

# Recent Advances in RCC

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# Financial Disclosures

- None

# Overview

- Probably more of an update with highlights of some recent changes
- Surgical Advances/Current State
- Individualized Medicine
  - Sequencing
- Immunotherapy

# What's Happening in Surgery?

- More Robotics being utilized
  - Partials
  - Radicals
  - Caval Thrombus
- The biopsy debate continues
- Multimodal therapy for recurrences



# What's Happening in Surgery?

- Partials
- Off/clamp vs On clamp
- Partial benefits?
- Partial Video

# What's Happening in Surgery?

- Advances in technique for vascular control
- Mostly for T3b cases below the hepatics
- Radical/Thrombus Video

# What's Happening in Surgery?

- To Biopsy or not to Biopsy
- Different camps
  - Usually ablations supporters biopsy
- What does it change that growth kinetics, patient characteristics and available resources does not?

# What's Happening in Surgery?

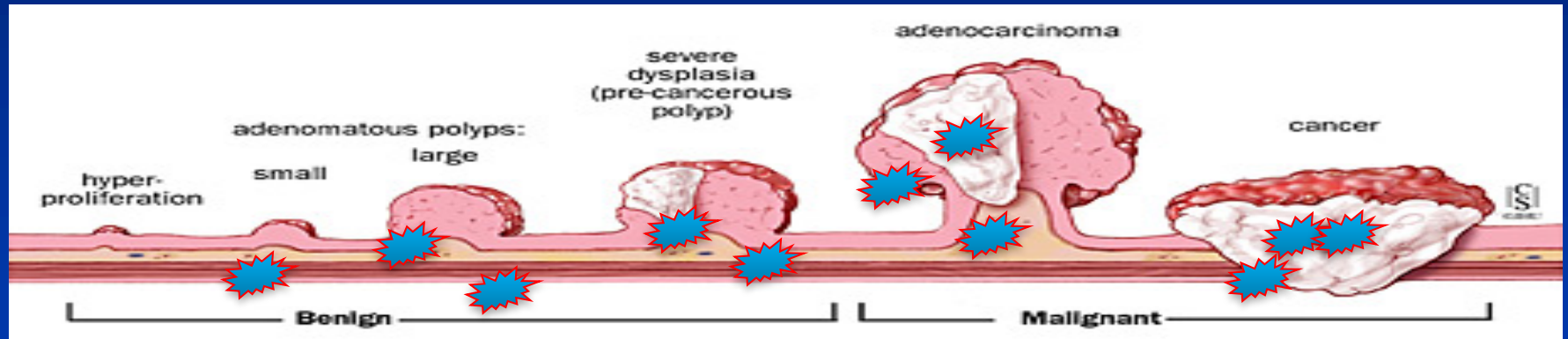
- Multimodal Therapy for Recurrences
- Recurrent case with IORT and pre-op xrt
- Recurrent case with IORT and pre-op systemic Rx

# Individualizing Medicine

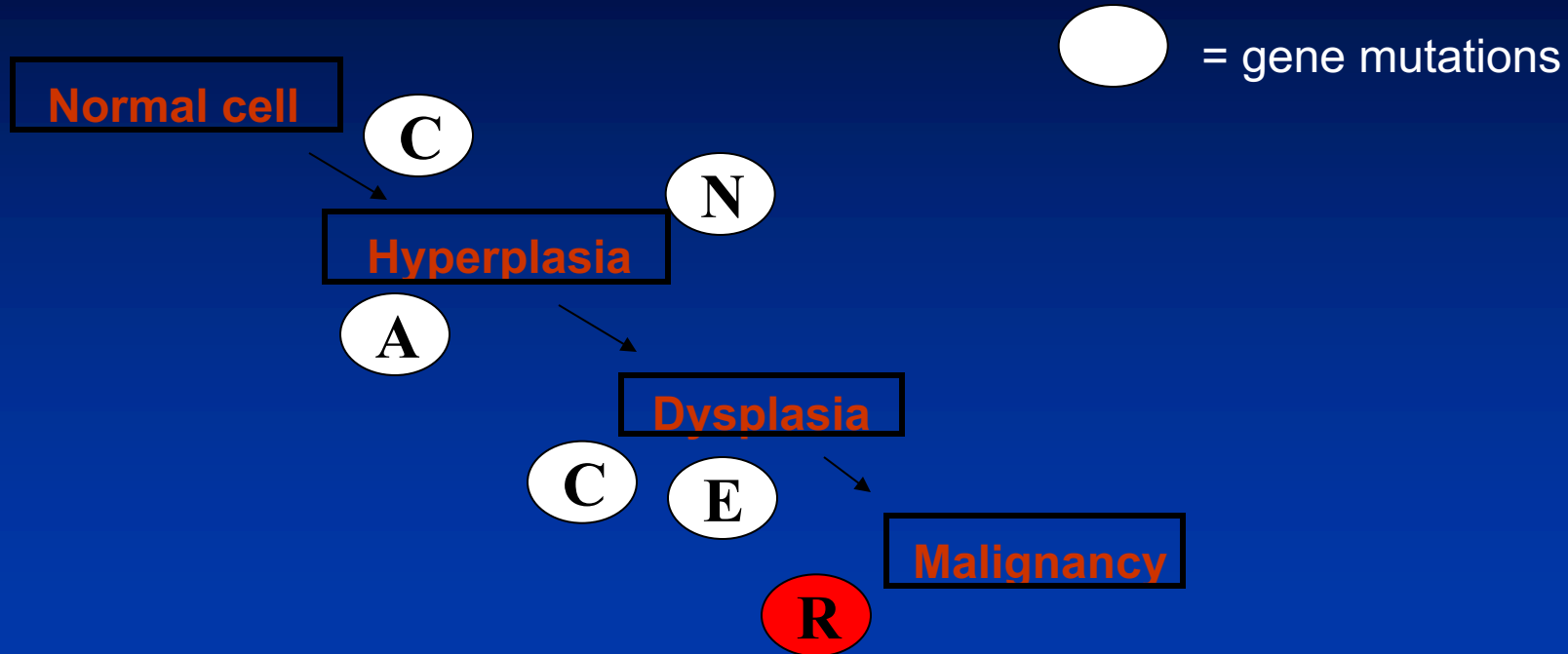
- Genetics and Immunotherapy
- Sequencing
- Assessing via CAMLs
- CAR-T Cell Therapy
- PDL1/PD1

