

Urine transcriptomic profile in terms of malignant ovarian tumors

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ABSTRACT

Purpose of the study. Bioinformatic search for transcriptomic markers (based on metabolomic data) and their validation in the urine of serous ovarian adenocarcinoma patients.

Materials and methods. The study included 70 patients with serous ovarian adenocarcinoma and 30 conditionally healthy individuals. The search for metabolite regulator genes and gene regulator microRNAs was performed using the Random forest machine learning method. Ribonucleic acid (RNA) was isolated using the RNeasy Plus Universal Kits. The level of microRNA transcripts in urine was determined by real-time PCR. Differences were assessed using the Mann-Whitney test with Bonferroni correction.

Results. Using the Random forest method, metabolite-regulator gene (47 genes) and metabolite-regulator microRNA (613 unique microRNA) relationships were established. The identified microRNAs were validated by real-time PCR. Changes in the levels of microRNA transcripts were detected: miR-382-5p, miR-593-3p, miR-29a-5p, miR-2110, miR-30c-5p, miR-181a-5p, let-7b-5p, miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-653-5p, miR-4742-5p, miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p, miR-875-3p, miR-19a-3p, miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p, miR-3193, miR-23a-3p, miR-12132, miR-765, miR-181b-5p, miR-4529-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-6866-3p, miR-4753-5p, miR-103a-3p, miR-423-5p, miR-491-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-6843-3p, miR-423-5p and miR-3184-5p in the urine of patients compared to conditionally healthy individuals.

Conclusion. Thus, urine transcriptome profiling allowed both to identify potential disease markers and to better understand the molecular mechanisms of changes underlying ovarian cancer development.

Keywords: microRNAs, polymerase chain reaction, machine learning, bioinformatics, ovarian serous adenocarcinoma, urine, biomarkers

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Compliance with ethical standards: the research study is carried out in compliance with the ethical principles set forth by World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki, 1964, ed. 2013. The study was approved by the Committee on Biomedical Ethics at the National Medical Research Center for Oncology (extract from the minutes of the meeting No. 15 dated 06/14/2022). Informed consent was received from all participants of the study

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Транскриптомный профиль мочи при злокачественных новообразованиях яичника

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РЕЗЮМЕ

Цель исследования. Биоинформатический поиск транскриптомных маркеров (на основании метаболомных данных) и их валидация в моче больных серозной аденокарциномой яичников.

Материалы и методы. В исследование было включено 70 пациенток с диагнозом серозная аденокарцинома яичников и 30 условно здоровых индивидуумов. Поиск генов-регуляторов метаболитов и микроРНК регуляторов генов осуществляли с использованием метода машинного обучения Random forest. Выделение рибонуклеиновой кислоты (РНК) производили с помощью набора RNeasy Plus Universal Kits. Уровень транскриптов микроРНК в моче определяли методом полимеразной цепной реакции (ПЦР) в режиме реального времени. Оценку различий проводили с использованием критерия Манна-Уитни с поправкой Бонферрони.

Результаты. С использованием метода Random forest были установлены взаимосвязи метаболит-ген регулятор (47 генов) и метаболит-микроРНК регулятор (613 уникальных микроРНК). Выявленные микроРНК были валидированы методом ПЦР в режиме реального времени. Обнаружено изменения уровня транскриптов микроРНК miR-382-5p, miR-593-3p, miR-29a-5p, miR-2110, miR-30c-5p, miR-181a-5p, let-7b-5p, miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-653-5p, miR-4742-5p, miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p, miR-875-3p, miR-19a-3p, miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p, miR-3193, miR-23a-3p, miR-12132, miR-765, miR-181b-5p, miR-4529-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-6866-3p, miR-4753-5p, miR-103a-3p, miR-423-5p, miR-491-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-6843-3p, miR-423-5p и miR-3184-5p в моче пациенток относительно условно-здоровых индивидуумов.

Заключение. Таким образом, транскриптомное профилирование мочи позволило как выявить потенциальные маркеры заболевания, так и лучше понять молекулярные механизмы изменений, лежащих в основе развития рака яичников.

Ключевые слова: микроРНК, полимеразная цепная реакция, машинное обучение, биоинформатика, серозная аденокарцинома яичника, моча, биомаркеры

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Соблюдение этических стандартов: в работе соблюдались этические принципы, предъявляемые Хельсинкской декларацией Всемирной медицинской ассоциации (World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki, 1964, ред. 2013). Исследование одобрено Комитетом по биомедицинской этике при ФГБУ «Национальный медицинский исследовательский центр онкологии» Министерства здравоохранения Российской Федерации (выписка из протокола заседания № 15 от 14.06.2022 г.). Информированное согласие получено от всех участников исследования

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Конфликт интересов: все авторы заявляют об отсутствии явных и потенциальных конфликтов интересов, связанных с публикацией настоящей статьи

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INTRODUCTION

Ovarian cancer (OC) currently takes one of the leading positions in terms of morbidity and mortality in the world and the Russian Federation among gynecological malignancies [1, 2]. OC includes many subtypes of tumors, each of which has distinctive biological and clinical characteristics. According to the WHO classification, serous carcinoma, endometrioid carcinoma, mucinous carcinoma, light cell carcinoma, malignant Brenner tumor, serous-mucinous carcinoma, undifferentiated carcinoma and mixed epithelial carcinoma are distinguished [3, 4].

In most patients, rheumatoid arthritis is sporadic, usually detected late, and the overall 5-year survival rate is only 30–40 %. Early detection of OC is the most important factor in improving patient survival [6]. New methodological approaches, including modern molecular biology approaches, are needed for early detection and improved diagnosis of this disease. The application of genomics and metabolomics has opened a new chapter of research, which will allow the development of new tools for early diagnosis and monitoring of the course of oncological diseases. Advances in metabolomic approaches using liquid or gas chromatography combined with high-resolution mass spectrometry (MS) have opened new prospects for simultaneous detection and identification of biomarkers in biological samples [7].

Our earlier study [8] of the urine metabolomic profile by ultrahigh-performance liquid chromatography with mass spectrometric detection showed that patients with serous ovarian carcinoma have an imbalance in the content of certain fatty acids and their derivatives, acylcarnitines, phospholipids, amino acids and their derivatives, as well as some derivatives of nitrogenous bases. At the same time, 26 metabolites with abnormal concentrations in urine may have some potential as non-invasive biomarkers of breast cancer in women belonging to high-risk groups.

Thus, it was shown that 14 metabolites (kynurenine, phenylalanyl valine, lysophosphatidylcholine (18:3), lysophosphatidylcholine (18:2), alanyl leucine, lysophosphatidylcholine (20:4), L-phenylalanine, phosphatidylinositol (34:1), 5-methoxytryptophan, 2-hydroxymyristic acid, 3-oxocholic acid, lysophosphatidylcholine (14:0), indolacrylic acid, lys-

ophosphatidylserine (20:4)) have significantly higher concentrations compared to conditionally healthy individuals. The content of 12 compounds, on the contrary, was reduced (L-beta-aspartyl-L-phenylalanine, myristic acid, decanoyl carnitine, aspartyl-glycine, malonylcarnitine, 3-hydroxybutyrylcarnitine, 3-methylxanthine, 2,6-dimethylheptanoyl carnitine, 3-oxododecanoic acid, N-acetylproline, L-octanoylcarnitine, caprioylglycine) [8].

