## Biological and Therapeutic Insights from the Cancer Genome

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## Cancer is a disease of the genome

- Theodor Boveri (1914)
- Chromosomal defects lead to abnormal cell proliferation





Fig. A.

Concerning the origin of malignant tumors. T. Boveri *J. Cell Sci.* doi:10.1242/jcs.025742 (translated 2008)

# Cancer arises from alterations in normal cellular genes



 Transforming src sequences from the Rous Sarcoma Virus are present in the DNA from normal cells.

src probe

Normal avian genomic DNA

Stehelin, Dominique, Varmus, Bishop, & Vogt, *Nature* 260, no. 5547 (1976): 170-173.

## Major Categories of Tumor Genomic Alterations



MacConaill & Garraway, J. Clin. Oncol. (2010)

## **Cancer Genome Insights**



Insights into biology

## Insights into precision medicine

## <u>Fundamental insights</u> from cancer genome sequencing - 1



Garraway and Lander, *Cell* (2013)

Recurrent IDH1/2 mutations in GBM and AML link genetics to <u>cancer metabolism</u>

# Fundamental insights from cancer genome sequencing - 2



Garraway and Lander, *Cell* (2013)

Mutations that disrupt <u>chromatin remodeling and DNA</u> <u>methylation</u> occur in many cancers

## <u>Fundamental insights</u> from cancer genome sequencing - 3



### Mutations that disrupt <u>mRNA splicing</u> occur in multiple cancer types

Garraway and Lander, *Cell* (2013)

## <u>Fundamental insights</u> from cancer genome sequencing - 4



- Many mutations (~30%) disrupt Notch signaling and squamous differentiation in head/neck cancer (Stransky et al., Science 2011)
- Mutations that may <u>dysregulate squamous differentiation</u> occur in 44% of lung squamous cancer (TCGA, *Nature* 2012)

## "Chains" of rearrangements in prostate cancer genomes





# Generation of "closed chains" in ETS-positive prostate cancers



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# Generation of "closed chains" in ETS-positive prostate cancers



## Chromosomal deletions reveal additional chains



Sylvan Baca

## **ChainFinder Algorithm**





- Create a graph representation of rearrangement breakpoints (nodes) and chromosomal deletion segments (edges)
- Search the graph for sets of connected breakpoint nodes that are statistically unlikely to have arisen independently

Baca at al., *Cell* (2013)

# Chained rearrangements are common in prostate cancer ("chromoplexy")



# Cancer genes are often disrupted by chromoplexy

PTEN



Two sections of chromosome 10q

Baca at al., *Cell* (2013)

# Cancer genes are often disrupted by chromoplexy

Gene	# tumors with disruption by chromoplexy
ERG (fusion with TMPRSS2)	15 (of 26 fusion-positive cases)
PTEN	10
NKX3-1	4
TP53	3
CDKN1B	2
RB1	2

Baca at al., *Cell* (2013)

## Chromoplexy in other tumor lineages



## Fundamental insights from cancer genome sequencing - 5 > A continuum model for tumor evolution



# The "dark matter" of the cancer genome

- Regions of the genome that we cannot easily interpret
- Examples:
  - regulatory regions
  - intergenic regions
  - repeat-rich DNA
  - "non-focal" copy number alterations



# Identification of two recurrent mutations in the TERT promoter

- 17 of 19 (89%) melanomas had one of two mutations within 100bp of the transcription start site of the TERT promoter
- Both are C to T transitions (indicative of UV damage)
- Mutations were mutually exclusive



## 50 of 70 (71%) harbor TERT promoter mutations





Huang, Hodis et al., *Science* (2013)

## C228T and C250T create consensus ETS sites (GGAA/T)



Huang, Hodis et al., Science (2013)

C228T and C250T mutations augment transcriptional activity from the TERT promoter





# Recurrent TERT promoter mutations in cancer cell lines



**Gregory Kryukov** 

## **Cancer Genome Insights**



Insights into biology

Insights into precision medicine

# Guiding Principles



Principle #1: Molecular pathways involved in tumor survival and progression are often activated by genetic alterations.

Garraway, J. Clin. Oncol., 2013





**Glioblastoma multiforme** 



# Guiding Principles



<u>Principle #1</u>: Molecular pathways involved in tumor survival and progression are often activated by genetic alterations.

