Genetic determinants of *EGFR*-Driven Lung Cancer Growth and Therapeutic Response *In Vivo*

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Abstract

Cancer genome sequencing has uncovered substantial complexity in the mutational

landscape of tumors. Given this complexity, experimental approaches are necessary to

establish the impact of combinations of genetic alterations on tumor biology and to uncover

genotype-dependent effects on drug sensitivity. In lung adenocarcinoma, *EGFR* mutations co-

occur with many putative tumor suppressor gene alterations, however the extent to which

these alterations contribute to tumor growth and their response to therapy *in vivo* has not

been explored experimentally. By integrating a novel mouse model of oncogenic *EGFR*-driven

Trp53-deficient lung adenocarcinoma with multiplexed CRISPR–Cas9-mediated genome editing

and tumor barcode sequencing, we quantified the effects of inactivation of ten putative tumor

suppressor genes. Inactivation of *Apc*, *Rb1*, or *Rbm10* most strongly promoted tumor growth.

Unexpectedly, inactivation of *Lkb1* or *Setd2* – which were the strongest drivers of tumor growth

in an oncogenic *Kras*-driven model – reduced *EGFR*-driven tumors growth. These results were

consistent with the relative frequency of these tumor suppressor gene alterations in human

EGFR- and *KRAS*-driven lung adenocarcinomas. Furthermore, *Keap1* inactivation reduced the

sensitivity of tumors to osimertinib in the $EGFR^{L858R}$;$p53^{flox/flox}$ model. Importantly, in human

EGFR/TP53 mutant lung adenocarcinomas, mutations in the KEAP1 pathway correlated with

decreased time on tyrosine kinase inhibitor treatment. Our study highlights how genetic

alterations can have dramatically different biological consequences depending on the

oncogenic context and that the fitness landscape can shift upon drug treatment.

During tumor evolution, cancer cells accumulate alterations in oncogenes and tumor

suppressor genes, which contribute to many of the hallmarks of cancer[1]. Despite their extensive

genomic complexity, tumors are frequently classified based on the presence of a single

oncogenic driver mutation, while the function of co-incident tumor suppressor gene alterations

is largely ignored. There is emerging evidence that the interplay between oncogenic drivers and

tumor suppressor genes may influence tumor fitness and impact treatment response[2].

However, the combinatorially vast landscape of genomic alterations makes it difficult, except in

the most extreme cases, to glean information about the epistatic interactions between tumor

suppressor genes and oncogenes[3]. This complexity makes inferring the relationship between

genotype and therapy response even more tenuous.

Recently, high-throughput, tractable systems that combine autochthonous mouse modeling

and genome editing have been developed to directly uncover the functional consequences of

genetic alterations during tumorigenesis *in vivo*[4-10]. However, very few studies have

investigated the biological consequences of inactivating tumor suppressor genes in the context

of different oncogenic drivers *in vivo*, and existing knowledge about the role of specific genetic

alterations in tumor suppressor genes has been primarily inferred from correlative human

studies[11-13].

In lung adenocarcinoma, *EGFR* and *KRAS* are the two most commonly mutated oncogenic

driver genes and occur within a background of diverse putative tumor suppressor gene

alterations[2,11,12,14]. Among these, *TP53* is the most commonly mutated tumor suppressor gene

in both oncogenic *EGFR*- and *KRAS*-driven lung adenocarcinoma, consistent with the

importance of disrupting this pathway during lung cancer development[2,13,15-18]. Interestingly,

many other putative tumor suppressor genes are mutated at different frequencies in oncogenic

EGFR- and *KRAS*-driven lung adenocarcinomas[2,11,15]. Whether these differences are due to

different fitness effects that depend on the oncogenic context has never been tested

experimentally. Indeed, previous studies on tumor suppressor genes in lung cancer models *in*

vivo have been primarily conducted in the context of oncogenic *Kras*-driven tumors, while the

functional importance of different tumor suppressor genes in *EGFR*-driven lung tumors remains

almost completely unknown (**Supplemental Fig. 1a**).

In addition to driving growth, inactivation of tumor suppressor pathways may affect the

therapeutic response to therapies. In advanced *EGFR* mutant lung adenocarcinomas, treatment

with EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) is the first-line of therapy[19-22]. Response rates to TKIs

are high, however, there is large variability in the depth and duration of response between

patients and acquired resistance inevitably occurs[14]. Genomic alterations, including those in

RB1 and *TP53*, have been found to correlate with clinical responses to TKIs[13,17,23]. However,

given the complexity and diversity of genomic alterations in these tumors, the functional

contribution of individual genes to drug resistance remains poorly understood.

To quantify the importance of a panel of ten diverse putative tumor suppressor genes on

oncogenic *EGFR*-driven lung tumor growth *in vivo,* we coupled multiplexed CRISPR–Cas9-

mediated somatic genome editing and tumor barcoding sequencing (Tuba-seq) with a novel

genetically engineered mouse model of *EGFR*^{L858R}-driven *Trp53*-deficient lung cancer. Through

the comparison of tumor suppressor effects in oncogenic *EGFR*- and *Kras*-driven lung cancer

models, we uncovered prevalent epistasis between tumor suppressor genes and the oncogenic

drivers, which explains the different mutational spectra of these tumor suppressor genes in

oncogenic *EGFR*- and *KRAS*-driven human lung adenocarcinomas. Moreover, we established a

direct causal link between tumor suppressor genotypes and differential responses to

osimertinib treatment in *EGFR*-driven lung adenocarcinoma that were supported by correlative

human mutational datasets.

Results

Development of a lentiviral-Cre based mouse model of oncogenic *EGFR*-driven lung

adenocarcinoma

The use of lentiviral vectors to initiate tumors in genetically engineered mouse models

of human cancer enables control of tumor multiplicity, tumor barcoding to map clonality, and

the delivery of lentivirus-encoded cDNAs, shRNAs, and sgRNAs to modify neoplastic cells[6,8,24,25].

The simplicity of viral-Cre initiated models of oncogenic *Kras*-driven lung cancer has enabled

the analysis of genes that co-operate to drive tumor growth within these autochthonous mouse

models[26]. To permit the generation of virally-initiated oncogenic *EGFR*-driven *Trp53*-deficient

lung tumors, we bred mice with an rtTA/tetracycline-inducible transgene encoding the common

lung adenocarcinoma-associated EGFR^{L858R} mutant (*TetO-EGFR^{L858R}*), a Cre-regulated *rtTA*

transgene (*Rosa26$^{CAGs-LSL-rtTA3-IRES-mKate}$, abbreviated R26^{RIK}*), and homozygous *Trp53* floxed alleles

(*p53$^{flox/flox}$*)[27-29]. In these *TetO-EGFR^{L858R};Rosa26^{RIK};p53$^{flox/flox}$* (*EGFR;p53*) mice, lentiviral-Cre

transduction of lung epithelial cells leads to the expression of rtTA and mKate as well as the

inactivation of *Trp53*. Co-incident doxycycline treatment induces the expression of oncogenic

EGFR (**Fig. 1a**).

We initiated tumors with a lentiviral-Cre vector in *EGFR;p53* mice and used magnetic

resonance imaging (MRI) to monitor tumor development (**Fig. 1b**). Tumors were first detectable

in *EGFR;p53* mice 8 weeks after tumor initiation. Histological analysis of lungs 11 weeks after

tumor initiation confirmed the development of multifocal lung adenomas and adenocarcinomas

(**Fig. 1b**, bottom panels). Tumors stained positively for EGFR^{L858R} and mKate, as well as

surfactant protein C (SP-C) and the lung lineage-defining transcription factor NKX2.1/TTF-1 (**Fig.**

1c, top panels and **Supplemental Fig. 1b**)[30-32]. Importantly, in this model, tumors were more

focal than the diffuse tumors that rapidly develop in the previous *CCSP-rtTA;TetO-EGFR^L858R*

model[27] likely due to tumor initiation from fewer cells in the virally initiated model (**Fig. 1b**, top

right panel). Lentivirus-induced tumors in *EGFR;p53* mice predominantly had a micropapillary

growth pattern and were also less differentiated that those typically observed in the *CCSP-*

rtTA;TetO-EGFR^L858R model (**Fig. 1b**, bottom panels)[27]. Thus, this new lentiviral-Cre-initiated

model recapitulates the genetic and histopathological features of human oncogenic *EGFR-*

driven *TP53*-deficient tumors.

Multiplexed quantification of tumor suppressor gene function in *EGFR*-driven lung tumors

To enable somatic genome editing in the *EGFR;p53* model, we further incorporated a

conditional *Cas9* allele (*Rosa26^LSL-Cas9-GFP*)[4] to generate *TetO-EGFR^L858R;R26^RIK/LSL-Cas9-GFP;p53^flox/flox*

(*EGFR;p53;Cas9*) mice (**Fig. 1a**). Lentiviral-Cre delivery to *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice initiated

multifocal lung adenomas and adenocarcinomas that expressed EGFR^L858R, mKate, Cas9, and

GFP (**Figs. 1c, d**). Tumors in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice were histologically similar to those in the

EGFR;p53 mice (**Figs. 1b, d**).

