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Role of Biopsy in the Era of Targeted Therapy

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✓Introduction ✓ Substitutions for LB \checkmark LB is still needed! ✓What will we get from LB? \checkmark Problems to be solved ✓ Conclusion

Introduction

- First liver aspiration in 1883
- First percutaneous biopsy in 1923
- Since then LB has been the gold standard in the diagnosis of diffuse and focal liver diseases



Drawbacks of LB

- Invasive procedure (morbidity ~3%)
- Sampling Error
- Interobserver variability
- Not suitable for repeated examination

Substitution for LB

- Inflammation

 AST, ALT, GGT, etc...
- Fibrosis
 - platelet count
 - serum markers: hyaluronic acid, type IV collagen
 - Transient Elastography (FibroScan®)
- Focal liver lesions
 - Imaging modalities
 - tumor markers

FibsoScan® can stratify HCC risk



Masuzaki et al. Hepatology 2009;49:1954-61

EOB-MRI facilitate early diagnosis



Slow growing tumor in non-viral cirrhosis Defect in hepatobiliary phase of EOB-Gd-DTPA MRI







HE stain

Silver stain



Stromal invasion

Number of Liver Biopsy @ UTH



The University of Tokyo Hospital 2002-2012

Liver Biopsy is still needed

What can we get from LB?

- Some chronic liver diseases still need LB for final diagnosis
 - non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)
 - AMA-negative PBC
- LB is needed to evaluate
 - minimal fibrosis/inflammation in CLD
- To differentiate small cholangioma and atypical HCC by imaging is difficult

Differentiate NASH from Simple Steatosis

Simple Steatosis

NASH



To detect minimal fibrosis



Sandrin et al. Ultrasound Med 2003

Atypical HCC vs. CCC





What will we get from LB?

The era of targeted therapy

 Imatinib opened a door into the era of targeted therapy.





Rationale of molecular targeted agents

• The reversal of only one or few genetic abnormalities sometimes can profoundly inhibit the growth of cancer cells.

Target Disease		Agent	Regimen	Reference			
HER-2	Breast ^a	Trastuzumab	Combination	Slamon et al. (2001) ^{28,b} , Piccart-Gebhart et al. (2005) ^{29,b}			
			Monotherapy	diction Shepherd et al. (2005) ^{32, D} ,			
				Taron et al. (2005) ³⁵ , Lynch et al. (2004) ³⁶			
EGFR	Head and neck, colorectum ^a	Cetuximab	Combination	Baselga et al. (2005) ³⁹ , Cunningham et al. (2004) ⁴⁰			
EGFR	Pancreas ^a	Erlotinib	Combination	Moore (2005) ³⁴			
	Breast.	Bevacizumab	Combination	Miller et al. (2005) ⁴¹ ,			
VEGF	colorectum ^a , kidney			Yang et al. $(2003)^{43}$			

Treatment regimen indicates agent alone (monotherapy) or in combination with cytotoxic agents (combination). ^aFDA-approved; ^bPhase III evidence demonstrates improved disease-free or overall survival rates. Abbreviations: NSCLC, non-small-cell lung cancer; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor.

Weinstein et al. Nature Clin Pract Oncol 2006

Effort to find biomarkers



Cetuximab, a monoclonal antibody to EGFR, is only effective in those without *K*-ras mutation.

Christos S, et al. NEJM 2008

KRAS exam is included in daily practice

NCCN National Comprehensive NCCN Guidelines V Cancer Network [®] Colon Cancer	Version 3.2013 NCCN Guidelines Index Colon Cancer Table of Contents Discussion
TREATMENT Resectable ^g synchronous liver and/or lung metastases only	ADJUVANT THERAPY ^y SURVEILLANCE (resected metastatic disease) (6 MO PERIOPERATIVE TREATMENT PREFERRED)
Colectomy, ^{aa} with synchronous or staged liver or lung resection or Neoadjuvant therapy (for 2-3 months) FOLFIRI or FOLFOX or CapeOx ^{bb} ± bevacizumab ^{cc} or FOLFIRI or FOLFOX ± panitumumab or FOLFIRI ± cetuximab (KRAS wild-type IWT) gene only) ^{e,dd} followed by synchronous or staged colectomy ^{aa} and resection of metastatic disease or Colectomy, ^{aa} followed by chemotherapy (for 2-3 months) FOLFIRI or FOLFOX or CapeOX ^{bb} ± bevacizumab ^{cc} or FOLFIRI or FOLFOX or CapeOX ^{bb} ± bevacizumab ^{cc} or FOLFIRI or FOLFOX ± panitumumab or FOLFIRI ± cetuximab (KRAS WT gene only) ^{e,dd} and staged resection of metastatic disease	 FOLFOX/CapeOx preferred If patient stage IV, NED: History and physical every 3-6 mo for 2 y, then every 6 mo for a total of 5 y CEA every 3-6 mo x 2 y, then every 6 mo x 3-5 y Chest/abdominal/pelvic CT^h scan every 3-6 mo x 2 y, then every 6-12 mo up to a total of 5 y Colonoscopy^b in 1 y except if no preoperative colonoscopy due to obstructing lesion, colonoscopy in 3-6 mo If advanced adenoma, repeat in 1 y If no advanced adenoma, "repeat in 3 y, then every 5 y^v

