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Ep-CAM

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Ep-CAM*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C2461.

Ep-CAM (epithelial cell adhesion molecule) is a tumor-associated antigen, 40-kDa transmembrane glycoprotein, overexpressed in many solid tumors, including carcinomas of the lung, breast, ovary, colorectum, and squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck. The role of Ep-CAM in carcinogenesis and malignant progression is unclear, but there is increasing evidence that it modulates cell-cell interactions and that its expression correlates with the rate of cell proliferation; a promoting role of Ep-CAM in tissue invasion and metastasis has been suggested. The limited expression of Ep-CAM in normal epithelial tissues and immunogenic MHC class I and II restricted epitopes identified on Ep-CAM, provide opportunities for developing effective multiepitope cancer vaccines targeting Ep-CAM. NR-LU-10 is an IgG2b murine monoclonal antibody against Ep-CAM.