

Review article

Scientific prominence of Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) Concomitant with Nasopharyngeal carcinoma

Anam Yousaf ^{1,*}, Jawaria Parvaiz ², Anam Farzand ³ and Muneeb Ahmad ⁴

¹ Department of Pathology Laboratory, Pakistan kidney and Liver institute & research center, Lahore, Pakistan

² Department of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology, School of Medical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 16150 Kubang Kerian, Kelantan, Malaysia

³ Shaikha Fatima Institute of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, Shaikh Zayed Hospital, Lahore, Pakistan

⁴ Department of Radiology, Lahore General Hospital, Lahore, Pakistan

*Correspondence: anam.yousaf@pkli.org.pk

Article information:

Received: 26-07-2025

Revised: 14-08-2025

Accepted: 18-08-2025

Published: 26-08-2025

Academic Editor:

Dr. Naveed Ahmed

Keywords:

Epstein Barr Virus

Virus

Carcinoma

Nasopharyngeal carcinoma

Vaccines

Abstract: Nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) is rare malignancy worldwide, yet it is prevalent in South part of China, North, Southeast part of Asia and Arctic. The core components in arrears to this exceptional topographical dispersion stay obscure. Although Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) contamination already appeared as per an imperative cause intended for undistinguishable NPC, the EBV itself isn't adequate to the actual cause of carcinoma. Additionally, co-factors, for example, environmental factors & genetic vulnerability might be related with EBV to commence a share in NPC carcinogenesis. Endurance amounts contrast amongst the patients of NPC at the beginning and last phases. Because of nearby relationship among EBV contamination and risk associated with NPC, Biomarkers related with EBV have been utilized for primary position and NPC evaluation in a couple of extraordinary-occurrence regions. Many vaccines and therapeutic trials also have been performed on patients with NPC. The most recent clinical updates and therapeutic trials have been discussed in this review article.

Article citation: Yousaf, A., Parvaiz, J., Farzand, A., Ahmad, M. Scientific prominence of Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) Concomitant with Nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Electron J Med Res.* **2025.** 1(1): 28-44.

Introduction

Human herpesvirus 4 is another name for Epstein-Bar virus (EBV) prevalent human viruses. EBV is a virus that is prevalent worldwide. Majority of people get affected with EBV at some period in their lifespan. EBV is often spread through body liquids, notably saliva. EBV may cause infectious mononucleosis and associated conditions, collectively referred to as mono (Al-Mozaini et al., 2009). Many individuals are infected with EBV at an early age. In the majority of instances, the infections related with EBV don't show any symptoms in children, or if the symptoms starting visible these are very difficult to segregate from those children who have temporary infancy diseases (Dawson et al., 2012).

The EBV infected people who have shown symptoms, which are usually adults, recovers within 2 to 4 weeks. On the other hand, some people may feel tired for weeks or even months at a time. EBV stays dormant (inactive) in the body of the host after infection. Under some circumstances, the virus

could resurface. Reactivation of EBV does not always result in symptoms, however immunocompromised individuals are more prone to suffer symptoms (Louis et al., 2010).

In 1964, an electronic microscopy was used to identify herpes virus-like particles in a subgroup of tumor cells generated from Burkitt lymphoma (BL) (Brady et al., 2008). Later, antibodies in the blood of African BL patients were first noticed. However, same BL antigen antibodies were present in similar amounts in the serum of individuals with post-nasal space. Many patients who were African and American were found to have these antibodies. The significant prevalence of positive sera among patients with post-nasal area carcinoma highlights the need to identify comparable particles in these cancer societies (Kelly et al., 2002).

Later, a more accurate immunofluorescence technique was introduced to identify antigens against replicative antigens expressed by EBV, and this test supported the association between greater antibody titres against the viral capsid antigen (VCA) and nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) (Prabhu and Wilson, 2016). The DNA hybridization method was employed to show that EBV DNA was found in samples from 1970 NPC tumors. The NPC tumor stage and specific IgA levels of VCA as a potential visualization pointer were both associated with the EBV antibodies titles, according to the serological study. 1973 While lymphoid penetrating cells were not detected by the in-situ hybridizations. EBV DNA was found in NPC growing cells. A mass serological location programme in Wuzhou, China was started in 1980 because of the clear explicitness of the relationship between the levels of IGA of VCA and NPC. It was discovered there that EBV-explicit antibodies are useful for NPC's early differentiating evidence. The backward-looking investigation revealed the existence of IGA VCA up to 41 months prior to the clinical end of NPC. Terminal redundancy (TR) in the EBV genome in NPC revealed by Southern exchange hybridization revealed that occupant viral genomes were monoclonal, suggesting that EBV sickness occurred prior to the clonal increase of the number of occupants in malignant growth cells (Young and Rickinson, 2004).

Latent EBV genes expressed in NPC and its function

Analysts should first understand how EBV idle features revealed in NPC can be used to evaluate the role that viral illness plays in the development of malignant tumors. Additionally, thorough knowledge of these EBV inactive features' potential could inspire the development of innovative symptomatic and beneficial therapies (Tempera and Lieberman, 2014).

LMPS and EBNA1

The EBNA1 protein is essential for EBV episome replication and isolation, but it has also been shown to protect apoptotic cells, promote cell endurance, and directly contribute to the tumorigenic aggregate (Frappier, 2012). Among the effects include the destabilization of P53, the interference of PML's atomic assemblages, and the regulation of a few flagging pathways.

LMP1

LMP1 functions as a typical oncogene in mouse fibroblast change experiments and is critical for EBV-induced B-cell change in vitro (Kelly et al., 2002). When LMP1 is generated in cells, it upregulates anti-apoptotic proteins (Bcl-2, A20) and increases cytokine production (interleukin (IL)-6, IL-8), among other things (Khabir et al., 2005). LMP2A and LMP2B, the two LMP2 quality proteins, share a short cytoplasmic C-end and 12 hydrophobic film crossing gaps. Despite this, it appears that the cytoplasmic N-terminal region of the extraordinary invulnerable receptor for LMP2A is dependent on tyrosine initiation and required for the protein's functional activities (Jochum et al., 2012). Without the need for B-cell receptors (BCR), LMP2A seems to boost B-cell growth and endurance. The propensity of EBV to target memory B-cells could. This effect could be explained by EBV's propensity to assault memory B-cells (38) (Khabir et al., 2005). LMP2A articulation in NPC is more

stable than LMP1 articulation. Using reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), LMP2A mRNA articulation was confirmed in more than 98% of NPC patients, but LMP2B articulation was lower and resembled LMP1 (Liu et al., 2011). According to immunohistochemical characterization (Kwok et al., 2014), LMP2A protein articulation has been established in more than 50% of NPC cases (Tierney et al., 2006).

BamHI-A and EBERs regions

EBERs 1 and 2, two non-polyadenyated (non -coding) non -polyadenylated RNAs that remain strongly articulated in entire sorts of EBV latency (non-encoding) RNAs that are expressed highly in entire kinds of EBV expectancy & aid as subtle objectives to detect EBV infection in cells and tissues. EBERs binds to the inducible interferon, activable RNA protein with the RNA chain Activated by RNA (PKR) (PKR) and firm ribonucleoprotein particles that contain autoantigen Ia and ribosomal protein L22 (Lo et al., 2012). Interaction of EBERs with the gene 1 inducible by retinoic acid 1 (RIG-1) causes the Type I interferon construction, which can be inhibited by supplementary viral genes, including LMP1 and LMP2A/B (Bouvard et al., 2009). EBERs stimulate the growth factor similar to insulin 1 (IGF-1) in cell lines S of NPC (Lung et al., 2012). IGF-1's relevance in NPC is supported by the presence of the protein in tumor biopsies, which has been linked to better proliferation in NPC cell lines (Louis et al., 2010).

EBV Strain Variation

Confining the examination of polymorphism in section length shows that EBV protection in a few regions of the world or patients with various illnesses related to infections has genomes that are shockingly comparable (Ji et al., 2019). The dull locales of the EBV genome, then again, shift between the EBV protection. A few BL cell lines have had broad cancellations distinguished in their EBV genomes, some of which are liable for physiological issues. The quality that encodes EBNA2 is being disposed-off as unchanged P3HR-1 infection. As per the variety in deformity in the EBNA2 coding district (BAMH1-Wyh) of the EBV genome, all EBV protection can be delegated to type 1 (EBV-1, B95.8) or type 2. Because of chromosomal changeability, there are two antigenically various types of EBNA2 protein, with just half amino corrosive character (Ji et al., 2019).

