

# **UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

# ANALYSIS OF HSP27, APC AND β-CATENIN EXPRESSIONS IN GASTRIC CANCER, CHRONIC ATROPHIC GASTRITIS AND HELICOBACTER PYLORI-ASSOCIATED CHRONIC GASTRITIS

TAY TAN CHOW

IB 2013 10



# ANALYSIS OF HSP27, APC AND β-CATENIN EXPRESSIONS IN GASTRIC CANCER, CHRONIC ATROPHIC GASTRITIS AND HELICOBACTER PYLORI-ASSOCIATED CHRONIC GASTRITIS

**TAY TAN CHOW** 

MASTER OF SCIENCE UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA 2013



# ANALYSIS OF HSP27, APC AND β-CATENIN EXPRESSIONS IN GASTRIC CANCER, CHRONIC ATROPHIC GASTRITIS AND HELICOBACTER PYLORI-ASSOCIATED CHRONIC GASTRITIS



Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science

January 2013

## **DEDICATIONS**

Specially dedicated to

My parents, sisters, brother and

Whom I love

For their invaluable love, endless support, understanding, encouragement and patience

Without them

I doubt this thesis should ever have been completed

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

## ANALYSIS OF HSP27, APC AND β-CATENIN EXPRESSIONS IN GASTRIC CANCER, CHRONIC ATROPHIC GASTRITIS AND *HELICOBACTER PYLORI*-ASSOCIATED CHRONIC GASTRITIS

By TAY TAN CHOW January 2013

Chair: Professor Dr. Hairuszah Ithnin, MD, MPath Faculty: Institute of Bioscience

Gastric cancer has been noted to cause high mortality since decades ago. It is the seventh most common cancer in Malaysia. It has been said that it is a potentially curable disease if there is an efficient diagnosis of early gastric cancer. Therefore, there have been many studies to identify the biomarkers of gastric cancer but unfortunately until today, none has been found to be reliable. This preliminary study was carried out to investigate the role of Hsp27, APC and  $\beta$ -catenin as a possible biomarker of gastric cancer. Besides, the protein expression levels of Hsp27, APC and  $\beta$ -catenin in the precursor lesions were investigate. A total of 48 gastric cancer, 56 chronic atrophic gastritis and 55 *Helicobacter pylori*-associated chronic gastritis were analyzed by immunohistochemistry. In addition, 30 each from gastric cancer, chronic atrophic gastritis, *Helicobacter pylori*-associated chronic gastritis and including normal samples

were extracted and analyzed with Western blot. Our study demonstrated significant increased of Hsp27 in 97.9% (47/48) gastric cancer, 96.4% (54/56) chronic atrophic gastritis and 96.4% (53/55) Helicobacter pylori-associated chronic gastritis. These expressions were closely correlated with intestinal type gastric cancer (P=0.001). correlation coefficient= 0.460) as well as moderately and well differentiated gastric cancer (P=0.024, correlation coefficient= 0.326). For APC, there were significant increased in 83.3% (40/48) gastric cancer, 89.3% (50/56) chronic atrophic gastritis and 83.6% (46/55) H. pylori-associated chronic gastritis. For  $\beta$ -catenin, there were significant increased in 56.3% (27/48) gastric cancer, 25.0% (14/56) chronic atrophic gastritis and 18.2% (10/55) H. pylori-associated chronic gastritis which showed positive immunoreactivity. There was significant correlation between  $\beta$ -catenin expression and age in chronic atrophic gastritis (P=0.038, correlation coefficient= 0.278). By using Western Blot, the results showed that the Hsp27 expressions were shown to be significant increased in gastric cancer and chronic atrophic gastritis when compared to normal tissues. However, decreased Hsp27 expression was found in H. pylori-associated chronic gastritis. In conclusion, our findings suggests that Hsp27, APC and  $\beta$ -catenin may play a role as possible biomarkers in gastric cancer and precursor lesions since significant increased in protein expression was observed. The results also suggested that deregulated Hsp27, APC and  $\beta$ -catenin occurred as early as in precursor lesions prior to gastric cancer development. Further studies should be performed to further elucidate the role of Hsp27, APC and  $\beta$ -catenin as biomarkers in gastric cancer.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

## ANALISIS PENZAHIRAN HSP27, APC DAN β-CATENIN DALAM KANSER PERUT, GASTRITIS KRONIK ATROPIK DAN GASTRITIS KRONIK-HELICOBACTER PYLORI

