

Clinical and molecular features of cardial gastric cancer associated to Epstein Barr virus

Características clínico-moleculares del cáncer gástrico cardial asociado al virus Epstein Barr

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Background: Mortality caused by cardial gastric cancer in Chile, is increasing. Previously we demonstrated an association between Epstein Barr virus and this specific location of gastric cancer.

Aim: To perform a clinical and molecular characterization of cardial gastric cancer associated to Epstein Barr virus. **Material and methods:** Epstein Barr virus was identified in 93 cardial gastric tumors, by in situ hybridization. Clinical and pathological features, survival and expression of p53 and c-erbB2 were compared between tumors with or without the presence of the virus. **Results:** Twenty two (23.6%) tumors expressed Epstein Barr virus. No difference in sex or age of patients with tumors positive or negative for the virus was observed. Epstein Barr positive tumors had a tendency to have a higher frequency of Bormann III endoscopic appearance and a lower frequency of p53 accumulation ($p=0.06$). Five years survival was 67% and 42% of tumors positive and negative for the presence of the virus,