

Overexpression of KIAA1199 is an independent prognostic marker in laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma

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Background: KIAA1199 is a recently identified novel gene that is upregulated in various human cancers with poor survival, but its role and the underlying mechanisms in laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma remain unknown. Here, we collected tissues from 105 cases of laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma (LSCC) to investigate the relationships between KIAA1199 protein expression and clinical factors. **Methods:** Western blotting and real-time RT-PCR were used to detect the protein and mRNA expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC tissue. Immunohistochemistry (IHC) staining was used to detect the expression of KIAA1199. Patient clinical information, such as sex, age, pathological differentiation, clinical region, T stage, N stage, clinical stage, operation type, neck lymph dissection, smoking status, and drinking status, were recorded. Kaplan-Meier survival analysis and Cox analysis were applied to identify the relationship between KIAA1199 and LSCC. **Results:** Western blot results showed that KIAA1199 protein levels were significantly higher in tumor tissues vs adjacent noncancerous tissues (0.9385 ± 0.1363 vs 1.838 ± 0.3209 , $P=0.04$). Real-time RT-PCR revealed that KIAA1199 mRNA expression was considerably higher in tumor tissues ($P<0.001$) than in adjacent noncancerous tissues. IHC results showed that upregulated KIAA1199 expression was associated with some severe clinicopathological parameters: pathologic differentiation ($P, 0.002$), T stage ($P<0.001$), N stage ($P<0.001$), clinical stage ($P<0.001$), survival time ($P, 0.008$) and survival status ($P<0.001$). Kaplan-Meier survival analysis revealed that patients with high KIAA1199 protein expression had poor overall survival ($P<0.05$). Cox analysis suggested that the KIAA1199 protein expression was an independent prognostic marker for LSCC patients ($P<0.001$). **Conclusion:** Our findings revealed that KIAA1199 protein expression may be used to predict LSCC patient outcome.

1 **Overexpression of KIAA1199 is an independent**
2 **prognostic marker in laryngeal squamous cell**
3 **carcinoma**

4

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32 **Abstract**

33 **Background:** KIAA1199 is a recently identified novel gene that is upregulated in various human
34 cancers with poor survival, but its role and the underlying mechanisms in laryngeal squamous
35 cell carcinoma remain unknown. Here, we collected tissues from 105 cases of laryngeal
36 squamous cell carcinoma (LSCC) to investigate the relationships between KIAA1199 protein
37 expression and clinical factors.

38

39 **Methods:** Western blotting and real-time RT-PCR were used to detect the protein and mRNA
40 expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC tissue. Immunohistochemistry (IHC) staining was used to
41 detect the expression of KIAA1199. Patient clinical information, for instance sex, age,
42 pathological differentiation, clinical region, T stage, N stage, clinical stage, operation type, neck
43 lymph dissection, smoking status, and drinking status, were recorded. Kaplan-Meier survival
44 analysis and Cox analysis were applied to identify the relationship between KIAA1199 and
45 LSCC.

46

47 **Results:** Western blot results showed KIAA1199 protein were significantly higher in tumor
48 tissues vs adjacent noncancerous tissues (0.9385 ± 0.1363 vs 1.838 ± 0.3209 , $P=0.04$). Real-time
49 RT-PCR revealed KIAA1199 mRNA expression was considerably higher in tumor tissues
50 ($P<0.001$) than in adjacent noncancerous tissues. IHC results showed , the up-regulated
51 KIAA1199 expression, which was related with some severe clinicopathological parameters:
52 pathologic differentiation ($P, 0.002$), T stage ($P<0.001$), N stage ($P<0.001$), clinical stage
53 ($P<0.001$), survival time ($P, 0.008$) and survival status ($P<0.001$). Kaplan-Meier survival
54 analysis revealed that patients with high KIAA1199 protein expression had poor overall survival
55 ($P<0.05$). Cox analysis suggested that the KIAA1199 protein expression was an independent
56 prognostic marker for LSCC patients ($P<0.001$).

57

58 **Conclusion:** Our findings revealed that KIAA1199 protein expression may be used to predict
59 LSCC patient outcome.

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61 **Keywords:** KIAA1199, CEMIP, Laryngeal squamous carcinoma, Prognostic marker

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64 Introduction

65 Laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma is the most common laryngeal cancer , and it is the second
66 highest incidence among head and neck cancer(Ling Gao, et al., 2018). In 2016, Laryngeal

67 malignancies accounted for approximately 13,400 cancer cases in U.S.A, of which an estimated
68 3600 patients succumbed to the disease(Rebecca L. Siegel, et al., 2019). In U.S.A, the number of
69 laryngeal cancer has radically changed in the last 20 years (S. Michael Rothenberg, et al., 2012).
70 In the available treatments, there have been improvements, but the patients still need identified
71 novel gene that is up-regulated in human cancer suffer from poor prognosis. So, in the
72 pathogenesis of LSCC, identification of the key molecules is urgently needed to improve the
73 treatment of LSCC.

