



ARID1A is involved in DNA double-strand break repair in gastric cancer

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Background: Defects in DNA damage repair can cause genetic mutations, which in turn can cause different types of cancers. Chromatin remodeling complexes, which help repair damaged DNA, can cause the chromatin structure to change as a result of DNA damage. ARID1A may play a role in the process of DNA damage repair, and *arid1a* may be related to the occurrence and development of gastric cancer (GC). This study aimed to investigate the mechanism of ARID1A regulating the DNA damage repair of gastric adenocarcinoma cell lines AGS and SGC-7901 and its effect on migration, proliferation and apoptosis.

Methods: The expression of ARID1A plasmid was detected by Western blot and real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR). The effect of etoposide (ETO) on the survival rate of AGS and SGC-7901 gastric adenocarcinoma cell lines was detected by MTT assay. The DNA double-strand break model was established by ETO and then passed through the comet assay and immunofluorescence co-localization to observe DNA damage; western blot method was used to detect the effect of ARID1A on the expression of related proteins in DNA damage repair pathway in gastric adenocarcinoma cells; scratch test and colony formation experiments were used to observe ARID1A migration and proliferation of gastric adenocarcinoma cells. The flow cytometry was used to detect the effect of ARID1A on apoptosis of gastric adenocarcinoma cells.

Results: The expression of mRNA and protein was increased after transfection of ARID1A plasmid. ETO was confirmed by MTT assay to inhibit cell survival in a dose-dependent manner. After the DNA double-strand break model was established by ETO, the expression levels of phospho-ataxia telangiectasia mutated (p-ATM) protein increased in the overexpressed ARID1A group. Meanwhile, the overexpressed ARID1A group had a shortened tail moment, and γ -H2AX and ARID1A co-localized in the DNA damage site of the nucleus. The over-expressed ARID1A group had weaker wound healing ability, reduced number of clone formation, and increased apoptosis rate.

Conclusions: ARID1A may repair DNA double-strand breaks caused by ETO by p-ATM pathway; ARID1A can inhibit the migration and proliferation of gastric adenocarcinoma cells and promote apoptosis. Our findings indicate that *ARID1A* could serve as a therapeutic target and biomarker for GC patients.

Keywords: ARID1A; double-strand break repair (DSBR); gastric cancer (GC)

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Introduction

In eukaryotic cells, defects in DNA damage repair can result in genetic mutations, which in turn can result in the advancement of diverse kinds of cancers. Thus, DNA damage repair mechanisms need to be explored to ensure gene stability and reveal disease progression.

Adenosine triphosphate (ATP)-dependent chromatin remodeling complexes (1), chromatin remodeling and deacetylase complexes, and histone covalently modified complexes regulate gene expression and chromatin structure (2). Research has shown that the switch/sucrose nonfermentable chromatin-remodeling complex (SWI/SNF) complex is mutated in 19.6% of human cancers (3). The SWI/SNF complex is a multi-subunit chromatin remodeling complex that regulates gene expression by relocating nucleosomes using ATP hydrolysis (4). *ARID1A* is a core subunit of SWI/SNF chromatin remodeling complex, which has a high mutation rate in various types of cancer and is considered as a tumor suppressor gene (5).

ARID1A is a gene that encodes the ARID1A protein and is found on human chromosome 1p36.11 (6). The N-terminus of *ARID1A* includes an AR domain, with approximately 100 amino acids, and can bind non-specifically to AT-rich DNA sequences (7). The C-terminal LXXLL motif of *ARID1A* contains several binding sites that interact with glucocorticoid receptors (8). Research has shown that gastric cancer (GC) patients with low ARID1A expression have a short survival time (9).

In a recent study, it is suggested that ARID1A plays

important roles to promote DNA double-strand breaks repair pathways, but its detailed mechanism of action remains to be explored (10). This study attempts to explore whether ARID1A is involved in the process of DNA damage repair and whether ARID1A is associated with the occurrence and development of GC. More specifically, this study explores the mechanism of ARID1A regulation on proliferation, migration, apoptosis, and DNA damage repair in gastric adenocarcinoma cell lines. We present this article in accordance with the MDAR reporting checklist (available at <https://jgo.amegroups.com/article/view/10.21037/jgo-24-283/rc>).

Methods

Cell culture

Human GC cell lines were acquired from the Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology. SGC-7901 and AGS cells were incubated at 37 °C with 5% CO₂ in RPMI-1640 medium (Gibco; Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc. Waltham, MA, USA) containing 10% fetal bovine serum (Hyclone, Logan, UT, USA), penicillin (100 U/mL), and streptomycin (100 U/mL). Cells in the logarithmic growth phase were digested with trypsin (Sangon Biotech Co., Shanghai, China) and resuspended in RPMI-1640 medium at a density of $[3-5] \times 10^4$ cells/mL.

