**RUNX3** gene polymorphisms and haplotypes in Mexican patients with colorectal cancer

S. Suárez-Villanueva¹, M.L. Ayala-Madrigal¹, J. Peregrina-Sandoval², N. Macías-Gómez³, R. Ramírez-Ramírez¹, R. Muñiz-Mendoza¹, J.M. Moreno-Ortiz¹, M. Centeno-Flores⁴, V. Maciel-Gutiérrez⁵, E. Cabrales⁶ and M. Gutiérrez-Angulo¹,⁶

¹Doctorado en Genética Humana and Instituto de Genética Humana, Centro Universitario de Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad de Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Jalisco, México
²Laboratorio de Inmunobiología, Centro Universitario de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias, Universidad de Guadalajara, Zapopan, Jalisco, México
³Laboratorio de Genética Humana, Centro Universitario del Sur, Universidad de Guadalajara, Ciudad Guzmán, Jalisco, México
⁴Hospital Civil de Guadalajara “Dr. Juan I. Menchaca”, Guadalajara, Jalisco, México
⁵Hospital Civil de Guadalajara “Fray Antonio Alcalde”, Guadalajara, Jalisco, México
⁶Departamento de Clínicas, Centro Universitario de los Altos, Universidad de Guadalajara, Tepatitlán de Morelos, Jalisco, México

Corresponding author: M. Gutiérrez-Angulo
E-mail: melva73@hotmail.com

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**ABSTRACT.** We analyzed a possible association between **RUNX3** gene polymorphisms and haplotypes in Mexican patients with colorectal cancer (CRC). Genomic DNA samples were obtained from the peripheral blood of 176 Mexican patients with CRC at diagnosis and from 195 individuals that formed the control group. The polymorphisms were detected by polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism. Association was estimated by odds ratio (OR). The haplotypes and linkage disequilibrium
were established using the Arlequin v3.5 software. We found that the
RUNX3 polymorphisms analyzed were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium. The
RUNX3 rs2236852 AA genotype and A allele showed association with CRC
(OR = 0.39, 95%CI = 0.21-0.73, P < 0.01; OR = 0.65, 95%CI = 0.49-0.87,
P < 0.01, respectively), while the rs6672420, rs11249206, and rs760805
polymorphisms did not show significant association with CRC. The TA
haplotype (SNPs rs760805 and rs2236852) showed an increased risk for
CRC (OR = 2.52, 95%CI = 1.47-4.30, P < 0.001). In conclusion, we found
that the AA genotype and A allele of rs2236852 polymorphism confer a
decreased CRC risk, while the TA haplotype appears to increase the risk of
CRC development in Mexican patients.

Key words: RUNX3 gene; Colorectal cancer; Polymorphisms;
Mexican population