74 The KIAA1199 gene, which was first discovered in association with non-syndromic hearing
75 loss(Satoko Abe, et al., 2003). Nowadays, we have known that the KIAA1199 gene is expressed
76 in a wide range of normal human tissues(Yongsheng Zhang, et al., 2014). Over-expression of
77 KIAA1199 contributes to resistance to cell immortalization and cancerization in normal human
78 cells and is associated with cell death(Eriko Michishita, et al., 2006). Several researches have
79 illuminated that KIAA1199 is over-expressed in different cancers, including oral squamous cell
80 carcinoma(Pitak Chanthammachat, et al., 2013), breast cancer(Nikki A. Evensen, et al., 2013),
81 gastric cancer(Shinji Matsuzaki, et al., 2009), colorectal tumors((K Birkenkamp-Demtroder, et
82 al., 2011; Lawrence C. LaPointe, et al., 2012), prostate cancer(Eriko Michishita, et al., 2006),
83 ovarian cancer(Fan Shena, et al., 2019) and hepatocellular carcinoma(Zhengchen Jiang, et al.,
84 2018). The workings proved, that KIAA1199, which regulates the proliferation, migration, and
85 invasion of tumors. So far, in LSCC remain an enigma, we have no the report about KIAA1199
86 expression in LSCC, and the clinical value and biological role of KIAA1199.

87 We implemented immunohistochemical detection of KIAA1199 protein expression to
88 investigate the clinical significance of KIAA1199 and to detect whether it plays a key role in the
89 progression of LSCC in 105 paired formalin-fixed and paraffin-embedded cancer and adjacent
90 noncancer tissues obtained from patients with LSCC. In the end, we illuminated the
91 clinicopathologic characteristics of LSCC patients was related to KIAA1199, which were
92 statistically evaluated.

93

94 **Materials & Methods**

95 **Patient enrolment and arrange follow-up**

96 The research was implemented in the Department of ENT, the Third Xiangya Hospital,
97 Central South University. We collected 10 pairs of fresh specimens and their matched adjacent
98 noncancerous specimens, which were from patients diagnosed with human laryngeal squamous
99 cell carcinoma by pathological examination. A total of 105 patients who had been performed
100 curative resection for LSCC were registered from 2009 to 2014. Patients with recurrence of

101 laryngeal cancer or multiple cancers were excluded. No anticancer therapy was given before
102 surgery. Postoperative pathological examination of patients diagnosed with laryngeal squamous
103 cell cancer. Patient clinical data such as sex, age, pathological differentiation, clinical region, T
104 stage, N stage, clinical stage, operation type, neck lymph dissection, smoking status, and
105 drinking status were collected. To investigate the prognostic value of KIAA1199 in
106 postoperative patients, we examined the overall survival rate (OS) of the LSCC patients. The
107 average average follow-up cycle was 54 months (5 months extent to 10 years). Prior to the start of
108 the study, we obtained the written informed consent of all patients and the approval of the
109 hospital's Human Research Ethics Committee in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration
110 Guidelines. All tissue samples were treated and anonymous in accordance with ethical and legal
111 standards. The tumor stage was determined according to the TNM (tumor, lymph node,
112 metastasis) grading of the International Union Against Cancer (UICC, 2002).

113

114 **RNA extraction and real-time RT-PCR**

115 According to the manufacturer's protocol, the total RNA was isolated from LSCC and matched
116 adjacent tissues by using TRIzol Reagent (Invitrogen). Nanodroplet spectrophotometer (Thermo
117 Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) was used to measure the concentration and purity of total RNA.
118 According to the manufacturer's instructions, the total RNA was converted to cDNA using a
119 quantitative PCR (qPCR) reverse transcription kit (TOYOBO Life Science, Shanghai, P.R.
120 China), fresh tissues were used to synthesize cDNA. Real-time RT-PCR was applied three times
121 using a KOD SYBR qPCR Mix Fluorescent Quantitative PCR kit (TOYOBO Life Science,
122 Shanghai, P.R. China). PCR and data collection were conducted by using an EP Real-time PCR
123 System (Eppendorf Inc., Hauppauge, NY, USA). For standardization, we used GAPDH as an
124 endogenous control. The primers used in our study were purchased from Sangon Biotech
125 (Shanghai, P.R. China), and the following primer sequences were used: KIAA1199, F primer 5'-
126 CCAGTAACCTGCGAATGAAGA-3' and R primer 5'-TGGTCCCAGTGGATGGTGTAG-3'.
127 GAPDH, F primer 5'-TTGGTATCGTGGAAGGACTCA-3' and R primer 5'-
128 TGTCATCATATTTGGCAGGTT-3'. The reaction conditions were 95°C for 5 min, followed by
129 40 cycles at 95°C for 15 sec and 58°C for 30 sec. The relative expression level was determined
130 using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$ method.

131

132 **Western Blotting Analysis**

133 Proteins were extracted from LSCC fresh tissue samples and adjacent noncancerous fresh
134 tissue samples. The Western blotting analysis was carried out according to our previous
135 article (Wei Li, et al., 2012). Primary antibodies were used as follows: polyclonal rabbit anti-

136 KIAA1199 antibody (diluted 1:1,000), anti-GAPDH antibody (diluted 1:5000), and horseradish
137 peroxidase-conjugated secondary antibody (1:10,000).