According to the region, a subset of inert characteristics, specifically those that generate EBNA-LP, EBNA3A, EBNA3B, and EBNA3C, exhibit allelic polymorphisms linked to the EBV type (with a succession homology of 50–80%). EBV-1 disengaged has more useful test change outcomes than EBV-2 protection, which is less effective in vitro (Wu et al., 2018). According to viral confinement and sero-epidemiological research, type 1 infection disconnects are dominating (but not exclusively) in a few Western countries. However, the two varieties are abundant in New Guinea, tropical Africa, and maybe other places (Bossi et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2013). There are variations within each common kind as well as a notable difference between EBV types 1 and 2. By comparing the unique strains to B95.8, which contained everything from unusual base modifications to enormous cancellations, the unique strains were distinguished (Ji et al., 2019). While it has frequently been assumed that immunocompromised patients must be contaminated with a few EBV strains, another research reveals how seropositive individuals might be contaminated with various EBV genotypes that fluctuate in quantity and presence over time (Pfister et al., 2020).

By enabling genetic recombination and diversity, the coinfection of the visitor with numerous viral strains can aid in the evolution of EBV. This interspecific recombination has been observed in both HIV-positive people and the Chinese population. It appears that numerous EBV strains recombinates during the immunosuppression-induced EBV proliferation (Chen et al., 2011).

EBV infection and NPC

In light of the existence of growing cells when viewed using an optical microscope, the World Health Organization (WHO) has classified NPC into two basic histological groups: Types II and III of keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma. Undifferentiated carcinoma (type III) and separated non-keratinizing carcinoma (type II) are both largely certain malignancies for the non-keratinizing type (14,15). The 20% or less of all NPC occasions are exceptionally separated keratinizes (type I), & this sort of cancer is infrequent in southern China (Ji et al., 2019; Wei et al., 2011). Be that as it may, the relationship between EBV and the most separated NPC type of NPC WHO has basically distinguished in districts where the undifferentiated NPC wins. The infection is idle in NPC, existing just in growth cells and not in that frame of mind around cancer (Jochum et al., 2012).

However, it appears that the relationship between the massive lymphoid stroma seen in undifferentiated NPC and the neighboring carcinoma cells is crucial for the unceasing proliferation of hazardous NPC cells. Lymphoepitheliomas or undifferentiated carcinomas of the nasopharynx (UCNT) in a variety of organs, including the tonsils, lungs, stomach, skin, and cervix. They may also go by the names UCNT or Epitheliomas de lymph (Khabir et al., 2005).

Possible contributions

It is still up to whether the variation of the EBV strain has a role in the development of malignant tumors associated with the virus. Many studies have concluded that specific EBV gene polymorphism Find epidemiologic link amongst EBV tensions and disease (Bossi et al., 2021). However, instead of studying the entire sequence of viral DNA, these studies focused on selected parts of EBV genome. In more recent studies, EBV insulation of NPC biopsies were examined using next generation sequencing (NGS). Although NPC -derived virus strains exhibit a high general similarity with the archetypal EBV genome, these investigations have shown that there is variability in viral genes which could lead to practical alterations (Ahn, 2019; Wang et al., 2020). In this context, a delusion of 10 amino acids was detected in the LMP1 gene (343-352 waste) in Chinese NPC biopsies and it was shown that they exhibit oncogenic and other functional properties other than the B95.8 LMP1 gene (Liu et al., 2017; Quail and Joyce, 2013). It is predicted that variations in LMP1 and other EBV genes have a role in the development of malignant neoplasms associated with viruses as a consequence. More biological research is required with well -defined EBV variants, as well as more exhaustive NGS comparisons of EBV strains derived from tumors against EBV strains of healthy donors (Xia et al., 2014).

Pathogenesis of NPCs

Presence of monoclonal EBV episomes in the NPC shows that the viral disease starts before development of a harmful cell clone. In any case, there is no proof of epithelial EBV disease in tonsilla of people through irresistible mononucleosis (IM) & typical nasopharyngeal biopsy from the people who are at a high gamble of creating NPCs, showing that epithelial contaminations may not be the initial phase in that frame of mind to infections. in situ against plentiful communicated Eber RNA which is communicated non-poli, EBV contamination not entirely settled at a significant level (extreme dysplastic and carcinoma in situ) par-obtrusive nasopharyngeal sores, yet not in low-level sicknesses nasopharyngeal, but rather not histologically nasopharyngeal Histological, Normal Histologically, Nasopharyngeal and histological (Thi and Hong, 2017).

Information in vitro shows that steady EBV diseases from epithelial cells require unpremeditated cell conditions (Moossavi et al., 2018) and extreme articulation of cyclin D1 (because of the evacuation of P16 on the 9P chromosome & enhancement in Locus Cyclin D1 on the 11Q chromosome) helps the tireless EBV contamination. The deified nasopharyngeal epithelium (Kantono and Guo, 2017). Thus, the model has been proposed where the deficiency of heterozygosity

happens toward the start of the pathogenesis of NPC because of ecological co-factors like food parts (e.g., vulnerable to EBV diseases after hereditary occasions and extra epigenetics. In the wake of being tainted, contaminated qualities that are latent assist Growth and endurance, which prompts the arrangement of NPC. After EBV disease, further hereditary and epigenetic changes occurs (Khabir et al., 2005).

Inflammasomes' Roles in Nasopharyngeal Cancer Caused by Epstein–Barr Virus

Inflammasomes play a pivotal capacity to change natural invulnerability by coordinating the treatment and creation of favorable to fiery cytokines and dispensing with the attacking specialist's intruders by proptosis. The statement of viral antigens of the EBV infection during EBV contamination, which is a perceived reason for NPC, can initiate inflammasomes and advance the creation of favorable to fiery cytokines (Lee et al., 2009). This audit manages inflammasomes during viral disease, their likely contribution to oncogenesis in NPCs related to EBV, and flow progress in the focus of inflammasomes for malignant growth treatment. Since inflammasomes play an assortment of capacities in different tumors, this study plans to invigorate extra exploration on the particular job and the component of inflammasomes in NPCs related to EBV, as well as the restorative potential to target inflammasomes in NPCs (Murphy et al., 2009).

Carcinogenic infection

Malignant growth diseases address 15.4 percent of all human tumors around the world (Plummer et al., 2016). The EBV infection known as a human herpes virus that is assigned as a cancer-causing agent of gathering 1 by the International Cancer Research Agency (IARC) because of its relationship with lymphoid growths like BL, lymphoma from Hodgkin (HL), non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) and Nasopharyngeal disease connected with immunosuppression (NHL) and nasopharyngeal disease. You can see positive EBV in up to 40% of patients with HL. Men, youngsters, the older, and those living in non-industrial nations are bound to gain HL related to EBV. The improvement of nodular sclerosant (NSHL) in youthful grown-ups in industrialized countries, then again, is essentially consistently negative to EBV (Massini et al., 2009). BL is a sort of forceful B cell disease that can be endemic, irregular, or connected with immunodeficiency. EBV is liable for practically 95% of stand mic cases, which are continuous in the tropical belt of Africa and different regions of the planet where jungle fever is hyper endemic (Brady et al., 2008).

The NPC is a malignant growth that emerges from the persistent aggravation of the Nasopharyngeal epithelium (Xiong et al., 2019). Every one of them has been associated with EBV disease (Thompson, 2007). EBV creates numerous idle viral qualities that assist in the multiplication of NPC cells contaminated with EBV. Bamh1, LMP1 and LMP2, Epstein-Barr atomic antigen (EBNA1), LMP1 and LMP2, EBNA2, BAMH1, Non-polyadenylated RNA, and non-encoder Reading edge to the right 1 (BARF1) These qualities incorporate records of records Bart (Barts) and Microarn Bart (MIR-BRETS) (Peterson and Nelson, 2013). The NPC is perceived as utmost well-known head & neck malignant growth, with 5-year endurance paces of 70-80% in pieces of Southeast Asia, southern China, and North Africa. Because of its troublesome physical position and radio awareness, radiotherapy (RT) is firmly prescribed to treat non - metastatic NPC or stage I (Tsang et al., 2020). Since NPC side effects at the beginning phase incorporate migraines, nasal dying, nasal impediment, and nasal emission, most patients (80%) are analyzed in late stages (Wu et al., 2018). As an outcome, the European Society of Medical Oncology has advanced more forceful therapies, like joined chemotherapy (ESMO). Clinical practice rules and clinical practice rules of the National Integral Cancer Net (NCCN) (Ji et al., 2019).

