

Together, the findings show how light

FRQ, like TIM and PER, cycles every 24 hours and controls its cycling by shutting down its own gene. But while PER and TIM peak at night, FRQ reaches its highest level

–Marcia Barinaga

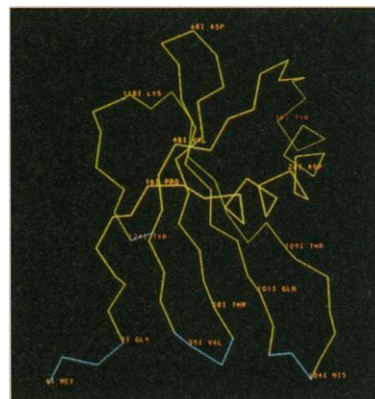
Gene Perplexes Epilepsy Researchers

The Stanford and Helsinki teams, however, conducted a search designed to pick up the gene at fault in EPM1 whatever its function. They chose EPM1, which causes a gradual neurodegeneration leading to

Homing in on that target region, both teams sequenced short pieces from different genes within it and compared them with known genes in sequence databases. When one of the Stanford team's sequences scored a match—with the gene for cystatin B—they went back to the pedigree samples. Using cell lines made from the white blood cells of each patient, Myers's team isolated all the RNA

–Claire O'Brien

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Unlikely perpetrator. An absence of the protein cystatin B somehow leads to a rare form of epilepsy.