

**3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL COURSE OF PHARMACOGENETICS  
AND PERSONALIZED MEDICINE**

**Emerging pathways in Personalized Medicine:  
breaking barriers and moving forward**



# STAT3: a pivotal target for individualized treatment of cancer

Thursday 9th - Friday 10th  
February 2012

GIORGIO INGHIRAMI

Department of Biomedical Science and Human Oncology  
Center of Experimental Medicine and Research (CeRMS) University of Turin

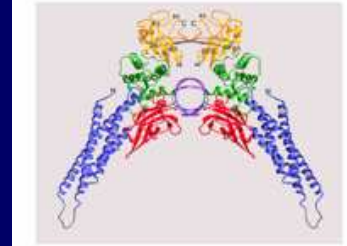




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*Discovery,*  
*Health.*



## THE JAK-STAT PATHWAY: 20 YEARS FROM DISCOVERY TO DRUGS

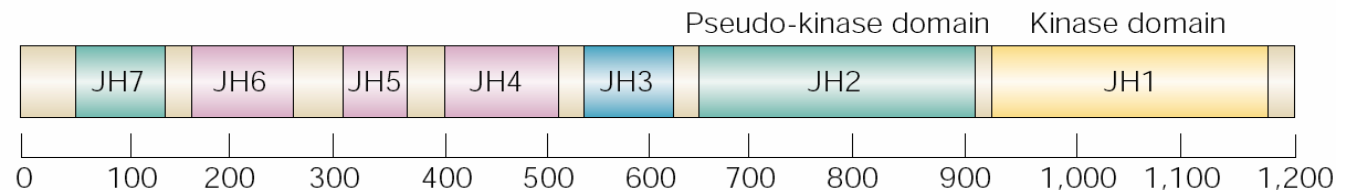
SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2011

National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

### Janus Kinase (JAK) family of tyrosine kinases

Family  
members

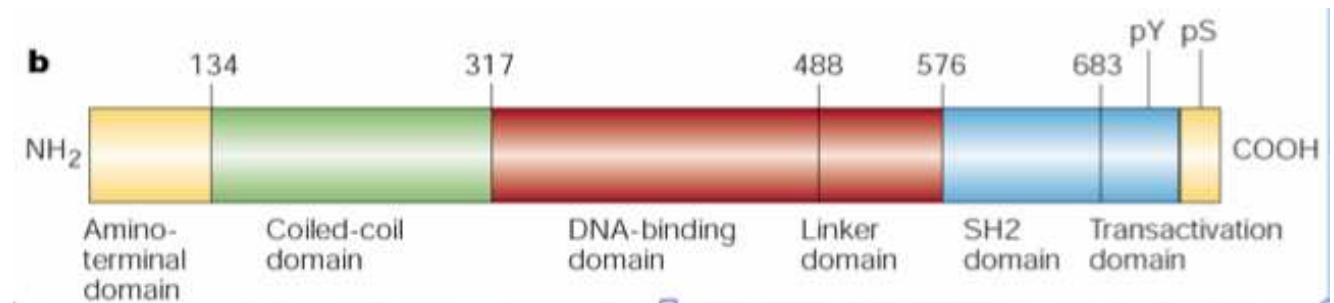
JAK1  
JAK2  
JAK3



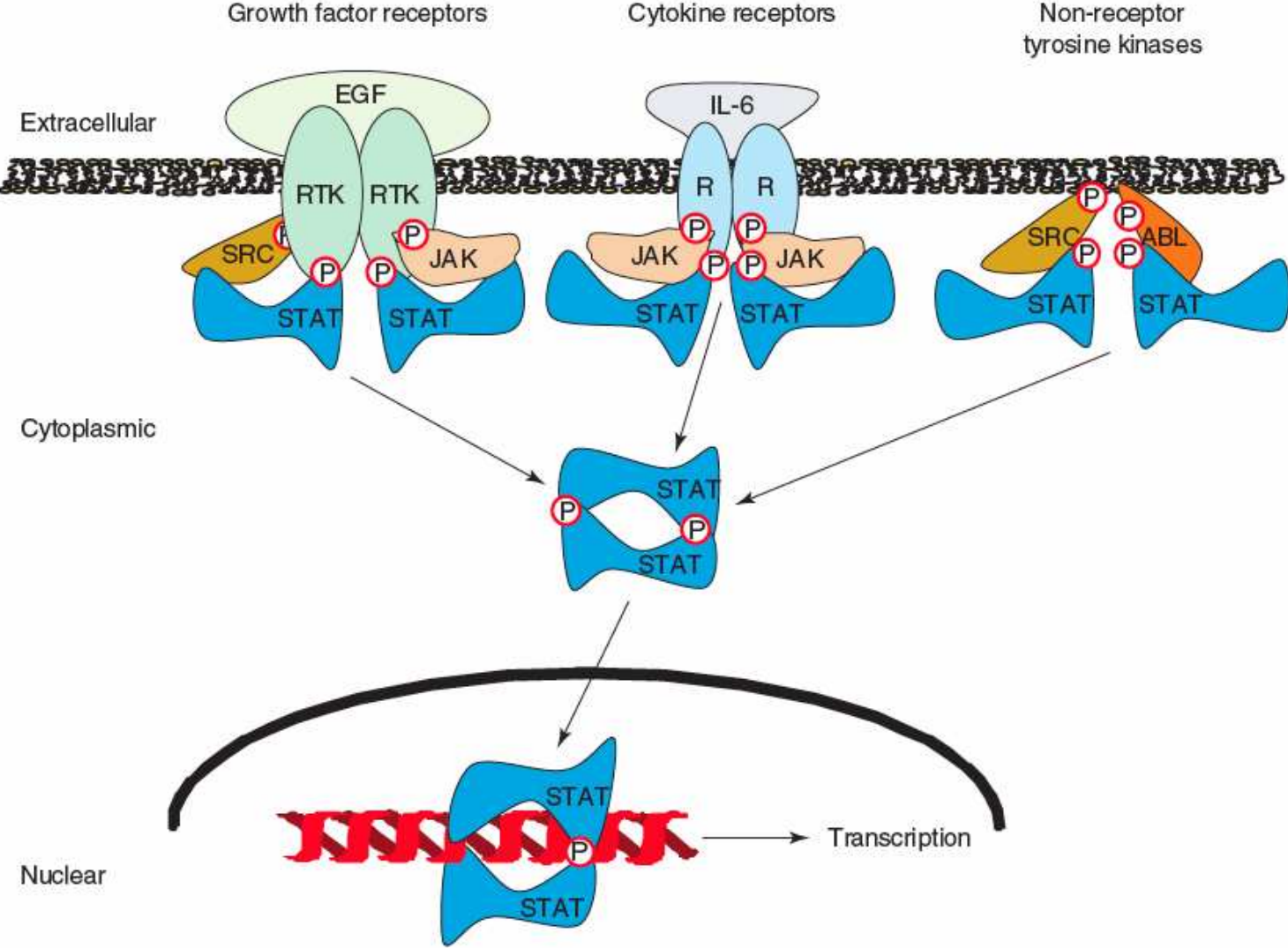
### STATs: <sup>Tyk2</sup> Signal Transducers and Activators of Transcription

Family members

STAT1            STAT2  
STAT3            STAT4  
STAT5A/B        STAT6



# Canonical STAT3 signaling



# Non Canonical STAT3 signaling

## STAT3: A multifaceted oncogene

David E. Levy\*<sup>†</sup> and Giorgio Inghirami\*<sup>‡</sup>

\*Departments of Pathology and Microbiology and NYU Cancer Institute, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY 10016; and <sup>‡</sup>Department of Biomedical Sciences and Human Oncology, University of Turin and Center for Experimental Research and Medical Studies, 10060 Turin, Italy

Signal transducers and activators of transcription (STAT) proteins are a family of transcription factors first characterized for their role in cytokine signaling. These versa-

surveillance by conferring properties of a T lymphocyte regulatory phenotype on a T cell lymphoma.

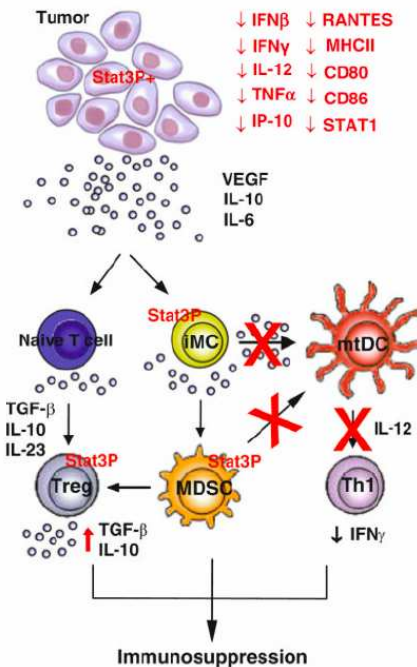
### Stat3 and Immune Suppression

Kasprzycka *et al.* (5) show that ALK<sup>+</sup> tumor cell lines secrete the inhibitory cytokines IL-10 and TGF- $\beta$ , express CD25 and FoxP3, and condition their growth medium to be immunosuppres-

## Stat3 regulates microtubules by antagonizing the depolymerization activity of stathmin

Dominic Chi Hiung Ng,<sup>1</sup> Bao Hong Lin,<sup>1</sup> Cheh Peng Lim,<sup>1</sup> Guochang Huang,<sup>1</sup> Tong Zhang,<sup>1</sup> Valeria Poli,<sup>2</sup> and Xinmin Cao<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Signal Transduction Laboratory, Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Singapore 138673, Republic of Singapore  
<sup>2</sup>Department of Genetics, Biology, and Biochemistry, University of Turin, 10126 Turin, Italy



# The deregulated STAT3 activation is common event in human t

**Table 1. STAT3 in the Context of Various Cancers: Validation as an Anticancer Target**

<b>Cancers Characterized by Elevated STAT3 Expression or Activity</b>	<b>Poor Prognosis Linked to High STAT3 Levels</b>	<b>Upstream/Downstream Abnormalities of STAT3 Signaling</b>	<b>Xenograft Models Responsive to Inhibition of STAT3</b>
Leukemia	Renal cell carcinoma	Elevated EGFR expression	Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma
Lymphomas	Colorectal cancer	Constitutively activated EGFR-RTK	Glioblastoma
Multiple myeloma	Ovarian carcinoma	Overexpression of SFKs	Myeloproliferative neoplasms
Breast cancer	Gastric carcinoma	Hyperactivated JAKs	Renal cell carcinoma
Prostate carcinoma	Intestinal-type gastric adenocarcinoma	Elevated TGF $\alpha$ /IL-6	Breast cancer
Lung cancer (non-small-cell)	Cervical squamous-cell carcinoma		Lung adenocarcinoma
Renal cell carcinoma lung cancer	Osteosarcoma		Acute lymphoblastic leukemia
Hepatocellular carcinoma	Epithelial ovarian carcinoma		
Cholangiocarcinoma			
Ovarian carcinoma			
Pancreatic adenocarcinoma			
Melanoma			
Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma			

# Peripheral T-cell lymphoma

Peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL) are rare cancers, which account for about 12% of all NHL worldwide. They are a heterogeneous group of neoplasms that display great variability in their clinical, morphological, immunophenotypic, cytogenetic and molecular features. The PTCL can be roughly subdivided into: specified and not otherwise specified (NOS). While

Overall incidence in USA ~5-6,000 cases a y

Peripheral T cell lymphoma, not otherwise specified (NOS)

Peripheral T cell lymphoma, specified

Leukaemic:

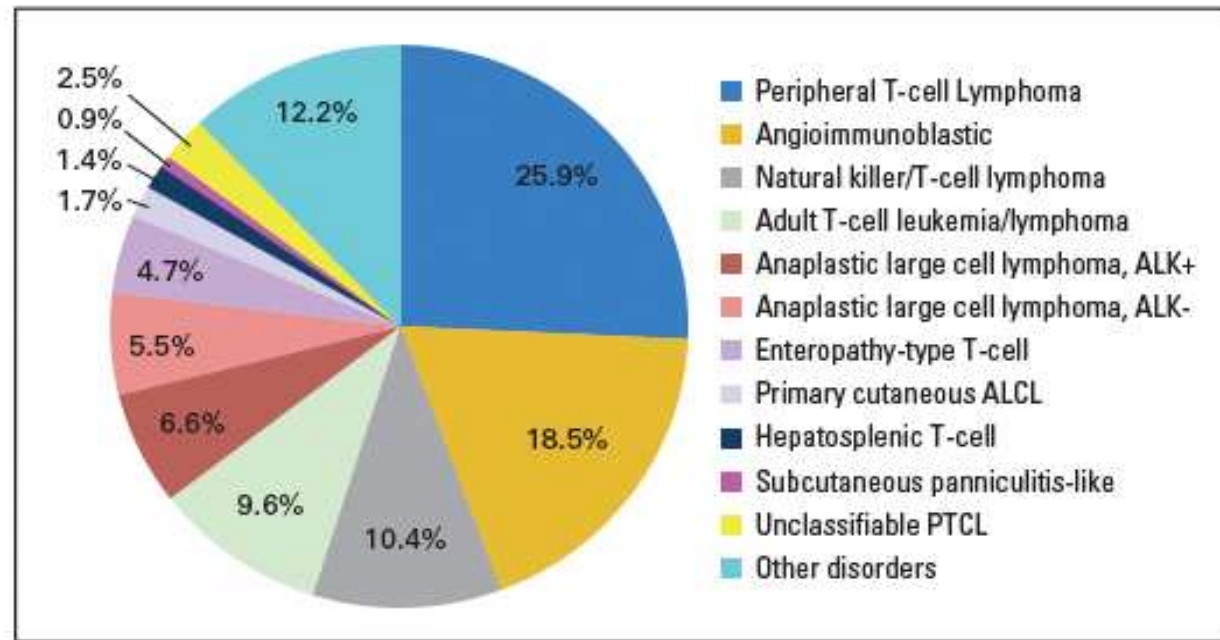
- ▶ T cell prolymphocytic leukaemia
- ▶ T cell large granular lymphocytic leukaemia
- ▶ Aggressive NK cell leukaemia
- ▶ Systemic Epstein-Barr virus positive T cell lymphoma disease of childhood (associated with chronic act infection)
- ▶ Hydroa vaccineforme-like lymphoma
- ▶ Adult T cell leukaemia/lymphoma

Extranodal:

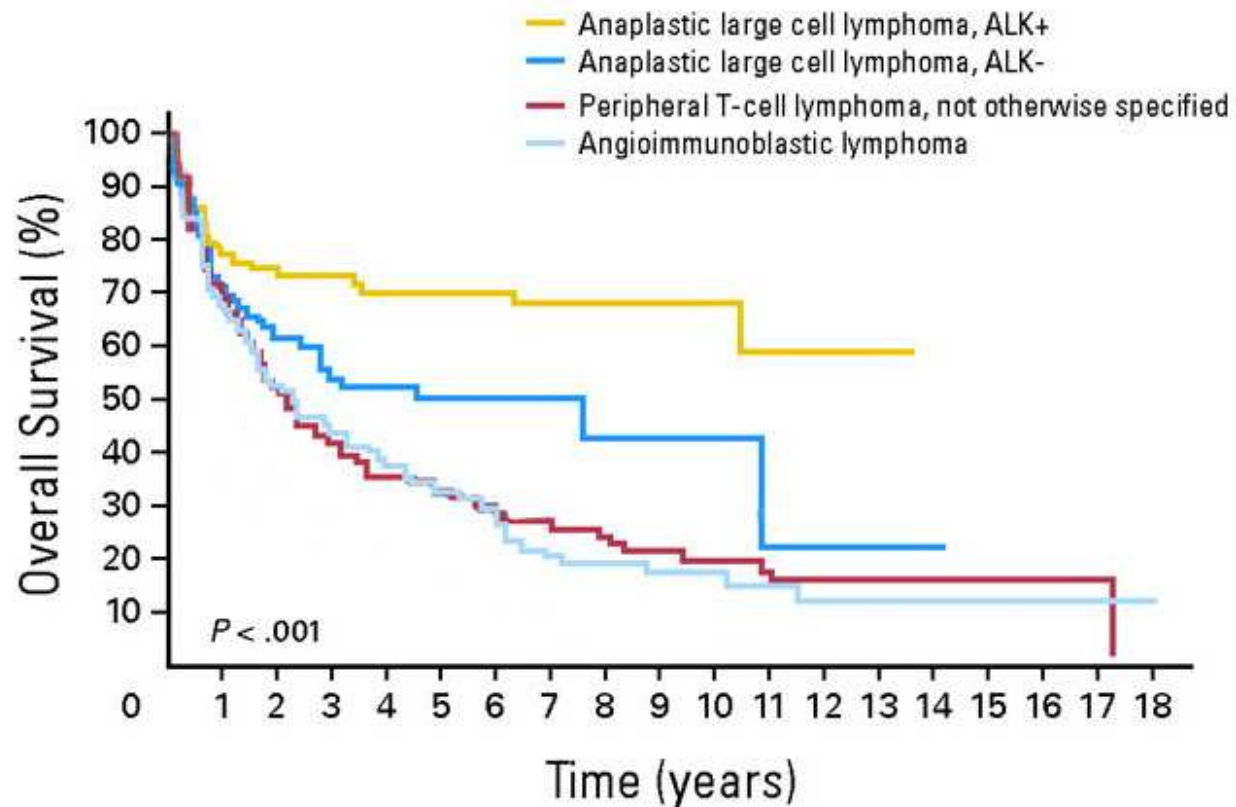
- ▶ Extranodal NK/T cell lymphoma, nasal type
- ▶ Enteropathy-associated T cell lymphoma
- ▶ Hepatosplenic T cell lymphoma
- ▶ Subcutaneous panniculitis-like T cell lymphoma
- ▶ Mycosis fungoides
- ▶ Sézary syndrome
- ▶ Primary cutaneous anaplastic large-cell lymphoma
- ▶ Primary cutaneous aggressive epidermotropic CD8+ T cell lymphoma (provisional entity)
- ▶ Primary cutaneous  $\gamma\delta$  T cell lymphoma
- ▶ Primary cutaneous small/medium CD4+ T cell lymphoma (provisional entity)

Prevalently nodal:

- ▶ Angioimmunoblastic T cell lymphoma
- ▶ Anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL), anaplastic large cell lymphoma kinase (ALK) positive
- ▶ ALCL, ALK negative (provisional entity)



# Overall Survival of patients with common Peripheral T-cell Lymphoma subtypes



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(Modified from Armitage et al. JCO 2008)

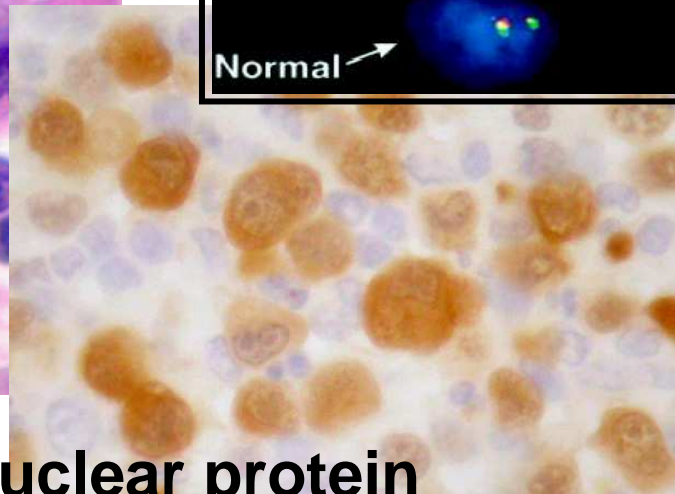
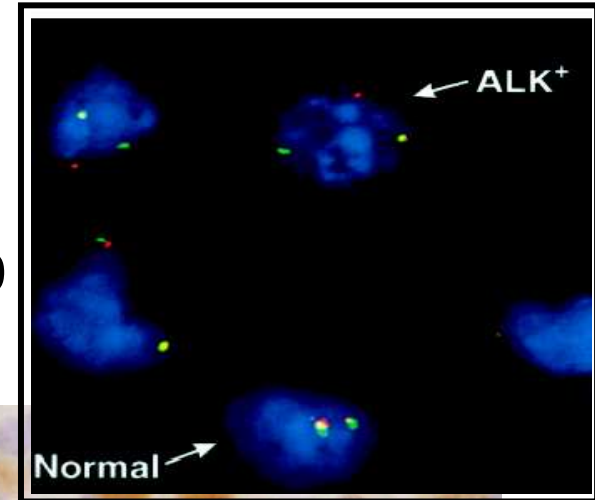
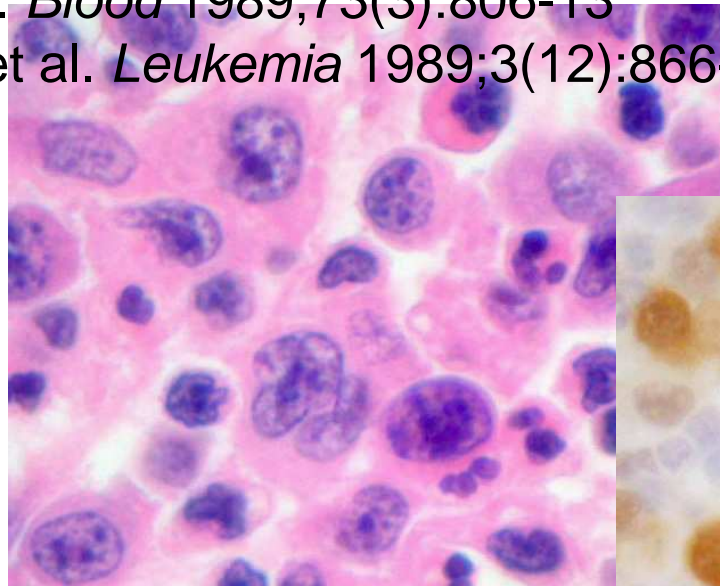
# Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma

The t(2;5)(p23;q35) translocation is associated with Ki-1 (CD30+) lymphoma

Rimokh R. et al. *Br. J. Haematol* 1989;71(1):31-6

Keneko Y. et al. *Blood* 1989;73(3):806-13

Le Beau M.M. et al. *Leukemia* 1989;3(12):866-70

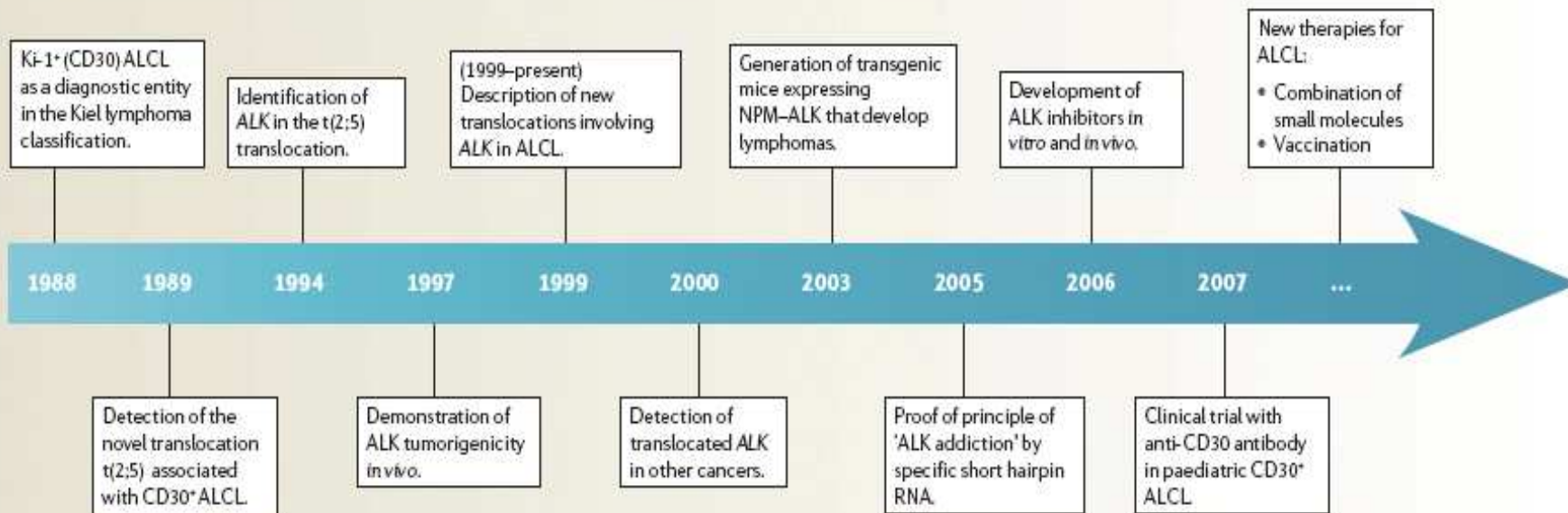


Fusion of a kinase gene, ALK, to a nuclear protein gene, NPM, in non-Hodgkin's lymphoma

Morris S.W. et al. *Science* 1994;263(5151):1281-4



## Timeline | Major events in the characterization of ALCL



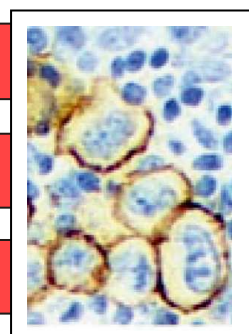
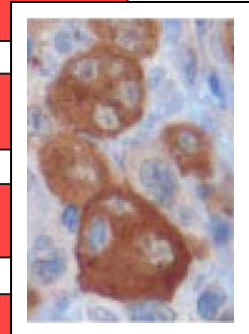
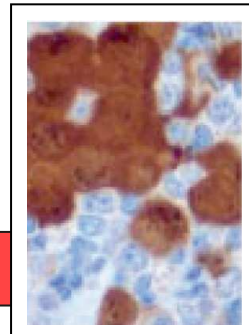
ALCL, anaplastic large cell lymphoma; ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; NPM, nucleophosmin.

# Translocations and fusion proteins involving the ALK gene in ALCL

Translocation Frequency Localization  
(NHL)

Translocation	Frequency	Localization
t(2;5)( p23 ;q35 )	70-80%	Cytoplasmic/Nuclear nucleolar
t(1;2)( q25 ;p23 )	10-20%	Cytoplasmic
t(2;3)( p23 ;q21 )	2-5%	Cytoplasmic
inv(2)( p23 ;q35 )	2-5%	Cytoplasmic
t(2;17)( p23 ;q23 )	2-5%	Cytoplasmic
t(2;19)( p23 ;q13,1 )	-	Cytoplasmic
t(2;2)( p23 ;q11-13 )? or inv(2)( p23 ;q11-13 )?	-	Nuclear membrane
t(X;2)( q11-12 ;p23 )	-	Cell-Membrane
t(2;17)( p23 ;q25 )	2-6% (NSCLC)	Cytoplasmic

<b>NPM</b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>TPM3</b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>TFG<sub>L/S</sub></b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>ATIC</b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>CLTC</b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>TPM4</b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>RanBP2</b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>MSN</b>	<b>ALK</b>
<b>EML4</b>	<b>ALK</b>

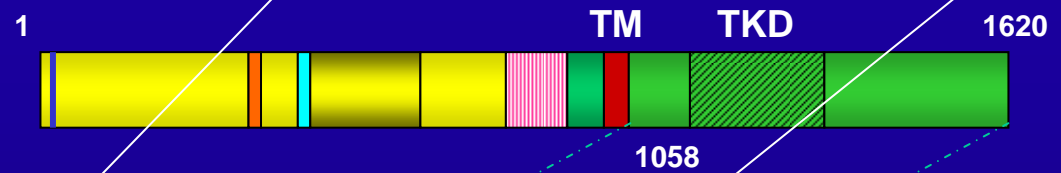
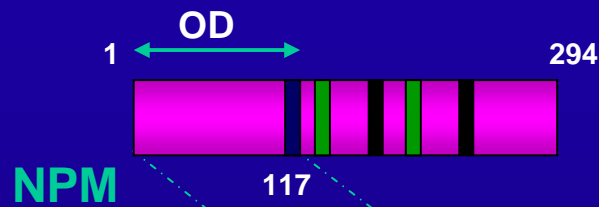
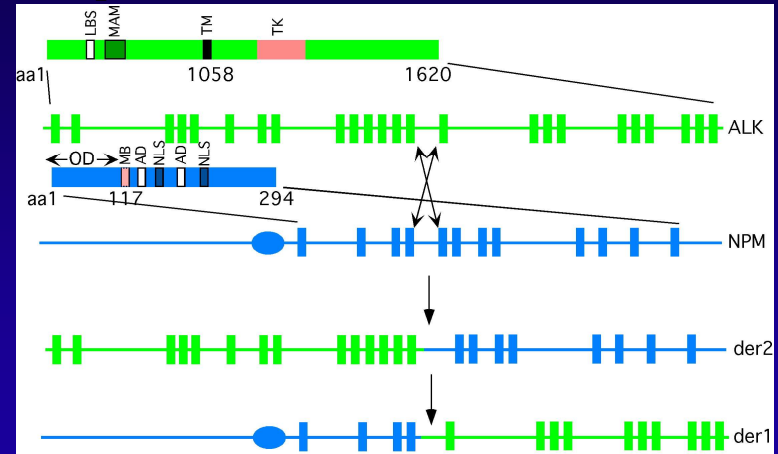
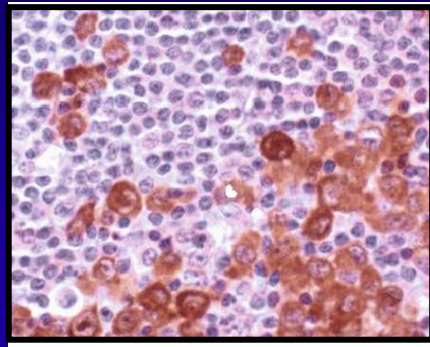