<u>Principle #2</u>: Anticancer agents targeting many oncogenic pathways have entered clinical trials.

Garraway, J. Clin. Oncol., 2013

## Spectrum of Targeted Anticancer Agents in Clinical Development





# Guiding Principles



Principle #1: Molecular pathways involved in tumor survival and progression are often activated by genetic alterations.

**<u>Principle #2</u>: Anticancer agents** targeting many oncogenic pathways have entered clinical trials.

**<u>Principle #3</u>**: Genomics technologies enable robust tumor genomic profiling in the clinical arena.

## CanSeq: Prospective Whole Exome Sequencing

Prospective whole-exome sequencing on patients at DFCI/BWH with return of clinically actionable results to clinical care team





#### Source: NHGRI

## <u>Precision Heuristics for Interpreting the</u> <u>Alteration Landscape (PHIAL)</u>



"May it be a light to you in dark places, when all other lights go out." Galadriel, *The Fellowship of the Ring* (Tolkein)

#### Eli Van Allen

## **Evaluating Actionable Alterations**

BRIGHAM AND



#### **CGEC Cancer Genome Report**

- Patient Information
- Sequencing Metrics
- Actionable Alterations
- Somatic Mutations and Indels
- Somatic Copy Number Alterations
- + Germline Analysis
- Analysis and References

MADE WITH MULELE

## **Evaluating Actionable Alterations**

#### - Actionable Table and Details

able 4. Actionable findings with details, sorted by actionability score							
	Gene	Alteration	Variant	Coverage	Allelic_fraction	Tier	Trials
1	KRAS	p.A146V	Missense Mutation	248	0.61	Actionable: Tier 2-A, Plausibly Actionable, Tier 1-B(R), Prognostic/Diagnostic-B	Click here
5	STK11	p.G279fs	Frame Shift Del	23	0.48	Plausibly Actionable: Tier 1-C, 1-D, and 2-B	Click here
1	ATM	p.K208fs	Frame Shift Ins	39	0.36	Plausibly Actionable: Tier 2-B	Click here
]	BCL6	p.E419V	Missense Mutation	112	0.53	Theoretically Actionable: Tier 2-E	Click here

**KRAS p.A146V:** Activating mutations in KRAS are among the most common genetic alterations in human tumors. KRAS mutations play a central role in tumor progression in multiple cancer types, and have been implicated in poor prognosis and resistance to therapy.

KRAS alterations are common across numerous malignancies. Activating KRAS mutations are found in 15 to 30% of all patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

This alteration has rarely been found in other cancer types. This alteration has only been reported in 15 colorectal cancer cases in the COSMIC database. An additional 68 cases of A146T have been reported in colorectal cancer in the COSMIC database. However, <u>one systematic study of exon 4 mutations in</u> <u>conorectal cancer</u> demonstrated the presence of A146 mutations in 5% of colon cancers.

This alteration is a known activating mutation, though may be less potent than the more common codon 12 and 13 mutations.

Activating mutations in KRAS predict poor survival in patients with NSCLC, though these studies have generally only included codon 12 and 13 mutations. Activating mutations in KRAS may predict sensitivity to inhibitors of the RAS/RAF/MEK/ERK pathway. Preclinical studies have shown that MEK inhibitors, in particular, may be effective for KRAS mutant tumors, and these agents are in clinical trials for patients with KRAS mutant cancers. Activating KRAS mutations may also predict resistance to anti-EGFR therapies.

STK11 p.G279fs: STK11 is a well-known tumor suppressor (also known as LKB1) that is commonly inactivated in several cancers. Germline mutations in STK11 cause Puetz-Jeghers Syndrome (PJS).

This gene has been implicated in NSCLC. In addition, it is commonly seen in conjunction with KRAS mutations

This gene has been <u>implicated in NSCLC</u>. This specific alteration has not been reported in the COSMIC database for NSCLC, though inactivating mutations in STK11 are common in this tumor type, ocurring at a rate of 5-15% of NSCLC. They commonly co-occur with KRAS mutations.

This alteration is likely inactivating, since it is a frameshift mutation that occurs at codon 279 out of 434.

