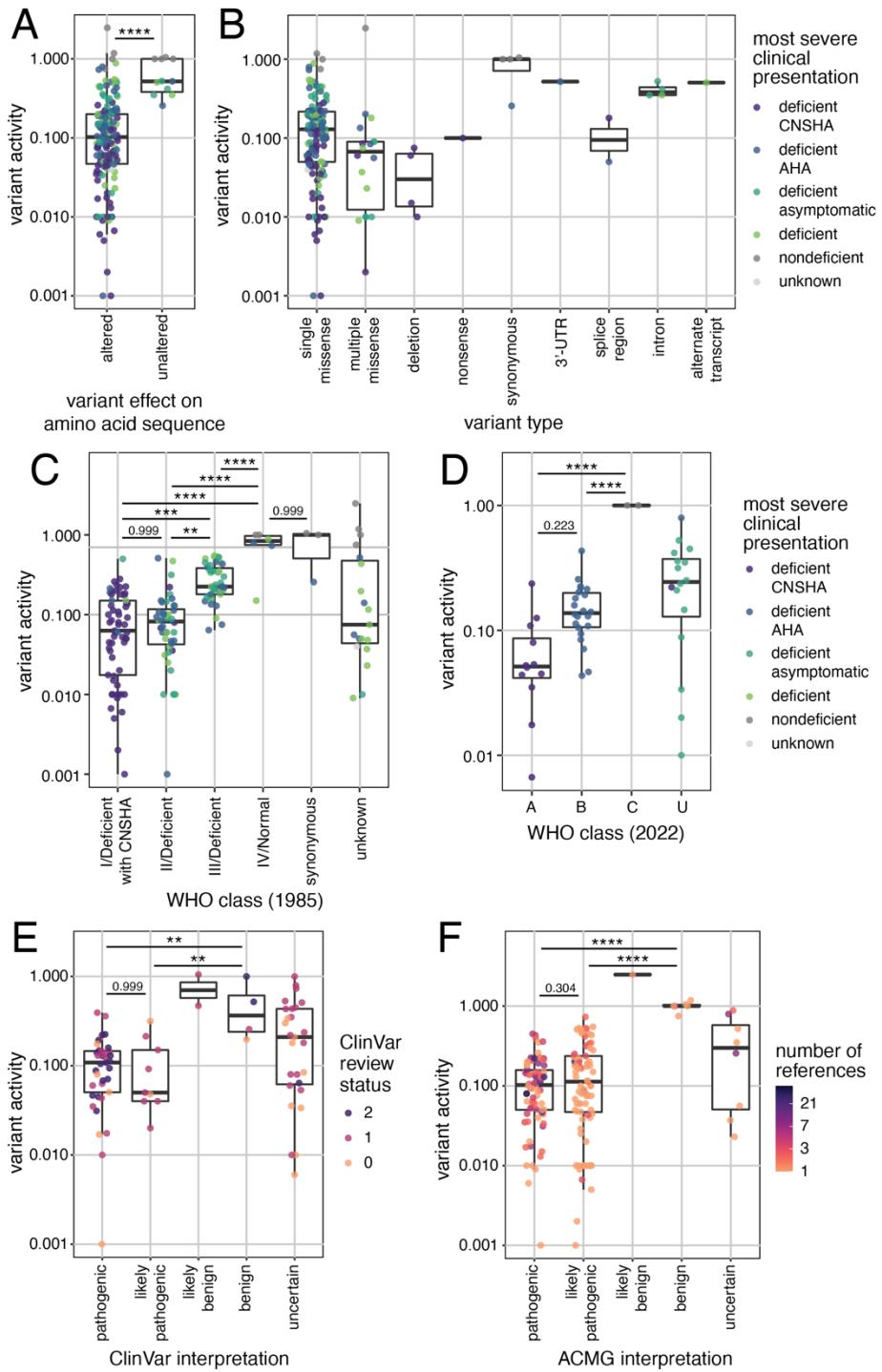
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346 OD025276. In addition, the All of Us Research Program would not be possible without the partnership of its
347 participants.