# Chromosomal translocations involving anaplastic lymphoma kinase gene in cancers

Disease	Fusion protein	Chromosomal abnormality	Principal references
ALCL	NPM-ALK	t(2;5)(p23;q35)	Morris <i>et al.</i> (1994) and Shiota <i>et al.</i> (1994)
ALCL	ALO17-ALK	t(2;17)(p23;q25)	Cools <i>et al.</i> (2002)
ALCL	TFG-ALK	t(2;3)(p23;q21)	Hernández <i>et al.</i> (1999, 2002)
ALCL	MSN-ALK	t(2;X)(p32;q11-12)	Tort <i>et al.</i> (2001, 2004)
ALCL	TPM3-ALK	t(1;2)(q25;p23)	Lamant <i>et al.</i> (1999) and Siebert <i>et al.</i> (1999)
ALCL	TPM4-ALK	t(2;19)(p23;p13)	Meech <i>et al.</i> (2001)
ALCL	ATIC-ALK	inv(2)(p23;q35)	Colleoni <i>et al.</i> (2000), Ma <i>et al.</i> (2000), and Trinei <i>et al.</i> (2000)
ALCL	MYH9-ALK	t(2;22)(p23;q11-2)	Lamant <i>et al.</i> (2003)
ALCL	CLTC-ALK	t(2;17)(p23;q23)	Touriol <i>et al.</i> (2000)
IMT	TPM3-ALK	t(1;2)(q25;p23)	Lawrence <i>et al.</i> (2000)
IMT	TPM4-ALK	t(1;19)(p23;p13)	Lawrence <i>et al.</i> (2000)
IMT	CLTC-ALK	t(2;17)(p23;q23)	Bridge <i>et al.</i> (2001) and Patel <i>et al.</i> (2007)
IMT	ATIC-ALK	inv(2)(p23;q35)	Debiec-Rychter <i>et al.</i> (2003)
IMT	SEC31L1-ALK	t(2;4)(p23;q21)	Panagopoulos <i>et al.</i> (2006)
IMT	RANBP2-ALK	t(2;2)(p23;q13) inv(2)(p23;p15;q31)	Ma <i>et al.</i> (2003)
IMT	CARS-ALK	t(2;11;2)(p23;p15;q31)	Cools <i>et al.</i> (2002) and Debelenko <i>et al.</i> (2003)
NSCLC	EML4-ALK	inv(2)(p21;p23)	Rikova <i>et al.</i> (2007) and Soda <i>et al.</i> (2007)
NSCLC	TFG-ALK	t(2;3)(p23;q21)	Rikova <i>et al.</i> (2007)
DLBCL	NPM-ALK	t(2;5)(p23;q35)	Adam <i>et al.</i> (2003) and Onciu <i>et al.</i> (2003)
DLBCL	CLTC-ALK	t(2;17)(p23;q23)	De Paepe <i>et al.</i> (2003)
DLBCL	Unknown	ins(3'ALK)(4q22-24)	Stachurski <i>et al.</i> (2007)
DLBCL	SQSTM1-ALK	t(2;5)(p23-1;q35-3)	Takeuchi <i>et al.</i> (2010)
DLBCL	SEC31A-ALK	ins(4)(2;4)(?;q21) t(2;4)(p24;q21)	Bedwell <i>et al.</i> (2010) and Van Roosbroeck <i>et al.</i> (2010)
SCC	TPM4-ALK	t(2;19)(p23;p13)	Du <i>et al.</i> (2007) and Jazii <i>et al.</i> (2006)
RCC	VCL-ALK	t(2;10)(p23;q22)	Debelenko <i>et al.</i> (2010)



# NPM-ALK chimeric protein

ALCL

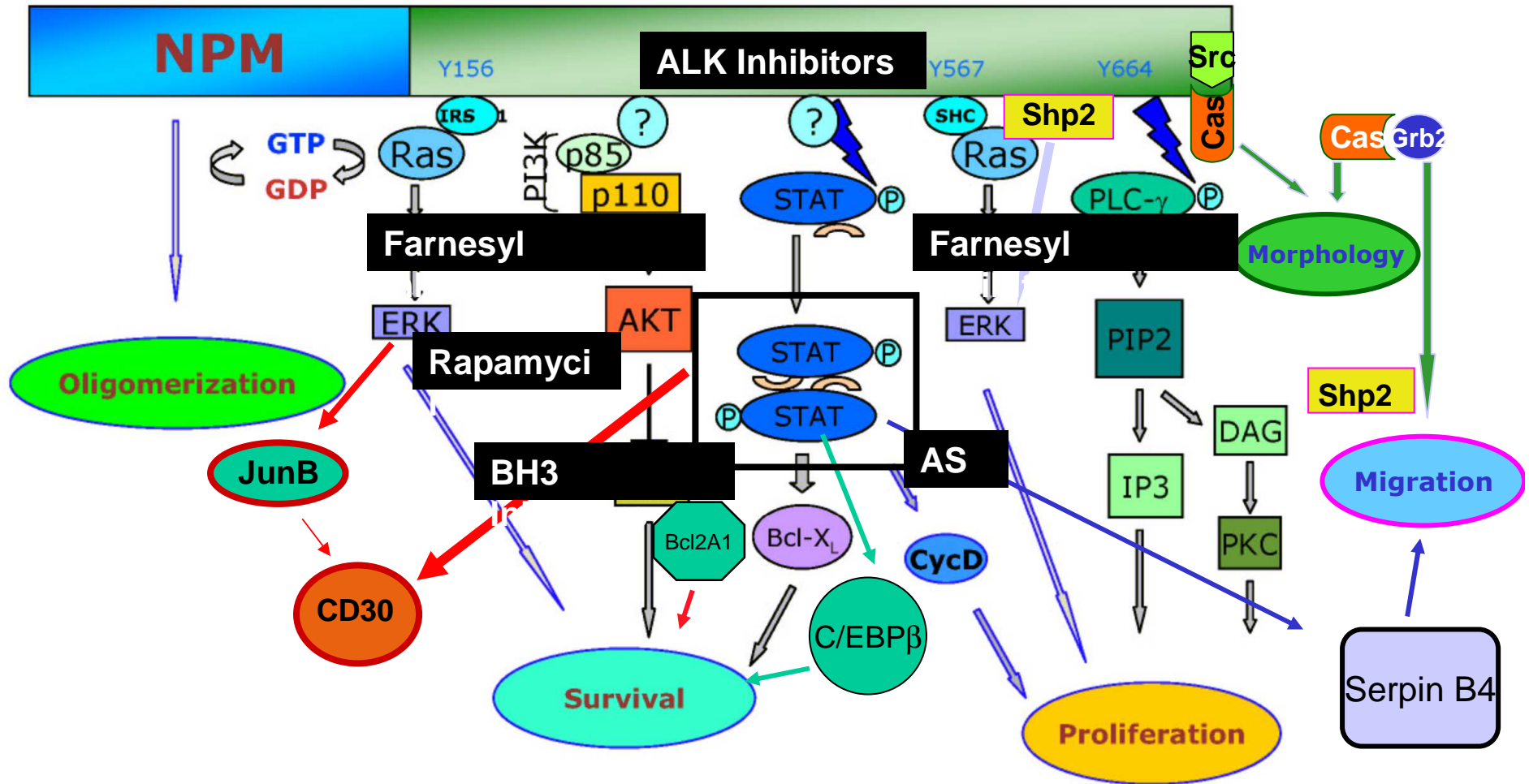


ALK

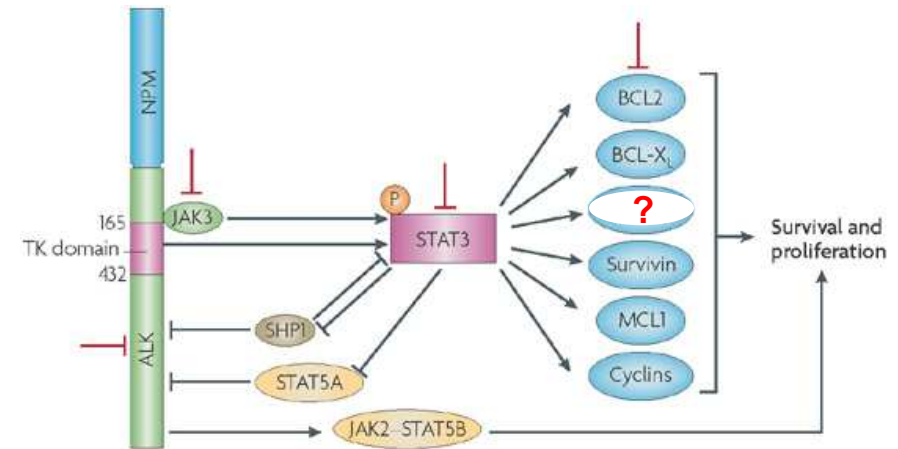
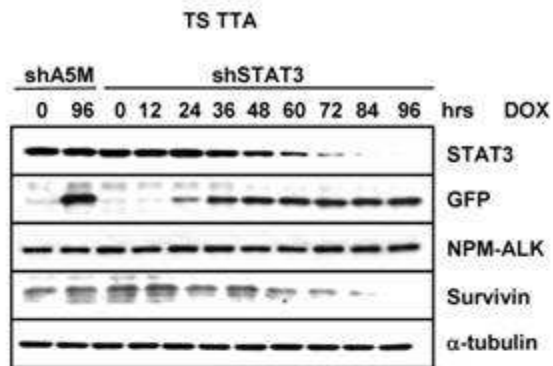
NPM-ALK  
80kDa

-  OD OLIGOMERIZATION DOMAIN
-  TYROSINE KINASE DOMAIN

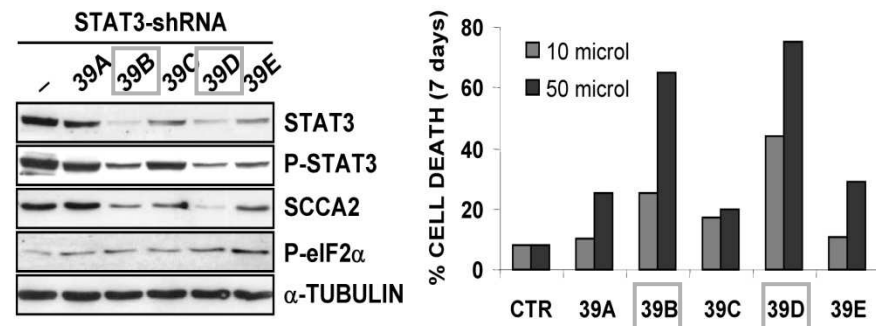
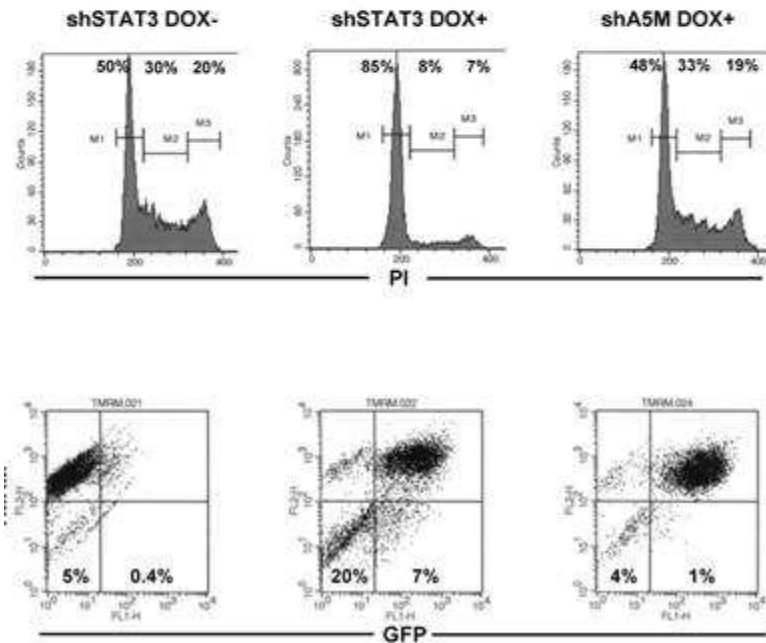
# Oncogenic signaling cascade activated by NPM-ALK