**For a cell to transform into a cancer,  
it acquires mutations in driver genes that  
promote cell growth**

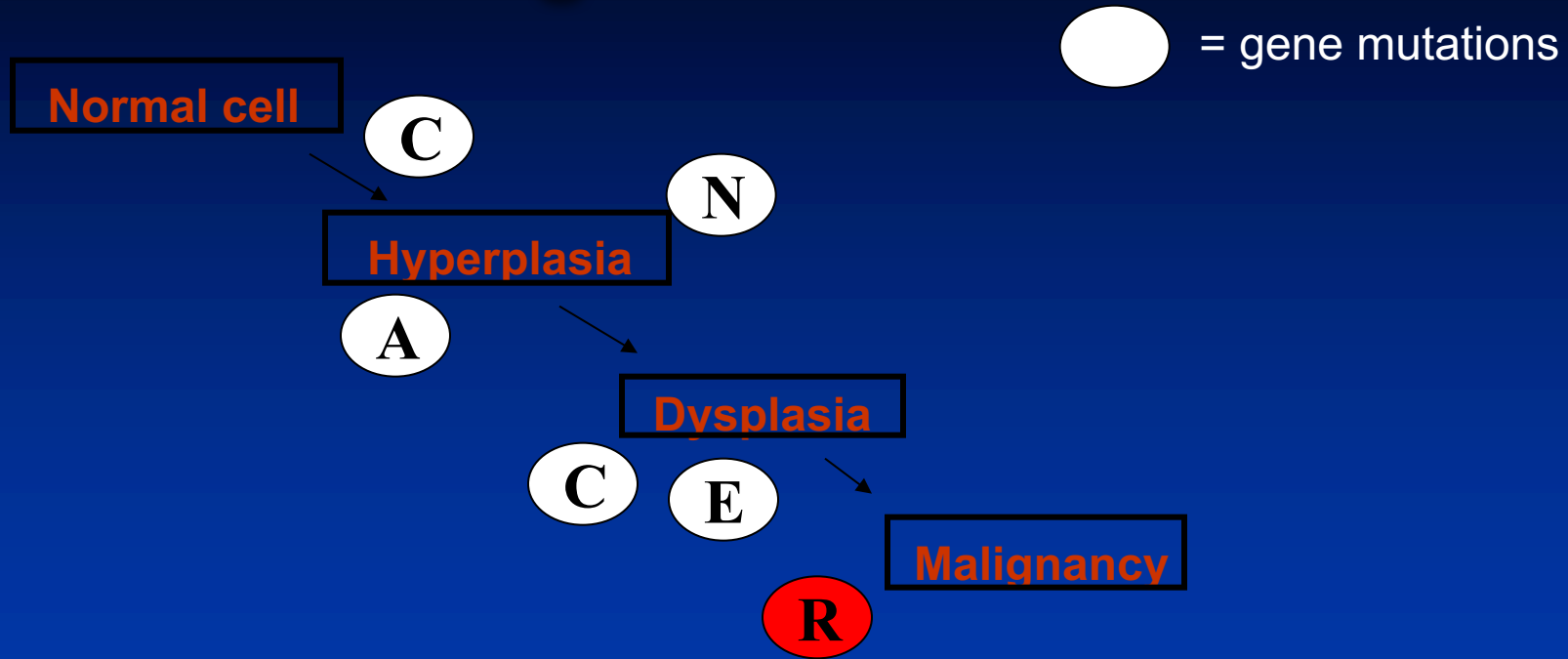
**[all cancer is genetic]**



# Cancer results from random mutations in driver genes over time



# What if all cells started out with one inherited gene mutation?



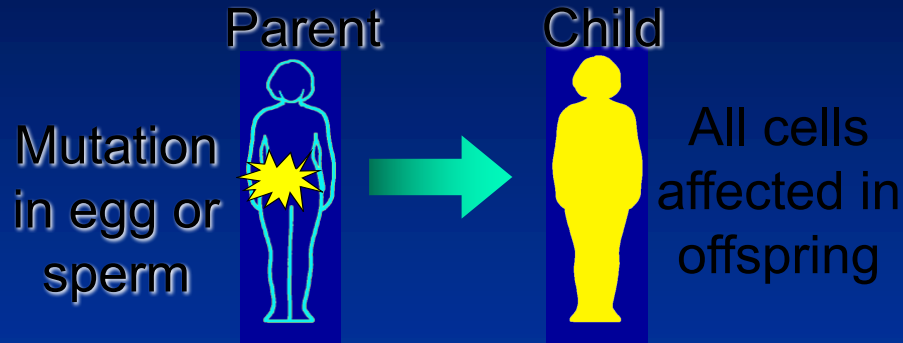
Makes it more likely any cell will hit the “Cancer Powerball” because there is one less event needed



# All cancer is genetic. Most cancer is not hereditary.

## Hereditary mutations

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- Present in egg or sperm
- Are heritable
- Cause hereditary cancer syndromes

## Somatic mutations

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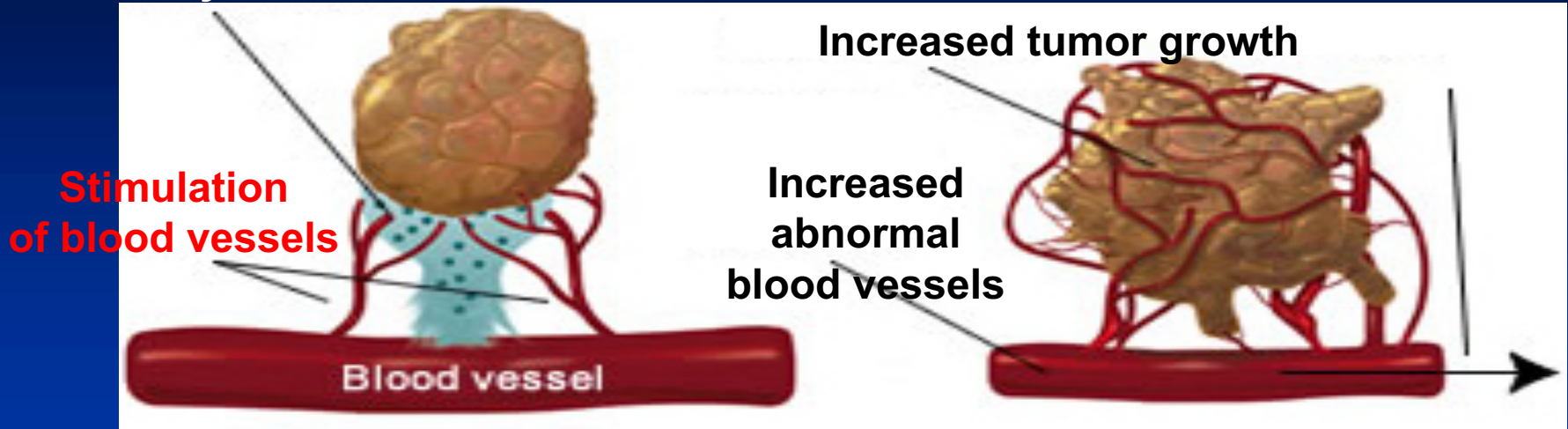


Somatic mutation  
(arises in affected tissue)

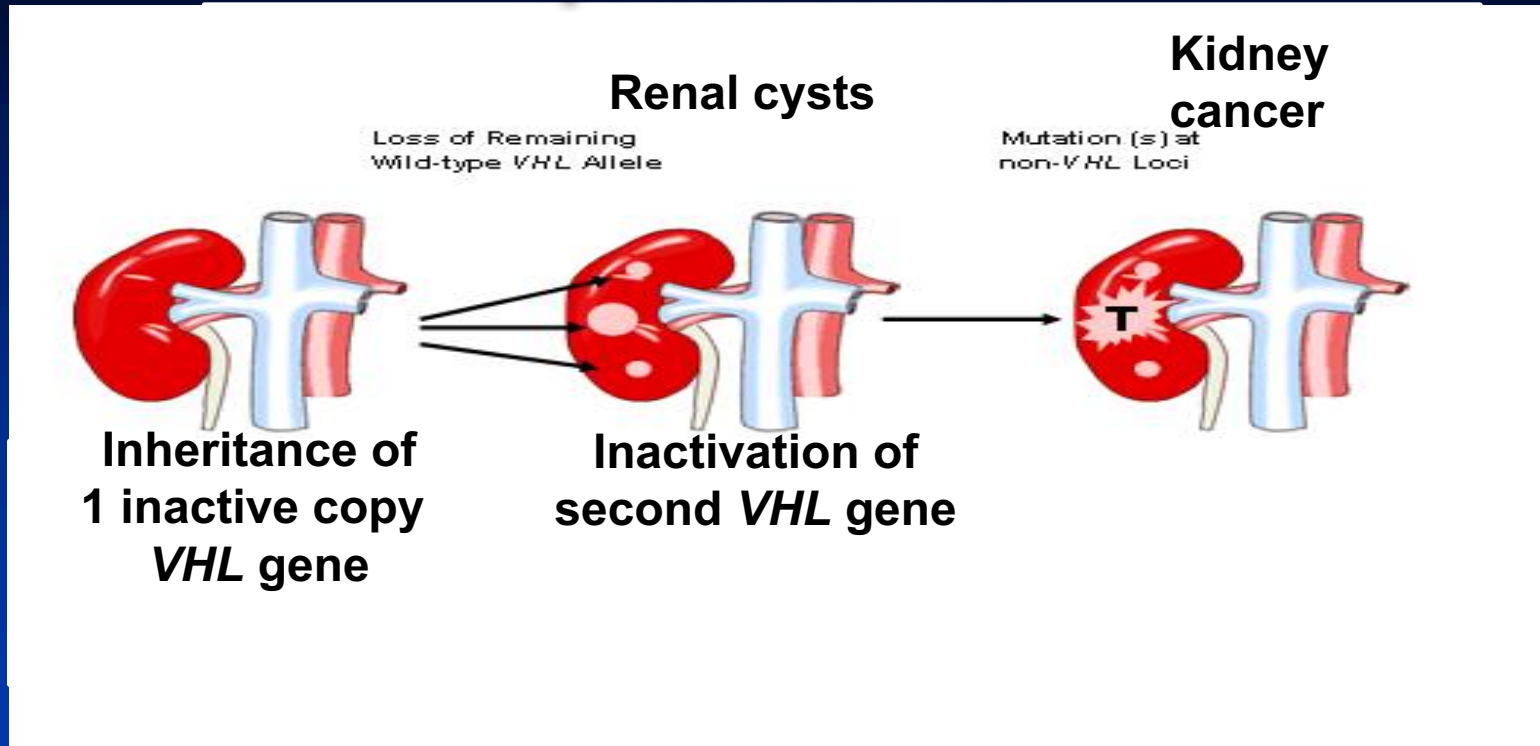
- Occur in tumor tissues
- Are not heritable
- In all cancers

