

Ion channels: novel biomarkers and therapeutic targets in cancer

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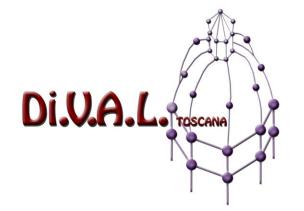






Disclosures

 Scientific coordinator of Dival Toscana Srl (Laboratory for Drug Validation and Antibody Production), Firenze, Italy



Outline

- Expression and role of ion channels in cancer
- hERG1 potassium channels in cancer
- hERG1 channels: novel biomarkers in cancer
- hERG1 channels: novel therapeutic targets in cancer
- Strategies to avoid cardiac side effects when targeting hERG1 in cancer



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Biochimica et Biophysica Acta



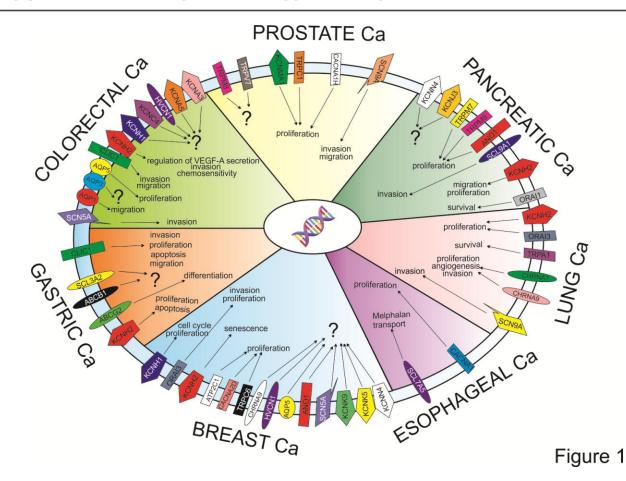


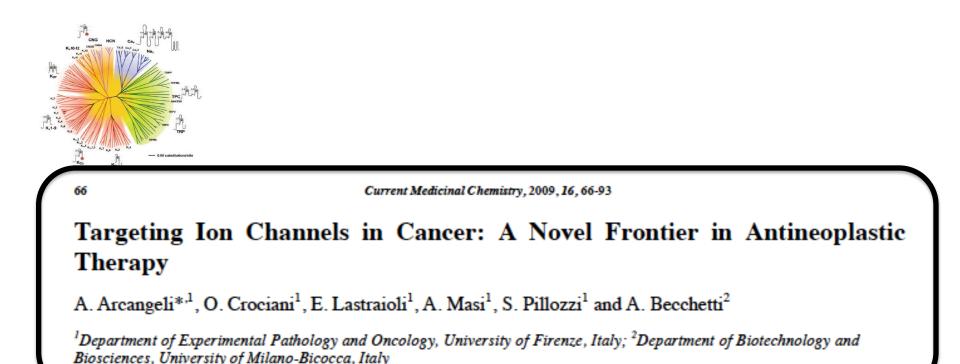
Review

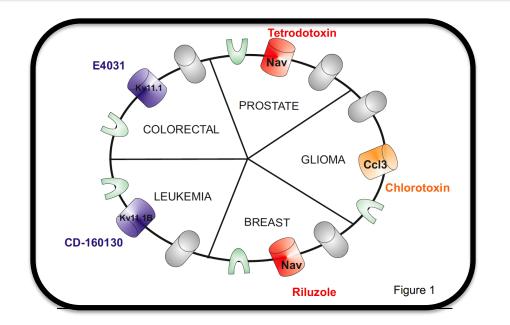
Ion channel expression as promising cancer biomarker*

Elena Lastraioli, Jessica Iorio, Annarosa Arcangeli*

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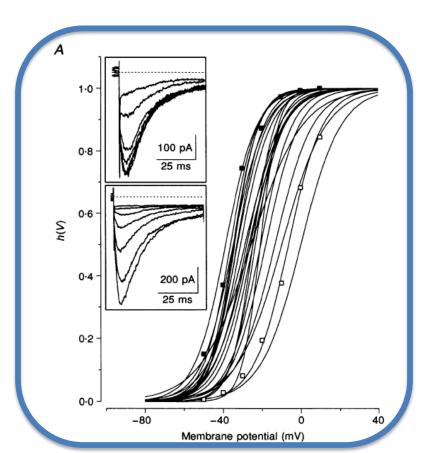


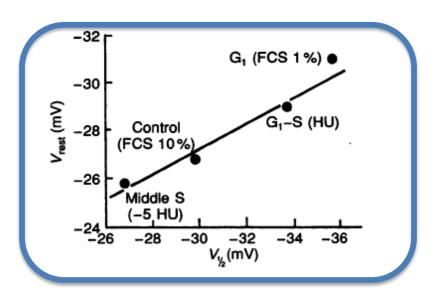
hERG1 (Kv 11.1)

Journal of Physiology (1995), 489.2, pp.455-471

A novel inward-rectifying K^+ current with a cell-cycle dependence governs the resting potential of mammalian neuroblastoma cells

Annarosa Arcangeli*, Laura Bianchi, Andrea Becchetti, Laura Faravelli, Marcella Coronnello†, Enrico Mini†, Massimo Olivotto* and Enzo Wanke‡





⊕WILEY

THE hERG CARDIAC POTASSIUM CHANNEL: STRUCTURF, FUNCTION AND LONG QT SYNDROME



- hERG1 is expressed in the human heart (lkr)
- Point mutations of the hERG1 gene account for the inherited LQT syndrome

 hERG1 is mis- and over-expressed in several types of human cancers where it regulates different aspect of cancer cell behaviour (proliferation, resistance to apoptosis, chemoresistance, angiogenesis, cell migration, cell invasiveness)

INTRACELLULAR SIGNALLING

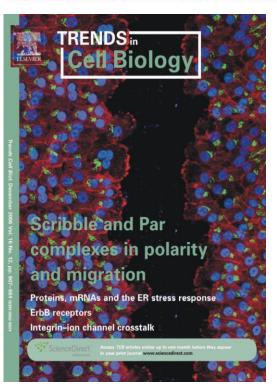




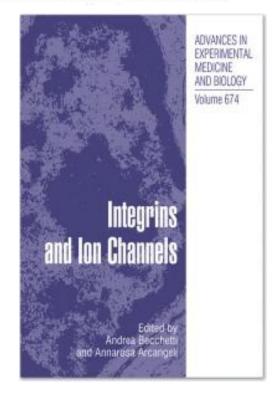
Complex functional interaction between integrin receptors and ion channels

