Identification of NAD⁺ Metabolism-Derived Gene Signatures in Ovarian Cancer Prognosis and Immunotherapy

Liang Lin†, Li Chen†, Zuolian Xie, Jian Chen, Ling Li* and An Lin*

Department of Gynecology, Fujian Medical University Cancer Hospital, Fujian Cancer Hospital, Fuzhou, China

Background: Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺) has emerged as a critical regulator of cell signaling and survival pathways, affecting tumor initiation and progression. In this study it was investigated whether circulating NAD⁺ metabolism-related genes (NMRGs) could be used to predict immunotherapy response in ovarian cancer (OC) patients.

Method: In this study, NMRGs were comprehensively examined in OC patients, three distinct NMRGs subtypes were identified through unsupervised clustering, and an NAD⁺-related prognostic model was generated based on LASSO Cox regression analysis and generated a risk score (RS). ROC curves and an independent validation cohort were used to assess the model’s accuracy. A GSEA enrichment analysis was performed to investigate possible functional pathways. Furthermore, the role of RS in the tumor microenvironment, immunotherapy, and chemotherapy was also investigated.

Result: We found three different subgroups based on NMRGs expression patterns. Twelve genes were selected by LASSO regression to create a prognostic risk signature. High-RS was found to be linked to a worse prognosis. In Ovarian Cancer Patients, RS is an independent prognostic marker. Immune infiltrating cells were considerably overexpressed in the low-RS group, as immune-related functional pathways were significantly enriched. Furthermore, immunotherapy prediction reveal that patients with low-RS are more sensitive to immunotherapy.

Conclusion: For a patient with OC, NMRGs are promising biomarkers. Our prognostic signature has potential predictive value for OC prognosis and immunotherapy response. The results of this study may help improve our understanding of NMRG in OCs.

Keywords: NAD⁺, ovarian cancer, prognostic signature, biomarker, immunotherapy

Abbreviations: OC, ovarian cancer; TCGA, the cancer genome atlas; GEO, gene expression omnibus; NAD⁺, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide; NMRG, NAD⁺ metabolism-related gene; RS, risk score; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; TME, tumor microenvironment; LASSO, least absolute shrinkage and selection operator; GTEx, genotype-tissue expression; GO, gene ontology; KEGG, kyoto encyclopedia of genes and genomes; DEGs, differentially expressed genes; PCA, principal component analysis.
BACKGROUND

Ovarian cancer (OC) is the deadliest gynecological cancer with few initial symptoms and a poor prognosis (Webb and Jordan, 2017; Kossaï et al., 2018; Matulonis, 2018). It is the fifth leading cause of cancer-related death in women, and fewer than 50% of women survive beyond 5 years after diagnosis due to the rapid emergence of chemoresistance coupled with the lack of effective early detection strategies. A number of cancers, including OC, have recently been treated with immunotherapy, although OC patients are highly heterogeneous and some are immune to immunotherapy (Roett and Evans, 2009; Ottevanger, 2017). Furthermore, OC has a high probability of recurrence and medication resistance (Tew, 2016; Sipos et al., 2021). Therefore, a great deal of research is required to advance understanding of disease etiology, identify risk factors, and develop early detection methods and effective molecular biomarkers.

It is believed that metabolic reprogramming plays a role in the genesis of tumors. NAD⁺ plays a key role in maintaining cellular homeostasis, genome stability, cell growth, cell death, and immune responses (Newman and Maddocks, 2017; Pramono et al., 2020; Navas and Carnero, 2021). In cells, NAD exists in two states: oxidized (NAD⁺) and reduced (NADH). NAD⁺ stimulates cancer cell growth by enhancing anaerobic glycolysis via glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH). Most of exhibit increased ratios of NAD⁺/NADH and NADP⁺/NADPH, implying that NAD⁺ plays a significant role in cancer (Nacarelli et al., 2020; Ghanem et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2022). In addition, NAD⁺ acts as a substrate of sirtuins, PARPs, and cADPRs in many different signaling pathways, including DNA repair, inflammatory responses, posttranslational modifications, senescence, and apoptosis (Sultani et al., 2017; Rajman et al., 2018; Zapata-Pérez et al., 2021). Due to the ineffectiveness of traditional anticancer therapies, researchers are seeking new therapeutic targets. In this context, NMRGs could be a potential new target. By investigating the role of NMRGs in OC, new treatments can be developed and a better understanding of the disease can be gained.