# Loss of the *VHL* gene promotes abnormal growth of blood vessels and tumor metastases

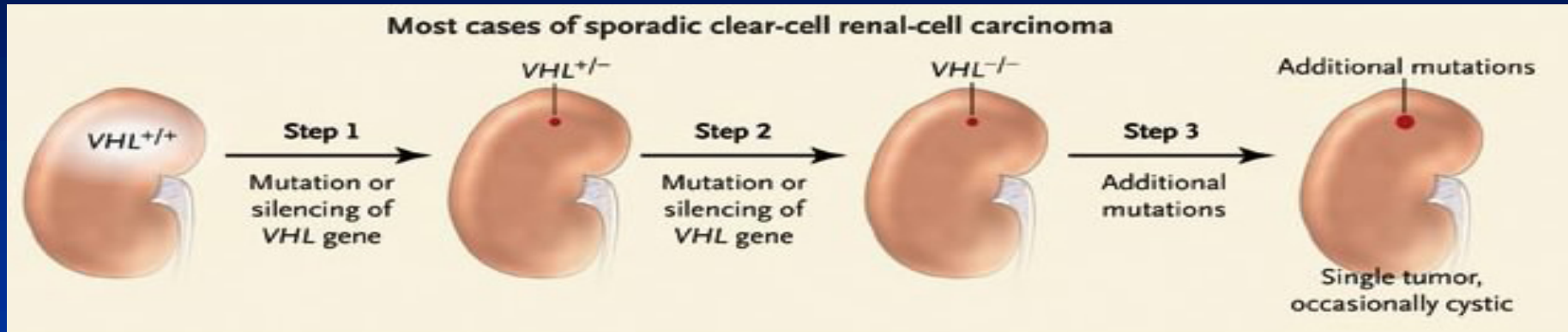
## Delivery of nutrients to tumor



# The discovery of mutations in the von Hippel-Lindau (*VHL*) gene in VHL syndrome led to a model of tumorigenesis in sporadic ccRCC

