

The Need for Urgent Reform in the Organization and Funding of Cancer Research and Clinical Trials

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Presentation at:
ASU-NCI Workshop: Cancer Cell Motility and Metastasis
Arizona State University
20 May 2011

**Slides available @
www.casi.asu.edu**

Declared Interests:

- **Board of Directors: Monsanto, Exelixis, Caris Life Sciences**
- **Scientific Advisory Board: Synthetic Genomics, Anacor**
- **IOM Forum on Global Infectious Diseases**
- **USG Activities: DoD, DHS**

Key Themes

**Defining the Causal Molecular Pathologies in Human Cancer:
Identification of 'Driver' versus 'Passenger' Perturbations**

**Implications of the Extravagant Scale of Molecular
Pathway Perturbations in Cancer for Future Drug Discovery
and Clinical Care**

**Investment in New Diagnostic Technologies to
Detect Early (Pre-Metastatic) Diseases Will Provide
Better Returns Than The Search for Novel Therapeutics**

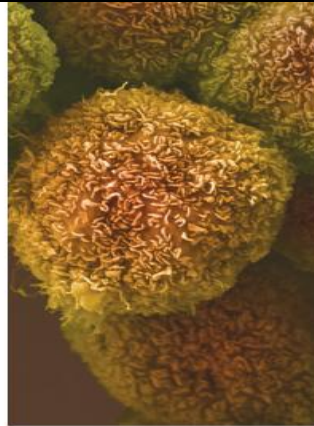
**Silos Subvert Solutions:
The Imperative for Major Changes in the Organization and
Funding of Cancer Research and Clinical Trials to Better
Integrate Discovery and Clinical Care**

“The War on Cancer”



National Cancer Act of 1971

December 23, 1971



Science (2011) 331, 1539

SPECIAL SECTION

INTRODUCTION

Celebrating an Anniversary

In this issue of *Science*, we commemorate the 40th anniversary of the U.S. National Cancer Act, which provided a massive stimulus for cancer research. At the start of this “Cancer Crusade,” researchers were already tackling some tough questions, as reflected in papers published by *Science* in 1971. Among them: How do abnormalities in chromosome number arise in tumor cells? Can tissue-specific markers be used to determine the epithelial versus mesenchymal origin of a solid tumor? Can the immune system be manipulated so that it recog-

**Cancer Crusade
at 40**

Challenge Goal

**“To eliminate suffering and death
due to cancer by 2015”**



**Dr. A. C. von Eschenbach
Director, National Cancer Institute
2003**

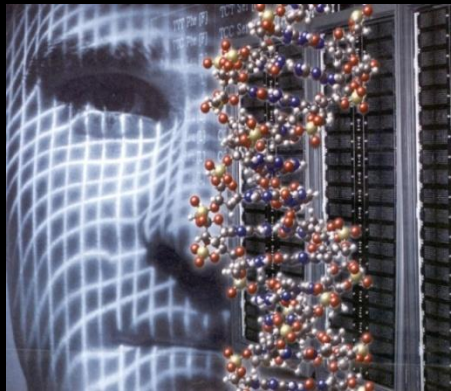
US Cancer Prevalence Estimates 2010 and 2020

Site	# People (thousands)		%
	2010	2020	change
Breast	3461	4538	31
Prostate	2311	3265	41
Colorectal	1216	1517	25
Melanoma	1225	1714	40
Lymphoma	639	812	27
Uterus	588	672	15
Bladder	514	629	22
Lung	374	457	22
Kidney	308	426	38
Leukemia	263	240	29
All Sites	13,772	18,071	32

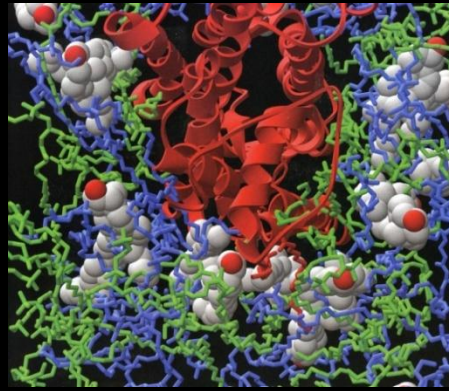
From: A.B. Mariotto et al. (2011) J. Nat. Cancer Inst. 103, 117

Mapping The Molecular Signatures of Disease: The Intellectual Foundation of Rational Diagnosis and Treatment Selection

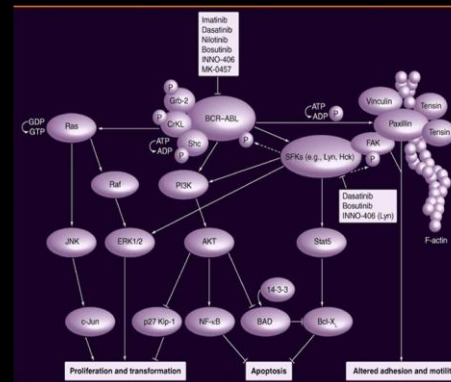
Genomics



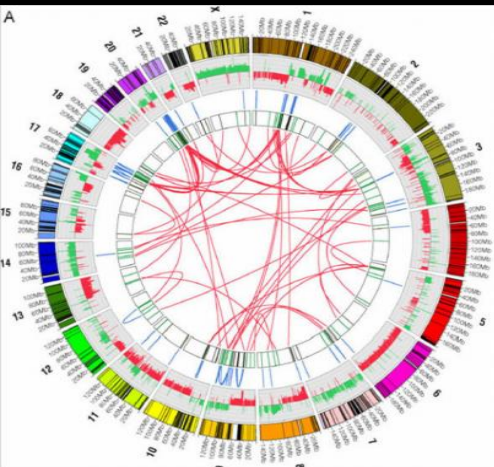
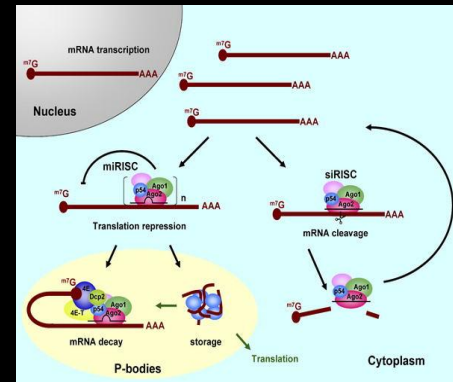
Proteomics



