

Figure 7 Representative polyacrylamide gel autoradiograph employed in a typical ribonuclease protection assay of different 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase genes (*PFKFB-1*, *PFKFB-2*, *PFKFB-3*, and *PFKFB-4*), GLUT1, hypoxia inducible factor-1 α , and different alternative splice variants of VEGF-A in gastric malignant tumors (T) and non-malignant tissue counterparts (N) from same patients. The 18S rRNA expressions were used as control of RNA quantity used for analysis^[32]. HIF: Hypoxia inducible factor; PFKFB: 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase.

relates with a strong increase of *GLUT1* gene expression ($P < 0.001$).

In conclusion, this chapter provides evidence that PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-3 mRNA are expressed in different cancer cell lines, including pancreatic and gastric adenocarcinoma cells, and strongly respond to hypoxia possibly through a HIF- dependent mechanism using active HIF-binding sites in *PFKFB4* and *PFKFB3* genes. At the same time, no clear correlation is existent between different variants of PFKFB mRNA expressions and its protein levels in different cancer cell lines both in normoxic and hypoxic conditions. Moreover, hypoxic induction of HIF-1 α protein level correlates with a reduction of HIF-1 α mRNA expression in these cell lines. Thus, there is an opposite correlation between hypoxic regulation of PFKFB-4 mRNA and protein levels in different hypoxia-treated adenocarcinoma cells *in vitro*^[31,32,65]. It is possible that permanent degradation of HIF-1 α protein in normoxic condition support high level expression of corresponding mRNA needed for synthesis of this protein. At the same time, stabilization of HIF-1 α protein under hypoxia suppresses transcription of this gene or/ and initiates the degradation of HIF-1 α mRNA.

EXPRESSION OF DIFFERENT PFKFB IN HUMAN GASTRIC, COLON, LUNG, AND BREAST MALIGNANT TUMORS

There is data that PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-3 mRNA and protein expressions are significantly increased ($P < 0.001$) in gastric cancers as compared to corresponding non-malignant tissue counterparts from the same patients (Figures 7 and 8)^[32]. This increase in the expression of these PFKFB genes in gastric malignant tumors correlates with the up-regulation of HIF-1 α and known HIF-dependent

genes GLUT1 and VEGF ($P < 0.001$). Moreover, the expression of PFKFB-1 and PFKFB-2 mRNA is also increased in gastric cancer tissue. It is interesting to note that the expression level of different PFKFB mRNAs in non-malignant stomach tissue was highest for PFKFB-2, much less for PFKFB-3 and slight for PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-1^[32].

As shown in Figure 9, PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-3 mRNA are also overexpressed ($P < 0.001$) in lung, colon, and breast cancers as compared to corresponding non-malignant tissue counterparts from the same patients being more pronounced for PFKFB-4 in lung and breast tumors^[30,33,69]. Up-regulation of PFKFB-2 mRNA is also shown for lung cancers^[30]. Moreover, the level of GLUT1 and VEGF mRNA expressions is also significantly increased ($P < 0.001$) in all these cancer tissues, especially GLUT1 in lung and colon tumors (Figure 10)^[30,33]. Western analysis of PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-3 proteins as well as HIF-1 α protein clearly demonstrated its up-regulation in all analysed tumors with more pronounced changes in PFKFB-4 protein in lung and breast cancers (Figure 11)^[30,32,33]. Thus, overexpression of PFKFB-3, PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-2 is observed in various human cancers through various mechanisms: by a combination of hypoxia inducible transcription factors (for PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-3), activation of oncogenic proteins and the loss of tumor suppressor function^[29-33,37].

Recently, it was shown that amino acid activates AKT-dependent PFKFB2 phosphorylation at Ser-483 and that this activation was mediated by the PI3K and p38 signaling pathways^[70]. Furthermore, AKT inactivation blocked PFKFB2 phosphorylation and fructose-2,6-bisphosphate production, thereby suggesting that the above signaling pathways converge at AKT kinase. Moreover, MACC1 (MUC1, mucin 1, cell surface associated) may affect tumor metabolism partly through expression and phosphorylation of PFKFB2^[71].

At the same time, the protein level of both PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-3 is significantly different in non-malignant lung, breast, colon, and gastric tissues being more pronounced for colon and gastric tissues. It is interesting to note that the level of PFKFB-4 protein in all studied cancers (lung, breast, colon, and gastric) was also higher as compared to the PFKFB-3 isozyme (Figure 11). Thus, the main protein isoform of PFKFB enzyme family expressed in lung, breast, colon, and gastric malignant tumors is PFKFB-4.

Moreover, there is data that hypoxia is needed for tumor progression and initiates the endoplasmic reticulum stress for induction of neovascularization and apoptosis inhibition^[72-76]. It is known that some PFKFB enzymes are components of the endoplasmic reticulum stress and participate in proliferation processes^[77]. Recently, it was shown that PFKFB-3-driven glycolysis participates in vessel sprouting process which strongly depends upon endoplasmic reticulum stress^[73,78,79]. Thus, endothelial cells relied on glycolysis rather than on oxidative phosphorylation for ATP production and loss of the glycolytic activator PFKFB3 in endothelial cells impaired

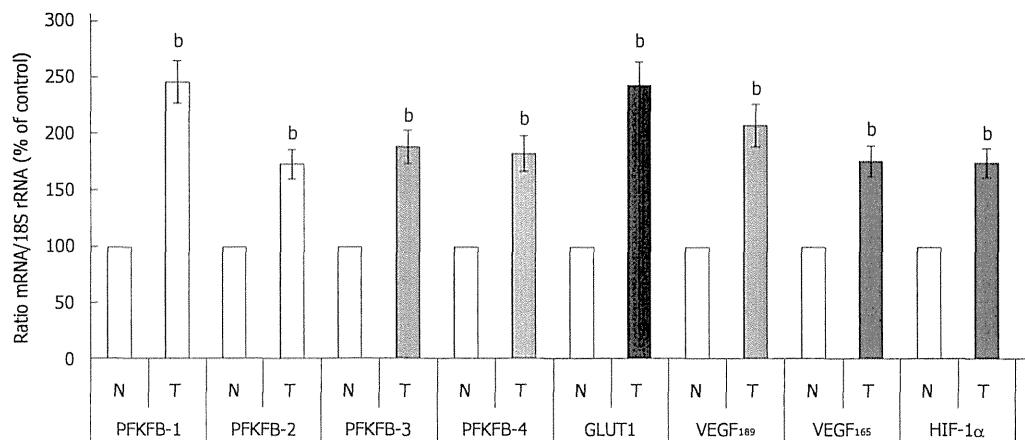


Figure 8 Quantification of ribonuclease protection assay of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-1, 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-2, 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3, 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4, GLUT1, hypoxia inducible factor-1 α , and splice variants of VEGF-A mRNA in human gastric malignant tumors (T) and corresponding non-malignant tissue (N) from the same patients. ^b*P* < 0.01 vs control cells^[92]. HIF: Hypoxia inducible factor; PFKFB: 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase; VEGF: Vascular endothelial growth factor.

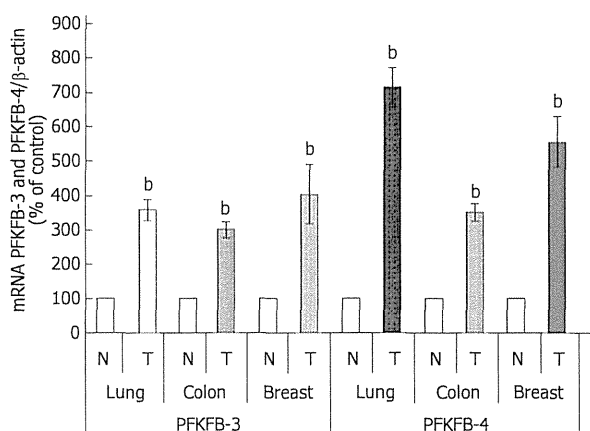


Figure 9 Quantification of ribonuclease protection assay of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 and 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4 mRNA expressions in lung, colon, and breast malignant tumors (T) and corresponding non-malignant tissue counterparts (C). Values of PFKFB-3 and PFKFB-4 mRNA expressions were normalized to 18S rRNA; *n* = 15-20, ^b*P* < 0.01 vs non-malignant tissues^[90,33]. PFKFB: 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase.

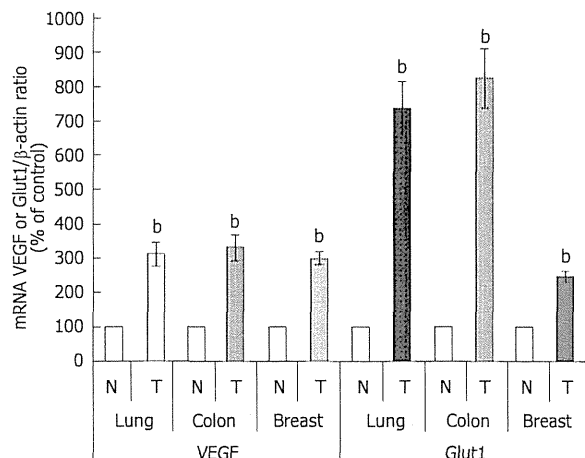


Figure 10 Quantification of ribonuclease protection assay of VEGF and Glut1 mRNA expressions in lung, colon, and breast malignant tumors (T) and corresponding non-malignant tissue counterparts (C). Values of VEGF and Glut1 mRNA expressions were normalized to 18S rRNA; *n* = 15-20; ^b*P* < 0.01 vs non-malignant tissues^[90,33]. PFKFB: 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase; VEGF: Vascular endothelial growth factor.

vessel formation^[78,80]. Moreover, the glycolytic activator PFKFB3 regulates stalk cell proliferation and renders endothelial cells more competitive to reach the tip^[81].

The induction of different PFKFB as well as tumor angiogenesis and growth is realized not only through activation of transcription factor HIF^[7,14,34,73,74,82-86]. For PFKFB3 it was shown that its transcription as well as allosteric activation is promoted by MAPK pathway^[87]. Many growth factors may contribute to cancer progression, including pancreatic cancer, through induction of the expression of genes without hypoxia responsive elements^[88]. Moreover, hypoxia-inducible mir-210 regulates normoxic gene expression involved in tumor initiation and growth^[89]. Recently, it was shown that clathrin heavy chain promotes growth and angiogenesis of pancreatic

adenocarcinoma, which is an aggressive disease with a high mortality rate, through the regulation of HIF-1 α and VEGF signaling and that hypoxia-induced pancreatic cancer cells invasion is also mediated by transcription factor HIF^[85,90]. One of the key functions of clathrin heavy chain protein is to bind with the HIF-1 α protein, increasing the stability of this protein and facilitating its nuclear translocation, thereby regulating the expression of VEGF. Thus, suppression of clathrin heavy chain either by shRNA or by specific antibody inhibited pancreatic adenocarcinoma growth and angiogenesis^[85].

A better understanding of the impact of PFKFB gene networks regulation on glycolysis as well as cell cycle control, apoptosis and cell survival promises to shed light on the emerging association between PFKFB-3, PFKFB-4,

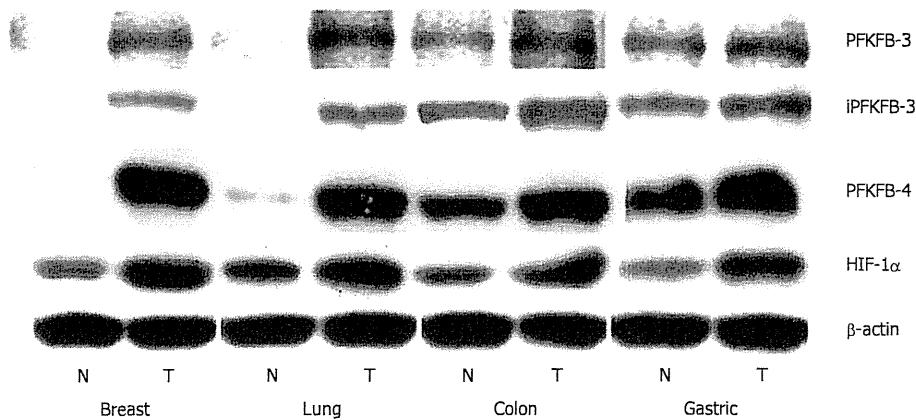


Figure 11 Representative Western blot analysis of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3, inducible 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3, 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4, and hypoxia inducible factor-1 α protein levels in breast, lung, colon, and stomach malignant tumors (T) and non-malignant (control) tissues counterparts (N) from same patients. The actin was used to ensure equal loading of the sample^[30,32,33]. HIF: Hypoxia inducible factor; PFKFB: 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase.

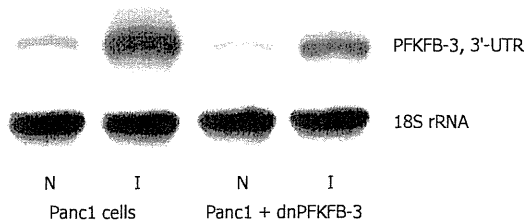


Figure 12 Representative polyacrylamide gel autoradiograph employed in a typical ribonuclease protection assay of endogenous 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 mRNA in pancreatic carcinoma cell line Panc1, stable transfected by pcDNA3.1(+) vector (Panc1 cells) or by dominant/negative 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 (Panc1 + dnPFKFB-3) in normoxic (N) condition and after treatment of Panc1 cells with dimethyloxalylglycine, inhibitor of prolyl hydroxylase (I; 1 mmol/L for 6 h). The 18S rRNA antisense probe was used as control of analyzed RNA quantity^[88]. PFKFB: 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase.

