Uroplakin II – Increased Sensitivity in Urothelial Carcinoma



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Bladder cancer is the seventh most commonly occurring cancer in the United States with 73,469 new cases reported in 2016 and is associated with high recurrence & progression rates¹. About 70% of superficial bladder cancer patients will experience tumor recurrence and 10-15% of this sub-population will eventually progress to muscle invasion². Early diagnosis, when the disease is still at a localized stage, increases the chance of successful treatment. The survival rate for in situ urinary bladder cancer is 97%³. Tissue-based biomarkers for early diagnosis of bladder cancer are of major clinical need. Urothelial carcinoma (UC) of the bladder typically originates in the urothelium and accounts for more than 90% of all bladder tumors. Biomarkers expressed in the urothelium, such as uroplakins (UP), could be predictive markers of UC of the bladder. Pathologists have used UP III [AU1] to establish urothelial origin of the bladder; however, use of AU1 is limited due to its poor sensitivity.⁴

UPII [BC21] exhibited superior specificity, making it useful in the identification of tumors of urothelial origin.

Recent studies have shown a monoclonal mouse anti-UPII antibody [BC21] to demonstrate increased sensitivity in UC of the bladder when compared to mouse monoclonal UPIII antibodies [BC17 and AU1]. UPII [BC21] exhibited superior specificity, thus making it useful in the identification of tumors of urothelial origin. The highly sensitive and specific UP II [BC21] may serve as a promising tissue-based biomarker in the differential diagnosis of UC and in the detection of tumor of unknown origin, specifically in cases of metastatic bladder cancer that has spread to the prostate.⁴

The combination of GATA-3 (nuclear) and UPII (cytoplasmic/membrane) in a single color format increased both specificity and sensitivity in a single section^{7,8}. GATA-3 increases the overall specificity when compared to UPII alone and it does not stain prostate adenocarcinoma or renal cell carcinoma^{4,5}. Thus, two antigens, GATA-3 (nuclear) and UPII (cytoplasmic/membrane), can be recognized and discerned on the same section by a single color. This cocktail has been formulated for manual and automated IHC on a variety of platforms.







UP II (BC21) and UP III (BC17 and AU1) staining on serial sections of the same bladder cancer tissue (Grade II)8

Cancer Type	Grade	Specimens	+ Specimens	% Positive	- Specimens	% Negative
UP II [BC21]	Grade I, II & III	56	44	79%	12	21%
UP III [BC17]	Grade I, II & III	56	31	55%	25	45%
UP III [UA1]	Grade I, II & III	56	19	34%	37	66%
UP II [BC21]	Grade II	34	27	79%	7	21%
UP III [BC17]	Grade II	34	18	53%	16	47%
UP III [UA1]	Grade II	34	9	26%	25	74%
UP II [BC21]	Grade IIII	10	6	*60%	4	40%
UP III [BC17]	Grade IIII	10	6	60%	4	40%
UP III [UA1]	Grade IIII	10	4	40%	6	60%

Comparsion of UP II (BC21) and UP III (BC17 and AU1) on the UC of the Bladder⁸

*Total number of positive tumors cells stained was much higher in BC21 vs. BC17 and AU1

To learn more about Uroplakin II [BC21] or the Uroplakin II + GATA-3 cocktail please contact Biocare Medical at 800-799-9499 or visit the following links: https://biocare.net/product/uroplakin-ii-antibody/; https://biocare.net/product/gata-3-uroplakin-ii/.

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