

1 **Discordant inheritance of chromosomal and extrachromosomal DNA elements**
2 **contributes to dynamic disease evolution in glioblastoma**

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39 **ABSTRACT**

40 To understand how genomic heterogeneity of glioblastoma (GBM) contributes to the
41 poor response to therapy, which is characteristic of this disease, we performed DNA
42 and RNA sequencing on GBM tumor samples and the neurospheres and orthotopic
43 xenograft models derived from them. We used the resulting data set to show that
44 somatic driver alterations including single nucleotide variants, focal DNA alterations,
45 and oncogene amplification in extrachromosomal DNA (ecDNA) elements were in
46 majority propagated from tumor to model systems. In several instances, ecDNAs and
47 chromosomal alterations demonstrated divergent inheritance patterns and clonal
48 selection dynamics during cell culture and xenografting. Longitudinal patient tumor
49 profiling showed that oncogenic ecDNAs are frequently retained after disease
50 recurrence. Our analysis shows that extrachromosomal elements increase the genomic
51 heterogeneity during tumor evolution of glioblastoma, independent of chromosomal
52 DNA alterations.

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54

55 INTRODUCTION

56 Cancer genomes are subject to continuous mutagenic processes in combination with an
57 insufficient DNA damage repair ¹. Somatic genomic variants that are acquired prior to
58 and throughout tumorigenesis may provide cancer cells with a competitive advantage
59 over their neighboring cells in the context of a nutrition- and oxygen-poor
60 microenvironment, resulting in increased survival and/or proliferation rates ². The
61 Darwinian evolutionary process results in intratumoral heterogeneity in which single
62 cancer-cell-derived tumor subclones are characterized by unique somatic alterations ³.
63 Chemotherapy and ionizing radiation may enhance intratumoral evolution by eliminating
64 cells lacking the ability to deal with increased levels of genotoxic stress, while targeted
65 therapy may favor subclones in which the targeted vulnerability is absent ^{4,5}. Increased
66 clonal heterogeneity has been associated with tumor progression and mortality ⁶.
67 Computational methods that analyze the allelic fraction of somatic variants identified
68 from high throughput sequencing data sets are able to infer clonal population structures
69 and provide insights into the level of intratumoral clonal variance ⁷.

70 Glioblastoma (GBM), a WHO grade IV astrocytoma, is the most prevalent and
71 aggressive primary central nervous system tumor. GBM is characterized by poor
72 response to standard post-resection radiation and cytotoxic therapy, resulting in dismal
73 prognosis with a 2 year survival rate around 15% ⁸. The genomic and transcriptomic
74 landscape of GBM has been extensively described ⁹⁻¹¹. Intratumoral heterogeneity in
75 GBM has been well characterized, in particular with respect to somatic alterations
76 affecting receptor tyrosine kinases ¹²⁻¹⁴. To evaluate how genomically heterogeneous
77 tumor cell populations are affected by selective pressures arising from the transitions
78 from tumor to culture to xenograft, we performed a comprehensive genomic and
79 transcriptomic analysis of thirteen GBMs, the glioma-neurosphere forming cultures
80 (GSC) derived from them, and orthotopic xenograft models (PDX) established from
81 early passage neurospheres. Our results highlight the evolutionary process of GBM
82 cells, placing emphasis on the diverging dynamics of chromosomal DNA alterations and
83 extrachromosomally amplified DNA elements in tumor evolution.

84

85 RESULTS

86 **Genomic profiling of glioblastoma, derived neurosphere and PDX samples**

87 We established neurosphere cultures from 12 newly diagnosed and one matched
88 recurrent GBM (Table 1). Neurosphere cultures between 7 and 18 passages were used
89 for molecular profiling and engrafting orthotopically into nude mice. The sample cohort
90 included one pair of primary (HF3016) and matching recurrent (HF3177) GBM. A
91 schematic overview of our study design is presented in Fig. 1a. To determine whether
92 model systems capture the somatic alterations that are thought to drive gliomagenesis,
93 and whether there is selection for specific driver genes, we performed whole genome
94 sequencing at a median depth of 6.5X to determine genome wide DNA copy number as
95 well as exome sequencing on all samples. DNA copy number was generally highly
96 preserved between tumor and derived model systems (Supplementary Fig. 1). Whole
97 chromosome 7 gain and chromosome 10 loss were retained in model systems when
98 detected in the tumor, consistent with their proposed role as canonical GBM lesions that
99 occur amongst the earliest events in gliomagenesis¹⁵. The global DNA copy number
100 resemblance between xenografts and the GBM from which they were derived confirms
101 that PDXs recapitulate the majority of molecular properties found in the original tumor.
102 We compared mutation and DNA copy number status of genes previously found to be
103 significantly mutated, gained, or lost in GBM^{9,11}. We found that 100% of homozygous
104 deletions and somatic single nucleotide variants (sSNVs) affecting GBM driver genes in
105 tumor samples were propagated to the neurospheres and xenografts, including non-
106 coding variants in the *TERT* promoter (Fig. 1b). Genomic amplifications showed greater
107 heterogeneity. In two cases, *MYC* amplification was not detected in the parental tumor,
108 but presented in the derivative neurospheres and maintained in xenografts, consistent
109 with its role in glioma stem cell maintenance^{16,17}. Other genes showing variable
110 representation across tumor and model systems included *MET* in HF3035 and HF3077,
111 and *EGFR* and *PIK3CA* in HF2354. The HF2354 derived model systems were
112 considerably less similar compared to the primary tumor than other cases which
113 coincided with HF2354 being the only case subjected to neoadjuvant carmustine
114 treatment. Whole chromosome gains of chromosome 1, 14 and 21, and one copy loss
115 of chromosome 3, 8, 13, 15 and 18 were acquired in the neurosphere culture and
116 propagated to the xenograft models (Supplementary Fig. 1). At the gene level, this

117 resulted in newly detected mutations in *PTEN* and *TP53*, focal amplification of *MYC*
118 (also in HF3016), and absence of *CDK4* and *EGFR* amplification in the neurosphere
119 and xenografts relative to the tumor sample (Fig. 1b).

120

121 **Extrachromosomal elements are frequently found in glioblastoma**

122 Cytogeneticists have since long recognized that DNA in cancer can be amplified as part
123 of chromosomal homogenously staining regions (HSR) and as extrachromosomal minute
124 bodies ¹⁸. An early example of the importance of extrachromosomal DNA elements
125 (ecDNA) in cancer was the discovery of double minutes carrying the oncogene *N-MYC*
126 in neuroblastoma ¹⁹. A recent survey of a compendium of cancer cells and cell lines
127 highlighted the frequent presence of ecDNA in glioblastoma, among other cancer types,
128 ²⁰, confirming previous studies ²¹⁻²³. We searched our data set for complex patterns of
129 DNA copy number amplification and rearrangement that are suggestive of ecDNA
130 elements (Supplementary Fig. 2). On the basis of DNA copy number patterns we
131 predicted 74 ecDNAs originating from 21 unique genomic loci which were distributed
132 over ten of the thirteen patient tumors and their derived model systems. The predicted
133 ecDNA elements contained oncogenes including *MYC*, *MYCN*, *EGFR*, *PDGFRA*, *MET*,
134 the *MECOM/PIK3CA/SOX2* gene cluster and the *CDK4/MDM2* gene cluster. In total, 19
135 of the 21 unique oncogene carrying ecDNAs were detected in more than one sample,
136 i.e. in neurospheres and matching PDX or in tumor sample and matching neurosphere
137 or PDX (Fig. 2a). We performed interphase FISH on tumor samples and PDX, and
138 metaphase FISH on neurospheres to validate 34 predicted ecDNA amplifications,
139 including of *EGFR* (HF2927, HF3178, HF3016 and HF3177), *MYC* (HF2354, HF3016
140 and HF3177), *CDK4* (HF3055, HF3016 and HF3177), *MET* (HF3035 and HF3077),
141 *MDM2* (HF3055) and *PDGFRA* (HF3253). In all interphase FISH experiments we
142 observed a highly variable number of fluorescent signals per nucleus, ranging from two
143 to 100 (Fig. 2b, Supplementary Table 1). This heterogeneity was strongly suggestive of
144 differences in the number DNA copies of the targeted gene per cell and thereby of an
145 extrachromosomal DNA amplification. Metaphase FISH on neurosphere cells validated
146 the extrachromosomal status in all cases (Fig. 2b). Our analysis showed that oncogene
147 amplification frequently resided on extrachromosomal DNA elements.

148

149 **Extrachromosomal *MET* DNA elements mark a distinct tumor subclone**

150 Among the identified oncogene carrying ecDNA elements, two cases of
151 extrachromosomal *MET* amplification stood out due to their variable presence across
152 the parental tumor (high frequency), neurosphere (low frequency) and xenograft
153 triplicates (high frequency) (Fig. 3a). In both cases, the *MET* amplification associated
154 with a transcript fusion with neighboring gene *CAPZA2* (Fig. 3b, Supplementary Fig.
155 3a). The pattern of undetectable and re-appearing *MET* rearrangements may result
156 from clonal selection of glioblastoma cells with a competitive advantage for proliferation
157 *in vivo*. This hypothesis is strengthened by the observation that the breakpoints of the
158 lesions were identical across samples from the same parental origin (Supplementary
159 Fig. 3b). *MET* is a growth factor responsive cell surface receptor tyrosine kinase and
160 may provide context dependent proliferative signals²⁴. We reasoned that evolutionary
161 patterns resulting in such dominant clonal selection would likely be replicated by sSNVs
162 tracing the cells carrying the *MET* amplicon. To evaluate clonal selection patterns, we
163 determined variant allele fractions of all sSNVs identified across HF3035 and HF3077
164 samples. To increase our sensitivity to detect mutations present in small numbers of
165 cells, we corroborated the exome sequencing data using high coverage (>1,400x)
166 targeted sequencing. All mutations detected in the HF3035 GBM were recovered in the
167 neurosphere and xenografts. The mutational profile of HF3035 suggested that a
168 subclone developed in the xenografts that was not present in parental GBM and
169 neurosphere and revealed a subclone that was present at similar frequencies in all
170 samples (Fig. 3c). Only a single and very low frequency *LAMB1* mutation (variant allele
171 fraction in tumor = 0.003) present in the HF3077 primary tumor, but not detected in its
172 derived neurosphere, resurfaced in one of three xenografts with a 0.04 variant allele
173 fraction. A low frequency subclone (C2) developed in the neurosphere which was
174 transmitted to xenografts (Fig. 3c). Subclonal heterogeneity as recovered by the
175 mutation profiles thus suggested a very different clonal selection trend compared to to
176 the disappearing and resurfacing *MET* amplifications and associated transcript fusions.
177 EcDNAs are thought to inherit through random distribution over the two daughter cells²⁵,
178 possibly through a binomial model²⁶, but much is unknown with respect to the

179 propagation of ecDNA through cancer cell populations. The disjointed propagation of
180 chromosomal SNVs and extrachromosomal *MET* ecDNAs indicate that they are
181 marking different tumor subclones and suggest alternative modes of tumor evolution.
182 While sSNVs are copied to daughter cells during mitosis such that both cells inherit the
183 full spectrum of chromosomal alterations present in the parental cell, ecDNA elements
184 likely randomly segregate and end up in the daughter cells in uneven numbers.

