Molecular Pathological **Epidemiology (MPE): Novel Integrative Pathology Science** (9/24/12.50 min) Shuji Ogino, MD, PhD, MS (Epidemiology) **Associate Professor of Pathology** Harvard Medical School **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Brigham and Women's Hospital**

Associate Professor (Dept of Epidemiology) Harvard School of Public Health I have no conflict of interest



This lecture is co-sponsored by AMP (Association for Molecular Pathology)



Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP)

A not-for-profit international society dedicated to molecular pathology and diagnostics

AMP: Background

- Member # from 50 (in 1995) to 2200 now !!!
- Why so successful?
 - AMP encompasses ALL human disease areas, including genetic, infectious and neoplastic diseases.
 - AMP includes all professionals and trainees in molecular diagnostics

Membership Benefits

- Members around the world
 - -We have common goals
 - -Online community functions every day
- Trainees can get networking and mentoring
- Networking

-Meetings; committees; online community

Education

-Meetings; courses; webinars

 Subscription to The Journal of Molecular Diagnostics

Who Should Join AMP?

Anyone who is interested in molecular pathology and diagnostics

www.amp.org

Molecular Pathological Epidemiology (MPE)

Concepts



MPE = integrated (molecular pathology / epidemiology) science

Reviews on growing MPE paradigms

- Ogino et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2010
- Ogino et al. Gut 2011
- Ogino et al. Nat Rev Clin Oncol 2011
- Ogino et al. Int J Epidemiol 2012
- Ogino et al. Expert Rev Mol Diagn. 2012
- Ogino, King, et al. Am J Epidemiol. 2012
 Kuller Am J Epidemiol. 2012
 - -Kuller. Am J Epidemiol. 2012

-Ogino, Beck, et al. Am J Epidemiol. 2012

• N Engl J Med 2012 in press

Adjectival relations



Molecular Pathological Epidemiology

MPE (Molecular Pathological Epidemiology)

- Nice acronym is a key in science
 DNA
 PCR
 - -SNP

Pathology and Epidemiology

 Pathology - disease mechanisms at molecular and cellular level

 Epidemiology - disease distribution at population level

 MPE has both strengths (molecular and population-level science)

Molecular Pathological Epidemiology (MPE)





Molecular

&

Population-level

Molecular Pathological Epidemiology (MPE)





Molecular & Population-level

Physics







Provides idea for etiologic factors

Educates proper study design

Educates statistical and causal inference

Provides idea for etiologic factors

Provides mechanistic and pathogenic insights

Helps refine risk for molecular subtype \rightarrow evidence for causality



Ogino, et al. Am J Epidemiol. 2012

Epidemiology education is good for pathology

- Pathologists can learn
 - Proper study design
 - Sources of bias and confounding
 - Statistical analysis
 - Statistical inference

Epidemiology education is good in pathology

 You will never write "we used "UNSELECTED series of 200 breast cancers"

- All cases in your series are selected by you!
 - Selection bias

Epidemiology education is good in pathology

• What is a "P value"?

Epidemiology education is good in pathology

Pathology will become stronger science

 Integrative Molecular Pathological Epidemiology (MPE) will develop further

MPE is based on this principle:

Each individual has unique disease process

Each of us is unique

Each disease process is unique

Ogino et al. Nat Rev Clin Oncol 2011 Ogino et al. Expert Rev Mol Diagn 2012

Each baby is unique







???









Tumor cells always interact with host cells





Colon cancer

Breast cancer



Stroma can change tumor phenotype

- HGF from stromal cells makes melanoma resistant to RAF inhibitor
 - Straussman et al. Nature 2012

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature11183

Tumour micro-environment elicits innate resistance to RAF inhibitors through HGF secretion

Ravid Straussman¹, Teppei Morikawa², Kevin Shee¹, Michal Barzily–Rokni¹, Zhi Rong Qian², Jinyan Du¹, Ashli Davis¹, Margaret M. Mongare¹, Joshua Gould¹, Dennie T. Frederick³, Zachary A. Cooper³, Paul B. Chapman⁴, David B. Solit^{4,5}, Antoni Ribas^{6,7}, Roger S. Lo^{7,8}, Keith T. Flaherty³, Shuji Ogino^{2,9}, Jennifer A. Wargo³ & Todd R. Golub^{1,10,11,12}

Stroma can change tumor phenotype

 HGF from stromal cells makes melanoma resistant to RAF inhibitor

> **STRÖMMA** KANALBOLAGET

Straussman et al. Nati

Tumour micro-environm to RAF inhibitors through

LETTER

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Molecular Pathological Epidemiology (MPE)

How to do



Ogino et al. Gut 2011

Etiologic factor



MPE - next step of GWAS (genome-wide association studies)

- Heterogeneous subtypes were lumped together into 1 disease category
- Functional significance of most variants is uncertain
- Effect size is very small (eg, OR=1.1)