The determination of a number of the above compounds with high accuracy in urine samples is a procedure that requires expensive equipment and is feasible only in a small number of medical institutions. In this regard, it is extremely important to switch to more accessible predictive markers, for example, transcriptomic data. In this regard, the level of microRNA transcripts in urine is of particular interest [9].

microRNAs are short non-coding RNAs that regulate gene expression by catalyzing the destruction of mRNA, or by inhibiting the translation of mRNA into protein. Mature microRNA is a single-stranded RNA of the order of 22 nucleotides in size, obtained from a primary transcript. microRNAs are transcriptional regulators and modulate gene expression by interacting with complementary nucleotide sequences of target mRNAs [10]. microRNAs make a significant contribution to the initiation and development of various molecular events, including the initiation of oncogenesis, progression, and metastasis of tumors, which makes microRNAs potential biomarkers for assessing the progression and prognosis of cancer [11]. The study of the microRNA-mRNA regulatory network is of great importance both for elucidating the molecular mechanisms underlying carcinogenesis and for creating a panel of new biomarkers.

The purpose of the study was the bioinformatic search for transcriptomic markers (based on metabolomic data) and their validation in the urine of patients with serous ovarian adenocarcinoma.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The prospective study included 70 patients diagnosed with ovarian cancer (serous adenocarcinoma of low ($n = 30$) and high grade malignancy ($n = 30$), T1a – 4, T1b – 3, T1c – 5, T2a – 3, T2b – 5, T3a – 14, T3b – 6, T3c – 30) and 30 conditionally healthy volunteers (without any known pathologies) who make up the control group.

Urine samples were used as objects of research. Before the study, the patients gave informed consent to the scientific use of biological samples. Urine was collected before the start of treatment.

Evaluation of microRNA expression

500 µl of urine sample was mixed with 900 µl of QIAzol reagent (QIAGEN). Further isolation of total RNA was carried out using the RNeasy Plus Universal Kits kit according to the manufacturer's protocol. To identify mature microRNAs and small U6 RNAs, the method proposed by Balcells I. and co-authors was used [12]. The isolated total RNA was used in a reverse transcription reaction, which was performed simultaneously with polyadenylation of RNA using specific OC primers. Next, the obtained complementary DNA was detected using real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (PCR-RV).

The design of specific oligonucleotide primers was carried out using the Balcells I. algorithm [12]. Several sets of oligonucleotides were selected for each micro-RNA, from which those characterized by the highest efficiency of reverse transcription and PCR were selected. The effectiveness of reverse transcription was evaluated by the values of threshold cycles (Ct) obtained by analyzing synthetic analogues of microRNA and mRNA (Biosan CJSC, Russia) taken at a known concentration. The efficiency of amplification (E) for each system was evaluated by constructing a calibration curve, using the dilution analysis of the corresponding RNAs isolated from clinical samples according to the protocol described above (the average value of E was 2.0). The stability of expression for the selection of reference genes was evaluated using the geNorm algorithm [13]. The initial list of proposed normalizers for microRNAs included: miR-191 (expression of this microRNA was the most stable in 13 compared tissues [14]); miR-23a (as a normalizer suitable for the analysis of cervical samples [15] and U6 (traditionally used as a separate standard for normalization of microRNA expression data). Using the geNorm algorithm, U6 was selected to normalize microRNA expression data.

A reverse transcription reaction was performed separately for each microRNA in one repeat. For reverse transcription, a reaction mixture containing 1x poly(A) buffer (BioLabs), 10 U/µl Reverse Transcriptase MMLV (Synthol), 0.1 mM dNTPs (Synthol), 0.1 mM ATP (BioLabs), 1 µM OC primer, 0.5 U/µl Poly(A)

polymerase (BioLabs) and 1 mcg of total RNA. The reaction was carried out for 15 minutes. at 16 °C, 15 min. at 42 °C, the reverse transcriptase was then inactivated for 2 min. at 95 °C.

The change in the relative expression of micro-RNA was evaluated by PCR-RV. Amplification was performed in 20 µl of a PCR mixture containing 1x PCR buffer, 0.25 mM dNTPs, 2 mM MgCl₂, 1 unit act. Taq-DNA polymerase, 500 nM of direct and reverse primers. OC-qPCR formulation of each sample was performed in three repeats. The resulting mixtures were incubated in a CFX 96 amplifier (Bio-Rad Laboratories, USA) according to the following program: 2 minutes 94 °C, 50 cycles: denaturation at 95 °C for 10 seconds, annealing and elongation – 63 °C for 30 seconds. The results corresponding to Ct > 40 were found to be negative.

The relative expression (RE) was calculated using the formula $RE = 2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$. The normalization of the results was carried out according to the reference locus and the expression level of the corresponding target microRNAs in the samples of the control group, sequentially according to the scheme given below:

1. Normalization by reference locus:
 $\Delta C(t) = C(t)_{\text{target}} - C(t)_{\text{reference}}$, where $C(t)_{\text{reference}}$ is $C(t)$ of the reference locus.
2. Calculation of $E^{-\Delta C(t)}$ for each microRNA for each patient of the control group and the main group.
3. Calculation of the median $E^{-\Delta C(t)}$ for each locus for the control group and the main group.
4. Normalization for the control group and the result as a multiplicity of changes: $RE = E^{-\Delta C(t)_{\text{median}}}$ of the main group / $E^{-\Delta C(t)_{\text{median}}}$ of the control group (which is identical to $RE = E^{-\Delta\Delta C(t)}$ [16].

Statistical and bioinformatic data processing

The differences were assessed using the Mann-Whitney criterion for a threshold level of statistical significance of $p < 0.05$, and the Bonferroni correction was used to account for multiple comparisons. The data analysis was carried out in the Python programming language using the SciPy library [17].

The search for metabolite regulatory genes and microRNA regulators of genes was carried out using the Random forest machine learning method, which combines the Breiman bagging method and the random subset method. The result of the "ran-

dom forest" model is the predicted probability that the target gene or microRNA is the true regulator of a particular metabolite [18].

LASSO (Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator), a penalized logistic regression in the R

programming language in the Rstudio shell, was used to select minimal sets of microRNAs. The importance of variables was determined by counting the number of bootstrap models with a non-zero coefficient of the variable [19].