185 MET expressing cells exhibited MET activation and were selected early during
186 tumor formation in the orthotopic xenografts (Supplementary Fig. 3c), suggesting that
187 MET activity was driving selection for *MET* amplified cells in vivo. Treatment of HF3077
188 PDX with ATP-competitive MET inhibitor capmatinib (INCB28060)²⁷ at a daily oral dose
189 of 30 mg/kg showed a significant survival benefit, despite the relatively low
190 concentration of drug in the brain tumor as assessed by LC-MS/MS (Fig. 3d). In
191 contrast, capmatinib treatment of HF3035 PDX did not increase survival nor decrease
192 MET expression but resulted in decrease of phospho-MET in treated tumors. This may
193 reflect MET functions that are independent of the kinase activity in these tumors, as
194 previously proposed^{28,29}. These results demonstrate that targeting MET in GBM
195 harboring *MET* ecDNA amplification has therapeutic potential, but MET amplification
196 alone is not a predictor of response to single agent ATP-competitive inhibitor treatment.
197 Comparable to the orthotopic xenografts, subcutaneous PDX tumors formed from
198 implant of HF3035 neurosphere cells were dominated by *MET*-amplified cells
199 accompanied by robust MET expression (Supplementary Fig. 3c). The increase in the
200 frequency of *MET*-amplification in HF3035 cells in vivo are therefore not dependent on
201 factors uniquely present in the brain microenvironment.

202 Different genetic origins for ecDNA have been postulated, with evidence for post-
203 replicative excision of chromosomal fragments and non-homologous end joining³⁰.
204 Interphase FISH analysis in the parental HF3077 tumor identified a small percentage of
205 nuclei with 3 copies of chromosome 7 but only 2 copies of *MET*. The frequency of cells
206 with one deleted copy of *MET* in Ch 7 increased significantly in HF3077 neurospheres
207 and decreased in the xenografts (Supplementary Table 1). The observed gene deletion
208 in one copy of chromosome 7 is suggestive of the post-replication segregation-based
209 model of double minute formation³⁰. To precisely define the genomic contents and

210 structure of the predicted double minutes, we generated long read (Pacific Biosciences)
211 DNA sequencing from a single xenograft of each HF3035 and HF3077, and performed
212 *de novo* assembly. In HF3035, seven assembled contigs (range: 6,466 ~ 135,621 bp)
213 were identified to have sequence fragments (at least 1,000 bp long) aligned on the
214 *MET-CAPZA2* region of hg19 chromosome 7. Interestingly, analysis of the aligned
215 sequence fragments from the seven contigs revealed a more complex structural
216 rearrangement than expected from the analysis of short read sequencing data. For
217 example, the 135kb tig01170337 contig consisted of 8 sequence fragments that were
218 nonlinearly aligned on alternating strands of the *MET-CAPZA2* and *CNTNAP2* regions.
219 Other contigs such as tig01170699, tig01170325, and tig00000023 also showed
220 nonlinear alignment, suggesting that these contigs resulted from chromosomal
221 structural variations. We performed pairwise sequence comparison of the contigs to
222 search for sequence fragments (at least 5,000 bp long) shared among them, and we
223 found four contigs each of which shared sequence fragments with one of the contigs.
224 Interestingly, three of them could be connected in a circular form using the shared
225 sequence fragments (Fig. 3e; Supplementary Fig. 4a), revealing a circular structure that
226 may represent the full double minute. In HF3077, only two contigs were detected to be
227 aligned on the *MET-CAPZA2* region of hg19 chromosome 7 (Fig. 3e; Supplementary
228 Fig. 4a). Presence of only two aligned contigs in HF3077 might be related to the lower
229 sequence coverage of the double minute structure, compared to HF3035 (34x vs 405x,
230 respectively) (Supplementary Fig. 4b). The longest contig, tig01141776 (183,455 bp
231 long), consisted of two segment fragments that were nonlinearly aligned over exon 1 of
232 *CAPZA2* and all except exons 3-5 of *MET*, suggesting that it resulted from structural
233 variations. The second short contig, tig01141835 (22,628 bp long), was aligned as a
234 whole over exon 3-5 of *MET*. Interestingly, connecting the two contigs created a circular
235 DNA segment. Through analysis of PacBio sequencing, we were able to detect and
236 reconstruct the predicted double minute structures.

237

238 **Multiple ecDNA elements are longitudinally preserved in a patient GBM and its**
239 **derivative model systems**

240 Analysis of a pair of primary and recurrent GBM included in our cohort, respectively
241 HF3016 and HF3177, showed that chromosomal and extrachromosomal elements
242 jointly orchestrated complex evolutionary dynamics (Fig. 4a). Primary and recurrent
243 tumor were globally very similar (Fig. 1b, Supplementary Fig. 1). While the HF3016
244 primary tumor showed diploid *MYC* DNA copy numbers, a focal *MYC* amplification was
245 detected in the neurosphere and PDXs derived from this tumor, and the same *MYC*
246 amplification was identified in all samples from the recurrent tumor (Fig. 4b).
247 Interestingly, FISH analysis showed that *MYC* amplification was present in low
248 frequency (2%) in the initial HF3016 tumor, and was enriched to 100% of nuclei in the
249 neurospheres and in the recurrent tumor (Fig. 4c, Supplementary Table 1). Metaphase
250 FISH analysis confirmed extrachromosomal *MYC* amplification in both HF3016 and
251 HF3177 neurospheres (Fig. 4c). The sSNV based clonal tracking plots for the paired
252 patient samples identified two subclones in the HF3177 recurrence (Fig. 4d) that were
253 not detected in the HF3016 neurosphere/PDX models, suggesting that these were
254 independent of the *MYC* ecDNA element. Of note, a 0.5% cell frequency amplification
255 was also detected in the parental tumor sample of HF2354, which increased to high
256 levels in the derived neurosphere. DNA copy number analysis detected parallel *EGFR*
257 and *CDK4* amplifications in the HF3016 primary GBM that were retained in HF3177
258 GBM recurrence as well as all model systems. Sequencing reads connecting the two
259 amplifications and suggesting a complex structural variant were detected in the HF3016
260 neurosphere, the HF3016 PDXs, all HF3177 samples, but not the HF3016 primary GBM
261 (Fig. 4e). Metaphase FISH on HF3016 neurosphere and HF3177 neurosphere
262 confirmed that the *CDK4* and *EGFR* amplifications were part of the same ecDNA
263 element (Fig. 4f). The genomic and extrachromosomal characteristics of these two
264 tumor samples, their derived neurosphere cultures and xenografts provide an example
265 of how multiple ecDNA elements are able to be preserved during tumor progression
266 while in parallel acquiring new tumor subclones marked by sets of chromosomal sSNVs.
267

268 **Longitudinal maintenance of extrachromosomal DNA in patient tumors**

269 Large, megabase sized double minutes are frequently found in glioblastoma and can be
270 identified using whole genome sequencing and DNA copy number data²¹⁻²³. To

271 determine whether extrachromosomal DNA can survive therapeutical barriers, we
272 evaluated the DNA copy number profiles of 58 matching pairs of primary and recurrent
273 glioma for the presence of ecDNAs⁴. Evidence supporting the presence of ecDNA was
274 found in 30 primary and 28 recurrent tumors spanning 34 patients and of these, ecDNA
275 elements targeting cancer driver genes³¹ were predicted in 22 primary tumors (Fig. 5a).
276 The most frequently targeted gene was *EGFR* which was identified in 11 primary
277 tumors, in agreement with previous reports^{20,22}. *CDK4*, *PDGFRA* were detected in six
278 and five primary tumors, respectively. We corroborated our computational predictions
279 through interphase FISH analyses of 17 predicted ecDNAs and 26 non-altered loci
280 across 6 primary/recurrent tumor pairs. Sixteen out of 17 genomic amplifications
281 showed the highly variable number of DNA signals that is strongly suggestive of the
282 extrachromosomal nature of the DNA locus (Fig. 5b, Supplementary Fig. 5a) whereas
283 the 26 control DNA regions predicted to be non-amplified were confirmed as such
284 (Supplementary Table 2). *EGFR* harboring ecDNA was preserved in the recurrent tumor
285 in 4 out 5 pairs, half of which carried EGFRvIII mutation, including the HF2934 recurrent
286 tumor analyzed after treatment with EGFR inhibitor dacomitinib (Fig. 5b, Supplementary
287 Table 2). One tumor lost *EGFR* ecDNA and vIII mutation upon recurrence (HF2829),
288 after treatment with the standard of care (radiation and temozolomide). In one case
289 *MET* ecDNA was present in the primary tumor and maintained in the recurrence, while
290 *MYC* ecDNA emerged upon recurrence, similar to what we reported above for the
291 HF3016/HF3177 pair. To corroborate 55 DNA copy number predicted ecDNAs, we
292 analysed whole genome and RNA sequencing data, which identified sequencing reads
293 connecting adjacent focally amplified DNA segments (Fig. 5c and Supplementary Fig.
294 5b) supporting the predictions. After disease recurrence, 19 of 22 tumors preserved at
295 least one cancer driver ecDNA, supporting the notion that ecDNA can prevail following
296 the selective pressure imposed by anti-cancer therapy. We did not detect any significant
297 correlations between somatic mutations and the presence of ecDNA. This analysis was
298 potentially limited by the cohort size and our sensitivity in detecting ecDNA.

299

300 Discussion

301 Glioblastoma is a heterogeneous disease that is highly resistant to chemo- and
302 radiotherapy. New modalities for treatment are urgently needed. Modeling of tumors
303 through cell culture and orthotopic xenotransplantation are essential approaches for
304 preclinical therapeutic target screening and validation, but in GBM have yet to result in
305 novel treatments. To what extent these models truthfully recapitulate the parental tumor
306 is a topic of active discussion. Here, we showed that neurosphere and orthotopic
307 xenograft tumor models are genomically similar, capturing over 80% of all genomic
308 alterations detected in the parental tumors.

