

## Understanding the mechanistic link between idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and lung cancer

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## Smoking remains the biggest risk factor for Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)





# IPF results in Irreversible Lung Damage



Normal healthy lung tissue is soft and flexible, allowing easy breathing In IPF, the lung tissue is damaged, becoming scarred over time. This process is called fibrosis



As IPF gets worse, scarring spreads through the lungs which makes breathing more difficult. Once the lung tissue is damaged from progressive scarring, unfortunately it doesn't recover



# Around 20% of IPF patients develop lung cancer within 10 years of diagnosis



Kato et al, ERJ Open Res. 2018 Jan; 4(1): 00111-2016.

# Identification of the mechanistic links between IPF and lung cancer



Adapted from Balla et al, J.Radiation and Cancer Research, 2018, Vol (9), Page 165-176 and Nature reviews.

# TGF-B in Lung Fibrosis



Isis E. Fernandez et al, ATS, Vol. 9, No. 3 | Jul 15, 2012

# Tumor Promoting Milieu in IPF?



## Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis associated Lung cancer (IPF-LC) Mouse Model



Groups	Inducer	Doses
Healthy lung	-bleo/-LLC-1 luc	Vehicle controls
Fibrotic lung	+bleo/-LLC-1 luc	0.5 mg/kg bleomycin
Lung cancer	-bleo/+LLC-1 luc	1x10^6 LLC-1 luciferase expressing cells
Fibrous and cancerous lung	+bleo/+LLC-1 luc	0.5 mg/kg bleo/1x10^6 cells

## Quantitative assessment of lung structure with disease by micro CT





Lung Redering

# Increased severity of lung cancer in fibrous lungs







# Tumor Progression Correlates With CD11b+ Macrophages in Lungs of IPF-LC mice



# Analyzing TIME in IPF-LC





Collaboration with Drs. Pasca di Magliano and Frankel

### Transcriptome changes in COPD-associated lung cancer

#### Highly enriched genes <u>upregulated</u> in COPD associated lung cancer compared to COPD (p<0.05)



## Transgenic mouse model for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF)



# TGF-alpha inducible IPF mouse model recapitulates human disease



# Pleural fibrosis







#### $\textbf{CCSP-rtTA^{+/-}/TGF-}\alpha^{+/-}$

## Reversibility of TGF-alpha-induced pulmonary fibrosis



Hardie WD et al, Am J Respir Cell Mol Biol. 2007 Sep; 37(3): 309-321.

# Inducible Kras\* and mutant p53 lung cancer model



Fisher et al, Genes Dev. 2001 Dec 15; 15(24): 3249-3262.

# Simultaneous activation of Kras\* and p53R172H leads to adenocarcinomas



Controls: single transgenic mice on doxycycline

# Kras\* is required for tumor maintenance of adenocarcinomas



# Number of lesions is similar between 'Kras\* ON' an 'Kras\* ON, P53 ON' mice



# Survival disadvantage due to development of metastases?



Controls: single transgenic mice on doxycycline

## Development of an Inducible IPF-associated Lung Cancer Mouse Model





#### Genetic makeup of the 'consecutive IPF-LC' mouse model



## Summary and Future Directions

- Developed IPF-LC mouse models
- Evaluated the lung microenvironment
- Determine the tumor immune microenvironment and metabolomic landscape of IPF-LC.
- Evaluate immune check point-based therapies.
- Determine transcriptomic profiles of murine IPF-LC and patient IPF associated lung cancer tissue.



TIME Promotes Tumors in IPF-LC

## Radiation induced lung toxicity (RILT)

## Radiation induces pneumonitis



### Pre-existing fibrosis exacerbated RILT

Expiration [-1000HU 250HU]



Inspiration [-1000HU 250HU]





Parametric Response Map



Collaboration with Craig Galban, Rocky Owen, Martha Matuszak, Caitlin Schonewolf, Shruti Jolly.

## Evaluate the mechanisms of pre-existing inflammation in RT in mouse lung cancer model



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## Assess pre-RT serum- and tissue based inflammatory markers as indicators of pre-existing co-morbidity



RNA seq

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Rocky Owen Martha Matuszak, Caitlin Schonewolf Shruti Jolly

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