

1 **Research Article**

2 **An *in vivo* inflammatory loop potentiates KRAS blockade**

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24

25 **ABSTRACT**

26 *KRAS* inhibitors perform inferior to other targeted drugs. To investigate a possible reason for
27 this, we treated cancer cells with *KRAS* inhibitors deltarasin (targeting phosphodiesterase- δ),
28 cysmethynil (targeting isoprenylcysteine carboxymethyltransferase), and AA12 (targeting
29 *KRAS*^{G12C}), and silenced/overexpressed mutant *KRAS* using custom vectors. We show that
30 *KRAS*-mutant tumor cells exclusively respond to *KRAS* blockade *in vivo*, because the oncogene
31 co-opts host myeloid cells via a C-C-motif chemokine ligand 2/interleukin-1 β -mediated
32 signaling loop for sustained tumorigenicity. Indeed, *KRAS*-mutant tumors did not respond to
33 deltarasin in *Ccr2* and *Il1b* gene-deficient mice, but were deltarasin-sensitive in wild-type and
34 *Ccr2*-deficient mice adoptively transplanted with wild-type murine bone marrow. A *KRAS*-
35 dependent pro-inflammatory transcriptome was prominent in human cancers with high *KRAS*
36 mutation prevalence and predicted poor survival. Hence the findings support that *in vitro* systems
37 are suboptimal for anti-*KRAS* drug screens, and suggest that interleukin-1 β blockade might be
38 specific for *KRAS*-mutant cancers.

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40 **Key words:** Deltarasin; IL-1 β ; *KRAS*; inflammation; lung cancer.

41 INTRODUCTION

42 Since its discovery, the KRAS proto-oncogene GTPase (encoded by the human *KRAS* and the
43 murine *Kras* genes) has become the holy grail of anticancer therapy (*Esposito et al., 2019*;
44 *Downward, 2003*). The KRAS oncoprotein possesses a unique molecular structure that
45 potentiates it as a driver of multiple cancer cell hallmarks (including proliferation, migration,
46 metastasis, angiogenesis, inflammation, and apoptosis evasion), but also renders it non-
47 actionable due to the absence of a druggable deep pocket (*Downward, 2003*; *Stephen et al.,*
48 *2014*). KRAS point mutations that constitutively activate GTPase function occur most frequently
49 in codons 12, 13, and 61 and are particularly frequent in pancreatic (70%), colorectal (35%), and
50 lung (20%) adenocarcinomas (*Stephen et al., 2014*; *Tate et al., 2019*). However, full KRAS
51 GTPase activity and downstream signaling additionally prerequisites its integration into the cell
52 membrane, which is facilitated by post-translational lipidation and membrane transport of KRAS
53 by various enzymes such as farnesyltransferase (FT), geranylgeranyltransferase (GGT),
54 isoprenylcysteine carboxylmethyltransferase (ICMT), phosphodiesterase- δ (PDE δ), and others
55 (*Stephen et al., 2014*; *Simanshu et al., 2017*). To this end, therapeutic attempts to inhibit KRAS
56 lipidation by targeting FT/GGT/ICMT were recently coupled by the development of PDE δ
57 blockers and of allosteric and covalent inhibitors of mutated KRAS^{G12C} (*Winter-Vann et al.,*
58 *2005*; *Zimmermann et al., 2013*; *Ostrem et al., 2013*).

59 Despite coordinated efforts (*Esposito et al., 2019*), anti-KRAS drug discovery is lagging behind
60 other oncogene targets (*Stephen et al., 2014*). In addition to molecular structural considerations
61 (*Simanshu et al., 2017*), the mode of KRAS oncogenic functions could be a reason for this. To
62 this end, Janes and collaborators recently reported a discordance between the *in vitro* and the *in*
63 *vivo* effects of a newly developed covalent KRAS^{G12C} inhibitor (*Janes et al., 2018*). This

64 observation is relevant to other reports describing how KRAS-dependence is linked to signatures
65 of intravital-restricted processes like inflammation and epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition
66 (*Singh et al., 2009; Sparmann and Bar-Sagi, 2004; McDonald et al., 2017*) and how pro-
67 inflammatory properties of *KRAS* mutations potentiate malignant pleural effusions in mice
68 (*Agalioti et al., 2017; Marazioti et al., 2018*).

69 Here we hypothesized that KRAS effects and druggability are preferentially at play *in vivo*. We
70 tested the efficacy of three different KRAS inhibitors with divergent modes of action *in vitro* and
71 *in vivo* using a battery of 30 natural and transduced human and murine cancer cell lines and four
72 different methods to integrally assess tumor cell growth. We consistently show that KRAS
73 inhibitors exert ubiquitous *in vitro* effects irrespective of cellular *KRAS* mutation status, but are
74 specifically effective against *KRAS*-mutant tumors *in vivo*. Using transcriptome analyses of cell
75 lines expressing endogenous or exogenous wild-type or mutant *Kras* alleles, *Ccr2* and *Il1b* gene-
76 deficient mice, as well as adoptive bone marrow transfer, we show that mutant *Kras* establishes a
77 proinflammatory C-C motif chemokine ligand 2 (CCL2)/interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β)-mediated
78 signaling loop to host myeloid cells *in vivo*, which is required for *KRAS*-mediated
79 tumorigenicity, but also for specific KRAS inhibitor efficacy. The *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* transcript
80 signature is further shown to be enriched in human tumors with high *KRAS* mutation frequencies
81 and to portend poor survival. Our data show that intact inflammatory tumor-to-host interactions
82 are required for full KRAS inhibitor efficacy and imply that *in vitro* drug screens might not be
83 optimal for KRAS inhibitor discovery.

84

85 RESULTS

86 Mutation-independent effects of KRAS inhibitors *in vitro*

87 We initially investigated the cellular responses of a battery of human and murine cell lines with
88 known *KRAS/Kras* mutation status (*Giopanou et al., 2016; Agalioti et al., 2017; Giannou et al.,*
89 *2017; Marazioti et al., 2018; Tate et al., 2019; Kanellakis et al., 2019*) to three preclinical KRAS
90 inhibitors: deltarasin targeting PDE δ (*Zimmermann et al., 2013*), AA12 allosterically targeting
91 KRAS^{G12C} (*Ostrem et al., 2013*), and cysmethynil targeting ICMT (*Winter-Vann et al., 2005*)
92 (*Figure 1A* and *Figure 1-figure supplement 1*). For this, widely used assays were employed
93 based on literature searches (*Figure 1-figure supplement 2* and *Figure 1-source data 1*).
94 Initially, 50% inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) values were calculated from water soluble
95 tetrazolium-8 (WST-8) assays done after 72 hours of treatment with half-log-incremental drug
96 concentrations. Unexpectedly, all three KRAS inhibitors showed comparable modest *in vitro*
97 efficacy across all cell lines tested, independent of their *KRAS/Kras* mutation status, with IC₅₀
98 values between 1-50 μ M (*Figures 1B-D, Tables 1-3, Figure 1-figure supplement 3, and Figure*
99 *1-source data2*). A literature search revealed that this was generally true for developmental
100 KRAS inhibitors compared with tyrosine kinase inhibitors (*Figure 1-figure supplement 4* and
101 *Figure 1-source data3*). To extend these results, we analyzed the response of eight selected
102 murine and human cell lines to 60% inhibitory concentrations (IC₆₀) of deltarasin in an *in vitro*
103 colony formation assay. Again, deltarasin efficacy was independent of *KRAS/Kras* mutation
104 status (*Figures 2A and B, Figure 2-figure supplement 1, and Figure 2-source data 1*). Since
105 KRAS activates the mitogen-activated protein kinase cascade inducing phosphorylation of
106 extracellular-signal regulated kinase (ERK), we quantified total (t)- and phospho (p)-ERK
107 relative to glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) in 12 murine and human cell

108 lines treated with saline or IC₆₀deltarasin. In line with the above, deltarasin inhibited p-ERK
109 independent from cellular *KRAS/Kras* mutation status (*Figure 2C and D, Figure 2–figure*
110 *supplement 2, and Figure 2–source data 2*). Thus, pharmacologic KRAS inhibition does not
111 reveal KRAS-dependence *in vitro*.

112 **Specific *in vivo* effects of deltarasin against *KRAS*-mutant tumors**

113 To replicate these results *in vivo*, we induced subcutaneous (sc) tumors in *C57BL/6, FVB,* and
114 *Rag2*^{-/-} mice, as appropriate, using six different cancer cell lines. After tumor establishment,
115 which was diagnosed when both tumor volume superseded 100 mm³ and tumor latency 14 days
116 post-sc injection, we initiated daily intraperitoneal (ip) saline 2% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)
117 (hereafter referred to as saline) or deltarasin (15 mg/Kg in saline 2% DMSO, hereafter referred to
118 as deltarasin) treatments. Interestingly, deltarasin selectively inhibited the sc growth of murine
119 and human *KRAS*-mutant (*KRAS*^{MUT}) tumors, but had no effect on *KRAS*-wild-type (*KRAS*^{WT})
120 tumors (*Figures 3A and B and Figure 3–source data 1*). Moreover, forced overexpression of a
121 custom-made plasmid encoding *Kras*^{G12C} (*pKras*^{G12C}) in *KRAS*^{WT} mouse and human cancer cells
122 accelerated tumor growth and restored the response to the drug over forced overexpression of
123 empty vector (pC) (*Figure 3C, Figure 3–figure supplement 1, and Figure 3–source data 2*).
124 Taken together, these data show that deltarasin-mediated KRAS inhibition selectively halts the
125 growth of *KRAS*^{MUT} cancer cells *in vivo*.

126 **Genetic *KRAS* manipulation reveals *in vivo*-restricted *KRAS*-dependence**

127 To further validate the observed *in vivo*-restricted specificity of deltarasin, we overexpressed
128 random (shC) or anti-*Kras*-specific shRNA (sh*Kras*) in *Kras*^{MUT} parental cell lines or
129 *pKras*^{G12C} in *Kras*^{WT} parental cell lines (*Agalioti et al., 2017*). In accord with pharmacologic

130 KRAS inhibition, genetic *Kras* modulation did not impact the *in vitro* response of cancer cell
131 lines to deltarasin, as determined by WST-8IC₅₀ values and ERK activation levels (*Figure*
132 *4, Figure 4–figure supplement 1*, and *Figure 4–source data 1*). In contrast to the lack of *Kras*-
133 dependence *in vitro*, mutant *Kras* was required and sufficient for sustained tumor growth *in vivo*
134 (*Figure 5* and *Figure 5–source data 1*): murine cell lines expressing sh*Kras* displayed
135 statistically ($P < 0.001$) and biologically (50-90% inhibition) significantly decreased tumor
136 growth compared with parental cell lines expressing sh*C*. *Vice versa*, p*Kras*^{G12C} overexpression
137 accelerated tumor growth compared with overexpression of p*C*. Collectively, these results
138 support that, similar to drug-based KRAS inhibition, genetic *Kras* modulation selectively
139 impacts tumor growth *in vivo*.

140 **A mutant *Kras* transcriptome signature contains *Ccl2* and *Il1r1***

141 In an effort to identify *Kras*^{MUT}-driven genes responsible for *in vivo* restricted KRAS-
142 dependence, we analyzed the global transcriptomes of the parental and *Kras*-modulated murine
143 cell lines described above and of benign samples [whole lungs, tracheal epithelial cells (TEC),
144 and bone marrow-derived macrophages (BMDM) and mast cells (BMMC); GEO dataset
145 GSE130624]. Unsupervised hierarchical clustering showed an absolute segregation of benign,
146 *Kras*^{WT}, and *Kras*^{MUT} samples by 1408 differentially expressed genes (Δ GE) using an ANOVA P
147 < 0.05 threshold (*Figure 6A*). Paired analyses of five isogenic cancer cell line doublets with
148 modulated *Kras* (LLC, MC38, and AE17 cells expressing sh*C* versus sh*Kras* and PANO2 and
149 B16F10 cells expressing p*C* versus p*Kras*^{G12C}) identified another 3432 *Kras*-responsive
150 transcripts. Out of the 170 transcripts that were present in both gene sets, 42 were both
151 differentially represented in benign, *Kras*^{WT}, and *Kras*^{MUT} samples and responsive (Δ GE > 1.40)
152 to *Kras* modulation, including *Kras per se* (*Figure 6B* and *Figure 6–source data 1*).

153 Interestingly, *Il1r1*, *Ccl7*, and *Ccl2* were among those genes and clustered tightly together
154 (**Figure 6C**) and chemokine signaling was the pathway most significantly perturbed by *Kras*
155 modulation on WikiPathway analysis (*Kelder et al., 2012*) (**Figure 6D** and **Figure 6–source**
156 **data 2**). We next translated our 42-gene murine mutant *Kras* signature to their 37 human
157 orthologues using OrthoDB (<https://www.orthodb.org/>; *Kriventseva et al., 2019*) and ran gene
158 set enrichment analyses (GSEA; <http://software.broadinstitute.org/gsea/index.jsp>; *Subramanian*
159 *et al., 2005*). Interestingly, our humanized *KRAS*^{MUT} signature was enriched in only two out of
160 the Broad Institute’s 50 hallmark signatures: positively in the signature “inflammatory response”
161 and negatively in the signature “G2M-checkpoint” (**Figure 7A**). Moreover, this mutant *KRAS*
162 signature was significantly positively enriched in *KRAS*- versus *EGFR*-mutant lung
163 adenocarcinomas (LADC) from the BATTLE trial (GEO dataset GSE31852; *Kim et al., 2011*;
164 *Kabbout et al., 2013*) (**Figure 7B**). In this connection, we recently reported that mutant *KRAS*
165 drives C-C-motif chemokine ligand 2 (CCL2) and interleukin-1 receptor 1 (IL1R1) expression to
166 establish inflammatory feedback loops with interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β)-secreting myeloid cells in
167 malignant pleural effusions and developing *KRAS*^{MUT} LADC (*Giannou et al., 2015*; *Agalioti et*
168 *al., 2017*; *Marazioti et al., 2018*; *Lilis et al., 2019*). Collectively, the data suggested that *in vivo*-
169 restricted *KRAS*^{MUT}-dependence might be mediated by proinflammatory signals to CCR2+ IL-
170 1 β -secreting host cells.