# STAT3 silencing induces cell cycle arrest and apoptosis

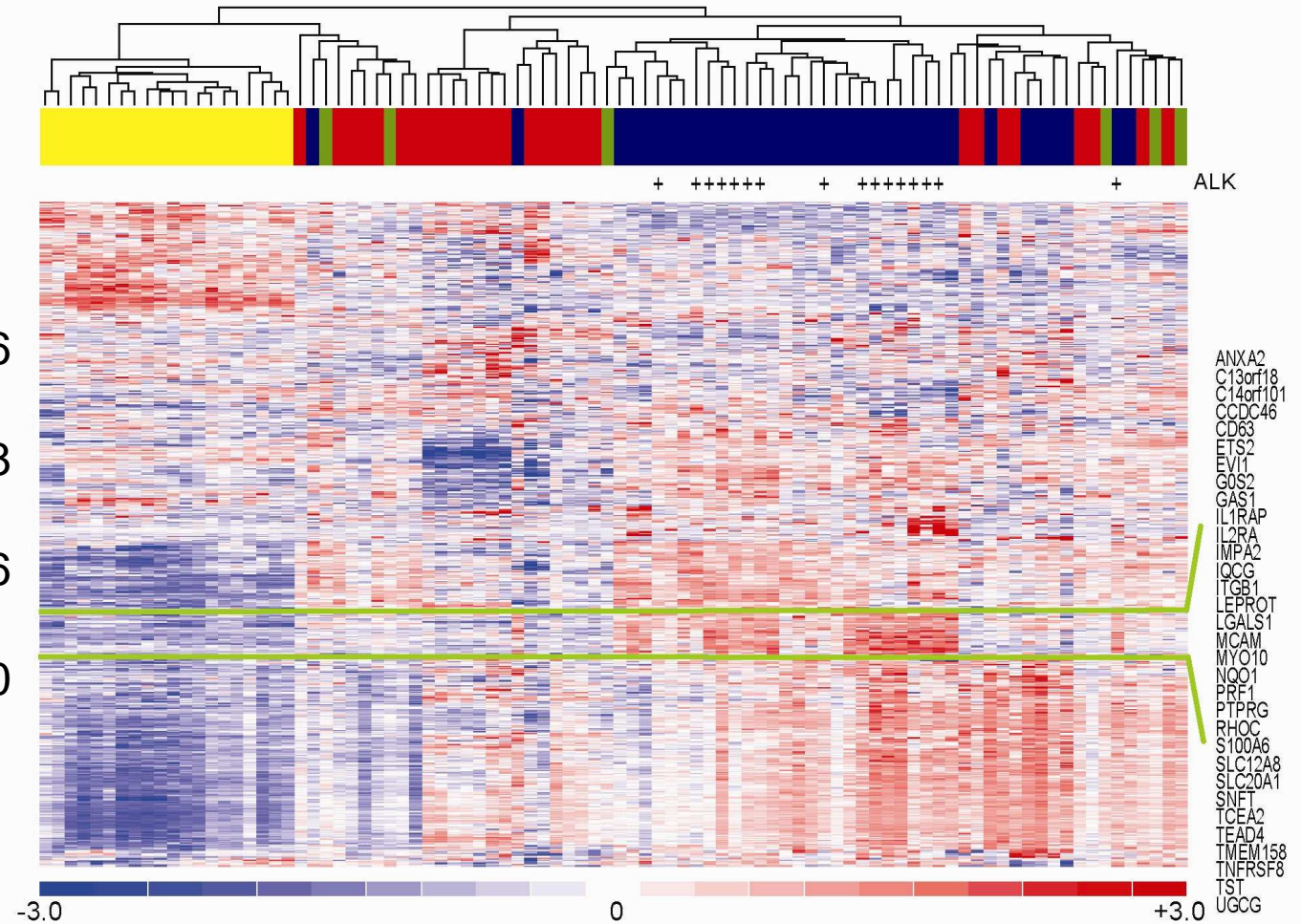
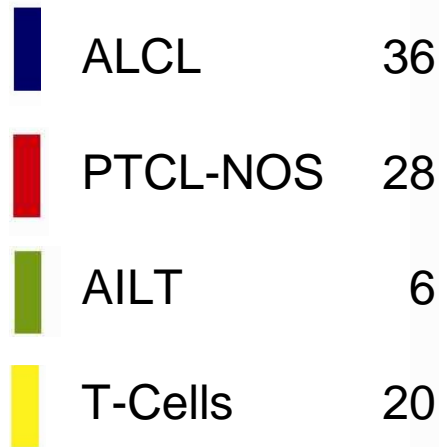
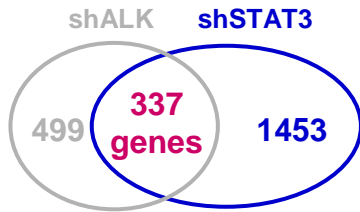


Chiarle et al., 2008 Nature Reviews | Cancer



Piva et al. JCO, in press

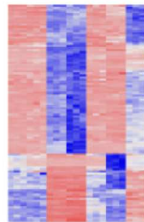
# ALK/STAT3 signature predicts ALK status in T-NHL patients



# Biological validation of new NPM-ALK putative targets

Inducible/drug specific NPM-ALK KO in ALCL cells and/or primary ALCL

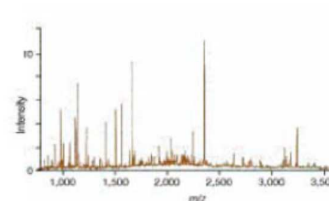
Gene expression profile



Up-regulated

Down-regulated

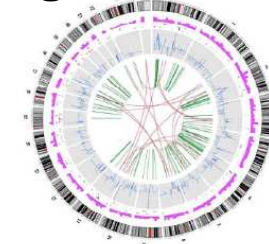
Proteomic



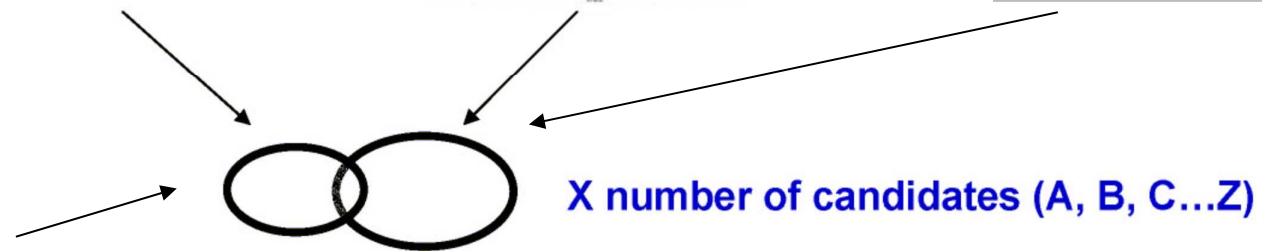
Substrates

Interactors

All genome seq



DNA methylation



Generation of 2 libraries

- shRNA
- cDNA

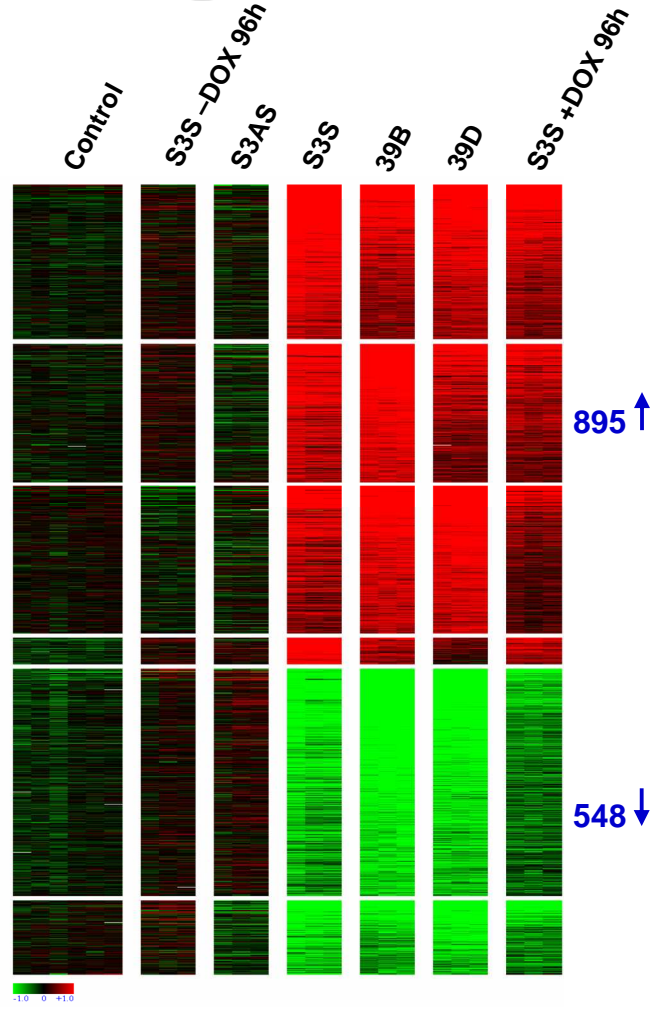
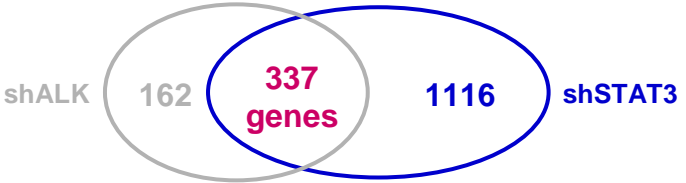
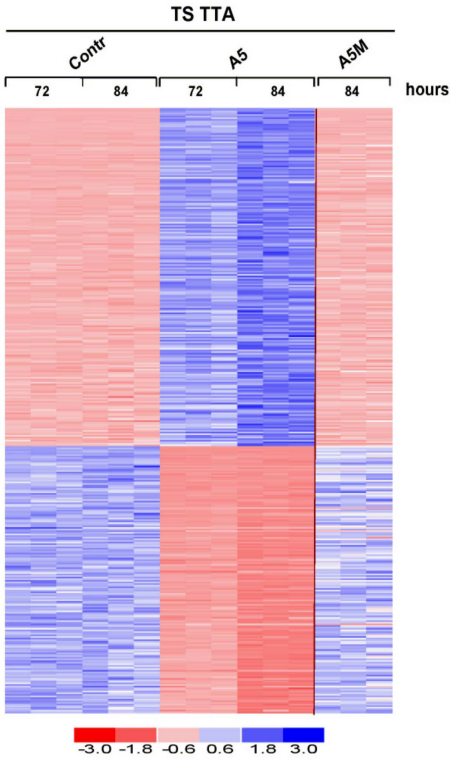
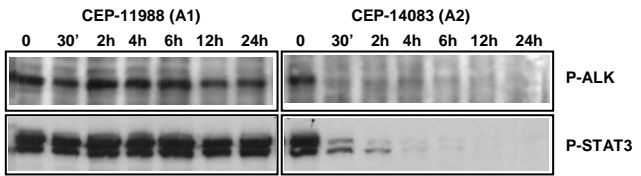
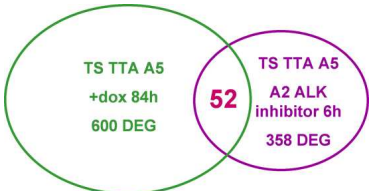
Transduction in ALCL cells with inducible NPM-ALK KD

NPM-ALK ON + A shRNA → Cell growth arrest - apoptosis

NPM-ALK KD + A cDNA → Partial rescue of the phenotype

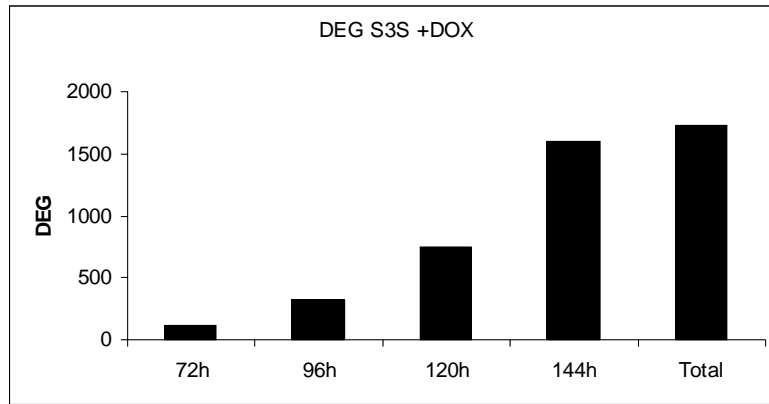


# ALK expression signature is largely dependent upon STAT3 activity



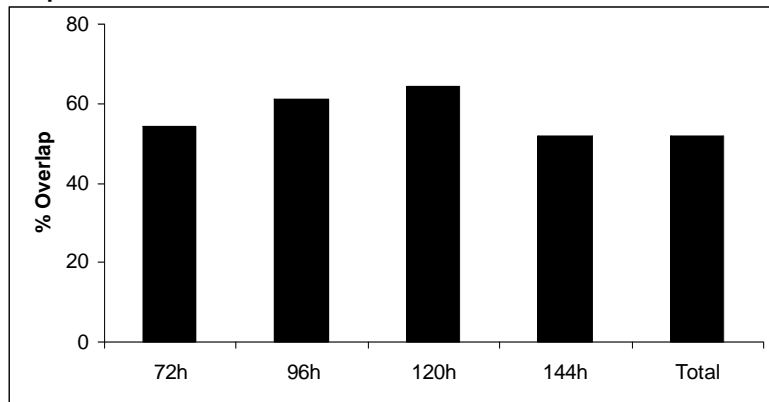
# The kinetics of STAT3-regulated genes

Platform: Illumina HumanHT-12 BeadChip (25,000 genes)  
 Differential Score:  $p < 0.001$   
 FC > 2

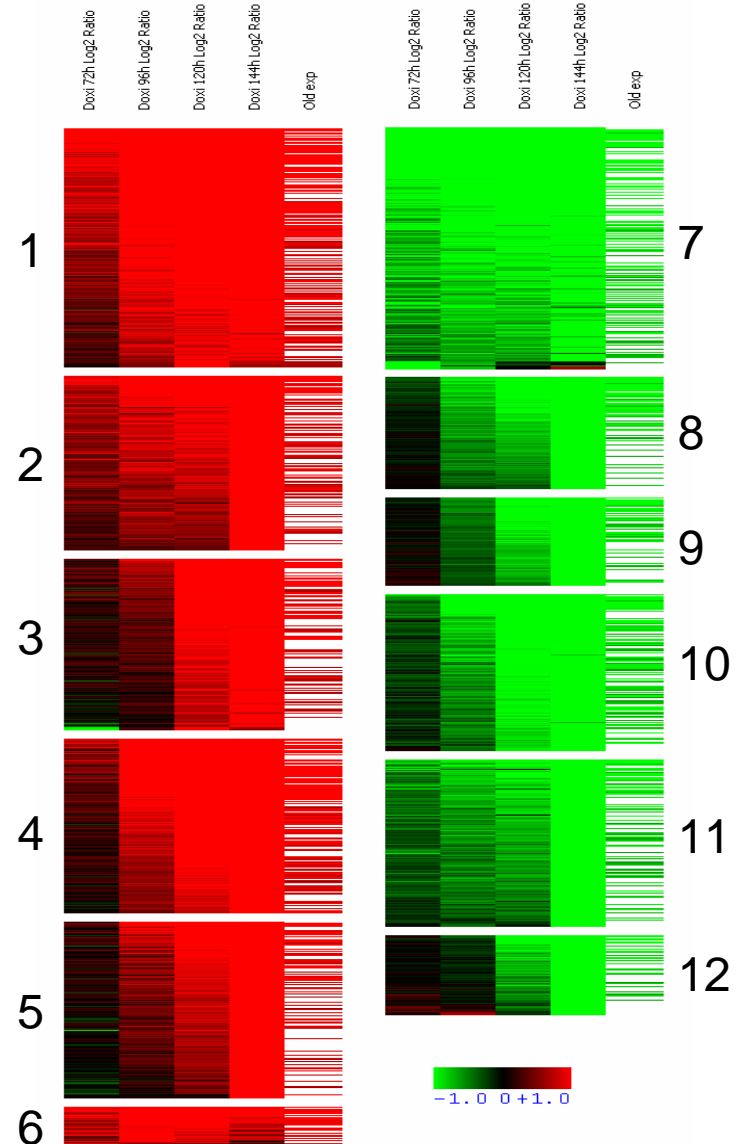


DEG at least in one time-point 1730

Overlap with a previous STAT3 KD GEP experiment performed with 3 different shRNA at 84-96h

