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Article

Assesses of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Cases with Isoform p53 Protein Using Elisa Method

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Abstract: Background P53 gene mutation is a very common event in human neoplasia, and genetic mutations in the P53 gene in a single allele are responsible for a hereditary cancer susceptibility syndrome (Li Fraumeni). These variants encode distinct isoforms of the p53 protein, which may disrupt its transcriptional activity. These point mutant proteins are more stable than the normal protein and the mutant product accumulates at a high level that allows obtaining important information about p53 gene expression in malignant cells, especially in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia, (CLL). By Enzyme Linked Immune-Absorbent Assay method, (ELISA), was analyzed the frequency of p53 protein expression to 20 eligible patients diagnosed with CLL for to investigate the relationship of this protein in the stages of the disease and the impact on treatment response and survival. In ELISA technique was used the specific antibodies for isoform p53 protein, PAb 240 antibodies. These antibodies bind specifically to denatured p-53 protein. Species reactivity is for human in conformity with the prospect from Manual, Catalog No. LS-F174, Bio-Rad. **Results** The average concentrations of p53 proteins in 17 of 20 cases were found 16.76 µg / dL, with CV = 0.5% and the probability index p = 0.034. Very high pathological values in the 3 cases of isoform p53 protein were calculated in 2 men, (PM) in the value of 60 µg / dL, respectively at 40 µg / dL and in the case of females, (PW), in 40 µg / dL value, with the transformation into Diffuse Large Lymphoma, (DLL). **Conclusion** This ELISA method has proven to be a useful prognostic tool for the application of personalized treatment of on-immune therapy, in cases diagnosed with the type B-CLL.

Keywords: chronic lymphocytic leukemia; P53 gene; apoptosis; CD-5 receptor; diffuse large lymphoma

1. Introduction

CLL, the most common leukemia in adults and the elderly, is characterized by clinical stages with unpredictable evolutions regardless of age or sex, men or women, affecting men to women in approximately 2:1 report. In the last decade, through various methods of paraclinical investigations, several features have been identified that can predict the evolution of the disease or the survival of patients with CLL. Among these between factors which control and regulate the apoptosis process and progression of the CLL disease IN patients, p53 protein and p21 protein are considered to be of major importance. [1].

In CLL relapsed, p53 protein function is inactivated by P53 gene mutations that lead to the production of an isoform p53 protein with modified structure by amino acid substitution, in polymorpho-variant forms, with increased stability in type B lymphocytes, [3,4]. This leads to the identification and quantification of the p53 protein by different immunohistochemical methods (IHC) polymerase chain reaction (PCR), single-stranded microarray peptide (SNP), next-generation sequencing (NGS) or sandwich immunoassay enzyme linked Immuno-absorbent Assay (ELISA). [2]. P53 gene distinct isoforms of the p53 protein, which may disrupt its transcriptional activity, [3–5], [Figure 1].

