Gli1 expression in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma and its clinical significance

Y. Abula1, C. Yi1, X.-Y. Wang1, M. Wang2, R.-Y. Qin2, Y.-Q. Guo2, H. Lin1 and H.-J. Li3

1Department of Hepatobiliary Surgery, Affiliated Tumor Hospital of Xinjiang Medical University, Urumqi, China
2Department of Hepatobiliary Surgery, Tongji Hospital, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei, China
3Second Department of General Surgery, Shenzhen Luohu District People’s Hospital, Shenzhen, China

Corresponding author: H.-J. Li
E-mail: lhjunls@163.com

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ABSTRACT. The aim of this study was to explore the correlation between the expression levels of Gli1 and p53 in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) and its pathological significance. Immunohistochemistry (IHC) was employed to measure the expression level of Gli1 and p53 in 85 sets of paraffin-embedded PDAC and corresponding para-carcinoma tissue specimens. The relationship between these results and the respective patients’ clinicopathologic parameters was analyzed. IHC staining revealed that the expression levels of Gli1 and p53 in cancer tissues were evidently higher than that of para-carcinoma tissues (P < 0.05); while Gli1 expression levels correlated with the corresponding TNM stage and tumor infiltration depth, p53 expression level correlated with the respective TNM stage (P < 0.05). Taken together, this study demonstrates increased expression
of Gli1 and p53 in PDAC, and proves that Gli1 could be a potential biomarker for prognostic judgment.

**Key words:** Carcinoma; Pancreatic duct; Transcription factor; Prognosis; Factor analysis; Statistics