Associations of DNMT3B −149C>T and −2437T>A polymorphisms and lung cancer risk in Chinese population

Min Gao1*, Daqiang He2, Fanji Meng3, Jianing Li4 and Yan Shen4

Abstract

Background: DNMT3B polymorphisms are associated with the susceptibility of lung cancer. DNMT3B −2437T>A is a novel polymorphism, and its influence on the risk of lung cancer in Chinese was investigated in this study. In addition, effect of DNMT3B −149C>T polymorphism on lung cancer was also explored.

Methods: Genotyping in subjects were performed by PCR-RFLP. Haplotype frequencies were estimated by estimating haplotype software. Adjusted odds ratios (ORs) with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were calculated by unconditional logistic regression analysis.

Results: Neither of the two polymorphisms was correlated with lung cancer (−149C>T: CT+TT vs CC: OR = 0.78, 95%CI, 0.57 to 1.05, P = 0.361; −2437T>A: AT+AA vs TT: OR = 0.99, 95%CI, 0.74 to 1.33, P = 0.168). In stratification analysis, T-allele carrier genotype of −149C>T polymorphism resulted in a reduced lung cancer risk at stage II, compared with CC (OR = 0.46, 95%CI, 0.28 to 0.77, P = 0.023). In haplotype analysis, when −149C/−2437T was used as reference, the other combined genotypes of the two polymorphisms had no significant effect on lung cancer risk (P > 0.05).

Conclusions: The two DNMT3B polymorphisms are not correlated with lung cancer risk among Chinese population nor the haplotype of them.

Keywords: Methylation, Lung cancer, DNMT3B, Polymorphism, −149C>T, −2437T>A

Background

Lung cancer is the major reason for death and is more frequent in men worldwide [1]. Although lung cancer incidence has a decreasing trend in several high-income countries due to a decreased smoking prevalence, the trend in global is increasing [2]. Reportedly, approximately 1,590,000 individuals have died from lung cancer in the world [3]. Moreover, the 5-year survival rate of lung cancer is low, which is about 15% of the newly diagnosed cases [4].

Accumulating evidence has demonstrated that genetic variations are associated with cancer risks, and several of them are proposed as biomarkers for cancer diagnosis [5, 6]. One hallmark of lung cancer is the alteration in DNA methylation patterns, and methylated CpG islands are suggested as biomarkers for diagnosis and detection of early cancer [7, 8]. DNA methylation mediated by DNA methyltransferases, such as DNMT3A and DNMT3B, has been identified as an important epigenetic mechanism for regulation of chromosomal stability [9]. DNMT3A and DNMT3B action as two de novo methyltransferases to target the unmethylated CpG sites on gene promoter, thus build a new methylation pattern [10]. These two DNMTs contribute to reprogramming of the epigenome in many cancer types such as lung cancer [11]. The DNMT3B gene is characterized by highly polymorphic, and 345 polymorphisms of this gene have been detected [9]. Reportedly, DNMT3B −149C>T polymorphism is highly related to the increased promoter activity [12]. A previous case-control study has demonstrated the hypothesis that T allele in DNMT3B −149C>T polymorphism is tightly related to the increased risk of lung cancer among...
Genotyping analysis of the two DNMT3B length polymorphism) method was used to perform the RFLP (polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism) method was used to perform the genotyping analysis of the two DNMT3B polymorphisms, according to the protocol of Lee et al. [16]. In brief, PCR reactions were carried out in a 20-μl reaction system, consisting of 100 ng genomic DNA, 2 μl 10x buffer (20 mmol/L MgCl₂), 160 μmol/L dNTPs, 200 nmol/L of each primer, and 2 U of Tag polymerase (Promega). Primers for the DNMT3B −149C>T polymorphism were C74468A, 5′-GCCATATCAGTGAACCTTTAGAGAC-3′; G74582A, 5′-GGGG AGCACAATTTCCCTTC-3′; and for the −2437T>A polymorphism were C72555A, 5′-GGAACCTG-GAACCTCAGGGCAAG-3′; T72687A, 5′-ACATGAAT-TATTGCTTATCG-3′. For −149C>T polymorphism, the third base in 3′ end of the forward primer was transferred from A to G, to create a Hinf I restrictive site; and for −2437T>A, the mutated base was “A” in the 3′ end of the forward primer, to generate a Tag I restrictive site. The PCR condition was initial denaturation at 94 °C for 5 min and then 35 cycles of the following procedures: 45 s at 94 °C, then 45 s at 58 °C for −149C>T and 45 s at 61.3 °C for −2437T>A, 45 s at 72 °C, a final elongation at 72 °C for 10 min.

