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Cancer Research

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1645 Universal Marker and Detection Tool for Human Sarcoma Circulating Tumor Cells

Précis: This study describes the first universal and specific marker to detect circulating sarcoma cells in the blood, with the capability to detect any type of sarcoma, offering a key prognostic tool to monitor cancer metastasis and relapse in sarcoma patients.

1651 PCAT-1, a Long Noncoding RNA, Regulates BRCA2 and Controls Homologous Recombination in Cancer

Précis: A long noncoding RNA known to be oncogenic is found to promote cell death during genotoxic stress, suggesting a novel clinical correlation between this little-understood class of RNAs and genotoxic cancer therapies.

INTEGRATED SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGIES

1661 Cancer-Associated Mutations in Healthy Individuals: Assessing the Risk of Carcinogenesis
Ignacio A. Rodriguez-Brenes, Natalia L. Komarova, and Dominik Wodarz

Précis: Understanding how limits on cellular replication influence the fate of altered but nonneoplastic cells in healthy tissue may make it possible to estimate the risk posed by cancer-associated mutations found in healthy individuals.

MICROENVIRONMENT AND IMMUNOLOGY

1670 Identification of Immune Factors Regulating Antitumor Immunity Using Polymeric Vaccines with Multiple Adjuvants
Omar A. Ali, Catia Verbeke, Chris Johnson, R. Warren Sands, Sarah A. Lewin, Des White, Edward Doherty, Glenn Dranoff, and David J. Mooney

Précis: This paper utilizes a new method to identify immune components critical to the efficacy of antitumor immune responses to tumors.

MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR PATHOBIOLOGY

1682 FoxO Transcription Factors Promote AKT Ser473 Phosphorylation and Renal Tumor Growth in Response to Pharmacologic Inhibition of the PI3K–AKT Pathway
Aifu Lin, Hai-long Piao, Li Zhuang, Dos D. Sarbassov, Li Ma, and Boyi Gan

Précis: A transcription factor that functions in tumor suppression was unexpectedly found to instead promote renal tumor growth under conditions of PI3K–AKT inhibition, with implications on how to improve antitumor responses.

1694 Immune Escape and Survival Mechanisms in Circulating Tumor Cells of Colorectal Cancer
Gunnar Steinert, Sebastian Scholich, Thomas Niemietz, Naoki Iwata, Sebastián A. García, Bianca Behrens, Anil Gavrilovic, Matthias Kloor, Axel Benner, Ulrich Bork, Nuh N. Rahbari, Markus W. Buchler, Nikolas H. Stoecklein, Jurgen Weitz, and Moritz Koch

Précis: These results show that circulating colon tumor cells are genetically different from the primary colon tumor, exhibiting an immunosuppressive phenotype that enables them to evade immune eradication.
UTX and MLL4 Coordinately Regulate Transcriptional Programs for Cell Proliferation and Invasiveness in Breast Cancer Cells

Jae-Hwan Kim, Amrish Sharma, Shilpa S. Dhar, Sung-Hun Lee, Bingnan Gu, Chia-Hsin Chan, Hui-Kuan Lin, and Min Gyu Lee

Précis: These findings show how coordinated regulation of gene expression programs by two distinct epigenetic modifiers drives malignant properties in breast cancer cells.

Neuroplastic Changes Occur Early in the Development of Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma

Rachelle E. Stopczynski, Daniel P. Normolle, Douglas J. Hartman, Haoqiang Ying, Jennifer J. DeBerry, Klaus Bielefeldt, Andrew D. Rhim, Ronald A. DePinho, Kathryn M. Albers, and Brian M. Davis

Précis: These studies show that changes in the peripheral nervous system occur early during tumor development and may play an important role in disease progression.

