

Ruolo del K-ras come fattore predittivo di Risposta ad anticorpi anti-EGFR nel carcinoma del colon retto

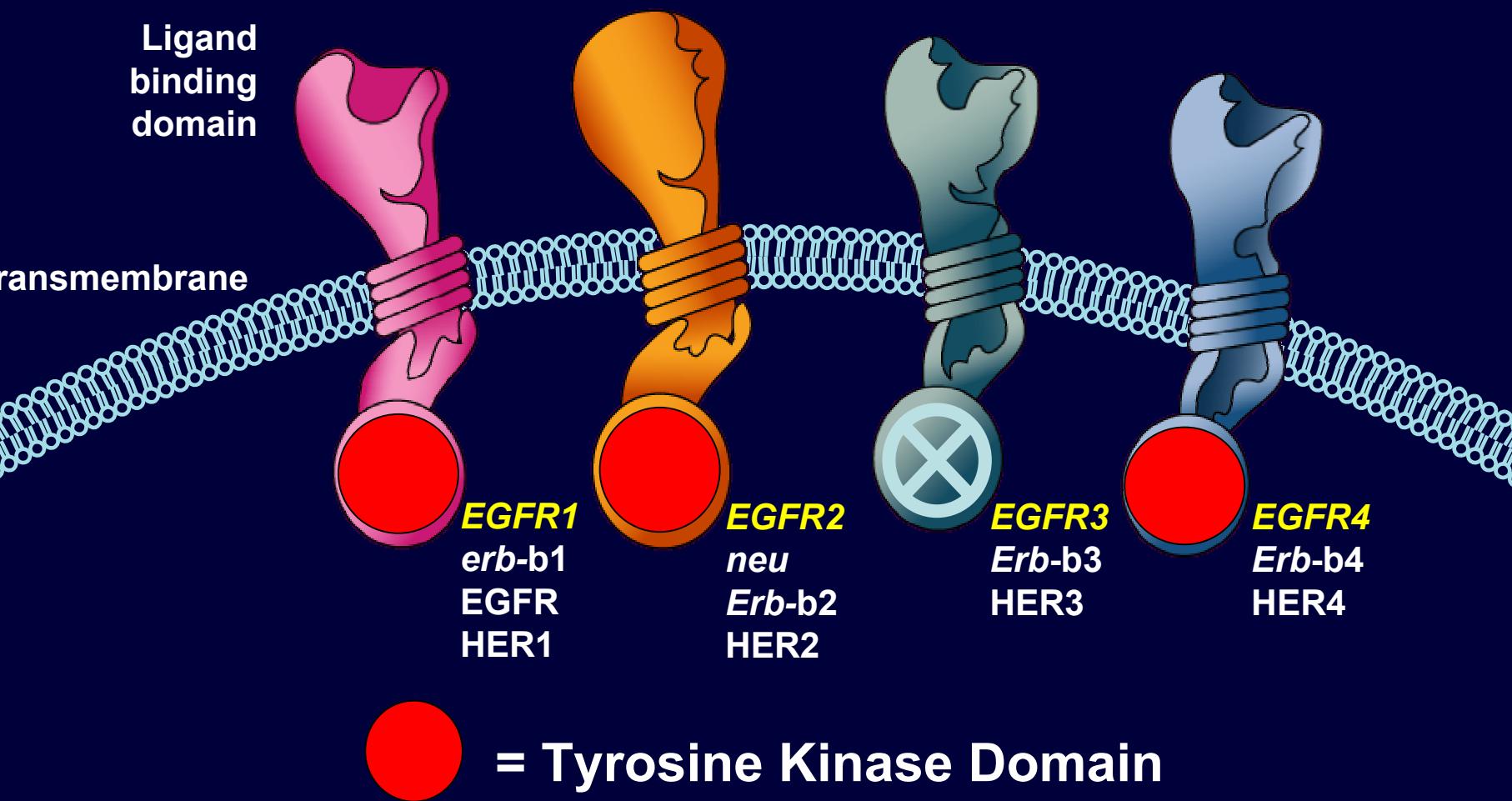
Antonio Marchetti

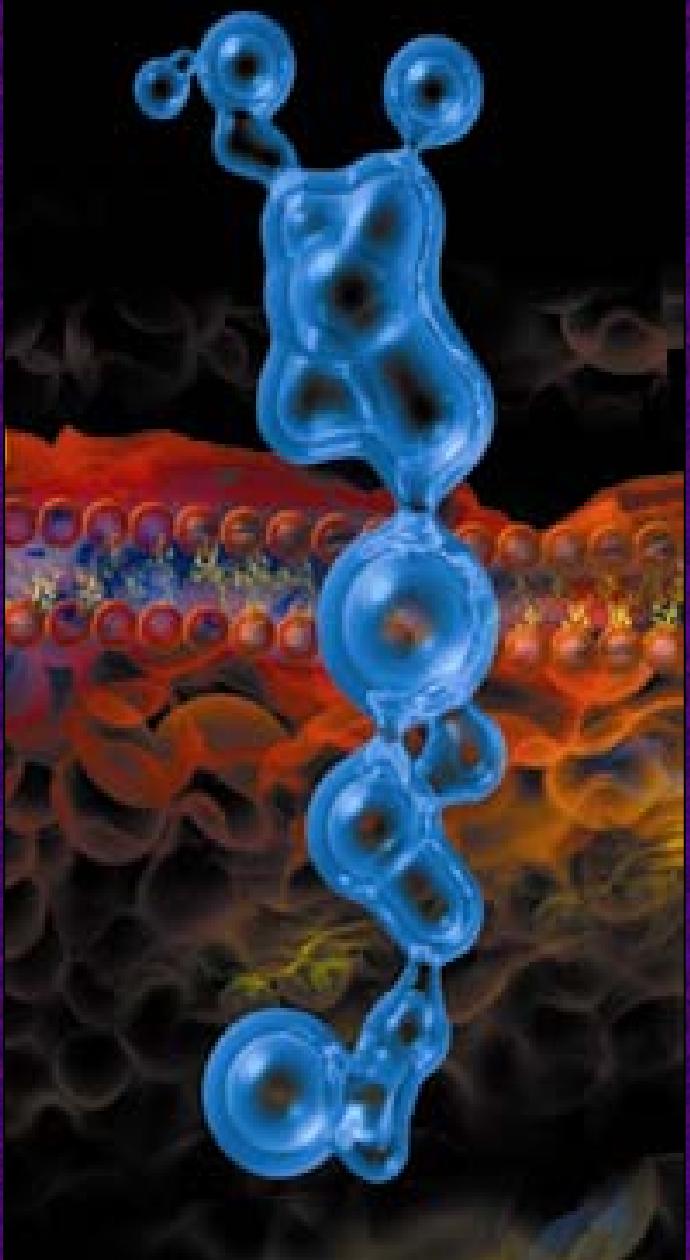
Pathology and Oncogenetic Unit,

Center of Excellence on Aging

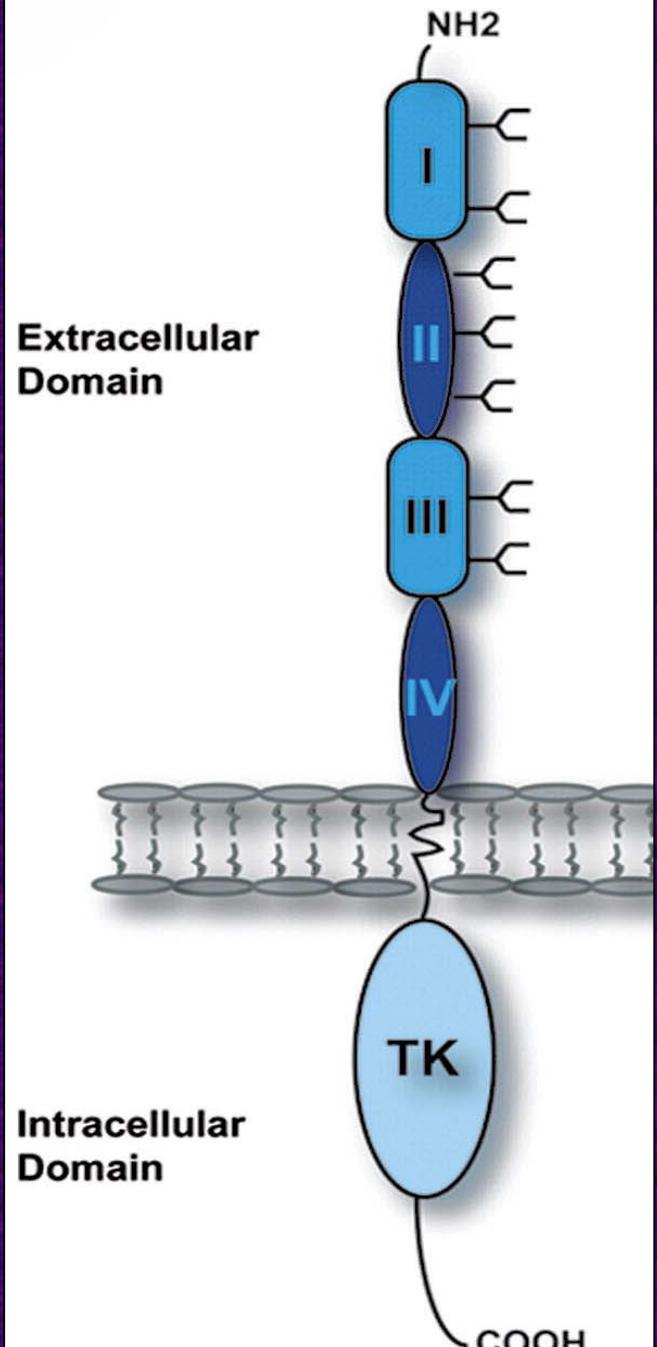
University-Foundation “G D’Annunzio”, Chieti

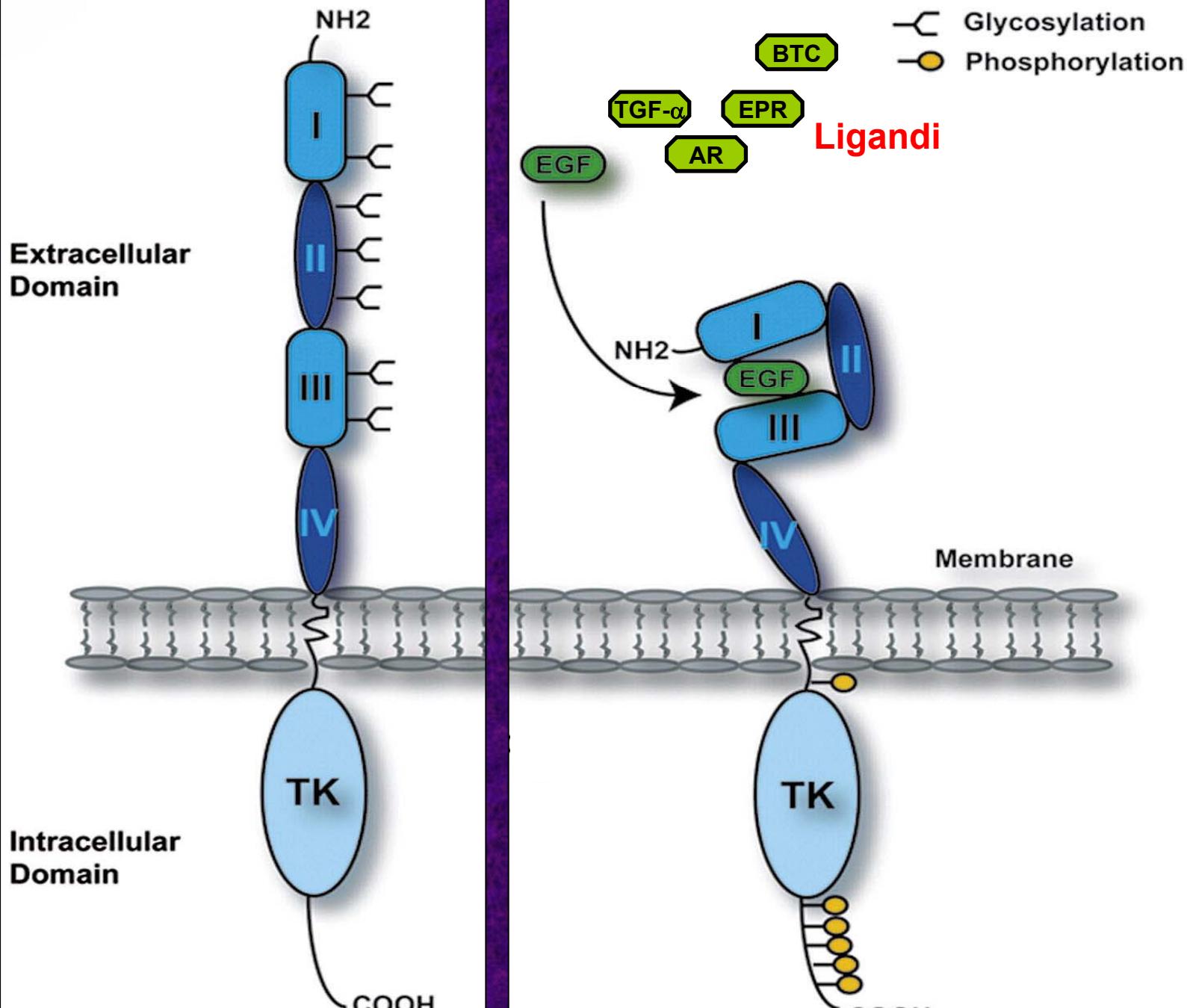
The EGFR/HER Family



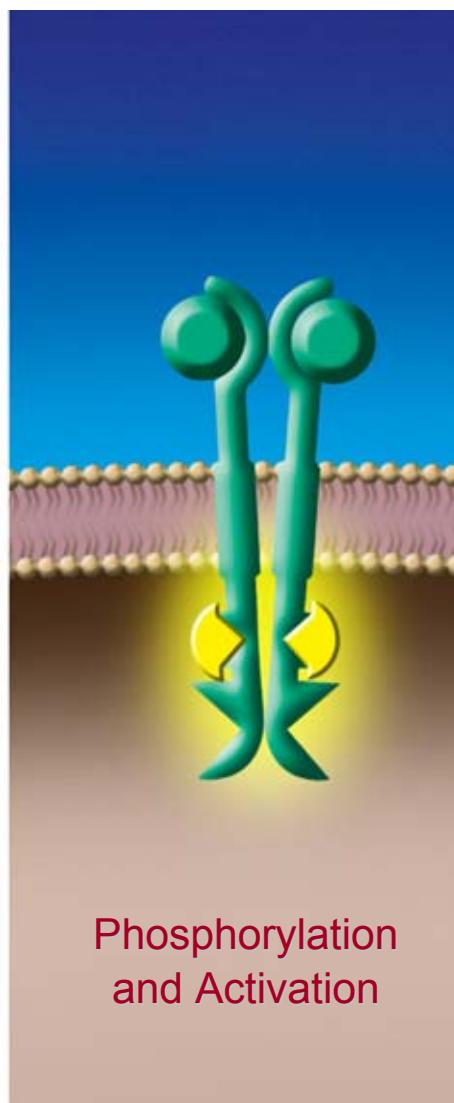
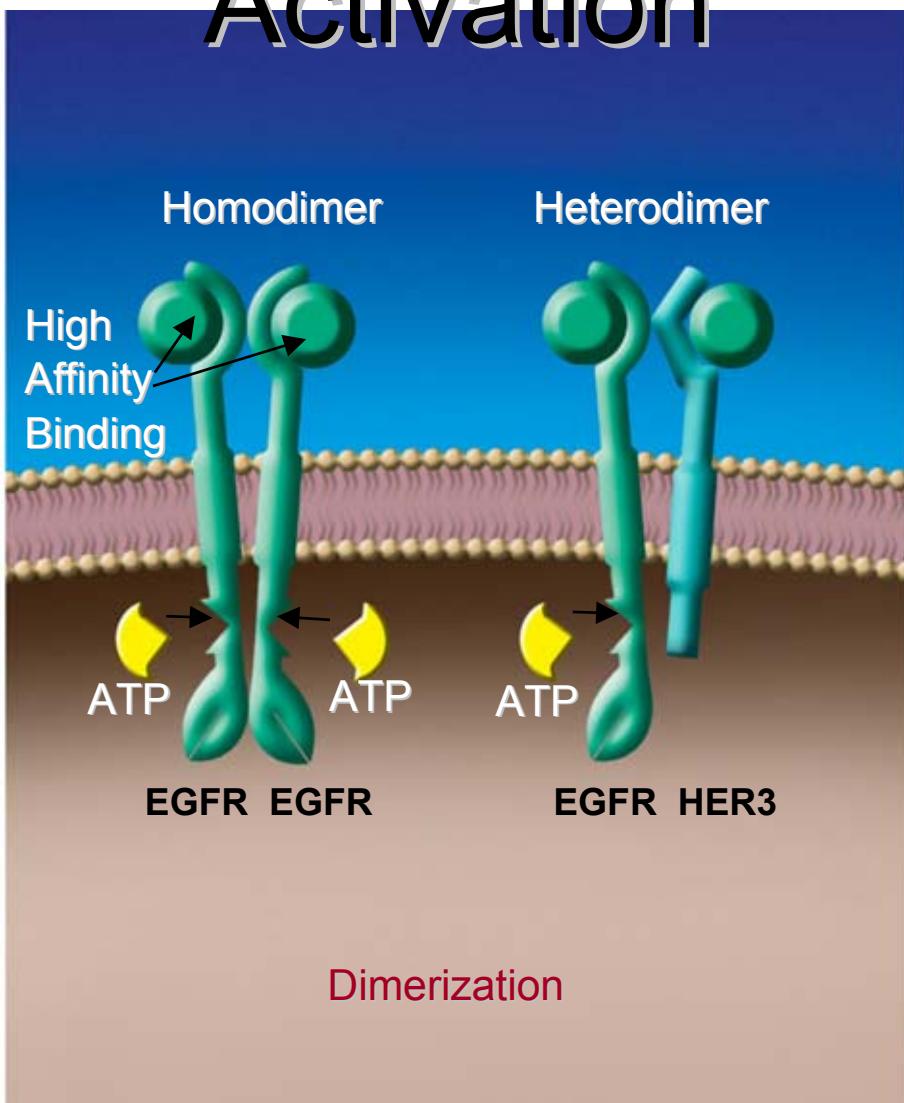
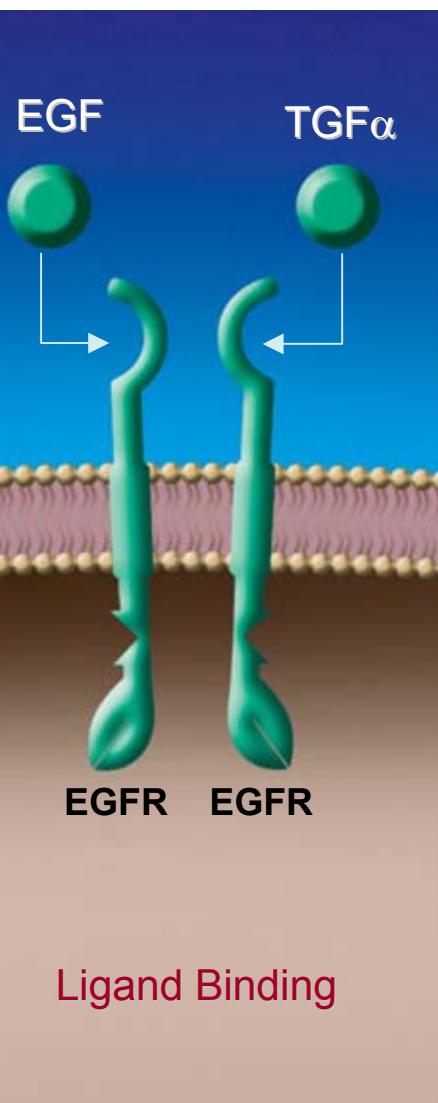