The 286 bp PCR product of −149C>T was digested with 10 U Hinf I at 37 °C for 16 h, resolved with 4% agarose gel, and stained with ethidium bromide (EB) for visualization under UV light. Then polymorphism of DNMT3B −149C>T was genotyped based on the band numbers: the CC genotype generates only one band (the entire 286 bp fragment), the TT produces two bands (245 bp and 23 bp), and heterozygote CT genotype yields three bands (286, 245, and 23 bp).

The 355 bp PCR product of −2437T>A was digested with 10 U Tag I at 37 °C for 16 h, resolved on 4% acrylamide gel (8 μg/mL), and stained with ethidium bromide (EB) for visualization under UV light. The TT genotype produces one band (355 bp), AA genotype generates two bands (225 and 130 bp), and heterozygote TA genotype yields three bands (355, 225, and 130 bp).

For quality control, 10% of the individuals were randomly extracted to repeat the genotyping analysis. The genotyping results were 100% concordant. Additionally, three random PCR-amplified DNA samples for each genotype of the two polymorphisms were put through DNA sequencing, respectively, to determine the reliability of genotyping results, and the results were also 100% concordant.

Statistical analyses

Differences in continuous variables are compared between control and lung cancer cases using the χ²-test, such as allele frequency and genotype frequency distribution. Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) was tested for genotype distributions of the control subjects [21]. Haplotype frequencies were estimated by the estimating haplotype software (http://linkage.rockefeller.edu/ott/eh.htm) [22]. The adjusted odds ratios (ORs) and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) by sex and age were determined with
the unconditional logistic regression analysis. A $P$ value <0.05 indicates the statistical significance. Subgroup analyses stratified by pathological type, TNM stage, and smoke status were performed. All the statistical analyses were performed by SPSS software (Chicago, IL, USA).

**Results**

**Characteristics of subjects in the study**

Main characteristics of the subjects are listed in Table 1. All patients have not received any anticancer therapy nor had the history of occupational exposure to carcinogenic factors. Tumor types were determined according to lung tumor tissue typing classification, and there were 221 (32.26%) squamous carcinoma cases, 257 (37.54%) adenocarcinoma cases, 142 (20.83%) small cell carcinoma, and 64 (9.37%) other carcinoma cases. A total of 239 (34.9%) patients were in stage I, 181 (26.5%) were in stage II, 235 (34.4%) were in stage III, and 29 (4.2%) were in stage IV. There were no obvious differences on the subject number distributions between the two kinds of samples with regard to gender and mean age. However, lung cancer cases had a significantly higher frequency of smokers than controls (66.9 vs 44.6%), suggesting smoking was a causative factor for lung cancer risk.

**Genotype frequency and associations between DNMT3B $-149C>T$ and $-2437T>A$ polymorphisms and risk of lung cancer**

Genotype distributions of the two polymorphisms are shown in Table 2. For **DNMT3B $-149C>T$** polymorphism, when CC genotype was used as reference, the T-allele carrier genotypes (CT+TT) did not show any pronounced correlations with risk of lung cancer ($OR = 0.78, 95\% CI, 0.57$ to $1.05, P = 0.361$). Likewise, significant differences were detected in neither TT genotype ($OR = 0.90, 95\% CI, 0.62$ to $2.37, P = 0.406$) nor CT genotype ($OR = 1.42, 95\% CI, 0.34$ to $1.53, P = 0.541$), compared with CC. For **DNMT3B $-2437T>A$** polymorphism, when TT genotype was used as reference, the A-allele carrier genotypes (AT+AA) were not remarkably related to lung cancer risk ($OR = 0.99, 95\% CI, 0.74$ to $1.33, P = 0.168$). No significant differences were detected in AA genotype ($OR = 1.22, 95\% CI, 0.58$ to $1.35, P = 0.215$) or TA genotype ($OR = 1.00, 95\% CI, 0.42$ to $1.67, P = 0.308$), compared with TT genotype. In control subjects, the

