

IMMUNOPATHOLOGICAL STUDY FOR LAMININ-5 EXPRESSION IN ORAL SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA

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ABSTRACT

Squamous cell carcinoma is the most common malignant neoplasm of the oral cavity. In recent years, strong evidence has accumulated suggesting that the disturbance in extracellular matrix may play a role in the pathogenesis of some human neoplasms. Therefore, an analysis of the extracellular matrix in the invasion front of oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) may improve the understanding of tumor cell matrix interactions during malignant growth.

The present work was undertaken to study the immuno-histochemical expressions of Ln-5 γ 2 in OSCC, in correlation to the histologic grades and clinical stages and finally to study Ln-5 γ 2 as an angiogenic factor. Highly significant positive correlation was found between Ln-5 γ 2 expression and the degree of differentiation of OSCC cases.

Ln-5 γ 2 as an angiogenic factor was found to be non specific for angiogenesis assessment. Also a positive statistical correlation was found between blood vessel count and degree of differentiation in OSCC. It was concluded that the extent of Ln-5 γ 2 expression outside the basement membrane (**BM**), as well as the loss of Ln-5 γ 2 from the **BM** was of prognostic value.

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