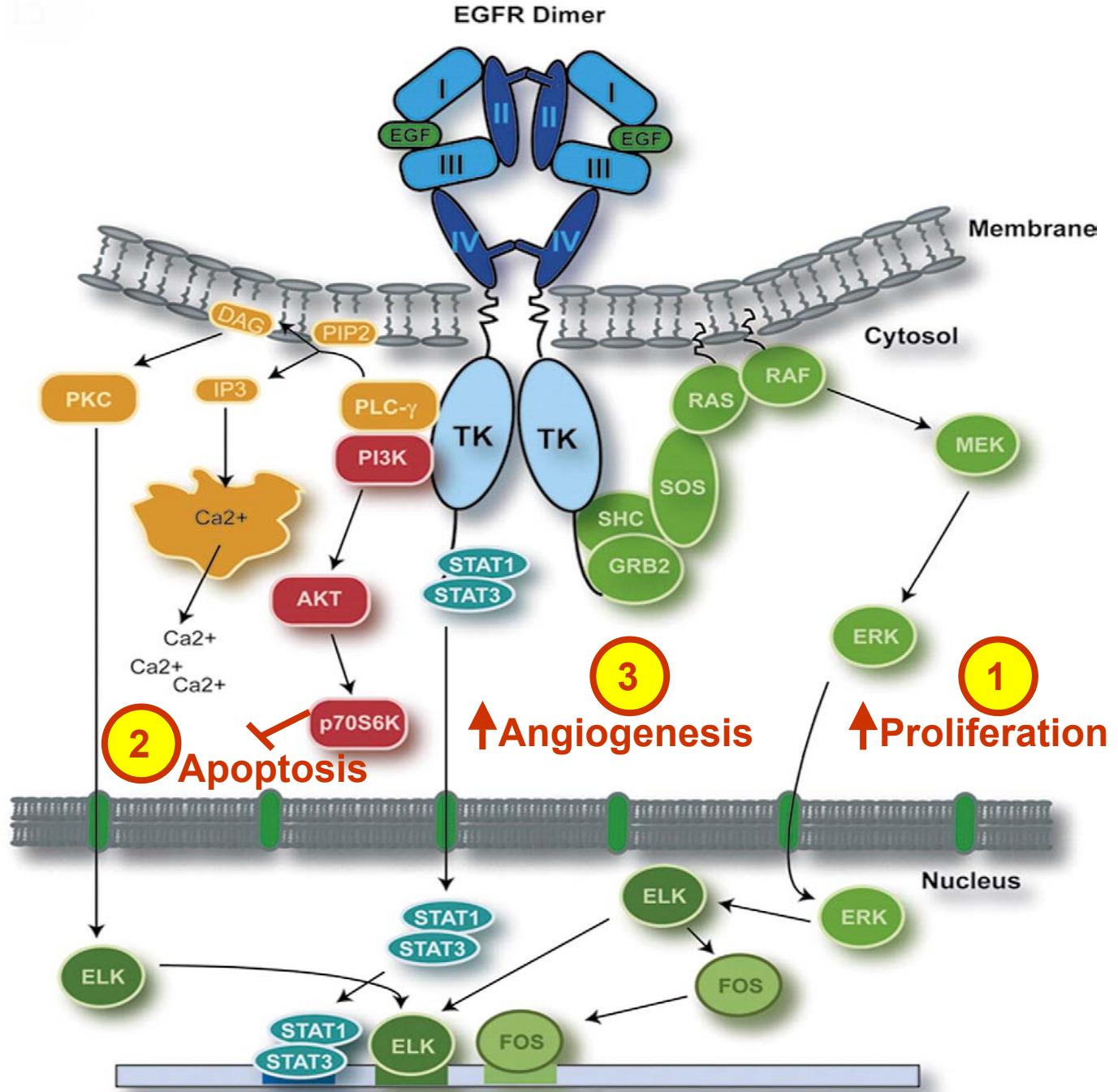
EGFR-1



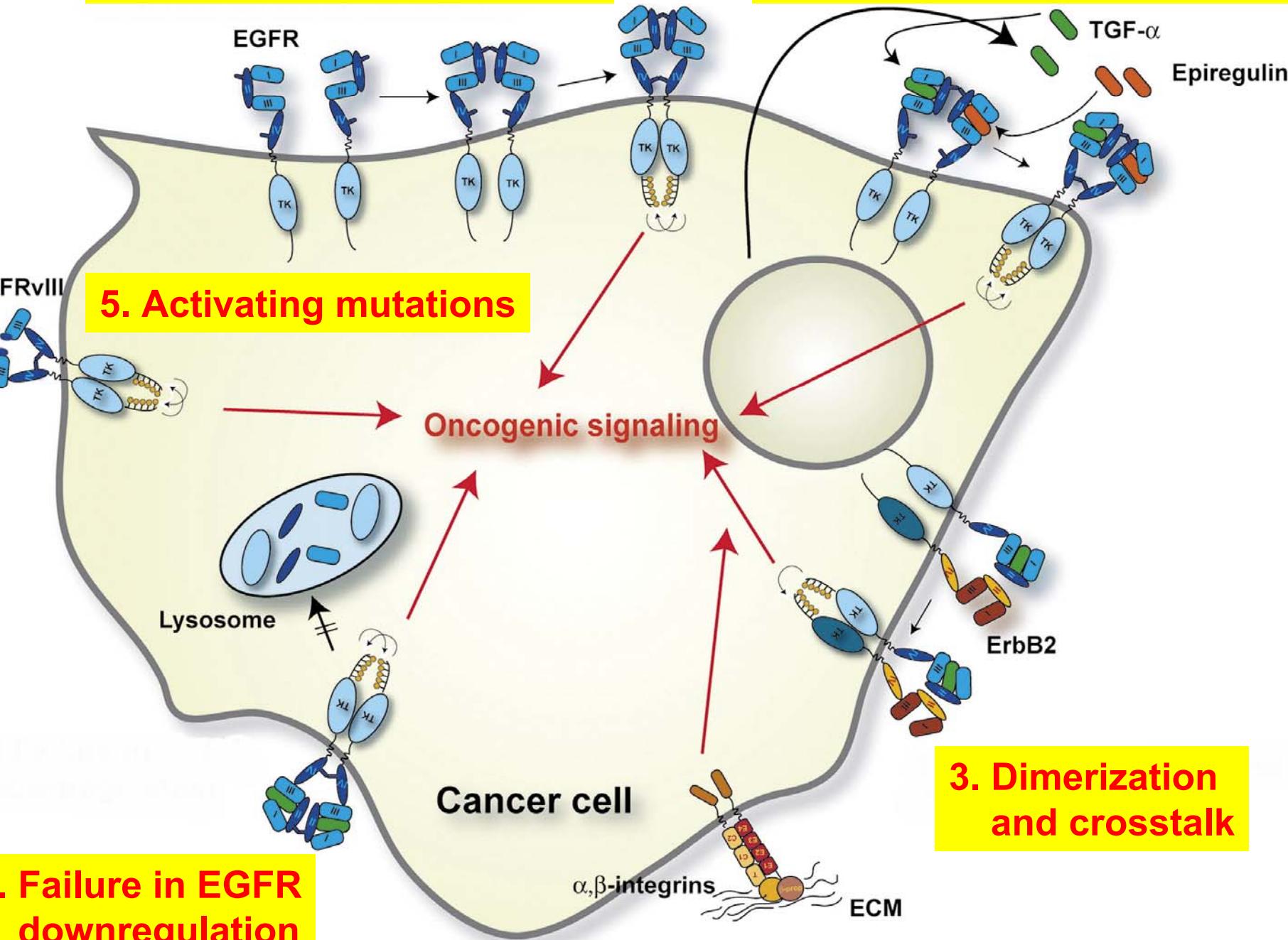


Ligand Binding and Dimerization Result in TK Activation

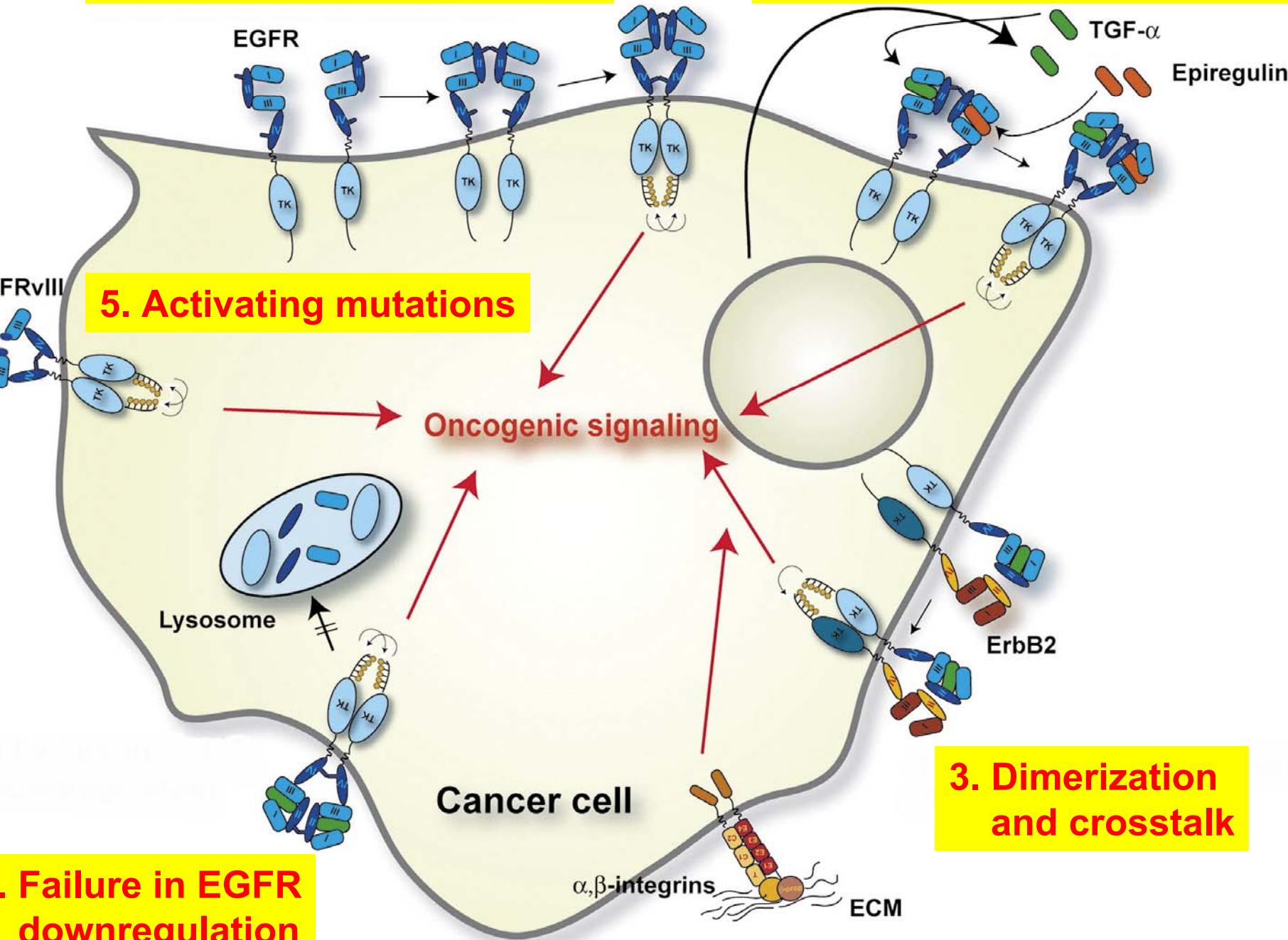




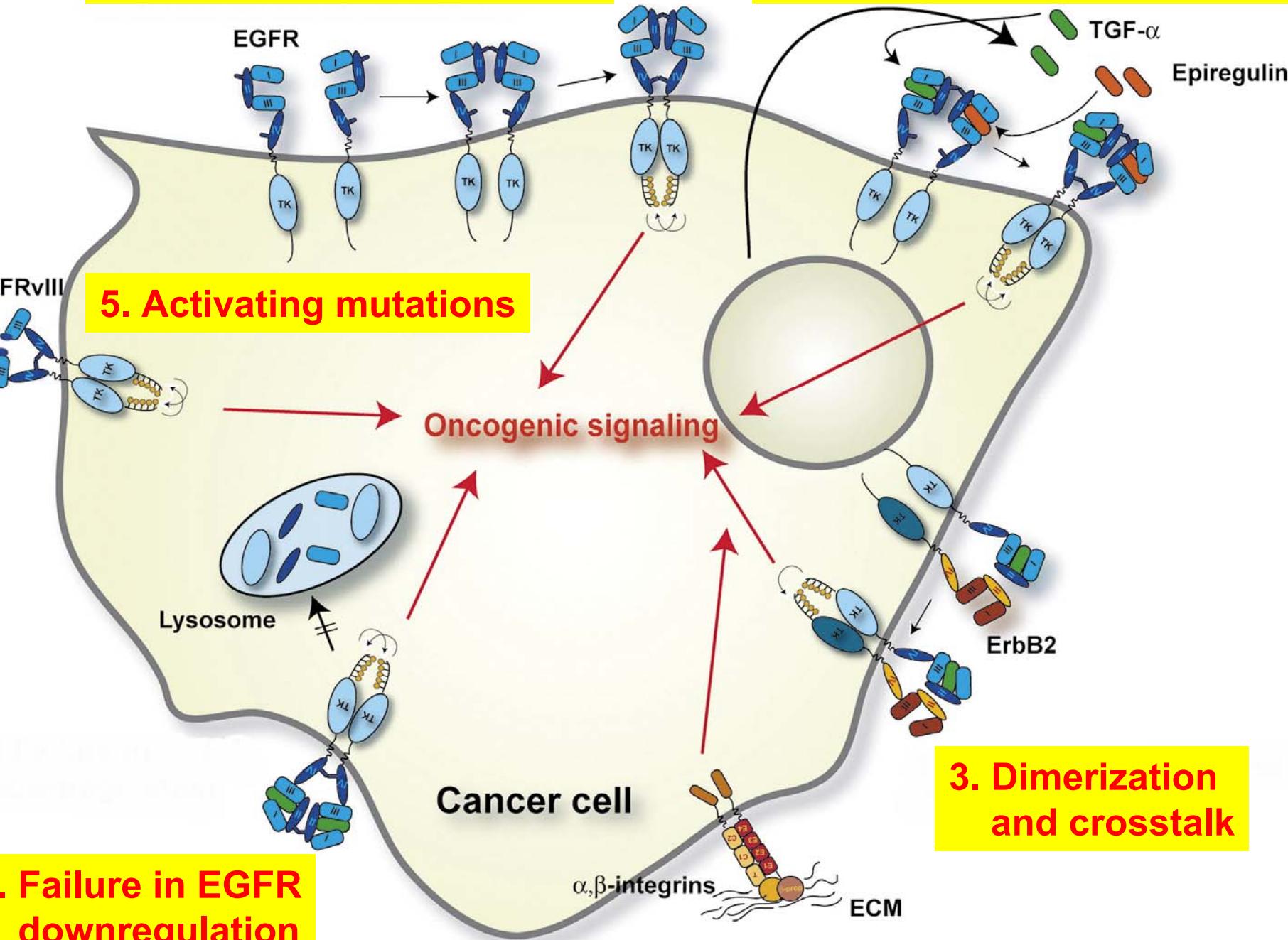
1. Overexpression of EGFR



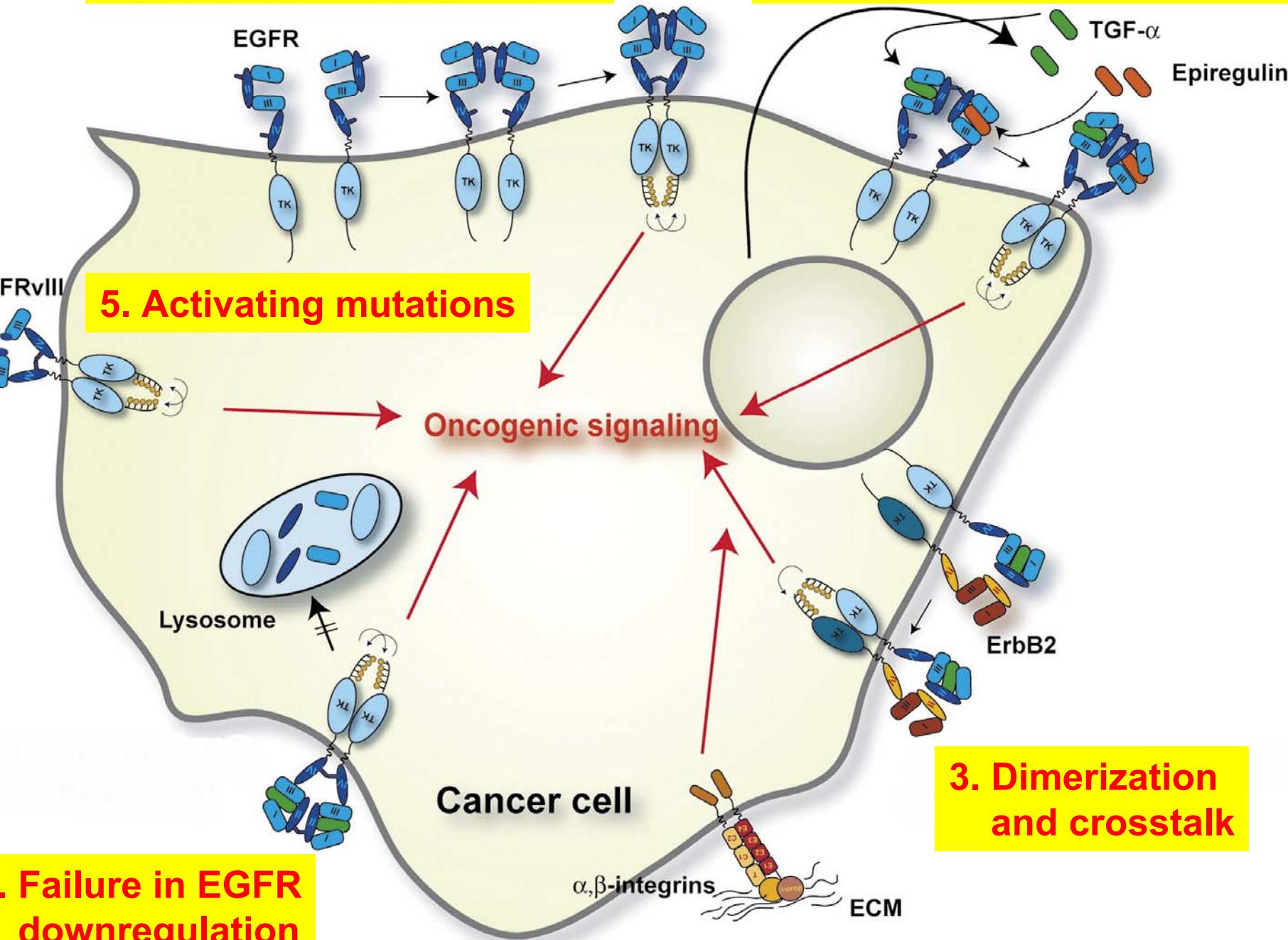
2. Autocrine ligand production



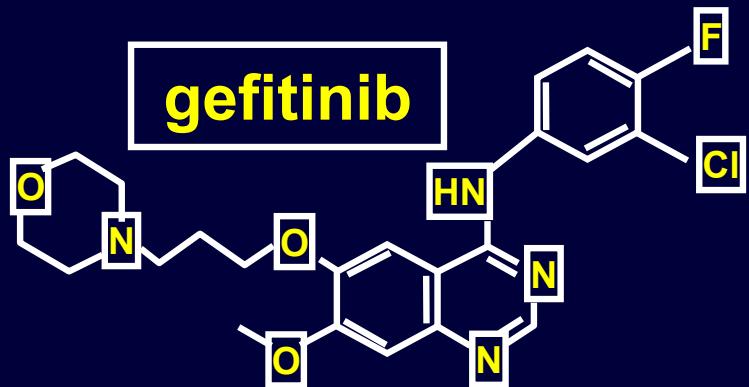
4. Failure in EGFR downregulation



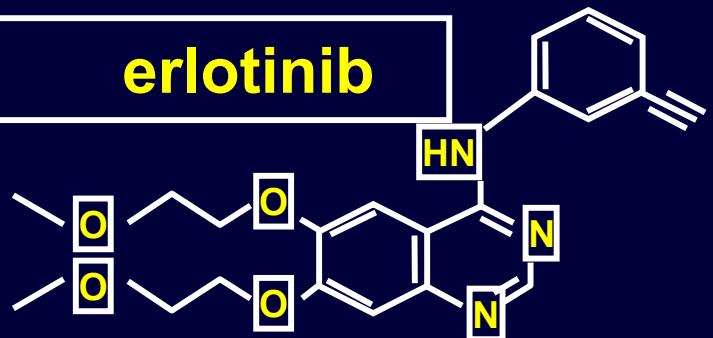
3. Dimerization and crosstalk



EGFR Selective Small Molecule Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors

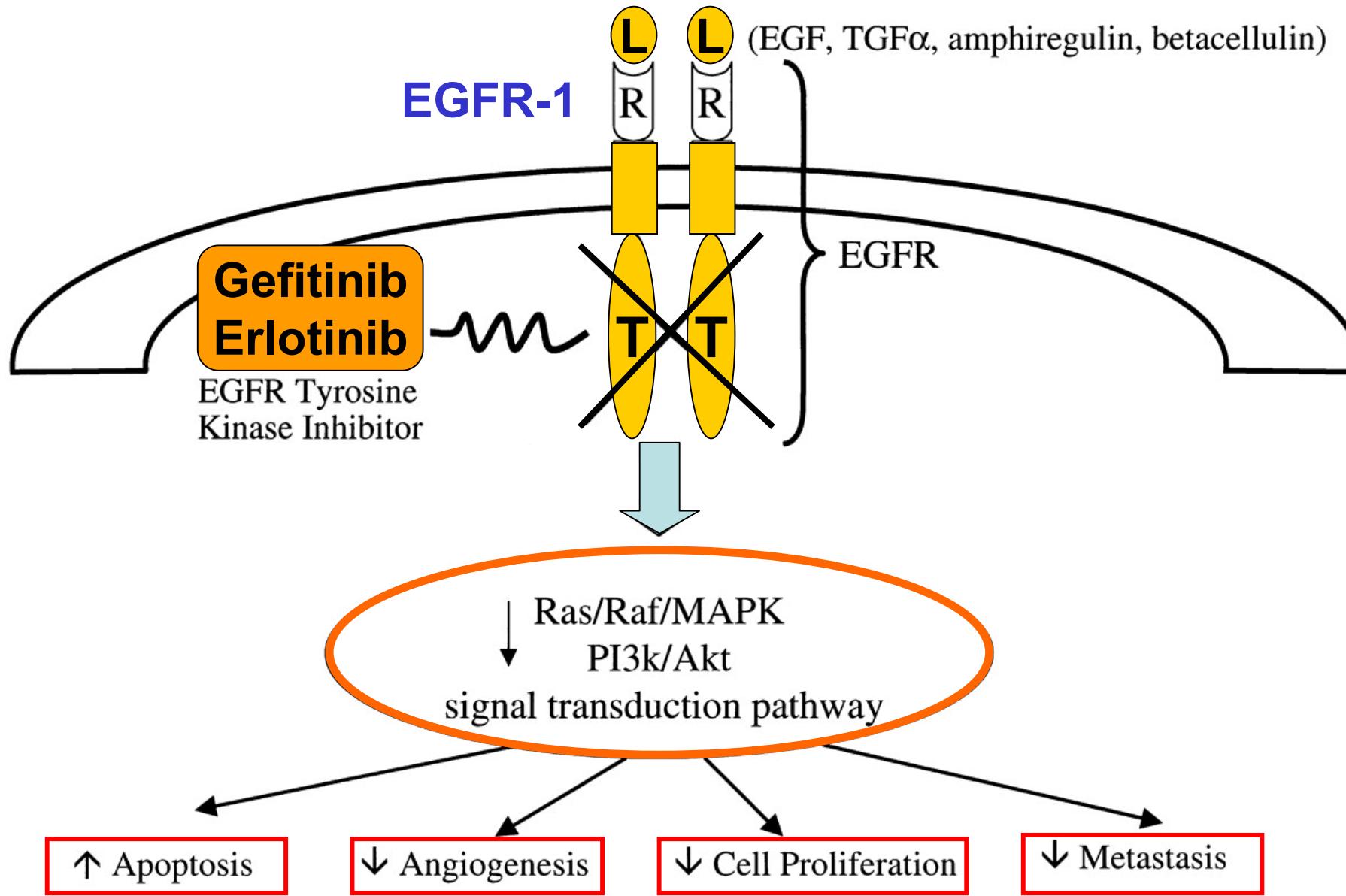


gefitinib



erlotinib

- The tyrosine kinase activity requires ATP
- gefitinib and erlotinib compete for ATP binding
- Orally bioavailable small molecules



... questi inibitori del TKD, a differenza della chemioterapia classica, sono farmaci mirati ed hanno pertanto minimi effetti collaterali ...