Development of test kit in parallel with anti-cancer agents



Crizotinib (ALK inhibitor) kills ALK-positive lung cancer

Molecular biomarker-informed personalized treatment

Soda, Nature 2007, Kwak, NEJM 2010, Shaw, NEJM 2013 By courtesy of Dr. Hoshida

Biopsy-informed personalized oncology



Biopsy is critical especially during development of therapeutic strategy

Garraway, JCO 2013 By courtesy of Dr. Hoshida

Genome-based personalized HCC surveillance



Andersson, Clin Gastro Hepatol 2008, Hoshida, Gastro 2013

Problems to be solved

Sorafenib

 Seven years after imatinib, sorafenib, a multikinase inhibitor, was first (and still only) approved as a molecular targeted drug for HCC.





Llovet et al. NEJM 2008

No established predictive biomarkerarkers for sorafenib response

Plasma protein



Blood cell RNA

Gene Symbol KIAA0102 EIF2C1 CAP350 LOC144363 DNM1L ARP5 TNFAIP2 FLJ34443 PTP4A1 NAT1 DSCR2 CL640 S100A8 MIC1 C20orf16

Tissue staining



Abou Alfa, JCO 2006, Llovet, CCR 2012

No major mutations found in HCC

Gene	Chr.	Start	End	CDS length (bp)	Coding indel	Missense	Nonsense	Splice site	Total	P value	q value	Frequency in validation set
TP53	17	7,572,927	7,579,912	1,218	0	11	0	3	14	0	0	NA
ERRFI1	1	8,073,270	8,075,679	1,397	1	0	2	0	З	0.00020	0.0034	3.1% (2/65)
ZIC3	х	136,648,851	136,652,229	1,412	0	3	0	0	З	0.00050	0.0041	3.3% (4/120)
CTNNB1	3	41,265,560	41,280,833	2,398	0	3	0	0	з	0.0015	0.0071	NA
GXYLT1	12	42,481,588	42,538,448	1,351	0	3	0	0	3	0.0013	0.0071	0.8% (1/120)
OTOP1	4	4,190,530	4,228,591	1,859	1	2	0	0	з	0.0015	0.0071	0.8% (1/120)
ALB	4	74,270,045	74,286,015	1,882	3	0	0	0	з	0.0022	0.0089	3.3% (4/120)
ATM	11	108,098,352	108,236,235	9,415	1	4	0	0	5	0.0037	0.013	5.0% (6/120)
ZNF226	19	44,674,234	44,681,827	2,424	1	1	1	0	3	0.0043	0.014	3.3% (4/120)
USP25	21	17,102,713	17,250,794	3,260	1	2	0	0	З	0.0051	0.015	0% (0/120)
WWP1	8	87,386,280	87,479,122	2,857	2	1	0	0	З	0.0060	0.016	7.7% (5/65)
IGSF10	3	151,154,477	151,176,497	7,892	0	4	0	0	4	0.0091	0.023	3.3% (4/120)
ARID1A	1	27,022,895	27,107,247	6,934	2	1	0	0	3	0.011	0.026	10% (12/120)
UBR3	2	170,684,018	170,938,353	5,819	0	3	0	0	з	0.018	0.041	0.8% (1/120)
BAZ2B	2	160,176,776	160,335,230	6,643	0	3	0	0	з	0.024	0.050	1.6% (2/120)

Table 1 Significantly mutated genes and their mutation frequency in the validation set

Significantly mutated genes with more than two mutations are shown. Chr., chromosome.

Fujimoto et al. Nat Gent 2012

Tivantinib as second-line

 Survival could be divided by MET expression





All patients

MET-high subgroup

Santoro et al. Lancet Oncol 2013

Conclusion

- The understanding of molecular mechanism of cancer sheds a new light on liver biopsy
- However "tailored medicine" is still far from clinical practice in HCC
- Further studies are needed for the development in this field



Thank you for your attention !