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MICROENVIRONMENT AND IMMUNOLOGY

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Précis: These results reveal how immune suppression by myeloid-derived suppressor cells can be initiated in the tumor microenvironment of human melanoma.
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The Steroid Receptor Coactivator-3 Is Required for the Development of Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer
Jean C-Y. Tien, Zhaoliang Liu, Lan Liao, Fen Wang, Yixiang Xu, Ye-Lin Wu, Niya Zhou, Michael Ittmann, and Jianming Xu

Précis: These findings offer a preclinical proof of concept to therapeutically target a transcriptional coactivator in castration-resistant prostate cancer, the development of which is responsible for nearly all prostate cancer deaths.

Tid1-L Inhibits EGFR Signaling in Lung Adenocarcinoma by Enhancing EGFR Ubiquitylation and Degradation
Chi-Yuan Chen, Chia-Ing Jan, Jeng-Fan Lo, Shuenn-Chen Yang, Yih-Leong Chang, Szu-Hua Pan, Wen-Lung Wang, Tse-Ming Hong, and Pan-Chyr Yang

Précis: The clinical validation of EGFR targeting approaches in lung non–small cell lung carcinoma, also known as lung adenocarcinoma, has increased the significance of studies to understand EGFR downregulation in this setting.

Impact of Body Mass Index on the Risk of Colorectal Adenoma in a Metabolically Healthy Population
Kyung Eun Yun, Yoosoo Chang, Hyun-Suk Jung, Chan-Won Kim, Min-Jung Kwon, Sung Keun Park, Eunju Sung, Hocheol Shin, Hye Soon Park, and Seungho Ryu

Précis: Excess weight confers an increased risk of developing colorectal adenomas, independent of whether an individual is metabolically healthy or not, suggesting a potential causal link between excess adipose tissue and colorectal cancer risk.

Genome-Wide Association Study of Genetic Predictors of Overall Survival for Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer in Never Smokers
Xifeng Wu, Liang Wang, Yuanqing Ye, Jeremiah A. Aakre, Xia Pu, Gee-Chen Chang, Pan-Chyr Yang, Jack A. Roth, Randolph S. Marks, Scott M. Lippman, Joe Y. Chang, Charles Lu, Claude Deschamps, Wu-Chou Su, Wen-Chang Wang, Ming-Shyan Huang, David W. Chang, Yan Li, V. Shane Pankratz, John D. Minna, Wuen Ki Hong, Michelle A. T. Hildebrandt, Chao Agnes Hsiung, and Ping Yang

Précis: Although most patients with lung cancer were smokers, the much smaller numbers of never-smokers with lung cancer are less understood with regard to the biologic underpinnings of their clinical outcomes.

MFK1/2 Inhibition Decreases Lactate in BRAF-Driven Human Cancer Cells
Maria Falck Miniotis, Vaitha Arunan, Richard Marais, Paul Workman, Martin O. Leach, and Mounia Beloueche-Babari

Précis: The use of magnetic resonance spectroscopy to measure lactate depletion could provide a simple, noninvasive metabolic biomarker for evaluating pharmacodynamic responses to the many BRAF/MEK inhibitors currently in clinical trials.

Enhanced Inhibition of ERK Signaling by a Novel Allosteric MEK Inhibitor, CH5126766, That Suppresses Feedback Reactivation of RAF Activity
Nobuya Ishii, Naoki Harada, Eric W. Joseph, Kazuhiro Ohara, Takaaki Mihara, Hiroshi Sakamoto, Yutaka Matsuda, Yasushi Tomii, Yukako Tachibana-Kondo, Hitoshi Ikura, Toshihito Aoki, Nobuo Shimma, Mikio Arisawa, Yoshihiro Sowa, Poulikos I. Poulikakos, Neal Rosen, Yuku Aoki, and Toshiyuki Sakai

Précis: A novel class of MEK inhibitor described in this preclinical study causes MEK to function as a dominant negative inhibitor of RAF, enhancing its therapeutic action in tumors driven by mutant RAS or RAF.

Conditional Loss of ErbB3 Delays Mammary Gland Hyperplasia Induced by Mutant PIK3CA without Affecting Mammary Tumor Latency, Gene Expression, or Signaling
Christian D. Young, Adam D. Pfefferle, Philip Owens, Maria G. Kubia, Brent N. Rexer, Justin M. Balko, Violeta Sánchez, Hailing Cheng, Charles M. Perou, Jean J. Zhao, Rebecca S. Cook, and Carlos L. Arteaga

Précis: These findings suggest a rationale to combine inhibitors against PI3K and ErbB receptors in treating breast cancers that harbor PIK3CA activating mutations.
TUMOR AND STEM CELL BIOLOGY

