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Nancy E. Hynes and Julien H. Dey

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5213 | Selective BRAFV600E Inhibition Enhances T-Cell Recognition of Melanoma without Affecting Lymphocyte Function
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CLINICAL STUDIES

5220 | Dexamethasone Destabilizes Nmyc to Inhibit the Growth of Hedgehog-Associated Medulloblastoma
Vivi M. Heine, Markus Priller, Jason Ling, David H. Rowitch, and Ulrich Schüller

5226 | Pancreatic Cancers Epigenetically Silence SIPI and Hypomethylate and Overexpress miR-200a/200b in Association with Elevated Circulating miR-200a and miR-200b Levels
Ang Li, Noriyuki Omura, Seung-Mo Hong, Audrey Vincent, Kimberly Walter, Margaret Griffith, Michael Borges, and Michael Goggins

MICROENVIRONMENT AND IMMUNOLOGY

5238 | Breast Cancer Cells in Three-dimensional Culture Display an Enhanced Radiosensitivity after Coordinate Targeting of Integrin α5β1 and Fibronectin
Jin-Min Nam, Yasuhito Onodera, Mina J. Bissell, and Catherine C. Park

Précis: Findings establish mechanisms by which a growth inhibitory steroid can inhibit medulloblastoma, a common and aggressive pediatric tumor.

Précis: Findings suggest the possibility of a mechanism-based, serum-based diagnostic assay for detecting pancreatic cancer.

Précis: Selective inhibitors of oncogenic BRAF can blunt its ability to drive immune evasion and restore immunosurveillance without compromising T cell function, possibly helping inform optimal therapeutic applications of this provocative class of new agents.
Craig C. Davis, Luciana C. Marti, Gregory D. Sempowski, Durairaj A. Jeyaraj, and Paul Szabolcs

Précis: Findings describe a novel method to generate an immunotherapy product from cord blood transplant grafts that can be frozen, thawed, and infused any time after transplant to boost immunity, helping to reduce the risk of infections, or can be further manipulated to elicit antileukemia activity.

Increased Immunogenicity of Tumor-Associated Antigen, Mucin 1, Engineered to Express α-Gal Epitopes: A Novel Approach to Immunotherapy in Pancreatic Cancer
Takashi Deguchi, Masahiro Tanemura, Eiji Miyoshi, Hiroaki Nagano, Tomohiko Machida, Yoshiaki Ohmura, Shogo Kobayashi, Shigeru Marubashi, Hitotoshi Eguchi, Yutaka Takeda, Toshinori Ito, Masaki Mori, Yuihiro Doki, and Yoshiki Sawa

Précis: A straightforward peptid-based immunotherapy leveraged by an intriguing stimulatory approach, using α-gal epitopes may help overcome immune suppressive barriers erected by cancers, increasing efficacy.

Angiopoietin-2 Regulates Gene Expression in TIE2-Expressing Monocytes and Augments Their Inherent Proangiogenic Functions
Seth B. Coffelt, Andrea O. Tal, Alexander Scholz, Michele De Palma, Sunil Patel, Carmen Urbich, Subhra K. Biswas, Craig Murdoch, Karl H. Plate, Yvonne Reiss, and Claire E. Lewis

Précis: Findings show that a tumor-derived cytokine, angiopoietin-2, stimulates the tumor-promoting functions of a subset of circulating monocytes that drive tumor angiogenesis.

Periostin, a Cell Adhesion Molecule, Facilitates Invasion in the Tumor Microenvironment and Annotates a Novel Tumor-Invasive Signature in Esophageal Cancer
Carmen Z. Michaylira, Gabrielle S. Wong, Charles G. Miller, Christie M. Gutierrez, Hiroshi Nakagawa, Rachel Hammond, Andres J. Klein-Szanto, Ju-Seog Lee, Sang Bae Kim, Meenhard Herlyn, J. Alan Diehl, Phyllis Gimotty, and Anil K. Rustgi

Précis: Findings illustrate the utility of organotypic cultures to discover invasion markers and other novel biological effectors in cancer.
Phosphorylation and Activation of Cell Division Cycle Associated 5 by Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinase Play a Crucial Role in Human Lung Carcinogenesis
Minh-Hue Nguyen, Junkichi Koinuma, Koji Ueda, Tomoo Ito, Eiju Tsuchiya, Yusuke Nakamura, and Yataro Daigo

Précis: Findings offer a mechanistic rationale for a new approach for lung cancer treatment with small molecule inhibitors of the ERK kinase-substrate pathway that is aberrantly activated in lung cancer cells.

