3rd edition Unmet challenges in high risk hematological malignancies: from benchside to clinical practice

Turin, September 21-22, 2023 Starhotels Majestic *Scientific board:* **Marco Ladetto** (Alessandria) **Umberto Vitolo** (Candiolo-TO)

10.40 Pathobiology of nodal peripheral T-cell lymphoma S.A. Pileri



Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Lilly					+	+	
BeiGene					+		
Stemline					+	+	
Roche					+		
Takeda					+		
Diatech						+	





	AITL	Other TFH- PTCL	PTCL-NOS	p-value across entities (Fisher test)
Clinical variables				
Median age at diagnosis (years)	67.8	65.2	59.6	NA
Sex (M)	53/94 (56%)	10/19 (53%)	23/34 (68%)	0.4
Stage III-IV	84/85 (99%)	18/19 (95%)	29/34 (85%)	< 0.01
$ECOG \ge 2$	67/83 (53%)	7/17 (41%)	11/33 (33%)	0.47
$IPI \ge 3$	20/32 (81%)	11/17 (55%)	67/83 (63%)	0.08
Coombs (+)	25/56 (45%)	2/5 (40%)	0/6 (0%)	0.03
Anemia	47/71 (66%)	7/13 (54%)	10/27 (37%)	0.02
Hypergammaglobulinemia (≥16 g/dl)	23/48 (48%)	2/11 (18%)	4/19 (21%)	0.05



A novel subset of T-helper cells: follicular T-helper cells and their markers

Camille Laurent,¹ Nicolas Fazilleau² and Pierre Brousset³

¹INSERM, U.563, Centre de Physiopathologie de Toulouse-Purpan, Toulouse, F-31300 France; ²Université Paul-Sabatier, Toulouse, F-31400 France; ³Laboratoire d'Anatomie Pathologique, CHU Purpan, Toulouse,France E-mail: brousset.p@chu-toulouse.fr. doi:10.3324/haematol.2009.019133

356 haematologica 2010; 95(3)



BCL6, CD10, PD-1, ICOS, SAP, CXCL13, CCR5



Targeting intratumoral B cells with rituximab in addition to CHOP in angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma. A clinicobiological study of the GELA

Marie-Hélène Delfau-Larue,^{1,2,3} Laurence de Leval,⁴* Bertrand Joly,⁵* Anne Plonquet,^{1,2,3} Dominique Challine,^{1,6} Marie Parrens,⁷ Alain Delmer,⁸ Gilles Salles,⁹ Franck Morschhauser,¹⁰ Richard Delarue,¹¹ Pauline Brice,¹² Reda Bouabdallah,¹³ Olivier Casasnovas,¹⁴ Hervé Tilly,¹⁵ Philippe Gaulard,^{1,2,16} and Corinne Haioun^{1,17}

Conclusions

We report here the results of the first clinical trial targeting both the neoplastic T cells and the microenvironment-associated CD20⁺ B lymphocytes in angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma, showing no clear benefit of adding rituximab to conventional chemotherapy. A strong relationship, not previously described, between circulating Epstein-Barr virus and circulating tumor cells is highlighted. *(This trial was registered at www.clinicaltrials.gov as NCT00169156.)*

haematologica | 2012; 97(10)

Am J Surg Pathol. 2007 Jul;31(7):1077-88. doi: 10.1097/PAS.0b013e31802d68e9.

Histologic evolution of angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma in consecutive biopsies: clinical correlation and insights into natural history and disease progression

Ayoma Deepthi Attygalle¹, Charalampia Kyriakou, Jehan Dupuis, Karen Lynne Grogg, Timothy Charles Diss, Andrew Charles Wotherspoon, Shih Sung Chuang, José Cabeçadas, Peter Gershon Isaacson, Ming-Qing Du, Philippe Gaulard, Ahmet Dogan

High-dimensional and single-cell transcriptome analysis of the tumor microenvironment in angioimmunoblastic T cell lymphoma (AITL)

Joshua C. Pritchett (¹), Zhi-Zhang Yang¹, Hyo Jin Kim¹, Jose C. Villasboas¹, Xinyi Tang¹, Shahrzad Jalali¹, James R. Cerhan (²), Andrew L. Feldman (³) and Stephen M. Ansell (¹)¹

