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Title: RET fusion genes in Korean non-small cell lung cancer

Prof. Dr Seung Soo 27560 Yoo 007md@hanmail.net MD [1], Prof. Dr Shin Yup 27561 Lee shinyup@knu.ac.kr MD [1], Dr. Keum Ju 27562 Choi tvbogo@naver.com MD [1], Ms. Hyejin 27563 Jung ootos34@naver.com [2], Ms. Mi Jeong 27564 Hong mcmx0530@naver.com [2] and Prof. Dr Jae Yong 27566 Park doctoru@korea.com MD [1,2]. [1] Internal Medicine, Kyungpook National University School of Medicine, Daegu, Korea and [2] Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Kyungpook National University School of Medicine, Daegu, Korea .

Body: Recently, rearranged during transfection (RET) fusion genes have been identified in 1%-2% of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). To know the prevalence of RET fusion genes in Korean NSCLCs, we examined the RET fusion status in surgically resected NSCLCs, using a reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction. RET fusion genes have been detected in 3 (1.9%) of 156 patients of NSCLC and in 3 (2.9%) of 104 patients of adenocarcnima. Of the 3 fusion genes identified, 2 were KIF5B-RET fusion genes and 1 was CCDC6-RET fusion gene. All the three patients were females and never smokers with adenocarcinomas. RET fusion genes were mutually exclusive with EGFR, KRAS mutations and EML4-ALK fusion.