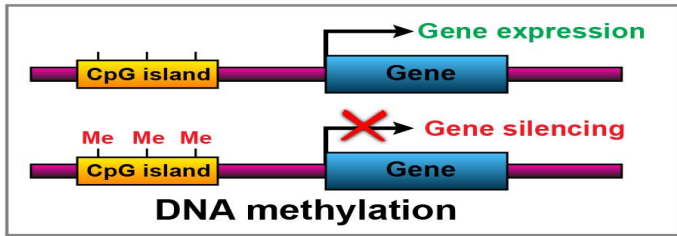


# Loss of VHL function is insufficient to promote tumorigenesis

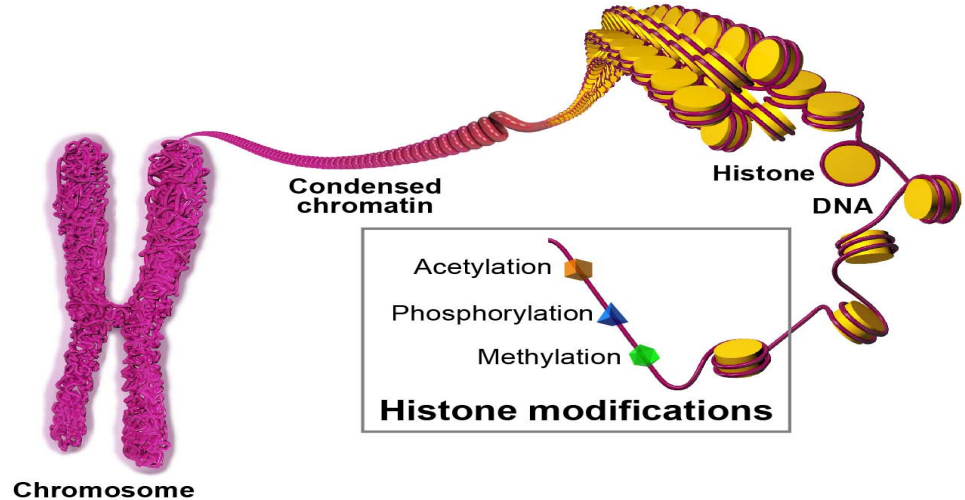


# Epigenetic mechanisms modify gene expression without altering DNA sequence

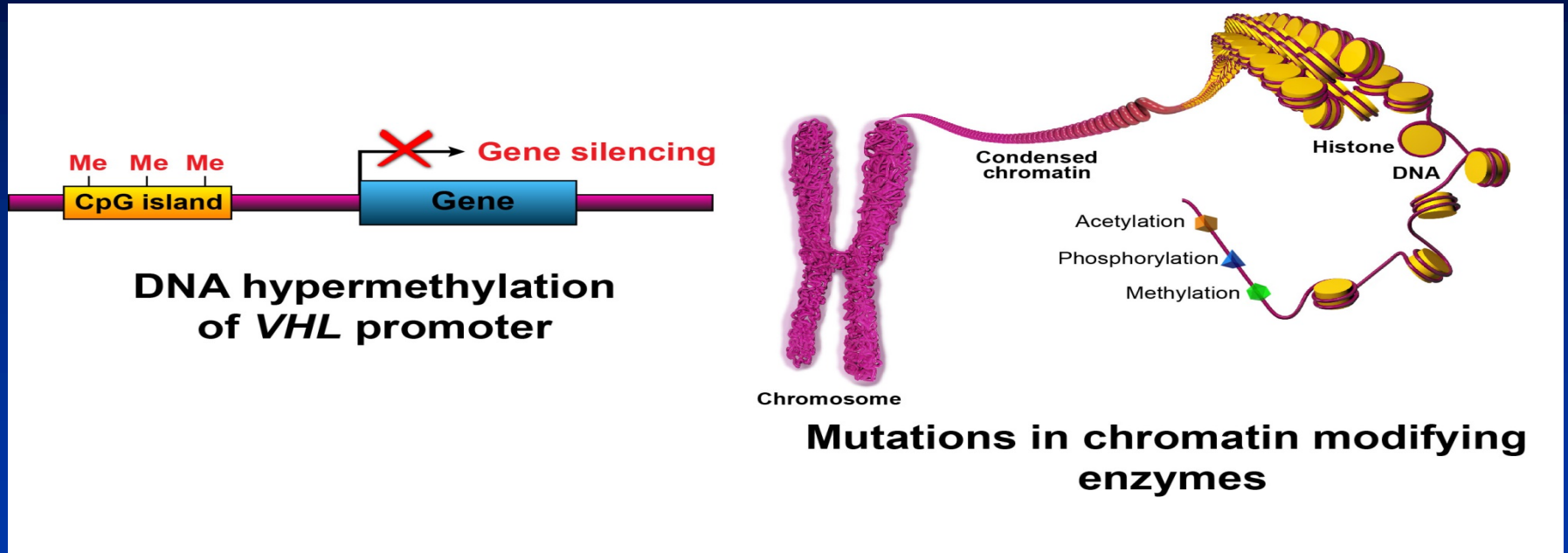
A



B

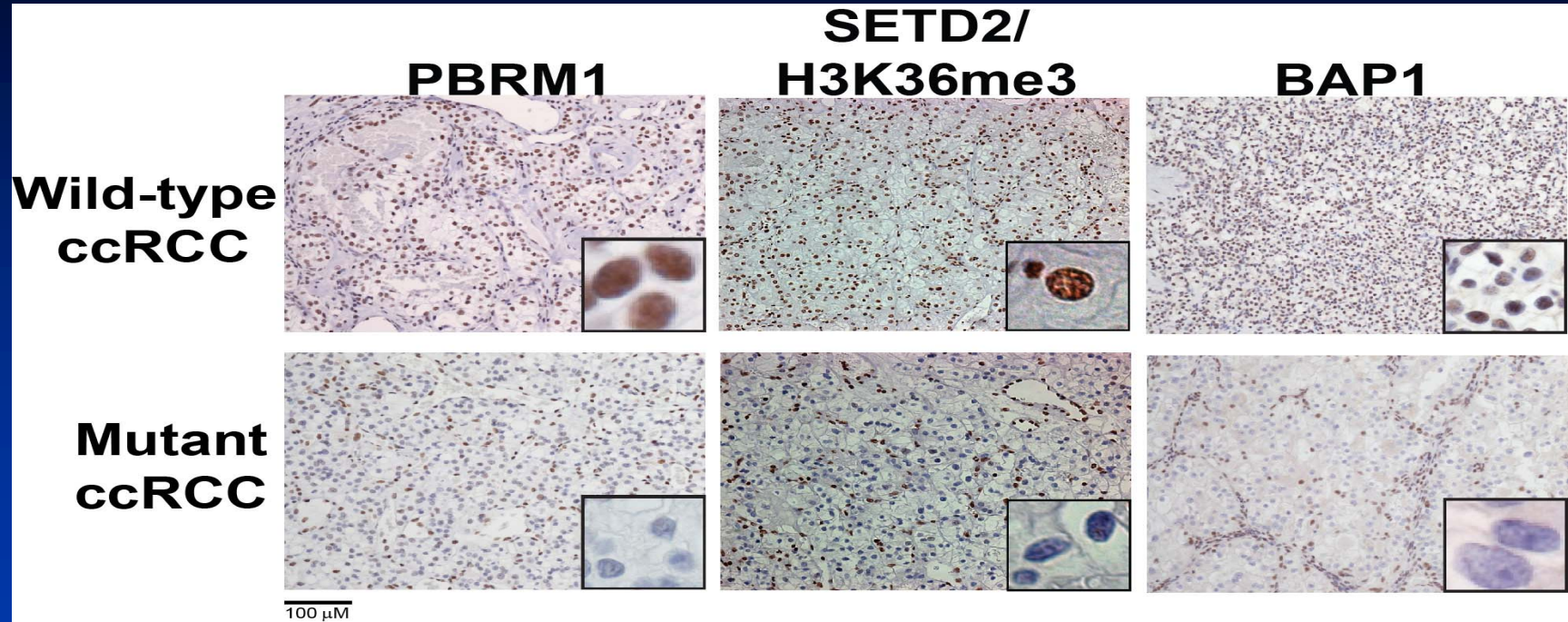


# Modifications of both DNA and histone proteins may alter ccRCC biology

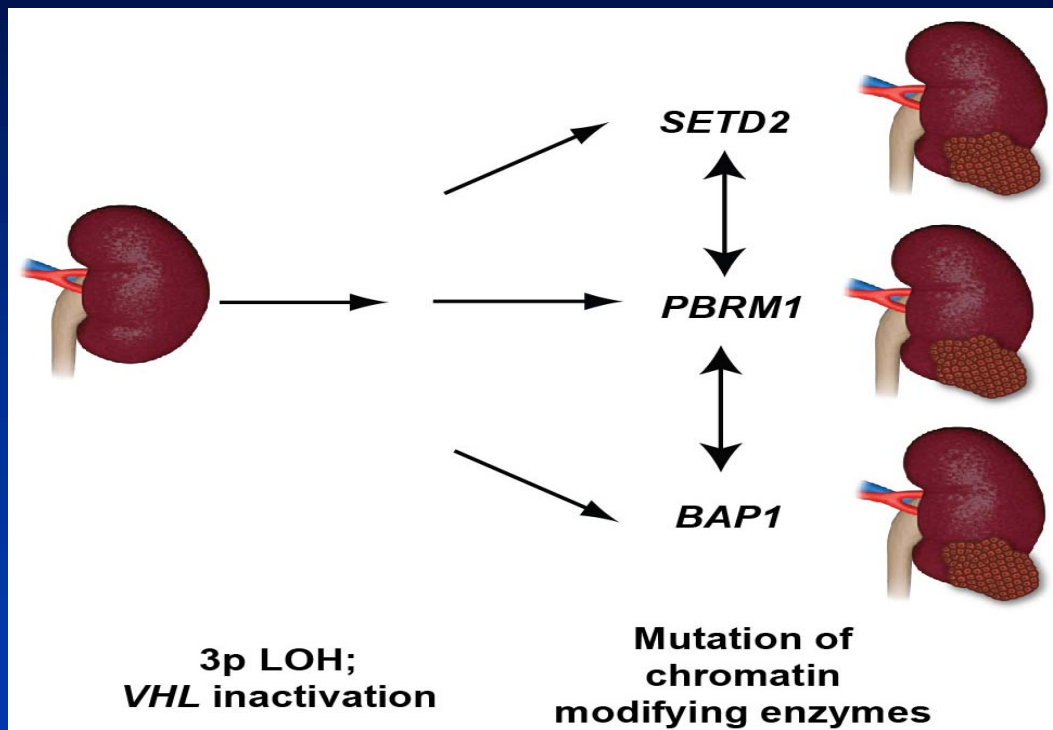




# Inactivation of chromatin modifying enzymes alters protein expression or histone modifications

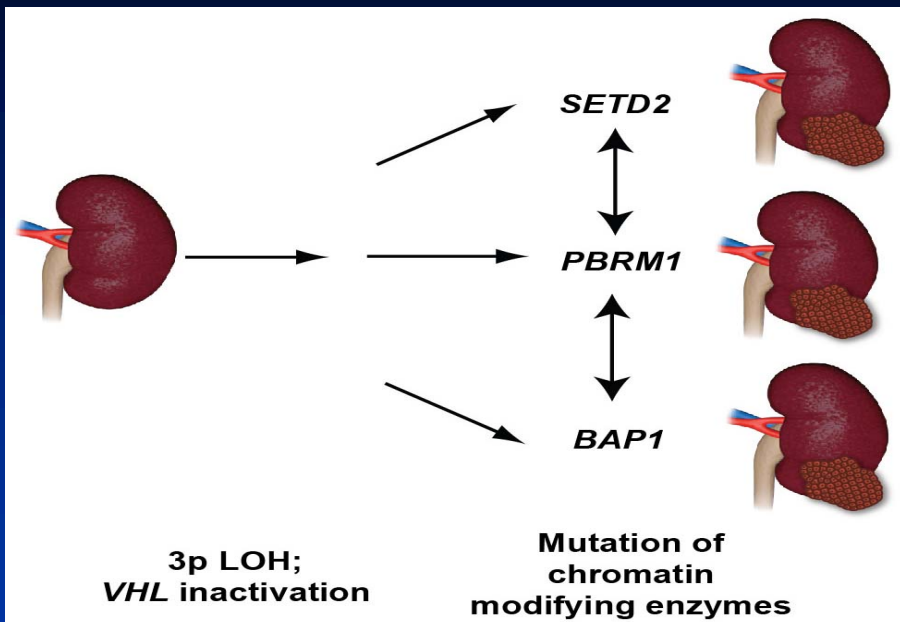


# Inactivation of *VHL* is an early genetic event followed by secondary mutations in chromatin modifying enzymes



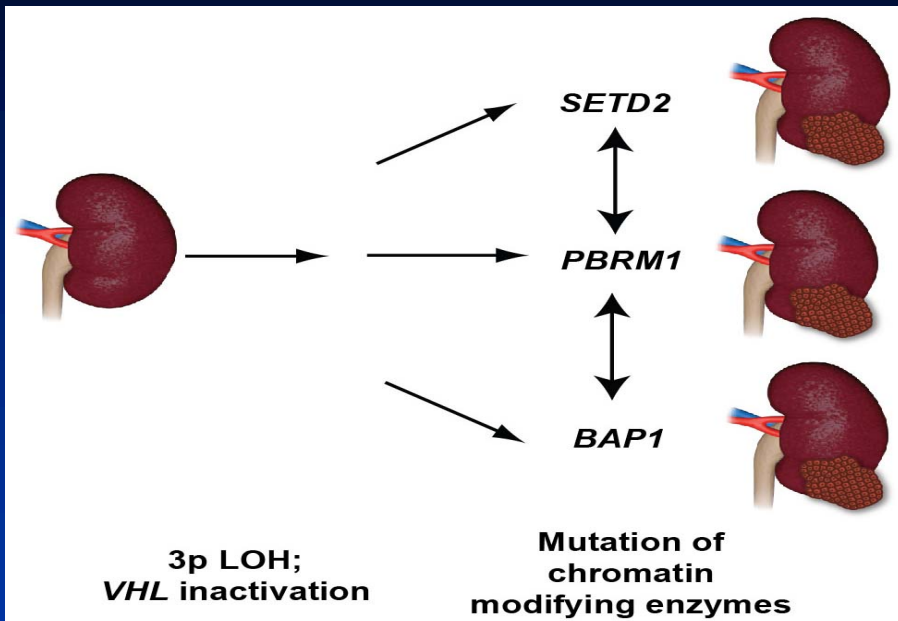


# Are these epigenetic mutations predictive or prognostic?



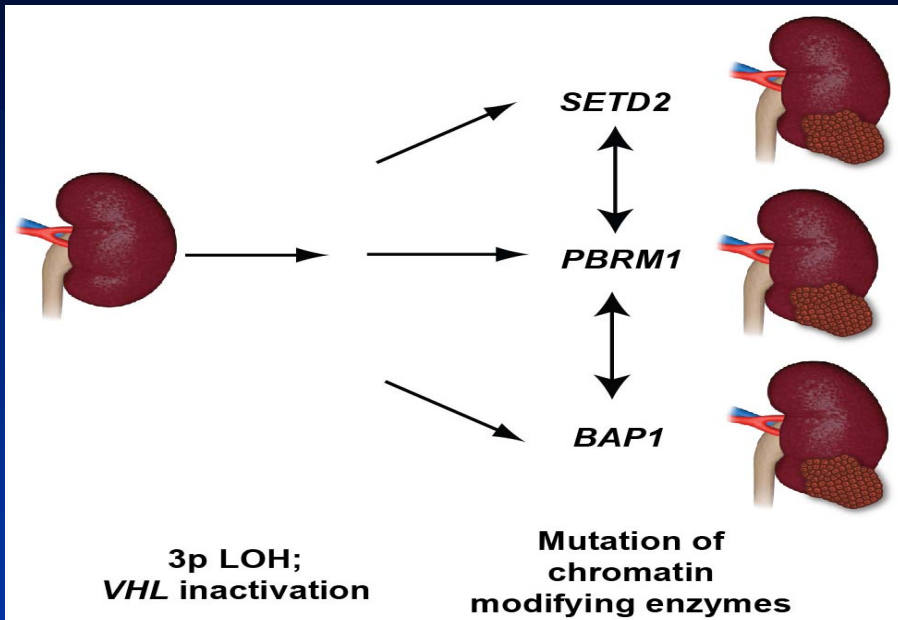
- A **prognostic** factor is a characteristic that provides information on the likely outcome of the cancer disease in an untreated individual.
- A **predictive** factor is a clinical or biologic characteristic that provides information on the likely benefit from treatment.

# Are these mutations **predictive** of response to systemic therapy?



- Current drugs target the microenvironment
- Tumor heterogeneity leads to underestimation of mutations from single tumor-biopsy samples
- Targeted therapies usually inhibit hyperactivated pathways or gain of function mutations

# If I order molecular genotyping of a ccRCC what can I expect to find?



- No mutations
