RASIP1-POSITIVE TECS IN PANCREATIC ADENOCARCINOMA: A POTENTIAL NOVEL TYPE OF ENDOTHELIAL CELLS CORRELATED WITH "HOT TUMORS"

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RASIP1-positive tumor endothelial cells are associated with improved survival and increased T cell infiltration in pancreatic adenocarcinoma, suggesting a mechanism to overcome immune evasion in this typically immunotherapy-resistant cancer.

KEY POINTS

- RASIP1 was specifically expressed in endothelial cells and linked to improved pancreatic cancer patient survival based on TCGA database analysis and scRNA-seq data
- RASIP1-positive tumor endothelial cells were correlated with increased T cell infiltration and elevated T-effector and IFN-gamma gene signatures in pancreatic adenocarcinoma according to TCGA and spatial transcriptomics data
- Gene ontology analysis showed RASIP1-positive tumor endothelial cells were related to leukocyte transendothelial migration, and RASIP1 knockdown in cultured endothelial cells decreased expression of the adhesion molecule ICAM
- In pan-cancer immunotherapy patients, high RASIP1 expression was associated with longer survival (p=0.014, HR=0.74), with particularly significant benefit in PD-L1 treated patients (p=0.01, HR=0.74)
- This research may be most relevant to investigators studying pancreatic cancer immunotherapy resistance and tumor microenvironment mechanisms

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