138

139 **Immunohistochemistry**

140 One hundred and five formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded LSCC tissues were used for the
141 immunohistochemistry (IHC) studies. Briefly, the tissue was sliced continuously into
142 approximately 4 μm section, paraffin was removed from the sections using a graded alcohol
143 series of 100% and 95% in xylene, rehydrated in 75%, and finally washed with PBS.
144 Subsequently, the antigen was repaired with sodium citrate buffer PBS and incubated in 3%
145 H₂O₂ deionized water for 15 minutes to inactivate endogenous peroxidase. The sections were
146 washed 3 times with PBS, incubated with calf serum to block non-specific antigen for 10 min,
147 incubated with polyclonal rabbit anti-KIAA1199 antibody (1:70) at room temperature for 1 hour,
148 washed with PBS three times, and then incubated with secondary antibody at room temperature
149 for 30 minutes. Sections were washed with PBS 3 times, stained with DAB for 4 minutes,
150 washed 3 more times with PBS, restained with haematoxylin for 30 seconds, washed with
151 flowing water, dried and sealed. Dried sections were observed with an optical microscope. The
152 positive control was gastric cancer tissue confirmed by pathological examination, and the
153 adjacent normal tissues from patients with LSCC were used as the negative control.

154

155 **Immunohistochemical staining results**

156 The positive expression of KIAA1199 was patchy with aggregates of brown granules in the
157 cytoplasm. Semiquantitative analysis was used to determine the percentage of positive cells
158 under the microscope and score the staining intensity. Two senior pathologists of the Department
159 of Pathology were assigned to read the slides in a double-blinded manner, and 3-5 different fields
160 were randomly selected from each IHC staining section for observation. The staining results
161 were semiquantitatively analysed in terms of staining intensity and percentage of cells with
162 positive expression. Evaluation of dyeing intensity: range, 0-3; colourless (negative) = 0, weak
163 (pale yellow) = 1, medium (brown-yellow) = 2, strong (tan) = 3. Percentage of stained cells:
164 range, 0-3; percent positive cells < 5% = 0, 0.5%-10% = 1, 10%-50% = 2, $\geq 50\%$ = 3. The score
165 of the two was multiplied to show the positive grade: 0 is negative (-), ≤ 3 is low expression, and
166 >3 is high expression.

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169 **Statistical analysis**

170 Our results were interpreted with GraphPad Prism version 7.0 (GraphPad Software, Inc., La
171 Jolla, CA, USA) and SPSS 23.0 software package (SPSS, 112 Y.-H. HAO ET AL. Chicago, IL,
172 USA). Chi-square test was used to analyze the associate with KIAA1199 protein expression and

173 clinicopathological characteristics in LSCC patients. Cox regression analysis estimated the risk of
174 death associated with KIAA1199 protein expression. Kaplan-meier method was used to analyze
175 the total survival curve. Other data were analysed using Student's t-test, and ANOVA was
176 conducted to determine the differences in two or more groups. All data are presented as the mean
177 \pm SD with $P < 0.05$ (* $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.005$, **** $P < 0.001$).

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179

180 **Results**

181 **1. Clinical data**

182 To understand the clinical features of patients, the detailed data of the patients, such as sex,
183 age, pathological differentiation, clinical region, T stage, N stage, clinical stages, operation type,
184 neck lymph dissection, smoking status, and drinking status, were collected from their medical
185 records, and these data are summarized in Table 1 for the 105 patients in this study; 103 (98.1%)
186 were men, and 2 (1.9%) were women, ranging in age from 37 to 82 years. T1-T2 stage was
187 detected in 70 patients (66.6%), N1-N3 stage was detected in 20 patients (19%), and the overall
188 survival (OS) time ranged from 6 to 108 months.

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190

191 **2. Increased Expression of KIAA1199 in Human LSCC tissues**

192 To uncover the role of KIAA1199 expression in LSCC, we first detected KIAA1199 protein
193 and mRNA expression in 10 pairs of fresh human LSCC specimens and their matched adjacent
194 noncancerous specimens using Western blotting (Fig. 1A, 1B), IHC (Fig. 2) and real-time RT-
195 PCR (Fig. 1C). As shown in, KIAA1199 protein levels were significantly higher in LSCC tissues
196 (1.838 ± 0.3209 vs 0.9385 ± 0.1363 , $P=0.04$) (Fig. 1B) than in adjacent noncancerous tissues.
197 Real-time RT-PCR revealed that KIAA1199 mRNA expression was considerably lower in
198 adjacent noncancerous tissues ($P < 0.001$) than in cancer tissues (Fig. 1C). Then, we compared the
199 expression of KIAA1199 in 105 LSCC tissues and their adjacent noncancerous tissues through
200 immunohistochemistry. There was weak or negative expression of KIAA1199 in adjacent
201 noncancerous tissue but high expression in the cytoplasm of LSCC tissue cells. The positive
202 staining and negative staining rates in LSCC tissues were 52.4% (54/105, Table 1) and 47.6%
203 (50/105), respectively. Semiquantitative analysis showed that KIAA1199 was significantly
204 increased in LSCC tissues. Representative photographs of the immunostaining are shown in 3
205 A-F. The real-time RT-PCR results for KIAA1199 mRNA levels were agree with the Western
206 blotting and IHC results, showing that KIAA1199 is increased in LSCC tissues.

