

World Journal of *Gastrointestinal Oncology*

World J Gastrointest Oncol 2022 March 15; 14(3): 547-747



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ABOUT COVER

Editorial Board Member of *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*, Colm A O'Morain, AGAF, DSc, FACG, FRCP, MBChB, MD, MSc, Full Professor, Health Sciences, RCPI, Dublin Dublin 18, Ireland. colmomorain@gmail.com

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WJGO mainly publishes articles reporting research results and findings obtained in the field of gastrointestinal oncology and covering a wide range of topics including liver cell adenoma, gastric neoplasms, appendiceal neoplasms, biliary tract neoplasms, hepatocellular carcinoma, pancreatic carcinoma, cecal neoplasms, colonic neoplasms, colorectal neoplasms, duodenal neoplasms, esophageal neoplasms, gallbladder neoplasms, etc.

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The WJGO is now indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded (also known as SciSearch®), PubMed, PubMed Central, and Scopus. The 2021 edition of Journal Citation Reports® cites the 2020 impact factor (IF) for WJGO as 3.393; IF without journal self cites: 3.333; 5-year IF: 3.519; Journal Citation Indicator: 0.5; Ranking: 163 among 242 journals in oncology; Quartile category: Q3; Ranking: 60 among 92 journals in gastroenterology and hepatology; and Quartile category: Q3. The WJGO's CiteScore for 2020 is 3.3 and Scopus CiteScore rank 2020: Gastroenterology is 70/136.

RESPONSIBLE EDITORS FOR THIS ISSUE

Production Editor: *Ying-Yi Yuan*, Production Department Director: *Xiang Li*, Editorial Office Director: *Ya-Juan Ma*.

NAME OF JOURNAL

World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ISSN

ISSN 1948-5204 (online)

LAUNCH DATE

February 15, 2009

FREQUENCY

Monthly

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Monjur Ahmed, Florin Burada

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS

<https://www.wjgnet.com/1948-5204/editorialboard.htm>

PUBLICATION DATE

March 15, 2022

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ARTICLE PROCESSING CHARGE

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/242>

STEPS FOR SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/239>

ONLINE SUBMISSION

<https://www.f6publishing.com>



Re: Association between intestinal neoplasms and celiac disease - beyond celiac disease and more

Kenji Okumura

Specialty type: Gastroenterology and hepatology

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited article; Externally peer reviewed.

Peer-review model: Single blind

Peer-review report's scientific quality classification

Grade A (Excellent): 0
Grade B (Very good): B, B
Grade C (Good): C
Grade D (Fair): 0
Grade E (Poor): E

P-Reviewer: Makovicky P, Rostami-Nejad M

Received: September 26, 2021

Peer-review started: September 26, 2021

First decision: December 4, 2021

Revised: December 17, 2021

Accepted: February 23, 2022

Article in press: February 23, 2022

Published online: March 15, 2022



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Abstract

The association between celiac disease and enteropathy-associated T cell lymphoma has been known. The pathogenesis of the development of malignant neoplasms remains limited. In addition to celiac disease, we believe that other underlying mechanisms contribute to the developing malignant neoplasms.

Key Words: Celiac disease; Enteropathy-associated T cell lymphoma; c-MYC; JAK-STAT

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Core Tip: The pathogenesis of enteropathy-associated T cell lymphoma (EATL) remains limited. This letter suggests oncogene mutations were reported and would be pertinent to develop malignant neoplasms in EATL.

Citation: Okumura K. Re: Association between intestinal neoplasms and celiac disease - beyond celiac disease and more. *World J Gastrointest Oncol* 2022; 14(3): 746-747

URL: <https://www.wjgnet.com/1948-5204/full/v14/i3/746.htm>

DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.4251/wjgo.v14.i3.746>

TO THE EDITOR

I read with great interest the paper by Wang *et al*[1] in the issue 13 of World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology, a review article regarding the association between intestinal neoplasms and celiac disease. The authors showed that the total risk of small bowel cancer (SBC) and enteropathy-associated T cell lymphoma (EATL) increased in celiac disease (CD) patients. I have agreed with the authors opinions and they mainly mentioned EATL type I, which is associated with CD. The pathogenesis of EATL

remains limited, however, as the authors mentioned in the manuscript that CD disrupts cell-level regulation and chronic intestinal inflammation, which leads to the proliferation of intestinal intraepithelial lymphocytes. The presence of chronic inflammation leads to increase the turnover of cell cycle and contribute to the development of neoplasm due to gene mutation in oncogenes or tumor suppressor genes in EATL.

We previously showed that c-myc mutation was seen in EATL type 2[2]. Our findings support that gene mutation is one of the factors developing malignant neoplasm in the absence of celiac disease. JAK/STAT3 signaling pathway was also reported as the main drivers of CD associated lymphomagenesis[3]. JAK/STAT pathway regulates MYC expression[4], which lead to proliferation of malignant cells.

CD is one of the significant gastrointestinal diseases and increases the risk of malignant neoplasms. In addition to CD, we believe that other underlying mechanisms contribute to the developing malignant neoplasms[3]. We believe that these facts would be a helpful to understand CD and EATL and these findings are highly pertinent and provide a context that helps understand those reported by Wang *et al* [1].

FOOTNOTES

Author contributions: Okumura K performed writing the paper.

Conflict-of-interest statement: The authors have declared no conflicts of interest.

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S-Editor: Wang LL

L-Editor: A

P-Editor: Wang LL

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