Transfection of siRNA and plasmids

After the culture reached 70–90% confluence, the inoculated cells were subjected to plasmid transfection using the PolyJet DNA transfection reagent (SignaGen Laboratories, Gaithersburg, MD, USA). After the culture reached 30–50% confluence, short-interfering RNA (siRNA) transfection was performed using the GenMute siRNA transfection reagent (SignaGen Laboratories). pcDNA6-*ARID1A* was provided by Addgene (Cambridge, MA, USA). The sequence of the *ARID1A* siRNA was CAGCUUGCCUGAUCUAUCUTT, and was provided by from RiboBio Company (Guangzhou, China).

Western blotting

Protein samples were collected after etoposide (ETO) treatment. The proteins were subjected to traditional sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS)-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis after being treated with the Laemmli

Highlight box

Key findings

- Our findings indicate that ARID1A could serve as a therapeutic target and biomarker for gastric cancer (GC) patients.

What is known and what is new?

- ARID1A expression in GC tissues is negatively correlated with the invasion depth of tumors, pathological differentiation, and lymph node metastasis, which suggests that ARID1A plays a role in GC development.
- Our study found that ARID1A could participate in DNA damage repair. Further, ARID1A was also found to be involved in and suppress GC proliferation and invasion, and to promote GC apoptosis.

What is the implication, and what should change now?

- Further studies on *ARID1A* must discuss whether *ARID1A* is a valuable biomarker for the prognosis and targeted therapy of GC.

2× Concentrate (S3401; Sigma, Victoria, BC, Canada) buffer cleavage and heated in a 100-degree metal bath for five minutes. The proteins were then transported to the nitrocellulose (NC) membrane (GE Healthcare, Piscataway, NJ, USA) with 5% skim milk. The cells were blocked for 1 hour at ambient temperature and then incubated using the corresponding primary antibodies at 4 °C overnight. The cells were rinsed three times with tris-buffered saline with Tween-20, 10× (TBST), and then incubated with the secondary antibody for the same period, after which they were washed again with TBST. The protein band was detected using an Amersham Imager 600 System (AI600, General Electric Company, Boston, USA) chemiluminescence imager.

Extraction of RNA and quantitative real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR)

The total RNA was extracted using TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA). The complementary DNA (cDNA) was synthesized using the Prime-Script RT Reagent Kit (Perfect Real Time, TaKaRa, Kyoto, Japan). Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) was used as an internal control gene and the fold induction was calculated using the 2^{-DDCT} formula. The quantitative real-time PCR analysis was performed with a SYBR Premix Ex Taq (TaKaRa, Japan. Inc. Catalog Number DRR041A) (PCR protocol: stage 1: early denaturing, repeat: 1; 95 °C 30 s. Stage 2: PCR reaction, repeat: 40; 95 °C 5 s; 60 °C 30 s. Stage 3: melt curve: 95 °C 15 s; 60 °C 60 s; 95 °C 15 s). The following primers were used: *ARID1A* (F) 5'-CTTCAACCTCAGTCAGCTCCCA-3', *ARID1A* (R) 5'-GGTCACCCACCTCATACTCCTTT-3', GAPDH (F) 5'-GGTGGTCTCCTCTGACTTCAACA-3', and GAPDH (R) 5'-GTTGCTGTAGCCAAATTCGTTGT-3'. GAPDH served as an endogenous control. Each sample was repeated in triplicate.

Methyl thiazolyl tetrazolium (MTT) assays

The cells were seeded in 96-well culture plates at a density of 5×10⁴ cells/mL (180 μL per well). After the cells of the experimental group were completely grown, they were treated with ETO interferes with the ability of topoisomerase II to reconnect nicks in DNA strands, causing DNA double strand breaks). Different concentrations of ETO (6.125, 12.5, 25, 50, 100, and 200 μM) AGS and SGC-7901 cells were treated for 24 h, and the effect of ETO on cell survival was observed. During the treatment, MTT (5 mg/mL, 20 μL)

was added to the cells, and the culture continued for four hours, after which the culture solution was aspirated. Next, 150 μL of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) was added to each well, and absorbance was evaluated at 490 nm after shaking for 10 minutes. The cell inhibition rate was calculated as follows:

$$\text{Inhibition rate} = \frac{1 - \text{experimental group OD value}}{\text{control group OD value}} \times 100\% \quad [1]$$

Comet assays

Before being applied to the OxiSelect 96-Well Comet Slide (Cell Biolabs, Inc., San Diego, USA; Catalog Number STA-355), individual cells were combined with molten agarose. The DNA in these implanted cells was then denatured and relaxed using an alkaline solution and lysis buffer. Finally, the samples were separated into intact and damaged DNA fragments by electrophoresis in a horizontal chamber. The samples were dried and then stained using DNA dye and observed by epifluorescence microscopy after electrophoresis. Under these conditions, damaged DNA (including strand breaks and cleavage) moved further than undamaged DNA, forming a “comet tail” structure.