HDAC2 Provides a Critical Support to Malignant Progression of Hepatocellular Carcinoma through Feedback Control of mTORC1 and AKT

Ji Heon Noh, Hyun Jin Bae, Jung Woo Eun, Qingyu Shen, Se Jin Park, Hyung Seok Kim, Boas Nam, Woo Chan Shin, Eun Kyung Lee, Kyungbun Lee, Ja-Jun Jang, Won Sang Park, Jung Young Lee, and Suk Woo Nam

Précis: This study of a histone deacetylase that is essential for mitogenic signaling in liver cancers may offer a new interventional target for more effective therapy.

p16INK4A Impairs Homologous Recombination–Mediated DNA Repair in Human Papillomavirus–Positive Head and Neck Tumors

Rüveyda Dok, Peter Kalev, Evert Jan Van Limbergen, Layka Abbasi Ashagh, Iria Vázquez, Esther Hauben, Anna Sablina, and Sandra Nuysts

Précis: These findings reveal an unexpected function of the tumor suppressor p16INK4A in promoting the homologous recombination pathway of DNA repair, suggesting that p16INK4A status in head and neck cancer patients may offer an independent marker to predict their response to radiotherapy.

Genetic Validation of the Protein Arginine Methyltransferase PRMT5 as a Candidate Therapeutic Target in Glioblastoma


Précis: This study presents a novel candidate prognostic and therapeutic target in aggressive brain cancers, with implications for understanding the basis for poor patient survival.

Activated ERBB2/HER2 Licenses Sensitivity to Apoptosis upon Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress through a PERK-Dependent Pathway

Rosa Martínez-Pérez, Carmen Palacios, Rosario Yerbes, Ana Cano-González, Daniel Iglesias-Serret, Joan Gil, Mauricio J. Reginato, and Abelardo López-Rivas

Précis: These findings offer a rationale for the therapeutic exploration of treatments inducing ER stress against mutant ERBB2-expressing breast tumor cells.

ATDC/TRIM29 Phosphorylation by ATM/MAPKAP Kinase 2 Mediates Radioresistance in Pancreatic Cancer Cells

Lidong Wang, Huibin Yang, Phillip L. Palmbos, Gina Ney, Taylor Ann Dietzler, Dawn Coleman, Jacob Leflein, Mary Davis, Min Zhang, Wenhua Tang, J. Kevin Hicks, Corey M. Helchowski, Jayendra Prasad, Theodore S. Lawrence, Liang Xu, Xiaochen Yu, Christine E. Canman, Mats Ljungman, and Diane M. Simeone

Précis: These findings link a TRIM family protein that binds DNA and p53 to radioresistance in pancreatic cancer, suggesting its candidacy as a therapeutic target to improve the efficacy of DNA-damaging treatments used to treat this disease.
Alarmin IL-33 Acts as an Immunoadjuvant to Enhance Antigen-Specific Tumor Immunity
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p300 Acetyltransferase Regulates Androgen Receptor Degradation and PTEN-Deficient Prostate Tumorigenesis
Jian Zhong, Liya Ding, Laura R. Bohrer, Yunqian Pan, Ping Liu, Jun Zhang, Thomas J. Sebo, R. Jeffrey Karnes, Donald J. Tindall, Jan van Deursen, and Haojie Huang

These findings offer a preclinical proof of concept that IL-33 improves the immune potency of tumor vaccines, promoting tumor cell clearance and regressions to fully empower cancer immunotherapy.

These findings offer a preclinical rationale to explore delivery of a tumor-suppressive microRNA as an effective therapeutic strategy to eradicate multiple myeloma cells.

These results show how regional aberrations in chromosome copy number can lead to loss of multiple important tumor-suppressor functions in cancer.

This study of distinct subsets of adult tissue progenitors points to a maturation arrest of oligodendrogial precursor cells in the pathogenesis of PDGF-dependent brain tumors.

This article identifies a key determinant in degradation of the androgen receptor, highlighting its importance as a candidate therapeutic target in managing prostate cancers marked by loss of the tumor suppressor PTEN.
CORRECTION

1881 Correction: EPR Oxygen Images Predict Tumor Control by a 50% Tumor Control Radiation Dose

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ABOUT THE COVER

Pancreas from a 12-week-old KPCT (p48-Cre; LSL-Kras^{G12D}; p53^{F93L}; Rosa26-LSL-tdTomato) mouse with precancerous PanIN lesions but no tumor. dtTomato-label (red) marks pancreas epithelial-derived cells, in this case normal-appearing acinar cells. PGP 9.5 antibody (green) was used to stain nerve fibers that exhibit hypertrophy and sprouting within pancreatic tissue, beginning at histologic precancer stages and increasing as the disease progresses. For details, see article by Stopczynski and colleagues on page 1718.