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Cyclin D1 in various cancers: Mechanisms and clinical implications

Wuwei Zhao

OSSD Department, Tianjin Yinghua Experimental School, Tianjin, 301700, China

lulu@tifi.com.cn

Abstract. Gastrointestinal cancers, including esophageal, gastric, hepatic, pancreatic, and colorectal malignancies, present a significant global health challenge. Their distinct characteristics characterized by abnormal cell proliferation, invasive behavior, and tumor formation make them highly aggressive and detrimental to human health. These diseases often lead to malnutrition, organ failure, and obstruction. Cyclin D1 protein is a critical regulator of cell cycle progression and an essential marker for comprehending the complex landscape of cancer biology. This research provides an in-depth exploration of gastrointestinal cancers by shedding light on their adverse effects on the human body while emphasizing the critical role played by cyclin D1 within this challenging disease context. Extensively studied in colorectal cancer as well as esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC), gastric cancer, and pancreatic cancer contexts. Cyclin D1 emerges as a key player. Specifically, in cases of colorectal cancer, overexpression of cyclin D1 is frequently linked to aggressive tumor behavior brought on by APC gene mutations and abnormal Wnt signalling pathway activation. Esophageal cancer patients especially those with ESCC frequently exhibit elevated levels of Cyclin D1 indicating poor prognosis. A similar trend is observed in gastric cancer where increased expression of cyclin D1 is linked to disease severity.

Keywords: gastrointestinal cancers, esophageal cancer, gastric cancer, cyclin D1.

1. Introduction

A significant global health concern is the formidable group of gastrointestinal cancers that affect the digestive system. Esophageal, gastric, hepatic, pancreatic, and colorectal cancers are just a few examples of the numerous subtypes of gastrointestinal cancer that pose a serious threat to human health [1]. The distinctive characteristics frequently exhibited by these malignancies, such as abnormal cell proliferation, tumor formation, and invasive behavior, all contribute to their aggressive nature. They can have devastating consequences on the human body including issues like obstruction in the malnutrition, and organ failure. Cyclin D1, a pivotal protein regulating cell cycle progression, plays an important role in the intricate realm of cancer biology [2]. Beyond its involvement in cell division, cycl exerts influence on and serves as an essential marker for unravelling the cancer [1]. Therefore, comprehending the distinctive features and functions of cyclin D1 imperative approaches of this review is to provide a comprehensive overview of gastrointestinal cancer, elucidate its deleterious effects on the body, and underscore the significance of cyclin D1 within this challenging disease context.

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Cyclin D1, a crucial protein that controls the advancement of the cell cycle, has been extensively investigated in the context of gastrointestinal malignancies, including colorectal, esophageal, gastric, and pancreatic cancers. In colorectal cancer, there is a common occurrence of cyclin D1 overexpression which is closely associated with aggressive tumor behavior. Dysregulation of cyclin D1 often arises from mutations in the APC gene and aberrant Wnt signaling pathway activation, leading to its upregulation [3]. Cyclin D1 levels are often elevated in esophageal cancer, especially esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC), which is associated with a poor prognosis. Similarly, in gastric cancer cases, increased expression of cyclin D1 correlates with advanced disease stages and reduced survival rates. In pancreatic cancer development and progression processes, cyclin D1 is essential in promoting cell proliferation [4]. As a consequence, targeting the expression or activity of cyclin D1 is being considered as a potential therapeutic approach for various types of gastrointestinal cancers. Extensive research has been conducted to develop specific inhibitors D1 and evaluating their safety and efficacy through clinical studies. The significance of cyclin D1 as a potential therapeutic target for these cancers cannot be overstated. The overexpression of this gene has been observed in various gastrointestinal tumors, including pancreatic, colorectal, and esophageal cancers. Abnormal expression of cyclin D1 is frequently associated with a poor prognosis, metastasis, and tumor progression. By specifically targeting cyclin D1, researchers aim to disrupt its crucial role in promoting cell cycle progression and proliferation [4]. Cyclin D1 plays a pivotal role in regulating the transition from G1 phase to S phase during the cell cycle by forming complexes with cyclin-dependent kinases (CDKs), thereby this facilitates the phosphorylation of crucial proteins involved in processes such as DNA replication and cell division. Inhibiting cyclin D1 not only impedes tumor growth but also enhances the sensitivity of cancer cells to other treatment modalities such as chemotherapy or radiation therapy. Combining cyclin D1 inhibition with conventional treatments may augment their efficacy while minimizing adverse effects on normal tissues. Furthermore, recent advancements in molecular biology techniques have facilitated the identification of patients who are most likely to benefit from targeting cyclin D1 in a more precise manner. Biomarkers associated with elevated levels of cyclin D1 expression or genetic alterations affecting its regulation can aid in identifying patient subgroups that would respond favorably to this therapeutic approach.

