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Summary

PROGNOSTIC SIGNIFICANCE OF TUMOR-INFILTRATING PLASMA CELLS IN COLORECTAL ADENOCARCINOMAS

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Colorectal

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A study of 108 colorectal adenocarcinoma patients found that increased plasma cell infiltration in tumors was significantly associated with tertiary lymphoid structures, higher adaptive immune cell populations, and improved survival (77 vs 47 months).

KEY POINTS

- In 65% of colorectal adenocarcinoma cases, increased plasma cells (frequent or large aggregates) were observed in the tumor, while 35% showed absence or rare aggregates.
- High plasma cell density was significantly associated with presence of tertiary lymphoid structures (p=0.004) and increased tumor infiltration by CD3+ T cells (p=0.025), CD8+ T cells (p=0.012), and CD20+ B cells (p=0.001).
- Increased plasma cells in the tumor center correlated with significantly better prognosis compared to absence of plasma cells, with median survival of 77 versus 47 months (p=0.047).
- The authors conclude that plasma cell evaluation in colorectal cancer may be important for understanding tumor immunity and designing immunotherapeutic strategies.

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