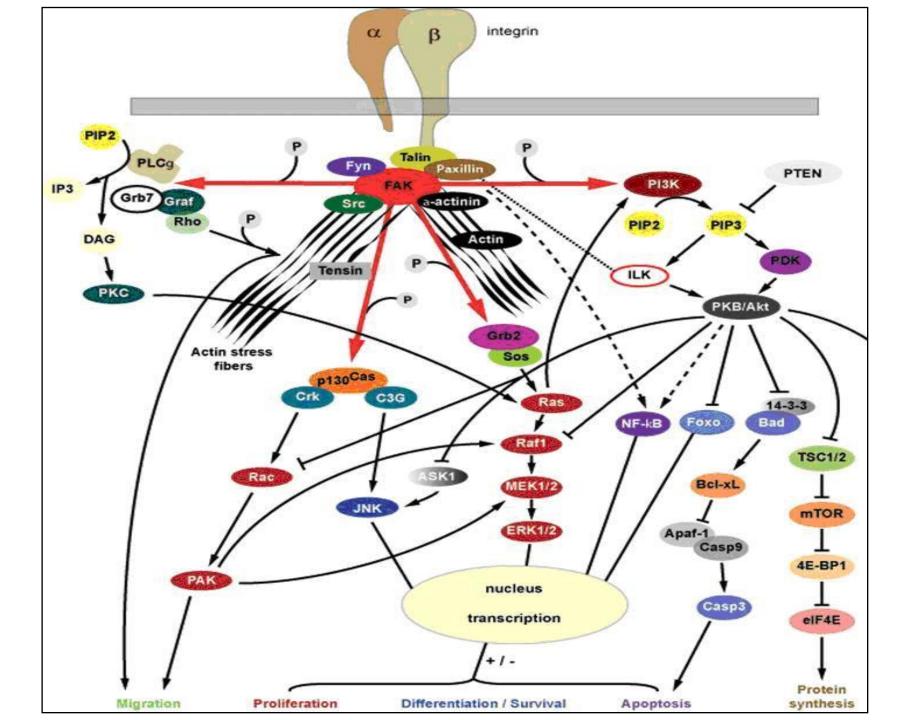
Annarosa Arcangeli¹ and Andrea Becchetti²

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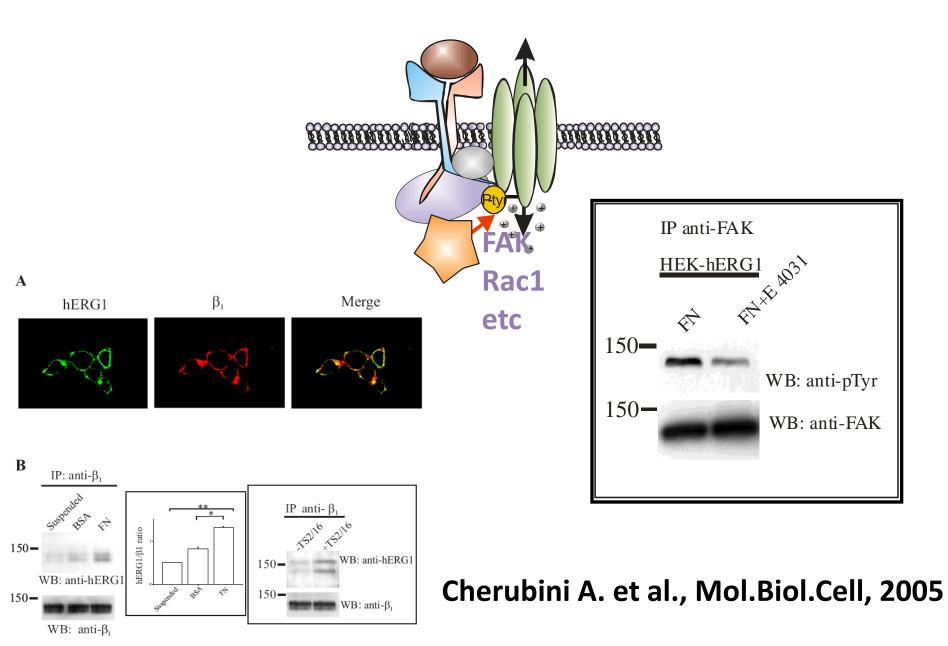








Integrin-channel complex: hERG1/β1



blood

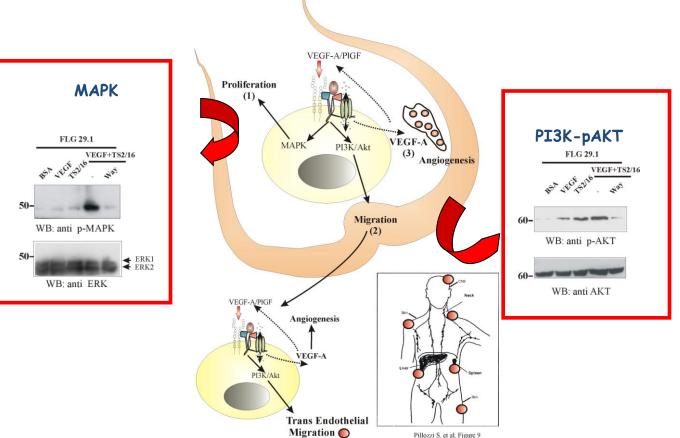
2007 110: 1238-1250 Prepublished online Apr 9, 2007; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-02-003772

VEGFR-1 (FLT-1), &1 integrin, and hERG K+ channel for a macromolecular signaling complex in acute myeloid leukemia: role in cell migration and clinical outcome

Serena Pillozzi, Maria Felice Brizzi, Pietro Antonio Bernabei, Benedetta Bartolozzi, Roberto Caporale, Venere Basile, Vieri Boddi, Luigi Pegoraro, Andrea Becchetti and Annarosa Arcangeli



Serena Pillozzi



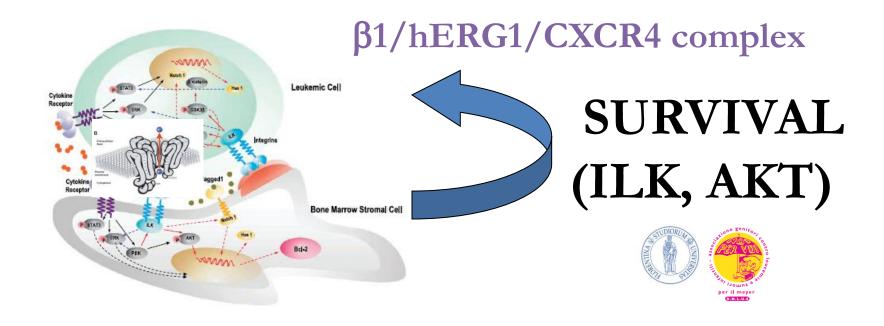


doi:10.1182/blood-2010-01-262691

Chemotherapy resistance in acute lymphoblastic leukemia requires hERG1 channels and is overcome by hERG1 blockers

Serena Pillozzi, Marika Masselli, Emanuele De Lorenzo, Benedetta Accordi, Emanuele Cilia, Olivia Crociani, Amedeo Amedei, Marínella Veltroni, Massimo D'Amico, Giuseppe Basso, Andrea Becchetti, Dario Campana and Annarosa Arcangeli