Table 1. Metabolites and genes regulating metabolic pathways

Metabolites*	Regulator genes	Enzymes
Kinurenin	<i>KYNU, KMO, KYAT3, IDO</i>	kynureninase, kynurenine-3-monooxygenase, kynurenine aminotransferase 3, indolamine-pyrrole-2,3-dioxygenase
Phenylalanine-Valine	<i>PAH</i>	Phenylalanine hydroxylase
Myristic acid	<i>PPARA, PPARGC1A, CYP4Z1, IYD, FASN, PLA2G5, LGALS13</i>	fatty acid synthase, beta-ketoacyl synthase domain, calcium-dependent phospholipase A2, soluble lectin 13 binding galactoside
Lysophosphatidylcholine (18:3), (18:2), (20:4), (14:0)	<i>PLA2G2A, PLB1, LPCAT1</i>	phospholipase A2, lysophospholipase, LPC-acyltransferase
Decanoyl carnitine	<i>ACADM, ACADS, CROT</i>	Acyl-CoA dehydrogenase, Carnitine octanoyltransferase (Carnitine O-Octanoyltransferase)
Malonyl carnitine	<i>CPT1, CPT1A, ACADM</i>	palmitoyl-CoA transferase, malonyl-CoA decarboxylase
Alanine-Leucine	<i>GAL, PGA3</i>	galanin, pepsinogen A
3-hydroxybutyrylcarnitine	<i>ACADM, CRAT</i>	3-hydroxyacyl CoA dehydrogenase, carnitine-O-acetyltransferase
3-methylxanthine	<i>PDE4D</i>	cAMP-specific 3',5'-cyclic phosphodiesterase 4D
L-Phenylalanine	<i>PAH, DDC</i>	phenylalanine hydroxylase, DOPA decarboxylase
Phosphatidylinositol (34:1)	<i>PIK3CA, PIK3CB, PIK3CD, PLCB1, PIGL</i>	phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase, 1-phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate phosphodiesterase beta-1, N-acetylglucosaminylphosphatidylinositol-de-N-acetylase
2,6 dimethylheptanoyl carnitine	<i>ACADM, CRAT</i>	3-hydroxyacyl CoA dehydrogenase, carnitine-O-acetyltransferase
5-methoxytryptophan	<i>TPH1</i>	tryptophanhydroxylase
3-oxododecanoic acid	<i>FASN, OXSM</i>	3-oxoacyl synthase, fatty acid synthase
2- hydroxymyristic acid	<i>NMT1</i>	n-myristoyl transferase 1
3-oxocholic acid	<i>FABP6</i>	gastropine
Indolylacrylic acid	<i>KYAT1</i>	kynurenine aminotransferase 1 (kynurenine aminotransferase 1)
N-acetylproline	<i>APEH</i>	N-acylpeptide hydrolase
L-octanoylcarnitine	<i>CROT, COT, CPT2, CPT1</i>	Carnitine-O-octanoyltransferase, carnitine-O-palmitoyltransferase 2 (Carnitine O-octanoyltransferase, Carnitine O-palmitoyltransferase 2)
Capriloyl glycine	<i>ACADM, ODC1, GLYATL1</i>	3-hydroxyacyl CoA dehydrogenase, ornithine decarboxylase 1, Glycine N-acyltransferase
Lysophosphatidylserine	<i>GPR34, PLA1A</i>	lysophosphatidylserine new receptor 1, phospholipase a1

Note: * – the list of metabolites based on the data of the article [8]

Table 2. Metabolites, regulatory genes of metabolic pathways and microRNAs interacting with them

Metabolites	Regulator genes	microRNA
1 Kinurenin	KYNU, KMO, KYAT3, IDO1	KMO :miR-30b-3p, miR-153-5p, miR-149-3p, miR-363-5p, miR-624-3p, miR-937-5p, miR-1233-3p, miR-1238-3p, miR-1972, miR-3200-5p, miR-4319, miR-3689a-5p, miR-3689b-5p, miR-4478, miR-3689e, miR-4695-5p, miR-4724-5p, miR-664b-3p, miR-5684, miR-6758-5p, miR-6780a-5p, miR-6799-5p, miR-6856-5p, miR-6867-5p, miR-6883-5p, miR-6894-5p, miR-6894-5p, miR-7106-5p, miR-7106-5p, miR-1273h-5p, miR-12122. KYNU :miR-30a-3p,miR-200c-3p, miR-382-5p, miR-382-5p, miR-2117, miR-3654, miR-4652-3p, miR-4743-3p, miR-6739-3p, miR-6879-3p, miR-6885-3p, miR-10397-5p, miR-4638-5p, miR-30a-3p, miR-200c-3p, miR-382-5p, miR-382-5p, miR-2117, miR-3654, miR-4652-3p, miR-4743-3p, miR-6739-3p, miR-6879-3p, miR-6885-3p, miR-10397-5p. KYAT3 : miR-5692c, miR-5692b, miR-5692c, miR-5692b, miR-5692c, miR-5692b. IDO1 : miR-593-3p, miR-891a-3p, miR-5683, miR-6728-3p
2 Phenylalanine-Valine	PAH	miR-23a-3p, miR-4502, miR-12132
3 Myristic acid	PPARA, PPARGC1A, CYP4Z1, IYD, FASN, PLA2G5, LGALS13	IYD : miR-760, miR-29a-5p, miR-208a-5p, miR-30b-3p, miR-184, miR-195-3p, miR-320a-3p, miR-373-5p, miR-483-3p, miR-551b-5p, miR-643, miR-646, miR-1224-5p, miR-320b,miR-922, miR-1202, miR-1205, miR-1287-3p, miR-513c-3p, miR-1321, miR-3144-3p, miR-3152-5p, miR-3185, miR-3191-5p, miR-3199, miR-514b-5p, miR-4279, miR-3663-5p, miR-3681-5p, miR-3689a-3p, miR-3689b-3p, miR-4429, miR-4452, miR-3689c, miR-4531, miR-4533, miR-3972, miR-3976, miR-451b, miR-4731-5p, miR-4796-3p, miR-4799-3p, miR-5003-3p, miR-5195-3p, miR-5588-5p, miR-6509-3p, miR-6737-5p, miR-6737-3p, miR-6752-3p, miR-6764-3p, miR-6779-5p, miR-6780a-5p, miR-6824-3p, miR-6829-5p, miR-6830-5p, miR-6849-5p, miR-6849-3p, miR-6882-5p, miR-6894-3p, miR-7106-5p, miR-7844-5p, miR-8052, miR-8069, miR-8078, miR-146a-5p, miR-607, miR-3614-5p, miR-4482-3p, miR-197-3p, miR-744-3p, miR-3187-3p, miR-3652, miR-4420, miR-4430, miR-4633-5p, miR-4642, miR-4781-3p, miR-5698, miR-6499-3p, miR-6787-3p, miR-6843-3p, miR-6848-3p, miR-588, miR-4423-5p, miR-6501-5p. CYP4Z1 : miR-2110, FASN : miR-30c-5p, LGALS13 : miR-4650-3p. PLA2G5 : miR-765, miR-3682-3p, miR-4533,miR-2467-3p,miR-4786-3p,miR-1253,miR-3191-5p,miR-6847-5p,miR-11181-3p,miR-3916. PPARA :miR-181a-5p, miR-181b-5p, miR-20b-5p, miR-181d-5p, miR-22-3p, miR-140-5p, miR-372-3p, miR-330-5p, miR-331-3p, miR-345-3p, miR-520d-3p, miR-551b-5p, miR-619-5p, miR-622, miR-2113, miR-665, miR-939-3p, miR-1976, miR-3116, miR-3183, miR-4251, miR-3690, miR-550b-2-5p, miR-4436a, miR-4443, miR-4515, miR-4717-5p, miR-4723-5p, miR-4745-5p, miR-4749-5p, miR-4755-3p, miR-5591-5p, miR-6126, miR-6131, miR-6134, miR-6505-3p, miR-6734-3p, miR-6744-3p, miR-6753-3p, miR-6766-5p, miR-6791-5p, miR-6805-3p, miR-6817-5p, miR-6852-5p, miR-6873-3p, miR-6880-5p, miR-7151-3p, miR-8071, let-7b-5p, let-7e-5p, miR-224-3p, miR-302a-3p, miR-326, miR-335-3p, miR-429, miR-511-5p, miR-8085, miR-10394-5p, miR-10524-5p, miR-9851-5p, miR-7107-3p, miR-7110-3p, miR-7155-3p, miR-7158-3p, miR-7976, miR-1233-5p, miR-4651, miR-6757-5p, miR-6778-5p, miR-27a-5p, miR-34a-5p, miR-130b-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-607, miR-1249-5p, miR-3689d, miR-5006-5p, miR-6756-5p, miR-6788-5p, miR-6797-5p, miR-6851-5p. PARGC1A : let-7a-5p, let-7b-5p, let-7c-5p, let-7e-5p, miR-23b-3p, miR-138-5p, miR-409-5p, miR-487a-3p, miR-193b-3p, miR-4458, miR-6884-5p, miR-23a-3p, miR-193a-3p, miR-485-3p, miR-3666, miR-3681-3p, miR-211-5p, miR-485-5p, miR-342-5p, miR-452-5p, miR-511-5p, miR-508-5p, miR-573, miR-659-3p, miR-764, miR-1825, miR-2116-3p, miR-2682-3p, miR-3929, miR-4436a, miR-4649-5p, miR-4664-5p, miR-4713-5p, miR-4728-3p, miR-122b-3p, miR-4768-5p, miR-4769-3p, miR-5003-5p, miR-5006-3p, miR-5011-5p, miR-5591-3p, miR-5685, miR-6124, miR-6740-3p, miR-6818-3p, miR-6833-3p, miR-6845-3p, miR-6892-3p, miR-7110-5p, miR-7703, miR-7850-5p, miR-8075, miR-8485, miR-148a-5p, miR-214-3p, miR-222-3p, miR-9898, miR-6083
4 Lysophosphatidylcholine	PLA2G2A, PLB1, LPCAT1	LPCAT1 : miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p, miR-4739, miR-4768-3p, miR-4783-3p. PLB1 : miR-3162-5p, miR-4529-3p, miR-4740-5p. PLA2G2A : miR-765, miR-3652, miR-6134, miR-6745, miR-6756-5p, miR-6769a-5p, miR-6785-5p, miR-6769b-5p, miR-7847-3p