309 EcDNA is increasingly recognized as playing an important role in tumorigenesis
310 and gliomagenesis in particular ^{20-23,30}. Our results provide direct evidence that ecDNA
311 enhance genomic diversity during tumor evolution, and show how ecDNA elements can
312 mark major clonal expansion in otherwise stable genomic background. Little is known
313 about the mechanism through which these elements arise and how they become fixed
314 across a cancer cell population. Our analysis provides a comprehensive study of the
315 fate of chromosomal SNVs and ecDNA oncogene amplifications in GBM in a panel of
316 tumors and derivative models. We further demonstrated the widespread presence of
317 ecDNA driven oncogene amplification through extensive FISH analysis on sets of
318 paired primary and recurrent tumor samples. Focal gene amplifications have
319 traditionally been recognized as homogeneously staining regions (HSR) and these may
320 originate from chromosomal insertions of ecDNA ²⁵. We did not observe HSR-like
321 staining patterns for the amplified genes in this study which suggests that this is not a
322 common mechanism for gene amplification in GBM. We captured the early stages of
323 *MYC* ecDNA expansion in the HF3016 and HF2354 tumors with 0.5-2% of cells
324 presenting amplification (<30 copies/nucleus), with no evidence of chromosomal based
325 gene amplification, while in all derived models, as well as the HF3016 recurrence
326 (HF3077), the frequency of *MYC* amplification increased to 100% of cells with up to 100
327 copies/nucleus. These results are consistent with an origin through excision of a *MYC*
328 containing chromosomal DNA segment and end-joining into a circular ecDNA, with
329 subsequent amplification of the ecDNA³⁰, followed by selection of *MYC*-amplified cells
330 *in vitro* and in the recurrent tumor. Spindle assembly and chromosome segregation
331 during mitosis lead to genetically identical daughter cells, containing similar sets of

332 chromosomal sSNVs and DNA copy number alterations. Double minutes/ecDNAs are
333 replicated during S-phase, but lack the centromeres that dictate the organization of the
334 mitotic spindle, and as a result are randomly distributed across the daughter cells during
335 mitosis. EcDNA elements thus inherit in a radically different fashion than chromosomes.
336 This divergence in inheritance mechanism may explain for example why the evolution of
337 the *MET* event was not similarly captured by sSNVs (Fig. 6), and shows that
338 extrachromosomal elements play a key role in increasing genomic diversity during
339 tumor evolution. Previous studies have found that extrachromosomal bodies can
340 provide a reservoir for therapeutically targetable genomic alterations³². Targeted MET
341 inhibition of *MET* amplified GBMs has shown clinical promise³³, although the variable
342 responses to MET inhibition recorded in our data suggest that single MET inhibiting
343 agent efficacy is influenced by other factors. Our observations extend recent findings
344 that ecDNA are frequently detected in cancer^{20,22} and demonstrate that detection of
345 point mutations alone is insufficient to accurately delineate tumor evolutionary process.
346 The disappearance of extrachromosomally amplified driver genes in neurosphere
347 cultures has been reported²³, but is not confirmed in our our data that show ecDNA
348 carrying amplification of *MYC*, *CDK4*, *EGFR*, and *PDGFRA* were maintained in
349 neurosphere cultures, at least up to passage 18.

350 Double minutes have been reported in 10-40% of GBM²¹⁻²³. These lesions
351 frequently involved genes on chromosome 12p, including *CDK4* and *MDM2*, span up to
352 several megabases in size, and can be recognized by an intermittent amplification-
353 deletion DNA copy number pattern. An important contribution of our work is in the size
354 of the ecDNA elements identified, which ranged from several kb to several Mb. Larger
355 ecDNAs are often characterized by an intermittent amplification-deletion DNA copy
356 number pattern²², but kb-sized single segment episomes can only be identified using
357 high throughput sequencing approaches³⁴ or DNA staining/FISH experiments²⁰ and are
358 therefore likely underreported. Whether ecDNA size and structure affects the
359 mechanism of tumorigenesis is unclear. Extrachromosomal DNA is an understudied
360 domain in cancer. Our analysis emphasizes the importance of this genomic alteration
361 category for gliomagenesis. Future studies that specifically target the formation of
362 episomal events may lead to therapies to prevent this process from happening. The

363 models we described here may play a pivotal role in evaluating the potential of such
364 approaches.

365

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381

382 **Author Information**

383 BAM files from exome sequencing, low pass whole genome sequencing and RNA
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385 Archive (EGA; <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/ega/>), which is hosted by the EBI and the CRG,
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388

389 **Supplementary Information**

390 Supplementary Figures, Methods, and Supplementary Tables are available as
391 supplementary data.

392

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468

469

470 **Table 1.** Clinical characteristics of GBM patients included in this study.

Sample	Pathology	Age/ Gender	Rx prior to surgery	MGMT	OS (days)	TTP (days)
HF2354	GBM	61/M	BCNU	U	196	60
HF2587	GBM	56/F	untreated	M	360	232
HF2927	GBM	55/F	untreated	U	664	566
HF3016	GBM	45/M	untreated	U	649	88
HF3177	rGBM4		RT/TMZ/DCVax	U		
HF3035	GBM	54/F	untreated	U	352	196
HF3055	GBM	58/M	untreated	U	371	77
HF3077	GBM	56/F	untreated	U	465	54
HF3160	GBM	21/F	untreated	M	1018	100
HF3178	GBM	65/M	untreated	U	189	138
HF3203	GBM	64/M	untreated	U	425	276
HF3216	GBM	76/M	untreated	U	94	
HF3253	GBM	82/F	untreated	U	68	

471 Rx: treatment; MGMT: *MGMT* gene promoter methylation status, U = unmethylated, M =
 472 methylated; OS: overall survival; TTP: time to progression.

473

a.

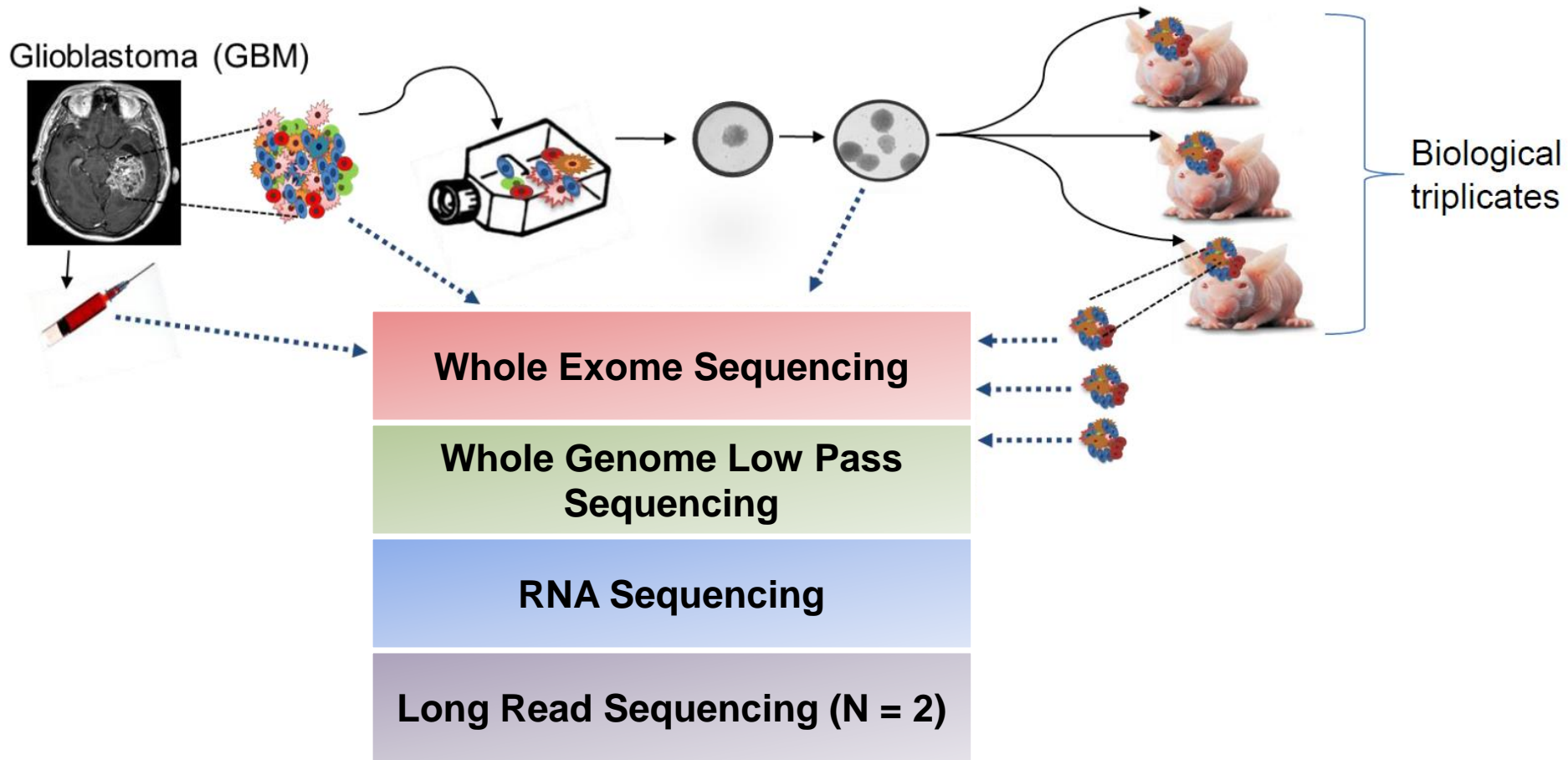


Figure 1. Comprehensive comparison of GBM, derived neurospheres and PDX models. a. Schematic study overview.

b.