Oleh TAY TAN CHOW Januari 2013

Pengerusi: Professor Dr. Hairuszah Ithnin, MD, MPath Fakulti: Institut Biosains

Kanser perut menyebabkan kadar kematian yang tinggi sejak beberapa dekad dulu. Ia merupakan kanser yang ketujuh paling lazim di Malaysia. Ia dikatakan sebagai penyakit yang berpotensi boleh pulih sepenuhnya jika terdapat diagnosis yang cekap pada peringkat awal kanser perut. Oleh itu, terdapat banyak kajian untuk mengenalpasti biopenanda kanser perut tetapi malangnya sehingga ke hari ini, tiada satu pun yang didapati boleh dipercayai. Kajian awal ini dijalankan untuk mengaji peranan Hsp27, APC dan  $\beta$ -catenin sebagai biopenanda kanser perut. Selain itu, tahap penzahiran protein Hsp27, APC dan  $\beta$ -catenin dalam lesi precursor juga dikajikan. Sebanyak 48 kanser perut, 56 gastritis kronik atropik dan 55 gastritis kronik-*Helicobacter pylori* telah dianalisiskan dengan teknik imunohistokimia. Di samping itu, 30 sampel dari setiap kanser perut, gastritis kronik atropik, gastritis kronik-*Helicobacter pylori* dan termasuk tisu normal perut telah dianalisiskan dengan pemblotan Western. Kajian kita menunjukkan peningkatan penzahiran Hsp27 yang signifikan dalam 97.9% (47/48) kanser perut, 96.4% (54/56) gastritis kronik atropik dan 96.4% (53/55) gastritis kronik-Helicobacter pylori. Penzahiran protein Hsp27 berkait rapat dengan kanser perut jenis intestinal (P= 0.001, pekali kolerasi= 0.460) dan kanser perut jenis pembezaan sederhana dan sempurna (P= 0.024, pekali kolerasi= 0.326). Untuk APC, terdapat peningkatan penzahiran yang signifikan dalam 83.3% (40/48) kanser perut, 89.3% (50/56) gastritis kronik atropik dan 83.6% (46/55) gastritis kronik-H. pylori. Untuk βcatenin, terdapat juga peningkatan penzahiran yang signifikan dalam 56.3% (27/48) kanser perut, 25.0% (14/56) gastritis kronik atropik dan 18.2% (10/55) gastritis kronik-H. pylori yang menunjukkan imunoreaktif yang positif. Terdapat hubungan yang signifikan di antara penzahiran  $\beta$ -catenin dan umur dalam gastritis kronik atropik (P= 0.038, pekali kolerasi= 0.278). Dengan menggunakan pemblotan Western, keputusan menunjukkan bahawa penzahiran protein Hsp27 ditunjukkan ada peningkatan yang signifikan dalam kanser perut dan gastritis kronik atropik apabila dibandingkan dengan tisu normal perut. Walau bagaimanapun, penurunan penzahiran protein Hsp27 didapati dalam gastritis kronik-H. pylori apabila dibandingkan dengan tisu perut yang normal. Sebagai kesimpulan, penemuan kita mencadangkan bahawa Hsp27, APC dan β-catenin menpunyai kemungkinan boleh memainkan peranan sebagai biopenanda kanser perut dan lesi precursor. Keputusan juga mencadangkan bahawa nyahkawal selia Hsp27, APC dan  $\beta$ -catenin berlaku seawal dalam lesi prekursor sebelum pembentukkan kanser perut. Kajian pelanjutan harus dijalankan untuk menjelaskan peranan Hsp27, APC dan  $\beta$ catenin sebagai biopenanda kanser perut.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, I would like to acknowledge my deepest gratitude and appreciation to my project supervisor, Professor Dr. Hairuszah Ithnin for her invaluable guidance, endless support and unfailing patience throughout the whole study. Without her support, nothing would have been accomplished.

In addition, I would like to express my gratitude to my co-supervisor, Dr. Norhafizah Mohtarrudin for her constructive advice and priceless comments throughout the entire course of this research. I also would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Razana Mohd Ali for her suggestions and guidance throughout the whole project.

My sincere gratitude is also accorded to Dr. Arni Talib for her generosity in sharing the tissue samples and patients clinical information to make this study possible. Not forgetting all the staff of the Department of Pathology, Kuala Lumpur Hospital for their kind assistance and tolerance during the samples collection at the department.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank all laboratory assistants of Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences especially Mr. Anthonysamy a/l Arokiasamy, Mrs. Juita Chupri, Mrs. Normah Ibrahim and Ms Zamzarina Ahmad Bajari whom had helped and assisted me to get access to the equipment and facilities required to complete this project. Moreover, I would like to thank all the postgraduate students of Laboratory of Histopathology and Laboratory of Hematology especially Ms Nurulhafizah Samsudin, Mr. Edwin Shiaw, Mr. Ahmad Zharif Ismail, Ms. Teh Lai Kuan, Ms. Lim Wai Feng and Mr. Lee Tze Yan for all their priceless comments, suggestions, guidance and assistance.