Altered Dynamics of Intestinal Cell Maturation in Apc1638N/+ Mice
Donghai Wang, Rossanna C. Pezo, Georgia Corner, Cristina Sison, Martin L. Lesser, Shailesh M. Shenoy, John M. Mariadason, Robert H. Singer, and Leonard H. Augenlicht

Précis: In situ imaging of transcription sites in single intestinal cells along villi reveal that key pathways of transcriptional control are far more dynamic than previously appreciated in maintaining tissue homeostasis and organization that are disrupted during tumorigenesis.

Taspase1 Functions as a Non-Oncogene Addiction Protease that Coordinates Cancer Cell Proliferation and Apoptosis
David Y. Chen, Han Liu, Shugaku Takeda, Ho-Chou Tu, Satoru Sasagawa, Brian A. Van Tine, Dongsi Lu, Emily H-Y. Cheng, and James J-D. Hsieh

Précis: Findings rationalize therapeutic interest in developing inhibitors of a druggable protease that may have a selective role in supporting cancer cell proliferation and survival.

ADAM17 Regulates Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Expression through the Activation of Notch1 in Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer
Anja Baumgart, Stefan Seidl, Petros Vlachou, Lars Michel, Nadya Mitova, Nicole Schatz, Katja Specht, Ina Koch, Tibor Schuster, Rebekka Grundler, Marcus Kremer, Falko Fend, Jens T. Siveke, Christian Peschel, Justus Duyster, and Tobias Dechow


High-Mobility Group A1 Proteins Regulate p53-Mediated Transcription of Bel-2 Gene
Francesco Esposito, Mara Tornincasa, Paolo Chieffi, Ivana De Martino, Giovanna Maria Pierantoni, and Alfredo Fusco

Précis: Findings identify a potentially important, broad acting new mechanism of anti-apoptosis in cancer.

Poly(ADP-Ribose) Polymerase Is Hyperactivated in Homologous Recombination–Defective Cells
Ponnari Gottipati, Barbara Vischioni, Niklas Schultz, Joyce Solomon, Helen E. Bryant, Tatjana Djureinovic, Natalia Issaeva, Kate Sleeth, Ricky A. Sharma, and Thomas Hellday

Précis: Mechanistic findings suggest insights into how PARP inhibitors kill BRCA1/2-defective cancer cells and how to identify tumors that are sensitive to this new class of experimental clinical therapeutics.

High Wnt Signaling Represses the Proapoptotic Proteoglycan syndecan-2 in Osteosarcoma Cells
François-Xavier Dieudonné, Allison Marion, Eric Haÿ, Pierre Jacques Marie, and Dominique Modrowski

Précis: Novel mechanistic insights into an important oncogenic pathway of Wnt signaling in osteosarcoma are revealed.

Confirmation of Linkage to and Localization of Familial Colon Cancer Risk Haplotype on Chromosome 9q22
Courtney Gray-McGuire, Kishore Guda, Indra Adrianto, Chee Paul Lin, Leanna Natale, John D. Potter, Polly Newcomb, Elizabeth M. Poole, Cornelia M. Ulrich, Noralane Lindor, Ellen L. Goode, Brooke L. Fridley, Robert Jenkins, Loic Le Marchand, Graham Casey, Robert Haile, John Hopper, Mark Jenkins, Joanne Young, Daniel Buchanan, Steve Gallinger, Mark Adams, Susan Lewis, Joseph Willis, Robert Elston, Sanford D. Markowitz, and Georgia L. Wiesner

Précis: This linkage and association study confirms and markedly refines the position of a 9q susceptibility locus for familial colon neoplasia.

Colorectal Cancer Incidence Trends in the United States and United Kingdom: Evidence of Right- to Left-Sided Biological Gradients with Implications for Screening
Rafael Meza, Jihyoun Jeon, Andrew G. Renehan, and E. Georg Luebeck

Précis: Biomathematical models of incidence trends in colorectal cancer argue for age, sex and site-directed approaches to population screening.
Interaction between Adiponectin and Leptin Influences the Risk of Colorectal Adenoma
Taiki Yamaji, Motoki Iwasaki, Shizuka Sasazuki, and Shoichiro Tsugane

Précis: Findings offer the first epidemiological evidence for the role of two important adipokines in the early stage of colorectal tumorigenesis, distinct from their involvement in insulin resistance.

Essential Requirement for PP2A Inhibition by the Oncogenic Receptor c-KIT Suggests PP2A Reactivation as a Strategy to Treat c-KIT+ Cancers
Kathryn G. Roberts, Amanda M. Smith, Fiona McDougall, Helen Carpenter, Martin Horan, Paolo Neviani, Jason A. Powell, Daniel Thomas, Mark A. Guthridge, Danilo Perrotti, Alistair T.R. Sim, Leonie K. Ashman, and Nicole M. Verrills

Précis: Findings suggest activation of an anti-oncogenic protein phosphatase as a strategy to treat drug-resistant cancers driven by the c-KIT oncogene.

