

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ لَوْ أَنِّي سَبَّحْتُ بِحَمْدِ اللَّهِ لَمَّا عَلِمْتُ لَنُفَا اللَّهُ بِمَا عَمِلْنَا مِنْ حَمْدِهِ لَئِن لَّمْ يَكُنِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَبَدَّ لَنَا مِن بَدَلِهِ لَئِن لَّمْ يَكُنِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَبَدَّ لَنَا مِن بَدَلِهِ لَئِن لَّمْ يَكُنِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَبَدَّ لَنَا مِن بَدَلِهِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**MITOCHONDRIAL DNA MUTATIONS
AS A GENETIC MARKER
FOR COLORECTAL CANCER**

Presented by

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Table of Contents

	Page
Acknowledgments.....	
List of Figures.....	vi
List of Tables.....	viii
Abbreviation.....	ix
Abstract	xi
1. Introduction and Aim of the work	2
2. Review of the Literature	6
2.1. Colorectal cancer.....	6
2.1.1. Anatomy of colon	6
2.1.2. Anatomy of rectum	7
2.1.3. Epidemiology	8
2.1.4. Staging of CRC	8
2.1.5. Types of colorectal cancer	9
2.1.6. Risk factors.....	11
2.1.7. Idiopathic inflammatory bowel disease.....	12
2.1.8 Colorectal polyps.....	14
2.1.9. Prevention and early detection	15
2.1.10. Screening methods.....	15
2.2. General aspects of mitochondrial biology and genetics.....	18
2.2.1. Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA).....	19
2.2.2. Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) mutations and cancer.....	22
2.2.3. Colorectal Cancer and mtDND mutations.....	23
3. Subjects and Methods.....	27
3.1. Samples collection.....	27
3.2. Genomic DNA extraction from tissue samples.....	31
3.3. Electrophoresis of extracted DNA.....	32
3.4. Concentration of DNA.....	33
3.5. Mutation Detection of mtDNA genes.....	33
3.6. Sequencing analysis.....	39
3.7. Statistical Analysis.....	42
4. Results	44

5. Discussion	64
6. Summary	69
7. References	73
Arabic summary	
Arabic abstract	

List of Figures

Figure No.	Page
Figure (1): Anatomy of Colon and Rectum	7
Figure (2): Structure of mitochondrial DNA.	21
Figure (3): Shows example of the separation of genomic DNA isolated from different samples collected.	45
Figure (4): PCR products for gene (ND1) in UC patients electrophoresed on 2% agarose.	46
Figure (5): PCR products for gene (ND5) in CRC patients electrophoresed on 2% agarose.	46
Figure (6): PCR products for (Dloop2) region in AP patients electrophoresed on 2% agarose.	47
Figure (7): PCR products for (Dloop1) region in AP patients electrophoresed on 2% agarose.	47
Figure (8): PCR products for gene (CO1) in CRC patients electrophoresed on 2% agarose.	48
Figure (9): PCR products for gene (tRNAser) in UC patients electrophoresed on 2% agarose.	48
Figure (10): Shows 3 examples of PCR products of mtDNA, (A, B, C) from the lesion tissues and blood normal control, for 3 different markers were analyzed by PCR- SSCP silver staining technique for detection of mutations .	49
Figure (11): Shows distribution of mtDNA mutations for different genes in 3 the different groups examined using PCR-SSCP analysis.	50
Figure (12): The percentage of distribution for mutation at mtDNA in different markers examined for CRC patients using PCR SSCP silver staining technique.	52
Figure (13): SSCP silver staining technique for detection of mutations in ND1 gene of mtDNA genome in colorectal cancer samples.	53
Figure (14): SSCP silver staining technique for detection of mutations in 62 DLoop1 gene of mtDNA genome in colorectal cancer sample1.	53

