YES1 amplification: a mechanism of acquired resistance to EGFR inhibitors identified by transposon mutagenesis and clinical genomics

Short title: *YES1*-mediated resistance to EGFR and ALK inhibitors

Pang-Dian Fan[a,b], Giuseppe Narzisi[c], Anitha D. Jayaprakash[c,h], Elisa Venturini[c], Nicolas Robine[c], Peter Smibert[c], Soren Germer[c], Helena A. Yu[d], Emmet J. Jordan[d,i], Paul K. Paik[d], Yelena Y. Janjigian[d], Jamie E. Chaft[d], Lu Wang[a,j], Achim A. Jungbluth[a], Sumit Middha[a], Lee Spraggon[a,b], Huan Qiao[e], Christine M. Lovly[e], Mark G. Kris[d], Gregory J. Riely[d], Katerina Politi[f], Harold Varmus[g,k], Marc Ladanyi[a,b]

[a]Department of Pathology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY 10065
[b]Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY 10065
[c]New York Genome Center, New York, NY 10013
[d]Division of Solid Tumor Oncology, Department of Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY 10065
[e]Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN 37232
[f]Department of Pathology and the Yale Cancer Center, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT 06520
[g]Cancer Biology and Genetics Program, Sloan Kettering Institute, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY 10065
[h]present address: Girihlet Inc., Oakland, CA 94609
[i]present address: University Hospital Waterford, Dunmore Road, Waterford, X91 ER8E, Ireland
[j]present address: Department of Pathology, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN 38105
[k]present addresses: Meyer Cancer Center, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY 10065 and [c]

Corresponding authors: Pang-Dian Fan and Marc Ladanyi, Department of Pathology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Avenue, New York, NY 10065, fanp@mskcc.org and ladanyim@mskcc.org; Harold Varmus, Meyer Cancer Center, Weill Cornell Medicine, 1300 York Avenue, New York, NY 10065, varmus@med.cornell.edu

ABSTRACT

In approximately 30% of patients with *EGFR*-mutant lung adenocarcinomas whose disease progresses on EGFR inhibitors, the basis for acquired resistance remains unclear. We have integrated transposon mutagenesis screening in an *EGFR*-mutant cell line and clinical genomic sequencing in cases of acquired resistance to identify novel mechanisms of resistance to EGFR inhibitors. The most prominent candidate genes identified by insertions in or near the genes during the screen were *MET*, a gene whose amplification is known to mediate resistance to EGFR inhibitors, and the gene encoding the Src family kinase YES1. Cell clones with transposon insertions that activated expression of *YES1* exhibited resistance to all three generations of EGFR inhibitors and sensitivity to pharmacologic and siRNA-mediated inhibition of *YES1*. Analysis of clinical genomic sequencing data from cases of acquired resistance to EGFR inhibitors revealed amplification of *YES1* in 5 cases, 4 of which lacked any other known mechanisms of resistance. Pre-inhibitor samples, available for 2 of the 5 patients, lacked *YES1* amplification. None of 136 post-inhibitor samples had detectable amplification of other Src family kinases (*SRC*, *FYN*). *YES1* amplification was also found in 2 of 17 samples from *ALK* fusion-positive lung cancer patients who had progressed on ALK TKIs. Taken together, our findings identify acquired amplification of *YES1* as a novel, recurrent, and targetable mechanism of resistance to EGFR inhibition in *EGFR*-mutant lung cancers, and demonstrate the utility of transposon mutagenesis in discovering clinically relevant mechanisms of drug resistance.

KEY WORDS

YES1, EGFR, ALK, acquired resistance, lung adenocarcinoma, amplification, transposon mutagenesis, TKI

SIGNIFICANCE

Despite high response rates to treatment with small molecule inhibitors of EGFR tyrosine kinase activity, patients with *EGFR*-mutant lung adenocarcinomas eventually develop resistance to these drugs. In many cases, the basis of acquired resistance remains unclear. We have used a transposon mutagenesis screen in an *EGFR*-mutant cell line and clinical genomic sequencing in cases of acquired resistance to identify amplification of *YES1* as a novel and targetable mechanism of resistance to EGFR inhibitors in *EGFR*-mutant lung cancers.

INTRODUCTION

Four small molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) have been FDA-approved for the treatment of *EGFR*-mutant lung cancers and represent three generations of drug development for this disease: erlotinib and gefitinib (1st generation), afatinib (2nd) and osimertinib (3rd). Despite high response rates to these agents, the development of acquired resistance almost universally ensues. The mechanisms of acquired resistance can be grouped into target-dependent and target-independent categories. Target-dependent mechanisms are secondary alterations of *EGFR* that typically affect drug binding by, for example, altering the affinity of the kinase for ATP or by eliminating key sites for covalent bonding between drug and target protein. These include the T790M mutation that confers resistance to 1st and 2nd generation EGFR TKIs(1-4) and the C797S mutation that emerges upon osimertinib treatment(5, 6). Common target-independent mechanisms include amplification of *MET* and *ERBB2* (*HER2*) as well as small cell transformation(7, 8). However, in approximately 30% of cases of acquired resistance to 1st generation EGFR TKIs, the underlying mechanisms still remain to be identified. While target-independent resistance mechanisms are expected

to largely overlap between EGFR TKI generations, comprehensive studies of mechanisms of acquired resistance to 3rd generation TKIs are currently ongoing.

To complement clinical genomic sequencing as a means of identifying mediators of resistance to EGFR inhibition, several different strategies have been employed using cell culture-based systems. Gradual escalation of concentrations of EGFR TKIs applied to *EGFR*-mutant lung cancer cell lines initially sensitive to the drugs has yielded TKI-resistant cells with clinically relevant mechanisms of resistance, including amplification of *MET*(9), overexpression of AXL(10), and secondary mutations of *EGFR*, most notably the T790M mutation(11-13). Forward genetic screens for modifiers of responses to EGFR inhibition, using libraries for RNA interference(14-18), expression of ORFs(16, 19), or CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene deletion(16, 20), have also identified candidate genes that are implicated in acquired resistance in patients, including *NF1*, *BRAF*, *AXL*, and *ERBB2*.