I also would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to friends, Mr. Ch'ng Wei Choong and Mr. Lim Jin Yew, who have never rejected my request for assistance and support throughout my whole project especially in the teaching of laboratory techniques and skills. I am deeply indebted. Last but not least, words cannot describe my gratitude to my family and my girlfriend for their tolerance and moral support, without whom nothing would have been possible. Thanks a million.

I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on  $23^{rd}$  January 2013 to conduct the final examination of Tay Tan Chow on his thesis entitled "Analysis of Hsp27, APC and  $\beta$ -catenin Expressions in Gastric Cancer, Chronic Atrophic Gastritis and *Helicobacter pylori*-Associated Chronic Gastritis" in accordance with the Universities and university Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P. U. (A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Master of Science in Medical Biotechnology.

Members of the Thesis Examination Committee were as follows:

#### Sharida binti Fakurazi, PhD

Associate Professor Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Universiti Putra Malaysia (Chairman)

#### Maha bt Abdullah, PhD

Associate Professor Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Universiti Putra Malaysia (Internal Examiner)

#### Latifah binti Saiful Yazan, PhD

Associate Professor Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Universiti Putra Malaysia (Internal Examiner)

#### Faizah Othman, PhD

Associate Professor Department of Anatomy Faculty of Medicine Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Malaysia (External Examiner)

#### SEOW HENG FONG,PhD

Professor and Deputy Dean School of Graduate Studies Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:

This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science. The members of the Supervisory Committee were as follows:

#### Hairuszah Ithnin, MD, MPath

Professor

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Chairman)

### Norhafizah Mohtarrudin, MD, MPath

Senior Medical Lecturer

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Member)

#### **BUJANG BIN KIM HUAT, PHD**

Professor and Dean School of Graduate Studies Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:

# DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other instituition.



# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

		Page
DED	ICATION	ii
ABS	ΓRACT	iii
ABS	ГКАК	V
ACK	NOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
APPI	ROVAL	ix
DEC	LARATION	xi
LIST	OF TABLES	xvi
LIST	OF FIGURES	xviii
LIST	OF APPENDICES	XX
LIST	OF ABBREVIATIONS	xxi
СНА	PTER	
1	INTRODUCTION	1
	1.1 General introduction	1
	1.2 Research hypothesis	5
	1.3 Research objectives	6
	1.3.1 General objectives	6
	1.3.2 Specific objectives	6
2	LITERATURE REVIEWS	7
	2.1 Anatomy of the stomach	7
	2.1.1 Gross (Macroscopic)	7
	2.1.2 Histology (Microscopic)	10
	2.2 Background of Gastric Cancer	14
	2.2.1 Gastric Cancer	14
	2.2.2 Types of cancers in the stomach	14
	2.2.3 Risk Factors of Gastric Cancer	19
	2.2.4 Diagnosis of Gastric Cancer	23
	2.2.5 Staging of Gastric Cancer	26
	2.2.6 Prognosis of Gastric Cancer	28
	2.2.7 Treatment of Gastric Cancer	28
	2.3 Precursors to gastric cancer	30
	2.3.1 Chronic atrophic gastritis	31
	2.5.2 Helicobacter pylori infections and chronic alrophic gastritis	34 27
	2.4 Diomarkers	37
	2.4.1 Definition of Biomarkers 2.4.2 Biomarkers Discovery	37 37
	2.4.2 Diomarkers selected	38
	2.4.3 DIOIIIdINGIS SCIECTEU 2.4.4 Hsp27 (Heat Shock Protain)	38
	2.4.4 1 Small Heat Shock Protein Family (sHen)	38
	2.4.4.2 Hsp?	39
	$\omega$ , $\omega$ , $\omega$ , $\omega$	