Figure (15): The percentage of distribution for mutation at mtDNA in different markers examined for Adenomatous Polyps patients using PCR SSCP silver staining technique.	56
Figure (16): SSCP silver staining technique for detection of mutations in tRNAser of mtDNA genome in Adenomatous Polyps.	57
Figure (17): (A, B) SSCP silver staining technique for detection of mutation in ND1 of mtDNA genome in Adenomatous Polyps sample.	57
Figure (18): The percentage of distribution for mutation at mtDNA in different markers examined for ulcerative colitis patients using PCR SSCP silver staining technique.	60
Figure (19): (A,B) SSCP silver staining technique for detection of mutations in D-Loop1 region of mtDNA genome in ulcerative colitis samples.	61
Figure (20): SSCP silver staining technique for detection of mutations in D-Loop2 region of mtDNA genome in ulcerative colitis samples.	61

List of Tables

Table No.		Page
Table (1):	TNM Classification of Carcinoma of the Colon and Rectum.	9
Table (2):	The clinical data for the patients of adenocarcinoma groups.	28
Table (3):	The clinical data for the patients of polyps group (II).	29
Table (4):	The clinical data for the patients of IBD group (III).	30
Table (5):	The primer sequence of mtDNA genes used and their fragment sizes.	34
Table (6):	PCR condition of amplification for each mtDNA markers.	35
Table (7):	Summary of mitochondrial DNA mutations in colorectal cancer samples	54
Table (8):	The correlation between mtDNA mutations and clinical factors of CRC patients.	55
Table (9):	Summary of mitochondrial DNA mutations in adenomatous polyps samples.	58
Table (10):	Summary of mitochondrial DNA mutations in ulcerative colitis samples.	62

Abbreviations

APC :	Adenomatous Polyposis Coli
APS:	Amonium persulfate.
ASTR:	Egyptian Academy of Science and Technology Research
bis:	N,N'-methylenebisacrylamide.
bp:	base pair.
CT:	Computed Tomography
CRC:	Colorectal cancer
CTC:	Computed Tomography Colonography.
DCC:	Deleted in Colorectal Cancer.
DCBE	Double-Contrast Barium Enema.
dGTP:	2'-deoxyguanosine 5'- triphosphate.
D-loop:	displacement loop.
DNA:	Deoxyriboneucleic acid
dNTP:	2'-deoxynucleoside 5'- triphosphate.
E&H:	Eosin & hematoxylin stained
EDTA:	Ethylenediaminetetra-acetic acid
FAP:	Familial Adenomatous Polyposis.
FIT:	Fecal Immunochemical Test
FOBT:	Fecal Occult Blood Test.
g:	gram.
GTP:	Guanosine diphosphate.
HNPCC:	Hereditary Nonpolyposis Colorectal Cancer.
HPR:	homopolymer region.
HPLC:	High performance liquid chromatography.
IBD:	Inflammatory Bowel Diseases.
IRB:	institutional review board
KD:	Kilo Dalton.
LOH:	Loos of Heterozygosity.
M:	Mollar.
mg:	Milligram.
µg:	Microgram.
µl:	Microliter.
mMin:	Minute.
mtDNA:	mitochondrial DNA.
ml:	Milliliter.
mM:	Millimolar
MMR:	Mismatch repair.
MSI:	Microsatellite Instability.
MSNT:	matched surrounding normal tissues.
nDNA:	nuclear DNA.
C :	Grade Celsius.
OD:	Optical Density.
OMM:	Outer Mitochondrial membrane.
OXPHOS:	oxidative phosphorylation system.
PCR:	Polymerase chain reaction.
pH:	The hydrogen ion concentration.
ROS:	Reactive Oxygen Species.
rpm:	Round per minute.
rRNA:	ribosomal RNA.

sDNA:	stool DNA test.
SSCP:	Single Strand Conformation Polymorphism
TAE:	Tris acetate EDTA
Taq:	Thermus aquaticus
TBE:	Tris borate EDTA.
TBp:	TATA Box Binding Protein.
TCF:	T-Cell- Factor.
TE:	Tris EDTA.
TEMED:	N,N, N', N'-tetramethylethylenediamine.
tRNAs:	transfer RNAs.
U:	Unit(s).
UC:	Ulcerative Colitis.
UV:	Ultraviolet.
W:	Watt.
WHO:	World Health Organization.
WRCF:	World Cancer Research Fund.