Serena Pillozzi





The hERG1/ β 1 integrin complex in CRC



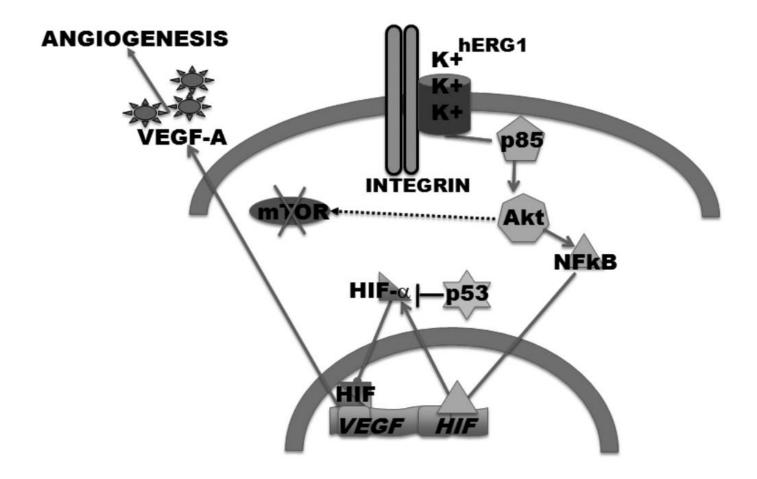
OPEN

SUBJECT AREAS: COLORECTAL CANCER INTEGRIN SIGNALLING TUMOUR ANGIOGENESIS ION CHANNEL SIGNALLING

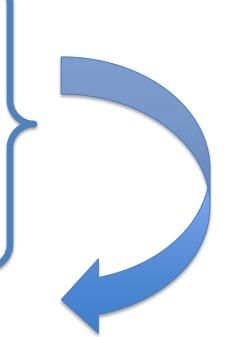
hERG1 channels modulate integrin signaling to trigger angiogenesis and tumor progression in colorectal cancer

Olivia Crociani¹, Francesca Zanieri¹, Serena Pillozzi¹, Elena Lastraioli¹, Matteo Stefanini¹, Antonella Fiore¹, Angelo Fortunato¹, Massimo D'Amico¹, Marika Masselli¹, Emanuele De Lorenzo¹, Luca Gasparoli¹, Martina Chiu², Ovidio Bussolati², Andrea Becchetti³ & Annarosa Arcangeli¹

The hERG1/ β 1 integrin pathway in CRC

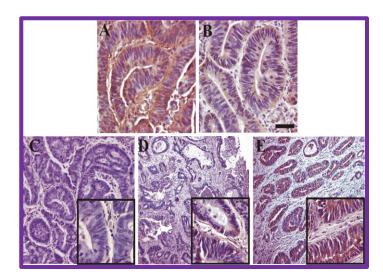


- Molecular data (RQ-PCR)
- Immunohistochemistry (IHC) data
- Flow cytometry data
- Functional data



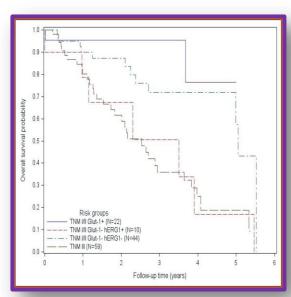
hERG1: novel cancer biomarker

COLORECTAL CANCER



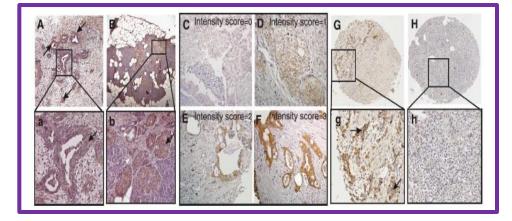


hERG1 positivity with Glut-1 negativity identifies a patient group with poor prognosis within stage I-II CRC.



PANCREATIC CANCER (PDAC)

hERG1 is an independent prognostic factor in PDAC (hERG1 positive patients have a worse prognosis)





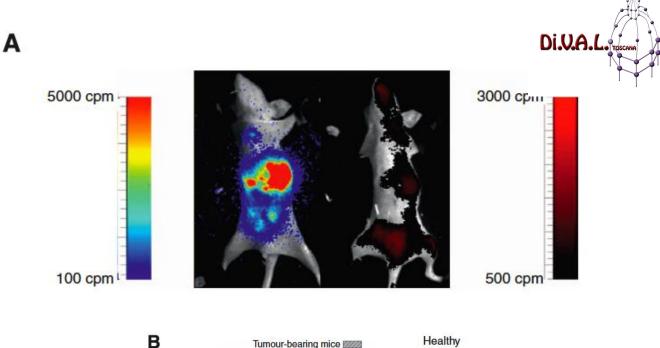
Keywords: pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC); hERG1 potassium channels; EGF-R; prognosis; molecular-imagin

hERG1 channels drive tumour malignancy and may serve as prognostic factor in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma

E Lastraioli^{1,10}, G Perrone^{2,10}, A Sette¹, A Fiore¹, O Crociani¹, S Manoli^{1,11}, M D'Amico¹, M Masselli¹, J Iorio¹, M Callea², D Borzomati³, G Nappo³, F Bartolozzi⁴, D Santini⁵, L Bencini⁶, M Farsi⁶, L Boni⁷, F Di Costanzo⁸, A Schwab⁹, A O Muda², R Coppola^{3,10} and A Arcangeli^{*,1,10}

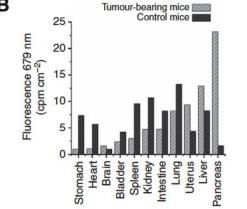
Variable	n	n failed	Univariate analysis			Final multivariate model	
			Cumulative proportion 1-year survival	Hazard ratio (95% Cl)	LR test (P value)	Hazard ratio (95% Cl)	LR test (P value
Category				la ann ann ann ann ann ann ann ann ann a			
Gender Female Male	19 20	15 16	0.684 0.700	1 (ref.) 0.94 (0.46–1.92)	0.869		
hERG1 test Negative Positive	17 22	12 19	0.882 0.545	1 (ref.) 2.23 (1.07–4.66)	0.029*	1 (ref.) 2.12 (1.01–4.48)	0.049*
EGF-R test Negative Positive	14 25	8 16	0.677 0.45	1 (ref.) 1.75 (0.74–4.14)	0.195		
hERG1 and EGF-R test Both negative Both positive One positive	9 17 13	6 15 10	0.889 0.529 0.769	1 (ref.) 2.85 (1.09–7.49) 1.47 (0.53–4.07)	0.067		
TNM stage I II	16 23	10 21	0.75 0.652	1 (ref.) 2.11 (0.98–4.56)	0.049*	1 (ref.) 2.00 (0.91–4.41)	0.085
Grading Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3	3 22 14	2 17 12	0.667 0.682 0.714	1 (ref.) 1.59 (0.36–6.92) 2.24 (0.49–10.18)	0.461		
Ki67 <20% ≥20%	22 9	16 8	0.727	1 (ref.) 1.53 (0.65–3.63)	0.346		

Use of anti-hERG1 Mab in vivo



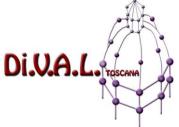
pancreas

Tumour

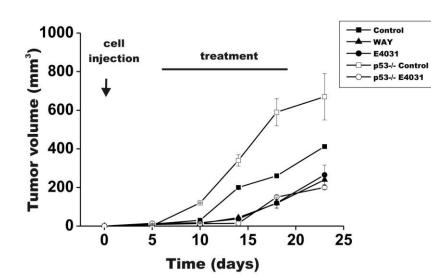


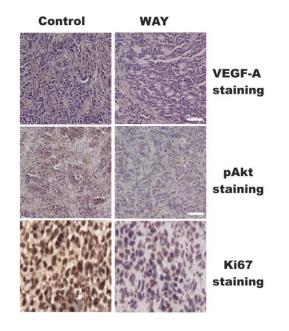
hERG1: novel therapeutic target in oncology

