



國立成功大學醫學院附設醫院 院內研究計畫線上申請系統



[申請案]

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申請案基本資料 [修改資料]

計畫名稱: (中文) 肝癌病人血漿檢體建立small RNA表現圖譜以預測治療預後的分子指標及臨床應用性探討
(英文) The expression profile of small RNA in plasma to serve as biomarkers of treatment outcome in hepatocellular carcinoma patients.

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中文摘要: 肝癌是國人癌症發生率前幾名,也是造成癌症死因首位。目前肝癌治療以手術切除、局部射頻燒灼及肝動脈栓塞、標靶治療和化學治療為主,但臨床缺乏有效評估治療效果指標。特定疾病發生之特定「生物標記」(Biomarker)具有協助臨床醫師進行早期診斷(預防性標記)、治療效果評估(治療性標記)及後續追蹤(預後性標記)之功能。若能愈早期發現疾病復發的徵兆,對於病人的後續治療及其存活率而言會更加有利,因此,除了臨床組織檢體之外,發展非侵入性(non-invasive)的生物標記也一直是基礎及臨床醫學所追尋的目標。近幾年,血清或血漿中的DNA或RNA已被發現可做為癌症診斷及追蹤的生物標記。MicroRNA是近年在真核生物中所發現具有調控功能的一種非編碼RNA,為約20-22鹼基的小片段單股RNA,主要參與基因轉錄後的調控,並被認為與生長發育之調控有關,此外許多研究亦顯示microRNA與腫瘤的形成及發展關係密切,然而詳細機制仍需更深的研究與探討。Small RNAs,包含microRNA為一群未轉譯的遺傳序列,近期發現其存在於血液,可能與疾病發生進程相關。然而,目前尚未見到大規模且結合不同疾病之血清或血漿small RNAs之比較探討。研究指出血清或血漿中的疾病相關microRNAs有可能是來自病變組織,為何會出現在血液中則尚待進一步探討。近期研究指出,血清或血漿中的microRNA具有成為診斷用生物標記的潛力。我們十分感興趣於是否能由體液(血清或血漿)至臨床檢體來一系列探討肝癌病人接受治療中結合microRNA或small RNA作為可能的評估肝癌病人接受手術治療後預後及病人存活期。為了達到上述目的,本計畫之目標首先利用肝癌病人接受手術治療人類的血清或血漿檢體建立small RNA表現圖譜及資料庫:透過deep sequencing或microRNA microarray取得肝癌臨床檢體的small RNAs expression profiles並建立比較分析平台,我們預期可以找出血清或血漿中與肝癌特定相關的candidate microRNAs或small RNAs。這些RNAs具備發展為評估肝癌病人接受手術治療後預後及病人存活期之「生物標記」的潛力。其次,我們透過肝癌臨床檢體整合異質資料(包含microRNA、mRNA及protein),希望能進一步由血清或血漿的分析結果延伸至病理組織樣本,結合臨床、基礎;microRNA基因表現圖譜、mRNA基因表現圖譜及新穎microRNA定序分析來建立microRNA及其目標基因之系統網路,並應用於肝癌病人接受手術治療後預後及存活率預測。此計畫之成果希望能提供臨床醫師更精準的判斷依據。本研究構想的成功,可以有效提供臨床醫師以非侵入性方法結合肝癌病人之血清或血漿small RNAs表現圖譜來進行比較與探討,希望找尋可能之Biomarkers作為風險因子評估;若病人具高風險因子表現圖譜,則建議病人做進一步標靶治療或化學治療已預防疾病復發,並可提供研究群就外顯基因體(epigenomics)來全面探討microRNA 基因群表現程度在肝癌癌症發生進程發展所扮演的角色。

英文摘要： The incidence of Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is high than other malignancy and is the leading cause of cancer-related death in Taiwan. Curative options for HCC are limited and exclusively available for patients carrying an early stage HCC. In unresectable and advanced stages, local treatment such as radiofrequency ablation and transarterial chemoembolization, systemic target therapy and traditional chemotherapy proved to be only marginally effective or even toxic. Thus, the identification of new biomarkers to evaluate the treatment effective is needed. New biomarker targets got from noninvasive methods will necessarily take advantage of progresses on the evaluation response and understanding the molecular pathogenesis of HCC. MicroRNAs (miRNAs) are a group of tiny RNAs with a fundamental role in the regulation of gene expression. Aberrant expression of several miRNAs was found to be involved in human hepatocarcinogenesis. miRNA expression signatures were correlated with bio-pathological and clinical features of HCC. In some cases, aberrantly expressed miRNAs could be linked to cancer-associated pathways, indicating a direct role in liver tumourigenesis. Diagnostic assays using blood samples are attractive because of the simplicity of sample collection. Accurate analysis of tumor markers in blood from cancer patients could significantly facilitate screening, risk assessment, diagnosis, and monitoring for disease recurrence after initial treatment. Advanced molecular analytic technologies have been emerged, which may facilitate development of rapid and effective methods for prognosis prediction and disease monitor in HCC. To this purpose, we will setup the micro RNA expression profiles from HCC patients' plasma and compare with our previous HCC tumor micro RNA expression array data base than we will find out the candidate microRNAs or small RNAs. We will suggest a prediction scoring system for HCC treatment response, based on the number of alterations in selected biomarkers in our proposal. An HCC patient has a significantly elevated risk of poor outcome if his corresponding plasma has more alterations in the selected marker panel. These patients should receive frequent clinical care. Closer observation or more detailed evaluation may be required. It is worthwhile to suggest these patients received more intensive target therapy and chemotherapy following by surgical resection of tumor. As our project going, the molecular mechanism including epigenomics and micro RNA expression of HCC will be understood more detail and may provide the strategy for developing new target therapy.