We used an improved version of our Tuba-seq approach to quantify tumor suppressor

gene function in oncogenic *EGFR*-driven lung tumors (**Methods**). Genomic integration of

barcoded lentiviral vectors uniquely tags each transduced cell and all of the neoplastic cells

within the resulting clonal tumors[8]. Each barcode encodes an 8-nucleotide sgID region specific

to the sgRNA followed by a random 15-nucleotide barcode; thus, high-throughput sequencing

of this sgID-BC region from bulk tumor-bearing lung can be used to quantify the number of cells

in each tumor of each genotype (**Methods**)[8]. In Tuba-seq, the absolute number of neoplastic

cells in each tumor is calculated by normalizing the number of reads of each unique barcode

(sgID-BCs) to the number of reads from benchmark control cells added to each sample.

Therefore, using Tuba-Seq we can quantify the size of tumors with different tumor suppressor

gene alterations.

To assess the function of ten diverse putative tumor suppressor genes, which are

frequently altered in human lung adenocarcinoma, we initiated tumors in *EGFR;p53* and

EGFR;p53;Cas9 mice with a pool of barcoded Lenti-sgRNA/*Cre* vectors (Lenti-sg*TS^Pool*/*Cre*; **Fig.**

2a). In addition to Lenti-sgRNA/*Cre* vectors targeting each putative tumor suppressor gene, this

pool contains negative control vectors, including four Lenti-sg*Inert/Cre* vectors and a vector

with an sgRNA targeting *Trp53* (which is already inactivated by Cre-mediated recombination in

EGFR;p53;Cas9 mice, **Fig. 1a**)[8]. Lenti-sg*TS^Pool*/*Cre*-initiated tumors were first detectable by MRI 4

weeks after tumor initiation in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice. At 11 weeks after tumor initiation, when

tumors were readily detectable in all mice, tumor-bearing lungs were collected for Tuba-seq

analysis and histology (**Fig. 2b** and **Supplemental Fig. 1e**).

Putative tumor suppressor genes have distinct effects on *EGFR*-driven lung tumor growth

We used Tuba-seq to quantify the number of neoplastic cells in clonal tumors of each

genotype in the *EGFR;p53* model and used two summary statistics to describe the tumor size

distribution (different percentiles within the tumor size distributions and the log-normal (LN)

mean) (**Methods**; **Figs. 2c-e** and **Supplemental Figs. 2a, b**). For negative controls, tumors with

each sgRNA in *EGFR;p53* mice, which lack the *Cas9* allele, had very similar size distributions (**Fig.**

2d). Furthermore, in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice, tumors initiated with each Lenti-sg*Inert/Cre* vector or

Lenti-sg*p53/Cre* had very similar tumor size profiles (**Fig. 2c**).

Inactivation of *Rb1*, *Apc*, and *Rbm10* most dramatically enhanced the growth of oncogenic

EGFR-driven *Trp53*-deficient lung tumors (**Figs. 2c, e**). While the importance of *RB1* inactivation

in *EGFR*-driven lung adenocarcinomas has begun to be investigated[23,33], very few studies have

addressed the functional importance of the APC pathway in *EGFR*-driven lung

adenocarcinoma[34]. Interestingly RBM10, an RNA binding protein and splicing regulator that is

poorly studied in cancer in general, has not previously been implicated as a critical regulator of

EGFR-driven lung cancer growth[12,35-37].

Surprisingly, inactivation of either *Lkb1* or *Setd2* – which are strong tumor suppressor

genes in analogous oncogenic *Kras*-driven tumor models – dramatically reduced tumor growth

relative to sg*Inert* tumors[8,38,39]. This effect was consistent across multiple percentiles within the

tumor size distribution and as assessed by the tumor size LN mean (**Figs. 2c, e**). These results

suggest that in specific contexts, inactivation of genes presumed to be tumor suppressors can

have deleterious effects on cancer growth. Other tumor suppressor genes, *Atm*, *Arid1a*, *Cdkn2a*

and *Keap1*, did not significantly alter tumor growth in the context of this experiment (**Figs. 2c,**

e).

To assess tumor suppressor gene function at a later time-point of tumor growth, we

initiated tumors in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice with 8-fold less Lenti-sg*TS^Pool/Cre* and performed Tuba-

seq after 19 weeks of tumor growth. At this time-point, the histology of the tumors was similar

to those observed after 11 weeks of tumor initiation (**Supplemental Figs. 1c, d**). Tuba-seq

analysis confirmed the tumor-suppressive function of *Rbm10*, *Apc,* and *Rb1* (**Supplemental Figs.**

2a, b). Since we used an 8-fold lower viral titer for this experiment, there were proportionally

fewer tumors, which limited the resolution of Tuba-seq analysis (**Supplemental Fig. 1f**). Thus,

while inactivation of the other genes had no significant effect on tumor growth at this time-

point, we cannot exclude that these genes may influence tumor growth. Interestingly, despite

the decreased statistical power, inactivation of *Cdkn2a* or *Arid1a* had a positive effect on tumor

growth at this 19-week time-point (but not at the 11-week time-point) suggesting a potential

role of these tumor suppressor genes at this specific phase of tumorigenesis in the model

(**Supplemental Figs. 2a, b**).

Validation of *Apc* and *Rbm10*-mediated tumor suppression

We performed further experiments to confirm the role of two less-well studied tumor

suppressors, Apc and Rbm10 on the progression of *EGFR*-driven tumors. We initiated lung

tumors in *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice with Lenti-sg*Apc/Cre*, Lenti-sg*Neo2/Cre* (sg*Inert*),

and two Lenti-sg*Rbm10/Cre* vectors each with a unique sgRNA targeting *Rbm10* (*N* = 3

EGFR;p53 mice/group and *N* = 5 *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice/group; **Fig. 3a**). Inactivation of either *Apc*

or *Rbm10* in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice increased tumor size and total tumor burden relative to

controls as quantified by both MRI and histology (**Figs. 3b-f** and **Supplemental Fig. 3b**). In

particular, *Apc* inactivation gave rise to tumors that were strikingly larger than control tumors

in *EGFR;p53* mice (**Figs. 3b-d** and **Supplemental Fig. 3b**). Lenti-sg*Apc*/Cre-initiated tumors in

EGFR;p53;Cas9 mice had more cancer cells with nuclear localization of β-catenin (consistent

with *Apc* inactivation) and Lenti-sg*Rbm10/Cre*-initiated tumors in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice generally

lacked Rbm10 protein (**Figs. 3d-f** and **Supplemental Figs. 3c, d**). Tumors with either *Apc* or

Rbm10 inactivation were histologically similar to tumors in *EGFR;p53* mice (**Supplemental Fig.**

3a). These results further confirm the importance of these tumor suppressor pathways in

constraining *EGFR*-driven tumor growth *in vivo.* Collectively, our findings underscore the value

of coupling Tuba-seq and CRISPR–*Cas9*-mediated somatic genome editing with our virally-

induced mouse model to dissect gene function in oncogenic *EGFR*-driven lung cancer.

Oncogenic drivers shape the fitness landscape of tumor suppression

The extent to which different oncogenic drivers affect the landscape of tumor

suppression is almost entirely unknown. We approached this question by comparing the fitness

landscape of tumor suppression within the contexts of oncogenic *EGFR*- and *Kras*-driven lung

tumors. We repeated an experiment previously performed by our group in which we

inactivated the same panel of tumor suppressor genes in $Kras^{LSL-G12D/+};p53^{flox/flox};R26^{LSL-}$

$^{Tomato};H11^{LSL-Cas9}$ (*Kras;p53;Cas9*) mice and used library preparation methods and the analytical

pipeline identical to those used for the *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice (**Supplemental Fig.**

4a)[29,40,41]. Inactivation of *Lkb1*, *Setd2,* and *Rb1* were particularly strong drivers of oncogenic

Kras-driven *Trp53*-deficient tumor growth, while inactivation of *Rbm10*, *Apc*, *Cdkn2a* and *Arid1a*

also modestly increased tumor growth (**Figs. 4a, b**). These results are largely consistent with our

previous Tuba-seq analysis of *Kras;p53;Cas9* mice, as well as other studies on these genes in

oncogenic *Kras*-driven lung cancer mouse models[9,39,42].

Inactivation of several of the tumor suppressor genes (e.g. *Rb1*) had similar effects on

EGFR- and *Kras*-driven tumors suggesting that these putative tumor suppressor genes limit lung

adenocarcinoma growth regardless of the oncogenic context (**Fig.4c** and **Supplemental Fig. 4b**).