Molecular Pathways and Networks



Network Regulatory Mechanisms

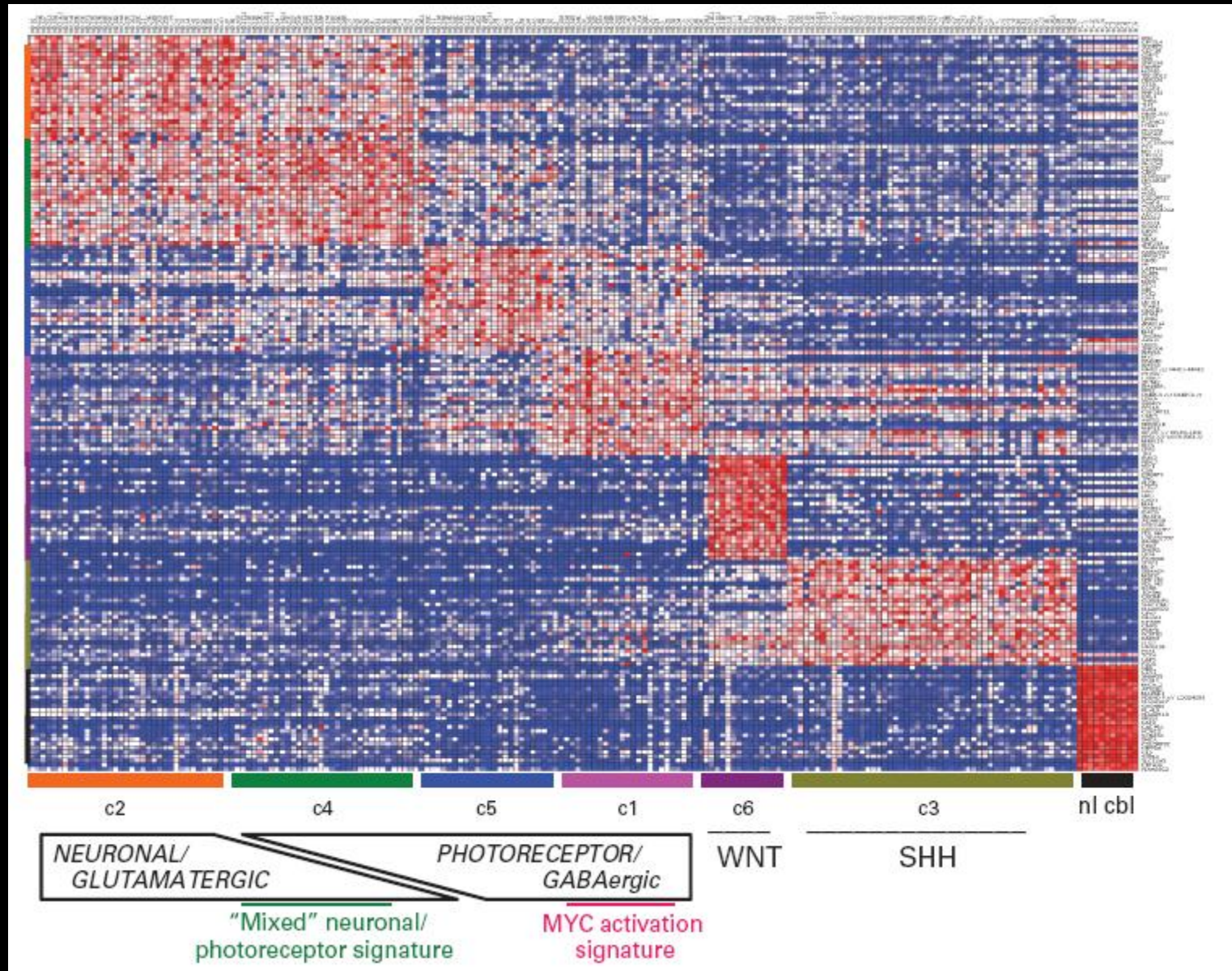


**ID of Causal Relationships Between
Network Perturbations and Disease**



**Patient-Specific Signatures of Disease or
Predisposition to Disease**

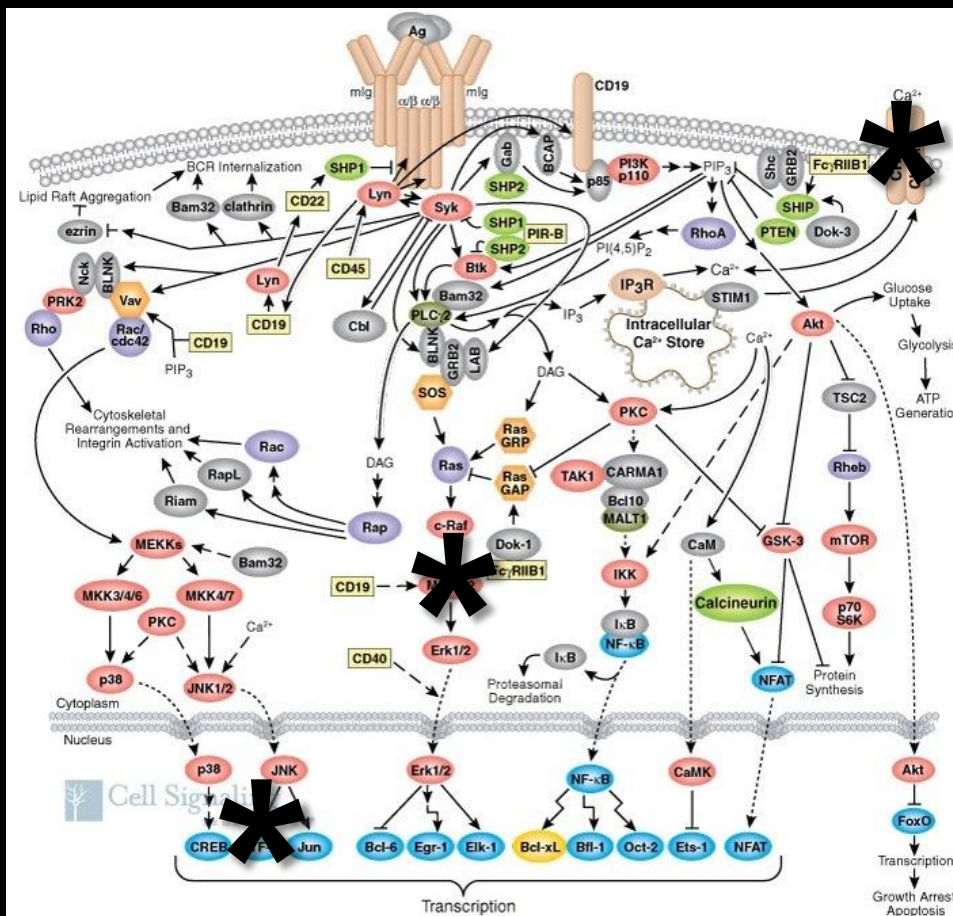
Classification of Six Subgroups of Medulloblastoma



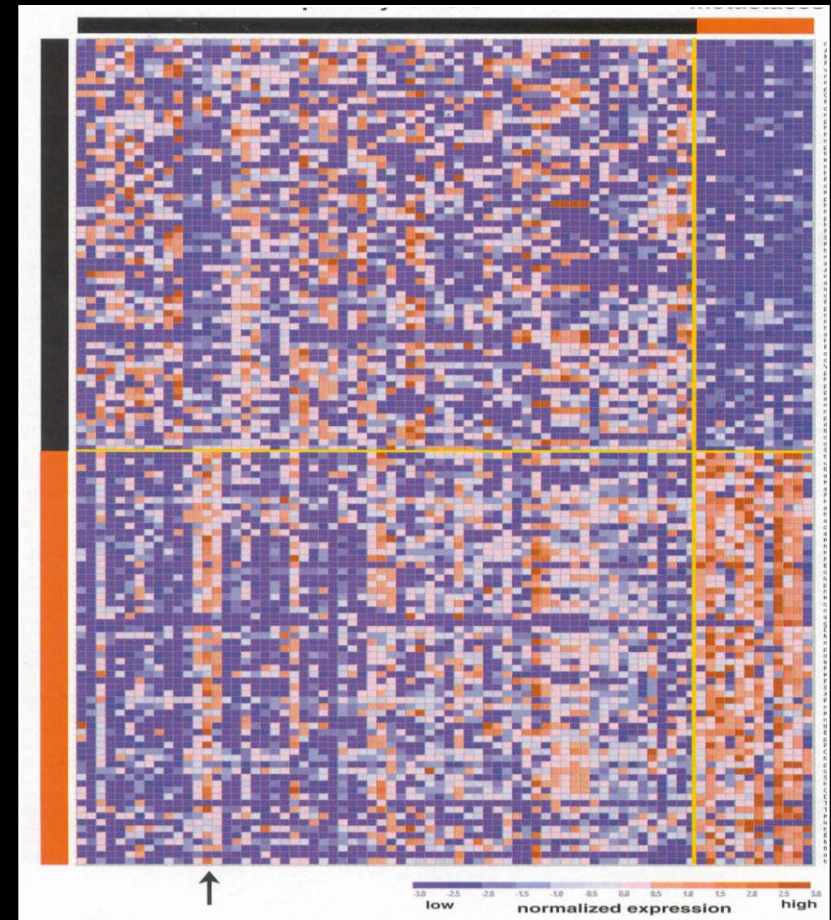
From: Y-J Cho 2010 J. Clin. Oncol. 29, 1424

From Pharmaceuticals to Pharmasuitables: Right Rx for the Right Disease (Subtype)

ID Molecular Targets for Rx Action



Disease Profiling to Identify Subtypes (+ or - Rx Target)



Subtypes of Melanoma

S. J. Vidwans et al. (2011) PLoS ONE

Latest version of
III. The Melanoma Disease Model
online at Cancer Commons
(<http://mmdm.cancercommons.org>)

Detailed sub-types	Pathway(s)	Key gene/ biomarker(s)	Diagnostic technologies	Potentially relevant therapeutics
1.1	MAPK	BRAF	Targeted sequencing	BRAF inhibitors
1.2-1.3		BRAF/ PTEN	Targeted sequencing & IHC	(BRAF inhibitors) AND (PI3K inhibitors, AKT inhibitors or mTOR inhibitors)
		BRAF/ AKT	Targeted sequencing & Copy number	(BRAF inhibitors) AND (AKT inhibitors or mTOR inhibitors)
1.4		BRAF/CDK4	Targeted sequencing & Copy number/ CGH	(BRAF inhibitors) AND (CDK inhibitors)
2.1	c-KIT	c-KIT	Targeted sequencing	Gleevec & other inhibitors
3.1	GNAQ/ GNA11	GNAQ	Targeted sequencing	MEK inhibitors
3.2		GNA11	Targeted sequencing	MEK inhibitors
4.1	NRAS	NRAS	Targeted sequencing	MAPK & PI3K pathway inhibitors; Farnesyl transferase inhibitors
5.1	MITF	MITF	Copy number	HDAC inhibitors

Detailed sub-types	Pathway(s)	Key gene/ biomarker(s)	Diagnostic technologies	Potentially relevant therapeutics
6.1	AKT/PI3K	PTEN	IHC	PI3K inhibitors, AKT inhibitors or mTOR inhibitors
6.2		AKT	Copy number	AKT inhibitors, mTOR inhibitors
6.3		PI3K	IHC	PI3K inhibitors, AKT inhibitors or mTOR inhibitors
7.1	CDK	CDKN2A	Targeted sequencing / CGH	CDK inhibitors or HDAC inhibitors
7.2		CDK4	Copy number/ CGH	CDK inhibitors or HDAC inhibitors
7.3		CCDN1/ Cyclin D	Copy number/ CGH	CDK inhibitors or HDAC inhibitors
8.1	P53/BCL	Bcl-2	IHC	TBD
8.2		p53	Targeted sequencing	TBD
9	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

K-RAS Profiling and Anti-EGFR Monoclonal Antibody Therapy



clinical guidelines

- higher response in patients with K-RAS versus mutant-K-RAS
- estimated \$604 million/year savings (ASCO)



- regulatory endorsement in product labeling

Molecular Medicine and Rational Therapeutics: Molecular Diagnostics and Targeted Rx

- **opening era in linking disease molecular pathology to rational Rx**
- **increasing payor, regulatory and public pressures for reliable ID of Rx-responsive patients**
- **demand for Dx-Rx combinations will intensify**
- **Dx-Rx combination will become an obligate element of NDA/BLA submission and product labeling**
- **development of Dx-Rx combinations as intrinsic components of R&D programs for investigational Rx**

Companion Therapeutics Selected by Precision Diagnostics

Molecular Diagnostics and Identification of Responder/Non-Responder Patients for Rational Rx

**“The problem with all these tests,
soon I’ll have nothing
I can offer my patients”**

**“Eminent Oncologist” (journal designation)
Drug Discovery World. Spring 2011, p. 61.**

**Molecular Profiling and Segmentation
of Patient Populations:
New Clinical Trial Designs to Reduce
Time, Cost and Failure Rates in
Anti-Cancer Drug Development**

Molecular Profiling and Segmentation of Patient Populations and New Clinical Trial Designs

- **rationale that only patients with the relevant Rx molecular target(s) will respond**
 - **streamline drug development via enrichment trials in target-positive patient subsets**
- **key assumptions**
 - **molecular target(s) selected predict/correlate with Rx efficacy**
 - **robust assay available (regulatory complexities of validation/qualification)**
- **logistical and economic issues in ID of small/rare target-positive patient subsets**
 - **size of initial screening cohort**
 - **need for multi-center consortia (national/international)**

Large Scale Profiling of Cancer Patients to Identify Cohorts Expressing Rx Target(s) for Phase II Trials

Target	# Patients Screened	# Eligible Patients	# Centers	# Countries
EML4 ALK ⁺ : lung cancer [*]	1500	82	9	1
HER2 ⁺ : gastric cancer ^{**}	3803	549	122	24

^{*} E.L. Kwak et al. (2010) NEJM 363, 1693

^{**} Y. Bang et al. (2010) Lancet 376, 687

How Should the Value of Oncology Drugs Be Assessed?


In first-line metastatic NSCLC and first- and second-line MCR

To reach beyond convention...



Indications
 Avastin is indicated for the first-line treatment of unresectable, locally advanced, recurrent or metastatic non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer in combination with carboplatin and paclitaxel.
 Avastin is indicated for the first- or second-line treatment of patients with metastatic carcinoma of the colon or rectum in combination with intravenous 5-fluorouracil-based chemotherapy.
 Please see following brief summary of Prescribing Information, including boxed WARNINGs, for additional important safety information.

