

A C 133

A C 133

2000 12



2000 12

Jiangez,

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AC133

AC133

, CD34
CD34

AC133

AC133

36 (21 ,
15) ,

Western blot

. AC133

CD45 side scatter

AC133

20%

. AC133 33.3%

(12 /36) ,

52.4% (11 /21

) ,

6.7% (1 /15) AC133

AC133

가 .

(CD34, HLA-DR, CD38)

CD34

AC133

($P=0.045$).

Fas, Fas ligand, Bcl-2, caspase-3 ,
AC133 가 Fas
가 (P=0.048).
(cytosine arabinoside[Ara-C], doxorubicin, tumor necrosis
factor[TNF]-) . AC133
가
Ara-C
(P=0.049), caspase-3
AC133
Ara-C caspase-3
. , CD34
AC133 doxorubicin
TNF- 가 .
AC133
가 . , AC133
, CD34
AC133
가 .
: AC133 , ,

AC133

< >

I.

AC133

CD34^{bright}

5-transmembrane molecule ,

^{1,2,3} . , AC133

CD34

· , AC133

CD34

CD34

⁴ , AC133

· , 가 .

,

(ontogeny)

가

.

^{5,6} ,

(multi-drug resistance gene)

7. ,

CD34

, CD34

CD34

AC133

가

(apoptosis)

가

8.

가

, CD34, HLA-DR, CD38

AC133

AC133

AC133

Fas, Bcl-2, caspase-3

, in vitro AC133

AC133

AC133

AC133

II.

1.

1997 11 2000 5
15
36 (21 , 15)
French-American-British (FAB)
(bone marrow
mononuclear cells) Ficoll-Hypaque (Nyegaard, Oslo, Norway)
(density gradient) . 2
10% fetal bovine serum (FBS; GIBCO,
Gaithersburg, MD) 10% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)
RPMI 1640 (GIBCO)
-70
FBS RPMI 1640 2 0.3% trypan blue
hemocytometer (viability)
가 90%

2.

가.

, , , lactate dehydrogenase (LDH),

, , 1 ,

AC133

(extramedullary leukemia) 가

, 가 1,500/L , (blast)가 ,

100,000/uL 20% ,

가 5% 가 4

. AC133 (immunophenotype)

AC133, CD34, CD38, HLA-DR

Fas, FasL (ligand)

(monoclonal antibodies)

(flow cytometry) . FITC (fluorescent isothiocyanate, FL1) PE (phycoerythrin, FL2) PerCP (peridinine chlorophyll protein, FL3) purified

. AC133-PE (Miltenyi Biotec, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany), CD34-FITC (Becton Dickinson, Mountain View, CA, USA), CD38 (Becton Dickinson), HLA-DR-PerCP (Becton

Dickinson), Fas (Becton Dickinson), FasL (Becton Dickinson), CD45-FITC (Becton Dickinson) . mouse IgG₁-FITC, mouse IgG₁-PE, mouse IgG₁-PerCP (Becton Dickinson)

2.5-5.0 × 10⁵ cells/50 uL 100 uL

FACS wash buffer

(Table 1) 10 uL 4 20
 FACS wash buffer 2 ml 4 300 g 5

Table 1. Monoclonal antibody panel for flow cytometry used in the study

No	FITC	PE	PerCP
1	Control IgG ₁	Control IgG ₁	Control IgG ₁
2	CD34	AC133	CD38
3	CD34	AC133	HLA-DR
4	CD34	AC133	Fas
5	CD34	AC133	FasL
6	CD45	AC133	

CD38, Fas, FasL RAM (rat anti-mouse) IgG₁-PerCP (Becton Dickinson) 4

20

(FACSCalibur, Becton Dickinson) forward scatter (FSC)

side scatter (SSC) linear scale ,

FITC FL1, PE FL2, PerCP FL3 log scale

CellQuest software (Becton Dickinson)

10,000

CD45 SSC

AC133

가

20%

AC133

CD45 SSC

AC133

20%

Western blot

36

Western blot

Bcl-2, caspase-3

AC133

가

2

(acute promyelocytic leukemia, M3) 2

17

12%

SDS-polyacrylamide gel

nitrocellulose

membrane (Amersham, Little Chalfont, UK)

Anti-Bcl-2 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa Cruz, California, USA),

anti-caspase-3 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) ECL chemiluminiscent detection reagent (Amersham)

CSC Camera controller 1.4 program (Vilber lourmat, France)

TINA 2.10e program (Raytest, Germany)

, AC133

anti-human -tubulin (Cedarlane,

Hornby, Ontario, Canada)

-tubulin

(cytosine arabinoside[Ara-C], doxorubicin, TNF-) 가 , Ara-C 1 uM (24), doxorubicin 1 uM (4), TNF- 10 ng/ml (4) Annexin-V-FITC (Becton Dickinson)/Propidium iodide (PI; Sigma, Deisenhofen, Germany) . 100 uL (1×10^6 cells) Annexin-V-FITC 5 uL PI 10 uL 가 가 Annexin-V⁺/PI[±] 가 , AC133 .