Bioinformatics techniques have made it possible for researchers to study OC in greater detail in recent years. The

FIGURE 1 | Flowchart of this study.
primary objective of this study is to create NMRG signals that could provide insights into clinical treatment and prognosis for patients with OC. Based on the expression levels of NMRGs, we divided OC patients into two subgroups using The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) and Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) databases. Furthermore, we constructed a prognostic model of OC patients based on NMRGs and generated an RS. We also examined the model’s stability and the significance of RS in clinical therapy. In summary, we successfully developed a risk model for NAD+ that could be used in clinical therapy and diagnostics.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ovarian Cancer Data Source and Preprocessing

We retrieved RNA expression and clinical data from ovarian cancer patients (Supplementary Table S1) in The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) and The Genotype-Tissue Expression (GTEx) databases. Normal tissue/paracancerous tissue of OC in GTEx was used as control. Tissues from patients with GSE26193 (Supplementary Table S2) were used as the validation dataset. The GSE26193 annotation file is available at Affymetrix Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 Array (HG-U133_Plus_2). We converted Fragments per kilobase (FPKM) values to transcripts per million (TPM) for the TCGA cohort. Patients with missing survival information were excluded from the study. The SVA package of the R software is used to correct for the effects of batch processing on data. We used the KEGG database (Pathway: hsa00760) and the Reactome database (R-HSA-196807) (Supplementary Table S3) to obtain NMRGs (Li C. et al., 2022). The Immune Checkpoint Immunophenoscore (IPS) is a good predictor of patient response to CTLA-4 and PD-1 immunotherapy. The Cancer Immunome Atlas (TCIA) provided immunophenotyping score files for immune checkpoint inhibitor (ICI) patients.

Ovarian Cancer Analysis Based on Online Database

Metascape (http://metascape.org/gp/) is a gene-annotation and analysis tool commonly used in genetic research. (Zhou et al., 2019; Han et al., 2021; Ye et al., 2021). The Metascape database was used to perform Gene Ontology (GO) and Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway enrichment analyses NMRGs.

The Cancer Genome Project (CGP, https://cancer.sanger.ac.uk/cosmic) is one of the most comprehensive databases exploring the impact of somatic mutations in human cancer. We analyzed the tumor mutational status of Ovarian Cancer based on COSMIC (Jubb et al., 2018; Sondka et al., 2018).

Construction and Verification of NAD+ Metabolism-Related Genes Signatures

We performed unsupervised consensus clustering to elucidate the relationship between NAD+ metabolic subtypes and prognosis. We used the R package “ConsensusClusterPlus” and repeated 1,000 times to guarantee the stability of the
clustering (Wang et al., 2020; Wu et al., 2021a). Using the consensus clustering approach, determine the optimal numbers of clusters. Significant DEGs are present in several subtypes, and they were subjected to univariate Cox regression analysis to further screen DEGs linked with OC prognosis. After that, these genes were subjected to LASSO regression analysis to find more useful prognostic factors. Finally, 12 genes strongly connected to OS, and an RS was generated for each OC patient based on the expression levels of these genes and the Cox regression coefficient (Cao et al., 2020; Liang et al., 2020; Zhao et al., 2021). According to the median risk score, OC patients were divided into high-risk and low-risk subgroups. The prognostic prediction performance can be evaluated using Kaplan-Meier survival analysis and time-dependent ROC curves. The validation cohort for the model was GSE26193. Cox regression analysis, both univariate and multivariate, was used to see if RS may be an independent prognostic factor in OC patients.

GSVA Enrichment Analysis
We used the “GSVA” R software tool to perform GSVA enrichment analysis to learn more about the differences in functional pathways and biological processes between distinct subtypes and high- and low-RS groups. For functional annotation, the R package “cluster profile” was used, and the gene set file (c2.cp.kegg.v7.2.symbols.gmt) was obtained from the MSigDB database (https://www.gsea-msigdb.org) (Sun et al., 2020; Chen L. et al., 2021; Wu et al., 2021b).

Tumor Microenvironment Analysis
The “ESTIMATE” package was used to predict the composition of the immune stroma in the tumor microenvironment (TME) of Ovarian Cancer patients, as well as to calculate Immune Score, Stromal Score and ESTIMATE Score (Fan et al., 2021; Li Y. et al., 2022). The ssGSEA algorithm was used to quantify dissimilarities in immune cell infiltration subsets and immune function enrichment between high- and low-RS groups. ssGSEA is a
popular enrichment algorithm extensively utilized in medical studies (Liu et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2022a; Liu et al., 2022b; Liu et al., 2022c).