... si è cominciato ad utilizzare questi farmaci, a scopo compassionevole in varie forme neoplastiche in fase avanzata, incluso il ca. polmonare ...

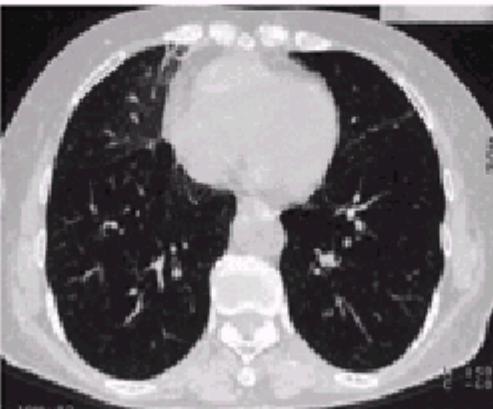
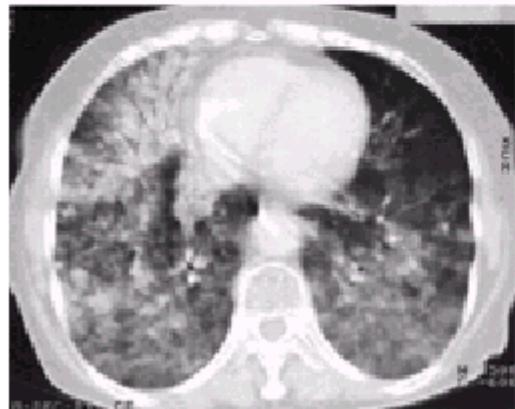
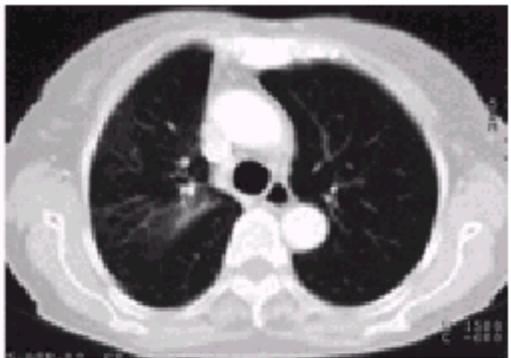
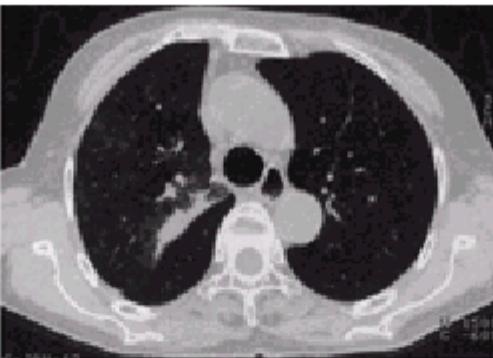
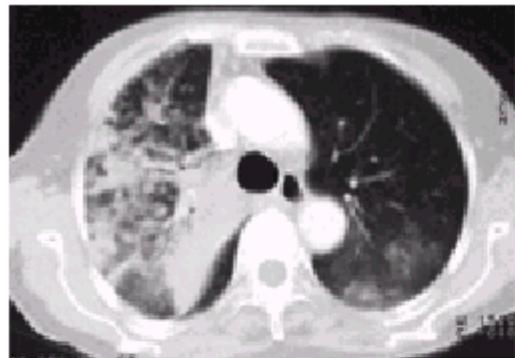
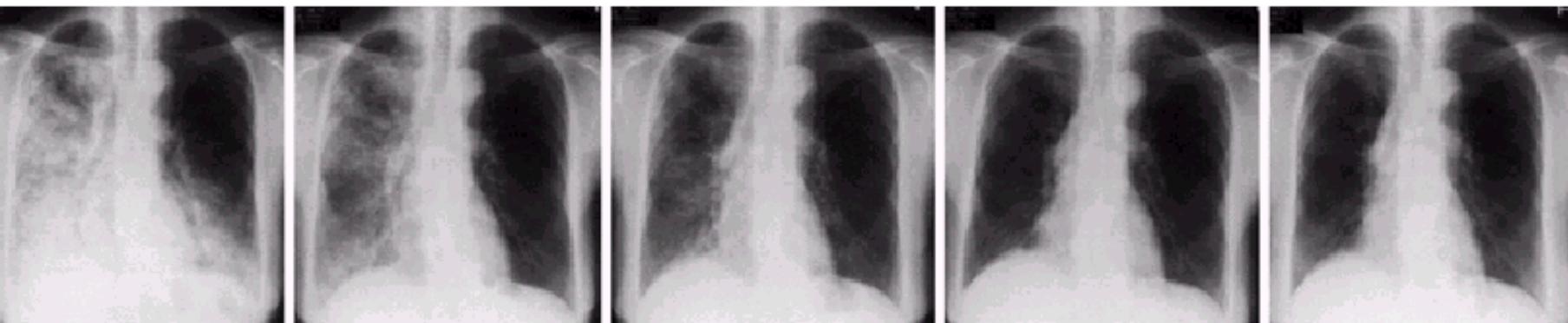
Before treatment

Day 3

Day 7

Day 14

Day 127



Before treatment

Day 28

Day 127

Phase III studies

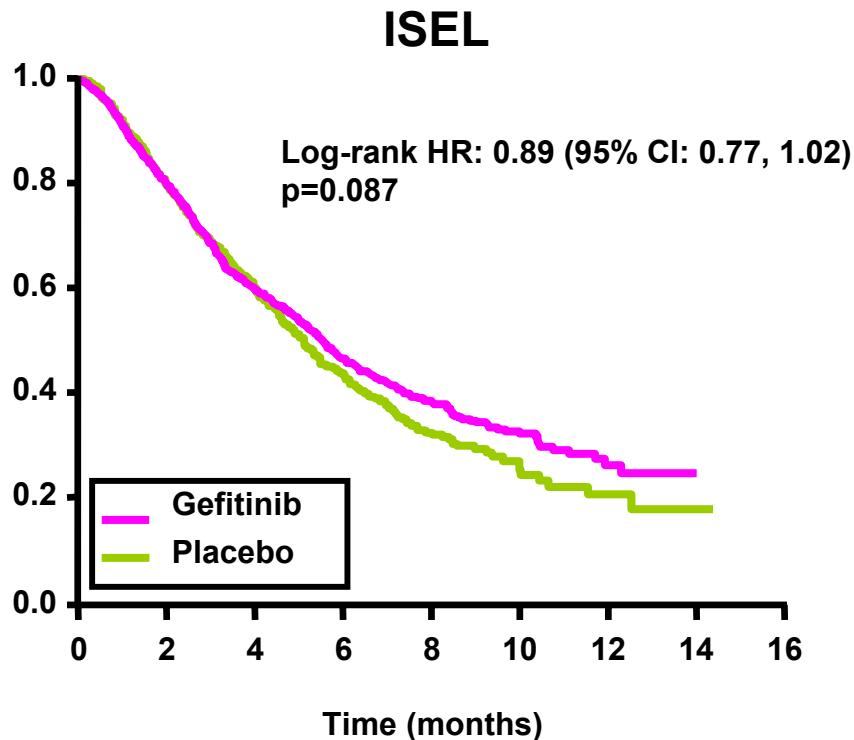
ISEL (gefitinib)

Previous treatment: platinum

Cases: 1129 gefitinib, 563 placebo

Response rate: Gefitinib: 8%, Placebo 1%.

Ov.survival: Gefitinib: 27 months, Placebo 21.



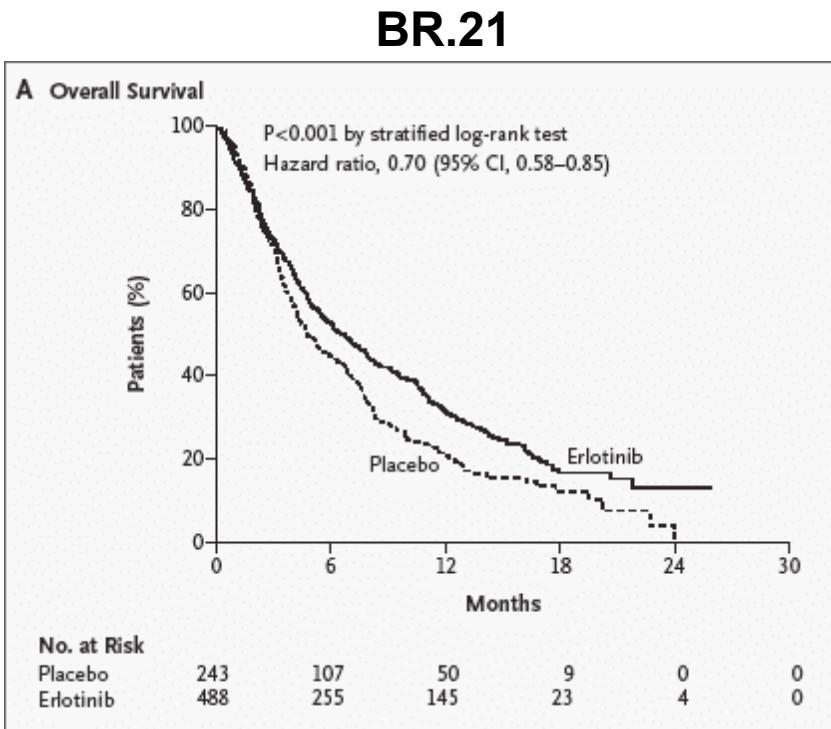
BR-21 (erlotinib)

Previous treatment: platinum

Cases: 488 Erlotinib, 243 placebo

Response rate: Gefitinib: 9%, Placebo 1%.

Ov.survival: Erlotinib: 31 months, Placebo 22.