However, inactivation of either *Lkb1* or *Setd2* greatly increased the growth of oncogenic *Kras*-

driven lung tumors but decreased the growth of oncogenic *EGFR*-driven lung tumors (**Figs. 2c,**

e, **Figs. 4a-c** and **Supplemental Figs. 4b**). Thus, the consequences of tumor suppressor gene

inactivation in specific contexts are not limited to the magnitude of tumor-suppressive effects

but can also be manifested as opposite effects (known as the sign epistasis) even when the

driving oncogenic alterations (in this case *EGFR* and *KRAS*) are traditionally thought to be within

a linear pathway.

Profound epistasis between tumor suppressor genes and oncogenic drivers drives mutational

patterns in human lung adenocarcinoma

To compare our functional data in mice with the spectrum of tumor suppressor gene

mutations found in human lung adenocarcinomas, we queried data from the AACR Project

GENIE database[43]. We calculated the frequency of tumor suppressor gene mutations that occur

co-incident with oncogenic *EGFR* (L858R, Exon 19 deletions, L861Q, G719X) or oncogenic *KRAS*

(at codons 12, 13 or 61) mutations and *TP53* mutations. This analysis revealed different

frequencies of mutations in several tumor suppressor genes in *EGFR/TP53* and *KRAS/TP53*

mutant human lung tumors. In line with our data in mice, *RB1*, *RBM10,* and *APC* are frequently

altered tumor suppressor genes in *EGFR/TP53* mutant lung adenocarcinomas, whereas

LKB1/STK11 and *SETD2,* are among the most frequently mutated tumor suppressor genes in

KRAS/TP53 mutant lung adenocarcinomas (**Fig. 4d**)[44,45]. Further supporting a difference in the

function of *LKB1* and *SETD2* in *EGFR/TP53* versus *KRAS/TP53* mutant lung adenocarcinomas,

mutations in these genes occurred at significantly higher frequencies in *KRAS/TP53* mutant

tumors (**Fig. 4e**). This asymmetry in the mutation frequency of *LKB1* or *SETD2* within oncogenic

EGFR- or *KRAS*-driven lung tumors is also significant when we extend our analysis to include all

tumors regardless of *TP53* mutation status (**Supplemental Fig. 4c**). Collectively, the mouse and

human data indicate that the mutational patterns can reflect the biological consequences of

profound epistasis between tumor suppressor genes and oncogenic drivers. This highlights the

power of our approach in interrogating the functional relevance of genomic combinations on

tumorigenesis.

***Keap1* inactivation limits the response of tumors to osimertinib**

Genetically engineered mouse models have provided insight into the biology of *EGFR-*

driven lung tumors and proven valuable in studying mechanisms of resistance to EGFR TKIs,

especially on-target (*EGFR*) mechanisms of resistance[27,46-48]. The TKI osimertinib was recently

approved for the first-line treatment of *EGFR*-driven lung adenocarcinomas. However,

pathways involved in modulating the depth of response and mechanisms of resistance to

osimertinib are still under investigation[49,50]. To investigate how tumor suppressors influence

the therapeutic response of lung tumors to EGFR inhibition, we treated *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice

with Lenti-sg*TS^(Pool)*/Cre-initiated tumors with osimertinib for two weeks starting at 9 weeks after

tumor initiation (**Fig. 5a**). Osimertinib treatment greatly reduced the overall tumor burden

relative to vehicle-treated *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice (**Supplemental Figs. 5a-d**). Residual neoplastic

cells were sparse, as determined by staining for EGFR^(L858R) and those cells were not proliferating

(**Supplemental Figs. 5e-f**). The overall tumor response was similar when the 2-week treatment

was started 17 weeks after tumor initiation (**Supplemental Figs. 5g-l**).

To quantify the impact of inactivating each tumor suppressor gene on the response to

osimertinib *in vivo*, we performed Tuba-seq on the lungs from osimertinib-treated

EGFR;p53;Cas9 mice 11 and 19 weeks after tumor initiation and compared the results to Tuba-

seq results from vehicle-treated controls. Consistent with the imaging data and histological

analysis, osimertinib treatment greatly reduced tumor burden as assessed by Tuba-seq (**Fig. 5c**

and **Supplemental Figs. 5 and 6c-g**; **Methods**).

After two weeks of osimertinib treatment, inactivation of *Apc*, *Rb1* or *Rbm10* was still

associated with larger tumors while the size distribution of tumors with inactivation of *Cdkn2a*,

Arid1a, or *Atm* remained similar to that of tumors with Inert sgRNAs (compare **Fig. 5b** and **Fig.**

2e, Supplemental Fig. 6a and **Fig. 2c**, **Supplemental Fig. 6b** and **Supplemental Fig. 2a**). The

striking exception was tumors with sg*Keap1*. In vehicle-treated mice, the size distribution of

sg*Keap1* tumors was almost identical to that of tumors with Inert sgRNAs, however in

osimertinib-treated mice sg*Keap1* tumors were significantly larger than the tumors with inert

sgRNAs. This suggests that inactivation of *Keap1* limits responses to osimertinib (**Fig. 5b**).

Resistance conferred by *Keap1* inactivation was also observed at 19 weeks (**Supplemental Figs.**

6a, b).

We applied an analytical approach that we previously developed and validated to

quantify the genotype-specific responses (**Fig. 5c** and **Supplemental Figs. 6c-g**; **Methods**)[51]. By

comparing the LN mean of the observed tumor size distributions in osimertinib-treated mice

with the expected tumor size distribution based on the overall drug effects, we can estimate

genotype specific drug responses (*ScoreRLM*; **Fig. 5c**). After 11 weeks of tumor initiation, sg*Rb1*

tumors were 25% smaller than expected ($P = 0.04$). Conversely, tumors with *Keap1* inactivation

were 48% larger than expected ($P = 0.07$; **Fig. 5c**). The effect of *Keap1* inactivation was even

greater at 19 weeks of tumor growth, where tumors were 274% larger than expected ($P = 0.13$,

Supplemental Fig. 6c). Other statistical measures of genotype-specific responses, including

relative tumor number (*ScoreRTN*) and relative geometric mean (*ScoreRGM*) did not

significantly differ between the treated and untreated groups (**Supplemental Fig. 6d**;

Methods). Our analytical methods allow us to uncover when effects are more pronounced on

larger tumors (*ScoreRTN* and *ScoreRGM* have much lower sensitivity when the effects are

greater on larger tumors). Thus, our data are consistent with the resistance conferred by *Keap1*

inactivation being more pronounced in larger tumors (**Supplemental Figs. 6e-g**; **Methods**).

***Keap1*-deficient tumors have reduced sensitivity to osimertinib which correlates with clinical**

outcomes

317   To further investigate these findings, we initiated tumors with Lenti-sg*Keap1/Cre* in

EGFR;p53 and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice followed by treatment with osimertinib or vehicle (**Figs. 5d,**

e). Osimertinib-treatment reduced the size and number of tumors in *EGFR;p53* mice compared

to vehicle-treated *EGFR;p53* mice (**Fig 5d** and **Supplemental Figs. 7a, b**). Conversely, osimertinib

treatment of Lenti-sg*Keap1/Cre*-initiated tumors in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice did not decrease tumor

size or number compared to vehicle-treated *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice (**Figs. 5d, e** and **Supplemental**

Figs. 7a, b). Consistent with the inefficiency of CRISPR–Cas9-mediated genome editing in

somatic cells, some tumors initiated with Lenti-sg*Keap1/Cre* in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice retained

expression of Keap1 (**Fig. 5e** top panels). However, the tumors that remained in osimertinib-

treated *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice all had medium to low expression of Keap1 (**Fig. 5e**). Together,

these data indicate that while *Keap1* inactivation is not positively selected for during oncogenic

EGFR-driven tumor growth, osimertinib treatment selects for cancer cells expressing low levels

of *Keap1*, thus mitigating the therapeutic response to the drug.

330   To correlate our findings with clinical data, we analyzed the effects of KEAP1 pathway

alterations on outcomes with EGFR inhibition in *EGFR/TP53* mutant lung adenocarcinomas.

Oncogenic *EGFR*-driven tumors with KEAP1 pathway inactivation have been suggested to be

less responsive to TKIs, and we confirmed this association in *EGFR/TP53* tumors (**Figs. 6a, b**)[52].

Mutations in the *KEAP1/NFE2L2/CUL3* pathway were associated with a significantly shorter

time on EGFR TKI therapy compared with matched patients with *KEAP1/NFE2L2/CUL3* wildtype

tumors (5.8 versus 14.3 months, *P* = 0.01; Log-rank test, **Fig. 6a**; **Supplemental Table 1**). Among

several other tumor suppressor genotypes, KEAP1 pathway alterations led to the most dramatic

reduced response to TKI treatment that remained a significant driver of limited sensitivity after

correction for multiple hypothesis testing (**Fig. 6b**). Furthermore, in multivariate analysis, only

KEAP1/NFE2L2/CUL3 mutations significantly reduced time on treatment with EGFR TKI (**Fig. 6b**).

