

4P Elevated plasma levels of hTERT mRNA and DNA in patients with gastric cancer in Northwest of Iran

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Background: Gastric cancer (GC) as the fourth common cancer over the world and responsible for the second cause of cancer-related deaths, has high incidence rate in Iran and especially in its North-Western province, Ardabil. In this study, the circulating hTERT mRNA and DNA were studied in patients affected with GC in Ardabil.

Methods: Using conventional PCR and RT-PCR, Q-PCR and Q-RT-PCR, evaluating the circulating hTERT nucleic acids in the plasma samples of the 100 GC cases and the same number of sex-, age-, and residence place adjusted healthy volunteers, as the control group has been done.

Results: The circulating hTERT mRNA level in patients was higher (40X) than the controls. In the case of circulating DNA, cases had higher difference (65X). These findings have been evaluated as significant difference. There were no significant relationships between hTERT level and age groups or adenocarcinoma type among cases.

Conclusions: The elevated hTERT mRNA/ DNA plasma level among patients indicates the accuracy of the proposed subjects. However, performing cohort studies on circulating hTERT mRNA is advised.

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