Dokumenttyp: journal article

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Titel des Beitrags: Telomere length and telomerase subunits as diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers in Barrett carcinoma.

Abstract: BACKGROUND: Maintenance of telomeres has been identified as an essential regulator of proliferative capacity and genomic integrity in malignant tumors. The authors evaluated telomere length and telomerase subunits, hTR and hTERT, as prognostic markers in patients with Barrett carcinoma. METHODS: Telomere length was measured by Southern blot analysis and hTR expression and hTERT expression by real-time polymerase chain reaction in both cancer tissue and adjacent noncancerous Barrett mucosa in resection specimens from 46 patients with Barrett carcinoma (International Union Against Cancer [UICC] stages I-III). The median follow-up time of the surviving patients was 79 months. RESULTS: Cancer tissue expressed more hTERT-mRNA than noncancerous mucosa (P1.17 had a significantly poorer overall survival compared with 36 patients with telomere-length ratios

Zeitschriftentitel / Abkürzung: Cancer

Jahr: 2008

Band: 112

Heft / Issue: 10

Seiten: 2173-80

Sprache: eng