

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRE-TREATMENT NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA AND THE ANTIBODY TITERS OF EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS CAPSID ANTIGEN

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* **Purpose:** To assess the relationship between the pre-R/T EBV VCA titers and the characteristics of the patients with NPC and to analyze the prognostic value of the titers

Materials and Methods: From April 1991 to September 1995, 101 patients with nasopharyngeal carcinoma who received the examination of EBV VCA titers before radiotherapy were reviewed. We analyzed the correlation between titers and clinical characteristics, including genders, age, WHO histologic types and stages. We also tried to find the role of these titers in predicting prognosis.

Results: We found that the geometric mean titers of EBV VCA-IgA and IgG of these 101 patients were 102 and 1136 and the seropositive rates were 87% and 91.7%, respectively. The GMTs of IgA and IgG trended to be increased in advanced stages, but no significant difference in statistics. There is no significant difference of GMTs in other clinical features, except IgA titer in sex. The seropositive rates were higher in elders, higher T stage and advanced stage. The role in predicting prognosis was not found.

Conclusions: The pre-treatment EBV VCA GMTs increased in advanced stages, but the difference was not significant and they were not proper factors in predicting prognosis.

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Key Words: Nasopharyngeal carcinoma, EB virus, Viral capsid antigen, Prognosis

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