**Statistical Analysis**

All statistical analyses are performed by the use of R version 4.1.2. Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) were identified using the R package “limma,” and survival analysis was performed using the “survival” and “survminer” packages (Ritchie et al., 2015). The “ggplots” software was used to create the volcano and heatmaps. The IC50 of chemotherapeutic medicines was predicted using the “pRRophetic” software (Geeleher et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2021).

All statistical studies used two-sided, and p < 0.05 was considered to be significant.

**RESULTS**

**Identification and Functional Enrichment Analysis of NAD⁺ Metabolism-Related Genes**

Figure 1 depicts the study’s analysis process. The prognostic research revealed that most NMRGs were strongly linked with OC prognosis, implying that NMRGs play a key role in OC (Supplementary Figure S1). We performed a functional enrichment analysis of NMRGs using the Metascape database and found that they were significantly enriched in metabolism-related available pathways, including columns Nicotinate and nicotinamide metabolism, Nicotinate...
metabolism, NAD⁺ metabolism, NAD metabolic process, regulation of small molecule metabolic process, regulation of cellular ketone metabolic process, Pyrimidine metabolism, and regulation of reactive oxygen species metabolic activities (Figure 2A). Figure 2B illustrates the link between enrichment pathways. In addition, we identified the regulatory networks of crucial proteins in NMRGs using protein interaction enrichment analysis, and we discovered that they were mainly connected with nicotinate and nicotinamide metabolism, nicotinate metabolism, metabolism of water-soluble vitamins and cofactors, nicotinate and nicotinamide metabolism, pyridine-containing compound metabolic process, and nucleotide biosynthetic process (Figure 2C). Another important finding was that most NMRGs were dysregulated in OC. NAXE, RNLS, PNP, NT5DC4, PARP9, NMNAT2, RDH14, CD38 were significantly higher expressed in OC compared to normal tissues, while NAXD, AOX1, PAPR6, SLC5A8, NT5C, ENPP1, NADSYN1, SIRT2, PTGIS, NT5C2, NMRK1, NMNAT3 were significantly lower expressed in OC (Supplementary Figure S2).

Analysis of the Relationship Between TP53 and NAD⁺ Metabolism-Related Genes

Based on the COSMIC database, we looked at the mutation status of OC (Figure 3A) and discovered that missense substitution and G > A mutations were most common (Figures 3B, C). We also provide a lollipop plot of the distribution of mutations in the TP53 gene based on the TCGA data, as TP53 is the gene with the highest mutation frequency in OC (Figure 3D). TP53 was also strongly expressed in OC tissues (Figure 3E) and had a significant positive link with several immune-infiltrating cells such as NK cells, TCM, and Eosinophils (Figure 3F). Furthermore, we analyzed the relationship between TP53 and NMRGs, we found that TP53 was positively correlated with NADK, NAXD, NMRK2, NT5C2, NT5C1B, PARP16, PARP4, PARP8, QPRT, RNLS, SIRT1, SIRT3, SIRT5, and with NAXE, NNMT has a negative correlation (Figure 3G). Further study found that the TP53 mutant group tended to have higher NADK2 (Figure 3H), PARP14 (Figure 3I), NT5DC4 (Figure 3J) expression, and lower ENPP3 (Figure 3I) expression.
Identification of NAD<sup>+</sup> Metabolism-Related Genes-Related Subtypes in Ovarian Cancer Patients

NMRGs have long been thought to have a crucial function in OC. For further analysis, we created NMRG’s risk network by combining the OC patient data from the TCGA and GEO databases into one cohort with the batch correction to remove differences between the data. Findings revealed that most NMRGs show positive correlation relationships and may be risk factors for OC (Figure 4A). The “Consensus Cluster Plus” R software was used to classify OC patients based on NMRG expression level (Figures 4B–D). The best stable clustering result came from this analysis when k = 3. We discovered three distinct subgroups: NMRG cluster A, NMRG cluster B, and NMRG cluster C, respectively. According to the predictive analysis results, patients with NMRG cluster C had a considerably worse outcome (p = 0.017; Figure 4E). PCA analysis revealed that the NMRG clusters were divided into three discrete clusters (Figure 4F). The heatmap also depicts the clinical characteristics of several subgroups of TCGA (Figure 4G) and GEO (Figure 4H) patients (Supplementary Table S4). Furthermore, we found that patients with NMRG cluster C had higher TP53 mutation frequencies and lower TP53 expression levels (Supplementary Figure S3).

