

2nd International Cancer Study &

ge Cancer Study & Therapy Conference

February 20-22, 2017 Baltimore, USA

Regulation of HIF1 α expression by a natural compound; a new hnRNP involvement

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Hypoxia induces HIF1aexpression, leading to the malignant cell transformation. In screening of inhibitors against HIF1aexpression using a reporter gene assay system, a moracin derivative, MOA, was found to strongly reduce the level of HIF1ain HeLa cellsboth in hypoxia-mimetic CoCl₂treatment and under hypoxic conditions. Identification of binding proteins using agarose-bead conjugated MOA(AC-685) combined with subsequent MS data revealed several proteins affected by MOA. AC-685 co-localized with a nuclear hnRNPX protein in CoCl₂ treated HeLa cells. Amongst several cytoplasmic or nuclear proteins, hnRNPX was only found to be responsible for CoCl₂-induced HIF1α expression as supported by siRNA depletion of the protein. Cancer growth was also found to be reduced in a genograft animal model. This study suggests that regulation of HIF1aexpression by MOAunder the control of hnRNP would be a novel approach to cancer treatment in hypoxic environment.

Biography:

Dr. Bo Yeon Kim got Ph.D degree at Seoul National University in 1996. After the research fellow experience at Georgetown University, 2000-2003, he continued his work at Korea Research Institute of Bioscience & Biotechnology (KRIBB) for about 26 yrs so far. Major research focuses on identification of new cancer signaling pathways and development of a new anticancer drug with low side effect. In recent 5 years, He has made more than 65 publications, including Nature Cell Biology (2015), Autophagy (2016, 2013), Proc Natl Acad Sci, USA (2013), J Am Chem Soc (2011), J Biol Chem (2013, 2012), and under revision papers (Nature Communications, EMBO Reports, Autophagy) as a corresponding author.