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Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma (AITL) is an aggressive lymphoid malignancy associated with a poor clinical prognosis. The AITL tumor microenvironment (TME) is unique, featuring a minority population of malignant CD4+ T follicular helper (TFH) cells inter-mixed with a diverse infiltrate of multi-lineage immune cells. While much of the understanding of AITL biology to date has focused on characteristics of the malignant clone, less is known about the many non-malignant populations that comprise the TME. Recently, mutational consistencies have been identified between malignant cells and non-malignant B cells within the AITL TME. As a result, a significant role for non-malignant populations in AITL biology has been increasingly hypothesized. In this study, we have utilized mass cytometry and single-cell transcriptome analysis to identify several expanded populations within the AITL TME. Notably, we find that B cells within the AITL TME feature decreased expression of key markers including CD73 and CXCR5. Furthermore, we describe the expansion of distinct CD8+ T cell populations that feature an exhausted phenotype and an underlying expression profile indicative of dysfunction, impaired cytotoxicity, and upregulation of the chemokines XCL2 and XCL1.

Leukemia (2022) 36:165–176; https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-021-01321-2

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Early detection of T-cell lymphoma with T follicular helper phenotype by *RHOA* mutation analysis

Rachel Dobson,¹ Peter Y. Du,¹ Lívia Rásó-Barnett,² Wen-Qing Yao,¹ Zi Chen,¹ Calogero Casa,² Hesham El-Daly,² Lorant Farkas,^{2,3} Elizabeth Soilleux,^{1,4} Penny Wright,⁴ John W. Grant,⁴ Manuel Rodriguez-Justo,⁵ George A. Follows,⁶ Hala Rashed,⁷ Margarete Fabre,^{6,8} E. Joanna Baxter,⁶ George Vassiliou,^{6,8} Andrew Wotherspoon,⁹ Ayoma D. Attygalle,⁹ Hongxiang Liu² and Ming-Qing Du^{1,4}



CLINICAL TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONS

Multicenter phase 2 study of oral azacitidine (CC-486) plus CHOP as initial treatment for PTCL

Jia Ruan,¹ Alison Moskowitz,² Neha Mehta-Shah,³ Lubomir Sokol,⁴ Zhengming Chen,¹ Nikita Kotlov,⁵ Grigorii Nos,⁵ Maria Sorokina,⁵ Vladislav Maksimov,⁵ Andrea Sboner,¹ Michael Sigouros,¹ Koen van Besien,¹ Steven Horwitz,² Sarah C. Rutherford,¹ Erin Mulvey,¹ Maria V. Revuelta,¹ Jenny Xiang,¹ Alicia Alonso,¹ Ari Melnick,¹ Olivier Elemento,¹ Giorgio Inghirami,¹ John P. Leonard,¹ Leandro Cerchietti,¹ and Peter Martin¹

¹Meyer Cancer Center, Weill Cornell Medicine and New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY; ²Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY; ³Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO; ⁴Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL; and ⁵BostonGene Corporation, Waltham, MA

KEY POINTS

- Addition of oral azacitidine to CHOP as initial therapy is safe, and induces high rates of CR in patients with PTCL-TFH.
- Integrative analyses suggest that azacitidine priming promotes apoptosis and inflammation within the lymphoma tumor microenvironment.

Peripheral T-cell lymphomas (PTCL) with T-follicular helper phenotype (PTCL-TFH) has recurrent mutations affecting epigenetic regulators, which may contribute to aberrant DNA methylation and chemoresistance. This phase 2 study evaluated oral azacitidine (CC-486) plus cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, and prednisone (CHOP) as initial treatment for PTCL. CC-486 at 300 mg daily was administered for 7 days before C1 of CHOP, and for 14 days before CHOP C2-6. The primary end point was end-of-treatment complete response (CR). Secondary end points included safety and survival. Correlative studies assessed mutations, gene expression, and methylation in tumor samples. Grade 3 to 4 hematologic toxicities were mostly neutropenia (71%), with febrile neutropenia uncommon (14%). Nonhematologic toxicities included fatigue (14%) and gastrointestinal symptoms (5%). In 20 evaluable patients, CR was 75%, including 88.2% for PTCL-TFH (n = 17). The 2-year progression-free survival (PFS) was 65.8% for all and 69.2% for PTCL-TFH, whereas 2-year overall survival (OS) was 68.4% for all and 76.1% for PTCL-TFH. The frequencies of the *TET2*, *RHOA*, *DNMT3A*, and *IDH2* mutations were 76.5%, 41.1%, 23.5%,

