DOES PNPLA3, TM6SF2 AND HSD17B13 GENETIC VARIANTS HAVE ANY ROLE IN THE PROGRESSION OF CHRONIC HEPATITIS B VIRUS?

Feyza Gündüz

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A cross-sectional case-control study of 323 participants found that PNPLA3, TM6SF2, and HSD17B13 genetic variants, which influence progression of liver diseases with hepatic steatosis, showed no association with disease progression or survival in chronic hepatitis B.

KEY POINTS

- The study analyzed three genetic variants (PNPLA3 rs738409, TM6SF2 rs58542926, HSD17B13 rs72613567) in 148 healthy controls, 91 chronic hepatitis B patients (57 cirrhotic, 34 non-cirrhotic), and 84 chronic hepatitis B-related hepatocellular carcinoma patients from a tertiary center.
- Genotype and allelic distribution of the three variants did not differ between healthy controls, chronic hepatitis B, cirrhosis, and hepatocellular carcinoma groups.
- No genotype, allele, or haplotype was associated with susceptibility to chronic hepatitis B or increased risk for cirrhosis or hepatocellular carcinoma.
- Survival analysis showed none of the three variants influenced overall survival in patients with chronic hepatitis B-related hepatocellular carcinoma.
- This work is relevant to clinicians and researchers investigating genetic risk factors for disease progression in chronic hepatitis B, a condition without hepatic steatosis.

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