In stage III clinical preliminary that remembers 230 patients with NPC for stage II, specialists found that the blend of RT with simultaneous week-by-week cisplatin (30 mg/m²) brought about fundamentally preferable clinical outcomes over RT alone, which gave benefits to the endurance of patients with NPC in stage II (Zhang et al., 2013). Patients can track down disagreeable secondary effects, sickness repeat, or metastasis, in this manner, the consequences of the therapy are terrible. As an outcome, to work on remedial outcomes, another treatment procedure is fundamental. Irritation is a defensive resistant reaction created by the natural safe arrangement of the host in light of contaminations, for example, infections, microbes, and growths, as well as inside aggravations. Supported irritation, then again, can cause tissue harm and the start of the immune system and ongoing provocative sicknesses (Bossi et al., 2021).

Furthermore, aggregated proof recommends that the fiery climate advances the start of cancer and movement while enacting dangerous cells with cytokines (Bossi et al., 2021). Ongoing irritation expands the union of the development factor, resistance to development inhibitors, and apoptosis, as well as starts the arrangement of cancers through angiogenesis and metastases (Pfister et al., 2020). All the more significantly, the variant irritation that advances the growth can assist cancer cells with sidestepping resistant observation by permitting cancer (Chen et al., 2001).

Epstein–Barr Virus (EBV)-Induced Sustained Inflammation in NPC Carcinogenesis

Viruses can develop numerous approaches to circumvent immunological responses interceded by inflammasome host. Viruses, on the other hand, can activate Inflammasome to improve their reproductive efficiency. Meanwhile, the activation of constitutive inflammasome can the inflammasome can cause persistent aggravation, which is upheld by the high cytokine level and chemokine creation and advances the improvement of growths (Ahn, 2019). EBV is sent by spit, contaminating B guileless B cells in lymphoid tissue of the Walleyed ring (Latency III) (Wang et al., 2020). EBV contamination B cell B is begun by the glycoprotein GP350/220 infection that interfaces with CD21 supplement receptors on the outer layer of cell B (Liu et al., 2017). At the point when the B gullible cell is in touch with associated antigens, they become enacted lymphoblasts, which are duplicated. The enacted blast arrives at Germinal Center (GC) in Latency II, where LMP1 and LMP2 can give substitution antigens & endurance signals TH (Liu et al., 2011). Subsequently, Latin - tainted B cells can emerge from GC & enter the reminiscence section as a rest memory cell that is resting, extensive.

In this environment, virus remains dormant as an episome. It does not have a virus gene (latency 0), which allows infected B memory cells out of immune monitoring (Xia et al., 2014). B cells infected memory circulated on the periphery for a while before returning to the lymphatic tissue. It may be triggered through allied antigens & converted into plasma cells, allowing for multiplication and release of the virus. Viruses can infect epithelium or start a new cycle of infection in B Naif cells (Xia et al., 2014). A number of rest lymphocytes are needed to infect epithelial cells. Simultaneously, the most common lytic infection in the epithelium, produces a more contagious virus for the transmission of cell-to-cells and diffusion of the virus to the new host (Quail and Joyce, 2013). Virus antigens articulated by infested cells are main focus for immunological recognition. With the help of NK and CTL cells, infected people will put a strong immune response to viral infections. Viruses that are still living developing to avoid the host immune response when the viral infection is not removed or destroyed from the body (Thi and Hong, 2017). EBV is hypothesized to avoid innate immune responses and host adaptive, either by inducing immunosuppression or interfere with inflammatory responses.

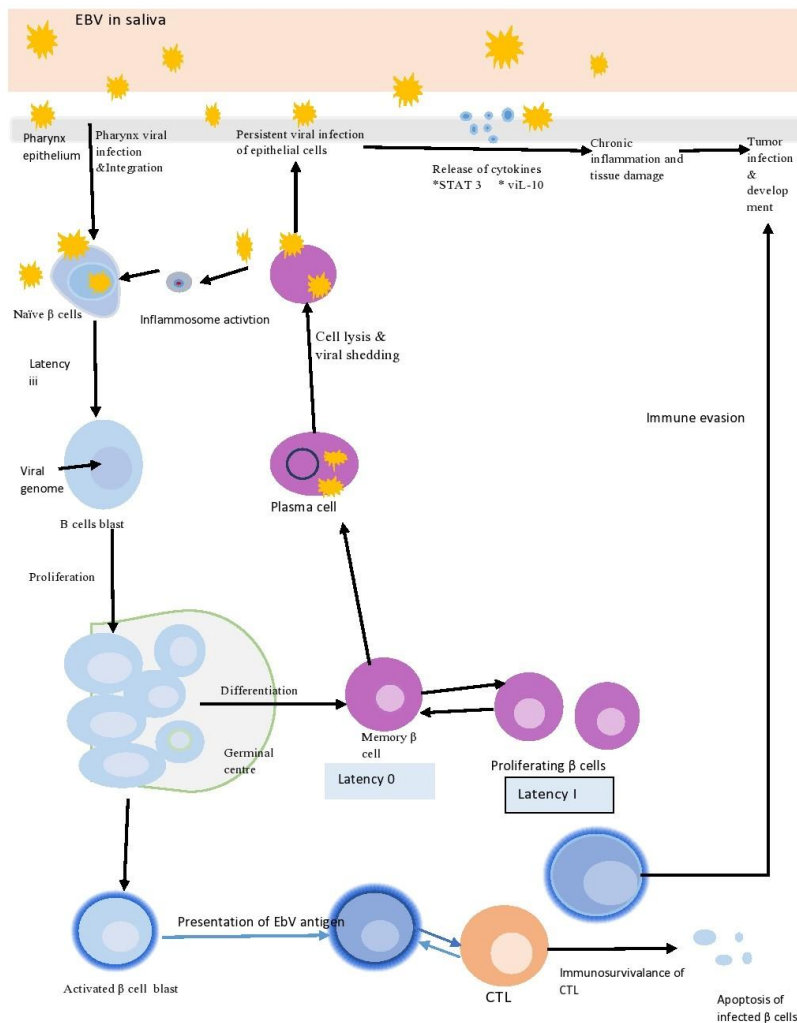


Figure 1. EBV-induced inflammation and NPC carcinogenesis in perspective.

EBV in saliva interacts with the viral glycoprotein gp350/220 expressed on B cells to pass through the pharyngeal epithelium and infect naive B cells in the underlying lymphoid tissue. This results in the growth of lymphoblasts that are proliferating. The viral capsid disintegrates once EBV has entered the cell, and the viral DNA is then integrated into the host nucleus (Thi and Hong, 2017). Memory compartments, that are resting, long-standing B cells that do not express viral genes, may emerge from B cell blasts. EBV also encodes vIL-10, a protein that helps infected B cells survive and differentiate, allowing it to elude host antiviral defenses and establish latency. Memory B cells that have been infected latently socialize in the blood stream & arrival to lymphatic tissue, where cognate antigen might cause them to grow into plasma cells and activate the viral replication programmed, resulting in a more infectious virus (Tao et al., 2006).

When infected cells are lysed, the virion is released, infecting epithelial cells or initiating a fresh cycle of naive B cell infection. Furthermore, when the plasma membrane ruptures, potassium ions are released, activating the inflammasome (Teow et al., 2017). Inflammasome activation that lasts a long period may help viruses multiply and infect more people. Through NF- κ B and STAT3 signaling, infected cells excessively release pro-inflammatory cytokines and chemokines during the course of a protracted infection, creating a chronic inflammatory milieu that affects the tissue around it. Chronic inflammation's onset and growth have been linked to cancer. Effective CTLs may identify infected cells in immunocompetent individuals by conveying the EBV antigen through MHC Class I and destroying the cells by apoptosis. On the other hand, if there is ongoing inflammation, an immunocompromised person may be at risk of acquiring an EBV-associated cancer (Thorley-Lawson, 2001).

The past work shows the capacity of Eber's as a solid enlistment of ongoing irritation, advancing the progress of irritation to carcinogenesis in upper pharyngeal region nasopharynx through TLR-3 pathway. Eber initiates TLR-3 pathway, which expands the creation of proinflammatory cytokines through NF- κ B. LMP1 additionally actuates NF- κ B in EBV-tainted cells, delivering proliferative signs (Nakamura et al., 2018). EBV has additionally allegedly restrained the safe reaction during its lytic stage by expanding cell cytokine combination, for example, IL-8 and IL-10, which helps in the development and arrival of the genetic virion (Ugel et al., 2015). Cytokine middle people like Z Trans-activator (ZTA, otherwise called BZLF1) and BCRF1 have been found as lytic proteins. Viral IL-10 EBV (VIL-10) stifles T cell enactment by decreasing the creation of MHC Class I/II particles and attachment atoms between cells 1 (ICAM-1). ICAM1 is a bond atom that should be moved by antigen-introducing cells (APC) to collaborate with T lymphocytes (Martinon et al., 2002).