Identification of Functional Pathway Enrichment and Immune Cell Infiltration Between Different Subtypes

Results of GSVA enrichment analysis (Figure 5A) depicted that NMRGcluster B was mainly enriched in apoptosis and signaling related pathways, such as RIG I like receptor signaling pathway, Cytosolic DNA sensing pathway, Apoptosis, Antigen processing and presentation, T cell receptor signaling pathway, B cell receptor signaling pathway, JAK STAT signaling pathway, NOD like receptor signaling pathway, and Toll-like receptor signaling pathway. According to Figures 5B,C, TGF beta signaling route, Wnt signaling pathway, Melanoma, Glioma, Cancer pathways, Focal adhesion, JAK STAT signaling...
pathway, T cell receptor signaling pathway, B cell receptor signaling pathway, Mark signaling pathway were prominent in NMRG Cluster C. Furthermore, the intricacy of immune cell infiltration among the three species subtypes was revealed by ssGSEA enrichment analysis. Immune cell infiltration was lowest in NMRG cluster A. Most of the immune cells, such as activated B cells, activated dendritic cell, CD56dim natural killer cell, Eosinophilia, Gamma delta T cell, Immature B cell, and Immature dendritic cell, were abundant in NMRG cluster C (Figure 5D).

Development and Verification of Risk Signatures Associated With NAD+ Metabolism-Related Genes in Ovarian Cancer

We discovered 91 shared genes across the 3 categories to further investigate the association between NMRGs-related subtypes and prognosis (Supplementary Figure S4; Supplementary Table S5). Univariate COX analysis was performed on TCGA data to screen genes associated with prognosis. The LASSO regression method was used to further develop the OC prognostic model and establish a risk score (RS). Finally, risk signatures for 12 genes were discovered (Figures 6A,B). The risk score is calculated as follows: $RS = (-0.083 \times \text{CXCL11 exp.}) + (0.070 \times \text{VSIG4 exp.}) + (0.009 \times \text{MS4A7 exp.}) + (0.002 \times \text{SULF1 exp.}) + (0.052 \times \text{SIRPA exp.}) + (0.069 \times \text{RARRES1 exp.}) + (-0.059 \times \text{IGHG1 exp.}) + (-0.047 \times \text{PIGR exp.}) + (0.063 \times \text{ZFP36 exp.}) + (0.029 \times \text{OGN exp.}) + (0.001 \times \text{MXRA8 exp.}) + (-0.070 \times \text{FBLN2 exp.})$.

According to the median value of RS, OC patients were divided into low-risk group and high-risk group, and the cut-off value was 1.102, that is, patients with RS greater than 1.102 were in the high-risk group, and those with RS less than 1.102 were in the low-risk group. The GSE26193 cohort was used as the validation cohort and its RS was evaluated in the same way. The training cohort ($p < 0.001$; Figure 6C) and the validation cohort ($p = 0.044$; Figure 6D) showed that patients with high RS had a significantly worse prognosis. The patient’s survival status (Figures 6E,I) and risk distribution were also explored (Figures 6F,J). The PCA analysis revealed that RS has a more remarkable ability to separate patients into two classes (Figures 6G,K). The AUCs of the training cohort at years 1, 3, and 5 were 0.715, 0.672, and 0.733, respectively (Figure 6H), and the AUCs of the validation cohort at
years 1, 3, and 5 were 0.624, 0.683, and 0.653, respectively, confirming the model’s stability (Figure 6L). The prognostic Nomogram plot analysis results revealed that RS was a good predictor of OC patient’s prognosis (Supplementary Figure S5). The results of univariate and multivariate COX analysis of TCGA and GEO data further indicated that RS was an independent prognostic factor in patients with OC (Supplementary Figure S6).

The Relationship Between Risk Score and Tumor Microenvironment

We discovered enhanced functional pathways between high- and low-RS groups to investigate further the applicability usefulness of our created RS in Ovarian Cancer. The high-RS group was found to be significantly associated with several cancer-related pathways, including colorectal cancer, endometrial cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, pathways in cancer, prostate cancer, small cell lung cancer, chronic myeloid leukemia, erbb signaling pathway, renal cell carcinoma, glioma, wnt signaling pathway, notch signaling pathway (Figure 7A). This result further revealed that patients in the high-risk group had a poor prognosis, multiple cancer-regulated pathways were enriched in the high-risk group, and different cancers may have crosstalk between NMRGs. The high-RS group had a higher stromal score and estimate score (Figure 7B), and was adversely connected with tumor stemness, according to study (Figure 7C). Furthermore, the results of immune cell infiltration analysis revealed that the high RS group had lower immune infiltrating cell enrichment and immune function pathways, such as aDCs, B cells, CD8+ T cells, DCs, NK cells, APC co inhibition, Checkpoint, Cytolytic activity, HLA, and Inflammation promoting gene (Figures 7D,E).