Immunofluorescence assays

The cells were seeded into aseptic slides. 100 μM of ETO was added to the AGS cells for 24 hours. The cells were subjected to fixation with paraformaldehyde (4%) and then permeabilized using Triton X-100 (0.25%) (×100, Sigma-Aldrich, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany) for 5 minutes. The cells were then blocked with 2% bovine serum albumin. After which, the cells were incubated with the targeting antibodies ARID1A (#12354s; Cell Signaling Technology, Boston, USA) and γH2AX (#2577s; Cell Signaling Technology). Next, the cells were incubated with AlexaFluor[®] 594 (red) (#8889s, Cell Signaling Technology) or AlexaFluor[®] 488 (#4412s; Cell Signaling Technology) as the secondary antibody. 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) (#4083s; Cell Signaling Technology) was used to stain cellular nuclei. Finally, fluorescence was visualized with a fluorescence microscopy (Leica TCS SP8; Leica Microsystems, Mannheim, Germany).

Wound-healing assays

ARID1A and pcDNA3.1 were transfected at 80% density into cells seeded into six-well plates. After 24 hours,

sterilized yellow nuclease-free primer (200 μ L) was used to draw a line on the cell layer surface. Floating cells were washed out. The cells were treated with drugs after being starved with serum-free Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium. The cells were imaged at 0, 24, and 48 hours of drug treatment, and their migration was observed under an inverted microscope. The pictures were processed with Image J software to analyze the ability of cell migration.

Colony formation assays

The cells (AGS and SGC-7901) were fixed with 10% formalin and subjected to crystal violet staining for 30 minutes after 48 hours of transfection with *ARID1A* cDNA, or pcDNA3.1. Next, the staining solution was carefully discarded, and each well was thoroughly rinsed with water. The plate was then dried by turning it over on absorbent paper. Finally, cell colony formation was observed. The results are expressed as the average cell numbers in each field of view.

Flow cytometry

To assess apoptosis in the AGS and SGC-7901 cells, an annexin V-FITC apoptosis assay kit (KeyGEN Biotech, Jiangsu, China) was used after the transfection of the *ARID1A* cDNA plasmid. The flow cytometry analysis was performed using a BD FACSVerser flow cytometer (Becton Dickinson, Franklin Lakes, NJ, USA).

Statistical analyses

Statistical analysis was performed using Student's t-test for comparison of two groups or one-way analysis of variance for comparison of more than two groups. The statistical analyses were carried out using the SPSS 13.0 Statistical Computer Program (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA), and the results were expressed as the mean \pm standard deviation based on three independent assessments. A difference was considered significant when the P value from a two-tailed test was <0.05 .

Results

The effects of overexpression and knockdown of *ARID1A*

PcDNA3.1 was used as the vector, and the plasmid was extracted after transformation and shaking, and transfected

into AGS and SGC-7901 cells, respectively. The level of expression of *ARID1A* in the cells (AGS and SGC-7901) was detected by Western blot. The cells transfected with the *ARID1A* cDNA plasmid had significantly higher levels of *ARID1A* protein than those transfected with pcDNA3.1. The pcDNA 3.1 and control blank groups did not exhibit significant differences (Figure 1A). Following the knockdown of *ARID1A*, the opposite result was found (Figure 1B).

Quantitative real-time PCR was conducted to assess the level of *ARID1A* messenger RNA (mRNA) expression. The results showed that the level of *ARID1A* mRNA was significantly higher in the *ARID1A* group than the pcDNA3.1 group and control blank group ($P<0.001$). However, no differences in the *ARID1A* mRNA levels were observed between the pcDNA3.1 group and the control group (Figure 1C).

ETO induced DSB in GC cells

To explore whether ETO induced apoptosis, we examined the effects of ETO in human gastric adenocarcinoma cells. AGS and SGC-7901 cells were treated with ETO at different concentrations for 24 hours to observe the effect of ETO on cell survival rate. The MTT experiments revealed that ETO had a dose-dependent effect (i.e., the higher ETO concentration, the greater the inhibition of GC cell growth). The observed half-maximal inhibitory concentration value was 14.81 μ M in the AGS cells and 23.81 μ M in the SGC-7901 cells (Figure 2A).

We transfected *ARID1A* cDNA into AGS and SGC-7901 cells. The AGS and SGC-7901 cells were treated for 24 hours with 100 μ M of ETO. The change level of each protein mass in each group was detected by Western blot. Wang *et al.* found that DNA double-strand breaks repair is orchestrated by the p-ATM (11). We also examined the ATM levels of each group due to the differences in *ARID1A* expression and studied *ARID1A*'s mode of action in DSB. The results revealed no change in the total ATM levels and a significant increase in p-ATM following *ARID1A* transfection, which suggests that *ARID1A* may be involved in DSB (Figure 2B). The gene expression data of the sample GSE29272 data set showed a lower level of *ARID1A* in GC tissues (6.149 \pm 0.488) than normal stomach tissue (6.359 \pm 0). The difference was statistically significant at 485 ($P<0.001$) (Figure 2C). The results were consistent with our previous findings, which suggested an association between *ARID1A* and GC (11).