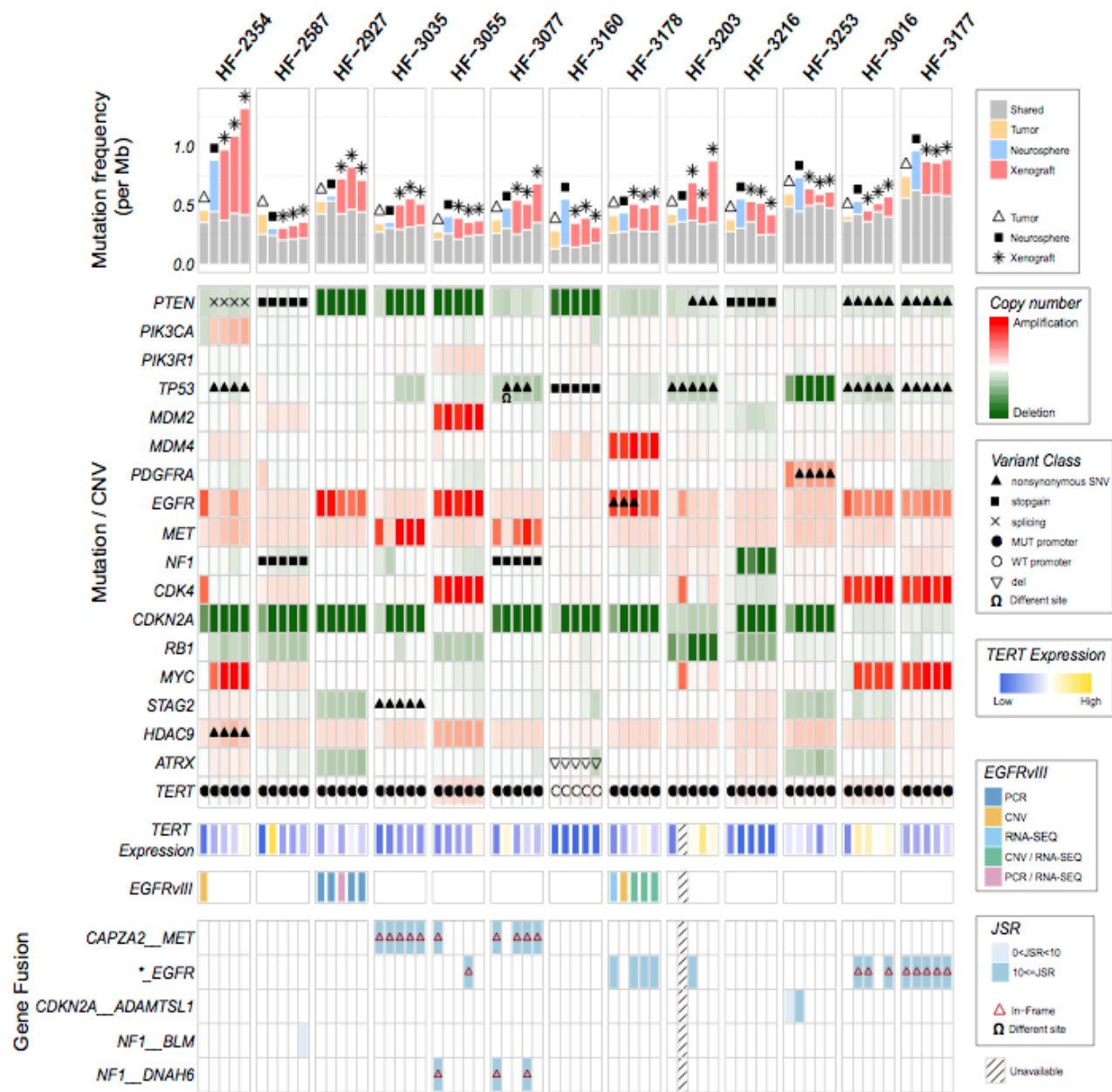


Figure 1. Comprehensive comparison of GBM, derived neurospheres and PDX models (cont'd). b. Somatic driver alterations compared between GBM tumors and derivative model systems.

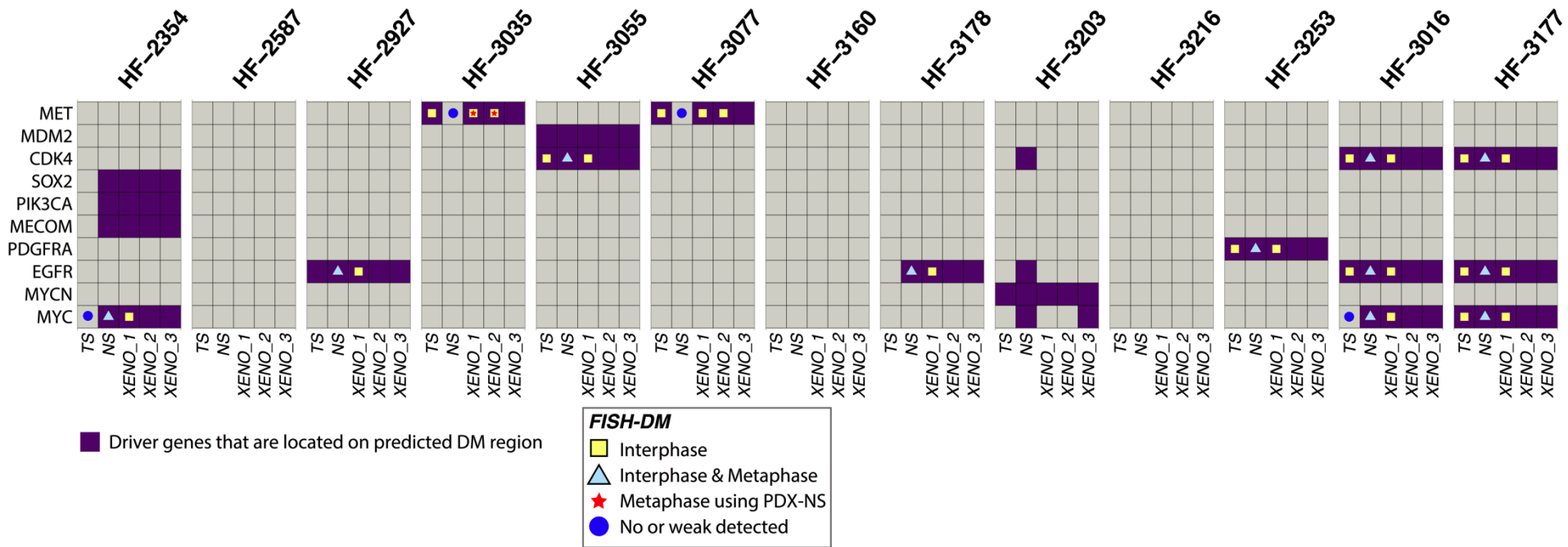
a.

Figure 2. ecDNA in hGBM samples and FISH validation. a. Driver genes located on the potential double minute (DM) regions.

b.

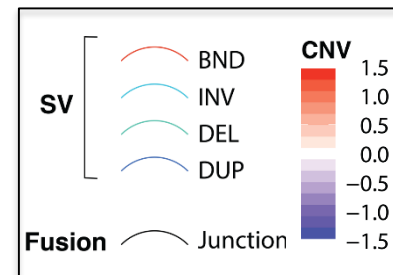
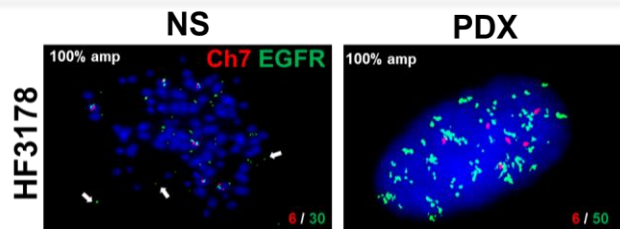
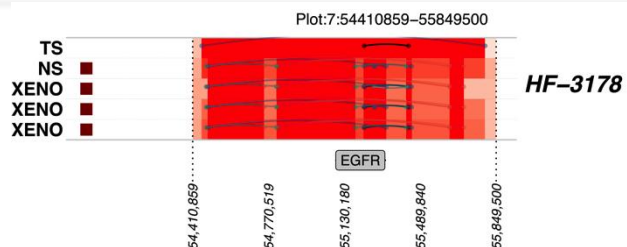
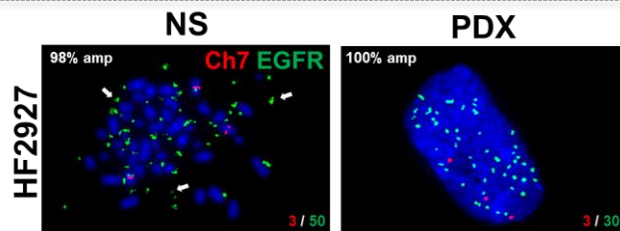
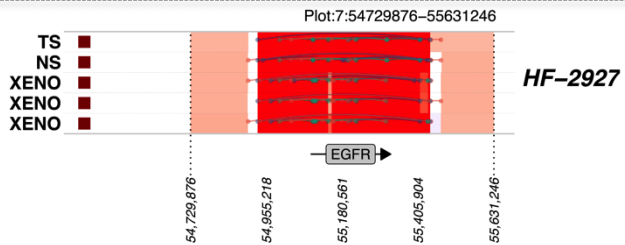
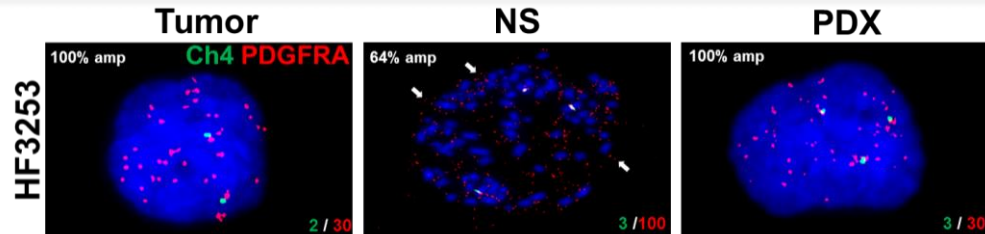
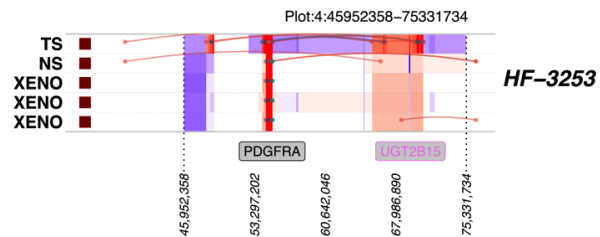
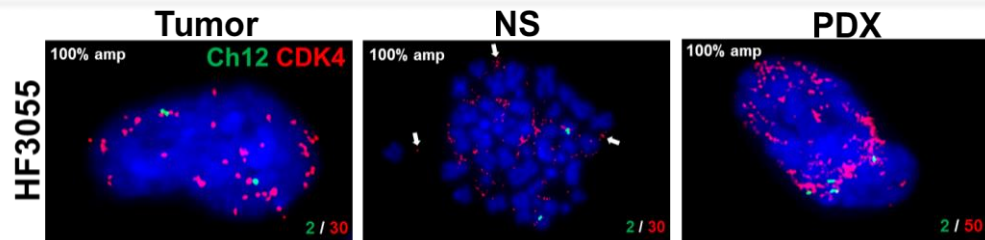
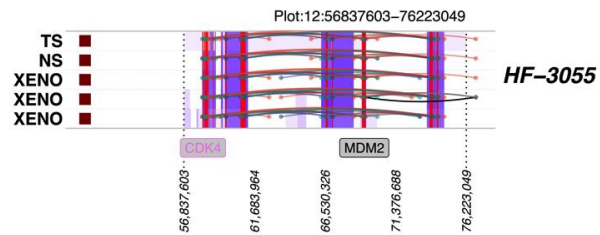
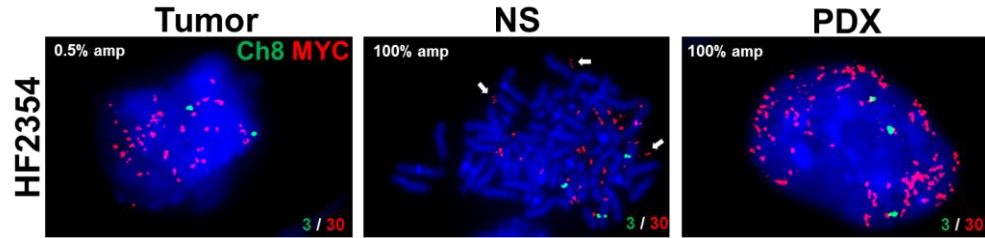
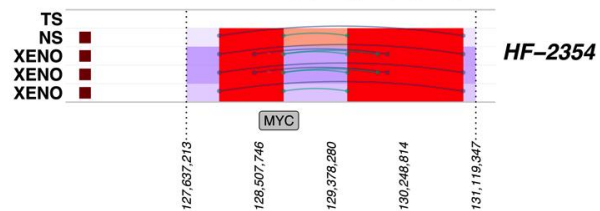


Figure 2. ecDNA in hGBM samples and FISH validation (cont'd). b. Representative FISH images showing amplification of *MYC*, *CDK4*, *PDGFRA* in tumor, neurospheres and PDXs (red) and control chromosomal probes (green). *EGFR* amplification in neurospheres and PDX (green) and Chr7 control are shown. Metaphase FISH is shown for the neurospheres, with arrows pointing to extrachromosomal amplification.

a.