Transposon-based mutagenesis is another forward genetic approach that can identify mechanisms of drug resistance. This strategy introduces genome-wide insertions of transposons, which have been designed with the potential to induce both gains and losses of endogenous gene function through the action of promoter/enhancer elements and splice acceptor and donor sequences that have been introduced into the transposons(21). Transposon mutagenesis has been used in cell culture-based systems and mouse models to screen for resistance to standard and investigational therapies for a variety of cancers, including paclitaxel(22), fludarabine(23), the PARP inhibitor olaparib(24), the MDM2-TP53 inhibitor HDM201(25), and the BRAF inhibitors PLX4720 and PLX4032(26, 27).

Here we report the results of an integrated approach, employing both forward genetic screening with transposon mutagenesis to recover drug-resistant derivatives of an *EGFR*-mutant lung adenocarcinoma cell line and genomic sequencing data from patients with acquired resistance to define novel, clinically relevant mechanisms of resistance to EGFR inhibition.

RESULTS

A transposon mutagenesis screen for resistance to EGFR inhibition in an *EGFR*-mutant lung adenocarcinoma cell line. To identify novel mechanisms of resistance to EGFR inhibition, we performed a transposon mutagenesis screen for resistance to the 2nd generation EGFR TKI afatinib in the EGFR TKI-sensitive PC9 lung adenocarcinoma cell line, which harbors an activating small in-frame deletion in exon 19 of *EGFR* (**Fig. 1A**). Since transposon mutagenesis does not generate point mutations, our screen favored the recovery of target-independent mechanisms of resistance over target-dependent mechanisms such as the T790M and C797S second site mutations in *EGFR*. Although the emergence of some target-independent mechanisms of resistance might be suppressed by off-target TKI inhibition of kinases other than EGFR, we expected several of these mechanisms, including amplification of *MET*, to emerge repeatedly with successive generations of EGFR TKIs.

PC9 cells were co-transfected with plasmids encoding a hyperactive piggyBac transposase(28) and a mutagenic transposon, which includes cytomegalovirus (CMV) enhancer and promoter sequences, a splice donor sequence, and a puromycin resistance cassette that provides a selection marker for transposon tagging(22). After selection with puromycin, transposon-tagged cells from 13 independent co-transfections were selected with 1 µM afatinib for 17 to 19 days. Afatinib-resistant clones were isolated for expansion and preparation of genomic DNA. No resistant clones were observed with non-transposon-tagged parental PC9 cells that were treated in parallel with 1 µM afatinib.

Transposon insertion sites were identified using a modified TraDIS-type method to generate Illumina-compatible libraries from DNA fragments that span the *piggyBac* sequence and the surrounding genomic DNA(29). Utilizing a custom bioinformatic pipeline with a set of filters based on the number of supporting reads, mean fragment size, and standard deviation of fragment size, we

generated a list of 1927 distinct transposon insertion sites from 188 afatinib-resistant clones. Insertions were predicted to be activating if a transposon was situated near the transcription start site or first intron of a known human gene and was correctly oriented to drive expression of that gene. Genes that were found to be disrupted by insertions in both orientations or throughout the body of the gene were predicted to be inactivated.

MET and _YES1_ are the top candidate genes from the transposon mutagenesis screen for resistance to EGFR inhibition. Since the period between transfection and selection with afatinib was sufficient to allow one or more rounds of cell division of transposon-tagged cells, several clones from each transfection exhibited identical insertion sites, consistent with derivation from a common transfected progenitor. In selecting candidate genes for functional analysis, we therefore prioritized them based on the number of different insertions per gene and the number of independent transfections in which these insertions were discovered. The most promising candidate genes are listed in **Table 1**. The top two candidates were _MET,_ encoding a receptor tyrosine kinase that is a known mediator of resistance, and _YES1[1],_ encoding a Src family kinase (SFK)_._ All but one of the 188 clones harbored insertions in _MET_ (78 clones), _YES1_ (58 clones), or both genes (51 clones). In 29 clones, insertions were only found in _MET_ out of the candidate genes listed in **Table 1**, and 45 clones had insertions in only _YES1_ among these same candidate genes. The one clone that lacked insertions in either _MET_ or _YES1_ instead had insertions predicted to be activating in _SOS1_ and _RABGAP1L_. Mutations in _SOS1_ were recently found to be significantly enriched in lung adenocarcinoma samples without known driver

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[1] Since there is no _YES2_ gene and no other SFK gene name contains numerals, the authors suggested to the HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee that the gene name be changed from _YES1_ to _YES_. The committee did not agree to this change, noting that the use of "yes" in literature searches recovers numerous unrelated items. Regardless of the arguments for and against either _YES1_ or _YES_ as a gene name, the continued use of both _YES1_ and _YES_ within the scientific community necessitates the inclusion of both terms in literature searches to ensure retrieval of all publications that are relevant to the gene.

alterations(30). As expected, *ERBB2*, another gene whose amplification is known to mediate resistance to erlotinib(31), was absent from the candidate list, reflecting the fact that afatinib also inhibits ERBB2(32).

Transposon insertions in *YES1* result in high expression and phosphorylation of YES1. We selected three clones with activating insertions in *MET* and another three with insertions in *YES1* - hereafter referred to as *MET* clones and *YES1* clones - for further characterization alongside parental PC9 cells. All six clones were maintained in growth medium containing 500 nM afatinib and lacked insertions in the other candidate genes listed in **Table 1**. To determine the levels of MET and YES1 proteins and phosphorylation of those proteins, we performed a series of immunoblots on cell lysates (**Fig. 1B**). High levels of phosphorylated MET were detected in *MET* clones. *YES1* clones exhibited high levels of YES1, phosphorylated SFKs, and phosphorylated Yes-associated protein 1 (YAP1). Since the phospho-SFK antibody does not distinguish between different SFKs, we analyzed cell lysates from *YES1* clones using a phospho-kinase array that specifically measures phosphorylation of YES, SRC, FYN and four other SFKs (**Fig. 1C**). In all three *YES1* clones, only phosphorylation of YES1 was detected among these seven SFKs. A similar survey using receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) arrays showed phosphorylation of MET and ERBB3 in *MET* clones, and phosphorylation of ERBB3 in *YES1* clones, which was confirmed by immunoblot analysis (*SI Appendix*, **Fig. S1**). Taken together, these findings confirm that the transposon insertions in *YES1* and *MET* resulted in high levels of the corresponding proteins; phosphorylation of these two kinases and their associated proteins is consistent with activation of YES1 and MET kinases in their respective clones.

