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Opinion Article

Heptacullar Carcinoma: Recent Trends in Diagnostic Biomarkers and Molecular Targeted Therapies

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ABOUT THE STUDY

With about 906,000 new cases and 830,000 deaths, Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) is a significant global health concern. Sorafenib, Lenvatinib, and Regorafenib were the multi-targeted Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors (TKI) used as first-line therapy for unresectable HCC. Cabozantinib, Ramucirumab, and Cabozantinib were used as second-line therapies. Recently, Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors (ICIs), which block intrinsic immune down regulators like Cytotoxic T-lymphocyte Antigen 4 (CTLA-4) and Programmed Cell Death 1 (PD-1) or its ligand Programmed Cell Death Ligand 1 (PD-L1) to increase the Cytotoxicity of T cells, have emerged as promising new cancer treatments. ICIs have recently achieved success in a number of tumor therapies, including advanced Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC), Melanoma, Renal Cell Carcinoma, and Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCCHN). The Objective Response Rate (ORR) for patients with advanced HCC who received the Anti-PD-1 Antibody Nivolumab or Pembrolizumab was shown to be 14%-20% with prolonged PFS and OS in the early phase I/II or phase II studies. However, neither of these two antibodies produced encouraging results in the subsequent phase III trials. In terms of ORR, PFS, and OS, the IMbrave150 trial, which combined the Anti-PD-L1 antibody from Atezolizumab and the anti-VEGF antibody from Bevacizumab, achieved a breakthrough for advanced HCC treatment.

When equated to Sorafenib as the initial form of therapy. A Phase study's positive results regarding the combination of Lenvatinib and Pembrolizumab as a first-line treatment for patients with advanced HCC are also being considered. Only a few biomedical predictors of response to ICIs, such as Microsatellite Instability (MSI) and gut Microbiome, were discovered despite the breakthrough for ICIs on advanced HCC treatment.

Recent studies have demonstrated that adverse reactions IRAES were linked to the efficacy of anti-PD-1 Antibody Therapy in Melanoma patients. Gastric Cancer and non-small Cell Lung Cancer. Contrarily, there aren't many data on the correlation between IRAES and the success of Immunotherapy for HCC.

We discovered CCDC88A protein was upregulated in HCC tissues using Immunohistochemistry, which is closely related to poor prognosis and survival rate. The use of GEPIA revealed that CCDC88A and VEGF have a positive correlation in HCC but not in liver tissue. When CCDC88A was silenced, Huh-7 and SK-HEP-1 cell proliferation, cell cycle phases, migration, invasion, colony formation, and tumour formation were all significantly reduced. MIR-101 mimics that target CCDC88A and VEGF in particular were introduced; this resulted in a decrease in the levels of both proteins. The correlation between the levels of the proteins CCDC88A and VEGFA was, interestingly, reversed when MIR-101 was inhibited, suggesting that CCDC88A and VEGF may act as a MIR-101 sponge. SKLB1002, a VEGFR2 inhibitor, was added to stop malignant behaviour. which was further suppressed by the addition of miR-101 mimics, showing that CCDC88A controls VEGF in part to control malignant behaviours. Additionally, CCDC88A depends on VEGF modification to promote the stemness of cancer stem-like cells derived from HCC cells.

CONCLUSION

Immune-related adverse reactions, also known as immune-related side effects, are inflammatory side effects brought on by immune checkpoint Inhibitors' Imbalances In Immunological Tolerance (IRAES). Depending on how severe each AE is, it requires regular monitoring as well as immunosuppressive and Endocrine Therapy. The adverse immune events are thought to be connected to the function immune checkpoints have in preserving immunologic homeostasis. The following potential mechanisms may be connected to the occurrence of IRAES. increasing levels of pre-existing autoantibodies, increasing levels of Inflammatory Cytokines, and increasing T-cell activity against antigens found in tumours and healthy tissue in addition to increased complement-mediated inflammation brought on by direct antibody binding to the Cytotoxic T-lymphocyte Antigen 4 (CTLA-4). However, more research is still required to fully understand the pathophysiology behind IRAES. Nearly all of the body's organs are affected by IRAES, which are most frequently seen in the skin, gastrointestinal tract, lungs, and other organs like the endocrine, musculoskeletal, and others.

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