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208

209 **3. KIAA1199 expression is associated with pathologic differentiation, T , N , clinical stage,**

210 survival status and survival times of LSCC

211 In order to further reveal the character of KIAA1199 in LSCC, we evaluated the relationship
212 between its expression and the clinicopathological characteristics of LSCC. As shown in Table 2,
213 upregulation of KIAA1199 expression was associated with some clinicopathological parameters:
214 pathologic differentiation (P, 0.002), T stage (P<0.001), N stage (P<0.001), clinical stage
215 (P<0.001), survival time (P, 0.008) and survival status (P<0.001). However, KIAA1199
216 expression was not correlated with age, sex, clinical region, smoking status, or drinking status.

217

218

219 4. Survival assessment: A high level of KIAA1199 is predictive of poor prognosis in LSCC 220 patients

221 The survival curve was plotted by kaplan-meier method, and the survival time was tested by
222 log-rank test. The results showed that LSCC patients with high KIAA1199 expression had a
223 lower prognosis, and low KIAA1199 expression in LSCC patients (P<0.001, for OS) was related
224 with considerably longer OS compared with high KIAA1199 expression. The median OS for
225 high KIAA1199 expression was 60±4.113 months and that for low KIAA1199 expression was
226 96±7.928 months (Fig. 3 G).Then analyzed independent prognostic factors for survival in
227 patients with LSCC by using univariate and multivariate Cox proportional hazards analysis.The
228 univariate analysis results (Table 3) showed that age (HR =1.032, 95% CI: 1.001 - 1.063; P,
229 0.04), pathologic differentiation (HR =0.643, 95% CI: 0.524 - 0.789; P<0.001), T stage (HR
230 =1.402, 95% CI: 1.139 - 1.724; P<0.001), N stage (HR =1.679, 95% CI: 1.148 - 2.4577; P,
231 0.008), clinical stage (HR =1.445, 95% CI: 1.180 - 1.769; P<0.001), operation type (HR =0.380,
232 95% CI: 0.222 - 0.650; P<0.001) and KIAA1199 expression (HR =12.165, 95% CI: 5.434 -
233 27.233; P<0.001) were significantly associated with the overall survival of LSCC patients.
234 Multivariate survival analysis (table 4) showed that KIAA1199 expression was an independent
235 predictor of OS(HR =27.937, 95% CI: 10.600–73.632; P<0.0001) and that age (HR =1.039, 95%
236 CI: 1.003 - 1.077; P, 0.0354), clinical stage (HR =0.704, 95% CI: 0.581–0.960; P, 0.023),
237 operation type (HR =0.285, 95% CI: 0.093-0.870; P, 0.027), T stage (HR =0.68, 95% CI: 0.529-
238 0.874; P, 0.003) and smoking status (HR =0.19, 95% CI: 0.057–0.630; P, 0.007) were
239 independent predictive factors for OS.

240

241

242 Discussion

243 In order to identify novel gene that is up-regulated in human cancer with poor prognosis, a
244 deeply cognition to the molecular biology profiles of LCSS is an vital work. To outcomes remain
245 elusive, the molecular pathways involved in LSCC incidence, progression and clinical yet.
246 Especially the endoplasmic reticulum, KIAA1199, which is a glycosylated protein which located

247 in the cytoplasm and membrane(Amit Tiwari, et al., 2013; Eriko Michishita, et al., 2006; Nikki
248 A. Evensen, et al., 2013). The relationship between cancer and KIAA1199 have been studied in
249 many research directions. KIAA1199 is a recently identified novel gene that can regulate cell
250 growth and invasion and could be a new therapeutic target in breast cancer(Mohammad-Saeid
251 Jami, et al., 2014). A similar analysis reported, KIAA1199 overexpression can predict poor
252 survival in patients with colon cancer(Jian Xu, et al., 2015). By several mechanisms, KIAA1199
253 protein can accelerate cancer progression .Simultaneously,other research have shown that the
254 KIAA1199 protein expression level is elevated upon p53 activation(Shinji Matsuzaki, et al.,
255 2009). KIAA1199 is also related to angiogenesis in rheumatoid arthritis(Xinyu Yang, et al.,
256 2015). However, the mechanism of KIAA1199 tumor-promoting effects in LSCC is little known.

257 In our study, we first verified KIAA1199 protein and mRNA expression in 10 pairs of fresh
258 surgically resected LSCC samples by Western blotting, IHC and real-time RT-PCR. Our results
259 have draw a conclusion that KIAA1199 was highly expressed in LSCC cancerous in contrast to
260 adjacent noncancerous tissue. In view of our data, we also can censor the hidden expression of
261 KIAA1199 by immunohistochemistry in 105 paraffin-embedded sections (2009-2014) to further
262 explore the relationship between KIAA1199 and clinicopathological characteristics . By our data
263 analysis, showed that KIAA1199 expression was not kenspeckle related with clinical parameters
264 which as age, sex, clinical region, smoking, or drinking. Interestingly, for some severe
265 clinicopathological parameters: pathologic differentiation (P, 0.002), T stage (P<0.001), N stage
266 (P<0.001), clinical stage (P<0.001), survival time (P, 0.008) and survival status (P<0.001),the
267 significant correlations were observed. Through our experiments,we obtained many data, which
268 provides a evidence that KIAA1199 is highly expressed in primary LSCC tissues and its
269 immunoreactivity is higher in cancerous than adjacent noncancerous tissues, revealing that
270 KIAA1199 might help distinguish benign from malignant larynx tumors. Moreover, our results
271 and analysis illuminated that the expression of KIAA1199 was elevated in LSCC tissues with
272 aggressive clinicopathological characteristics, suggesting its potential as a marker of cancer
273 invasiveness.

