

these proteins in two distinct types of glial neoplasms, to investigate their possible correlation and probe their impact on prognosis. ER β , BAG-1 and HSP70 protein expression was monitored immunohistochemically in 66 cases of astrocytomas and 20 oligodendrogliomas. In astrocytic tumours low ER β expression correlated significantly with high grade ($P < 0.001$), higher expression of cytoplasmic BAG-1 ($P < 0.001$) and worse survival (log rank $P = 0.02$). Multivariate analysis revealed that ER β expression had a prognostic value for overall survival in these patients (Cox $P = 0.03$), which was not dependent on grade. There was also statistically significant association of BAG-1 nuclear expression with HSP70 cytoplasmic expression. Our results strengthen the hypothesis that ER β , BAG-1 and HSP70 play an important role in the pathogenesis and progression of glial neoplasms. Moreover, ER β expression in astrocytic tumors might be an important prognostic factor for survival.

Keywords astrocytic neoplasms - BAG-1 - ER β - glioma - HSP70



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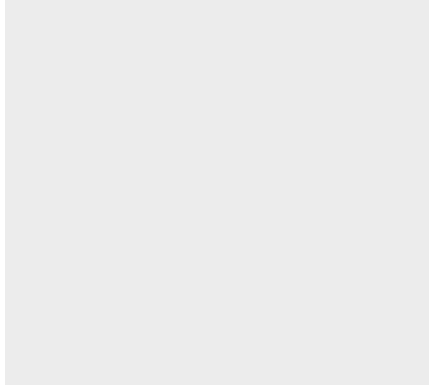
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