- Mutations, no targeted therapies
- Mutations with targeted therapies that are not approved by the FDA for ccRCC
- Mutations associated with hereditary cancer syndromes

# “not actionable” mutations; *VHL* mutations are not predictive of response to anti-angiogenic therapy

| PATIENT RESULTS                                     |  | TUMOR TYPE: KIDNEY RENAL CELL CARCINOMA (NOS)   |                                  |
|---|--|---|----------------------------------|
| <p>0 therapies associated with lack of response</p> |  | <b>Genomic Alterations Identified<sup>†</sup></b><br>VHL<br><br>PBRM1<br>SETD2  |                                  |
|   |  | <small><sup>†</sup>For a complete list of the genes assayed, please refer to the Appendix<br/> <sup>‡</sup>See Appendix for details</small> |                                  |
| THERAPEUTIC IMPLICATIONS                            |  |   |                                  |
| Genomic Alterations Detected                        | FDA Approved Therapies (in patient's tumor type)   | FDA Approved Therapies (in another tumor type)  | Potential Clinical Trials        |
| VHL   | Axitinib<br>Bevacizumab<br>Everolimus<br>Pazopanib<br>Sorafenib<br>Sunitinib<br>Temsirolimus | Vandetanib  | Yes, see clinical trials section |
| PBRM1   | None   | None  | None                             |
| SETD2   | None   | None  | None                             |

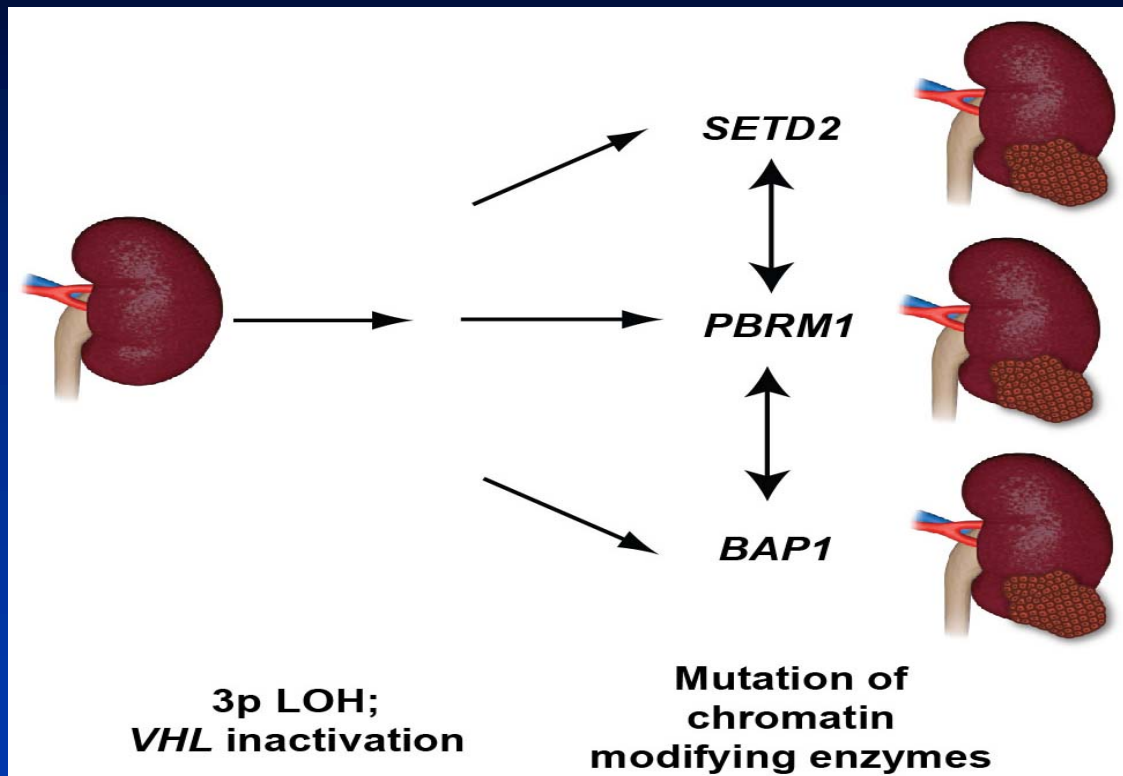
# Histology is the primary determinant of first-line therapy