**Table 1** Baseline characteristics of subjects in lung cancer group and healthy control group case: 684; control: 602

| Gender | No. of cases (%) | No. of controls (%) | Allele frequency | $X^2$ | $P$ |
|--------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------|-----|
| Male   | 498 (72.8)       | 400 (66.5)          | 0.703           | 0.402|     |
| Female | 186 (28.2)       | 202 (33.5)          |                 |      |     |
| Age ($\pm s$) | |                      | 1.306           | 0.192|     |
| <60    | 408 (59.7)       | 328 (54.5)          | 2.006           | 0.157|     |
| $\geq 60$ | 276 (40.3) | 274 (45.5)       |                 |      |     |
| Smoking status | |                      |                 |      |     |
| Smokers | 458 (66.9) | 268 (44.6)       | 37.461          | 0.001|     |
| Non-smokers | 226 (33.1) | 334 (55.4)      |                 |      |     |
| Pathological type | |                      |                 |      |     |
| SCC    | 221 (32.3)       |                     |                 |      |     |
| AC     | 257 (37.6)       |                     |                 |      |     |
| ASC    | 64 (9.4)         |                     |                 |      |     |
| SCLC   | 142 (20.8)       |                     |                 |      |     |
| TNM staging | |                      |                 |      |     |
| I      | 239 (34.9)       |                     |                 |      |     |
| II     | 181 (26.5)       |                     |                 |      |     |
| III    | 235 (34.4)       |                     |                 |      |     |
| IV     | 29 (4.2)         |                     |                 |      |     |
| T2437A allele | |                      |                 |      |     |
| T      | 559 (69.2)       | 497 (70.6)          | 0.357           | 0.550|     |
| A      | 249 (30.8)       | 207 (29.4)          |                 |      |     |
| C149T  | |                      |                 |      |     |
| C      | 619 (76.6)       | 559 (79.4)          | 1.707           | 0.191|     |
| A      | 189 (23.4)       | 145 (20.6)          |                 |      |     |

SCC squamous cell carcinoma, AC adenomatous carcinoma, ASC adenosquamous carcinomas, SCLC small cell lung cancer, TNM tumor-node-metastasis

**Table 2** Genotype distribution of DNMT3B $-149C>T$ and $-2437T>A$ polymorphisms and their associations with lung cancer risk

| Genotype | No. of cases (%) | No. of controls (%) | OR (95\% CI) | $P$ value |
|----------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------|
| $-149C>T$ |                  |                     |              |           |
| TT       | 35 (5.1)         | 38 (6.3)            | 0.90 (0.62-2.37) | 0.406     |
| CT       | 249 (36.4)       | 172 (28.6)          | 1.42 (0.34-5.3) | 0.541     |
| CC       | 400 (58.5)       | 392 (65.1)          | Reference    |           |
| $-2437T>A$ |                |                     |              |           |
| AA       | 76 (11.1)        | 56 (9.3)            | 1.22 (0.58-3.35) | 0.215     |
| TA       | 269 (39.4)       | 241 (40.1)          | 1.00 (0.42-1.67) | 0.308     |
| TT       | 339 (49.5)       | 304 (50.6)          | Reference    |           |

No. number of cases or controls, OR odds ratio, CI confidence interval

*The observed genotype distribution in controls was in accordance with the Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium ($P = 0.153$ for DNMT3B $-149C>T$ and $P = 0.187$ for DNMT3B $-2437T>A$)

*Adjusted for age and sex in a logistic regression model
The present study investigated the association between two DNA methylation promoters, −149C>T and −2437T>A, and lung cancer risk. As a result, neither of the two polymorphisms was at a significantly increased or decreased risk of lung cancer, when the wild genotypes (CC for −149C>T and TT for −2437T>A) were used as the reference groups. In the stratification analysis, T-allele carrier genotype of −149C>T polymorphism was closely related to decreased lung cancer risk at stage II, compared with the wild genotype (CC).

DNA methylation promotes the progression of cancer cells, and DNMT3B plays significant roles in hypermethylation and hypomethylation of genomic DNA [23]. Increased DNMT3B expression has been discovered in lung cancer [24]. DNMT3B −149C>T polymorphism is known to enhance the gene's promoter activity, and a previous study has demonstrated that T-allele carrier genotypes, especially CT genotype, are significantly related to increased risk of lung cancer [13]. The possible explanation is the increased promoter activity of DNMT3B by this C to T transition might up-regulate genes that involve in regulation of methylation of some tumor

