

Review of: "Coexisting autoantibodies against transcription factor Sp4 are associated with decreased cancer risk in dermatomyositis patients with anti-TIF1γ autoantibodies"

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This work describes a new finding in DM: presence of auto-antibodies against Sp4 seem to be associated with a decreased risk of cancer in DM patients with anti-TIF1γ auto-antibodies. This new insight is of great importance in clinics, giving the opportunity to describe a DM subgroup with lower risk of cancer. Indeed, in DM patients with anti-TIF1γ, risk for developing cancer is increased. These anti-Sp4 antibodies seem specific to DM inside the IIM, yet can also be detected in RA. The research was performed in a large amount of patient sera and control groups and healthy comparators were well used. All techniques are thoroughly described. Interestingly, DM patients positive for anti-TIF1γ and anti-Sp4 had a better muscle strength than those DM patients positive for anti-TIF1γ and negative for anti-Sp4.