171 **CCR2+ IL-1 β -secreting myeloid cells potentiate *in vivo* KRAS-dependence**

172 These results led us to the hypothesis that CCR2+ IL-1 β -secreting myeloid cells are required for
173 *in vivo* KRAS-dependence (**Figure 8A**). Indeed, numerous such cells co-expressing CCR2 and
174 IL-1 β were identified in the stromata of our experimental *KRAS*-mutant tumors by
175 immunohistochemistry (**Figure 8B**). To definitively test our hypothesis, we induced flank

176 tumors by injecting one million LLC cells ($Kras^{G12C}$) sc into syngeneic C57BL/6 mice competent
177 (WT) or deficient ($Il1b^{-/-}$, $Ccr2^{-/-}$) in the *Il1b* and *Ccr2* genes (*Boring et al., 1997; Horai et al.,*
178 *1998*). Mice haplo/diplo-insufficient in the *Cxcr1* and *Cxcr2* chemokine receptor genes ($Cxcr1^{-/-}$,
179 $Cxcr2^{+/-}$) (*Cacalano et al., 1994; Sakai et al., 2011; Giannou et al., 2017*) were also employed
180 as additional controls for $Ccr2^{-/-}$ mice and daily ip saline (2% DMSO) or 15 mg/Kg deltarasin (in
181 saline 2% DMSO) treatments were initiated when tumors reached 100 mm³ volumes and 14 days
182 latency, as above. Expectedly, deltarasin treatment statistically and biologically significantly
183 inhibited LLC tumor growth in WT, $Cxcr1^{-/-}$, and $Cxcr2^{+/-}$ mice. However, deltarasin effects
184 were diminished in $Il1b^{-/-}$ and completely abrogated in $Ccr2^{-/-}$ mice (*Figure 8C* and *Figure 8–*
185 *source data 1*). To exclude the possibility of developmental effects of knockout mice, we total-
186 body irradiated (900 Rad) $Ccr2^{-/-}$ mice and performed adoptive bone marrow transplants (BMT)
187 from WT or $Ccr2^{-/-}$ donors, as described and validated previously (*Giannou et al., 2015;*
188 *Marazioti et al., 2018*). For this experiment, WT and $Ccr2^{-/-}$ mice back-crossed > F12 to the FVB
189 strain were used together with syngeneic FULA1 cells ($Kras^{Q61R}$) to obtain results with another
190 cell line harboring a different *Kras* mutation and a broad mutation spectrum relevant to human
191 KRAS-mutant LADC (*Kanellakis et al., 2019*). Again, daily ip saline or deltarasin treatments (all
192 in saline 2% DMSO) were started when tumors reached > 100 mm³ volumes at latency > 14
193 days. Expectedly, $Ccr2^{-/-}$ chimeras receiving $Ccr2^{-/-}$ BMT did not respond to deltarasin treatment,
194 but $Ccr2^{-/-}$ chimeras receiving WT BMT displayed markedly increased tumor growth as well as a
195 statistically and biologically significant inhibition by deltarasin treatment (*Figure 9A* and *Figure*
196 *9–source data 1*). Collectively, these results indicate that myeloid CCR2 and IL-1 β are required
197 for deltarasin efficacy against *Kras*-mutant tumors *in vivo*.

198 **Deltarasin limits IL-1 β sensing by KRAS-mutant tumor cells**

199 We next interrogated the mechanism of *in vivo*-restricted deltarasin dependence. Based on the
200 microarray-derived mutant *Kras* signature that encompassed *Ccl2* and *Il1r1* (**Figure 6**) and our
201 previous reports of mutant *KRAS*-mediated transcriptional regulation of *CCL2* and *IL1R1*
202 (*Agalioti et al., 2017; Marazioti et al., 2018*), we tested whether deltarasin blocks expression of
203 these two genes (**Figure 9B** and **Figure 9–source data 2**). Indeed, *Kras/KRAS*^{MUT} mouse and
204 human cancer cell lines displayed markedly increased baseline *Il1r1/IL1R1* mRNA expression
205 compared with *Kras/KRAS*^{WT} cell lines, and significantly downregulated *Il1r1/IL1R1* transcript
206 levels after deltarasin treatment. On the contrary, only some *Kras/KRAS*^{MUT} cell lines displayed
207 increased baseline CCL2 protein secretion compared with *Kras/KRAS*^{WT} cell lines, and CCL2
208 elaboration was not consistently blocked by deltarasin treatment, suggesting that deltarasin-
209 mediated downregulation of *Il1r1/IL1R1* expression delivers the bulk of the drug's *in vivo*
210 effects.

211 **An inflammatory CCL2/IL1B signature in KRAS-mutant human cancers**

212 To investigate the relevance of our findings to *KRAS*-mutant human cancers, we analyzed the
213 average expression of *KRAS*, *CCL2*, and *IL1B* genes in another publicly available dataset from
214 the BATTLE study (GEO dataset GSE43458; *Kim et al., 2011; Kabbout et al., 2013*).

215 Interestingly, mean *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* expression was statistically significantly increased in
216 smokers' LADC ($n = 40$) compared with never-smokers' LADC ($n = 40$) and normal lung tissue
217 samples ($n = 30$) (**Figure 10A** and **Figure 10–source data 1**). Since *KRAS* mutations are more
218 frequent in LADC of smokers (*Campbell et al., 2016*), this finding suggested that our
219 inflammatory signature was overrepresented in tumors with higher *KRAS* mutation frequencies.
220 This was also true in another dataset from patients with breast, colorectal, and lung cancer (GEO
221 dataset GSE103512; *Brouwer-Visser et al., 2018*), where mean *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* expression

222 was significantly higher in lung and colorectal cancer, which have higher *KRAS* mutation rates
223 (*Tate et al., 2019*), compared with breast cancer (*Figure 10B* and *Figure 10–source data 2*).
224 Finally, online Kaplan-Meier analyses (<http://www.kmplot.com>; *Győrffy et al., 2013*) using lung
225 cancer patient data were done (*Figure 11*). These revealed that in patients with LADC (a tumor
226 with high *KRAS* mutation frequency) high *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* expression levels portended 93%
227 increased odds of death regardless of smoking status. On the contrary, *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B*
228 expression did not impact the survival of patients with squamous cell lung carcinoma (a tumor
229 with low *KRAS* mutation frequency). When exclusively smokers were examined (thereby
230 enriching the sample for *KRAS*-mutant patients), high *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* expression levels
231 portended 128% increased odds of death in LADC and continued to have no impact on the
232 survival of patients with squamous cell lung carcinoma. Taken together, these data suggest that
233 *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* transcripts are overexpressed in human *KRAS*-mutant cancers and
234 detrimentally affect survival. Moreover, the results supported that the proposed *KRAS*-driven
235 inflammatory loop may be clinically relevant.

236

237

238 **DISCUSSION**

239 We hypothesized that mutant *KRAS* dependence occurs non-cell-autonomously and that *KRAS*
240 inhibitor effects are delivered *in vivo*. We used 30 cancer cell lines with different *KRAS*
241 mutations and multiple *in vitro* assays to show that both pharmacologic and genetic *KRAS*
242 inhibition is selectively effective against *KRAS*-mutant murine and human tumors *in vivo*. Using
243 isogenic cell lines with intact or compromised mutant *KRAS* signaling, we identify a novel
244 *KRAS*-mutation-specific transcriptome signature that is surprisingly predominated by
245 inflammatory response genes including *CCL2* and *IL1R1*. We further employ several transgenic
246 mouse strains and adoptive bone marrow transfer experiments to show that effective
247 pharmacologic *KRAS* blockade *in vivo* is dependent on the presence of CCR2+ IL-1 β -secreting
248 myeloid cells in the tumor microenvironment. Finally, we show that the *KRAS* blocker
249 deltarasin functions to downregulate *IL1R1* expression in *KRAS*-mutant tumor cells and that the
250 proposed *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* signature is enriched in human cancers with high *KRAS* mutation
251 frequencies in which it portends a dismal prognosis. Our results imply that conventional cell-
252 based screens for the discovery and development of novel *KRAS* blockers might be suboptimal,
253 and that IL-1 β inhibition may be specifically effective against *KRAS*-mutant cancers.

254 A long line of evidence supports that homotypic two-dimensional cancer cell cultures are not
255 optimal for the study of *KRAS*-dependence. Singh et al. established a “RAS-dependency index”
256 in a large panel of human lung and pancreatic cancer cell lines systematically addressing the
257 variable *in vitro* efficacy of *KRAS* inhibition (*Singh et al., 2009*). Project DRIVE, a
258 comprehensive synthetic lethality screen applying > 150,000 shRNAs on 7,837 genes and 398
259 cancer cell lines (<https://oncologynibr.shinyapps.io/drive/>), identified no lethal interaction
260 partners for *KRAS in vitro*, a finding that urged the authors to state: “... the data here raise the

261 likelihood that no single synthetic lethal gene will be found across all KRAS mutant tumors ...
262 commonly used KRAS mutant models are not KRAS dependent, when interrogated as
263 monolayer cell cultures ... ablating KRAS dependence will need to carefully consider these
264 findings...” (*McDonald et al., 2017*). Recently, Janes et al. developed ARS-1620, a new covalent
265 G12C-specific KRAS inhibitor that is highly effective *in vivo*, but not *in vitro* (*Janes et al.,*
266 *2018*). The authors developed three-dimensional co-culture systems and state: “We use ARS-
267 1620 to dissect oncogenic KRAS dependency and demonstrate that monolayer culture formats
268 significantly underestimate KRAS dependency *in vivo*”. Despite the tremendous progress
269 contributed by the above-referenced work, the mechanism(s) of the observed *in vivo*-restricted
270 KRAS-dependence remained obscure prior to this report.

271 To this end, multiple lines of work support the notion that the paracrine effects of KRAS and
272 other RAS oncogenes overshadow their cell-autonomous impact. A pioneering report identified
273 how RAS oncogenes utilize paracrine IL-8 signaling to induce angiogenesis *in vivo* (*Sparmann*
274 *and Bar-Sagi, 2004; Karin, 2004*). We determined how *KRAS*-mutant cancer cells depend on
275 paracrine CCL2 signaling to myeloid cells including mononuclear and mast cells to induce
276 vascular permeability and angiogenesis during malignant pleural effusion development
277 (*Giannou et al., 2015; Agalioti et al., 2017*). In turn, myeloid-derived IL-1 β was found to
278 selectively trigger non-canonical nuclear factor (NF)- κ B activation in *KRAS*-mutant cancer cells
279 via IL1R1 and inhibitor of NF- κ B kinase α (IKK α), with the latter presenting a marked
280 therapeutic target in mouse models of pre-metastatic and advanced lung cancer (*Marazioti et al.,*
281 *2018; Vreka et al., 2018*). Here we show how deltarasin functions to abrogate a mutant *KRAS*-
282 initiated *in vivo* inflammatory loop of tumor-derived CCL2 and myeloid-secreted IL-1 β by
283 downregulating IL1R1 expression of *KRAS*-mutant tumor cells and thereby abolishing their

284 receptivity to myeloid IL-1 β signals. We identify CCR2⁺ myeloid cells that provide IL-1 β to the
285 microenvironment of *KRAS*-mutant tumors and show that they are required for mutant *KRAS*
286 dependence *in vivo*. Data from syngeneic mouse models of global host *Ccr2* and *Il1b* gene
287 deficiency and of focal myeloid *Ccr2* reconstitution are further supported by human cancer
288 xenograft experiments in *Rag2*^{-/-} mice, which lack B- and T-cell function but feature intact
289 myeloid cells (*Hao and Rajewsky, 2001*), to collectively identify the proposed inflammatory
290 loop that potentiates *KRAS* blockade.

291 In addition to *Kras*, *Ccl2*, and *Il1r1*, a battery of other transcripts emanated within the signature
292 of *KRAS*-mutant cancers derived from the transcriptomes of our cell lines, providing synthetic
293 lethality candidates for *in vivo* *KRAS* dependency for future research. This signature includes
294 signal transducers *Ranbp3l*, *Gpr149*, and *Rassf8*, inflammatory messengers *Ccl7*, *Cxcl1*, and
295 *Casp3*, cell surface receptors *Pdgfra* and *Ttk*, cell cycle genes and tumor suppressors *Cdca5*,
296 *Hist2h3c2*, *Plag1*, *Fanca*, and *Gmn*, among others. The importance of some of these candidates
297 is worth mentioning: *Cxcl1* was recently found to mediate the effects of *KRAS*-IKK α addiction
298 during malignant pleural effusion development (*Marazioti et al., 2018*); *Casp3* is a central
299 effector of compensatory tumor proliferation and radiotherapy resistance (*Huang et al., 2011*);
300 and *Gmn* was recently found to function as a tumor suppressor in lung and colon cancer
301 (*Champeris Tsaniras et al., 2018*). Surprisingly, *Kras* mutation status imprinted the
302 transcriptomes of our cell lines more profoundly than their tissues of origin, making them cluster
303 together in an unsupervised fashion. Furthermore, our *KRAS*-mutation signature was enriched in
304 human *KRAS*-mutant cancers and predicted poor survival, a fact that is further validating this
305 gene set. Most importantly, the mutant *KRAS* signature was dominated by the inflammatory

306 response pathway on both WikiPathway analysis and GSEA, highlighting the notion that the
307 oncogene functions in a proinflammatory fashion.

308 In addition to fostering the battle to drug KRAS, the present work bears significant clinical
309 implications by pinning CCL2 and IL-1 β as key inflammatory addiction partners of mutant
310 KRAS. Although targeting CCL2 with neutralizing antibodies yielded promising preclinical
311 results (*Loberg et al., 2007; Fridlender et al., 2010; Qian et al., 2011; Giannou et al., 2015;*
312 *Agalioti et al., 2017; Marazioti et al., 2013*), clinical trials of the anti-human CCL2 antibody
313 carlumab were hampered by limited drug efficacy and tolerability (*Brana et al., 2015; Sandhu*
314 *et al., 2013; Pienta et al., 2013*). In contrast, targeting IL-1 β with canakinumab has raised
315 enthusiasm and holds great promise in cancer therapy. In this regard, the Canakinumab Anti-
316 inflammatory Thrombosis Outcomes Study (CANTOS), a controlled randomised trial of the role
317 of IL-1 β inhibition in atherosclerosis, secondarily aimed at establishing whether low (50 mg),
318 medium (150 mg), or high (300 mg)-dose canakinumab given sc every three months might alter
319 cancer incidence (*Ridker et al., 2017a and 2017b*). The results astonished, with total cancer
320 mortality decreasing by 51% in the high-dose group, incident lung cancer decreasing by 39% in
321 the medium-dose and by 67% in the high-dose groups, and with lung cancer mortality decreasing
322 by 77% in the high-dose canakinumab group. Although our results of diminished deltarasin
323 efficacy with *Il1b*^{-/-} mice were less impressive compared with the complete abrogation of
324 deltarasin effects in *Ccl2*^{-/-} mice, we believe that this is attributable to redundant IL-1 α signaling
325 in the former and that targeting IL-1 β might be specifically effective against KRAS-mutant
326 cancers (*Song et al., 2003; Voronov et al., 2003; Voigt et al., 2017; Apte and Voronov, 2008;*
327 *Dinarelli et al., 2012*). This is plausible from CANTOS results, since canakinumab effects in
328 decreasing lung cancer incidence and mortality were double in current than in past smokers

329 overall and quadruple when the high-dose group was examined alone, with current smokers
330 having higher *KRAS* mutation rates than never-smokers (*Tate et al., 2019; Campbell et al.,*
331 *2016*). Our results suggest that canakinumab might be selectively effective against *KRAS*-mutant
332 cancers and warrant *a posteriori* analysis of CANTOS results by *KRAS* mutation status.