In different examinations, BCRF1 has been demonstrated to shield contaminated B cells from the body's resistant management along productive cycle by diminishing development of IFN by NK cells and T cells, consequently expanding endurance in tainted β cells and EBV engendering (Martinon et al., 2002). The record element of the BZLF1 infection, then again, goes about as a sub-atomic change to switch disease from dormant to the Lytic, bringing about more Virion creation (Moossavi et al., 2018). NPC improvement has been accounted for helped by ZTA infection protein, which increments cell intrusion by expanding the blend of Metalloproteinase (MMP) framework 1 and 9 (Kantono and Guo, 2017). The EBV Lytic stage has been demonstrated to assist with staying away from invulnerability by decreasing the introduction of infection antigens through MHC particles. BNLF2A is a protein for the evasion of the invulnerability subordinate by EBV created during as far as the possible period of replication. MHC Class I particles are brought down guidelines when BNLF2A is communicated ectopic, restraining the introduction of antigens to CTL and end of EBV-contaminated cells. Therefore, more popular posterity can be created (He et al., 2018). As a result, it is assumed that EBV can affect the pathway of inflammatory signaling to perpetuate the infection while directing the inflammatory response to avoid identification and cleaning of the body's immunity, which results in the development of NPCs (Ji et al., 2019).

Inflammasome role in NPC and Other types of Cancers

Inflammasome activation suppresses the development of tumors by removing proinflammatory cytokines and activating pyro-ptosis. For example, IL-1 secretion during acute inflammation stimulates the proliferation of NK cells, CD4+T cells, and CTL, which helps in cleaning infections (He et al., 2018). As a result, it is hoped that tumor cells that do not trigger immune responses that are mediated inflammasome will be mistaken for themselves and therefore escapes the supervision of immunity mediated T cells, accelerate tumor growth.

Targeting the EBV, In NPC

Nasopharyngeal malignant growth is connected to disease by the EBV in boundless areas like southern China and South-eastern Asia. High death paces of PNJ individual by serious and repeating issues feature necessary to track down powerful treatments. Regardless of the way that the momentum genomic research has shown not many medications focus on, the remarkable communication between EBV contamination and host cells in NPCs unequivocally suggests that EBV focusing could be a successful strategy to treat This malignant growth connected to the infection. The NPC related to EBV requires the endurance of an EBV episomal genome as well as the presence of numerous results of viral inert qualities to permit a threatening change. Many examinations have been done to exploit these one-of-a-kind elements to foster pharmacological medications and restorative procedures that target EBV dormant proteins & advance lytic recrudescence in NPCs. EBV EBNA1 dormant protein inhibitors were planned to be expected for the vital job of this protein in

keeping up with EBV idleness and the replication of the genetic material of virus NPC cells (Mai et al., 2013).

In addition, new progress in chemical bio-engineering accelerates discovery of curative drugs that target the critical functions of EBNA1. Specific EBNA1 derivative inhibitors offer potential therapeutic advantages in positive NPC cancers in EBV. For a long time, the effectiveness of a number of EBV lytic inducers for Cytolytic Treatment of the NPC has been examined. However, the effectiveness of these compounds in the induction of lytic induction varies depending on the cellular environment in various positive NPC models. To maintain EBV latency throughout the progression of cancer, NPC cells can develop and acquire somatic changes in each tumor. Unfortunately, the therapeutic use of EBV cytolytic treatment is hampered by a lack of knowledge of the molecular pathways resulting in latency transition to dormancy to lytic in NPC cells (Seto et al., 2008).

Therapeutic Management

According to the advice of the National Integral Cancer Network, the therapeutic treatment of the NPC is based on the illness stage. Solo radiation are utilized to treat beginning phase sickness (stage I); The transitional stages (stage II) to the high-level phases of NPC (stages III-IV) are treated with attendant radiotherapy and chemotherapy (CRT) (Wang et al., 2020). Patients with early NPC had positive clinical outcomes, as per a clinical examination done in Hong Kong. With just RT, it's 5 - year general endurance measurements are satisfactory, with an overall endurance pace of 90%. The radiation tweaked by force (IMRT) matched with radiotherapy as it improves biometric qualities, diminishes the poisonousness of therapy with irradiative, and further develops nearby NPC control and general endurance rates in patients (Liu et al., 2011). In spite of this, over 60% of recently analyzed patients have a terrible clinical forecast since they for the most part accompanied progressed stage sicknesses. In the future, most NPC patients will have locoregional therapeutic failures (5-15%) and distant (15-30%) (Liu et al., 2011). In addition, half of the people who have a local recurrence also have distant metastases. In addition, despite undergoing an intensive concurrent TRC, 30% of late cancer patients would experience remote recurrence (Wang et al., 2020).

Due to the wide variety of individuals, the treatment for recurring and metastatic NPC is currently difficult, and the therapeutic results are uncertain. Recent clinical studies of innovative therapeutic techniques to limit the development of the disease like palliative fundamental chemotherapy (for instance, gemcitabine with cisplatin), explicit atomic medicines (for instance, VEG fr and egfr) antagonists, and immune-based-therapies (e.g., receptive T cell treatment & resistant control focuses on invulnerable control focuses. Blocks), have shown an extensive variety of progress rates (Xia et al., 2014). In spite of the way that NPC's genomic scene has as of late been characterized, just a little part of patients (> 10%) displays rapidly drug physical occasions, like modifications in Pik3CA, FGFR3, or JAK1/2 (Nakamura et al., 2018). Furthermore, in these people, the helpful benefits of authorized prescriptions that treat these dubious oncogenic changes should be affirmed. As per the discovery of normal physical changes in MHC class I particles, most NPC patients gain protection from immunotherapy in view of T cells (Martinon et al., 2002). To dispose of this horrendous illness, powerful treatment techniques should be created to address the various attributes and sub-atomic goals of NPC.

Expression of EBV protein

The EBV infection, which is for the most part boundless in NPCs, is restricted to the development of dormant viral qualities which make the atomic protein prompted by the EBV (EBNA1) and the idle film proteins (Latent 1 (LMP1 MEMBRAY protein (LMP1), Lmp2a, and Lmp2b), as well as short RNA coded by extra EBV and record miniature yarn to one side (Bart) (Bart) (Marin). The disease

progression of craniofacial region is impacted by amino polypeptides and learning related to EBV. Every one of these proteins is produced from viral genetic material and plays a one-of-kind part in the neoplastic change in the malignant growths of the craniofacial region. Figure 1 describes the three EBV proteins (LMP1, LMP2, and EBNA1) in tumorigenic disease progression and safe getaway of NPCs.

