Case Report Section

Translocation t(7;9)(q34;q32) found in pediatric T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia

Jennifer JS Laffin, Randee J Blumer, Sara J Morrison-Delap, Elizabeth A Rauch, Eric B Johnson, Carol A Diamond, Kate J Thompson, Gordana Raca, Karen D Montgomery, Daniel F Kurtysz

University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin Cytogenetic Services, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, Madison, WI, USA (JJSL, CAD); University of Wisconsin Cytogenetic Services, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, Madison, WI, USA (RJB, SJMD, EAR, EBJ, KJT); University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Wisconsin Cytogenetic Services, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, Madison, WI, USA (GR, KDM, DFK)

Published in Atlas Database: September 2007

Online updated version: http://AtlasGeneticsOncology.org/Reports/0709LaffinID100032.html

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Clinics

Age and sex: 4 years old female patient.
Previous History: no preleukemia; no previous malignant disease; no inborn condition of note.
Organomegaly: hepatomegaly; splenomegaly; enlarged lymph nodes; no central nervous system involvement.

Blood

WBC: 148 x 10^9/l; Hb: 9.8 g/dl; platelets: 13x 10^9/l; blasts: peripheral 60%. Bone marrow: 100%

Cytopathology classification

Cytology: L2.
Immunophenotype: NK+, CD2, CD3, CD4, CD5, CD7, CD8, and TdT+.
Precise diagnosis: acute lymphoblastic leukemia, L2.

Survival

Date of diagnosis: 02-2006.
Treatment: chemotherapy (intrathecal and systemic), cranial X-ray therapy, and allogeneic stem cell transplant.
Relapse: + central nervous system (8/06 with cytogenetics) and bone marrow relapse.
Survival: 31 months to date.

Karyotype

Sample: diagnostic sample was of bone marrow.
Culture time: analysis of diagnostic sample was performed on overnight colcemid, 18-hour and 72-hour cultures.
Banding: 350 band level.
Results: 46,XX,t(7;9)(q34;q31~q32)[16]/46,XX[4]
Karyotype at relapse: Date: 08-2006; Result: 46,XX,del(6)(q21),t(7;9)(q34;q31~q32)[cp2]/46,XX[19]

Partial karyotypes of metaphases from diagnostic sample overnight colcemid culture.
Comments

The patient presented in this case report has features consistent with other reported cases of T cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (T-ALL) with t(7;9)(q34;q32) involving the TCRbeta locus on 7q34 and the TAL2 gene on 9q34. In particular, review of the literature revealed a case in a 3 year old male with similar clinical and hematological findings and the same additional cytogenetic anomaly, del(6)(q21). Approximately 60% of clinically normal individuals have t(7;9)(q34;q32) created by V(D)J recombination which uses a fortuitous recombination site (RSS) located 3' of the TAL2 oncogene. In T-ALL affected individuals a rare second rearrangement occurs between the junction point of the original t(7;9) and Jbeta2. This brings the TAL2 gene under the control of TCRbeta enhancer, and leads to its' inappropriate expression.

References