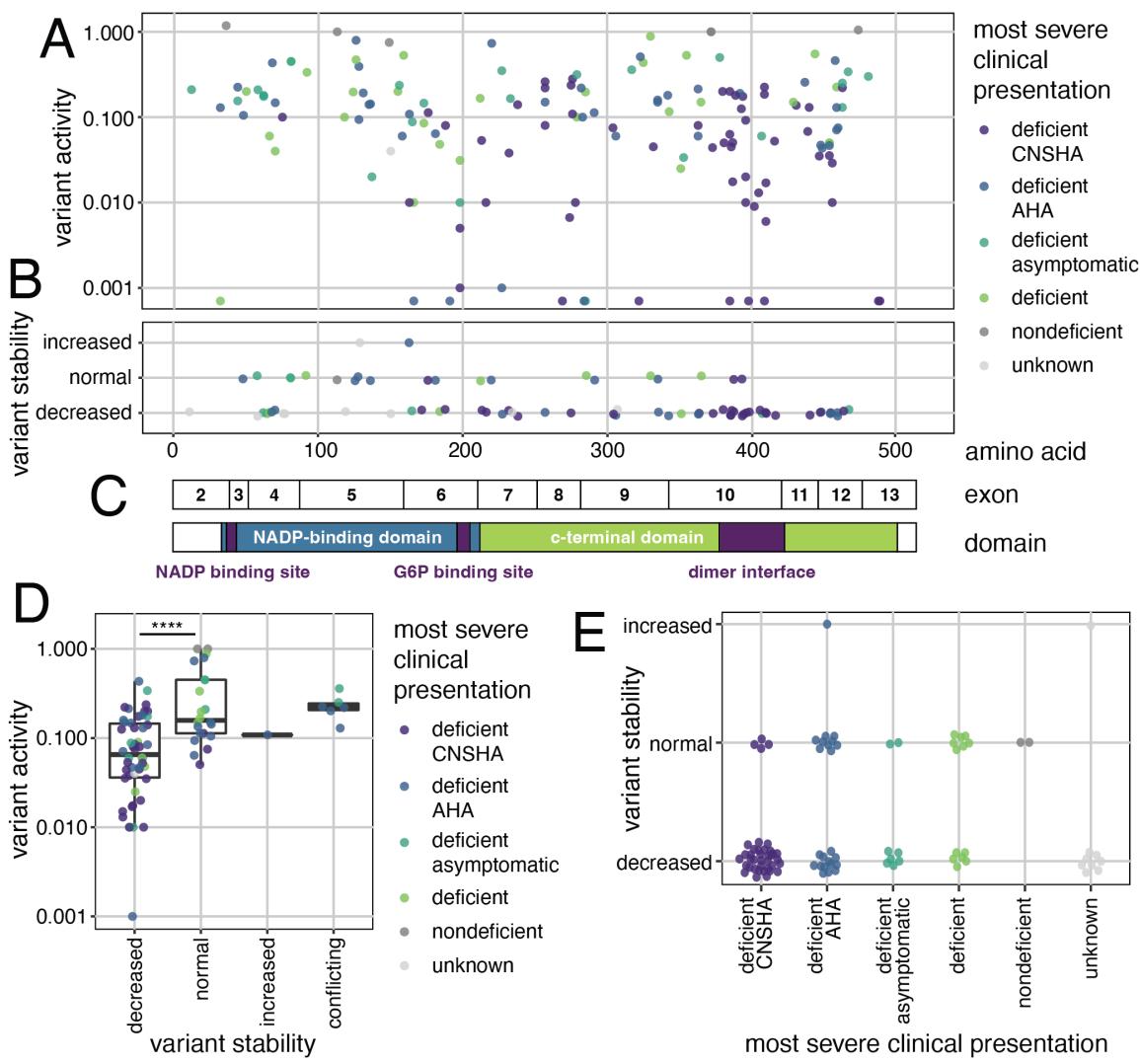
348 **Data and code availability:** The most current versions of variant lists are available at
349 <https://github.com/reneegeck/G6PDcat>. Plots, weighted averages and medians, and significance statistics for
350 figures were produced using R code which is also available on GitHub. Code used for All of Us analyses is
351 saved in the All of Us workbook and will be gladly shared with approved users upon request.