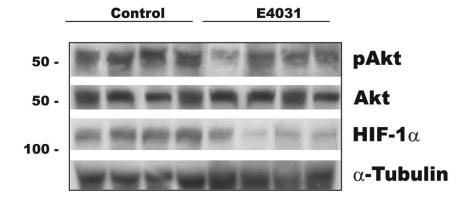




Targeting hERG1 in CRC: in vivo studies (s.c.)







hERG1 targeting: orthotopic CRC model

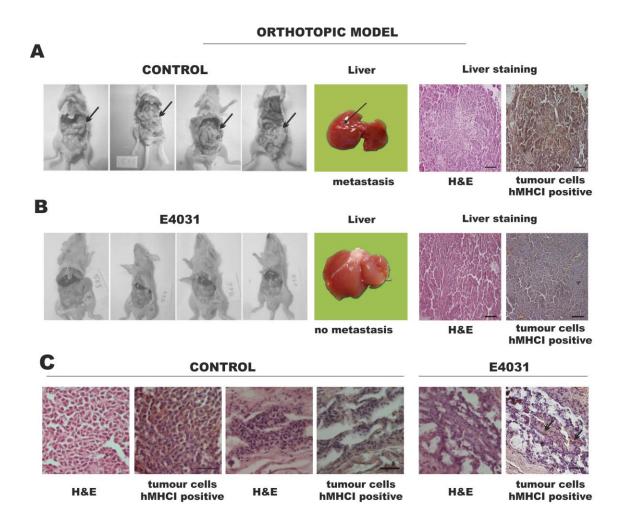
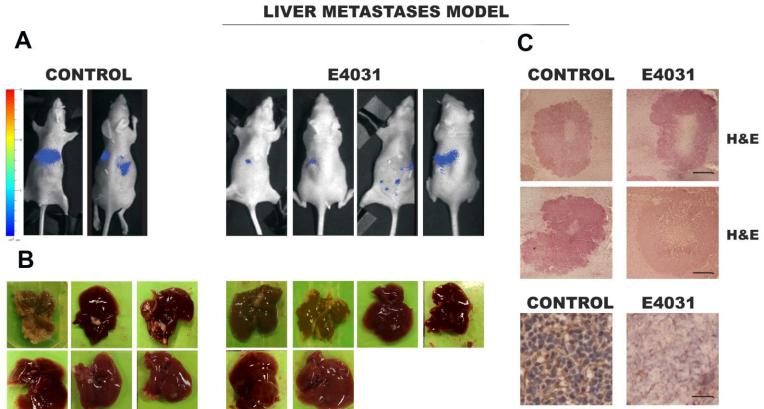


Table 1 | Quantitative evaluation of local tumor growth, invasion, distant metastases and complications in control and E4031-treated mice (20 mg/Kg). (+++ = high number of neoplastic masses, ++ = several neoplastic masses, + = few neoplastic masses)

ORTOTHOPIC MODEL

Local tumor growth	Control	E4031
Coecum Invasion	+++	-
Intestin Metastasis	++	-
Peritoneum	++	-
Diaphragm	+++	-
Liver	++	-
Spleen	++	-
Kidneys	+	-
Complications		
Ascites	++	-

hERG1 targeting: CRC metastasis model



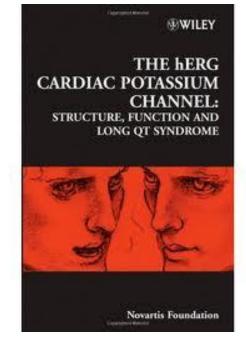
VEGF-A staining

Table 2 | Number of hepatic macroscopic and microscopic lesions as well as % of necrotic area of livers reported in Fig. 7E–F. Further descriptions are reported in Supplementary Information

LIVER METASTASES MODEL

Metastases	Control	E4031
Macroscopic metastases Microscopic metastases (number/ microscopic field)		9.85 ± 4.80 1.2 ± 0.14
% necrotic area/total metastases area	2.1 ± 0.30	$\textbf{8.55} \pm \textbf{0.36}$

hERG1 is considered an antitarget! hERG1 blockers can induce LQT syndrome and TdP



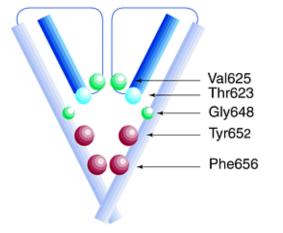
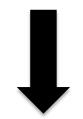


Fig.2 Part of a continuous single-channel Holter recording from a patient with long QT syndrome. In this record, the characteristic prolonged QT interval (A), followed by giant late-repolarization 'T-wave humps' (B), lad to premature beats with a bigminal patient with short-long-short sequences of R-R intervals (C) before onset of *torsade de poottes* (D). The episode progressed into ventricular fibrillation before spontancously resolving into sinus rhythm; the patient was later treated successfully with pacing and beta-blockers (Reproduced with permission from Benlorin and Medina.¹⁰)

TRENDS in Pharmacological Sciences

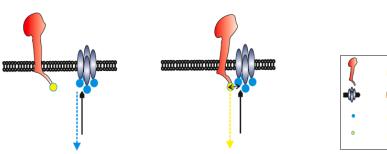
Strategies to target hERG1 in cancer and avoid cardiotoxicity

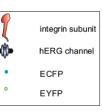


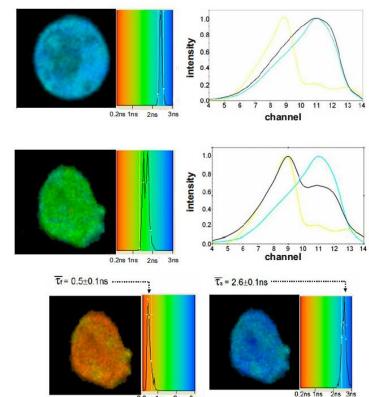
Differences between "cardiac" and "tumour" hERG1

- interaction with adhesion receptors of the integrin family
- prevalence of hERG1B isoform in tumors (leukemias)

hERG1 and β1 integrin interact directly: intermolecular distance < 1nm (FRET experiments)