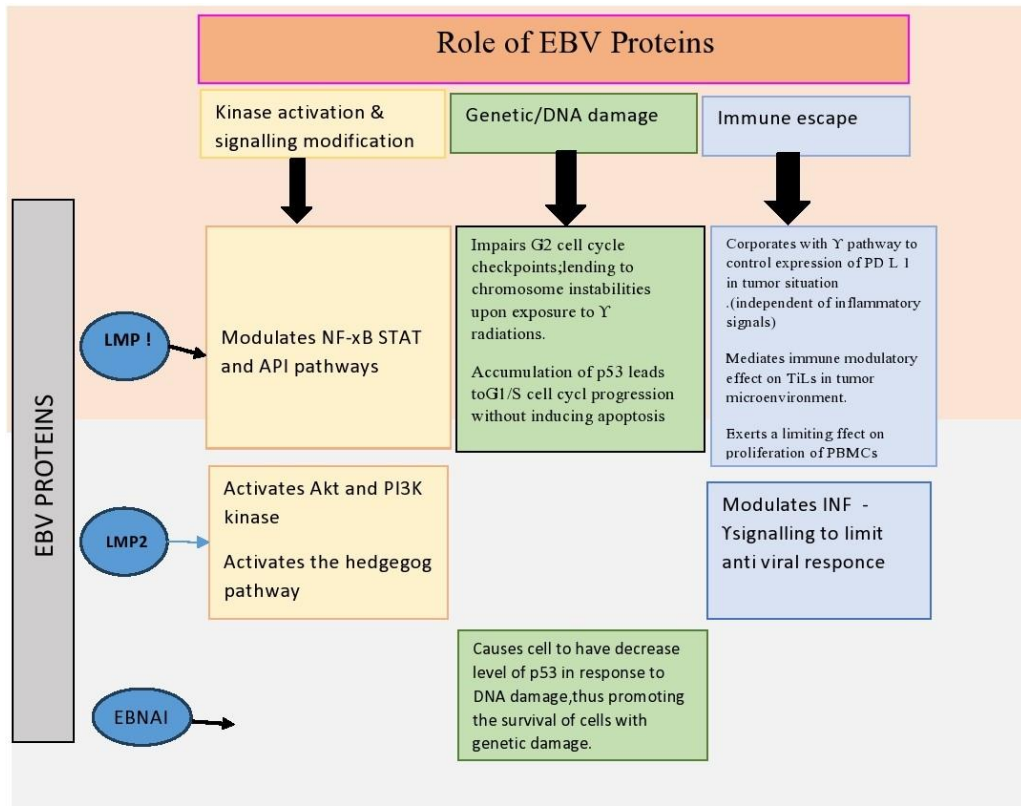


Figure 2. A schematic diagram contrasting the roles of EBV protein (LMP1, LMP2 and EBNA1) in oncogenic pathogenesis and immune evasion in NPC. **Abbreviations:** EBV, EBV infection; LMP1, inactive film protein 1; LMP2, inert layer protein 2; EBNA1, EBV-prompted atomic antigen 1; NF-B, atomic variable kappa-light-chain-enhancer of initiated B cells; STAT, signal transducer and activator of record; AP1, activator protein 1; STAT, signal transducer and activator of record; Akt, protein kinase B; PI3K, phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase; p53, cell cancer antigen p53; INF-, interferon-gamma; TILs, growth invading lymphocytes; PD-L1, modified cell demise protein 1 ligand; PBMCs, fringe blood mononuclear cells; DNA, deoxyribose.

Immunotherapeutic interventions

Vaccines against EBV for NPC

Chemotherapy and radiation, effective therapeutic methods for NPC related to EBV, is a gold maintenance standard (Cohen, 2015). Though, 15.0-30.0% of NPC patients have gloomy outlook and a history of disaster of several places, while 5-15% have failed at the local level. In addition, radiotherapy and chemotherapy have many side effects (Smith et al., 2017). As a result, finding a new therapeutic drug with a little side effect and low toxicity of the target is a prominent topic throughout the world. Cancer immunotherapy based on new vaccines -this appears as a realistic and successful treatment choice for various ferocity. The purpose of producing NPC vaccine related to EBV can be imagined because of the specific viral immunology and interaction with cancer cells (Bouvard et al., 2009). Specific protein NPC and EBV related to EBV must be considered as a potential

target for development of vaccine and immunological regulations (Prabhu and Wilson, 2016). Therapeutic vaccine has been studied in preclinical and clinical research for this purpose, with promising results despite several challenges (Prabhu and Wilson, 2016).

Immunization efforts in NPC are focused on protein related to EBV LMP1, LMP2, and EBNA1 (Tempera and Lieberman, 2014). LMP2A and EBNA1 are the most interesting candidates for the development of EBV special vaccines due to high expression levels (Ciężyńska et al., 2020). Because of maintaining virus DNA in proliferation cells and regulating biological processes, EBNA1 is the protein needed in NPC. It has a variety of CD4+T cell epitopes, making it an immunotherapy target unlike the others (Taylor et al., 2014). In the previous decade, several clinical studies on the satisfying efficiency of inoculation in NPC released to EBV revealed promising results. Clinicaltrials.gov lists around 64 NPC tests related to EBV. This reflects a broad interest in finding out how EBV and NPC interact so that the immunotherapy approach can be used in ordinary clinical practices.

In healthy seropositive individuals, Taylor et al. found that exposure to antigen presenting cells APCs in vitro against fusion protein containing EBNA1 carboxyl terminals combined with LMP2 in Poxvirus vectors produces efficacious renaissance of CD8+ LMP2 T cells and EBNA specific memory cells 1 (Rosenberg et al., 2004). MVA-EBNA1/LMP2 therapeutic fusion vaccine is tested in two primary phase 1 clinical trials in NPC patients (Ciężyńska et al., 2020). This inoculation is designed to mimic the immunostimulatory properties of EBNA1 and LMP2. The vaccine a CD4+ and CD8+ synthesis protein that contain an epitope that is not functionally inactive (Kelly et al., 2002).

Clinical trials

Clinical preliminaries with this immunization were acted in 18 patients with NPC disappearing in Hong Kong, with a subsequent report in the United Kingdom. In Hong Kong, this combination antibody accomplished remarkable outcomes, with T-cell reactions (CD4+/CD8+) to something like 1 viral polyopetide that expands three to multiple times in 15 of 18 patients. In uncommon cases, drive reactions to resistance interceded by CD4+ and CD8+ against EBNA1 and LMP2 (Savoldo et al., 2002) have been noticed. The immunization exhibited a positive invulnerable profile, with few impacts outside the goal (Savoldo et al., 2002). This surprising disclosure motivated a more extensive subsequent examination in the United Kingdom. 14 patients with NPC disappearing got a similar MVA-EBNA1/LMP2 immunization. Eight of the fourteen demonstrated individuals showed further developed reactions from CD4+ and CD8+, demonstrating that the proficiency and adequacy of the consolidation antibody can be imitated (Ciężyńska et al., 2020). This immunization is presently being inspected in stage II examinations with patients who have had the best outcomes with palliative chemotherapy, because of the great consequences of stage I tests.

Autologous antigen-presenting-cells APCs were treated with EBV peptides/viral trajectories that communicated LMP2 to produce immunization. Lin et al. exploited a combination of EBV - explicit LMP2 peptides treated with self-derived antigen-presenting-cells. APCs dendritic cells in a clinical preliminary (Lee et al., 2004). This immunization was directed to nine patients with NPC, and two of them exhibited better CD8+ cell reactions after four infusions. The cell reactions of the two individuals exhibited a clinical connection with cancer relapse (Savoldo et al., 2002). In a stage II review, Chia et al. embraced a comparative technique, immunizing 16 patients with metastatic NPC with autologous antigen-presenting- cells APCs that express abbreviated LMP1 and full-length LMP2 in an adenovirus vector. It is uncovered that the Adenovirus-Delta LMP1-LMP2 antibody meaningfully affected CD8+T cell reactions. Three inoculated patients, then again, encountered a clinically fractional and stable infection. The other individuals experienced postponed type excessive touchiness, which was not connected with any restorative advantage (Ushiku et al., 2007).

Notwithstanding the absence of critical cell reactions, the preliminary was quick to show the well-being profile/resilience level of EBV antibodies against NPC in people (Ushiku et al., 2007). The

immunization subordinate reactions in NPC related to EBV are shockingly limited to the cell level. Consequently, explicit antigen antibodies for NPC insurance related to EBV are interesting. Accordingly, NPC immunizations related to EBV must be helpful, non-preventive (Agostini et al., 2004).

EBV-associated NPC vaccination trials

It showed that therapeutic vaccinations have numerous advantages (Agostini et al., 2004; Ushiku et al., 2007).

- Vaccines tested improved CD8+ and CD4+ cells in Chinese and European patients, which implies that the vaccine eliminates HLA or EBV voltage differences (Agostini et al., 2004; Ciężyńska et al., 2020). This is significant because it allows us to be used in patients with a wide range of ethnic and genetic origins.
- Secondly, security studies have discovered that these vaccines are well tolerated and have few side effects outside the objective (Ciężyńska et al., 2020; Ushiku et al., 2007).
- Finally, these vaccines can be produced by mass at a low cost with reliable and reproducible results.
- Finally, they must be integrated into clinical practice by personnel and minimal facilities trained (Yi, 2020).

Although their benefits are widely recognized, there are some disadvantages to these immunizations. The most important issue is to test immunizations for safety concerns over a longer period of time in larger studies, especially in young children. Because an EBV vaccination requires the introduction of an attenuated complete or partial infection into the host, this is the case. Adverse events in young patients are more likely to go unnoticed for a prolonged time. Consequently, safety issues, particularly among young patients, must be addressed. Furthermore, data collected from in vivo testing is not sufficient for human studies (Yi, 2020).