Ara-C 1 uM (24), doxorubicin 1 uM (4), TNF- 10 ng/ml (4) 가 , 가 가 . 24 cytospin centrifuge (Cytospin 3; Shandon, USA) , Wright (Olympus BX50F; Olympus optical co, Japan) AC133 .

AC133

Student's T-test , Kaplan-Meier
survival test log
rank test . AC133

chi-square test, Student's T-test,
Pearson correlation test . P 0.05

Windows-SPSS release 9.0

III.

1. A C133

36 ,

(Table 2, 3).

Table 2. Clinical characteristics and expression rates of AC133 and CD34 antigen in acute lymphoblastic leukemias

UPN	Sex/Age	FAB type	AC133 (%)	CD34 (%)	Karyotype	CR1 duration (months)	OS (months)
1	M/39	L2	3.3	91.2	46XY, t(9;22)	7	11
2	F/15	L2	5.7	4.7	normal	4	12
3	F/18	L2	0.8	68.1	not reportable	5	8
4	F/26	L2	3.9	80.4	normal	9	20
5	M/45	L2	2.0	2.0	normal	4	12
6	M/43	L2	35.3	94.3	not reportable	1	9
7	F/17	L2	1.0	1.8	normal	17	18
8	M/59	L2	1.4	0.3	normal	13	14
9	M/24	L2	10.1	9.8	47XY, +16	11	13
10	F/36	L2	0.9	78.6	normal	12	13
11	M/27	L2	2.6	21.8	47XY, +10	4	10
12	F/37	L2	0.3	79.5	not reportable	6	7
13	F/42	L2	0.2	48.4	normal	0	4
14	M/45	L2	1.1	89.3	normal	4	5
15	M/45	L2	9.4	91.9	normal	0	11

FAB; French-American-British, CR1; first complete remission, OS; overall survival duration.

Table 3. Clinical characteristics and expression rates of AC133 and CD34 antigen in acute myelogenous leukemias

UPN	Sex/Age	FAB type	AC133 (%)	CD34 (%)	Karyotype	CR1 duration (months)	OS (months)
1	F/25	M4	23.0	80.3	normal	8	11
2	M/46	M4	36.0	64.3	48XY, +21 × 2	10	11
3	F/18	M2	67.8	0.7	45XO, -7,+15	13	14
4	M/42	M2	6.4	2.1	47XY, +8	11	15
5	F/15	M2	7.1	58.0	not reportable	0	10
6	F/58	M4	1.5	48.4	46XX, t(8;21)	0	3
7	M/51	M3	0.3	31.2	46XY, t(15;17)	17	18
8	M/17	M5	64.8	74.0	normal	16	17
9	M/50	M5	20.1	26.8	normal	18	20
10	F/68	M2	51.5	58.7	not reportable	3	6
11	M/35	M1	87.7	92.3	normal	0	2
12	M/42	M2	11.4	84.0	not reportable	4	10
13	M/52	M5	9.5	90.9	45XY, -8	0	2
14	M/67	M0	65.3	46.8	normal	0	1
15	M/34	M5	1.4	0.6	49XY, +8,10,14	3	4
16	M/59	M0	0.9	49.4	normal	0	1
17	M/73	M1	73.6	91.6	47XY, +8	0	1
18	M/72	M5	91.0	93.6	47XY, +8	0	7
19	F/71	M3	1.7	5.0	normal	22	23
20	F/18	M5	2.3	1.6	not reportable	27	29
21	M/56	M4	90.9	89.3	normal	2	10

36 (33.3%) , AC133 41.3 (15-73) , AC133 1.6:1 (22 , 14) . AC133 12 (20.1-91.0%) . AC133 65.0% (20.1-91.0%) . AC133 (Table 4).