Clones with activating insertions in *YES1* are resistant to all three generations of EGFR TKIs, but are resensitized upon inhibition of YES1. We next determined if the *YES1* and *MET* clones were resistant to all three generations of EGFR inhibitors, and if the resistance was dependent on

functional activity of YES1 and MET, respectively. Since only the 2nd generation EGFR inhibitor afatinib was used in the transposon mutagenesis discovery screen, we tested the sensitivity of the clones to the 1st generation TKI erlotinib and the 3rd generation TKI osimertinib. Cell viability assays showed that all six clones were resistant to all three generations of EGFR inhibitors (**Fig. 2A and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S2A**). To block the kinase activities of YES1 and MET, we used the SFK inhibitors dasatinib and saracatinib and the MET inhibitor crizotinib, respectively. *YES1* clones were sensitive to the addition of dasatinib or saracatinib to afatinib, but not to the combination of crizotinib with afatinib (**Fig. 2B**). Conversely, *MET* clones were sensitive to the addition of crizotinib to afatinib, but not to the pairing of dasatinib or saracatinib with afatinib (***SI Appendix*, Fig. S2B**). *YES1* clones were also sensitive to the combination of either SFK inhibitor with osimertinib (**Fig. 2C**). Phosphorylation of serine-threonine kinase AKT and extracellular signal–regulated kinases (ERK) was observed in both *YES1* and *MET* clones, and was blocked by inhibiting SFKs or MET in addition to EGFR (**Fig. 2D**). Modest phosphorylation of EGFR, likely caused by kinases other than EGFR, was also abrogated by the addition of the SFK and MET inhibitors. Removal of afatinib from the growth medium for 72 hours restored high levels of phosphorylated EGFR in *YES1* clones, indicating that the intrinsic kinase activity of EGFR remained intact in these clones (***SI Appendix*, Fig. S2C**).

Since dasatinib and saracatinib have activity against kinases other than YES1, we specifically reduced YES1 levels by siRNA-mediated knockdown and assessed the effect on the viability of *YES1* clones. In addition, since the FLAURA study recently showed superior efficacy of osimertinib to that of standard EGFR TKIs in the first-line treatment of EGFR mutation-positive advanced NSCLC, we chose osimertinib to combine with siRNA-mediated knockdown of *YES1*(33). As shown in **Fig. 3A**, the *YES1*-specific siRNA, but not the negative control or *MET*-specific siRNA, sensitized *YES1* clones to treatment with osimertinib. In contrast, the *MET*-specific siRNA, but not the negative control

or *YES1*-specific siRNA, sensitized *MET* clones to treatment with osimertinib (**Fig. 3B**). Neither the *YES1*-specific siRNA or *MET*-specific siRNA increased the sensitivity of parental PC9 cells to treatment with osimertinib (**Fig. 3C**). These results are consistent with YES1 as the key target of SFK inhibitors in *YES1* clones and confirm that YES1 is required to mediate the resistance of these clones to EGFR inhibitors.

YES1 is amplified in clinical cases of acquired resistance to EGFR inhibitors. To search for clinical evidence of a role for *YES1* in acquired resistance to EGFR inhibition, we examined clinical genomic sequencing data generated with the MSK-IMPACT panel from 136 patients whose *EGFR*-mutant lung adenocarcinomas progressed on EGFR inhibitors(34). This data set included 128 post-erlotinib, 6 post-afatinib, and 2 post-dacomitinib cases of acquired resistance to EGFR inhibition. Amplification of *YES1* was identified in 3 out of 66 T790M-negative cases and 1 out of 70 T790M-positive cases. None of the 136 cases had detectable amplification of *SRC* or *FYN*, the two other SFKs included in the MSK-IMPACT panel assay. The MSK-IMPACT fold changes (normalized $\log_2$ transformed fold changes of coverage of tumor versus normal) and FACETS integer values (allele-specific copy numbers corrected for tumor purity, ploidy and clonal heterogeneity) for *YES1* are listed in **Table 2**, and all the copy number profiles are shown in **Fig. 4A** and *SI Appendix*, **Fig. S3**. The responses to the indicated EGFR TKIs in the 4 cases with amplification of *YES1* ranged from approximately 5 months (patient 1) to approximately 30 months (patient 2). Additionally, separate from this cohort of 136 consecutive patients with MSK-IMPACT data on their *EGFR*-mutant lung adenocarcinomas with acquired resistance to EGFR inhibitors, we recently detected a striking level of acquired *YES1* amplification in a fifth *EGFR*-mutant case, a T790M-negative case of progression of disease on erlotinib and maintenance pemetrexed. Previous treatment regimens in this patient also included the use of carboplatin, bevacizumab, and localized radiation therapy to the site of progression. The progression sample also harbored a missense mutation of unclear significance in

YES1, Q322H, that appeared to be amplified copies of the gene based on its variant allele fraction (patient 5, **Table 2** and **Fig. 4A**). A prior post-TKI sample two years earlier did not show *YES1* amplification.

Although the MSK-IMPACT assay is not designed to enable a formal analysis of minimal regions of gain or loss, additional focality data were available based on the assay results. *YES1* is the most telomeric gene on 18p included in the MSK-IMPACT assay, extending from position 724,421 to 756,830. In all 7 cases in Table 2, all *YES1* exons showed an increase in copy number. The next set of probes immediately centromeric to *YES1* are intergenic tiling probes extending from 2,224,682 to 38,530,030. The next closest gene in the assay panel is *PIK3C3* starting at 39,535,254; none of the 7 cases showed co-amplification of *PIK3C3*. In 2 of the 7 cases in Table 2 (patients 2 and 3), the *YES1* gains included some of the tiling probes on the centromeric side, with the furthest being 34,882,991 in the former case. In the remaining 5 cases, amplification was only detected with the *YES1* probes.

