

CLINICOPATHOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CANCER STEM CELL MARKERS IN SMALL BOWEL ADENOCARCINOMA

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Poster

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Immunohistochemical analysis of 57 small bowel adenocarcinoma cases identifies Lgr5 expression as an independent predictor of poor cancer-specific and disease-free survival.

KEY POINTS

- In multivariate analysis, Lgr5 expression was an independent predictor of poor cancer-specific survival (hazard ratio 3.7) and disease-free survival (hazard ratio 28.7), along with lymph node metastasis.
- Lgr5 expression (positive in 37% of cases) significantly correlated with lymph node metastasis, distant metastasis, advanced TNM stage, and reduced membranous β -catenin staining indicative of Wnt/ β -catenin pathway activation.
- CD44 and its variants (CD44v6, CD44v9) were significantly associated with lymph node and distant metastasis as well as abnormal β -catenin and E-cadherin staining, suggesting epithelial-mesenchymal transition involvement.
- CD133 was expressed in 39% of cases but showed no correlation with clinicopathological factors, though expression was higher in MMR-proficient tumors.
- The study analyzed cancer stem cell markers in 57 small bowel adenocarcinoma cases with a median 46-month follow-up, finding all analyzed markers had prognostic relevance in this rare malignancy.

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