Response in subgroup of patients



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

MAY 20, 2004

VOL. 350 NO. 21

Activating Mutations in the Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Underlying Responsiveness of Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer to Gefitinib

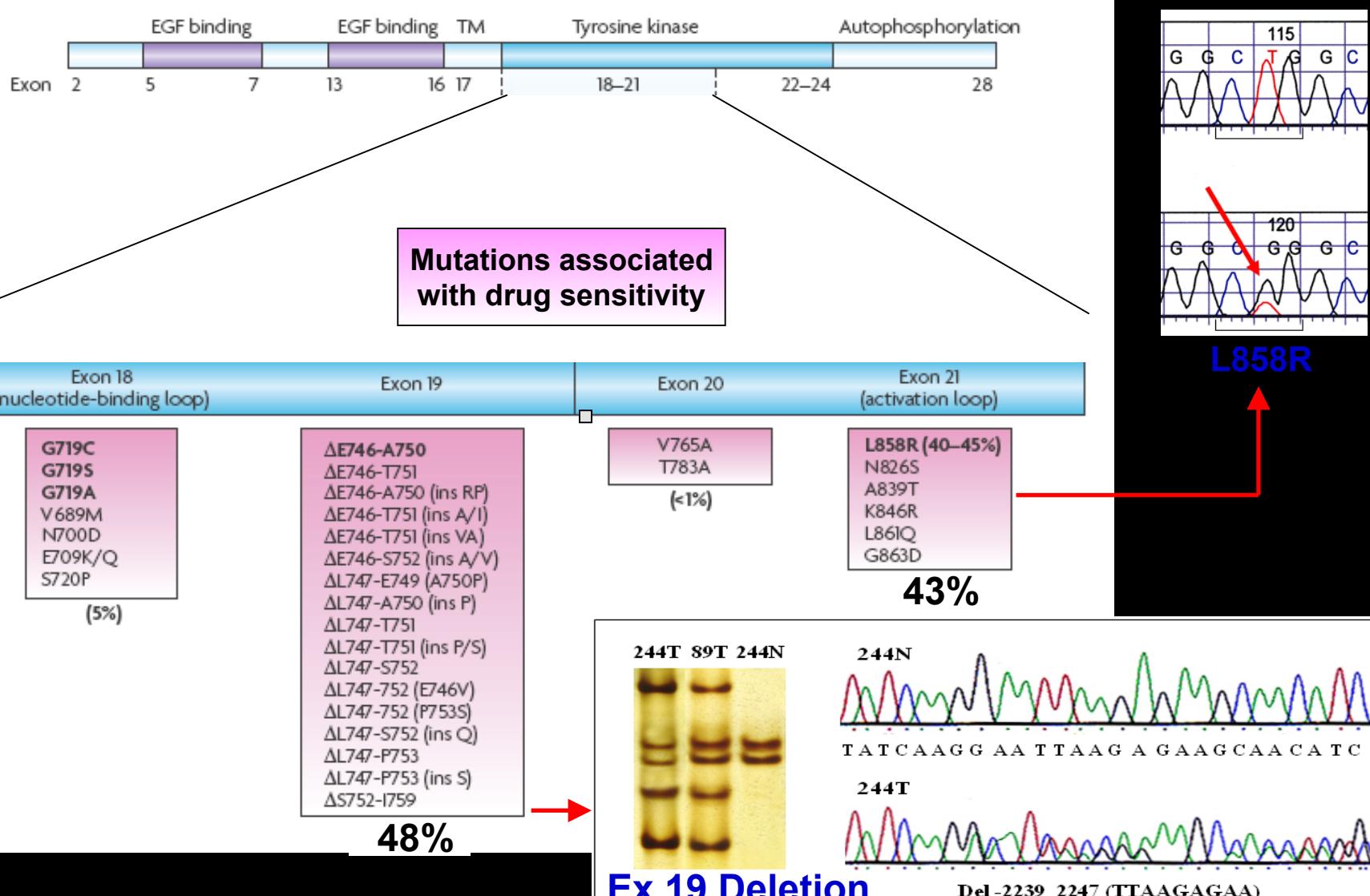
Thomas J. Lynch, M.D., Daphne W. Bell, Ph.D., Raffaella Sordella, Ph.D., Sarada Gurubhagavatula, M.D., Ross A. Okimoto, B.S., Brian W. Brannigan, B.A., Patricia L. Harris, M.S., Sara M. Haserlat, B.A., Jeffrey G. Supko, Ph.D., Frank G. Haluska, M.D., Ph.D., David N. Louis, M.D., David C. Christiani, M.D., Jeff Settleman, Ph.D., and Daniel A. Haber, M.D., Ph.D.

SCIENCE VOL 304, 4 June 2004

EGFR Mutations in Lung Cancer: Correlation with Clinical Response to Gefitinib Therapy

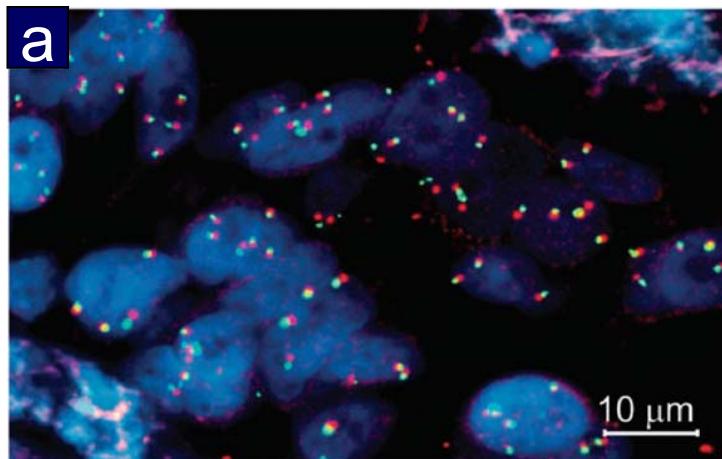
J. Guillermo Paez,^{1,2*} Pasi A. Jänne,^{1,2*} Jeffrey C. Lee,^{1,3*}
Sean Tracy,¹ Heidi Greulich,^{1,2} Stacey Gabriel,⁴ Paula Herman,¹
Frederic J. Kaye,⁵ Neal Lindeman,⁶ Titus J. Boggon,^{1,3}
Katsuhiko Naoki,¹ Hidefumi Sasaki,⁷ Yoshitaka Fujii,⁷
Michael J. Eck,^{1,3} William R. Sellers,^{1,2,4†}
Bruce E. Johnson,^{1,2†} Matthew Meyerson^{1,3,4†}

Pathology of EGFR Mutants

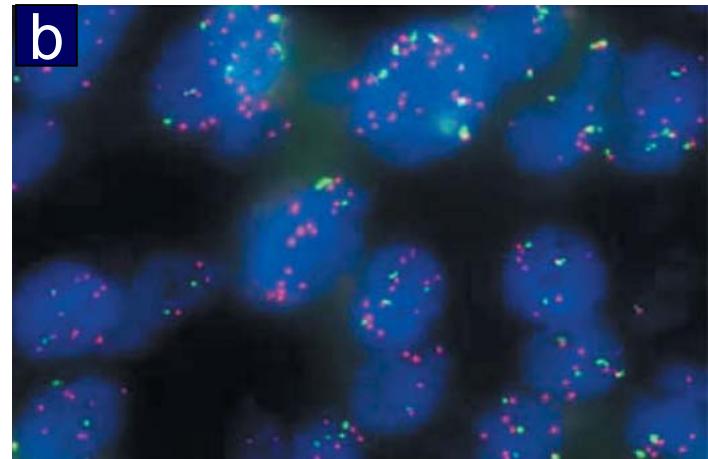


EGFR gene copy number

FISH



High polysomy



EGFR1 gene amplification

Patient with lung ADK

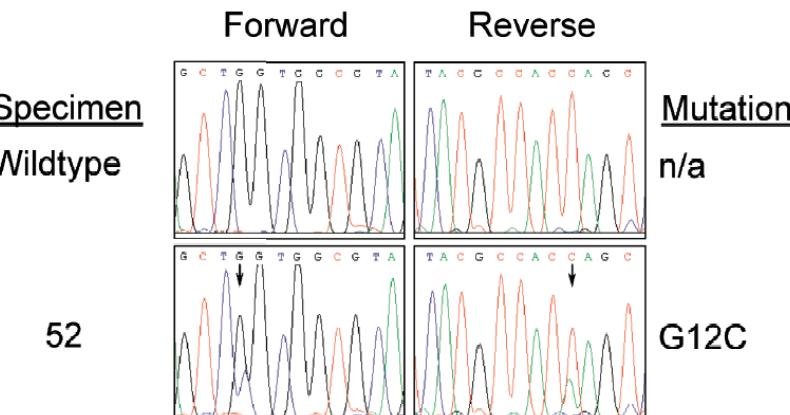
Mutational analysis

Gene copy number analysis (FISH)

KRAS Mutations and Primary Resistance of Lung Adenocarcinomas to Gefitinib or Erlotinib

William Pao^{1,2*}, Theresa Y. Wang¹, Gregory J. Riely², Vincent A. Miller², Qiulu Pan³, Marc Ladanyi³, Laureen F. Zakowski³, Robert T. Heelan⁴, Mark G. Kris², Harold E. Varmus¹

¹ Program in Cancer Biology and Genetics, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, United States of America, ² Department of Medicine, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, United States of America, ³ Department of Pathology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, United States of America, ⁴ Department of Radiology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, United States of America



52

Table 1. EGFR and KRAS Mutation Status in Lung Adenocarcinomas Sensitive or Refractory to Gefitinib or Erlotinib

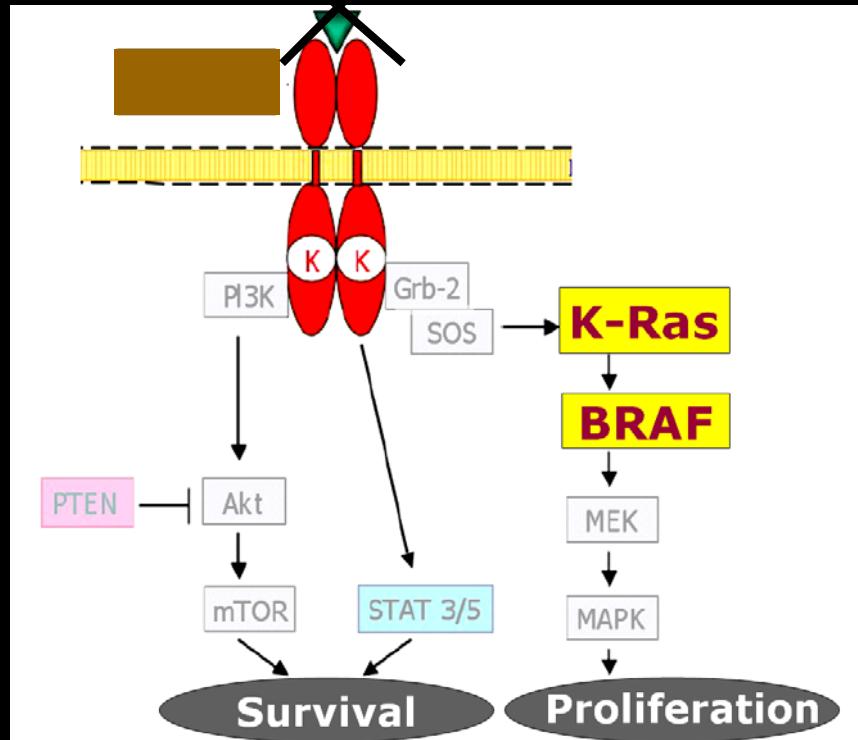
Drug	Gene Mutated	Proportion Sensitive	Proportion Refractory	p-Value
Gefitinib	EGFR	9/12	0/12	0.0034
	KRAS	0/12	5/12	0.0373
Erlotinib	EGFR	8/10	0/26	1.487×10^{-6}
	KRAS	0/9 ^a	4/26	0.5531 ^b
Gefitinib or Erlotinib	EGFR	17/22	0/38	6.801×10^{-11}
	KRAS	0/21 ^a	9/38	0.0201

Intrinsic resistance to TKI

K-ras mutations

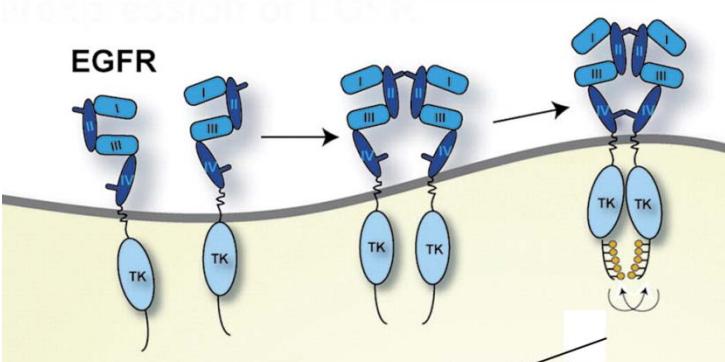


Resistance to TKI



Receptor (EGFR) in Colorectal Cancer

Overexpression of EGFR

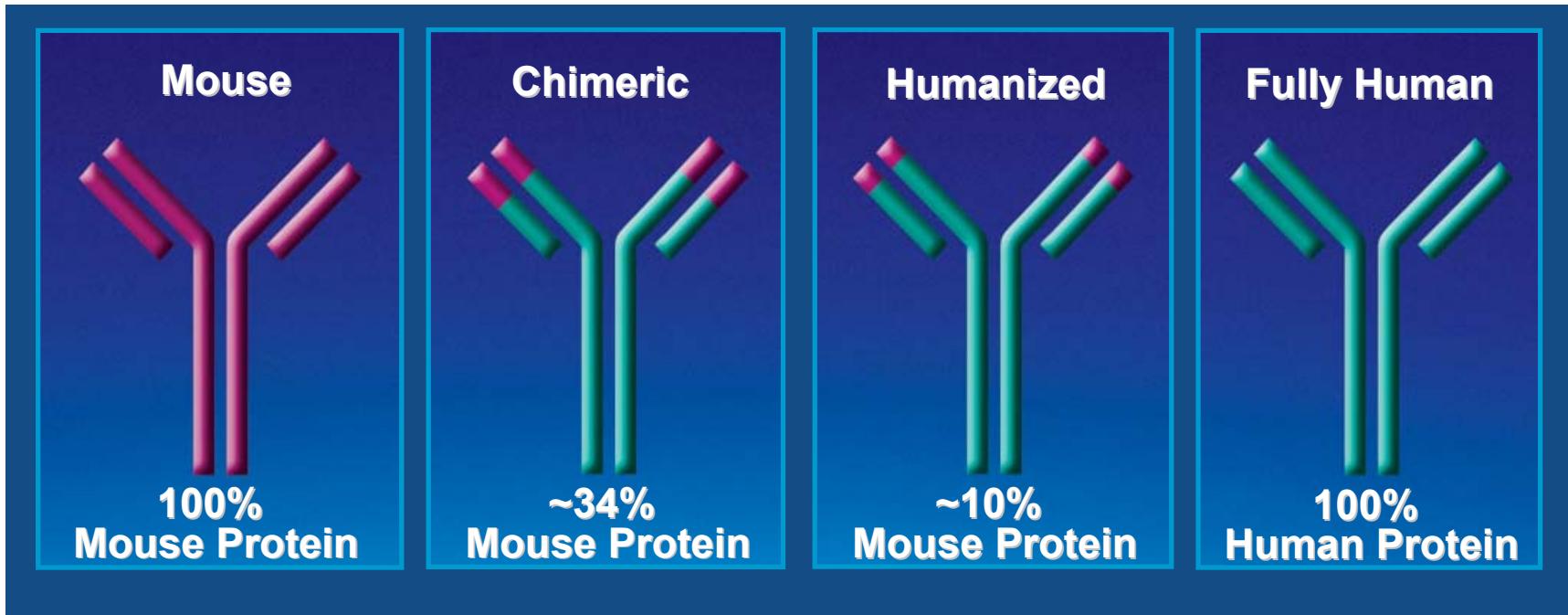


Oncogenic signalling

In vitro and in vivo data indicate that:

- preventing the binding of ligands to EGFR results in inhibition of tumor cell growth
- monoclonal antibodies can inhibit the binding of ligands

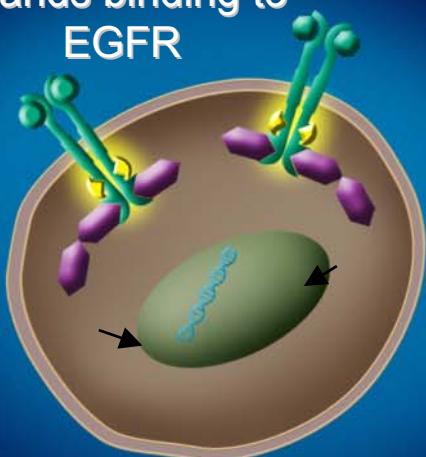
The Development of Human Monoclonal Antibodies



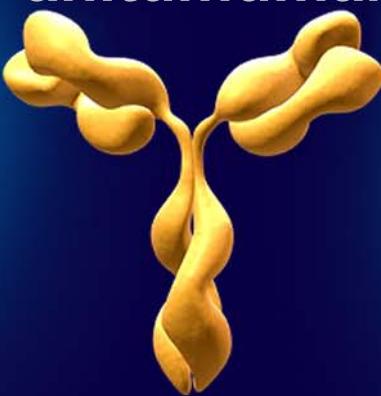
panitumumab

Panitumumab Inhibits Ligand Binding to EGFR and Dimerization

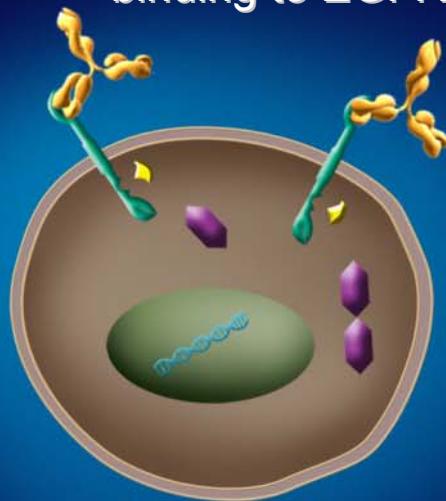
EGF, TGF α or other ligands binding to EGFR



Panitumumab



Inhibition of EGF and TGF α binding to EGFR



- A fully human* IgG2 monoclonal antibody to EGFR
- High affinity, $K_D = 5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ M}$
- Inhibits ligand-induced EGFR tyrosine phosphorylation

This may lead to:
↓ Cell proliferation
↓ Cell survival
↓ Angiogenesis
↓ Metastatic spread

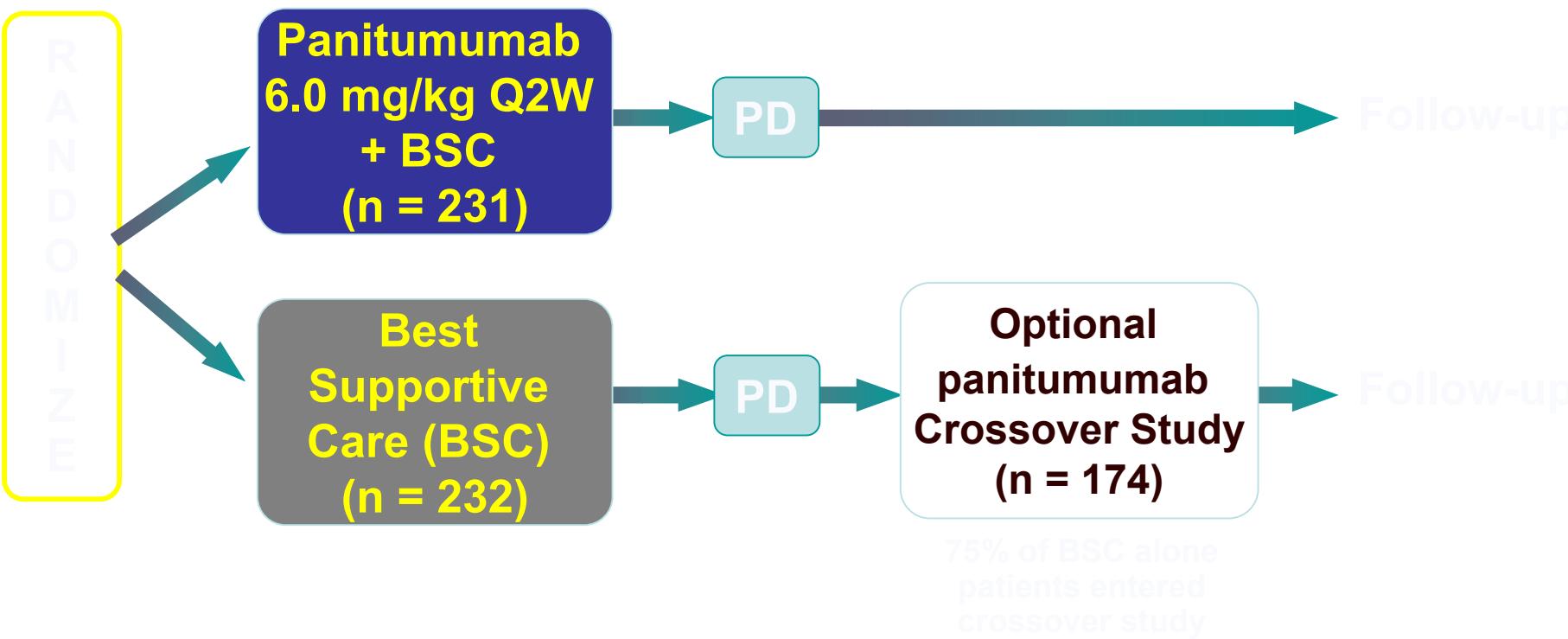
Panitumumab pharmacokinetics

- Panitumumab administered as a single agent or in combination with chemotherapy exhibits nonlinear pharmacokinetics
- Steady-state is obtained after 3 doses at 6 mg/kg given once every 2 weeks without the need of a loading dose
- The mean half-life value during the dosing interval is 7.5 days (range: 3.6 -10.9 days) for the 6 mg/kg dose