Amplification of *YES1* was confirmed by fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH) for two cases with sufficient material for analysis (**Fig. 4B**). Immunohistochemical staining for YES1 in post-TKI samples from patients 1 and 2 showed prominent labeling of lung adenocarcinoma cells which, moreover, was absent in the pre-TKI specimen available from patient 1 (**Fig. 4C**). A previously known mechanism of resistance was found in only one out of the four samples containing amplified *YES1*, namely the EGFR T790M mutation, but with *EGFR* mutation allele frequencies (L858R 0.77, T790M 0.16) that were consistent with intratumoral heterogeneity, raising the possibility that the T790M *EGFR* allele and the amplified *YES1* allele were in separate subpopulations, as has been described in other instances of multiple concurrent resistance mechanisms(7, 8, 35, 36). In addition, amplification of *YES1* was not detected in pre-TKI samples that were available for patients 1 and 4, confirming that it had emerged during treatment. Interestingly, review of the MSK-IMPACT data in other molecular subsets of lung

adenocarcinoma revealed *YES1* amplification in 2 out of 17 ALK fusion-driven lung adenocarcinomas that had acquired resistance to ALK TKIs. These two cases did not show evidence of other changes, such as secondary mutations in *ALK* that have previously been found in such tumors that developed resistance to ALK inhibitors (**Table 2**). In one of these cases, the pre-TKI sample was available and showed no *YES1* amplification.

To assess the occurrence of *YES1* amplification generally in lung adenocarcinomas, not just those with acquired resistance to EGFR and ALK inhibitors, we reviewed all 2466 lung adenocarcinomas in a more recent version of the MSK-IMPACT patient database (data freeze: August 31, 2017). In addition to the previously described 4 *EGFR*-mutant and 2 *ALK*-rearranged lung adenocarcinomas, we found 13 more cases with an amplified *YES1* locus, including 2 *EGFR*-mutant tumors pre-TKI treatment, 3 tumors with a *KRAS* mutation, 1 pre-TKI tumor with a *MET* mutation causing exon 14 skipping, and 8 tumors without a known driver mutation. These data indicate that *YES1* amplification is rarely detected prior to targeted therapy for *EGFR*-mutant and *ALK*-rearranged lung adenocarcinomas, and is not commonly found in lung adenocarcinomas in general.

DISCUSSION

The present approach of integrating transposon mutagenesis screening data in lung adenocarcinoma cell lines with clinical genomic sequencing data from patient tumor specimens identified both established and novel mechanisms of resistance to EGFR inhibition. The most prominent candidate genes from the screen for resistance to afatinib in PC9 cells were *MET* and *YES1*. While our screen with afatinib was initiated well before the FDA approval of the 3rd generation EGFR TKI osimertinib, it is important to note that clones with activating transposon insertions in these genes were resistant to erlotinib,

afatinib, and osimertinib, representing respectively all three generations of FDA-approved EGFR TKIs.

Review of the MSK-IMPACT patient database revealed post-TKI amplification of *YES1* in 5 *EGFR*-mutant and 2 *ALK*-rearranged lung adenocarcinomas with acquired resistance to targeted therapy. Only one of these 7 post-TKI samples harbored another known resistance-conferring alteration, specifically a concurrent EGFR T790M mutation. The presence of a concurrent EGFR T790M in one case is not unexpected, as biopsy samples in this clinical setting can show more than one resistance mechanism, presumably due to intratumoral heterogeneity. Amplification of *YES1* was not detected in pre-TKI samples that were available for two of the *EGFR*-mutant cases and one of the *ALK*-rearranged cases, confirming its acquired nature. To our knowledge, this is the first report of genomic sequencing data from patient tumors that implicate amplification of SFK genes in therapeutic resistance.

Previous laboratory studies support amplification of *YES1* as a mediator of resistance to inhibitors of ERBB family members. Ichihara and colleagues found that amplification of *YES1* mediated resistance in 1 out of 5 PC9-derived cell lines that were rendered resistant in culture to osimertinib through gradual dose escalation(18). Amplification of *YES1* has also been shown to mediate resistance to trastuzumab and lapatinib in drug-resistant models that were generated from an *ERBB2*-amplified breast cancer cell line(37). In addition, an initial ORF-based screen for genetic modifiers of EGFR dependence in PC9 cells identified 8 of the 9 SFK genes as potentially reducing sensitivity to erlotinib(19). *YES1* was the only one of the 8 SFK genes to fail subsequent validation assays, but its functional validation may have been hampered by the markedly lower level of YES1 protein achievable experimentally in comparison to the other 7 SFKs. Similarly, despite utilizing multiple vectors featuring either constitutive or tetracycline-regulated promoters, we have also been unable to achieve robust ectopic expression of YES1 in PC9 cells. Given these technical limitations,

further functional studies in PC9 cells will likely require approaches to upregulate YES1 expression from its endogenous locus.

Treatment with SFK inhibitors, such as dasatinib, has previously been investigated in the setting of acquired resistance to EGFR TKIs. Johnson and colleagues did not observe activity for the combination of erlotinib and dasatinib in 12 patients with EGFR-mutant lung adenocarcinoma with acquired resistance to erlotinib or gefitinib, of which 8 were positive for T790M prior to initiation of this combination therapy(38). However, the copy number status of YES1 was not determined in this trial and the likelihood that one of the four T790M-negative patients in this trial had YES1 amplification as a resistance mechanism is statistically very low. Our findings justify consideration of treatment with combined EGFR and SFK inhibition in the subset of cases of acquired resistance to EGFR TKIs that harbor amplification of YES1. Our results also suggest that this mechanism might contribute to resistance to ALK TKIs. In this context, it is notable that a pharmacogenomic screen of cell lines derived from ALK TKI-resistant ALK fusion-positive lung cancer biopsies recently identified several cell lines that exhibited upregulated SRC activity upon ALK inhibition and sensitivity to dual ALK and SRC inhibition(39). Although the mechanism of SRC regulation by ALK signaling remains unclear, these data suggest an important role for signaling downstream of SFKs in a subset of ALK TKI-resistant ALK fusion-positive lung cancers.