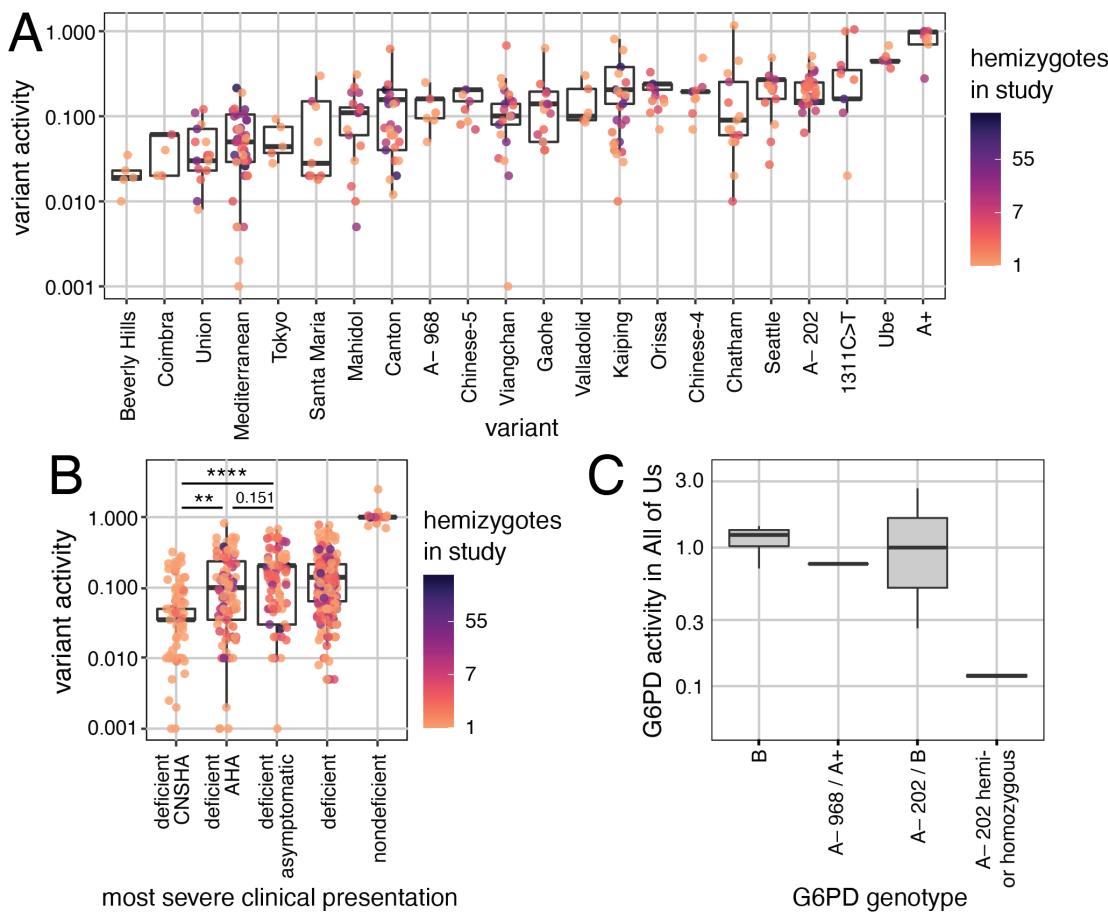
352 **Figure 1: G6PD variant interpretation.** (A) A total of 1,341 G6PD variants found from variant database and
353 PubMed queries. Clinical or molecular data indicates the variant is interpreted on ClinVar (as benign, likely
354 benign, likely pathogenic, or pathogenic), or has activity or stability data available from published studies. (B)
355 214 variants with interpretations currently available on ClinVar, and an additional 186 interpreted by applying
356 ACMG guidelines to published reports. VUS includes variants interpreted as uncertain or with conflicting
357 interpretations, including five previously interpreted on ClinVar. (C) Concordance between variant
358 interpretations on ClinVar and by our application of ACMG guidelines for 509 total G6PD variants.



