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ONLINE ISSN : 1880-313X

PRINT ISSN : 0388-6107

**Biomedical Research**

Vol. 29 (2008) , No. 2 April pp.71-76

[\[PDF \(3869K\)\]](#) [\[References\]](#)**Decreased expression of claudin-1 is correlated with recurrence status in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma**

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(Received December 12, 2007)

(Accepted December 24, 2007)

**ABSTRACT**

Claudins are transmembrane proteins and major constituents of tight junctions, and participate in the paracellular barrier and cellular connecting functions. They have been shown to be differentially regulated in malignant tumors and play a role in carcinogenesis and tumor progression. Recent studies have shown changes in expression of claudins during tumorigenesis. However, a causal relationship between claudin expression and cancer recurrent status has not been established. In this study, we examined 54 esophageal cancer cases to assess immunohistochemical expression patterns of claudin-1. Eleven (20.4%) of 54 cases had negative immunostaining for claudin-1. Decreased expression of claudin-1 was statistically correlated with recurrence status ( $P = 0.018$ ). The cases with lymphatic vessel permeation showed reduced expression patterns of claudin-1 ( $P = 0.033$ ). Decreased expression of claudin-1 was also correlated with short disease-free survival ( $P = 0.0003$ ) and overall survival ( $P = 0.0045$ ). The results indicated that claudin-1 expression was correlated with the recurrence status and poor prognosis in esophageal cancer and claudin-1 expression may be a good indicator of recurrence in esophageal cancer.

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To cite this article:

Keiichi MIYAMOTO, Tomomi KUSUMI, Fuyuki SATO, Hitoshi KAWASAKI, Shigeru SHIBATA, Motonari OHASHI, Kenichi HAKAMADA, Mutsuo SASAKI and Hiroshi KIJIMA; "Decreased expression of claudin-1 is correlated with recurrence status in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma", *Biomedical Research*, Vol. **29**, pp.71-76 (2008) .

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doi:10.2220/biomedres.29.71

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