

ALTERED ANNEXIN EXPRESSION PROFILES IN HEPATOCARCINOGENESIS: INSIGHTS FROM AN EXPERIMENTAL MODEL

Julio Isael Perez-Carreón

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Expression profiles of annexin family proteins (A1, A2, A5, A8, A10) in a rat model of hepatocarcinogenesis suggest potential as early biomarkers for hepatocellular carcinoma, with plasma annexin A5 showing particular promise.

KEY POINTS

- In a diethylnitrosamine-induced rat hepatocarcinogenesis model, annexin A1 and A5 showed statistically significant increases at both mRNA and protein levels from week 6, while annexin A2 and A10 increased gradually and annexin A8 decreased significantly.
- Annexin A1 and A5 relocated from cytoplasm and membrane in normal hepatocytes to the nucleus in neoplastic cells.
- Plasma annexin A5 levels increased significantly from week 12 onward and correlated strongly with hepatic annexin A5 levels ($r^2 = 0.8203$).
- TCGA database analysis showed that ANXA2 expression (HR = 1.7, $p = 0.0046$) and ANXA5 expression (HR = 1.8, $p = 0.00077$) were associated with poor survival in HCC patients.
- The authors suggest annexin A1, A5, and A10 may serve as early tumor markers, while annexin A2 and A8 could mark HCC progression, with plasma annexin A5 showing potential as a biomarker for hepatocarcinogenesis.

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