AVASTIN
 bevacizumab
 Reach beyond convention



A.S.P.I.R.E[®]

EXPLORING CARFILZOMIB IN RELAPSED MULTIPLE MYELOMA

ASPIRE: a Phase III trial investigating carfilzomib-based combination therapy

- ASPIRE[®] compares carfilzomib plus lenalidomide and dexamethasone (CRd) and lenalidomide and dexamethasone (Rd)
- The trial includes patients with multiple myeloma who have received 1 to 3 prior treatment regimens

ASPIRE is one of many ongoing trials investigating agents in the Onyx proteasome inhibitor pipeline.
 To learn more about the ASPIRE trial, visit www.clinicaltrials.gov.

*ASPIRE: ASPIRE is a Phase III trial investigating carfilzomib-based combination therapy. ASPIRE compares carfilzomib plus lenalidomide and dexamethasone (CRd) and lenalidomide and dexamethasone (Rd) for the treatment of patients with relapsed multiple myeloma.

Onyx
 PROTEASOME INHIBITORS

©2009 Onyx Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Emeryville, CA. IND-CARF-043, December 2009

Hedgehog pathway signaling is dysregulated in cancer!



What if we could cut the signals?

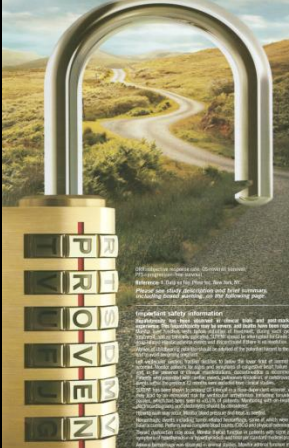
www.ResearchHedgehog.com

BIOGEN IDEC

Genentech
 A Member of the Roche Group

LEAD WITH EFFICACY. LEAD WITH SUTENT.
 (SUNITINIB MALATE)

SUTENT PROVEN EFFICACY IN 1st-LINE mRCC VS IFN- α *



MORE THAN DOUBLED MEDIAN PFS
 • In patients with mRCC, median PFS was 24.8 weeks (95% CI, 20.7-29.0) in the SUTENT group vs 12.5 weeks (95% CI, 10.5-14.5) in the IFN- α group (p < 0.001).
 • In patients with mRCC, median OS was 26.5 weeks (95% CI, 22.5-30.5) in the SUTENT group vs 24.5 weeks (95% CI, 20.5-28.5) in the IFN- α group (p = 0.001).

DEMONSTRATED 5-FOLD HIGHER ORR
 • In patients with mRCC, ORR was 50.0% (95% CI, 42.5-57.5) in the SUTENT group vs 10.0% (95% CI, 5.0-15.0) in the IFN- α group (p < 0.001).
 • In patients with mRCC, median time to progression was 12.5 weeks (95% CI, 10.5-14.5) in the SUTENT group vs 10.5 weeks (95% CI, 9.0-12.0) in the IFN- α group (p = 0.001).

ALSO ACHIEVED MORE THAN 2 YEARS' MEDIAN OS
 • In patients with mRCC, median OS was 26.5 weeks (95% CI, 22.5-30.5) in the SUTENT group vs 24.5 weeks (95% CI, 20.5-28.5) in the IFN- α group (p = 0.001).

AN ESTABLISHED SAFETY PROFILE
 • The most common adverse reactions (ARs) observed in patients with mRCC treated with SUTENT were: fatigue, weight loss, decreased appetite, diarrhea, and hand-foot skin reaction. These ARs were generally mild to moderate and manageable with supportive care.
 • In patients with mRCC, the most common ARs were: fatigue (75%), weight loss (65%), decreased appetite (60%), diarrhea (55%), and hand-foot skin reaction (50%).

SUTENT
 sunitinib malate
 The Proven Path

The Continued Price Escalation for New Cancer Therapies



PROVENGE
(sipuleucel-T)

\$93,000



\$120,000



\$144,000



\$??? (million dollars for some melanoma patients?):
T. Turnham, Exec. Director,
Melanoma Research Foundation.
The Pink Sheet.11 April 2011

Hurdles for Regulatory Approval and Clinical Adoption of Cancer Treatments

**“The bar for what we call ‘significant’
has fallen so low we risk tripping over it.”**

**Dr. Antonio Tito Fojo
Head, Experimental Therapeutics Section, NCI.
2010 AACR Meeting cited in Oncology Times 25 June 2010**

Pivotal Phase III Studies Used for FDA Approval of Targeted Anti-Cancer Drugs

Tarceva (erlotinib): Genentech

- 2005 approval for use with gemcitabine for pancreatic cancer
- increased median survival by 10 days
- J. Clin. Oncol (2007) 25, 1960

Vectibix (panitumumab): Amgen

- 2006 approval for advanced CRC
- tumor progression slowed by 5 days
- J. Clin. Oncol (2007) 25, 1658

Phase III Studies Comparing Chemotherapy With or Without Bevacizumab as First-Line Therapy for Advanced Epithelial Cancers

Neoplasm	Study	Bevacizumab Effect	
		PFS (months)	OS (months)
Breast	ECOG E2100	+5.9*	+1.5
	AVADO	+0.8*	-1.1
	RIBBON-1	+2.9*	+7.8
Ovarian	GOG 0218	+0.9	-0.6
Lung	ECOG E4599	+1.7*	+2.0
Gastric	AVAGAST	+1.4*	+2.0
Pancreas	CALGB 80303	+0.9	-0.1
CRC	Hurwitz	+4.4*	+4.7*
	Saltz	+1.4	+1.4

*Statistically significant

Adapted from: A. Ocana et al (2011) J. Clin. Oncol. 29, 254

UK National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)



NICE Gets Nasty (or Rational?)



Value-Based Insurance Designs (V-BID)

- **section 2713(c) of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act**
- **WHO guidance on value of life threshold for cost effectiveness should be 300% of GDP per capita**
 - **US = \$140,000 (\$11,600/month)**

The Cost of Cancer Care: The Example of Addition of Bevacizumab to Standard Therapy

ovarian

- **GOG Study 218 (J. Clin. Oncol. 2011 29, 1247)**
 - **\$401,088/progression-free life year saved**

breast

- **ECOG E2100 (Eur. J. Cancer 2009 45, 1397)**
 - **over \$200,000/QALY**
- **AVADO, RIBBON1 and ATHENA studies (J. Clin. Oncol. 2011 29, 1222)**
 - **no cost estimate but median PFS lower than in ECOG E2100**
- **NICE (UK) estimated QALY of \$170,000 to \$400,000**

What Are We Willing to Pay for Added Months of Survival in Cancer?

Lifetime cost above standard care	If cancer is on par with other diseases (\$150,000 per life year gained), months of added overall survival benefit needed	Treating cancer as worthy of much higher reimbursement (\$250,000 per life year gained), months of added overall survival benefit needed
\$50,000	4 months	2.4 months
\$100,000	8 months	4.8 months
\$150,000	12 months	7.2 months
\$200,000	16 months	9.6 months
\$250,000	20 months	12 months
\$300,000	24 months	14.4 months
\$350,000	28 months	16.8 months
\$400,000	32 months	19.2 months
\$450,000	36 months	21.6 months
\$500,000	40 months	24 months

Source: Pink Sheet 13 Sept. 2010. Adapted from S. Ramsey FHCRC, ASCO 2010

How Many Drugs Acting on the Same Target Can The Market Support?

PI3K Inhibitors in Cancer Clinical Trials

Drug		Status	Mechanism
Bayer	BAY806946	Phase I	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Exelixis/Sanofi	XL765	Phase I	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Genentech/Roche	GDC0980	Phase I	Dual mTOR/PI3K
GlaxoSmithKline	GSK2126458	Phase I	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Novartis	BEZ235	Phase I/II	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Novartis	BGT226	Phase I/II	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Pfizer	PF04691502	Phase I	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Pfizer	PK1587	Phase I	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Semafore	SF1126	Phase I	Dual mTOR/PI3K
Exelixis/Sanofi	XL147	Phase I/II	PI3K
Genentech/Roche	GDC0941	Phase I	PI3K
Novartis	BKM120	Phase I/II	PI3K
Oncothyreon	PX866	Phase I/II	PI3K
Zenyaku Kogyo	ZSTK474	Phase I	PI3K
Novartis	BYL719	Phase I	PI3K α
Amgen	AMG319	Phase I	PI3K δ
Calistoga Pharma	CAL101	Phase I/II	PI3K δ
Genentech/Roche	GDC0032	Phase I	PI3K ^a

SOURCES: Semafore, ClinicalTrials.gov



Time for Urgent Change in NCCN-Led Cancer Clinical Trials

“The system for conducting cancer clinical trials in the US is approaching a state of crisis. ...if the clinical trials system does not improve its efficiency and effectiveness, the introduction of new treatments will be delayed, and patient lives will be lost unnecessarily”

**A National Cancer Clinical Trials System for the 21st Century
Reinvigorating the NCI Cooperative Group Program
National Academies Press, Washington, DC**

When Will We Achieve a Framework for Rational, Quality Cancer Care

- **multiple IOM reports but little change happens**
 - **Ensuring Quality Cancer Care (1999)**
 - **To Err is Human (2000)**
 - **Crossing the Quality Chasm (2001)**
 - **A National Clinical Trials Systems for the 21st Century (2010)**
- **slow evolution of Professional Society Treatment Guidelines and even slower adoption by community oncologists**
- **standard-of-care largely uninfluenced by new MDx approaches to profile patients for optimum Rx selection**
- **less than 5% US cancer patients enrolled in investigational Rx trials and community oncologists ill-formed about investigational options**

The Distressing State of Investigational Cancer Drug Trials in the USA

- **Sateren et al. 2002 J. Clin. Oncol. 20, 2109**
 - **less than 5% US cancer patients enrolled in trials**
- **Durivage et al. 2009 J. Clin. Oncol. 27, 337s**
 - **2685 industry and NCCN trials at 14 cancer centers**
 - **1455 (54.2%) failed to accrue a single patient**
- **Dilts et al. 2009 J. Clin. Oncol. 27, 1761**
 - **296 to 481 steps to activate trials by NCI-STEP and/or cooperative groups**
- **lag to launch NSCLC trials longer than median/patient survival time**
- **initiation of EC/Asia trials x2 faster than in USA**
- **increasing offshore migration of clinical trials**