We also analyzed a dataset of oncogenic *EGFR* lung adenocarcinoma patient samples

collected through the Yale Lung Rebiopsy Program (YLR) prior to first-line TKI treatment

(erlotinib, gefitinib, or afatinib) and after the development of resistance to TKIs (**Fig. 6c**;

Supplemental Table 2). Among 18 patients with *EGFR* and *TP53* mutant tumors, two had *KEAP1*

alterations at relapse (TKI-R samples). One case had an acquired missense mutation (Y206N)

that lies in a domain of KEAP1 involved in forming the complex with Cullin3 to mediate

ubiquitination and degradation of NRF2 (encoded by *NFE2L2*)[53]. The other tumor, which was

analyzed only at resistance had heterozygous loss of *KEAP1* (**Fig. 6c**). Moreover, we also

observed two cases of *NFE2L2* copy number gain (one detected prior to treatment and

maintained at resistance, the other detected only at resistance), and one case of *CUL3*

heterozygous loss at resistance. Thus, our *in vivo* functional results are consistent with human

data and support a role for inactivation of the KEAP1 pathway in reducing EGFR TKI sensitivity.

Discussion

The genomic fitness landscape of lung adenocarcinoma is combinatorially complex, with

a large number of genomic alterations in oncogenic drivers and tumor suppressor genes

occurring in various combinations[2,3]. While critical for precision medicine approaches,

dissecting the functional contribution of these co-occurring genetic alterations to tumor growth

and response to therapy is extremely challenging. By using somatic CRISPR–Cas9-mediated

gene editing and Tuba-seq[8,9], we evaluated the fitness effects of inactivation of ten tumor

suppressor genes commonly altered in lung adenocarcinoma in the contexts of oncogenic *EGFR*

and *Kras*-driven tumors. We uncovered distinct roles for specific tumor suppressor genes on

tumor growth in the different oncogenic contexts and on sensitivity to the TKI osimertinib *in*

vivo.

365   *EGFR* and *KRAS* are the most frequently mutated oncogenic drivers in lung

adenocarcinoma, collectively occurring in ~40-50% of all patients[2]. Oncogenic alterations in

these two genes are mutually exclusive, consistent with them being in the same canonical

receptor tyrosine kinase signaling EGFR-RAS-MAPK pathway[54,55]. For this reason, one might

anticipate that inactivating tumor suppressor pathways in *EGFR*-driven and *KRAS*-driven lung

cancers would have similar biological consequences. It is tempting to make a simplifying

assumption that tumor suppressor genes have a constant marginal effect independent of other

genomic alterations, or in other words, that the fitness landscape of tumor suppression is

smooth and that epistatic interactions are infrequent and/or small in magnitude. Here, we

tested this assumption by comparing the fitness landscape of tumor suppression in *EGFR*-driven

Trp53-deficient and in *Kras*-driven *Trp53*-deficient lung adenocarcinoma and found pervasive

epistasis between tumor suppressor genes and oncogenes. Inactivation of *Rb1*, *Rbm10* and *Apc*

had a similar effect on *EGFR* and *KRAS*-driven lung tumors (**Figs. 2c, e**, **Figs. 4a-c** and

Supplemental Figs. 4b). However, while *Lkb1* and *Setd2* were amongst the most potent tumor

suppressor genes in *Kras/p53* tumors, inactivating either of these genes reduced the growth of

EGFR/p53 tumors (**Figs. 2c, e** and **Figs. 4a, b**). This observation is consistent with human data,

where alterations in either *LKB1* or *SETD2*, are much less common in tumors with oncogenic

EGFR than in tumors with oncogenic *KRAS* (**Figs. 4d, e** and **Supplemental Fig. 4c**). Thus, we

reveal a highly context-dependent fitness landscape of tumor suppression that depends on the

nature of the oncogenic driver. Investigation of the mechanisms that underlie the sign epistasis

of *LKB1* and *SETD2* may uncover new biological insights and vulnerabilities of *EGFR* mutant

tumors. More broadly, sign epistasis within seemingly similar cancer contexts, could help

identify genetic interactions for further functional investigation and should be considered when

interpreting cancer genomic data (**Figs. 4d, e** and **Supplemental Fig. 4c**).

One major advantage of autochthonous genetically engineered mouse models of human

cancer is that they can be used to study the impact of inactivation of putative tumor suppressor

genes on therapy responses *in vivo*[10,51,56]. We found that inactivation of *Keap1* decreases

sensitivity to osimertinib *in vivo* (**Figs. 5b, c**). This finding was supported in a clinical cohort of

EGFR/TP53 mutated lung adenocarcinomas, in which patients with tumors harboring mutations

in *KEAP1/NFE2L2/CUL3* had a significantly shorter time to treatment discontinuation with EGFR

TKIs compared with matched controls (**Figs. 6a, b** and **Supplemental Figs. 8a-d**)[17,52]. These

results are consistent with this tumor suppressor gene pathway limiting the response to

therapy and explains the presence of alterations in *KEAP1* pathway genes in TKI-resistant

human tumor specimens. A reduced response to TKI therapy mediated by *KEAP1* inactivation

may be associated with the accumulation and transactivation of oxidative stress-related genes

by NRF2[57-59]. Alternatively, KEAP1/NRF2-dependent metabolic reprogramming could be

involved in mediating drug resistance in lung cancer[60-62]. However, direct genetic alterations in

this pathway occur in less than 10% of TKI-resistant *EGFR* mutant lung adenocarcinomas (**Fig.**

6c)[17]. It is possible that non-genomic alterations that increase NRF2-dependent gene expression

or other mechanisms that decrease oxidative stress also occur in TKI-resistant tumors[63-66].

Collectively, these results raise the possibility that targeting NRF2 may reduce or delay the

onset of resistance in *EGFR*-driven lung adenocarcinomas. More broadly, our study

demonstrates that our approach to can be used to identify clinically relevant pathways that

modulate response to therapy *in vivo*. By uncovering the driving forces of the heterogeneity of

responses to therapy observed in patients, these types of studies could help define high-risk

versus low-risk patient populations and guide therapeutic interventions.

This study provides insight into the complex interplay between tumor suppressor genes

and other co-occurring mutations in *EGFR*-driven lung adenocarcinoma tumorigenesis and thus

has significant clinical implications. By evaluating interactions between co-occurring alterations

in these models, we have avoided confounding factors pervasive in human genomic data (*i.e.,*

tumor mutation load, mutation frequency, passenger mutations) and provide clear quantitative

data on mutual exclusivity and synergistic effects of genetic alterations. Precise mapping of the

fitness consequences of combinations of genetic alterations during tumor evolution will help

uncover the biological and clinical relevance of specific alterations during carcinogenesis and

identify pathways that can be exploited as therapeutic targets to prevent or overcome

resistance to TKIs.

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Author contributions

G.F. designed and performed *in vivo* experiments, analyzed the data and wrote the

manuscript. C.L. performed sequencing analysis, developed and performed statistical analyses,

and wrote the manuscript. H.C. designed sgRNAs, generated Lenti-sgRNA/*Cre* vectors, tested

sgRNA cutting efficiency, produced lentivirus, and wrote the manuscript. J.A.H. evaluated and

analyzed the Stanford Solid Tumor Actionable Mutation Panel (STAMP) cohort of lung cancer

patients at Stanford University School of Medicine and wrote the manuscript. W.L. performed

in vivo experiments, D.A. and K.H. developed the models used for the study. J.C. generated the

pipeline for the WES data of the Yale Rebiopsy program (YLR) cohort at the Yale Cancer Center.

A.W. coordinates the YLR program. L.A. prepared the libraries for Tuba-seq. D.M. developed the

pipeline to analyze the GENIE data. N.R. and S.L. maintained the Yale mouse colony and imaged

mice included in this study. R.H. performed the histological analysis of all the mouse lung tumor

samples. S.G. conceptualized and leads the Yale Rebiopsy Program at the Yale Cancer Center

with K.P.. M.D. conceptualized and analyzed the STAMP cases. H.W. supervised the analysis of

the STAMP cohort. D.A.P. conceptualized, supervised the project and wrote the manuscript.

M.M.W. and K.P. designed the experiments, conceptualized, supervised the project and wrote

the manuscript. All the authors have revised and approved the submitted version.

Methods

Mice and tumor initiation

TetO-EGFR^{L858R}; *p53$^{flox/flox}$*; *Rosa26$^{CAGs-LSL-rtTA3-IRES-mKate}$*, *Rosa26$^{CAGs-LSL-Cas9-GFP}$*, *Kras$^{LSL-G12D}$*,

Rosa26$^{LSL-tdTomato}$, and *H11$^{LSL-Cas9}$* mice have been described[4,25,27-29,40,41,67,68]. *EGFR;p53* and

EGFR;p53;Cas9 were on a mixed BL6/129/FVB background and *Kras;p53;Cas9* mice were on a

mixed BL6/129 background. Approximately equal numbers of males and females were used for

each experiment and the number of mice used for each experiment is listed in each figure

legend. Lung tumors were initiated by intratracheal administration of Lentiviral-*Cre* vectors as

previously described[26]. Tumor burden was assessed by magnetic resonance imaging,

fluorescence microscopy, lung weight, and histology, as indicated. Doxycycline was

administered by feeding mice with doxycycline-impregnated food pellets (625 ppm; Harlan-

Teklad). Osimertinib was resuspended in 0.5% (w/v) methylcellulose (vehicle) and was

administered orally (*per os*, 25 mg/kg 5 days a week). All animals were kept in pathogen-free

housing under guidelines approved by either the Yale University Institutional Animal Care or

the Stanford University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee guidelines.