Table 4. Patients characteristics according to AC133 expression

	AC133 expression		P
	Positive (N=12)	Negative (N=24)	
Age	48 (17- 73)	40.5 (15-71)	NS
Sex (M:F)	9:3	13:11	NS
AML			
M0/M1/M2/M3	1/2/2/0	1/0/3/2	
M4/M5	3/3	1/3	
ALL (L2)	1	14	
Hemogram			
Hemoglobin (g/dL)	7.6 (4.2- 12.0)	7.8 (2.8- 13.0)	NS
WBC ($\times 10^9/L$)	42.9 (2.7- 341.5)	16.3 (1.3- 109.2)	NS
Platelets ($\times 10^9/L$)	53.0 (9.0- 139.0)	54.0 (8.0- 512.0)	NS
LDH* (IU/L)	713.5 (250.0- 4672.0)	1423.0 (344.0- 13570.0)	NS

*Normal range; 225-445 IU/L, LDH; lactate dehydrogenase, NS; non- significant.

AC133 52.4% (11 /21) , 6.7% (1 / 15) . AC133

($P=0.005$). AC133

1 L2, common B-
(CD10) , AC133
35.3% . AC133

(Table 5).

French-American-British (FAB) AC133 M1
100% (2 / 2), M4 75% (3 / 4), M0 50% (1 / 2), M5
50% (3 / 6) , (M3) 2
AC133 (Table 3).

Table 5. Clinical characteristics of AML patients according to AC133 expression

	AC133-positive (N=11)	AC133-negative (N=10)	P
Age	50.0 (17- 73)	46.5 (15- 71)	NS
Sex (M:F)	8:3	6:4	NS
Hemogram			
Hemoglobin (g/dL)	7.6 (4.9- 13.7)	6.9 (5.0- 12.3)	NS
WBC ($\times 10^9/L$)	28.6 (2.7- 341.5)	18.6 (1.4- 45.7)	NS
Platelets ($\times 10^9/L$)	41.0 (9.0- 139.0)	24.5 (8.0- 116.0)	NS
LDH (IU/L)	663.0 (250.0- 4672.0)	1537.5 (480.0- 4232.0)	NS
Percentage of AC133- positive cells	65.3 (20.1- 91.0)	2.0 (0.3- 11.4)	<0.01
Karyotype			
Normal	6	2	
t(8:21) or t(15:17)	0	2	
+8 or +21	3	2	
-5 or -7	1	0	
others	0	1	
not reportable	1	3	

2. AC133

AC133

가

. AC133

1 VPD (vincristine, prednisolone, daunorubicin)

1

10

6

21

AC133

(Table 6).

Table 6. Therapeutic outcomes in acute leukemia patients

	AML			ALL
	AC133-positive	AC133-negative	P	
CR rate (%)	63.6 (7/ 11)	60.0 (6/ 10)	NS	86.7 (13/ 15)
CR1 duration (months)	10.0	14.0	NS	6.0
Remission failure rate (%)	36.4 (4/ 11)	40.0 (4/ 10)	NS	13.3 (2/ 15)
Early death	25.0 (1/ 4)	50.0 (2/ 4)		0.0 (0/ 2)
Resistance	75.0 (3/ 4)	50.0 (2/ 4)		100.0 (2/ 2)
Relapse rate (%)	42.9 (3/ 7)	50.0 (3/ 6)	NS	53.8 (7/ 13)
One-year relapse rate (%)	42.9 (3/ 7)	33.3 (2/ 6)	NS	53.8 (7/ 13)
Median OS (months)	10.0	10.0	NS	11.0
One-year survival rate (%)	45.5	46.7	NS	41.7
Median DFS (months)	10.0	14.0	NS	6.0

AML; acute myelogenous leukemia, ALL; acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

100 mg/m² 15 Ara-C
1 3 1 7 , idarubicin 12 mg/m²
11 .
2 ATRA (all-trans retinoic acid)
Ara-C, idarubicin, topotecan
1 , 3
10 ,
AC133 . AC133
AC133
(Figure 1). ,
AC133 (CR1
duration) AC133 , 1
(one-year relapse rate)
(Table 6). CD34 CD34
(log rank test; $P < 0.01$). , AC133⁺/CD34⁺
AC133⁻/CD34⁺ 가
, CD38 HLA-DR