Th-MYCN Mice with Caspase-8 Deficiency Develop Advanced Neuroblastoma with Bone Marrow Metastasis
Tal Teitz, Madoka Inoue, Marcus B. Valentine, Kejin Zhu, Jerold E. Rehg, Wei Zhao, David Finkelstein, Yong-Dong Wang, Melissa D. Johnson, Christopher Calabrese, Marcelo Buhinstein, Razqallah Hakem, William A. Weiss, and Jill M. Lahti

Precis: An in vivo model of neuroblastoma that undergoes bone marrow metastasis will be useful to enable better studies of dissemination processes and therapeutic candidates.

miR-214 Coordinates Melanoma Progression by Upregulating ALCAM through TFAP2 and miR-148b Downmodulation
Elisa Penna, Francesca Orso, Daniela Cimino, Irene Vercellino, Elena Grassi, Elena Quaglino, Emilia Turco, and Daniela Taverna

Precis: By establishing a critical pathway to coordinate metastatic dissemination in melanoma, this study offers an initial preclinical proof of concept for targeting its elements as a rational approach to block or reverse this deadly process.

Cancer Stem–like Cell Marker CD44 Promotes Bone Metastases by Enhancing Tumorigenicity, Cell Motility, and Hyaluronan Production
Toru Hiraga, Susumu Ito, and Hiroaki Nakamura

Precis: This important study provides an initial glimpse of the functional meaning of a cell surface protein widely associated with stem-like cell properties in human cancer.

Stress-Response Protein RBM3 Attenuates the Stem-like Properties of Prostate Cancer Cells by Interfering with CD44 Variant Splicing
Yu Zeng, Dana Wodzenski, Dong Gao, Takumi Shiraisi, Naoki Terada, Youqiang Li, Donald J. Vander Griend, Jun Luo, Chuize Kong, Robert H. Getzenberg, and Prakash Kulkarni

Precis: This study focuses on a member of a little-studied family of stress regulators in cancer, the cold shock proteins, offering new perspectives on how stress alters RNA splicing for a modulator of stem cell-like character in malignant disease.

G-CSF Receptor Positive Neuroblastoma Subpopulations Are Enriched in Chemotherapy-Resistant or Relapsed Tumors and Are Highly Tumorigenic
Danielle M. Hsu, Saurabh Agarwal, Ashley Benham, Cristian Coarfa, Denae N. Tranah, Zaowen Chen, Paris N. Stowers, Amy N. Courtney, Anna Lakoma, Eveline Barbieri, Leonid S. Metelitsa, Preethi Gunaratne, Eugene S. Kim, and Jason M. Sholet

Precis: Stem-like cells in an aggressive pediatric tumor uniformly express the receptor for G-CSF, which, as a means to elevate white blood cell counts, is commonly given to patients where it might unsuspectingly contribute to progression.

Connective Tissue Growth Factor Activates Pluripotency Genes and Mesenchymal–Epithelial Transition in Head and Neck Cancer Cells
Cheng-Chi Chang, Wen-Hao Hsu, Chen-Chien Wang, Chun-Hung Chou, Mark Yen-Ping Kuo, Been-Ren Lin, Szu-Ta Chen, Shyh-Kuan Tai, Min-Liang Kuo, and Muh-Hwa Yang

Precis: These findings provide insights into epithelial plasticity during progression of head and neck cancers that are rapidly rising in incidence, perhaps also providing a basis for improvement in their classification.

Nrf2 Prevents Initiation but Accelerates Progression through the Kras Signaling Pathway during Lung Carcinogenesis
Hironori Satoh, Takashi Moriguchi, Jun Takai, Masahito Ebina, and Masayuki Yamamoto

Precis: The Nrf2 cellular antioxidant system has different roles during cancer initiation and progression, much like TNF, such that Nrf2 inhibitors offer more rational tools than Nrf2 activators to attack established malignancy.

CORRECTIONS

Correction: Cell Surface Expression of Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor and Her-2 with Nuclear Expression of Her-4 in Primary Osteosarcoma

Correction: Helicobacter pylori Cytotoxin-Associated Gene A Activates the Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription 3 Pathway In Vitro and In Vivo
ABOUT THE COVER

CD44, a cancer stem-like cell marker, has been implicated in cancer cell migration, invasion, and metastasis. This study shows that CD44 expression in cancer cells promotes bone metastases by enhancing tumorigenicity, cell migration and invasion, and production of hyaluronan, the primary ligand for CD44. Using a mouse model of bone metastasis, it was found that 4-methylumbelliferone, an inhibitor of hyaluronan synthesis, inhibited bone metastases of MDA-MB-231 human breast cancer cells with reduced number of osteoclasts. For details, see article by Hiraga and colleagues on page 4112.
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