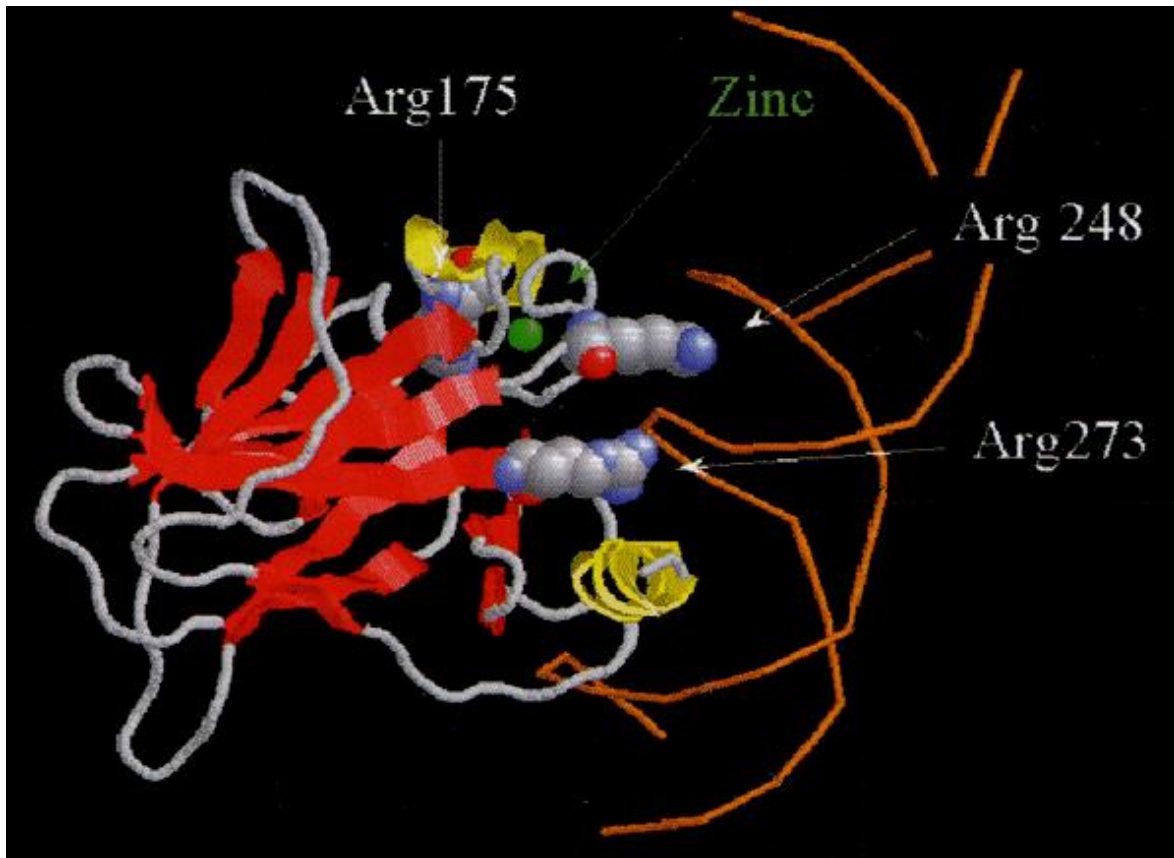


Figure 1. Three dimensional shapes of the p-53 x ray protein structure in isomorph form.

2. Theory and Formula

This paper analyses the cases of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia type B, (CLL-B), which did not meet the standard treatment criteria for malignant hematologic diseases due to mutations in the P53 gene, with progression forward to Diffuse Large Lymphoma. Identifying different P53 gene mutations is very important because these mutations have an impact on the patient's clinical course in CLL with the p53 protein mutant isoform.

3. Experimental Setup

Hematologic samples were acquired from current clinician doctors of government hospitals that collected blood samples from patients with the diagnosis of B-CLL with a poor response to conventional chemotherapy and radiotherapy after two cycles of oncologic treatments. All patients signed the individual accord to be supplementary investigated the blood samples with CLL.

In the diagnosis of CLL and clinical staging were used the criteria recommended by the International Workshop on CLL, [6]. The patients underwent the evaluation in a complete physical exam for the diagnosis of chronic lymphocytic leukemia-type B, (CLL-B), which presented symptoms such as frequent cough, night sweats and retrosternal pain. The diagnosis of CLL was prior established by the cytologic exam of a blood smear from peripheral blood, in microscopy exam, with >5000 lymphocytes in absolute value and less than 10% prolymphocytes in the hemogram with 5 Differential count, (CBC), [Figure 2].