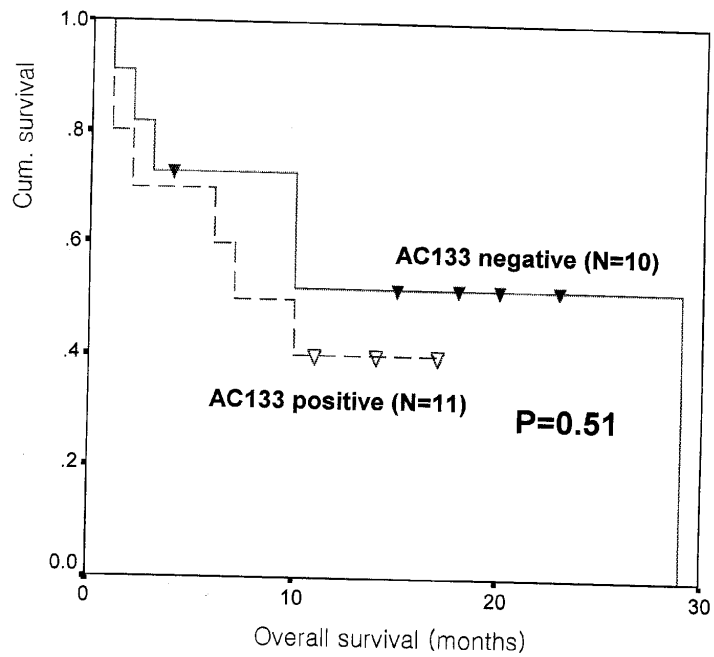


Fig. 1. Kaplan-Meier survival estimates of acute myeloid leukemia patients according to AC133 expression.

3. AC133 CD34, CD38, HLA - DR

AC133

CD34, CD38, HLA - DR

(Figure 2).

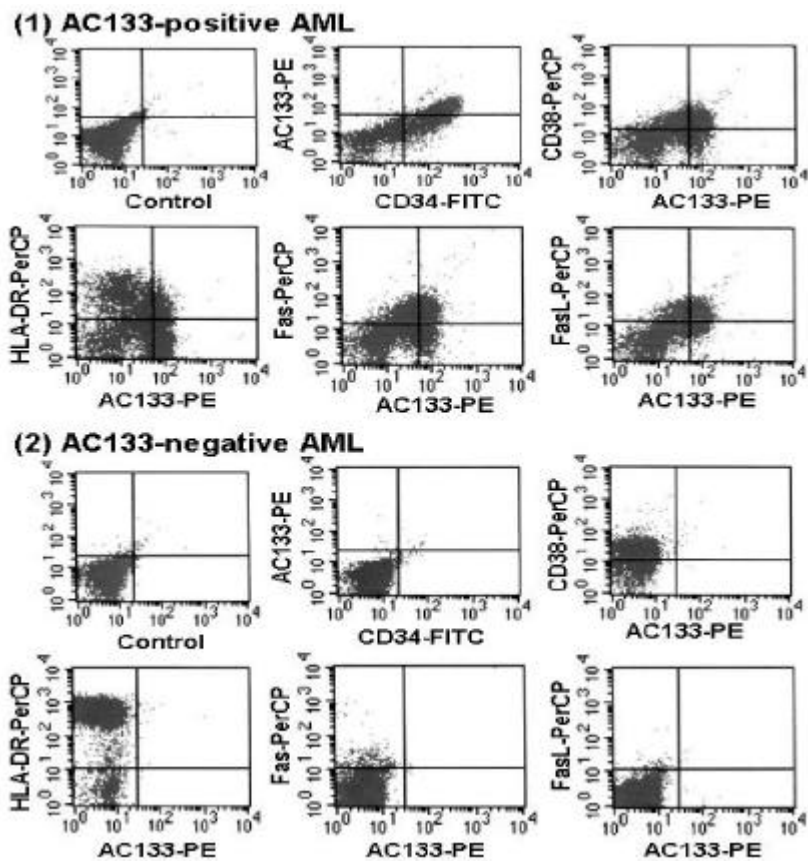


Fig. 2. Coexpression of AC133, CD34, CD38, HLA-DR, Fas, FasL (ligand) in AML cells. Flow cytometric analyses of immunophenotypes of AML cells obtained from two representative cases are shown.

15 CD34 10
 (66.7%), CD38 15 (100%), HLA-DR 12
 (80.0%) . AC133 1
 CD34, CD38, HLA-DR .
 21 CD34 15 (71.4%),
 CD38 18 (85.7%), HLA-DR 19 (90.5%)
 . AC133
 CD34 AC133
 ($P=0.045$)(Table 7). CD34 15
 AC133 (AC133⁺/CD34⁺) 10 (66.7%) , AC133⁻/CD34⁺
 가 5 (33.3%) . AC133 1
 AC133⁺/CD34⁻ .

Table 7. Immunophenotype in AC133-positive and AC133-negative AML cells

	AC133-positive (N=11)	AC133-negative (N=10)	P
CD34 (%)	65.3 ± 30.2	34.1 ± 36.3	0.045
CD38 (%)	58.9 ± 25.8	56.4 ± 33.9	NS
HLA-DR (%)	72.2 ± 20.0	59.1 ± 32.6	NS

AC133 AC133
 AC133 CD34 가
 99.0% () , AC133 CD38
 76.5%, AC133 HLA-DR
 94.1% .