"GWAS-MPE Approach"



Ogino et al. Gut 2011

MPE study design



Most recently, N Engl J Med 2012: in press First done by Ogino et al. J Clin Oncol 2008 (FASN x BMI) An Overview of Our MPE Database

Prospective Cohort Studies



Nurses' Health Study (N=121,000) Health Professionals Follow-up Study (N=51,500) Exposures (diet, lifestyle, etc.) Family history Plasma biomarkers SNPs

Information was collected before tumor developed, to avoid recall bias
Nurses' Health Study (N=121,000) Health Professionals Follow-up Study (N=51,500)

Exposures (diet, lifestyle, etc.) Family history Plasma biomarkers SNPs



Nurses' Health Study (N=121,000) Health Professionals Follow-up Study (N=51,500)

Exposures (diet, lifestyle, etc.) Family history Plasma biomarkers SNPs



Omics analyses (FFPE)

- Tumor FFPE tissue
 - Genome-wide mRNA expression
 - Waldron et al. Clin Cancer Res in press
 - Whole exome sequencing
 - Copy number assay
 - Methylome sequencing
 - Microbiome (FFPE tumor and stool)
- Blood
 - Whole genome SNPs (for GWAS)



Building great database = big science Why is "data-omics" important?

Point: Hypotheses First
R Weinberg. Nature 2010

Counterpoint: Data First
T Golub. Nature 2010



(All?) chronic multifactorial diseases

Molecular pathological epidemiology (MPE) data

Just several examples

- Aspirin use -> PTGS2 (cyclooxygenase-2) in CRC
 - Chan et al. N Engl J Med 2007
- Aspirin use x PTGS2 -> CRC survival
 - Chan et al. JAMA 2009
- Folate and alcohol intake -> TP53 in CRC
 - Schernhammer et al. Gastroenterology 2008
- Folate and alcohol -> LINE-1 methylation in CRC
 - Schernhammer et al. Gut 2010
- Obesity -> FASN in CRC
 - Kuchiba et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2012
- Obesity x FASN -> CRC survival
 - Ogino et al. J Clin Oncol 2008
- Obesity and exercise x CTNNB1 -> CRC survival
 - Morikawa et al. JAMA 2011

Inflammation

Aspirin

Aspirin decreases colorectal cancer risk
Aspirin inhibits PTGS2 (cyclooxygenase-2)

 Hypothesis: Aspirin prevents PTGS2+ cancer



Chan et al. NEJM 2007; JAMA 2009



Aspirin and PTGS2

- Aspirin inhibits PTGS2(+) tumor progression
- PTGS2 is a predictive biomarker for response to aspirin
- Provide information for clinical decision making!
 - You don't want to give aspirin to all patients

Chan et al. JAMA 2009

Epigenetics

Global DNA (LINE-1) hypomethylation

Activation of oncogenes

Chromosomal instability (CIN)
– LINE-1 is a transposable element



(Long Interspersed Nucleotide Element-1)

Repetitive elements, ~400,000 copies

Occupies 20% of the human genome

LINE-1 hypomethylation: Uniform alterations across cancers

- Colorectal cancer
- Prostate cancer
 - Yegnasubramanian et al. Cancer Res 2008
- Ovarian cancer
 - Pattamadilok et al. Int J Gynecol Ca 2008
- Leukemia (CML)
 - Roman-Gomez et al. Oncogene 2005
- Pancreatic endocrine tumors / carcinoid
 - Choi et al. Mod Pathol 2007
- GIST (gastrointenstinal stromal tumor)
 - Igarashi et al. Clin Cancer Res 2010

Why study global change?

Gene A hypomethylation

Disease Response





Global hypoM - conductor Locus-specific changes - players

LINE-1 methylation in 1200 tumors shows ~normal distribution



LINE-1 methylation level (%)

LINE-1 Hypomethylation is the Best Molecular Prognosticator



Ogino et al. J Natl Cancer Inst 2008

Is LINE-1 hypomethylation non-random or stochastic?

Synchronous colorectal cancers provide a unique model to examine carcinogenic process



Nosho et al. Gastroenterology 2009

LINE-1 methylation levels in synchronous cancer pairs



Nosho et al. Gastroenterology 2009

LINE-1 hypoM is not stochastic Field effect vs.

Common genetic/environmental etiologies



Nosho et al. Gastroenterology 2009

What causes LINE-1 hypomethylation?

Genetics?