Expansion Methods for Immunotherapy and Virus Specific T-Cells (Vcts)

Receptive immunotherapy, or the ex vivo multiplication of the particular T cells of the antigen, has turned into a major area of strength for a creative strategy to manage human malignant growths & virus-related contaminations (Wang et al., 2014; Zur Hausen et al., 2004). Concluded the course of last 10 years, the VST fabricating process has been broadly concentrated on expanding the nature of the powerful cells while speeding up and the amount of creation (Zur Hausen et al., 2004). To forestall or treat harmful cancers related to the infection (Balahura et al., 2020; Corvalan et al., 2006). The introductory examination has utilized moved antigen (APC) giving cells a viral vector or plasmids communicating the antigen important to increment antiviral T cells for receptive immunotherapy. After a reenactment with these APCs, the T cells were developed in vitro. Regardless of its outcome in the extension of numerous VSTs, this approach was challenging to bring about clinical practice because of administrative issues with the attachment to the great current assembling guidelines (CGMP) (Abdulmir et al., 2008).

IFN-CAPTION is one more strategy for producing VST with quick age. Utilizing an immuno-attractive division gadget, this approach distinguishes T cells that are delivered in the wake of being enacted by viral antigens. After the T cells have been invigorated, the antibodies are restricted to the IFN-, permitting the disconnection of the T cells by attractive choice (Abdulmir et al., 2008). IFN-CAPTION isn't intended for HLA, it, thusly, produces a polyclonal item with the CD4 + and CD8 + immunological cells. Notwithstanding, the determination of ways to deal with the IFN catch and the tetramer require HIV - positive contributors and an enormous quantity of circling VSTs for remedial usage (Croft et al., 2009).

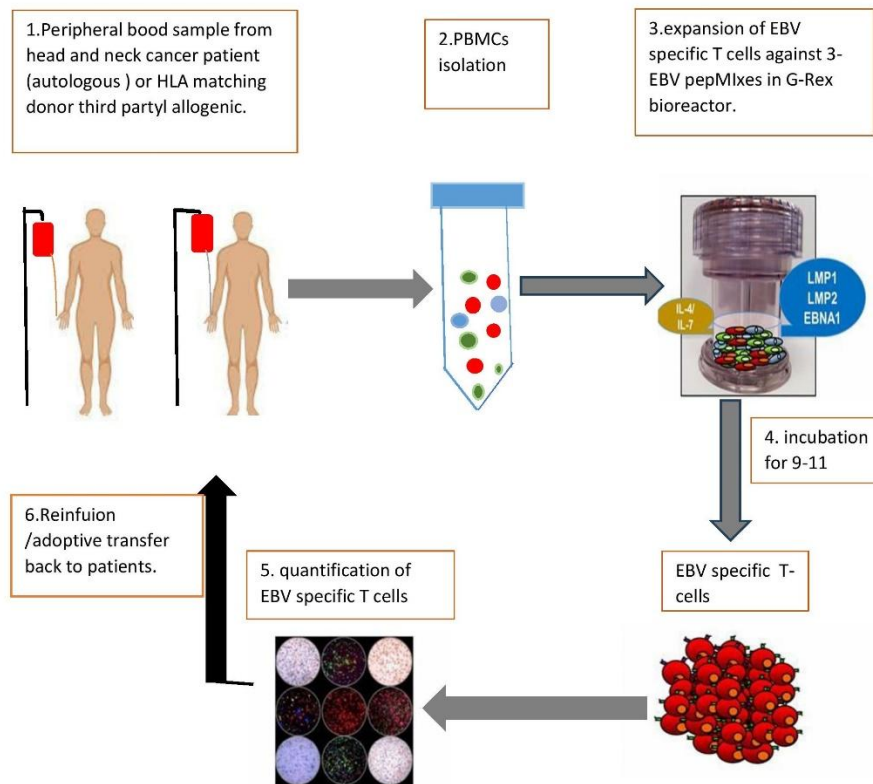


Figure 3. A journey from the bedside to the bench and back: T cells that are specific for the EBV can be isolated from a patient's blood and reactivated and primed in vitro to improve their number and specificity.

Assume that T-memory cells absent or that its capacity has been decreased by immunosuppressant cancer-dynamic microenvironment (administrative T cells, suppressive cells got from a myeloid, and cytokines/chemokines inhibitors). For this situation, explicit T cells of the infection (VST) can be gotten from the fringe blood of a sibling with HLA or an outsider HIV-positive contributor by HLA (Neudorfer et al., 2007). The detachment of the mononuclear cells of fringe blood (PBMC) of the blood/fringe blood will be completed utilizing the centrifugation of the thickness of fill-dark. PBMCs would be beaten in vitro by 3 kick blend polypeptides which cross-over and mirror the EBV viral antigens tracked down in the cancer cells of the NPC to create lines of explicit T cells of the EBV (dormant film protein 1, layer protein Latent 2, and atomic actuated antigen. Prior to being moved to a G-Rex[®] culture gadget, PBMCs adjourned in Culture Environmental IL4 and IL7. VSTs are reaped and reasonability and amount are estimated following 9 to 11 days of culture. The ELISPOT test will be utilized to decide the viral explicitness of these T cells. The T cells well defined for the drawn-out EBV gathered from the patient or an HLA correspondence benefactor are mixed in the fringe dissemination of the patient in the treatment of autologous and allogeneic T lymphocytes (Cobbold et al., 2005).

Regardless of the forward leaps in the VST creation process, none of the methodologies recorded above has demonstrated to have the option to extend the T cells of the seronegative benefactors of the infection. The actuation strategies for gullible T cells in the blood of the rope were planned by a few associations (Rosenberg et al., 2004). The G-Rex[®] gas overhang penetrable cell culture has expanded the quantity of T cells got from line blood to clinically satisfactory levels. It is feasible to create numerous particular T lymphocytes of the infection in an infection-free climate viable with the CGMP (Leen et al., 2006). The PD-L1 antigen has been shown to be communicated in the NPC growth cells and can be related to an unfortunate guess for the illness. Overexpression of the PD-1 antigens were additionally found on EBV-explicit T cells that had been enhanced. These outcomes

recommend that the hindrance of PD-1/PDL-1 could work on initiation of EBV-explicit T lymphocytes. With NPC subjects (Neudorfer et al., 2007).

Conclusion

EBV infection is characterized by asymptomatic infection, a lifetime in the B-memory cells, showing a strong virus interaction with the immune system. The protagonist of EBV in development of NPC & EBV-GC is not well understood. Nevertheless, it seems instigated by formation of virus dormancy that deviates in epithelial cells that had recently experienced premalignant hereditary changes. This linkage of EBV in the cancer-causing progression, there is a possibility that this link can be used clinically to help patients. New therapeutic techniques, such as virus reactivation, gene therapy, and therapeutic vaccination, a good sign for our ability to successfully target carcinoma related to EBV. Restraint of focus on inflammasome exercises can have likely applications in the counteraction and treatment of malignant growth as a result of its continuous irritation exercises, which can build the seriousness of the illness and give potential chances to work on the proficiency of safe really take a look at picking in disease immunotherapy. The infection has as of late been distinguished to utilize different techniques to escape from the antitumor insusceptible reaction that is intervened by the inflammasome. The impacts of the different inflammasome in malignant growth additionally show that a significant number of their utilitarian capacities and cycles are as yet hazy. Subsequently, further examination is expected to comprehend the job and practical system that upholds inflammasome actuation in NPC. This finding will add to the advancement of more adjusted and appealing support for NPC.

Funding: This literature review received no external funding.

Institutional Review Board Statement: Not applicable.

Acknowledgments: The authors would like to thank PKLI & RC for providing the facilities to conduct this informative literature review.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References