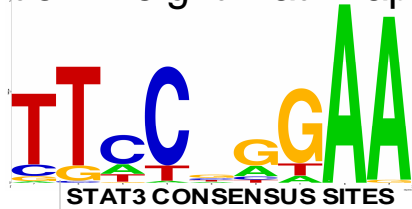


## Clustering



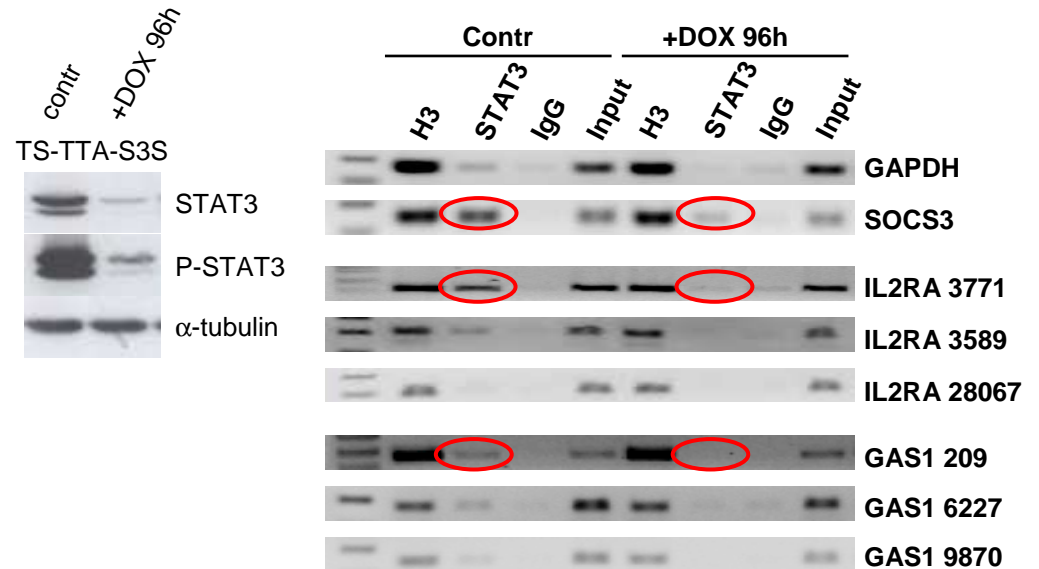
# Identification and validation of STAT3 binding sites

Position Weight Matrix approach

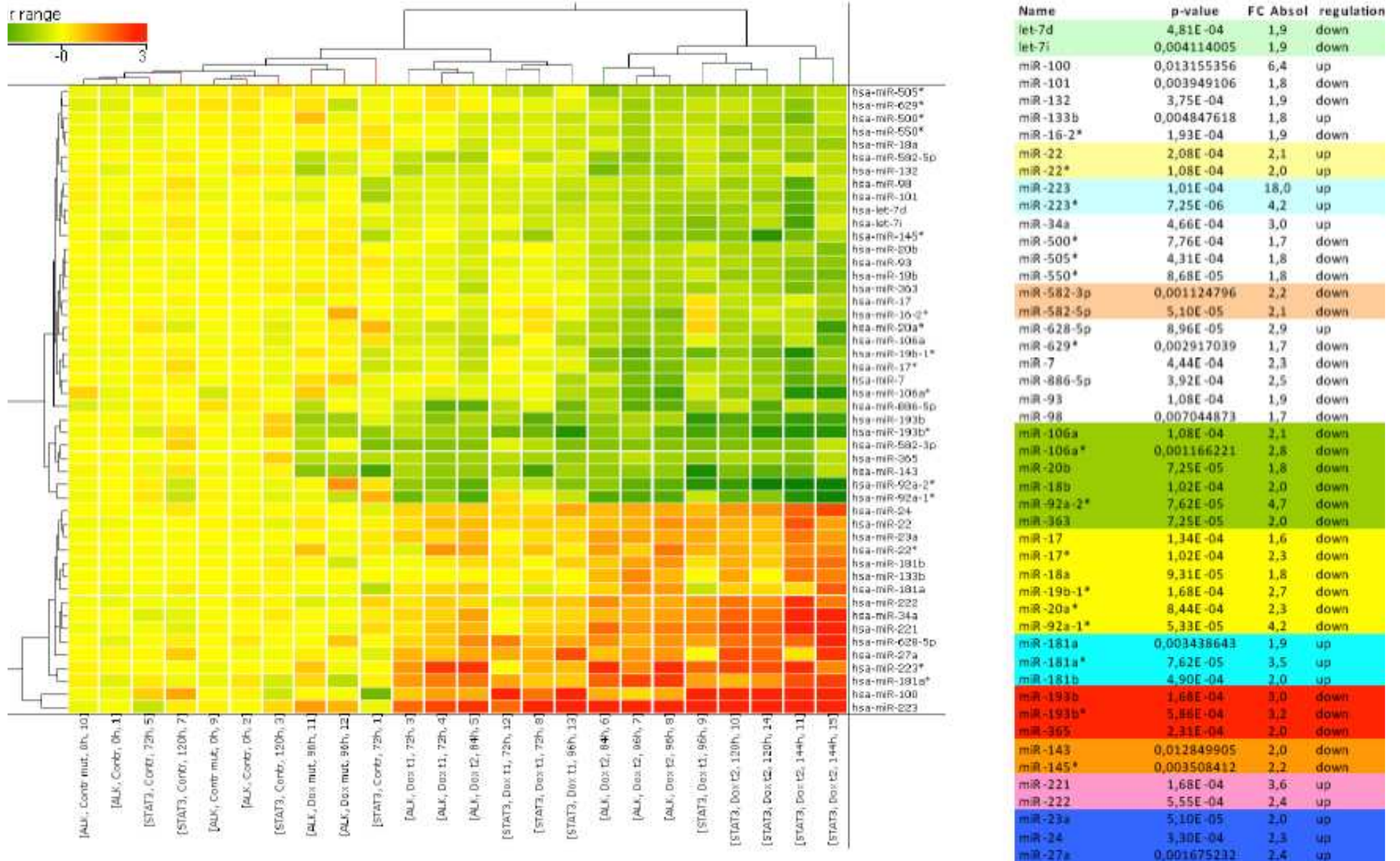


GENE	POSITION	SCORE	CONSERVATION
TNFRSF8	-3219	10,18	Bt
	-1257	10,28	Cf
	-374	-	
	-20	12,96	
	19238	9,94	Bt
	GAS1	-209	14,53
	-6227	10,24	
	-9870	11,11	
SCCA2	-1538	10,28	
	-2885	10,47	
	-2963	10,28	
	-3011	9,95	
	-4159	11,87	
	-6224	10,47	
ICOS	-2448	10,81	Bt
	1815	10,47	Mm
	12765	10,24	Cf, Bt
	14486	10,58	Bt
IL2RA	-3771	11,11	Cf, Bt
	472	11,87	Bt
	3589	11,11	Mm, Cf, Bt
	11008	9,87	Cf, Bt
	23677	9,95	Bt
	25962	11,87	Cf
	28067	12,96	Cf, Bt
	HSD17B7	-6685	9,72
	-3473	10,91	Cf
	SGK	13146	10,18
	39382	10,22	Mm, Bt
	RGS16	-6374	10,58
	-4789	9,95	Bt
	-2251	10,81	Cf, Bt
	941	12,96	Bt

