

METHOD AND KIT FOR THE PROGNOSIS OF MANTLE CELL LYMPHOMA

The present invention aims at developing a tool for classifying a patient diagnosed with mantle cell lymphoma into the category of indolent or conventional. It will avoid unnecessary aggressive treatments to those patients with an indolent clinical course improving their quality of life.

BACKGROUND

Mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) is a distinctive subtype of B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma characterized by the translocation t(11;14) (q13,32) and the overexpression of Cyclin D1.

In general, MCL shows an aggressive clinical behavior with poor response to current therapeutic approaches, and the median survival of MCL patients following diagnosis is between 3 and 5 years. However, a subset of patients may show prolonged indolent behavior and a longer survival with little or no treatment. Unfortunately, there are no reliable tools to prospectively identify these cases which are treated as conventional MCL patients with an aggressive chemotherapy.

Therefore, the possibility of treating patients based on prognostic factors needs to be investigated prospectively.

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

The present invention is a test to identify those MCL patients with an indolent clinical course that would not need an immediate treatment.

The test consists in determining the level of expression of at least one of a set of 13 genes that are underexpressed or not expressed in tumor cells from patients suffering indolent MCL.

ADVANTAGES

- Avoid the administration of aggressive therapies to patients that would not need them and that cause unnecessary suffering.

- It will enable the medical community to apply risk-adapted treatment strategies to patients suffering from MCL.
- Reduction of the sanitary cost.

CURRENT STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

- The method has been completely validated with samples of MCL patients.
- A preferred combination of 3-4 of the 13 selected genes has been defined.

GOAL

We are searching companies interested in the acquisition of the license and the development and commercialization of the product (PCR kit or array).

PATENT

A patent application was filed on July 2009 by the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona, Clinic Foundation for Biomedical Research, IDIBAPS and the University of Barcelona.

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PCT extension: PCT/ES2010/070531.

January 2012: Patent has entered into national phases in UE and US.

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