Predominant  
clear cell  
histology

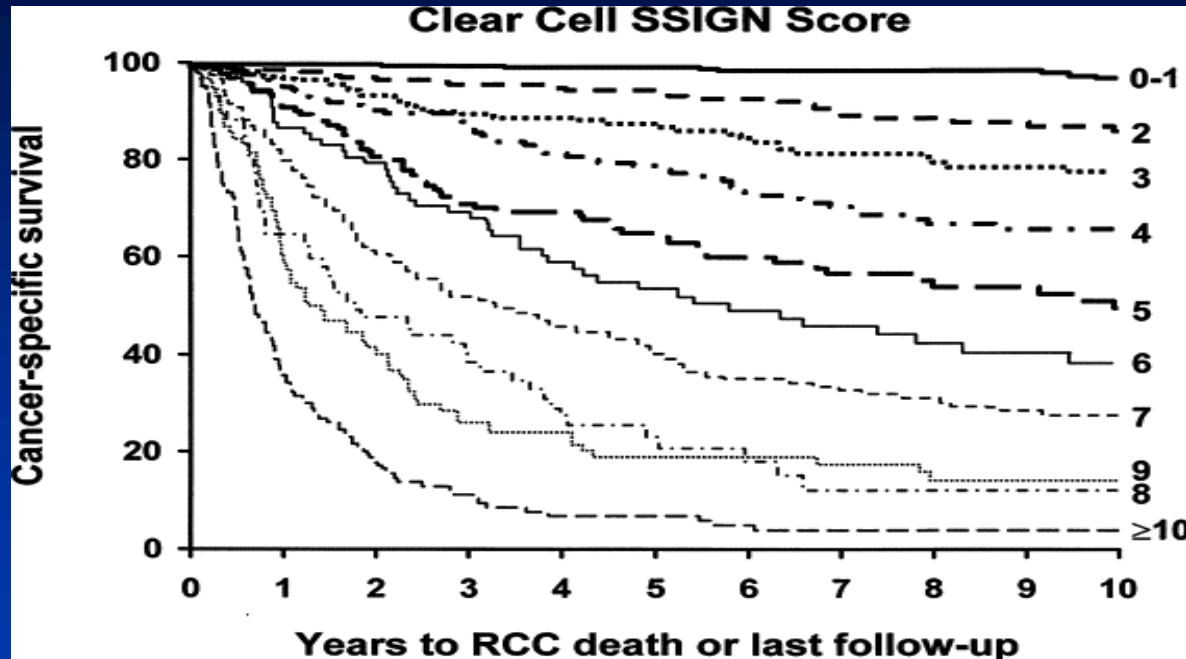


Clinical trial  
or  
Sunitinib (category 1)  
or  
Temsirrolimus (category 1 for poor-prognosis patients,<sup>h</sup> category 2B for selected patients of other risk groups)  
or  
Bevacizumab + IFN (category 1)  
or  
Pazopanib (category 1)  
or  
High dose IL-2 for selected patients<sup>i</sup>  
or  
Sorafenib for selected patients  
and  
Best supportive care:<sup>j</sup> See NCCN Palliative Care Guidelines

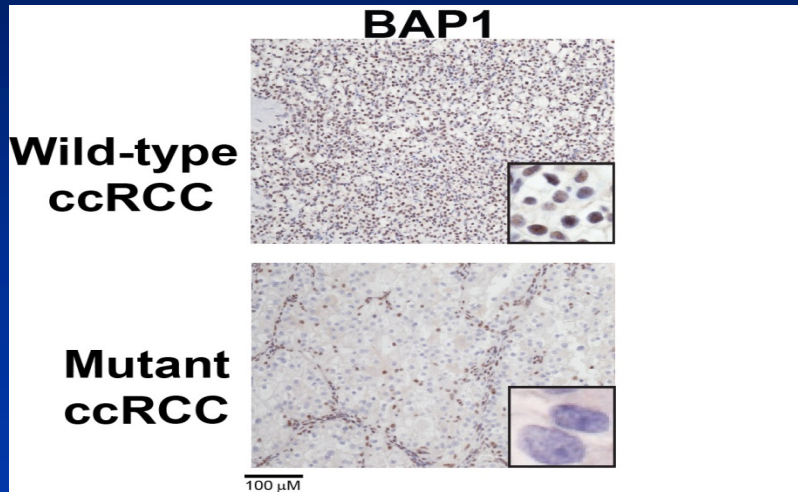
# Do epigenetic classifications provide additional prognostic information to existing algorithms?



# Mayo SSIGN (Stage, Size, Grade, Necrosis) Score stratifies patients into prognostic categories



# BAP1 loss of expression by IHC is consistent with a BAP1 deficient genotype (as defined by Sanger sequencing)



|                              | Next generation sequencing | IHC     |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| True BAP1 deficient (Sanger) | 24/27                      | 25/27   |
| True BAP1 competent (Sanger) | 149/149                    | 148/149 |



# Why use immunohistochemistry instead of sequencing to define epigenetic subtypes in RCC?

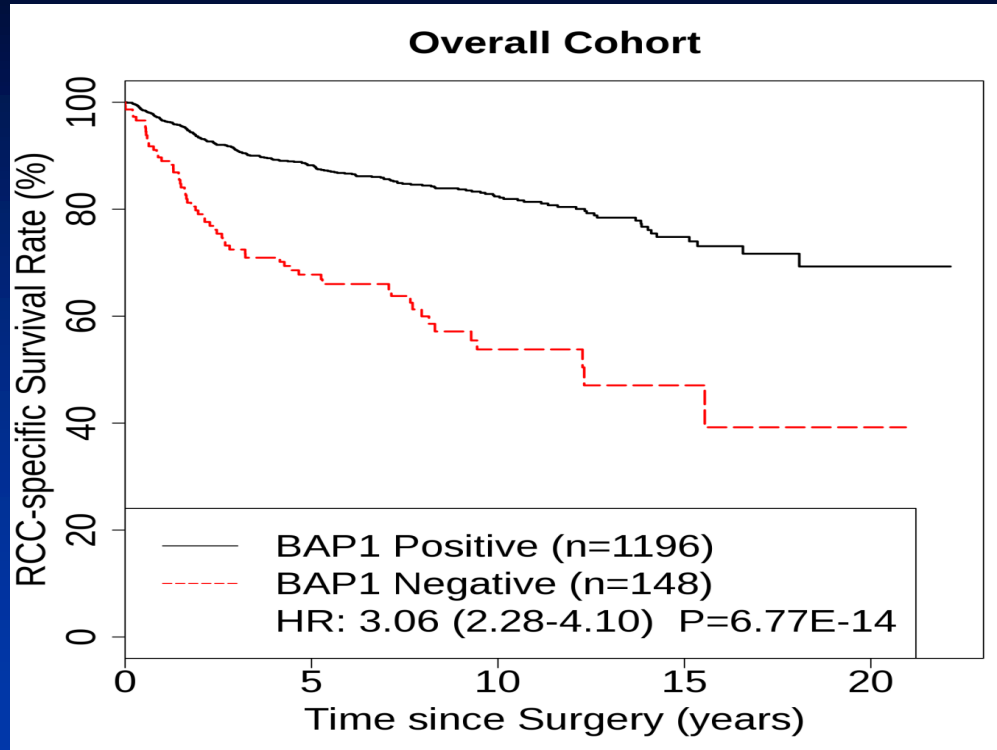
## Advantages

- Detects biallelic inactivation leading to loss of protein expression
- Tumor heterogeneity/stromal contamination may reduce sensitivity for mutations
- **More cost effective in the current era for large studies (\$50 per slide for reagents)**

## Disadvantages

- Defining IHC cutoffs can be challenging (i.e. focal negative, weak positives)
- May not detect heterozygous mutations
- Each IHC assay has to be optimized for each protein of interest
- Lot to lot variations in antibodies

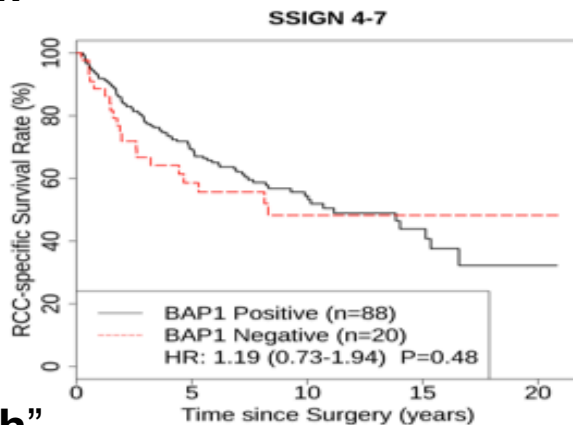
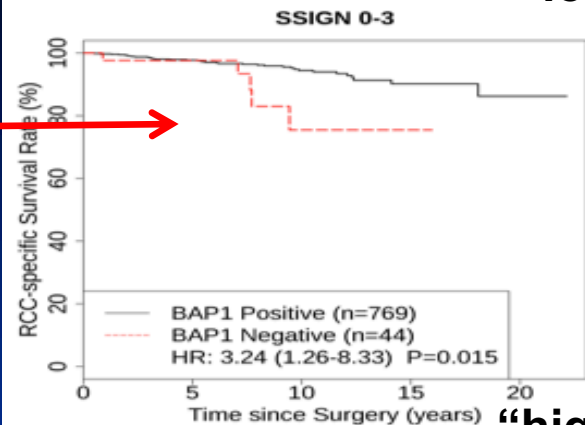
# Loss of BAP1 by IHC is associated with a worse prognosis



