

Merkel cell polyoma virus (MCPV) (Core)

The presence or absence of Merkel cell polyoma virus (MCPV) segregates Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC) into those of viral pathogenesis (the majority) and those due to UV-mediated genetic damage (the minority).¹ These tumour subsets differ from one another genetically,^{1,2} immunohistochemically³ and biologically.⁴ Merkel cell polyoma virus-negative tumours are more aggressive, hence this factor is of prognostic importance.⁴ Immunohistochemistry, employing the CM2B4 antibody, is recommended as a reliable method of viral detection.⁴

References

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