How Liquid Biopsy Technology is Delivering Personalized Therapy in NSCLC

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The Tisch Cancer Institute

Sinai

Current Treatment and Trial Paradigm



Nature Reviews | Cancer

Liquid biopsy can provide clinically-valuable information along the whole patient journey



PD: progressive disease.

Adapted from Wan, J.C.M., et al., (2017) Nat Rev Cancer 17:223-

38

Biomarker testing rates over time for overall study population



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100

NGS testing rates over time for the overall population



1.00

Tissue biopsy may not capture the genomic landscape of a patient's entire tumour burden

Intratumour heterogeneity



The genomic landscape within a single tumour manifestation may not be uniform

Intrapatient heterogeneity



The genomic landscape may differ between tumour sites within a patient

Tissue biopsy may not capture subclonal populations of tumour cells with distinct alterations

Tissue biopsy from a single lesion will miss alterations unique to other lesions

As well as spatial heterogeneity, as the genomic landscape of a cancer evolves over time, temporal heterogeneity should also be considered Therefore archival tissue may not fully represent the tumour genotype at progression

Scherer, F. (2020) in Recent Results in Cancer Research: Tumor Liquid Biopsies. Springer.

Liquid biopsy and tissue rebiopsy after acquired resistance to TKI



Patients with advanced treatment-naive NSCLC



Patients with progressive or recurrent NSCLC during treatment with TKI



availability, other validated ass acceptable

Analysis of circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA) poses distinct challenges



- constitutes a highly variable fraction of the total plasma cfDNA from < 0.1% to > 90%^{1,2}
 - if ctDNA fraction is low, detection of alterations is more challenging^{2,3}
 - need to be able to detect mutations down to ≤ 0.1% MAF (particularly for detection of MRD)^{3,4}
- is more fragmented at 134 144 bp, compared with ~166 bp fragments of 'normal' plasma cfDNA⁵
- has a very short half-life of less than one hour in circulation^{2,6}

Amount of shedded, or detectable, ctDNA is variable depending on factors such as tumour stage, histology, vascularity and treatment^{1,5-8}



Somatic cfDNA alterations were detected in 85% (18,503 / 21,807) of patients across various cancer types[§]

* Figure adapted from reference 5. cfDNA: cell-free DNA; ctDNA: circulating tumour DNA; MAF: mutant allele frequency; MRD: minimal residual disease

1. Hinrichsen, T., et al. (2016) J Lab Med 40:313-22; 2. Corcoran, R.B. and Chabner, B.A. (2018) N Engl J Med 379:1754-65; 3. Johansson, G., et al. (2019) Biomol Detect Quantif 17:100078;

4. Jennings, L. et al. (2017) J Mol Diagn 19:341-65 5. Wan, J.C.M., et al., (2017) Nat Rev Cancer 17:223-38; 6. Mattox, A. K., et al. (2019) Sci Transl Med 11:eaay1984;

7. Bettegowda, C., et al. (2014) Sci Transl Med 6:224ra24; 8. Diaz, L.A. and Bardelli, A. (2014) J Clin Oncol 32:579-86; 9. Zill, O.A., et al. (2018) Clin Cancer Res 24:3528-38.

Plasma-based biomarkers with low allele frequency may still respond to targeted therapy

Responses to plasma-indicated targeted therapy by RECIST



Correlation of RECIST and allele frequency



AF: allele frequency; RECIST: Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours.

Aggarwal, C., et al. (2019) JAMA Oncol 5:173-80.

ctDNA kinetics as predictive marker for treatment response or resistance



Identification of early plasma ctDNA changes to predict response to first-line pembrolizumab +/chemotherapy in aNSCLC patients¹

Blood samples were collected on 1st day of treatment and at each subsequent cycle

A 36-gene panel NGS* detected early quantitative changes across a wide range of variants



Rapid decrease of ctDNA correlated with clinical benefit, while increase correlated with PD



Residual ctDNA to predict PFS and OS in *EGFR*mut NSCLC patients treated with afatinib +/- cetuximab²



with substantial improvement in PFS and OS

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Median PFS (95% CI)

In both studies PFS is significantly longer in NSCLC patients with early ctDNA decrease / clearance These results suggest a potential role for ctDNA NGS analysis to detect pharmacodynamic biomarkers of response or resistance to targeted therapies and immunotherapies

*Samples were analysed in the Inivata CLIA-accredited laboratory (Research Triangle Park, NC) for InVision ctDNA analysis. †Tested by Guardant Health, Inc. using G360 panel. aNSCLC: advanced nonsmall cell lung cancer; ctDNA: circulating tumour DNA; mo: months; NGS: next-generation sequencing; OS: overall survival; PD: progressive disease; PFS: progression-free survival; pts: patients; wk: weeks. 1. Ricciuti, P.C., et al. (2020) ASCO poster 3518; 2. Mack, P.C., et al. (2020) ASCO poster 9532.

