

Poster journal

Circulating tumour cells in oral squamous cell carcinoma

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Commentary:

Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma (OSCC) has got poor survival rate when associated with lymph node involvement and metastasis. In spite of advanced methods of treatment, mortality rate of OSCC is high¹⁻³. The mortality of OSCC is the reflection of metastasis, which complicates the management of a case. Metastasis is the process of dissemination of tumour cells through the circulation which finally get deposited and proliferate to form secondary tumours at a distant site^{4,5}. Hence, this intermediate step of tumour cells getting into circulation is an important preliminary step of metastasis. So, early detection and characterization of these Circulating Tumour Cells (CTCs) can be important as a broad-spectrum strategy to monitor, prevent development and manifestation of metastatic disease there by improving the prognosis^{2,6,7}. This review aims at understanding the mechanism of CTC, role of detecting CTC in improving prognosis of OSCC, and to understand the recent advances and application of CTC in OSCC.

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