## Use of Luminex xMAP bead-based suspension array for detecting microRNA in NSCLC tissues and its clinical application

Yanan Wang<sup>1,2</sup>, Jinfang Shi<sup>1</sup>, Yuanjian Wu<sup>2</sup>, Weidong Xu<sup>2</sup>, Qinxi Wang<sup>3</sup>, Jing Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Min Jiang<sup>1</sup>, and Guohao Gu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Clinical Laboratory, the First Affiliated Hospital of Suzhou University, the Laboratory of Clinical Immunology in Jiangsu Province, Suzhou; <sup>2</sup>Department of Clinical Laboratory, Suzhou Municipal Hospital, The Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing Medical University, Suzhou; <sup>3</sup>Shanghai Tellgen Life Science Co. Ltd, Shanghai, China

## ABSTRACT

**Background**. We measured the expression of microRNA (miRNA) in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) tissues using the Luminex xMAP bead-based suspension array. We discuss the feasibility of employing this method to detect miRNA in NSCLC and explore its value as a high-throughput miRNA array.

**Methods**. We performed the methodological analysis of xMAP with oligoribonucleic acid references. We detected the expression of miR-21, miR, miR-31, miR-222, miR-145 and miR 40 NSCLC cancer tissues and adjacent normal tissues by xMAP bead-based suspension array. We selected miR-191 and miR-103 as the house-keeping genes (internal control). We also analyzed the relationship between xMAP and RT-PCR.

**Results**. The methodological analysis parameters of xMAP are quite good. The expression of miR-21, miR, miR-31 and miR-222 was higher in NSCLC tissues than in adjacent tissues, while the expression of miR-145 and miR-126 was lower in NSCLC tissues than in adjacent tissues. The expression of miR-145 and miR-126 decreased with disease progression. The intraassay and interassay coefficients of variation were lower in xMAP than in RT-PCR. xMAP proved cheaper and more flexible in detecting multiple miRNAs of one sample.

**Conclusions.** The Luminex xMAP bead-based suspension array for detecting miRNA has many advantages, such as allowing a smaller sample size (only 2  $\mu$ L), no sample amplification, fast detection, high throughput, and flexible combination of multiple detection targets. The high throughput testing technology shows a great advantage in saving time and labor. We found that the Luminex xMAP bead-based suspension array is a good and feasible method for detecting miRNA expression with high-throughput technology.

**Key words:** microRNA, miRNA, NSCLC, xMAP bead-based suspension array.

Acknowledgments: We thank Mr Jian'er Yao and Mr Qinxi Wang for their helpful suggestions and comments. We also thank Dr Haitao Ma, Dr Haitao Huang and Dr Shaomu Chen at the First Affiliated Hospital of Suzhou University and Dr Feng Shao at Nanjing Chest Hospital for their assistance in sample collection.

*Correspondence to:* Guohao Gu, Department of Clinical Laboratory, The First Affiliated Hospital of Suzhou University, the Laboratory of Clinical Immunology in Jiangsu Province, Suzhou 215006, China. Tel +86-139-62524418; fax+86-512-65233719; email guguohao@yahoo.com.cn

Received January 2, 2012; accepted July 20, 2012.