Table 2. (Continuation) Metabolites, regulatory genes of metabolic pathways and microRNAs interacting with them

Metabolites	Regulator genes	microRNA
5 Decanoyl carnitine	<i>ACADM</i> , <i>ACADS</i> , <i>CROT</i>	CROT : miR-33a-5p, miR-373-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-500a-5p, miR-501-5p, miR-1250-3p, miR-4659b-3p, miR-219b-5p, miR-4795-3p, miR-6807-3p, miR-6867-5p, miR-522-3p, miR-4325, miR-5004-3p, miR-6833-5p, miR-221-3p. ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-3184-5p, miR-4704-3p. ACADS : miR-484
6 Malonyl carnitine	<i>CPT1A</i> , <i>ACADM</i>	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-3184-5p, miR-4704-3p. CPT1A : miR-653-5p, miR-328-3p, miR-6866-3p, miR-1296-3p, miR-1322, miR-6883-5p, miR-7-2-3p, miR-335-3p, miR-520a-3p, miR-4310, miR-4287, miR-6718-5p, miR-6785-5p, miR-6869-3p, miR-7856-5p, miR-93-5p, miR-4293, miR-4322, miR-4707-3p, miR-24-3p, miR-6849-3p
7 Alanine-Leucine	<i>GAL</i> , <i>PGA3</i>	GAL : miR-922, miR-4742-5p, miR-4753-5p, miR-4436b-3p, miR-5004-5p, miR-5089-3p, miR-15b-5p, miR-138-1-3p, miR-302d-5p, miR-6810-5p, miR-3976. PGA3 : miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p, miR-1913, miR-2115-5p, miR-4646-5p, miR-5006-5p, miR-6857-5p, miR-11399, miR-5008-5p, miR-4649-3p, miR-423-5p, miR-3679-5p, miR-423-3p, miR-1296-3p, miR-3126-5p, miR-6759-3p, miR-3180, miR-6763-5p, miR-769-3p, miR-3139, miR-5571-5p, miR-6768-5p, miR-761, miR-3151-5p, miR-18a-5p, miR-4672, miR-6873-3p, miR-6875-3p, miR-3156-5p, miR-6771-5p, miR-6879-5p, miR-3945
8 3-hydroxybutyrylcarnitine	<i>ACADM</i> , <i>CRAT</i>	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-3184-5p, miR-4704-3p. CRAT : miR-936, miR-1207-5p, miR-6764-5p, miR-7150, miR-10392-3p
9 3-methylxanthine	<i>PDE4D</i>	PDE4D : miR-18a-5p, miR-31-5p, miR-148a-3p, miR-301a-3p, miR-148b-3p, miR-875-5p, miR-6766-3p, miR-26a-5p, miR-103a-3p, miR-107, miR-139-5p, miR-362-3p, miR-339-5p, miR-18b-5p, miR-448, miR-487a-3p, miR-4429, miR-203a-3p, miR-211-3p, miR-124-3p, miR-149-5p, miR-99b-3p, miR-372-3p, miR-373-5p, miR-520a-3p, miR-520d-3p, miR-625-5p, miR-641, miR-1301-3p, miR-449c-5p, miR-1266-5p, miR-1321, miR-1912-3p, miR-2114-5p, miR-3125, miR-3187-5p, miR-4261, miR-4280, miR-3646, miR-3689a-5p, miR-3689b-5p, miR-3922-5p, miR-4446-3p, miR-3689d, miR-3689e, miR-4492, miR-4502, miR-4511, miR-3977, miR-4646-5p, miR-4675, miR-4698, miR-4741, miR-4756-5p, miR-4768-3p, miR-5193, miR-1295b-5p, miR-5589-3p, miR-6500-3p, miR-548az-5p, miR-6504-5p, miR-6511a-5p, miR-6512-5p, miR-6809-5p, miR-6809-3p, miR-6829-5p, miR-6839-5p, miR-6859-5p, miR-5787, miR-6077, miR-6796-3p, miR-6860, miR-7114-5p, miR-7151-3p, miR-8080, miR-8081, miR-8086, miR-195-5p, miR-3136-5p, miR-6080, miR-6888-5p, miR-340-5p, miR-4439, miR-3148, miR-6857-3p, miR-497-5p
10 L-Phenylalanine	<i>PAH</i> , <i>DDC</i>	PAH : miR-23a-3p, miR-4502, miR-12132. DDC : miR-875-3p, miR-3166, miR-4502, miR-3158-3p

STUDY RESULTS

Bioinformatic analysis of the relationship of the urine metabolomic profile with gene and microRNA expression. Using the Random forest machine learning method implemented in the R programming language, the analysis of the metabolomic data from the article [8] was carried out, as well as the Human Metabolome Database (HMDB, <https://hmdb.ca/metabolites>).