Validation of STAT3 binding sites by CHIP

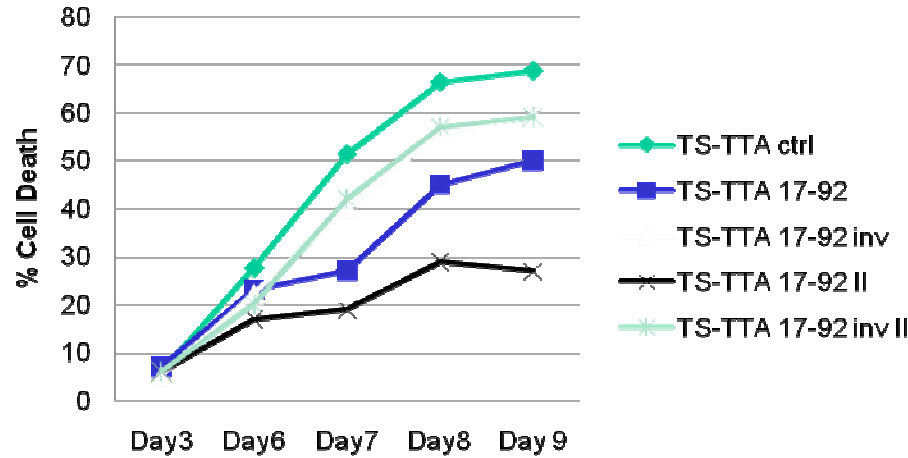


# MICRORNA EXPRESSION PROFILING FOLLOWING INDUCIBLE ALK OR STAT3 KNOCK DOWN IN ALK+ ALCL CELLS

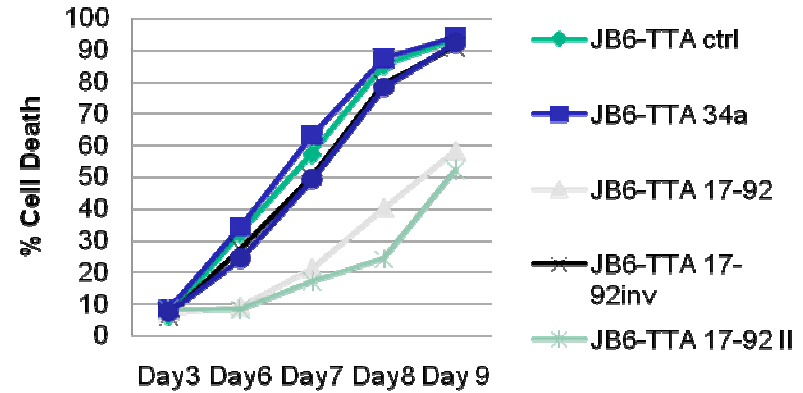


# Mir17-92 overexpression rescues STAT3 KD of ALK+ ALCL cells

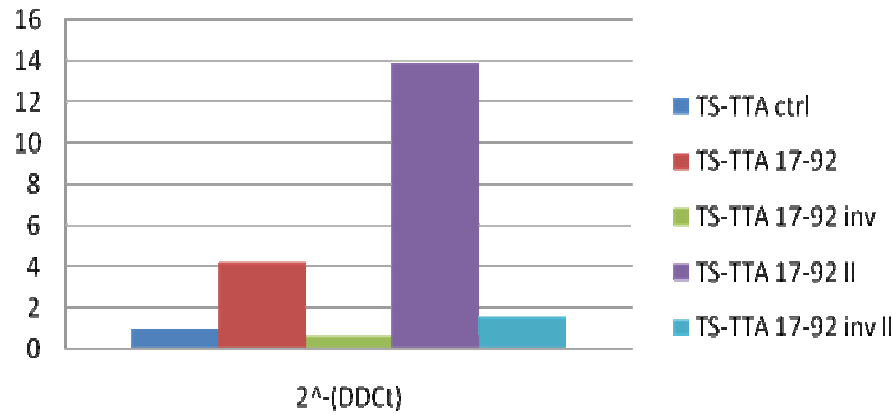
## TS-TTA + Doxi



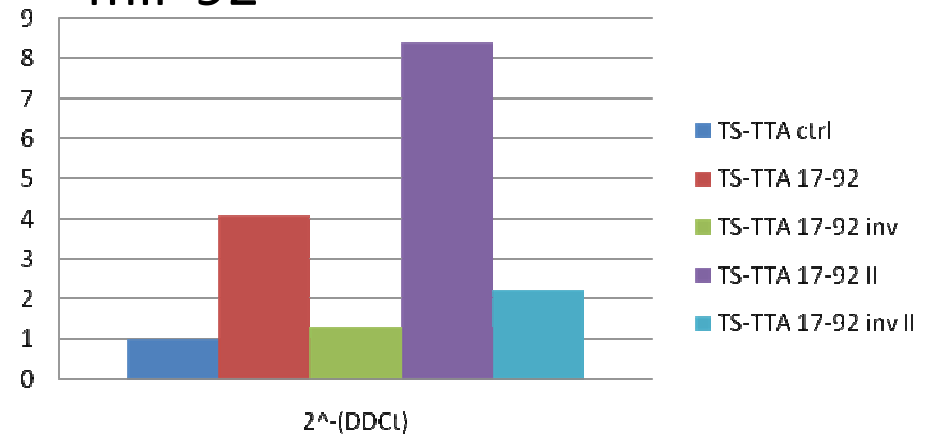
## JB6-TTA + DOXI



## TS-TTA qRT-PCR: primer mir-19a



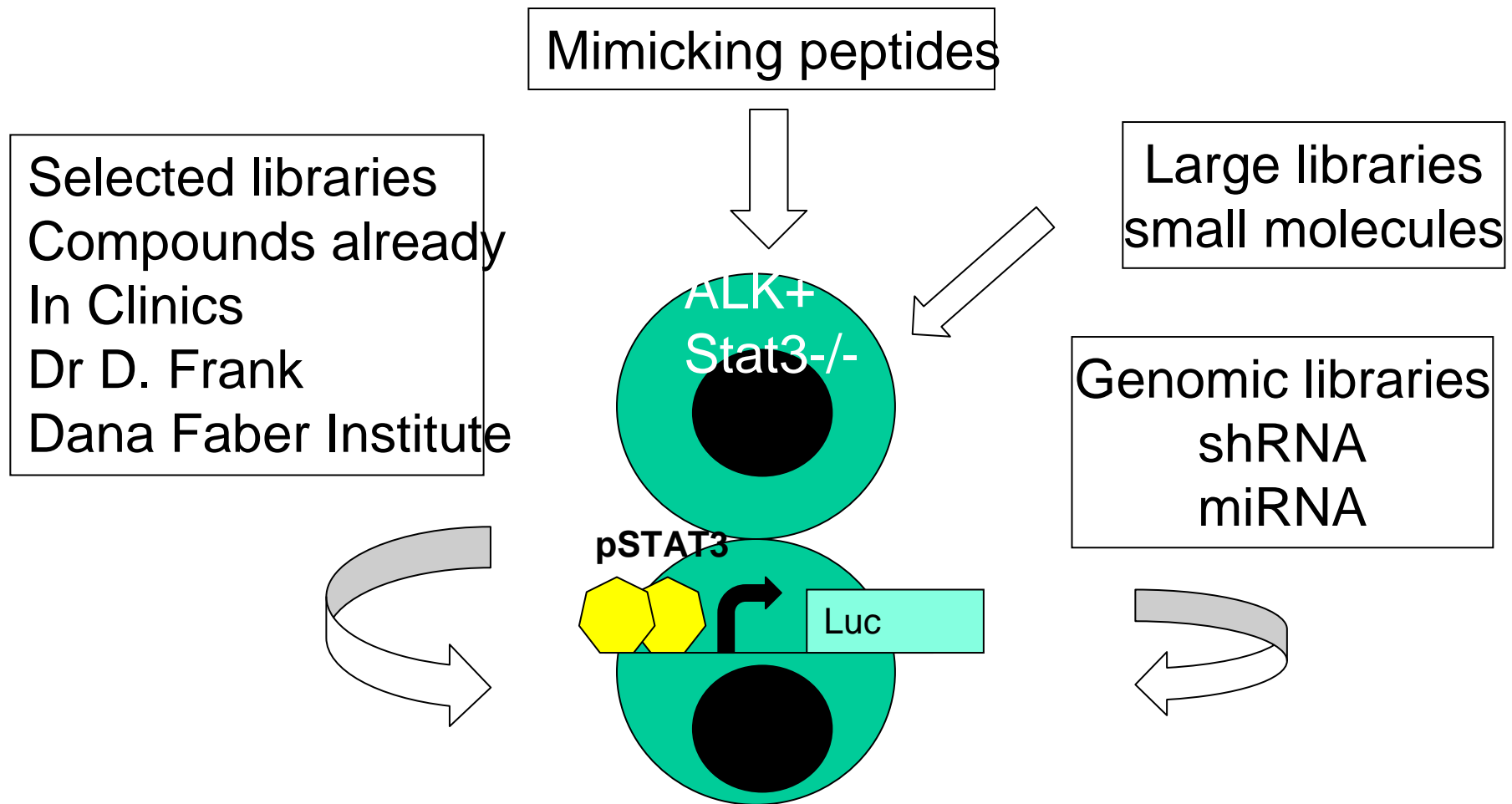
## TS-TTA qRT-PCR: primer mir-92



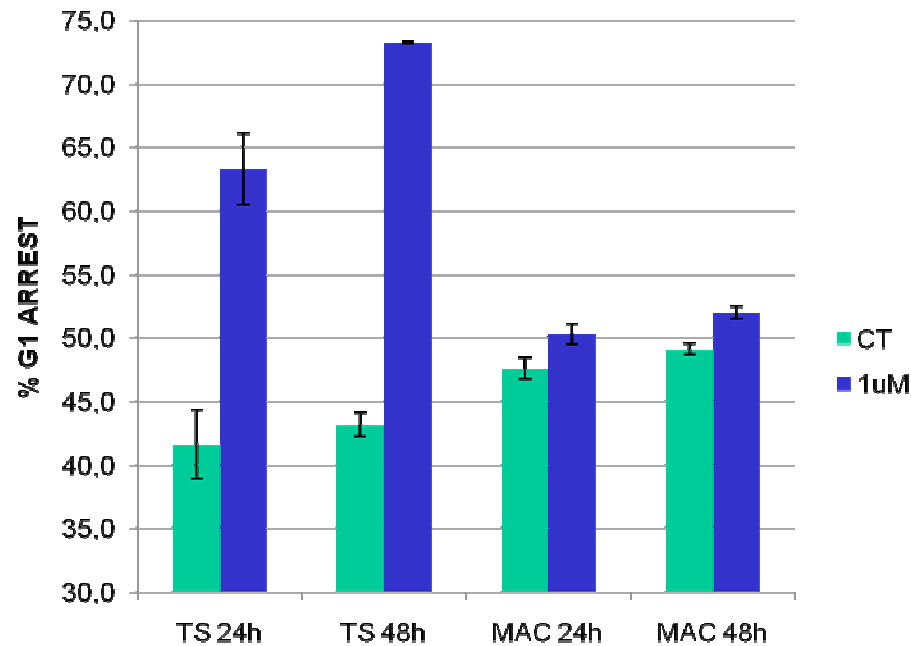
# Strategies and Challenges to Therapeutic Intervention into STAT3 Signaling

Strategy	Targets	Examples	Challenges
<b>Inhibit phosphorylation/activation of STAT3</b>	EGFR agonism TKR activity JAK activity SFK activity	Cetuximab, panitumumab Gefitinib, erlotinib, lapatinib AG490, LS-104, ICNB1824, CEP-701 Dasatinib, AZD0530, bosutinib	Modest efficacy; development of resistance; myelosuppression, GI toxicity, and adverse events; kinase selectivity and cardiovascular toxicity
<b>Inhibit intermolecular interactions that involve STAT3</b>	STAT3 SH-2 domains	Oligopeptides designed from EGFR, gp130, and other receptor or pY-containing peptides; peptide aptamers; G-quartet oligonucleotides; small-molecule peptidomimetics	Poor cell permeability and efficacy; poor metabolic stability; poor selectivity for specific SH2 domains; potential for adverse events
<b>Inhibit nuclear import/export of STAT3</b>	Importins $\alpha 3$ , $\alpha 5$ , $\alpha 7$ Importin $\beta$ Exportin 1	Karyostatin 1A (effect on STAT3 undetermined) Leptomycin B and Ratjadone A	Multicomponent nature of nuclear pore and translocation not fully determined; specificity for translocated proteins problematic
<b>Inhibit STAT3-mediated transcription</b>	DNA binding site of STAT3	dsODN decoys; peptide aptamers	Poor cell permeability without effective and specific delivery systems; poor metabolic stability
<b>Natural products</b>	Unspecified	Guggulsterone, honokiol, curcumin, resveratrol, flavopiridol, cucurbitacin	Specificity, potency, and efficacy, mechanism of action unknown

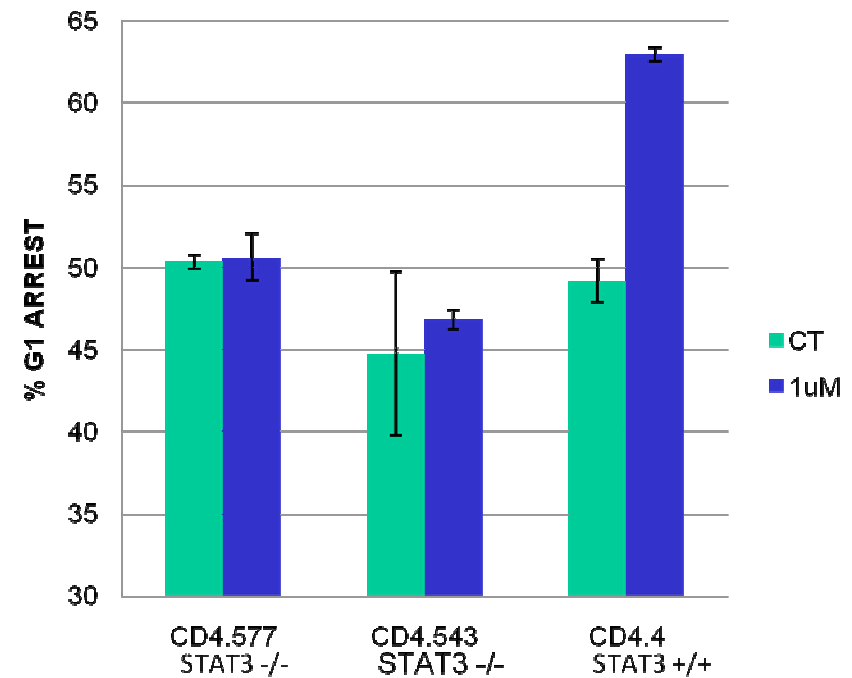
# Drug discovery strategies



# How should we select the right models to test STAT3 inhibitors?



Gene	TS 24h	TS 48h	MAC 24h	MAC 48h
ALK	+	+	-	-
STAT3	+	+	+	+
STAT5	-	-	+	+



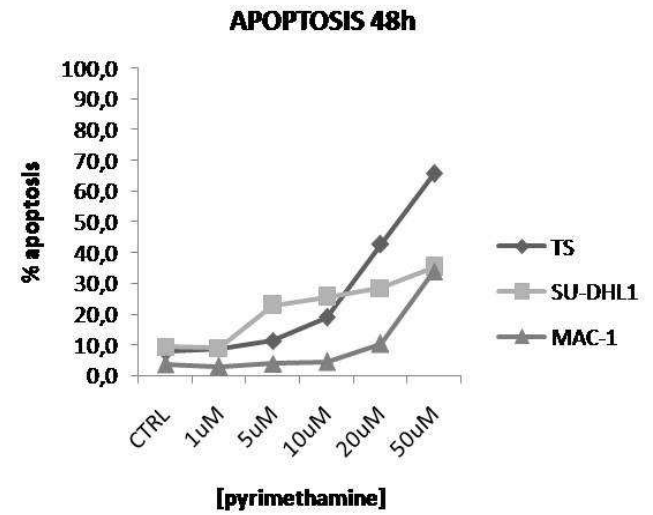
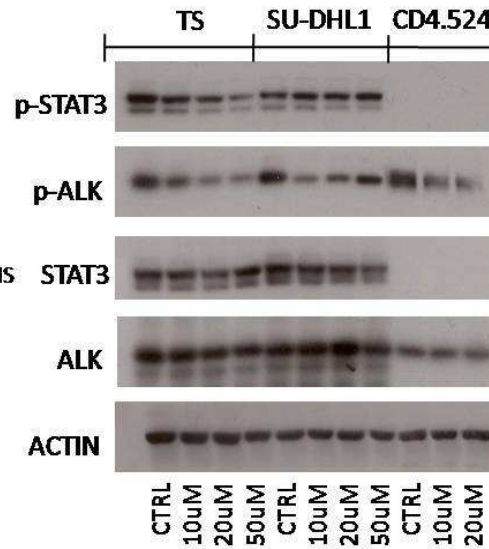
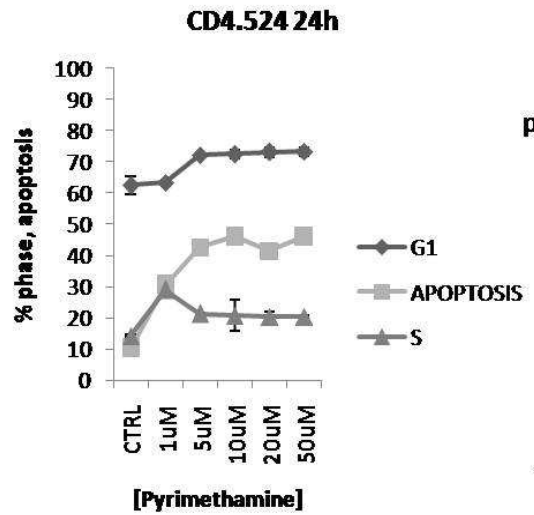
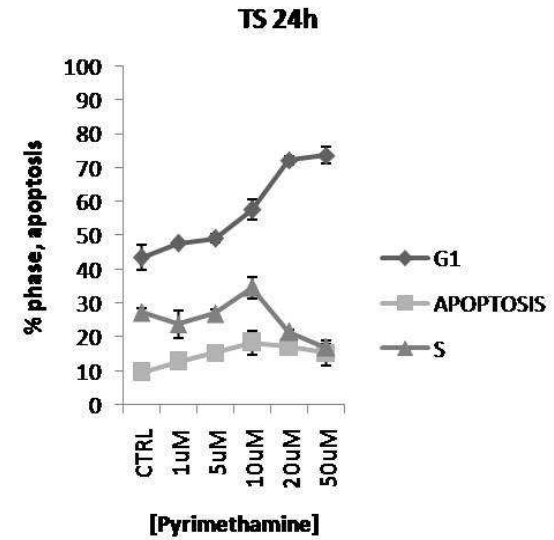
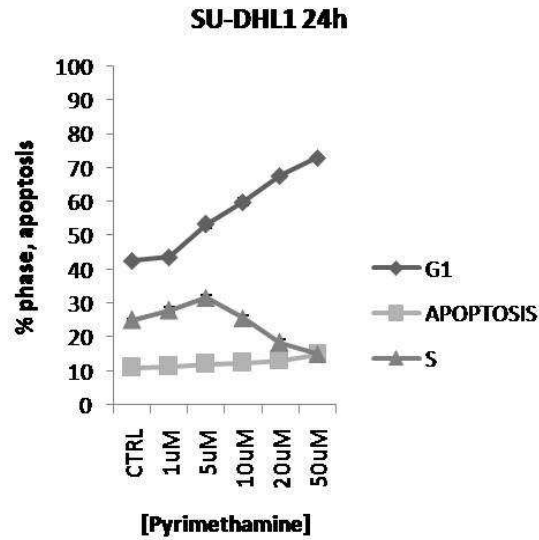
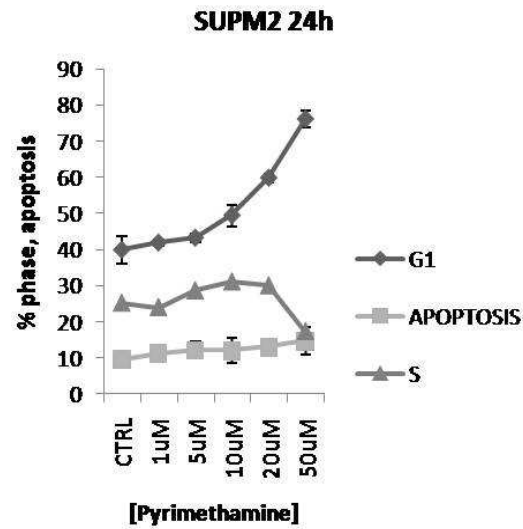
Gene	CD4.577 STAT3 -/-	CD4.543 STAT3 -/-	CD4.4 STAT3 +/+
ALK	+	+	+
STAT3	-	-	+
STAT5	-	-	-

