

WFS1 F879L — Wolframin

Phenylalanine → Leucine at position 879. C-terminal ER-luminal (calcium binding. ClinVar Uncertain significance, AlphaMissense 0.967, DynaMut2 $\Delta\Delta G$ -1.40 kcal/mol (destabilising)).

IDENTITY

Variant	F879L (p.Phenylalanine879Leucine)
DNA change	c.2637C>G
Gene · Protein	WFS1 · Wolframin (890 aa)
UniProt	O76024 · WFS1_HUMAN
ClinVar accession	VCV003382082
Amino acid change	Phenylalanine (F) → Leucine (L)

STRUCTURAL CONTEXT

AlphaFold model	AF-O76024-F1, v6
pLDDT at residue 879	84.19 HIGH CONFIDENCE
Domain	C-terminal ER-luminal (calcium binding, calmodulin, chaperone)
Position context	C-terminal luminal domain · position 879 projects into the ER lumen
IDR flag	No — pLDDT well above 50 threshold

Position 879 sits in the C-terminal luminal domain (residues 653–869), wolframin's largest soluble region. This domain projects into the ER lumen and is implicated in calcium handling, ER stress sensing, and protein–protein interactions with ATF6 and Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase β 1. The wild-type residue is large aromatic hydrophobic (phenylalanine); the mutant is medium hydrophobic (leucine — branched). The chemistry shift implies altered local packing, hydrogen-bonding, and/or electrostatics at this site.

COMPUTATIONAL PREDICTIONS

ALPHAMISSENSE

0.967am_class: **likely pathogenic** —
threshold > 0.564DYNAMUT2 $\Delta\Delta G$ **-1.4** kcal/molDestabilising · Job
178092097196

PLDDT (ALPHAFOLD)

84.19

high confidence

CLINICAL EVIDENCE

ClinVar classification	UNCERTAIN SIGNIFICANCE
Review status	criteria provided, single submitter
Last evaluated	2025/05/12 00:00
Inheritance	Autosomal dominant pattern indicated by associated DFNA6/14/38 (WFS1 hearing loss 6).
WFS1 variant landscape	F879L is 1 of ~326 pathogenic-spectrum variants in WFS1 (out of 2,243 in ClinVar) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wolfram syndrome 1• Autosomal dominant nonsyndromic hearing loss 6• Type 2 diabetes mellitus• Cataract 41• Wolfram-like syndrome

RESEARCH PATH DECISION TREE

$\Delta\Delta G < 2$ + binding site affected → CATEGORY 3 – docking experiments $\Delta\Delta G 2-4$ → CATEGORY 2 – pharmacological chaperones $\Delta\Delta G > 4$ → CATEGORY 1 – gene therapy pLDDT < 50 → CATEGORY 5 – IDR, experimental only Stable fold + functional site hit → CATEGORY 4 – site-specific docking

Category 3/4 — Most Druggable

$|\Delta\Delta G|=1.40 < 2$ kcal/mol (fold intact) + AlphaMissense 0.967 confirms functional impact. Specific local contacts disrupted — priority for docking and pharmacological chaperone screening.

Wolfram's fold survives this substitution ($|\Delta\Delta G|=1.40$ kcal/mol). The pathogenic signal is real — AlphaMissense places it at 0.967. Protein still folds, but a specific local site is broken. Pharmacological chaperones and small-molecule binders are the rational therapeutic vector.