

Correlation of FLT3 Gene Mutations and mRNA Expression with FLT3 Receptor Protein (CD135) Expression in Acute Myeloid Leukemia

Thesis

*Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of M.D Degree
In Clinical and Chemical Pathology*

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2017

ارتباط ظهور طفرات جين ال FLT3 و ال mRNA بظهور مستقبل ال FLT3 (CD135) في سرطان الدم الميلودي الحاد

رسالة

توطئة للحصول على درجة الدكتوراه في الباثولوجيا الإكلينيكية والكيميائية

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2017



Acknowledgment



*First and for most, I feel always indebted to **ALLAH**, the Most Kind and Most Merciful.*

*I'd like to express my respectful thanks and profound gratitude to **Professor/ Mohamed Amin Mekawi**, Professor of Clinical and Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Medicine - Ain shams University, for his keen guidance, kind supervision, valuable advice and continuous encouragement, which made possible the completion of this work.*

*I am also delighted to express my deepest gratitude and thanks to **Doctor/ Deena Samir Mohamed Eissa**, Assistant Professor of Clinical and Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Medicine - Ain shams University, for her kind care, continuous supervision, valuable instructions, constant help and great assistance throughout this work.*

*I am deeply thankful to **Doctor/ Mohamed Tarif Mohamed Hamza**, Assistant Professor of Clinical and Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Medicine - Ain shams University, for his great help, active participation and guidance.*

*I wish to introduce my deep respect and thanks to **Doctor/ Gehan Mostafa Hamed**, Assistant Professor of Clinical and Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Medicine - Ain shams University, for her kindness, supervision and cooperation in this work.*

I would like to express my hearty thanks to all my family for their support till this work was completed.

Last but not least my sincere thanks and appreciation to all patients participated in this study.

Mariam Karam Youssef

List of Contents

Title	Page No.
List of Tables	i
List of Figures	iii
List of Abbreviations	v
Introduction	1
Aim of the Work.....	3
Review of Literature	
▪ Acute Myeloid Leukemia	4
▪ FLT3.....	27
Subjects and Methods	52
Results	76
Discussion	94
Recommendations	103
Summary	104
References	107
Appendix	133
Arabic Summary	

List of Tables

Table No.	Title	Page No.
Table (1):	FAB classification of AML.....	9
Table (2):	WHO classification system of AML in 2008.....	12
Table (3):	Classification of AML, WHO 2016 update.....	16
Table (4):	Cytochemical stains in AML.....	19
Table (5):	Immunophenotypic patterns in AML subtypes.....	20
Table (6):	Correlation between genotype and immunophenotype.....	21
Table (7):	Common prognostic factors in AML.....	24
Table (8):	Generally accepted genetic risk classification of AML.....	25
Table (9):	The most common molecular markers in CN- AML.....	26
Table (10):	Reaction mix for removal of genomic DNA	69
Table (11):	QuantiFast reaction mix.....	70
Table (12):	Thermocycler programming.....	71
Table (13):	Descriptive clinical and laboratory features of the studied AML patients	82
Table (14):	FLT3 analysis in the studied subjects.....	83
Table (15):	Association between FLT3 ITD mutation and the other studied patients' characteristics	84
Table (16):	Association between FLT3 mRNA expression level and the other studied patients' characteristics	85

List of Tables (cont...)

Table No.	Title	Page No.
Table (17):	Association between FLT3 receptor protein (CD135) expression and the other studied patients' characteristics	86
Table (18):	Relation between FLT3 ITD mutation, FLT3 mRNA expression and FLT3 receptor protein (CD135) expression	87
Table (19):	Diagnostic validity test showing CD135% cut-off that discriminates AML patients carrying FLT3 ITD gene mutation	88
Table (20):	Relation between FLT3 mRNA expression and FLT3 receptor protein (CD135) expression	89