*Cortese D.*



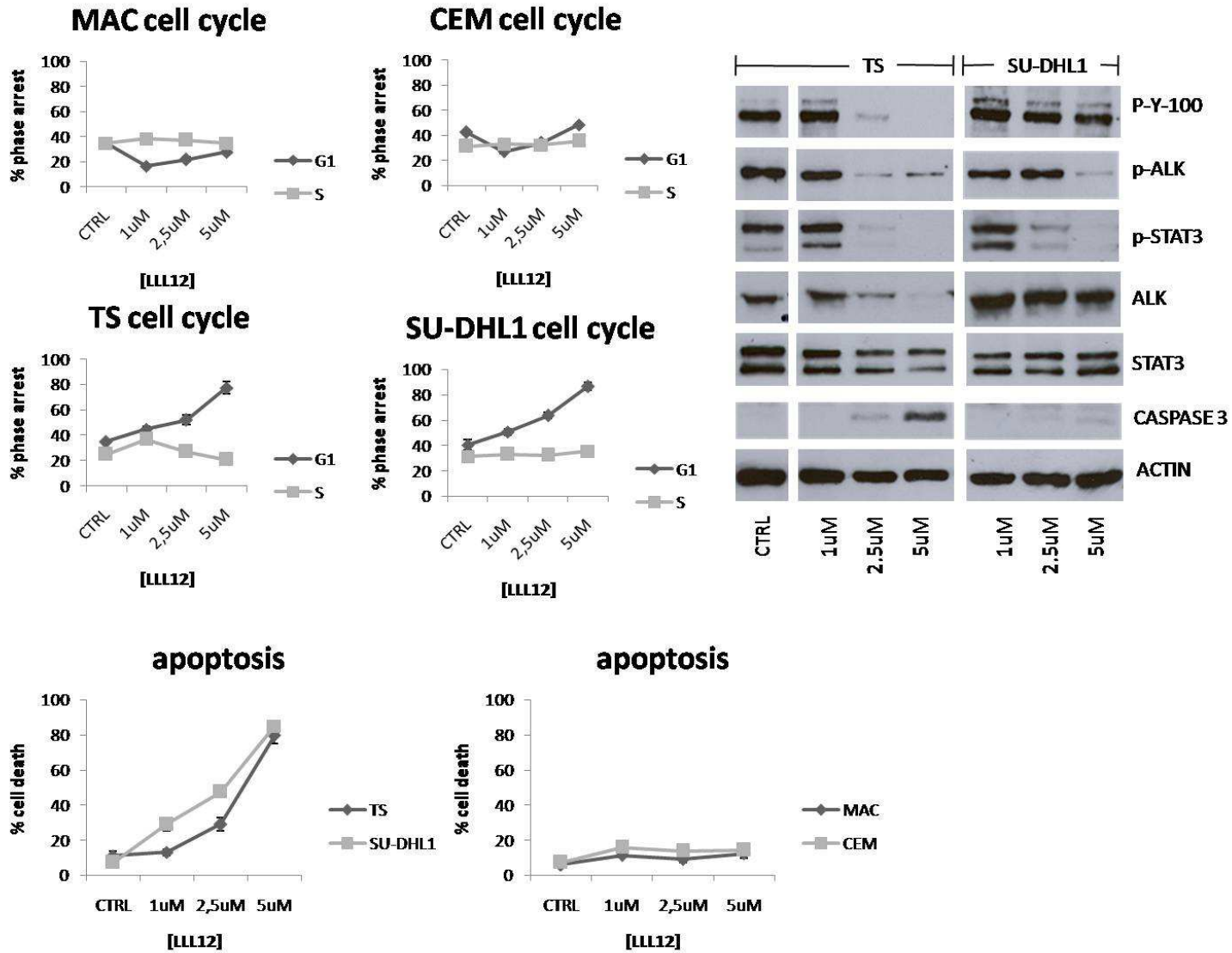
# PYRIMETHAMINE

# STAT3 INHIBITORS



# LLL12

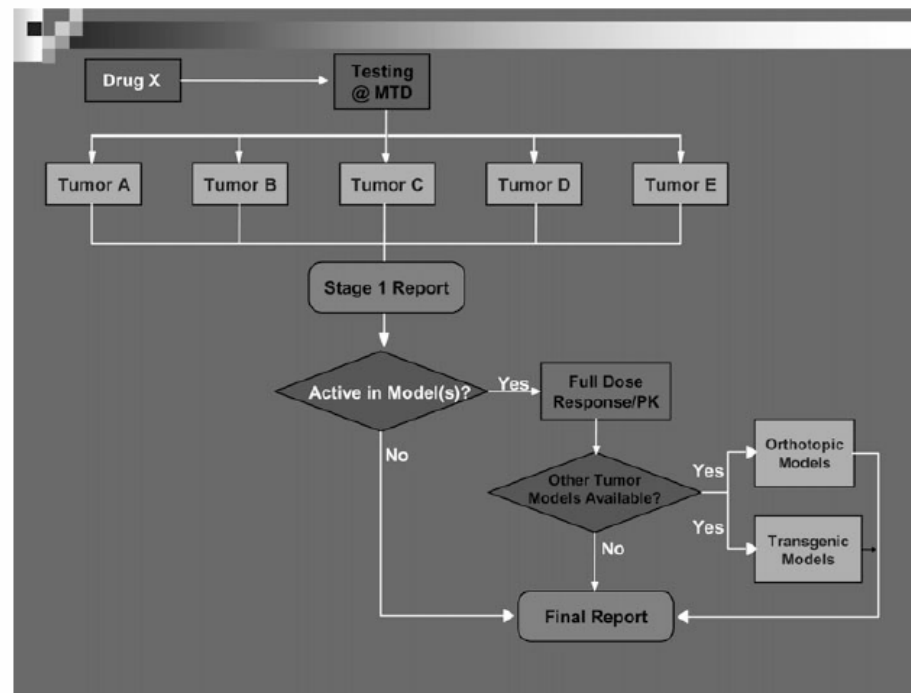
# STAT3 INHIBITORS



# From Human to Mouse and Back: “Tumorgraft” Models Surge in Popularity

By Ken Garber

Mouse xenograft models of cancer, understandably, have a terrible reputation. Although researchers and companies routinely use these human tumors in mice for preclinical drug testing, individual models poorly predict how drugs will act in the clinic. Retrospective reviews published by the National Cancer Institute in 2001 and the National Cancer Institute of Canada in 2003 came to the same conclusion: Drugs that work against cancer in xenograft mice rarely work in people with the same tumor,



New drug testing in mouse models by the NCI-supported Pediatric Preclinical Testing Program. The 2-year-old program, which has already sent several drugs into clinical trials

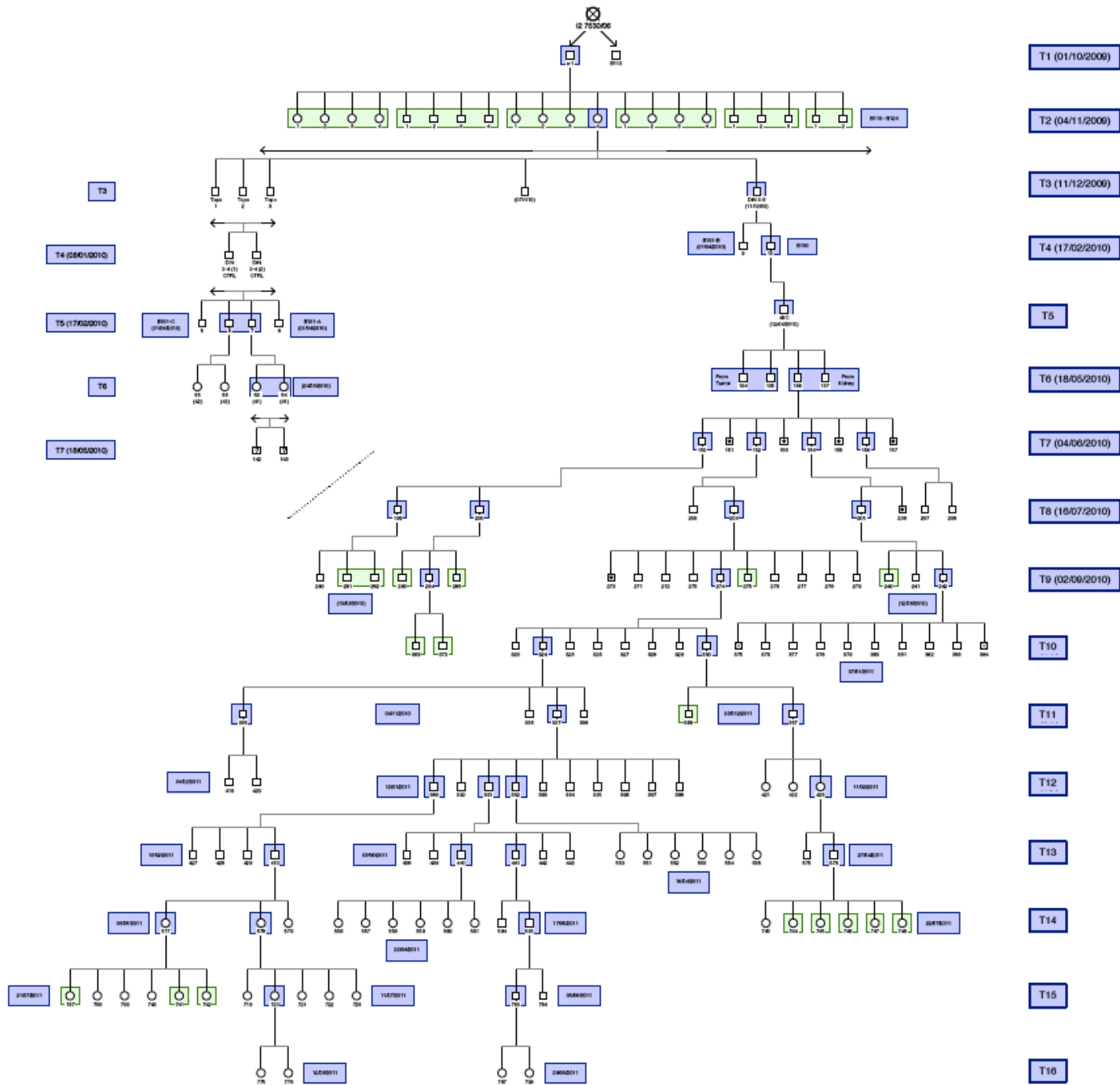
resistance to gemcitabine, the standard therapy for pancreatic cancer, and sensitivity to mitomycin C, a rarely used treatment. The patient—who first failed gemcitabine therapy—received mitomycin C and has been in remission for more than 2 years.

The trial’s principal investigator, Manuel Hidalgo, M.D., Ph.D., stressed that tumorgrafts, at present, can be of only limited use for individualizing patient treatment because of the time and resources necessary to create tumorgraft banks. Many

# Where are we going with novel personalized cancer strategies?

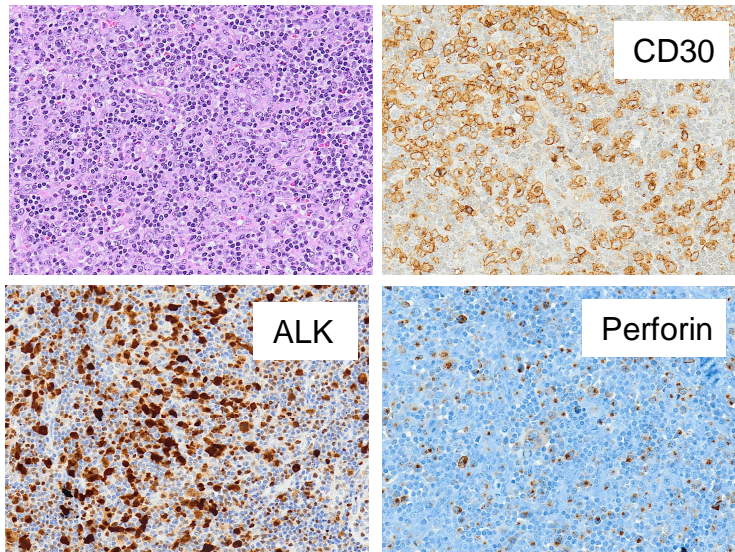
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://www.personalizedcancertreatment.com/patients/personalized-tumorgraft.php>. The browser's address bar and search bar are visible. The website header includes navigation links: HOME, REFER THIS SITE TO A FRIEND, BOOKMARK THIS SITE, and PREFERRED GUEST LOGIN. The main navigation menu contains: ABOUT US, PATIENTS (highlighted), HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS, RESOURCES, and CONTACT US. The page features two images: a woman and a child on the left, and a group of people on the right. Below the images is a 'Print-Friendly Version' link and a 'Text size' selector. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a blue sidebar with links: LIVE TUMOR BANKING, PERSONALIZED TUMORGRAFT, PERSONALIZED VACCINE, PERSONALIZED ONCOLOGY PANEL, PATIENT FAQ, DICTIONARY OF CANCER TERMS, and GUEST LOGIN. Below the sidebar are two buttons: 'DOWNLOAD OUR PATIENT BROCHURE (PDF)' and 'READ NEWS ON RECENT CHAMPIONS' BREAKTHROUGHS IN CANCER TREATMENT'. The right column has a section titled 'PERSONALIZED TUMORGRAFT TECHNOLOGY' with a paragraph explaining the technology. Below this is a section titled 'Is the Personalized Tumorgraft program like a clinical trial?' with a paragraph explaining that it is not a clinical trial. At the bottom of the right column is a section titled 'What types of cancer have been implanted as part of the Champions Personalized Tumorgraft program?' with a paragraph listing cancer types: Pancreas, Sarcoma, Melanoma, Liver, Lung, Breast, Colon and other rare tumor types. A 'LOGIN TO LEARN MORE' link is located at the bottom of the right column. A quote is visible at the bottom left of the page: "WORKING WITH CHAMPIONS' EXPERTS HAS PROVIDED MY PHYSICIAN, MY FAMILY AND I WITH A HOPEFUL PATH TO TREAT MY DISEASE. CHAMPIONS' PERSONALIZED TREATMENT APPROACH, USING THE TUMORGRAFTS, IDENTIFIED A NOVEL



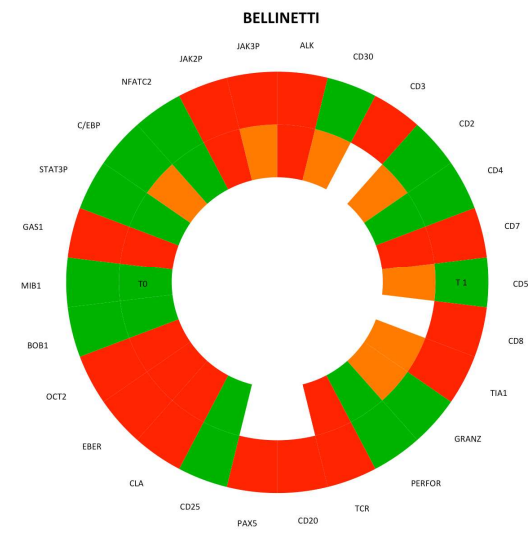
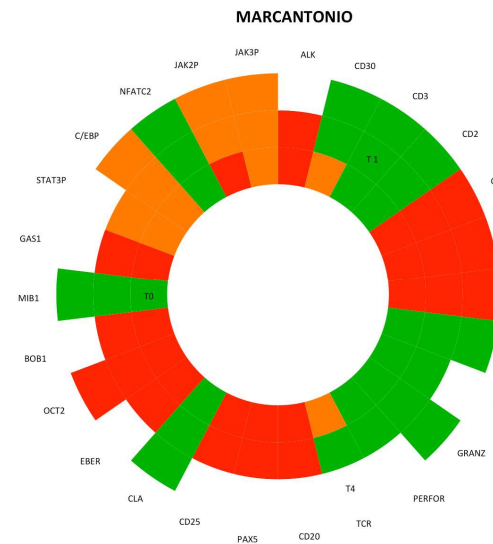
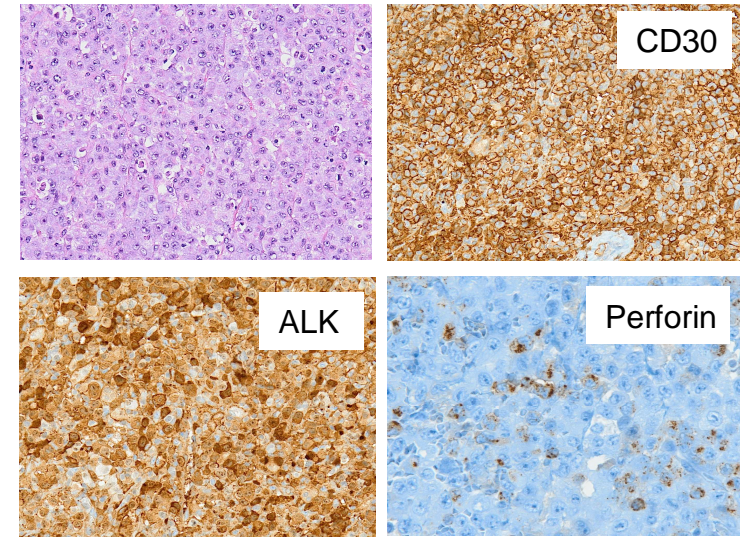