Plugging 'Gaps' in Published Oncology Trials

- randomized controlled trials (RCT) accorded status as highest for evidentiary value/regulatory approval
- survey of 262 RCTs 2005-2008 revealed 20-30% lack critical data for replication
 - JNCI (2010) 102, 702
- what constitutes a 'positive trial' in oncology?: defining the magnitude of clinical benefit
 - prespecified in Phase III investigational protocol
- review of 18 RCTs for drug approved since 2000
 - only 4 met or exceeded pre-specified endpoints
 - JNCI (2011) 103, 16

Adequacy of Published Oncology RCTs to Provide Therapeutic Details Needed for Clinical Utility (J.M. Duff et al. 2010 JNCI 102, 702)

- **ten essential parameters regarding dosing and regimen**
- **only 30 of 339 studies (11%) fulfilled all ten**
- **failure to meet Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) guidelines**
- **failure of journals to reinforce compliance**
 - **space limitations and volume of supplemental data**
- **need for improved open access to trial protocols**

Clinical Trials of New Cancer Drugs

- **complex clinical, statistical and regulatory issues in selection of appropriate ‘endpoints’**
 - **PFS, TTP, SPP and OS**
- **improved TTP and PFS do not necessarily lead to improved OS**
- **use of OS as endpoint**
 - **additional trial size for sufficient statistical power**
 - **cost and speed of trials, cost of care**

**Challenging the Dogma
of
Current Guidelines
and
Standard(s) of Care (SOC)**

The Case for Access to Expanded Treatment Options for Cancer Patients

- **most SOC regimens still compromised by significant refractory disease**
 - **intrinsic and acquired resistance**
- **SOC as major obstacle to evaluation of new investigational agents/novel combinations**
- **evaluation of new agents/combinations on treatment failure patients is conceptually flawed**
 - **tumor cell phenotypes in ‘last resort’ patients may have little or no resemblance of tumor cell populations at initial detection**

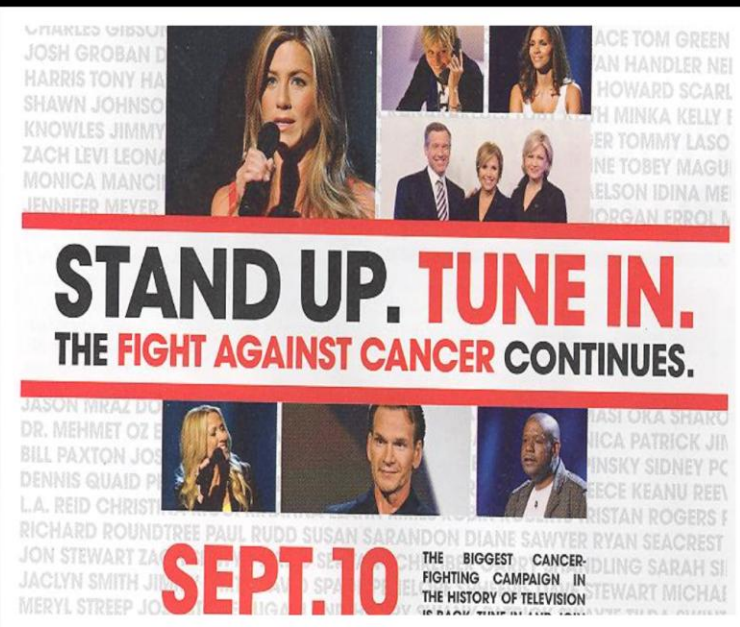
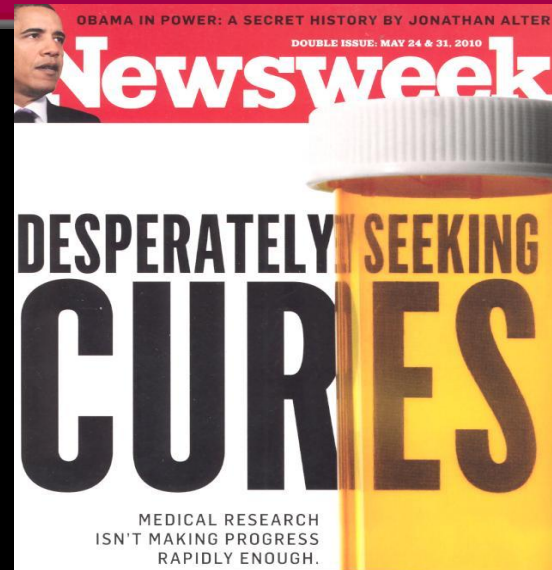
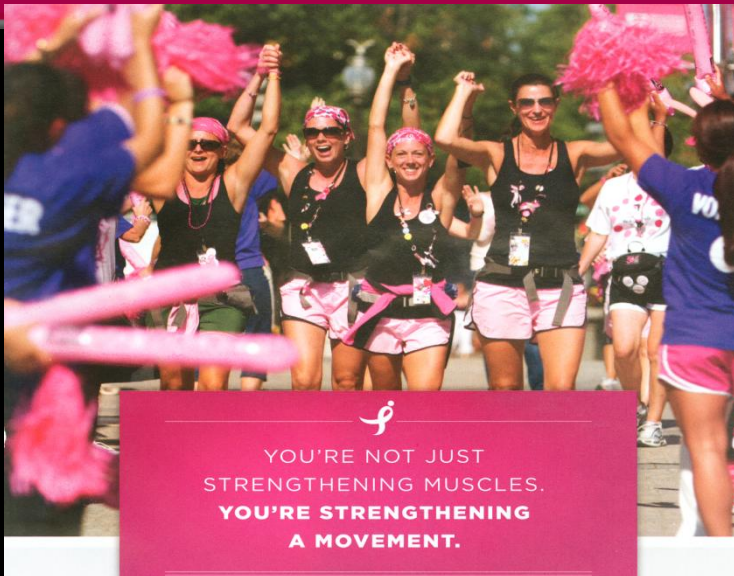
Medical Ethics and Difficult Questions for Oncologists

- first, do no harm!

but

- does SOC treatment with high cost/high toxicity drugs **without evidence that the relevant Rx target(s) is expressed represent a harm?** (or just ignorance and laziness?)
- does failure (or overt refusal) to make patients aware of MDx profiling as an option to guide their Rx selection constitute a harm? (and legal liability?)
- Rx without MDx is analogous to treating patients with HIV or other microorganisms with known high frequency of Rx-resistance without profiling the organism's resistance/susceptibility

Why Are Cancer Drug Discovery and Effective Therapy So Difficult?



Surging Investments in Oncology R&D*

- 861 oncology/cancer drugs in clinical trials
- 147 equity offerings
- 30 debt offerings
- 117 partnerships
- 81 licensing agreements
- 4 PE deals
- 158 VC deals

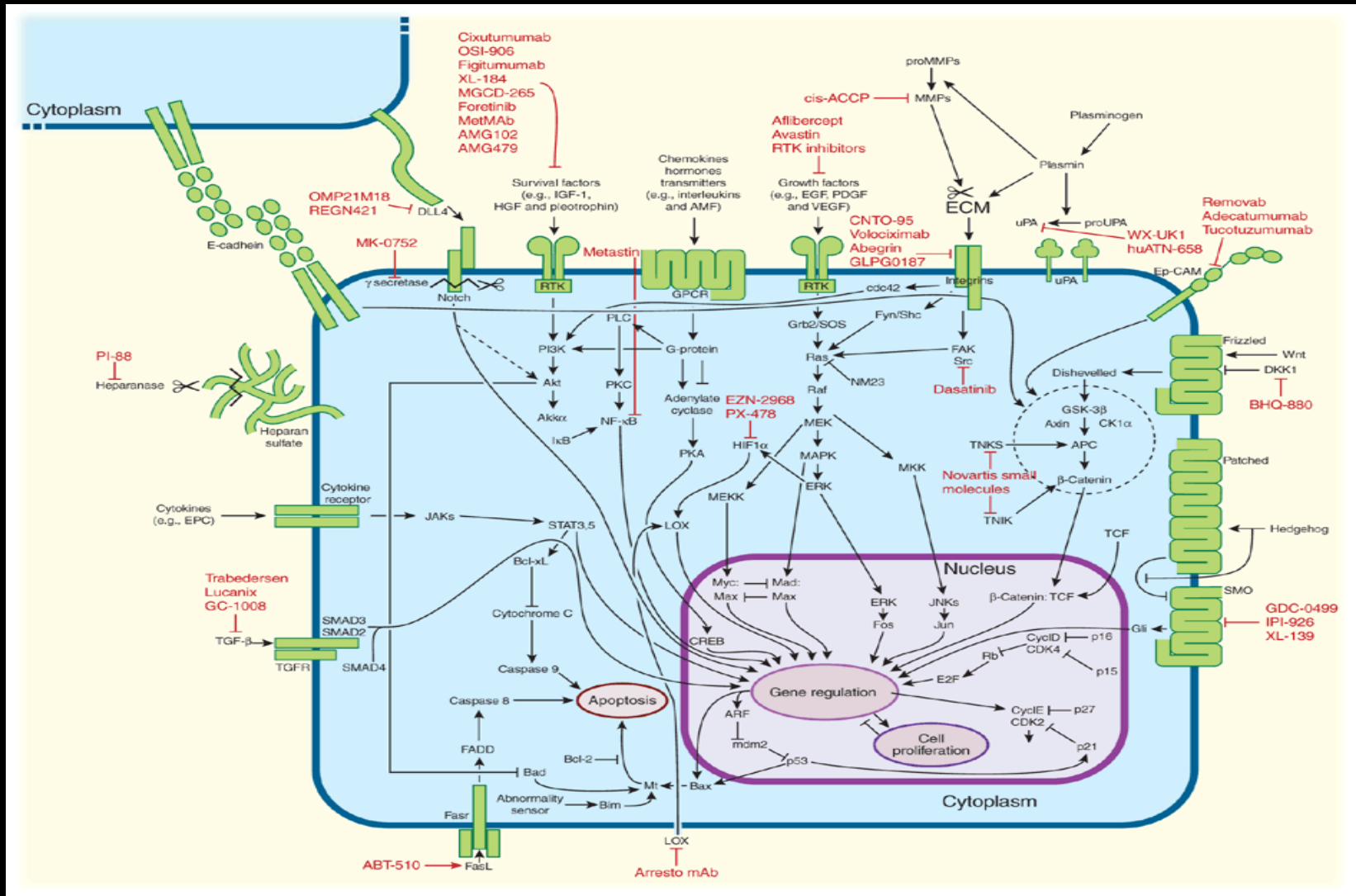
*2010 data: <http://edbgroup.com-globaldatareport>

*PhRMA: website accessed Feb.2011

Imatinib Mesylate (Gleevec®)