4. A C133

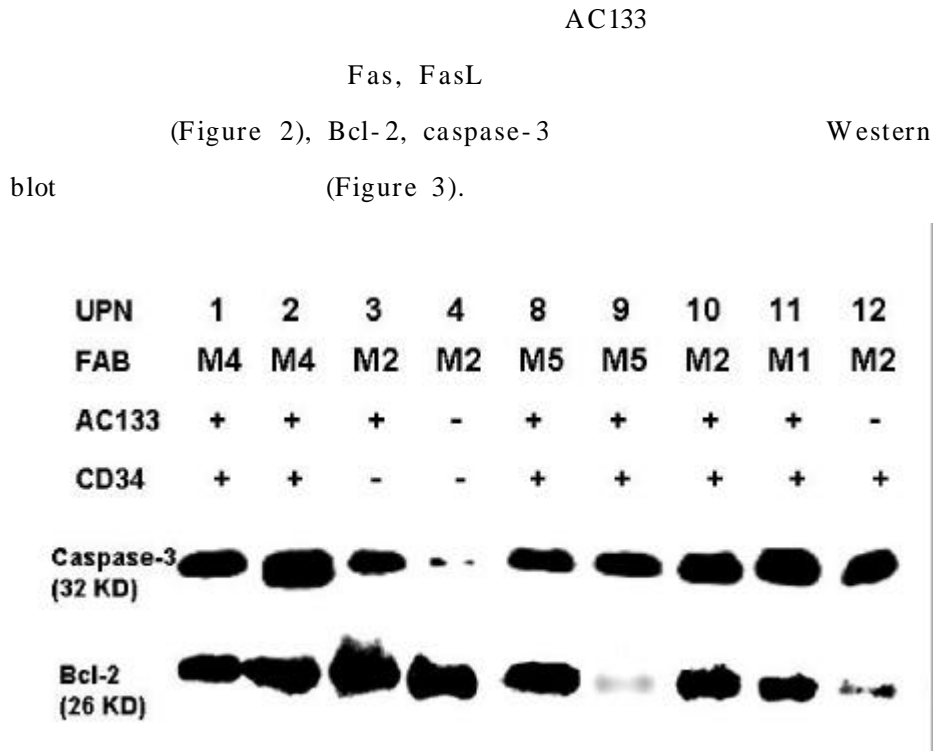


Fig. 3. Detection of Bcl-2, caspase-3 proteins in AML cells using Western blot analysis.

Fas 9 (60.0%), FasL
9 (60.0%) . AC133
1 Fas (91.9%), FasL (89.9%) . Bcl-2,
caspase-3 (OD, optical density)
, AC133 1 Bcl-2
caspase-3 .

FasL 21 (52.4%) Fas 12 (57.1%),
 AC133 Fas, FasL AC133

가 (Table 8).

Table 8. Coexpression of Fas and Fas ligand proteins according to AC133 expression in AML cells

	AC133-positive (N=11)	AC133-negative (N=10)	P
Fas (%)	39.3 ± 26.1	19.1 ± 21.3	NS
Fas ligand (%)	41.2 ± 30.9	22.7 ± 26.5	NS

17 Western blot Bcl-2,
 caspase-3 AC133
 Bcl-2, caspase-3
 , AC133 Bcl-2, caspase-3
 가 (Figure 4).

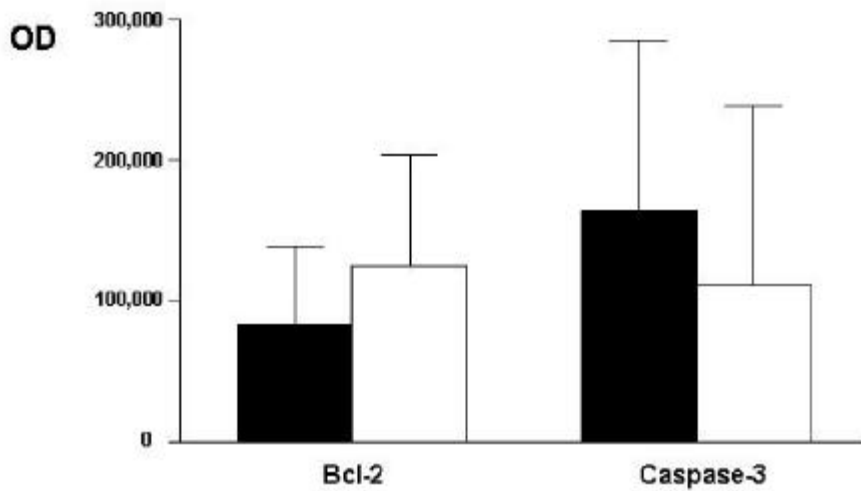


Fig. 4. Expression of Bcl-2, caspase-3 in AC133-positive (filled bars) and AC133-negative AML cells (empty bars). OD; optical density.