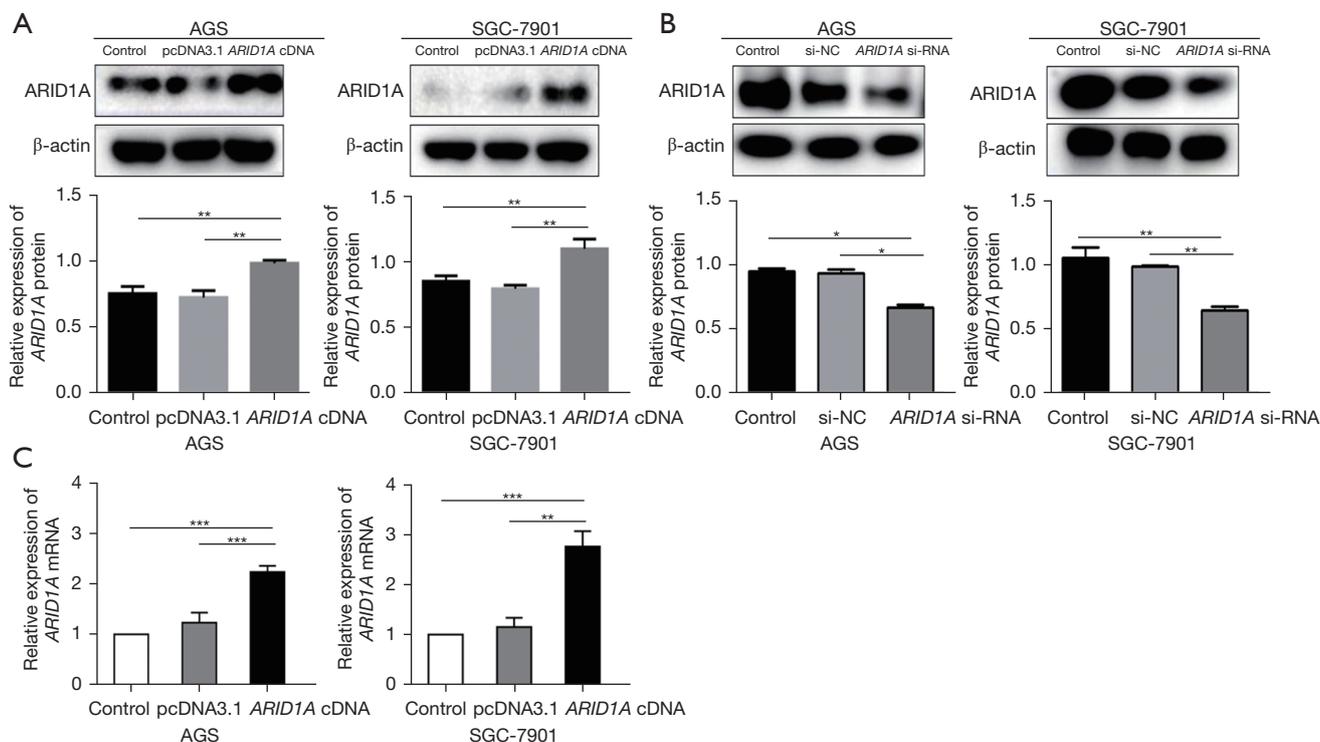


Figure 1 The effects of overexpression and knockdown of *ARID1A*. (A) Transfection of cells (SGC-7901 and AGS) with control and *ARID1A* cDNA before Western blotting. Densitometry scanning was used to measure the fold change in the ARID1A levels, which were then normalized to the total actin levels. (B) Transfection of cells (AGS and SGC-7901) with control and *ARID1A* siRNA before Western blotting. Densitometry scanning was used to measure the fold change in the ARID1A levels, which were then normalized to the total actin levels. (C) The *ARID1A* plasmid and the control pcDNA3.1 blank plasmid were transfected into AGS and SGC-7901 cells, respectively. Primers for the *ARID1A* gene were used in an assay of quantitative RT-PCR. The bars in each figure are the mean \pm standard deviation of their respective triplicate. $n=3$; ***, $P<0.001$; **, $P<0.01$; *, $P<0.05$ for the differences of control cells. RT-PCR, real-time polymerase chain reaction.

ARID1A involvement in DSB

We used ETO to establish a DSB model to evaluate DNA damage in both cells (SGC-7901 and AGS) and to examine whether ARID1A has a direct effect on DNA DSB. Under an electrophoretic field, damaged cellular DNA (containing fragments and strand breaks) is separated from intact DNA, yielding a classic “comet tail” shape under the microscope. After the 100 mM ETO treatment, there was a significant increase in DNA damage, and the cells showed a greater tail DNA percentage. The results indicated that ETO induced DNA damage in the treated cells, while DNA damage was considerably reduced following the overexpression of ARID1A, and vice versa (Figure 3A).

This study simultaneously detected DNA DSB using neutral comet electrophoresis and immunocytochemistry. Besides its involvement in chromatin remodeling, γ -H2AX

has also been associated with several cellular functions, such as DNA repair (12). In response to a DSB, γ H2AX occur to initiate repair, rapidly and meticulously. This promotes the recruitment of downstream DSB repair molecules, in addition to ensuring genomic stability (13). The location of labeled ARID1A and γ -H2AX was detected using the immunofluorescence technique to determine whether ARID1A was recruited to the DNA break site in the early stage of the DSB. Under the influence of ETO, the expression of γ -H2AX and ARID1A increased significantly, ARID1A and γ -H2AX co-localized, which suggests that ARID1A plays a potential role in DSB (Figure 3B).