and 23.5%, respectively, with *TET2* mutations significantly associated with CR (P = .007), favorable PFS (P = .004) and OS (P = .015), and *DNMT3A* mutations associated with adverse PFS (P = .016). CC-486 priming contributed to the reprograming of the tumor microenvironment by upregulation of genes related to apoptosis (P < .01) and inflammation (P < .01). DNA methylation did not show significant shift. This safe and active regimen is being further evaluated in the ALLIANCE randomized study A051902 in CD30-negative PTCL. This trial was registered at www.clinicaltrials.gov as #NCT03542266.

Recurrent mutations in epigenetic regulators, RHOA and FYN kinase in peripheral T cell lymphomas

Teresa Palomero, Lucile Couronné, Hossein Khiabanian, Mi-Yeon Kim, Alberto Ambesi-Impiombato, Arianne Perez-Garcia, Zachary Carpenter, Francesco Abate, Maddalena Allegretta, J Erika Haydu, Xiaoyu Jiang, Izidore S Lossos, Concha Nicolas, Milagros Balbin, Christian Bastard, Govind Bhagat, Miguel A Piris, Elias Campo, Olivier A Bernard, Raul Rabadan & Adolfo A Ferrando

 Nature Genetics
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Peripheral T cell lymphomas (PTCLs) are a heterogeneous and poorly understood group of non-Hodgkin lymphomas^{1, 2}. Here we combined whole-exome sequencing of 12 tumor-normal DNA pairs, RNA sequencing analysis and targeted deep sequencing to identify new genetic alterations in PTCL transformation. These analyses identified highly recurrent epigenetic factor mutations in *TET2*, *DNMT3A* and *IDH2* as well as a new highly prevalent *RHOA* mutation encoding a p.Gly17Val alteration present in 22 of 35 (67%) angioimmunoblastic T cell lymphoma (AITL) samples and in 8 of 44 (18%) PTCL, not otherwise specified (PTCL-NOS) samples. Mechanistically, the RHOA Gly17Val protein interferes with RHOA signaling in biochemical and cellular assays, an effect potentially mediated by the sequestration of activated guanineexchange factor (GEF) proteins. In addition, we describe new and recurrent, albeit less frequent, genetic defects including mutations in *FYN*, *ATM*, *B2M* and *CD58* implicating SRC signaling, impaired DNA damage response and escape from immune surveillance mechanisms in the pathogenesis of PTCL.

Frequent CTLA4-CD28 gene fusion in diverse types of T cell lymphoma

Yoo HY, Kim P, Kim WS, Lee SH, Kim S, Kang SY, Jang HY, Lee JE, Kim J, Kim SJ, Ko YH, Lee S.

Haematologica 2016 Volume 101(6):757-763





American Society of Hematology 2021 L Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036 Phone: 202-776-0544 | Fax 202-776-0545 editorial@hematology.org

FER and FES tyrosine kinase fusions in follicular T-cell lymphoma

Tracking no: BLD-2019-002401R1

Koen Debackere (KU Leuven - VIB, Belgium) Jo-Anne van der Krogt (KU Leuven, Belgium) Thomas Tousseyn (University Hospitals KU Leuven, Belgium) Julio Finalet Ferreiro (K U Leuven, Belgium) Katrien Van Roosbroeck (KU Leuven, Belgium) Lukas Marcelis (KU Leuven, Belgium) Carlos Graux (CHU UCL Namur - Godinne, Belgium) Daan Dierickx (University Hospitals Leuven, Belgium) Geneviève Ameye (Centre of Human Genetics, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven, Belgium, Belgium) Peter Vandenberghe (University Hospital Leuven, Belgium) Lucienne Michaux (KULeuven, Belgium) Jan Cools (KU Leuven - VIB, Belgium) Iwona Wlodarska (KU Leuven, Belgium)

Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma





AITL: Follicular dendritic cell hyperplasia



Follicular peripheral T- cell lymphoma







Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma: more than a disease of T follicular helper cells[†]