FIGURE 8 | Application of RS in immunotherapy and chemotherapy of OC patients. Immunotherapy in patients with high- and low-RS groups (A) CTLA4 – PD1–; (B) CTLA4+ PD1+; (C) CTLA4+ PD1–; (D) CTLA4– PD1+. Analysis of drug sensitivity in high- and low-RS groups (E–P).
Application of Risk Score in Immunotherapy and Chemotherapy of Ovarian Cancer Patients

The potential NMRGs-related RS to predict the prognosis of OC patients has been demonstrated. We gathered immunotherapy data of OC patients from the TCGA database to further enhance the clinical application value of RS, and we discovered that patients with low-RS tend to have higher IPS scores, are more responsive to immune checkpoint blockade therapy (PD1/CTLA4), and may have superior efficacy (Figures 8A–D). The TIDE algorithm further validated our conclusion that patients in the low-risk group were more sensitive to immunotherapy (Supplementary Figure S7). In addition, we compared the IC50 of common chemotherapeutic drugs in high and low-RS patients, and found that, except for Metformin (Figure 8O), most drugs had lower IC50 scores in high-RS patients, indicating high-RS patients were more susceptible to these drugs (Figure 8E–N), except for Metformin (Figure 8O), Gefitinib (Figure 8P).

DISCUSSION

OC is one of the most dangerous gynecological cancers, with a significant mortality rate. Despite improvements in OS survival rates over the past 30 years, the 10-year survival rate for most patients remains low (Wu et al., 2020; Yang et al., 2020; Morand et al., 2021). Early symptoms of OC are subtle, and there are no reliable prognostic markers. As a coenzyme of redox reaction in the cytoplasm and mitochondria, NAD⁺ is essential for most basic biological functions in the cell (Li et al., 2019; Sharif et al., 2019; Palavalli Parsons et al., 2021). Although there is growing evidence that individuals with OC have altered NAD⁺ metabolism-related molecules or chemicals, no research on the NAD⁺ metabolic signature of OC prognosis have been reported (Fang et al., 2015; Chen J. et al., 2021; Challa et al., 2021; Valabrega et al., 2021).

In this study, we used public databases to gather OC expression profile data and comprehensively examined the involvement of NMRGs in OC. The majority of the NMRGs were show to be significantly linked with the prognosis of OC. TP53 is a well-known tumor suppressor that plays a critical function in cell cycle regulation (Schuijer and Berns, 2003; Vitale et al., 2020). We discovered that TP53 has a high mutation frequency in OC that TP53 expression levels were connected with the expression levels of multiple NMRGs, highlighting the necessity of investigating NMRGs even more. We divided OC patients into three subtypes based on NMRG expression levels, with the NMRGcluster C subtype having the highest chance of survival. In addition, using the LASSO regression analysis method, we built a predictive model combining 12 genes based on the differential genes between the three subtypes, which was confirmed in the GEO dataset. RS was an independent predictor of OC patients in both univariate and multivariate Cox regression analyses. The tumor microenvironment study revealed that RS may be used to characterize the tumor microenvironment of OC patients, with patients with high-RS having poor prognosis and decreased immune-infiltrating cells enrichment. We also discovered that RS might be used to guide clinical treatment and patients with low-RS are more likely to respond to immunotherapy. The results of the medication sensitivity study between high- and low-RS groups were also helpful in treating OC patients.

In this study, we developed a model that contains 12 NMRG signatures, which could help in the prognosis and clinical treatment of OC patients. We acknowledge, however, that our research has some limitations. The ROC results of the validation cohort were low, and the model may have certain errors in predicting the prognosis of some OC patients. In addition, further in vitro and in vivo experiments are required to validate our results, especially the model’s prediction of response to immunotherapy and chemotherapy.

CONCLUSION

Overall, we identified a new prognostic NMRGs signature of OC patients. This signature may help to develop new OC molecular targets and explore more effective immunotherapy strategies.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/Supplementary Material, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding authors.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

LAL and LNL completed the main work of this study; LC, ZX, JC, and AL participated in the experimental design, data analysis, and article writing of this study.

FUNDING

Startup fund for scientific research, Fujian Medical University (Grant number: 2020QH1230).

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fgene.2022.905238/full#supplementary-material

Supplementary Figure S1 | Prognostic analysis of NMRGs in OC.

Supplementary Figure S2 | The expression distribution of NMRGs in tumor tissues and normal tissues. **p < 0.01.