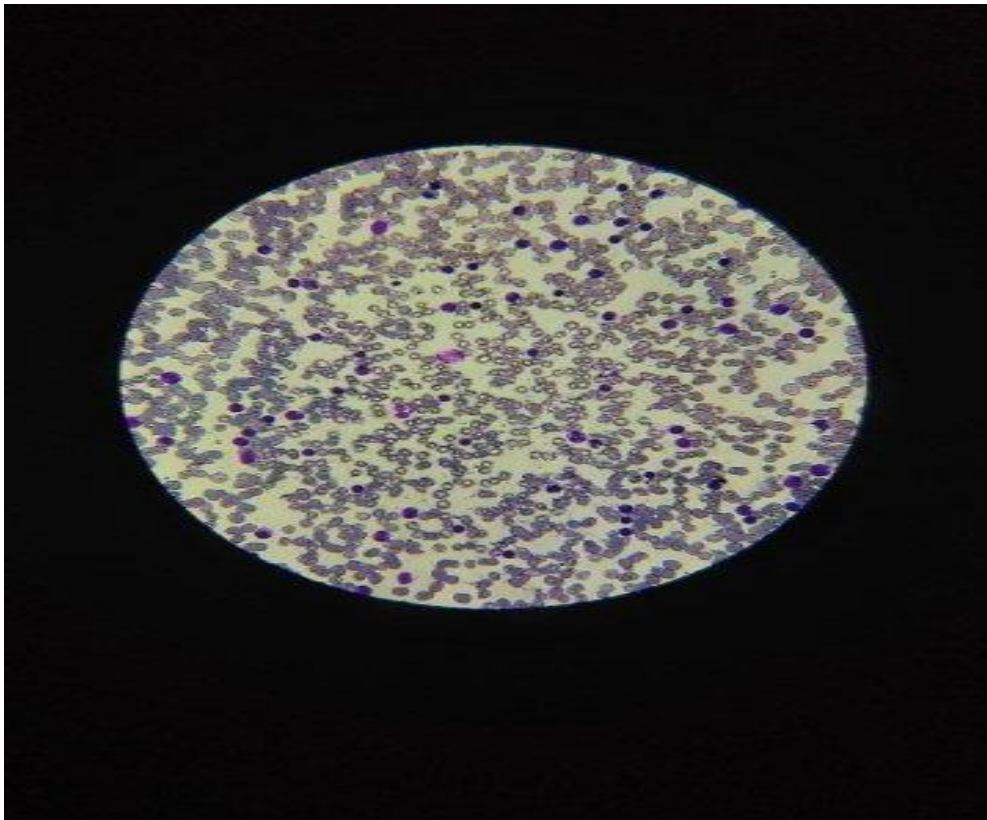
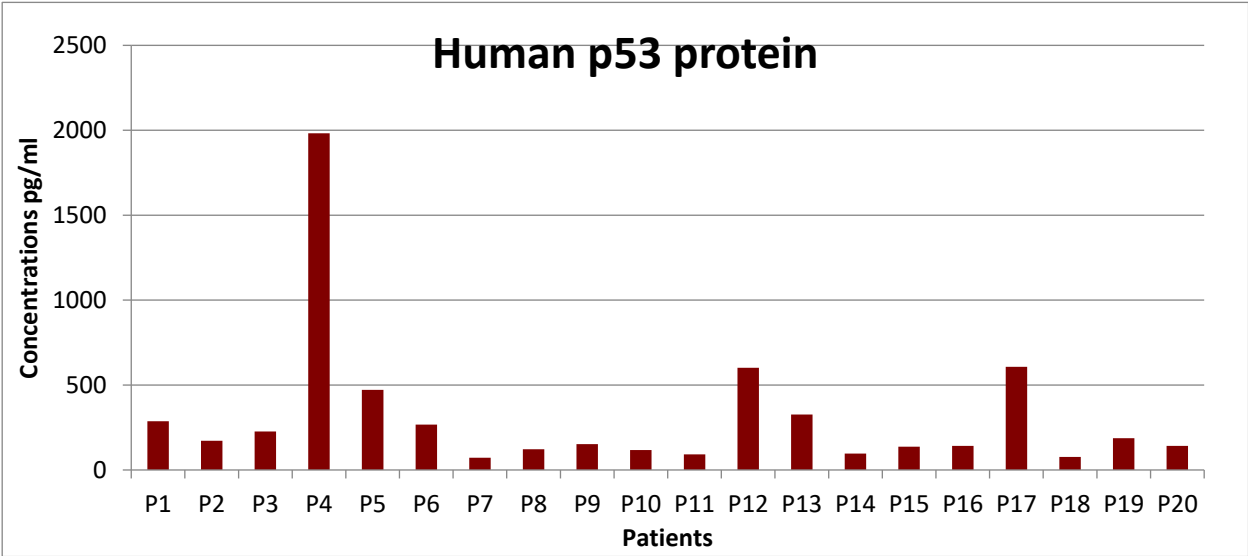


Figure 2. Image of the microscopic smear in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia: numerous lymphocytes presenting a nucleus with an irregular contour, arranged in isolation on the peripheral blood slide and frequency relative of nuclear shadows Gumprecht.