François Lemonnier¹ and Tak W Mak^{1,2*}







Review

Peripheral T-Cell Lymphoma, Not Otherwise Specified: Clinical Manifestations, Diagnosis, and Future Treatment

Stefano A. Pileri ^{1,*}, Valentina Tabanelli ¹, Stefano Fiori ¹, Angelica Calleri ¹, Federica Melle ¹, Giovanna Motta ¹, Daniele Lorenzini ¹, Corrado Tarella ^{2,3} and Enrico Derenzini ^{2,3}

Cancers 2021, 13, 4535. https://doi.org/10.3390/cancers13184535

Cytological features



Revising the historical collection of epithelioid cell-rich lymphomas of the Kiel Lymph Node Registry: what is Lennert's lymphoma nowadays?

Sylvia Hartmann, Claudio Agostinelli,¹ Wolfram Klapper,² Penelope Korkolopoulou,³ Karoline Koch,² Teresa Marafioti,⁴ Pier Paolo Piccaluga,¹ Efstratios Patsouris,³ Stefano Pileri¹ & Martin-Leo Hansmann



Peripheral T-cell lymphoma, not otherwise specified: a report of 340 cases from the International Peripheral T-cell Lymphoma Project (Blood. 2011;117(12):3402-3408)

Dennis D. Weisenburger,¹ Kerry J. Savage,² Nancy Lee Harris,³ Randy D. Gascoyne,⁴ Elaine S. Jaffe,⁵ Kenneth A. MacLennan,⁶ Thomas Rüdiger,⁷ Stefano Pileri,⁸ Shigeo Nakamura,⁹ Bharat Nathwani,¹⁰ Elias Campo,¹¹ Francoise Berger,¹² Bertrand Coiffier,¹³ Won-Seog Kim,¹⁴ Harald Holte,¹⁵ Massimo Federico,¹⁶ Wing Y. Au,¹⁷ Kensei Tobinai,¹⁸ James O. Armitage,¹⁹ and Julie M. Vose,¹⁹ for the International Peripheral T-cell Lymphoma Project



Marker Expression in Peripheral T-Cell Lymphoma: A Proposed Clinical-Pathologic Prognostic Score

Philip Went, Claudio Agostinelli, Andrea Gallamini, Pier Paolo Piccaluga, Stefano Ascani, Elena Sabattini, Francesco Bacci, Brunangelo Falini, Teresio Motta, Marco Paulli, Tullio Artusi, Milena Piccioli, Pier Luigi Zinzani, and Stefano A. Pileri

J Clin Oncol 24:2472-2479. © 2006 by American Society of Clinical Oncology

12 TMAs from 193 PCTLs



		PTCL		AILD
Antigen	No.	Positive (%)	No.	Positiv (%)
Human TCR βF1	133	97	30	94
CD2	136	70	41	100
CD3	144	86	40	95
CD4	135	46	38	42
CD8	129	15	34	32
CD5	137	20	36	19
CD7	141	19	41	24
CD10	143	1	43	39
CD15	140	4	43	2
CD30	145	3	42	0
CD56	140	6	40	3
CD57	143	10	42	5
TIA-1	138	27	41	34
GB	140	2	40	0
ALK-C	143	0	41	0
EBER	132	5	39	3
Mib-1 high	138	11	40	5
CD20	141	1	42	0
CD79a	142	0	36	0

CD30 expression in PTCL

by Elena Sabattini, Marco Pizzi, Valentina Tabanelli, Pamela Baldin, Carlo Sagramoso Sacchetti, Claudio Agostinelli, Pier Luigi Zinzani, and Stefano Pileri

	CD30 IHC score						
	0	1+	2+	3+	4	Score ≥ 2+	
PTCL-NOS, n (%) (N = 87)	31 (35.63)	11 (12.64)	18 (20.69)	11 (12.64)	16 (18.39)	45 (51.72)	
AITL, n (%) (N = 42)	24 (51.14)	9 (21.42)	5 (11.90)	4 (9.52)	—	9 (21.42)	
ENTL, n (%) (N = 10)	2 (20.00)	1 (10.00)	3 (30.00)	1 (10.00)	3 (30.00)	7 (70.00)	
MF, n (%) (N = 32)	13 (40.63) ^a	15 (46.88) ^b	2 (6.25) ^c	—	2 (6.25) ^d	4 (12.50)	
Transformed MF, n (%) (N = 9)	—	-	3 (33.33)	6 (66.67)	—	9 (100.00)	
EATL type 1, n (%) (N = 9)	—	-	2 (22.22)	—	7 (77.78)	9 (100.00)	
EATL type 2, n (%) (N = 3)	3 (100)	-	—	_	—	-	
All types, n (%) (N = 192)	73 (38.02)	36 (18.75)	33 (17.18)	17 (8.85)	28 (14.58)	83 (43.22)	