Discussion

Table 3 Subgroup analysis stratified by pathological type

| Genotype | Pathological type | SCC | OR* (95%CI) | AC | OR* (95%CI) | ASC | OR* (95%CI) | SCLC | OR* (95%CI) |
|----------|-------------------|-----|-------------|----|-------------|-----|-------------|------|-------------|
| −149C>T  |                   |     |             |    |             |     |             |      |             |
| TT       |                   | 19  | 0.54 (0.31 to 1.56) | 15 | 0.23 (0.33 to 2.01) | 6  | 0.17 (0.54 to 1.98) | 7   | 0.24 (0.31 to 2.12) |
| CT       |                   | 63  | 0.76 (0.25 to 1.81) | 81 | 0.81 (0.77 to 1.67) | 22 | 0.42 (0.34 to 1.63) | 37  | 0.58 (0.22 to 1.37) |
| CC       | Reference          | 139 | Reference    | 161| Reference    | 36 | Reference    | 99  | Reference    |
| CT+TT    | 82                | 0.82 | 0.53 (0.27 to 1.37) | 96 | 0.90 (0.59 to 1.39) | 68 | 0.55 (0.26 to 1.15) | 44  | 0.63 (0.35 to 1.44) |
| −2437T>A |                   |     |             |    |             |     |             |      |             |
| AA       |                   | 31  | 0.57 (1.21 to 2.14) | 11 | 0.45 (0.72 to 1.51) | 6  | 0.26 (1.32 to 2.31) | 14  | 0.37 (0.87 to 1.92) |
| TA       |                   | 79  | 0.85 (0.58 to 1.67) | 122| 0.89 (0.22 to 1.21) | 22 | 0.76 (0.28 to 1.64) | 55  | 0.88 (0.64 to 1.55) |
| TT       | Reference          | 111 | Reference    | 124| Reference    | 36 | Reference    | 73  | Reference    |
| TA+AA    | 110               | 0.99 | 0.65 (1.52)     | 133| 1.08 (0.71 to 1.64) | 68 | 0.83 (0.43 to 1.61) | 69  | 0.95 (0.56 to 1.64) |

SCC squamous cell carcinoma, AC adenomatous carcinoma, ASC adenosquamous carcinomas, SCLC small cell lung cancer, TNM tumor-node-metastasis, OR odds ratio, CI confidence interval

*Adjusted for age and sex in a logistic regression model
suppressor genes [13]. Unfortunately, our results were inconsistent with this finding, and we did not detect any association. The different results may be due to different ethnic populations. Our study was conducted among Chinese population, while Shen’s is among the non-Hispanic whites. However, we enrolled more individuals in the present study and performed subgroup analysis stratified by lung cancer types and different tumor stages as well as smoke status. Notably, it is the first discovery that in stage II, T-allele carrier genotypes (CT and TT) of −149C>T polymorphism were highly related to the reduced risk of lung cancer. The plausible reason might be that gene expressions are different at different stages. For instance, CDH13, RASSF1A, and APC are identified as DNA methylation markers at stage I in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), and methylation of these genes in the prompter region are associated with early recurrence [25], while methylation of TPPI2 is mainly discovered in advanced stage (stage III) of NSCLC [26]. In addition, although methylation of several genes, such as RARβ, TIMP-3, p16INK4a, DAPK, p14ARF, and GSTP1, are frequently occurred in NSCLC, correlations between methylation changes of these genes in NSCLC tumors and the clinical data are different at different stages (stages I to III) [27]. Our findings indicated that DNMT3B −149C>T polymorphism might not be used as the prognostic marker for lung cancer, especially in Chinese population.

Several studies have reported the regulation or coordination of DNMT3B by other genes. For instance, it is common in cancer that the cell cycle-related genes, such as p14ARF and p16INK4a, are inactivated. One major form of the epigenetic inactivation of p14ARF and p16INK4a is hypermethylation of Cpg islands, and expressions of these two genes are tightly associated with increased expression of DNMT3B [28]. The gene UHRF1, which encodes a subfamily of RING-finger type E3 ubiquitin ligases, has an important role in DNA methylation maintenance [29]. In NSCLC, it is demonstrated that UHRF1 controls cell cycle through silencing of tumor suppressor genes, and DNMT3B is also up-regulated in UHRF1 knockdown clones [30]. These collectively suggest that DNMT3B’s role in lung cancer development might require involvement of other genes’ regulations. This provides a hint that in stage II, several potential suppressor genes might express and exert an inhibitory role on DNMT3B expression, despite the elevated prompter activity. However, this hypothesis needs to be further validated.