274 The abnormal expression of KIAA1199 has also been found in other cancer studies, such as
275 oral squamous cell carcinoma(Pitak Chanthammachat, et al., 2013), breast cancer(Nikki A.
276 Evensen, et al., 2013), gastric cancer(Shinji Matsuzaki, et al., 2009), colorectal tumors(Amit
277 Tiwari, et al., 2013; K Birkenkamp-Demtroder, et al., 2011; Lawrence C. LaPointe, et al., 2012),
278 prostate cancer(Eriko Michishita, et al., 2006), ovarian cancer(Fan Shena, et al., 2019) and
279 hepatocellular carcinoma(Zhengchen Jiang, et al., 2018). It was reported(Xuehua Jiao, et al.,
280 2019) that KIAA1199 was abnormally increased in the papillary thyroid tumor compared with
281 normal specimens tissues and that upregulation of KIAA1199 was positively correlated with
282 more advanced clinical variables. There was analysis showed that the cell invasion and migration

283 were related with KIAA1199. KIAA1199 silencing inhibited the invasive ability of papillary
284 thyroid cancer cells by affecting epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) in vitro and in vivo.
285 Additionally, the same as our study, In clone cancer study(Jian Xu, et al., 2015) proved the
286 expression of KIAA1199 was also observably associated with tumor invasion, metastasis and
287 TNM staging. Increased mortality risks associated with overexpression of KIAA1199 in primary
288 hepatocellular cancer patient. Previous researches have demonstrated that up-regulation of
289 KIAA1199 motivates carcinogenesis, motility and apoptosis. Metastasis, invasion, and cell
290 movement of a variety of cell types are associated with KIAA1199 expression(Yongsheng
291 Zhang, et al., 2014). By the Wnt/ β -catenin signalling pathway, EMT is one of the important
292 processes mediated, which plays a key role in cancer invasion and metastasis(Yanyuan Wu, et
293 al., 2012). Interestingly, the KIAA1199 signalling pathway also induces the development and
294 progression of tumor. Other researches showed that the cell proliferation and mobility of
295 colorectal cancer cells were inhibited by knocking down the expression of CEMIP in vitro, and
296 the EMT process of colorectal cancer cells is suppressed by shRNA-CEMIP via inactivation of
297 the Wnt/ β -catenin/Snail pathway(Guodong Liang, et al., 2018). Collectively, our results
298 demonstrated that the overexpression of KIAA1199 mRNA may affect tumor spread, lymph
299 node metastasis, tumor differentiation and prognosis(Shinji Matsuzaki, et al., 2009). In a report,
300 it was defined KIAA1199 as an carcinogenic protein induced by HPV infection and composite
301 NF- κ B activity that transmits pro-survival and aggressive signals via EGFR signalling(Kateryna
302 Shostak, et al., 2014). Research has suggested that KIAA1199 may promote the development of
303 ovarian cancer by regulating PI3K/AKT signalling(Fan Shena, et al., 2019). One study insisted,
304 AMPK/GSK3 β / β -catenin cascade triggered KIAA1199 over-expression may promote migration
305 and invasion in anoikis-resistant prostate cancer cells by increasing PDK4-associated metabolic
306 reprogramming, which may provide a novel therapeutic target for the prostate cancer(Peng
307 Zhang, et al., 2018). Therefore, in the light of the upper research about the KIAA1199-related
308 signalling pathway, we can draw a conclusion that KIAA1199 can influence the occurrence and
309 development of laryngeal cancer, which may also be related to the Wnt/ β -catenin, EGFR,
310 PI3K/AKT, and AMPK/GSK3 signalling pathways and other pathways. Thence, we will carry
311 out a molecular mechanism research of KIAA1199 in LSCC cells and animal models in our
312 future study.

313 Some limitations exist in our research. First, the sample size of this study was a little small. As
314 a retrospective study design that the selection bias might not be ignored. Second, our study did
315 not explore the effect of other treatments for LSCC on the prognosis of patients, such as
316 radiotherapy and chemotherapy. So, in the future studies, We will carry out cell biology
317 experiments to verify our findings, such as gene transfection and cell migration assays.

318

319

320 Conclusions

321 In conclusion, our results revealed significant associations of KIAA1199 protein expression
322 with various clinicopathologic characteristics and the prognosis of LSCC patients. Moreover,
323 survival analysis illuminated KIAA1199 was an independent prognostic factor for overall
324 survival in LSCC. All of these findings indicate that the KIAA1199 protein might be used as a
325 pathological marker to identify individuals with poor outcomes and to provide a reference for
326 clinical therapy in the future. Further studies are required to investigate its rationality as a marker
327 and the potential pathways involved in KIAA1199-mediated cell invasion and metastasis.