^a 2 cases in tumoural phase. ^b 1 case in tumoural phase. ^c Folliculotropic variant. ^d Pagetoid reticulosis sybtype.

AITL, angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma; EATL, enteropathy-associated T-cell lymphoma;

ENTL, extranodal NK/T-cell lymphoma, nasal type; MF, mycosis fungoides.

Brentuximab vedotin in the treatment of CD30⁺ PTCL

Stefan K. Barta,¹ Jerald Z. Gong,² and Pierluigi Porcu³

¹Division of Hematology-Oncology, Perelman School of Medicine, Abramson Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; ²Division of Hematopathology, Department of Pathology, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA; and ³Division of Hematologic Malignancies and Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation, Department of Medical Oncology, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA

The development of brentuximab vedotin has opened a new era in the management of peripheral T-cell lymphomas (PTCLs). The improved outcomes with brentuximab vedotin (BV) in combination with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and prednisone (BV-CHP) vs cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, and prednisone in the ECHELON-2 trial are practice changing for common nodal CD30⁺ PTCLs. Questions regarding the optimal cutoff of CD30 expression for BV-CHP therapy and the efficacy and safety of BV-CHP in less common subtypes of CD30⁺ PTCL subtypes await clarification. (*Blood.* 2019;134(26):2339-2345)

Gene expression signatures delineate biologic and prognostic subgroups in peripheral T-cell lymphoma

Javeed Iqbal, George Wright, Chao Wang, Andreas Rosenwald, Randy D. Gascoyne, Dennis D. Weisenburger, Timothy C. Greiner, Lynette Smith, Shuangping Guo, Ryan A. Wilcox, Bin Tean Teh, Soon Thye Lim, Soon Yong Tan, Lisa M. Rimsza, Elaine S. Jaffe, Elias Campo, Antonio Martinez, Jan Delabie, Rita M. Braziel, James R. Cook, Raymond R. Tubbs, German Ott, Eva Geissinger, Philippe Gaulard, Pier Paolo Piccaluga, Stefano A. Pileri, Wing Y. Au, Shigeo Nakamura, Masao Seto, Francoise Berger, Laurence de Leval, Joseph M. Connors, James Armitage, Julie Vose, Wing C. Chan and Louis M. Staudt

Prepublished online March 14, 2014; doi:10.1182/blood-2013-11-536359

(A)	AL	CL		EN	KTL	
AITL+ TFH	ALK-	ALK+	ATTL	NK	γδΤ	PTCL-NOS
			Ui,	R. L.	-	



LYMPHOID NEOPLASIA

DNMT3A mutations define a unique biological and prognostic subgroup associated with cytotoxic T cells in PTCL-NOS

Tyler A. Herek,¹ Alyssa Bouska,¹ Waseem Lone,¹ Sunandini Sharma,¹ Catalina Amador,¹ Tayla B. Heavican,² Yuping Li,³ Qi Wei,³ Dylan Jochum,¹ Timothy C. Greiner,¹ Lynette Smith,⁴ Stefano Pileri,⁵ Andrew L. Feldman,⁶ Andreas Rosenwald,⁷ German Ott,⁸ Soon Thye Lim,⁹ Choon Kiat Ong,⁹ Joo Song,³ Elaine S. Jaffe,¹⁰ Gang Greg Wang,^{11,12} Louis Staudt,¹³ Lisa M. Rimsza,¹⁴ Julie Vose,¹⁵ Francesco d'Amore,¹⁶ Dennis D. Weisenburger,³ Wing C. Chan,³ and Javeed Iqbal¹



Gene Expression Signatures for the Accurate Diagnosis of Peripheral T-Cell Lymphoma Entities in the Routine Clinical Practice