We have shown that transposon mutagenesis screening can facilitate identification of clinically relevant target-independent mechanisms of resistance to EGFR inhibition. This approach can be rapidly re-implemented to screen in vitro for resistance to additional drugs or drug combinations. By incorporating additional EGFR TKIs (e.g., osimertinib), other EGFR-mutant cell lines, and concurrent inhibition of EGFR, MET and YES1 in PC9 cells, reapplication of transposon mutagenesis has the potential to clarify the contributions of other candidate genes identified in our screen to resistance to EGFR inhibition and to

uncover additional mediators of resistance to EGFR inhibitors. We anticipate that other targeted therapies in lung adenocarcinomas will be amenable to this approach to identifying novel mechanisms of resistance.

Materials and Methods

Cell culture and inhibitors. PC9 cells were obtained from the Varmus laboratory and have been maintained in the Ladanyi laboratory since 2010. Cells were cultured in RPMI-1640 medium supplemented with 10% FBS (Atlanta Biologicals) and 100 U/mL penicillin/100 µg/mL streptomycin (Gemini Bio-Products). Cells were grown in a humidified incubator with 5% CO_2 at 37^oC. Afatinib-resistant clones were maintained in growth medium with 500 nM afatinib. Afatinib, erlotinib, osimertinib, dasatinib, saracatinib and crizotinib were obtained from Selleck Chemicals.

Transposon mutagenesis. PC9 cells were seeded at a density of $5x10^5$ cells per well in 6-well plates 24 hours prior to co-transfection with plasmids pCMV-HA-hyPBase (obtained from the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute) and pPB-SB-CMV-puroSD (obtained from Li Chen, Schmidt Laboratory, Massachusetts General Hospital) using X-tremeGENE^{TM} 9 DNA transfection reagent (Roche) according to the manufacturer's protocol. After 48 hours, cells were selected in growth medium with 0.3 µg/ml puromycin for 8 days. Surviving cells from 13 independent co-transfections were replated at a density of $2.7x10^5$ cells per 15-cm plate in growth medium with 1 µM afatinib for 17 to 19 days. A total of 225 resistant clones were isolated using cloning discs (Scienceware) and expanded. Genomic DNA was prepared from clones using DNeasy Blood & Tissue Kits (Qiagen).

Library preparation, next-generation sequencing and bioinformatics analysis for identification of transposon insertion sites. See *SI Materials and Methods*.

Immunoblot and phospho-kinase array analyses. Cells were washed with ice-cold PBS and lysed with RIPA buffer (Cell Signaling Technology) supplemented with protease inhibitor and phosphatase inhibitor cocktails (Roche). Protein levels were quantified with Bradford dye reagent (Bio-Rad), and equal amounts were loaded for SDS-PAGE using precast Bis-Tris gels (Invitrogen), followed by transfer to polyvinylidene difluoride membranes. Membranes were blotted with the following antibodies according to the supplier's recommendations and were all obtained from Cell Signaling Technology unless otherwise noted: phospho-EGFR Y1068 (#3777), EGFR E746-A750del specific (#2085), phospo-MET Y1234/1235 (#3777), MET (#8198), phospho-SFK (#6943), YES (#3201), phospho-YAP1 Y357 (#ab62751, Abcam), YAP1 (#14704), phospho-AKT S473 (#4060), AKT (#4691), phospho-ERK T202/Y204 (#4370), ERK (#4695), phospho-ERBB3 Y1197 (#4561), ERBB3 (#12708), GAPDH (#2118). Human phospho-kinase (#ARY003B, R&D Systems) and human phospho-RTK ((#ARY001B, R&D Systems) array kits were used according to the manufacturer's protocols.

Cell viability assays. Cells were seeded in 96-well plates at a density of 2,500 (PC9) to 5,000 (*YES1* and *MET* clones) cells per well in growth medium with the indicated inhibitors. After 96 hours, AlamarBlue cell viability reagent (Invitrogen) was added at a final concentration of 10% (vol/vol) and fluorescence was measured (Ex: 555 nm, Em: 585) with a SpectraMax M2 plate reader.

siRNA experiments. Cells were transfected with negative control and *YES1*–specific siRNAs (Invitrogen) at a final concentration of 10 nM using Lipofectamine RNAiMAX reagent (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's protocol. After 24 hours, cells were trypsinized and seeded in 96-well plates at a density of 5,000

cells per well and incubated with the indicated inhibitors for 72 hours followed by measurement of cell viability.

Statistical analysis. Mean and standard deviation values for cell viability assays were calculated and plotted using Prism 7 software (GraphPad Software). Copy number aberrations were identified using an in-house developed algorithm by comparing sequence coverage of targeted regions in a tumor sample relative to a standard diploid normal sample(40), as extensively validated for *ERBB2* (*HER2*) amplification(41). Allele-specific copy number alterations were also identified using the FACETS analysis tool, which performs a joint segmentation of the copy ratios(42). For a complete list of genes included in the MSK-IMPACT panel, see Table A1 in the cited reference(43).

FISH analysis. Interphase FISH analysis on formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tumor tissue was performed to evaluate *YES1* gene copy number status. The probe targeting *YES1* at 18p11.32 was labeled with SpectrumOrange fluorochrome (Empire Genomic) and the control probe targeting the centromere of chromosome 18 was labeled with SpectrumGreen (Abbott Molecular). Four-micron (4 µm) FFPE tissue sections were used for the FISH study, following the protocol for FFPE tissue FISH from Vysis/Abbott Molecular with minor adjustments of pepsin treatment as needed. FISH analysis and signal capture were conducted on a fluorescence microscope (Zeiss) coupled with the ISIS FISH Imaging System (Metasystems). We analyzed 100 interphase nuclei from tumor-rich areas in each specimen.