At the first stage, the metabolite-enzyme and enzyme-gene regulator relationships were established. The results are presented in table 1.

The results of the metabolite-gene-microRNA relationship are presented in Table 2 and Fig. 1–2. It can be seen that the content of metabolites detected in urine is regulated by a complex network of rna and microRNA interactions. For two metabolites, myristic acid and phosphatidylinositol, 237 and 143 micro-RNAs were detected, respectively, regulating the content of these substances in biological fluids.

Thus, bioinformatic analysis has determined a list of 613 unique microRNAs involved in the regulation of the concentration of 21 metabolites. Of the 613 microRNAs, only the microRNAs with the maximum

Table 2. (Continuation) Metabolites, regulatory genes of metabolic pathways and microRNAs interacting with them

Metabolites	Regulator genes	microRNA
11 Phosphatidylinositol (34:1)	<i>PIK3CA</i> , <i>PIK3CB</i> , <i>PIK3C2A</i> , <i>PLCB1</i> , <i>PIGL</i>	PIGL : miR-4651, miR-5087, miR-6499-3p, miR-6739-3p, miR-6764-5p, miR-212-5p, miR-659-3p, miR-3189-3p, miR-3934-3p, miR-378g, miR-4519, miR-6819-5p. PIK3C2A : miR-503-5p, miR-301b-3p, miR-6838-5p, miR-23a-5p, miR-29a-5p, miR-23b-5p, miR-510-5p, miR-1264, miR-2113, miR-1286, miR-3619-3p, miR-4423-3p, miR-4436a, miR-4484, miR-1343-3p, miR-6074, miR-6760-3p, miR-6867-5p, miR-212-5p, miR-150-5p, miR-378a-5p, miR-518a-5p, miR-1224-3p, miR-764, miR-6821-3p. PIK3CA : let-7i-5p, let-7e-5p, miR-19a-3p, miR-19b-3p, let-7g-5p, miR-152-3p, miR-202-5p, miR-4429, miR-198, miR-548e-5p, miR-548o-3p, miR-2114-5p, miR-4430, miR-4493, miR-4659b-3p, miR-122b-5p, miR-4803, miR-5006-3p, miR-6797-3p, miR-1972, miR-2116-5p, miR-3157-5p, miR-3191-5p, miR-514b-5p, miR-4303, miR-4277, miR-3606-5p, miR-3614-3p, miR-3679-3p, miR-676-5p, miR-378g, miR-4446-5p, miR-4477b, miR-4486, miR-4652-3p, miR-6819-5p, miR-6857-5p, miR-6868-3p, miR-6893-3p, miR-7162-3p, miR-10526-3p, miR-12126, miR-139-5p, miR-422a. PIK3CB : miR-23b-3p, miR-362-5p, miR-3666, miR-3064-5p, miR-4465, miR-199a-3p, miR-199b-3p, miR-212-5p, miR-150-5p, miR-6504-5p, miR-204-3p, miR-671-5p, miR-1263, miR-3646, miR-4430, miR-4682, miR-5093, miR-6165, miR-6715a-3p, miR-7850-5p, miR-9500, miR-130b-5p, miR-3619-5p, miR-32-3p, miR-623, miR-542-5p, miR-548j-5p, miR-544b, miR-3614-5p, miR-3652, miR-548aw, miR-5703, miR-8077, miR-2117. PLCB1 : miR-103a-3p, miR-107, miR-423-5p, miR-3129-5p, miR-139-5p, miR-124-3p, miR-138-1-3p, miR-302c-5p, miR-876-5p, miR-1244, miR-1322, miR-548s, miR-4267, miR-3692-3p, miR-4433a-3p, miR-4436a, miR-3978, miR-4647, miR-4659a-3p, miR-4670-3p, miR-5194, miR-548az-3p, miR-6783-3p, miR-6860, miR-7151-5p, miR-8056, miR-8063, miR-502-3p
12 2,6 dimethylheptanoyl carnitine	<i>ACADM</i> , <i>CRAT</i>	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-3184-5p, miR-4704-3p. CRAT : miR-936, miR-1207-5p, miR-6764-5p, miR-7150, miR-10392-3p
13 5-methoxytryptophan	<i>TPH1</i>	TPH1 : miR-320a-3p, miR-450a-2-3p, miR-320b, miR-2110, miR-4435, miR-5693, miR-5702, miR-6830-5p, miR-12118
14 3-oxododecane acid	<i>FASN</i>	miR-30c-5p
15 2-hydroxymyristic acid	<i>NMT1</i>	NMT1 : miR-181a-5p, miR-214-3p, miR-491-5p, miR-432-5p, miR-922, miR-1202, miR-1205, miR-1972, miR-2110, miR-2682-3p, miR-3160-5p, miR-3176, miR-4303, miR-4291, miR-4447, miR-3972, miR-4667-5p, miR-4690-3p, miR-4700-5p, miR-23b-3p, miR-615-3p
16 3-oxocholic acid	<i>FABP6</i>	FABP6 : miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-3180-3p, miR-3181, miR-4278, miR-3689f, miR-4754, miR-4786-3p, miR-5190, miR-5195-3p, miR-6745, miR-6751-5p, miR-6769a-5p, miR-6771-5p, miR-6792-5p, miR-6821-5p, miR-7156-3p, miR-10226, miR-10392-5p
17 Indolylacrylic acid	<i>KYAT1</i>	KYAT1 : miR-423-5p, miR-6842-5p, miR-597-3p, miR-4710, miR-6741-5p, miR-6796-5p, miR-4447, miR-193b-3p
18 N-acetylproline	<i>APEH</i>	miR-1289
19 L-octanoylcarnitine	<i>CROT</i> , <i>CPT2</i>	CROT : miR-33a-5p, miR-373-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-500a-5p, miR-501-5p, miR-1250-3p, miR-4659b-3p, miR-219b-5p, miR-4795-3p, miR-6807-3p, miR-6867-5p, miR-522-3p, miR-4325, miR-5004-3p, miR-6833-5p, miR-221-3p. CPT2 : miR-433-3p, miR-6843-3p, miR-6848-3p, miR-208a-5p, miR-6742-3p, miR-34a-5p
20 Capriloyl glycine	<i>ACADM</i> , <i>ODC1</i> , <i>GLYATL1</i>	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-3184-5p, miR-4704-3p. ODC1 : miR-423-5p, miR-3184-5p, miR-7973, miR-193b-3p. GLYATL1 : miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p, miR-4742-3p, miR-4999-5p, miR-664b-3p, miR-6846-3p, miR-6893-3p
21 Lysophosphatidylserine (20:4)	<i>GPR34</i> , <i>PLA1A</i>	PLA1A : miR-3153, miR-7110-3p, miR-6754-5p, miR-6887-3p. GPR34 : miR-3193, miR-2909, miR-4738-5p, miR-486-3p, miR-6808-5p

interaction strength with the mRNA of the genes regulating the content of metabolites were selected. The final list contained 91 microRNAs, presented in Table 3.

