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CFTR structure and cystic fibrosis.

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Keywords: Cystic fibrosis; Cystic fibrosis conductance regulator; CFTR; Membrane protein; Protein structure; Ion channel.

Abstract

CFTR (cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator) is a member of the ATP-binding cassette family of membrane proteins. Although almost all members of this family are transporters, CFTR functions as a channel with specificity for anions, in particular chloride and bicarbonate. In this review we look at what is known about CFTR structure and function within the context of the ATP-binding cassette family. We also review current strategies aimed at obtaining the high resolution structure of the protein.

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