333 In summary, we show that *KRAS*-mutant cancer cells express CCL2 and IL1R1 to initiate an
334 inflammatory signaling loop with CCR2/IL-1 β -expressing myeloid cells. Our work indicates that
335 this crosstalk is required for *KRAS*-dependence and blockade, which targets IL1R1 expression.
336 The data set a rational framework for the future development of effective *KRAS* inhibitors and
337 design of clinical trials aimed at targeting IL-1 β in cancer.

338 MATERIALS AND METHODS

339 Key Resources Table

Reagent type (species) or resource	Designation	Source or reference	Identifiers	Additional information
strain, strain background (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	C57BL/6	Jackson Laboratory	Stock #: 000664; RRID:IMSR_JAX:000664	PubMed: 12466850
strain, strain background (<i>M. musculus</i>)	FVB	Jackson Laboratory	Stock #: 001800; RRID:IMSR_JAX:001800	PubMed: 1848692
genetic reagent (<i>M. musculus</i>)	B6.129P2-Cxcr1tm1Dgen/J (Cxcr1 ^{-/-})	Jackson Laboratory	Stock #: 005820; RRID:IMSR_JAX: 005820	PMID: 21693308
genetic reagent (<i>M. musculus</i>)	B6.129S2(C)-Cxcr2tm1Mwm/J (Cxcr2 ^{+/-})	Jackson Laboratory	Stock #: 006848; RRID:IMSR_JAX: 006848	PMID: 8036519
genetic reagent (<i>M. musculus</i>)	B6(Cg)-Rag2tm1.1Cgn/J (Rag2 ^{-/-})	Jackson Laboratory	Stock #: 008449; RRID:IMSR_JAX: 008449	PMID: 11602643
genetic reagent (<i>M. musculus</i>)	Il1btm1Yiw mice (Il1b ^{-/-})	Dr. Iwakura, Tokyo University of Sciences, Japan	MGI Cat# 4360501; RRID:MGI:4360501	PMID: 9565638
genetic reagent (<i>M. musculus</i>)	B6.129S4-Ccr2tm1Ifc/J (Ccr2 ^{-/-})	Jackson Laboratory	Stock #: 004999; RRID:IMSR_JAX: 004999	PMID: 9366570
cell line (<i>M. musculus</i>)	LLC	American Type Culture Collection (ATCC)	ATCC Cat# CRL-1642, RRID:CVCL_4358	PMID: 28508873 and 28341702
cell line (<i>M. musculus</i>)	B16F10	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	malignant skin melanoma
cell line (<i>M. musculus</i>)	PANO2	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Pancreatic adenocarcinoma
cell line (<i>M. musculus</i>)	MC38	Dr. Timothy S. Blackwell, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	RRID:CVCL_B288	PMID: 28508873

cell line (<i>M. musculus</i>)	AE17	Dr. YC Gary Lee, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia	RRID:CVCL_4408	PMID: 28508873
cell line (<i>M. musculus</i>)	FULA1	Derived from urethane models		PMID: 30828726
cell line (<i>M. musculus</i>)	CULA	Derived from urethane models		PMID: 28197374
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	NCI-H358	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	NCI-H358M	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Bronchiolo-alveolar carcinoma
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	NCI-H460	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Lung large cell carcinoma
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	NCI-H520	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Squamous cell carcinoma
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	NCI-H1299	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	NSCLC
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	NCI-H1944	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	NSCLC
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	NCI-H3122	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	NSCLC
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	EKVX	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Lung adenocarcinoma
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	HOP-62	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Lung adenocarcinoma
cell line (<i>H. sapiens</i>)	A549	National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD	https://dtp.cancer.gov/organization/btb/docs/DCTDTumorRepositoryCatalog.pdf	Lung adenocarcinoma

			orRepositoryCatalog.pdf	
antibody	Mouse monoclonal p-ERK	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat# sc-7383, RRID:AB_627545	WB (1:1000)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal t-ERK	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat. #: sc-514302; RRID:AB_10861277	WB (1:1000)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal GAPDH	Cell Signaling	Cat. #: #2118; RRID:AB_869889	WB (1:2000)
antibody	Rat polyclonal anti-mouse IgG	Abcam	Cat. #: ab131368; RRID:AB_2185502	WB (1:10000)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal anti-rabbit IgG VHH	Abcam	Cat. #: ab191866; RRID:AB_2269914	WB (1:10000)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal IL-1 β -Alexa488	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat. #: sc-5155988 AF488; RRID:AB_2238819	IF (1:50)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal CCR2	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat. #: PA5-23043; RRID:AB_609894	IF (1:50)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal donkey anti-rabbit IgG AlexaFluor647	Abcam	Cat. #: ab150075; RRID:AB_91588	IF (1:500)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal normal mouse IgG2a Alexa Fluor488	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat. #: sc-3891; RRID:AB_2538529	IF (1:50)
antibody	Rabbit polyclonal normal mouse IgG1 Alexa Fluor488	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat. #: sc-3890; RRID:AB_465051	IF (1:50)
sequence-based reagent	Quantitative PCR (amplicon size = 200)	This paper	Murine <i>Il1r1</i> gene	Forward: GCTGACTTGAGGCAGTT, Reverse: CATACGTCAATCTCCAGCG AC
sequence-based reagent	Quantitative PCR (amplicon size = 124)	This paper	Murine <i>Gapdh</i> gene	Forward: CCCTTAAGAGGGATGCTGC C, Reverse: TACGGCCAAATCCGTTAC A
sequence-based reagent	Quantitative PCR (amplicon size = 154)	This paper	Human <i>IL1R1</i> gene	Forward: AGGTAGACGCACCCTCTGA A, Reverse: GCATTTATCAGCCTCCAGA GAAG

sequence-based reagent	Quantitative PCR (amplicon size = 157)	This paper	Human <i>GAPDH</i> gene	Forward: TTAGGAAAGCCTGCCGGTG A, Reverse: GGCGCCAATACGACCAA A
sequence-based reagent	Random (control) shRNA(shC)	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat. #: sc-108080-V RRID:SCR_008987	PMID: 28508873
sequence-based reagent	shKras shRNA	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat. #: sc-43876-V; RRID:SCR_008987	PMID: 28508873
sequence-based reagent	pC plasmid; Bicistronic_GFP_ires_puro	Addgene	Cat. #: Addgene 64336; RRID:SCR_002037	PMID: 28508873
sequence-based reagent	pKrasG12C plasmid; GFP-KrasG12C_2B_puro	Addgene	Cat. #: Addgene 64372; RRID:SCR_002037	PMID: 28508873
commercial assay or kit	GenElute Mammalian Genomic DNA Minipreps Kit	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat. #: G1N70	
commercial assay or kit	RNeasy Mini Kit	Qiagen	Cat. #: 74106	
commercial assay or kit	SYBR FAST qPCR Kit	Kapa Biosystems	Cat. #: KK4600	
commercial assay or kit	MycoAlert Mycoplasma Detection Kit	LONZA	Cat. #: LT07-318	
commercial assay or kit	CCK-8 (WST-8) assay	Bimake	Cat. #: B34304	
commercial assay or kit	XFect	Takarabio	Cat. #: 631318	
commercial assay or kit	CCL2 ELISA, murine CCL2 (MCP-1)	Peprtech	Cat. #: 900-M126	PMID: 22927430
commercial assay or kit	CCL2 ELISA, human CCL2 (MCP-1)	Peprtech	Cat. #: 900-M31	PMID: 22927430
commercial assay or kit	Trizol kit	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat. #: 15596026	PMID: 11980899
chemical compound, drug	Deltarasin	Tocris Bio-Techne	Cat. #: 5424; CAS #1440898-82-7	1 g/Kg
chemical compound, drug	AA12	Selleckchem	Cat. #: S7331; CAS #1469337-95-8	15 mg/Kg
chemical	Cysmethynil	Cayman Chemicals	Cat. #: 14745;	200 mg/Kg

compound, drug			CAS #851636-83-4	
chemical compound, drug	Puromycin	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat. #: A1113803	2-10 µg/mL
chemical compound, drug	4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI)	Abcam	Cat. #: ab228549	300 nM
software, algorithm	Transcriptome Analysis Console Software	https://www.thermofisher.com/tw/zt/home/life-science/microarray-analysis/microarray-analysis-instruments-software-services/microarray-analysis-software/affymetrix-transcriptome-analysis-console-software.html	RRID:SCR_016519	PMID: 25605792
software, algorithm	Broad Institute pre-ranked GSEA module software	http://software.broadinstitute.org/gsea/index.jsp	RRID:SCR_003199	PMID: 16199517
software, algorithm	QuantaSoft	Bio-Rad Laboratories (http://www.bio-rad.com/en-gr/sku/1864011-quantasoft-software-regulatory-edition?ID=1864011)	Cat. #: 1864011	
software, algorithm	ImageJ	http://www.bio-rad.com/en-us/sku/1709690-image-lab-software	RRID:SCR_014210	
software, algorithm	G*power	http://www.gpower.hhu.de/	RRID:SCR_013726	PMID: 17695343
software, algorithm	GraphPad Prism	http://www.graphpad.com/	RRID:SCR_002798	versions 5.0, 6.0, and 8.0
software, algorithm	Fiji	http://fiji.sc	RRID:SCR_002285	PMID: 22743772
software, algorithm	OrthoDB v10	https://www.orthodb.org/	RRID:SCR_011980	PMID: 30395283
other	Microarray data	This paper	Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) accession ID: GSE130624	Isogenic cell line doublets stably expressing shC or shKras (LLC, MC38, and AE17 cells) and pC or pKrasG12C (PANO2 and B16F10 cells).
other	Microarray data	Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO)	Accession ID: GSE31852; GSE43458; GSE103512	GSE31852: biopsies from patients with lung adenocarcinoma (LADC) with

				EGFR (n = 17), KRAS (n = 21), or none of the two (n = 83) mutations; GSE43458: LADC from smokers and never-smokers (n = 40 each), as well as normal lung tissue from never-smokers (n = 30); GSE103512: breast (n = 65), colorectal (n = 55), and non-small-cell lung (n = 60) cancer patients from a Roche dataset
other	GeneChip Mouse Gene 2.0 ST array; GeneChip Human Gene 1.0 ST array	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat. #: 902119; Cat. #: 901085	
other	Kaplan-Meier plotter	http://www.kmplot.com		PMID: 24367507

340 **Cell culture**

341 NCI-H358, NCI-H358M, NCI-H460, NCI-H520, NCI-H1299, NCI-H1944, NCI-H3122
342 (referred to hereafter omitting NCI), EKVX, A549, LLC, B16F10, and PANO2 cell lines were
343 from the National Cancer Institute (Frederick, MD); MC38 cells were a gift from Dr. Timothy S.
344 Blackwell (Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN) and AE17 cells from Dr. YC Gary Lee
345 (University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia) (*Agalioti et al., 2017; Marazioti et al., 2018;*
346 *Giannou et al., 2017*). FULA1 (*FVB* urethane-induced lung adenocarcinoma 1) and CULA
347 (*C57BL/6* urethane-induced lung adenocarcinoma) cell lines were isolated from the lungs of
348 *FVB* and *C57BL/6* mice, respectively, harboring primary lung adenocarcinomas induced by
349 urethane (*Giopanou et al., 2016; Agalioti et al., 2017; Kanellakis et al., 2019*). Human and
350 murine cell lines were cultured, respectively, in Roswell Park Memorial Institute (RPMI)-1640
351 and Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM), both supplemented with 10% FBS and 100
352 IU/mL penicillin/streptomycin, and were maintained in a humidified incubator at 37 °C with
353 95% air–5% CO₂. Cell lines were authenticated annually using the short tandem repeat method
354 and were tested negative for *Mycoplasma Spp.* biannually by MycoAlert Mycoplasma Detection
355 Kit (LONZA; Verviers, Belgium).

356 **Drugs**

357 Deltarasin (CAS #1440898-82-7; Tocris Bio-Techne #5424; Wiesbaden-Nordenstadt, Germany),
358 KRAS^{G12C} inhibitor 12 (AA12; CAS #1469337-95-8; Selleckchem #S7331; Houston, TX), and
359 cysmethynil (CAS #851636-83-4; Cayman Chemicals #14745; Ann Arbor, MI) were dissolved
360 in DMSO to 10 mM stock concentration and stored at –80 °C. For *in vitro* and *in vivo*

361 experiments, drugs were further diluted in normal saline (resulting in 2% DMSO solutions) and
362 equimolar DMSO solutions (2%) were used as control.

363 **Cellular Assays**

364 *In vitro* cell proliferation was determined using WST-8 [water soluble tetrazolium-8 or 2-(4-
365 iodophenyl)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-(2,4-disulphophenyl)-2H-tetrazolium] assay (Bimake; Munich,
366 Germany). For this, 3000 cells/well were plated in triplicates in 96-well plates in 5% FBS-
367 containing media and allowed to adhere overnight, followed by treatment with different drug
368 concentrations. WST-8 reagent was added 72 hours later according to the manufacturer's
369 protocol and absorbance at 450 nm was measured 1-4 hours later on a TECAN Sunrise
370 microplate reader (Männedorf, Switzerland). For colony formation assay, 300 cells were plated
371 in triplicates in 6-well plates in 5% FBS-containing media, were treated 24 hours later with 1-2
372 μ M deltarasin, media were replaced with drug-free media 72 hours later, and cells were
373 incubated until ≤ 50 colonies formed. Colonies were fixed with 80% ethanol, stained with 0.5%
374 crystal violet, counted and photographed. All cellular experiments were independently repeated
375 at least thrice.

376 **Western Immunoblotting**

377 Cellular protein lysates were prepared using radioimmunoprecipitation assay (RIPA) buffer
378 containing phosphatase/protease inhibitor cocktail (Thermo Fisher, Waltham, MA), separated by
379 SDS-PAGE, and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes according to standard protocols. Anti-t-
380 ERK, anti-p-ERK, and anti-GAPDH antibodies were from Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Houston,
381 TX). Blots were developed on a Chemidoc XRS+ System (Biorad Laboratories Inc., Hercules,
382 CA).

383 **Constructs**

384 Short-hairpin (sh) RNA-mediated *Kras*-silenced (sh*Kras*) LLC, AE17, and MC38 cells, as well
385 as B16F10 and PANO2 cells overexpressing custom-made plasmid encoding
386 *Kras*^{G12C} (p*Kras*^{G12C}; Addgene #64372; GFP-*Kras*G12C_2B_puro) were produced as described
387 elsewhere (Agalioti *et al.*, 2017). NCI-H3122 and EKVX cells were stably transfected with
388 p*Kras*^{G12C} or its homologous GFP backbone plasmid without *Kras*^{G12C} (pC; Addgene #64336;
389 Bicistronic_GFP_ires_puro) using previously established methods (Agalioti *et al.*, 2017). All
390 plasmids were made in-house, deposited, validated, and re-purchased from Addgene
391 (Watertown, MA). For stable shRNA and plasmid transfection, 10⁵ tumor cells in 6-well culture
392 vessels were transfected with 5 µg DNA using Xfect (Takara, Kusatsu, Japan) and clones were
393 selected by puromycin (2-10 µg/mL).