List of Figures

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (1):	Model of leukemogenesis with two cooperating classes of mutations	5
Figure (2):	Clonal architecture, patterns of relapse, and the existence of preleukemic stem cells	7
Figure (3):	FAB subtypes of AML	10
Figure (4):	Location of FLT3 on chromosome13, as marked by red line	27
Figure (5):	Cartoon of FLT3 structure	28
Figure (6):	Signaling pathways activated by FLT3	30
Figure (7):	Diverse disease phenotypes are observed in genetically identical knock-in murine models with (A) FLT3-ITD mutation and (B) FLT3 D835Y mutation	37
Figure (8):	Steps of PCR.....	41
Figure (9):	PCR phases in log view	42
Figure (10):	The basic components of a flow cytometer	50
Figure (11):	Representation of the FLT3 JM region and the activating loop of the kinase domain	59
Figure (12):	FLT3 ITD mutation	62
Figure (13):	FLT3 D835 TKD mutation; A: before restriction enzyme digestion, B: after digestion	63
Figure (14):	Principle of TaqMan probes in quantitative Real Time PCR.....	68
Figure (15):	FLT3 ITD mutation in AML patients by conventional PCR.....	89

List of Figures (cont...)

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (16):	FLT3 D835 TKD mutation in AML patients by conventional PCR (after restriction enzyme digestion).....	90
Figure (17):	FLT3 mRNA expression in patient & control groups by real time PCR.....	90
Figure (18):	ROC curve showing CD135% positivity cut-off in patient versus control groups.	91
Figure (19):	Positive CD135% expression in one of the studied AML patients.....	92
Figure (20):	Negative CD135% expression in one of the control individuals.	92
Figure (21):	ROC curve showing CD135% cut-off that discriminates AML patients carrying FLT3 ITD gene mutation.....	93
Figure (22):	Correlation between FLT3 mRNA and FLT3 receptor protein expression in AML patients.....	93

List of Abbreviations

Abb.	Full term
-	<i>Monosomy</i>
- PV	<i>Negative Predictive Value</i>
+	<i>Trisomy</i>
+ PV	<i>Positive Predictive Value</i>
ABL1	<i>Abelson Murine Leukemia Viral Oncogene Homolog 1</i>
Akt	<i>Protein Kinase B</i>
ALL	<i>Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia</i>
AML	<i>Acute Myeloid Leukemia</i>
ANAE	<i>Alpha Naphthyl Acetate Esterase</i>
APL	<i>Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia</i>
AUC	<i>Area under the Curve</i>
BAALC	<i>Brain and Acute Leukemia, Cytoplasmic</i>
BAD	<i>BCL2 Associated Agonist of Cell Death</i>
BCL2	<i>B-Cell Lymphoma 2</i>
BCR	<i>Breakpoint Cluster Region</i>
BM	<i>Bone Marrow</i>
Bp	<i>Base Pair</i>
CBC	<i>Complete Blood Count</i>
CD	<i>Cluster of Differentiation</i>
cDNA	<i>Complementary DNA</i>
CEBPA	<i>CAAT/Enhancer-Binding Protein- Alpha</i>
CLL	<i>Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia</i>
CML	<i>Chronic Myeloid Leukemia</i>
CN-AML	<i>The Cytogenetically Normal AML</i>
CNS	<i>Central Nervous System</i>
CR	<i>Complete Remission</i>
CREB1	<i>CAMP Responsive Element Binding Protein 1</i>
Ct	<i>Cycle Threshold</i>
CXCR4	<i>C-X-C Chemokine Receptor Type 4</i>
DCs	<i>Dendritic Cells</i>
Del	<i>Deletion</i>
DFS	<i>Disease-Free Survival</i>

List of Abbreviations (cont...)