ARID1A as a suppressor gene of tumor cells

The overexpression of ARID1A slowed the rate of wound

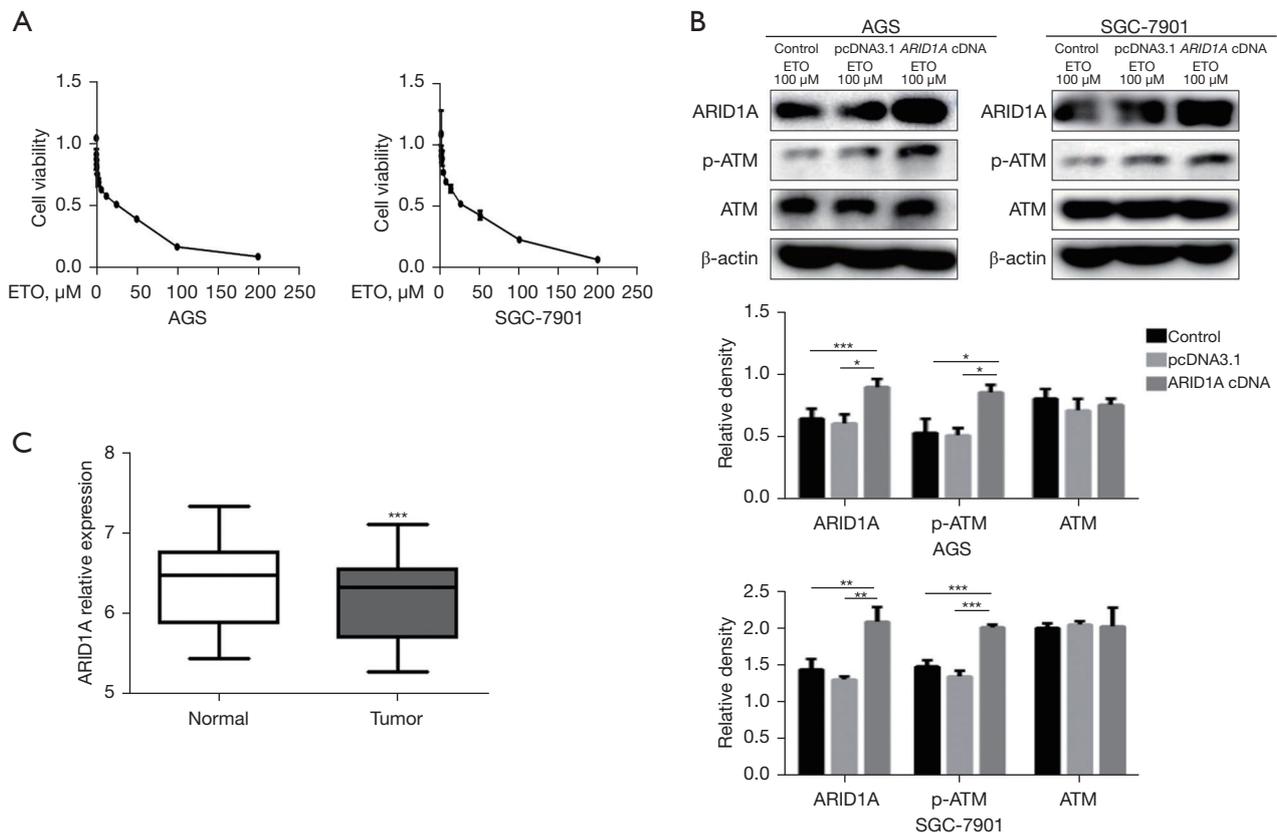


Figure 2 ETO induced DSBR in GC cells. (A) MTT assays were used to evaluate the effect of ETO on the viability of AGS and SGC-7901 cells. Determination of cell viability under different concentrations of ETO (6.125, 12.5, 25, 50, 100, and 200 μM) in AGS and SGC-7901 cells for 24 hours. (B) Western blotting was used to detect the ATM and p-ATM protein levels in the ARID1A overexpression group, the control blank vector group, and the AGS and SGC-7901 cells groups. The AGS and SGC-7901 cells were treated for 24 hours with 100 μM of ETO. Densitometry scanning was used to measure the fold change in the ARID1A levels, which were then normalized to the total actin levels. The bars represent the mean ± standard deviation (***, $P < 0.001$; **, $P < 0.01$; *, $P < 0.05$ for the difference from the control cells, $n = 3$). (C) Comparison of the ARID1A levels in normal gastric and GC tissues (comparison of ARID1A expression levels in different tissues using the *t*-test. $n = 268$; ***, $P < 0.001$). MTT, methyl thiazolyl tetrazolium; ETO, etoposide; GC, gastric cancer; DSBR, double-strand break repair; ATM, ataxia telangiectasia mutated.

healing, while the knock down of ARID1A accelerated the rate of wound healing (Figure 4A). This indicates that the migration of GC cells is negatively correlated with ARID1A. The overexpression of ARID1A resulted in higher epithelial marker levels and lower mesenchymal marker levels, while the knock down of ARID1A had the exact opposite effects (Figure 4B).