Production, purification, and titering of lentivirus

The barcoded vectors in the Lenti-sg*TS^Pool/Cre* have been previously described

(**Supplemental Table 3**)[8]. The second Lenti-sg*Rbm10/Cre* vector used in the validation

experiments was generated by site-directed mutagenesis (**Supplemental Table 4**). Briefly,

Lentiviral-U6-sgRNA*/Cre* vectors contain an 8-nucleotide defined sequence (sgID) that identifies

the sgRNA followed by a 15-nucleotide random barcode (BC) to uniquely tag each tumor[8]. To

avoid barcode-sgRNA uncoupling driven by lentiviral template switching during reverse

transcription of the pseudo-diploid viral genome, each barcoded Lenti-sgRNA*/Cre* vector was

generated separately[69,70]. We cultured HEK293T cells in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium

with 10% Fetal Bovine Serum and transfected them with individual barcoded Lenti-sgRNA*/Cre*

plasmids (*sgLkb1, sgp53, sgApc, sgAtm, sgArid1a, sgCdkn2a, sgKeap1, sgNeo1, sgNeo2, sgNeo3,*

sgNT1, sgRb1, sgRbm10, sgRbm10#2 unbarcoded*, sgSetd2,* or *sgSmad4*) along with pCMV-VSV-

G (Addgene #8454) envelope plasmid and pCMV-dR8.2 dvpr (Addgene #8455) packaging

plasmid using polyethylenimine. We treated the cells with 20 mM sodium butyrate 8 hours

after transfection, changed the culture medium 24 hours after transfection, and collected

supernatants 36 and 48 hours after transfection. Subsequently, we removed the cell debris with

a 0.45 µm syringe filter unit (Millipore SLHP033RB), concentrated each lentiviral vector by

ultracentrifugation (25,000 g for 1.5 hours at 4°C), resuspended the virus in PBS, and stored the

virus at -80°C. To determine the titer of each vector, we transduced *Rosa26^LSL-YFP* mouse

embryonic fibroblasts (a gift from Dr. Alejandro Sweet-Cordero/UCSF), determined the

percentage of YFP-positive cells by flow cytometry, and normalized the titer to a lentiviral

preparation of known titer. Lentiviral vectors were thawed and pooled immediately prior to

delivery to mice.

Lentiviral titers and time of analysis

Anticipated growth rates were determined by monitoring tumor development through

magnetic resonance imaging in pilot experiments and the analysis time-points were selected to

ensure that tumors were detectable by MRI such that their response to treatment could be

evaluated. Viral titers used in the experiments were chosen to balance the total tumor burden

across mice at the time of analysis after tumor initiation. For analysis of tumor growth 11 weeks

after tumor initiation, the Lenti-sgTS^{Pool}/Cre titer administered to *EGFR;p53* mice was $2x10^6$

infectious units (ifu)/mouse, while for *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice we used $1x10^6$ ifu/mouse. We

reasoned that using a higher viral titer in the control *EGFR;p53* mice would increase our

confidence that any differences observed between *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice were

due to inactivation of tumor suppressor genes in the latter model. For the 19-week time-point

in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice we initiated tumors with $1x10^5$ ifu/mouse. Two weeks before collection,

mice were treated with either vehicle or osimertinib. For the validation experiments in which

we used a single vector to initiate tumors (Lenti-sg*Apc/Cre*, Lenti-sg*Rbm10/Cre,* Lenti-

sg*Rbm10*#2*/Cre* or Lenti-sg*Neo2/Cre* (sg*Inert*)) we used $1x10^5$ ifu/mouse and analyzed the mice

after 14 weeks of tumor growth (**Supplemental Table 4**). For the validation with Lenti-

sg*Keap1/Cre* virus ($1x10^5$ ifu/mouse), both *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice were treated

after 15 weeks of tumor initiation and lungs were collected after two weeks of treatment with

either vehicle or osimertinib.

Magnetic resonance imaging

All procedures were performed in accordance with protocols approved by the Yale

University IACUC and in agreement with the NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory

Animals. Respiratory gated, gradient-echo MR images of mice were collected with a 4T (31-cm

bore) small-animal Bruker horizontal-bore spectrometer (Bruker AVANCE). All data were

collected as previously described[46]. Tumor volume was quantified by calculating the area of

visible lung opacities present in each image sequence per mouse using BioImage Suite 3.01[71].

Isolation of genomic DNA from mouse lungs and preparation of sgID-BC libraries

Genomic DNA was isolated from bulk tumor-bearing lung tissue from each mouse as

previously described[8]. Briefly, three benchmark control cell lines (~5×10^5 cells per cell line) were

added to each sample ("spiked-in") prior to lysis to enable the calculation of the absolute

number of neoplastic cells in each tumor from the number of sgID-BC reads. Benchmark cell

lines carry unique sgID-BCs. Following homogenization and overnight protease K digestion,

genomic DNA was extracted from the lung lysates using standard phenol-chloroform and

ethanol precipitation.

sgID-BC sequencing libraries were prepared by PCR amplifying the sgID-BC region from

total genomic DNA. To enable the identification and subsequent computational elimination of

index hopped reads after high-throughput sequencing, the sgID-BC region of the integrated

Lenti-sg*RNA-BC/Cre* vectors was PCR amplified using unique dual indexing primer pairs. To

increase the sequence diversity at each position and reduce the amount of PhiX required to

achieve high sequencing quality, we added 6-9 Ns before the sequence-specific primers[51].

We used a single-step PCR amplification of sgID-BC regions, which we have found to be

a highly reproducible and quantitative method to determine the number of neoplastic cells in

each tumor. For each mouse, we performed eight 100 µl PCR reactions per sample (4 µg DNA

per reaction, 32 µg per mouse) using Q5 High-Fidelity 2x Master Mix (New England Biolabs,

M0494X). The PCR products were purified with Agencourt AMPure XP beads (Beckman Coulter,

A63881) using a double size selection protocol. The concentration and quality of the purified

libraries were determined using the Agilent High Sensitivity DNA kit (Agilent Technologies,

5067-4626) on the Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer (Agilent Technologies, G2939BA). The libraries

were pooled based on lung weight (to have sequencing depth more evenly distributed across

samples), cleaned up and size-selected using AMPure XP beads, and sequenced on the

Illumina®HiSeq 2500 platform to generate paired-end 150 bp reads (Admera Health).

Quantification of tumor sizes from sgID-BC sequencing data

We used stringent filtering to identify the sgID-BC region that minimizes PCR and

sequencing error, as previously described[51]. Specifically, we required no mismatch in the

barcode region between the forward and reverse reads and removed all spurious tumors with

the barcodes within two nucleotides from that of another larger tumor. The absolute number

of cells in each tumor was calculated by scaling its sgID-BC read number with the mean read

number of three spiked-in cell lines with a known absolute cell number of $5X10^5$.

Summary statistics for tumor size distributions

As sequencing depth and PCR efficiency vary across libraries, we focused on tumors that

we can repeatedly identify with high confidence, which are tumors over 500 cells as quantified

by comparing technical replicates. We used multiple summary statistics to describe the

truncated distribution of tumor sizes for all tumors larger than 500 cells. Percentiles and LN

means were calculated as two summary statistics. Percentiles are a nonparametric summary of

the distribution by taking the 50th, 60th, 70th, 70th, 90th, and 95th percentile of the distribution.

The LN mean calculates the maximum likelihood estimator of the mean tumor sizes assuming a

log-normal distribution of tumor sizes. For both of these metrics, we normalized to the

corresponding value of the average of Inert tumors to represent the relative growth advantage

by carrying the gene.

Quantification of treatment responses of Inert tumors to osimertinib

We quantified the treatment effect of osimertinib by comparing the tumor size

distributions of the vehicle- and osimertinib-treated groups. We used two ways to quantify

treatment effect. The first way is to calculate the total number of neoplastic cells of tumors

carrying the inert control sgRNAs in each mouse, and take the fold change in the average of the

total number of neoplastic cells as an approximation of the drug effect.