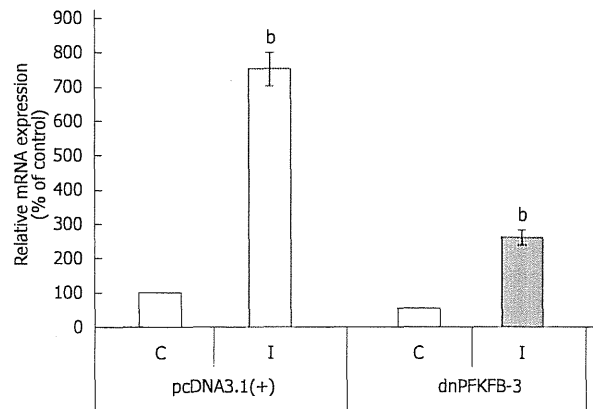


Figure 13 Quantification of ribonuclease protection assay of endogenous 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 mRNA expression in pancreatic carcinoma cell line Panc1, stable transfected by pcDNA3.1(+) vector or dominant/negative 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 in normoxic (control) condition (C) and after treatment of Panc1 cells with dimethyloxalylglycine, inhibitor of prolyl hydroxylase (I). $n = 5$; $^bP < 0.01$ vs control^[89]. dnPFKFB-3: Dominant/negative 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3.

cell proliferation and cancer. These provide rationale for the development of agents that selectively inhibit the PFKFB3 and PFKFB-4 enzymes as antineoplastic agents. Recently was shown that inhibition of PFKFB-3 activity suppresses glycolytic flux and tumor growth by rapid induction of apoptosis in transformed cells^[91,92]. It is possible, that the stimulation of glycolysis in cancer cells results by multimodal mechanism of stress stimuli affecting PFKFB3 transcriptional regulation and kinase activation by protein phosphorylation^[41]. Moreover, the glycolytic enzyme PFKFB3 regulates autophagy and inhibition of PFKFB3 in tumor cells would induce autophagy as a pro-survival mechanism and inhibitors of autophagy could increase the anti-tumor effects of PFKFB3 inhibitors^[93,94].

Previously, we have shown that suppression of PFKFB-3 and PFKFB-4 expression ($P < 0.05-0.01$) in pancreatic Panc1 and PSN-1 cancer cells by dominant/negative technology also decreases VEGF expression ($P < 0.05$) and proliferation rate ($P < 0.05$) of these cells (Figures 12-14)^[95]. For this aim we introduced point mu-

tation in ATP-binding domain of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase part of PFKFB-3 as well as PFKFB-4 cDNA and cloned in pcDNA3.1 vector. Pancreatic Panc1 and PSN-1 cancer cells were stable transfected with dnPFKFB-3 and dnPFKFB-4 constructs and studied the expression of endogenous PFKFB-3, PFKFB-4, and VEGF-A mRNAs in these cells as well as its proliferation rate. It was shown that both dnPFKFB-3 and dnPFKFB-4 suppress the expression of endogenous PFKFB-3, PFKFB-4, and VEGF-A mRNAs as well as cell proliferation in pancreatic cancer cells^[95]. Results of this investigation agree with the role of PFKFB3-driven glycolysis in vessel sprouting^[78,80,81] and demonstrate possibility to apply the dominant-negative strategy for suppression of tumor cells glycolysis and proliferation through reduction of the expression of PFKFB-3 and PFKFB-4 enzymes.

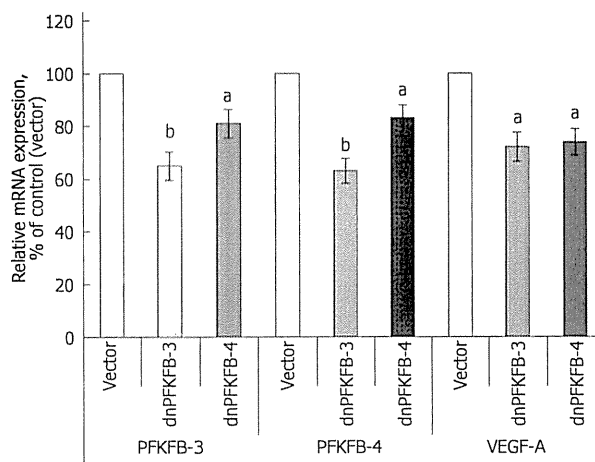


Figure 14 Endogenous 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3, 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4, and vascular endothelial growth factor mRNA expressions in pancreatic carcinoma cell line PSN-1, stable transfected with pcDNA3.1(+) vector (Vector), dominant/negative 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3, and dominant/negative 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4, measured by ribonuclease protection assay. $n = 5$; ^a $P < 0.05$ vs control; ^b $P < 0.01$ vs control^[68]. PFKFB: 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase; VEGF: Vascular endothelial growth factor.

Thus, PFKFB-4 as well as PFKFB-3 participates in the regulation of glycolysis and promotes tumor growth and survival of cancer cells^[34,52-54,91]. Moreover, targeting PFKFB3 by specific inhibitors is a perspective therapeutic strategy against cancer^[91,92]. It was also shown that blocking of PFKFB4 induces reactive oxygen species and cancer cell death and that targeting PFKFB4 may also, therefore, present new therapeutic opportunities^[52,53].

CONCLUSION

PFKFB-3 and PFKFB-4 play a significant role in the regulation of glycolysis and cancer growth by inducing cell proliferation and survival. The *PFKFB-4* and *PFKFB-3* genes have active HIF-responsible elements and its expression is increased in different malignant tumors and strongly induced in various cancer cell lines under hypoxia. The expression of *PFKFB-4* and *PFKFB-3* genes as well as its hypoxia responsibility was also shown for pancreatic (Panc1, PSN-1 and MIA Paca-2) and gastric (MKN45 and NUGC3) cancer cell lines. The highest constitutive expression level of PFKFB-4 protein was found in the NUGC3 adenocarcinoma cells and lowest in the Panc1 cells, with the maximum response to hypoxia in the pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells. Moreover, the hypoxia responsiveness of PFKFB-3 and PFKFB-4 mRNA expressions in pancreatic and gastric cancer cell lines is correlated with the increased level of HIF-1 α protein and enhanced expression of *VEGF* and *GLUT1* genes. At the same time, the basal expression level of HIF-1 α as well as HIF-2 α mRNA and their hypoxia responsiveness are variable in these cancer cells as well as in many other cancer cell lines. The overexpression of different

PFKFB was also shown in gastric, colon, lung, and breast cancer tissues. It is interesting to note that the protein level of PFKFB-4 in colon and gastric malignant tumors as well as non-malignant tissue counterparts was greater as compared to the variant 3 of PFKFB. Both PFKFB-4 and PFKFB-3 isoenzymes are overexpressed in different malignant tumors and undergo changes in their metabolism that contribute to the proliferation and survival of cancer cells. A better understanding of the impact of *PFKFB* gene networks regulation on cell cycle control and glycolysis as well as nutrient balance at the molecular, cellular and system levels promises to shed light on the emerging association between PFKFB-3, PFKFB-4, cell proliferation and cancer. These provide rationale for the development of agents that selectively inhibit the PFKFB3 and PFKFB-4 enzymes as antineoplastic agents.

REFERENCES

- Vaccaro V, Gelibter A, Bria E, Iapicca P, Cappello P, Di Modugno F, Pino MS, Nuzzo C, Cognetti F, Novelli F, Nistico P, Milella M. Molecular and genetic bases of pancreatic cancer. *Curr Drug Targets* 2012; 13: 731-743 [PMID: 22458519 DOI: 10.2174/138945012800564077]
- Thomas SJ, Swanik KA, Swanik C, Huxel KC. Glenohumeral rotation and scapular position adaptations after a single high school female sports season. *J Athl Train* 2009; 44: 230-237 [PMID: 19478845 DOI: 10.1002/jcb.22214]
- Höckel M, Vaupel P. Tumor hypoxia: definitions and current clinical, biologic, and molecular aspects. *J Natl Cancer Inst* 2001; 93: 266-276 [PMID: 11181773]
- Neelam S, Brooks MM, Cammarata PR. Lenticular cytoprotection. Part 1: the role of hypoxia inducible factors-1 α and -2 α and vascular endothelial growth factor in lens epithelial cell survival in hypoxia. *Mol Vis* 2013; 19: 1-15 [PMID: 23335846]
- Chiche J, Rouleau M, Gounon P, Brahimi-Horn MC, Pouyssegur J, Mazure NM. Hypoxic enlarged mitochondria protect cancer cells from apoptotic stimuli. *J Cell Physiol* 2010; 222: 648-657 [PMID: 19957303 DOI: 10.1002/jcp.21984]
- Brahimi-Horn MC, Chiche J, Pouyssegur J. Hypoxia and cancer. *J Mol Med (Berl)* 2007; 85: 1301-1307 [PMID: 18026916 DOI: 10.1007/s00109-007-0281-3]
- Chen C, Cai S, Wang G, Cao X, Yang X, Luo X, Feng Y, Hu J. c-Myc enhances colon cancer cell-mediated angiogenesis through the regulation of HIF-1 α . *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 2013; 430: 505-511 [PMID: 23237807 DOI: 10.1016/j.bbrc.2012.12.006]
- Kim EJ, Simeone DM. Advances in pancreatic cancer. *Curr Opin Gastroenterol* 2011; 27: 460-466 [PMID: 21778878 DOI: 10.1097/MOG.0b013e328349e31f]
- Ratcliffe PJ, O'Rourke JF, Maxwell PH, Pugh CW. Oxygen sensing, hypoxia-inducible factor-1 and the regulation of mammalian gene expression. *J Exp Biol* 1998; 201: 1153-1162 [PMID: 9510527]
- Semenza GL. Involvement of hypoxia-inducible factor 1 in human cancer. *Intern Med* 2002; 41: 79-83 [PMID: 11868612]
- Stoeltzing O, McCarty MF, Wey JS, Fan F, Liu W, Belcheva A, Bucana CD, Semenza GL, Ellis LM. Role of hypoxia-inducible factor 1 α in gastric cancer cell growth, angiogenesis, and vessel maturation. *J Natl Cancer Inst* 2004; 96: 946-956 [PMID: 15199114 DOI: 10.1093/jnci/djh168]
- Lu H, Forbes RA, Verma A. Hypoxia-inducible factor 1 activation by aerobic glycolysis implicates the Warburg effect in carcinogenesis. *J Biol Chem* 2002; 277: 23111-23115 [PMID: 11943784 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M202487200]
- Wykoff CC, Pugh CW, Maxwell PH, Harris AL, Ratcliffe PJ.

