Expression of microRNA-93 in early stage mycosis fungoides: Comparative study

Mostafa Ibrahim Attia Abd Ellatif, Noha A Nagui, Laila A Rashed and Walaa M A Abd Elhafez
Cairo University, Egypt

Background: CTCL are non-Hodgkin lymphomas characterized by a dominant skin homing T-cell clone with different clinical presentations. MF is the most common subtype. It includes hypopigmented, hyperpigmented, ichthyosiform, pityriasis lichenoides like granulomatous, folliculotropic, bullous, palmo-plantar, pagetoid reticulosis and granulomatous slack skin, several gaps are still present in our understanding of the pathogenesis. The miRNAs are small non-coding RNA molecules involved in the regulation of various physiological and pathological processes. Altered expression of different miRNAs has been observed in both solid tumors and hematological malignancies. The miRNA-93, one of members of miR-17-92 cluster, which role was proved in enhanced cell survival, promoted sphere formation and augmented tumor growth.

Objectives: The aim of this study is to evaluate the expression level of miRNA-93 in early stage MF.

Methods: 15 patients with early stages MF as well as 15 age and sex matched healthy controls were included. Clinical examination was done and levels of miRNA-93 in both lesional and non lesional biopsies were assessed by PCR.

Results: Significant increase in miRNA-93 in both lesional and non lesional biopsies of the patients in comparison to controls with more increase in its level in lesional skin than non lesional skin. There was significant positive correlation between miRNA-93 levels and age in both lesional and non lesional biopsies. Also there was significant positive correlation between miRNA-93 and duration in non lesional skin biopsies only. But there was no significant difference in miRNA-93 levels as regards sex of the patients, extent of disease or MF types in both lesional and non-lesional skin biopsies.

Conclusion: Our study concluded that miRNA-93 may be used as a diagnostic tool of MF. Further studies are required to verify the role miRNA-93.

mosattia76@yahoo.com

Intrahepatic cholestasis causing itchy disturbance in pregnancy

Rajiv Mahendru
BPS Government Medical College for Women, India

A liver condition in which normal flow of bile is impaired resulting in severe itching in pregnancy and affects about one in 140 pregnancies. It involves only secondary skin changes caused by disruption of hepatic bile flow during pregnancy and presents in second or third trimester with sudden onset of severe pruritis that starts on the palms and soles and quickly becomes more generalized. Worst at night linear excoriations and excoriated papules and develop secondary to scratching. Jaundice occurs in about 10 percent often accompanied by dark urine and clay colored stools. Diagnosis requires taking a thorough history and complete physical examination, laboratory studies such as liver transaminases, serum bile acid levels and in selected cases skin biopsy is necessary. An accurate diagnosis must be made owing to the fact that some of these conditions are associated with complications for both mother and fetus. There are elevated bile acid levels in serum which can pass into fetal circulation and affect the fetus owing to acute placental anoxia and cardiac depression. Pruritis regresses spontaneously within days to weeks after delivery but can recur in subsequent pregnancies or while using hormonal contraception. Treatment consists of reducing bile acids with the use of ursodeoxycholic acid and anti-histaminics and may require termination of pregnancy at 36-38 weeks.

dr.rmahendru@gmail.com