

This gene encodes a member of the peptidase M10 family of matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs). Proteins in this family are involved in the breakdown of extracellular matrix in normal physiological processes, such as embryonic development, reproduction, and tissue remodeling, as well as in disease processes, such as arthritis and metastasis. The encoded preproprotein is proteolytically processed to generate the mature protease. This secreted protease breaks down fibronectin, laminin, elastin, proteoglycan core protein, gelatins, and several types of collagen. The gene is part of a cluster of MMP genes on chromosome 11. [provided by RefSeq, Jan 2016]

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