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شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الالكتروني والميكروفيلم





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# Expression of E. Cadherin Adhesive 1 Iolecules in Melanocytic Naevi And Malignant Melanomas

**Thesis** 

Submitted for partial fulfillment of M.D. in Dermatology and Venereology

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صدق الله العظيم

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## List of important abbreviations

•	Acral Lentiginous Mucosal Melanoma	A.L.M.M.
•	Cadherin	CD
•	Cellular adhesion molecules	CAM <sub>s</sub>
•	E. Cadherin	E.CD
•	Endothelial cells	$EC_s$
•	Extra cellular matrix	E.C.M.
•	Intercellular adhesion molecules	I.C.A.M.
•	Lentigo Maligna	L.M.
•	Lentigo Maligna Melanoma	L.M.M
•	Malignant Melanoma	M.M.
•	Melanocytic Naevi	M.N
•	N. Cadherin	N.CD
•	Nodular melanoma	N.M.
•	P. Cadherin	P.CD
•	Superficial Spreading Melanoma	S.S.M.
•	Vascular Cell adhesion molecules	V.C.A.M.

### Acknowledgement

First and foremost thanks to ALLAH, the most helpful and beneficent.

I would like to express my great appreciation and deepest gratitude to my advisor, teacher and **professor Dr. Mohamed Abdel – Moneim Shoeib**, professor of Dermatology and Venereology, Faculty of Medicine, Minoufiya University, for his close and wise guidance, follow up, suggestion, devotion in solving many of the problems which had arisen throughout the course of this study and encouragement.

I would like to express my deep thanks to professor Dr. Shawky Mahmoud El-Farargy, professor of Dermatology and Venereology, Faculty of Medicine, Minoufiya University for taking part in the supervision of this work. I am particularly indebted to him for choosing the subject of the study, as well as for all the support and encouragement he gave me during the difficult moments and hard times that I have passed through, until this work was finally done. As well as for his fatherly care, kind encouragement, creative suggestions and scholar attitude were a strong motive to seek perfection.

Cardially I'm thankful to **Professor Dr. Iman Abdel Fattah Seleit**, professor of Dermatology and Venereology, Faculty of Medicine,
Minoufiya University. She spent much of her occupied time reading,
advising, directing and gently criticizing. I wish I could have been able to
fulfill her aim of exactitude and scientific accuracy, from her directions
and useful instructions I learnt much about the basis of scientific
research. For her I owe an everlasting debt.

I would like to express my deep thanks to **Professor Dr. Kawther Amin Amer**, professor of pathology, faculty of Medicine, Minoufiya University, for her genuine invaluable guidance and help in the practical part of the study, her most invaluable help is unforgettable.

I am deeply indebted to professor Dr. Mostafa Ahmed Hammam, assistant professor of Dermatology and Venereology, Faculty of Medicine, Minoufiya University, for his utmost help and continuos encouragement throughout the work, his kind advice and sincere support added very much to this work.

I would like to express my deep thanks to my beloved husband Eng. Mostafa El Sokary who exhibited infinite patience and great support throughout the phases of this work. No words can express how much I'm grateful to him.

I wish to express my deep thanks to **Professor Dr. Mohamed Ali El Darouty**. Professor of Dermatology and Venereology, faculty of medicine, Cairo university for his genuine invaluable guidance and help in the practical part of the study.

Throughout the course of the work, I had the constant support and kind encouragement from **Dr. Omima Abu Elfath Mahrous**, lecturer of public health, Faculty of Medicine, Minoufiya University, and **Dr. Mona Kandil**, lecturer of pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Minoufiya university. No words can express how much I'm grateful to them.

My thanks are also to all my friends and colleagues in the departments of Dermatology and Venerology in both the Faculty of Medicine, Minoufiya University and the Shebin EL-Kom Teaching Hospital, who helped me in every possible way. I could not tell how

grateful I'm to all whom accepted to be a matter of this study. Their trust in me is unappreciable.

Last but not least, all words of thanks can not explain my feelings towards my kind parents, sisters and brothers from whom received love, care, help and encouragement not only, through the courses of this work but also throughout the phases of my life.

Enas Abu Elfath Mohamed Mahrous

# Introduction and Aim of the Work

# Expression of E. Cadherin Adhesive Molecules in Melanocytic Naevi And Malignant Melanomas

#### Introduction

Tumour growth and metastasis involve a series of events from invasion at the site of the primary tumour to growth at distant site. Many of these steps involve changes in the ability of cells to adhere to each other, or to the extra cellular matrix (Baily et al., 1998).

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Cellular adhesion molecules (CAMs) are of fundamental importance at all developmental stages in the vertebrate embryo and adult, as they are required in the establishment and maintenance of tissue structure and functional integrity. Loss of expression of these CAMs on the cell surface may facilitate migration and escape of tumour cells from the primary lesion, resulting in disseminating metastasis (Le-Ming shih et al.,1997).

During tumour progression, it has been well known that one of the critical aspects in tumour invasion and metastasis involves adhesive interactions between tumour cells and between tumour and normal cells in the stroma in a variety of human tumour systems (Herlyn et al., 1997).

Dysregulation in CAMs expression has been frequently observed in association with tumour progression. For example, loss of expression or functional inactivation of the calcium dependent cell – cell adhesion receptor, epithelial Cadherin (E.CD) in epithelial cells may contribute to their transformation (Yleminck et al., 1994)