Results: Reduction in dVAF at Week 4 Was Associated With Longer PFS With Lorlatinib

ALK Fusion and/or Mutation





Lorlatinib

Any Somatic Alteration

= ≤0

and so it

≤0

=0

dVAF at Week 4 n⁺

71

23

76

No. at risk

 Lordatinib dVAF ≈0:
 71
 71
 68
 66
 62
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 69
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*HR <1.00 favors dVAF ≤0.

Crizotinib dVAF >0: 2 2 2 2 1 1

[†]No patients in the lorlatinib group had a dVAF >0 (*ALK* fusion and/or mutation) at week 4. HR, hazard ratio; NR, not reached.

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Median (95% CI) HR* (95% CI)

NR (14.7, NR) 0.56 (0.24, 1.28)

9.0 (5.4, 11.4) 0.99 (0.49, 2.01)

Reference

Reference

NR (NR, NR)

9.0 (7.4, 11.0)

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Acquired mechanisms of resistance to 1st line Osimertinib: The FLAURA analysis (LB)

- No evidence of acquired EGFR T790M
- The most common resistance mechanisms were MET amplification and EGFR C797S mutation
 - Other mechanisms included HER2 amplification, PIK3CA and RAS mutations



*Resistance mechanism reported may overlap with another; *Two patients had de novo T790M mutations at baseline of whom one acquired C797S at progression

Ramalingam SS, et al. ESMO 2018

Osimertinib resistance series



Piper-Vallillo AJ, et al. JCO 2020

The genomic profile of patients with histologic transformation subtype



Schoenfeld AJ, et al. Clin Cancer Res 2020

Early Clonal loss od Rb1 and Tp53 predict SCLC transformation





Rolfo et al, JTO 2021 Oct;16(10):1647-1662



Rolfo Unpublished data

ChristianRolfo

Clonal evolution of treatment resistance



Turajlic S, et al. (2019) Nat Rev Genet 20:404-16.

Case #2: 71 year old NSCLC patient



NSCLC: non-small cell lung cancer; PFS: progression-free survival.

Case courtesy of Dr Rolfo, University of Maryland School of

Medicine.

Clonal evolution of treatment resistance



Turajlic S, et al. (2019) Nat Rev Genet 20:404-16.

Prolonged duration of tepotinib + gefitinib after progression on erlotinib in a patient with *MET* amp



A Timeline of Treatment



Shaw et al, NEJM , Dec 2015



VISION Phase 2 trial

Single-arm study of tepotinib in stage IIIB/IV NSCLC (all histologies) with *MET* ex14 skipping mutations (Cohort A)

First-, second- and third-line therapy patients included, unless prior anti-MET therapy was used

Patients with active brain metastases excluded

CI: confidence interval; NSCLC: non-small cell lung cancer; ORR: overall response rate. Paik, P.K., et al. (2019) Slide presentation at ASCO 2019:abstract 9005.

Tepotinib in NSCLC with *MET* exon 14 skipping mutations (*MET* ex14)

<i>MET</i> ex14 positive by:		Liquid biopsy	Tissue biopsy (n=51)	
		(n=48)		
Best overall response by RECIST 1.1 (independent review committee), n (%)				
Complete response		0 (0)	0 (0)	
Partial response		24 (50.0)	23 (45.1)	
Stable disease		8 (16.7)	14 (27.5)	
Progressive disease		7 (14.6)	8 (15.7)	
Not evaluable		9 (18.8)	6 (11.8)	
	ORR* n (%) [95% Cl]	24 (50.0) [35.2, 64.8]	23 (45.1) [31.1, 59.7]	

*ORR = Complete response + partial response



METex14 ctDNA dynamics & resistance mechanisms detected in liquid biopsy (LBx)