Features of the content of microRNA transcripts in the urine of patients with serous ovarian adenocarcinoma

The generated list of 91 microRNAs regulating the activity of 37 genes was used for validation by

real-time PCR on urine samples of patients and conditionally healthy volunteers.

A statistically significant ($p < 0.005$) change in the transcript level of 47 microRNAs relative to conditionally healthy volunteers was found in the urine of patients with serous ovarian adenocarcinoma (Fig. 3).

A significant increase ($p < 0.05$) in the level of miR-382-5p by 1.9 times, miR-593-3p by 3.4 times, miR-29a-5p by 2.6 times, miR-2110 by 2.5 times,

Table 3. The final list of microRNAs involved in the regulation of the concentration of metabolites

	Metabolites	microRNA
1	Kinurenin	KMO : miR-30b-3p, miR-153-5p, miR-149-3p, miR-363-5p. KYNU : miR-30a-3p, miR-200c-3p, miR-382-5p, miR-382-5p. KYAT3 : miR-5692c, miR-5692b, miR-5692c. IDOT : miR-593-3p, miR-891a-3p.
2	Phenylalanine-Valine	PAH : miR-23a-3p, miR-4502, miR-12132
3	Myristic acid	IYD : miR-760, miR-29a-5p. CYP4Z1 : miR-2110, FASN : miR-30c-5p, LGALS13 : miR-4650-3p. PLA2G5 : miR-765, miR-3682-3p. PPARA : miR-181a-5p, miR-181b-5p, miR-20b-5p. PPARGC1A : let-7a-5p, let-7b-5p, let-7c-5p
4	Lysophosphatidylcholine	LPCAT1 : miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p, miR-4768-3p. PLB1 : miR-3162-5p, miR-4529-3p. PLA2G2A : miR-765, miR-3652
5	Decanoyl carnitine	CROT : miR-33a-5p, miR-373-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p. ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p. ACADS : miR-484
6	Malonyl carnitine	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p. CPT1A : miR-653-5p, miR-328-3p, miR-6866-3p
7	Alanine-Leucine	GAL : miR-922, miR-4742-5p, miR-4753-5p. PGA3 : miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p
8	3-hydroxybutyrylcarnitine	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p
9	3-methylxanthine	PDE4D : miR-18a-5p, miR-31-5p, miR-148a-3p
10	L-Phenylalanine	PAH : miR-23a-3p. DDC : miR-875-3p, miR-3166
11	Phosphatidylinositol (34:1)	PIGL : miR-4651, miR-5087, miR-6499-3p. PIK3C2A : miR-503-5p, miR-301b-3p. PIK3CA : let-7i-5p, let-7e-5p, miR-19a-3p. PLCB1 : miR-103a-3p, miR-107, miR-423-5p
12	2,6 dimethylheptanoyl carnitine	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p. CRAT : miR-936, miR-1207-5p
13	5-methoxytryptophan	TPH1 : miR-320a-3p, miR-450a-2-3p, miR-320b
14	3-oxododecanoic acid	FASN : miR-30c-5p
15	2-hydroxymyristic acid	NMT1 : miR-181a-5p, miR-214-3p, miR-491-5p
16	3-oxocholic acid	FABP6 : miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-196b-5p
17	Indolylacrylic acid	KYAT1 : miR-423-5p, miR-6842-5p, miR-597-3p
18	N-acetylproline	APEH : miR-1289
19	L-octanoylcarnitine	CROT : miR-33a-5p, miR-373-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p. CPT2 : miR-433-3p, miR-6843-3p
20	Capriloyl glycine	ACADM : miR-4437, miR-5580-3p, miR-6529-5p. ODC1 : miR-423-5p, miR-3184-5p. GLYATL1 : miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p
21	Lysophosphatidylserine (20:4)	PLA1A : miR-3153, miR-7110-3p. GPR34 : miR-3193, miR-2909

