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Prostatic Specific Antigen (PSA): A predictive, diagnostic and prognostic biomarker in prostate cancer

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Biomarkers are produced by cancer cells or other cells in response to cancer or some other conditions. These are also produced by normal cells, however higher levels appear in malignancy. Most biomarkers are proteins though recently, patterns of gene expression and changes in DNA have also begun to be used as tumour markers. Various biomarkers are in clinical use, some are associated with only one type of cancer, whereas others are associated with two or more cancer types. No "universal" tumour marker has yet been found to detect any kind of cancer. Sometimes, non-cancerous conditions can also cause elevated levels of certain markers, so there are some limitations to their use. Cancer of Prostate is the second most common cause of cancer and the sixth leading cause of cancer death among men worldwide. In India also, accoding to reports of four PBCRs (Delhi, Kolkata, Nagpur and Thiruvananthpuram), prostate is the second leading site of cancer. Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA), is elevated in prostate cancer. In 1994,PSA levels increase with the increasing Gleason's grade in prostatic cancer. We performed Tru-cut biopsies in 100 suspected cases of carcinoma of the prostate. Fifty nine biopsies were positive for adenocarcinoma prostate, 35 had benign prostate hyperplasia, one was prostatitis and five biopsies were inadequate. PSA levels were found high according to their Gleason's grades in carcinoma of prostate.

Biography

Manjit Singh Bal has completed his MBBS and MD (Pathology) from GMC, Amritsar (India), and has a Fellowship (FICP) in Pathology; he retired after >37 years of govt. job including >31 years as Faculty and 17 years as Department Head. He is presently working as a Professor of Pathology at a private Medical College. His areas of research interest are as follows: Histopathology, Cytology and Oncopathology. He trained 115 Post-graduates and published 111 papers in Indian and overseas journals. He is an Editorial Board Member and reviewer for reputed journals. He is a regular Columnist of health articles in Punjabi for Indian and overseas news papers. He has authored 11 books in Punjabi, English and Hindi on health topics and literary.

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