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## Analysis of the vitamin D system in cutaneous malignancies.

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**Resumen:** 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>, the biological active metabolite of vitamin D, has great impact on keratinocyte growth and differentiation, and consequently has already been successfully used in the therapy of hyperproliferative skin disorders. We have now characterized the key components of the vitamin D system (VDR, 1 $\alpha$ -OHase, 24-OHase and 25-OHase) in cutaneous basal cell carcinomas (BCC) and squamous cell carcinomas (SCC), using immunohistochemical and quantitative real-time PCR techniques. Additionally, proliferative activity (Ki-67 expression), differentiation status (cytokeratin 10 and transglutaminase K expression), rate of apoptosis (TUNEL assay) and the abundance of the main heterodimerization partners of VDR (RXRs) was determined for these tumours and correlated with the components of the Vitamin D system. Our findings indicate that the Vitamin D system may be of high importance for the growth behaviour of BCCs and SCCs and that new vitamin D analogues that exert less calcaemic side effects may be effective in the prevention or treatment of these tumours.

**Materia:** Index Medicus; Space life sciences;

**Materia de MeSH:** Case-Control Studies; DNA Primers -- chemistry; Gene Expression; Humans; Immunoenzyme Techniques; In Situ Nick-End Labeling; Ki-67 Antigen -- metabolism; Neoplasm Proteins -- metabolism; Polymerase Chain Reaction; RNA, Messenger -- genetics; RNA, Messenger -- metabolism; RNA, Neoplasm -- genetics; RNA, Neoplasm -- metabolism; Receptors, Retinoic Acid -- genetics; Receptors, Retinoic Acid -- metabolism; Transglutaminases -- analysis; 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> 1-alpha-Hydroxylase -- genetics; 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> 1-alpha-Hydroxylase -- metabolism (principal); Carcinoma, Basal Cell -- enzymology (principal); Carcinoma, Basal Cell -- genetics; Carcinoma, Squamous Cell -- enzymology (principal); Carcinoma, Squamous Cell -- genetics; Cytochrome P-450 Enzyme System -- genetics; Cytochrome P-450 Enzyme System -- metabolism (principal); Receptors, Calcitriol -- genetics; Receptors, Calcitriol -- metabolism (principal); Skin Neoplasms -- enzymology (principal); Skin Neoplasms -- genetics; Steroid Hydroxylases -- genetics; Steroid Hydroxylases -- metabolism (principal)

**Sustancia:** Sustancia: DNA Primers; CAS: 0; Sustancia: Ki-67 Antigen; CAS: 0; Sustancia: Neoplasm Proteins ; CAS: 0; Sustancia: RNA, Messenger; CAS: 0; Sustancia: RNA, Neoplasm; CAS: 0; Sustancia: Receptors, Calcitriol; CAS: 0; Sustancia: Receptors, Retinoic Acid; CAS: 0; Sustancia: Cytochrome P-450 Enzyme System; CAS: 9035-51-2; Sustancia: 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> 1-alpha-Hydroxylase; CAS: EC 1.14.-; Sustancia: Steroid Hydroxylases; CAS: EC 1.14.-; Sustancia: vitamin D 24-hydroxylase; CAS: EC 1.14.13.126; Sustancia: Transglutaminases; CAS: EC 2.3.2.13;

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