Colony formation tests were used to detect the effects of ARID1A transfection on the SGC-7901 and AGS cells over a long period. The results showed that the cloning ability of the cells was reduced after the overexpression of ARID1A (Figure 4C).

Flow cytometry was performed to examine the cell apoptosis of the AGS and SGC-7901 cells, and its relationship with ARID1A. Compared to the control group, the transfection of ARID1A induced the apoptosis in both groups of treated cells (Figure 4D), which suggests that ARID1A may also exert anti-cancer effects by promoting the apoptosis of cells associated with cancer.

Discussion

GC is a commonly occurring cancer (14). However, due to differences among patients, the epigenetic inheritance of

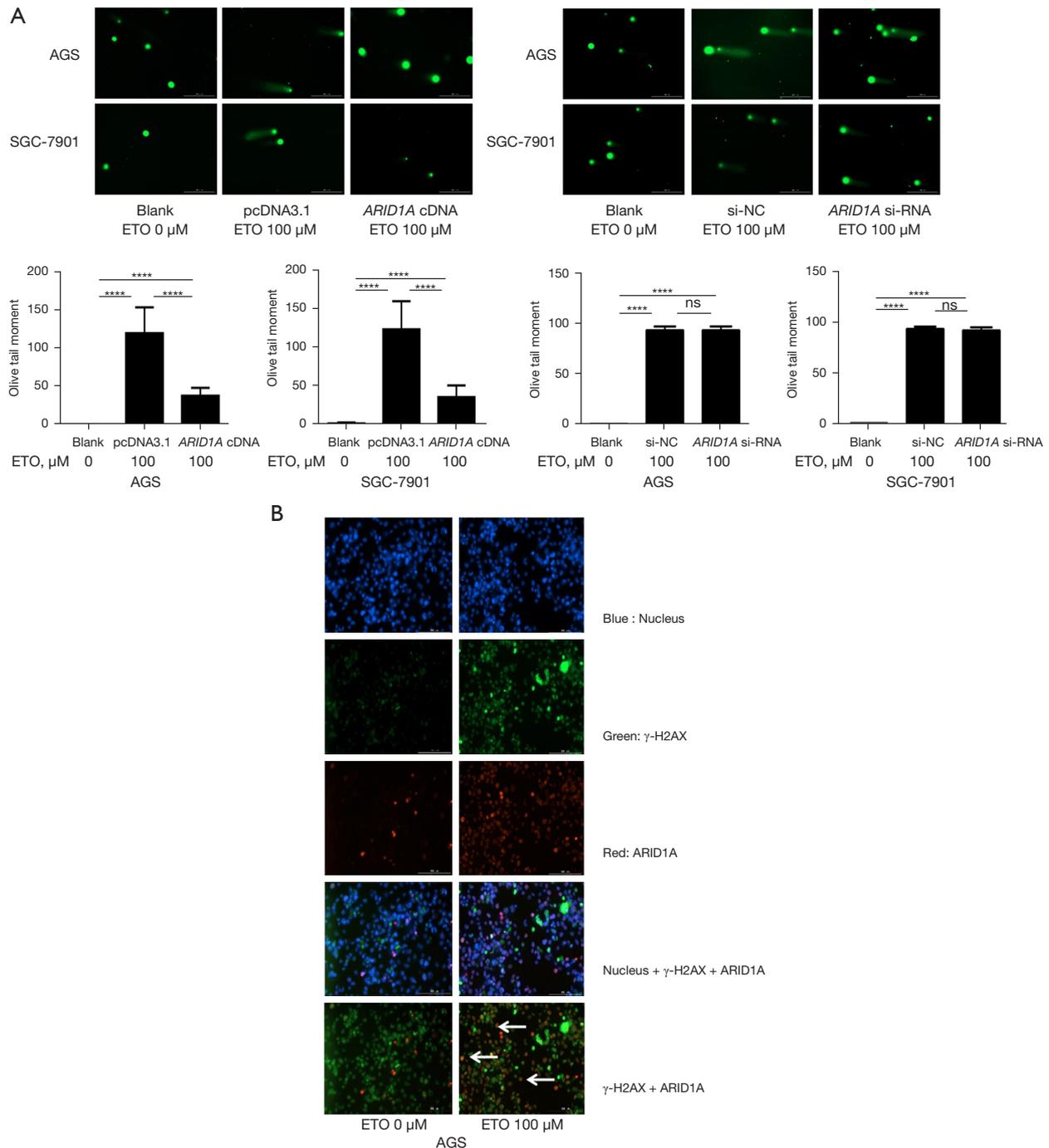


Figure 3 A DSB model was established to determine the involvement of ARID1A in DSBR. (A) Transfection of cells (AGS and SGC-7901) with an *ARID1A* cDNA plasmid or *ARID1A* siRNA. After 48 hours, the cells were processed with ETO (100 μ M) for four hours prior to the performance of the Comet assays (under alkaline electrophoresis conditions, 33 V/300 mA for 15 minutes. Scale bar, 200 μ m. Cells were analyzed under a fluorescence microscope. ****, $P < 0.0001$). (B) Double immunofluorescence analysis of ARID1A and γ -H2AX. Cellular nuclei were stained with DAPI. DAPI immunofluorescence represented as blue; γ -H2AX immunofluorescence represented as green; ARID1A immunofluorescence represented as red. Merged images show the co-localization of ARID1A and γ -H2AX (white arrows). The AGS cells were treated for 24 hours with 100 μ M of ETO. (Scale bar, 100 μ m. The cells were analyzed under a fluorescence microscope). ns, no significance; DSB, double-strand break; DSBR, double-strand break repair; ETO, etoposide; DAPI, 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole.

