

Table 2.9. Case-control studies of Epstein-Barr virus infection marker and gastric carcinoma

Reference, study location and period	Characteristics of cases	Characteristics of controls	Detection method	Exposure categories	No. of exposed cases	Relative risk (95% CI)	Adjusted potential confounders	Comments			
Shinkura <i>et al.</i> (2000) Japan 1992–1995	123 cases of histologically confirmed gastric carcinoma (EBV status of gastric carcinomas determined by <i>in situ</i> hybridization; 64/123 were positive)	73 controls selected from persons attending a health checkup	Anti-EBV VCA (IgG, IgM and IgA) and EA (IgG and IgA) by indirect immunofluorescence, and EBNA (IgG) by anticomplement immunofluorescence.	VCA-IgA				Characteristics of controls were unavailable. All cases and controls were 100% positive for VCA-IgG and EBNA-IgG. No control was positive for EA-IgA.			
				EBV(+)	No	42	1.0		none		
					Yes	22	[7.1 (2.4-25.6)]				
				EBV(-)	No	51	1.0		Age, sex		
					Yes	8	2.6 (0.5–13)				
				EA-IgG							
				EBV(+)	No	26	1.0		none		
					Yes	38	[19.9 (6.6-70.0)]				
				EBV(-)	No	45	1.0		Age, sex		
					Yes	14	4.9 (1.2–2.0)				
				EA-IgA							
				EBV(+)	No	63	1.0		none		
	Yes	1	∞								
EBV(-)	No	58	1.0	Age, sex							
	Yes	1	∞								

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Lo <i>et al.</i> (2001) Hong Kong	51 cases of histologically confirmed gastric carcinoma (5 carcinomas were EBV positive, 14 carcinomas were EBV negative with EBV-positive infiltrating lymphocytes, 32 carcinomas were EBV negative with EBV-negative infiltrating lymphocytes)	197 healthy controls	EBV DNA (<i>Bam</i> HI-W) in serum detected by real-time quantitative PCR; EBV status of gastric carcinomas and infiltrating lymphocytes determined by detection of EBER using <i>in situ</i> hybridization	EBV DNA EBV(+) tumour No Yes EBV(-) tumour with EBV(+) lymphocytes No Yes EBV(-) tumour with EBV(-) lymphocytes No Yes	0 5 1 13 32 0	1.0 ∞ 1.0 [352.9 (39.0-15051)] 1.0 -	No	Characteristics of controls were unavailable. 7 (3.6%) of 197 controls were positive for EBV DNA in serum.

EA, EBV Early Antigen; EBER, Epstein-Barr encoded RNA