Immunohistochemistry. For the immunohistochemical detection of YES1, monoclonal antibody EPR3173 (Abcam, 1:250) was used. All staining procedures were performed on a Leica Bond-3 automated stainer platform. Heat-based antigen retrieval using a high pH buffer (ER2, Leica) was employed before the actual staining. A polymer-based secondary system (Leica Refine) was used to detect the primary antibody.

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Conflict of interest statement: H.A.Y. has served on the advisory boards for AstraZeneca and Boehringer Ingelheim. Y.Y.J. has received consulting fees from Bristol-Myers Squibb and honoraria from Pfizer, Genentech and Boehringer Ingelheim. J.E.C. has received consulting fees from AstraZeneca, Genentech, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Merck. M.G.K. has served as a consultant for AstraZeneca. C.M.L. has received consulting fees from Pfizer and AstraZeneca. G.J.R. has received consulting fees from Roche, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) has received support from Pfizer and Roche to fund G.J.R.'s clinical research. M.L. has received advisory board compensation from NCCN/Boehringer Ingelheim and NCCN/AstraZeneca.

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Figure and Table Legends

Fig. 1. A transposon mutagenesis screen in *EGFR*-mutant PC9 lung adenocarcinoma cells for resistance to afatinib. (A) Flowchart representing the overall design of the screen. (B) Lysates from PC9 cells, *YES1* clones and *MET* clones treated with or without 500 nM afatinib for 60 minutes were subjected to immunoblot analysis with antibodies against the indicated proteins. (C) Lysates from PC9 cells and *YES1* clones treated with 500 nM afatinib for 60 minutes were hybridized to human phospho-kinase antibody arrays (R&D Systems, ARY003B).

Fig. 2. *YES1* clones are resistant to EGFR inhibitors from all three generations but sensitive when YES1 is inhibited. (A), (B), and (C) PC9 cells and *YES1* clones were seeded in 96-well plates and treated with EGFR inhibitors or the indicated inhibitors in combination with 500 nM afatinib or 100 nM osimertinib for 96 hours. Cell viability was assayed as described in Materials and Methods. Data are expressed as a percentage of the value for cells treated with a vehicle control and are means of triplicates. The experiments were performed 3 times with similar results. (D) Lysates from PC9 cells, clone 7-13 (*YES1*), and clone 24-13 (*MET*) treated with the indicated inhibitors for 60 minutes were subjected to immunoblot analysis with antibodies against the indicated proteins.

Fig. 3. *YES1* clones are resistant to osimertinib but are resensitized by siRNA-mediated knockdown of *YES1*. *YES1* clones (A), *MET* clones (B), and PC9 cells (C) were transfected with negative control, *MET*-specific, and *YES1*–specific siRNAs at a final concentration of 10 nM. After 24 hours, cells were trypsinized and seeded in 96-well plates at a density of 5,000 cells per well with the indicated concentrations of osimertinib for 72 hours followed by measurement of cell viability. Experiments were performed 3 times with similar results. (D) Immunoblot analysis with YES1, MET, and GAPDH antibodies was performed on lysates prepared from PC9 cells, clone 7-13, and clone 24-13 72 hours after transfection with the indicated siRNAs.

Fig. 4. Amplification of *YES1* in tumor samples from patients with acquired resistance to EGFR inhibitors. (A) Copy number plots for tumor samples from patients 1 and 5. Each dot represents a target region in the MSK-IMPACT targeted capture assay. Red dots are target regions exceeding a fold change cutoff of 2-fold. The log-ratios (y-axis) comparing tumor versus normal coverage values are calculated across all targeted regions (x-axis). Green arrows indicate focal amplification of *YES1* (11 coding exons targeted). (B) *YES1* FISH for post-TKI tumor specimens from patients 2 and 4. *YES1* (red) and *CEP18* (green). For patient 2, the FISH ratio for *YES1* gain was 2.6 fold. For patient 4, increased *YES1* signals were clumped, precluding an accurate count. (C) Immunohistochemistry for YES1 on tumor samples from patients 1 and 2. The clinical and molecular features of these patients are summarized in Table 2.

Table 1. Candidate genes from a transposon mutagenesis screen for resistance to afatinib in the *EGFR*-mutant PC9 lung adenocarcinoma cell line. A total of 1927 distinct transposon insertion sites were identified in 188 afatinib-resistant PC9 clones from 13 independent transfections. Insertions were predicted to be activating if a transposon was situated near the transcription start site or first intron of a known human gene and was correctly oriented to drive expression of that gene. Genes that were found to be disrupted by insertions in both orientations or throughout the body of the gene were predicted to be inactivated.

Table 2. Clinical and molecular features of cases of acquired resistance to EGFR or ALK inhibitors with amplification of *YES1*. The FACETS integer values are allele-specific copy numbers corrected for tumor purity, ploidy and clonal heterogeneity. The MSK-IMPACT fold changes are normalized $\log_2$ transformed fold changes of coverage of tumor versus normal.

Supporting Information

SI Materials and Methods

Library preparation and sequencing. *piggyBac* insertion sites were identified by generating Illumina-compatible libraries from DNA fragments that span the *piggyBac* sequence and the surrounding genomic DNA, using a modified TraDIS-type method(29). Genomic DNA (200 ng) from 188 isolated clones was sheared in a Covaris 96 microTUBE Plate to give fragments around 350 base pairs in length. End repair, A-tailing and ligation were performed using the Bioo NextFlex rapid DNA sequencing kit. Following ligation and removal of excess adapters, a two-step nested PCR protocol was performed to create sequencing libraries. For the first PCR (12 cycles), primers F-nest_1 (designed to bind the adapter sequence) and Pb-51 (designed to bind the *piggyBac* sequence) were used to specifically amplify fragments that contain the *piggyBac* end sequence. Products were purified, and re-amplified with F-X and N2-X primers (16 cycles) to append indices and library ends. Using a dual indexing strategy, the combination of 8 F-X primers and 12 N2-X primers allows 96 index combinations. The F-X primer binds to the adapter sequence, and adds the i5 index and the P5 end of the library. The N2-X primer binds to the *piggyBac* sequence at a position immediately adjacent and proximal to the binding site of the Pb-51 primer used in the first amplification. It also contains the i7 index sequence and the P7 sequence for binding to the Illumina flowcell. PCRs were performed with Phusion polymerase using high GC buffer. Sequencing was performed on a Miseq using a 2x75bp run with custom sequencing primers for index 1 and read 2. The PCR strategy was designed so that for read 2, the first 17 nucleotides sequenced (tatctttctagggttaa) correspond to the end of *piggyBac*, to enable unambiguous identification of *piggyBac* end sequences and precise delineation of insertion sites.

