Osteopontin and `Melanoma Inhibitory Activity': Comparison of Two Serological Tumor Markers in Metastatic Uveal Melanoma Patients

Abstract:
Background: Evaluation of the protein osteopontin (OPN) as a potential new marker in comparison to melanoma inhibitory activity (MIA) for screening and detection of metastatic uveal melanoma. Methods: Plasma levels of 32 patients with uveal melanoma were analyzed for OPN and MIA by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). Fourteen of these patients had clinically detectable liver metastases. Results: Median plasma concentration of OPN in patients with metastatic disease was 152.01 ng/ml compared to 47.39 ng/ml in patients without clinically detectable metastases (p < 0.001). The difference between the median MIA plasma levels in patients with (13.11 ng/ml) and patients without (5.64 ng/ml) metastatic disease was also statistically significant (p < 0.001). No correlation could be found between MIA or OPN levels and tumor height in patients without clinically detectable metastases. Conclusion: The proteins MIA and OPN seem to be promising tumor markers for the metastasis screening in patients with uveal melanoma.

Stichworte: Uveal melanoma; Metastases; Osteopontin; Melanoma inhibitory activity; Serological marker

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