# Waldenström macroglobulinemia and miRNA

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## Waldenström macroglobulinemia (WM)

lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma with immunoglobulin

M (IgM) monoclonal protein

#### **Diagnosis**

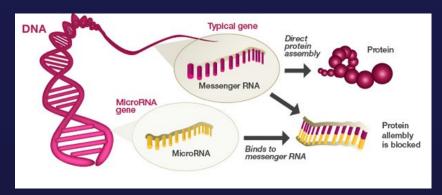
- ≥10% clonal lymphoplasmacytic cells
- presence of monoclonal IgM
- L265P mutation in MYD88
  - detectable in more than 90% of patients
- difficult to differentiate from IgM-MM or IgM-MGUS
  - MYD88 mutation, flow cytometry
- microRNA/circulating microRNA?





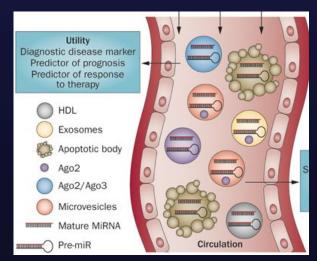
## MicroRNA (miRNA)

- single stranded RNAs
- regulators of gene expression
- disease pathogenesis and cancer



#### Circulating miRNA

- in various body fluids
- stable in microvesicles
- easily accessible, easy detection
- connected to pathological condition



http://www.medscape.com/

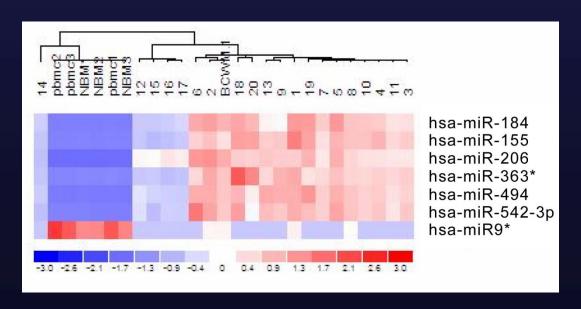




# miRNA in Waldenström macroglobulinemia

#### WM cells

- minimal changes in cytogenetic studies and gene expression analysis
- microRNA (miRNA) signature differentiates WM cells from their normal counterparts





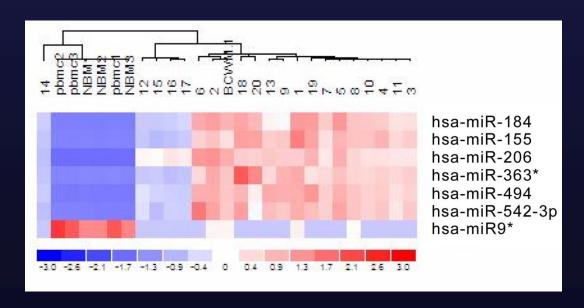


# miRNA in Waldenström macroglobulinemia

#### WM cells

miR-155 – pivotal role in WM *in vitro* and *in vivo* 

- pathogenesis, prognosis, microenvironment
- In plasma potential biomarker of WM







# **Our goal**

# study of circulating miRNA in WM





# Aims of study

 to analyze profile of differentially expressed serum miRNA in WM patients in comparison to IgM-MGUS as well as IgM-MM and healthy donors

 to validate this profile on a larger cohort of WM and IgM-MGUS as well as IgM-MM and healthy donors using qPCR

to use circulating serum miRNA as marker of WM





#### Workflow



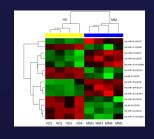


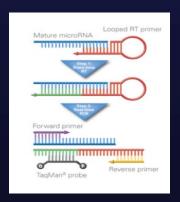


TaqMan Low Density Arrays (TLDA)



Differently expressed miRNA evaluation







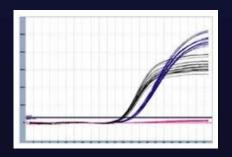
qPCR Specific TaqMan miRNA assays



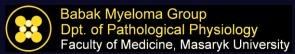
Data analysis



Correlation with clinical parametres

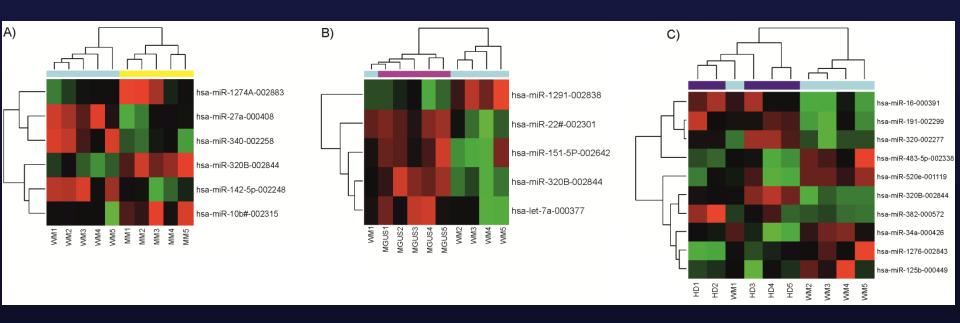






### Results – TLDA screening

- 6 differently expressed miRNA between WM and IgM-MM
- 5 differently expressed miRNA between WM and IgM-MGUS
- 10 differently expressed miRNA between WM and HD
- validation: miR-320a, miR-320b, let-7a, miR-151-5P







