

# MicroRNAs 203 and 205 are prognostic in cutaneous SCC

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(HealthDay)—MicroRNAs (*miR-203* and *miR-205*) could be useful

prognostic markers in cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, with distinct expression and associations, according to a study published online Dec. 11 in the *British Journal of Dermatology*.

Javier Cañueto, M.D., Ph.D., from the Hospital Universitario de Salamanca in Spain, and colleagues examined the expression pattern of miRNAs at different stages of skin cancer progression in a panel of murine skin cancer cell lines. Noting that *miR-203* and *miR-205* were differentially expressed in the panel, the authors examined their potential as prognostic biomarkers in human tumors.

The researchers found that *miR-205* was expressed in tumors with pathological features indicating [poor prognosis](#), such as desmoplasia, perineural invasion, and a pattern of infiltrative growth. *miR-205* expression was mainly in undifferentiated areas and in the invasion front and correlated with local recurrence and the development of general clinical events of poor evolution. In multinomial logistic regression, *miR-205* expression was an independent variable selected to predict events of poor clinical evolution. *miR-203* was mainly expressed in tumors with characteristics correlating with good prognosis, was primarily expressed in well-differentiated zones, and was rarely expressed in the invasion front. *miR-203* and *miR-205* expression and associations were mostly mutually exclusive. Three clusters of patients were identified with differential prognosis based on *miR-203* and *miR-205* [expression](#) and pathological tumor features.

"This work highlights the utility of *miRNA-205* and *miRNA-203* as prognostic markers in cutaneous [squamous cell carcinoma](#)," the authors write.

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