328

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Table 1 (on next page)

Clinicopathological characteristics of patient samples and expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC

1 **Table1: Clinicopathological characteristics of patient samples and expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC**

	Parameters	Case number / n (%)
Gender	Male	103 (98.1)
	Female	2 (1.9)
Age(y)	≤60	44 (41.9)
	>60	61 (58.1)
Pathologic differentiation	Poorly	20 (19.05)
	Moderately	29 (27.62)
	Highly	56 (53.33)
Clinic Region	Supraglottic type	10 (9.52)
	Trans glottic type	5 (4.76)
	Glottic type	87 (82.86)
	Subglottic type	3 (2.86)
T stage	T1-T2	70 (66.6)
	T3-T4	35 (33.4)
N stage	NO	85 (81)
	N1-N3	20 (19)
Clinical Stages	I	52 (49.5)
	II	15 (14.3)
	III	11 (10.5)

	IV	27 (25.7)
Operation	Total laryngectomy	28 (26.7)
	The partial laryngectomy	77 (73.3)
Neck lymph dissection	No	40 (38.1)
	Radical cervical clearing	26 (24.8)
	Selective/functional neck cleanser	39 (37.1)
Smoke	No	30 (28.6)
	Yes	75 (71.4)
Drink	No	53 (50.5)
	Yes	52 (49.5)
Expression of KIAA1199	Low expression	50 (47.6)
	High expression	55 (52.4)

Table 2 (on next page)

Correlation between KIAA1199 expression and clinicopathologic characteristics of LSCC patients

1 Table 2: correlation between KIAA1199 expression and clinicopathologic characteristics of LSCC patients

Parameters	Expression of KIAA1199 (No.)		P	
	Low	High		
Gender	Male	48	55	0.224
	Female	2	0	
Age(year)	≤60	21	23	1.000
	>60	29	32	
Pathologic differentiation	Poorly	1	19	<0.001
	Moderately	18	11	
	Highly	31	25	
Clinic Region	Supraglottic type	3	7	0.072
	Trans glottic type	0	5	
	Glottic type	46	41	
	Subglottic type	1	2	
T stage	T1-T2	48	22	<0.001
	T3-T4	2	33	
N stage	N0	50	35	<0.001
	N1-N3	2	18	
Clinical Stage	I - II	48	19	<0.001
	III-IV	2	36	
Smoke	No	18	12	0.132
	Yes	32	43	

Drink	No	26	27	0.846
	Yes	24	28	
Survival status	survive	43	7	<0.001
	death	7	48	
Survival times (month)	≤12	2	7	0.008
	>12, ≤36	0	8	
	>36, ≤60	23	22	
	>60	25	18	

Table 3 (on next page)

Univariate analyses of various prognostic parameters in patients with LSCC

1 **Table 3: Univariate analyses of various prognostic parameters in patients with LSCC**

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Parameters	Univariate Cox		
	Hazard ratio	95% CI	p-Value
Gender	0.048	0-25.791	0.422
Age(y)	1.032	1.001-1.063	0.040
Pathologic differentiation	0.643	0.524-0.789	<0.001
Clinic Region	0.068	0.49-1.026	0.068
T stage	1.402	1.139-1.724	0.001
N stage	1.679	1.148-2.457	0.008
Clinical Stages	1.445	1.180-1.769	<0.001
Operation	0.380	0.222-0.650	<0.001
Neck lymph dissection	0.957	0.7106-1.291	0.774
Smoke	1.028	0.560-1.885	0.930
Drink	0.782	0.460-1.330	0.365
expression of KIAA1199	12.165	5.434-27.233	<0.001

Table 4 (on next page)

Multivariate analyses of various prognostic parameters in patients with LSCC

1 **Table 4: Multivariate analyses of various prognostic parameters in patients with LSCC**

Parameters	Multivariate Cox		
	Hazard ratio	95% CI	p-Value
Age(y)	1.039	1.003-1.077	0.035
Clinic Stage	0.704	0.581-0.960	0.023
Operation	0.285	0.093-0.870	0.027
T stage	0.68	0.529-0.874	0.003
Smoke	0.400	0.204-0.785	0.008
expression of KIAA1199	27.937	10.600-73.632	0.001

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Figure 1

The protein of KIAA1199 was overexpression in LSCC tissue specimens

(A), (B) The protein expression of KIAA1199 in adjacent noncancerous tissue and LSCC tissue by Western blotting. **** $P < 0.001$. (C) The mRNA expression of KIAA1199 in adjacent noncancerous tissue and LSCC tissue by RT-PCR. **** $P < 0.001$.

