

**P53-DRIVEN MECHANISMS OF MALIGNANT TRANSFORMATION IN  
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e-mail: mamasharipovash@gmail.com**Objective**

To investigate the role of p53 expression in the molecular mechanisms underlying the progression of neoplasms of accessory breast tissue and to determine its value for assessing malignant potential and the risk of microinvasion.

**Materials and Methods**

The study included 182 patients with lesions of accessory breast tissue treated between 2010 and 2022 at the Republican Specialized Scientific and Practical Medical Center of Oncology and Radiology and its Namangan branch. According to histopathological diagnosis, cases were classified into groups with dysplastic and proliferative changes, ductal carcinoma in situ, lobular carcinoma in situ, and ductal carcinoma in situ with microinvasion.

Immunohistochemical analysis was performed to assess the expression of p53, estrogen receptor (ER), progesterone receptor (PR), and Bcl-2. p53 expression was considered positive when at least 10% of tumor cells showed nuclear staining. Statistical significance was set at  $p < 0.05$ .

**Results**

p53 expression was minimal in dysplastic lesions and lobular carcinoma in situ and moderately increased in well-differentiated ductal carcinoma in situ. In contrast, a marked increase in p53 expression was observed in poorly differentiated ductal carcinoma in situ, reaching its highest level in microinvasive tumors.

Elevated p53 expression was significantly associated with decreased ER, PR, and Bcl-2 expression, reflecting loss of hormonal dependence and the development of a more aggressive tumor phenotype. Differences between low-grade and high-grade lesions were statistically significant.

**Conclusions**

p53 represents a key molecular determinant of malignant transformation in accessory breast tissue. Its overexpression reflects progression from pre-invasive lesions to microinvasive carcinoma and is associated with loss of hormone receptor expression. Combined assessment of p53, ER, PR, and Bcl-2 may serve as an effective immunohistochemical panel for predicting tumor aggressiveness and invasive potential in accessory breast neoplasms.