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1: [Anticancer Res.](#) 2008 Jan-Feb;28(1A):15-9.

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Proliferation and programmed cell death: role of p53 protein in high and low grade astrocytoma.

[Facoetti A](#), [Ranza E](#), [Nano R](#).

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p53 is a cell cycle regulator that has been well-recognized as the key molecule that triggers the induction and the control of cell proliferation and apoptosis in a wide variety of tumours, including astrocytoma. Apoptosis and proliferation are two processes intimately coupled, that occur simultaneously in tumour tissue. Previous studies of the correlations between proliferation and apoptotic index with p53 expression in astrocytic tumours have remained inconclusive. The aim of this study was to investigate the correlation of p53 expression with the apoptotic index (AI) and the cell proliferation index (PI) in pilocytic astrocytoma (PA) and glioblastoma multiforme (GBM). A correlation of p53 expression with AI and PI was found in pilocytic astrocytoma but not in glioblastoma, probably because of the mutated p53 phenotype in the latter.

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