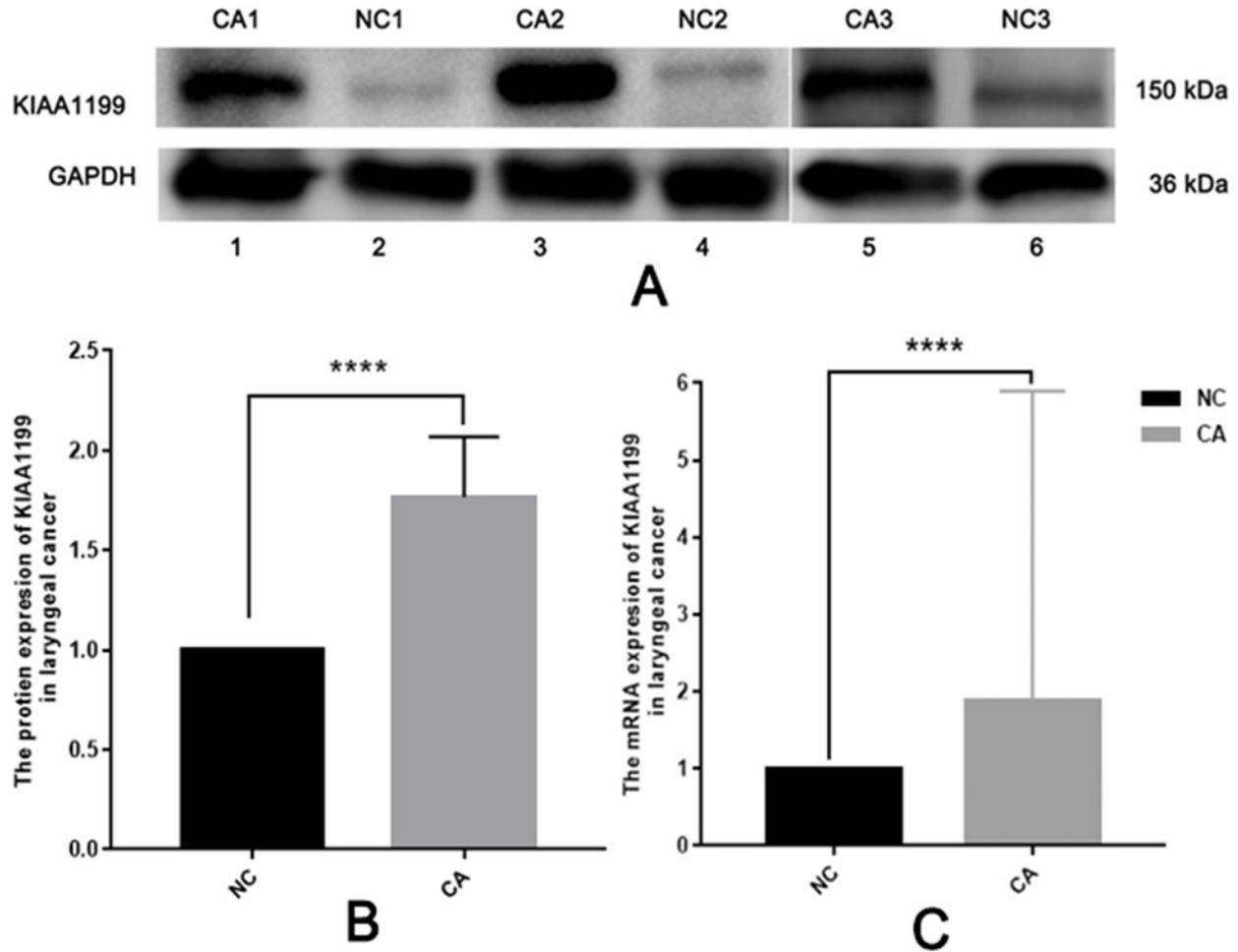


Figure 1: The protein of KIAA1199 was overexpression in LSCC tissue specimens. (A) (B) The protein expression of KIAA1199 in adjacent noncancerous tissue and LSCC tissue by Western blotting. **** $P < 0.001$. (C) The mRNA expression of KIAA1199 in adjacent noncancerous tissue and LSCC tissue by Real-time RT-PCR. **** $P < 0.001$.

Figure 2

Representative images of immunohistochemical staining for KIAA1199 expression in larynx specimens

A: Negative expression of KIAA1199 in adjacent noncancerous specimens. B: Low expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC specimens. C: High expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC specimens. Original magnification: 40X; scale bars: 20um.

