

The analysis of FGFR-gene family alterations in glioma

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BACKGROUND

- Fibroblast growth factor (FGFR) alterations are implicated across a range of solid tumors, promoting oncogenesis as a result of amplification, mutations, and structural variations. The *FGFR* gene family consists of four highly conserved transmembrane tyrosine kinase receptors (FGFR1–4). FGFR signaling influences angiogenesis and tumor cell migration, differentiation, proliferation, and survival.
- Recently, the cIMPACT-NOW released update 4 and update research, which considered *FGFR* alterations as a marker in brain tumor classification and prognosis. FGFR inhibitors have presented good clinical trial data in CNS tumors.
- Therefore, the features of *FGFR*-gene family alterations in Chinese gliomas are of great interest.

METHODS

- Tumor specimens from 993 glioma patients were analyzed using the 131-gene profiling.
- FGFR* variants including mutations, amplification, and fusion were detected by following the standard operating procedure(SOP). The molecular characteristics, *FGFR* mutation types, and frequency were also evaluated.

RESULTS

- A total of 116 *FGFR* variants, including mutations, fusions, and gene amplification were identified. The majority of the *FGFR* variants were mutations (62.1%), amplification and fusion being observed in similar frequencies(17.2%, 20.7%).
- FGFR1* alterations were slightly more than in *FGFR2-4*. Interestingly, we observed more amplification events in *FGFR1* (66.7%, 13/20), more fusion in *FGFR3* (75%, 18/24), no amplification in *FGFR2*, only mutations in *FGFR4*. In addition to *FGFR-TACC* fusion, 4 novel *FGFR* fusions retaining the intact kinase domain were detected, including *FGFR3-KCNB1*, *FGFR3-POC1A*, *FGFR2-CEACAM1* (Intergenic), *FGFR3-WASF2*(Intergenic).
- FGFR* variants were more common in *IDH* wild-type and H3 mutant than in *IDH*-mutant gliomas (P=0.003461, P=0.002304). Pathway enrichment (GO, KEGG) analysis was performed, revealed no significant differences between *FGFR* mutation and wild type.

Table 1: FGFR-gene family alterations in glioma

Gene	Vraiant type	frequencies
<i>FGFR1</i>	fusion	0.109
<i>FGFR1</i>	CNV	0.283
<i>FGFR1</i>	somatic	0.609
<i>FGFR2</i>	fusion	0.063

Countinued Table 1:

Gene	Vraiant type	frequencies
<i>FGFR2</i>	somatic	0.938
<i>FGFR3</i>	fusion	0.514
<i>FGFR3</i>	somatic	0.371
<i>FGFR3</i>	CNV	0.200
<i>FGFR4</i>	somatic	1

CONCLUSIONS

- We report the prevalence of FGFR variants was 9.1% in in Chinese glioma patients, including mutations, gene amplifications, and novel FGFR fusions. Moreover, targeting FGFR pathway in gliomas with FGFR alterations may be a therapeutic strategy.



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