mTORC 2:1 for Chemotherapy Sensitization in Glioblastoma
W. Wick, J. Blaes, and M. Weiler
Commentary on Tanaka et al., p. 524

Prospective
Curing “Incurable” Cancer
J.D. Watson

PI3K and STAT3: A New Alliance
P.K. Vogt and J.R. Hart

Molecular Characterization of Neuroendocrine Prostate Cancer and Identification of New Drug Targets
Précis: Frequent AURKA and MYCN amplification is identified in an aggressive prostate cancer subtype.

Cell-Selective Inhibition of NF-κB Signaling Improves Therapeutic Index in a Melanoma Chemotherapy Model
T. Enzler, Y. Sano, M-K. Choo, H.B. Cottam, M. Karin, H. Tsao, and J.M. Park
Précis: Host- and tumor-specific cellular responses, respectively, underlie the adverse and therapeutic effects of NF-κB blocking agents.
A Molecularly Annotated Platform of Patient-Derived Xenografts ("Xenopatients") Identifies HER2 as an Effective Therapeutic Target in Cetuximab-Resistant Colorectal Cancer


Précis: Population-based preclinical testing identifies HER2 amplification as a novel biomarker of cetuximab resistance in metastatic colon cancer and indicates dual targeting of HER2 and EGFR may be a more effective therapeutic approach.

Oncogenic EGFR Signaling Activates an mTORC2–NF-κB Pathway That Promotes Chemotherapy Resistance


Précis: mTORC2 is identified as a novel mediator of drug resistance and regulator of NF-κB signaling in glioblastoma.

ON THE COVER
Tanaka and colleagues demonstrate that mTORC2 is activated in the majority of glioblastomas and mediates chemoresistance in an AKT-independent manner via NF-κB pathway activation. Surprisingly, they show increased activity of this mTORC2–NF-κB signaling pathway in GBM cells in response to rapamycin, which may provide an explanation for the failure of rapamycin to demonstrate efficacy in GBM clinical trials. Instead, dual mTOR kinase inhibitors that block the activity of both mTORC1 and mTORC2 may improve clinical outcome, particularly when combined with other chemotherapeutic agents. For details, please see the article by Tanaka and colleagues on page 524.

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