359 **Figure 2: Classification systems for G6PD variants.** (A-B) Average G6PD activity by type of genetic
360 alteration in the variant, with most severe reported clinical presentation associated with each variant
361 ("deficiency" indicates further information on anemia was not collected). (C) Average G6PD variant activity by
362 1985 and (D) 2022 WHO classification, (E) ClinVar interpretation, and (F) by our application of ACMG
363 guidelines. In ClinVar review status, 0 indicates least supporting evidence, and increasing numbers indicate
364 increasing support. All average activities are from red blood cell extracts and weighted by number of
365 hemizygotes per study. P-value by one-way ANOVA with Tukey's HSD, except A by t-test, ** p<0.01, ***
366 p<0.001, **** p<0.0001.



367 **Figure 3: G6PD structure and variant effects.** (A) G6PD variant activity and (B) stability across (C) the
 368 structural domains, with most severe clinical presentation associated with each variant (“deficiency” indicates
 369 further information on anemia was not collected). Only single missense and synonymous variants shown. (D)
 370 Variant stability compared to activity and (E) phenotypic severity. All average activities are from red blood cell
 371 extracts and weighted by number of hemizygotes per study. P-value by one-way ANOVA with Tukey’s HSD,
 372 **** p<0.0001.



373 **Figure 4: Variation in activity and clinical presentation for G6PD variants across studies.** (A) Average
374 G6PD activity (normalized to B variant activity) per study for all variants with at least 5 independent reports.
375 (B) Average G6PD variant activity by most severe clinical presentation in each study. Nondeficient group is
376 significantly different from each other group ($p < 0.0001$). All average activities are from red blood cell extracts
377 of hemizygotes, and box plots weighted by number of hemizygotes per study. P-value by one-way ANOVA
378 with Tukey's HSD, ** $p < 0.01$, **** $p < 0.0001$. (C) G6PD activity measured in blood or serum for fewer than 20
379 individuals with the code “Deficiency of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase” or “Glucose-6-phosphate
380 dehydrogenase deficiency anemia” in All of Us. Some individuals with B variant have noncoding variation.
381 Box sizes represent variation between individuals and thus do not reflect the absolute number of individuals.

382 **Table 1: Missense variants associated with G6PD deficiency in All of Us**

missense variants	number of participants with deficiency without anemia	number of participants with deficiency with anemia
none	≥ 1	≥ 1
hemizygous c.[202G>A;376A>G]	≥ 1	≥ 1
homozygous c.[202G>A;376A>G]	0	≥ 1
heterozygous c.[202G>A;376A>G]	≥ 1	≥ 1
c.[202G>A;376A>G]; [376A>G]	0	≥ 1
heterozygous c.376A>G	≥ 1	0
hemizygous c.563C>T	0	≥ 1
heterozygous c.563C>T	≥ 1	0
c.[376A>G;968T>C]; [376A>G]	0	≥ 1

383 Missense variants found in 29 individuals with the code “Deficiency of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase”
384 or “Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency anemia” in All of Us. All variants found in fewer than 20
385 individuals, therefore exact numbers cannot be provided per All of Us data dissemination policy.

386 **Table 2: Missense variant enrichment in individuals with G6PD deficiency in All of Us**

variant SNP	p-value
c.202G>A	$< 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$
c.376A>G	9.1×10^{-13}
c.563C>T	1.1×10^{-5}
c.968T>C	0.08

387 Enrichment p-values by two sided Fisher exact tests for missense variant SNPs found in 29 individuals with
388 the code “Deficiency of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase” or “Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase
389 deficiency anemia” in All of Us compared to individuals without either code.

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