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Abstract
Endometriosis is a complex gynecologic disorder that affects as many as 10–15% of premenopausal women . Endometriosis is defined as a steroid-dependent condition in which tissue histologically similar to the endometrium is found outside the uterine cavity . The pathogenesis of endometriosis remains unknown. Sampson’s theory addresses that retrograde menstruation and subsequent attachment, implantation, and growth of endometrial cells in the peritoneal cavity are the main etiologic mechanism. The fact that nearly 90% of all women have retrograde menstruation and only 10–20% of women have endometriosis has led to several theories regarding the susceptibility to endometriosis ranging from genetic, environmental, to immunologic factors. A polymorphic Alu element belonging to the young Ya5 subfamily of Alu repeats located in the progesterone receptor gene has been characterized.Using a polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based assay, the genetic diversity associated with the PROGINS Alu repeat was examined in Austria (2002) and Italy (2004). The level of insertion polymorphism associated with PROGINS suggests that it will be a useful marker for the study of endometriosis. To investigate the association between the 306– base pair insertion polymorphism in intron G of the progesterone receptor gene (PROGINS) and endometriosis in Taiwan, in this study a PCR-based assay was harnessed to screen the women with endometriosis. We found that among 111endometriosis cases, the genotype T1/T1, T1/T2 and T2/T2 were 97.3%, 1.8% and 0.9% respectively while alleles T1 and T2 were 98.2% and 1.8% respectively. Among 105 control cases genotype T1/T1, T1/T2 and T2/T2 were 98.1%, 1.9% and 0.0%. Alleles T1 and T2 were 99.05% and 0.95%. In conclusion, in our present study the PROGINS is not associated with endometriosis in Taiwanese women.
Key Words: PROGINS, endometriosis, progesterone receptor
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