

P018 DMBT1 expression and glycosylation during the adenoma-carcinoma sequence in colorectal cancer
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The gene, *deleted in malignant brain tumor-1* (DMBT1), has been proposed to play a role in brain and epithelial cancer, but shows unusual features for a classical tumour suppressor gene. On the one hand, DMBT1 has been linked to mucosal protection while on the other it potentially plays a role in epithelial differentiation. Thus, its function in a particular tissue is of mechanistical importance for its role in cancer. Because the former function requires a secretion to the lumen and the latter function may depend on its presence in the extracellular matrix, we decided to investigate DMBT1 expression, location and its mode of secretion during the malignant transformation in colorectal cancer. Using human colorectal PC/AA cell lines and tissue sections, we demonstrated by Western blotting and immunohistochemistry a down-regulation of its expression in adenocarcinomas. In order to examine the action of DMBT1 on cell growth and development and a possible relationship between the expression level and glycosylation patterns and the stage of neoplastic transformation, HEK 293 cells were successfully transfected with a DMBT1 plasmid.