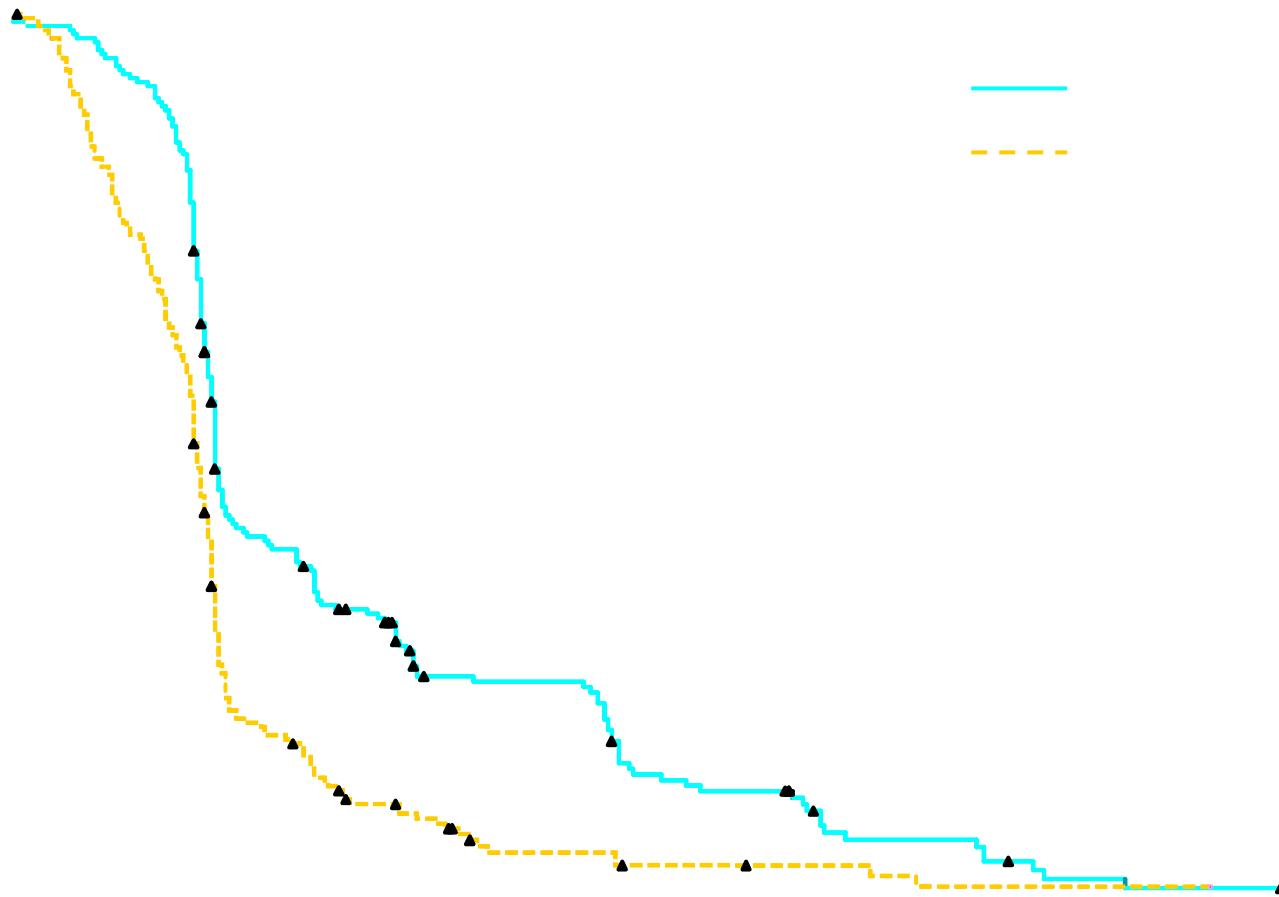
Based on preliminary data on outcomes in colorectal cancer, a large, randomized, phase 3 trial in EGFR-expressing tumors of patients with metastatic colorectal cancer resistant to 2 lines of chemotherapy was designed.

Study Design

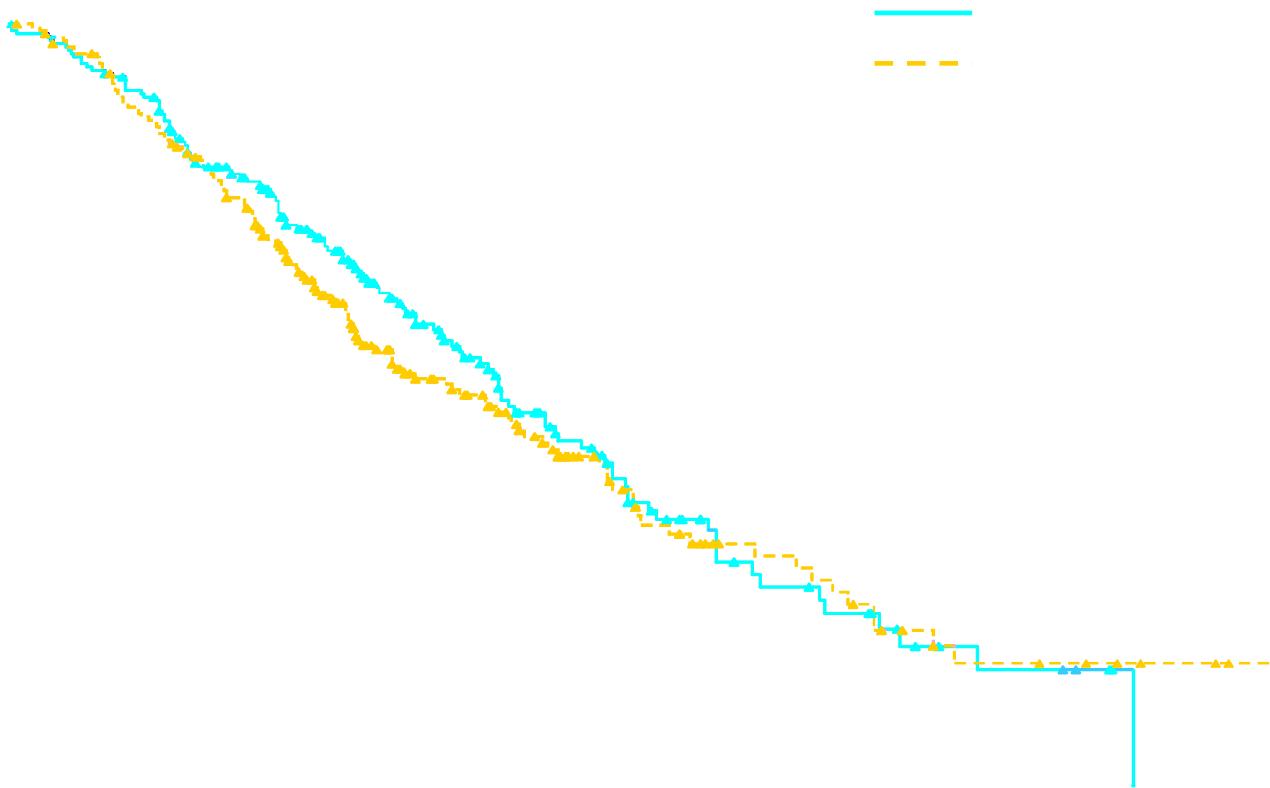
Van Cutsem E et al JCO 2007; 25(13):1658-1664



Progression-Free Survival



Overall Survival (All Randomized Analysis Set)



Skin Toxicities Are the Most Common Adverse Events With Panitumumab



- Dermatologic toxicities 89% of patients
- 12% grade 3

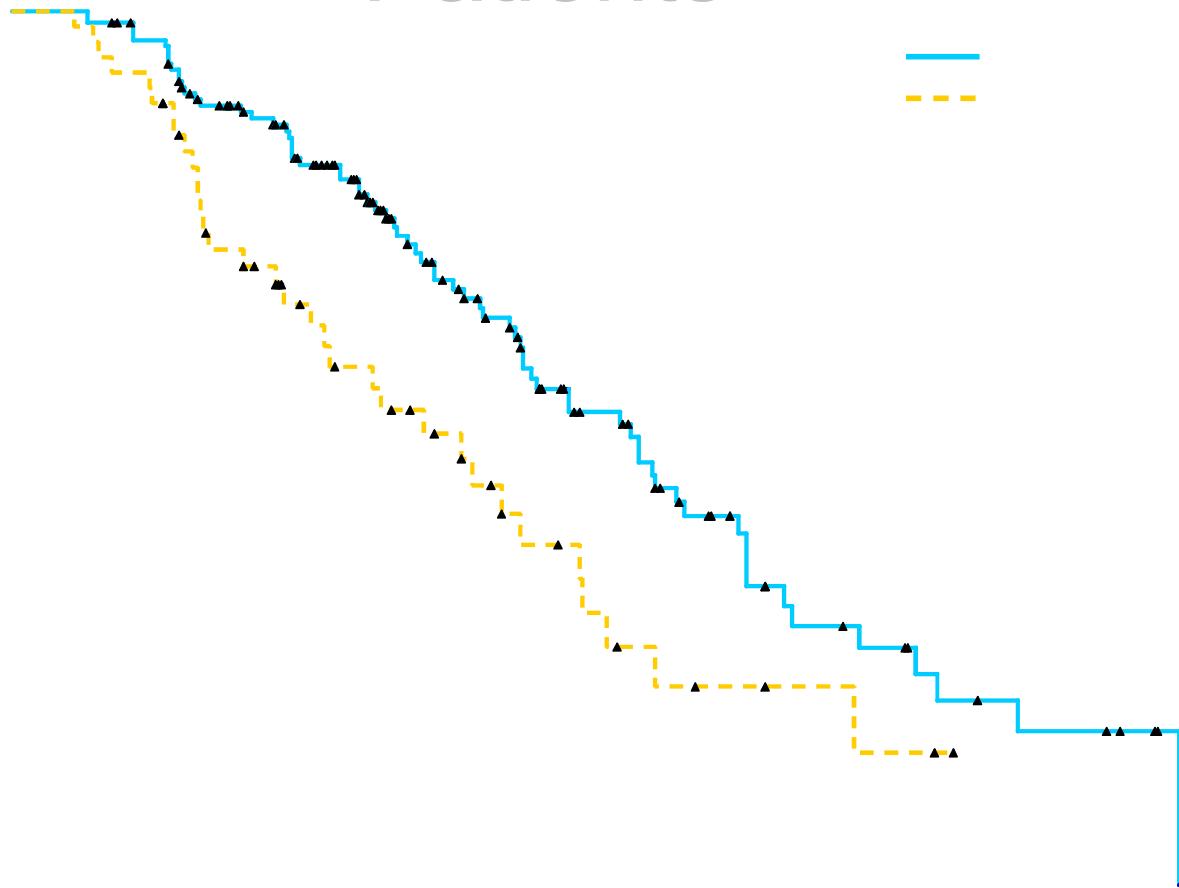
Skin Toxicity was the Most Commonly Reported Adverse

Panitumumab + BSC
(n = 229)

BSC alone
(n = 234)

Adverse Event	Panitumumab + BSC (n = 229)		BSC alone (n = 234)	
	All grades	Grade 3-4	All grades	Grade 3-4
All Skin/integument toxicity	90%	16%	9%	0%
Skin	90%	14%	6%	0%
Erythema	65%	5%	1%	0%
Acneiform dermatitis	57%	7%	1%	0%
Pruritus	57%	2%	2%	0%
Skin exfoliation	25%	2%	0%	0%
Rash	22%	1%	1%	0%
Skin fissures	20%	1%	<1%	0%
Dry skin	10%	0%	0%	0%
Acne	13%	1%	0%	0%
Nail				
Paronychia	25%	2%	0%	0%
Other nail disorder	9%	0%	0%	0%
Hair				
Growth of eyelashes	9%	0%	1%	0%
Eye	15%	<1%	2%	0%

Skin Toxicity in the Panitumumab Patients



US FDA Label

'Panitumumab has been approved for treatment of EGFR-expressing metastatic colorectal carcinoma in patients with disease progression or following chemotherapy containing fluoropyrimidine, oxaliplatin, and irinotecan'

In search for a predictive marker

- **CLINICAL MARKER:** Skin toxicity

- **BIOLOGICAL MARKERS:**

- EGFR mutations
- Immunohistochemical expression
- EGFR copy number
- K-ras mutations

EGFR mutations in CRC

N Engl J Med 2004;351:2883.

EGFR mutations: 1/293 (0,34%)

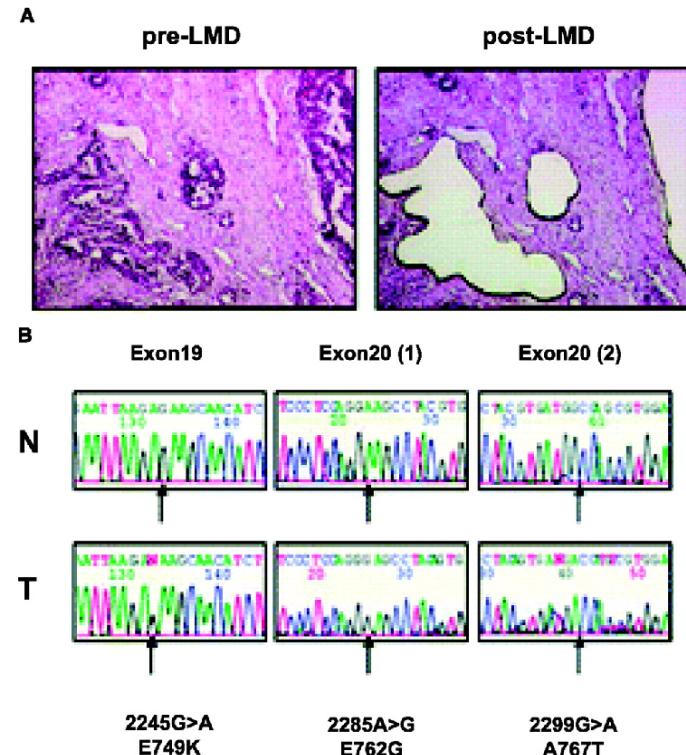
Clin Cancer Res 2005;11:1368–1371.

EGFR mutations: 4/33 (12%)

Somatic Mutations of Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor in Colorectal Carcinoma

Hisashi Nagahara,^{1,2} Koshi Mimori,¹ Mitsuhiro Ohta,¹ Tohru Utsunomiya,¹ Hiroshi Inoue,¹ Graham F. Barnard,³ Masaichi Ohira,² Kosei Hirakawa,² and Masaki Mori¹

¹Department of Surgery, Medical Institute of Bioregulation, Kyushu University, Beppu, Japan; ²Department of Surgical Oncology, Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka, Japan; and ³Department of Medicine, University of Massachusetts, Worcester, Massachusetts



EGFR mutations

4/33 (12%)

**G-A
transitions**

**Laser
microdissection**

Assessing EGFR Mutations

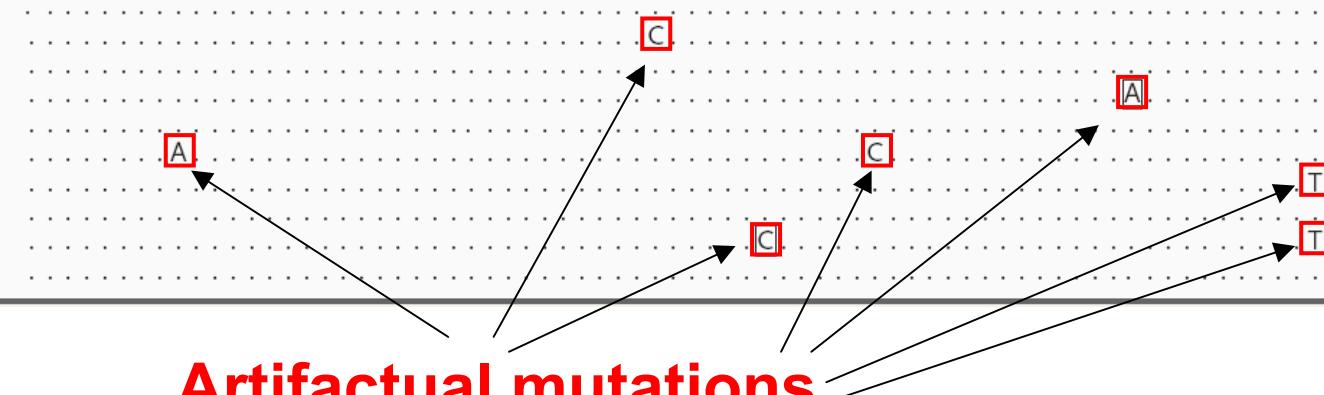
Adenocarcinoma

GGACTCTGGATCCCAGAACGGTGAGAAAGTTAAAATTCCCGTCGCTATCAAGGAATTAGAGAACATCTCGAAAGCCAACAAGGAAATCCTCGA



Normal Tissue (normal lymph node)

