Ki-67 Proliferation Index in Gastric Cancer
Biologic Significance

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INTRODUCTION
- Ki-67 protein has been used as an indicator of proliferation activity in tumor cells
- In gastric cancer the prognostic value has not been fully understood
- This study was designed to assess the biologic significance of Ki-67 proliferation index (PI) in gastric cancer

MATERIAL / METHODS
- Seventy-two patients with gastric cancer were evaluated and underwent gastric resection
- Tumor tissue was stained immunohistochemically
- Ki-67 PI was defined as the percentage of tumor cells positive for Ki-67
- Ki-67 PI was correlated with clinicopathological characteristics and patient survival

RESULTS
- Overall Survival for patients with low and high Ki-67 PI
- Kruskal-Wallis nonparametric test (p = 0.021). Ki-67 PI distribution is not the same across the 3 groups.

CONCLUSION
- Inverse correlation between Ki-67 PI and histological differentiation grade was found in this sample
- Patients in group with low Ki-67 PI are younger, with poorly differentiated histology and have a lower mean survival
- No significant prognostic value was achieved between high or low Ki-67 PI groups
- We may have two different tumors phenotypes – highly invasive with low proliferative capability, and less invasive potential with higher proliferative ability

REFERENCES: