BACKGROUND

Prostate cancer is the ninth most common cancer in the world, and is the number one non-skin cancer that affects men in the United States. Prostate cancer occurs when cells of the prostate mutate and begin to multiply inappropriately. These cells may metastasize from the prostate to other parts of the body, especially the bones, lymph nodes, rectum and bladder. Prostate tumors have unique proteins that may be useful as cancer markers during diagnosis and treatment. A few of the proteins that are specific for prostate tumors include α-methylacyl-CoA racemase (AMACR), the hypermethylated form of retinoic acid receptor β2 (RARβ2) and prostate specific antigen (PSA), which is the most reliable clinical tool for diagnosing and monitoring prostate cancer. Prostate mucin antigen (Pma) is expressed only in prostate carcinomas and cow submaxillary glands. A high molecular weight protein, Pma contains an O-linked oligosaccharide containing N-acetylgalactosamine. It is a glycoprotein with mucin-like features that may prove to be a useful tumor marker.

REFERENCES


SOURCE

Pma (YPMA-1) is a mouse monoclonal antibody raised against Pma of human origin.