

# Transforming Growth Factor- $\beta$ 1

## Study of plasma transforming growth factor- $\beta$ 1 level as a useful tumor marker in various cancers

Hoon Shin, Chang Ki Lim, In Young Choi, Doo Yun Lee<sup>1</sup>, Dong Yong Noh<sup>2</sup>, Min Hee Ryu<sup>3</sup>,  
Hyo Suk Lee<sup>4</sup>, Yung Jue Bang<sup>3</sup>, Jong Sup Park<sup>5</sup>, Seung Won Jin

Central Research Institute, Hanmi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery<sup>1</sup>, Respiratory Center, Yongdong Severance Hospital, College of Medicine, Yonsei University, Department of General Surgery<sup>2</sup>, Division of Oncology and Hematology<sup>3</sup>, Division of Gastroenterology<sup>4</sup>, Department of Internal Medicine, College of Medicine, Seoul National University, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology<sup>5</sup>, Catholic University Medical College, Seoul, Korea

**Background** : Many investigators have found transforming growth factor- $\beta$ 1 (TGF- $\beta$ 1) to be elevated in tumors. Changes in responsiveness to TGF- $\beta$ 1 have been linked to malignant transformation, tumor progression and tumor regression. Many malignant cell lines of epithelial or hematopoietic origin are refractory to the antiproliferative effects of TGF- $\beta$ 1. However, a little is known about the association of TGF- $\beta$ 1 with progression of malignant tumor. **Methods** : In this study, we measured the plasma level of TGF- $\beta$ 1 in various cancer patients and evaluated the utility of plasma TGF- $\beta$ 1 as a possible tumor marker. Plasma TGF- $\beta$ 1 levels were measured using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay in cancer patients and normal controls. Carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) and alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) as tumor marker were compared with TGF- $\beta$ 1 in the aspects of sensitivity and specificity. **Results** : The mean of plasma TGF- $\beta$ 1 levels was  $1.219 \pm 0.834$  ng/ml in normal controls,  $5.491 \pm 3.598$  ng/ml in breast cancer,  $12.670 \pm 10.386$  ng/ml in lung cancer,  $5.747 \pm 3.228$  ng/ml in hepatocellular carcinoma and  $10.854 \pm 7.996$  ng/ml in cervical cancer. In comparison with CEA and AFP, TGF- $\beta$ 1 is more sensitive. **Conclusion** : We conclude that the high levels of TGF- $\beta$ 1 are common in the plasma of cancer patients. These results suggest that the plasma TGF- $\beta$ 1 level can be a potent tumor marker in various cancer patients.

**Key Words:** carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA), alpha-fetoprotein (AFP), cervical cancer, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), transforming growth factor- 1 (TGF- $\beta$ 1), tumor marker

TGF- $\beta$  가 (13,14). TGF- $\beta$   
 (1,2), TGF- $\beta$   
 (3,4). transforming growth factor- $\beta$  (15-17).  
 1(TGF- $\beta$ 1) 25 kDa , TGF- $\beta$ 1 (18-23)  
 (homodimer) TGF- $\beta$ 1 가 .  
 . TGF- $\beta$ 1 TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 in vitro TGF- $\beta$ 1 (latency  
 associated peptide) ( , ) 가 TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 . TGF- $\beta$ 1 TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 TGF- $\beta$  가  
 가 가  
 가 TGF- $\beta$ 1 (latency associated peptide)  
 75 kDa TGF- $\beta$ 1 (AFP),  
 (TGF- $\beta$ RII) - antigen (PSA)  
 (serine-threonine kinase) .  
 TGF- $\beta$ 1 TGF- $\beta$ RII DNA-  
 53 kDa (TGF- $\beta$ RII) .  
 . TGF- $\beta$ RII (kinase) 가 ,  
 . TGF- $\beta$ 1 ,  
 G1  
 (5) ,  
 (6-8). , ,  
 , TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 AFP CEA  
 TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 (9,10). .  
 TGF- $\beta$ 1 (11), TGF- $\beta$ 1 DNA  
 (12) 가 1.  
 TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 TGF- $\beta$  TGF- $\beta$

121 84 45 190 가 450 nm 가 2 well coefficient of variance (%) 10

290 EDTA CEA Solid phase ELISA assay kit(S-RAM Inc., )

, 3000 g 20 4 Monoclonal CEA 가 well 1.5 ml -70 가 CEA -HRP conjugate 가

2. TGF-β1, AFP, CEA 가

TGF-β1 human TGF-β1 immunoassay kit (R&D Systems, Minneapolis, MN, USA) enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) TGF-β1 CEA AFP AFP assay kit(S-RAM Inc. ) well 가 HRP가

TGF-β1 latency associated peptide(LAP), latent TGF-β1 binding protein (LTBP) 3 AFP 가 가 AFP 450nm

LAP TGF-β1 N , LTBP 120 180 kD . TGF-β1 3.

ROC (Receiver Operating Characteristic) curve cut-off value (sensitivity) 1- (specificity) (24). ROC curve TGF-β1

Urea TGF-β1, LAP, LTBP 가 TGF-β1 TGF-β1 latent TGF-β1 100 μl 2.5 N acetic acid/10 M urea ( ) 2.7 N NaOH/1 M HEPES TGF-β II 가 coating 96 well 4. ( 20 - 25 , , 50 45 ) 3 TGF-β1 -HRP (horsera-

alpha-fetoprotein(AFP)  
carcinoembryonic antigen(CEA)

2.5 ng/mL 가

(CAP)

SCL(

3.

Table III

TGF-β1

TGF-β1

McNemar

AFP

CEA TGF-β1

가

McNemar

p-value가 0.0015

p-value가 0.00001

TGF-β1

1.