Halogenated Benzimidazole Carboxamides Target Integrin α4β1 on T-Cell and B-Cell Lymphomas
Richard D. Carpenter, Arutselvan Natarajan, Edmond Y. Lau, Mirela Andrei, Danielle M. Solano, Felice C. Lightstone, Sally J. DeNardo, Kit S. Lam, and Mark J. Kurth

Précis: Novel molecular tools are described to improve structural understanding of an integrin target that may be useful to broadly attack lymphomas.

PTEN Loss Compromises Homologous Recombination Repair in Astrocytes: Implications for Glioblastoma Therapy with Temozolomide or Poly(ADP-Ribose) Polymerase Inhibitors
Brian McEllin, Cristel V. Camacho, Bipasha Mukherjee, Brandon Hahm, Nozumi Tomimatsu, Robert M. Bachoo, and Sandeep Burma

Précis: Findings establish a mechanistic rationale to treat PTEN-deficient tumors with PARP inhibitors presently in clinical development, possibly expanding the scope of their application beyond merely BRCA1/2-deficient tumors.

Synthetic Lethality through Combined Notch–Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Pathway Inhibition in Basal-Like Breast Cancer
Yiyu Dong, Aimin Li, Jianbo Wang, Jason D. Weber, and Loren S. Michel

Précis: Preclinical findings define and establish the rationale for combining Notch and EGFR inhibition as a combinatorial therapy to treat aggressive basal-like breast cancers that are difficult to manage clinically.

FOXO1A Is a Target for HER2-Overexpressing Breast Tumors
Yanyuan Wu, Xiying Shang, Marianna Sarkissyan, Dennis Slamon, and Jaydutt V. Vadgama

Précis: Findings define a potentially important mechanism by which HER2-overexpressing breast cancers become resistant to the anti-HER2 therapeutic agent trastuzumab (Herceptin).

High Levels of Nrf2 Determine Chemoresistance in Type II Endometrial Cancer
Tao Jiang, Ning Chen, Fei Zhao, Xiao-Jun Wang, Beihua Kong, Wexin Zheng, and Donna D. Zhang

Précis: Findings rationalize a broadly applicable approach to increase the efficacy of chemotherapeutic drugs and to combat chemoresistance.

Development of Human Single-Chain Antibodies to the Transferrin Receptor that Effectively Antagonize the Growth of Leukemias and Lymphomas
Ronan Crépin, Anne-Laure Goenaga, Betsy Jullienne, Houcine Bougherara, Christine Legay, Karim Benihoud, James D. Marks, and Marie-Alix Poul

Précis: Findings describe a new type of fully human antibody that is effective for immunotherapy of iron-dependent tumors.

The Phosphoinositide 3-Kinase Inhibitor PI-103 Downregulates Choline Kinase α Leading to Phosphocholine and Total Choline Decrease Detected by Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy
Nada M.S. Al-Saffar, L. Elizabeth Jackson, Florence I. Raynaud, Paul A. Clarke, Ana Ramírez de Molina, Juan C. Lacal, Paul Workman, and Martin O. Leach

Précis: Findings describe a noninvasive method to monitor the pharmacodynamics of PI3K inhibitors that are currently in early stage clinical trials.
5518  RG7204 (PLX4032), a Selective BRAFV600E Inhibitor, Displays Potent Antitumor Activity in Preclinical Melanoma Models
Hong Yang, Brian Higgins, Kenneth Kolinsky, Kathryn Packman, Zenaida Go, Raman Iyer, Stanley Kolis, Sylvia Zhao, Richard Lee, Joseph F. Grippo, Kathleen Schostack, Mary Ellen Simcox, David Heimbrook, Gideon Bollag, and Fei Su

Précis: Striking first report of the preclinical efficacy of a mutant Raf kinase-specific inhibitor augurs promise for its ongoing clinical development.

5528  The Polycomb Group Protein Bmi-1 Is Essential for the Growth of Multiple Myeloma Cells
Zainab Jagani, Dmitri Wiederschain, Alice Loo, Dan He, Rebecca Mosher, Paul Fordjour, John Monahan, Michael Morrissey, Yung-Mae Yao, Christoph Lengauer, Markus Warmuth, William R. Sellers, and Marion Dorsch

Précis: An oncogenic Polycomb group protein found to be a critical driver in multiple myelomas, one of the most deadly blood cancers.

5539  Effects of Ionizing Radiation on Self-Renewal and Pluripotency of Human Embryonic Stem Cells
Kitchener D. Wilson, Ning Sun, Mei Huang, Wendy Y. Zhang, Andrew S. Lee, Zongjin Li, Shan X. Wang, and Joseph C. Wu

Précis: Human embryonic stem cells maintain their tumorigenic potential even after significant ionizing radiation exposures.

