

Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention



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Short Communication

The Common D302H Variant of CASP8 Is Associated with Risk of Glioma

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Caspase 8 (CASP8) is a key regulator of apoptosis or programmed cell death, and, hence, a defense against cancer. We tested the hypothesis that the *CASP8* polymorphism D302H influences risk of glioma through analysis of five series of glioma case patients and controls ($n = 1,005$ and $1,011$,

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respectively). Carrier status for the rare allele of D302H was associated with a 1.37-fold increased risk (95% confidence interval, 1.10-1.70; $P = 0.004$). The association of *CASP8* D302H with glioma risk indicates the importance of inherited variation in the apoptosis pathway in susceptibility to this form of primary brain tumor. (Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev 2008;17(4):987–9)

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