# ALCL primary and correspondent ALCL tumorgraft display identical immunoprofiles

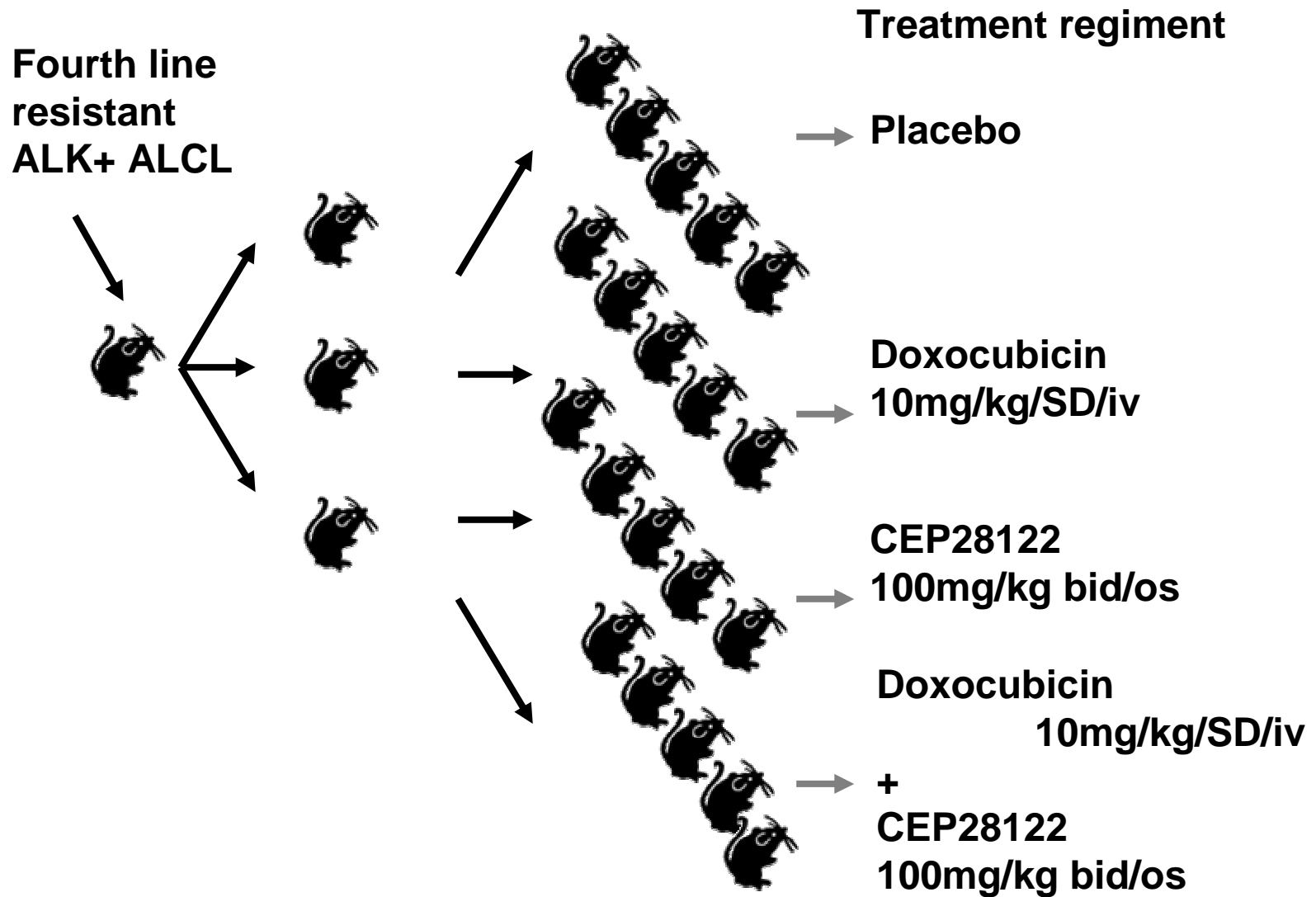
Primary ALCL-1



Tumorgraft ALCL-1-T3

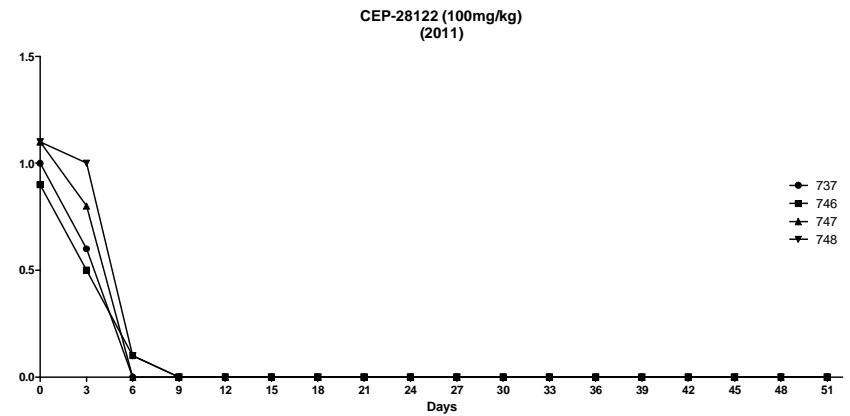
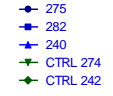
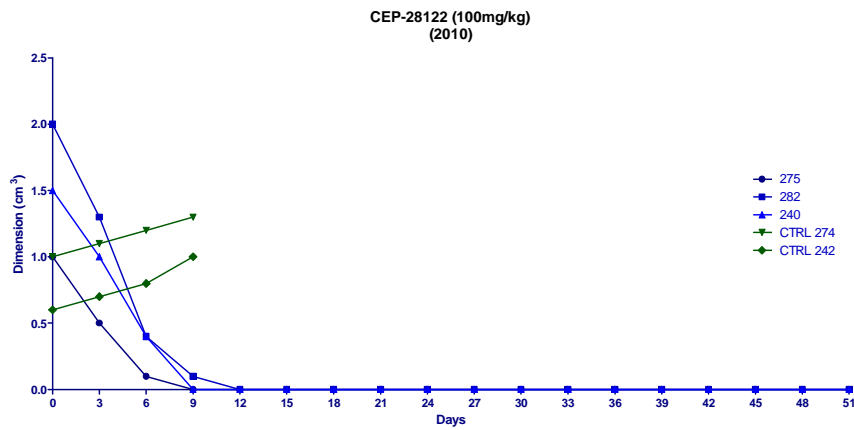
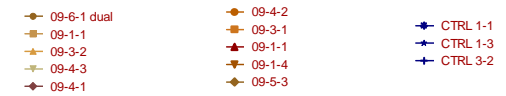
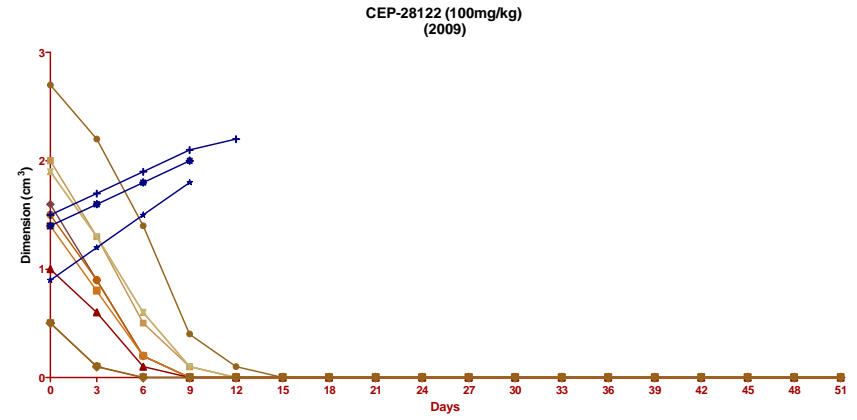
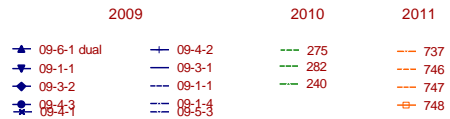
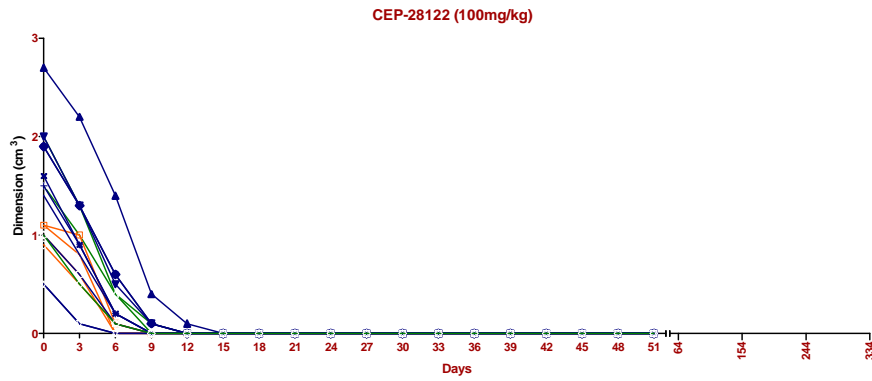


# Preclinical therapeutic strategies

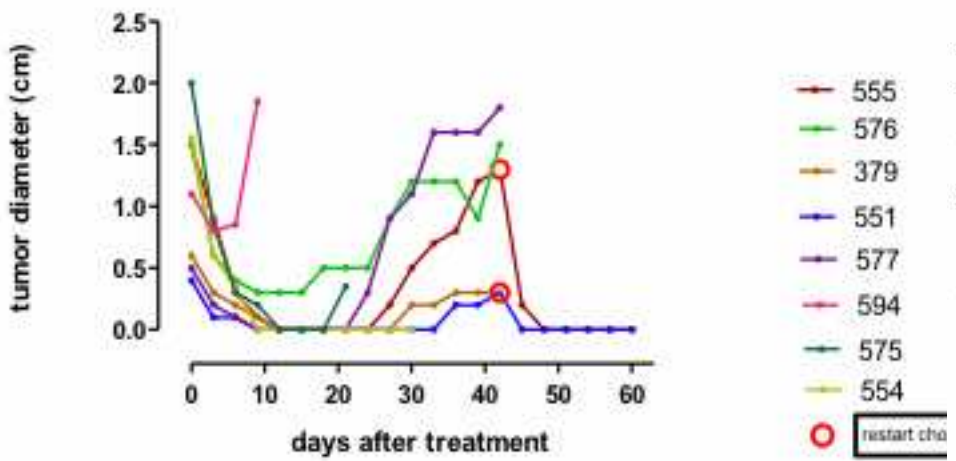




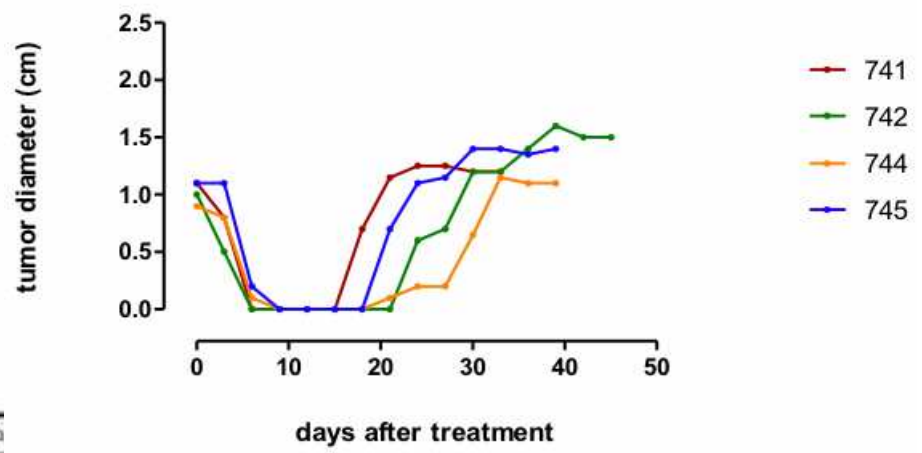
# Anti-ALK CEP28122 cures ALK+ ALCL tumorgraft



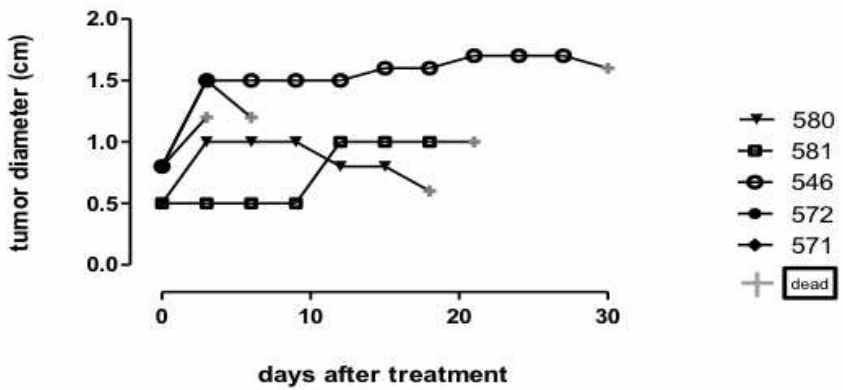
### CHOP ALCL-2 1th



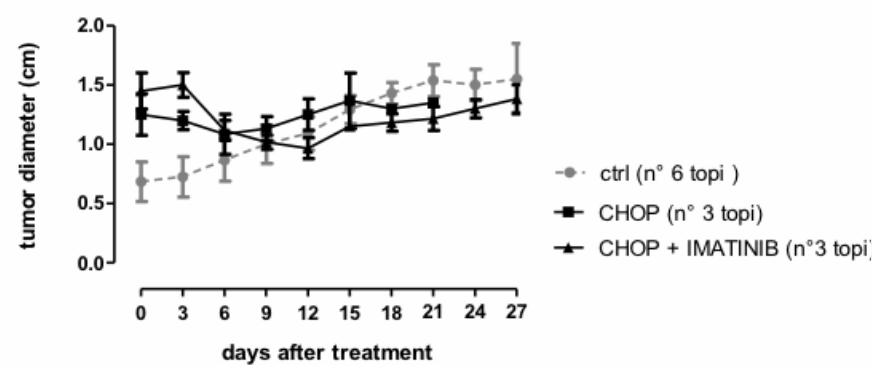
### CHOP ALCL-2 2nd



### CHOP ALCL-3 1th



### CHOP vs Imatinib ALCL-1



# Acknowledgements

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