394 **Mice**

395 FVB/NJ (FVB; #001800), C57BL/6J (C57BL/6; #000664), B6.129P2-Cxcr1^{tm1Dgen/J} (*Cxcr1*^{-/-};
396 #005820) (Sakai *et al.*, 2011), B6.129S4-Ccr2^{tm1Ifc/J} (*Ccr2*^{-/-}; #004999) (Boring *et al.*, 1997),
397 B6.129S2(C)-Cxcr2^{tm1Mwm/J} (*Cxcr2*^{+/-}; #006848) (Cacalano *et al.*, 1994), and B6(Cg)-
398 *Rag2*^{tm1.1Cgn/J} (*Rag2*^{-/-}; #008449) (Hao *et al.*, 2001) mice were from the Jackson Laboratory (Bar
399 Harbor, ME) and *Il1b*^{tm1Yiw} mice (*Il1b*^{-/-}; MGI #2157396) (Horai *et al.*, 1998) were a kind gift
400 from Dr. Yoichiro Iwakura (Tokyo University of Sciences, Japan). All mice were bred at the
401 Center for Animal Models of Disease of the University of Patras. *Ccr2*^{-/-} mice were back-crossed
402 to the FVB strain for > F12. Experimental mice were weight- (20-30 g), sex-, and age- (6-12
403 weeks) matched; both female and male mice were used and were allocated to treatment groups
404 by alternation. In these studies, 284 mice were enrolled in total. In more detail, 25 FVB (21 for

405 tumor experiments and 4 as bone marrow donors), 151 *C57BL/6* (all for tumor experiments), 15
406 *Cxcr1*^{-/-} (all on the *C57BL/6* background for tumor experiments), 34 *Ccr2*^{-/-} (12 on the *C57BL/6*
407 and 18 on the *FVB* backgrounds for tumor experiments and 4 on the *FVB* background as bone
408 marrow donors), 12 *Cxcr2*^{+/-} (all on the *C57BL/6* background for tumor experiments), 32 *Rag2*^{-/-}
409 (all on the *C57BL/6* background for tumor experiments), and 15 *Il1b*^{-/-} (all on the *C57BL/6*
410 background for tumor experiments) mice were used.

411 ***In vivo* tumor models and drug treatments**

412 For *in vivo* injections, 10⁶ cells suspended in 50 µL PBS were implanted subcutaneously (sc) in
413 the rear flank. Tumor dimensions (length, L; width, W; depth, D) were monitored serially using
414 calipers and tumor volume (V) was calculated as $V = \pi * L * W * D / 6$. Drug treatments were
415 initiated when tumors reached both 100 mm³ volume and 14 days latency post-tumor cell
416 injection and consisted of daily intraperitoneal (ip) deltarasin (15 mg/Kg in 100 µL saline 2%
417 DMSO) or 100 µL saline 2% DMSO. Animals were monitored daily for sickness and were
418 euthanized using CO₂ when in distress or when tumors reached 2-3 cm³ volume, whichever
419 occurred first.

420 **Microarrays, PCR, GSEA, and Kaplan-Meier analyses**

421 Isogenic cell line doublets stably expressing shC or sh*Kras* (LLC, MC38, and AE17 cells) and
422 pC or p*Kras*^{G12C} (PANO2 and B16F10 cells) were generated as described elsewhere (*Agalioti et*
423 *al., 2017*). Benign samples including whole murine lungs, tracheal epithelial cells (TEC; cultured
424 out from murine tracheas), and bone marrow-derived macrophages (BMDM; cultured from
425 murine bone marrow by weekly incubation with 20 ng/mL M-CSF) and mast cells (BMMC;
426 cultured from murine bone marrow by monthly incubation with 100 ng/mL IL-3 plus KITL)

427 were prepared as described elsewhere (*Giannou et al., 2015; Marazioti et al., 2018; Kanellakis*
428 *et al., 2019; Lilis et al., 2019*). Cellular RNA was isolated using Trizol (Thermo Fisher) followed
429 by RNAeasy column purification and genomic DNA removal (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). One
430 μg RNA was reverse-transcribed using oligo(dT)₁₈ and iScript Advanced cDNA synthesis kit for
431 RT-qPCR (Bio-Rad Laboratories; Hercules, CA). *Il1r1/IL1R1* and *Gapdh/GAPDH* qPCR was
432 performed using specific primers and Lightcycler 480 Sybr Green I Master (Roche; Mannheim,
433 Germany) in a Lightcycler 480 II (Roche Diagnostics). Ct values from triplicate reactions were
434 analyzed with the $2^{-\Delta\text{CT}}$ method (*Pfaffl, 2001*) as detailed elsewhere (*Giannou et al., 2017*).
435 mRNA abundance was determined relative to *Gapdh/GAPDH* and is given as $2^{-\Delta\text{CT}} = 2^{-(\text{Ct of}$
436 *Il1r1/IL1R1*)-(Ct of *Gapdh/GAPDH*). Mouse microarrays were done as described elsewhere (*Giannou et al.,*
437 *2015; Agalioti et al., 2017; Marazioti et al., 2018; Kanellakis et al., 2019; Lilis et al., 2019*).
438 Briefly, triplicate cultures of 10^6 cells were subjected to RNA extraction as above, 5 μg of pooled
439 total RNA were tested for RNA quality on an ABI2000 Bioanalyzer (Agilent; Santa Clara, CA),
440 labeled, and hybridized to GeneChip Mouse Gene 2.0 ST arrays (Affymetrix; Santa Clara, CA).
441 Analyses using Affymetrix Expression/Transcriptome Analysis Consoles (*Ritchie et al. 2015*)
442 consisted of normalization of all arrays together using Lowess multi-array algorithm, intensity-
443 dependent estimation of noise for statistical analysis of differential expression, and unsupervised
444 hierarchical clustering of microarray data and WikiPathway analysis. Murine microarray data
445 generated for this study are publicly available at the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) database
446 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/>; Accession ID: GSE130624). Gene set enrichment analyses
447 (GSEA) was done using publicly available Human Gene 1.0 ST microarray data obtained from
448 GEO. The following datasets were used: GSE31852 with gene expression profiles of 121
449 biopsies from patients with lung adenocarcinoma (LADC) with *EGFR* ($n = 17$), *KRAS* ($n = 21$),

450 or none of the two ($n = 83$) mutations [Biomarker-integrated Approaches of Targeted Therapy
451 for Lung Cancer Elimination (BATTLE) trial]; GSE43458 with gene expression profiles of
452 LADC from smokers and never-smokers ($n = 40$ each), as well as normal lung tissue from never-
453 smokers ($n = 30$) also from the BATTLE trial; and GSE103512 with gene expression profiles of
454 breast ($n = 65$), colorectal ($n = 55$), and non-small-cell lung ($n = 60$) cancer patients from a
455 Roche dataset. Kaplan-Meier analyses were done using KM-plotter (<http://www.kmplot.com>)
456 (*Győrffy et al., 2013*). All patients were included and overall survival and all stages/grades were
457 set as parameters.

458 **ELISA**

459 Murine and human CCL2 levels of cell culture supernatants were detected using appropriate
460 ELISA kits (Peprotech; London, UK). For sample preparation, cells were incubated with IC₆₀
461 deltarasin for 72 hours before collecting cell-free supernatants for CCL2 measurements and
462 whole cellular lysates for normalization of CCL2 levels to total cellular protein.

463 **Immunofluorescence**

464 Paraffin-embedded mouse tissue blocks were cut into 3 μm -thick sections, deparaffinized by
465 ethanol gradient, rehydrated, and boiled in sodium citrate pH 6.0 for 10 minutes for antigen
466 retrieval. After post-fixation and permeabilization, tissue sections were co-stained with either
467 AlexaFluor488-conjugated mouse monoclonal anti-IL-1 β antibody and rabbit polyclonal anti-
468 CCR2 antibody or AlexaFluor488-conjugated mouse monoclonal anti-IL1R1 antibody and rabbit
469 polyclonal anti-CCL2 antibody. After counterstaining with 300 nM 4',6-diamidino-2-
470 phenylindole (DAPI), slides were evaluated on an AxioImager.M2 (Zeiss; Jena, Germany) and
471 digital images were processed with Fiji academic software (<https://fiji.sc/>) (*Schindelin et al.,*

472 **2012**). Control stains were carried out with isotype controls for normal mouse IgG1/ IgG2a
473 (Alexa Fluor® 488 conjugated; sc-3891/ sc-3890) and secondary antibody only.

474 **Bone marrow replacement**

475 For adoptive bone marrow transplants (BMT), bone marrow cells were flushed from both femurs
476 and tibias of wild-type (*WT*) or *Ccr2*^{-/-} mice (all back-crossed >F12 to the *FVB* background)
477 using fully supplemented DMEM. *Ccr2*^{-/-} mice (all *FVB*) received ten million intravenous (iv)
478 bone marrow cells from *WT* or *Ccr2*^{-/-} mice 12 hours after total-body irradiation (900 Rad), as
479 described elsewhere (*Giannou et al., 2015; Marazioti et al., 2018*). One mouse in each
480 experiment was not engrafted and was observed till moribund on days 5-15 post-irradiation. One
481 month was allowed for full bone marrow reconstitution of chimeras prior to tumor cell
482 injections, as described and validated previously (*Giannou et al., 2015; Marazioti et al., 2018*).

483 **Statistics**

484 Sample size was calculated using G*power (<http://www.gpower.hhu.de/>) (*Faul et al., 2007*). In
485 specific, we set out to determine biologically (> 50%) and statistically ($\alpha = 0.05$; $\beta = 0.20$)
486 significant differences between two unmatched independent groups with SD ~ 30% of mean
487 using two-tailed t-tests, yielding $n = 7$ /group. Hence experiments with $n = 5$ mice/group were
488 contemplated in batches, till the achievement of probability ($P < 0.05$ with $\alpha < 0.05$ or $P > 0.05$
489 with $\beta < 0.20$, whichever came first. All *in vitro* experiments were performed at least three
490 independent times (biological replicates), each time using at least three technical replicates. All
491 source data are provided as *.xlsx source data files and all data were included in the analyses
492 without elimination of outliers. Two-way ANOVA was employed to achieve further reduction.
493 Results are given as mean \pm SD. Sample size (n) refers to biological replicates. Differences

494 between means were assessed using one-way or two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni post-tests.
495 Fifty and 60% inhibitory concentrations ($IC_{50/60}$) were calculated using nonlinear regression, a
496 logarithmic inhibitor-response model, unweighted least squares regression without outlier
497 elimination and constraints, and extra sum-of-squares F-test comparisons. $P < 0.05$ was
498 considered significant. Statistics and plots were done on Prism versions 5.0, 6.0, and 8.0
499 (GraphPad; San Diego, CA).

500 **Study approval**

501 Experiments were approved by the Veterinary Administration of the Prefecture of Western
502 Greece (approval # 366456/1461) and by the Government of Upper Bavaria (approval # 55.2-1-
503 54-2532-194-2016) and were conducted according to Directive 2010/63/EU
504 (<http://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32010L0063>).

505

506 **COMPETING INTERESTS**

507 The authors declare no competing interests.

508 **DATA AVAILABILITY**

509 All raw data produced in this study are provided as *.xlsx source data supplements. The
510 microarray data produced by this study were deposited at GEO
511 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/>; Accession ID: GSE130624). Gene set enrichment analyses
512 (GSEA) were done using publicly available microarray data obtained from GEO
513 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/>; Accession IDs: GSE31852, GSE43458, and GSE103512).

514 **FIGURES & FIGURE SUPPLEMENTS**

515 This dataset contains 11 Figures, a Key Resources Table, 8 Figure Supplements, and 16 Source
516 Data files (3 for Figure 1, 2 for Figure 2, 2 for Figure 3, 1 for Figure 4, 1 for Figure 5, 2 for
517 Figure 6, 1 for Figure 8, 2 for Figure 9, and 2 for Figure 10).

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523

524 LEGENDS TO FIGURES, FIGURE SUPPLEMENTS& SOURCE DATA

525

526 **Figure 1. Pharmacologic evidence for KRAS mutation-independence *in vitro*.** Different
527 mouse and human tumor cell lines with (red) and without (black) *Kras/KRAS* mutations (codon
528 changes are given in parentheses) were assessed for cell viability by colorimetric WST-8-assay
529 after 72-hour treatments with three different KRAS inhibitors ($n = 3$ /data-point). (A) Graphical
530 abstract showing molecular targets of preclinical KRAS inhibitors AA12, cysmethynil, and
531 deltarasin. (B-D) Fifty percent inhibitory concentrations (IC₅₀) of deltarasin (B), AA12 (C), and
532 cysmethynil (D) by WST-8 assay. Data presented as mean \pm SD. Grey lines represent the mean
533 of all cell lines tested, which was used to dichotomize cell lines into sensitive and resistant. *P*,
534 probability by Fisher's exact test for cross-tabulation of *Kras/KRAS* mutation status to drug
535 sensitivity/resistance. KRAS, KRAS proto-oncogene GTPase; WT, wild-type.

536 **Figure 1–figure supplement 1. Mutation status of cell lines used in this study.** Cell lines used
537 in this study with their syngeneic mouse strain, tissue of origin, and mutation status. Data from
538 *Giopanou et al., 2016; Agalioti et al., 2017; Giannou et al., 2017; Marazioti et al., 2018; Tate et*
539 *al., 2019; and Kanellakis et al., 2019.*

540 **Figure 1–figure supplement 2. *In vitro* assays used in cancer research.** Summary of *in vitro*
541 assays used in cancer research stratified by target gene. Data are from a PubMed search done
542 between 17-29.07.2018 using search strategy (“assay type” AND “gene” AND “cancer”) and the
543 number of retrieved publications as the readout. Assay types are listed in the x-axis and genes in
544 the legend. MTT, 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide; MTS, 3-(4,5-
545 dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-5-(3-carboxymethoxyphenyl)-2-(4-sulfophenyl)-2H-tetrazolium); ATP,
546 adenosine triphosphate; LDH, Lactate dehydrogenase; BrdU, bromodeoxyuridine, 5-bromo-2'-

547 deoxyuridine. *P*, overall probability by 2-way ANOVA. Note that MTT/MTS and colony
548 formation assays are the most commonly used and were also used in this study.