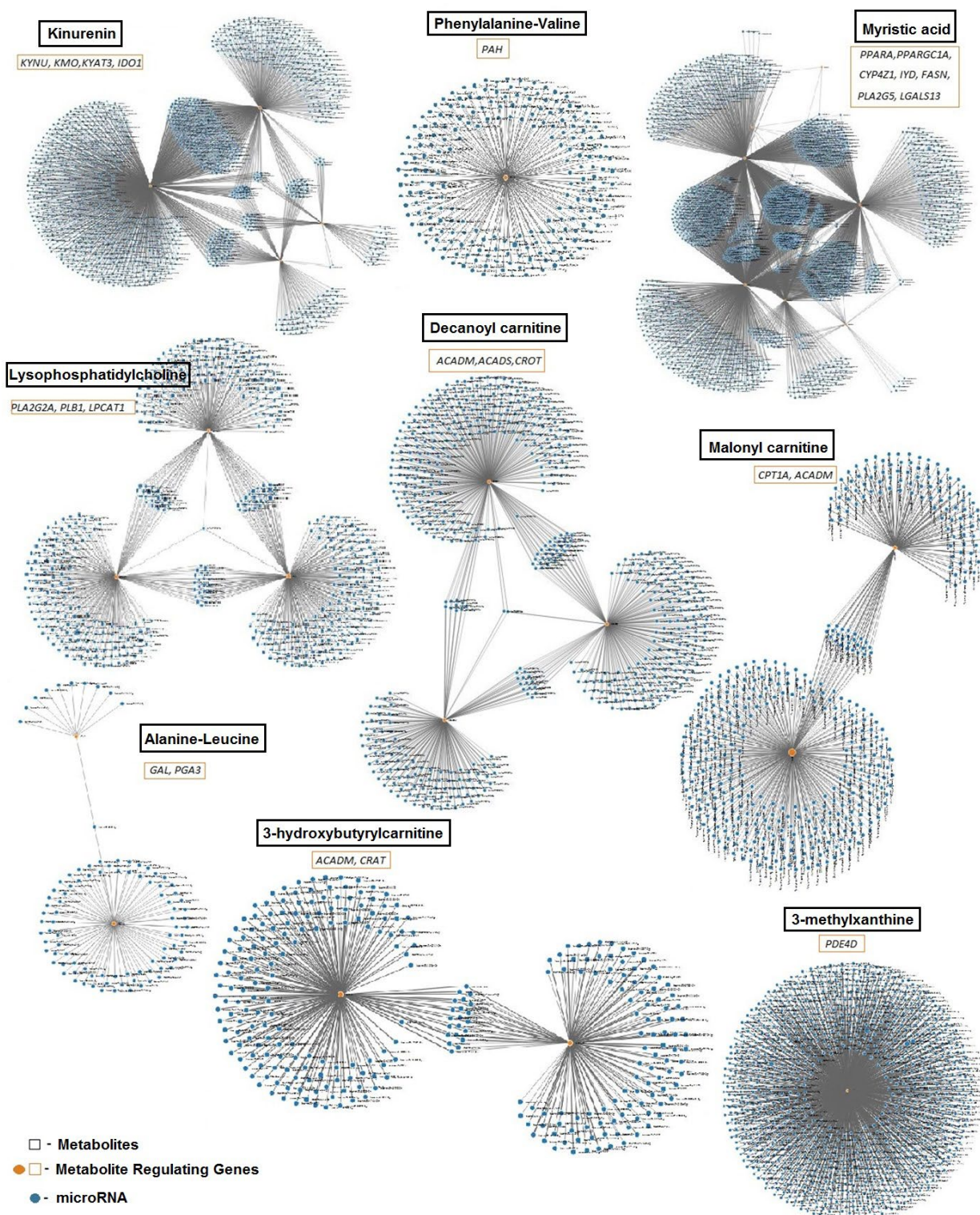


Fig. 1. Metabolites, regulatory genes of metabolic pathways and microRNAs interacting with them

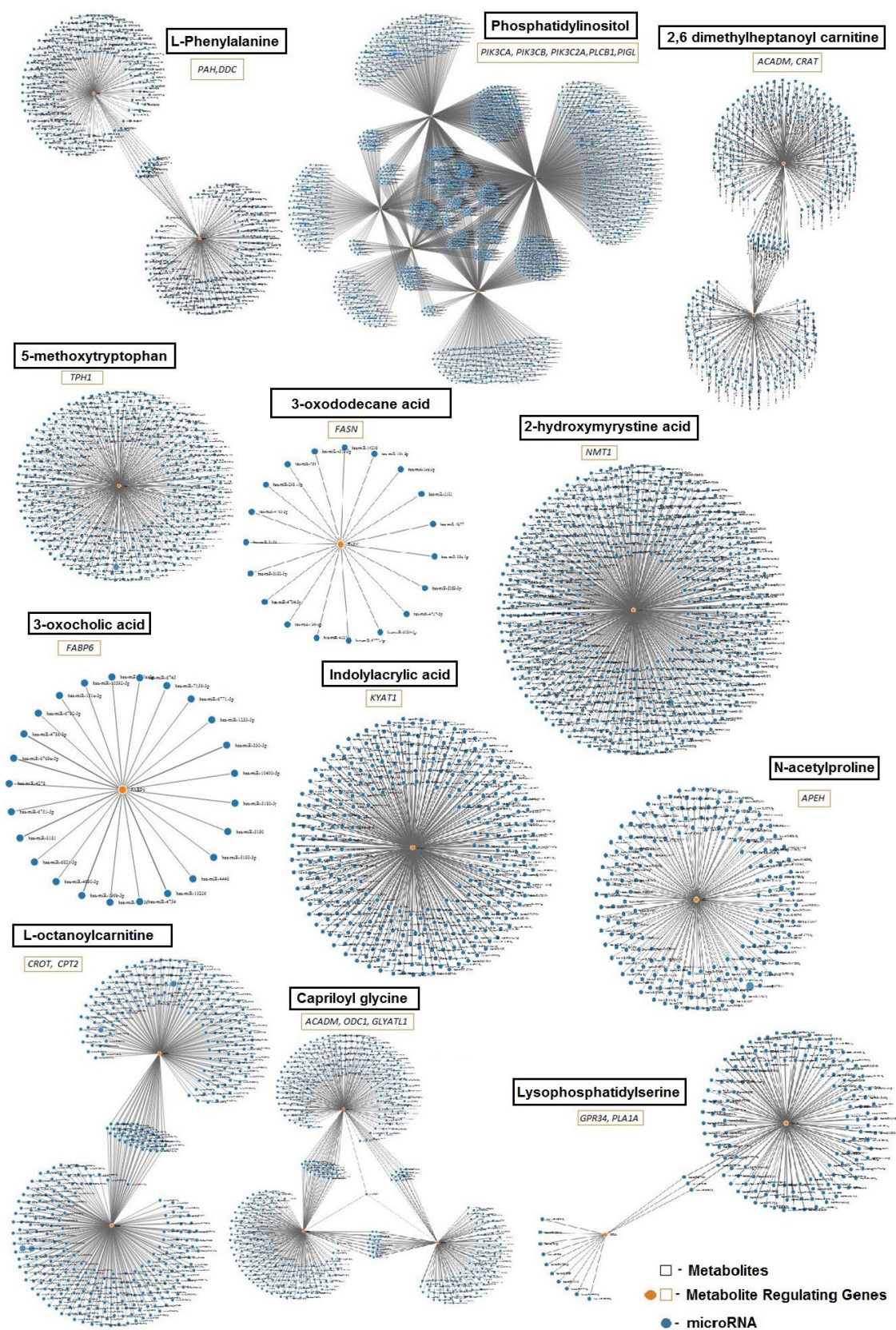


Fig. 2. Metabolites, regulatory genes of metabolic pathways and microRNAs interacting with them

miR-30c-5p by 2.9 times, miR-181a-5p by 2.6 times was found, let-7b-5p 2.6 times, miR-27a-3p 1.9 times, miR-370-3p 2.6 times, miR-6529-5p 2.5 times, miR-653-5p 2.2 times, miR-4742-5p 2.4 times, miR-2467-3p 2.6 times, miR-1909-5p 3.5 times, miR-6743-5p 4.9 times, miR-875-3p 2.3 times, miR-19a-3p 4.9 times, miR-208a-5p 2.6 times, miR-330-5p 3.2 times, miR-1207-5p by 3.5 times, miR-4668-3p by 4.2 times, miR-3193 is 2.6 times higher than their level in the urine of conditionally healthy individuals.

There was also a significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) in the level of miR-23a-3p by 20.0 times, miR-12132 by 4.0 times, miR-765 by 1.8 times, miR-181b-5p by 4.0 times, miR-4529-3p by 1.8 times, miR-33b-5p by 3.1 times, miR-17-5p by 4.6 times, miR-6866-3p by 1.7 times, miR-4753-5p by 14.3 times, miR-103a-3p by 19.6 times, miR-423-5p by 3.0 times, miR-491-5p by 1.7 times, miR-196b-5p by 5.0 times, miR-6843-3p 2.3 times, miR-423-5p 4.6 times and miR-3184-5p 2.6 times relative to their urine levels in conditionally healthy individuals.