CD45 SSC
(leukemic blasts) AC133 Fas
AC133
(Pearson correlation, $P=0.048$).
FasL, Bcl-2, caspase-3
AC133

CD34
 Fas, FasL
 CD34
 (P < 0.001).
 CD34 Bcl-2
 , caspase-3
 가 . CD34
 AC133⁺/CD34⁺ AC133⁻/CD34⁺
 Fas, FasL, Bcl-2, caspase-3
 Fas, FasL AC133⁺/CD34⁺
 , Bcl-2, caspase-3 AC133⁺/CD34⁺

5. AC133

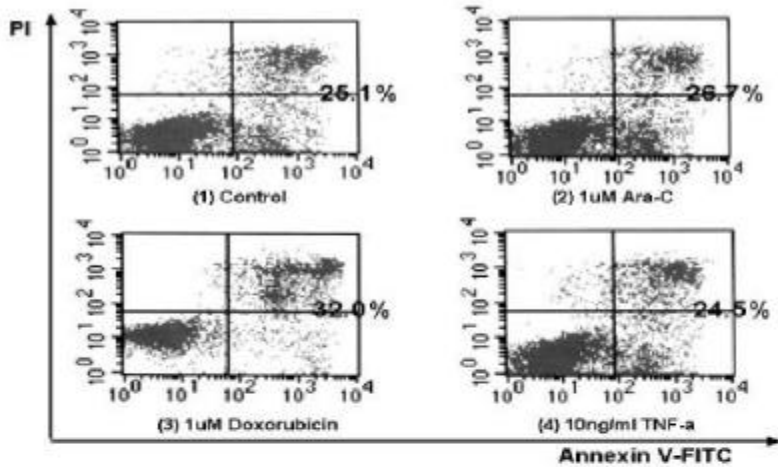
AC133
Annexin-V-FITC/Propidium iodide (PI)
(Figure 5). AC133

Ara-C
AC133 가
($P=0.049$). , doxorubicin, TNF-
AC133 가
가 (Table 9).

Table 9. Percentage of apoptosis according to AC133 expression in AML cells

	AC133-positive (N=11)	AC133-negative (N=10)	P
Ara-C (%)	34.8 ± 6.3	39.7 ± 4.2	0.049
Doxorubicin (%)	40.7 ± 7.1	45.4 ± 3.2	NS
TNF- (%)	34.7 ± 1.6	36.6 ± 4.0	NS

1) AC133-positive AML



2) AC133-negative AML

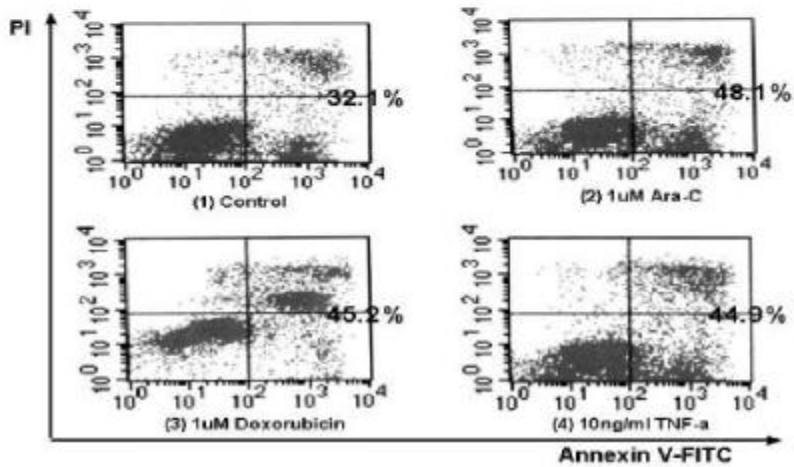


Fig. 5. Dual color flow cytometry analysis of apoptosis in AML cells (representative cases). (1) Untreated control cells. (2) Cells treated with 1 uM Ara-C for 24hrs. (3) Cells treated with 1 uM doxorubicin for 4hrs. (4) Cells treated with 10 ng/ml TNF- for 4hrs.

CD34 doxorubicin, TNF- α

CD34

가 (doxorubicin;
 $P=0.015$, TNF- α ; $P=0.011$), Ara-C CD34

가

가 .

AC133

(Figure 6).

가 , AC133

가 .