549 **Figure 1–figure supplement 3. Response of *KRAS*-mutant tumor cells to *KRAS* inhibitors**

550 **analyzed by WST-8 assay.** Different mouse (top; *Kras*^{MUT}: LLC, MC38, AE17, FULA1;

551 *Kras*^{WT}: B16F10, CULA, PANO2) and human (bottom; *KRAS*^{MUT}: A549, H460, H358, H358M,

552 H1944, HOP-62; *KRAS*^{WT}: EKVX, H1299, H3122, H520) tumor cell lines were assessed for

553 inhibition of cell viability (determined by WST-8 assay, *n* = 3/data-point) by three different

554 *KRAS* inhibitors: deltarasin (top), AA12 (middle), and cysmethynil (bottom). Data presented as

555 mean ± SD. *P*, overall probability by nonlinear fit and extra sum of squares F-test.

556 **Figure 1–figure supplement 4. Comparative efficacy of *KRAS* versus tyrosine kinase**

557 **inhibitors.** Fifty percent inhibitory concentrations (IC₅₀) of selected FDA-approved tyrosine

558 kinase inhibitors (TKI; top) and of published *KRAS* inhibitors(bottom) in preclinical

559 development. *n*, published studies; *P*, overall probability by 2-way ANOVA. Note the

560 statistically significantly higher and physiologically difficult to achieve IC₅₀ of *KRAS* inhibitors

561 compared with TKI. Data were from *Hong et al., 2011; Yamaguchi et al., 2011; Hirano et al.,*

562 *2015; Sakamoto et al., 2011; Huang et al., 2016; Chen et al., 2013; Prahallad et al., 2012; Wilson*

563 *et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2016; Lito et al., 2016; Ostrem et al., 2013; Winter-*

564 *Vann et al., 2005; Wang et al., 2010; Weisz et al., 1999; Zimmermann et al., 2013; Shaw et al.,*

565 *2011; and Papke et al., 2016.*

566 **Figure 1–source data 1.** Source data for Figure 1–figure supplement 2.

567 **Figure 1–source data 2.** Source data for Figure 1B-D and Figure 1–figure supplement 3.

568 **Figure 1–source data 3.** Source data for Figure 1–figure supplement 4.

569

570 **Figure 2. KRAS mutation-independence of colony formation and ERK phosphorylation.**

571 Different mouse and human tumor cell lines with (red) and without (black) *Kras/KRAS*
572 mutations (codon changes are given in parentheses) were assessed for colony formation by
573 crystal violet-stained colony counts and for ERK phosphorylation by phospho (p)- and total (t)-
574 ERK immunoblots after 72-hour treatments with the KRAS inhibitor daltarasin ($n = 3$ /data-
575 point). **(A, B)** Representative images of colonies after saline or IC₆₀ daltarasin treatment (A) and
576 colony survival fraction (B) after IC₆₀ daltarasin normalized to saline treatment. **(C, D)**
577 Quantification of normalized p-ERK/t-ERK signal change after IC₆₀ daltarasin normalized to
578 saline treatment (C) and representative immunoblots (D). **(B, C)** Data presented as mean \pm SD.
579 Grey lines represent the mean of all cell lines tested, which was used to dichotomize cell lines
580 into sensitive and resistant. *P*, probability by Fisher's exact test for cross-tabulation of
581 *Kras/KRAS* mutation status to drug sensitivity/resistance. KRAS, KRAS proto-oncogene
582 GTPase; WT, wild-type; GAPDH, glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase.

583 **Figure 2—figure supplement 1. Response of KRAS-mutant tumor cells to KRAS inhibitors**

584 **analyzed by colony formation assay.** Different mouse (left; *Kras*^{MUT}: LLC, FULA1; *Kras*^{WT}:
585 B16F10, PANO2) and human (right; *KRAS*^{MUT}: A549, H460; *KRAS*^{WT}: EKVX, H3122) tumor
586 cell lines were assessed for colony formation ($n = 3$ / data-point) after 72 h of saline or daltarasin
587 treatment. Data presented as mean \pm SD. *P*, overall probability by one-way ANOVA. * and ***:
588 $P < 0.05$ and $P < 0.001$, respectively, for the indicated comparisons by Bonferroni post-tests.
589 Shown are total number of colonies formed (top), plating efficiency of 300 cells/well at
590 experiment start (middle), and survival fraction of single cells given as ratio treatment/no
591 treatment.

592 **Figure 2–figure supplement 2. Uncropped blots for Figure 2D.** Top: Immunoblots of murine
593 cell line protein extracts untreated and treated with deltarasin (72 h; IC₆₀). Left, p-ERK, t-ERK;
594 right, GAPDH. Bottom: Immunoblots of human cell line protein extracts untreated and treated
595 with deltarasin (72 h; IC₆₀). Left, p-ERK, t-ERK; right, GAPDH. Dashed lines represent areas of
596 the blots shown in main Figure.

597 **Figure 2–source data 1.** Source data for Figure 2B and Figure 2–figure supplement 1.

598 **Figure 2–source data 2.** Source data for Figure 2C.

599

600 **Figure 3. Deltarasin-mediated demonstration of KRAS mutation-dependence *in vivo*.**

601 Different mouse and human tumor cell lines with (**A**; *KRAS*^{MUT}) and without (**B**; *KRAS*^{WT})
602 endogenous *Kras*/*KRAS* mutations (codon changes are given in parentheses), as well as *KRAS*^{WT}
603 cell lines forcedly expressing a plasmid encoding mutant murine *Kras*^{G12C} (**C**; p*Kras*^{G12C}), were
604 injected into the rear flank (10⁶ tumor cells sc) of *C57BL/6* (LLC, B16F10, and PANO2 cells),
605 *FVB* (FULA1 cells), or *Rag2*^{-/-} (H460 and EKVX cells) mice. After tumor establishment (tumor
606 volume > 100 mm³ and latency > 14 days; arrows), mice were randomly allocated to daily ip
607 treatments with 100 μL saline 2% DMSO (black) or 15 mg/ Kg deltarasin in 100 μL saline 2%
608 DMSO (red). Tumor growth was assessed by measuring three vertical tumor dimensions. Data
609 presented as mean ± SD, *n*, sample size; *P*, overall probability, 2-way ANOVA; ns, **, and ***: *P*
610 > 0.05, *P* < 0.01, and *P* < 0.001, respectively, Bonferroni post-test.

611 **Figure 3–figure supplement 1. Validation of p*Kras*^{G12C} transduction in human cell lines**

612 **H3122 and EKVX.** The p*Kras*^{G12C} plasmid includes GFP and puromycin resistance genes.

613 Representative microscopy images of pC control or p*Kras*^{G12C} transfected cell lines. Left,

614 brightfield images; middle, green fluorescent images; right, merged images. Images were taken
615 with a confocal microscope LCI510 (Zeiss; Jena, Germany).

616 **Figure 3—source data 1.** Source data for Figure 3A and B.

617 **Figure 2—source data 2.** Source data for Figure 3C.

618

619 **Figure 4. Genetic evidence for *KRAS* mutation-independence *in vitro*.** (A) Different murine
620 parental (black/grey: stably expressing random shRNA, shC, or control plasmid, pC) or *Kras*-
621 modified (red: stably expressing sh*Kras*; green: stably expressing mutant *Kras*^{G12C} plasmid,
622 p*Kras*^{G12C}) tumor cell lines were assessed for cell viability (IC₅₀ by WST-8-assay; *n* = 3/data-
623 point) after 72 hours of deltarasin treatment. (B) Summary of averaged deltarasin IC₅₀ values
624 from all cell lines from (A) (*n* = 3 cell lines/group). (C) Human parental (black/grey: stably
625 expressing control plasmid pC) or *KRAS*-modified (green: stably expressing p*Kras*^{G12C}) tumor
626 cell lines were assessed for cell viability by WST-8 assay (*n* = 3/data-point) after 72 hours of
627 deltarasin treatment. (D) Immunoblots of cell lines from (A) for p-ERK, t-ERK and GAPDH. (E)
628 Quantification of normalized p-ERK/t-ERK signal from (D). Data were summarized by mutation
629 status and origin. *P*, overall probability by one-way (A-C) and two-way (E) ANOVA. ns and **:
630 *P* > 0.05 and *P* < 0.01, respectively, for the indicated comparisons by Bonferroni post-tests. Data
631 are presented as mean ± SD.

632 **Figure 4—figure supplement 1. Uncropped blots for Figure 4D.** Immunoblots of murine and
633 human cell line protein extracts with or without *Kras/KRAS* genetic modification. Left, p-ERK, t-
634 ERK; right, GAPDH. Dashed lines represent areas of the blots shown in main Figure.

635 **Figure 4—source data 1.** Source data for Figure 4.

636

637 **Figure 5. Genetic manipulation of *Kras* reveals *in vivo*-restricted KRAS dependence.**

638 Different murine parental (black/grey: stably expressing random shRNA, shC, or control
639 plasmid, pC) or *Kras*-modified (red: stably expressing sh*Kras*; green: stably expressing mutant
640 *Kras*^{G12C} plasmid, p*Kras*^{G12C}) tumor cell lines were injected into the rear flank (10⁶ tumor cells
641 sc) of *C57BL/6* mice for induction of flank tumors by genetically modified cells (red, sh*Kras*;
642 green, p*Kras*^{G12C}) or control cells (black, shC or pC). *P*, overall probability by two-way
643 ANOVA. ****: *P* < 0.001 for the indicated comparisons by Bonferroni post-tests. Data are
644 presented as mean ± SD.

645 **Figure 5–source data 1.** Source data for Figure 5.

646

647 **Figure 6. A 42-gene inflammatory signature of KRAS-dependence. (A)** Unsupervised
648 hierarchical clustering of gene expression of *Kras*-mutant and *Kras*-WT cancer cell lines, as well
649 as benign cells and tissues. **(B)** Venn diagram of analytical strategy of transcriptome analysis.
650 **(C)** Unsupervised hierarchical clustering of gene expression of *Kras*-modified cancer cell line
651 doublets reveals co-clustering of *Il1r1* and *Ccl2*. **(D)** WikiPathway analysis showing pathways
652 significantly overrepresented in the *KRAS* signature.

653 **Figure 6–source data 1.** Source data for Figure 6B.

654 **Figure 6–source data 2.** Source data for Figure 6D.

655

656 **Figure 7. Enrichment of the murine KRAS-dependence signature in human**
657 **transcriptomes.** GSEA of 37 human orthologues of the murine *KRAS* signature against the
658 Broad Institute’s 50 hallmark signatures showing positive enrichment in the “inflammatory
659 response” and negative enrichment in the “G2M checkpoint” signatures **(A)** and against *KRAS*-

660 ($n = 21$) versus EGFR- ($n = 17$) -mutant lung adenocarcinomas (LADC) from BATTLE (B)
661 revealing positive enrichment of our KRAS signature in human KRAS-mutant LADC. NES,
662 normalized enrichment score; P , family-wise error rate probability.

663

664 **Figure 8. A requirement for host *Ccr2* and *IL1b* for KRAS dependence *in vivo*. (A)**

665 Graphical abstract of the proposed mechanism of *in vivo* restricted KRAS dependence.

666 (B) Representative image of CCR2/IL-1 β -co-staining of a KRAS-mutant tumor from a *Rag2*^{-/-}

667 mouse showing co-localization of the two proteins in the tumor stroma. Image was taken using

668 an Axiolmager.M2 (Zeiss; Jena, Germany) and a 60x objective. (C) Syngeneic C57BL/6 mice

669 competent (WT) or deficient (*Il1b*^{-/-}, *Ccr2*^{-/-}) in the *Il1b* and *Ccr2* genes or haplo/diplo-

670 insufficient in the *Cxcr1* and *Cxcr2* chemokine receptor genes (*Cxcr1*^{-/-}, *Cxcr2*^{+/-}) received 10⁶

671 LLC cells (*Kras*^{G12C}) sc followed by daily ip saline 2% DMSO (black) or 15 mg/Kg deltarasin in

672 saline 2% DMSO (red) treatments initiated when tumors reached >100 mm³ volumes and > 14

673 days latency (arrows). Data are presented as mean \pm SD. P , overall probabilities by 2-way

674 ANOVA; ns, *, and ***: $P > 0.05$, $P < 0.05$, and $P < 0.001$ for the indicated comparisons by

675 Bonferroni post-tests. Table shows animal numbers used and percentile tumor inhibition by

676 deltarasin compared with saline.

677 **Figure 8—source data 1.** Source data for Figure 8C.

678

679 **Figure 9. *In vivo* KRAS-dependence requires myeloid *Ccr2* and is abolished by deltarasin**

680 **treatment via downregulation of *IL1R1* expression in KRAS-mutant cancer cells. (A)** Total-

681 body irradiated (900 Rad) *Ccr2*^{-/-} mice received adoptive BMT from WT or *Ccr2*^{-/-} donors (all

682 back-crossed > F12 to the FVB strain). After one month allowed for chimeric bone marrow

683 reconstitution, chimeras received 10^6 syngeneic FULA1 cells (*Kras*^{Q61R}) sc. Daily ip saline 2%
684 DMSO or deltarasin (15 mg/Kg in saline 2% DMSO) treatments were started when tumors > 100
685 mm³ were established at > 14 days latency (arrow). Data are presented as mean \pm SD. *P*, overall
686 probabilities by 2-way ANOVA; ***: *P* < 0.001 for the indicated comparisons by Bonferroni
687 post-tests. **(B)** *Il1r1/IL1R1* mRNA expression by qPCR (top) and CCL2 protein secretion by
688 ELISA (bottom) of mouse (left) and human (right) cancer cell lines treated with saline 2%
689 DMSO or deltarasin IC₆₀ in saline 2% DMSO for 72 hours. Data are presented as mean \pm SD. *P*,
690 overall probabilities by 2-way ANOVA; ns, *, and ***: *P* > 0.05, *P* < 0.05 and *P* < 0.001,
691 respectively, for the indicated comparisons by Bonferroni post-tests.

692 **Figure 9–source data 1.** Source data for Figure 9A.

693 **Figure 9–source data 2.** Source data for Figure 9B.

694

695 **Figure 10. Mean expression of *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* is increased in *KRAS*-mutant cancers. (A)**
696 Average *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* expression normalized to *ACTB* in lung adenocarcinomas (LADC)
697 from smokers and never-smokers and normal lung tissue from never-smokers from the BATTLE
698 study (GSE43458). **(B)** *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* expression normalized to *ACTB* in breast, non-small
699 cell lung, and colorectal cancer (ROCHE study GSE103512). *KRAS* mutation frequencies of
700 these tumor types are from COSMIC (*Tate et al., 2019*). Data are presented as violin plots. *P*,
701 overall probability by one-way ANOVA. ns, *, **, and ***: *P* > 0.05, *P* < 0.05, *P* < 0.01, and *P* <
702 0.001, respectively, for the indicated comparisons by Bonferroni post-tests.

703 **Figure 10–source data 1.** Source data for Figure 10A.

704 **Figure 10–source data 2.** Source data for Figure 10B.

705

706 **Figure 11. *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B* expression predicts poor survival of *KRAS*-mutant cancers.**
707 Kaplan-Meier analyses of lung cancer patients stratified by average *KRAS/CCL2/IL1B*
708 expression done on <http://www.kmplot.com>. *KRAS* mutation frequencies are from the Campbell
709 cohort (*Campbell et al., 2016*). Top: all patients; Bottom: ever-smokers only.