Abb.	Full term
<i>dHPLC</i>	<i>Denaturing High Performance Liquid Chromatography</i>
<i>DIC</i>	<i>Disseminated Intravascular Coagulopathy</i>
<i>DNA</i>	<i>Deoxyribonucleic Acid</i>
<i>dNTP</i>	<i>Deoxyribonucleotide Triphosphates</i>
<i>Eff</i>	<i>Efficacy</i>
<i>EFS</i>	<i>Event-Free Survival</i>
<i>ELK1</i>	<i>ETS Domain-Containing Protein</i>
<i>EM</i>	<i>Electron Microscopy</i>
<i>ER</i>	<i>Endoplasmic Reticulum</i>
<i>ERG ETS</i>	<i>(Erythroblast Transformation-Specific) Transcription Factor</i>
<i>ERK</i>	<i>Extracellular Signal-Regulated Kinase</i>
<i>EtBr</i>	<i>Ethidium Bromide</i>
<i>FAB</i>	<i>French-American-British</i>
<i>FISH</i>	<i>Fluorescence in-Situ Hybridization</i>
<i>FITC</i>	<i>Fluorescein Isothiocyanate</i>
<i>FLK-2</i>	<i>Fetal Liver Kinase-2</i>
<i>FLT3</i>	<i>FMS-Like Tyrosine Kinase-3</i>
<i>FLT3L</i>	<i>FLT3 Ligand</i>
<i>FN</i>	<i>False Negative</i>
<i>FP</i>	<i>False Positive</i>
<i>gDNA</i>	<i>Genomic DNA</i>
<i>Hb</i>	<i>Hemoglobin</i>
<i>HLA</i>	<i>Human Leucocyte Antigen</i>
<i>HS</i>	<i>Highly Significant</i>
<i>HSM</i>	<i>Hepatosplenomegaly</i>
<i>HSPCs</i>	<i>Hematopoietic Stem / Progenitor Cells</i>
<i>IL</i>	<i>Interleukin</i>
<i>Inv</i>	<i>Inversion</i>
<i>IPT</i>	<i>Immunophenotyping</i>
<i>IQR</i>	<i>Interquartile Range</i>
<i>ITD</i>	<i>Internal Tandem Duplication</i>

List of Abbreviations (cont...)

Abb.	Full term
<i>JM</i>	<i>Juxtamembrane</i>
<i>JMD</i>	<i>Juxtamembrane Domain</i>
<i>JMML</i>	<i>Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia</i>
<i>K2-EDTA</i>	<i>Ethylene Diamine Tetra-Acetic Acid</i> <i>Dipotassium Salt</i>
<i>LDH</i>	<i>Lactate Dehydrogenase</i>
<i>LM</i>	<i>Length Mutation</i>
<i>LN</i>	<i>Lymphadenopathy</i>
<i>M3v</i>	<i>M3 Variant</i>
<i>MAPK</i>	<i>mitogen-Activated Protein Kinase</i>
<i>MDS</i>	<i>Myelodysplastic Syndrome</i>
<i>MECOM</i>	<i>MDS1 and EVI1 Complex Locus</i>
<i>MLL</i>	<i>Mixed-Lineage Leukemia</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>Multiple Myeloma</i>
<i>MN1</i>	<i>Meningioma 1</i>
<i>MoAb</i>	<i>Monoclonal Antibodies</i>
<i>MPD</i>	<i>Myeloproliferative Disorder</i>
<i>MPO</i>	<i>Myeloperoxidase</i>
<i>MRC</i>	<i>Myelodysplasia-Related Changes</i>
<i>mRNA</i>	<i>Messenger RNA</i>
<i>mTOR</i>	<i>Mammalian Target of Rapamycin</i>
<i>NHL</i>	<i>Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma</i>
<i>NK</i>	<i>Natural Killer</i>
<i>NOS</i>	<i>Not Otherwise Specified</i>
<i>NPM1</i>	<i>Nucleophosmin 1</i>
<i>NS</i>	<i>Non-Significant</i>
<i>NSE</i>	<i>Non Specific Esterase</i>
<i>OS</i>	<i>Overall Survival</i>
<i>PAS</i>	<i>Periodic Acid Schiff</i>
<i>PB</i>	<i>Peripheral Blood</i>
<i>PBS</i>	<i>Phosphate Buffered Saline</i>
<i>PC5</i>	<i>Phycoerythrin-Cyanine 5</i>
<i>PCR</i>	<i>Polymerase Chain Reaction</i>

List of Abbreviations (cont...)

