

A study of p53 ONCOGENE in CASES of ENDOMETRIAL hyperPLASIA

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Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Aim of the work</i>	5
<i>Review of literature</i>	6
□ Principles of molecular biology of cancer.	6
□ Characteristics of cancer cells.	6
□ Cancer is a genetic disease .	7
□ Causes of cancer.	
(A) Carcinogens as mutagenes.	9
(B) Viruses and cancer .	12
□ Identifacation of viral , cellular oncogenes & tumor suppressor genes.	24
(A) Retroviruses and oncogenes.	26
(B) Oncogenes and cellular growth.	34
1- Growth factor variants .	36
2- Growth factor receptor variants.	39
3- Signal transmitter variants.	44
4- Nuclear factor variants.	45
□ How cellular proto-oncogenes go wrong.	49
□ The tumor suppressor genes , Tumor suppression and p53.	57
□ Serum tumor marker CA125.	77
□ Endometrial hyperplasia.	87
<i>Material and methods</i>	103
<i>Results</i>	116
<i>Discussion</i>	148
<i>Summary and conclusions</i>	155
<i>References</i>	159

List of tables

Table 1 :	Oncogenes; classification and functions	35
Table 2 :	Selection of well characterized oncogenes and the protein they encode	48
Table 3 :	Example of tumor suppressor genes involved in human cancers .	58
Table 4 :	CA125 levels in non ovarian malignancies	83
Table 5 :	CA125 levels in pretreatment sera of ovarian cancer patients according to histological types .	84
Table 6 :	CA125 levels in "second look" procedures .	86
Table 7 :	The clinical, histopathological and laboratory data of the studied groups .	116
Table 8 :	Histopathological findings and the their frequencies in the studied groups .	120
Table 9 :	Age distribution between the studied groups .	123
Table 10 :	Age distribution between different types of endometrial hyperplasia .	126
Table 11 :	The parity distribution of the different studied groups .	128
Table 12 :	The parity distribution of the different types of endometrial hyperplasia .	128
Table 13 :	The weight distribution between the patients of the studied groups	133
Table 14 :	The mean value of p53 /mg nuclear protein in tissues of endometrial hyperplasia & normal groups .	138
Table 15 :	The mean value of p53 /mg nuclear protein in tissues of endometrial cancer & normal groups .	138
Table 16 :	Sensitivity and specificity of p53 /pr. in endometrial hyperplasia .	139
Table 17 :	Sensitivity and specificity of p53 /pr. in endometrial cancer .	140
Table 18 :	Mean value of CA125 assay in cases of E. hyperplasia and normal groups .	143
Table 19 :	Mean value of CA125 assay in cases of E.cancer and normal groups .	143
Table 20 :	Sensitivity and specificity of CA125 assay in endometrial hyperplasia .	144
Table 21 :	Sensitivity and specificity of CA125 assay in endometrial cancer	145

List of Figures

Figure 1 :	Conversion of benzo (a) Pyrene to the ultimate carcinogen.	11
Figure 2 :	Interaction between a benzo (a)pyrene diol epoxide & the DNA base guanine .	11
Figure 3 :	Normal and transformed cells .	16
Figure 4 :	Replication of retroviruses .	27
Figure 5 :	Genetic map of sarcoma virus .	28
Figure 6 :	Hypothesis of conversion of cellular oncogen to a viral oncogen .	31
Figure 7 :	Comparative structure of the proviruses of standard replication component and acute transforming retrovirus .	32
Figure 8 :	Activation of a cellular proto-oncogene by an inserted provirus .	33
Figure 9 :	(A) Schematic presentation of the cellular compartments in which proto-oncogenes are localised . (B) Stimulation of the cell cycle to enter G ₁ phase of growth by PDGF or FGF .	34
Figure 10 :	Schematic diagram of the cell division control network .	38
Figure 11 :	Function of EGF.	40
Figure 12 :	The V-erb-B protein as a truncated EGF receptor.	41
Figure 13 :	Composite model of some of the changes leading to cell division.	42
Figure 14 :	possible relationship of the molecular biology of growth factors to the function of oncogenes.	47
Figure 15 :	Isolation of mutant <i>ras</i> gene from human bladder carcinoma .	51
Figure 16 :	(A) Wild type <i>ras</i> protein. (B) Mutant type <i>ras</i> protein.	52
Figure 17 :	Amplification of c-myc gene by the promoter of avian leukosis virus (ALV).	54
Figure 18 :	The 8;14 translocation in Burkitt's lymphoma as a corruption of normal antibody gene rearrangement .	55
Figure 19 :	Functional domains (sites of transactivation and DNA binding).	65
Figure 20 :	The standard curve of p53 assay .	110
Figure 21 :	Graphical representation of the histopathological finding in the studied group.	121
Figure 22 :	Frequency distribution as regard the age in the studied groups .	124
Figure 23 :	Frequency distribution as regard the age between different types of endometrial hyperplasia.	127

List of figures continued :

