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Histological biomarkers and prognostic models for patients withoral squamous cell carcinoma: running the long road toward personalized medicine

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Oral cancer accounts for 2% of all cancers, and is associated with a high mortality rate. Oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) represents >90% of oral cancers, with the tongue being the most commonly involved site. Despite recent advances in diagnostic techniques, the prognosis of OSCCs is poor and often unpredictable. Although it is widely accepted that the prognosis is closely associated with the tumour staging at the time of diagnosis, there are other factors that might influence the course of the disease. Several genetic, epigenetic and histological biomarkers have been proposed in order to identify the aggressive tumours, with the aim of providing more personalised cancer therapies. One of the main limitations of OSCC-related TNM system is its main focus on the anatomical extension of the disease. For this reason, the need for a more "personalized" approach to the oncologic patient has highlighted to construct prognostic models to carry out a personalized prognosis evaluation. However, already developed prognostic models still presents some limitations undermining their use in the current clinical practice.

Biography

Dr. Troiano has completed his PhD at the age of 29 years at the University of Foggia. He is now senior lecturer at the Department of clinical and experimental medicine at the University of Foggia in Italy. He has published more than 140 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of repute. One of his main research topic is related to the analysis of prognostic biomarker for patients with oral squamous cell carcinoma.