Methylome Profiling of Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma

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Identification of a DNA methylome signature of esophageal squamous cell carcinoma and potential epigenetic biomarkers

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Identification of a DNA Methylome Profile of Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma and Potential Plasma Epigenetic Biomarkers for Early Diagnosis

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Genome-wide profiling of DNA methylation and gene expression in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma

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REVIEW

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The detective, prognostic, and predictive value of DNA methylation in human esophageal squamous cell carcinoma



The squamous epithelium







Field cancerization



Lima et al., 2014.

Comparisons performed

ESCC patients

Vonluteers without cancer



- **T** Tumor
- N Non-tumor adjacent tissue
- H Healthy esophageal mucosa

Field cancerization in the Esophagus

Epigenetic alterations



Lima et al., 2011.

Lee et al., 2011.

Objectives of genome wide methylation studies

Identify potential epigenetic drivers in ESCC

Complement genetic data on altered signalling pathways

Identify potential early diagnosis biomarkers

Identify novel potential druggable targets

Analyse potential etiological specific associated methylation signatures

Profile of the individuals included in the study

	Healthy Individuals	ESCC patients
Healthy mucosa	7	
Non-tumor adjacent tissue		17
Tumor		24
Gender		
Female	4 (57%)	21 (87%)
Male	3 (43%)	3 (13%)
Age		
Median	54.5	56
Minimim	38	39
Maximum	63	77

Number of differentially methylated probes in each comparison



Number of differentially methylated probes in each comparison



Healthy vs Non-tumor Adjacent Tissue



Healthy vs Non-tumor Adjacent Tissue



TFF1 alterations in non-tumor adjacent mucosa and ESCC



Non-tumor adjacent mucosa

ESCC

TFFs: protectors of the mucosa



Taupin & Podolsky, 2003.

Putative pathways involved in esophageal carcinogenesis



TFF1 promoter hypermethylation *BCL3* gene body hypermethylation



Loss of mucosa protection Resistance to apoptosis

Putative pathways involved in esophageal carcinogenesis



Questions and difficulties

Are there epigenetic drivers in ESCC?

What is the intra-tumor methylation heterogeneity in ESCC?

Are most of methylation alterations produced by etiological factor transitory or permanent?

Can we perform an unique and large Genome Wide Methylation Study with different ESCC patients exposed to different etiological factors? (Unique protocols, funding, etc...)

Can we identify etiological specific associated methyltion profile in ESCC?

Can we use methylation data to develop non-invasive early diagnosis biomarker and adjuvant epigenetic therapy?

Thank you

Obrigado