Fighting the Enemy Within

Basic Life Science and Issues: Presentation

Group 4

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Chapter Abstraction

Fighting the Enemy Within

11th chapter of The Epigenetics Revolution

"Epigenetic perspective of Cancer and its treatment"



Introduction: Cancer

Healthy cells, have two types of genes:

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Epigenetic Approach for Oncogenesis

DNA Methylation
 Hypermethylation of CpG island

Repressive Histone Modification
 Histone deacetylation



DNA Methylation

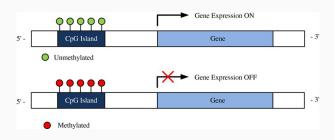
Cytosine before Guanine can be methylated

Methyl group is bond on 5' carbon atom



DNA Methylation

CpG dinuclotide cluster (CpG island, CGI) are usually located in the promoter regions of genes in a DNA sequence.



Hypermethylated CGI disables specific gene expression.



Histone deacetylation



Characteristics of Oncogenesis

- Multi-step process
- · Defections must be accumulated

Inherited oncogenes are slowly expressed e.g.) BRCA1 mutation

- · Tumour suppressor gene alteration Switched off
- Epigenetical access



Approach for Treatment

DNMT enzyme inhibitors
 5-azacytidine, 2-aza-5'-deoxycytidine

methylation inhibited by 5-azacytidine



No easy wins

HDAC inhibitor
 SAHA, romidepsin



Alternative Approach



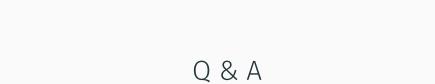
Conclusion



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Thank you!