

 <p>ISSN NO. 2320-5407</p>	<p>Journal Homepage: -www.journalijar.com</p> <h2>INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH (IJAR)</h2> <p>Article DOI:10.21474/IJAR01/6180 DOI URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.21474/IJAR01/6180</p>	 <p>INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH (IJAR) ISSN 2320-5407 Journal Homepage: http://www.journalijar.com Journal DOI:10.21474/IJAR01</p>
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LETTER TO EDITOR

FANCONI ANEMIA: FUTURE NEEDS AND QUESTIONING THE DEFINITION.

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Manuscript Info

Abstract

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Manuscript History

Received: 01 November 2017
Final Accepted: 03 December 2017
Published: January 2018

Key words:-

Fanconi Anemia, acute myeloid leukemia, definition.

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There are several different gene mutations causing Fanconi Anemia (FA) (1). Some known FA related genes such as BRCA2/FANCD1 are related with repairment of the genetic code (2). In the future, PARP(Poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase) inhibitors might also be tried in FA patients with DNA repairment dysfunction in case further studies show survival benefit. In addition to this, it is well known that FA patients have increased risk of malignancy (3). Consequently, we should find and establish prognostic factors for the FA patients who have increased risk factors for developing acute myelogeneous leukemia (AML), and also we should determine specific treatment and follow-up protocols for such patients.

It could also be argued about the need to update the definition of FA. In the future, FA patients without syndromic features of FA (such as short stature, cafe au lait spots, thumb anomaly, infertility,..) might be classified and named according to new classifications based on predisposing genetic mutations. Such a new classification and definition would also give us more accurate and specific results in search of facing the problems in DEB (diepoxybutane) test positive aplastic anemia patients.

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