−2437T>A is a novel DNMT3B polymorphism that has never been reported before. In the present study, like −149C>T polymorphism, we did not find any association between A-allele carrier genotypes (AT+TT) and lung cancer risk, when CC was used as the reference group. Stratification analysis also indicated that there was no significant association. These findings suggest that although this polymorphism is novel, it might not influence the expression of DNMT3B, or there are more complicated mechanisms on the regulations of DNMT3B when this T to A transition was emerged.

To investigate associations between the combined influence of these two polymorphisms and lung cancer risk, the haplotype analysis was conducted and the result indicated that when −149C/−2437T was used as the reference, the other combined genotypes of the two polymorphisms were not significantly related to increased or decreased risk of lung cancer (P > 0.05). Nevertheless, other studies investigating haplotype in other DNMT3B polymorphisms reveal that −579G>T and −283T>C is a haplotype that could affect the DNMT3B’s expression, and the combined genotype −283T/−579G achieved a reduced risk of adenocarcinoma, in comparison with

### Table 4 Subgroup analysis stratified by different stages

| Genotype | TNM staging | Stage I OR a (95% CI) | Stage II OR a (95% CI) | Stage III OR a (95% CI) | Stage IV OR a (95% CI) |
|----------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| −149C>T  |             |                       |                        |                        |                        |
| TT       | 23 (0.8)    | 0.57 (0.32 1.78)       | 4 (2.2)                | 0.23 (0.29 1.57)       | 12 (5.0)               | 0.32 (0.31 1.58)       | 4 (13.3)               | 0.75 (0.31 1.28)       |
| CT       | 78 (32.5)   | 0.92 (0.54 1.52)       | 41 (22.5)              | 0.38 (0.42 1.81)       | 68 (28.9)              | 0.65 (0.38 1.85)       | 10 (33.3)              | 1.02 (0.82 2.54)       |
| CC       | 138 (57.7)  | Reference              | 136 (75.3)             | Reference              | 155 (66.1)             | Reference              | 15 (53.3)              | Reference              |
| CT+TT    | 101 (42.3)  | 1.03 (0.68 1.55)       | 45 (24.7)              | 0.46 (0.28 0.77)       | 80 (32.9)              | 0.72 (0.47 1.10)       | 14 (46.6)              | 1.23 (0.44 3.46)       |
| −2437T>A |             |                       |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |
| AA       | 20 (8.1)    | 0.32 (0.28 1.35)       | 21 (11.8)              | 0.45 (0.28 2.51)       | 20 (8.3)               | 0.84 (0.81 1.95)       | 4 (13.3)               | 1.32 (0.82 1.69)       |
| TA       | 91 (38.2)   | 0.72 (0.82 1.96)       | 66 (36.6)              | 0.78 (0.84 1.92)       | 101 (43.0)             | 0.97 (0.58 1.92)       | 15 (53.3)              | 1.56 (0.78 3.51)       |
| TT       | 128 (53.7)  | Reference              | 93 (51.6)              | Reference              | 114 (48.7)             | Reference              | 10 (33.3)              | Reference              |
| TA+AA    | 111 (46.3)  | 0.85 (0.57 1.27)       | 87 (48.4)              | 0.92 (0.59 1.44)       | 121 (51.3)             | 1.03 (0.69 1.55)       | 19 (66.6)              | 1.96 (0.66 5.84)       |

*OR odds ratio, CI confidence interval
*Adjusted for age and sex in a logistic regression model
However, results might be different in different lung cancer types. The present study indicated that the haplotype −149C>T and −2437T>A was not pronouncedly correlated with risk of lung cancer, suggesting the two polymorphisms could not be considered as a haplotype, during the progression of lung cancer.

The main limitation in the present study was that the control samples were hospital-based, which might cause selection bias. However, relevant data were adjusted by sex and age to reduce influences from such confounding factors and provide a reliable result. Additionally, interactions of DNMT3B and other genes were not investigated, which might affect the results. Nevertheless, our findings are of great value to provide a novel insight into effects of DNMT3B polymorphisms on risk of lung cancer among Chinese population.

Conclusions

In conclusion, two DNMT3B polymorphisms, −149C>T and −2437T>A, are not related to lung cancer risk among Chinese population nor the haplotype of them. However, more studies with larger samples are required to confirm our findings.

Abbreviations

CIs: Confidence intervals; EB: Ethidium bromide; HWE: Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium; NSCLC: Non-small cell lung cancer; ORs: Odds ratios; PCR-RFLP: Polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism; TNM: Tumor-node-metastasis

Acknowledgements

None.