578
$$Drug\ effect = \frac{Average\ neoplastic\ cell\ number\ in\ osimertinib - treated\ mice}{Average\ neoplastic\ cell\ number\ in\ vehicle - treated\ mice}$$

This calculation of tumor burden is very intuitive and relevant in the clinical setting, but this

measure is quite variable due to the large variations in the sizes of the largest tumors. The

second way assumes that each neoplastic cell, regardless of the size of the tumor harboring it,

has an equal probability of being killed by osimertinib treatment (K). To make sure that we are

evaluating tumors that are large enough to be repeatedly identified, we focus on tumors that

are over 1,000 cells in the vehicle-treated mice. We estimated the tumor size reduction after

treatment with osimertinib for the tumors with the inert control sgRNAs by matching the

distribution of tumor sizes in vehicle- and osimertinib-treated mice. Specifically, we used the

binary search algorithm to find the proportion of neoplastic cells remaining after treatment

with osimertinib (S) between $K = 1$ (100% cells were killed by osimertinib) and $K = 0$ (0% of cells

were killed by osimertinib), such that the median tumor number of tumors with the inert

control sgRNAs across the vehicle-treated mice, upon simulated reduction to K, matches the

median tumor number of tumors with the inert control sgRNAs larger than 1,000 cells across all

osimertinib-treated mice.

Estimation of genotype-specific treatment responses

We calculated the expected size distribution of tumors after treatment assuming no

genotype-specific treatment responses by reducing all tumors in the vehicle-treated mice by

the estimated drug effect (K). Then we calculated genotype-specific treatment response for

each sgTS by comparing the relative LN mean of all tumors in the osimertinib-treated mice and

the relative LN mean of all tumors calculated from the expected distribution after treatment.

The genotype-specific treatment response is calculated as the log2 ratio of the observed

relative LN mean by the expected LN mean, and we named it as $ScoreRLM$. We focus on tumors

with the inert control sgRNAs that are over 1,000 cells in untreated mice and take out

comparable proportions of tumors with each sgRNA from each vehicle- and osimertinib-treated

mice based on the estimated treatment effect and the proportion of tumors carrying each sgTS.

The $ScoreRLM$ is calculated as:

606
$$RLM_{i,j} = Log_2\left(\frac{\text{LN mean}_{i,\text{osimertinib}} \big/ \text{LN mean}_{\text{Inert,osimertinib}}}{\text{LN mean}_{i,\text{vehicle}} \big/ \text{LN mean}_{\text{Inert,vehicle}}}\right)$$

607
$$ScoreRLM_{i,j} = 2^{RLM_{i,j}} - 1$$

where LN mean$_{i,\text{osimertinib}}$ is the LN mean for tumors containing sgID i in osimertinib-treated

group, LN mean$_{\text{Inert,osimertinib}}$ is the LN mean for all tumors containing one of the four Inert

sgIDs in the osimertinib-treated group. Similarly, LN mean$_{i,\text{vehicle}}$ is the LN mean for tumors

containing sgID i in vehicle-treated group and LN mean$_{\text{Inert,vehicle}}$ is the LN mean for all tumors

containing one of the four Inert sgIDs in the vehicle-treated group. When tumors are larger

than expected, the *ScoreRLM* will be positive, indicating resistance conferred by gene

inactivation, while when tumors are smaller than expected, the *ScoreRLM* will be negative,

indicating sensitivity conferred by tumor suppressor gene inactivation. Although the metric on

the log2 scale results in the first formula with good statistical properties ranging from $-\infty$ to +

∞ and centered on 0. To make it more directly interpretable by readers, we converted it to the

linear scale as shown in the second formula. On the linear scale the metric ranges from -1 to +

∞, a value of 0.5 means the tumors are 50% larger than expected and a value of -0.5 means

that the tumors are 50% smaller than expected.

Apart from *ScoreRLM* that compares the relative LN mean in the vehicle- and

osimertinib-treated group, we can similarly compare the relative tumor number (*ScoreRTN*) and

relative geometric mean (*ScoreRGM*) for the observed and expected distribution of tumor sizes

following the same logic as shown below:

625
$$ScoreRGM_{i,j} = Log_2 \left(\frac{\text{geometric mean}_{i,\text{osimertinib}} \Big/ \text{geometric mean}_{\text{Inert,osimertinib}}}{\text{geometric mean}_{i,\text{vehicle}} \Big/ \text{geometric mean}_{\text{Inert,vehicle}}} \right)$$

626
$$ScoreRGM_{i,j} = 2^{RGM_{i,j}} - 1$$

628
$$RTN_{i,j} = Log_2 \left(\frac{\text{tumor number}_{i,\text{osimertinib}} \Big/ \text{tumor number}_{\text{Inert,osimertinib}}}{\text{tumor number}_{i,\text{vehicle}} \Big/ \text{tumor number}_{\text{Inert,vehicle}}} \right)$$

629
$$ScoreRTN_{i,j} = 2^{RTN_{i,j}} - 1$$

where the geometric mean and tumor number were calculated from Inert tumors that are over

1,000 cells in the vehicle-treated mice and the corresponding proportions for other sgIDs in the

vehicle-and osimertinib-treated groups considering the proportion of sgIDs and the

treatment[51].

The standard deviation of the genotype-specific responses, represented by any of the

three metrics, is estimated by bootstrapping mice in both the vehicle- and osimertinib-treated

groups and then bootstrapping tumors with the same sgID in each bootstrapped mouse. Such a

two-step bootstrap process allows us to control for both variations of tumor sizes across mice

and within the same mouse. For each run of bootstrap, we re-estimated the drug effect,

estimated the expected tumor size profile between the vehicle- and osimertinib-treated mice.

We estimated the standard deviation based on the scores on the log2 scale and then plotted

the values on the linear scale, because the latter ranges from -1 to $+\infty$ with no genotype-

specific responses located at 1.

Power analysis for three metrics in identifying genotype-specific treatment responses

We calculated the sensitivity and specificity for the three metrics, when 1) the

genotype-specific treatment responses to osimertinib only occur in large tumors, while smaller

tumors respond similarly to sg*Inert* tumors, 2) the genotype-specific treatment responses are

uniform across all tumor sizes such that all sg*TS* tumors have increased or reduced sensitivity to

osimertinib relative to sg*Inert* tumors (**Supplemental Figs. 6e, f**). Specifically, we used all ten

vehicle-treated mice at 11 weeks for simulation. We first applied a drug effect of K = 75% (75%

of cells are expected to be killed by osimertinib assuming no genotype-specific treatment

responses) to all tumors. Then we apply the preassigned genotype-specific treatment responses

to all tumors to generate the simulated distributed tumor sizes. For the first scenario of size-

dependent genotype-specific treatment response, the preassigned genotype-specific responses

only occur in tumors with over 10,000 cells, and they are assigned to be four-fold higher than

expected, i.e., these tumors do not respond at all to osimertinib considering that 75% of tumor

cells are expected to be killed without any genotype-specific treatment responses. For the

second scenario of uniform responses, all tumors with the sg*TS* are assigned to be 50% larger

than expected, i.e., reduced in size by 62.5% instead of 75% after treatment by osimertinib. The

same sample sizes of ten vehicle- and ten osimertinib-treated mice were generated from

bootstrapping mice and then bootstrapping tumors from each mouse prior to and after the

simulated effects of drug responses and genotype - specific responses, respectively. To

calculate the false discovery rate, we also simulated another scenario where no preassigned

genotype-specific responses exist and all tumors, regardless of genotypes, were reduced in size

uniformly by 75% by osimertinib. The therapeutic sensitivity was calculated as the probability to

re-identify the preassigned genotype-specific treatment responses given the cutoff of *P*-values,

while specificity was calculated as the probability of falsely identifying genotype-specific

treatment responses without any input signal of genotype-specific treatment responses given

the cutoff of *P*-values. A total of 100 runs of simulations of the 11 tumor suppressor genes

(including Tp53; 1,100 cases) were performed for each scenario. We further plotted the

receiver operating characteristic[72] curves for the three metrics by varying the cutoff for the *P*-

values.

Histology and immunohistochemistry

The auxiliary lobe of the right lung was collected for each experimental mouse from the

mice transduced with the Lenti-sg*TS^(Pool)/Cre* pool whereas, both the auxiliary and left lobes were

collected for the validation experiments with individual sgRNAs (sg*Apc*, sg*Rbm10*, sg*Rbm10#2*

and sg*Neo2*). Right and auxiliary lobes were collected for the experiment with Lenti-

sg*Keap1/Cre* virus. Lung lobes were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde overnight at room

temperature, placed in 70% ethanol, and paraffin-embedded and sectioned (Histology @ Yale).

Four micrometer sections were used for hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) staining and

immunohistochemistry. Tumor sizes were determined by measuring the longest diameter for

each tumor in H&E stained sections. Tumor size and tumor area were quantified using ImageJ.

