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Molecular Genetic and Epigenetic Features in Smokers and Non-Smokers with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

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The aim of the study

to investigate the mutational burden of the tumor and methylation features of the promoter regions of the HOXA9, MARCH11, PTGDR, and UNCX genes in patients with non-small cell lung cancer, depending on the smoking status.



mutational burden of the tumor

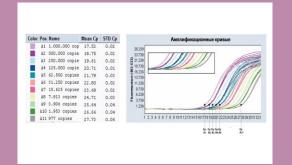
• 48 genes





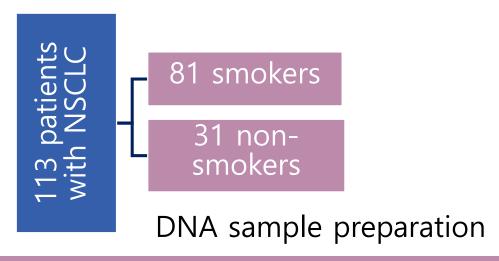
methylation features of the genes

- HOXA9
- MARCH11
- PTGDR
- UNCX



Methods

For investigating the mutational burden:

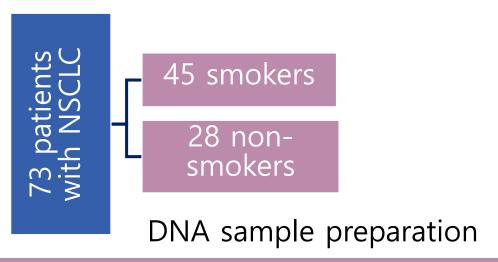


TruSeq Amplicon Cancel Panel kit (Illumina, USA) and AmpliSeq for Illumina Cancer HotSpot Panel v2 kit

Bioinformatics analysis



Analysis of methylation:



quantitative methylation-specific PCR of the promoter regions of the *HOXA9*, *MARCH11*, *PTGDR*, and *UNCX* genes



The relative methylation level was defined as the ratio of the fluorescence level of the studied gene to the fluorescence level of the beta-actin gene

Results

Variants of great clinical significance

for smoking patients

for non-smokers

PIK3CA (0.81%)

FGFR (0.52%)

KRAS (0.25%)

p.Gly13Val

p.Gly13Asp

KIT (0.04%)

STK11 (0.01%)

p.Tyr36Ser

p.Arg40Cys

p.Tyr60Cys

p.Ser69Thr

p.Ser69Ter

p.Thr71Ala

p.Leu80His

KRAS

(0.04%)

p.Gly12Ala

p.Gly12Cys

EGFR (0.37%)

p.Asn771dup

p.Glu746_ Ala750del

p.Leu747_Pro 753delinsSer

p.His773_Val 774insThrHis

p.Glu545Lys

p.His773dup

p.Glu746_ Ala750del

p.Gly12Val

p.Gly12Asp

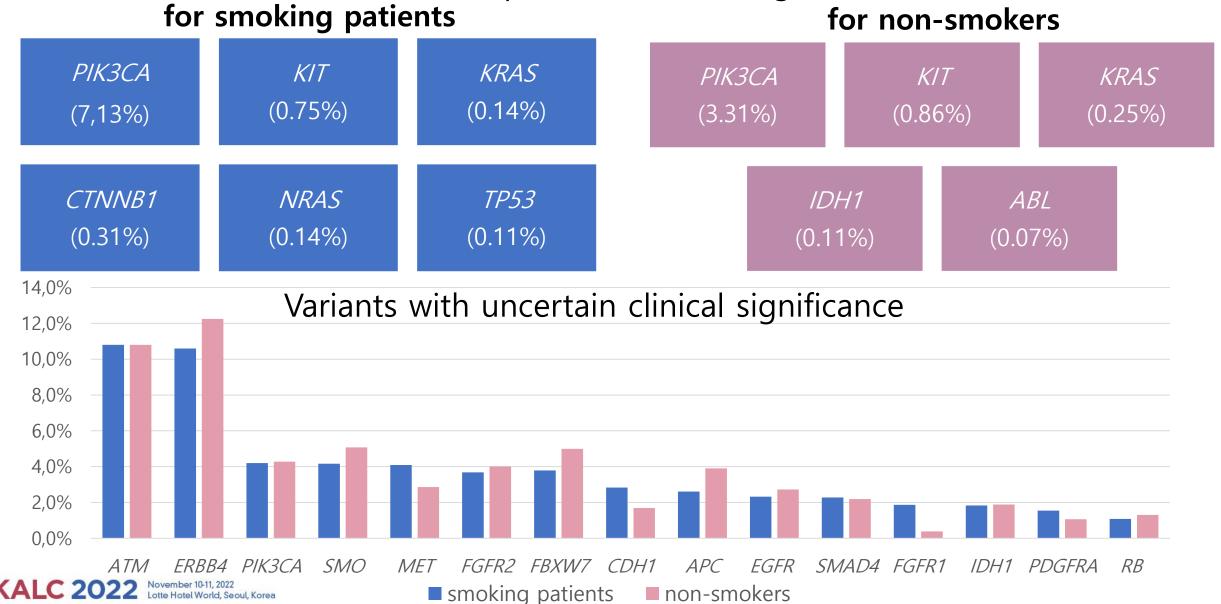
p.Gly12Cys

p.Phe591Leu

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Results

Variants with potential clinical significance



Results

The relative level of methylation of four rare markers in tumor and non-tumor tissues of patients with NSCLC

Gene	HOXA9		MARCH11		UNCX		PTGDR	
Tissue type	tumor	non-tumor	tumor	non-tumor	tumor	non-tumor	tumor	non-tumor
Number of samples	61	61	59	59	62	62	50	50
Mean	97.60	49.63	43.04	26.95	52.99	35.37	47.13	23.42
SD	40.72	37.89	19.36	13.90	34.87	17.05	36.28	25.38
Median	107.58	44.02	48,49	30.47	46.66	35.61	37.78	13.07
Minimum	18.49	0.43	0.73	0.44	5.03	0.58	1.58	0,01
25th percentile	71.11	27,62	27.06	17.39	22.83	23.50	19.40	8.20
75th percentile	127.90	61.46	54.90	36.95	78.48	43.11	63.33	31.29
Maximum	167.68	273.01	82.66	59.06	172.54	82.05	139.49	99.56
Wilcoxon Matched Pairs Test	5.46 p=4.89*10 ⁻⁸		4.69 p=2.67*10 ⁻⁶		3.64 p=2.70*10 ⁻⁴		5.38 p=7.38*10 ⁻⁸	

For smoking and non-smoking patients, the accurate significance of the relative methylation level was identified only in the HOXA9 gene: the standardized indicator of the Mann-Whitney U test was 1.96 (p=0.049).







Conclusion

Thus, as a result of the study performed, the data on the spectrum of mutations and their clinical significance for smoking and non-smoking patients with NSCLC were obtained, and the relative methylation level of the genes *HOXA9*, *MARCH11*, *PTGDR*, and *UNCX* was determined, which will allow taking into account molecular genetic and epigenetic features of the tumor in the course of diagnosing, selecting of medications and prognosing the course of the disease.