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Prognostic value of c-Met overexpression in hepatocellular carcinoma

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The overexpression of c-Met protein has been detected in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). However, its prognostic impact remains uncertain. We performed this meta-analysis to evaluate the prognostic value of c-Met overexpression in patients who underwent curative surgical resection for HCC. A systematic computerized search of the electronic database PubMed was performed. From 5 included studies, 1,408 patients who underwent surgical resection for HCC were included in the meta-analysis. Compared with patients with HCC having low c-Met expression, patients with c-Met-high HCC showed significantly worse relapse-free survival (hazard ratio = 1.26 [95% confidence interval, 1.02-1.56], $p = 0.03$) and overall survival (hazard ratio = 1.16 [95% confidence interval, 1.03-1.31], $p = 0.01$). In conclusion, our meta-analysis indicates that c-Met overexpression is a significant adverse prognostic factor for recurrence and survival in patients who underwent surgical resection for HCC.

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Prognostic role of tumour-inflating lymphocytes in gastric cancer

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Background: The potential prognostic value of tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) in gastric cancer remains controversial. This meta-analysis examines the association between TILs and survival outcomes in gastric cancer. **Methods:** Twenty-two eligible studies were identified using the PubMed and Google Scholar databases. The combined sample size of the 22 studies was 2941, and the median sample size of the individual studies were 122 patients (52 - 220). The main clinical outcomes examined were overall cancer survival (OCS) and relapse-free survival (OCRFS). The multivariate hazard ratio (HRs) for patient survival with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were used to calculate the strength of the association between TIL expression and survival outcome. **Results:** Tumour tissue CD3(+) cells or TILs, indicative of pan-T cell expression, were positively correlated with OCS (HR = 0.64, 95% CI 0.52-0.78), with low heterogeneity ($p = 0.71$, I2 = 0%). High expression of the non-FOXP3(+) T cell subgroup was associated with longer OCS (HR = 0.66, 95% CI 0.57-0.75), particularly in CD8(+) lymphocytes (HR = 0.63, 95% CI 0.48-0.83). However, high FOXP3(+) T cell expression was correlated with reduced OCS (HR = 1.75, 95% CI 1.26-2.42). Analysis of the seven studies evaluating OCRFS revealed improved OCRFS with infiltration of non-FOXP3 (+) TILs (HR = 0.59, 95% CI 0.42-0.81) but not FOXP3 (+) T lymphocytes (HR = 1.82, 95% CI 1.30-2.53). **Conclusions:** The results from this meta-analysis suggest that expression of TILs and TIL subtypes may be a potential prognostic biomarker in patients with gastric cancer.