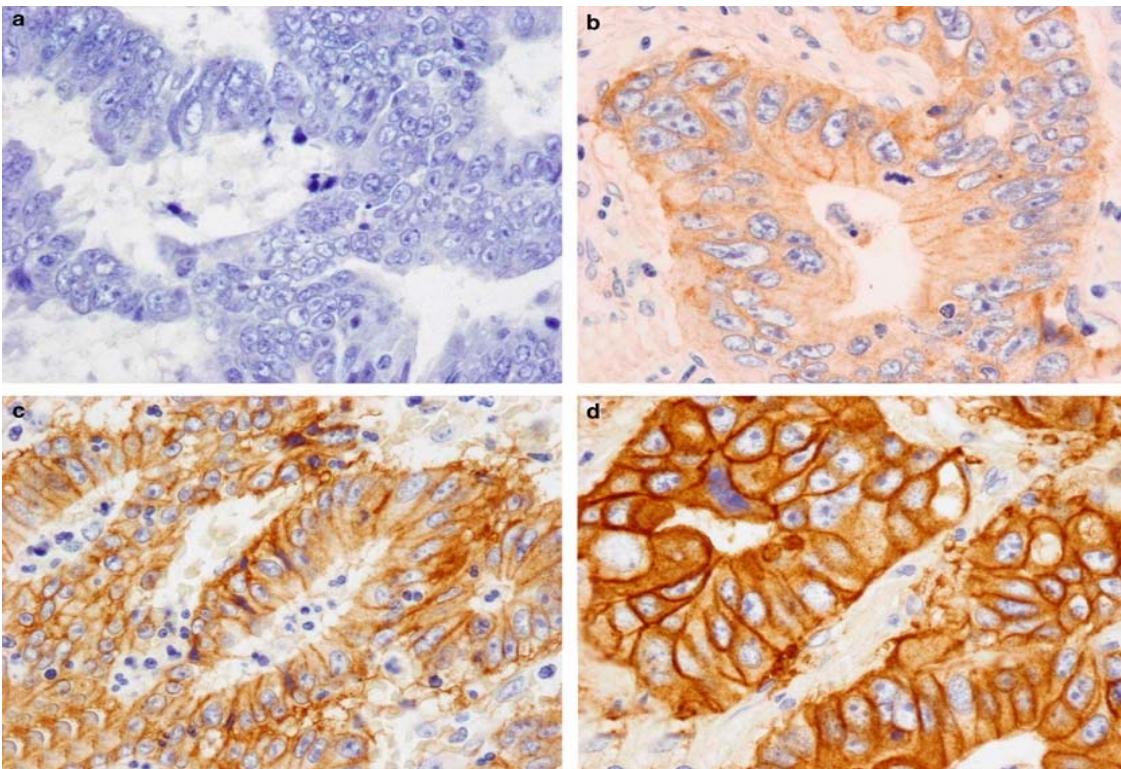
GGACTCTGGATCCCAGAACGGTGAGAAAGTTAAAATTCCCGTCGCTATCAAGGAATTAGAGAACATCTCGAAAGCCAACAAGGAAATCCTCGA



A
C
C
T
T
T

**Artifactual mutations
in normal tissues**

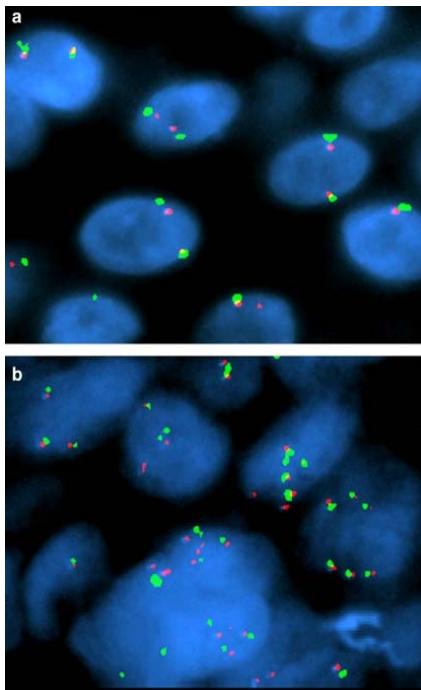
EGFR IHC expression



Cunningham D et al. N Engl J Med 351:337–345, 2004

Chung et al. J Clin Oncol 23:1803–1810, 2005

EGFR copy number



Moroni M et al. Lancet Oncol 6:279–286, 2005.
Italiano A et al. Ann Surg Oncol 15:649–654, 2008.

The Role of K-Ras in Patient Selection for Therapeutic EGFR Inhibitors

Geni della famiglia *RAS*

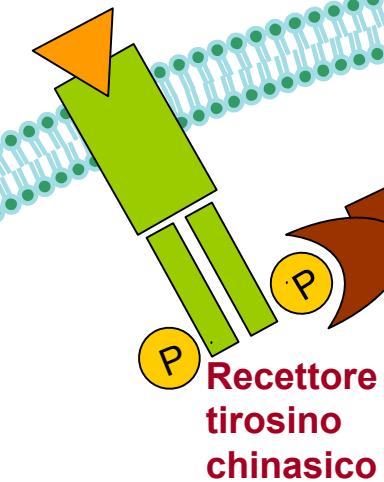
H-RAS

K-RAS

N-RAS

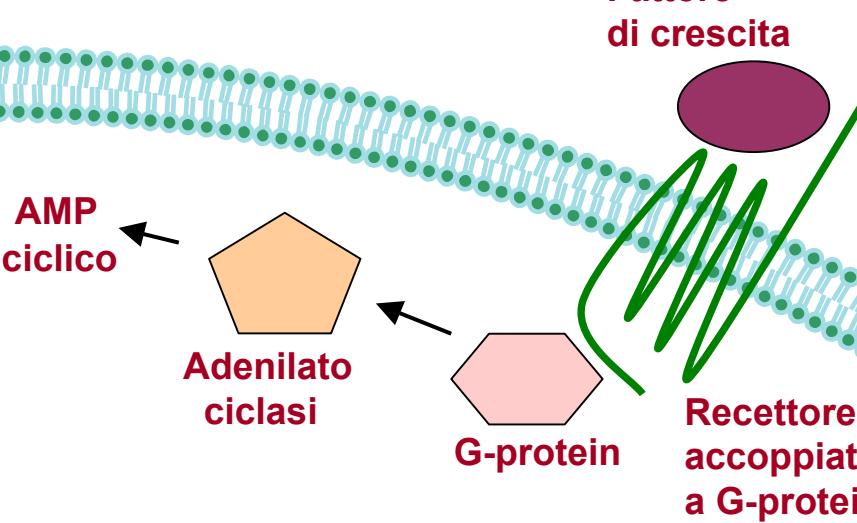
- Codificano proteine di 21 kd ad attività GTPasica

Fattore
di escita

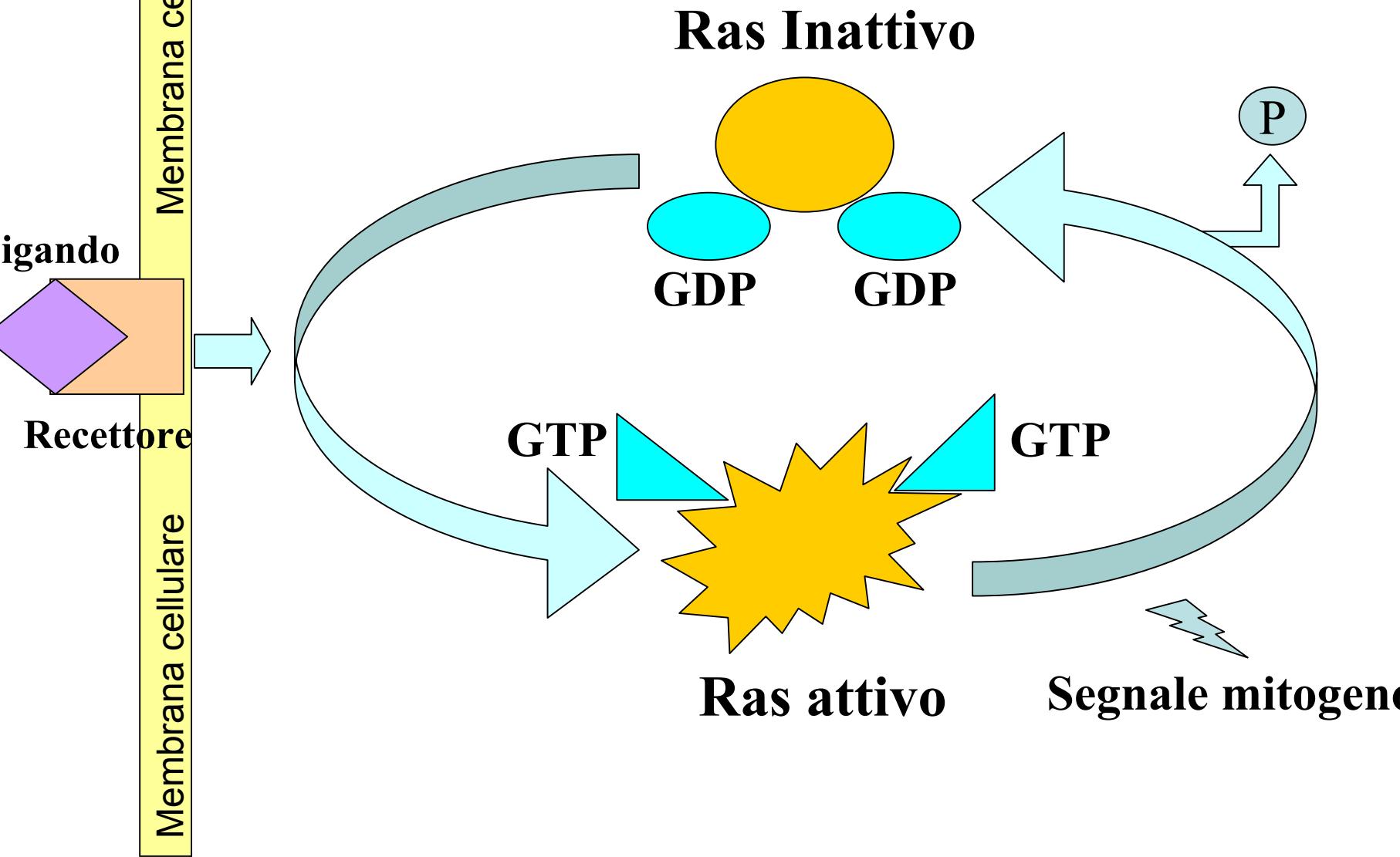


CITOPLASMA

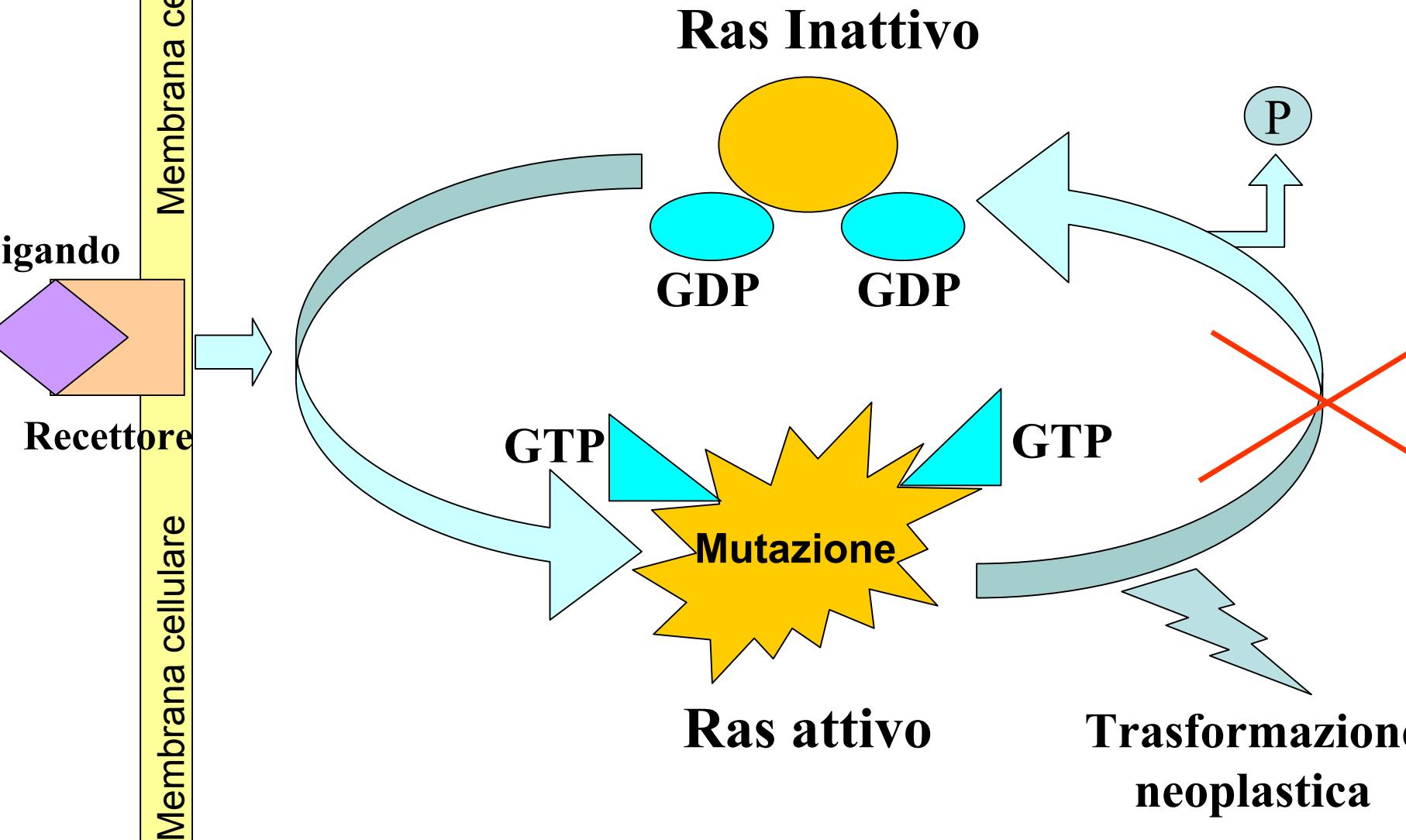
NUCLEO



IL GENE RAS



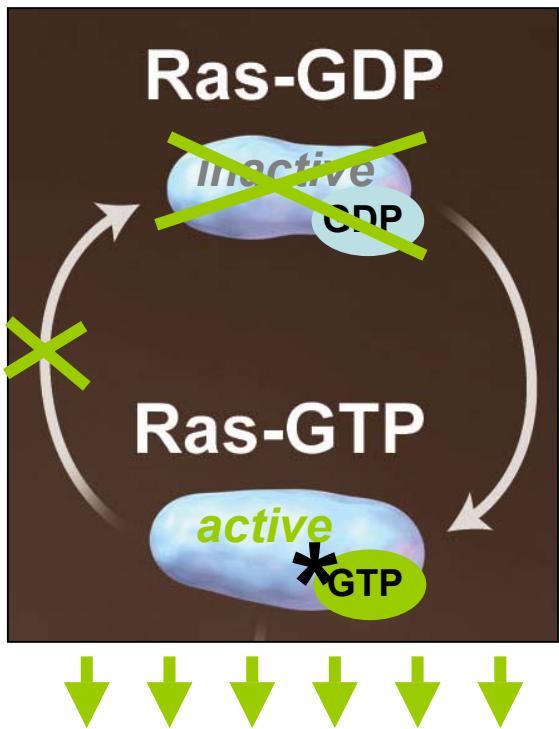
IL GENE RAS



Mutated Ras May Lead to Uncontrolled Cell Signaling and Cancer

– K-ras mutations

- Mutations at codon 12, 13 (exon 2) and 61 (exon 3) near the GTP binding site.
- Mutated proteins lose their GTPase activity.
- This type of mutation is often called “dominant activating”
- There is no way for the cell to “turn off” a protein that has a dominant activating mutation



ABNORMAL

- Growth
- Proliferation
- Differentiation

1. Esteller M, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2001; 19:299-304.

2. Schubbert S, et al. *Nature Rev Cancer*. 2007; 7:295-308.

Mutated *KRAS* is Prevalent in Many Different Tumor Types

Cancer Type	Reported Incidence of Mutated <i>KRAS</i>
Pancreatic	72 – 90%
Colon	32 – 51% (40%)
Lung	15 – 33%
Ovarian	5 – 50%
Gall bladder	14 – 38%
Multiple myeloma	16 – 33%

K-Ras mutations in CRC revealed by direct sequencing

Studio	n° casi studiati	n° mutazioni	%	Codon e 12 (%)	Codon e 13 (%)
Urosevic et al. [1993]	37	17	46		
Breivik et al. [1994]	251	99	39		
Andreyev et al. [1993]	679	225	33		
Rajagopalan et al. [2002]	330	169	51		
Brink et al. [2003]	737	271	37	72	22
Moroni et al. [2005]	31	10	32	60	40
Ogino et al. [2005]	30	10	33	60	40
Lièvre et al. [2006]	30	13	43		
Benvenuti et al. [2007]	48	16	33	63	37
Wojcik et al. [2008]	163	57	35	66	22
Benvenuti et al. [2008]	175	70	44		
Freeman et al. [2008]	62	24	39		
Totale	2573	981	38	64	32

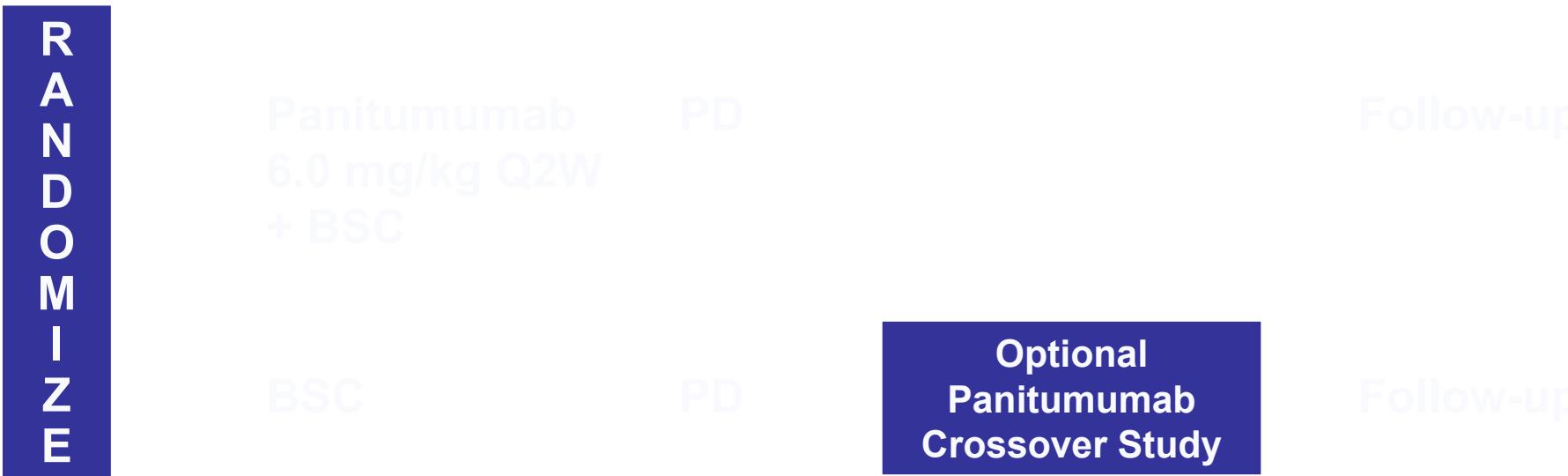
Single-Arm Studies Support the Hypothesis for KRAS as a Biomarker for EGFR Inhibitors

Reference	Treatment (panitumumab or cetuximab)	No of patients (WT:MT)	Objective Response N (%)	
			MT	WT
Révé et al. (AACR Proceedings, 2007)	cmab ± CT	76 (49:27)	0 (0)	24 (49)
S. Benvenuti, et al. (Cancer Res, 2007)	pmab or cmab or cmab + CT	48 (32:16)	1 (6)	10 (31)
W. De Roock, et al. (ASCO Proceedings, 2007)	cmab or cmab + irinotecan	113 (67:46)	0 (0)	27 (40)
D. Finocchiaro, et al. (ASCO Proceedings, 2007)	cmab ± CT	81 (49:32)	2 (6)	13 (26)
F. Di Fiore, et al. (Br J Cancer, 2007)	cmab + CT	59 (43:16)	0 (0)	12 (28)
S. Khambata-Ford, et al. (J Clin Oncol, 2007)	cmab	80 (50:30)	0 (0)	5 (10)
TOTAL		457 (290:167)	3 (1.7)	91 (20)

KRAS Analysis of a Phase 3, Randomized Trial Comparing Panitumumab vs Best Supportive Care (BSC) in Colorectal Cancer

Amado R et al. JCO:26 (10) April 2008.