Familial history of colorectal cancer (CRC)

 Lynch syndrome - microsatellite instability (MSI)-high CRC

 Some MSS (microsatellite stable) CRC in familial cases showed LINE-1 hypomethylation

• Goel et al. Gastroenterology 2010

Family history of colorectal cancer (CRC)



Family history of CRC \rightarrow Risk of MSS cancer (by LINE-1 methylation level)



LINE-1 hypomethylation

- LINE-1 methylation test can be a routine test for all CRC (just as MSI testing)
 - Poor prognosis
 - Familial cancer risk

CpG Island Methylator Phenotype (CIMP)

- Epigenomic phenomenon
- Widespread CpG island methylation
 - Toyota et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci 1999

CIMP -> *MLH1* promoter methylation -> microsatellite instability (MSI)

BRAF mutation

Why study global change?

Gene A hypermethylation

Disease Response





CIMP - conductor Locus-specific changes - players

Colorectal Continuum Theory (2012)

Yamauchi, et al. Gut 2012
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Assessment of colorectal cancer molecular features along bowel subsites challenges the conception of distinct dichotomy of proximal versus distal colorectum

Mai Yamauchi,¹ Teppei Morikawa,¹ Aya Kuchiba,¹ Yu Imamura,¹ Zhi Rong Qian,¹ Reiko Nishihara,¹ Xiaoyun Liao,¹ Levi Waldron,^{2,3} Yujin Hoshida,⁴ Curtis Huttenhower,² Andrew T Chan,^{5,6} Edward Giovannucci,^{6,7,8} Charles Fuchs,^{1,6} Shuji Ogino^{1,9}

Colorectal cancer: a tale of two sides or a continuum?

Mai Yamauchi,¹ Paul Lochhead,¹ Teppei Morikawa,¹ Curtis Huttenhower,² Andrew T Chan,^{3,4} Edward Giovannucci,^{4,5} Charles Fuchs,^{1,4} Shuji Ogino^{1,6}

Both Gut 2012



 Proximal colon cancers show higher frequencies of CIMP, MSI and BRAF mutation than distal cancers

 "<u>Distinct genetics and epigenetics in</u> proximal vs. distal cancers"



 On Saturday at Nobel Museum, I found interesting words:

Scientific truth undergoes 3 steps

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- Scientific truth undergoes 3 steps
- People say it conflicts with Bible
- People say it was discovered by someone else
- People say we always believed it

Colon is a continuous tube



Gut contents probably change gradually (not abruptly)

Luminal contents (and host-tumormicrobe interaction) are important in carcinogenesis

Genomic analysis identifies association of *Fusobacterium* with colorectal carcinoma

Aleksandar D. Kostic,^{1,2} Dirk Gevers,¹ Chandra Sekhar Pedamallu,^{1,3} Monia Michaud,⁴ Fujiko Duke,^{1,3} Ashlee M. Earl,¹ Akinyemi I. Ojesina,^{1,3} Joonil Jung,¹ Adam J. Bass,^{1,3} Josep Tabernero,⁵ José Baselga,⁵ Chen Liu,⁶ Ramesh A. Shivdasani,³ Shuji Ogino,^{2,3,7} Bruce W. Birren,¹ Curtis Huttenhower,^{1,8} Wendy S. Garrett,^{1,3,4} and Matthew Meyerson^{1,2,3,9}

Fusobacterium nucleatum infection is prevalent in human colorectal carcinoma

Mauro Castellarin,^{1,2,6} René L. Warren,^{1,6} J. Douglas Freeman,¹ Lisa Dreolini,¹ Martin Krzywinski,¹ Jaclyn Strauss,³ Rebecca Barnes,⁴ Peter Watson,⁴ Emma Allen-Vercoe,³ Richard A. Moore,^{1,5} and Robert A. Holt^{1,2,7}

Genome Res 2012

(Significant medical breakthrough. Time's 2011 Top 10 Story)



Colon Continuum Hypothesis:

The frequency of CIMP increases continuously to proximal segments

Data on 1443 colorectal cancers





Data on 1443 colorectal cancers









Implications of colorectal continuum

- Doubt dogmas!
- Gut microbiota and microenvironment
- We need a big sample size to examine gut biogeography
 - More collaborations are needed!
- For other diseases, consider biogeography

 Lung cancer, GYN cancer, skin cancer, etc.

Summary 1

Each individual has unique disease process

Molecular disease classification is essential

Summary 2

"Molecular Pathological Epidemiology (MPE)"
 – High dimensional data

MPE will become a mainstream of epidemiology

- MPE can decipher diseases at both the molecular and population levels
- Validated molecular markers can be used for personalized medicine

Summary 3

- Pathologists have increasing roles in broader areas of science
- Pathologists and epidemiologists can teach each other
- Pathologists should learn epidemiology
 - Proper study design
 - Proper statistical analysis and inference (what is a P value?)

Novel Integrative Science of Molecular Pathological Epidemiology (MPE) of Cancer

> Register now for the live webinar on November 13, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. EST (USA) / 4:00 p.m. CET

> > Sponsored by QIAGEN

I will be around Please come to me Let's discuss!

Acknowledgements #2

- NHS (n=121,700) and HPFS (n=51,500) prospective cohort participants
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