The limited tissue collected for histological analysis reduced the number of tumors initiated

with Lenti-sg*Rbm10/Cre* that could be measured. *P*-values were calculated from the Mann-

Whitney U test. The following antibodies were used for immunohistochemistry: anti-mutant

EGFR[L858R] (1:200, CST #3197), anti-SP-C (1:200, AB40876), anti-TTF-1/Nkx2-1 (1:200, AB76013),

anti-phospho-histone H3 (1:200, CST #9701), anti-Ki-67 (1:400, CST #9027), anti-mKate (1:2500,

Evrogen #AB233), anti-Cas9 (1:500, Novus Biologicals #7A9-3A3, NBP2-36440), anti-β-catenin

(1:500, CST #8814), anti-Rbm10 (1:200, AB224149), and anti-Keap1 (1:500, AB227828). Rbm10

expression in tumors was binned as High (over 75% of positive nuclei), Medium (between 25

and 75% of positive nuclei) or Low (positive nuclear staining below 25%). Keap1 levels in tumors

were binned as High (over 75% of positive cells), Medium (between 25 and 75% of positive

cells) or Low (positive staining below 25%). *P*-values were calculated using the Chi-squared test.

Analysis of human lung tumor data using GENIE data

The AACR Project GENIE is a registry that contains CLIA-/ISO-certified genomic data

collected from the records of more than 9,000 patients who were treated at each of the

consortium's participating institutions[43]. Data from GENIE version 4.1-public were accessed

through the Synapse Platform. We generated a comprehensive list of all missense, nonsense,

and frameshift mutations for all screened genes across all participating centers in the GENIE

project, documenting these mutations at the gene and amino acid levels. Based on the sets of

genes included in the different screening panels that contribute to Project GENIE, we annotated

all lung adenocarcinoma within the database as being wild-type, mutated, or not screened for

each gene. From this complete catalog of mutations in each tumor, we determined the rates of

co-occurrence of known oncogenic *KRAS* mutations (G12X, G13X, Q61X) or *EGFR* mutations

(L858R, Exon 19 deletions, L861Q, G719X) with missense, nonsense, or frameshift mutations in

our set of ten tumor suppressor genes. Furthermore, we determined the frequency of co-

incident tumor suppressor gene mutations in tumors with oncogenic *KRAS* and inactivating

TP53 mutations (*KRAS/TP53*) and in tumors with oncogenic *EGFR* and inactivating *TP53*

mutations (*EGFR/TP53*). A pipeline for this analysis is publicly available at

www.github.com/dgmaghini/GENIE, which allows users to input OncoTree codes of interest,

generate mutational profiles for the corresponding GENIE tumors, and identify the co-

occurrence of up to two background mutations (for example, *EGFR* and *TP53*) with mutations in

other genes of interest.

Stanford cohort of *EGFR* mutant lung adenocarcinomas

Patients with lung cancer who were evaluated at Stanford Cancer Center and had their

tumors analyzed using the Stanford Solid Tumor Actionable Mutation Panel (STAMP)[6] were

included in the analysis. This retrospective study was conducted under a molecular analysis

protocol approved by the Stanford University Institutional Review Board. All STAMP cases

performed between 2015 and 2019 were included; during this time, there were two different

assays used, with one covering 198 genes (302 kb) and the other covering 130 genes (232 kb).

STAMP was done as the standard of care and thus at the discretion of the treating physician

and could have occurred at the time of diagnosis or at the time of progression.

From the available STAMP cases, patients were selected if they had stage IV non-small

cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and had a pathogenic *EGFR* and *p53* mutation. Patients were excluded

if they had incomplete data or were lost to follow up prior to analysis of the primary endpoint,

if they elected not to receive treatment or if they received adjuvant tyrosine kinase inhibitor

therapy for early-stage disease. Within this cohort, patients were further selected for the

presence of at least one of the tumor suppressor genes investigated in the preclinical setting

(*KEAP1, STK11, SETD2, SMAD4, RB1, APC, ARIDIA* and/or *CDKN2A*). To ensure there was enough

power to conduct an analysis, genes were included for analysis if there were at least 8 patients

with a mutation of that gene who met inclusion criteria. Due to small numbers, patients with

LKB1/STK11 ($N = 3$), *SETD2* ($N = 1$) and *SMAD4* ($N = 2$) mutations were not included. Therefore,

only those patients with stage IV, *EGFR/P53* mutant NSCLC who were treated with a tyrosine

kinase inhibitor (TKI) and had mutations in either *KEAP1*-pathway component *(KEAP1, NFE2L2,*

CUL3), RB1, APC, ARIDIA or *CDKN2A* were included in the analysis.

Demographic data including sex, age at diagnosis, smoking history, and ethnicity were

extracted. For each tumor suppressor, patients were matched 1:3 with a wildtype cohort on the

basis of sex, smoking history, ethnicity, age and treatment type. Time to Treatment Failure

(TTF) was determined by subtracting the date of discontinuation of TKI due to progression,

toxicity or death, from the date of initiation of TKI and reported in months. Statistical analysis

was performed using Prism 8 and R studio. The Kaplan-Meier method was used to estimate TTF.

Comparison of survival curves was made using the Log-rank test. Significance was defined as *P <*

0.05. Hazard ratios (HR) were generated from multivariate regression analysis performed in R

and reported with a 95% confidence interval (CI).

Yale cohort of *EGFR* mutant lung adenocarcinomas

Patients with *EGFR*-mutant lung adenocarcinoma were consented and enrolled to a Yale

University IRB approved protocol allowing the collection and analysis of clinical data, archival

and fresh tissue, blood and the generation of patient-derived xenografts. Patients who received

targeted therapy (erlotinib, gefitinib, or afatinib) as first line therapy, either alone or in

combination with other therapies such as chemotherapy or cetuximab, were included. For

genomic studies, formalin-fixed paraffin embedded tissue was macro-dissected to enrich for

tumor material. All of the tumor samples (N = 29) analyzed had matched normal tissue and

cancer cell purity >20% as assessed by the LOH (Loss of Heterozygosity) events from the whole

exome sequencing data.

<u>Whole Exome Sequencing</u>

DNA was extracted from and analyzed as previously described[73]. Briefly, genomic DNA

was captured on the NimbleGen 2.1M human exome array and subjected to 74-bp paired-end

reads on the Illumina HiSeq2000 instrument. The mean coverage for normal was 109.1x and the

mean coverage for tumor was 189x with 92.78% and 95.56% for the bases covered at least 20

independent sequence reads, respectively. Sequence reads were mapped to the human

reference genome (GRCh37) using the Burrow-Wheeler Aligner-MEM (BWA-MEM) program.

Sequence reads outside the targeted sequences were discarded and the statistics on coverage

were collected from the remaining reads using in-house per scripts.

<u>Somatic Mutation Calling</u>

For all matched tumor-normal pairs, somatic point mutations and indels were called by

MuTect2 using Bayesian classifiers. For all somatic mutations called, we extracted base

coverage information in all samples and considered the mutations that were supported by at

least two independent sequence reads covering non-reference alleles and present in more than

5% of all sequencing reads. Identified variants were further filtered based on their presence in

repositories of common variations (1000 Genomes, NHLBI exome variant server and 2,577 non-

cancer exomes sequenced at Yale) and annotated using ANNOVAR program[74]. All somatic indels

were visually inspected to remove the false positive calls.

<u>Somatic Copy Number Variation Analysis</u>

Copy number analysis was performed as previously described[73]. Briefly, copy number

variants were identified from the whole exome sequencing data using EXCAVATOR software

that normalizes the non-uniform whole exome sequencing data taking GC-content, mappability,

and exon-size into account[75]. The Hidden Markov Model was utilized to classify each copy

number variant segment into five copy number states (homozygous deletion, heterozygous

deletion, normal copy number, homozygous copy gain or multiple copy gain). Tumor purity was

estimated from LOH using in-house per scripts.

785
Data availability

The datasets generated during and/or analyzed in the current study are available in the

NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus database (GSE146550). GENIE genomic data analysis is

publicly available at www.github.com/dgmaghini/GENIE. All other data supporting the

findings are available upon request.

Code availability

The code is available at https://github.com/lichuan199010/Tuba-seq-analysis-and-

summary-statistics.

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797

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977

Fig. 1 | Lentiviral Cre-mediated lung tumor initiation in *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice. a, Schematic of the *TetO-EGFR^L858R^*, *R26^LSL-RIK^*, and *p53^flox^* alleles in *EGFR;p53* mice, prior to and following Cre-mediated recombination. Conditional expression of oncogenic EGFR^L858R^ is under the control of a tetracycline response element (*TetO*), which is induced by rtTA in the presence of doxycycline (dox). Lentiviral Cre inactivates *Trp53* and enables the expression of the reverse tetracycline-regulated transactivator (*rtTA3*) and mKate expression (from the *R26^LSL-RIK^* allele). Cre also allows expression of Cas9 and GFP (from the *R26^LSL-Cas9-GFP^* allele) in the *EGFR;p53;Cas9* model. **b**, MRI showing tumor development 11 weeks after tumor initiation in *EGFR;p53* mice (top left panel) with 2x10⁶ ifu Lenti-Cre. The dashed red line surrounds the heart (H) and red arrows indicate areas of tumor. Hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) staining shows lung adenocarcinoma development. Red arrows indicate micropapillary structures and cancer cells with a high nuclear/cytoplasm ratio. Scale bars = 1.2 mm and 100 μm in the top and bottom panels, respectively. Images are from one representative mouse (*N* = 5). **c**, Immunostaining for EGFR^L858R^ and mKate in tumors in *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice, and Cas9 in tumors in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice. Scale bars = 200 μm. **d**, MRI and H&E showing tumor development 16 weeks after tumor initiation in E*GFR;p53;Cas9* mice with 1x10⁵ ifu Lenti-Cre. Scale bars = 1.2 mm and 100 μm on top and bottom-right panels, respectively. Tumors are positive for GFP in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice and tumor-bearing lungs are indicated by the white dashed line. Scale bar = 2.5 mm.