2. Role of cyclin D1 in various cancers

A high intake of fats in the diet has been identified as am essemtial factor contributing to the development of gastrointestinal tumors. Extensive research has consistently shown a strong link between excessive consumption fats and an increased risk of various diseases and tumors affecting the digestive system. This connection can be attributed to several mechanisms, including chronic inflammation and changes in metabolism caused by a high fat diet. Additionally, gut microbiota in influencing gastrointestinal health. The term “microbiome” refers to the community of microorganisms residing in our intestines, which play vital roles in maintaining intestinal balance and overall well-being [1]. Disruptions or imbalances within this microbial ecosystem have been associated with cell damage, immune dysregulation, and alterations in the tumor microenvironment within the gastrointestinal tract. The interaction between a high fat diet and gut microbes seems to significantly contribute to both the initiation and progression of gastrointestinal tumors, suggesting that consuming excessive amounts of dietary fats not only disrupts the delicate equilibrium of intestinal microbes but also promotes their colonization by certain harmful strains. These changes in microbial composition may create an environment favorable for tumor formation through various mechanisms such as DNA damage or modulation of immune responses.

Despite the progress made in managing and treating patients with esophageal cancer, the survival rates remain disappointingly low, with only around 10% of individuals surviving beyond five years after being diagnosed [4]. Even after undergoing surgery to remove the esophagus (postesomy), survival rates range from 15- challenges faced in achieving successful outcomes. professionals are that esophageal cancer often goes undetected until it reaches advanced stages due to a lack of early clinical symptoms. This delayed diagnosis significantly limits treatment options and reduces opportunities for effective

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intervention. To tackle this issue, neoadjuvant concurrent chemoradiotherapy (CCRT) is commonly used as an operative treatment strategy to shrink tumors before surgery. However, CCRT can lead to increased levels and potential delays in surgical procedures for patients who do not respond well to this therapy. To overcome these hurdles and enhance patient outcomes, there is an urgent requirement for precise biomarkers capable of accurately predicting individuals who are likely to respond positively or negatively to CCRT. By identifying vulnerable genes and specific biomarkers associated with each patient's tumor characteristics, physicians will be better equipped to tailor appropriate therapies accordingly. Esophageal cancer is a devastating disease that poses significant challenges in terms of detection and treatment. The poor prognosis associated with this malignancy emphasizes the urgent need for improved methods to detect and predict its occurrence before initiating any form of treatment. This type of cancer one of the most fatal malignancies worldwide, particularly in Western countries where there has been a notable increase in its incidence over the past few.

Gastric cancer, also known as stomach cancer, is a significant global health issue that poses a considerable burden. It is the third most common cause of cancer-related deaths globally and ranks fifth among the most common types. This particular form of cancer is associated with risk factors that contribute to its emerges as one primary risk factor for gastric cancer, whereby individuals face an increased likelihood of developing this disease as they grow older. Moreover, excessive consumption of salt has been linked to an elevated risk of gastric cancer due to its potential in inducing chronic inflammation within the stomach lining, which promotes malignant cell growth. Another crucial risk factor for gastric cancer involves Helicobacter pylori bacteria. This bacterium infects lining and triggers chronic inflammation, thereby increasing the probability of developing gastric tumors over time [5]. Additionally, diets lacking in and vegetables have been associated with an augmented risk of gastric cancer since these foods contain antioxidants and other beneficial compounds that help protect against cellular damage while reducing tumor formation risks. In terms of accurate diagnosis for gastric cancer, histological investigation through endoscopic biopsy is typically employed wherein small tissue obtained from suspicious areas within the stomach using an endoscope for further microscopic examination [5]. Various imaging techniques play a pivotal precisely staging gastric cancer: CT scans provide detailed images to determine if there has been any spread beyond the nearby lymph nodes; endoscopic ultrasound enables doctors to assess how deeply tumors have layers within the wall.