ABSTRACT

Student Name: Hala Ahmed Mohamed Abd El-Hady

Title of the thesis: "Mitochondrial DNA Mutations As A Genetic Marker for
Colorectal Cancer"

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In this study we aim to evaluate the mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) mutations as a genetic marker for early detection of colorectal cancer (CRC) in Egyptian patients, to reduce the incidence and mortality rate of CRC in Egypt. Six different regions of mtDNA (ND1, ND5, COI, tRNAser & 2 regions in the D-Loop) were chosen for mutation analysis using PCR-SSCP silver staining technique followed by automated sequencing. Biopsy tissue samples from 20 patients with adenomatous polyps (AP), 20 with ulcerative colitis (UC) and 40 with CRC were collected together with blood sample to be used as controls. High frequency of mutations was detected (45% in AP, 35% in UC and 35% in CRC). Our study suggests that Egyptian CRC patients have a number of mtDNA mutations that have not been previously reported and that mutations in mtDNA of precancerous lesions (AP, UC) may contribute to the transformation events leading to CRC and can be considered as a genetic marker (Biomarker) for early detection of CRC in Egypt, but we need more samples to confirm this assumption.

Keywords: Colorectal cancer, Mitochondrial DNA, Mutations, Biomarker, Genetic marker, Early detection.

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1. Introduction

Colorectal cancer is one of the most common human malignancies, with more than 300,000 cases both in the United States and in the European Union each year where the vast majority of cases occurs over age 60 years (Lievre *et al.*, 2005; Greenle *et al.*, 2000). In contrast, this disease is uncommon in developing countries (Magrath and Litvak, 1993), including Egypt where it is only the fifth most common cause of cancer deaths (Soliman *et al.*, 1999). However, the percentage of young-onset colorectal cancer cases in Egyptian is strikingly high with more than one third of cases occurring under age of 40 years, and the age-adjusted mortality rates in young Egyptians are likewise high. In addition, rectal cancer is frequent (Soliman *et al.*, 1997; 1999).

The molecular pathology of colorectal carcinoma in Egypt differs from Western patients, and between younger and older Egyptians (Soliman *et al.*, 2001). The rectal predominance in Egyptian cases occurred in both younger and older patients and was unrelated to urban\rural residence, which associated with very different environmental exposure (Soliman *et al.*, 2001).

Westernization of Egypt is occurring as the country develops and is affecting young people first because they are likely to change lifestyle than older people. The remarkable differences in molecular pathology as compared to western patients could result from inherent differences in sensitivity and molecular responses to Western lifestyle in Egyptians (Rockhill and Giovannucci, 1999).

Early stage CRC does not usually have symptoms; therefore, screening is necessary to detect CRC in its early stages then reduce incidence and mortality can be achieved. Over the last few years, a variety of approaches have been developed to improve results of conventional cancer screening by detecting molecular markers in different populations (Rozen *et al.*, 2005).

Each human cell contains two genomes, nuclear genome (nDNA) and mitochondrial genome (mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)) (Chatterjee *et al.*, 2006). Although much knowledge has been collected concerning alterations in cancer cell nuclear DNA (nDNA), less attention has been paid to mutations within mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) (Lievre *et al.*, 2006). Over the last few years, a variety of approaches have been developed to improve results of conventional cancer screening by detecting molecular markers in different populations (Verma and Kumar, 2007). In the recent years, much attention has been paid to genetic changes in mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) (Mandavilli *et al.*, 2002).