

Leukaemia Section

Mini Review

inv(11)(q21q23) in therapy related leukemias

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Clinics and pathology

Disease

Therapy-related acute leukemia and myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS).

Phenotype / cell stem origin

M2-ANLL, acute monocytic leukemia, MDS, T-ALL.

Etiology

Latency from twenty months to six years after

Cytogenetics

chemotherapy.

Pathology

inv(11) positive cells were detectable six years prior to apparent leukemia in one case. MLL-MAML2 positive cells were detectable up to two years prior to apparent leukemia in another case. Whole genome expression profiles demonstrated differential expression of both typical MLL and NOTCH downstream genes.



inv(11)(q21q23) G-banding.



Detection of MLL rearranged cell by fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) with an MLL split signal probe.

Genes involved and Proteins

MAML2

Location: 11q21

DNA / RNA

Spans 365 kb; 5 exons a major transcript of 7.5 kb.

Protein

1153 aa, 125 kDa; conserved N-terminal basic domain (aa 29-92) which binds to the ankyrin repeat domain of Notch receptors; two acidic domains (aa 263-360 and 1124-1153) and a C-terminal transcriptional activation domain.

MLL

Location: 11q23

DNA / RNA

21 exons, spanning over 100 kb; 13-15 kb mRNA.

Protein

3969 amino acids; 431 kDa; contains two DNA binding motifs: a AT hook homologous to high mobility group proteins HMGI-(Y) and HMGI(C) that binds to the minor groove of DNA, and zinc fingers, a DNA methyl transferase motif, a bromodomain, and segments of homology with trithorax, in particular in the C-terminal SET domain.

Results of the chromosomal anomaly

Hybrid gene

Description MLL-MAML2

Transcript

MLL-MAML2; exon 1-7 of MLL fused to exons 2-5 of MAML2.

Fusion protein

Description

Hybrid transcript MLL/MAML2 contains the following domains:

- from MLL: AT-hook, DNA-Methyltransferase;
- from MAML2: Q rich domain, acidic domain.

Expression localisation

In the nucleus.



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