- Identification of novel hypoxia dependent and independent target genes of the von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) tumour suppressor by mRNA differential expression profiling. *Oncogene* 2000; **19**: 6297-6305 [PMID: 11175344]
- 14 He Y, Kim H, Ryu T, Kang Y, Kim JA, Kim BH, Lee JH, Kang K, Lu Q, Kim K. δ -Catenin overexpression promotes angiogenic potential of CWR22Rv-1 prostate cancer cells via HIF-1 α and VEGF. *FEBS Lett* 2013; **587**: 193-199 [PMID: 23220088 DOI: 10.1016/j.febslet.2012.11.024]
 - 15 Höpfl G, Ogunshola O, Gassmann M. HIFs and tumors--causes and consequences. *Am J Physiol Regul Integr Comp Physiol* 2004; **286**: R608-R623 [PMID: 15003941 DOI: 10.1152/ajpregu.00538.2003]
 - 16 Bartrons R, Caro J. Hypoxia, glucose metabolism and the Warburg's effect. *J Bioenerg Biomembr* 2007; **39**: 223-229 [PMID: 17661163 DOI: 10.1007/s10863-007-9080-3]
 - 17 Yalcin A, Telang S, Clem B, Chesney J. Regulation of glucose metabolism by 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatases in cancer. *Exp Mol Pathol* 2009; **86**: 174-179 [PMID: 19454274 DOI: 10.1016/j.yexmp.2009.01.003]
 - 18 Wolf A, Agnihotri S, Micallef J, Mukherjee J, Sabha N, Cairns R, Hawkins C, Guha A. Hexokinase 2 is a key mediator of aerobic glycolysis and promotes tumor growth in human glioblastoma multiforme. *J Exp Med* 2011; **208**: 313-326 [PMID: 21242296 DOI: 10.1084/jem.20101470]
 - 19 Okar DA, Manzano A, Navarro-Sabaté A, Riera L, Bartrons R, Lange AJ. PFK-2/FBPase-2: maker and breaker of the essential biofactor fructose-2,6-bisphosphate. *Trends Biochem Sci* 2001; **26**: 30-35 [PMID: 11165514]
 - 20 Rider MH, Bertrand L, Vertommen D, Michels PA, Rousseau GG, Hue L. 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase: head-to-head with a bifunctional enzyme that controls glycolysis. *Biochem J* 2004; **381**: 561-579 [PMID: 15170386 DOI: 10.1042/BJ20040752]
 - 21 Sakata J, Abe Y, Uyeda K. Molecular cloning of the DNA and expression and characterization of rat testes fructose-6-phosphate,2-kinase: fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase. *J Biol Chem* 1991; **266**: 15764-15770 [PMID: 1651918]
 - 22 Manzano A, Rosa JL, Ventura F, Pérez JX, Nadal M, Estivill X, Ambrosio S, Gil J, Bartrons R. Molecular cloning, expression, and chromosomal localization of a ubiquitously expressed human 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/ fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase gene (PFKFB3). *Cytogenet Cell Genet* 1998; **83**: 214-217 [PMID: 10072580 DOI: 10.1159/000015181]
 - 23 Sakakibara R, Okudaira T, Fujiwara K, Kato M, Hirata T, Yamanaka S, Naito M, Fukasawa M. Tissue distribution of placenta-type 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 1999; **257**: 177-181 [PMID: 10092529]
 - 24 Minchenko O, Opentanova I, Caro J. Hypoxic regulation of the 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase gene family (PFKFB1-4) expression in vivo. *FEBS Lett* 2003; **554**: 264-270 [PMID: 14623077 DOI: 10.1016/S0014-5793(03)01179-7]
 - 25 Minchenko O, Opentanova I, Minchenko D, Ogura T, Esumi H. Hypoxia induces transcription of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4 gene via hypoxia-inducible factor-1 α activation. *FEBS Lett* 2004; **576**: 14-20 [PMID: 15474002 DOI: 10.1016/j.febslet.2004.08.053]
 - 26 Chesney J. 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase and tumor cell glycolysis. *Curr Opin Clin Nutr Metab Care* 2006; **9**: 535-539 [PMID: 16912547]
 - 27 Minchenko A, Leshchinsky I, Opentanova I, Sang N, Srinivas V, Armstead V, Caro J. Hypoxia-inducible factor-1-mediated expression of the 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 (PFKFB3) gene. Its possible role in the Warburg effect. *J Biol Chem* 2002; **277**: 6183-6187 [PMID: 11744734]
 - 28 Chesney J, Mitchell R, Benigni F, Bacher M, Spiegel L, Al-Abed Y, Han JH, Metz C, Bucala R. An inducible gene product for 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase with an AU-rich instability element: role in tumor cell glycolysis and the Warburg effect. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 1999; **96**: 3047-3052 [PMID: 10077634]
 - 29 Atsumi T, Chesney J, Metz C, Leng L, Donnelly S, Makita Z, Mitchell R, Bucala R. High expression of inducible 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase (iPFK-2; PFKFB3) in human cancers. *Cancer Res* 2002; **62**: 5881-5887 [PMID: 12384552]
 - 30 Minchenko OH, Ogura T, Opentanova IL, Minchenko DO, Ochiai A, Caro J, Komisarenko SV, Esumi H. 6-Phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase gene family overexpression in human lung tumor. *Ukr Biokhim Zh* 2005; **77**: 46-50 [PMID: 19618741]
 - 31 Minchenko OH, Opentanova IL, Ogura T, Minchenko DO, Komisarenko SV, Caro J, Esumi H. Expression and hypoxia-responsiveness of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase 4 in mammary gland malignant cell lines. *Acta Biochim Pol* 2005; **52**: 881-888 [PMID: 16025159]
 - 32 Bobarykina AY, Minchenko DO, Opentanova IL, Moenner M, Caro J, Esumi H, Minchenko OH. Hypoxic regulation of PFKFB-3 and PFKFB-4 gene expression in gastric and pancreatic cancer cell lines and expression of PFKFB genes in gastric cancers. *Acta Biochim Pol* 2006; **53**: 789-799 [PMID: 17143338]
 - 33 Minchenko OH, Ochiai A, Opentanova IL, Ogura T, Minchenko DO, Caro J, Komisarenko SV, Esumi H. Overexpression of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4 in the human breast and colon malignant tumors. *Biochimie* 2005; **87**: 1005-1010 [PMID: 15925437 DOI: 10.1016/j.biochip.2005.04.007]
 - 34 Yalcin A, Clem BF, Simmons A, Lane A, Nelson K, Clem AL, Brock E, Siow D, Wattenberg B, Telang S, Chesney J. Nuclear targeting of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase (PFKFB3) increases proliferation via cyclin-dependent kinases. *J Biol Chem* 2009; **284**: 24223-24232 [PMID: 19473963 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M109.016816]
 - 35 Kessler R, Bleichert F, Warnke JP, Eschrich K. 6-Phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase (PFKFB3) is up-regulated in high-grade astrocytomas. *J Neurooncol* 2008; **86**: 257-264 [PMID: 17805487 DOI: 10.1007/s11060-007-9471-7]
 - 36 Fukasawa M, Tsuchiya T, Takayama E, Shinomiya N, Uyeda K, Sakakibara R, Seki S. Identification and characterization of the hypoxia-responsive element of the human placental 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase gene. *J Biochem* 2004; **136**: 273-277 [PMID: 15598882 DOI: 10.1093/jb/mvh137]
 - 37 Obach M, Navarro-Sabaté A, Caro J, Kong X, Duran J, Gómez M, Perales JC, Ventura F, Rosa JL, Bartrons R. 6-Phosphofructo-2-kinase (pfkfb3) gene promoter contains hypoxia-inducible factor-1 binding sites necessary for transactivation in response to hypoxia. *J Biol Chem* 2004; **279**: 53562-53570 [PMID: 15466858 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M406096200]
 - 38 Marsin AS, Bouzin C, Bertrand L, Hue L. The stimulation of glycolysis by hypoxia in activated monocytes is mediated by AMP-activated protein kinase and inducible 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase. *J Biol Chem* 2002; **277**: 30778-30783 [PMID: 12065600 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M205213200]
 - 39 Hue L, Beauloye C, Bertrand L, Horman S, Krause U, Marsin AS, Meisse D, Vertommen D, Rider MH. New targets of AMP-activated protein kinase. *Biochem Soc Trans* 2003; **31**: 213-215 [PMID: 12546687]
 - 40 Bando H, Atsumi T, Nishio T, Niwa H, Mishima S, Shimizu C, Yoshioka N, Bucala R, Koike T. Phosphorylation of the 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose 2,6-bisphosphatase/PFKFB3 family of glycolytic regulators in human cancer. *Clin Cancer Res* 2005; **11**: 5784-5792 [PMID: 16115917 DOI: 10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-05-0149]
 - 41 Novellademunt L, Bultot L, Manzano A, Ventura F, Rosa JL, Vertommen D, Rider MH, Navarro-Sabaté A, Bartrons R. PFKFB3 activation in cancer cells by the p38/MK2 pathway

- in response to stress stimuli. *Biochem J* 2013; **452**: 531-543 [PMID: 23548149 DOI: 10.1042/BJ20121886]
- 42 Almeida A, Bolaños JP, Moncada S. E3 ubiquitin ligase APC/C-Cdh1 accounts for the Warburg effect by linking glycolysis to cell proliferation. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2010; **107**: 738-741 [PMID: 20080744 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.0913668107]
 - 43 Cordero-Espinoza L, Hagen T. Increased concentrations of fructose 2,6-bisphosphate contribute to the Warburg effect in phosphatase and tensin homolog (PTEN)-deficient cells. *J Biol Chem* 2013; **288**: 36020-36028 [PMID: 24169697 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M113.510289]
 - 44 Tudzarova S, Colombo SL, Stoeber K, Carcamo S, Williams GH, Moncada S. Two ubiquitin ligases, APC/C-Cdh1 and SKP1-CUL1-F (SCF)-beta-TrCP, sequentially regulate glycolysis during the cell cycle. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2011; **108**: 5278-5283 [PMID: 21402913 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1102247108]
 - 45 Moon JS, Jin WJ, Kwak JH, Kim HJ, Yun MJ, Kim JW, Park SW, Kim KS. Androgen stimulates glycolysis for de novo lipid synthesis by increasing the activities of hexokinase 2 and 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase 2 in prostate cancer cells. *Biochem J* 2011; **433**: 225-233 [PMID: 20958264 DOI: 10.1042/BJ20101104]
 - 46 Ruiz-García A, Monsalve E, Novellademunt L, Navarro-Sabaté A, Manzano A, Rivero S, Castrillo A, Casado M, Laborda J, Bartrons R, Diaz-Guerra MJ. Cooperation of adenosine with macrophage Toll-4 receptor agonists leads to increased glycolytic flux through the enhanced expression of PFKFB3 gene. *J Biol Chem* 2011; **286**: 19247-19258 [PMID: 21464136 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M110.190298]
 - 47 Kumar P, Sharoyko VV, Spégel P, Gullberg U, Mulder H, Olsson I, Ajore R. The transcriptional co-repressor myeloid translocation gene 16 inhibits glycolysis and stimulates mitochondrial respiration. *PLoS One* 2013; **8**: e68502 [PMID: 23840896 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0068502]
 - 48 Zscharnack K, Kessler R, Bleichert F, Warnke JP, Eschrich K. The PFKFB3 splice variant UBI2K4 is downregulated in high-grade astrocytomas and impedes the growth of U87 glioblastoma cells. *Neuropathol Appl Neurobiol* 2009; **35**: 566-578 [PMID: 19490427 DOI: 10.1111/j.1365-2990.2009.01027.x]
 - 49 Atsumi T, Nishio T, Niwa H, Takeuchi J, Bando H, Shimizu C, Yoshioka N, Bucala R, Koike T. Expression of inducible 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase/PFKFB3 isoforms in adipocytes and their potential role in glycolytic regulation. *Diabetes* 2005; **54**: 3349-3357 [PMID: 16306349 DOI: 10.2337/diabetes.54.12.3349]
 - 50 Mykhalchenko VG, Minchenko DO, Tsuchihara K, Moenner M, Komisarenko SV, Bikfalvi A, Esumi H, Minchenko OH. Expression of mouse 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 mRNA alternative splice variants in hypoxia. *Ukr Biokhim Zh* 2008; **80**: 19-25 [PMID: 18710022]
 - 51 Mykhalchenko VG, Tsuchihara K, Minchenko DO, Esumi H, Prystupiuik OM, Minchenko OH. 6-Phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase mRNA expression in streptozotocin-diabetic rats. *Biopolymers Cell* 2008; **24**: 260-266 [DOI: 10.7124/bc.0007A9]
 - 52 Ros S, Santos CR, Moco S, Baenke F, Kelly G, Howell M, Zamboni N, Schulze A. Functional metabolic screen identifies 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase 4 as an important regulator of prostate cancer cell survival. *Cancer Discov* 2012; **2**: 328-343 [PMID: 22576210 DOI: 10.1158/2159-8290.CD-11-0234]
 - 53 Jeon YK, Yoo DR, Jang YH, Jang SY, Nam MJ. Sulforaphane induces apoptosis in human hepatic cancer cells through inhibition of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase4, mediated by hypoxia inducible factor-1-dependent pathway. *Biochim Biophys Acta* 2011; **1814**: 1340-1348 [PMID: 21640852 DOI: 10.1016/j.bbapap.2011.05.015]
 - 54 Goidts V, Bageritz J, Puccio L, Nakata S, Zapatka M, Barbus S, Toedt G, Campos B, Korshunov A, Momma S, Van Schaftingen E, Reifemberger G, Herold-Mende C, Lichter P, Radlwimmer B. RNAi screening in glioma stem-like cells identifies PFKFB4 as a key molecule important for cancer cell survival. *Oncogene* 2012; **31**: 3235-3243 [PMID: 22056879 DOI: 10.1038/onc.2011.490]
 - 55 Yun SJ, Jo SW, Ha YS, Lee OJ, Kim WT, Kim YJ, Lee SC, Kim WJ. PFKFB4 as a prognostic marker in non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer. *Urol Oncol* 2012; **30**: 893-899 [PMID: 21396842 DOI: 10.1016/j.urolonc.2010.08.018]
 - 56 Dang CV. Cancer cell metabolism: there is no ROS for the weary. *Cancer Discov* 2012; **2**: 304-307 [PMID: 22576206 DOI: 10.1158/2159-8290.CD-12-0069]
 - 57 Dang CV. Links between metabolism and cancer. *Genes Dev* 2012; **26**: 877-890 [PMID: 22549953 DOI: 10.1101/gad.189365.112]
 - 58 Minchenko OH, Ogura T, Opentanova IL, Minchenko DO, Esumi H. Splice isoform of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4: expression and hypoxic regulation. *Mol Cell Biochem* 2005; **280**: 227-234 [PMID: 16311927]
 - 59 Minchenko DO, Mykhalchenko VG, Tsuchihara K, Kanehara S, Yavorovsky OP, Zavgorodny IV, Paustovsky YO, Komisarenko SV, Esumi H, Minchenko OH. Alternative splice variants of rat 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4 mRNA. *Ukr Biokhim Zh* 2008; **80**: 66-73 [PMID: 19140452]
 - 60 Minchenko DO, Kovtun OO, Minchenko OH, Byts YV. Family of alternative splice variants of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-4 mRNA. *Nauk Visnyk Bogomolets Natl Med Univ* 2006; **15**: 72-78
 - 61 Liu Z, Jia X, Duan Y, Xiao H, Sundqvist KG, Permert J, Wang F. Excess glucose induces hypoxia-inducible factor-1 α in pancreatic cancer cells and stimulates glucose metabolism and cell migration. *Cancer Biol Ther* 2013; **14**: 428-435 [PMID: 23377827 DOI: 10.4161/cbt.23786]
 - 62 Seagroves TN, Ryan HE, Lu H, Wouters BG, Knapp M, Thibault P, Laderoute K, Johnson RS. Transcription factor HIF-1 is a necessary mediator of the pasture effect in mammalian cells. *Mol Cell Biol* 2001; **21**: 3436-3444 [PMID: 11313469]
 - 63 Gleadle JM, Ratcliffe PJ. Hypoxia and the regulation of gene expression. *Mol Med Today* 1998; **4**: 122-129 [PMID: 9575495]
 - 64 Minchenko A, Caro J. Regulation of endothelin-1 gene expression in human microvascular endothelial cells by hypoxia and cobalt: role of hypoxia responsive element. *Mol Cell Biochem* 2000; **208**: 53-62 [PMID: 10939628]
 - 65 Bobarykina AIu, Minchenko DO, Opentanova IL, Kovtun OO, Komisarenko SV, Esumi H, Minchenko OH. [HIF-1 α , HIF-2 α and VHL mRNA expression in different cell lines during hypoxia]. *Ukr Biokhim Zh* 2006; **78**: 62-72 [PMID: 17100286]
 - 66 Uchida T, Rossignol F, Matthey MA, Mounier R, Couette S, Clottes E, Clerici C. Prolonged hypoxia differentially regulates hypoxia-inducible factor (HIF)-1 α and HIF-2 α expression in lung epithelial cells: implication of natural antisense HIF-1 α . *J Biol Chem* 2004; **279**: 14871-14878 [PMID: 14744852 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M400461200]
 - 67 Lando D, Peet DJ, Whelan DA, Gorman JJ, Whitelaw ML. Asparagine hydroxylation of the HIF transactivation domain a hypoxic switch. *Science* 2002; **295**: 858-861 [PMID: 11823643]
 - 68 Mole DR, Schlemminger I, McNeill LA, Hewitson KS, Pugh CW, Ratcliffe PJ, Schofield CJ. 2-oxoglutarate analogue inhibitors of HIF prolyl hydroxylase. *Bioorg Med Chem Lett* 2003; **13**: 2677-2680 [PMID: 12873492]
 - 69 Minchenko DO, Bobarykina AY, Senchenko TY, Hubyenya OV, Tsuchihara K, Ochiai A, Moenner M, Esumi H, Minchenko OH. Expression of the VEGF, Glut1 and 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 and -4 in human cancers of the lung, colon and stomach. *Studia Biologica* 2009; **3**: 25-34
 - 70 Ji D, Lu ZT, Li YQ, Liang ZY, Zhang PF, Li C, Zhang JL, Zheng X, Yao YM. MACC1 expression correlates with