#### Patients' characteristics

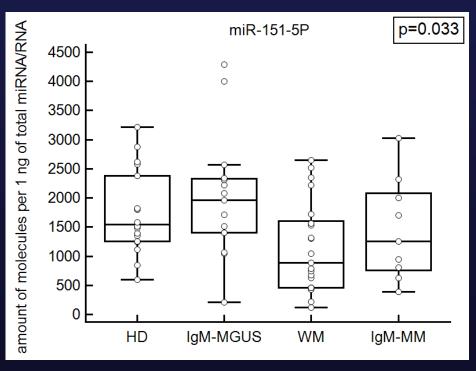
	HD	IgM-MGUS	WM	IgM-MM
Gender: males-females	50%-50%	40%-60%	66%-34%	50%-50%
ISS stage: I-II-III	ND	ND	ND	60%-30%-10%
D-S substage: A-B	ND	ND	ND	90%-10%
Light chains: kappa-lambda	ND	46.7%-53.3%	85.7%- 14.3%	50%-50%

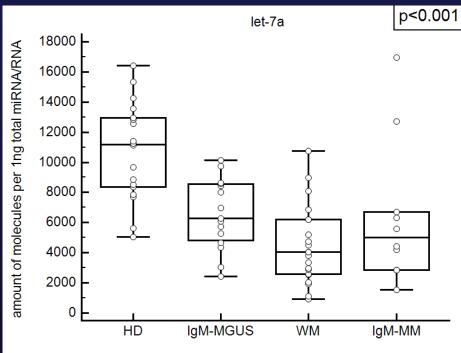




#### **Results - validation**

• miR-151-5P and let-7a:



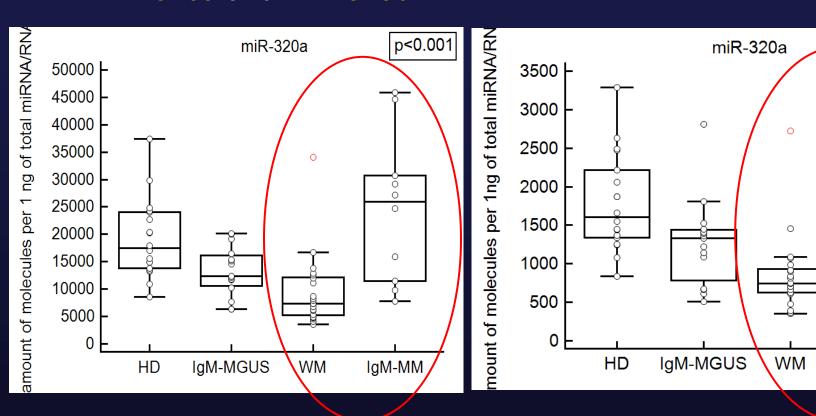






#### **Results - validation**

miR-320a and miR-320b:



different expression between WM and all other groups of samples (p<0.05)





p<0.001

0

IgM-MM

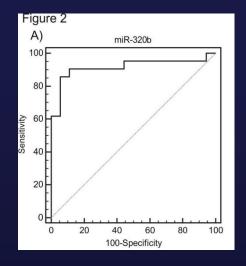
# Results – ROC analysis

serum miRNA-320b and miR-320a discriminate:

WM from HD,

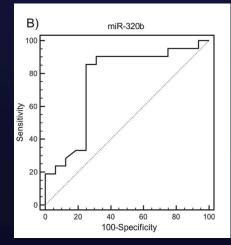
sensitivity: 90.5%, specificity: 94.4%

AUC: 0.921



WM from IgM-MGUS
 sensitivity: 90.5%, specificity: 73.3%

AUC: 0.743



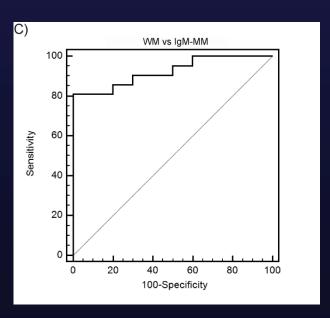




# Results – ROC analysis

serum miRNA-320b and miR-320a discriminate:

 WM from IgM-MM sensitivity: 81.0%, specificity: 100.0% AUC = 0.924

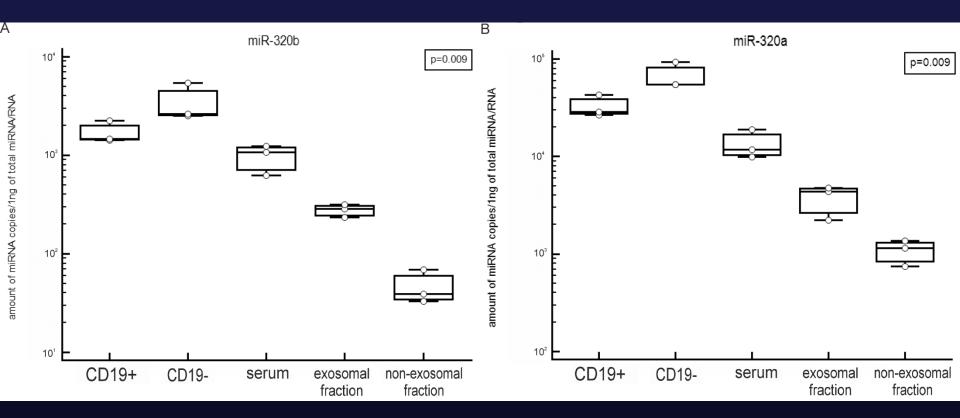






#### miRNAs in different fractions

- present in both CD19+ and CD19- cellular fractions
- higher levels in exosomal fractions







## **Summary**

#### Circulating miR-320a and miR-320b:

- distinguish WM patients from IgM-MM, IgM-MGUS and HD
- potentially could serve as a minimally invasive biomarkers for WM diagnosis
- need a larger validation cohort of patients
- prediction of IgM-MGUS evolution?





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