Catalina Amador, MD¹; Alyssa Bouska, PhD¹; George Wright, MA, PhD²; Dennis D. Weisenburger, MD³; Andrew L. Feldman, MD⁴; Timothy C. Greiner, MD¹; Waseem Lone, PhD¹; Tayla Heavican, PhD¹; Lynette Smith, MS, PhD⁵; Stefano Pileri, MD, PhD⁶; Valentina Tabanelli, MD⁶; German Ott, MD⁷; Andreas Rosenwald, MD⁸; Kerry J. Savage, MS, MD⁹; Graham Slack, MD⁹; Won Seog Kim, PhD¹⁰; Young Hyeh, MD, PhD¹⁰; Yuping Li, PhD³; Gehong Dong, MD¹¹; Joo Song, MD³; Sarah Ondrejka, DO¹²; James R. Cook, MD, PhD¹²; Carlos Barrionuevo, MD¹³; Soon Thye Lim, MBBS¹⁴; Choon Kiat Ong, PhD¹⁴; Jennifer Chapman, MD¹⁵; Giorgio Inghirami, MD¹⁶; Philipp W. Raess, MD, PhD¹⁷; Sharathkumar Bhagavathi, MD¹⁸; Clare Gould, MBBS¹⁹; Piers Blombery, MBBS¹⁹; Elaine Jaffe, MD²⁰; Stephan W. Morris, MD²¹; Lisa M. Rimsza, MD²²; Julie M. Vose, MD, MBA²³; Louis Staudt, MD, PhD²⁴; Wing C. Chan, MD³; and Javeed Iqbal, MS, PhD¹

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Microenvironmental immune cell signatures dictate clinical outcomes for PTCL-NOS

Takeshi Sugio,¹ Kohta Miyawaki,¹ Koji Kato,¹ Kensuke Sasaki,¹ Kyohei Yamada,² Javeed Iqbal,³ Toshihiro Miyamoto,¹ Koichi Ohshima,² Takahiro Maeda,⁴ Hiroaki Miyoshi,² and Koichi Akashi^{1,4}

¹Department of Medicine and Biosystemic Science, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan; ²Department of Pathology, School of Medicine, Kurume University, Kurume, Japan; ³Department of Pathology and Microbiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE; and ⁴Center for Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Kyushu University Hospital, Fukuoka, Japan

Key Points

- Microenvironmental immune cell signatures stratify PTCL-NOS patients into clinically meaningful disease subtypes.
- Immune-checkpoint inhibitors represent potential therapeutic options for a PTCL-NOS patient subgroup.

nCounter system



Assess mRNA leveles of 120 immune-cell related genes Peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL), not otherwise specified (PTCL-NOS) is among the most common disease subtypes of PTCL, one that exhibits heterogeneous clinicopathological features. Although multiple disease-stratification models, including the cell-of-origin or gene-expression profiling methods, have been proposed for this condition, their clinical significance remains unclear. To establish a clinically meaningful stratification model, we analyzed gene-expression signatures of tumors and tumor-infiltrating immune cells using the nCounter system, which enables accurate quantification of low abundance and/or highly fragmented transcripts. To do so, we assessed transcripts of 120 genes related to cancer or immune cells using tumor samples from 68 newly diagnosed PTCL-NOS patients and validated findings by immunofluorescence in tumor sections. We show that gene-expression signatures representing tumor-infiltrating immune cells, but not those of cancerous T cells, dictate patient clinical outcomes. Cases exhibiting both B-cell and dendritic cell (DC) signatures (BD subgroup) showed favorable clinical outcomes, whereas those exhibiting neither B-cell nor DC signatures (non-BD subgroup) showed extremely poor prognosis. Notably, half of the non-BD cases exhibited a macrophage signature, and macrophage infiltration was evident in those cases, as revealed by immunofluorescence. Importantly, tumor-infiltrating macrophages expressed the immune-checkpoint molecules programmed death ligand 1/2 and indoleamine 2, 3-dioxygenase 1 at high levels, suggesting that checkpoint inhibitors could serve as therapeutic options for patients in this subgroup. Our study identifies clinically distinct subgroups of PTCL-NOS and suggests a novel therapeutic strategy for 1 subgroup associated with a poor prognosis. Our data also suggest functional interactions between cancerous T cells and tumor-infiltrating immune cells potentially relevant to PTCL-NOS pathogenesis.