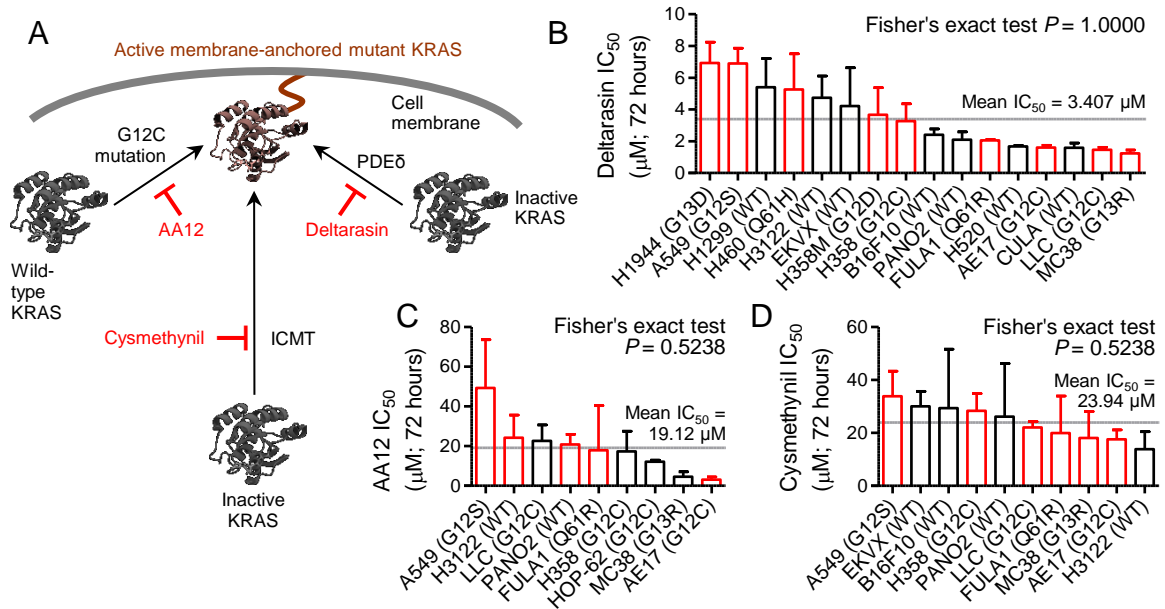


Figure 1

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

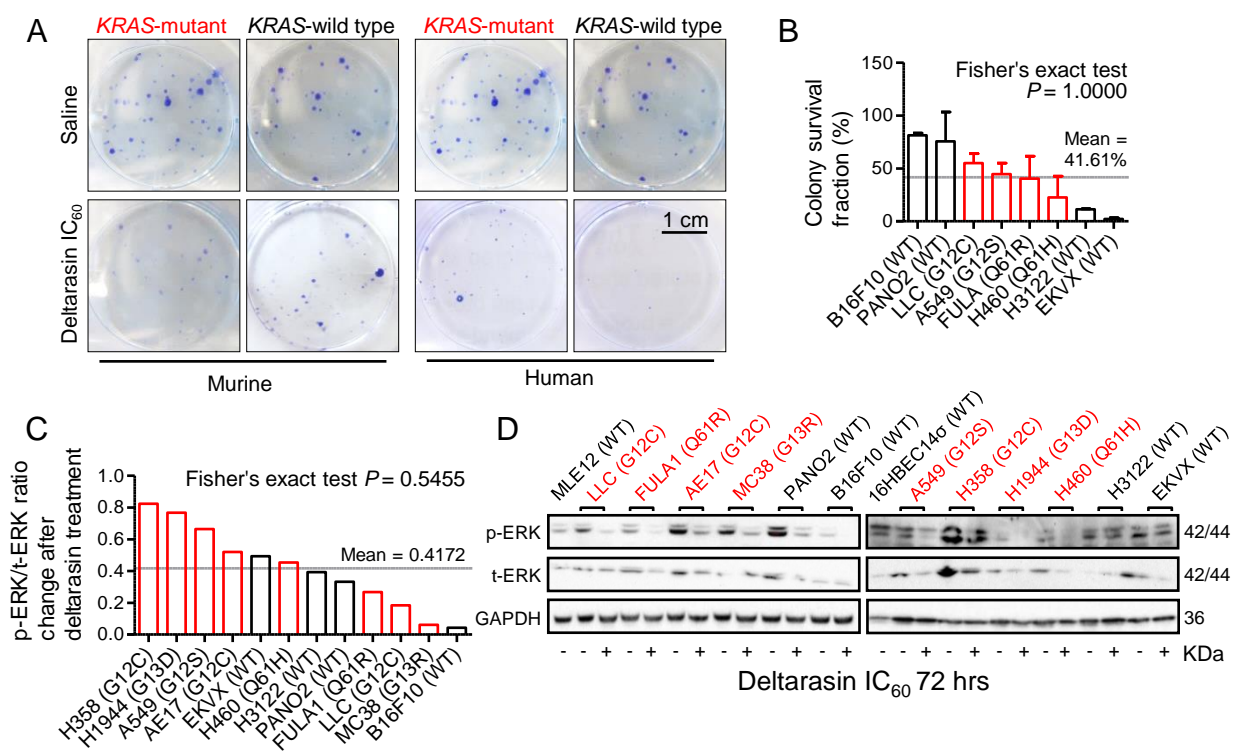


Figure 2

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

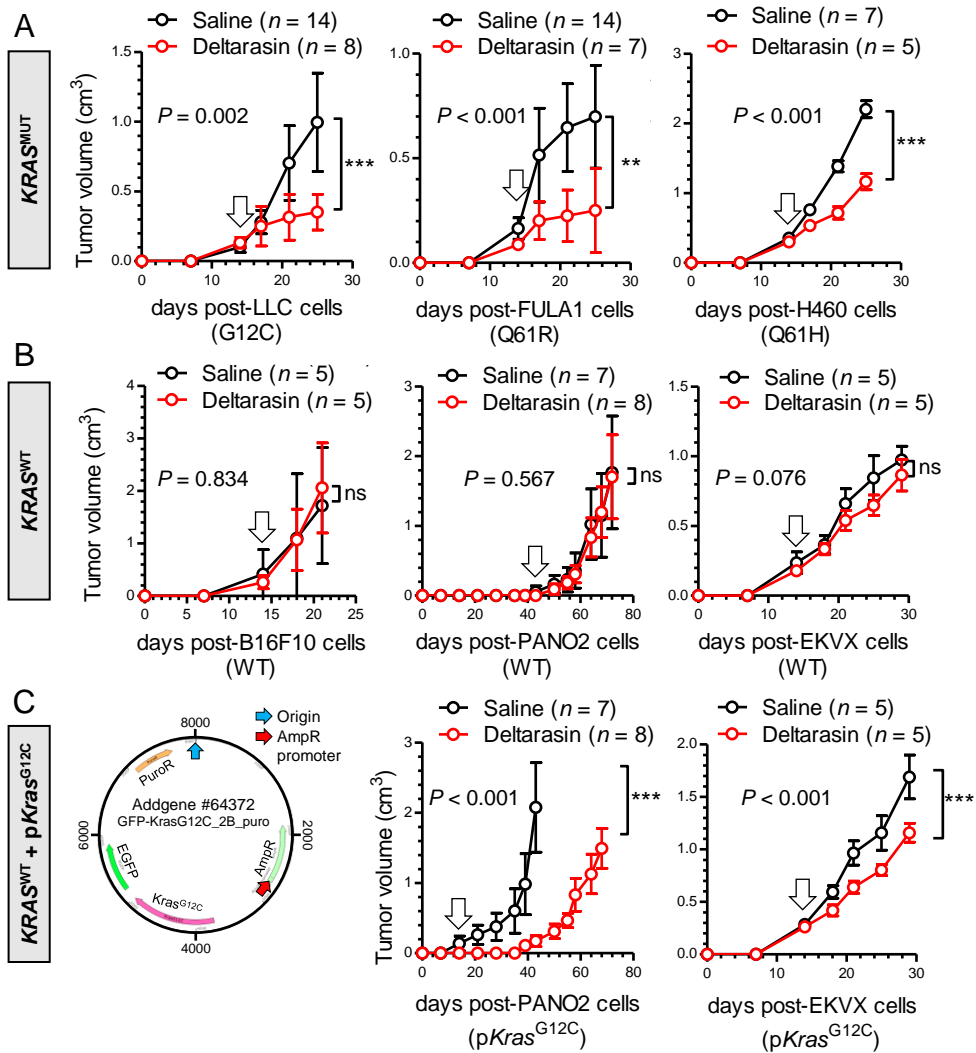


Figure 3

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

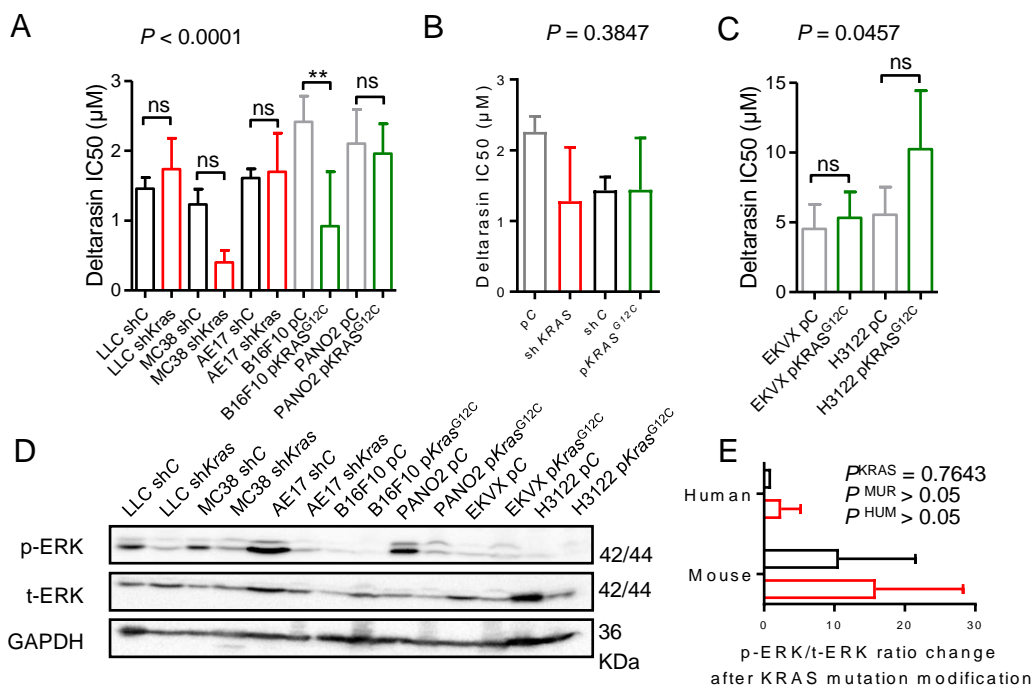


Figure 4

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

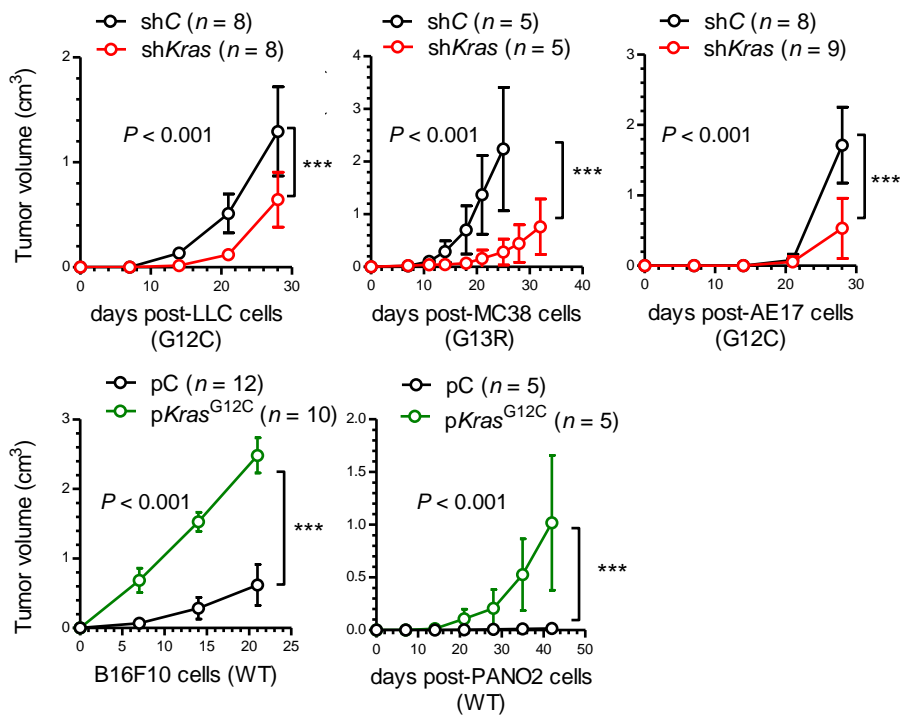


Figure 5

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

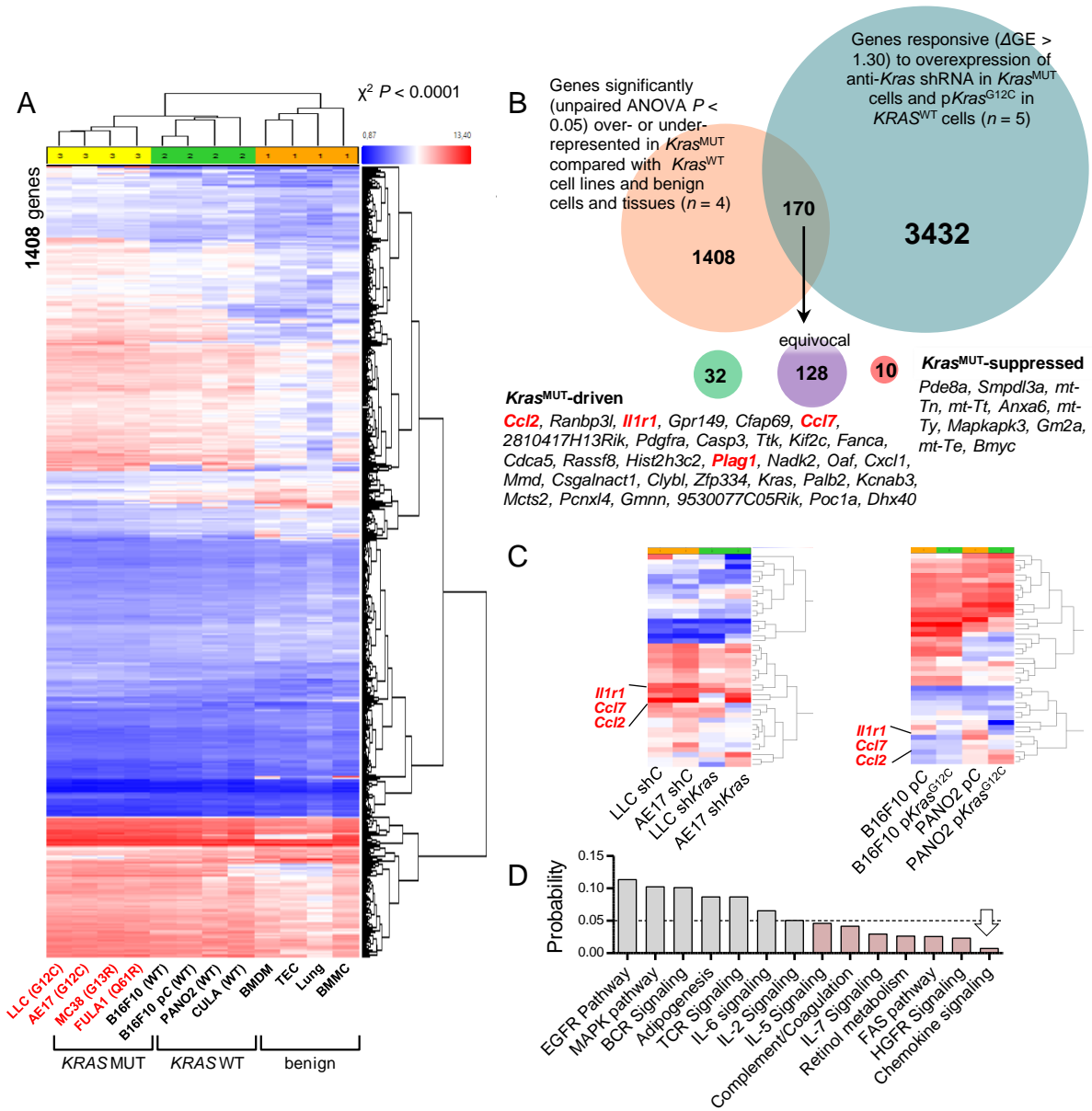


Figure 6

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

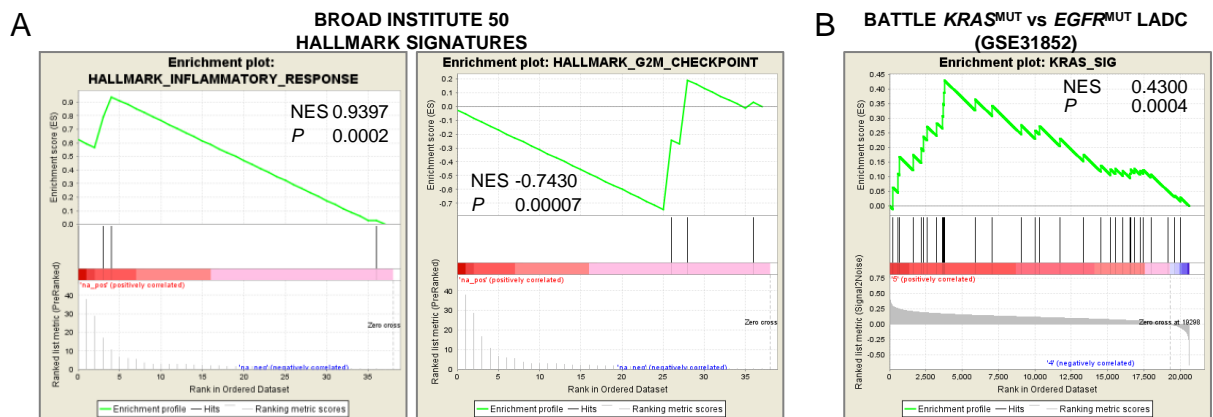


Figure 7

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

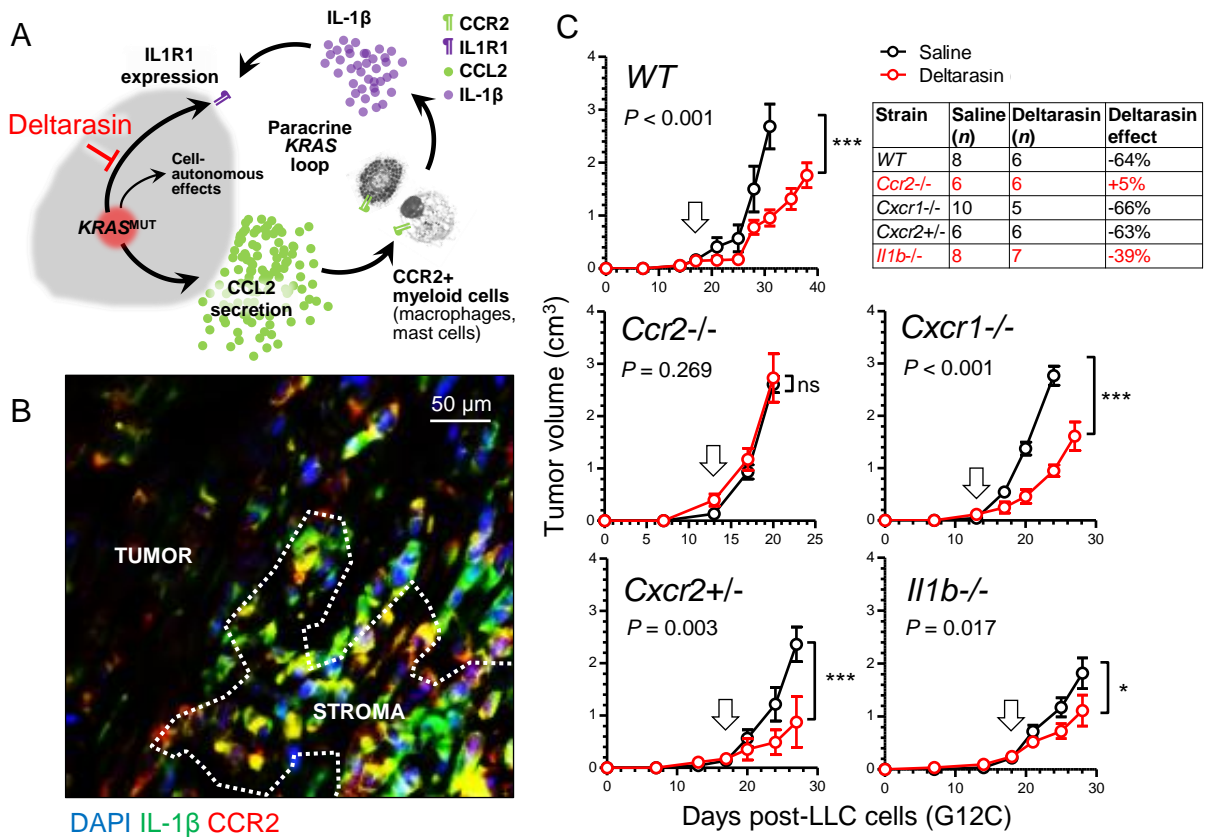


Figure 8

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