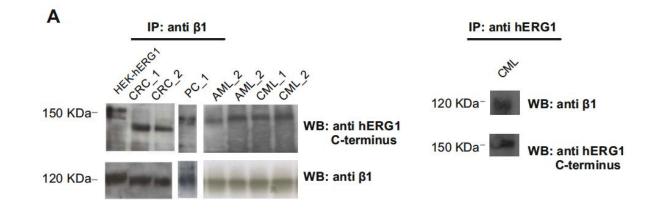




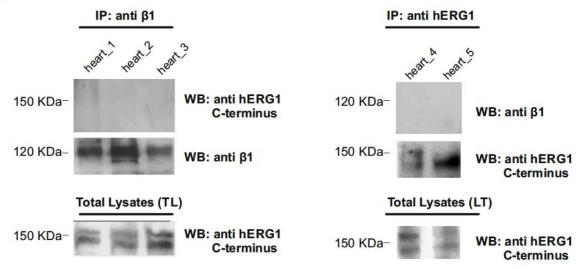


0.2ns 1ns 2ns 3ns

The hERG1/ β 1 complex occurs in cancers but NOT in the heart



В

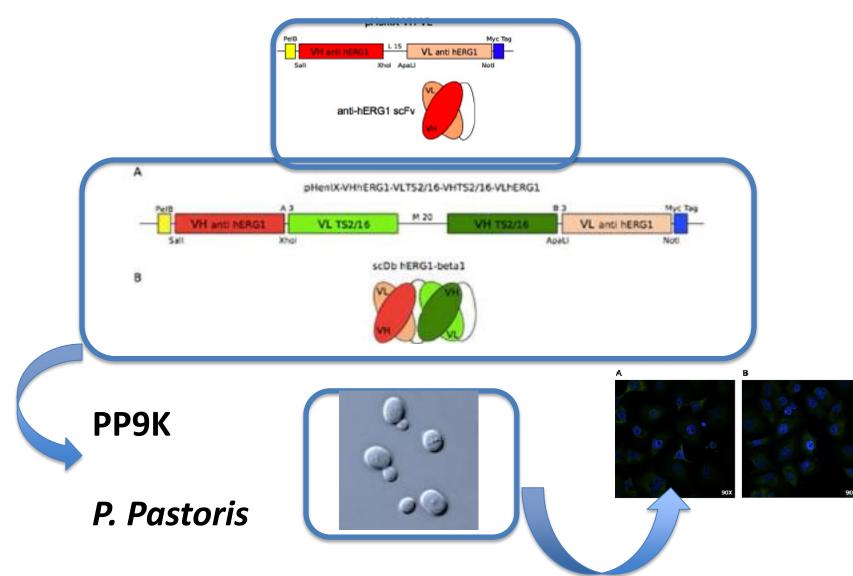


Conclusions

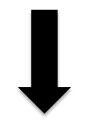
- hERG1 directly complexes with integrins (β1 subunit)
- The hERG1/ β 1complex occurs only in tumor cells NOT in the heart
- The hERG1/β1complex triggers intracellular signaling
- Targeting the hERG1/β1complex for cancer therapy?



Bi-functional antibody



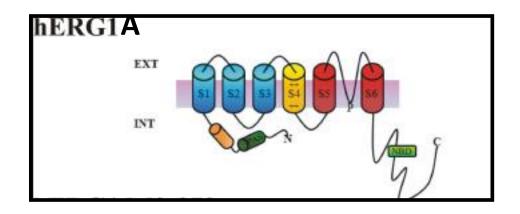
Strategies to target hERG1 in cancer and avoid cardiotoxicity

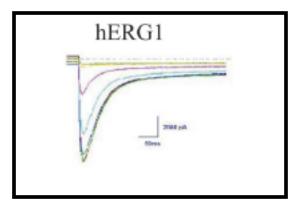


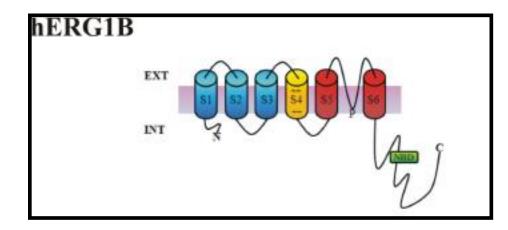
Differences between "cardiac" and "tumour" hERG1

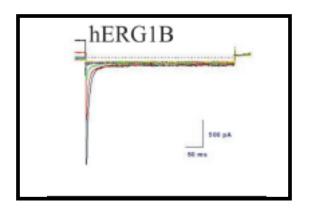
- interaction with integrin receptors (cell adhesion)
- prevalence of hERG1B isoform in tumors (leukemias)

hERG1B in cancer cells

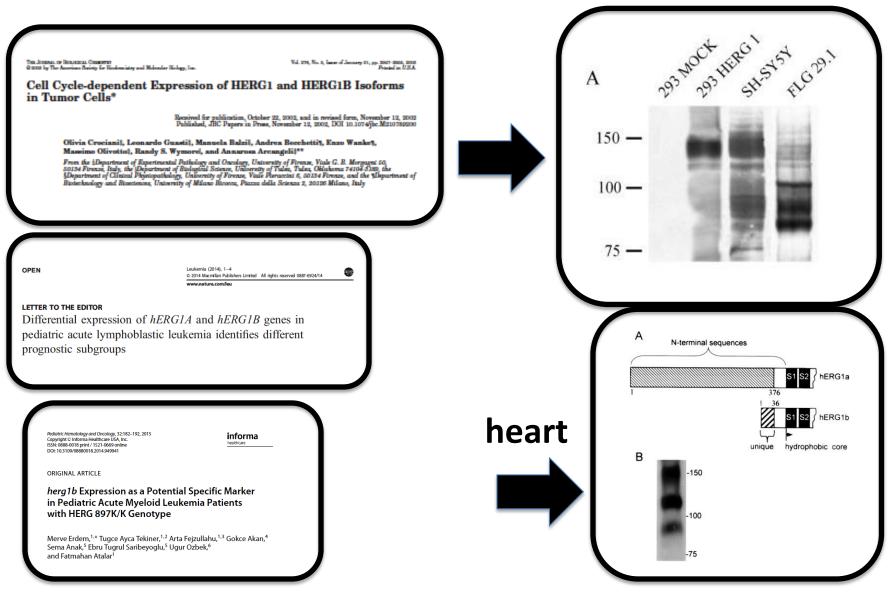








hERG1B in leukemias vs heart



Targeting hERG1B in leukemias

1521-01119872/183-196825.00 MOLECULAR PHARMAOLOGY Copyright © 2014 by The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics http://dx.doi.org/10.1124/mol.114.094920 Mol Pharmacol 87:183-196, February 2015

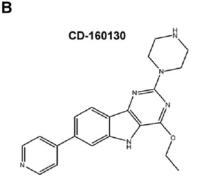
New Pyrimido-Indole Compound CD-160130 Preferentially Inhibits the K_V11.1B Isoform and Produces Antileukemic Effects without Cardiotoxicity $\ensuremath{\mathbb{S}}$

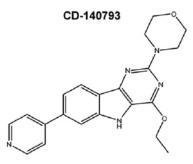
Luca Gasparoli, Massimo D'Amico, Marika Masselli, Serena Pillozzi, Rachel Caves, Rawan Khuwaileh, Wolfgang Tiedke, Kenneth Mugridge, Alessandro Pratesi, John S. Mitcheson, Giuseppe Basso, Andrea Becchetti, and Annarosa Arcangeli

Department of Experimental and Clinical Medicine, University of Florence, Florence, Italy (L.G., S.P., A.A.); Department of Chemistry "Ugo Schiff," University of Florence, Florence, Italy (M.M., A.P.); DI.V.A.L. Toscana srl, Sesto Florentino, Italy (M.D.A., M.M.); Department of Cell Physiology and Pharmacology, University of Leicester, Leicester, United Kingdom (R.C., R.K., J.S.M.); BlackSwan Pharma GmbH, Leipzig, Germany (W.T., K.M.); Oncohematology Laboratory, Department of Woman and Child Health, University of Padova, Padova, Italy (G.B.); and Department of Biotechnologies and Biosciences, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy (A.B.)