Supplementary Figure S3 | TP53 level and mutation relationship with NMRGclusters. *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p < 0.001.

Supplementary Figure S4 | 91 shared genes found in 3 categories.

Supplementary Figure S5 | Prognostic nomogram analysis.

Supplementary Figure S6 | Univariate (A) and multivariate (B) COX analysis of TCGA data. Univariate (C) and multivariate (D) COX analysis of GEO data.
**Supplementary Figure S7**  Potential ICB response was predicted with TIDE algorithm. ***p<0.001.

**Supplementary Table S1**  Clinical information in patients with TCGA-OV. unknown: data missing/unavailable.

**Supplementary Table S2**  Clinical information in patients with GSE26193.

**REFERENCES**

Cao, R., Yuan, L., Ma, B., Wang, G., Qiu, W., and Tian, Y. (2020). An EMT-related Gene Signature for the Prognosis of Human Bladder Cancer. *J. Cell. Mol. Med.* 24 (1), 605–617. doi:10.1111/jcmm.14767

Challa, S., Khulpatree, B. R., Nandu, T., Camacho, C. V., Ryu, K. W., Chen, H., et al. (2011). Ribosome ADP-Ribosylation Inhibits Translation and Maintains Proteostasis in Cancers. *Cell* 184 (17), 4531–4546. e62. doi:10.1016/j.cell.2021.07.005

Chen, J., Chen, H., and Pan, L. (2021). SIRT1 and Gynecological Malignancies (Review). *OncoL. Rep.* 45 (4), 43. doi:10.3824/or.2021.7994

Chen, L., Hou, Y., You, B., Song, F., Tu, X., and Cheng, X. (2021). An Analysis Regarding the Prognostic Significance of MAMS and its Underlying Biological Mechanism in Ovarian Cancer. *Front. Cell Dev. Biol.* 9, 728061. doi:10.3389/fcell.2021.728061

Fan, L., Lei, H., Lin, Y., Zhou, Z., Shu, G., Yan, Z., et al. (2021). Identification of a Gene Set Correlated with Immune Status in Ovarian Cancer by Transcriptome-wide Data Mining. *Front. Mol. Biosci.* 8, 676666. doi:10.3389/fmolb.2021.676666

Fang, Y. Y., Bi, F. F., Zhou, Y. M., Sun, W. P., Li, C. Y., Liu, Q., et al. (2015). Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide (NAD) May Affect DNA Methyltransferase 1 through Regulation of BRCA1 in Ovarian Cancer. *Am. J. Cancer Res.* 5 (3), 1199–1206.

Geeleher, P., Cox, N., and Huang, R. S. (2014). pRRophetic: an R Package for Prediction of Clinical Chemotherapeutic Response from Tumor Gene Expression Levels. *PLoS One* 9 (6), e107468. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0107468

Ghanem, M. S., Monacelli, F., and Nencioni, A. (2021). Advances in NAD-Lowering Agents for Cancer Treatment. *Nutrients* 13 (5), 1665. doi:10.3390/nu13051665

Han, C., He, S., Wang, R., Gao, X., Wang, H., Qiao, J., et al. (2021). The Role of ARHGAP9: Clinical Implication and Potential Function in Acute Myeloid Leukemia. *J. Cancer Res.* 5 (3), 610–617. doi:10.1016/j.jgo.2016.07.008

Hosomi, O., Kato, Y., Toriyama, Y., Tanaka, R., and Nishio, M. (2021). Clustering characteristics of patients. *Supplementary Table S1*|

**Supplementary Table S3**  NAD+ metabolism-related genes.

**Supplementary Table S4**  Clustering characteristics of patients.

**Supplementary Table S5**  91 shared genes found in 3 categories.

**Supplementary Table S6**  91 shared genes found in 3 categories.

**Supplementary Table S7**  91 shared genes found in 3 categories.

Liu, Z., Liu, T., Li, J., Wang, L., Xu, K., Dang, Q., et al. (2021). Development and Clinical Validation of a Novel Six-Gene Signature for Accurately Predicting the Recurrence Risk of Patients with Stage II/III Colorectal Cancer. *Cancer Cell Int.* 21 (1), 359. doi:10.1186/s12935-021-02070-z

Liu, Z., Xu, H., Weng, S., Ren, Y., and Han, X. (2022). Stemness Refines the Classification of Colorectal Cancer with Stratified Prognosis, Multi-Omics Landscape, Potential Mechanisms, and Treatment Options. *Front. Immunol.* 13, 828330. doi:10.3389/fimmu.2022.828330