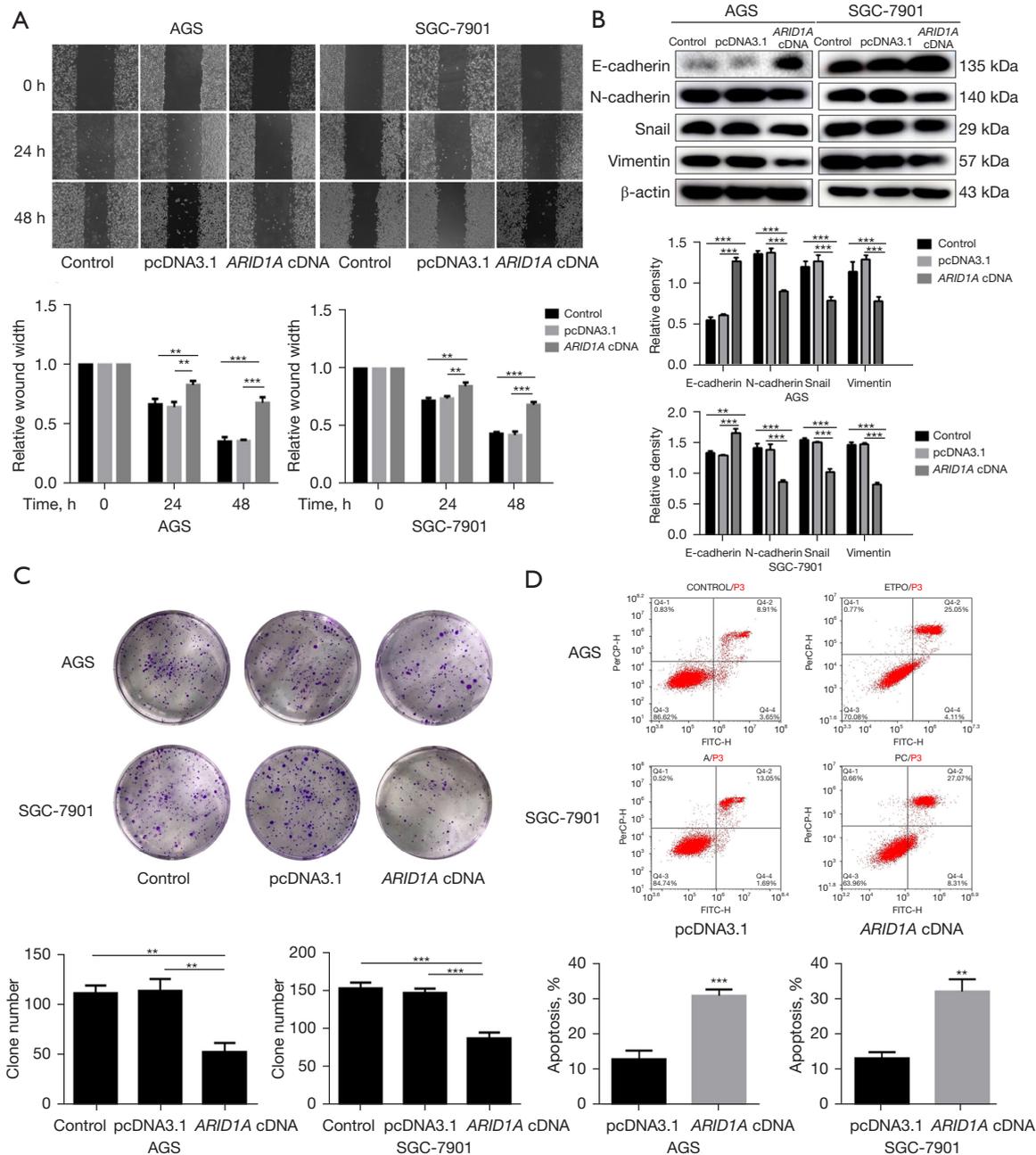


Figure 4 Effects of ARID1A on the AGS and SGC-7901 cells as a tumor suppressor gene. (A) The migration of cells (AGS and SGC-7901) after transfection with *ARID1A* cDNA or *ARID1A* siRNA was evaluated by wound-healing assays, and the quantification was performed using the image-Pro Plus computer program, and the results are presented as the mean \pm standard deviation. (B) Western blot was employed to detect the N-cadherin, E-cadherin, Snail, β -actin protein, and Vimentin levels in the ARID1A knockdown group or ARID1A overexpression group, the control blank vector group, and the AGS and SGC-7901 cell groups. Densitometry scanning was used to measure the fold change in the ARID1A levels, which were then normalized to the total actin levels. (C) Clone formation assays of AGS and SGC-7901 cell proliferation. On the right, the statistical analysis results of the clone counts are shown. Student's *t*-tests were employed to measure statistical discrepancies, and a P value <0.05 was considered statistically significant. The cells (AGS and SGC-7901) were stained to crystal violet. (D) The apoptosis levels of the cells (SGC-7901 and AGS) transfected with *ARID1A* cDNA plasmid were determined by flow cytometry. The mean \pm standard deviation is indicated by the bars; ***, $P < 0.001$, **, $P < 0.01$ for the difference from the control cells, $n = 3$.

genes is extremely complex, and there are no unambiguous predictors of treatment efficacy or prognostic indicators. As some DNA repair-related molecules in cancer cells undergo structural or functional changes, an approach that enabled the targeted delivery of therapeutic drugs based on these molecules would be valuable in tumor therapy. ETO is a cell cycle-specific antitumor drug that causes DSBs by forming a complex of topoisomerase II-DNA (15). Topoisomerase II catalyzes the topological transition of DNA duplex, thereby affecting transcription DNA replication, chromosome condensation, and separation of sister chromatids during mitosis produce transient double strand breaks in the DNA double helix. ETO interferes with the ability of topoisomerase II to reconnect nicks in DNA strands, causing DNA double strand breaks. The accumulation of DNA fragmentation increases and induces tumor cell apoptosis (16). Wiegand *et al.* (17) reported a 14% deletion rate of ARID1A in GC. The abnormal expression and mutation of the ARID1A gene has been reported in endometrioid and uterine clear cell carcinoma (18), cervical cancer (19), bladder cancer (20), lung cancer (21), and kidney cancer (22). A loss of ARID1A expression has also been shown to be related to a poor prognosis in GC patients ($P=0.003$) (9). A study detected the expression of mismatch repair protein and ARID1A protein in 489 cases of primary gastric adenocarcinoma by immunohistochemistry. The results showed that the inactivation of *aird1a* protein was associated with lymphatic invasion, lymph node metastasis, poor prognosis and lack of repair protein in gastric adenocarcinoma (23). From the analysis of these tissue samples, we can see that ARID1A has a close relationship with DNA damage repair, but the mechanism by which ARID1A regulates the repair process needs further study.