Once a relatively rare condition, colorectal cancer is now the fourth most common cause of cancer-related death globally, claiming nearly 900,000 lives annually [6]. This concerning trend can be attributed to various factors including an aging population, dietary patterns prevalent in high-income countries, and detrimental risk factors such as obesity, physical inactivity, and smoking. These factors contribute to an increased susceptibility to colorectal cancer [7]. However, there are significant advancements that have been made in comprehending the underlying pathophysiology of colorectal cancer. Scientists now know more about the molecular mechanisms underlying its onset and progression. This knowledge has paved the way for a range of treatment options that allow for personalized treatment plans tailored to individual patients. Localized approaches such as endoscopic and surgical excisions are commonly employed for early-stage colorectal cancer. These procedures aim to the tumor while preserving healthy surrounding tissue. Additionally, preoperative radiotherapy may be utilized to shrink tumors before surgery or improve outcomes after surgery. For cases involving locoregional and metastatic disease where the cancer has spread beyond the colon or rectum region into nearby lymph nodes or distant organs respectively interventions may be necessary. Surgeons may procedures like liver resection or lung metastasectomy with curative intent if feasible. In recent years, there have also been advancements in local ablative therapies for metastases which involve destroying tumors using techniques such as radiofrequency ablation or cryoablation without surgically removing them. These treatments offer potential benefits especially when surgery is not possible due to a's overall health condition.

Cyclin D1 is essential for controlling the cell cycle that acting as a critical checkpoint for cell division. One notable point emphasized is that cyclin D1 is frequently over-expressed in various types of cancer, including colorectal, esophageal, gastric, and pancreatic cancers. This overexpression often arises from

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genetic mutations and aberrant signaling pathways involving genes like APC and Wnt signalling, thereby contributing to uncontrolled cellular proliferation [8]. It effectively highlights the specific cancers in which cyclin D1 over-expression is most prevalent. For instance, in colorectal cancer, aggressive tumor behavior is associated with cyclin D1 over-expression. Similarly, high levels of cyclin D1 are linked to a poorer prognosis in esophageal cancer, particularly the squamous cell carcinoma subtype. Additionally, elevated expression of cycl with advanced disease stages and reduced survival rates in gastric cancer. Furthermore, because cyclin D1 stimulates cell proliferation and may be a target for therapy, its significance in pancreatic cancer is highlighted. The development and clinical trial inclusion of cyclin D1 inhibitors present a promising avenue for cancer treatment, demonstrating potential in the field [8].

D cyclins are a class of regulatory proteins that are present in mammalian cells. They function as allosteric regulators for cyclin-dependent kinase 4 (CDK4), and CDK6 proteins are necessary to control the cell cycle's transition from the G1 phase to the S phase, which is a critical checkpoint. Their function plays a fundamental role in coordinating precise control over cell cycle progression [9], as shown in Figure 1. One important point emphasized in the passage is how growth factors regulate D cyclins. The expression, accumulation, degradation, assembly, and activation of CDK4 and CDK6 are tightly controlled by signals from growth factors. This dynamic interaction highlights how external signals and stimuli serve as integral triggers for advancing through the cell cycle [9]. Additionally, cyclin D1 stands out as particularly significant when considering cancer development. It is noteworthy that cyclin D1 is more frequently disrupted in human cancers compared to its counterpart's cyclin D2 and D3. This observation suggests its central involvement in initiating and progressing cancerous growths, indicating that different cyclins may have distinct functions or regulation patterns during carcinogenesis [10]. The passage further explains the consequences of excessive cyclin D1 expression by emphasizing that it disrupts CDK activity, causing cells to proliferate rapidly even under mitogenic signalling conditions. This excessive stimulation leads to bypassing crucial cellular checkpoints and ultimately contributes to neoplastic growth development–highlighting the significant impact of Cycl D1 dysregulation on cancer [10].

