

MNS16A VNTR polymorphic sequence variations of the *TERT* gene and bladder cancer: Correspondence

Rujittika Mungmunpantip^{a,*}, Viroj Wiwanitkit^b

^aPrivate Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand; ^bDr DY Patil University, Pune, Maharashtra, India

To the Editor, we would like to discuss the publication “Analysis of MNS16A VNTR polymorphic sequence variations of the *TERT* gene and associated risk for development of bladder cancer.”^[1] Anwar et al. mentioned that “*The MNS16A VNTR short allele (S) was associated with a higher risk for bladder cancer in our population as compared to long alleles.*”^[1] We agree that MNS16A VNTR short allele might be associated with a risk of bladder cancer. However, we should further discuss on effect of confounding factors. There are many factors that can affect the risk of bladder cancer, including environmental toxic substance, coinfection (i.e., from a parasite) and other genetic factors. Regarding genetic factor, the present study by Anwar et al. cannot rule out the effect from other possible confounding genetic polymorphisms. Examples of genetic polymorphisms that are related to bladder cancer risk include angiotensin system, *NLRP3*, *NQO1*, and *MPO* genes polymorphisms.^[2–4] Further studies on the effect of possible confounding genetic polymorphisms are needed.

Acknowledgments

None.

Statement of ethics

Not applicable.

Conflict of interest statement

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

Funding source

None.

Author contributions

All authors contributed equally in this study.

References

- [1] Anwar I, Pandith AA, Wani MS, et al. Analysis of MNS16A VNTR polymorphic sequence variations of the *TERT* gene and associated risk for development of bladder cancer. *Curr Urol* 2021;15(4):225–230.
- [2] Xu G, Huang R, Xia W, Jiang B, Xiao G, Li Y. Associations between inflammasome-related gene *NLRP3* polymorphisms (rs10754558 and rs35829419) and risk of bladder cancer in a Chinese population. *J Clin Lab Anal* 2021;35(11):e23973.
- [3] Samara M, Papathanassiou M, Farmakioti I, et al. Renin-angiotensin system single nucleotide polymorphisms are associated with bladder cancer risk. *Curr Oncol* 2021;28(6):4702–4708.
- [4] Hemissi I, Ayed H, Naimi Z, et al. Polymorphisms in *NQO1* and *MPO* genes and risk for bladder cancer in Tunisian population. *Mol Genet Genomic Med* 2021;9(11):e1819.

How to cite this article: Mungmunpantip R, Wiwanitkit V. MNS16A VNTR polymorphic sequence variations of the *TERT* gene and bladder cancer: Correspondence. *Curr Urol* 2022;16(2):116–116. doi: 10.1097/CU9.0000000000000094

*Corresponding Author: Rujittika Mungmunpantip, Private Academic Consultant, Bangkok, 101132, Thailand. E-mail address: rujittika@gmail.com (R. Mungmunpantip).

Current Urology, (2022) 16, 116–116

Received January 28, 2022; Accepted February 6, 2022.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/CU9.0000000000000094>

Copyright © 2022 The Authors. Published by Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives License 4.0 (CCBY-NC-ND), where it is permissible to download and share the work provided it is properly cited. The work cannot be changed in any way or used commercially without permission from the journal.