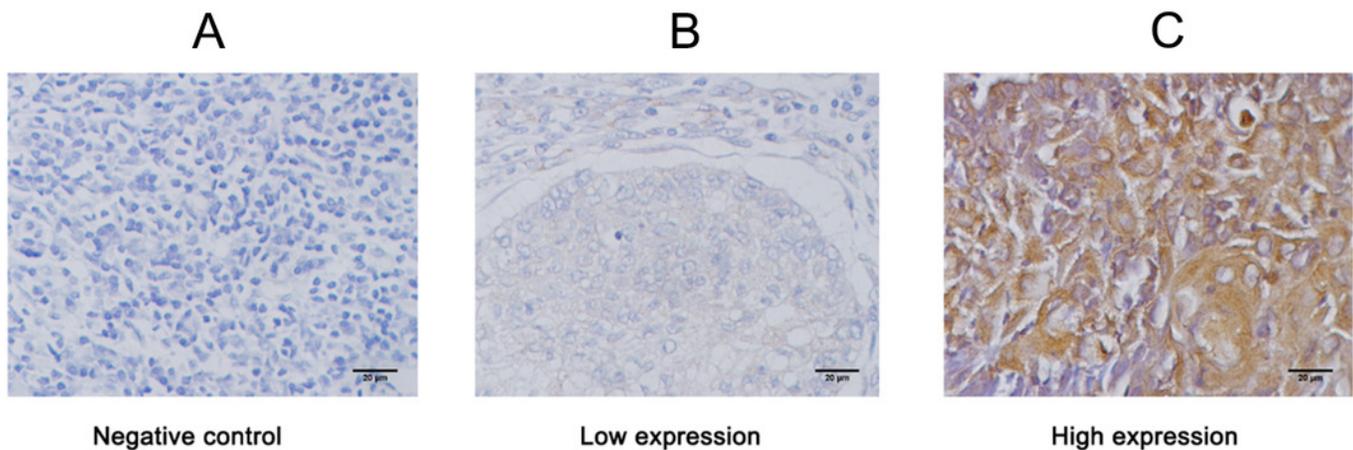


Figure 2: Representative images of immunohistochemical staining for KIAA1199 expression in larynx specimens. A: Negative expression of KIAA1199 in adjacent noncancerous specimens. B: Low expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC specimens. C: High expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC specimens. Original magnification: 40X; scale bars: 20um.

Figure 3

The expression of KIAA1199 in LSCC tissues and survival curve

(A-F) KIAA1199 expression by immunohistochemical staining. A: adjacent noncancerous tissue as the negative control, B: gastric cancer tissue as the positive control, C: I stage LSCC tissue, D:II stage LSCC tissue, E: III stage LSCC tissue, F:IV stage LSCC tissue.,G: Kaplan-Meier survival curves analysis of overall survival for all patients with KIAA1199 negative and positive LSCC tissue.

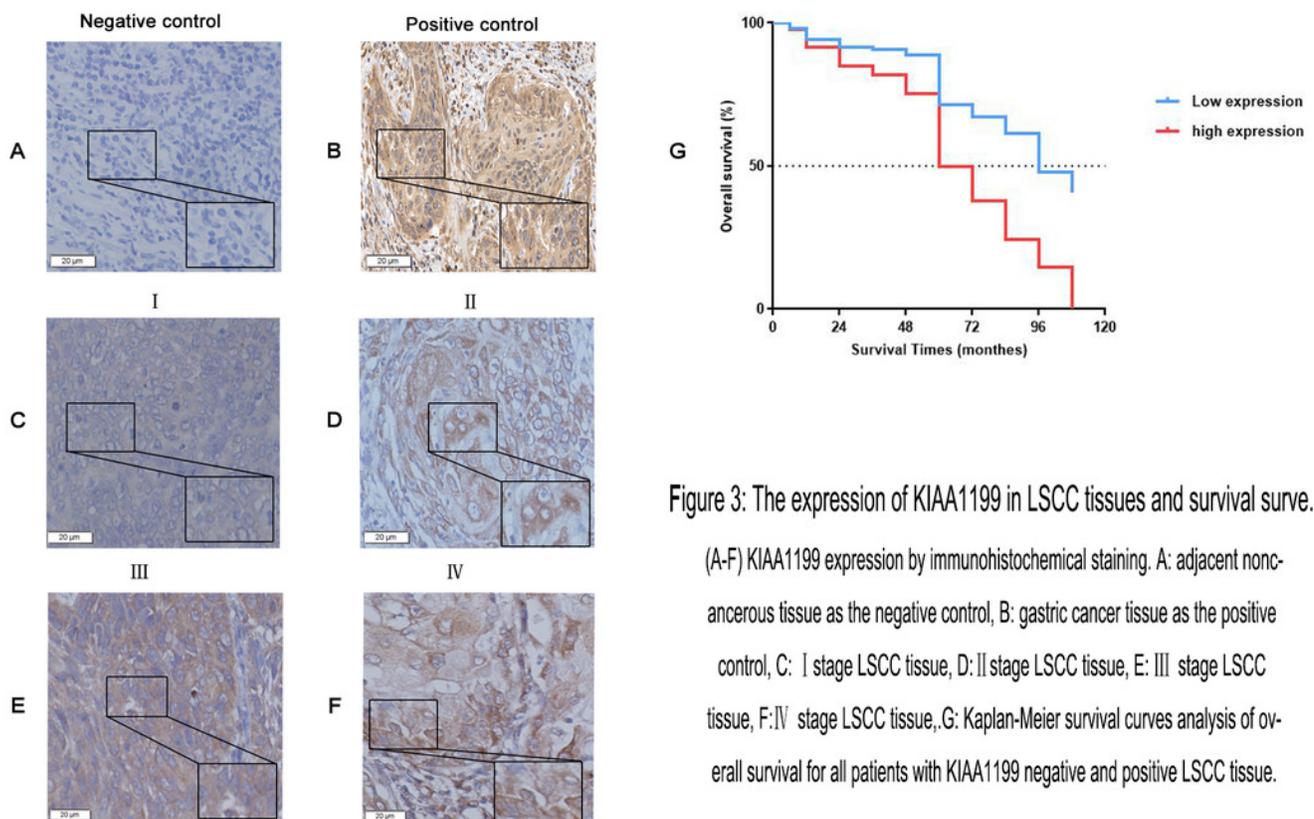


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