- PFKFB2 and survival in hepatocellular carcinoma. *Asian Pac J Cancer Prev* 2014; **15**: 999-1003 [PMID: 24568531]
- 71 **Novellasademunt L**, Tato I, Navarro-Sabate A, Ruiz-Meana M, Méndez-Lucas A, Perales JC, Garcia-Dorado D, Ventura F, Bartrons R, Rosa JL. Akt-dependent activation of the heart 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase (PFKFB2) isoenzyme by amino acids. *J Biol Chem* 2013; **288**: 10640-10651 [PMID: 23457334 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M113.455998]
- 72 **Moenner M**, Pluquet O, Boucheccareilh M, Chevet E. Integrated endoplasmic reticulum stress responses in cancer. *Cancer Res* 2007; **67**: 10631-10634 [PMID: 18006802 DOI: 10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-07-1705]
- 73 **Auf G**, Jabouille A, Guérit S, Pineau R, Delugin M, Boucheccareilh M, Magnin N, Favereaux A, Maitre M, Gaiser T, von Deimling A, Czabanka M, Vajkoczy P, Chevet E, Bikfalvi A, Moenner M. Inositol-requiring enzyme I α is a key regulator of angiogenesis and invasion in malignant glioma. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2010; **107**: 15553-15558 [PMID: 20702765 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.0914072107]
- 74 **Auf G**, Jabouille A, Delugin M, Guérit S, Pineau R, North S, Platonova N, Maitre M, Favereaux A, Vajkoczy P, Seno M, Bikfalvi A, Minchenko D, Minchenko O, Moenner M. High epiregulin expression in human U87 glioma cells relies on IRE1 α and promotes autocrine growth through EGF receptor. *BMC Cancer* 2013; **13**: 597 [PMID: 24330607 DOI: 10.1186/1471-2407-13-597]
- 75 **Wang S**, Kaufman RJ. The impact of the unfolded protein response on human disease. *J Cell Biol* 2012; **197**: 857-867 [PMID: 22733998 DOI: 10.1083/jcb.201110131]
- 76 **Koumenis C**. ER stress, hypoxia tolerance and tumor progression. *Curr Mol Med* 2006; **6**: 55-69 [PMID: 16472113 DOI: 10.2174/156652406775574604]
- 77 **Minchenko DO**, Marunych RY, Khomenko EV, Bakalets TV, Minchenko OH. Expression of hexokinase and 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase genes in ERN1 knockdown glioma U87 cells: effect of hypoxia and glutamine or glucose deprivation. *Studia Biologica* 2011; **5**: 5-18
- 78 **De Bock K**, Georgiadou M, Schoors S, Kuchnio A, Wong BW, Cantelmo AR, Quaegebeur A, Ghesquière B, Cauwenberghs S, Eelen G, Phng LK, Betz I, Tembuysers B, Brepoels K, Welti J, Geudens I, Segura I, Cruys B, Bifari F, Decimo I, Blanco R, Wyns S, Vangindertael J, Rocha S, Collins RT, Munck S, Daelemans D, Imamura H, Devlieger R, Rider M, Van Veldhoven PP, Schuit F, Bartrons R, Hofkens J, Fraisl P, Telang S, Deberardinis RJ, Schoonjans L, Vinckier S, Chesney J, Gerhardt H, Dewerchin M, Carmeliet P. Role of PFKFB3-driven glycolysis in vessel sprouting. *Cell* 2013; **154**: 651-663 [PMID: 23911327 DOI: 10.1016/j.cell.2013.06.037]
- 79 **Minchenko DO**, Kubajchuk KI, Ratushna OO, Komisarenko SV, Minchenko OH. The effect of hypoxia and ischemic condition on the expression of VEGF genes in glioma U87 cells is dependent from ERN1 knockdown. *Adv Biol Chem* 2011; **2**: 198-206 [DOI: 10.4236/abc.2012.22024]
- 80 **Schoors S**, De Bock K, Cantelmo AR, Georgiadou M, Ghesquière B, Cauwenberghs S, Kuchnio A, Wong BW, Quaegebeur A, Goveia J, Bifari F, Wang X, Blanco R, Tembuysers B, Cornelissen I, Bouché A, Vinckier S, Diaz-Moralli S, Gerhardt H, Telang S, Cascante M, Chesney J, Dewerchin M, Carmeliet P. Partial and transient reduction of glycolysis by PFKFB3 blockade reduces pathological angiogenesis. *Cell Metab* 2014; **19**: 37-48 [PMID: 24332967 DOI: 10.1016/j.cmet.2013.11.008]
- 81 **Eelen G**, Cruys B, Welti J, De Bock K, Carmeliet P. Control of vessel sprouting by genetic and metabolic determinants. *Trends Endocrinol Metab* 2013; **24**: 589-596 [PMID: 24075830 DOI: 10.1016/j.tem.2013.08.006]
- 82 **Mace TA**, Collins AL, Wojcik SE, Croce CM, Lesinski GB, Bloomston M. Hypoxia induces the overexpression of microRNA-21 in pancreatic cancer cells. *J Surg Res* 2013; **184**: 855-860 [PMID: 23726431 DOI: 10.1016/j.jss.2013.04.061]
- 83 **Kitamoto S**, Yokoyama S, Higashi M, Yamada N, Takao S, Yonezawa S. MUC1 enhances hypoxia-driven angiogenesis through the regulation of multiple proangiogenic factors. *Oncogene* 2013; **32**: 4614-4621 [PMID: 23108411 DOI: 10.1038/onc.2012.478]
- 84 **Uh MK**, Kandel J, Kitajewski J. Evaluating tumor angiogenesis. *Methods Mol Biol* 2013; **980**: 341-351 [PMID: 23359165 DOI: 10.1007/978-1-62703-287-2_20]
- 85 **Tung KH**, Lin CW, Kuo CC, Li LT, Kuo YH, Lin CW, Wu HC. CHC promotes tumor growth and angiogenesis through regulation of HIF-1 α and VEGF signaling. *Cancer Lett* 2013; **331**: 58-67 [PMID: 23228632 DOI: 10.1016/j.canlet.2012.12.001]
- 86 **Kappler M**, Taubert H, Schubert J, Vordermark D, Eckert AW. The real face of HIF1 α in the tumor process. *Cell Cycle* 2012; **11**: 3932-3936 [PMID: 22987151 DOI: 10.4161/cc.21854]
- 87 **Bolaños JP**. Adapting glycolysis to cancer cell proliferation: the MAPK pathway focuses on PFKFB3. *Biochem J* 2013; **452**: e7-e9 [PMID: 23725459 DOI: 10.1042/BJ20130560]
- 88 **Sahraei M**, Roy LD, Curry JM, Teresa TL, Nath S, Besmer D, Kidiyoor A, Dalia R, Gendler SJ, Mukherjee P. MUC1 regulates PDGFA expression during pancreatic cancer progression. *Oncogene* 2012; **31**: 4935-4945 [PMID: 22266848 DOI: 10.1038/onc.2011.651]
- 89 **Huang X**, Ding L, Bennewith KL, Tong RT, Welford SM, Ang KK, Story M, Le QT, Giaccia AJ. Hypoxia-inducible mir-210 regulates normoxic gene expression involved in tumor initiation. *Mol Cell* 2009; **35**: 856-867 [PMID: 19782034 DOI: 10.1016/j.molcel.2009.09.006]
- 90 **Shi CY**, Fan Y, Liu B, Lou WH. HIF1 contributes to hypoxia-induced pancreatic cancer cells invasion via promoting QSOX1 expression. *Cell Physiol Biochem* 2013; **32**: 561-568 [PMID: 24008827 DOI: 10.1159/000354460]
- 91 **Clem BF**, O'Neal J, Tapolsky G, Clem AL, Imbert-Fernandez Y, Kerr DA, Klarer AC, Redman R, Miller DM, Trent JO, Telang S, Chesney J. Targeting 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase (PFKFB3) as a therapeutic strategy against cancer. *Mol Cancer Ther* 2013; **12**: 1461-1470 [PMID: 23674815 DOI: 10.1158/1535-7163.MCT-13-0097]
- 92 **Seo M**, Kim JD, Neau D, Sehgal I, Lee YH. Structure-based development of small molecule PFKFB3 inhibitors: a framework for potential cancer therapeutic agents targeting the Warburg effect. *PLoS One* 2011; **6**: e24179 [PMID: 21957443 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0024179]
- 93 **Klarer AC**, O'Neal J, Imbert-Fernandez Y, Clem A, Ellis SR, Clark J, Clem B, Chesney J, Telang S. Inhibition of 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase (PFKFB3) induces autophagy as a survival mechanism. *Cancer Metab* 2014; **2**: 2 [PMID: 24451478 DOI: 10.1186/2049-3002-2-2]
- 94 **Yang Z**, Goronzy JJ, Weyand CM. The glycolytic enzyme PFKFB3/phosphofructokinase regulates autophagy. *Autophagy* 2014; **10**: 382-383 [PMID: 24351650]
- 95 **Minchenko DO**, Bobarykina AY, Ratushna OO, Marunych RY, Tsuchihara K, Moenner M, Caro J, Esumi H, Minchenko OH. Dominant-negative constructs of human 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase-3 and -4: effect on the expression of endogenous 6-phosphofructo-2-kinase/fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase mRNA. *Biotechnology* 2008; **1**: 49-56

P- Reviewer: Ma DX, Paydas S S- Editor: Qi Y L- Editor: A
E- Editor: Ma S





Published by **Baishideng Publishing Group Inc**
8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-223-8242
Fax: +1-925-223-8243
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
Help Desk: <http://www.wjgnet.com/esps/helpdesk.aspx>
<http://www.wjgnet.com>



ISSN 1007-9327



Aberrant transcriptional regulations in cancers: genome, transcriptome and epigenome analysis of lung adenocarcinoma cell lines

Ayako Suzuki¹, Hideki Makinoshima², Hiroyuki Wakaguri³, Hiroyasu Esumi², Sumio Sugano¹, Takashi Kohno^{4,5}, Katsuya Tsuchihara² and Yutaka Suzuki^{1,3,*}

¹Department of Medical Genome Sciences, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Chiba, Japan, ²Division of TR, The Exploratory Oncology Research and Clinical Trial Center, National Cancer Center, Chiba, Japan, ³Department of Computational Biology, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Chiba, Japan, ⁴Division of Genome Biology, National Cancer Center Research Institute, Tokyo, Japan and ⁵Division of TR, The Exploratory Oncology Research and Clinical Trial Center, National Cancer Center, Tokyo, Japan

Received April 27, 2014; Revised August 31, 2014; Accepted September 13, 2014

ABSTRACT

Here we conducted an integrative multi-omics analysis to understand how cancers harbor various types of aberrations at the genomic, epigenomic and transcriptional levels. In order to elucidate biological relevance of the aberrations and their mutual relations, we performed whole-genome sequencing, RNA-Seq, bisulfite sequencing and ChIP-Seq of 26 lung adenocarcinoma cell lines. The collected multi-omics data allowed us to associate an average of 536 coding mutations and 13,573 mutations in promoter or enhancer regions with aberrant transcriptional regulations. We detected the 385 splice site mutations and 552 chromosomal rearrangements, representative cases of which were validated to cause aberrant transcripts. Averages of 61, 217, 3687 and 3112 mutations are located in the regulatory regions which showed differential DNA methylation, H3K4me3, H3K4me1 and H3K27ac marks, respectively. We detected distinct patterns of aberrations in transcriptional regulations depending on genes. We found that the irregular histone marks were characteristic to EGFR and CDKN1A, while a large genomic deletion and hyper-DNA methylation were most frequent for CDKN2A. We also used the multi-omics data to classify the cell lines regarding their hallmarks of carcinogenesis. Our datasets should provide a valuable foundation for biological interpretations of interlaced genomic and epigenomic aberrations.