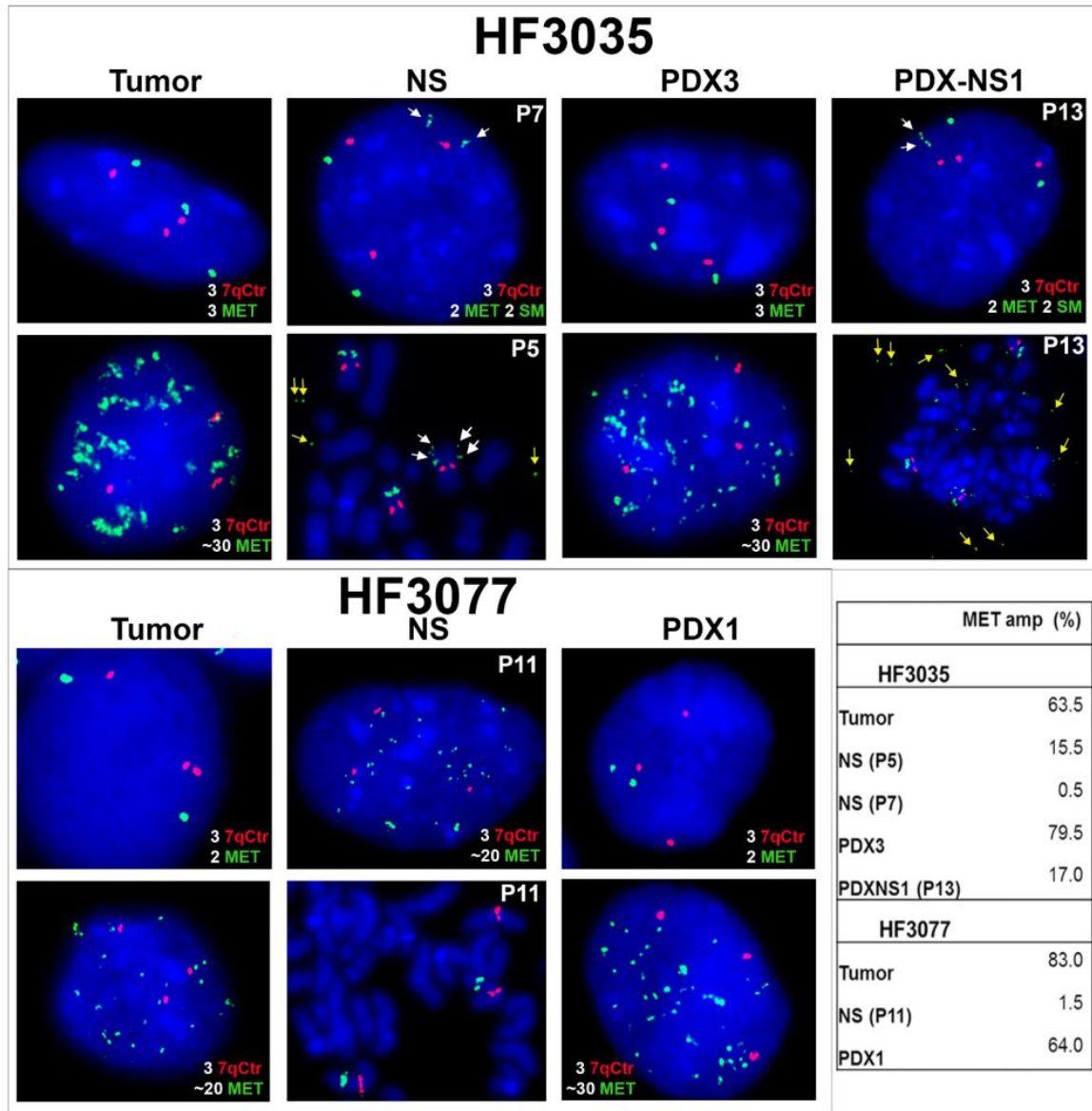


Figure 3. Extrachromosomal *MET* DNA. a. Representative fluorescent in-situ hybridization images for *MET* (green) and chromosome 7 control probes (7qCt, red) labeling of HF3035 and HF3077 tumor, neurosphere (NS), and xenografts (PDX), and neurospheres established from HF3035 xenograft tumors (PDX-NS1). Passage numbers are indicated for neurosphere cultures. White arrows point to 2 fragmented *MET* signals in one chromosome in HF3035 samples (2SM). Yellow arrows point to double minute *MET* in metaphase nuclei of HF3035 neurospheres. The percentage of nuclei presenting *MET* amplification for each sample is shown.

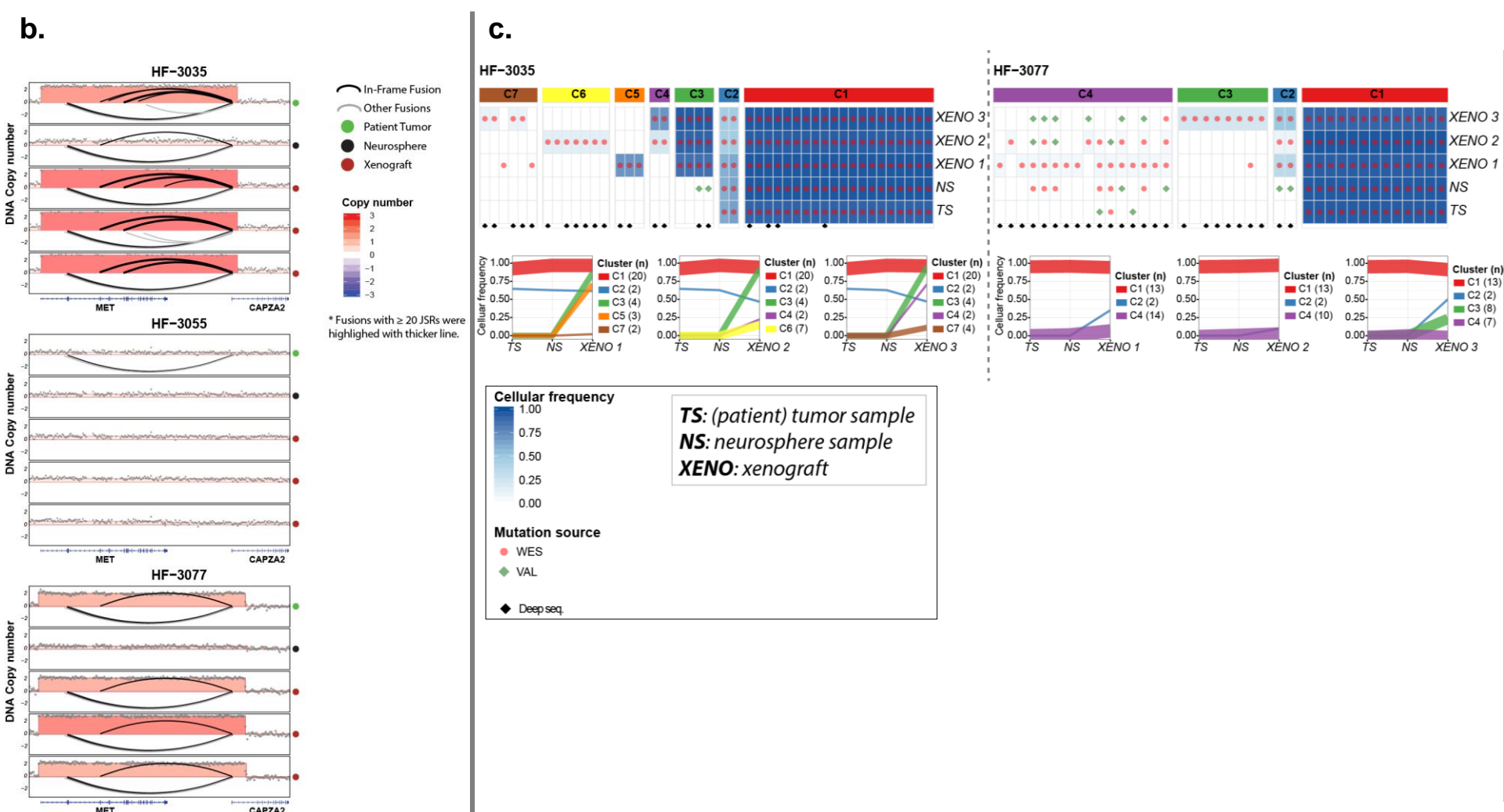
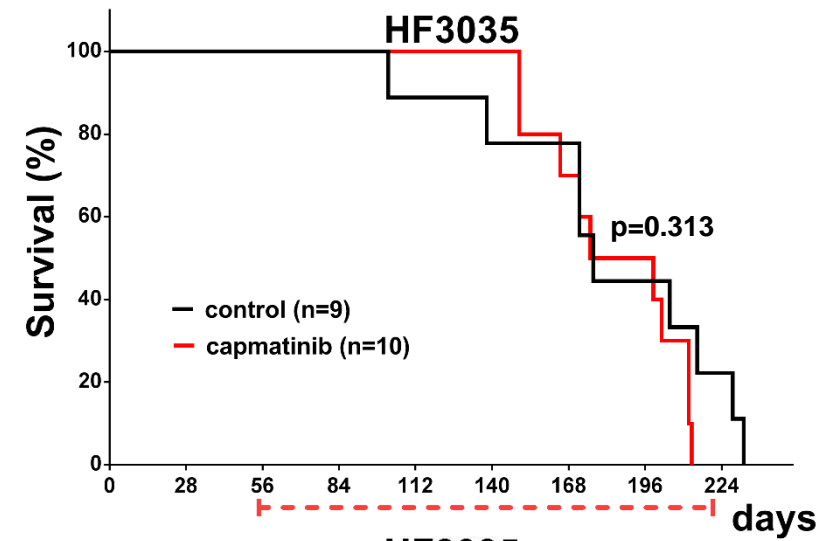
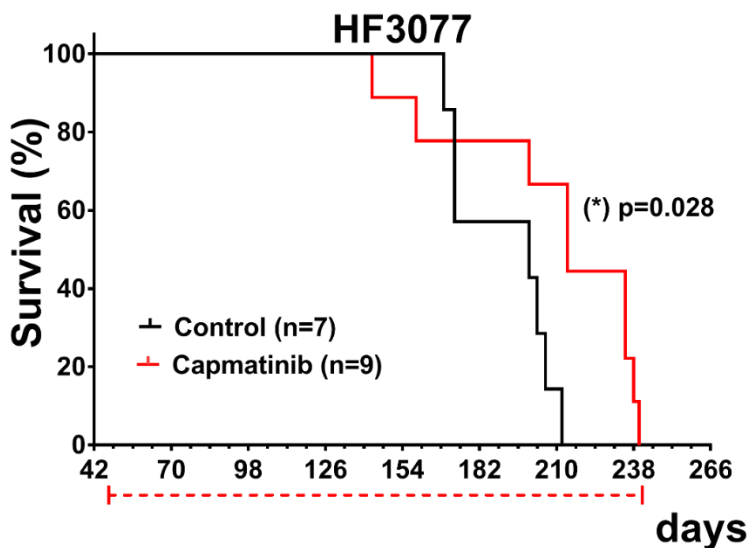