The laboratory diagnosis of B-CLL was confirmed with the immunophenotyping using Flow Cytometry method, using the monoclonal antibodies in CD5⁺, CD19⁺, CD20⁺, and CD23⁺ receptors, [7,8].

4. Result Discussions

Results obtained by the ELISA method: This analysis is based on the sandwich ELISA principle. Each well of the microtiter plate was pre-coated with a specific target capture antibody. Standards or samples are added to the wells and the target antigen, in this case, the p53 protein which binds to the capture antibody. Prepared a standard curve from the serial dilution data with a concentration on the x-axis (logarithmic scale) from the absorption on the Y-axis (linear), which was made in conformity with the references protocol. After analyzing the 85 samples of blood with CLL, in different stages of disease evolution, starting with stage zero (stay and observe) and up to stage IV, the 20 patients were selected, eligible for this study, to be investigated for the detection of p53 protein isoforms. Very high pathological values in the 3 cases of isoform p53 protein were calculated in 2 men, (PM) in the value of 60 µg / dL, respectively at 40 µg / dL and in the case of females, (PW), calculated in the amount of 140 µg / dL, with the transformation into Diffuse Large Lymphoma, (DLL),



Graphic 1. P53 protein values concentrations analyzed on the ELISA line.

Mutant P53 gene in 17 cases, after excluding the 3 out-line cases present in the study, was calculated at the mean value of 14.8 $\mu\text{g} / \text{dL}$, with Standard Deviation, STDEV = 6.46, CV = 0.4% and the probability index (NORMDIST), "p" was calculated in the value of $p = 0.079$. According to Table 1, the average hemogram results are as follows: leukocyte numberer = $35\text{--}50 \times 10^3/\text{dL}$, platelets = $140 \times 10^3/\text{dL}$, hemoglobin = 11.8 g/dL, and lymphocytes in peripheral blood = 65–80%, [Table 1].

Table 1. Expression of hemogram parameters and p53 protein concentration in different stages of B-CLL.

CLL – Age patients	CLL stage I/II, (n=17 patients) P-53 protein concentration in reactive lymphocytes B	CLL stage III/IV (n = 3 patients) Percentage of p53 isoform proteins	p value
The patients age ranging from 39 to 85 years.	The average p-53 protein concentration in CLL, 16.76 $\mu\text{g} / \text{dL}$	P-5 izoform proteins with elevated values was present in 15% (3 of 20 cases) 2 Men = 50 $\mu\text{g} / \text{dL}$ and 60 $\mu\text{g} / \text{dL}$, respectively 1 Female = 140 $\mu\text{g} / \text{dL}$	<i>p value</i> 0.034
Hematological parameters in peripheral blood	Mean values of hemogram: No. Leukocytes = $35\text{--}50 \times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$ Hb = 11.8g / dL; Platelet = $140 \times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$ Lymphocytes = 65-80%	No. Leucocytes = 250-500 $\times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$ Hb = 8.6g / dL. No. platelets = $45 \times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$ Lymphocytes = 85-90%	<i>p value</i> 0.05

The table 1 shows that in the CLL stage III/IV (n = 3 patients), p53 isoform protein proportion

with elevated values was present in 15% (3 of 20 cases); 2 men had values of 50µg and 60µg/dL, respectively, and 1 female had a value of 140µg/dL (p-value 0.034); hematological parameters in peripheral blood altered, with leukocyte numbers of 250–500 x 10³ /Dl. The average p53 protein concentration was found to be 16.76 µg/dL in the 17 instances with p-53 protein expression after the three out-of-line cases were excluded from the study.