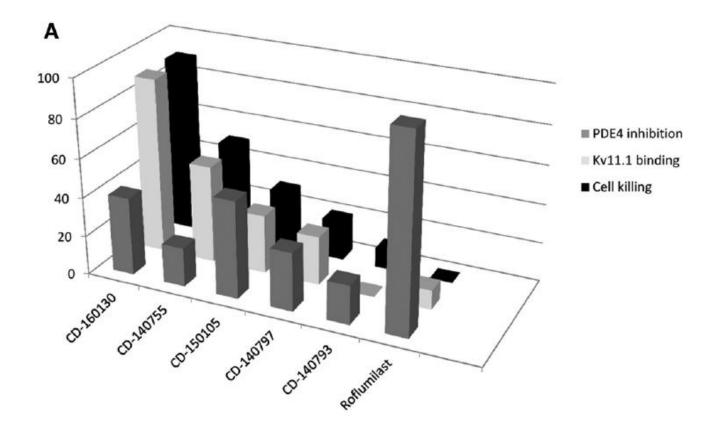
Received July 22, 2014; accepted November 19, 2014



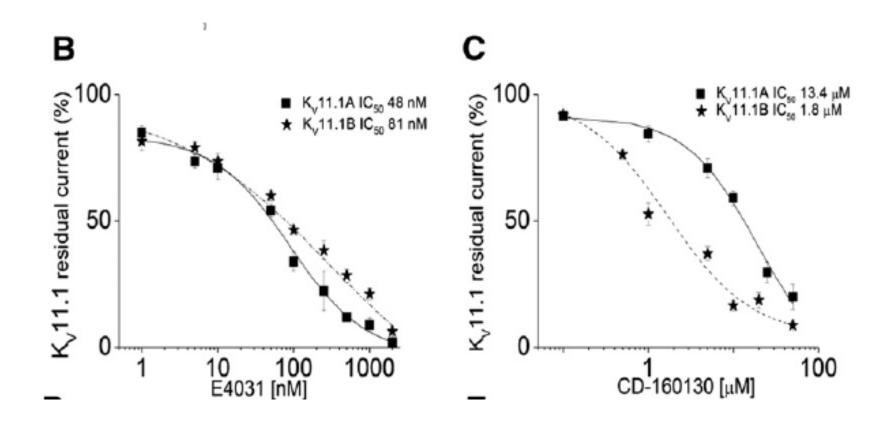




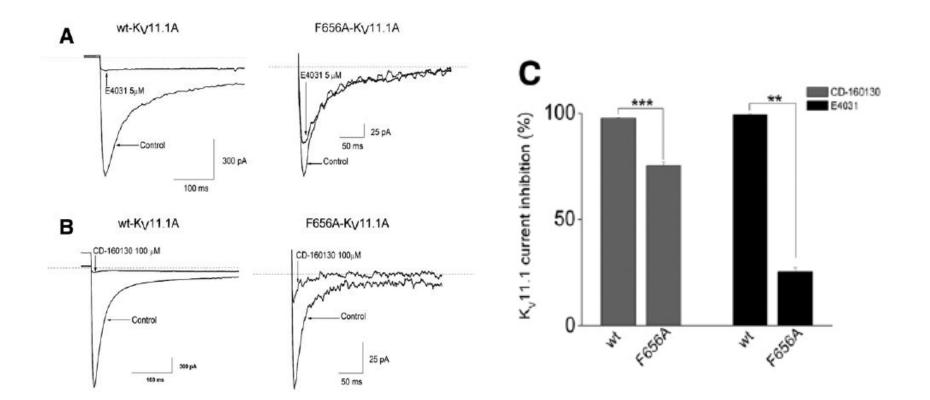
CD 160130 blocks hERG1



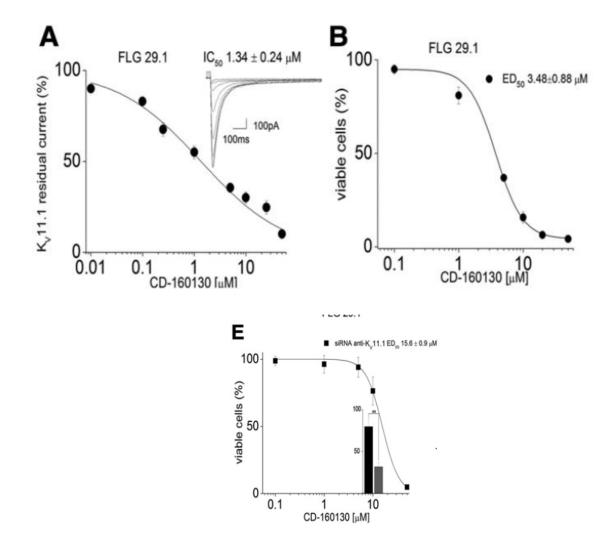
CD 160130 preferentially blocks hERG1B



CD-160130 does not bind the F656 "canonical" hERG1 binding site



CD-160130 blocks hERG1B in leukemias and has antileukemic effect (in vitro)



CD 160130 is cytotoxic for leukemias (in vitro)

PS/Cell Line	FAB (Immunophenotype)	Cytogenetics	1B Gene Expression	Mean ED ₅₀ (± S.E.M.) of CD-160130	
			Arbitrary Units	μM	
Myeloid primary samples and cell lines					
AML-1 (Pillozzi et al., 2007)	AML-M4 (CD13+, CD33+, CD14+, CD11b+, CD34+)	UNK	0.92 (1A: 12.20)	20% maximum killing at 50	
AML-2 (Pillozzi et al., 2007)	AML-M1 (CD13+, CD34+, HLDRA+)	Complex	68.10 (1A: 18)	40.4 ± 11.2	
KG-1	AML-M6 (CD34+, CD15+, Cd13+, HLA A30+, A31+, B35+)	Complex (Pelliccia et al., 2012)	0.62 (1A: 24.76)	7.6 ± 0.55	
FLG 29.1	AML-M5 (CD9+, CD13+, CD32+, CD42b+, CD51+, CD54+, CD44+, CD61+, CD45+, CD31+)	polyploidy, 3p+	3413 (1A: 1086)	3.48 ± 0.88	
HL60	AML-M2 (Dalton et al., 1988) (CD3-, CD13+, CD14-, CD15+, CD19-, CD33+, HLA-DR-)	Pseudodiploid	94.70 (1A: 13.70)	6.65 ± 0.26	
NB4	AML-M3 (CD3-, CD4+, CD11b-, CD13+, CD14-, CD15+, CD19-, CD33+, CD34-, CD38+, HLA-DR-)	t(15;17)(q22;q11-12)	196.72 (1A: 80.44)	7.02 ± 0.31	