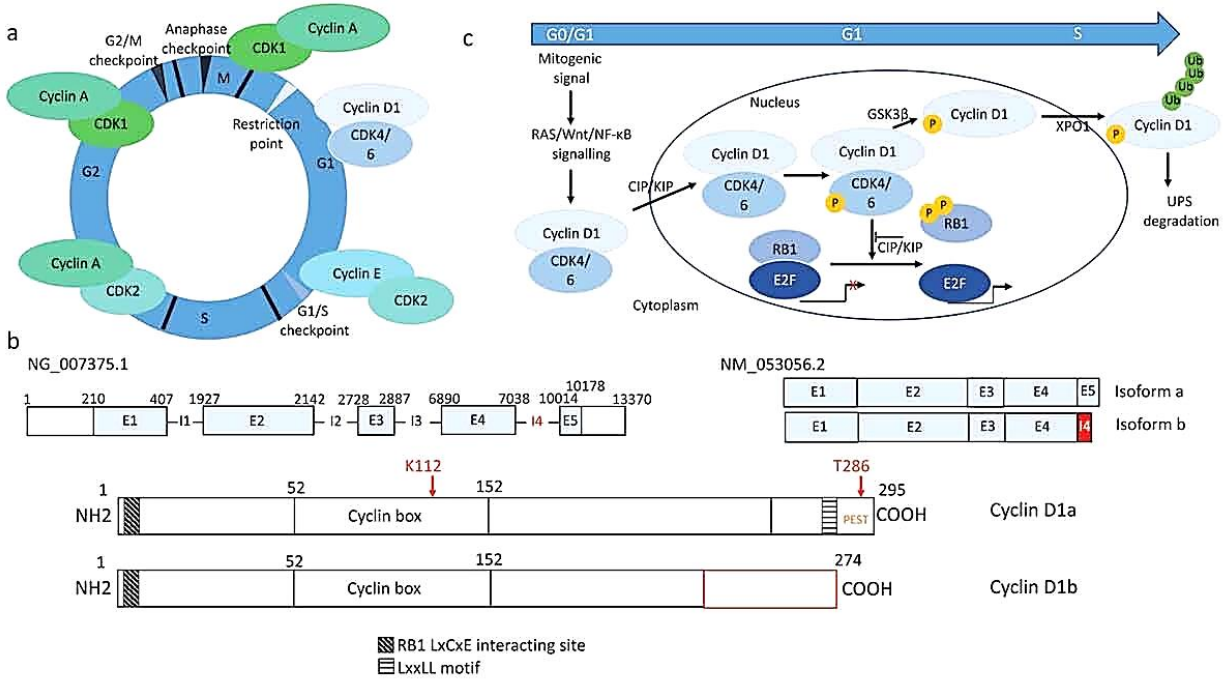

Figure 1. Structure and function of cyclins and cyclin D1 [9].

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3. Conclusion

In conclusion, the global impact of gastrointestinal cancers is undeniable due to their aggressive nature, causing significant harm to individuals worldwide. These types of cancers are characterized by uncontrolled cell growth, invasiveness, and tumor formation, leading to severe consequences such as malnutrition, organ dysfunction, and blockage. Within the complex landscape of gastrointestinal cancers, cyclin D1 protein emerges as a central player that crucially regulates the progression of cell cycles and serves as a valuable marker for understanding these diseases. This research offers a comprehensive exploration of gastrointestinal cancers, shedding light on their devastating effects on the human body while emphasizing the pivotal role played by cyclin D1 in this challenging disease context. Cyclin D1 has been extensively studied in relation to gastrointestinal cancers such as colorectal cancer (CRC), esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC), gastric cancer (GC), and others and pancreatic cancer. In CRC specifically, overexpression of cyclin D1 is frequently associated with aggressive tumor behavior resulting from mutations in the APC gene and abnormal activation of the Wnt signalling pathway. Elevated levels of cyclin D1 in ESCC indicate poor prognosis while similar correlations are observed in GC where increased expression is linked to disease severity. Understanding the multifaceted involvement of cyclin D1 in the development of gastrointestinal cancers holds great promise for improving diagnostic and therapeutic strategies. This knowledge not only enhances our understanding of underlying mechanisms driving these cancers but also opens up possibilities for developing targeted therapies and more effective interventions against these formidable diseases.

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