

Global Cancer Conference & Medicare Summit

September 15-17, 2014 Hyderabad International Convention Centre, India

Role of CD151 in the induction of EMT in cancer stem cells

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Solid tumor contains highly malignant subpopulation of cells with stem cell properties like self-renewal, tumorigenicity and differentiation. Recent reports have suggested that epithelial mesenchymal transition (EMT) induction enhances self-rejuvenation and acquires stem cell properties. EMT is an orchestrated event characterized by switching of marker from non-motile epithelial to invasive mesenchymal cells. The major changes during EMT include loss of E-cadherin, Rho dependent changes in cell shape and secretion of proteases. The transcriptional reprogramming of epithelial tumor cells leads to loss of cell polarity and down regulation of cell-junction proteins. Recent study of targeting the 3' UTRs of EMT related mesenchymal genes by miRNA showed the suppression of *snai2*, *VIM* and *CD151* expression. The multimeric complex of tetraspanin, *CD151* with E-cadherins, integrins recruits protein kinase C- β -II, transmembrane protein kinase phosphatase (PTP μ) and promotes the association of cytoskeletal elements and supports cadherin mediated cell-cell adhesions. *CD151* is a key mediator of cell-cell adhesion, EMT induction and tumor progression. *CD151* play an important role in filopodia based adhesion zipper formation on one hand and cancer metastasis on other hand. The design and development of innovative shRNA therapeutic targeting *CD151* may helpful in reducing EMT mediated CSC population in solid tumors.

Biography

Gayatri Devi V has completed her Post graduation in Biochemistry from GITAM University. She is currently working as a Junior Research Fellow in Department of Science & Technology (DST) funded project in the Dept. of Biochemistry, GITAM University, and Visakhapatnam under the guidance of Dr. Rama Rao Malla.

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