CD 160130 is cytotoxic for leukemias (in vitro)

samples and cell lines				
B-ALL-1	L2 (early B) (CD34+, CD33+, CALLA+)	t(8;14)	6.68 (1A: 0.03) ^a	5.6 ± 1.5
T-ALL-1	L2 (T) (aberrant expression of CD34, CD117, and CD13)	UNK	5.11 (1A: $0.76)^b$	$0.6~\pm~0.2$
REH	pro-B-ALL (CD3-, CD10+, CD13-, CD19+, CD34-, CD37-, CD38+, cyCD79a+, CD80-, CD138+, HLA-DR+, sm/cyIgG-, sm/cyIgM-, sm/cykappa-, sm/cylambda-)	t(12; 21)(p13;q22)	120 (1A: 6.5)	6.66 ± 0.22
697	pre-B-ALL (CD3-, CD10+, CD13-, CD19+, CD34-, CD37-, CD38+, CD80-, HLA-DR+, sm/cyIgG-, smIgM-, cyIgM+, sm/cykappa-, sm/cylambda-)	t(1;19)	1200 (1A:85)	3.78 ± 0.37
RS	pre-B-ALL-L2 (HLA DR+, CD9+, CD24+)	t(4;11)(q21; q23) and i(7q)	0.16 (1A: 0.005)	7.0 ± 0.2

Lymphoid primary

CD 160130 is cytotoxic for leukemias (in vitro)

Primary Sample/Cell Line	Binet Stage	Gender	Cytogenetics	Mean EC ₅₀ (± S.D.) of CD-160130	$\begin{array}{c} Mean \ EC_{50} \ (\pm \ S.D.) \\ of \ Fludarabine \end{array}$	
				μM	μM	
CLL-004	В	Μ	UNK	1.48 ± 0.55	0.56 ± 0.03	
CLL-005	Α	Μ	13q and 11q deletion	0.07 ± 0.03	0.49 ± 0.11	
CLL-006	С	F	13q deletion	2.47 ± 0.39	0.49 ± 0.05	
CLL-017	В	Μ	13g and 11g deletion	0.08 ± 0.02	0.17 ± 0.07	
CLL-024	С	F	13g deletion	8.33 ± 0.29	ND	
CLL-027	В	F	None	11.0 ± 1.50	4.55 ± 0.22	
CLL-028	Α	F	None	2.17 ± 0.02	ND	
CLL-030	В	Μ	13q and 11q deletion	0.80 ± 0.05	ND	
CLL-036	Α	Μ	UNK	15.2 ± 3.74	ND	
CLL-038	Α	Μ	UNK	5.86 ± 0.58	5.63 ± 0.95	
MEC-1	-	_	$\label{eq:linear} \begin{array}{l} Near-diploid \ karyotype \ with \ 10\% \ polyploidy-46(44-47) <2n > XY. \ t(1;6)(q22-23;p21); \ add(7)(q11); \ del(17)(p11) \end{array}$	5.36 ± 0.94	0.22 ± 0.03	

....but not for normal human bone marrow cells

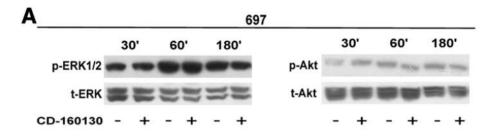
Evaluation of CD-160130 toxicity in healthy human bone marrow colonies.

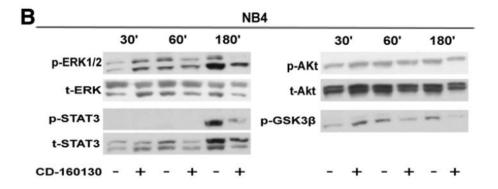
Results of the overall colony numbers obtained with clonogenic assay of three samples of healthy bone marrow treated with two different concentrations of CD-160130 (5 and 10 μ M) are reported. The different colony fractions (CFU-GEMM, CFU-GM, CFU-G, CFU-M, CFU-E and BFU-E) for each group are reported. All the data were average \pm S.E.M.

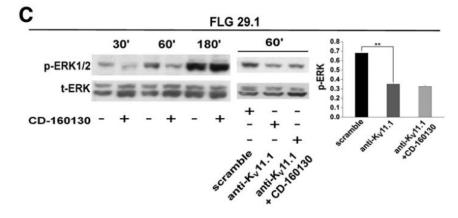
	Total CFU Number	CFU-GEMM Fraction	CFU-GM Fraction	CFU-G Fraction	CFU-M Fraction	BFU-E Fraction	CFU-E Fraction
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Control CD-160130 (5 μM) CD-160130 (10 μM)	$\begin{array}{c} 100\\ 97\ \pm\ 5.2\\ 75\ \pm\ 8.8\end{array}$	$5 \pm 1 \\ 5.5 \pm 1.5 \\ 4 \pm 1$	$\begin{array}{c} 19.5\ \pm\ 2.5\\ 21.5\ \pm\ 2.5\\ 18\ \pm\ 1\end{array}$	$egin{array}{c} 15 \pm 3 \ 14 \pm 3 \ 13 \pm 3 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 31\ \pm\ 3\\ 28.5\ \pm\ 2.5\\ 25\ \pm\ 1\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 7 \pm 1 \\ 6.5 \pm 0.5 \\ 9 \pm 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 22.5 \pm 1.5 \\ 24 \pm 2 \\ 31 \pm 1 \end{array}$

BFU, burst forming unit.

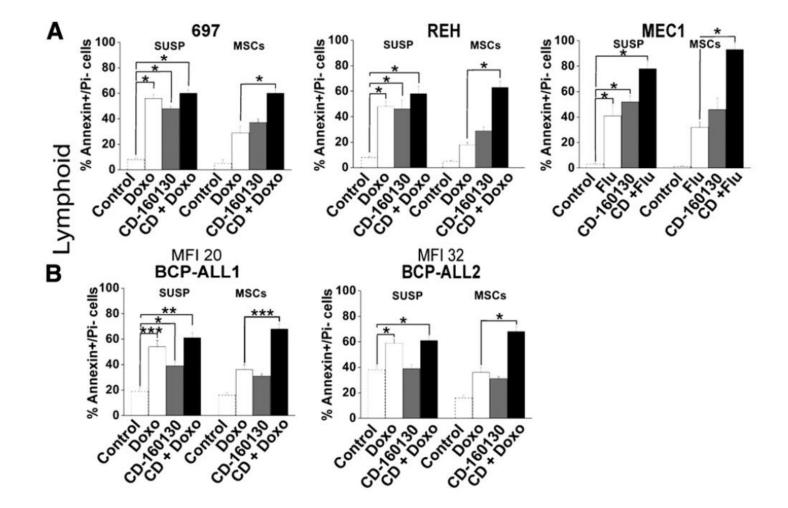
CD 160130 interpheres with signalling pathways (in vitro)



