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The Contribution of X-ray Repair Cross-complementing 6 (XRCC6) Genotypes to Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma in Taiwanese

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Backgrounds: The DNA non-homologous end-joining repair gene XRCC6/Ku70 involved in the carcinogenesis of oral, prostate, breast and bladder cancers. But the contribution of XRCC6 to nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) is not studied. Materials and Methods: In this study, we investigate the contribution of variant XRCC6 to the risk of NPC from the levels of DNA, RNA and protein by enrolling 176 NPC patients and 352 cancer-free controls. From the DNA angle, all the subjects were genotyped and the associations of XRCC6 promoter rs5751129, rs2267437, rs132770, and intron 3 rs132774 polymorphisms with NPC risk were evaluated. From the RNA angle, tissue samples were tested to estimate the XRCC6 mRNA expression by real time-PCR. From the protein angle, the tissues were examined by Western blotting. Results: As for XRCC6 promoter T-991C, the TC and CC genotypes had a significantly increased risk of NPC compared with the TT genotype. The mRNA and protein expression levels with NPC tissues revealed that a statistically significantly lower XRCC6 mRNA and protein expressions in the TC/CC samples compared to those with TT genotype. Conclusion: Our multi-approach findings at DNA, RNA and protein levels suggested that XRCC6 played an important role in the NPC carcinogenesis and could serve as a target for personalized medicine and therapy.

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