Total number of cases with abnormal values (including p53 variants) above the cutoff x 100 = 3/3 = 100% (CI 95%). Using the calculation for the "t" statistic, it was found that "t" = 2. 2.01 and – 2.01 are the critical values derived from the "t" distribution over 20 degrees of freedom for a two-sided test at the conventional significance level of α = 0.05. Numerous studies have shown that P53 gene mutations are commonly detected in two chromosome 17p alleles and constitute over 15% of CLL patients, [9–11].

In an international study, 103 LLC cases were investigated for the impact of p53 protein expression with its β and γ isoforms. In several global investigations, immunohistochemistry (IHC) was used to assess the immune traits of CLL patients who tested positive for the p-53 protein. 47 patients participated in the study's second component, which looked at CLL in stages I and II. In 16.7% of the samples (7 out of 42 instances) that were examined, the P-53 protein isoform concentration in reactive lymphocyte B was discovered, [Table 2]

Table 2. Differential expression of p53 isoforms could disrupt p53 response and may contribute to pathogenesis LLC.

LLC - Patients	CLL stage I / II, n = 47 patients) P-53 protein concentration in reactive B Lymphocytes	CLL stage III/IV (n = 140 patients] Percentage of p53 isoform proteins	<i>p</i> value
The age of patients with CLL ranged from 52 to 84 years, with a mean age of 62 years.	In the samples studied at CLL it was 16.7% (7 out of 42 cases). No. Leukocyte = 35x10 ³ / dl	The percentage of p53 positive cells ranged from 7-32%. Nr. Leukocytes = 350	0.398
Hematological parameters in peripheral blood	Hb = 12.2g / dL Thrombocytes = 140 x 10 ³ /µL Lymphocytes = 75-80%	x10 ³ /µL Hb = 10.8g / dL Platelets= 80 x 10 ³ /µL Lymphocytes = 80-90%	0.398
P53 proteins form, (positive) n = 7/42	15%	25%	0.398

Between the two methods, ELISA, ICC, the CC, Pearson (r) Correlation Coefficient was calculated according to the following formula,

$$r = \frac{\sum (x - M_x)(y - M_y)}{n * S_x * S_y}$$

where: x, y is the sum of the products between the two variables = 567 and My are the averages of the two variables, 38,35 and 27,94, n = the number of subjects in the sample = 20 + 47 = 67, Sx and Sy are the standard deviations of the two variables, 8.25 and 17.35. It was observed that "r", CC obtained (0.74), is also significant at a level of significance higher than p <0.001, respectively 0.034. The (r) Pearson index can be significant, with "r" values being compared between 0.74 and 0.80, (> 0.50).

When the percentage of p53 positivity was correlated with the clinical stage of the disease, the proportion of positive p53 cases increased significantly from stage A Binet, (7.4%) stage B (24.4%) and stage C, (29.2%) (p = .002). The results of this study indicated that in CLL, p53 protein expression analyzed by an immunocytochemical method is strongly associated with p-53 gene mutations and a variant morphological analysis of p53.

Recent studies have shown that p53 protein deficiency promotes CLL Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and Diffuse Large Lymphoma (DLL), by eliminating its ability to limit aberrant self-renewal in hematopoietic progenitors, [12]. Alteration of p53 protein function can induce cancer in cells. Replacing the amino acid serine in the p53 protein with the amino acid alanine resulted in preventing the p53 protein from inhibiting the cell cycle. Research has shown that restoring the function of the isomorphous p53 protein could lead to the regression of certain cancer cells without damaging other cells in the process, [13]. Other studies have suggested that a high concentration of adenosine triphosphate (ATP) in malignant B-cell lymphocytes in CLL affected the P53 gene to induce cell apoptosis, [14].

Antibodies specific for p53 and p53 for phosphorylated at three different sites in the field of activation used in parallel analyses in investigations of CLL treatments and are in current clinical trials, [15]. The role of autophagy in cancer, which could be changed by p53 status, is expected to be developed in a new anti-cancer therapeutic, [16,17].

5. Conclusions

Mutant P53 gene, the most common genetic abnormalities of cancer have extensively studied in various mature B cell malignancies, including in CLL. In recent years, more attention has been paid to the importance of the mutant p53 expressed protein in CLL because of low survival of patients and non-response to classical conventional chemotherapy with progression to Diffuse Large Lymphoma.

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