Hypothesis:



Method Used to Detect KRAS Mutational Status

- DNA was isolated from fixed tumor samples
- Mutant *KRAS* was detected using a *KRAS* mutation kit (DxS Ltd, Manchester, UK) that used allele-specific, real-time PCR



THERASCREEN: K-RAS MUTATION TEST KIT

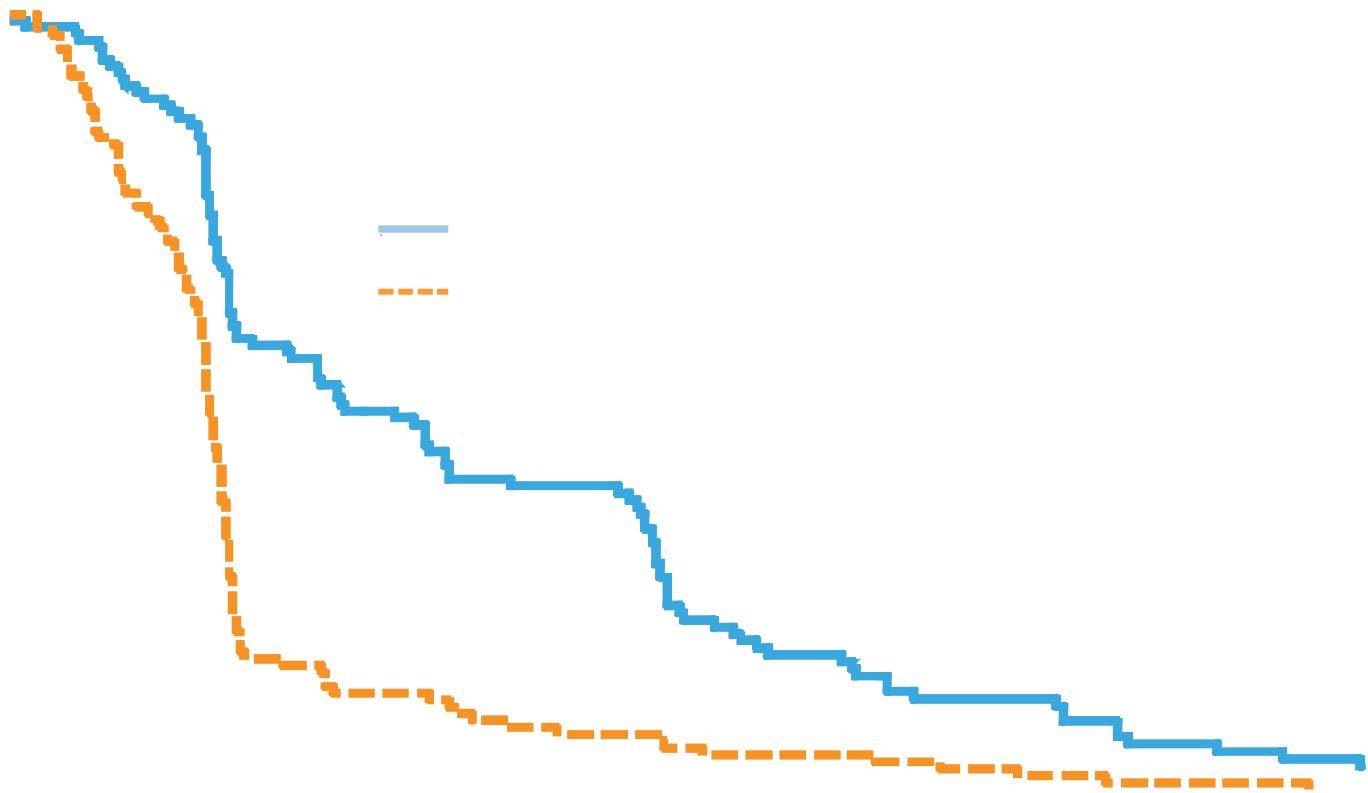
TheraScreen: K-RAS Mutation kit is the first molecular companion diagnostic to support targeted therapies in colorectal cancer. The kit detects seven mutations in codons 12 and 13 of the K-RAS oncogene.

RESULTS

Prevalence of Mutant *KRAS*

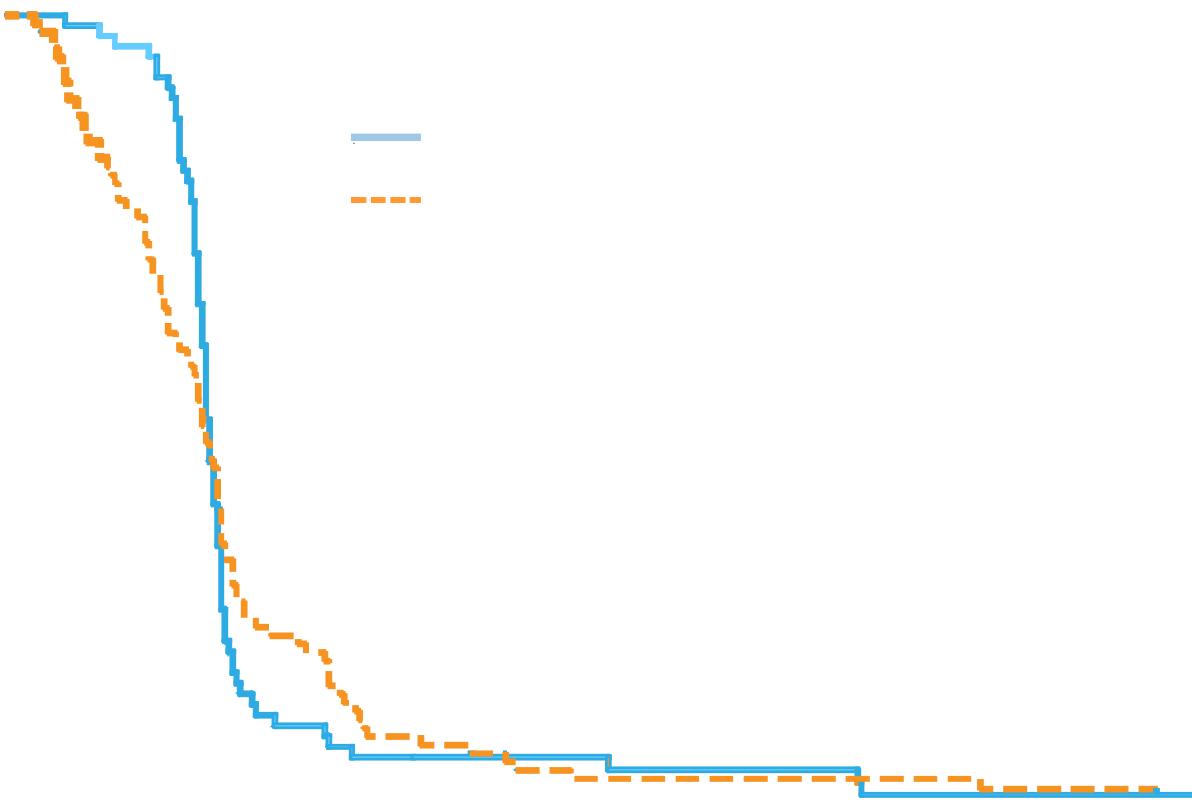
	Total
Patients included in <i>KRAS</i> analysis, n (%)	427 (92)
Wild-type <i>KRAS</i> , n (%)	243 (57)
Mutant <i>KRAS</i> , n (%)	184 (43)

Treatment



Mutant KRAS Subgroup

PFS by Treatment



Objective Tumor Response (Central Radiology)

		KRAS					
		All Evaluable n (%)		Mutant n (%)		Wild-type n (%)	
Response	Pmab	BSC	Pmab	BSC	Pmab	BSC	
	(N = 208)	(N = 219)	(N = 84)	(N = 100)	(N = 124)	(N = 119)	
CR	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
PR	21 (10)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	21 (17)	0 (0)	
SD	52 (25)	22 (10)	10 (12)	8 (8)	42 (34)	14 (12)	
PD	104 (50)	149 (68)	59 (70)	60 (60)	45 (36)	89 (75)	
CR, PR, SD	73 (35)	22 (10)	10 (12)	8 (8)	63 (51)	14 (12)	

PR partial response;

Objective Tumor Response (Central Radiology)

		KRAS					
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PD	104 (50)	149 (68)	59 (70)	60 (60)	45 (36)	89 (75)	
CR, PR, SD	73 (35)	22 (10)	10 (12)	8 (8)	63 (51)	14 (12)	

CR, complete response; PR partial response;

SD, stable disease;

Panitumumab (Vectibix) Anticorpo monoclonale anti- EGFr

- Parere positivo del Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP): 20 settembre 2007
- Decisione della Commissione Europea : 5 dicembre 2007
- Vectibix è indicato « *come monoterapia per il trattamento di pazienti con carcinoma colorettale metastatico esprimenti il recettore per il fattore di crescita epidermico (EGFR) dopo fallimento di regimi chemioterapici contenenti fluoropirimidine, irinotecan e/oppure capecitabina.*

Meta-Analysis

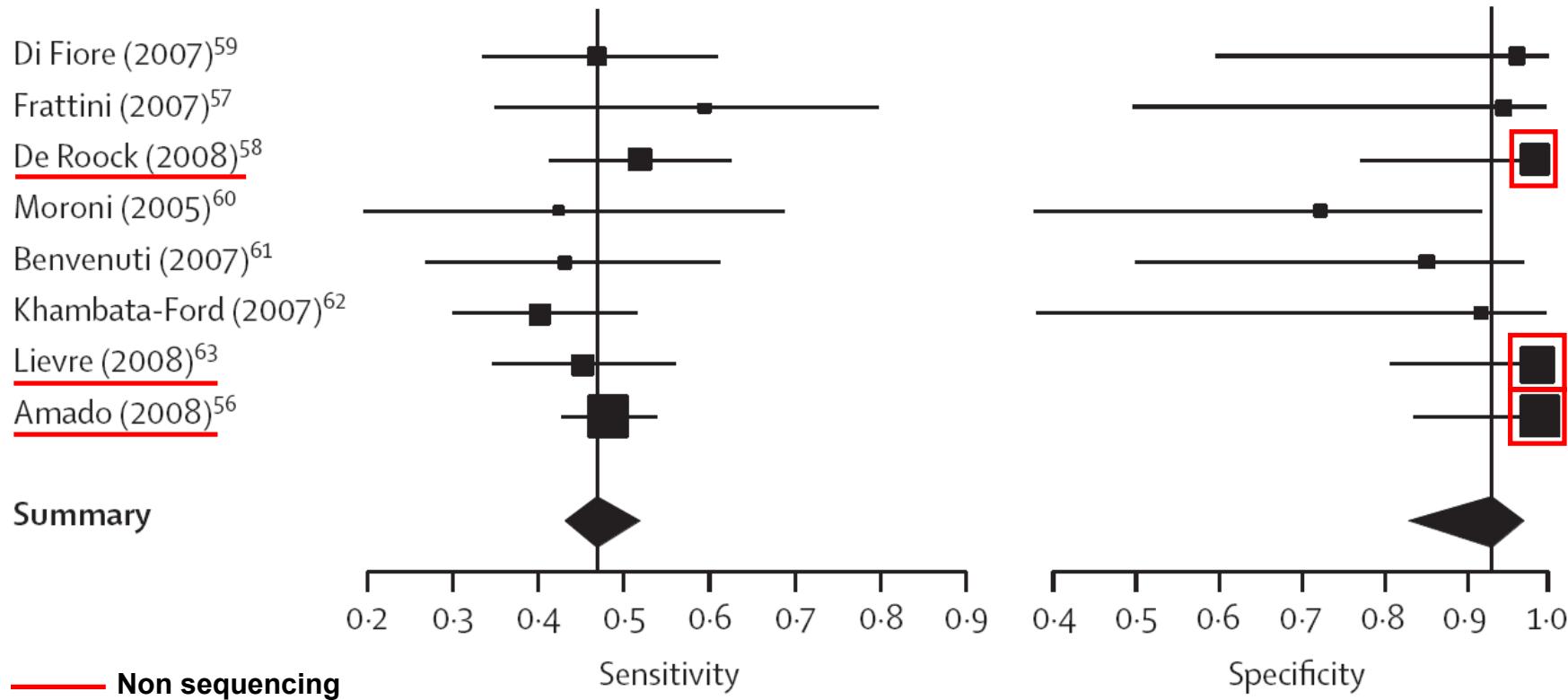
Linardeou H. *Lancet Oncol*, October 2008; 9: 962–72

	Patients included in analysis, n	k-RAS-mutation positive, n (%)	Study design	Mutation analysis	Previous treatment*	Study treatment
mado (2008) ^{56††}	376	147 (39)	Prospective	DxS	I,O,F	P±BSC
Cattini (2007) ^{57¶¶}	23	9 (39)	Retrospective	Ex2 bi-ds	≥1 chemotherapy	C+I-based; or C+CA
e Roock (2008) ⁵⁸	108	42 (39)	Retrospective	AD+sequencing	I	C+I; or C alone**
i Fiore (2007) ⁵⁹	59	22 (37)	Retrospective	Ex2 bi-ds	≥1 chemotherapy	C+I; or C+O
oroni (2005) ^{60¶¶}	20	7 (35)	Retrospective††	Ex2 bi-ds	≥1 chemotherapy	C+I based; or P alone C alone
envenuti (2007) ^{61¶¶}	37	13 (37)	Retrospective	Ex2 bi-ds	I	C+I based; or P alone C alone
ambata-Ford (2007) ⁶²	80	30 (38)	Prospective	NR	≥1 chemotherapy	C‡‡
evre (2008) ^{63§§¶¶}	114	36 (32)	Retrospective	AD+sequencing	≥1 chemotherapy	C+I; or C+FOLFIRI

Comparison of all studies and subgroups for metastatic colorectal cancer

	Sensitivity (95% CI)	p value	Specificity (95% CI)	p value	+LR	-LR	Predictive odds ratio
Overall (n=8)	0·47 (0·43–0·52)	..	0·93 (0·83–0·97)	..	6·82	0·57	12·01
MoAb							
Panitumumab (n=4)	0·48 (0·41–0·55)	0·25	0·84 (0·54–0·96)	0·86	2·95	0·62	4·74
Cetuximab (n=4)	0·41 (0·30–0·54)	..	0·86 (0·48–0·98)	..	2·94	0·68	4·30
MoAb combination							
Panitumumab (n=4)	0·48 (0·42–0·54)	0·72	0·84 (0·58–0·95)	0·21	2·95	0·62	4·74
Cetuximab±chemotherapy (n=10)	0·46 (0·40–0·53)	..	0·93 (0·83–0·97)	..	6·75	0·57	11·74
hemotherapy							
MoAb (n=8)	0·46 (0·41–0·52)	0·54	0·87 (0·69–0·95)	0·14	3·59	0·62	5·82
MoAb+chemotherapy (n=6)	0·49 (0·41–0·57)	..	0·96 (0·85–0·99)	..	11·05	0·53	20·67
Detection method*							
Sequencing (n=4)	0·47 (0·35–0·60)	0·82	0·87 (0·62–0·96)	0·02	3·65	0·61	6·01
Other (n=3)	0·48 (0·42–0·54)	..	0·99 (0·89–1·00)	..	33·36	0·52	63·58

Forest plots representing all studies for *k-RAS*-mutation sensitivity and specificity in colorectal carcinoma