INTRODUCTION

Lung cancer is one of the most significant causes of death in the world. In particular, lung adenocarcinoma is the most commonly occurring lung cancer. Previous studies have identified several genes whose aberrations are responsible for carcinogenesis, such as TP53, CDKN2A, KRAS and EGFR (1–3). EGFR-activating mutations are more prevalent in female, never-smokers and Asians (4,5). These mutations have become a target for molecular targeting drugs, gefitinib and erlotinib (6). Also, gene fusions between the ALK, RET and ROS1 oncogenes and other partner genes, producing oncogenic fusion transcripts, have been identified as causative ‘driver’ aberrations. These fusions are involved in carcinogenesis in a fraction (1–5%) of lung adenocarcinoma (7–11). The fact that many of such fusion genes have been discovered by transcriptome analysis has re-enforced the importance in investigating the lung cancers also from the viewpoint of transcriptome.

Recently, a global view of genome aberrations in lung and other cancers are being obtained by next-generation sequencing analysis of cancer tissues by The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) (12–14) and The International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC) (15). These intensive studies have demonstrated that the mutation patterns and disrupted pathways are highly diverse between cancer types and patients. For lung adenocarcinoma, large datasets collected from several groups, including ours (2–3,16), have revealed that the number and patterns of mutations were some of the most complex signatures among all cancer types.

In spite of the rapid accumulation of cancer genome data, the current view of cancer biology is still far from perfect. Recent studies have revealed that gene expression profiles of cancer cells, which underlie phenotypic appear-

*To whom correspondence should be addressed. Tel: +81 4 7136 3607; Fax: +81 4 7136 3607; Email: ysuzuki@hgc.jp

ances of cancer cells, are consequences not only of genome aberrations but also of aberrations in DNA methylation and chromatin statuses. Indeed, recent analyses have indicated that aberrations in the epigenome and transcriptome regulators play pivotal roles in carcinogenesis. The mutations in the genes that have regulatory roles in gene expression have been reported in lung and other cancers, such as chromatin remodeling factors (e.g. ARID1A/BAF250A and SMARCA4/BRG1) and splicing factors (e.g. U2AF1 and RBM10) (2,14,17). However, despite the claimed importance, it remains elusive as to which genomic and epigenomic aberrations have biological relevance among transcriptomic aberrations and how they collectively contribute to cancer phenotypes. This is mainly due to a general lack of transcriptome and epigenomic information that is directly associated with genomic aberrations. Technical difficulties are frequently inevitable when clinical tumor samples are used for transcriptomic and, particularly, epigenomic analyses. Unlike normal tissues, which are being used for several projects, such as the NIH Roadmap Epigenomics Mapping Consortium (18), the amount of available clinical cancer tissue is small, mixed with normal tissue, and more importantly, not suitable for ChIP-Seq analyses. On the other hand, the utility of cultured cancer cell lines has been established in omics analyses. In fact, the Encyclopedia of DNA Elements (ENCODE) consortium project (19,20) analyzed several representative cultured cells and generated a comprehensive view of human genome, epigenome and transcriptome. The information has greatly improved our system-level understandings of how various regulatory factors are orchestrated to determine downstream gene expression levels and demonstrated their variations between different cell types.

In the present study, 26 human lung cancer cell lines were subjected to multi-omics analyses to generate a reference for omics information. We expected this informational resource should be useful to investigate clinical lung cancers, also providing a tool for future biological assays. Indeed, we demonstrated that integrative analysis of the multilayer-omics resource has revealed various irregular patterns of regulatory factors. Unexpectedly, we found that the aberrant expression was associated with various causative events, which are characteristically gene-dependent. Here, we describe the generation and utilization of our unique multi-omics catalog of lung adenocarcinoma cell lines.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Data access

All raw sequence data were deposited in the DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ) with the accession number, DRA001859 and DRA001858 (whole-genome sequencing), DRA001846 (RNA-Seq), DRA001841 (bisulfite sequencing), DRA001860 (ChIP-Seq) and DRA002311 (ChIP-Seq and RNA-Seq of small airway epithelial cells (SAEC)). All datasets in this paper are also provided in the web database (URL: <http://dbtss.hgc.jp/>).

Cell lines

Twenty-six lung adenocarcinoma cell lines were described in Supplementary Table S1. Cells were cultured in the RPMI medium (RPMI 1640, Nissui), Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's medium (Nissui) or Eagle's minimal essential medium (Nissui) supplemented with 10% FBS, MEM Non-essential Amino acid solution (SIGMA) and antibiotics (Antibiotic-Antimycotic, GIBCO) in an incubator maintained at 37°C and 5% CO₂. Four cancer cell lines (LC2/ad, PC-3, H1648 and H2347) were cultured using collagen-coated dishes (collagen Type I-coated, IWAKI). Normal human SAEC (CC-2547, Takara) were also cultured in the SAGM BulletKit (CC-3118, Takara) using collagen-coated dishes.

Whole-genome sequencing and RNA-Seq

Cultured cells were harvested and washed with phosphate buffered saline (PBS). DNA purification was performed using the DNeasy Kit (QIAGEN). Using the isolated DNA, we prepared libraries and performed whole-genome sequencing using the HiSeq platform (Illumina) according to the manufacturer's protocol. RNA was extracted from the harvested cells using the RNeasy Maxi Kit (QIAGEN). We prepared RNA-Seq libraries and performed sequencing using the HiSeq platform according to the manufacturer's protocol.

Target-captured bisulfite sequencing

Using 3 µg of isolated DNA, we prepared the bisulfite-converted DNA libraries using the SureSelect Methyl-Seq Target Enrichment System (Agilent Technologies) and EZ-DNA Methylation-Gold Kit (Zymo Research) according to each manufacturer's protocol. The DNA was sequenced using the HiSeq platform.

ChIP-Seq

We performed ChIP-Seq (21,22) for RNA Polymerase II and seven histone modifications using the following antibodies; anti-RNA Polymerase II (ab817, Abcam), anti-H3K4me1 (ab8895, Abcam), anti-H3K4me3 (ab1012, Abcam), anti-H3K9me3 (ab8898, Abcam), anti-H3K27me3 (07-449, Millipore; ab6002, Abcam), anti-H3K36me3 (ab9050, Abcam), anti-H3K9/14ac (06-599, Millipore) and anti-H3K27ac (ab4729, Abcam). Each antibody (10 µg or 20 µg of anti-H3K27me3) was added to the magnetic beads (Dynabeads Protein G/A, Invitrogen) with the blocking buffer (0.5% bovine serum albumin in PBS solution) and rotated for more than 4 h at 4°C. Cultured cancer cells (1×10^7 – 1×10^8 cells) were crosslinked in 1% (0.5% for PC-7) formaldehyde solution and incubated for 10 min at room temperature. To stop the fixation, 125 mM glycine was added to the dishes. The cells were incubated for 5 min at room temperature, washed using cold PBS and harvested using a scraper. Lysis buffer 1 (50 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 140 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 10% glycerol, 0.5% Nonidet P-40 and 0.25% Triton X-100), lysis buffer 2 (200 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 0.5 mM EGTA pH 8.0 and 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0) and lysis buffer 3 (100 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 0.5 mM EGTA pH 8.0, 10

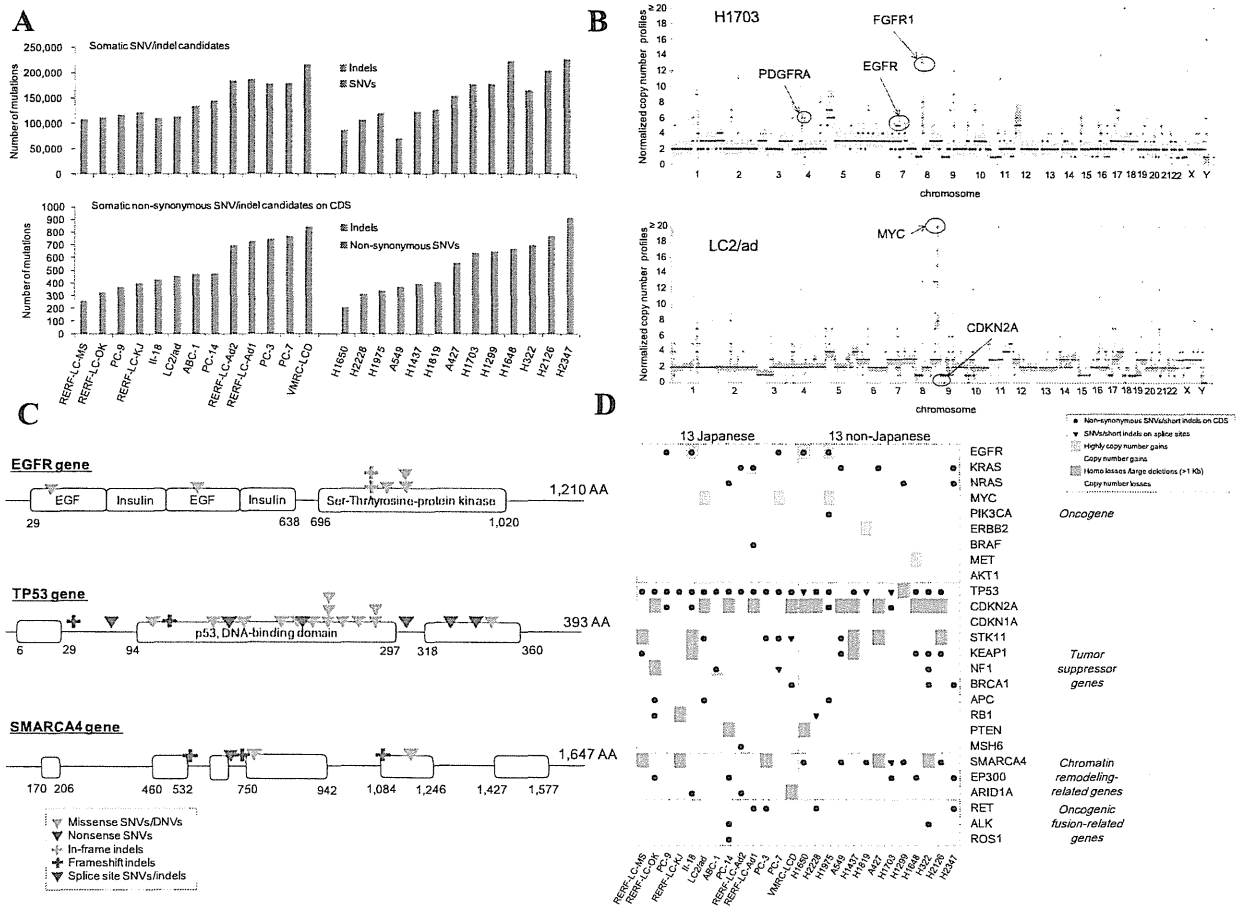


Figure 1. Whole-genome sequencing for genomic aberrations. (A) The number of SNVs and indels detected in the 26 cell lines. For each cell line, the number of all somatic mutation candidates and those in the protein-coding regions are shown in the upper and lower panels, respectively. The x-axis is sorted by the origins of the cell lines and the increasing total number of non-synonymous SNVs and indels. (B) Examples of copy number information. The normalized copy number profiles of H1703 and LC2/ad are shown in the upper and lower panels, respectively. Examples of genes for possible CNAs are detected as indicated by arrows (red for amplification and blue for deletion). (C) Examples of mutated genes in the 26 cell lines. Mutations identified in the EGFR, TP53 and SMARCA4 genes are shown. Types of mutations are as indicated in the inset. One mutation in the TP53 gene was added by manual inspection. (D) Genomic aberration of the selected 26 cancer-related genes. SNVs and indels on the protein-coding regions and splice sites and CNAs are shown.

mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 0.1% sodium deoxycholate and 1% N-lauroylsarcosine) were prepared with protease inhibitor (Roche). The harvested cells were dissolved using cold lysis buffer 1 and incubated for 10 min on ice. The cells were centrifuged at 1500 rpm for 5 min and the pellet was re-dissolved using cold lysis buffer 2. The cells were incubated for 10 min on ice and centrifuged at 1500 rpm for 5 min. The collected pellet was lysed using cold lysis buffer 3 and cracked with 16 cycles (10 cycles for PC-7) of 30 s of sonication on ice. Triton X-100 (10%, 100 μ l) was added to the sonicated samples. The cells were centrifuged at 14,000 rpm for 10 min and 50 μ l of the supernatant was moved to a different 1.5 ml tube (whole-cell extract (WCE) sample). The magnetic beads with each antibody were washed using blocking buffer and added to the supernatant (ChIP sample). The sample was rotated at 4°C overnight for the immunoprecipitation. The sample was washed eight times

using wash buffer (50 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 500 mM LiCl, 1 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 1% Nonidet P-40, 0.7% sodium deoxycholate) and once using TE buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0 and 10 mM EDTA pH 8.0) with 50 mM of NaCl. The sample was eluted in 200 μ l of elution buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 10 mM EDTA pH 8.0 and 1% sodium dodecyl sulfate) and incubated for 15 min at 65°C. The supernatant was moved to a new 1.5 ml tube. Elution buffer (150 μ l) was added to the WCE sample and then both ChIP and WCE samples were incubated for more than 6 h at 65°C to de-crosslink. TE buffer (200 μ l) and 8 μ l of 10 mg/ml RNase A (Novagen) were added to the samples and the samples were incubated for 2 h at 37°C. Proteinase K (20 mg/ml, 4 μ l) (Takara) and 5 mM CaCl₂ were added to the samples and they were incubated for 30 min at 55°C. The DNA samples were purified by phenol chloroform extraction and ethanol precipitation and finally eluted in 35 μ l