5549  A Mouse Model of Melanoma Driven by Oncogenic KRAS
Carla Milagre, Nathalie Dhomen, Felipe C. Geyer, Robert Hayward, Maryou Lambros, Jorge S. Reis-Filho, and Richard Marais

Précis: Mouse model findings offer evidence that KRAS activation may be a founder event in melanoma.

5558  Shedding of RANKL by Tumor-Associated MT1-MMP Activates Src-Dependent Prostate Cancer Cell Migration
Aaron L. Sabbota, Hyeong-Reh Choi Kim, Xiaoning Zhe, Rafael Fridman, B. Daniel Bonfil, and Michael L. Cher

Précis: Findings establish a mechanism of prostate cancer cell invasion that is enhanced by a protease-directed autocrine loop amenable to therapeutic attack.

5567  Extracellular Protease ADAMTS9 Suppresses Esophageal and Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Tumor Formation by Inhibiting Angiogenesis

Précis: Tumor suppressive effects of an extracellular protease implicated in aerodigestive cancers are mediated by anti-angiogenic effects.

5577  Frequent Attenuation of the WWOX Tumor Suppressor in Osteosarcoma Is Associated with Increased Tumorigenicity and Aberrant RUNX2 Expression
Kyle C. Kurek, Sara Del Mare, Zaidoun Salah, Suhaib Abde, Hussain Sadiq, Suk-hee Lee, Eugenio Gaudio, Nicola Zanesi, Kevin B. Jones, Barry DeYoung, Gail Amir, Mark Gebhardt, Matthew Warman, Gary S. Stein, Janet L. Stein, Jane B. Lian, and Rami I. Aqeilan

Précis: Findings establish the pathobiological significance of a suspected tumor suppressor in human osteosarcoma, a very aggressive bone cancer, with potential prognostic and therapeutic implications.

5587  Compensatory Upregulation of Tyrosine Kinase Etk/BMX in Response to Androgen Deprivation Promotes Castration-Resistant Growth of Prostate Cancer Cells
Bojie Dai, Hege Chen, Shengjie Guo, Xi Yang, Douglas E. Linn, Feng Sun, Wei Li, Zhiyong Guo, Kexin Xu, Oekyung Kim, Xiantian Kong, Jonathan Melamed, Shaopeng Qui, Hegang Chen, and Yun Qiu

Précis: Findings identify a compensatory mechanism activated in prostate after androgen ablation, apparently contributing to androgen resistance.

5597  Inhibition of the Sodium-Potassium-Chloride Cotransporter Isoform-1 Reduces Glioma Invasion
Brian R. Haas and Harald Sontheimer

Précis: Findings rationalize an immediate opportunity to reposition a drug presently used for non-cancer indications as a treatment for primary brain tumors.
Exchange Protein Directly Activated by Cyclic AMP Increases Melanoma Cell Migration by a Ca²⁺-Dependent Mechanism
Erdene Baljinnyam, Mariana S. De Lorenzo, Lai-Hua Xie, Mizuka Iwatsubo, Suzie Chen, James S. Goydos, Martha C. Nowycky, and Kousaku Iwatsubo

Précis: A novel mechanism is described for invasive migration of melanoma cells, suggesting new routes to attack metastatic disease.

Atoh1 Inhibits Neuronal Differentiation and Collaborates with Gli1 to Generate Medulloblastoma-Initiating Cells
Olivier Ayrault, Haotian Zhao, Frederique Zindy, Chunxu Qu, Charles J. Sherr, and Martine F. Roussel

Précis: Findings define two transcription factors that are sufficient to transform a neuronal progenitor into a tumor-initiating cell in the common childhood brain tumor medulloblastoma.

Alternatively Spliced RAGEv1 Inhibits Tumorigenesis through Suppression of JNK Signaling
Anastasia Z. Kalea, Fiona See, Evis Harja, Maria Arriero, Ann Marie Schmidt, and Barry I. Hudson

Précis: Findings define a mechanism through which a novel theranostic biomarker in cancer may be used to suppress malignant disease.

ABOUT THE COVER
RG7204 (PLX4032) is a small molecule inhibitor that selectively blocks the activity of oncogenic BRAFV600E kinase. The BRAFV600E mutation is common in several human cancers, with especially high prevalence in melanoma. In the present study, Yang and colleagues describe the effect of RG7204 on tumor cells. RG7204 suppresses ERK activation and cellular proliferation in tumor cells with BRAFV600E but not in cells expressing only wild-type BRAF. Significantly, RG7204 treatment caused partial or complete tumor regressions and improved survival of animals bearing BRAFV600E tumors, demonstrating potent antitumor activity. These preclinical efficacy data generated in several melanoma xenograft models have foreshadowed the clinical results observed in a multi-center Phase I trial that has been enriched with metastatic melanoma patients testing positive for the BRAFV600E mutation. For details, see the article by Yang and colleagues on page 5518 of this issue.