- **initial approval (2001) for CML**
 - **treatment response and dose optimization via assay of BCR-ABL kinase inhibition in mononuclear blood cells from patients**
- **additional inhibition of oncogene C-KIT and expansion of therapeutic utility to GIST**
 - **C-KIT exon 11 mutations increased sensitivity**
 - **exon 9 mutations less sensitive**
 - **GISTs lacking C-KIT mutations or alternative receptor kinase PDGFRA exhibit low responses**

Understanding Disease at the Molecular Level: Mapping Pathway Perturbations

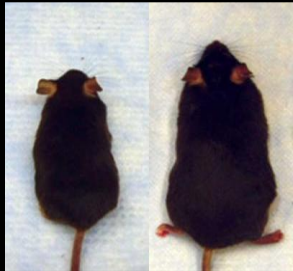


From: G. S. Mack and A. Marshall (2010) Nature Biotechnol. 28, 214

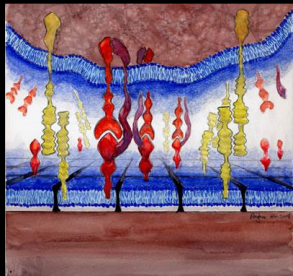
Network Pharmacology and Drug Discovery: Key Principles

- **there are few single molecular targets for Rx action**
- **effective Rx requires modulation of pathways**
- **there are no linear pathways, only networks and subnetworks**
- **there are also highly interconnected networks/subnetworks between tissues**
 - **e.g. modulation of liver network induces changes in pancreatic islet network**

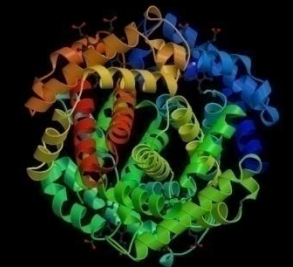
The Evolution of Drug Discovery



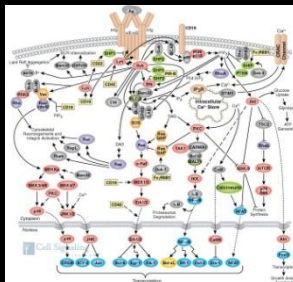
- empirical screening



- cellular and molecular pharmacology but continued reliance on whole cell assays reproduced significant level of 'systems-complexity'



- genomics and HTS of isolated molecular targets: reductionism and elimination of systems complexity/context



- mapping molecular pathways and networks and a return to systems pharmacology

The Challenge of Drug Discovery in Late-Onset, Chronic, Multigenic Diseases

- mapping complex alterations in multiple molecular pathways and subnetworks particularly in chronic, progressive disease
 - separation of driver versus passenger perturbations for Rx action
- ID of pathway/subnetwork connectivities, cross-talk and redundancies and implications for Rx strategies for “homeostatic reset”
 - multi-target Rx action
- designing suitable polypharmacology for multiple Rx targets
 - SAR promiscuity in a single molecule
 - Rx combinations
 - limit adverse off-target effects and/or on-target binding in non-target tissues

The Challenge of Drug Discovery for Late-Onset, Chronic, Multigenic Diseases

- **complexity and multiplicity of pathway/network perturbations increases the probability of Rx refractoriness/resistance via compensatory pathways**
- **amplified pathway and subnetwork perturbations with disease progression?**
 - **significant inter-patient and intra-patient heterogeneity**
 - **cancer as the most extreme example?**

The Complexity of Cancer Genomes

LUNG CANCER

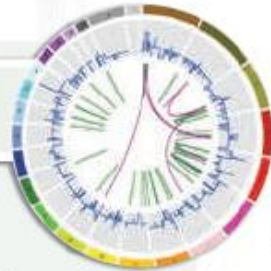
Cancer: small-cell lung carcinoma

- Sequenced: full genome
- Source: NCI-H209 cell line
- Point mutations: 22,910
- Point mutations in gene regions: 134
- Genomic rearrangements: 58
- Copy-number changes: 334

Highlights:

Duplication of the *CHD7* gene confirmed in two other small-cell lung carcinoma cell lines.

Source: E. D. Pleasance *et al.* *Nature* 463, 184-190 (2010).



SKIN CANCER

Cancer: metastatic melanoma

- Sequenced: full genome
- Source: COLO-829 cell line
- Point mutations: 33,345
- Point mutations in gene regions: 292
- Genomic rearrangements: 51
- Copy-number changes: 41

Highlights:

Patterns of mutation reflect damage by ultraviolet light.

Source: E. D. Pleasance *et al.* *Nature* 463, 191-196 (2010).



BREAST CANCER

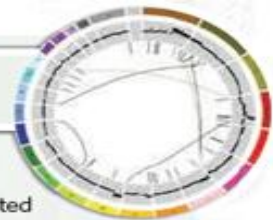
Cancer: basal-like breast cancer

- Sequenced: full genome
- Source: primary tumour, brain metastasis, and tumours transplanted into mice
- Point mutations: 27,173 in primary, 51,710 in metastasis and 109,078 in transplant
- Point mutations in gene regions: 200 in primary, 225 in metastasis, 328 in transplant
- Genomic rearrangements: 34
- Copy-number changes: 155 in primary, 101 in metastasis, 97 in transplant

Highlights:

The *CTNNA1* gene encodes a putative suppressor of metastasis that is deleted in all tumour samples.

Source: L. Ding *et al.* *Nature* 464, 999-1005 (2010).



BRAIN CANCER

Cancer: glioblastoma multiforme

- Sequenced: exome (no complete Circos plot)
- Source: 7 patient tumours, 15 tumours transplanted into mice (follow-up sequencing on 21 genes for 83 additional samples)
- Genes containing at least one protein-altering mutation: 685
- Genes containing at least one protein-altering point mutation: 644
- Copy-number changes: 281

Highlights:

Mutations in the active site of *IDH1* have been found in 12% of patients.

Source: E. R. Mardis *et al.* *N. Engl. J. Med.* 361, 1058-1066 (2009).

Tumor-Stroma Interactions in Cancer Progression

- growing recognition as factor in tumor aggressiveness and Rx responsiveness
- genetic analysis of micro-dissected tumor-associated stroma
- poor prognosis associated with high expression of hypoxia and angiogenesis genes
- low expression of type 1 immune response genes
- release of paracrine survival (anti-apoptosis) factors by stromal cells
- elevated stromal 'metagene' expression profile correlates with poor response to anthracycline-based neoadjuvant therapy in human breast cancer
- role of tumor cell epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EMT) and exosomes in modulating stromal response?

Cancer Therapeutics: The Most Perplexing Question of All

- **is the scale of perturbations in multiple pathways and subnetworks in metastatic, advanced disease in the solid malignancies an insurmountable technical barrier to design of poly-target (promiscuous) agents and/or Rx combinations needed to achieve curative or even effective therapy?**
- **is the only viable strategy for major progress in reducing the profound clinical, economic and emotional toll of cancer to focus on early diagnosis and removal of pre-metastatic lesions?**

Successful Use of MDx for Early (Pre-Metastatic) Detection in Major Cancers Will Not Eliminate Need for New Rx and Rational Rx Selection Tools

- **solid malignancies**

- fraction of patients will still present with advanced disease due to failure to use new MDx detection platforms

- **hematopoietic malignancies**

- distributed nature of malignant cells precludes surgical excision
- valuable role of MDx in subtyping patients for presence/absence of Rx target(s)

Rethinking Approaches to Cancer

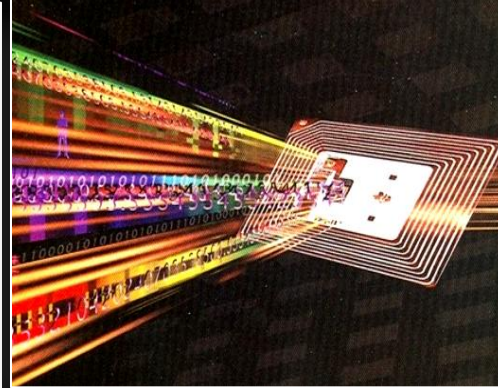
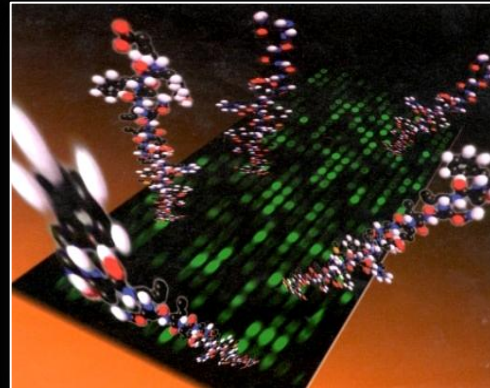
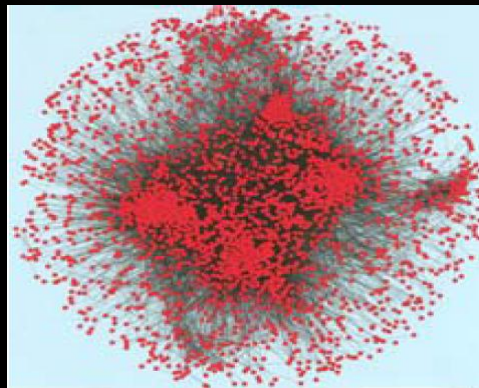
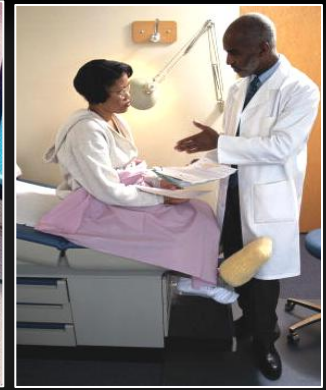
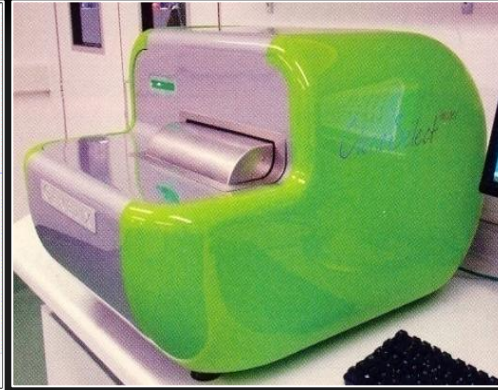
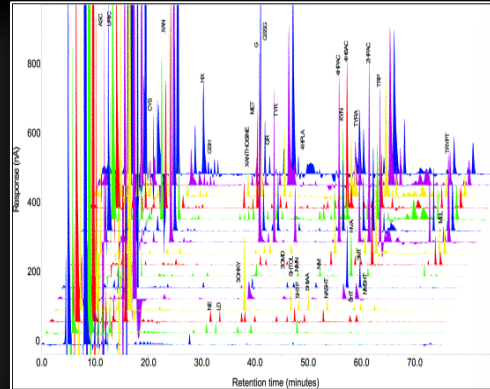
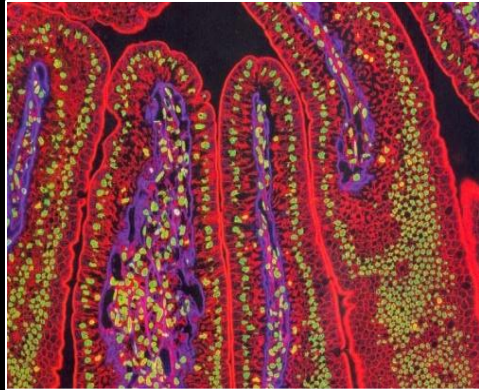
**Is There a Fundamental Imbalance
in Investment in Diagnostics
Versus Therapeutics?**