In the known kinase stress network, ATM kinase is thought to be the initiator of cellular responses after DNA damage. ATM is the main initiator of the signaling cascade in response to double strand breaks, and after DNA damage, ATM undergoes autophosphorylation, leading to the separation of inactive complexes and the formation of highly active monomers. Subsequently, DNA repair can be carried out through the activation of signaling pathways and the phosphorylation of many substrates, during which the activation of cell cycle checkpoints and the initiation of DNA repair are promoted (24). In our study, ARID1A was overexpressed in two cell lines and the phosphorylation level of protein ATM was found to be increased, suggesting that the DNA damage repair involved by ARID1A may be mediated by ATM, but how ARID1A affects the

phosphorylation of ATM is not known. Our study showed that *ARID1A* was involved in DNA damage repair. The DNA damage response system, which involves γ -H2AX, is crucial in preserving genomic integrity by signaling and facilitating the repair of DNA double-strand breaks (25,26). When the DNA of a cell undergoes DSB, the signaling and detection of the damaged site stimulate the formation of γ -H2AX, which exerts a vital effect in response to DNA damage and also involves DNA repair (27). The results of this study showed that with the effect of ETO, the expression of γ -H2AX and ARID1A was significantly increased. The co-localization of ARID1A and γ -H2AX further confirmed that ARID1A may participate in DNA damage repair.

Our study found that ARID1A may participate in DNA damage repair. As a tumor suppressor gene, it seems that its function does not match. We speculate that ARID1A, as an anticancer molecule, will inhibit cell proliferation and migration, weaken wound healing ability, and even induce apoptosis when tumor cells are not internally damaged by DNA. *ARID1A*, as the core subunit of chromatin remodeling complex, participates in the repair of DNA damage when it is in danger of DNA double strand break, but the reason for this difference needs to be further explored.

Conclusions

ARID1A may participate in the DNA double strand break repair of gastric adenocarcinoma cell line caused by ETO through the p-ATM pathway. ARID1A can inhibit the migration and proliferation of gastric adenocarcinoma cell lines and promote apoptosis.

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Footnote

Reporting Checklist: The authors have completed the MDAR reporting checklist. Available at <https://jgo.amegroups.com/article/view/10.21037/jgo-24-283/rc>

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Ethical Statement: The authors are accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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