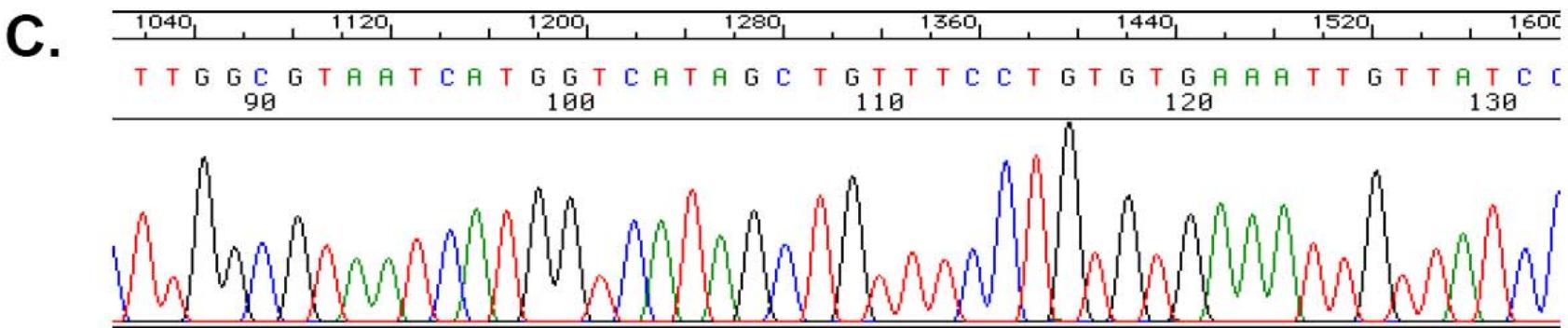
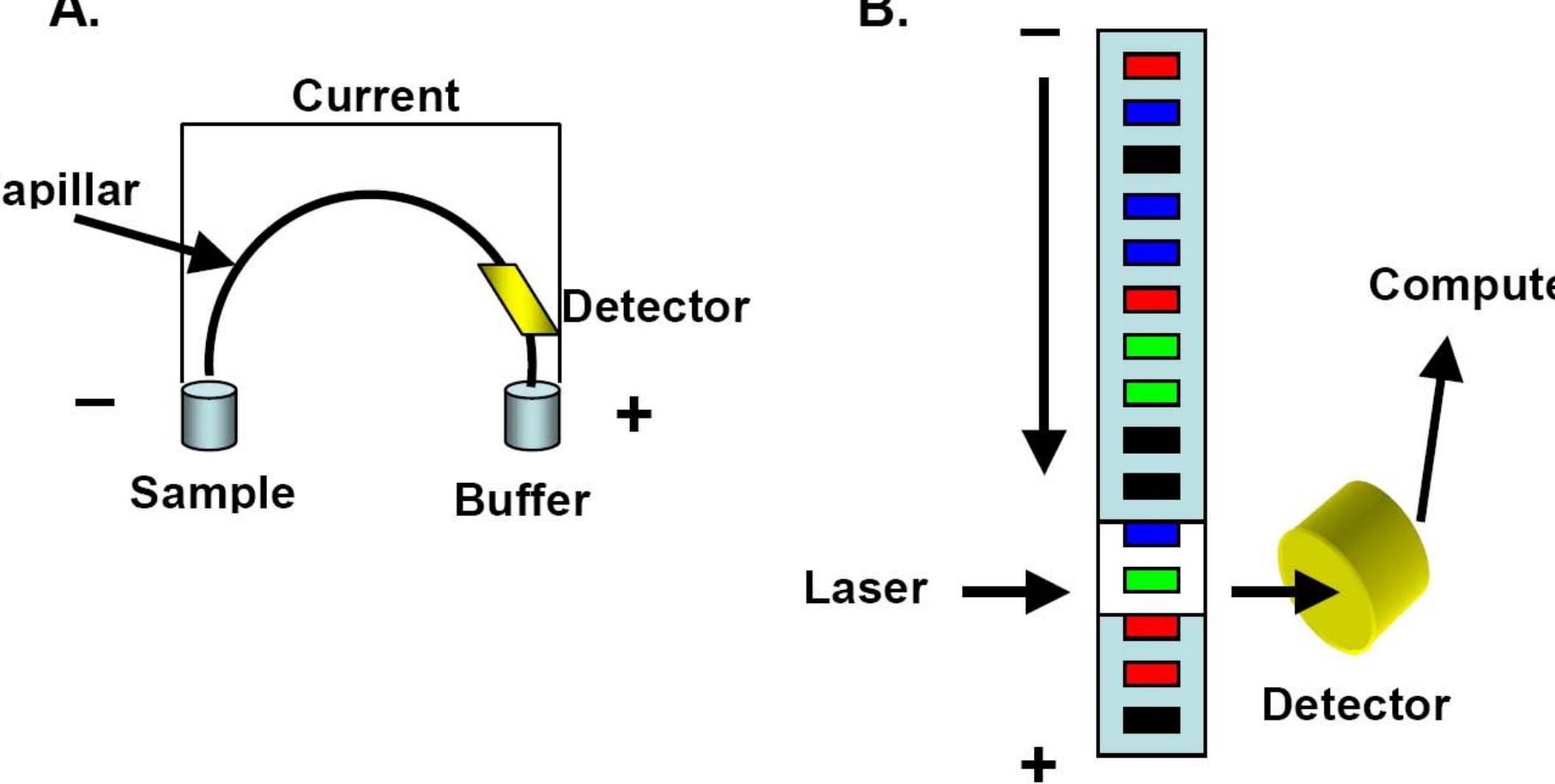
The main problem is the low sensitivity of the K-ras marker

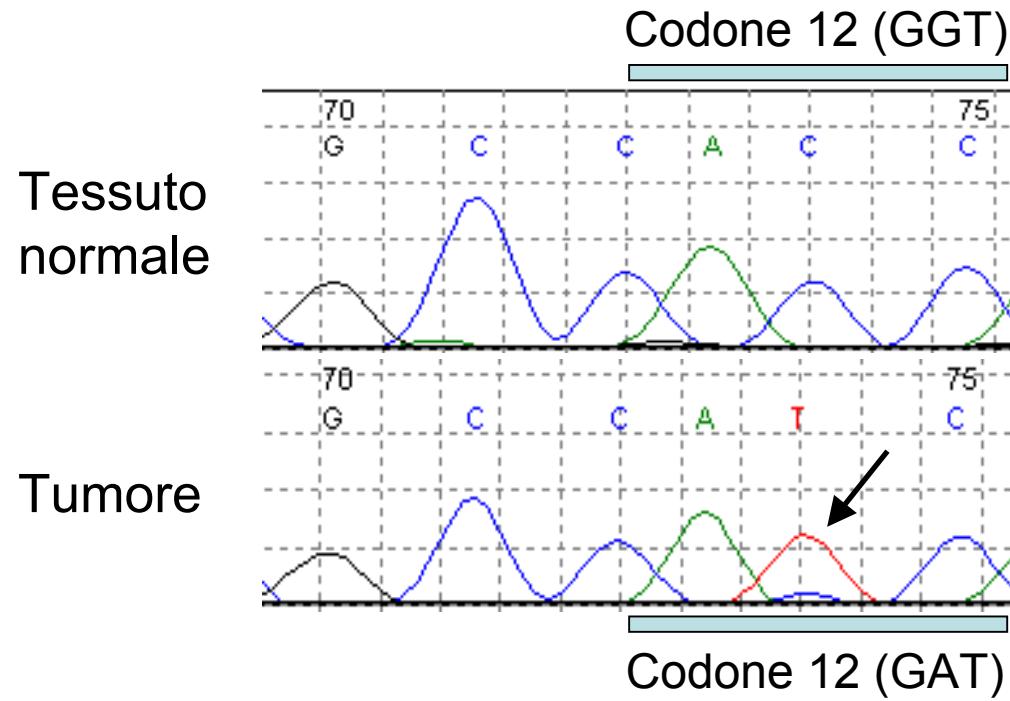
Resistenza farmacologica su base mutazionale.

Extremely sensitive techniques are needed

Direct sequencing of the PCR products







The direct sequencing is not the the most sensitive method available

Detection limit of sequencing = 1:5 (20%)

Neoplastic cells in a tumor samples 70%

The mutation is usually heterozygous 35%

Tumor polyclonal for mutation (50% of the neoplastic cells) 17%



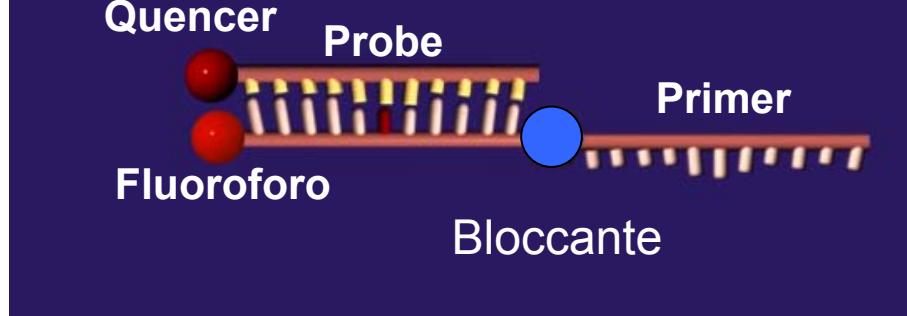
THERASCREEN: K-RAS MUTATION TEST KIT

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Technological principles

The Kit combines ARMS (allele specific PCR) with the scorpions real time PCR technology

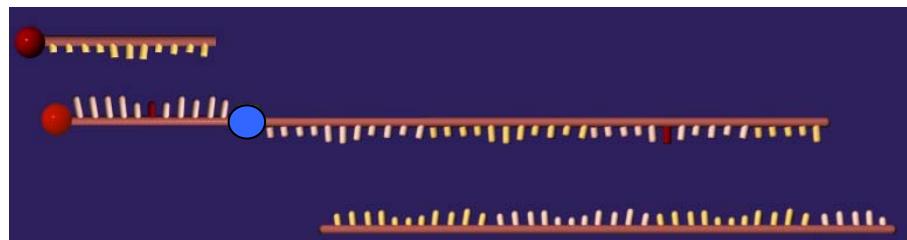
A Sonda scorpio



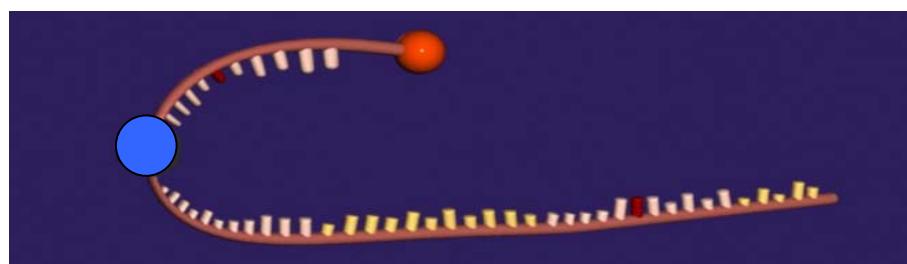
B Ibridazione al tempiato



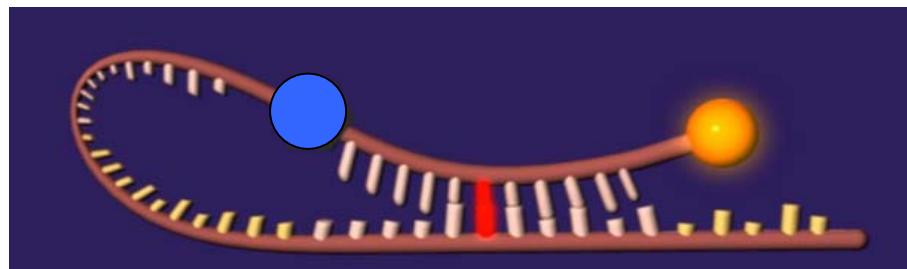
C Denaturazione



D Formazione dell'ansa



E Ibridazione ed emissione di fluorescenza



SENSITIVITY

The TERASCREEN assays can detect 1% of mutant in a background of wild type genomic DNA.

The test identifies 7 somatic mutations in codons 12 and 13

Codon 12

Gly 12 Asp
Gly 12 Ala
Gly 12 Val
Gly 12 Ser
Gly 12 Arg
Gly 12 Cys

Codon 13

Gly 13 Asp

Amado R et al. JCO:26 (10) April 2008

39% of K-ras mutations

15% in codon 13

K-ras mutations in CRC revealed by direct sequencing

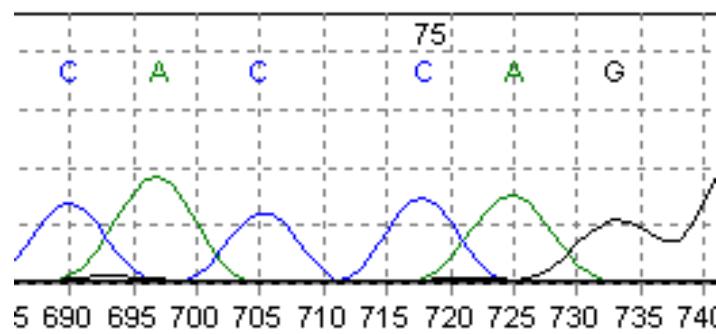
Studio	n° casi studiati	n° mutazioni	%	Codon e 12 (%)	Codon e 13 (%)
Urosevic et al. [1993]	37	17	46		
Breivik et al. [1994]	251	99	39		
Andreyev et al. [1993]	679	225	33		
Rajagopalan et al. [2002]	330	169	51		
Brink et al. [2003]	737	271	37	72	22
Moroni et al. [2005]	31	10	32	60	40
Ogino et al. [2005]	30	10	33	60	40
Lièvre et al. [2006]	30	13	43		
Benvenuti et al. [2007]	48	16	33	63	37
Wojcik et al. [2008]	163	57	35	66	22
Benvenuti et al. [2008]	175	70	44		
Freeman et al. [2008]	62	24	39		
Totale	2573	981	38	64	32



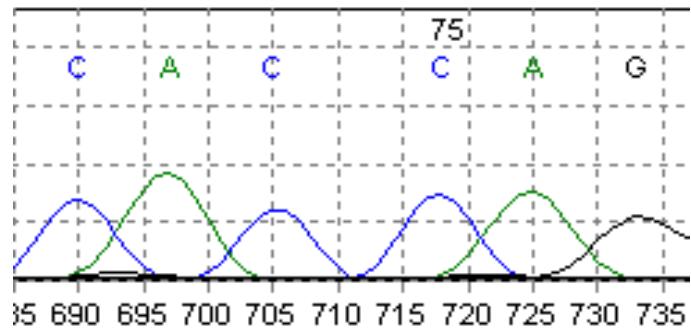
Sensitive detection of K-ras mutations

Enriched sequencing

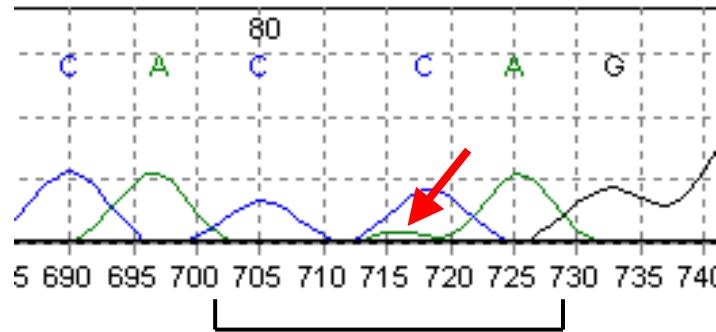
Normal Sequencing



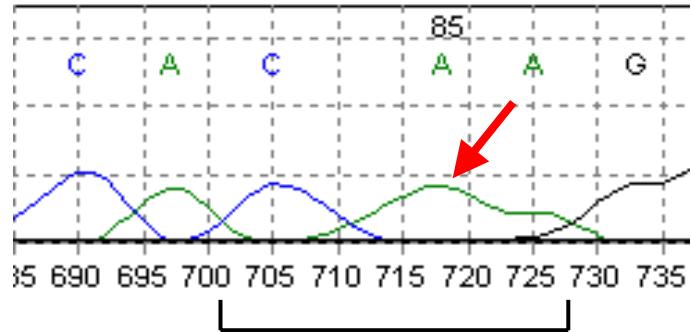
Enriched sequencing



Tumor
379T



Codon 12

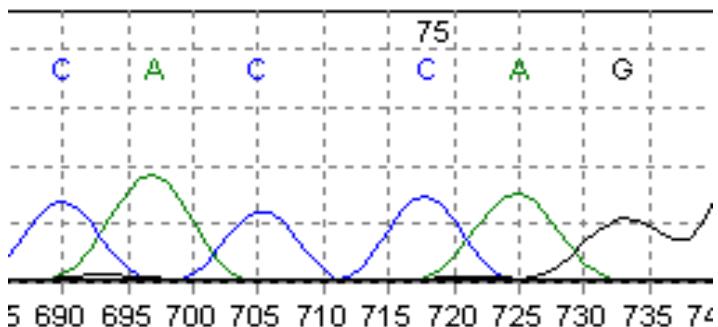


Codon 12

Sensitive detection of K-ras mutations

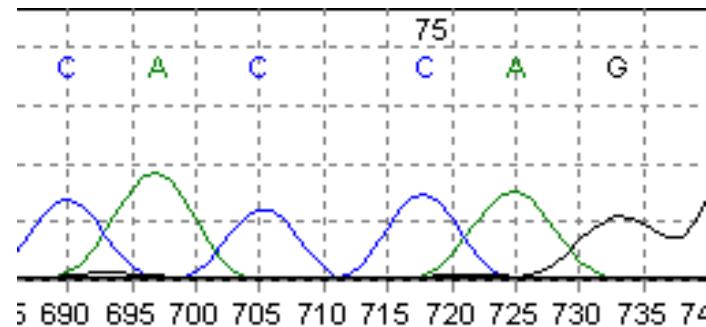
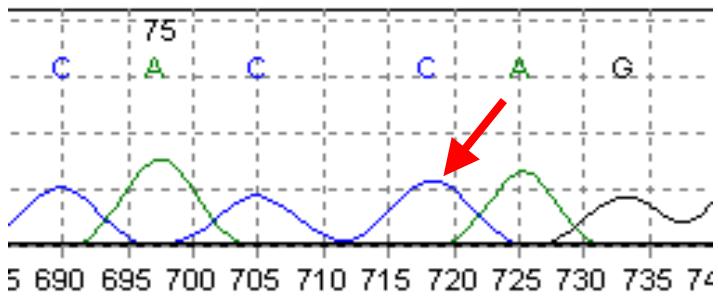
Normal Sequencing

Normal



Enriched sequencing

Tumor
382T



Detection limit of Enriched sequencing = 1:1000 (0,001%)

In a series of 90 colorectal carcinomas

METHOD	(%) of K-ras mutations
Direct sequencing:	39 %
Enriched sequencing	54 %

In a series of 126 NSCLC treated with Erlotinib :

METHOD	(%) of K-ras mutations
Direct sequencing:	17 %
Enriched sequencing	30 %



	HR (95% CI)	P
KRAS mut (Direct sequencing)	2.45 (0.92-6.319)	0.044
KRAS mut (Enriched)	3.19 (1.43-7.16)	0.005

Overall survival
(multivariate
analysis)

Ferdinand I (June 2, 1423 – January 25, 1494),

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[article](#)

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Ferdinand I of Naples

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ferdinand I of Naples should not be confused with Ferdinand I of the Two Sicilies, a latter king of Naples.

Ferdinand I (June 2, 1423 – January 25, 1494), also called Don Ferrante, was the King of Naples from 1458 to 1494. He was the natural son of Alfonso V of Aragon.

[Contents](#) [hide]

- [1 Biography](#)
- [2 Ferdinand's reputation](#)
- [3 Marriages and children](#)
- [4 Notes](#)
- [5 External links](#)



Biography

[edit]

In order to arrange a good future for Ferdinand, King Alfonso had him married in 1444 to a feudal heiress, Isabella of Taranto, who besides being the elder daughter of Tristan di Chiaromonte (Tristan de Clermont-Lodeve), Count of Copertino, and Catherine of Baux Orsini, was the niece and heiress presumptive of childless prince Giovanni Antonio del Balzo Orsini of Taranto. She was a granddaughter of Queen Mary of Enghien (mother of Giovanni and Catherine), who had been Queen Consort of Naples (Queen of Jerusalem and Sicily) in 1406-14.



Ferdinand I of Naples.

He was autopsied by an Italian team. They concluded that King Ferrante I had died of a large pelvic tumor, either prostate cancer or colorectal cancer.

Two years later, in 1996, genetic research of a small part of the tumor revealed a KRAS mutation, which is rare in prostate cancer but is frequently encountered in colorectal tumors. Concluded is that King Ferrante I of Naples died from a colorectal tumor and is therefore the earliest documented person in history who died from his cancer."

K-ras mutations in the tumour of Ferrante I of Aragon, King of Naples

A. Marchetti, S Pellegrini, G. Bevilacqua, G. Fornaciari.

Saturday 4 May 1996, vol. 347 No. 9010

K-ras mutation: G→A