TGF-β1

**Table .** Cut-off value of TGF-β1 concentrations in various cancer patients using ROC curve analysis.

TGF-β1

Table I

TGF-β1

Fig. 1

|                          | TGF-β1<br>Cut-off value<br>(ng/ml) | Sensitivity | Specificity |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Breast cancer            | 1.5                                | 0.868       | 0.817       |
| Lung cancer              | 2.5                                | 0.978       | 0.952       |
| Cervical cancer          | 2.0                                | 0.963       | 0.934       |
| Hepatocellular carcinoma | 2.0                                | 0.952       | 0.934       |

2. TGF-β1  
curve

ROC

Table II

ROC curve

TGF-β1

2.0 ng/mL,

1.5 ng/mL,

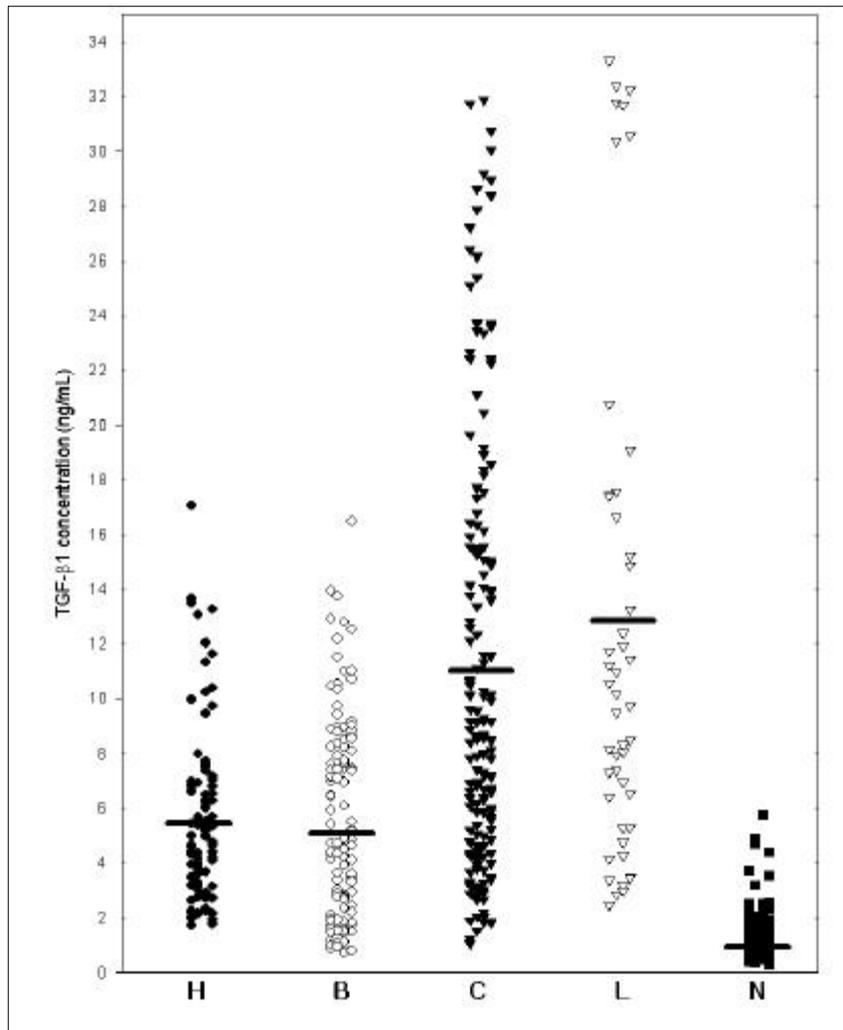
**Table .** TGF-β1 concentrations in the plasma of various cancer patients and normal controls.

|                          | Plasma TGF-β1 concentration<br>(Mean ± Standard Deviation, ng/ml) | Number of patients |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Breast cancer            | 5.491 ± 3.598   | 121                |
| Lung cancer              | 12.670 ± 10.386   | 45                 |
| Cervical cancer          | 10.854 ± 7.996  | 190                |
| Hepatocellular carcinoma | 5.747 ± 3.228   | 84                 |
| Normal                   | 1.219 ± 0.834   | 290                |

**Table .** Comparison of sensitivity and specificity with CEA and AFP in various cancer patients and normal controls.

| Tumor marker                       | CEA            | AFP            | TGF-β1         |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Breast cancer (50 case)            | 1/50 (2.0%)    | -              | 50/50 (100.0%) |
| Lung cancer (45 case)              | 11/45 (24.4%)  | -              | 44/45 (97.8%)  |
| Cervical cancer (49 case)          | 2/49 (4.1%)    | -              | 49/49 (100.0%) |
| Hepatocellular carcinoma (50 case) | -              | 38/50 (76.0%)  | 50/50 (100.0%) |
| Specificity (Normal 50 case)       | 50/50 (100.0%) | 50/50 (100.0%) | 50/50 (100.0%) |

Cut-off value : CEA < 4.5 ng/ml, AFP < 15 ng/ml, TGF-β1 < 2.0 ng/ml



H : Hepatocellular carcinoma, B : Breast cancer, C : Cervical cancer, L : Lung cancer, N : Normal control

**Fig. 1.** Distribution of TGF-β1 concentration in the plasma of various cancer patients and normal controls. Solid bars represent mean values.

가 . Fig. 2

TGF-β1 가

Table III

TGF-β1 Shirai (26)

100% TGF-β1

TGF-β1 가

(22,25).



TGF- $\beta$ 1 가  
 가  
 가  
 TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 TGF- $\beta$ 1  
 CEA, AFP  
 CEA, AFP TGF- $\beta$ 1 가  
 TGF- $\beta$ 1 가  
 가

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