Funding

This work was supported by the Heilongjiang Provincial Department of Education Science and Technology Research Project (grant number 12541295) and the applied research and development project of Harbin (grant number 2015RAQYJ053).

Availability of data and materials

Not applicable. This study was only the primary research, and further study has been in progress.

Authors’ contributions

MG made substantial contributions to the conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data. The other authors have been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content. All authors gave final approval of the version to be published. Each author has participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content and agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Consent for publication

Not applicable.

Table 5 Subgroup analysis stratified by smoke status

| Genotype | No. of cases (%) | No. of controls (%) | OR* (95% CI) | P value |
|----------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|---------|
| −149C>T |                 |                     |              |         |
| Smokers  |                 |                     |              |         |
| TT      | 23 (5.1)        | 15 (5.6)            | 0.81 (0.84 2.35) | 0.571 |
| CT      | 135 (29.4)      | 95 (35.5)           | 0.74 (0.45 1.83) | 0.469 |
| CC      | 300 (65.5)      | 158 (58.9)          | Reference    |         |
| CT+TT   | 158 (34.5)      | 110 (41.1)          | 0.76 (0.52 1.17) | 0.274 |
| Non-smokers |           |                     |              |         |
| TT      | 19 (8.5)        | 16 (4.9)            | 1.59 (0.37 1.94) | 0.371 |
| CT      | 62 (27.4)       | 124 (37.1)          | 0.69 (0.24 1.64) | 0.108 |
| CC      | 145 (64.1)      | 194 (58.0)          | Reference    |         |
| CT+TT   | 81 (35.9)       | 140 (42)            | 0.77 (0.49 1.25) | 0.251 |
| −2437T>A |                |                     |              |         |
| Smokers  |                 |                     |              |         |
| AA      | 47 (51.9)       | 31 (51.6)           | 1.53 (0.42 1.97) | 0.473 |
| TA      | 173 (37.8)      | 98 (36.7)           | 1.78 (0.35 1.67) | 0.082 |
| TT      | 138 (20.2)      | 139 (11.7)          | Reference    |         |
| TA+AA   | 220 (89.7)      | 129 (88.3)          | 1.72 (0.68 1.49) | 0.627 |
| Non-smokers |          |                     |              |         |
| AA      | 35 (47.9)       | 29 (47.8)           | 0.71 (0.34 1.68) | 0.376 |
| TA      | 204 (44.4)      | 111 (41.5)          | 1.07 (0.32 1.85) | 0.723 |
| TT      | 219 (7.7)       | 128 (10.7)          | Reference    |         |
| TA+AA   | 239 (92.3)      | 140 (89.3)          | 1.00 (0.64 1.59) | 0.504 |

*Adjusted for age and sex in a logistic regression model

Table 6 Association of DNMT3B −C149T and −T2437A haplotype with the risk of lung cancer

| Haplotype | No. of controls (%) | No. of cases (%) | OR* (95% CI) | P value |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| −149C/2437T | 428 (53.0)      | 295 (56.0)     | Reference    |         |
| −149C/2437A | 191 (23.6)      | 164 (23.4)     | 0.93 (0.73 1.19) | 0.078 |
| −149T/2437T | 131 (16.2)      | 102 (14.5)     | 0.84 (0.63 1.13) | 0.134 |
| −149T/2437A | 58 (7.2)        | 43 (6.1)       | 0.80 (0.53 1.22) | 0.573 |

*Adjusted for age and sex in a logistic regression model

Table 6 Association of DNMT3B −C149T and −T2437A haplotype with the risk of lung cancer

| Haplotype | No. of controls (%) | No. of cases (%) | OR* (95% CI) | P value |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| −149C/2437T | 428 (53.0)      | 295 (56.0)     | Reference    |         |
| −149C/2437A | 191 (23.6)      | 164 (23.4)     | 0.93 (0.73 1.19) | 0.078 |
| −149T/2437T | 131 (16.2)      | 102 (14.5)     | 0.84 (0.63 1.13) | 0.134 |
| −149T/2437A | 58 (7.2)        | 43 (6.1)       | 0.80 (0.53 1.22) | 0.573 |

