

Global analysis of somatic structural alterations and their impact on gene expression in diverse human cancers

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Somatic genomic alterations in cancer



Mutations and copy number changes are well-explored in pan-cancer studies



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Structural genomic alterations in cancer

- Not thoroughly explored in pan-cancer studies
- Relation to copy-number changes?
- Overall influence on transcription in tumors?



Integrative analysis of SV, CNA and RNA data across cancers

600 Cancer patients in 18 cancer types			
DNA		RNA	
Copy number alterations Affymetrix SNP6	Structural variations WGS	Gene fusions RNASeq	mRNA levels RNASeq





Benchmarkning WGS-based SV detection methods using copy number data



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35% of SNP6 copy number breakpoints are explained by the WGS-based SV analysis





Most copy number amplifications are tandem duplications



Some seemingly simple copy-number alterations have a more complex structural basis





Structural alteration in regulatory regions change the mRNA level





Global impact of "promoter hijacking" events on tumors transcriptomes



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Example: CCDC6-RET in thyroid carcinoma





Combined DNA and RNA approach gives more cancer relevant fusions CGC overlap



Novel fusion transcript in thyroid cancer





Summary

- Array-based copy-number data is useful to optimize SV detection
- Most copy-number amplifications are due to tandem duplications
- Shuffling regulatory regions such as promoters and enhancers impacts expression levels globally
- detection of fusions can be improved by combining WGS and RNAseq



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