Abb.	Full term
<i>PE</i>	<i>Phycoerythrin</i>
<i>PI3K</i>	<i>Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase</i>
<i>PML / RARA</i>	<i>Promyelocytic Leukemia / Retinoic Acid Receptor Alpha</i>
<i>r</i>	<i>Pearson Correlation</i>
<i>RAEB-T</i>	<i>Refractory Anemia with Excess Blasts in Transformation</i>
<i>RFLP</i>	<i>Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism</i>
<i>RNA</i>	<i>Ribonucleic Acid</i>
<i>ROC</i>	<i>Receiver Operating Characteristic</i>
<i>Rpm</i>	<i>Revolution per Minute</i>
<i>rs</i>	<i>Spearman Correlation</i>
<i>RSK</i>	<i>Ribosomal S6 Kinase</i>
<i>RTK</i>	<i>Receptor Tyrosine Kinase</i>
<i>RT-PCR</i>	<i>Reverse Transcription PCR</i>
<i>RUNX1</i>	<i>Runt-Related Transcription Factor 1</i>
<i>S</i>	<i>Significant</i>
<i>SBB</i>	<i>Suddan Black B</i>
<i>SD</i>	<i>Standard Deviation</i>
<i>Sig</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<i>Sn</i>	<i>Sensitivity</i>
<i>Sp</i>	<i>Specificity</i>
<i>STAT</i>	<i>Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription</i>
<i>STK-1</i>	<i>Stem Cell Kinase-1</i>
<i>t</i>	<i>Translocation</i>
<i>TBE</i>	<i>Tris Borate EDTA</i>
<i>TE</i>	<i>Tris EDTA</i>
<i>TdT</i>	<i>Terminal Deoxynucleotidyl Transferase</i>
<i>TK</i>	<i>Tyrosine Kinase</i>
<i>TKD</i>	<i>Tyrosine Kinase Domain</i>
<i>TLC</i>	<i>Total Leucocytic Count</i>
<i>TM</i>	<i>Transmembrane</i>

List of Abbreviations (cont...)

Abb.	Full term
<i>TN</i>	<i>True Negative</i>
<i>TP</i>	<i>True Positive</i>
<i>UV</i>	<i>Ultraviolet</i>
<i>VAF</i>	<i>Variant Allele Frequency</i>
<i>WBC</i>	<i>White Blood Cell</i>
<i>WHO</i>	<i>World Health Organization</i>
<i>WT1</i>	<i>Wilms Tumor Protein-1</i>

INTRODUCTION

Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is a clonal hematopoietic stem cell disorder characterized by uncontrolled proliferation within the bone marrow (BM) of myeloid progenitors at the expense of normal hematopoietic elements (*Estey, 2012*).

More recently, gene expression profiling has been shown to improve the molecular classification and prognosis of AML patients. Moreover, molecular testing has become mandatory among patients with normal cytogenetics, to further classify these patients into prognostic groups. This includes assessment for the nucleophosmin gene (NPM1), the CCAAT/enhancer-binding protein-Alpha (CEBPA) and the FMS-like tyrosine kinase-3 (FLT3) (*Seegmiller et al., 2016*).

FLT3 (CD135) is a cytokine receptor protein belonging to the subclass III of receptor tyrosine kinases (*Rosnet and Birnbaum, 1993*), it is expressed mainly on early hematopoietic progenitors (*Gilliland and Griffin, 2002; Verstraete et al., 2011*).

The FLT3 receptor protein is usually over expressed in leukemic blast cells of AML patients, while some cases possessed mutant FLT3 gene (*Gilliland and Griffin, 2002*). FLT3 gene mutation and over expression result in constitutive ligand independent activation of the receptor's tyrosine kinase

activity stimulating proliferation and inhibiting apoptosis of leukemic blasts (***Mehta et al., 2012***). Various studies found that FLT3 is an important prognostic biomarker and a potential therapeutic target in AML patients (***Mrozek et al., 2007; Mehta et al., 2012; Elyamany et al., 2014***).