Biomarkers, Biosignatures and Molecular Diagnostics: Key Value Drivers in Reducing The Impact of Cancer

The Poor Performance Record of Biomarker Discovery and Validation

- **'publish and vanish'**
 - **over 120,000 claimed biomarkers or biomarker combinations (biosignatures)**
 - **less than 100 molecular diagnostics in clinical use or advanced validation trials**
- **literature dominated by anecdotal studies**
 - **academic laboratories**
 - **lack of standardization: biospecimens to analytical platforms**
 - **small patient cohorts and insufficient statistical power**
 - **poor replication and confirmatory studies**
- **widespread lack of understanding of regulatory requirements in academic research community**
 - **GLP, GMP, Records, RUO instruments versus Clinical Use**
 - **technical complexities of multiplex assays**
 - **new regulatory oversight (IVDMIAAs)**

Identification and Validation of Disease-Associated Biomarkers: Obligate Need for a Systems-Based Approaches



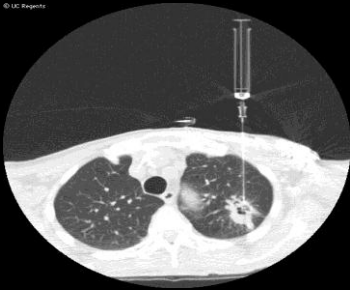
**Standardized
Biospecimens
and
Molecular
Pathway
Analysis**

**Multiplex
Biomarker
Validation
and
Complex Signal
Deconvolution**

**New
Instrumentation,
and
Automated
Analytics**

**Clinical
Impact
and
Patient
Monitoring**

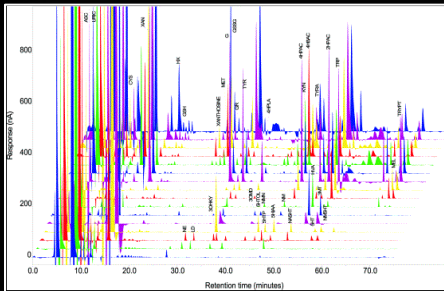
Building Large Scale, Standardized Resources for Biomedical Research



- rigorously phenotyped/matched/consented disease and normal specimens



- biobanking: leadership and national policies to create a vital research resource



- standardization of pre-analytical and analytical methods



- standardized data ontologies and formats for large scale datasets/federated databanks



Quotes for Prominent Display in Every Biomarker Research Laboratory

**“The technological capacity exists to produce low-quality data
from low-quality analytes with unprecedented efficacy.”**

**“We now have the ability to get the wrong answers
with unprecedented speed.”**

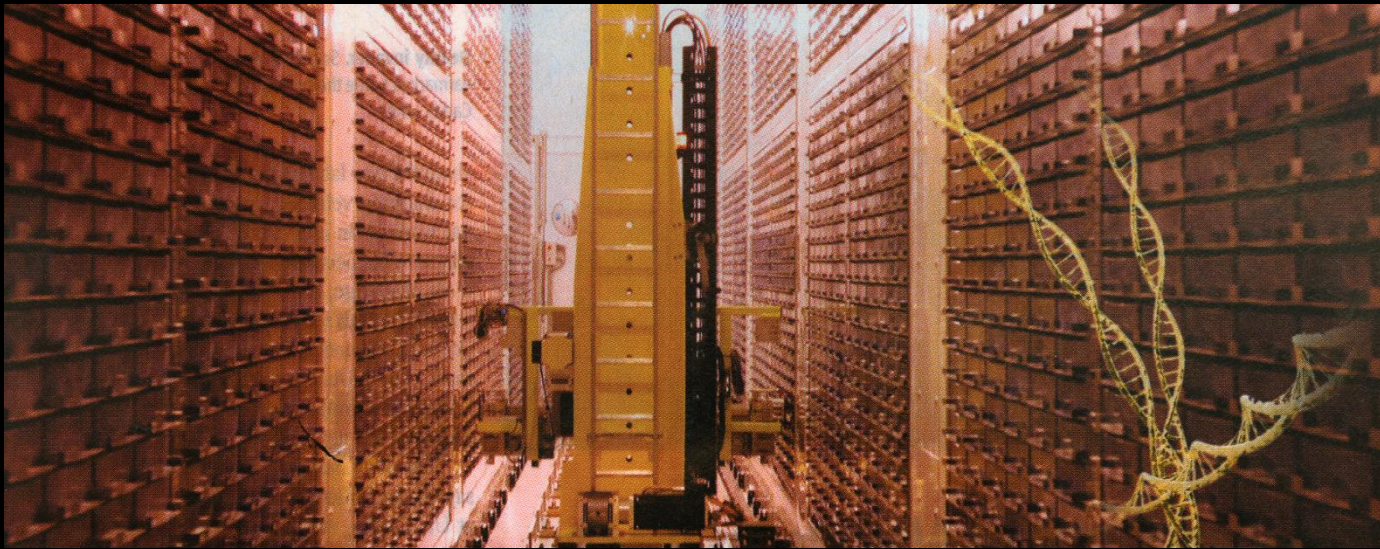
**Dr. Carolyn C. Compton
Director, Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research
National Institutes of Health
‘IOM, July 2010’**



**“We may be lost,
but we’re having a good time”**

Yogi Berra

Access to High Quality Biospecimens, Biobanks and DNA Repositories: A Major Obstacle for Biomarker Discovery



**scale
and
standards**

or

**academic
anecdotes**



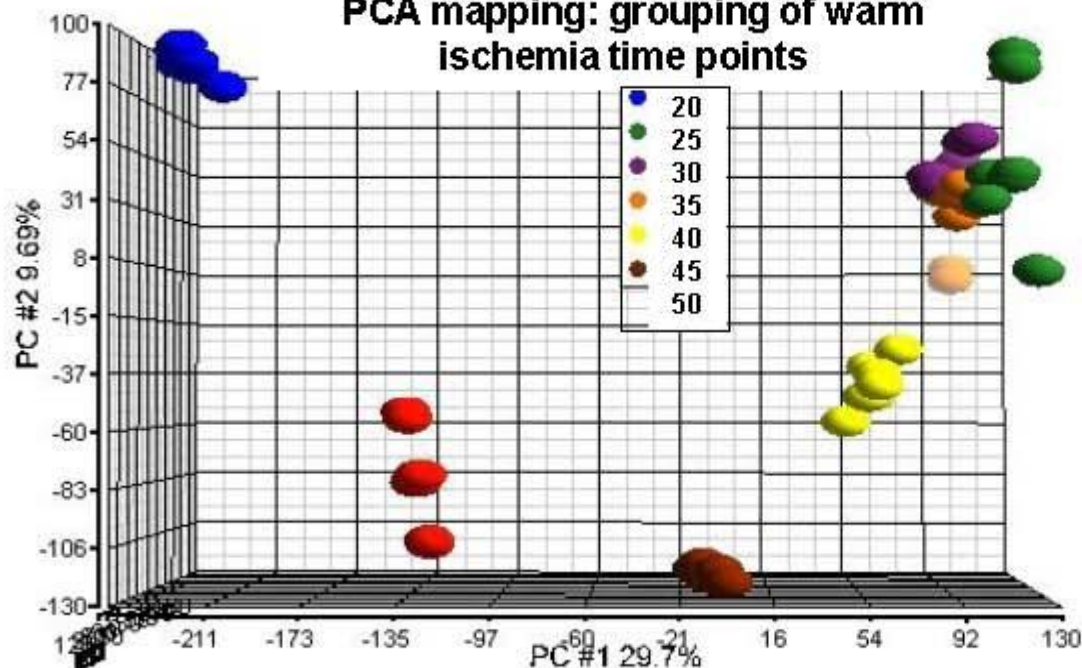


Time Between Ligation Of Main Artery And Tumor Resection (Intrasurgical Ischemia) Affects Gene Expression In Colon Cancer (NCI-Indivumed study)

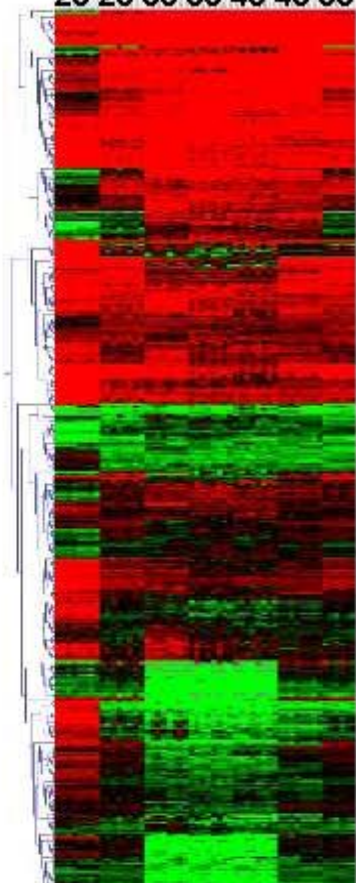
OBRR Office of Biorepositories
and Biospecimen Research