Primer sequences:

F-nest_1: TCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
Pb-51: CGCTATTTAGAAAGAGAGAGCAATATTTCA

F-X: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACxxxxxxxxACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
N2-X: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATxxxxxxAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC

Custom index 1 sequencing primer: GTCTGCGTAAAATTGACGCATGCATTCT
Custom read 2 sequencing primer: AGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC

F-1: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACTAGATCGCACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
F-2: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACCTCTCTATACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
F-3: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACTATCCTCTACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
F-4: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACAGAGTAGAACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
F-5: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACGTAAGGAGACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
F-6: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACACTGCATAACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
F-7: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACAAGGAGTAACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
F-8: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACCTAAGCCTACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT

N2-1: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATTGGTCAAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-2: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATCACTGTAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-3: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATCTGATCAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-4: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATTACAAGAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-5: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATCGTACGAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-6: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATCCACTCAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-7: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATATCAGTAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-8: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATGCCTAAAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-9: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATCGTGATAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-10: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATACATCGAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-11: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATATTGGCAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC
N2-12: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATAAGCTAAGAATGCATGCGTCAATTTTACGCAGAC

index sequences (replacing "X" in generic primer sequences above)
N2-1: TGGTCA
N2-2: CACTGT
N2-3: CTGATC
N2-4: TACAAG
N2-5: CGTACG
N2-6: CCACTC
N2-7: ATCAGT
N2-8: GCCTAA
N2-9: CGTGAT
N2-10: ACATCG
N2-11: ATTGGC
N2-12: AAGCTA

F-1: TAGATCGC
F-2: CTCTCTAT
F-3: TATCCTCT
F-4: AGAGTAGA
F-5: GTAAGGAG
F-6: ACTGCATA
F-7: AAGGAGTA
F-8: CTAAGCCT

Bioinformatics analysis. Illumina paired-end reads were aligned to the reference genome (hg19) using bwa mem v0.7.8 [1] with default parameters. PCR duplicates were marked using picard tools[2] v1.83 and were not used for downstream analysis. In order to generate a list of candidate *piggyBac* insertion sites we developed custom software (using the BamTools API[3]) to analyze the

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[2] http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/
[3] https://github.com/pezmaster31/bamtools

pattern of soft-clipped sequences in the aligned reads. Reads were extracted if the soft-clipped portion of the sequence (either forward or reverse complemented) contained a perfect match ($\geq$ 13 bp) to the *piggyBac* sequence. A candidate insertion site was considered if all soft-clipped sequences (matching *piggyBac*) for a predefined minimum number of reads start at the same coordinate in the genome. Read orientation and alignment position of the mate are collected for all reads supporting the insertion site and used to infer the orientation of the insertion and compute statistics to remove false-positive candidates. For actual *piggyBac* insertion sites one would expect the insert size distribution, and the standard deviation (std) of insert sizes, to follow the expected distribution, measured by mapping the read pairs to the reference genome. However, due to ambiguity in read mapping or library artifacts, this may not hold. **Fig. S4A** and **Fig. S4B** show that most of the candidate insertions sites follow the expected insert size distribution inferred after alignment (mean=100, std=55) and **Fig. S4C** shows good correlation between mean and std of the fragment insert size. The exception is a suspiciously high number of sites characterized by a small std. These sites are likely to be false-positives and in fact the correlation analysis (**Fig. S4C**) shows that most of them have significantly higher mean insert size. Based on these results we compiled a list of high confidence insertion sites using a conservative set of filters: >10 supporting reads (matching the *piggyBac* sequence) and insert size std > 10. After filtering, our list contained 1927 distinct candidate insertion sites in 188 clones. We then focused our attention to genes with multiple independent insertion events.

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SI Figure Legends

Fig. S1. Tyrosine phosphorylation of ERBB3 in *YES1* and *MET* clones. (A) Lysates from PC9 cells with and without 500 nM afatinib and from *YES1* and *MET* clones maintained in 500 nM afatinib were hybridized to human phospho-RTK arrays (R&D Systems, ARY001B). The pan phospho-tyrosine antibody for the array kit detects phosphorylation of MET in clone 9-4, presumably at a site different from the tyrosine recognized by the phospho-MET antibody used in Figure 1B. (B) Lysates from PC9 cells, clone 7-13 (*YES1*), and clone 6-2 (*MET*) treated with the indicated inhibitors for 60 minutes were subjected to immunoblot analysis with antibodies against the indicated proteins.

Fig. S2. *MET* clones are resistant to EGFR inhibitors from all three generations but sensitive to additional blockade of MET kinase activity. *YES1* clones retain EGFR kinase activity. (A) and (B) *MET* clones were seeded in 96-well plates and treated with EGFR inhibitors or the indicated inhibitors in combination with 500 nM afatinib for 96 hours. Cell viability was assayed as described in Methods. Data are expressed as a percentage of the value for cells treated with vehicle control and are means of triplicates. The experiments were performed 3 times with similar results. (C) PC9 cells were treated with and without 500 nM afatinib for 60 minutes. *YES1* clones were maintained in 500 nM afatinib or grown without afatinib for 72 hours. Cell lysates were subjected to immunoblot analysis with antibodies against the indicated proteins.

Fig. S3. Amplification of *YES1* in post-TKI tumor samples from patients with acquired resistance to EGFR and ALK inhibitors. Copy number plots for post-TKI samples from patients 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7. Each dot represents a target region in the MSK-IMPACT targeted capture assay. Red dots are target regions exceeding a fold change cutoff of 2-fold. The log-ratios (y-axis) comparing tumor versus normal coverage values are calculated across all targeted regions (x-axis). Green arrows indicate focal amplification of *YES1* (11 coding exons targeted).

