

# 127, 17 27, 17 (20) 77, 17 (20









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#### An Immunohistochemical Study of Laminin

#### in Basal & Squamous Cell Carcinomas

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the M.D. Degree in Dermatology

By

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FACULTY OF MEDICINE CAIRO UNIVERSITY 2003

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# بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

"قالوا سبحانك لا علم لنا إلا ما علمتنا إنك أنت العليم الحكيم"

صدق الله العظيم سورة البقرة آية (٣٢)



#### ABSTRACT

Laminins are components of the extracellular matrix that contribute: to the architecture of the basal lamina, and mediate cell adhesion, growth, and differentiation. Basement membrane migration. proliferation. laminins, in particular, may play a role in enhancing carcinoma cell motility. The aim of this study was to evaluate the distribution pattern of laminin in both basal cell carcinoma (BCC) and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) and to correlate laminin distribution with different variants of BCC and to correlate laminin distribution with metastatic potential in SCC. This study included 38 patients (21 BCC, 17 SCC). Skin biopsy specimens were obtained from all patients for routine histopathological and immunohistochemical study. Palpable lymph nodes were also obtained for routine histopathological and immunohistochemical study. Twenty five (6 healthy skin + 19 safety margin) specimens served as controls. Laminin was evaluated qualitatively and semiquantitatively using monoclonal mouse antihuman antibody, in different variants of BCC and SCC. It was concluded that the cytoplasmic and basement membrane laminin is important in the pathogenesis and invasion of both basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma, BCCs expressed more laminin than SCCs. In BCC, most laminin was in basement membrane zone, and the more differentiated the tumour the more cytoplasmic and BM staining it expressed. The majority of SCCs showed weak positivity for cytoplasmic laminin, the less differentiated the tumour, the more cytoplasmic laminin it expressed. In poorly differentiated SCC, laminin was weakly expressed in the metastatic lymph node. The lymph nodes displayed identical staining pattern and intensity as their individual primary tumours.

Key words: Basal cell carcinoma- Squamous cell carcinoma- Laminins-Basement membrane zone-Lymph nodes



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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

First, thanks to GOD.

Although no words can be sufficient to show my gratitude, I would like to express my great and sincere appreciation to Dr. Wedad Zoheir Mostafa, Professor of Dermatology, Faculty of Medicine Cairo University for her continuous interest, encouragement, great care, supervision and kind advice.

I am also grateful to Prof. Dr. Soheir Mahmoud Mahfouz, Professor of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine Cairo University for her precious help in fulfilling the pathological aspect of this work, her patience, supervision, support, guidance and endless help.

I would like also to thank **Dr. Manal Bosseila**, Assistant Professor of Dermatology, Faculty of Medicine Cairo University for her great help, endless cooperation, effort and support during this work.

Also I would like to thank Prof. Dr. Mona El Lawindy, Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University for her great effort in performing the statistical analysis of this thesis.

A special word of thanks to my dear father, Prof. Dr. Mohamed Sobhi Zaki, for helping me in selecting SCC patients.

Special thanks to my dear mother, sister and brother for supporting me all the time, also I would like to thank my dearest friends, **Dr. Nermine El Eishy and Dr. Naglaa Sameh** Lecturers of Dermatology, Cairo University for their extraordinary help.

Finally, I feel deeply thankful to all the staff members and colleagues of the Dermatology Department, Cairo University. Great appreciation and thanks go especially to all the staff members and residents of the Surgical Department 28 B for helping me in selecting SCC cases and performing lymph node biopsy.