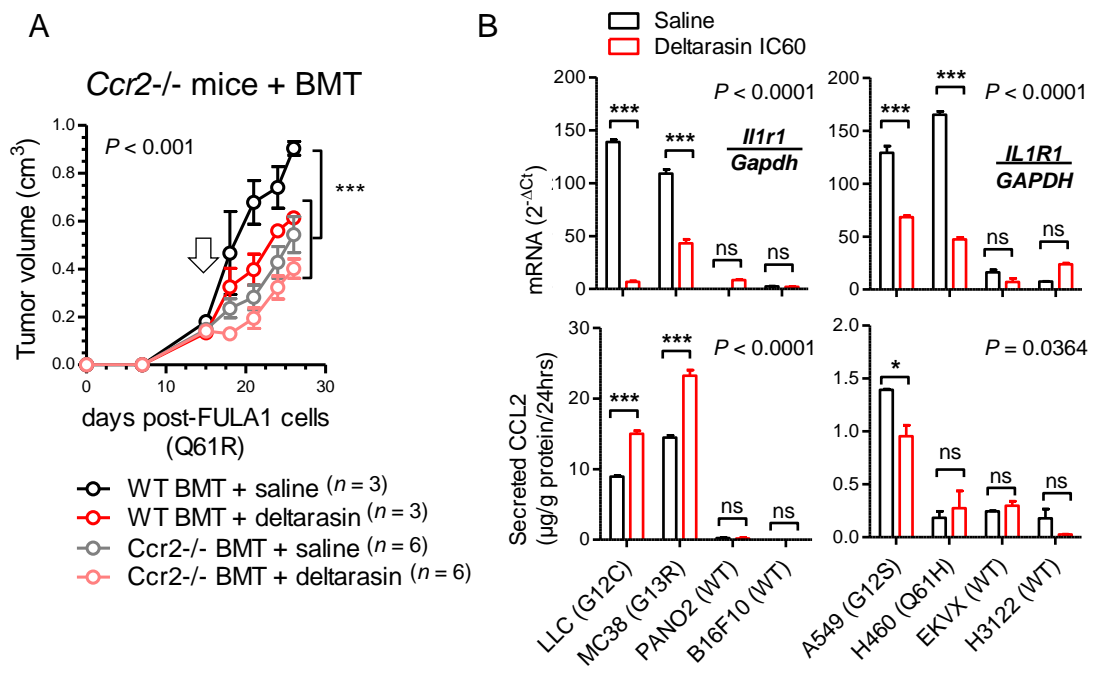


Figure 9

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

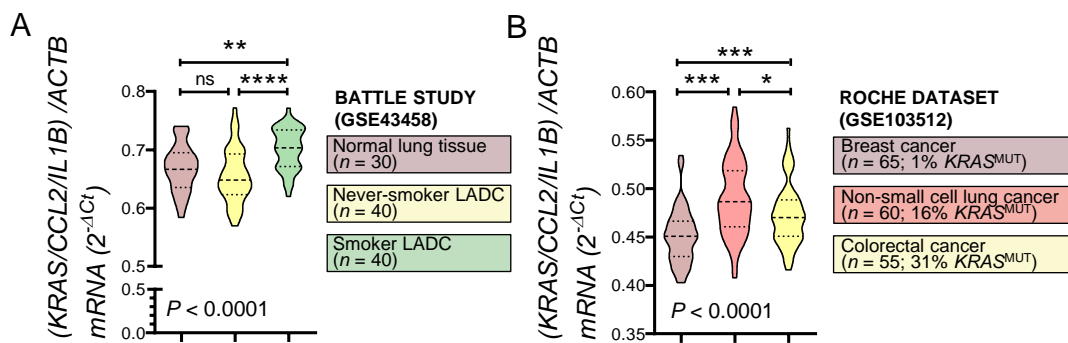


Figure 10

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

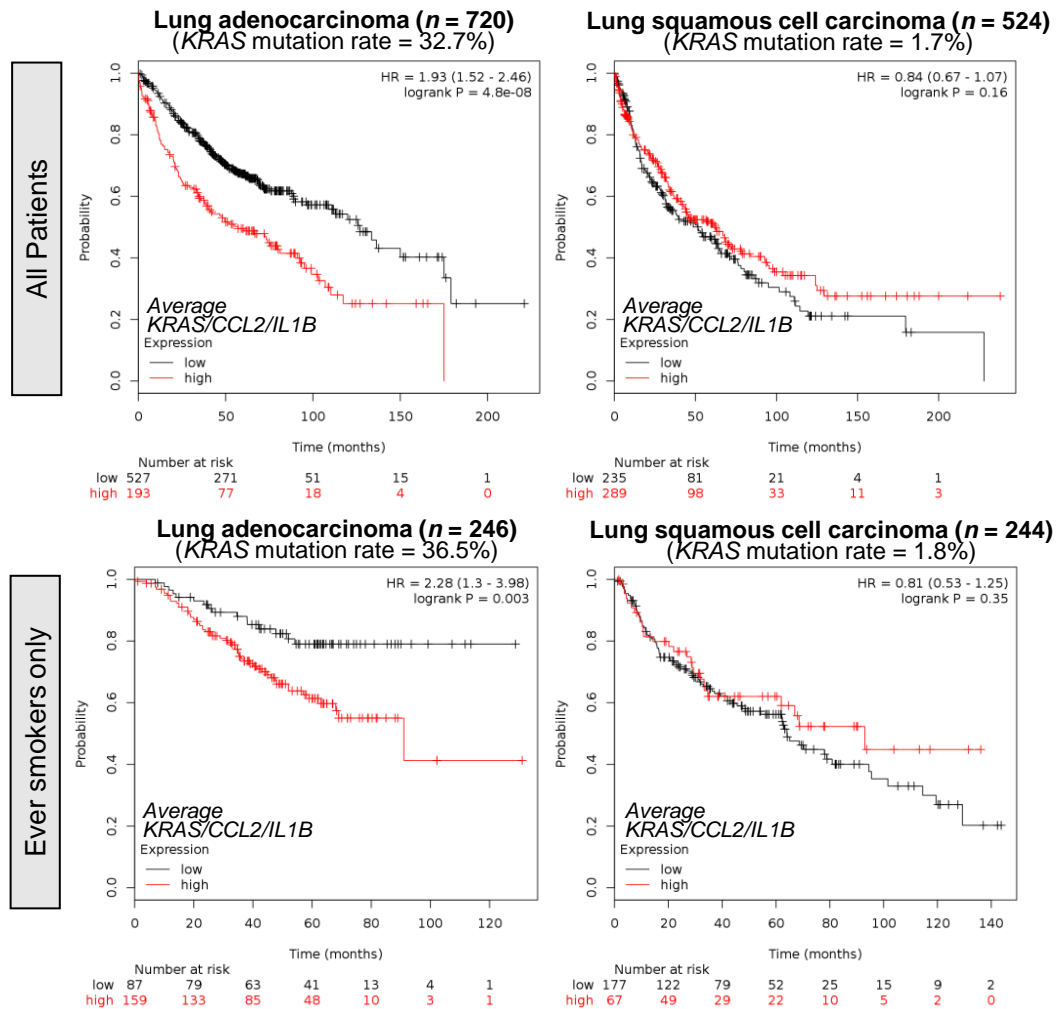


Figure 11

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

A	ILC	MC38	AE17	FULA1	CULA	B16F10	PANO2
Mouse strain	C57BL/6	C57BL/6	C57BL/6	FVB	C57BL/6	C57BL/6	C57BL/6
Tissue	lung	colon	pleura	lung	lung	skin	pancreas
<i>Kras</i>	■	■	■	■			
<i>Nras</i>	■		■				
<i>Trp53</i>		■		■			

■ Activating mutation
■ Inactivating mutation

B	A549	H460	H1944	H358	H1299	H3122	EKVX	H358M
Tissue	lung	lung	lung	lung	lung	lung	lung	lung
<i>KRAS</i>	■	■	■	■				
<i>NRAS</i>					■			
<i>ROS1</i>						■		
<i>MAP2K1</i>		■						
<i>TP53</i>					■	■	■	
<i>STK11</i>	■	■						
<i>NF1</i>						■		
<i>ARID1A</i>		■						

