transcription PCR. Gain-and loss-of-function experiments were conducted to investigate the biological functions of LINC00460 both in vitro and in vivo. The mechanism of LINC00460 action was explored through bioinformatics, RNA fluorescence in situ hybridization, chromatin immunoprecipitation assay and RNA immunoprecipitation assay. Results LINC00460 was exclusively expressed in GC tissues and correlated with advanced stage, larger tumor size and poorer prognosis in GC patients. Forced LINC00460 expression promotes proliferation, whereas loss of LINC00460 function decreased cell proliferation by blocking of cell cycle in GC cells. Mechanistically, LINC00460 could simultaneously interact with EZH2, a core component of polycomb repressive complex 2, and mediates the trimethylation of H3K27 at the promoter region of p21. In addition, rescue experiments determined that LINC00460 oncogenic function is partly dependent on repressing p21.

Conclusions Together, our results suggest that LINC00460, as a regulator of proliferation, may serve as a candidate prognostic biomarker and target for the management of GC.

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**IS MICROSCOPIC COLITIS (MC) RESTRICTED TO COLON? STUDY OF ILEAL CHANGES IN PATIENTS OF MC**

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Background Chronic diarrhea due to Microscopic colitis (MC) is often overlooked. Restriction of disease to the colon is still unclear, and on drawing analogies from Idiopathic Ulcerative Colitis any proximal disease extension may have bearing on treatment regimes. We evaluated terminal ileum using narrow band imaging (NBI), high definition white light endoscopy (HDWLE) and histopathological findings on biopsy

Methods 54 adults with suspected MC were enrolled. All underwent colonoscopy with ileal intubation. Segmental colonic and terminal ileum biopsies were obtained using HDWLE and NBI. Same were analysed by expert gastrointestinal histopathologist

Results In 43 patients of confirmed MC, HDWLE of ileum was normal. On NBI, intravillous capillary network was regular unbranched with semi-circular pattern in 41 (95.4%) of patients of MC and in all controls. It was sparse and irregular unbranched in 38 (88.4%) cases and all controls. They were sparse and irregular in 5 cases (11.6%) (p = 0.570). Ileal histopathology revealed normal villi in 39 (90.6%) cases, 4 had partial villous atrophy. The crypt villous ratio was grouped as 1:1.5, 1:3, 1:4 and 1:5 in 2 (4.7%) cases, 26 (60.4%), 11 (25.5%) and 4 (9.3) respectively. Lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate was grouped as mild, moderate and severe, and observed in 10 (23.2%), 2 (4.6%) and 1 (2.3%) patient respectively

Conclusions Ileal NBI findings in MC are hitherto unreported, with up to 12% showing abnormalities. Histologically up to 23% showed abnormalities in ileal biopsies. Ileal pathology may contribute to certain symptoms in MC.

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**CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF SEPRASE AND CONNEXIN-43 EXPRESSION IN GASTRIC CARCINOMA**

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Background To investigate the expression of connexin43 (Cx43) and Seprase protein in gastric carcinoma and their clinical significance.

Methods Immunohistochemical method was used to detect the expression of Seprase and connexin 43 proteins in 45 specimens of gastric carcinoma and 15 specimens of paired adjacent normal gastric tissue. The relationship between their expression and the clinicopathological characteristics were statistically analyzed.

Results 1: The positive rate of Seprase protein in gastric carcinoma was 71.11%(32/45) higher than that in normal tissue 20.00%(3/15) and with statistical significance (χ² = 6.67, p = 0.01); The positive rate of connexin 43 protein in gastric carcinoma was 68.89%(30/45) lower than that in normal tissue 100%(15/15) and with statistical significance(χ² = 12.09, p = 0.001). 2: Connexin 43 protein was related to the age and the degree of tissue differentiation of gastric carcinoma (P < 0.05), Seprase protein was related to the age and the subtype of gastric carcinoma patients (P < 0.05). 3: Overall survival rates of patients with seprase and Connexin 43 expression were detected, Connexin 43 expression was an independent prognosis factor; meanwhile, seprase was correlated with the survival of the patients with gastric carcinoma in our study.

Conclusions In gastric carcinoma, Connexin 43 appeared down-expression and seprase appeared up-regulation. That may play important roles in the invasion and metastasis of gastric carcinoma, then provide a new direction for target therapy.

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**THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN COMPONENTS OF METABOLIC SYNDROME AND COLORECTAL CANCER RISK IN CHINESE MALES**

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Background Several researches have reported the metabolic syndrome (MetS) was related to a higher risk of colorectal cancer (CRC). However, it remains unclear to what extent the MetS components individually account for the association between MetS and CRC. To investigate the association of MetS components with the risk of CRC in Chinese males, the study was performed in the Kailuan male cohort, a large prospective cohort study.