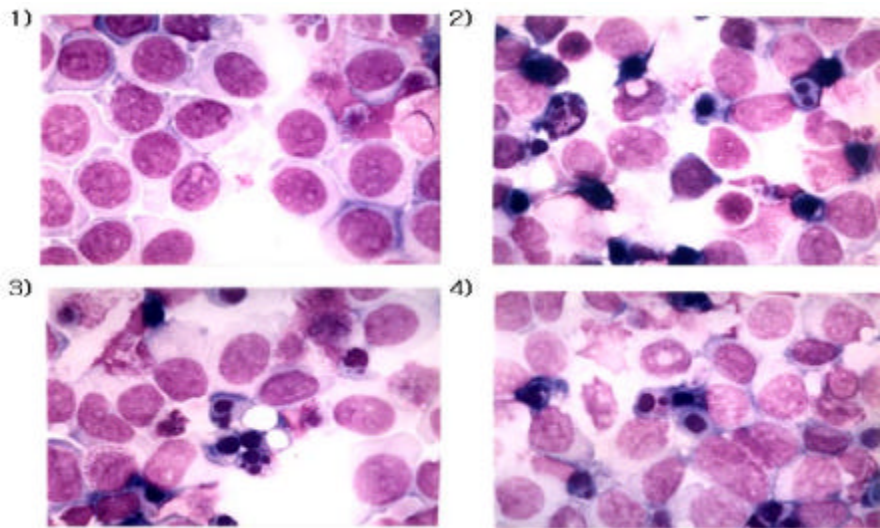


Fig. 6. Light microscopic findings of apoptotic AC133-positive AML cells (Wright's stain, $\times 1,000$). (1) Untreated control cells. (2) Cells treated with 1 μ M ara-C for 24hrs. (3) Cells treated with 1 μ M doxorubicin for 4hrs. (4) Cells treated with 10 ng/ml TNF- α for 4hrs.

IV.

AC133

^{1,2,3,4},

AC133

가 .

AC133

AC133

36

, AC133

CD45 SSC

AC133

20%

⁹.

33.3% AC133

52.4% ,

6.7% AC133

. Buhring ⁴

32 AC133

78%,

87%,

56% AC133

Buhring ⁴

AC133

AC133

. CD34 FAB

(M0, M1, M4)

⁶,

AC133

AC133

FAB

가

가 .

AC133

CD34 , AC133 CD34

CD34 Buhring ⁴

(AC133⁺/CD34⁺; 70%, AC133⁻/CD34⁺; 9%, AC133⁺/CD34⁻; 17%)

. CD34

가 ^{5,6}, AC133

가 , AC133⁺/CD34⁺

AC133⁻/CD34⁺

가 . Horn ³ 30

AC133

,

AC133

AC133 , 1

.

, LDH ,

¹⁰ AC133 .

가 가 ,

Grimwade ¹¹ (complex

karyotype), -5, -7, 3q , +8,

+21, +22, , t(8;21),

t(15;17), inv(16) .

,

AC133

가 .

HLA - DR

¹², CD38

CD38

¹³.

CD34⁺/CD38⁻

(sensitivity)가

^{14,15}.

CD38 HLA-DR

85.7%, 90.5%

, AC133

가

, AC133

AC133

CD34, CD38, HLA-DR

Fas (CD95) FasL

Fas/FasL

가 가

(doxorubicin,

etoposide, cisplatin)

Fas/FasL

^{16,17}.

Fas

¹⁸.

AC133

가

Fas

가

(*P* = 0.048), FasL

가

CD34

Fas, FasL

¹⁹,

CD34

Fas, FasL

(*P* < 0.01).

, AC133⁺/CD34⁺

AC133⁺/CD34⁺

Fas, FasL

가

, AC133

Fas

가

AC133

CD34

Fas

, CD34⁺/CD38⁻

Fas

Fas 가

^{14,15},

2 94.7% (18 / 19)

CD38 CD34⁺/CD38⁻

Fas, FasL

CD38

Fas CD38

(*P* < 0.01), FasL CD38

(*P* = 0.56).

Fas, FasL

가 가 , Bcl-2 (Bcl-2 family proteins;
 Bcl-2, Bcl-X, Bcl-X_L, Bcl-X_S, BAX, BAD, MCL-1) IL-1
 (interleukin-1 converting enzyme[ICE]-related proteins;
 ICE, CPP32[caspase-3], ICH-1[caspase-2])²⁰

AC133 Bcl-2, caspase-3

Bcl-2 가

, CD34⁺²¹.