Figure 1 – figure supplement 1

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

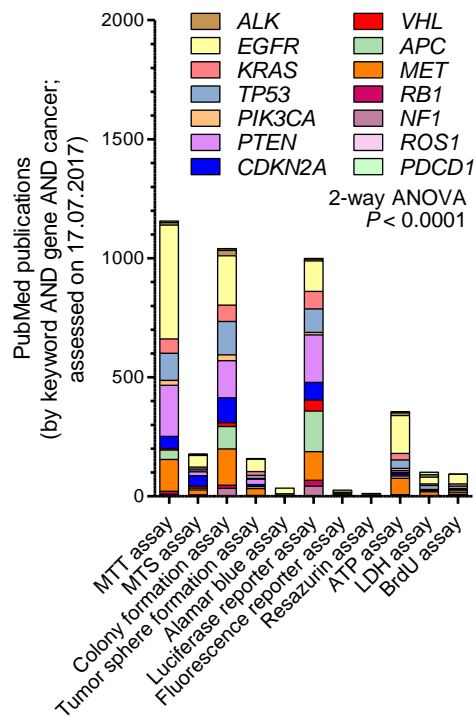


Figure 1 – figure supplement 2

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

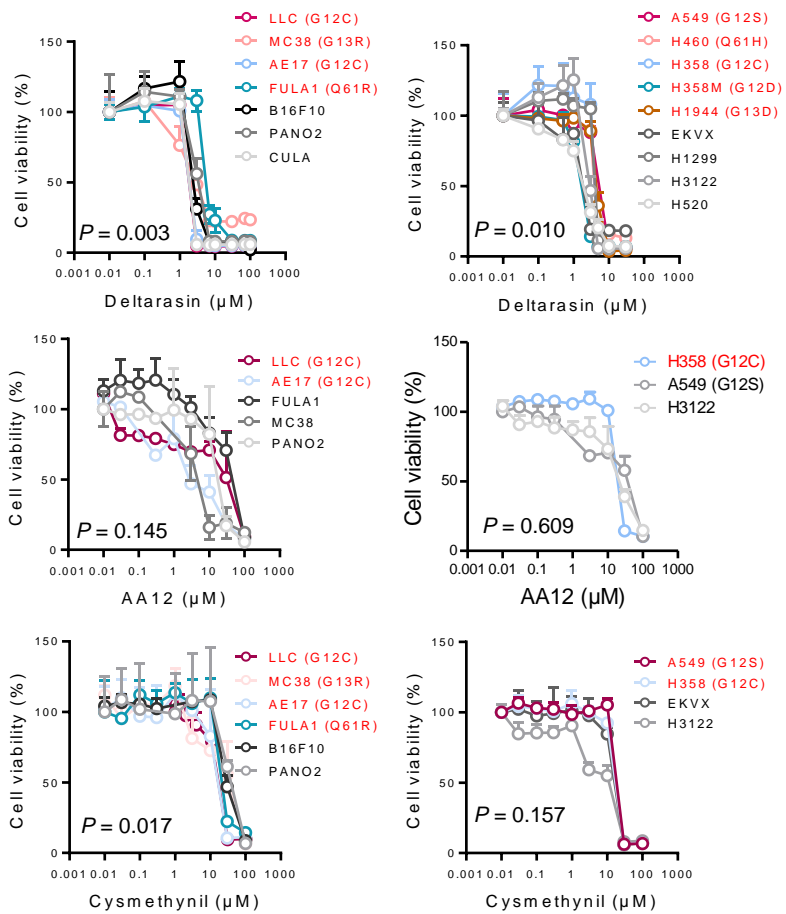


Figure 1 – figure supplement 3

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

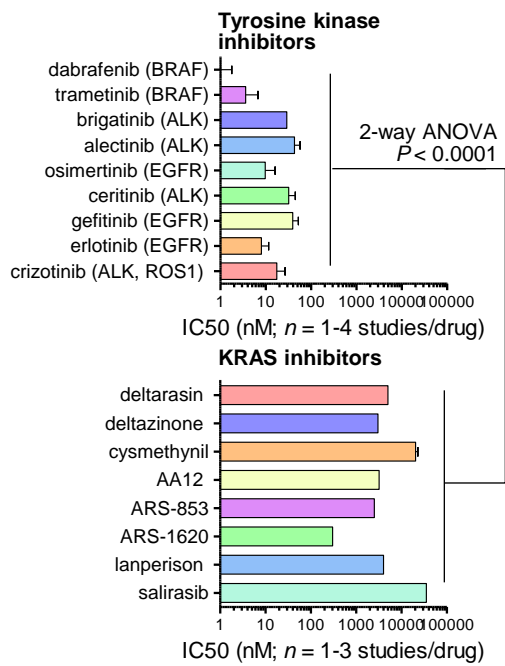


Figure 1 – figure supplement 4

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

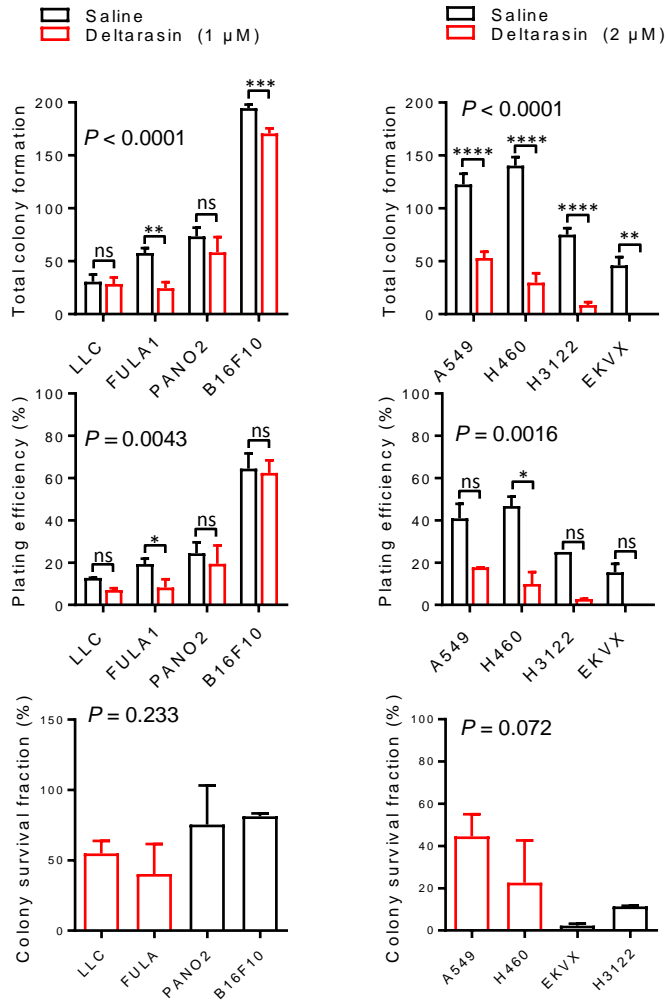


Figure 2 – figure supplement 1

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

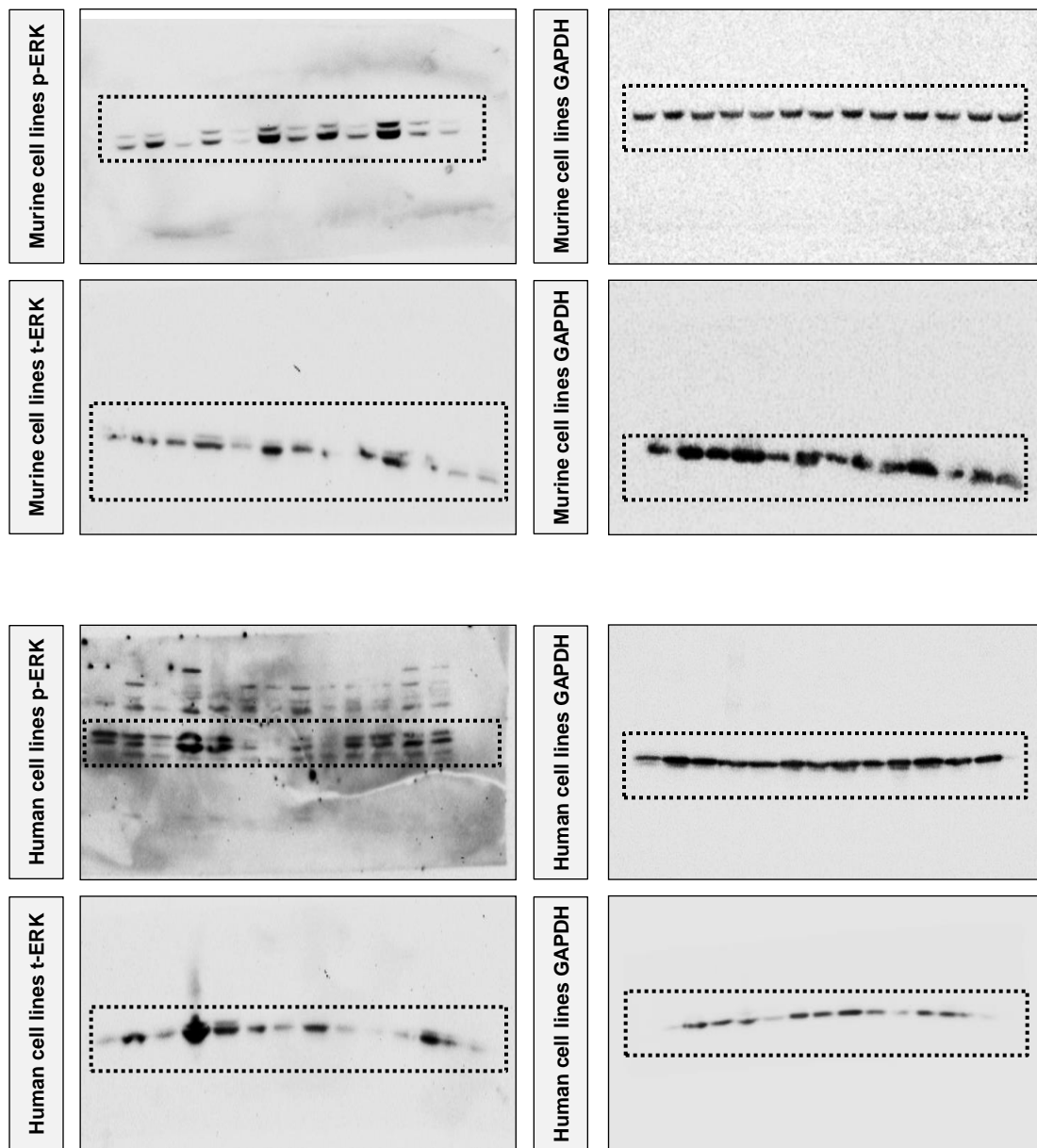


Figure 2 – figure supplement 2

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

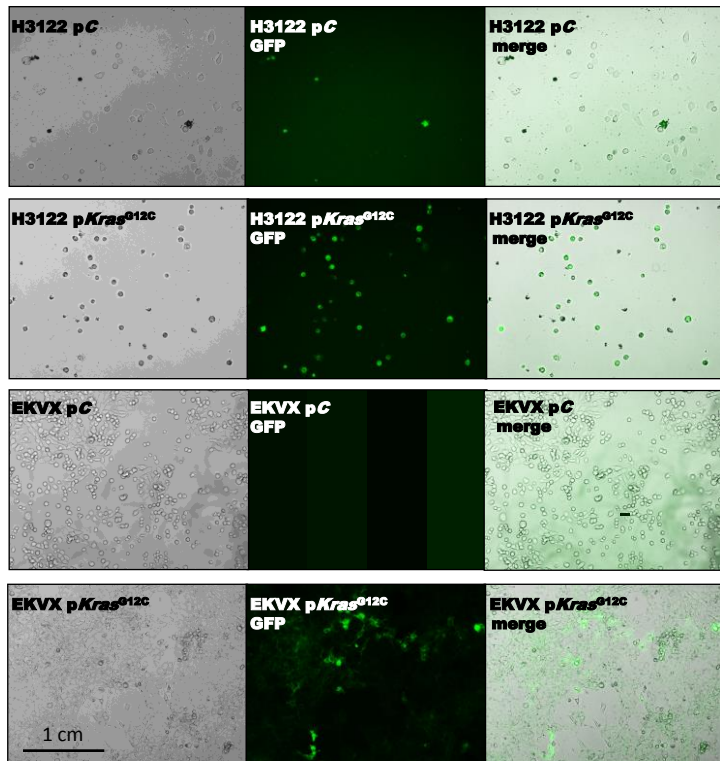


Figure 3 – figure supplement 1

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.

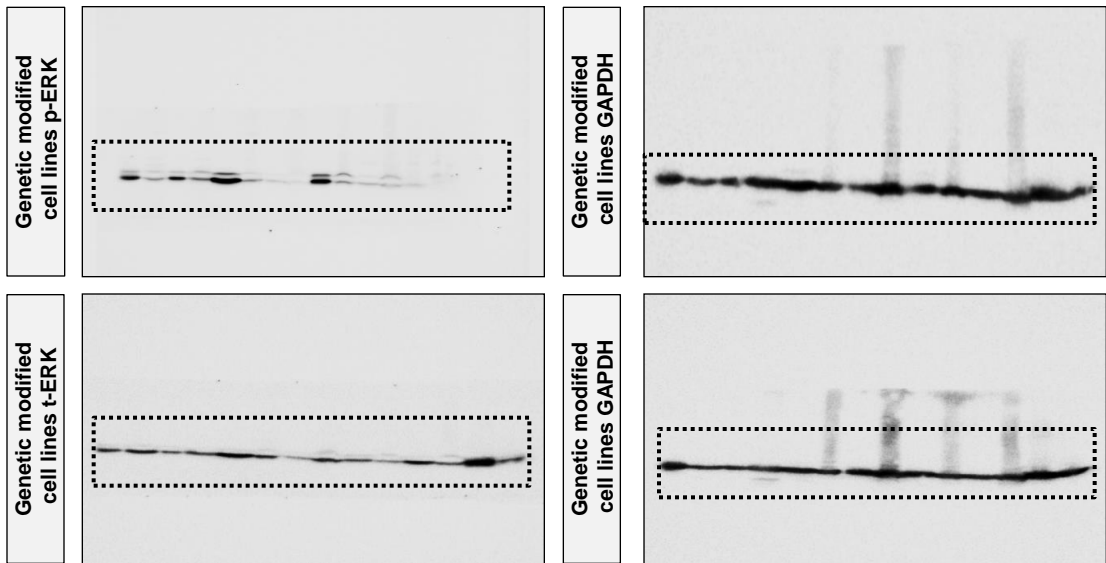


Figure 4 – figure supplement 1

Arendt *et al.* In vivo-restricted effects of KRAS inhibitors.