Matulonis, U. A. (2018). Ovarian Cancer. *Hematology/OncoLOGY Clin. N. Am.* 32 (6), xiii-xiv. doi:10.1016/j.hoc.2018.09.006

Morand, S., Devanaboyina, M., Staats, H., Stanbery, L., and Nemunaitis, J. (2021). Ovarian Cancer Immunotherapy and Personalized Medicine. *Ijms* 22 (12), 6532. doi:10.3390/ijms22126532

Nacarelli, T., Fukumoto, T., Zendell, J. A., Fathkudinov, N., Jean, S., Cadungog, M. G., et al. (2020). NAMPT Inhibition Suppresses Cancer Stem-like Cells Associated with Therapy-Induced Senescence in Ovarian Cancer. *Cancer Res.* 80 (4), 890–900. doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-19-2830

Navas, L. E., and Carnero, A. (2021). NAD+ Metabolism, Stemness, the Immune Response, and Cancer. *Sig Transduct. Target Ther.* 6 (1), 2. doi:10.1038/s41392-020-00354-w

Newman, A. C., and Maddocks, O. D. K. (2017). One-carbon Metabolism in Cancer. *Br. J. Cancer* 116 (12), 1499–1504. doi:10.1038/bjc.2017.118

Ottevanger, P. B. (2017). Ovarian Cancer Stem Cells More Questions Than Answers. *Seminars Cancer Biol.* 44, 67–71. doi:10.1016/j.semcancer.2017.04.009

Palavalli Parsons, L. H., Challa, S., Gibson, B. A., Nandu, T., Stokes, M. S., Huang, D., et al. (2021). Identification of PARP-7 Substrates Reveals a Role for BMTylation in Microtubule Control in Ovarian Cancer Cells. *Elife* 10, e60481. doi:10.7554/elif.e60481

Pramono, A. A., Rather, G. M., Herman, H., Lestari, K., and Bertino, J. R. (2020). NAD- and NADPH-Contributing Enzymes as Therapeutic Targets in Cancer: An Overview. *BioMolecules* 10 (3), 358. doi:10.3390/biom10030358

Rajman, L., Chwalek, K., and Sinclair, D. A. (2018). Therapeutic Potential of NAD-Boosting Molecules: The *In Vivo* Evidence. *Cell Metab.* 27 (3), 529–547. doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2018.02.011

Ritchie, M. E., Phipson, B., Wu, D., Hu, Y., Law, C. W., Shi, W., et al. (2015). Limma Powers Differential Expression Analyses for RNA-Sequencing and Microarray Studies. *Nucleic Acids Res.* 43 (7), e47. doi:10.1093/nar/gkv007

Roett, M. A., and Evans, P. (2009). Ovarian Cancer: an Overview. *Am. Fam. Physician* 80 (6), 609–616

Schijur, M., and Berns, E. M. J. J. (2003). TP53 and Ovarian Cancer. *Hum. Mutat.* 21 (3), 285–291. doi:10.1002/humu.10181

Sharif, T., Martell, E., Dai, C., Ghassemi-Rad, M. S., Kennedy, B. E., Lee, P. W. K., et al. (2019). Regulation of Cancer and Cancer-Related Genes Via NAD+. *Antioxidants Redox Signal.* 30 (6), 906–923. doi:10.1089/ars.2017.7478

Sipos, A., Ujlaki, G., Mikó, E., Maka, E., Szabó, J., Uray, K., et al. (2021). The Role of the Microbiome in Ovarian Cancer: Mechanistic Insights into Oncobiosis and to Bacterial Metabolite Signaling. *Mol. Med.* 27 (1), 33. doi:10.1016/j.molmed.2020.09.008

Sondak, Z., Bamford, S., Cole, C. G., Ward, A. S., Dunham, L., and Forbes, S. A. (2018). The COSMIC Cancer Gene Census: Describing Genetic Dysfunction across All Human Cancers. *Nat. Rev. Cancer* 18 (11), 696–705. doi:10.1038/s41568-018-0060-1

Tew, W. P. (2016). Ovarian Cancer in the Older Woman. *J. Geriatric Oncol.* 7 (5), 354–361. doi:10.1016/j.jgo.2016.07.008
Valabrega, G., Scotto, G., Tuninetti, V., Pani, A., and Scaglione, F. (2021). Differences in PARP Inhibitors for the Treatment of Ovarian Cancer: Mechanisms of Action, Pharmacology, Safety, and Efficacy. *Ijms* 22 (8), 4203. doi:10.3390/ijms22084203