*Adjusted for age and sex in a logistic regression model

Table 6 Association of DNMT3B −C149T and −T2437A haplotype with the risk of lung cancer

| Haplotype | No. of controls (%) | No. of cases (%) | OR* (95% CI) | P value |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| −149C/2437T | 428 (53.0)      | 295 (56.0)     | Reference    |         |
| −149C/2437A | 191 (23.6)      | 164 (23.4)     | 0.93 (0.73 1.19) | 0.078 |
| −149T/2437T | 131 (16.2)      | 102 (14.5)     | 0.84 (0.63 1.13) | 0.134 |
| −149T/2437A | 58 (7.2)        | 43 (6.1)       | 0.80 (0.53 1.22) | 0.573 |

*Adjusted for age and sex in a logistic regression model
Ethics approval and consent to participate

This study has obtained the approval of the Third Hospital of Harbin Medical University ethics committee (42411656-8) on 10 Sep. 2009. All patients signed the informed consent.

Author details

1. Department of Neurology, the Fourth Hospital of Harbin Medical University, 37 Yiyou Street, Harbin, Heilongjiang 150001, China. 2. Department of Radiology, the Fourth Hospital of Harbin Medical University, Harbin, Heilongjiang, China. 3. Department of Cardiology, the Fourth Hospital of Harbin Medical University, Harbin, Heilongjiang, China. 4. Department of Radiology, the Fourth Hospital of Harbin Medical University, Harbin, Heilongjiang, China. 5. Department of Obstetrics, the Fourth Hospital of Harbin Medical University, Harbin, Heilongjiang, China.

Received: 14 June 2016 Accepted: 7 November 2016

Published online: 22 November 2016

References

[1] Wakelee HA, Chang ET, Gomez SL, Keegan TH, Feskanich D, Clarke CA, et al. Lung cancer incidence in never smokers. J clin oncol. 2007;25:472–8.

[2] Islami F, Torre LA, Jemal A. Global trends of lung cancer mortality and smoking prevalence. Translat lung cancer res. 2015;4:327–38.

[3] Islami F, Torre LA, Jemal A. Global trends of lung cancer mortality and smoking prevalence. Translat lung cancer res. 2015;4:327.

[4] Yu M, Feuer EJ, Cronin KA, Caporaso NE. Use of multiple imputation to correct for bias in lung cancer incidence trends by histologic subtype. Cancer epidemiol biomarkers prev. 2014;23:1546–58.

[5] Neumann AS, Sturgis EM, Wei Q. Nucleotide excision repair as a marker for susceptibility to tobacco-related cancers: a review of molecular epidemiological studies. Mol carcinog. 2005;42:65–92.

[6] Heyn H, Carmona FJ, Gomez A, Ferreira HJ, Bell JT, Sayols S, et al. DNA methylation profiling in breast cancer discordant identical twins identifies DOK7 as novel epigenetic biomarker. Carcinogenesis. 2013;34:102–8.

[7] Rauch TA, Wang Z, Wu X, Kerstnie KH, Riggs AD, Pfefer GP. DNA methylation biomarkers for lung cancer. Tumor biol. 2012;33:287–96.

[8] Rauch TA, Zhong X, Wu X, Wang M, Kerstnie KH, Wang Z, et al. High-resolution mapping of DNA hypermethylation and hypomethylation in lung cancer. Proc natl acad sci. 2008;105:252–7.

[9] Liu Z, Wang L, Wang L-E, Sturgis EM, Wei Q. Polymorphisms of the DNMT3B gene and risk of squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck: a case-control study. Cancer lett. 2008;286:159–65.

[10] Chen T, Ueda Y, Dodge JE, Wang Z, Li E. Establishment and maintenance of genomic methylation patterns in mouse embryonic stem cells by Dnmt3a and Dnmt3b. Mol cell. 2003;23:594–605.

[11] Teneng I, Telsec C, Pochi M, Kline D, Yingling C, Snider A, et al. Global identification of genes targeted by Dnmt3b for epigenetic silencing in lung cancer. Oncogene. 2015;34:621–30.

[12] Lao Y, Wu H, Zhao C, Wu Q, Qiao F, Fan H. Promoter polymorphisms of DNA methyltransferase 3B and risk of hepatocellular carcinoma. Biomed rep. 2013;1:771–5.

[13] Shen H, Wang L, Spitz MR, Hong WK, Mao L, Wei Q. A novel polymorphism in human cystine DNA-methyltransferase-3B promoter is associated with an increased risk of lung cancer. Cancer res. 2002;62:4992–5.

[14] Chang KP, Hao SP, Liu CT, Cheng MH, Chang YL, Lee YS, et al. Promoter polymorphisms of DNMT3B and the risk of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma in Taiwan: a case-control study. Oral oncol. 2007;43:345–51.