	2.4.4.3 Roles of Hsp27	39
	2.4.4.4 Hsp27 and apoptosis	40
	2.4.5 Adenomatous polyposis coli	40
	2.4.5.1 Background of adenomatous polyposis coli	40
	2.4.5.2 Roles of APC	41
	2.4.5.3 Mutation of APC	42
	2.4.6 β-catenin	43
	2.4.6.1 Roles of $\beta$ -catenin	43
	2.4.6.2 Regulation of $\beta$ -catenin	43
	2.4.6.3 β-catenin and APC	44
	2.4.7 Involvement of APC and $\beta$ -catenin in Wnt Signaling Pa	thway45
3	MATERIALS AND METHODS	46
	3.1 Ethical Approval	46
	3.2 Samples Collection	46
	3.2.1 Inclusion criteria	47
	3.2.2 Exclusion criteria	47
	3.2.3 Sample size calculation	47
	3.3 Hematoxylin and Eosin (H&E) Staining	50
	3.3.1 Protocol	50
	3.4 Immunohistochemistry	51
	3.4.1 General Protocol	51
	3.4.2 Immunohistochemistry of Hsp27, APC and β-catenin	53
	3.5 Protein extraction from FFPE	56
	3.5.1 Optimized FFPE Protein Extraction Method	56
	3.6 Protein extraction on experimental samples	57
	3.6.1 Samples	57
	3.6.2 Protein extraction	57
	3.6.3 Quantification of extracted Protein: BCA Assay	58
	3.6.4 Western Blot Method	59
	3.6.4.1 Polyacrylamide gel preparation	59
	3.6.4.2 Protocol	61
	3.6.5 ImageJ analysis	63
	3.7 Statistical analysis	63
	3.8 Flow chart	65
4	RESULTS	66
	4.1 Sample distributions	66
	4.1.1 Gastric cancer	66
	4.1.2 Chronic atrophic gastritis	68
	4.1.3 Helicobacter pylori-associated chronic gastritis	69
	4.2 Morphology Analysis	70
	4.3 Analyses of Hsp27 protein expressions by immunohistochemical technique	72
	4.3.1 Hsp27 protein expression in gastric cancer	72
	4.3.2 Hsp27 protein expression in chronic atrophic gastritis	74

4.3.3 Hsp27 protein expression in <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> -	75
A 3 A Correlations of Hen27 protein expression among gastric	76
4.5.4 Correlations of risp27 protein expression among gastric	70
cancer, chronic atrophic gastritis	
A 2.5. Association of Har 27 protoin supression with	77
4.3.5 Association of Hsp2/ protein expression with	//
clinicopathological data	01
4.4 Analyses of APC protein expressions by immunohistochemical	81
technique	
4.4.1 APC protein expression in gastric cancer	81
4.4.2 APC protein expression in chronic atrophic gastritis	83
4.4.3 APC protein expression in <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> -	84
associated chronic gastritis	
4.4.4 Correlations of APC protein expression among gastric	85
cancer, chronic atrophic gastritis and H. pylori-	
associated chronic gastritis	
4.4.5 Association of APC protein expression with	86
clinicopathological data	
4.5 Analyses of $\beta$ -catenin protein expressions by immunohistochemical	90
technique	
4.5.1 B-catenin protein expression in gastric cancer	90
4.5.2. B-catenin protein expression in chronic atrophic gastritis	92
4 5 3 B-catenin protein expression in <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> -	93
associated chronic gastritis	10
4.5.4 Correlations of B-catenin protein expression among gastric	94
cancer, chronic atrophic gastritis and H, pylori-	74
associated chronic gastritis	
4.5.5 Association of B cotonin protein expression with	05
4.5.5 Association of p-caterini protein expression with	95
4.6 Completions among Uan 27. ADC and 8 actonin protein expression	00
4.6 Correlations among Hsp27, APC and p-caterini protein expression	99
4.6.1 Correlations among Hsp27, APC and p-catenin protein	99
expression in gastric cancer	100
4.6.2 Correlations among Hsp27, APC and $\beta$ -catenin protein	100
expression in chronic atrophic gastritis	
4.6.3 Correlations among Hsp27, APC and $\beta$ -catenin protein	101
expression in <i>H. pylori</i> -associated chronic gastritis	
4.7 Western Blot analysis	102
4.7.1 Protein extraction on experimental samples	102
4.7.2 Western Blot and ImageJ analysis	102
5 DISCUSSION	108
5.1 Protein expressions by Immunohistochemistry	108
5.2 Analysis of Hsp27 expressions by Immunohistochemistry	109
5.3 Analysis of APC expressions by Immunohistochemistry	114

5.4 Analysis of β-catenin expressions by Immunohistochemistry 117

	5.5 Correlations of Hsp27, APC and $\beta$ -catenin expressions 5.6 Hsp27 protein expressions by Western Blot	121 123
6	CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS	127
	6.1 Conclusions	127
	6.2 Future recommendations	130
REFERENCES		132
API	APPENDICES	
BIO	DDATA OF STUDENT	186
LIS	T OF PROCEEDINGS	187
LIS	T OF PUBLICATIONS	188