Figure 3. Extrachromosomal *MET* DNA (cont'd). **b.** The 7q31 locus in three sets of GBM tumors and derivate models. **c.** Coverage-controlled sSNVs detected using exome and deep sequencing (top panel). Color reflects cellular frequency estimates. Bottom panel shows clonal tracing from HF3035 and HF3077 parent tumor to neurospheres and PDXs. Each line represents a group of mutations computationally inferred to reflect a subclone.

d.



Capmatinib concentration 2h after last dose (n=3)

Plasma (ng/ml)	Tumor (ng/g)	tumor/plasma ratio
5770.4 ±2975.5	213.5 ±90	0.04 ± 0.01

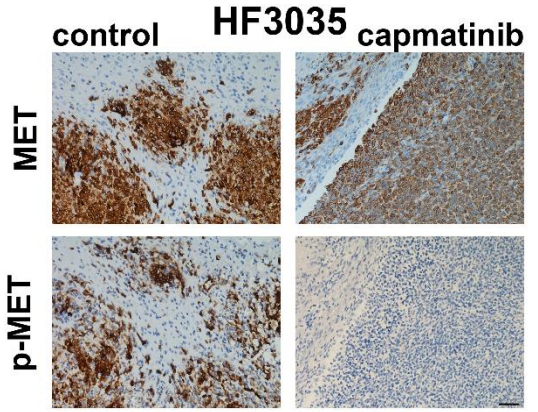
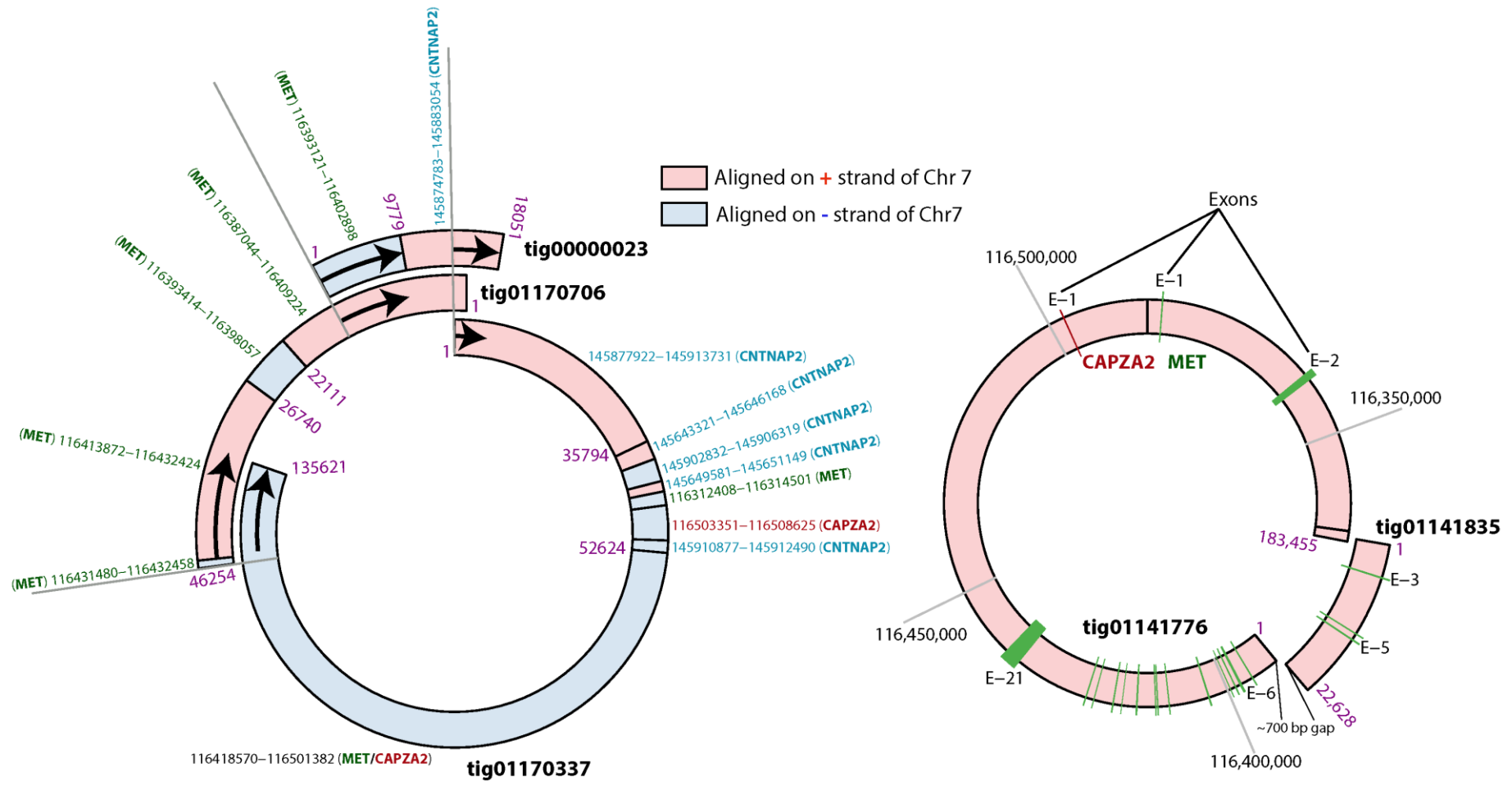


Figure 3. Extrachromosomal MET DNA (cont'd). d. Treatment with single agent capmatinib (30 mg/kg, daily oral doses) increases survival of HF3077 PDX, but not of HF3035. Kaplan-Meier survival curves were compared by log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test, significance set at $P < 0.05$ (*), treatment schedule (dotted red line) and number of mice in each arm (n) are shown. Capmatinib concentration in the plasma and tumor tissue collected 2h after the last dose was determined by LC-MS/MS for HF3077 PDX. MET and p-MET detection by IHC of control and capmatinib-treated xenografts show complete inhibition of p-MET, but did not affect MET overexpression in HF3035 PDX. Scale, 40 μ m.

e.

HF3035

HF3077



Note: All genomic coordinates are on chromosome 7.

Figure 3. Extrachromosomal MET DNA (cont'd). e. Double minute structures predicted with long read sequencing in HF3035 and HF3077 xenografts.

