

# Cathepsin- D

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=Abstract=

## Significance of Cathepsin- D Expression in Uterine Cervical Neoplasia

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Various clinical and histopathologic characteristics are currently used to obtain prognostic information about cervical carcinoma, but they do not predict accurately the outcome for any individual patients. Thus, there is a need to identify additional tumor characteristics that are able to predict more accurately the outcome for an individual patient with cervical cancer.

In this study, we explored the relationship between cathepsin-D expression and progression of the cervical neoplasia, the correlation between response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy and cathepsin-D expression, and we investigated if tumor cell cathepsin-D expression could serve as a prognostic factor in cervical carcinoma.

Tumor tissues were obtained from 14 patients with cervical intraepithelial neoplasia and 52 patients with squamous cell carcinoma of the cervix. Cathepsin-D expression was identified by immunohistochemical methods using monoclonal antibody cathepsin-D (BioGene).

Positive cathepsin-D immunoreaction in greater than 30% of carcinoma cells was scored as high expression.

High cathepsin-D expression was seen in 15 of 52 invasive cervical cancer but was absent in cervical intraepithelial neoplasia.

It was shown that cathepsin-D expression was independent of the tumor grade, tumor size, lymph node involvement, depth of invasion, parametrial invasion, and response to chemotherapy.

In disease free survival analysis by log-rank test, cathepsin-D expression was not significantly associated with survival.

These results show that cathepsin-D expression is not a clinically useful adjunct to assessment of prognosis in invasive squamous cell carcinoma of the cervix.

Keywords: Uterine cervical neoplasia, Cathepsin-D expression, Prognostic factor

protease

I.

Cathepsin-D

Cathepsin-D 1979 Westley Rochefort가 lysosomal extracellular matrix protease

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(Table 1).

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 (Table 3).

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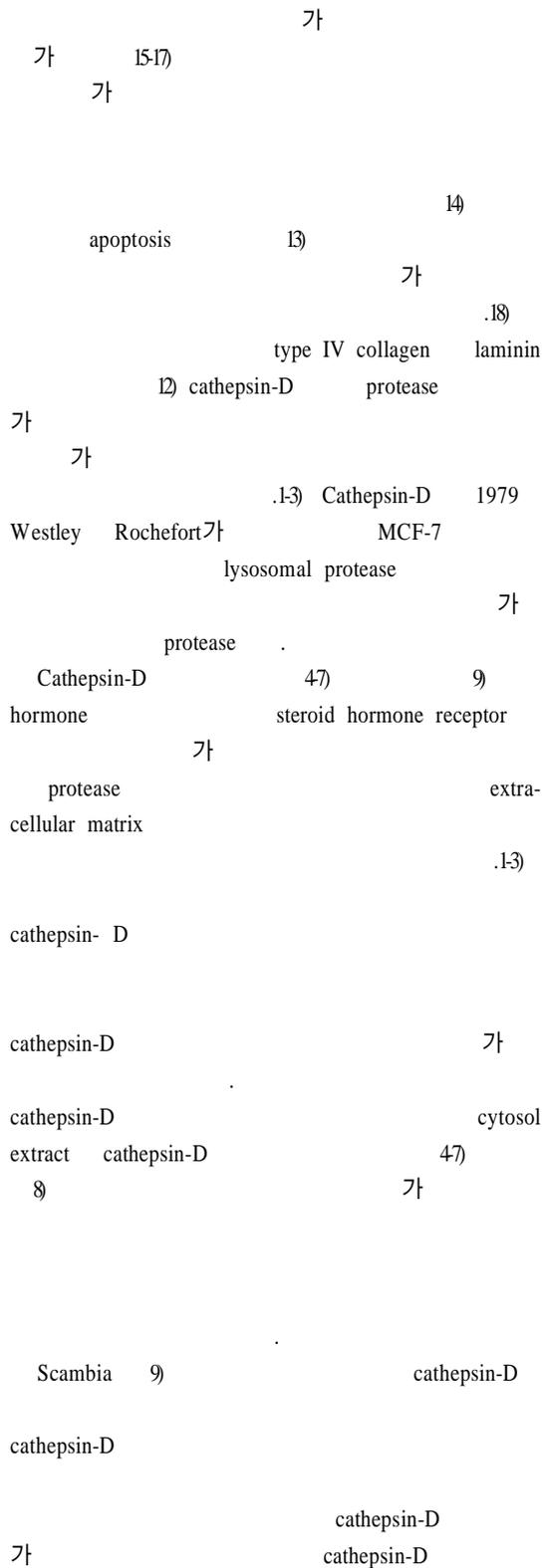


Fig 1. Immunohistochemical staining of invasive squamous cell carcinoma of the cervix with a monoclonal antibody to the cathepsin-D protein. (A) Strong positivity for cathepsin-D in the cytoplasm of cancer cells. (x 200) (B) Cathepsin-D immunoreactivity was present in the tumor cell nests. (x 100)

Table 1. Expression of cathepsin-D in CIN and invasive cervical cancer

	Cathepsin-D Expression			
	High		Low	
	No.	%	No.	%
CIN	0	0	14	100
Invasive	15*	29	37	71

CIN: Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia

Low: were grouped together with the CD-negative cases

\*P < 0.05 by the chi-square test

Table 2. Relation ship between expression of cathepsin-D and clinicopathologic characteristics in invasive cervical cancer

Characteristics	Cathepsin-D expression				P*
	High		Low		
	No.	%	No.	%	
Age					
< 50 yeats	5	29	12	71	
50 years	10	29	25	71	NS
Grade					
G 1-2	12	36	21	64	
G 3	8	42	11	58	NS
Tumor size					
< 4 cm	7	29	17	71	
4 cm	8	29	20	71	NS
Lymph node involvement					
No	10	29	25	71	
Yes	4	27	11	73	NS
Depth of invasion					
< 10 mm	9	30	21	70	
10 mm	4	22	14	78	NS
Parametrial invasion					
No	14	35	26	65	
Yes	2	22	7	78	NS
Response to chemotherapy					
Good	11	41	16	59	
Poor	6	32	13	68	NS

P\* by the chi-square test

NS: not significant

Good: complete clinical and pathological response

Table 3. Disease Free Survival Analysis

Variable	Categories	P*			
Cathepsin-D expression	High, Low	NS	cathepsin-D		
Tumor size	4 cm, > 4 cm	NS	가		
Node status	- , +	< 0.05			가
Invasion depth	1 cm, > 1 cm	< 0.05			
Parametrial invasion	- , +	< 0.05	cathepsin-D	가	가
			cathepsin-D		
			가	cathepsin-D	

P\* by Log - rank test

NS: not significant

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