Fig. 2 | Multiplexed somatic CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genome editing uncovers tumor suppressor gene function in *EGFR*-driven lung tumors. a, Experimental strategy. Tumors were allowed to develop for either 11 or 19 weeks in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* and *EGFR;p53* mice after intra-tracheal administration of Lenti-sg*TS^Pool^/Cre*. Whole lungs were collected for tumor barcode deep sequencing and histology. The number of neoplastic cells in each tumor (tumor size) was calculated from barcode sequencing of bulk tumor-bearing lungs. Barcode read number was normalized to benchmark control cells that have known barcodes and were added at a known number to each sample (Methods). **b**, MRI, H&E, and GFP images showing tumor development in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice 11 weeks after tumor initiation with 1x10⁵ ifu of Lenti-sg*TS^Pool^/Cre*. Scale bars = 1.2 mm and 100 μm in top and bottom panels, respectively. Images are from one representative mouse (*N* = 10). **c**, Relative log-normal (LN) mean size of tumors with each sgRNA in *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice 11 weeks after tumor initiation (normalized to the tumors with inert sgRNAs). *P*-values were calculated from bootstrapping. *P*-values < 0.05 and their corresponding means are highlighted in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice for sgRNAs that positively (red) and negatively (green) affect tumor growth. **d**, Relative sizes of tumors at the indicated percentiles of each genotype in *EGFR;p53* mice 11 weeks after tumor initiation with the Lenti-sg*TS^Pool^/Cre*. These mice lack the *R26^LSL-Cas9-GFP^* allele; therefore, all sgRNAs are functionally inert. **e**, Relative sizes of tumors of each genotype in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice 11 weeks after tumor initiation with the Lenti-sg*TS^Pool^/Cre*. The relative sizes of tumors at the indicated percentiles were calculated from the tumor size distribution of all tumors from ten mice. 95% confidence intervals are shown. Percentiles that are significantly different from the tumors with inert sgRNAs, are in color.

Fig. 3 | *Apc* and *Rbm10* inactivation enhances the growth of oncogenic *EGFR*-driven lung tumors in vivo. a, Experimental strategy for tumor suppressor gene validation. Tumors were initiated in *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice with Lenti-sg*TS/Cre* vectors carrying sg*Apc*, sg*Rbm10*, sg*Rbm10#2*, or sg*Neo2* as a control (*EGFR;p53 N* = 3 mice/group, *EGFR;p53;Cas9 N* = 5 mice/group, 1x10[5] ifu/mouse). **b**, Total tumor burden 14 weeks after tumor initiation as quantified by MRI in *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice in which tumors were initiated with the indicated vectors. *P*-values were calculated using a one-tailed Mann-Whitney U test. The odds ratio is a measure of the magnitude of increase in tumor volume conferred by inactivation of the gene of interest. **c-f**, H&E and GFP quantification show that *Apc* (**d**) and *Rbm10* (**e, f**) inactivation enhance tumor growth (**c**). Tumor size was calculated by measuring the longest diameter of each tumor. Scale bars = 1.2 mm and 2.5 mm for histology and GFP images, respectively. The left and auxiliary lobes were analyzed using histology. *P*-values were calculated using the Mann-Whitney U test. The panels on the bottom right of the H&E images (**d-f**) show nuclear accumulation of β-catenin in tumors in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice following *Apc* inactivation (**d**) whereas, Rbm10 protein expression is greatly reduced or absent after *Rbm10* targeting in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice (**e, f**).

Foggetti *et al.*

Fig. 4 | Dramatic differences in the effects of tumor suppressor genes in oncogenic *EGFR-* versus *Kras*-driven lung cancer. a, Tumors were initiated in *Kras;p53;Cas9* mice with Lenti-sg*TS^Pool*/Cre virus (1x10⁶ ifu) and collected for Tuba-seq preparation 14 weeks after tumor initiation (*N* = 10). **b**, Relative size of tumors of each genotype in *Kras^G12D;p53^flox/flox;H11^LSL-Cas9* (*Kras;p53;Cas9*) mice 14 weeks after tumor initiation with Lenti-sg*TS^Pool*/Cre relative to tumors with inert sgRNAs. The relative size of tumors at the indicated percentiles was calculated from the tumor size distribution of all tumors from six mice. 95% confidence intervals are shown. **c**, The relative effect of inactivating each tumor suppressor gene on tumor size (comparison to tumors with inert sgRNAs) at the indicated percentiles in the *EGFR;p53;Cas9* and *Kras;p53;Cas9* models. Tumor suppressor genes that when inactivated have opposite effects in the two models are within the shaded gray areas of the plot. *Lkb1* and *Setd2* inactivation strongly increased tumor size only in the *Kras;p53;Cas9* model. **d**, The frequency of tumor suppressor gene alterations that co-occur with *EGFR* or *KRAS* and *TP53* mutations in human lung adenocarcinomas (data from AACR Project GENIE). **e**, *LKB1* and *SETD2* alterations co-occur significantly more frequently in *KRAS^onc;TP53^mut* than in *EGFR^onc;TP53^mut* human lung adenocarcinomas. The frequency of *RBM10* and *APC* alterations were not significantly different between in *KRAS^onc;TP53^mut* and *EGFR^onc;TP53^mut* tumors. The odds ratios represent the strength of the frequencies associated with tumor suppressor gene alterations that co-occur in *KRAS^onc;TP53^mut* cases compared to *EGFR^onc;TP53^mut* cases. *P*-values were calculated using a Fisher's exact test.

Fig. 5 | Identification of genotype-specific responses to osimertinib treatment. a, Experimental strategy. Tumors were initiated with Lenti-sg*TS^Pool^/Cre* in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice for 9 or 17 weeks and were treated for two weeks with either vehicle or osimertinib (25 mg/kg, 5 days/week). **b**, Relative sizes of the tumors at the indicated percentiles for each genotype in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice after treatment with osimertinib. **c**, Estimate of the genotype-specific treatment response (*ScoreRLM*) calculated by comparing the LN mean of tumors treated with osimertinib to the LN mean of vehicle-treated tumors in *EGFR; p53;Cas9* mice 11 weeks after tumor initiation (Methods). Error bars indicate the standard deviation. **d**, H&E staining of tumor bearing-lungs in *EGFR;p53* and *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice with Lenti-sg*Keap1/Cre* initiated tumors. **e**, Immunostaining of Lenti-sgLenti-sg*TS^Pool^/Cre* initiated tumors in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice for EGFR^L858R^ and Keap1 after vehicle or osimertinib treatment. Tumors are still detectable after two weeks of treatment with osimertinib and mostly expressing medium/low levels of Keap1 compared to tumors treated with vehicle in *EGFR;p53;Cas9* mice (bar graph). Dashed lines delineate tumors and the level of Keap1 is indicated with a label (high/low). Scale bars = 1.2 mm and 200 μm. *P*-values were calculated using a Chi-squared test.

Fig. 6 | *KEAP1* inactivation correlates with reduced therapeutic response to TKIs in human *EGFR*-driven lung adenocarcinomas. a, Kaplan-Meier curve showing time to TKI treatment failure for patients with *EGFR/TP53* lung adenocarcinomas that do or not have mutations in the *KEAP1/NFE2L2/CUL3* axis. Time to treatment failure is the time from the initiation of TKI treatment to the date of discontinuation of TKI due to progression, toxicity or death. **b**, Forest plot of the time on treatment hazard ratios for tumors with *KEAP1*, *RB1*, *APC*, *ARIDA* or *CDKN2A* alterations in *EGFR/TP53* mutant lung adenocarcinomas. Hazard ratios (HR) were calculated from multivariate regression analysis, 95% confidence intervals are shown. **c**, *KEAP1, NFE2L2*, and *CUL3* alteration frequency in oncogenic *EGFR* and *TP53* mutant lung tumors in the Yale Lung Rebiopsy Program dataset (Methods). OncoPrint of oncogenic *EGFR* samples prior to first-line TKI (erlotinib, gefitinib, afatinib) treatment (PRE-TKI, left panel) (*N* = 22), and at acquired resistance to TKIs (TKI-R, right panel) (*N* = 27). In each row, the percentage and the type of alterations in each gene are indicated for each patient. For the TKI-R samples, known resistance mechanisms such as acquisition of T790M in *EGFR*, are reported. Cases having paired pre- and resistant samples are indicated by the patient number. Unpaired samples are indicated with an asterisk (*).