Intrasurgical Ischemia

PCA mapping: grouping of warm
ischemia time points



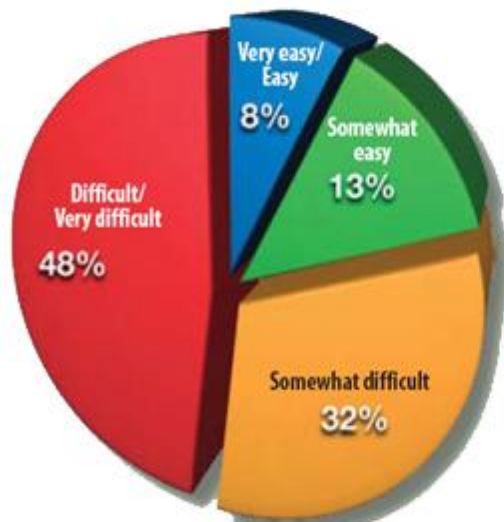
Warm ischemia (min)
20 25 30 35 40 45 50



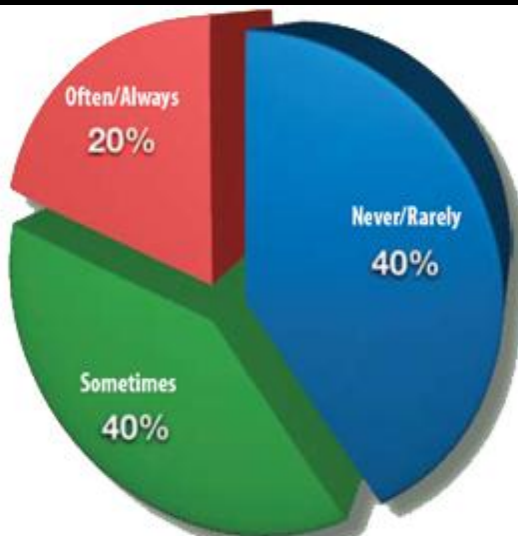
Indivumed-NCI Study: Courtesy of Dr. C. C. Compton

Access to Quality Biospecimens for Medical Research: A Critical 'Choke Point' in Biomedical Research

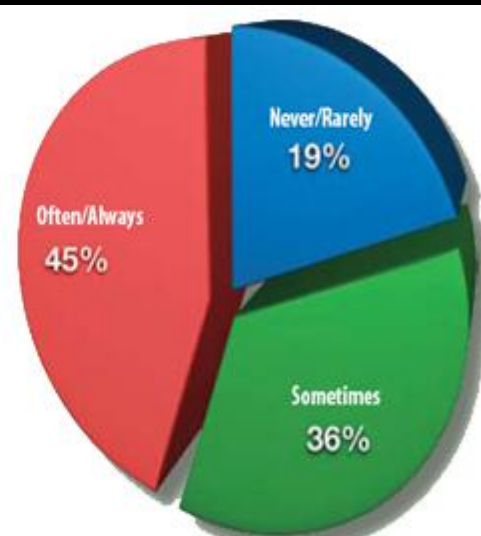
**Ease of Acquiring the Quality
of Biospecimens**



**Question Their Data Because
of the
Quality of Biospecimens**



**Limit Research Scope of Work
Due to the Shortage of
Quality Biospecimens**



Source: Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research, 2009.
<http://biospecimens.cancer.gov/cahub/>

Blood-Based Multiplex Diagnostics



Source: For the Record 12-6-10

- blood as highly informative biospecimen for Dx profiling
- bathes all organs
- many 'biosignatures' from diseased tissues expressed in blood
- minimally invasive, low cost acquisition and ease of repeated sampling versus tissue biopsy
- each patient acts as their own control for longitudinal monitoring

**“The study of cancer cells in two dimensions
seems quaint if not archaic”**

T. Jacks and R.A. Weinberg (2002) Cell 111, 923

**“Medline search reveals that more than 80%
of cancer and molecular biologists still use
two-dimensional techniques”**

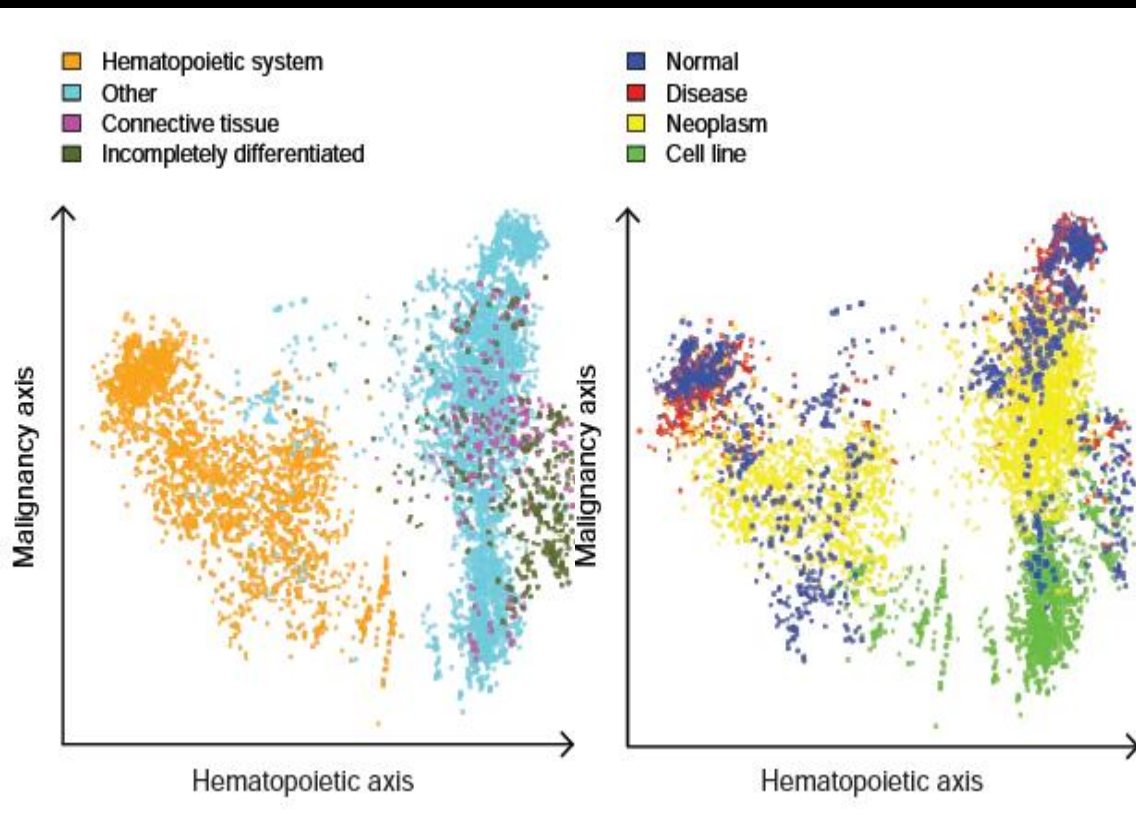
D.W. Hutmacher (2010) Nature Materials 9, 90

Challenging Questions

- are the phenotypes and molecular pathways of cell lines and 2D cell cultures so unrepresentative of the situation to render them irrelevant and pose blind avenues for diagnostic/therapeutic discovery?
- can the biology of metastasis be elucidated by analysis of non-metastatic cells?

A Global Map of Human Gene Expression

M. Lusk et al. (2010) Nature Biotech. 28, 322



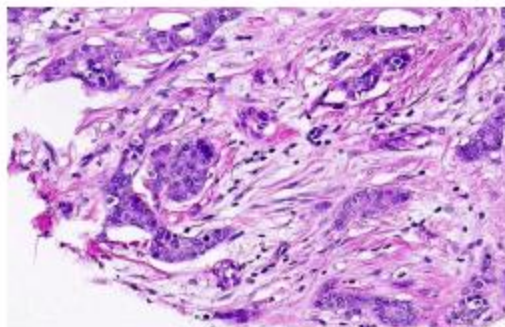
- 5372 microarray samples
- 206 different laboratories
- 163 different laboratories
- 369 'groups'
 - cell or tissues type, disease state or cell line
- PCA gene expression matrix of 14,000 genes X 5372
- cell lines cluster together rather than with their claimed tissues of origin
 - 1217 up regulated genes
 - cell division/mitosis genes
- fresh cancer samples cluster as intermediate group between homologous normal tissue and immortalized cell lines

From: L. Margus et al. (2010) Nature Biotech Vol 28 (4)
A global map of human gene expression
<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/gxa/array/U133A>

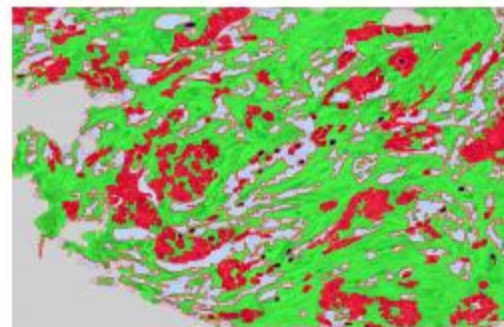


Automated Annotation of Cell Morphology

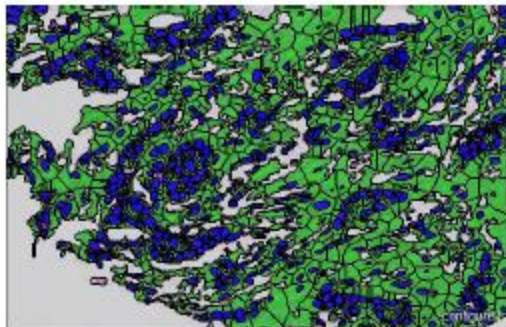
Characterize each patient sample using quantitative morphological features



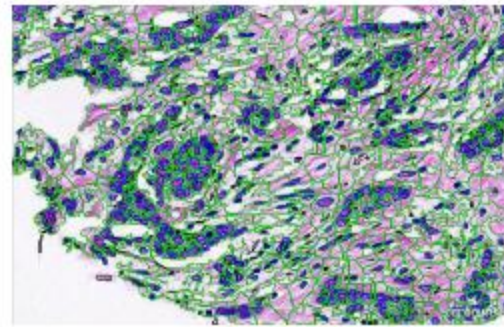
H&E Stained Breast Cancer Microscopic Image



Labeled Tissue Regions



Segmented Cells and Nuclei



Labeled Subcellular Regions

Validation of Disease Associated Biomarkers: Scale and Statistical Power

- **the high dimensionality small sample size (HDSS) problem**
 - **high number of variables (2000-10000) and low sample size (10-100)**
 - **increased risk of selection of variables due to chance (overfitting)**
- **disease related differences are small compared to biological variability**
- **many variables behave as QTLs with graded continuum rather than binary normal: disease separation**
- **statistical powering of validation studies**
 - **“the 20:200:2000 rule”**

Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS)