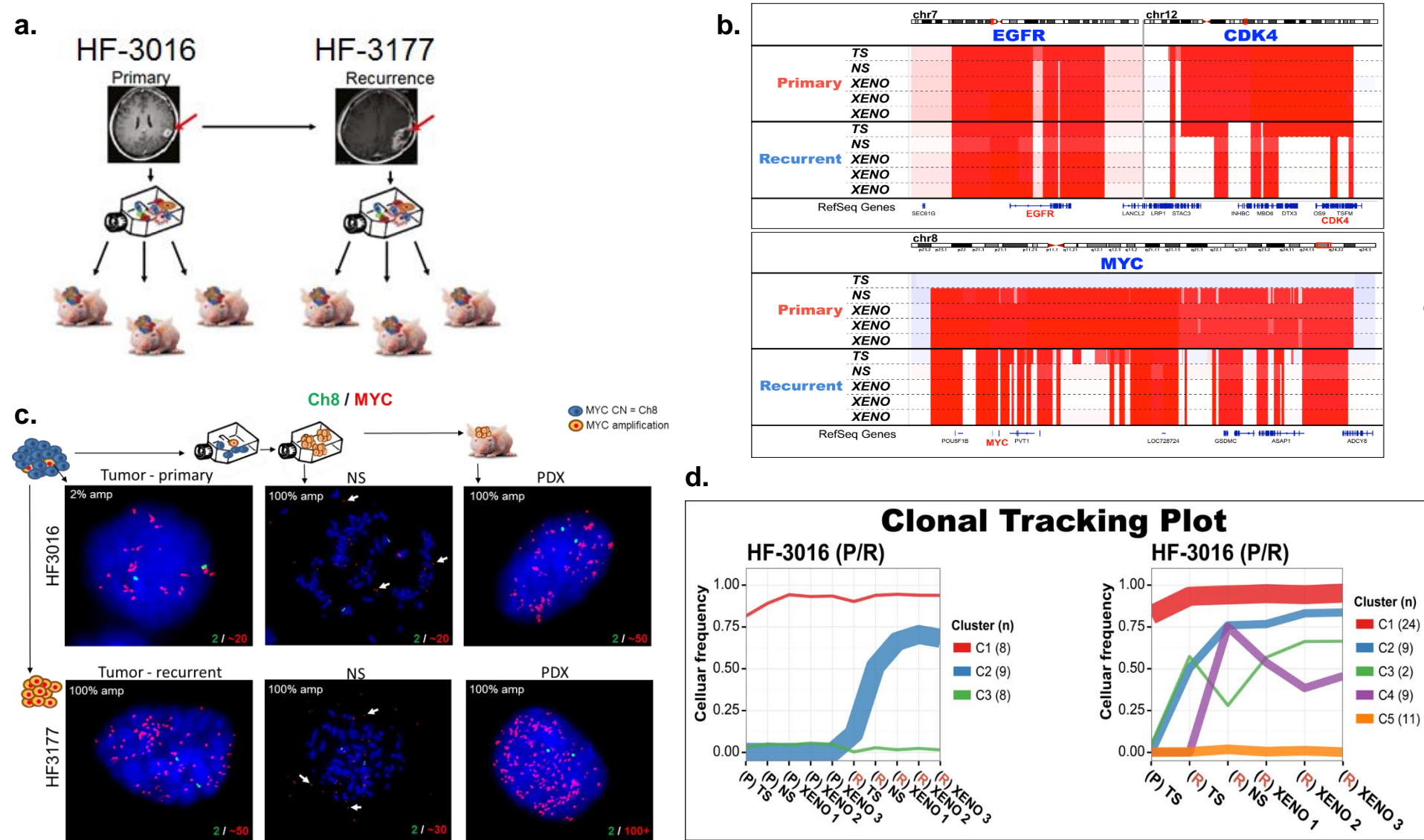


Figure 4. Double minutes drive tumor progression in patient tumors and derived model systems. a. Establishing neurosphere cultures and PDX models from a paired primary/recurrent GBM. **b.** A co-amplification of *EGFR* (chr7)/*CDK4* (chr 12) is detected in primary GBM HF3016 and this co-amplification is sustained in both neurosphere and xenografts derived from this primary tumor, as well as the recurrent GBM HF3177, and the neurosphere/xenografts thereof. The HF3016 primary tumor is not *MYC* amplified. The HF3016 neurosphere, as well as all HF3177 samples, show focal *MYC* amplification. **c.** Representative FISH images for *MYC* (red) and Ch8 marker (green) show that a small fraction (2%) of the cells in HF3016 tumor presents *MYC* amplification, while 100% of nuclei in the remaining samples present *MYC* amplification, which is clearly extrachromosomal (white arrows) in the metaphase spreads (NS). **d.** Clonal tracing of a pair of primary-recurrent GBM, their matching neurospheres, and xenografts. .

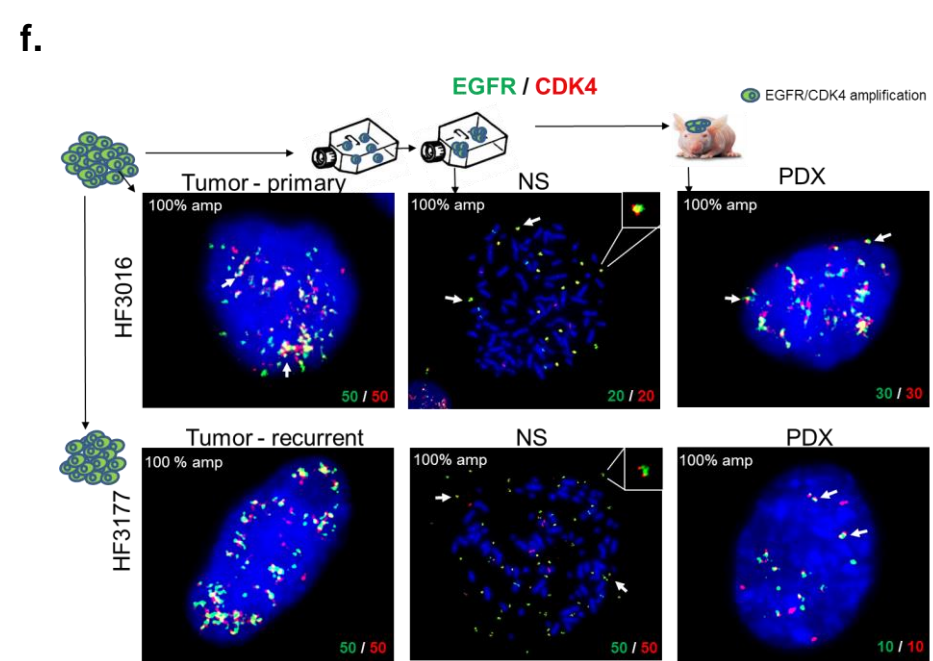
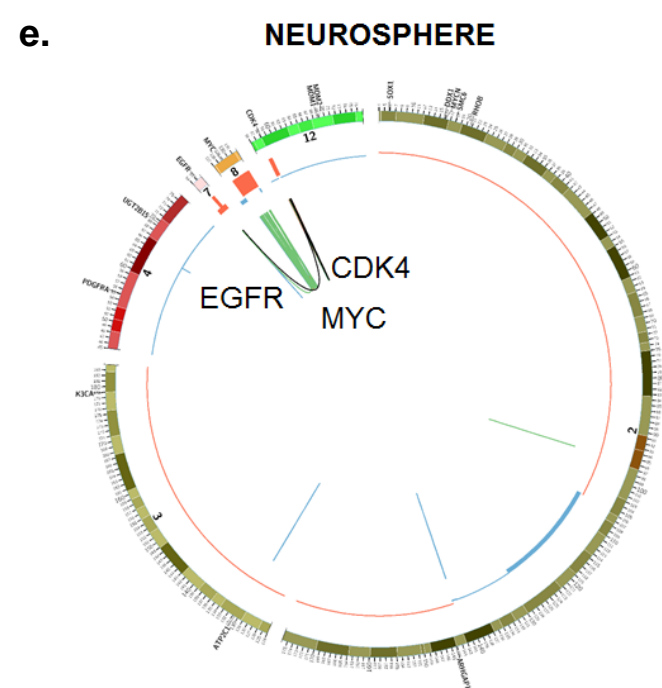


Figure 4. Double minutes drive tumor progression in patient tumors and derived model systems (cont'd). **e.** Starting in the neurosphere of the primary tumor, a complex structural variant is identified that connects the *CDK4* locus to the *EGFR* locus. The *MYC* locus is not part of this variant. The EGFR/CDK4 variant is detected in HF3016 PDXs as well as all HF3177 samples. **f.** EGFR (green) and CDK4 (red), detected by FISH, are amplified in 100% of nuclei for every sample from this patient, with identical copy numbers in each nucleus (bottom of the panels). Overlapping dots show that EGFR/CDK4 co-localize (white arrows) and metaphase FISH (NS) shows extra chromosomal co-amplification in the same double minute (inserts)

a.

58 pairs of primary and recurrent tumors

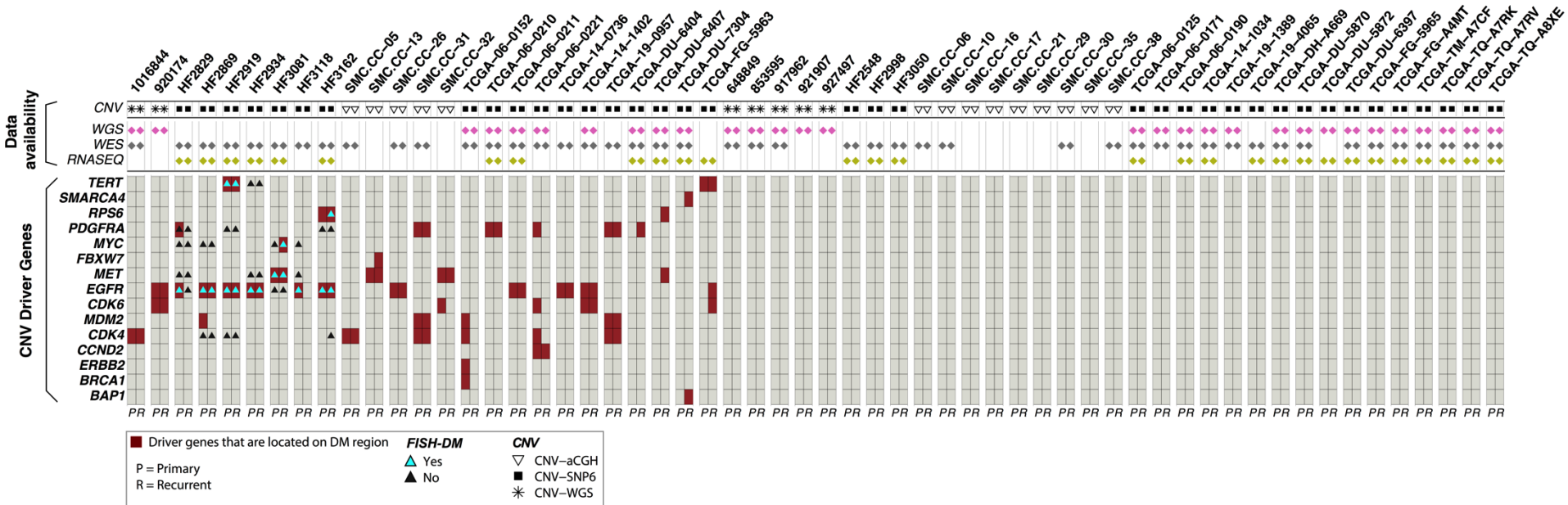


Figure 5. Copy number variant driver genes located on the potential double minute (DM) regions. a. 58 tumors (30 P, 28 R) from 34 patients were predicted to contain at least one ecDNA. Amongst these, 39 driver gene harboring ecDNAs were predicted in 22 primary tumors, of which 27 were also detected in the matching recurrent tumors.