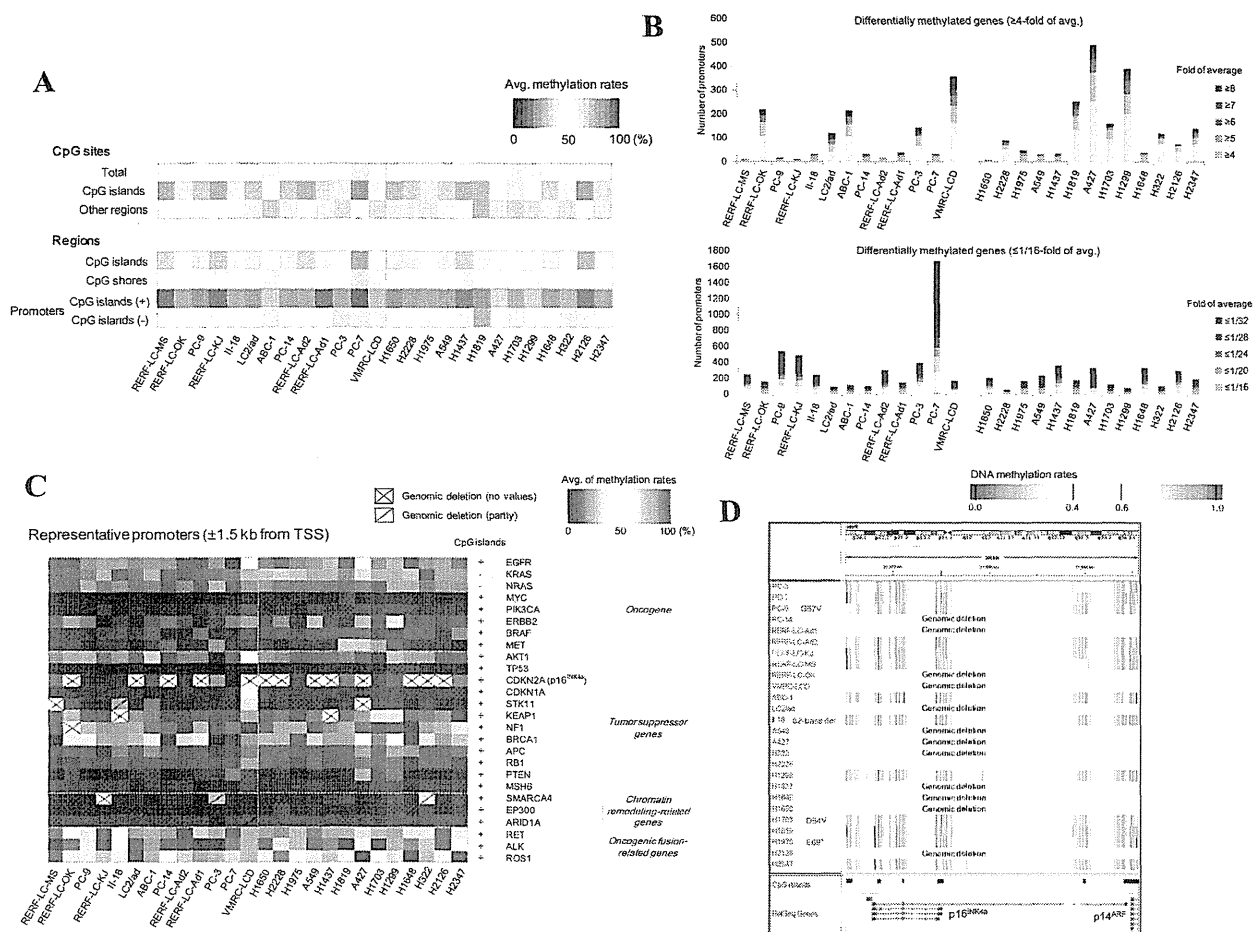


Figure 3. Bisulfite sequencing for analyzing DNA methylation status. (A) Summary of DNA methylation in each cell line. Upper panel: average DNA methylation rates are calculated at each CpG site in CpG islands or non-CpG islands to draw the heat map. Lower panel: Results of a similar analysis for the CpG islands, CpG shores and promoters. The color key is shown in the inset. (B) The numbers of differentially hyper- (upper panel) or hypo- (lower panel) methylated genes in each of the 26 cell lines. The populations of the genes having the indicated fold changes are separately colored as shown in the insets (C) DNA methylation patterns, as indicated by the color key, are shown for the representative promoters of the selected 26 cancer-related genes. Slashes indicate where the genomic deletion was observed. (D) DNA methylation of the CDKN2A gene. The degree of methylation at each CpG site (vertical line) is colored as indicated in the inset. Each line represents the information for the indicated cell line. Cell lines for which genomic deletions were observed are also indicated. SNVs and indels detected in p16^{INK4a} were shown in red letters. A gene model is shown in the bottom.

the 26 cell lines as diploid and obtained the results for two window sizes, lower-resolution data (50 kb) and higher-resolution data (1.5 kb). The lower-resolution data were used to draw the figures of genome-wide copy number information and the higher-resolution data were used to detect gene-level copy number aberrations (CNAs). The regions with normalized copy numbers ≥ 4 or ≤ 1 were detected as copy number gains and losses, respectively.

Detecting chromosome rearrangements

The obtained whole-genome sequences were mapped as single-end sequences by BWA. Mates spanning in different chromosomes or > 1 Mb of the same chromosome were used to search for ‘reference tags’ of each junction point supported by both directions. Next, ‘supporting tags’ were detected from all sequences, which were mapped on the ‘reference tags’. We extracted gene pairs with ≥ 2 ‘reference

tags’ and ≥ 4 ‘supporting tags’ of the junction point. In addition, gene pairs uniquely occurring in each cell line were selected as rearrangement candidates.

Generating gene expression profiles

The obtained RNA-Seq data were mapped to the human reference genome using ELAND (Illumina). For a total of 20,598 genes, parts per million mapped reads (PPM) and reads per kilo base per million mapped reads (RPKM) were calculated as an expression level of each gene using the Perl script. Expression abundances for the selected 52 genes were validated by qRT-PCR (Supplementary Figure S2). PCR primers were designed by Primer3Plus (33) (Supplementary Table S2A). Files for visualization of RNA-Seq on Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV) (34,35) were created using TopHat2 (36).

Detecting fusion transcripts

The obtained RNA-Seq data were mapped using TopHat2 with the following options: `-r 50 -p 8 -no-coverage-search -mate-std-dev 80 -max-intron-length 100000 -fusion-min-dist 10000000 -fusion-anchor-length 13 -fusion-search -keep-fasta-order -bowtie1`. Using the mapped RNA-Seq data, fusion transcript candidates were filtered by tophat-fusion-post (37) and extracted under the following conditions: ≥ 10 spanning reads and ≥ 2 spanning mate pairs. Several cases were validated by RT-PCR. PCR primers were designed using Primer3Plus and are shown in Supplementary Table S2B.

Analyses of DNA methylation

The obtained sequences from bisulfite sequencing were mostly obtained from the antisense chain of the genome. We modified the sequences by the in-house Perl script (read1: C to T, read2: G to A). Using BWA, the modified sequences were mapped to the modified (G to A) human reference genome. According to the mapping results, pre-modified sequences were mapped on the genome and the following sites were counted: CG, CA, CT and CC with methylated-C and TG, TA, TT and TC with non-methylated-C. The C to T conversion rates were calculated using the C sites of non-CpG sites. All datasets satisfied 99% of the conversion rate. For the CpG sites, the ratios of CG to total depths in each site ($\geq 5\times$) were calculated as methylation rates. The information on CpG islands used in this analysis was provided by the UCSC. DNA methylation rates of several cases were validated by direct Sanger sequencing ($n = 3$) and Sanger sequencing of TA cloning (pMD20-T, Takara) for individual clones (Supplementary Table S3 and Supplementary Figure S3). PCR primers are shown in Supplementary Table S2C.

For the genome-wide DNA methylation status, we calculated DNA methylation rates for each 50 kb of the human genome and performed hierarchical clustering for the 26 cell lines. For a total of 19,323 genes, DNA methylation rates of promoters, which were defined as up to 1.5 kb from the most upstream transcriptional start sites (TSSs), were also calculated. For the 26 cancer-related genes, we selected the representative TSS of each gene by manual inspection and also calculated the methylation rates of the promoters.

Detecting patterns of histone modifications and RNA polymerase II binding profiles

All ChIP samples were validated by qPCR (Supplementary Table S4). ChIP-Seq data for each histone modification and RNA polymerase II binding were mapped to the human reference genome using ELAND (Illumina). Using MACS2 with default parameters (38,39), narrow peaks of each ChIP-Seq dataset were detected as the histone modification and Pol II binding patterns. Broad peaks were also detected by MACS2 for the repressive markers, H3K27me3 and H3K9me3. For the enhancer marks of H3K4me1 and H3K27ac, all narrow peaks of MACS2 from the 26 cell lines were gathered and classified depending on the positions and the representative enhancer regions were identified.

For a total of 20,598 genes, ChIP-Seq tag densities (fold of WCE) of the regions of ± 1.5 kb from most upstream

TSSs and gene bodies were calculated as the intensities of each chromatin mark. To investigate the correlation among the chromatin statuses, we calculated the intensities of the gene and their proximal regions for each chromatin mark and Spearman's rank correlation coefficients between each two chromatin pairs.

Additionally to define differential chromatin marks among the cell lines, we analyzed the intensities of the regions of ± 1.5 kb from most upstream TSSs for the active and repressive marks (H3K4me3, H3K9/14ac, Pol II, H3K37me3 and H3K9me3) and gene body for the elongation mark (H3K36me3). In this analysis, we used genes with >1 PPM of ChIP-Seq tags in at least one cell line. For enhancers, we calculated the intensities of each representative enhancer region assigned to the genes (within 100 kb upstream of the TSS and gene body). For several cases of differential chromatin marks, qPCR validations were performed (Supplementary Figure S4). Primer sequences were designed by Primer3Plus and provided in Supplementary Table S2D. For other validation studies, ChIP experiments for the selected two datasets were repeated to confirm the reproducibility of the ChIP-Seq data (Supplementary Figure S5). Furthermore, our dataset (H3K4me3 in A549) was compared with data from ENCODE project (Supplementary Figure S6).

Using ChromHMM, which is based on a multivariate hidden Markov model (40), chromatin states were detected and characterized from ChIP-Seq data of the eight chromatin marks. We learned eight chromatin states (41) using ChromHMM and manually annotated them as below: state (i) active promoter; (ii) weak/poised promoter; (iii) strong enhancer; (iv) weak enhancer; (v) transcriptional elongation; (vi) inactive region; (vii) inactive region/heterochromatin and (viii) low/no signal. We also performed ChromHMM for SAEC using the model created by the ChIP-Seq data from the 26 cancer cell lines. For the 26 cancer-related genes, we selected the representative transcript of each gene by manual inspection and also selected the chromatin states that most frequently appeared in the promoter, gene body and enhancers of each gene.

Analysis of 'hallmarks of cancer'

To associate the genome, transcriptome and epigenome data of the 26 cell lines with the 'hallmarks of cancer' (42), we assigned a total of 2050 genes for the 10 cancer hallmarks. To complement ambiguously annotated genes, we also utilized Gene Ontology (GO) as described in the previous study (43) with manual inspections (Supplementary Table S5A). We further selected the 1840 genes with > 1 RPKM in at least one cell line (Supplementary Table S5B). Genes with mutations in coding sequences (CDS) and splice sites, differential expression, differential DNA methylation and differential chromatin marks (H3K4me3, H3K27me3 and H3K9me3) were counted and assigned to each hallmark.

To characterize common features of cancer cells compared to a normal cell, gene expression levels and intensities of chromatin marks were compared with those of SAEC. For features of gene expression levels, genes with higher or lower expression levels than those of SAEC in at least

one cancer cell line were taken as transcriptional aberrations characteristic to cancer under the condition as follows: (i) genes with ≥ 4 - or $\leq 1/16$ -fold RPKM of SAEC in at least one cancer cell line if the genes were transcribed (> 1 RPKM) in SAEC and (ii) > 5 RPKM in at least one cancer cell line if the genes were not transcribed (≤ 1 RPKM) in SAEC. For epigenomic aberrations, genes with higher or lower chromatin marks in at least one cancer cell line were taken under the condition as follows: (i) genes with ≥ 4 - or $\leq 1/16$ -fold ChIP intensities of SAEC in at least one cancer cell line if the genes with > 1 PPM of signal intensities in SAEC and (ii) > 5 PPM in at least one cancer cell line if ≤ 1 PPM in SAEC. A full list of the genes with the detected differential features within the cancer cell lines and compared to the normal cell is also presented in Supplementary Table S5B.