- rapid improvements in instrumentation, cost and speed
- higher information content than exome profiling
- combination with transcriptome profiling to ID chimeric fusion transcripts
- cost:performance trajectory for WGS may soon be cheaper than cumulative cost from expanding panels of individual MDx tests
- eliminates IP challenge/royalty mountain issue with multiplex MDx panels

Big Genomics and Managing Massive Data

- **sequence data generation outstripping analytics**
- **1000 Genomes Project (2010) generated more data in 6 months than GenBank accumulated in 21 years**
- **NGS storage as high-resolution images imposes disproportionate archiving burden**
 - **shift to discard raw data and easier to resequence samples (assumes availability)**
- **data analytics and bioinformatics personnel as major choke points for large scale population profiling studies**
- **customized data conversion for different decision categories and decision-makers**
- **causal correlations with disease and Rx responsiveness established by metanalysis of large WGS datasets will shift many clinical sequencing needs back to specific genomic regions**

Adoption of New Technologies in Healthcare

- not merely innovation in technology
- parallel evolution and adoption of new business, financial and organizational models
- complexity of harmonizing incentives for diverse constituencies
- critical role of public policies in defining market entry barriers
 - regulation, reimbursement
 - professional standards and sustaining status quo
 - administrative procedures
 - governance of third party health insurance payments
- cost-based, event-/procedure-based incentives versus integrated care/disease management

Social Networks and Consumer: Patient Empowerment



Physician Reported Barriers to Use of Patient Decision Assists (pDAs) in Oncology

Barrier	Surgeon		Speciality in Center	
	<50% cancer	>50% cancer	Medical Oncologists	Radiation Oncologists
Lack of awareness	81%	71%	52%	50%
No resources	17%	37%	42%	36%
Deemed Nnt relevant or value not established	17%	24%	46%	40%

Adapted from: C. Brace et al. (2010) J. Clin. Oncol. 28, 2286

The Production, Diffusion and Consumption of Information and Knowledge: An Increasingly Complex Ecosystem

Massive Data

**Data Standards and Inter-operable
Federated Databanks**

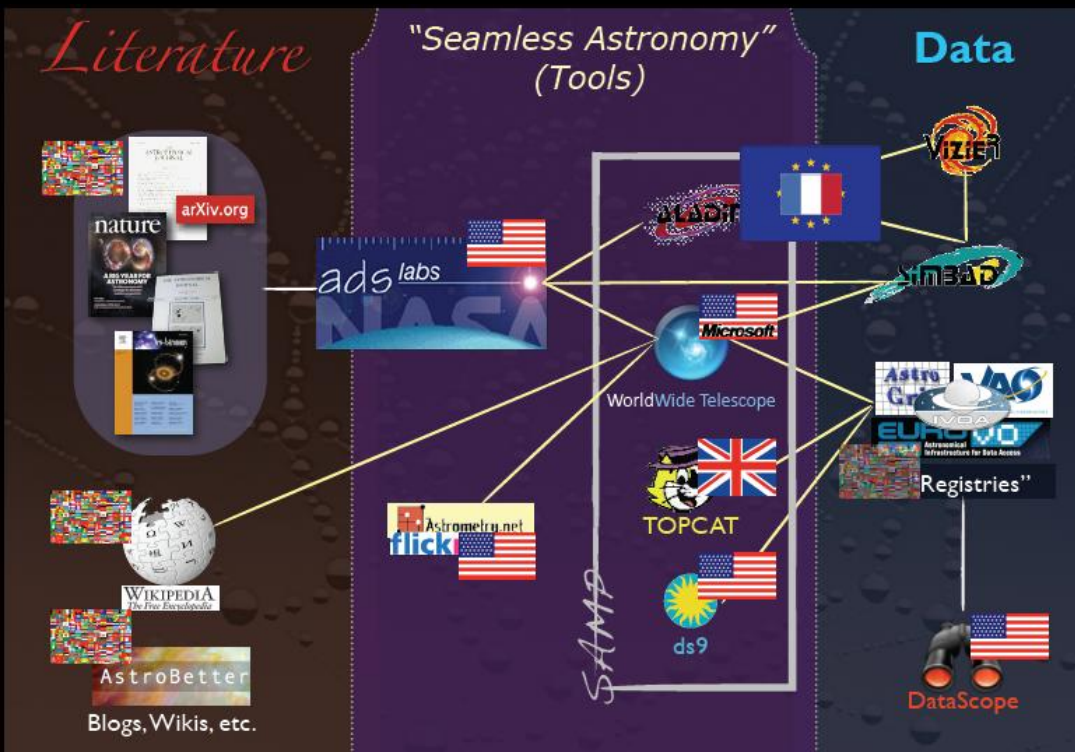
**Increasing Importance of
Open Source Systems**

**New Organizational Networks,
Funding Policies and Infrastructure Investment**

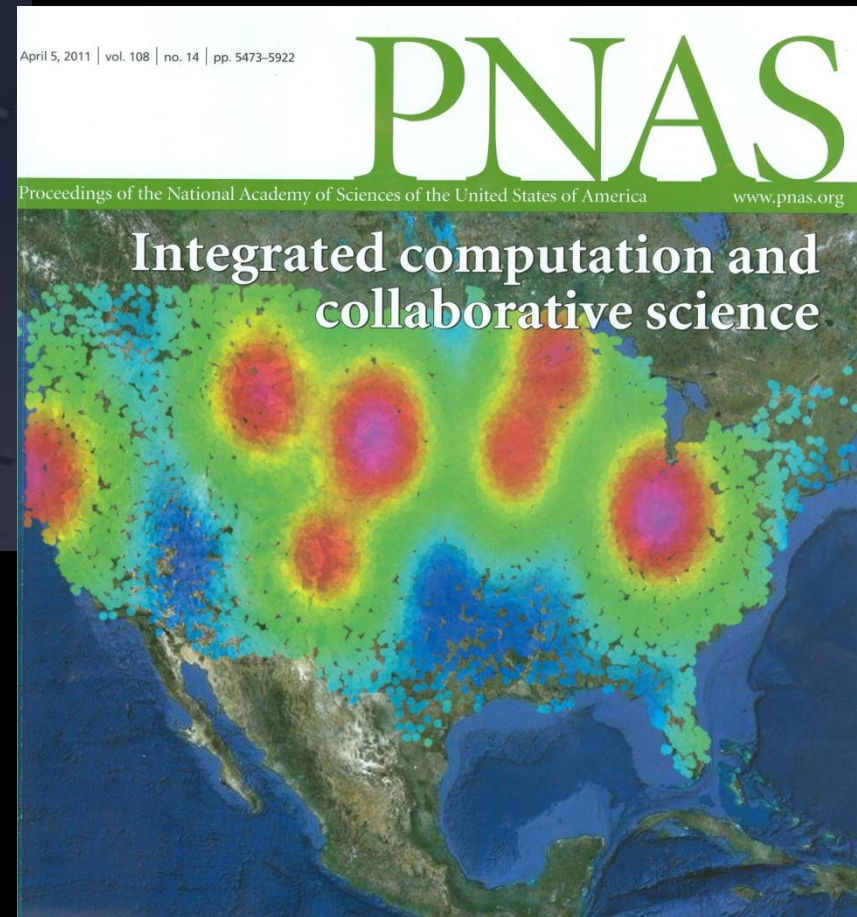
Mining The Data Deluge:

- **nomenclature ontologies**
- **liberate intelligence from multiple source formats**
- **interoperability challenges**
- **early discovery (chaos) vs. clinical trials (CDISC) vs. healthcare (HL7, SNOMED)**
- **urgent imperative for methodological, ontological and data storage format standards**

Open Sources and New Knowledge Networks for Efficient Use and ROI on Research Investments



Keynote: Alyssa Goodman, Harvard – Robertson Auditorium
"Seamless Astronomy: How astronomers share, explore and discover"



Cover, (Apr 5, 2011) PNAS

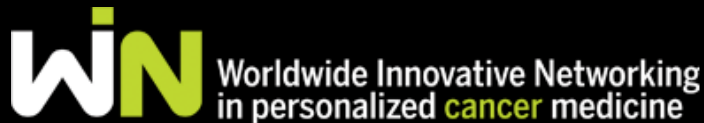
Open Data Systems and Crowd Sourcing in Biomedical R&D



CANCERCOMMONS



OPENCOMMONS



Sustainable Health: Societal and Individual

The Complex Path to Proficient, Personalized Healthcare

- **the potential economic and health benefits from biosignature diagnostic profiling transcend any other current category of innovation in cancer**
- **realization of this objective will require radical changes in the organization and funding of research and clinical trials**
- **three parameters: specimens, scale and standards are fundamental to achieving tangible progress in comprehending cancer pathogenesis, improved diagnosis and rational Rx selection**

Sustainable Health: Societal and Individual

The Complex Path to Proficient, Personalized Healthcare

- **realization of this potential will depend not only on technological advances but equally on circumvention of entrenched cultural, institutional and economic interests in sustaining the status quo**
- **moving from silos to systems**

The Most Important Barriers to Change in Biomedical Research

- **cultural**
 - silos subvert solutions
 - protection of the status quo
 - reward structures
- **funding**
 - not just dollars
 - imperative for new systems-based organizational and operational approaches to address complex multidimensional problems
- **education and training**
 - single discipline focus and perceived career path rewards
 - anachronistic P&T criteria
- **leadership gaps in defining coherent national policies for research and healthcare delivery**

BRAND OF THE YEAR
GILENYA


CHINA CHARTWAYS
REFRESH FOR SUCCESS

GLOBAL FISCAL CRISIS
STRONGER AFTER THE STORM

Pharmaceutical Executive

FEBRUARY 2011

THE BUSINESS MAGAZINE OF PHARMA
VOLUME 31, NUMBER 2



THE PROMISE OF TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

With Francis Collins now calling the shots at NIH, will he be able to deliver on the innovations behind the genome?

Coordination of the Complex Interactions Required to Build a Productive Translational Medical Research Capacity

Government

- **reform current CTSA funding to require systems-based assembly of full expertise spectrum and obligate industry participation**
- **promulgation of standards and centralized orchestration of resources (national/international)**
 - **biorepositories and biospecimens**
 - **‘omics’ analytics reference standards**
 - **informatics standards and infrastructure support (BIX, HIX)**
- **incentives**
 - **public:private partnerships and consortia**
 - **value-based reimbursement**
- **proactive regulatory science**
 - **advanced diagnostics**
 - **standards for metadata and outcomes research**
- **enlightened policies for preventive care**
 - **reimbursement for annual physical and multiplex Dx**

New Diagnostic Technologies as Key Value Drivers for Improved Disease Detection and Clinical Care