- Abdulmir, A., R. Hafidh, N. Abdulmuhaimen, F. Abubakar, and K. Abbas. 2008. The distinctive profile of risk factors of nasopharyngeal carcinoma in comparison with other head and neck cancer types. *BMC public health*. 8:1-16.
- Agostini, L., F. Martinon, K. Burns, M.F. McDermott, P.N. Hawkins, and J. Tschopp. 2004. NALP3 forms an IL-1 β -processing inflammasome with increased activity in Muckle-Wells autoinflammatory disorder. *Immunity*. 20:319-325.
- Ahn, Y.C. 2019. Less is more: role of additional chemotherapy to concurrent chemoradiotherapy in locoregionally advanced nasopharyngeal cancer management. *Radiation Oncology Journal*. 37:67.
- Al-Mozaini, M., G. Bodelon, C.E. Karstegl, B. Jin, M. Al-Ahdal, and P.J. Farrell. 2009. Epstein–Barr virus BART gene expression. *Journal of General Virology*. 90:307-316.
- Balahura, L.R., A. Selaru, S. Dinescu, and M. Costache. 2020. Inflammation and inflammasomes: Pros and cons in tumorigenesis. *Journal of Immunology Research*. 2020.
- Bossi, P., A. Chan, L. Licitra, A. Trama, E. Orlandi, E. Hui, J. Halámková, S. Mattheis, B. Baujat, and J. Hardillo. 2021. Nasopharyngeal carcinoma: ESMO-EURACAN Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up. *Annals of Oncology*. 32:452-465.
- Bouvard, V., R. Baan, K. Straif, Y. Grosse, B. Secretan, F. El Ghissassi, L. Benbrahim-Tallaa, N. Guha, C. Freeman, and L. Galichet. 2009. A review of human carcinogens—Part B: biological agents. *The lancet oncology*. 10:321-322.
- Brady, G., G. MacArthur, and P. Farrell. 2008. Epstein–Barr virus and Burkitt lymphoma. *Postgraduate medical journal*. 84:372-377.
- Chen, H., J.M. Lee, Y. Zong, M. Borowitz, M.H. Ng, R.F. Ambinder, and S.D. Hayward. 2001. Linkage between STAT regulation and Epstein–Barr virus gene expression in tumors. *Journal of virology*. 75:2929-2937.
- Chen, Q.-Y., Y.-F. Wen, L. Guo, H. Liu, P.-Y. Huang, H.-Y. Mo, N.-W. Li, Y.-Q. Xiang, D.-H. Luo, and F. Qiu. 2011. Concurrent chemoradiotherapy vs radiotherapy alone in stage II nasopharyngeal carcinoma: phase III randomized trial. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*. 103:1761-1770.
- Ciążyńska, M., I.A. Bednarski, K. Wódz, J. Narbutt, and A. Lesiak. 2020. NLRP1 and NLRP3 inflammasomes as a new

- approach to skin carcinogenesis. *Oncology letters*. 19:1649-1656.
- Cobbold, M., N. Khan, B. Pourghesari, S. Tauro, D. McDonald, H. Osman, M. Assenmacher, L. Billingham, C. Steward, and C. Crawley. 2005. Adoptive transfer of cytomegalovirus-specific CTL to stem cell transplant patients after selection by HLA-peptide tetramers. *The Journal of experimental medicine*. 202:379-386.
- Cohen, J.I. 2015. Epstein-barr virus vaccines. *Clinical & translational immunology*. 4:e32.
- Corvalan, A., S. Ding, C. Koriyama, E. Carrascal, G. Carrasquilla, C. Backhouse, L. Urzua, J. Argandoña, M. Palma, and Y. Eizuru. 2006. Association of a distinctive strain of Epstein-Barr virus with gastric cancer. *International journal of cancer*. 118:1736-1742.
- Croft, N.P., C. Shannon-Lowe, A.I. Bell, D. Horst, E. Kremmer, M.E. Rensing, E.J. Wiertz, J.M. Middeldorp, M. Rowe, and A.B. Rickinson. 2009. Stage-specific inhibition of MHC class I presentation by the Epstein-Barr virus BNLF2a protein during virus lytic cycle. *PLoS Pathogens*. 5:e1000490.
- Dawson, C.W., R.J. Port, and L.S. Young. 2012. The role of the EBV-encoded latent membrane proteins LMP1 and LMP2 in the pathogenesis of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC). In *Seminars in cancer biology*. Vol. 22. Elsevier. 144-153.
- Frappier, L. 2012. Role of EBNA1 in NPC tumorigenesis. In *Seminars in cancer biology*. Vol. 22. Elsevier. 154-161.
- He, Q., Y. Fu, D. Tian, and W. Yan. 2018. The contrasting roles of inflammasomes in cancer. *American journal of cancer research*. 8:566.
- Ji, M., W. Sheng, W. Cheng, M. Ng, B. Wu, X. Yu, K. Wei, F. Li, S. Lian, and P. Wang. 2019. Incidence and mortality of nasopharyngeal carcinoma: interim analysis of a cluster randomized controlled screening trial (PRO-NPC-001) in southern China. *Annals of Oncology*. 30:1630-1637.
- Jochum, S., A. Moosmann, S. Lang, W. Hammerschmidt, and R. Zeidler. 2012. The EBV immunoevasins vL-10 and BNLF2a protect newly infected B cells from immune recognition and elimination. *PLoS pathogens*. 8:e1002704.
- Kantono, M., and B. Guo. 2017. Inflammasomes and cancer: the dynamic role of the inflammasome in tumor development. *Frontiers in immunology*. 8:1132.
- Kelly, G., A. Bell, and A. Rickinson. 2002. Epstein-Barr virus-associated Burkitt lymphomagenesis selects for downregulation of the nuclear antigen EBNA2. *Nature medicine*. 8:1098-1104.
- Khabir, A., H. Karray, S. Rodriguez, M. Rosé, J. Daoud, M. Frikha, T. Boudawara, J. Middeldorp, R. Jliidi, and P. Busson. 2005. EBV latent membrane protein 1 abundance correlates with patient age but not with metastatic behavior in north African nasopharyngeal carcinomas. *Virology journal*. 2:1-7.
- Kwok, H., C. Wu, A. Palser, P. Kellam, P. Sham, D. Kwong, and A. Chiang. 2014. Genomic diversity of Epstein-Barr virus genomes isolated from primary nasopharyngeal carcinoma biopsy samples. *Journal of virology*. 88:10662-10672.
- Lee, H.S., M.S. Chang, H.-K. Yang, B.L. Lee, and W.H. Kim. 2004. Epstein-Barr virus-positive gastric carcinoma has a distinct protein expression profile in comparison with Epstein-Barr virus-negative carcinoma. *Clinical Cancer Research*. 10:1698-1705.
- Lee, J.H., S.H. Kim, S.H. Han, J.S. An, E.S. Lee, and Y.S. Kim. 2009. Clinicopathological and molecular characteristics of Epstein-Barr virus-associated gastric carcinoma: A meta-analysis. *Journal of gastroenterology and hepatology*. 24:354-365.
- Leen, A.M., G.D. Myers, U. Sili, M.H. Huls, H. Weiss, K.S. Leung, G. Carrum, R.A. Krance, C.-C. Chang, and J.J. Moldrem. 2006. Monoculture-derived T lymphocytes specific for multiple viruses expand and produce clinically relevant effects in immunocompromised individuals. *Nature medicine*. 12:1160-1166.
- Liu, P., X. Fang, Z. Feng, Y.-M. Guo, R.-J. Peng, T. Liu, Z. Huang, Y. Feng, X. Sun, and Z. Xiong. 2011. Direct sequencing and characterization of a clinical isolate of Epstein-Barr virus from nasopharyngeal carcinoma tissue by using next-generation sequencing technology. *Journal of virology*. 85:11291-11299.
- Liu, T., L. Zhang, D. Joo, and S.-C. Sun. 2017. NF- κ B signaling in inflammation. *Signal transduction and targeted therapy*. 2:1-9.
- Lo, K.-W., G.T.-Y. Chung, and K.-F. To. 2012. Deciphering the molecular genetic basis of NPC through molecular, cytogenetic, and epigenetic approaches. In *Seminars in cancer biology*. Vol. 22. Elsevier. 79-86.
- Louis, C.U., K. Straathof, C.M. Bollard, S. Ennamuri, C. Gerken, T.T. Lopez, M.H. Huls, A. Sheehan, M.-F. Wu, and H. Liu. 2010. Adoptive transfer of EBV-specific T cells results in sustained clinical responses in patients with locoregional nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Journal of immunotherapy (Hagerstown, Md.: 1997)*. 33:983.
- Lung, H.L., A.K.L. Cheung, J.M.Y. Ko, Y. Cheng, E.J. Stanbridge, and M.L. Lung. 2012. Deciphering the molecular genetic basis of NPC through functional approaches. In *Seminars in cancer biology*. Vol. 22. Elsevier. 87-95.
- Mai, C.W., Y.B. Kang, and M.R. Pichika. 2013. Should a Toll-like receptor 4 (TLR-4) agonist or antagonist be designed to treat cancer? TLR-4: its expression and effects in the ten most common cancers. *OncoTargets and therapy*:1573-1587.
- Martinon, F., K. Burns, and J. Tschopp. 2002. The inflammasome: a molecular platform triggering activation of inflammatory caspases and processing of proIL- β . *Molecular cell*. 10:417-426.
- Massini, G., D. Siemer, and S. Hohaus. 2009. EBV in Hodgkin lymphoma. *Mediterranean journal of hematology and*

infectious diseases. 1.

