Author’s response to reviews

Title: Correlation of CD44v6 expression with ovarian cancer progression and recurrence

Authors:

JUN SHI (shi.windy@gmail.com)
ZHOU ZHOU (1151900498@qq.com)
Wen Di (diwen163@163.com)
Ning Li Li (ninglixiaoxue57@yahoo.com.cn)

Version: 2 Date: 2 November 2012

Author's response to reviews:

October 25, 2012

Editorial Office
BMC cancer
Dear the Editors,

On behalf of all the authors, I submit the manuscript entitled “Correlation of CD44v6 expression with ovarian cancer progression and recurrence” for your consideration for publication in BMC cancer.

The objective of this study was to evaluate the expression of CD44 standard (CD44s) and its variant 6 (CD44v6) in primary, metastatic and recurrent epithelial ovarian cancer (EOC) to explore the potential association of CD44s and CD44v6 with the tumor progression and recurrence. CD44v6 has been shown to play role in tumor development and progression in a variety of human cancers. Specifically, CD44v6 has been shown to promote ovarian cancer metastasis by mediating ovarian tumor cell attachment to the peritoneum. Numerous studies have also been carried out to assess the correlation of CD44v6 with tumor development and progression to address the diagnostic and prognostic values of CD44v6 for ovarian cancers. However, these studies generated conflicting data. Moreover, epithelial ovarian cancer is known to metastasize to distinct sites, but is still not clear whether CD44v6 expression is associated with site-specific metastasis of ovarian cancer.

In this study, in order to obtain accurate and reliable data, we assessed CD44v6 expression in tumor specimens by two methods: real-time RT-PCR followed by confirmation with Western blot analysis. We have obtained the following key findings: a) CD44v6 expression is associated with the recurrence and the abdominal cavity metastasis of ovarian serous cancer; b) serum soluble CD44v6 levels of recurrent ovarian cancer were higher than those of early stage and advanced diseases, and c) CD44v6 expression is correlated with the clinicopathologic features and tumor progression. Thus, we feel that our current
work has not only further addressed the controversy but also generated important novel findings on the correlation of CD44v6 with progression and recurrence of epithelial ovarian cancers. We hope that you will find this work suitable for publication in BMC cancer.

This work is supported by the foundation of the Shanghai Committee of Science and Technology, China (Grant No. 10dz2212100).

Thank you.

Ningli Li, Ph.D.
Professor
Shanghai Institute of Immunology
Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine
280 South Chongqing Road
Phone: 86-13661860933
Fax: 86-63846383