[15] Fan H, Zhang F, Hu J, Liu D, Zhao Z. Promoter polymorphisms of DNMT3B and the risk of colorectal cancer in Chinese: a case-control study. Journal of experimental & clinical cancer research 2008;27:556.

[16] Lee SJ, Jeon HS, Jang JS, Park SH, Lee GY, Lee BH, et al. DNMT3B polymorphisms and risk of primary lung cancer. Carcinogenesis. 2005;26:403–9.

[17] Liu H, Jiao Y, Guan Y, Lao Y, Zhao C, Fan H. The DNMT3B–750G>T promoter polymorphism and risk of lung cancer. Exp thorac oncol. 2012;1:525–9.

[18] Rusch VW, Crowley J, Giotou DJ, Goldstraw P, Lim J-G, Tsuboi M, et al. The IASLC Lung Cancer Staging Project: proposals for the revision of the T descriptors in the forthcoming seventh edition of the TNM classification for lung cancer. J thorac oncol. 2007;2:603–12.

[19] Yuan Y, Wen Z, Guan Y, Sun Y, Yang J, Fan X, et al. The relationships between type 2 diabetic retinopathy and VEGF-634GC and VEGF-460CT polymorphisms in Han Chinese subjects. J diabetes complications. 2014;28:875–90.

10. Hansen TO, Simonsen MK, Nielsen FC, Hundrup YA. Collection of blood, saliva, and buccal cell samples in a pilot study on the Danish nurse cohort: comparison of the response rate and quality of genomic DNA. Cancer epidemiol biomarkers prev. 2007;16:2072–6.

11. Rodriguez S, Gautt TR, Day IN. Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium testing of biological ascertainment for Mendelian randomization studies. Am j epidemiol. 2009;169:505–14.

12. Sandrin VC, Palei AC, Cavalli RC, Araujo FM, Ramos ES, Duarte G, et al. Vascular endothelial growth factor genotypes and haplotypes are associated with pre-eclampsia but not with gestational hypertension. Mol hum reprod. 2009;15:115–20.

13. Luczak MW, Jagodziński PP. The role of DNA methylation in cancer development. Folia histochem cytobiol. 2006;44:143–2.

14. Yang Y-C, Tang Y-A, Sheih J-M, Lin R-K, Hsu H-S, Wang Y-C. DNMT3B overexpression by deregulation of FOXO3a-mediated transcription repression and MDM2 overexpression in lung cancer. J thorac oncol. 2014;9:1305–15.

15. Brock MV, Hooker CM, Ota-Machida E, Han Y, Guo M, Ames S, et al. DNA methylation markers and early recurrence in stage I lung cancer. N Engl j med. 2008;358:1118–28.

16. Wu D, Xiong L, Wu S, Jiang M, Lian G, Wang M. TP53 methylation predicts poor prognosis in non-small cell lung cancer. Lung cancer. 2012;76:106–11.

17. Zöchbauer-Müller S, Fong KM, Vrmanni AK, Geradts J, Gazdar AF, Minna JD. Vascular promoter methylation of multiple genes in non-small cell lung cancers. Cancer res. 2001;61:249–55.

18. de Almeida ST, Simões GLDBA, Ribeiro FS, de Paula Cidade DA, Andreollo NA, Lopes LR, et al. Lower expression of p14ARF and p16INK4a correlates with higher DNMT3B expression in human oesophageal squamous cell carcinomas. Hum exp toxicol. 2006;25:515–22.

19. Rothbatt SB, Krajevski K, Nady N, Tempel W, Xue S, Badeaux AJ, et al. Association of UHRF1 with methylated H3K9 directs the maintenance of DNA methylation. Nat struct mol biol. 2012;19:1155–60.

20. Daskalos A, Oleksieiwicz U, Filia A, Nikolaidis G, Xinarianos G, Gosney JR, et al. UHRF1-mediated tumor suppressor gene inactivation in nonsmall cell lung cancer. Cancer. 2011;117:1027–37.

Submit your next manuscript to BioMed Central and we will help you at every step:

• We accept pre-submission inquiries
• Our selector tool helps you to find the most relevant journal
• We provide round the clock customer support
• Convenient online submission
• Thorough peer review
• Inclusion in PubMed and all major indexing services
• Maximum visibility for your research

Submit your manuscript at www.biomedcentral.com/submit