

breast carcinoma, the associations between CCND1 amplification/cyclin D1 overexpression, clinicopathological variables and clinical outcome remain controversial.

**Aim of the study:** The aims of this study are four-fold: (i) to correlate cyclin D1 expression with gene amplification; (ii) to analyse the correlations between CCND1 amplification and overexpression with clinicopathological features and patients' outcome in invasive breast cancer; (iii) to define the prevalence of cyclin D1 overexpression and CCND1 amplification in ER positive breast carcinomas and its relation to patient outcome; (iv) to define the prevalence of cyclin D1 overexpression and CCND1 amplification in the breast cancers with basal-like immunophenotype.

**Material and Methods:** CCND1 amplification and protein expression were assessed on a tissue microarray containing 880 unselected invasive breast cancer cases, by means of chromogenic in situ hybridisation (CISH) using the SpotLight CCND1 amplification probe (Zymed, South San Francisco, CA), and immunohistochemistry, with the rabbit monoclonal antibody SP4 (Zymed).

**Results:** A total of 59/613 tumours (9.6%) showed CCND1 amplification and 224/514 (43.6%) showed strong Cyclin D1 expression. A strong correlation between CCND1 amplification and cyclin D1 expression was found ( $P < 0.001$ ). Basal-like cancers less frequently show CCND1 amplification and cyclin D1 overexpression when compared to cancers pertaining to the other molecular subgroups ( $P < 0.001$ ). Both CCND1 amplification and cyclin D1 expression were associated with positive ER status. CCND1 gene amplification was an independent prognostic factor for patients with ER positive breast cancer.

**Conclusion:** Our results demonstrate a strong correlation between CCND1 amplification and its protein expression. However, protein expression is more pervasive than gene amplification and associated with ER expression.

#### **O-81 Interactions of tumorantigen-reactive T-cells derived from bone marrow and tumor-cells in breast cancer patient**

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Breast Cancer is an immunogenic tumor which is usually recognized by the cellular immunosystem via tumor-associated antigens (TAA) presented by antigen-presenting cells like dendritic cells. Although we were able to find tumorantigen-reactive CD8<sup>+</sup>CD45RO<sup>+</sup> T-memory cells (TMC) by using interferon- $\gamma$ -ELISPOT-analysis in 67% of primary breast cancer patient's bone marrow there seems to be a minority of non-responders. In comparison to classic tumor characteristics non-responders can be found more often in non-differentiated, hormone-receptor negative tumors and in metastatic breast cancer patients. In a phase-1 trial of a cellular immunotherapy with reactivated tumorantigen-reactive autologous TMC derived from bone marrow we measured CD4<sup>+</sup> T-cell (TC) responses in stimulation cultures *ex vivo* to examine whether there are other immunological answers in non-responder. TC were activated by dendritic cells pulsed with TAA from MCF-7 lysate under IL-2 co-stimulation. We were able to show that next to a classic TH1-response with high levels of IFN- $\alpha$  there seems to exist TH2-responses mediated by high levels of TGF- $\beta$ 1 and low levels of IFN- $\alpha$ . The relation of both cytokines was directly related to the detection of tumorantigen-reactive TC and to tumor grading. Multiplex-cytokine analysis was able to confirm these findings. In patients with tumorantigen-reactive

TC a combined active and passive vaccination trial was done.

These results may play an important role in further active and passive vaccination strategies.

#### **O-82 Evidence for a tumour suppressive function of IGF1-binding proteins in human breast cancer**

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**Introduction:** The role of the IGF system in various human malignancies has been well established. The aim of this study was to determine the levels of mRNA expression of IGFBP 1, 3 and 7 genes in benign and malignant breast tissue and correlate this with various prognostic parameters. **Methods:** Breast cancer tissue (n=127) and normal background tissue (n=33) were prospectively collected and analysed for levels of IGFBP1, 3 and 7 mRNA using real time Q-PCR. mRNA levels were then analysed against tumour grade, nodal status, NPI/TNM stage and tumour type.

**Results:** For IGFBP 1 and 3, mRNA expression was higher in normal tissue. This was reversed for IGFBP 7. This was significant for IGFBP1 comparing NPI 3 with NPI 1 ( $p=0.050$ ) and the normal group ( $p=0.040$ ). With TNM analysis, there was less IGFBP1 mRNA comparing TNM 3 with normal ( $p=0.017$ ), TNM 1 ( $p=0.047$ ) and TNM 2 ( $p=0.019$ ). This was also found when comparing TNM 4 samples with normal tissue ( $p=0.017$ ), TNM 1 ( $p=0.046$ ) and TNM 2 ( $p=0.019$ ). For IGFBP3 mRNA, there was less mRNA when comparing TNM3 with TNM 1 ( $p=0.017$ ) and TNM 2 ( $p=0.050$ ), and also less mRNA expression when comparing TNM 4 with TNM 1 ( $p=0.030$ ). For IGFBP7 mRNA, both TNM 1 ( $p=0.0077$ ) and TNM 2 ( $p=0.015$ ) had significantly more expression than TNM 3 samples.

**Conclusion:** This study strongly supports the role of IGFBP 1, 3 and 7 as potential tumour suppressor genes in human breast cancer, which may open up exciting therapeutic possibilities in the future.

#### **O-83 A possible paracrine protective effect of Insulin like binding protein 7 in mammalian breast cancer**

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**Aims:** The role of the IGF (Insulin like growth factor) system in various human malignancies has been well established. The study examined levels of mRNA expression of IGFBP (IGF binding protein) 3 and 7 genes in malignant breast tissue and its associated 'adjacent non cancerous tissue' (ANCT) and correlated this with various prognostic parameters.

**Methods:** Breast cancer tissue and ANCT pairs were prospectively collected and analysed for levels of IGFBP 3 and 7 mRNA using real time Q-PCR. mRNA levels were analysed against tumour grade, nodal status, NPI stage, size, recurrence and disease free survival (DFS). Full ethical approval was obtained.

**Results:** Data were analysed using non parametric formulae throughout. The number of validated results were, BP7<sup>anct</sup> = 90, BP7<sup>tumour</sup> = 84, BP3<sup>anct</sup> = 57, BP3<sup>tumour</sup> = 58. Correlating ANCT IGFBP7 expression with NPI, significantly more binding protein was expressed adjacent to good prognostic tumours (NPI 1) when compared with poor prognostic tumours (NPI 3), ( $p=0.016$ ). This pattern was repeated for tumour grade, with greater