Figure 24 :	Parity distribution in the different studied groups .	130
Figure 25 :	Parity distribution between different types of endometrial hyperplasia.	131
Figure 26 :	Frequency distribution as regard the weight in the studied groups.	134
Figure 27 :	p53 assay results in the studied groups .	136
Figure 28 :	p53/mg nuclear protein results in the studied groups.	137
Figure 29 :	CA125 assay results in the studied groups .	142
Figure 30 :	Correlation between CA125 & p53 in endometrial hyperplasia .	146
Figure 31 :	Correlation between CA125 & p53 in endometrial cancer .	147

P53 & Endometrial hyperplasia

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

In no area of medicine has recombinant DNA had a greater impact than in our understanding of cancer . Although this disease has been obscure for decades , the seed for recent explosive growth in our knowledge of cancer was planted in 1911 ; in that year *Rous Peyton* discovered that filtered cell-free extracts from chicken tumors could cause new tumors when inoculated into healthy chickens . It was eventually recognized that what Rous had discovered was a tumor virus . The realization that a tumor virus with an exceedingly small genome could trigger the entire panoply of traits that characterize a cancer cell was an intellectual watershed : the task of understanding how a cell's entire growth program is rewritten in cancer now seemed a feasible one . What was not anticipated was that tumor viruses would provide a window on our own genome.(*Watson*, 1992).

A window opened wide by recombinant DNA technology . what we have learned since the tools of recombinant DNA were unleashed on the cancer problem is that our own genome is littered with genes having the potential to cause cancer and other genes having the power to block it . From the study of these genes , We have derived a greater understanding of molecular events that occur in tumor cells and we have discovered many of the players that orchestrate normal cell growth & differentiation (*Watson*, 1992).

Oncogenes

During division of the cancer cells ; they transmit the neoplastic phenotype to their daughter cells ; for that reason it has been generally assumed that the neoplastic phenotype inheritance is determined by specific genes , this assumption explains the great appeal of oncogenic viruses for cancer researches . These oncogenic viruses are capable of inducing all the pathologic and clinical changes associated with neoplastic disease and in some cases a virus can introduce single gene agent (*oncogene*) into a normal cell whose product can initiate & maintain the neoplastic state in this cell . (*Neiman* , 1987)

These oncogenes represent altered form of cellular proto-oncogenes which have important cellular function in normal state. Human homologues of some of these oncogenes may play a role in human cancer development and this hypothesis arouse a number of questions about nature of oncogenes , the control of their expression , the biochemical nature of their products & the mechanisms of interaction with the metabolism of the host cell (*Neiman* , 1987) .

Proto-oncogene

Recently molecular biologist have discovered a class of genes termed proto-oncogenes which are highly conserved during vertebrate evolution and which may provide a substrate upon which the multitude of carcinogenic stimuli can play . Over 20 proto-oncogenes have already been identified , they are normal constituents of all cells & appear to be critically important in regulation of normal cell growth and differentiation . The products of proto-oncogenes assume specific cellular location & can be divided into distinct functional families

which will be clarified in the review : they include for example growth factors and growth factor receptors.

The conversion of a proto-oncogenes ; a vital normal cellular constituents to an oncogene capable of transforming cells results from a mutation within the proto-oncogen or abnormal expression of its products (*Nienhuis & Sherr*, 1987).

Some variants of the cell growth controlling genes act as a tumor suppressor genes with their products are the negative growth regulators and their loss of function results in the expression of transformed phenotype while the oncogen products are positive effectors of transformation . (*Devita*,1993).

P53 gene

◆ The protein **p53** was identified through its association with simian virus 40 (*SV40*) & it was the first cellular protein shown to bind to the transforming gene product of DNA virus (*Lane & Crawford* , 1979)

◆ **p53** gene appear to play an important role in controlling cell division & mutation in **p53** have been reported widely in non gynecological cancer. Unlike other cancer related genes; which become activated during carcinogenesis, it is the loss of wild type **p53** function that is though to contribute to cancer development , so this gene therefor has been considered one of the tumor suppressor genes since normal function appears to be necessary for negative control of the cell growth. (*Lane & Crawford* , 1979)

Several viral oncoproteins have been shown to interact with **p53**, it seems likely that the formation of this complexes inactivate the cellular proteins resulting in an overall effect similar to somatic mutation in **p53**; as an example of this complexes is HPV 16 transforming protein E6 complex with protein products of **p53**. In HPV positive anal & cervical tumors the normal function of **p53** may be inhibited by these viral proteins & so mutation within **p53** gene coding sequences would not appear to be a necessary step in the genesis of these tumors. However in HPV negative tumors from the same tissues, loss of wild type **p53** activity may only be achieved by somatic mutation of this gene (*Tidy & Werde*, 1992).

Over expression of **p53** was found in conducted study in about 20% cases of endometrial adenocarcinoma but in other type of cancer as breast & lung cancer a strong correlation between **p53** & advanced stage disease has been found (*Mathew et al.* 1992)

P53 & Endometrial hyperplasia

Aim of the work