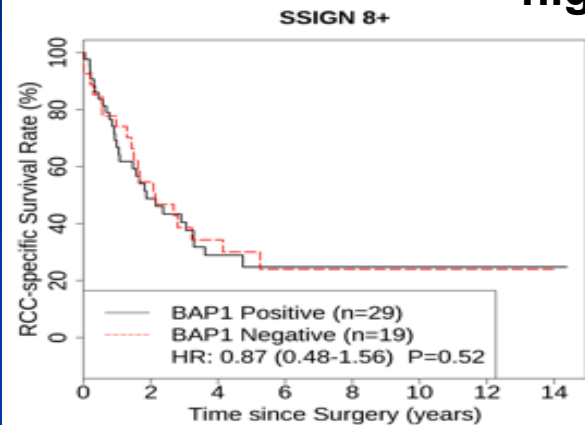
Joseph R. et al.  
Cancer 2013

# Loss of BAP1 by IHC is associated with a worse prognosis despite a “lower risk” clinicopathological risk score (Mayo SSIGN score)

“low”

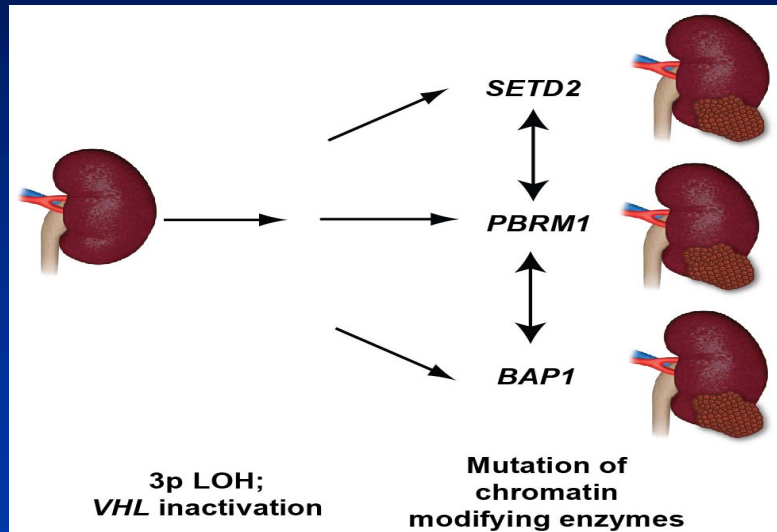


“high”



Joseph R et al.  
Cancer 2013

# Although sequencing tumors identifies epigenetic classifications, it does not improve upon patient outcomes



- IHC may be a more cost-effective assay than sequencing for determining epigenetic classifications
- The **predictive** impact of epigenetic classifications in metastatic ccRCC is unknown
- Although epigenetic classifications add **prognostic** information for localized ccRCC, there are no guidelines for intervention

# 72 F with stage I ccRCC

## PATIENT RESULTS

0 therapies associated with lack of response

## TUMOR TYPE: KIDNEY RENAL CELL CARCINOMA (NOS)

### Genomic Alterations Identified\*

VHL

\*For a complete list of the genes assayed, please refer to the Appendix  
\*\*See Appendix for details

## THERAPEUTIC IMPLICATIONS

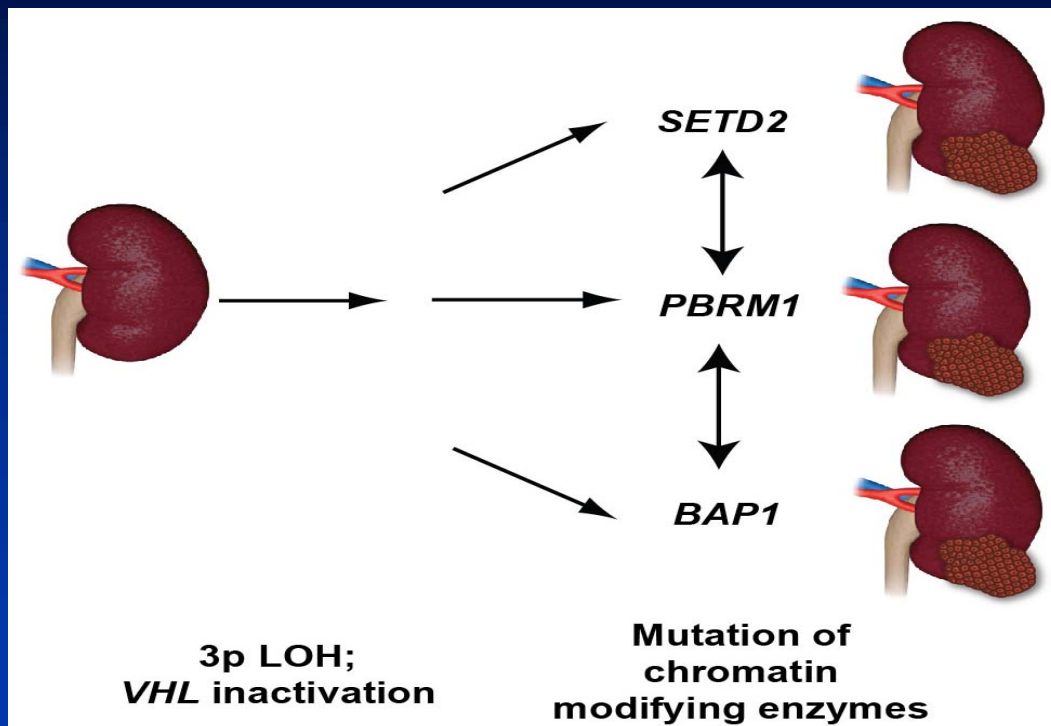
| Genomic Alterations Detected | FDA Approved Therapies (in patient's tumor type)   | FDA Approved Therapies (in another tumor type) | Potential Clinical Trials        |
|------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| VHL                          | Axitinib<br>Bevacizumab<br>Everolimus<br>Pazopanib<br>Sorafenib<br>Sunitinib<br>Temsirolimus | Vandetanib                                     | Yes, see clinical trials section |

# Sequencing analyses identifies recurrent mutations in additional genes (*PBRM1*, *SETD2*, *BAP1*) in sporadic RCC; *BAP1* was later identified in familial syndromes of RCC

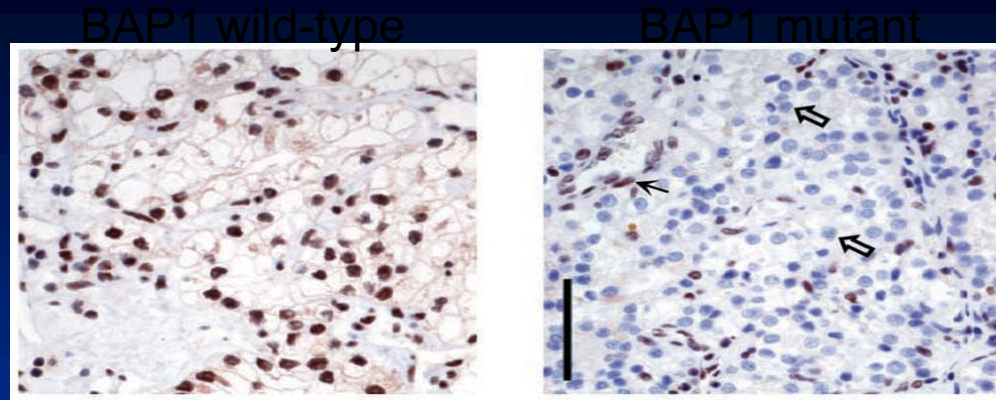
| Gene         | MSKCC,<br>%<br>(n=188) | TCGA,<br>%<br>(n=446) | U. Of Tokyo, %<br>(n=106) |
|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>VHL</i>   | 51                     | 52                    | 40                        |
| <i>PBRM1</i> | 30                     | 33                    | 26                        |
| <i>SETD2</i> | 7                      | 12                    | 11                        |
| <i>BAP1</i>  | 6                      | 10                    | 8                         |

Hakimi, A. *et al.* Clin Cancer Res. Apr 1;20(7):1955-64  
 Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network. Nature. 2013 Jul 4;499(7456):43-9.  
 Sato Y. *et al.* Nat Genet. 2013 Aug;45(8):860-7.

