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Title: Recombination of B7-H4 and CD68 predicted lymph node metastasis in human lung carcinoma

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Body: Background: B7-H4 (also called B7S1 and B7x) is the most recent addition to the B7 family. Putative receptor of B7-H4 can be unregulated on activated T cells. By the cell cycle, B7-H4 ligation of T cells has a profound inhibitory effect on the growth, cytokine secretion, and development of cytotoxicity. The observations suggest that B7-H4 over-expression may reflect a more aggressive biologic potential and may play a role in tumor immune surveillance mechanisms. Objective: To study the expression of negative costimulatroy molecule B7-H4 in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)tissues and its relationship with the clinical features of NSCLC. Method: B7-H4 expression and infiltration of CD8 T cells and CD68 cells in NSCLC tissues were detected by immunohistoehemistry. The correlation between B7-H4 expression and CD68 cells was studied. Result: The positive rate of B7-H4 in 52 NSCLC tissues was 45.76%%. B7-H4 expression was positively correlated with the clinical tumor stages and lymph node metastasis of NSCLC and CD68 cells, negatively correlated with tumor infiltration of CD8 T cells. Combining detection of B7-H4 and CD68 expression in lung carcinoma tissues can offer a valuable reference to evaluate the lymph node metastasis. Conclusion: It is evident that B7-H4 is overexpressed in NSCLC, and it plays certain role in oncogenesis and progression of human NSCLC.