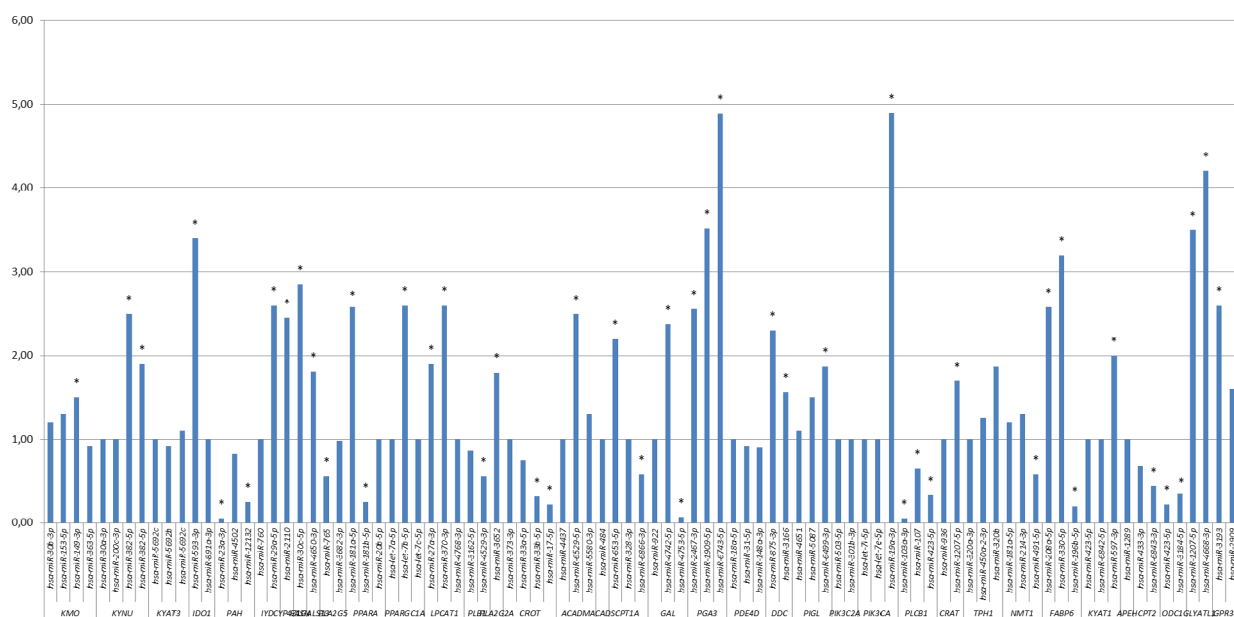
Thus, the microRNA profile miR-382-5p, miR-593-3p, miR-29a-5p, miR-2110, miR-30c-5p, miR-181a-5p, let-7b-5p, miR-27a-3p, miR-2110, miR-30c-5p, miR-181a-5p, let-7b-5p, miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-653-5p, miR-4742-5p,

miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p, miR-875-3p, miR-19a-3p, miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p, miR-3193, miR-23a-3p, miR-12132, miR-765, miR-181b-5p, miR-4529-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-6866-3p, miR-4753-5p, miR-103a-3p, miR-423-5p, miR-491-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-6843-3p, miR-423-5p and miR-3184-5p are differential for patients and conditionally healthy individuals.

DISCUSSION

In our study, using machine learning methods, links were established between metabolites that changed the concentrations of relatively healthy donors and genes encoding proteins involved in the synthesis and degradation of these metabolites, as well as links between metabolite regulatory genes and microRNA regulators of these genes.

Bioinformatics analysis has identified a list of 613 unique micro-RNAs involved in the regulation of the concentration of 21 metabolites. Of the 613 micro-RNAs, only the microRNAs with the maximum interaction strength with the mRNA of the genes regulating the content of metabolites were selected. The final list contained 91 micro-RNAs, of which 47 changed the level of their transcripts in urine (validated by PCR).



The level of transcripts miR-382-5p, miR-593-3p, miR-29a-5p, miR-2110, miR-30c-5p, miR-181a-5p, let-7b-5p, miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p changed most significantly in patients with OC miR-6529-5p, miR-653-5p, miR-4742-5p, miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p, miR-875-3p, miR-19a-3p, miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p, miR-3193, miR-23a-3p, miR-12132, miR-765, miR-181b-5p, miR-4529-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-6866-3p, miR-4753-5p, miR-103a-3p, miR-423-5p, miR-491-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-6843-3p, miR-423-5p and miR-3184-5p relative to their urine levels in conditionally healthy individuals.

According to a number of authors, changes in the expression level of some of these microRNAs are associated with serous ovarian cancer: hsa-miR-382-5p, hsa-miR-27a-3p, hsa-miR-1207-5p, hsa-miR-423-5p [20], hsa-miR-593-3p [21], hsa-miR-29a-5p [22, 23] and hsa-miR-30c-5p [24, 25] and hsa-miR-30a-5p [26].

Nevertheless, the micro-RNA panel we identified (miR-382-5p, miR-593-3p, miR-29a-5p, miR-2110, miR-30c-5p, miR-181a-5p, let-7b-5p, miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-653-5p, miR-4742-5p, miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p, miR-875-3p, miR-19a-3p, miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p, miR-3193, miR-23A-3p, miR-12132, miR-765, miR-181b-5p, miR-4529-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-6866-3p, miR-4753-5p, miR-103a-3p, miR-423-5p, miR-491-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-6843-3p, miR-423-5p and miR-3184-5p) is unique and in this combination in literary sources not represented.

Obviously, transcriptomic imbalance begins in tissues and leads to a metabolic imbalance, which

eventually affects the composition of body fluids, including urine.

Modern clinical oncogynecology has a serious need for effective biomarkers, changes in the levels of which can serve as evidence of the occurrence of a malignant process. Non-invasive and inexpensive PCR analysis of micro-RNA in urine makes it a particularly attractive screening tool. The application of this approach may allow for frequent testing of women belonging to high-risk groups and ensure long-term patient monitoring.

CONCLUSION

Bioinformatics analysis revealed a list of 613 unique microRNAs involved in the regulation of 21 metabolites. At the same time, the level of transcripts of 38 microRNAs (miR-382-5p, miR-593-3p, miR-29a-5p, miR-2110, miR-30c-5p, miR-181a-5p, let-7b-5p, miR-27a-3p, miR-370-3p, miR-6529-5p, miR-653-5p, miR-4742-5p, miR-2467-3p, miR-1909-5p, miR-6743-5p, miR-875-3p, miR-19a-3p, miR-208a-5p, miR-330-5p, miR-1207-5p, miR-4668-3p, miR-3193, miR-23a-3p, miR-12132, miR-765, miR-181b-5p, miR-4529-3p, miR-33b-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-6866-3p, miR-4753-5p, miR-103a-3p, miR-423-5p, miR-491-5p, miR-196b-5p, miR-6843-3p, miR-423-5p and miR-3184-5p) urine has diagnostic potential in ovarian cancer and is the basis for further research.. Thus, transcriptomic profiling of urine made it possible both to identify potential markers of the disease and to better understand the molecular mechanisms of changes underlying the development of OC.

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