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Summary

IDENTIFYING IMMUNOTHERAPY CANDIDATES AMONG PATIENTS WITH SMALL BOWEL ADENOCARCINOMA BASED ON CLINICOPATHOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF PROGRAMMED CELL DEATH-LIGAND EXPRESSION

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Small Intestine & Nutrition

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Immunohistochemical analysis of 50 small bowel adenocarcinoma cases reveals distinct clinicopathological associations for PD-L1 and PD-L2 expression patterns and CD8+ T cell infiltration in the tumor microenvironment.

KEY POINTS

- PD-L1 expression in tumor cells (34%), immune cells (54%), and CPS ≥ 10 (50%) were all associated with deeper depth of invasion, while PD-L2 CPS ≥ 10 (56% of cases) was more common in differentiated tumor types.
- High CD8+ T cell infiltration was associated with better prognosis (P=0.018), while low CD8 correlated with lymph node metastases, distant metastases, peritoneal dissemination, and advanced TNM stage.
- PD-L2 expression in immune cells was significantly associated with better cancer-specific survival (P=0.015), as was PD-L1 expression in immune cells (P=0.037).
- The authors suggest that PD-L2 may be a better prognostic marker than PD-L1 and that the PD-L/PD-1 pathway may contribute to poor prognosis in patients with a low tumor FoxP3/CD8 ratio.
- This study is relevant for researchers investigating immune checkpoint expression patterns in small bowel adenocarcinoma and potential immunotherapy candidates.

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