Fig. S4. Mean insert size and standard deviation of insert size for candidate insertion sites. (A) Mean insert size distribution of candidate insertion sites. (B) Standard deviation of insert sizes for candidate insertion sites. (C) Correlation between mean insert size and standard deviation of insert size for the candidate insertion sites.

Table 1. Candidate genes from a transposon mutagenesis screen for resistance to afatinib in the *EGFR*-mutant PC9 lung adenocarcinoma cell line

Gene name	Predicted functional effect of insertions	Number of distinct insertion sites	Number of independent transfections with insertions	Total number of clones with insertions
MET	activating	19	12	129
YES1	activating	15	8	109
FYN	activating	14	9	30
GSK3B	inactivating	7	4	8
SOS1	activating	6	12	37
DNM3	inactivating	4	8	24
NAV2	inactivating	4	5	15
EPS8	activating	4	2	6
KRAS	activating	4	2	5
MYOF	inactivating	3	4	19
RABGAP1L	activating	3	3	15
RAF1	activating	3	3	6
RABGAP1	activating	3	3	4

Table 2. Clinical and molecular features of cases of acquired resistance to EGFR or ALK inhibitors with amplification of *YES1*

Patient ID	Age	Sex	Driver alteration	Pre-biopsy therapies	Somatic mutations	Copy number alterations	*YES1* gain by MSK-IMPACT		Confirmation of *YES1* amp by FISH	Pre-TKI *YES1* amp
							FACETS copy number	fold change		
1	66	F	EGFR L858R	erlotinib	EGFR V689M, **IDH1 R132G**, TP53 P36Rfs*7, FGFR R399C, AR G578*	***YES1* amp**	7	2.2[4]	N/A	Absent
2	60	F	EGFR L858R	erlotinib, carboplatin + pemetrexed	TP53 G245D, SMARCA4 G1232V, BRCA2 Q3036E, TERT S796Y	*YES1* amp, *AKT2* amp, *AXL* amp	5	1.6[5]	Yes[6]	N/A
3	82	F	EGFR L747-A750del	erlotinib, pemetrexed, afatinib	PIK3CA N345H, TP53 A138V, RB1 X313_splice	*YES1* amp, *EGFR* amp, *GNAS* amp, *PRDM1* del	6	1.9[5]	N/A	N/A
4	69	M	EGFR L858R	erlotinib, afatinib + cetuximab, erlotinib+ pemetrexed + bevacizumab	EGFR T790M, TP53 R213L, **SP2-NF1 fusion**[3], **ZFHX3 F2097V**, **POLD1-MYH14 fusion, RAF1 R73Q, SOX17 R125H**	***YES1* amp**, *EGFR* amp, ***PRDM1* del**, *NPM1* amp, *CRLF2* amp, ***CEBPA* amp**	>10	4.0[4]	Yes[7]	Absent (pre-afatinib)
5	60	M	EGFR E746_T751delinsVA	erlotinib, carboplatin + pemetrexed + bevacizumab + erlotinib, radiation therapy	ARAF R297Q, **SMAD4 D493Y, PBRM1 V1139Lfs*16, ARID2 Q455*, YES1 Q322H**	***YES1* amp, *CDKN2A* del, *CDKN2B* del, *CRLF2* amp**	51	14.6	N/A	Absent from previous post-TKI sample
6	58	F	EML4-ALK fusion	crizotinib, ceritinib	EP300 Q1874*, EP300 S1730F	*YES1* amp, *CDK4* amp, *MDM2* amp	4	5.2[5]	N/A	N/A
7	45	F	HIP1-ALK fusion	erlotinib, pemetrexed + bevacizumab, gemcitabine + vinorelbine, abraxane, crizotinib	CDKN2A R80*, ARID2 R80Efs*10	***YES1* amp**, ***MDM2* amp**	>10	12.1[5]	N/A	Absent

[1] N/A indicates not available
[2] bold type indicates alteration was not detected pre-TKI in the 3 patients with available pre-TKI samples
[3] predicted to cause truncation of NF1 at exon 48
[4] see copy number plots in Figure 3
[5] see copy number plots in Supplementary Figure S3
[6] FISH ratio for YES1 gain was 2.6 fold
[7] Increased YES1 signals compared to the chromosome 18 centromere probe were clumped, precluding an accurate count.

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

A

Patient 1 (pre-TKI)

Patient 1 (post-TKI)

Patient 5 (post-TKI)

B

Patient 2

Patient 4

C

Patient 1 (pre-TKI)

Patient 1 (post-TKI)

Patient 2 (post-TKI)

Fig. S1

A

PC9 (500 nM afatinib)

PC9 (no afatinib)

clone 7-13 (YES1)

clone 6-2 (MET)

clone 7-32 (YES1)

clone 23-9 (MET)

clone 9-4 (YES1)

clone 24-13 (MET)

EGFR   MET   ERBB3

B

	PC9		7-13 (YES1)			6-2 (MET)		
afatinib (500 nM)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
dasatinib (100 nM)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
crizotinib (100 nM)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+

p-ERBB3

ERBB3

GAPDH

Fig. S2

A

clone 6-2 (MET)

clone 23-9 (MET)

clone 24-13 (MET)

- ● erlotinib
- ■ afatinib
- ▲ osimertinib

B

clone 6-2 (MET)

clone 23-9 (MET)

clone 24-13 (MET)

- ● dasatinib + 500 nM afatinib
- ■ saracatinib + 500 nM afatinib
- ▲ crizotinib + 500 nM afatinib

C

	PC9		7-13 (YES1)		7-32 (YES1)		9-4 (YES1)	
afatinib (500 nM)	−	+	−	+	−	+	−	+

p-EGFR

EGFR

GAPDH

Fig. S3

Patient 2 (EGFR L858R)

Patient 6 (EML4-ALK)

Patient 3 (EGFR L747-A750del)

Patient 7 (HIP1-ALK)

Patient 4 (EGFR L858R)

Fig. S4