B-CELL CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA-ASSOCIATED NUCLEAR ANTIGENS

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Our previous data showed some differences in electrophoretic behaviour of nuclear fraction proteins isolated from peripheral blood mononuclear cells of B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL). Two electrophoretically-specific nuclear nonhistones in molecular mass zone 38/39 and 44/46 kDa of leukemic mononuclear cells were used as immunogen to produce rabbit antisera. Western blot analysis indicated that both nuclear components are expressed only in mononuclear cells isolated from peripheral blood of B-CLL patients but not in normal ones. Immunocytochemistry studies also revealed that the 44/46 antiserum recognized antigen with this molecular mass in most of studied B-CLL cases but not in control cells. For further investigations of nuclear fraction from normal and B-CLL cells enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) was used. Obtained by ELISA results with the antisera raised against B-CLL nuclear polypeptide with molecular mass of 38/39 and 44/46 kDa revealed the cross-reactivity of specific nuclear antigens among leukemic cells. We have noticed that nuclear fraction preparations originated from B-CLL mononuclear cells are more reactive than normal ones with both antisera (at a broad range of antisera dilutions).