RESULTS

Whole-genome sequencing

We generated and analyzed a multilayer-omics catalog of 26 lung adenocarcinoma cell lines (Supplementary Table S1). To determine and characterize somatic mutations in the respective cell lines, we performed whole-genome sequencing. We generated approximately one billion mapped sequences from each cell line, with an average of $33\times$ in coverage and 91% of the genome covered by $> 5\times$ in depth. We detected genomic mutations using the pipeline as shown in Supplementary Figure S1. After removing germline mutations registered in public and in-house Japanese databases (96% of the initially called SNVs/indels overlapped with the NCBI dbSNP database) (27), a mean of 149,209 somatic mutation candidates (48 SNVs + indels/Mb) remained for each cell line (Figure 1A and Table 1A). To estimate the frequency of the rates of remaining germline variations, we sequenced and analyzed the normal counterparts derived from B lymphoblasts for three cell lines (H1437, H2126 and H2347). We found that approximately 28% of the somatic mutation candidates were germline and 72% were somatic mutations specific to cancer cells (Supplementary Table S6). Base substitution patterns for SNVs are shown in Supplementary Figure S7. We also detected CNAs and identified averages of 143 copy number gains and 101 losses per cell line in the gene regions (Supplementary Table S7). In addition, we detected a total of 552 genomic rearrangements in the gene regions (Supplementary Table S8).

Among a total of 3,040,654 somatic SNVs and indels, 33% were identified in the genic or their proximal regions (Table 1A). We found 13,845 mutations within 500 base upstream of the gene regions, 24,915 mutations in the 5'/3' untranslated regions (UTRs) and 385 mutations in the splice sites (the first and last two bases in introns). Mutations were also detected in potential enhancer regions (see below). For the protein-coding regions in particular, we detected a total of 11,849 non-synonymous SNVs and 573 indels (Figure 1A). An average of 299 mutated genes per cell line was detected with high PolyPhen-2 scores (not benign) (44,45). These numbers are comparable with those obtained from our recent clinical lung adenocarcinoma sequencing analysis, if we assume the estimated frequency of the germline

variations are 28% (Supplementary Table S6 and Supplementary Figure S8). These mutations that have been observed in clinical sequencing include those in the EGFR, TP53 and KRAS genes. Also note that, for several cell lines, obvious driver mutations still remained unknown. For our attempt to identify those unknown driver mutations, see Supplementary Figure S9 and Supplementary Table S9. Furthermore, CNAs, as often reported in clinical samples (46,47), were detected in the regions of some cancer-related genes; for example, copy number gains of FGFR1, EGFR and PDGFRA in H1703, amplification of MYC and a homozygous loss of CDKN2A in LC2/ad (Figure 1B).

To further analyze the mutation patterns, we focused on cancer-related genes based on previous lung cancer studies. We selected 26 cancer-related genes with important biological relevance, including nine known oncogenes, eleven tumor-suppressor genes, three chromatin remodeling-related genes and three oncogenic fusion-related genes (1–2,48). We also summarized mutations in 125 genes which have been very recently published as significantly mutated genes in 12 types of cancers by TCGA (49) (Supplementary Figure S10). In the EGFR gene, for example, we detected L858R (in H1975 and H1975) and E746_A750del mutations (in PC-9 and H1650), which are known to be sensitive to the anti-cancer drugs, gefitinib and erlotinib. Furthermore, H1975 was found to harbor the T790M mutation, which is resistant to these drugs (6,50) (Figure 1C, upper panel). We also detected five SNVs in the KRAS gene (including four G12 mutations) and three Q61 mutations in the NRAS gene (51) (Supplementary Figure S11). We observed that the TP53 gene was one of the most frequently mutated genes; 19 cell lines had mutations in its protein-coding region (Figure 1C, middle panel), of which 15 mutations were located in the DNA-binding domain. Notably, we detected splice site mutations in the NF1, STK11, RB1 and TP53 genes, which may cause aberrant splicing in these tumor-suppressor genes (see below). We also detected six mutations (including one splice site mutation) and five large deletions in the SMARCA4 gene which is an epigenetic regulator (2,52–54) (Figure 1C, lower panel). We found that 13 cell lines have large deletions in the CDKN2A gene (48,55–57). A summary of genomic aberrations for the selected 26 genes is shown in Figure 1D.

RNA-Seq

For the transcriptome analyses, we performed RNA-Seq. Statistics of the RNA-Seq data are shown in Supplementary Table S10. An average of 12,290 genes were expressed at > 1 RPKM (58) in each cell line (also see Supplementary Figure S2 for validation analysis of RNA-Seq). We examined how many of the identified SNVs and indels were located in the transcribed or non-transcribed genes. An average of 254 non-synonymous SNVs and 19 indels, which were approximately half of the total SNVs, were located in the 'expressed' genes (Figure 2A). For the genomic mutations located at the splicing sites (Table 1A), we examined whether these SNVs actually affected splicing patterns of the transcripts. As for the cancer-related genes, for example, PC-7 harbored a splice site mutation in the NF1 gene, which is located in the splice donor site of the 19th intron (Figure

Table 1. The number of SNVs and short indels in the 26 cell lines

	SNVs	Short indels
(A)	Total number of positions (Avg. of the 26 cell lines)	
Total	12,732,271 (3,302,407)	1,916,622 (453,821)
Germline	10,010,429 (3,177,173)	1,597,810 (429,846)
Somatic candidates	2,721,842 (125,234)	318,812 (23,975)
Genic ^a	892,941 (39,695)	118,268 (8,516)
Upstream (-500 from TSS)	11,796 (551)	2,049 (159)
UTRs	24,902 (1,086)	13 (0.8)
CDS	16,354 (687)	573 (37)
Synonymous	4,505 (188)	***
Non-synonymous	11,849 (499)	***
Splice sites ^b	346 (14)	39 (3)
Intronic and others	839,543 (37,357)	115,594 (8,315)
Intergenic	1,828,901 (85,539)	200,544 (15,459)
(B)	Average number of positions in the 26 cell lines	
Regulatory regions ^c	11,413	2,160
Promoter ^d	2,187	497
Promoter with differential H3K4me3	181	36
Enhancer (H3K4me1) ^e	7,543	1,305
Enhancer with differential H3K4me1	3,163	524
Enhancer (H3K27ac) ^e	5,549	1,006
Enhancer with differential H3K27ac	2,647	465

^aA total of 19,958 genes were used in this analysis.

^bThe first and last two bases in introns.

^cPromoters (\pm 1.5 kb from most upstream TSS) and enhancers assigned to the genes.

^dA total of 20,598 promoters were used in this analysis.

^eA total of 683,606 H3K4me1 and 337,545 H3K27ac clusters assigned to the genes were used in this analysis.

2B). The 19th exon of NF1 is skipped in PC-7, demonstrating that this splice site mutation affected the splicing pattern of the NF1 transcript. Transcript consequences of the other splice mutations are shown in Supplementary Figure S12. We also used the RNA-Seq data to detect fusion gene transcripts, which are formed by chromosome rearrangements in cancerous cells. A total of 135 fusion transcript candidates were detected from all the cell lines combined. Several known driver fusion transcripts such as CCDC6-RET (in LC2/ad) were included (10,59–60) (Figure 2C). For the selected cases, RT-PCR validation was conducted (shown in Figure 2C and Supplementary Figure S13). All the previously reported fusion transcripts such as CCDC6-RET and ALK-PTPN3 (in H2228) were computationally re-identified in our study, except for EML4-ALK fusion in H2228 (61) (Supplementary Figure S13), which may have gone undetected by our relatively conservative computational setting due to its low expression level. Most of those aberrant transcripts may not be cancer-drivers but passengers, which have been formed as a consequence of chromosomal aberrations. However, it is worth noting that fusion transcripts can be identified both at the genome and RNA level using this approach.

To dissect gene expression patterns between the cell lines, we selected differentially expressed genes, which showed a higher or lower expression compared to the other cell lines (also see Supplementary Figure S14 for a hierarchical clustering analysis, which represent global expression patterns for each of the cell lines). We tentatively selected genes with ≥ 4 - or $\leq 1/16$ -fold of the average expression levels as 'differentially expressed' genes. We detected an average

of 352 such higher and 1967 such lower differentially expressed genes in each cell line (Figure 2D). We also examined the expression patterns of the differentially expressed genes in the pathway of 'lung adenocarcinoma' (1) (Supplementary Figure S15) and found that each component gene of this pathway showed diverse expression patterns compared to the other pathways. We also investigated the expression patterns for the selected 26 cancer-related genes as shown in Figure 2E. Three cell lines (VMRC-LCD, PC-3 and PC-7) showed almost no expression for the EGFR gene, while H1650 and PC-9, which harbor a driver mutation (E746_A750del), showed higher expression. In contrast, the TP53 and ARID1A genes were expressed at almost the same level ($> 1/16$ and < 4 -fold of the average) throughout the 26 cell lines. Taken together, these results indicate that aberrations in expression patterns, which are distinct from those of genomic aberrations, are also highly diverse among genes and cell types, and such divergence can be explained by complex combinations of contributing regulatory factors ranging from aberrations in the genome and/or in the epigenome.

Bisulfite sequencing for analyzing DNA methylation

Changes in DNA methylation patterns have been reported in various cancers, which cause aberrant regulation of oncogenes and tumor-suppressor genes (62–65). We performed a target-captured bisulfite sequencing in potential gene regulatory regions including promoters, enhancers and differentially methylated regions (66). For 84 Mb of the bait regions, each dataset had an average depth of $109.7\times$ and 91% were covered by $> 10\times$ in depth. We also confirmed that the bisul-

site conversion rates, which were evaluated as the overall C to T ratio, were 99.2% in all of the 26 cell lines (Supplementary Table S11; detailed statistics are also presented there). We calculated the methylation rate at each CpG site that was covered by ≥ 5 tags and were not overlapping with the detected SNVs and indels. An average of 3,777,270 CpG sites per cell line was considered; 1,273,909 sites were in CpG islands and 2,503,362 sites were in other regions (Supplementary Table S11; also see Supplementary Table S3 and Supplementary Figure S3 for validation study of correct identification of the methylation statuses).

CpG sites in the CpG islands were generally less methylated compared to the other CpG sites (Figure 3A). When we analyzed DNA methylation in the CpG islands and their proximal regions (within 2 kb distance from the CpG islands, so-called 'CpG shores') (66), binominal patterns of methylation were observed for the CpG islands; an average of 5914 (23%) were almost fully methylated and 11,901 (46%) were almost non-methylated. In contrast for the CpG shores, moderate methylation was dominant; 64% of the CpG shores showed methylation rates of 10–90%. We also analyzed DNA methylation in the promoters (1.5 kb from TSS). Again, we reconfirmed that the promoters containing CpG islands generally showed lower methylation, consistent with previous papers. However, even for these sites, the degree of methylation was significantly different between the cell lines. This diversity was further enhanced when we considered the methylation rates of the CpG island-negative promoters.

To further examine the patterns of DNA methylation, we conducted a hierarchical clustering analysis (Supplementary Figure S16). We found that H1819 showed the highest DNA methylation, while PC-7 showed the lowest methylation. We also investigated the diversity in the methylation patterns between different cell lines, particularly in the promoter regions. Similar to the RNA-Seq analysis, we searched for differentially methylated genes for which the methylation levels deviated by ≥ 4 - or $\leq 1/16$ -fold from the average of all the cell lines. We detected an average of 118 hyper-methylated and 278 hypo-methylated genes for each cell line (Figure 3B; see Supplementary Figure S17 for examples). In addition, we searched and detected 61 mutations overlapping with the differentially methylated promoters on average for each cell line.

We next examined whether the promoters of the 26 cancer-related genes were differentially methylated (Figure 3C). For the most of the genes, their promoters were non-methylated, indicating that these promoters are active, consistent with the results from the RNA-Seq; however, hyper-methylations were occasionally observed. The promoter of the NRAS gene in H322 was hyper-methylated and the expression level of NRAS was the lowest in this cell line among the 26 cell lines (Supplementary Figure S17). For the CDKN2A (p16^{INK4a}) gene, its promoter was hyper-methylated in six cell lines (Figure 3D). For this gene, 13 cell lines originally had no promoter region due to genomic deletions. Additionally, one cell line harbors a 62-base deletion, and three cell lines have non-synonymous SNVs in p16^{INK4a}. The CDKN2A gene, for which expression suppressions were reported as major causative events in lung adenocarcinoma (62), DNA methylation should be

the dominant cause of the transcriptomic aberrations, following genomic alterations.

ChIP-Seq for detecting patterns of histone modifications and RNA polymerase II binding profiles

To examine chromatin statuses in the 26 cell lines, we performed ChIP-Seq analysis for seven histone modifications (H3K4me1, H3K4me3, H3K9me3, H3K9/14ac, H3K27ac, H3K27me3 and H3K36me3) and RNA polymerase II (Pol II) (see Supplementary Table S12 for the statistics; see Supplementary Figure S4 for validation analysis). 'Peaks' of ChIP-Seq tags were called by MACS2 (38,39) for H3K4me3 and were further associated with the genes, when they were located within 1.5 kb regions of the TSS. On average, H3K4me3 peaks were associated with 12,239 (59%) genes per cell line. In contrast for 2835 (14%) of the total genes, enrichments of repressive markers of H3K27me3 or H3K9me3 were observed in their promoters. For the enhancers, we first associated the MACS2 peaks of H3K4me1 or H3K27ac between the cell lines, considering their mutual overlaps. We identified a total of 847,766 H3K4me1 regions and 426,224 H3K27ac regions in all 26 cell lines combined. These peaks were associated with genes when they are located within 100 kb upstream of the TSS and the gene body. A total of 683,606 marks of H3K4me1 and 337,545 marks of H3K27ac were associated with 19,683 and 18,975 genes, respectively. We further associated these enhancer clusters with genomic mutations. A total of 77,363 SNVs and indels resided in the regions having both H3K4me1 and H3K27ac peaks and 117,246 and 63,478 mutations were located in the regions having only H3K4me1 or H3K27ac peaks, respectively.