Loss of STK11 activates the MTOR pathway and therefore may predict sensitivity to inhibitors of this pathway. Preclinical evidence suggests that MTOR

#### Eli Van Aller

## Cancer Genome Evaluation Committee (CGEC)

- Judy Garber, Cochair
- Pasi Janne, Cochair
- George Demetri
- Matthew Freedman
- Charles Fuchs
- Levi Garraway
- Gad Getz
- Monica Giovanni
- Stacy Gray

- Elaine Hiller
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  - Huma Rana
- Scott Rodig
- Barrett Rollins
- Geoffrey Shapiro
- Sapna Syngal
- Eliezer Van Allen
- Nikhil Wagle
- Brian Wolpin
  - Matthew Yurgelun

### **Reporting Results to Clinicians**



#### **CanSeq Cancer Genome Report**

- Patient ID: xxxxxxxx
- DOB: xxxxx
- Diagnosis: Lung Adenocarcinoma

ACTIONABLE SOMATIC ALTERATIONS							
Alteration	Action / Agent	FDA Approved?	Level of Evidence	Validated by:			
KRAS A146V	MEK Inhibitors Resistance to EGFR inhibitors Poor prognosis		Eligibility Criteria Limited Clinical Theoretical	ionTorrent Seq			
57K11 G279fs	Everolimus Temsirolimus mTOR Inhibitors Dasatinib FAK inhibitors	Yes Yes Yes	Other tumor type Other tumor type Pre-clinical Pre-clinical Pre-clinical	ionTorrent Seq			
ATM K208fs	PARP inhibitors		Pre-clinical	IonTorrent Seq			

#### KRAS A146V

- Activating mutations in KRAS are among the most common genetic alterations in human tumors.
   KRAS mutations play a central role in tumor progression in multiple cancer types, and have been implicated in poor prognosis and resistance to therapy.
- KRAS alterations are common across numerous malignancies. Activating KRAS mutations are found in 15–30% of all patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).
- This alteration is a known activating mutation, though may be less potent than the more common codon 12 and 13 mutations (PMID: 20570890).
- This alteration has not been reported in the COSMIC database for NSCLC. Furthermore, A146
  mutations in KRAS were not found in 2 studies comprised 449 cases of NSCLC in which KRAS was
  sequenced in its entirety (PMID: 18948947, 18632602).
- This alteration has rarely been found in other cancer types. This alteration has only been
  reported in 15 colorectal cancer cases in the COSMIC database. An additional 68 cases of A146T
  have been reported in colorectal cancer in the COSMIC database. However, one systematic
  study of exon 4 mutations in colorectal cancer demonstrated the presence of A146 mutations in
  5% of colon cancers (PMID: 20570890).
- Activating mutations in KRAS predict poor survival in patients with NSCLC, though these studies have generally only included codon 12 and 13 mutations.
- Activating mutations in KRAS may predict sensitivity to inhibitors of the RAS/RAF/MEK/ERK pathway. Preclinical studies have shown that MEK inhibitors, in particular, may be effective for KRAS mutant tumors, and these agents are in clinical trials for patients with KRAS mutant cancers.
- Activating KRAS mutations may also predict resistance to anti-EGFR therapies.

## A "Critical Path" to Effective Cancer Treatment



## Clinical Response and Resistance to RAF or MEK Inhibition in Melanoma



October, 2009





March, 2010



## MEK1 mutations and resistance to RAF/MEK inhibition



Emery et al., PNAS (2009),

Wagle et al., JCO (2011)

## Genome-scale loss-of-function screens for resistance to RAF inhibition



# *NF1* mutations in patients with intrinsic and acquired resistance to vemurafenib

Patient	PFS (months)	Resistance	cDNA	Protein	Candidate splice motif	Splice motif sequence	Site broken?
15	1.5	De novo	c.135C>T	p.N45N	Enhancer	ATCAAT	Yes
45	5	Acquired	c.4023G>A	p.Q1341Q	Splice site	AACCTCCTTCAGAT	Yes
46	2.5	De novo	c.7248C>T	p.R2450*	N/A	N/A	N/A
50	2	De novo	c.3018C>T	p.V1006V	Enhancer	ATGGTC	Yes

Steven Whittaker Eli Van Allen Nikhil Wagle

## Approaches to Therapeutic Combinations in Melanoma



## The Engine of Precision Cancer Medicine



## The Cancer Genomics Vision: Looking Forward



- Completing the mutational atlas for primary tumors
- Expanding the atlas beyond primary tumors
  - Metastases
  - Following relapse to therapy
- Systematic functional annotation
- Systematic clinical implementation
- Worldwide data sharing

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