Vitale, S. R., Groenendijk, F. H., van Marion, R., Beaufort, C. M., Helmijr, J. C., Jan Dubbink, H., et al. (2020). TP53 Mutations in Serum Circulating Cell-free Tumor DNA as Longitudinal Biomarker for High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer. *Biomolecules* 10 (3), 415. doi:10.3390/biom10030415

Wang, G., Yang, L., Gao, J., Mu, H., Song, Y., Jiang, X., et al. (2021). Identification of Candidate Biomarker ASXL2 and its Predictive Value in Pancreatic Carcinoma. *Front. Oncol.* 11, 736694. doi:10.3389/fonc.2021.736694

Wang, X., Wu, Y., Wen, D., Wu, L.-y., Zhao, Y., He, Y., et al. (2020). An Individualized Immune Prognostic Index Is a Superior Predictor of Survival of Hepatocellular Carcinoma. *Med. Sci. Monit.* 26, e921786. doi:10.12659/MSM.921786

Wang, Y., Li, B. X., and Li, X. (2022). Identification and Validation of Angiogenesis-Related Gene Expression for Predicting Prognosis in Patients with Ovarian Cancer. *Front. Oncol.* 11, 783666. doi:10.3389/fonc.2021.783666

Webb, P. M., and Jordan, S. J. (2017). Epidemiology of Epithelial Ovarian Cancer. *Best Pract. Res. Clin. Obstetrics Gynaecol.* 41, 3–14. doi:10.1016/j.bpobgyn.2016.08.006

Wu, J., Luo, M., Chen, Z., Li, L., and Huang, X. (2021). Integrated Analysis of the Expression Characteristics, Prognostic Value, and Immunological Characteristics of PPARG in Breast Cancer. *Front. Genet.* 12, 737656. doi:10.3389/fgene.2021.737656

Wu, J., Zhu, Y., Luo, M., and Li, L. (2021). Comprehensive Analysis of Pyroptosis-Related Genes and Tumor Microenvironment Infiltration Characterization in Breast Cancer. *Front. Immunol.* 12, 748221. doi:10.3389/fimmu.2021.748221

Wu, M., Shang, X., Sun, Y., Wu, J., and Liu, G. (2020). Integrated Analysis of Lymphocyte Infiltration-Associated IncRNA for Ovarian Cancer via TCGA, GTEx and GEO Datasets. *PeerJ* 8, e8961. doi:10.7717/peerj.8961

Yang, C., Xia, B.-R., Zhang, Z.-C., Zhang, Y.-J., Lou, G., and Jin, W.-L. (2020). Immunotherapy for Ovarian Cancer: Adjuvant, Combination, and Neoadjuvant. *Front. Immunol.* 11, 577869. doi:10.3389/fimmu.2020.577869

Ye, W., Luo, C., Liu, F., Liu, Z., and Chen, F. (2021). CD96 Correlates with Immune Infiltration and Impacts Patient Prognosis: A Pan-Cancer Analysis. *Front. Oncol.* 11, 634617. doi:10.3389/fonc.2021.634617

Zapata-Pérez, R., Wanders, R. J. A., Karnebeek, C. D. M., and Houtkooper, R. H. (2021). NAD + Homeostasis in Human Health and Disease. *EMBO Mol. Med.* 13 (7), e13943. doi:10.15252/emmm.202113943

Zhao, Z., Liu, H., Zhou, X., Fang, D., Ou, X., Ye, J., et al. (2021). Necroptosis-Related IncRNAs: Predicting Prognosis and the Distinction between the Cold and Hot Tumors in Gastric Cancer. *J. Oncol.* 20212021, 6718443. doi:10.1155/2021/6718443

Zhou, Y., Zhou, B., Pache, L., Chang, M., Khodabakhshi, A. H., Tanaseichuk, O., et al. (2019). Metascape Provides a Biologist-Oriented Resource for the Analysis of Systems-Level Datasets. *Nat. Commun.* 10 (1), 1523. doi:10.1038/s41467-019-09234-6

**Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

**Publisher’s Note:** All claims expressed in this article are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their affiliated organizations, or those of the publisher, the editors and the reviewers. Any product that may be evaluated in this article, or claim that may be made by its manufacturer, is not guaranteed or endorsed by the publisher.

Copyright © 2022 Lin, Chen, Xie, Chen, Li and Lin. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY). The use, distribution or reproduction in other forums is permitted, provided the original author(s) and the copyright owner(s) are credited and that the original publication in this journal is cited, in accordance with accepted academic practice. No use, distribution or reproduction is permitted which does not comply with these terms.