- New alterations detected included MET mutation/amplification (n=7/35), TP53 mutation/RB1 loss (n=6/35), EGFR/HER2 amplification (n=4/35), and RAS/PI3K mutations (n=3/35)
 - No high frequency bypass pathway alterations were detected
- Previously reported resistance mechanisms to MET inhibitors include mutations and amplifications in RAS and EGFR genes¹⁻⁴

All efficacy outcomes were investigator-assessed,
*All non-silent TP53 mutations included.
1. Guo R, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019;37(15):9006, 2. Awad MM, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2018;36(15):9069; 3. Salgia R, et al. Can Treat Rev. 2020;87:102022; 4. Hong L, et al. Ther Adv Med Oncol. 2021,13:1–16.

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End-of-treatment

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ORR with PCP in *STK11* and *KEAP1*-defined subgroups



STK11^{MUT} and/or KEAP1^{MUT} PR/CR: 21.5%, SD: 38.5%, PD 40%

• 26/34 (76.5%) patients with primary refractory disease had STK11 and/or KEAP1 mutations

Ferdinandos Skoulidis, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA

Skoulidis F, et al. WCLC 2019

Patients with *KRAS*^{G12C} and co-occurring *STK11* mutation have worse real-world outcomes with 1L ICI than those with *KRAS*^{G12C} and no *STK11* mutation



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Shorter TTNT, but no significant difference in RW-OS with STK11 mutation in patients with KRAS wild-type lung adenocarcinoma



wt, wild type; mt, mutation; NR, not reached

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Acquired resistance to KRASG12C inhibitor MRTX849 (adagrasib)

4 months





C RTK Secondary KRAS Y96D Cis* KRAS G12F* Trans KRAS G12F* KRAS G12V Patient with *KRAS*G12C NSCLC who developed polyclonal acquired resistance to MRTX849 with the emergence of 10 heterogeneous resistance alterations in serial cell-free DNA spanning **four genes** (*KRAS, NRAS, BRAF, MAP2K1*), all of which converge to reactivate RAS–MAPK signaling.

Variant allele fractions of mutations detected in the patient's serial plasma samples. +, indicates the mutations were detected by ddPCR but not by plasma next-generation sequencing

Tanaka et al, Cancer Discovery, Aug 2021



Awad et al, NEJM, 2021

NTRK1 Fusions identified by non-invasive plasma next-generation sequencing (NGS) across 9 cancer types



Rolfo C et al, British Journal of Cancer, Sep 2021

NTRK in Lung Cancer as a mechanism of resistance of EGFR



Rolfo C et al, British Journal of Cancer, Sep 2021



Rolfo C et al, British Journal of Cancer, Sep 2021

Resistance to Novel Selective RET Inhibitors in Lung Cancer.



Mutation	Status	Cabozantinib [112]	Vandetanib [112]	Lenvatinib [112]	Ponatinib [112]	Selpercatinib [109]	Pralsetinib [109]
Gatekeeper	V804M	4.26	5.83	5.42	0.0339	0.0559	0.0168
	V804L	3.22	6.10	10.60	0.43 [60]	0.0172	0.0018
Solvent front	G810A	0.22	2.76	0.11	0.008 [60]		
	G810R		1.4	4		2.744	2,650
	G810S	1.05	5.47	0.67		0,8802	0.3906
	G810C			~		1.227	0.6417
Other	S904F		0.908 [98]			10	
	Y806C		0.933 [113]		-	0.1744	0.2958
	Y806N	4.76	5.86	1.93	-	0.1498	0.2925
	V738A	1.20	1.05	2.35	14	0.2388	0.1775

Lu a &Zhou , Cancer Treatment Reviews 96 (2021) 102153

Fancelli et al, Cancers 2021, 13, 1091

RET fusions



Thinking outside the box





Russo A (Rolfo C). JCO Precis Oncol 2019

Liquid Biopsy in Personalize Treatment

- cfDNA is a good tool fo all the patient's journey
- Make sure you use a validated platform, comprehensive
- Report every acencdotical case!
- Test your patients! At least to know the ones will not response to Immunotherapy

Don't rush Marty! Still there are people who is not testing! So Doc ?? Is the future of liquid biopsy really cool?

ana Tr

Exosomes, PLTs, CTS, multomics, all over the place!!

I can't wait to be there!!



Thanks







Thanks



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