Bcl-2

가 , AC133

, AC133 Bcl-2

Bcl-2 AC133

Bcl-2 CD34

가 , AC133⁻/CD34⁺

AC133⁺/CD34⁺

Caspase-3 (proenzyme) 가 DNA-repair enzyme poly
(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP)
²². , cytosine arabinoside
(Ara-C), etoposide, mitoxantrone caspase-3

^{22,23}. caspase-3
, 가
(uncleaved) caspase-3
²². AC133
caspase-3
. , caspase-3
CD34
, AC133⁺/CD34⁺ AC133⁻/CD34⁺

AC133

Ara-C, doxorubicin, TNF- . Ara-C
nucleoside (analogue) caspase-3 DNA
^{23,24,25}.

Ara-C

AC133

AC133

AC133

caspase-3

AC133

caspase-3 Ara-C caspase-3
 Ara-C 가
 caspase-3
²²

AC133
 caspase-3 AC133
 AC133
 CD34
 Ara-C 가 CD34
 AC133 CD34

Doxorubicin anthracycline topoisomerase II inhibitor
 DNA , reactive oxygen species (ROS)
²⁶ doxorubicin

Fas/FasL
^{16,17,27} AC133
 doxorubicin 가 AC133
 가 , CD34
 CD34
 ($P=0.015$).
 TNF- Fas 가
²⁸ AC133
 TNF- 가 AC133
 가 , CD34
 CD34
 ($P=0.011$). CD34

TNF-
 29. AC133
 가 가
 AC133
 , AC133
 가
 CD34
 AC133
 pathway)
 NF-kappaB
 CD34
 doxorubicin TNF-
 AC133 Fas/FasL
 .
 . , AC133
 AC133
 (signal transduction
 가

V.

1997 11 2000 5
15 36 ()
21 , 15)

가 AC133

, AC133

1. 36 , 1.6:1 (22 ,
14) . 41.3 (15-73) . AC133 12
(33.3%) , AC133
52.4% (11 / 21) ,
6.7% (1 / 15)가 AC133 .
AC133

2. AC133

가 . , AC133
AC133

, 1

3. CD34 15 (71.4%), CD38
18 (85.7%), HLA-DR 19 (90.5%)
, AC133 CD34

AC133

($P=0.045$).

4.

AC133

Fas

AC133

($P=0.048$).

,

Fas ligand, Bcl-2,

caspase-3

AC133

.

5.

AC133

Ara-C

AC133

가

($P=0.049$),

caspase-3

AC133

Ara-C

caspase-3

.

, doxorubicin, TNF-

AC133

가

CD34

가

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AC133

, AC133

가

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Abstract

Biological Characteristics of AC133 Antigen-Positive Acute Leukemias

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AC133 antigen is a cell surface antigen which is selectively expressed on hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells. It has been reported that AC133 antigen is expressed on the subsets of CD34⁺ acute leukemias, and occasionally on CD34⁻ acute leukemias. We investigated the clinical and biological characteristics of AC133 antigen-positive acute leukemias. Thirty-six adult acute leukemia patients were analyzed using a cut-off criterion of 20% or more gated leukemic blasts expressing the AC133 antigen for AC133⁺ leukemias. The biological characteristics focused on apoptosis were examined using multicolor flow cytometry and Western blot analysis.

Result :

1. AC133 antigen expression was found in 12 cases (33.3%). Eleven of 21 (52.4%) acute myelogenous leukemia (AML) patients and 1 of 15 (6.7%) acute lymphoblastic leukemia patients were positive

for AC133 antigen, and the difference was significant. None of the clinical prognostic markers were significantly different between AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML patients.

2. Median disease free survival time and overall survival time of AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML patients were not significantly different.
3. The expression rates of CD34 were significantly higher in AC133⁺ AML patients compared to those of AC133⁻ AML ($P=0.045$).
4. Among the apoptosis-related proteins, the Fas expression on the leukemic blasts was higher in the AC133⁺ AML ($P=0.048$), but Fas ligand, Bcl-2, caspase-3 expression rates were not significantly different between AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML.
5. The apoptosis rates were significantly lower in the Ara-C treated AC133⁺ AML ($P=0.049$), but the apoptosis rates to other apoptosis-inducing agents (doxorubicin, TNF-) were not different between AC133⁺ and AC133⁻ AML cells. We thought that there were some associations between a trend toward higher caspase-3 expression rates and lower Ara-C induced apoptosis rates in the AC133⁺ AML.

Our results demonstrate that the AC133 antigen had no clinical significance, but the AC133 antigen might provide different biological characteristics including apoptosis from other immature cell surface markers. However, to verify the prognostic usefulness of AC133 antigen and the basis of the biological characteristics of AC133 antigen-positive acute leukemias, further study with more cases is needed.

Key Words : AC133 antigen, acute leukemia, apoptosis