Histone modifier gene mutations in peripheral T-cell lymphoma not otherwise specified

Meng-Meng Ji,¹ Yao-Hui Huang,¹ Jin-Yan Huang,¹ Zhao-Fu Wang,² Di Fu,¹ Han Liu,¹ Feng Liu,¹ Christophe Leboeuf,^{3,4} Li Wang,^{1,3} Jing Ye,³ Yi-Ming Lu,³ Anne Janin,^{3,4} Shu Cheng¹ and Wei-Li Zhao^{1,3}

¹State Key Laboratory of Medical Genomics, Shanghai Institute of Hematology; Shanghai Rui Jin Hospital, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, China; ²Department of Pathology, Shanghai Rui Jin Hospital; Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, China; ³Pôle de Recherches Sino-Français en Science du Vivant et Génomique, Laboratory of Molecular Pathology, Shanghai, China and ⁴U1165 Inserm/Université Paris 7, Hôpital Saint Louis, Paris, France



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ARTICLE





Whole exome sequencing reveals mutations in *FAT1* tumor suppressor gene clinically impacting on peripheral T-cell lymphoma not otherwise specified

Maria Antonella Laginestra¹ · Luciano Cascione² · Giovanna Motta³ · Fabio Fuligni⁴ · Claudio Agostinelli¹ · Maura Rossi¹ · Maria Rosaria Sapienza¹ · Simona Righi¹ · Alessandro Broccoli¹ · Valentina Indio⁵ · Federica Melle³ · Valentina Tabanelli ³ · Angelica Calleri³ · Domenico Novero⁶ · Fabio Facchetti⁷ · Giorgio Inghirami⁸ · Elena Sabattini¹ · Francesco Bertoni ² · Stefano A. Pileri³

Whole Exome Sequencing in PTCL/NOS – Data analysis in cooperation with Francesco Bertoni

Whole Exome Sequencing (WES) (HiScan SQ (Frozen) <u>Discovery Set</u> 21 PTCLs/NOS (5 matched with saliva of the corresponding patient) <u>Saliva pool</u>

- Saliva from the 5 patients with matched PTCL/NOS sample
- Saliva from 11 patients with tumors other than PTCL
- Saliva from 9 healthy donors

RNA SEQ data available in 21/21 cases

Targeted Sequencing-MiSeq Platform

Validation Set

21 PTCLs/NOS that underwent WES

Extension Set

50 FFPE_PTCLs/NOS (8 matched with saliva of the corresponding patient) 9 Cell Lines







TLX3

FAT1

NOTCH1

KMT2C

NOTCH2

TET2

PRDM2



- BIRC6,STAT6,TTC3
- PDCD11,SETD2,TP63
- CHD1,HDAC6,JAK3,MBD4,NFRKB
- DAPK1, ING1, PTPN23
- AFF4, BRAF, CARD11, CDK12, DNMT3A, MDN1, TCF4
- NINL,PLCG2,TLR8,VAV1
- ABL2,CALR,EPHB6,FAF1,MAPK15,MAPKAPK2,MBD5 , MIB1, NLRP4, WDFY3

Genes involved in epigenetic regulation and chromatin remodeling: KMT2D (32%), TET2 (22%), CREBBP (16%) KMT2A (11%), SETD2 (10%) and CHD1 (7%), DNMT3A, ASXL3, MBD4 (8%, each).

46%

40%

Genes involved in NOTCH1/NOTCH2 and JAK/STAT pathways: NOTCH1 (22%), NOTCH2 (19%), JAK3 (7%), and STAT6 (3%).



Recurrent mutations of FAT1 in 28/71 patients (39.7%).

FAT1 encodes the homologous protein (atypical cadherin type 1a), which acts as an adhesion molecule and/or signaling receptor during development and communication processes. It has been reported to potently suppress cancer cell growth by binding beta-catenin and antagonizing the nuclear localization.

FAT1 is also involved in the assembly and activation of the Hippo signalome leading to phosphorylation and inactivation of YAP1.



Irrespective of the subtype of PTCL/NOS (with a TBX21 or GATA3related signature)





