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Livin expression in Hodgkin lymphoma: A promising marker or a leading role in pathogenesis?

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A novel human inhibitor of apoptosis protein family member, termed Livin, was demonstrated in the pathogenesis of different human malignancies, and also it was studied as a potential treatment target in malignancies. However, there is no report on the Livin expression profile in Hodgkin Lymphoma. In this study, the Livin expression in 78 paraffin embedded blocks including 39 staged cases of Hodgkin Lymphoma and 39 control subjects (normal and reactive hyperplasia lymph nodes) were evaluated. Tissue microarray-based semi-quantitative immuno-flourecent staining was applied for protein expression profiling in both infiltrating non-neoplastic cells (morphologically typical Lymphocytes) and neoplastic cells (Hodgkin and Reed-Sternberg) of cases and control samples. Our results demonstrated that the mean ratio of Livin/GAPDH expression was significantly increased between infiltrating background cells in Hodgkin Lymphomas and control cases (0.54596 vs. 0.50827, $P<0.001$). Also, a significant difference was found in the mean ratio of Livin/GAPDH expression between neoplastic cells and major background cells in the tumor microenvironment (0.59024 vs. 0.54596, $P<0.001$). Furthermore, this study confirmed a significant increase of Livin expression from early-stage to advanced-stage of Hodgkin Lymphoma (0.52888 vs. 0.580146, $P<0.01$). These findings suggest that Livin may play a critical role in the pathogenesis of Hodgkin Lymphoma. It also can be a novel prognostic marker and a potential therapeutic target in this type of lymphoma.

Biography

Amin Ziaei is a medical student from Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran. Currently, she is working as a Medical Research Assistant at Royan Institute, Stem Cell Department. She has achieved a gold medal (As the first rank, Individual Competitions) in nationwide step of the Iranian National Medical Students Academic Olympiad (September 2013) in the field of scientific reasoning in basic science. Her research interest is molecular medicine, specially, Cancer researches, and has had some research experiences and publications in the field of hematopoietic cancers, stem cell research and signaling pathway with molecular medicine basis approach.

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