- Moossavi, M., N. Parsamanesh, A. Bahrami, S.L. Atkin, and A. Sahebkar. 2018. Role of the NLRP3 inflammasome in cancer. *Molecular cancer*. 17:1-13.
- Murphy, G., R. Pfeiffer, M.C. Camargo, and C.S. Rabkin. 2009. Meta-analysis shows that prevalence of Epstein–Barr virus-positive gastric cancer differs based on sex and anatomic location. *Gastroenterology*. 137:824-833.
- Nakamura, K., S. Kassem, A. Cleynen, M.-L. Chretien, C. Guillerey, E.M. Putz, T. Bald, I. Förster, S. Vuckovic, and G.R. Hill. 2018. Dysregulated IL-18 is a key driver of immunosuppression and a possible therapeutic target in the multiple myeloma microenvironment. *Cancer cell*. 33:634-648. e635.
- Neudorfer, J., B. Schmidt, K.M. Huster, F. Anderl, M. Schiemann, G. Holzappel, T. Schmidt, L. Germeroth, H. Wagner, and C. Peschel. 2007. Reversible HLA multimers (Streptamers) for the isolation of human cytotoxic T lymphocytes functionally active against tumor-and virus-derived antigens. *Journal of immunological methods*. 320:119-131.
- Peterson, B.R., and B.L. Nelson. 2013. Nonkeratinizing undifferentiated nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Head and neck pathology*. 7:73-75.
- Pfister, D.G., S. Spencer, D. Adelstein, D. Adkins, Y. Anzai, D.M. Brizel, J.Y. Bruce, P.M. Busse, J.J. Caudell, and A.J. Cmelak. 2020. Head and neck cancers, version 2.2020, NCCN clinical practice guidelines in oncology. *Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network*. 18:873-898.
- Plummer, M., C. de Martel, J. Vignat, J. Ferlay, F. Bray, and S. Franceschi. 2016. Global burden of cancers attributable to infections in 2012: a synthetic analysis. *The Lancet Global Health*. 4:e609-e616.
- Prabhu, S.R., and D.F. Wilson. 2016. Evidence of Epstein-Barr virus association with head and neck cancers: a review. *Journal of the Canadian Dental Association*. 82:1-11.
- Quail, D.F., and J.A. Joyce. 2013. Microenvironmental regulation of tumor progression and metastasis. *Nature medicine*. 19:1423-1437.
- Rosenberg, S.A., J.C. Yang, and N.P. Restifo. 2004. Cancer immunotherapy: moving beyond current vaccines. *Nature medicine*. 10:909-915.
- Savoldo, B., M.L. Cubbage, A.G. Durett, J. Goss, M.H. Huls, Z. Liu, L. Teresita, A.P. Gee, P.D. Ling, and M.K. Brenner. 2002. Generation of EBV-specific CD4+ cytotoxic T cells from virus naive individuals. *The Journal of Immunology*. 168:909-918.
- Seto, E., T. Ooka, J. Middeldorp, and K. Takada. 2008. Reconstitution of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma–Type EBV Infection Induces Tumorigenicity. *Cancer research*. 68:1030-1036.
- Smith, C., V. Lee, A. Schuessler, L. Beagley, S. Rehan, J. Tsang, V. Li, R. Tiu, D. Smith, and M.A. Neller. 2017. Pre-emptive and therapeutic adoptive immunotherapy for nasopharyngeal carcinoma: Phenotype and effector function of T cells impact on clinical response. *Oncoimmunology*. 6:e1273311.
- Tao, Q., L.S. Young, C.B. Woodman, and P.G. Murray. 2006. Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) and its associated human cancers—genetics, epigenetics, pathobiology and novel therapeutics. *Frontiers in Bioscience-Landmark*. 11:2672-2713.
- Taylor, G.S., H. Jia, K. Harrington, L.W. Lee, J. Turner, K. Ladell, D.A. Price, M. Tanday, J. Matthews, and C. Roberts. 2014. A recombinant modified vaccinia ankara vaccine encoding Epstein–Barr virus (EBV) target antigens: a phase I trial in UK patients with EBV-positive cancer. *Clinical Cancer Research*. 20:5009-5022.
- Tempera, I., and P.M. Lieberman. 2014. Epigenetic regulation of EBV persistence and oncogenesis. *In Seminars in cancer biology*. Vol. 26. Elsevier. 22-29.
- Teow, S.-Y., H.-Y. Yap, and S.-C. Peh. 2017. Epstein-barr virus as a promising immunotherapeutic target for nasopharyngeal carcinoma treatment. *Journal of Pathogens*. 2017.
- Thi, H.T.H., and S. Hong. 2017. Inflammasome as a therapeutic target for cancer prevention and treatment. *Journal of cancer prevention*. 22:62.
- Thompson, L.D. 2007. Update on nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Head and neck pathology*. 1:81-86.
- Thorley-Lawson, D.A. 2001. Epstein-Barr virus: exploiting the immune system. *Nature Reviews Immunology*. 1:75-82.
- Tierney, R.J., R.H. Edwards, D. Sitki-Green, D. Croom-Carter, S. Roy, Q.-Y. Yao, N. Raab-Traub, and A.B. Rickinson. 2006. Multiple Epstein-Barr virus strains in patients with infectious mononucleosis: comparison of ex vivo samples with in vitro isolates by use of heteroduplex tracking assays. *Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 193:287-297.
- Tsang, C.M., V.W.Y. Lui, J.P. Bruce, T.J. Pugh, and K.W. Lo. 2020. Translational genomics of nasopharyngeal cancer. *In Seminars in cancer biology*. Vol. 61. Elsevier. 84-100.
- Ugel, S., F. De Sanctis, S. Mandruzzato, and V. Bronte. 2015. Tumor-induced myeloid deviation: when myeloid-derived suppressor cells meet tumor-associated macrophages. *The Journal of clinical investigation*. 125:3365-3376.
- Ushiku, T., J.M. Chong, H. Uozaki, R. Hino, M.S. Chang, M. Sudo, B.R. Rani, K. Sakuma, H. Nagai, and M. Fukayama. 2007. p73 gene promoter methylation in Epstein-Barr virus-associated gastric carcinoma. *International journal of cancer*. 120:60-66.
- Wang, F., C. Jiang, L. Wang, F. Yan, Q. Sun, Z. Ye, T. Liu, Z. Fu, and Y. Jiang. 2020. Influence of concurrent chemotherapy on locoregionally advanced nasopharyngeal carcinoma treated with neoadjuvant chemotherapy plus intensity-modulated radiotherapy: A retrospective matched analysis. *Scientific Reports*. 10:2489.
- Wang, K., S.T. Yuen, J. Xu, S.P. Lee, H.H. Yan, S.T. Shi, H.C. Siu, S. Deng, K.M. Chu, and S. Law. 2014. Whole-genome

- sequencing and comprehensive molecular profiling identify new driver mutations in gastric cancer. *Nature genetics*. 46:573-582.
- Wei, K.R., Y. Xu, J. Liu, W.-j. Zhang, and Z.-h. Liang. 2011. Histopathological classification of nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Asian Pac J Cancer Prev*. 12:1141-1147.
- Wu, L., C. Li, and L. Pan. 2018. Nasopharyngeal carcinoma: A review of current updates. *Experimental and therapeutic medicine*. 15:3687-3692.
- Xia, Y., S. Shen, and I.M. Verma. 2014. NF- κ B, an active player in human cancers. *Cancer immunology research*. 2:823-830.
- Xiong, F., S. Deng, H.-B. Huang, X.-Y. Li, W.-L. Zhang, Q.-J. Liao, J. Ma, X.-L. Li, W. Xiong, and G.-Y. Li. 2019. Effects and mechanisms of innate immune molecules on inhibiting nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Chinese Medical Journal*. 132:749-752.
- Yi, Y.-S. 2020. Caspase-11 non-canonical inflammasome: emerging activator and regulator of infection-mediated inflammatory responses. *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*. 21:2736.
- Young, L.S., and A.B. Rickinson. 2004. Epstein–Barr virus: 40 years on. *Nature Reviews Cancer*. 4:757-768.
- Zhang, L., Q.-Y. Chen, H. Liu, L.-Q. Tang, and H.-Q. Mai. 2013. Emerging treatment options for nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Drug design, development and therapy*:37-52.
- Zur Hausen, A., B. Van Rees, J. Van Beek, M. Craanen, E. Bloemena, G. Offerhaus, C. Meijer, and A. van den Brule. 2004. Epstein-Barr virus in gastric carcinomas and gastric stump carcinomas: a late event in gastric carcinogenesis. *Journal of clinical pathology*. 57:487-491.

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of RES Publishers and/or the editor(s). RES Publishers and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.