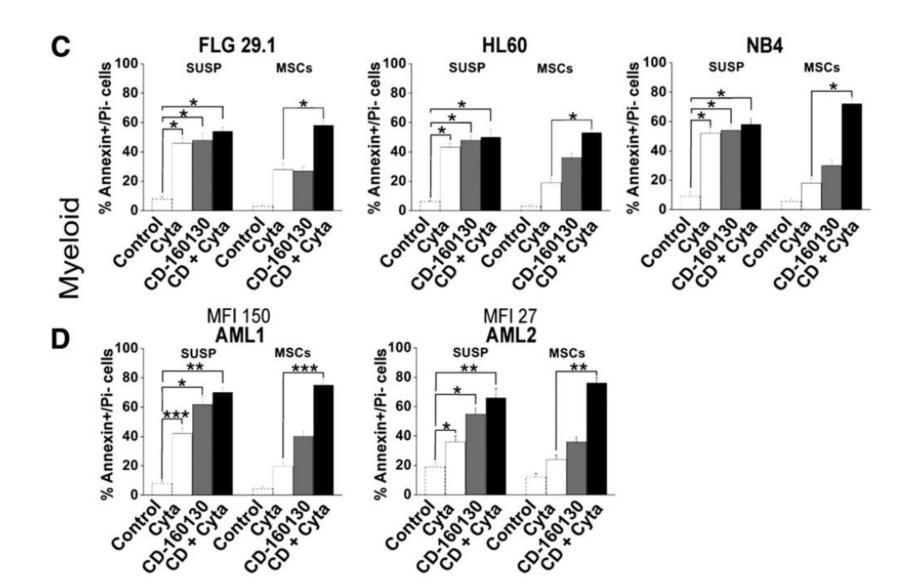




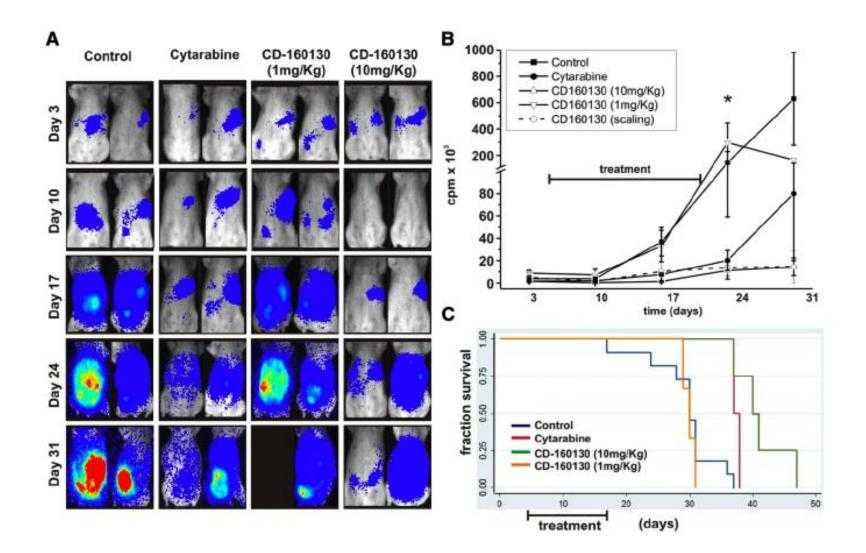
....and overcomes chemoresistance (in vitro) ALL

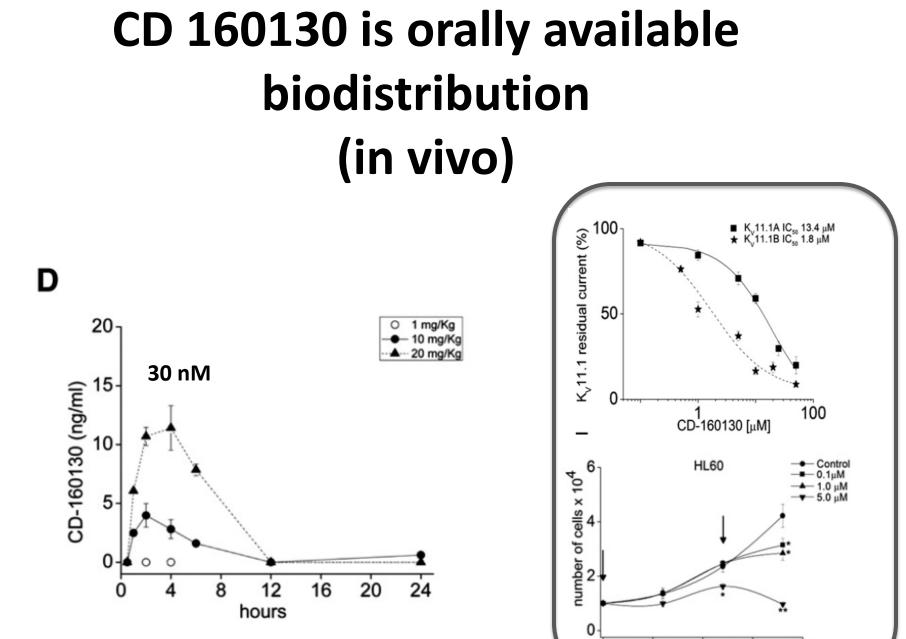


AML



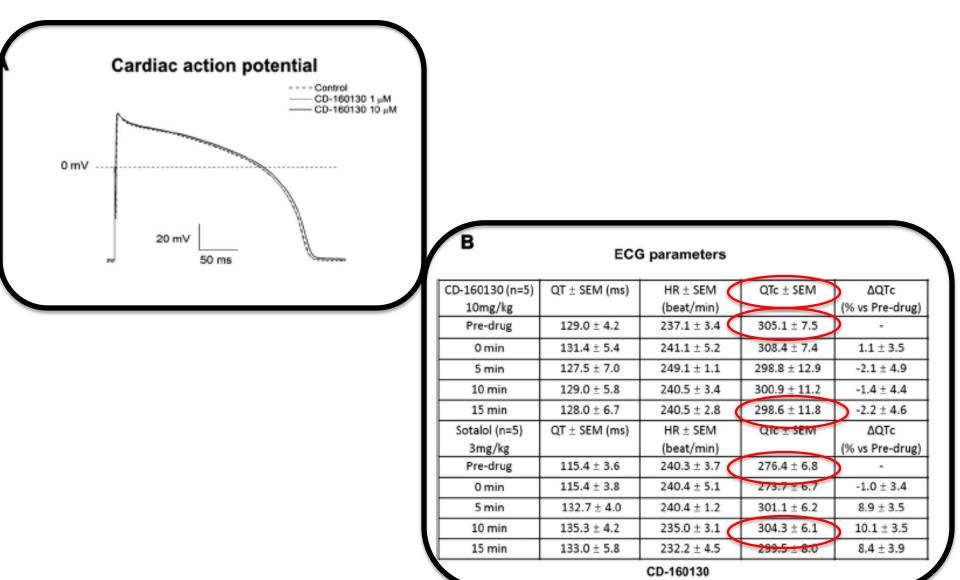
CD 160130 is cytotoxic for leukemias (in vivo)



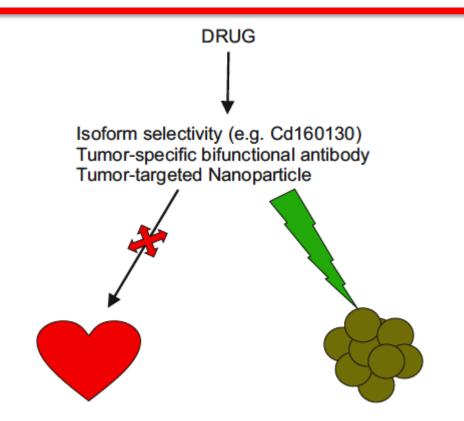


hours

CD 160130 does not induce cardiac side effects (in guinea pigs)



The characterization of CD-160130 opens the way to the development of compounds with a higher selectivity for the different Kv 11.1 isoforms, accompanied by inhibitory action on the chemotherapy resistant leukemia forms and negligible QT liability



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