CORRELATION OF GENOTYPE AND PHENOTYPE IN β-THALASSEMIA

van

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1. Characterization of the β-globin gene defect is necessary, but may not be sufficient for an accurate prognosis of the clinical phenotype of β-thal.

2. ASO hybridization with digoxigenin labeled oligonucleotides of PCR amplified DNA is a suitable approach for prenatal diagnosis of β-thal in Macedonia, while direct sequencing of the 5' half of the β-globin gene is the method of choice in Bulgaria.

3. The G gamma-158 (C→T) promotor mutation is responsible for the high Hb F levels found in β-thal patients homozygous for Mediterranean haplotypes III, IV, and IX.

4. Unknown genetic factors, separate from the β-globin gene cluster, can influence the Hb F levels in β-thal patients by affecting gamma-globin gene expression.

5. Competitive RT/PCR analysis allows a rapid and accurate quantitation of the relative amounts of different globin gene mRNA transcripts.

6. Production of IgE and IgG4 antibodies by the same B cell clone could act as a mechanism for the prevention of allergic reactions.

7. The surface immunoglobulin of the neoplastic B lymphocyte is an ideal target for the delivery of genetically engineered immunotoxins.

8. Enzymatic replacement therapy is the treatment of choice for patients with type I Gaucher disease.

9. PCR analysis is an important investigational tool in the assessment of the minimal residual disease in patients with hematological malignancies.

10. Thrombolytic therapy is beneficial only when given within the first 12 hours from the onset of symptoms of acute myocardial infarction.

11. Interferon α treatment should be offered to all patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia who are not candidates for allogeneic bone marrow transplantation.

12. Dose intensive chemotherapy followed by autologous bone marrow transplantation is a promising approach for the treatment of metastatic breast cancer.

13. Institutions such as the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology are essential for a rapid development of recombinant DNA technology in Third World Countries.

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