To investigate mutual correlations between the chromatin marks, we calculated the intensities of ChIP-Seq signals in the upstream (up to 1.5 kb from TSS) and in the gene bodies. As shown in Figure 4A, H3K9/14ac and H3K27ac showed the strongest positive correlation ($r_s = 0.878$). For the enhancer marks, H3K27ac was also correlated with H3K4me1 ($r_s = 0.729$). For the repressive marks, a weak but positive correlation was observed between H3K27me3 and H3K9me3 ($r_s = 0.647$). In contrast, active and negative marks had a negative correlation ($r_s = -0.524$ for H3K4me3 and H3K27me3). Interestingly, we observed no significant negative correlation between Pol II and H3K9me3, and between H3K36me3 and H3K9me3. Even where positive or negative correlations were observed, the correlations were not always perfect, suggesting there may be several intermediate distinct chromatin statuses even among active or negative statuses (53,67).

We compared the signal intensities of ChIP-Seq tags for each of the chromatin marks. We selected regions that showed ≥ 4 - or $\leq 1/16$ -fold intensities from the average of 26 cell lines (Figure 4B; see Supplementary Figure S18 for an example). In the regions with differential chromatin marks assigned to the genes, we also found a total of 6257 mutations per cell line. In particular, an average of 217 mutations were detected in the promoters with differential H3K4me3 mark and 3687 and 3112 mutations were detected in the enhancers with differential H3K4me1 and H3K27ac marks, respectively (Table 1B). Interestingly,

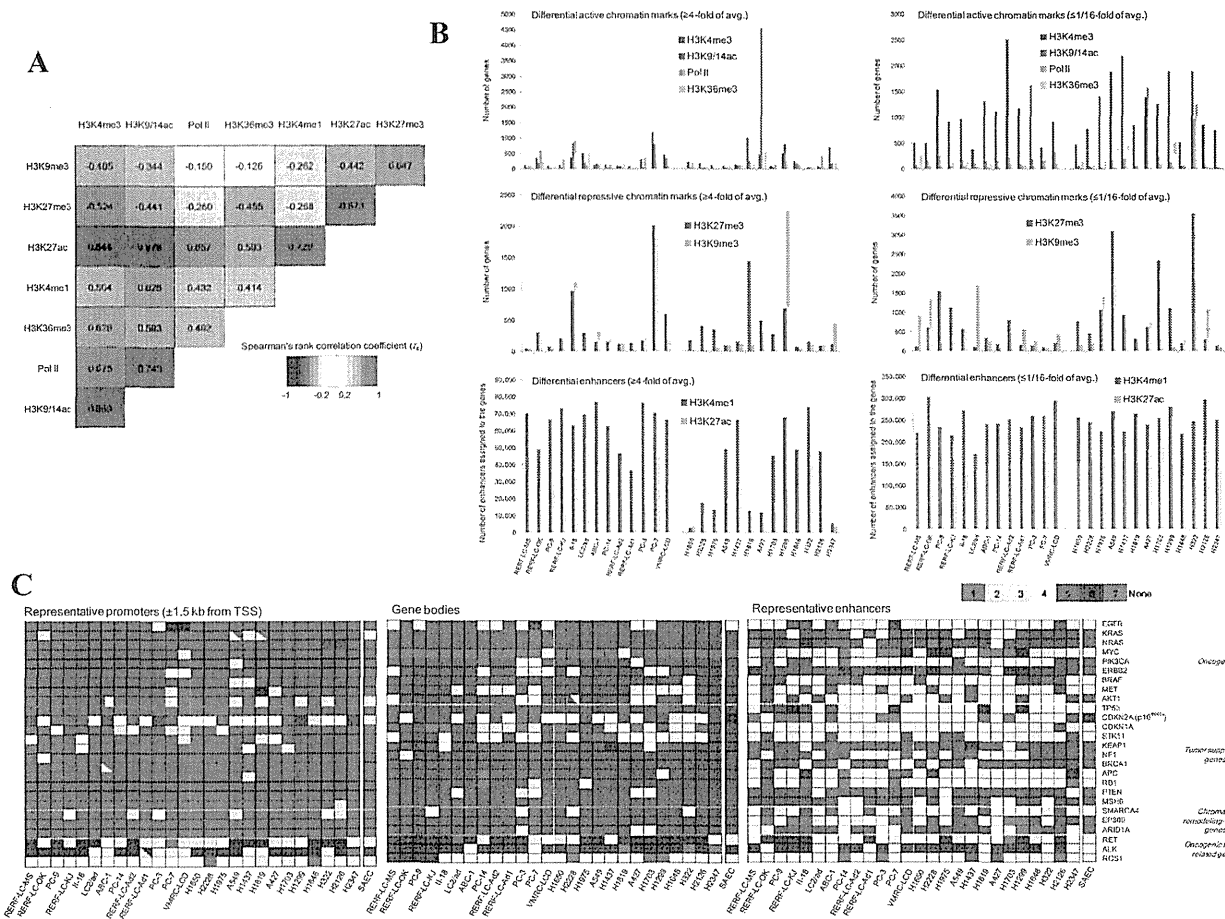


Figure 4. ChIP-Seq for the eight chromatin marks. (A) Correlation among the eight chromatin signatures. Spearman's rank correlation coefficients were calculated between the indicated pair of chromatin marks and colored following the color key shown in the inset. Averages of 26 cell lines were used to assign the colors. (B) The numbers of differentially utilized chromatin marks for the 26 cell lines. Transcriptional active marks, repressive marks and enhancer marks are represented in the upper, middle and lower panels, respectively. (C) Chromatin states based on ChromHMM for the 26 cancer-related genes. ChromHMM maps were drawn for each cell line (see the Materials and Methods section and Supplementary Figure S20). Chromatin states that most frequently appeared in the promoter, gene body and enhancers of each gene are shown in the left, middle and right panels, respectively.

the genes having high H3K9me3 marks were enriched in H1299. For H1299, the DNA methylation pattern was generally high and the number of the hyper-methylated genes was the second largest (Figure 3A, B and Supplementary Figure S16). In contrast, in PC-7, the level of H3K27me3 mark was similarly high in addition to the H3K9me3 mark. Unlike H1299, PC-7 showed lower DNA methylation (Figure 3A and Supplementary Figure S16). Contributions of each of the repressive marks in all 26 cell lines are shown in Supplementary Figure S19. Each cell line may employ distinct expression repression mechanisms, which would not be represented solely by analyses of either DNA methylation or chromatin statuses.

To summarize the eight chromatin marks for the 26 cancer-related genes, we used ChromHMM (40,41) (Figure 4C). We found for the EGFR gene that the patterns of the chromatin signatures were remarkably distinct between cell lines, indicating that each cell line carries an aberration, if any, at a distinct regulatory layer (see Supplementary Fig-

ure S20 for the graphic view). For instance, PC-3, PC-7 and VMRC-LCD showed lower expression levels. In PC-7, an active chromatin mark of H3K4me3 was not formed, followed by neither binding signal for Pol II nor H3K36me3. In VMRC-LCD, an H3K4me3 mark was formed, but Pol II was not recruited and H3K36me3 was not formed. In PC-3, H3K4me3 was formed, Pol II was recruited, but an H3K36me3 mark failed to form (Supplementary Figure S21).

Integrated analysis: genomic, transcriptomic and epigenomic statuses in lung adenocarcinoma cell lines

By integrating these multi-omics data, we describe which steps of the regulations, namely, genomic alterations, DNA methylation, each step of histone modification or Pol II recruitment, should be impaired to explain eventual irregular expression levels in the respective cell lines. For example, we observed various patterns of gene expression for the STK11 gene, a kinase that plays a pivotal role as a tumor suppress-

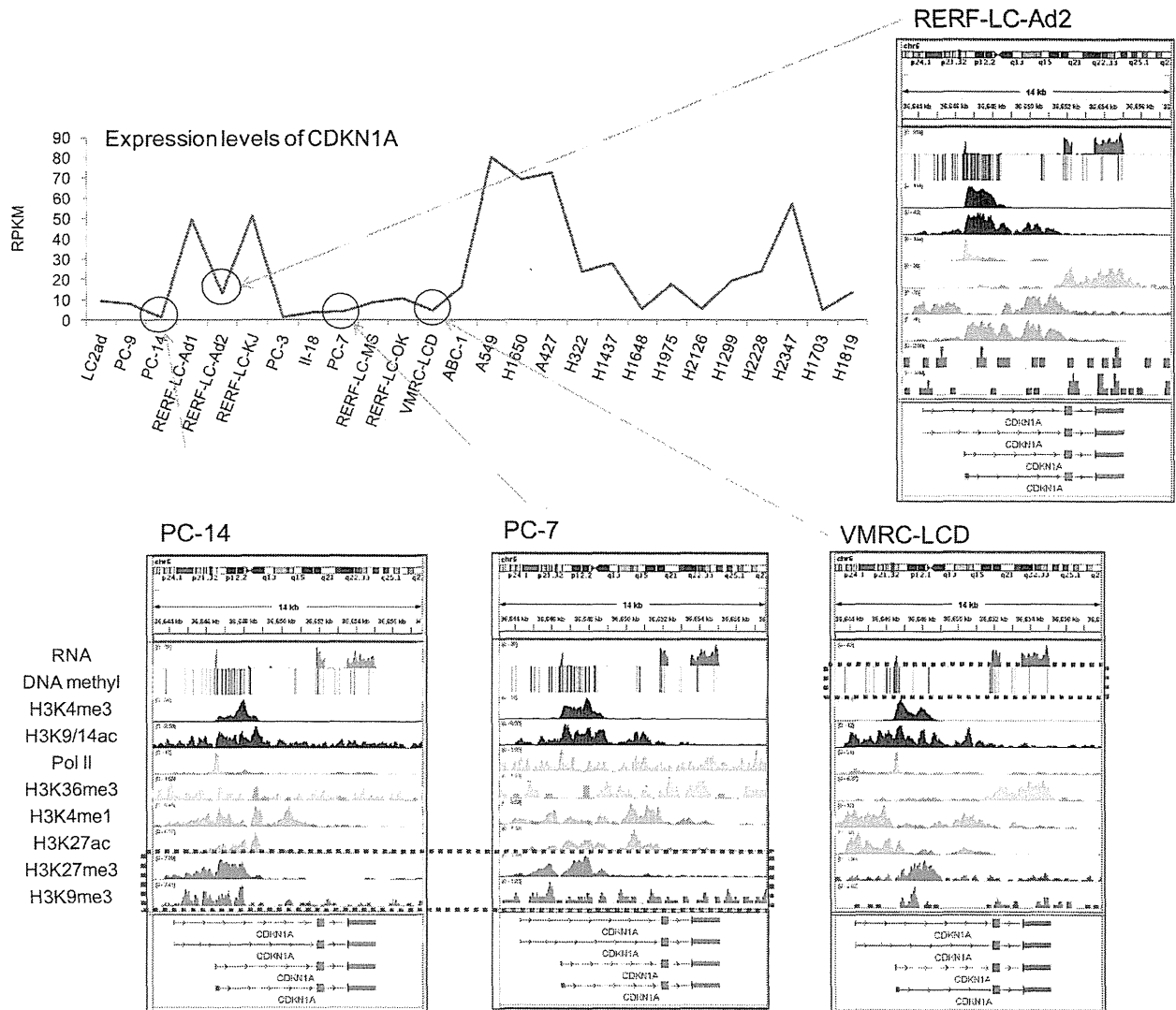


Figure 5. Integrative analysis of multi-omics data. Transcriptomic and epigenomic status of the CDKN1A gene. Expression levels of CDKN1A are shown in the upper graph. RNA-Seq, bisulfite sequencing and ChIP-Seq patterns of CDKN1A are also shown for the four cell lines, indicated in the graph.

sor of lung adenocarcinoma in many cases (1,68), that were completely abolished in three cell lines. Genomic deletions were detected for all of these three cell lines; RERF-LC-MS and A427 lacked the majority of the genic region and II-18 lacked the promoter region (Supplementary Figure S22). In addition, gene expression was repressed in three additional cell lines, H1437, H2126 and RERF-LC-KJ. These three cells have an intact promoter, having the marks of H3K4me3 and Pol II recruited. However, they commonly have large genomic aberrations in the gene body, which may cause the lack of a consequential transcriptional elongation mark of H3K36me3. In another case of the CDKN1A gene, its irregular expression levels were mostly accounted for with epigenomic aberrations (Figure 5) unlike the STK11 gene for which genomic aberrations were the main cause. For example, PC-7 and PC-14 showed higher levels of a

pressive mark in its promoter, which may explain its low expression levels in these cell lines. In the VMRC-LCD, the DNA methylation level of its promoter was high. In contrast, for RERF-LC-Ad2, which had a normal expression level of CDKN1A, neither hyper-DNA methylation nor repressive histone marks were observed in the promoter.

We manually inspected for similar diversity in the cancer-related genes. The results of the inferred aberrations are summarized in Table 2 (also see Supplementary Table S13 for Cancer Gene Census (69) genes). In particular, we observed that the genes harboring known driver mutations in the genome, such as the EGFR gene (E746_A750del) in PC-9 and the NRAS gene (Q61K) in H1299, showed retained or even enhanced expression levels, corresponding to their DNA methylation and chromatin patterns. On the other hand, expression levels of TP53 in the 26 cell lines were less

