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OPINION ARTICLE

Development of Cancer and Polyploid Large Cancer Cells

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Description

Although cellular atypia is characterised by Polyploid Gigantic Cancer Cells (PGCCs), their precise genesis and function are yet unknown. It was previously believed that PGCCs had no inherent capacity for proliferation and division and so, the result of repeated failures of mitosis and cytokinesis. Recently, it has been discovered that PGCCs have characteristics that are similar to Cancer Stem Cells (CSCs), divide asymmetrically to produce offspring cells, and express markers related to the epithelial-mesenchymal transition to facilitate invasion and migration. Multiple stimulating factors, such as hypoxia, chemotherapeutic drugs, and radiation, can cause the creation of PGCCs by controlling the expression of proteins involved in cell fusion and the cell cycle. According to the characteristics of CSCs, PGCCs can be made to develop into non-tumor cells and create erythrocytes made of embryonic haemoglobin, which have a high affinity for oxygen, enabling PGCCs to survive under conditions of extreme hypoxia. The prevalence of PGCCs is linked to metastasis, resistance to chemoradiotherapy, and recurrence of malignant tumours. It may be possible to develop new approaches for the treatment of solid tumours by focusing on the relevant proteins or signalling pathways involved in the development and transdifferentiation of adipose tissue and cartilage in PGCCs.

Malignant tumour tissues that contain large-sized cells have not gotten much attention. Typically, senescent cells of this type are assumed to exist. The fundamental justification for this is that large-sized cells are thought to be the result of repetitive mitosis/cell division failure or intermediates of genomic instability, and thus are incapable of long-term survival and proliferation. Numerous stressors, including hypoxia, radiation, chemical medicines, viruses, and other factors that cause DNA double-strand breaks, can cause PGCCs.

The term "polyploidy" refers to the integral duplication of one or more full chromosomes, such as 4N, 5N, and 12N, and indicates a rise in the total amount of DNA present in the cell genome. An abnormally high number of chromosomes or chromosomal fragments are known as aneuploidy. Poly-aneuploids (>4N+) also signify one or more integral increases in the entire aneuploid genome. Genetic material may change as a result of polyploidy to increase the likelihood of producing new, advantageous mutations. One of the causes of aneuploidy, which might encourage cancer by boosting genetic variability, is chromosomal instability. This type of aneuploidy, however, does not frequently cause cancer. The clinical relevance of aneuploidy as a potential treatment target, in contrast, depends on the environment and the kind of cancer. Tumor aneuploidy may result from both positively and negatively selected forms due to the general adaptive loss of aneuploidy. These forms are governed by the interplay between the tumour stage, cell type, genetic background, microenvironment, and immune system.

A distinct fraction of cancer cells are PGCCs. Multinucleated and mononucleated giant cancer cells are the two varieties of PGCCs. Large nuclei (or multinuclei) and a size that is often more than three times that of diploid cancer cells are shared physical traits of PGCCs. Tumor cells can invade, metastasize, resist treatment, and resist apoptosis when cell cycle-related proteins are expressed abnormally. Prior until this, it was believed that PGCCs were non-proliferative and senescent. However, many of the features and activities of PGCCs have only recently come to light through investigations. Different stressors, such as hypoxia, radiation, and che-

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motherapy, can cause PGCCs. PGCCs express CSC markers and create PDCs as a CSC population. Additionally, PGCCs with PDCs have EMT characteristics, which can facilitate tumour cell invasion and metastasis. PGCCs are in charge of tumour recurrence and are capable of developing treatment resistance. Opportunities for the therapy of malignant solid tumours may arise from the targeting of PGCCs with CSC-like characteristics.