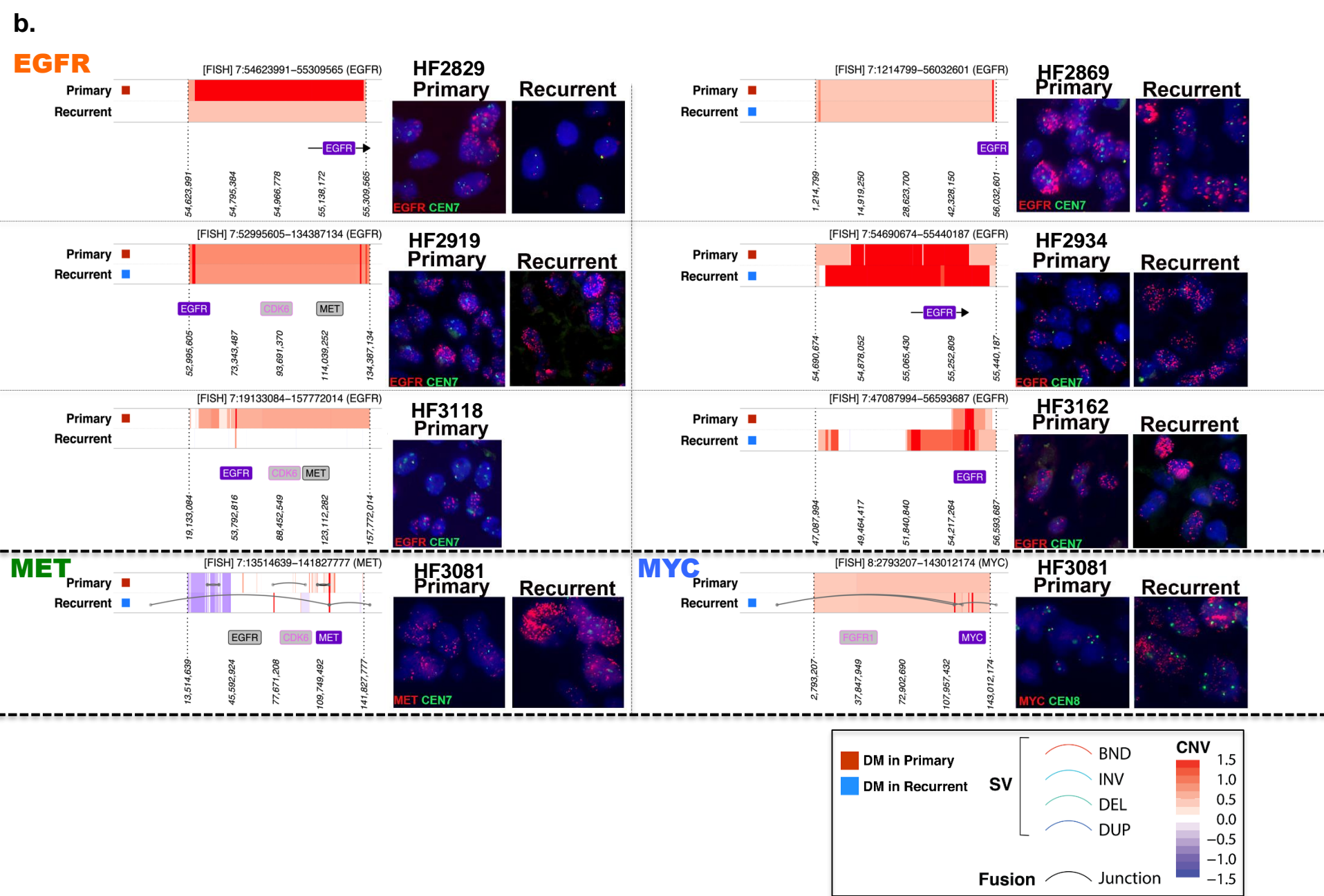


Figure 5. Copy number variant driver genes located on the potential double minute (DM) regions (cont'd). b. DNA copy number based predictions of double minute (DM) regions validated using fluorescent in situ hybridization in FFPE tissue sections.

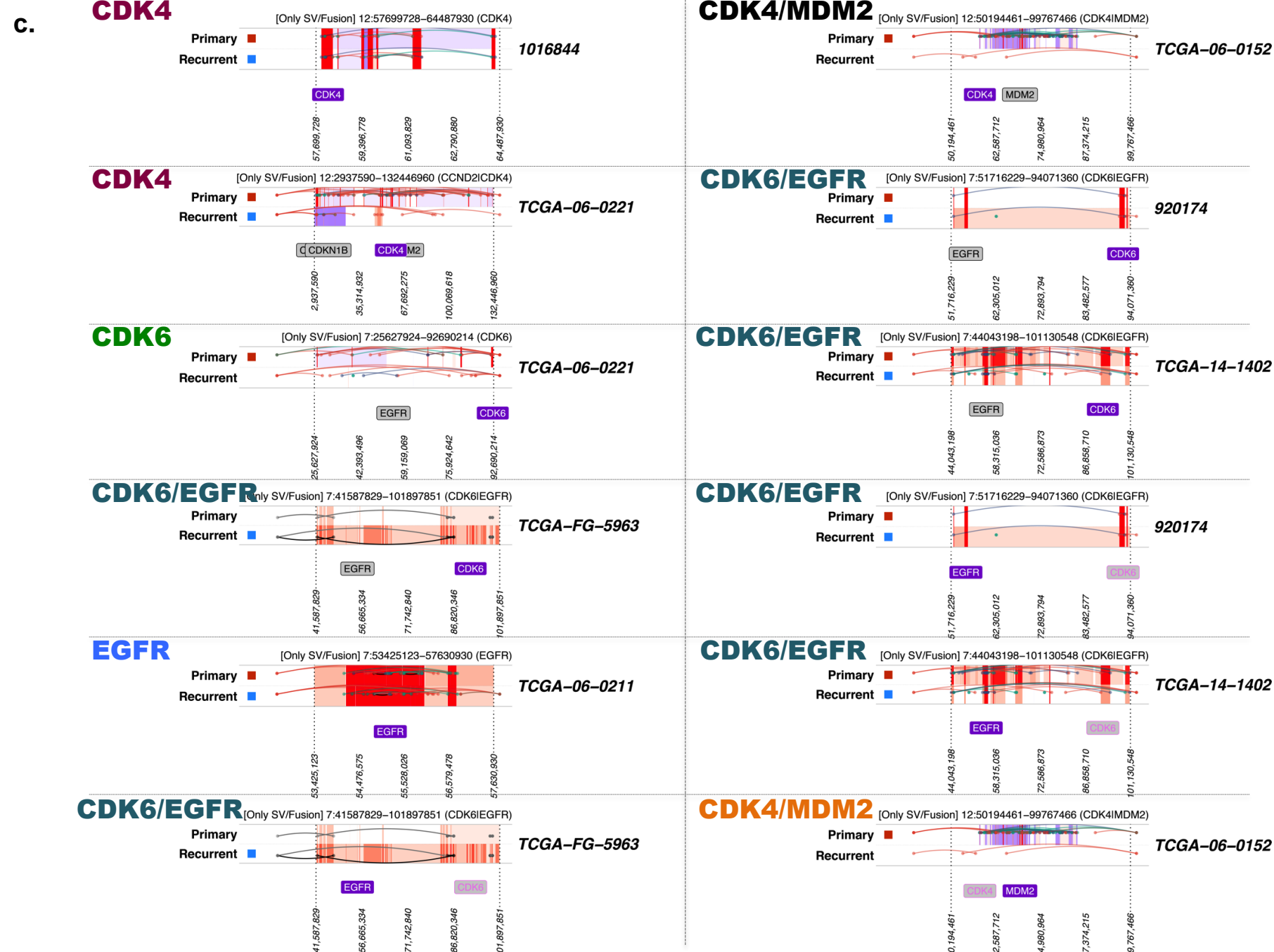


Figure 5. Copy number variant driver genes located on the potential double minute (DM) regions (cont'd). c. DNA copy number based predictions of double minute (DM) regions validated using whole genome or RNA sequencing.

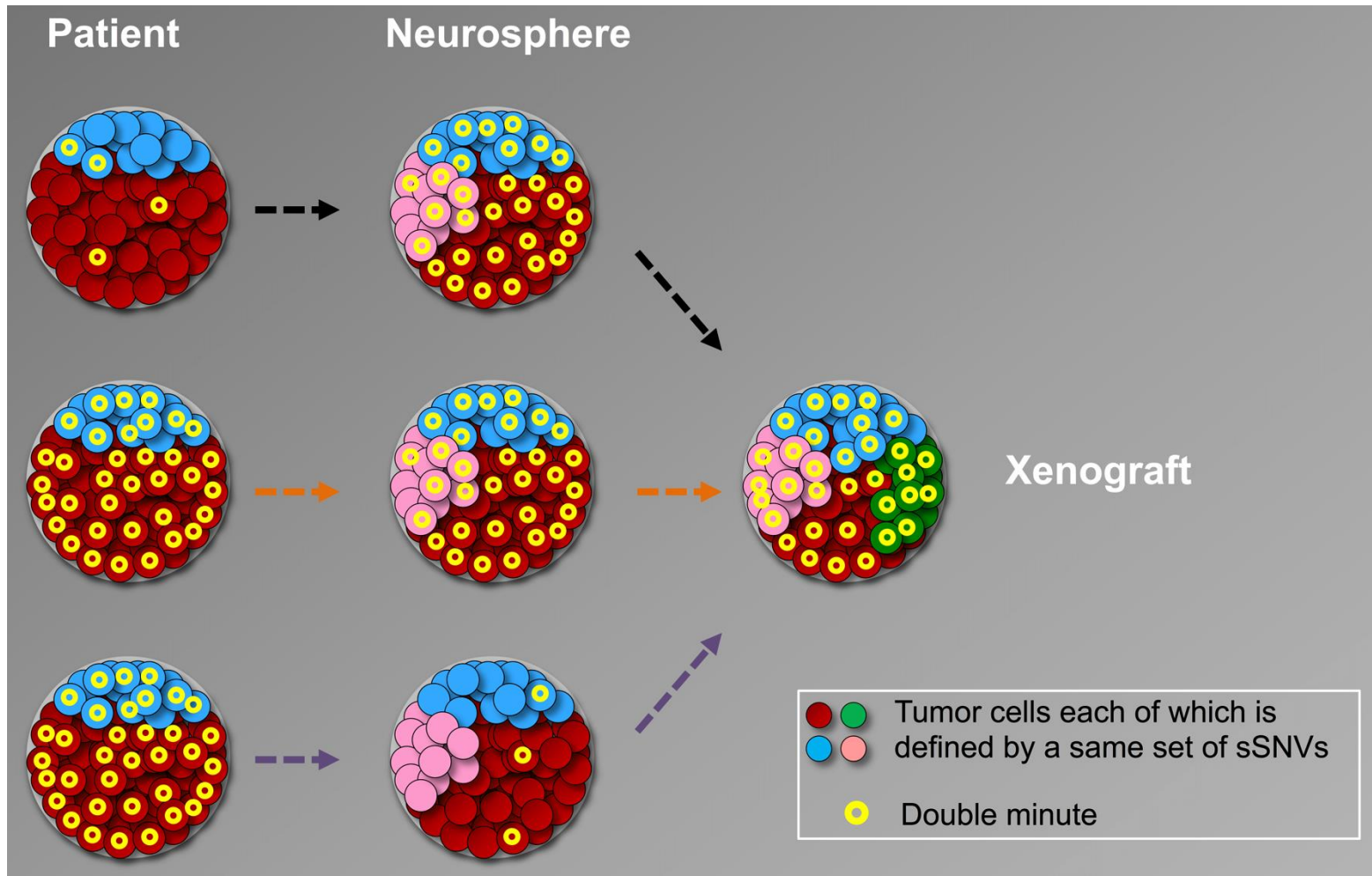


Figure 6. Schematic illustration of double minute contribution to clonal evolution in GBM patient derived models. The proliferation patterns in GBM tumors and models in which double minutes provide the dominant evolutionary force.