# Inactivation of *VHL* is an early genetic event followed by secondary mutations in chromatin modifying enzymes



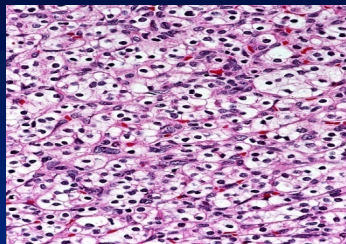
# **BAP1** predisposition for familial ccRCC



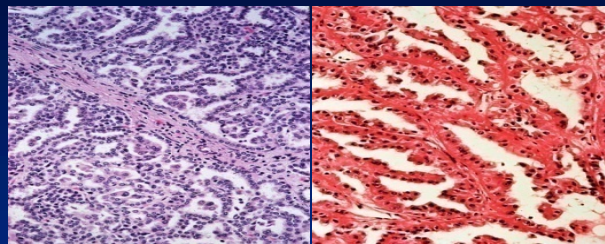
- ***BAP1*** mutations disrupt expression of BAP1 protein
- Mutated in ~10% of sporadic RCC, also mutated in familial syndromes of uveal melanoma
- Germline mutations associated with 8-fold increase in risk of RCC



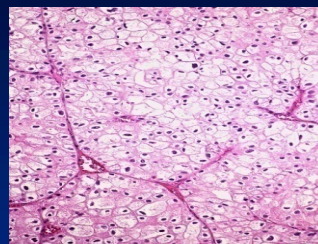
# Kidney Cancer: RCC is a heterogenous disease



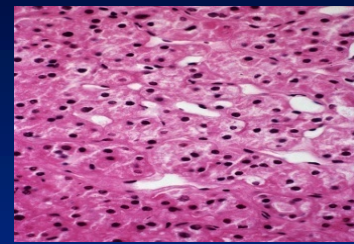
**Clear Cell  
Carcinoma  
(ccRCC)  
(75%)**



**Papillary Carcinoma, Type I and II,  
(15%)**



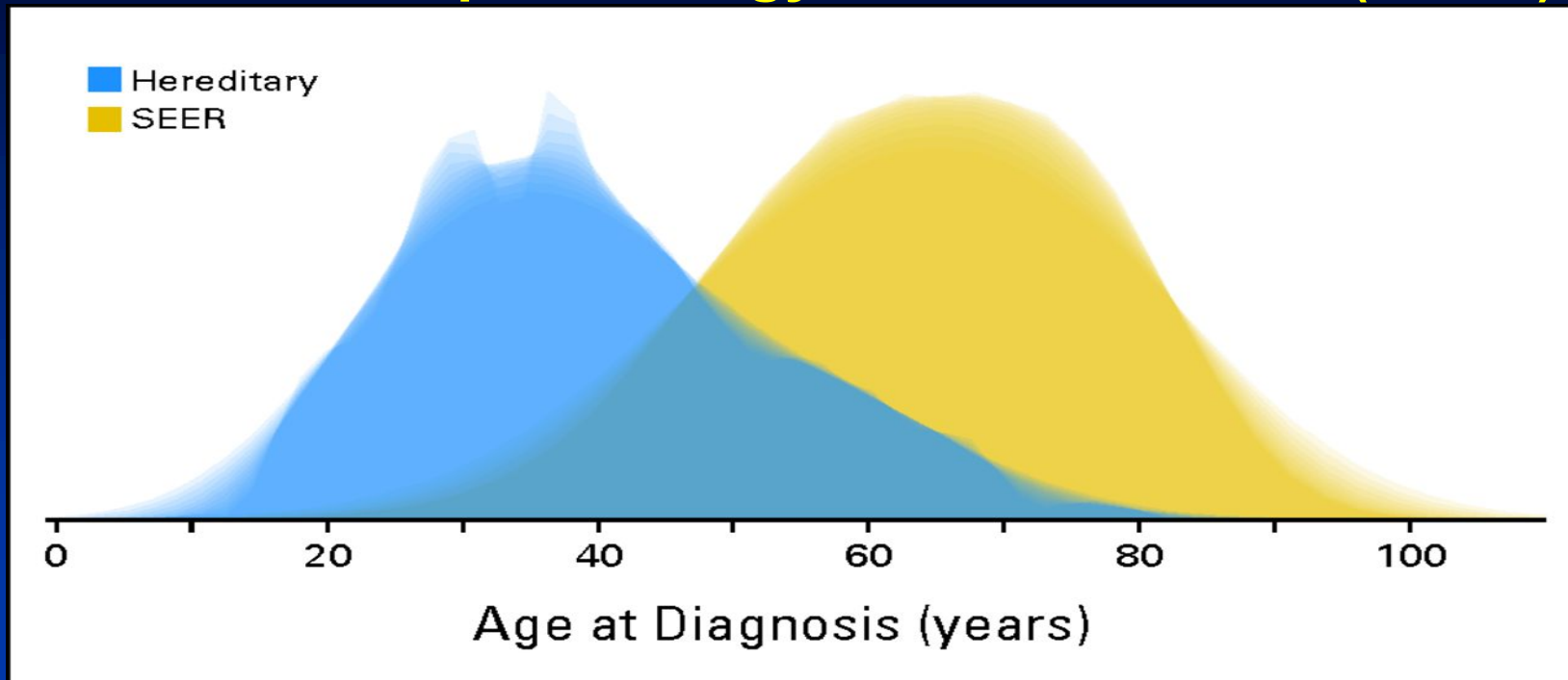
**Chromophobe  
(5%)**



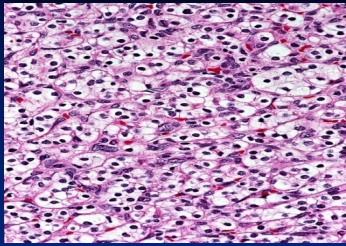
**Oncocytoma  
(5%)**

**Collecting Duct/Renal  
Medullary (rare)**

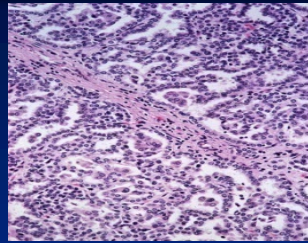
# The age of onset of patients with hereditary RCC syndromes (NCI Genetics Clinic) is lower than in the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER)



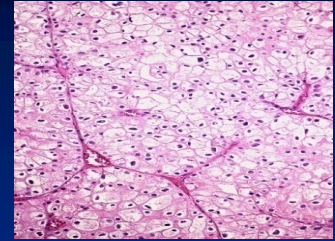
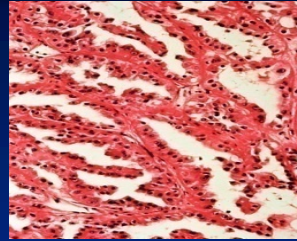
# The histology of an early-onset RCC may be linked to an underlying genetic syndrome



**Clear Cell  
Carcinoma  
(ccRCC)  
(75%)**

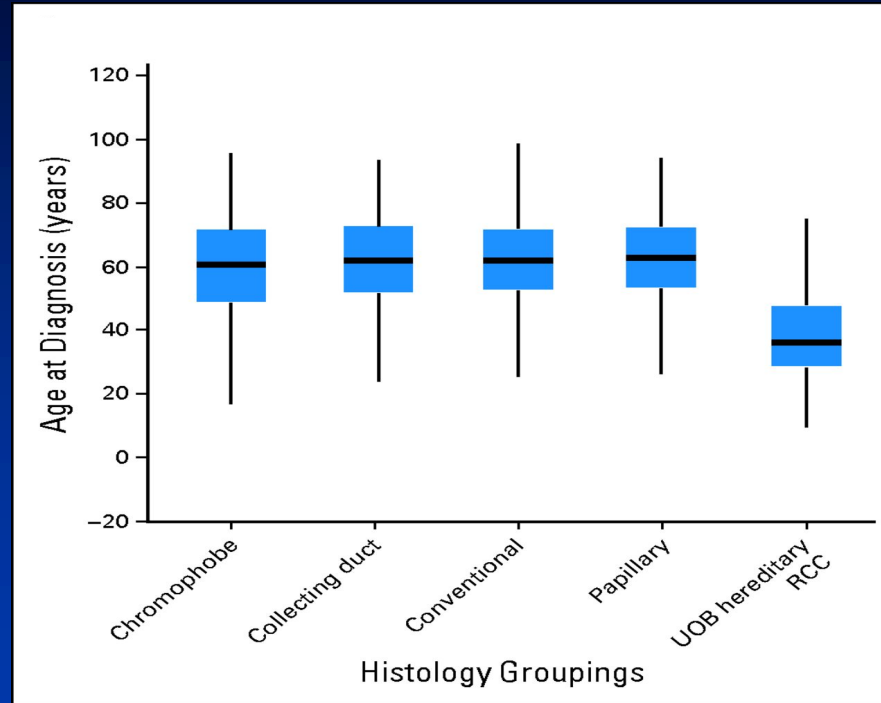


**Papillary  
Carcinoma, Type I  
and II, (15%)**

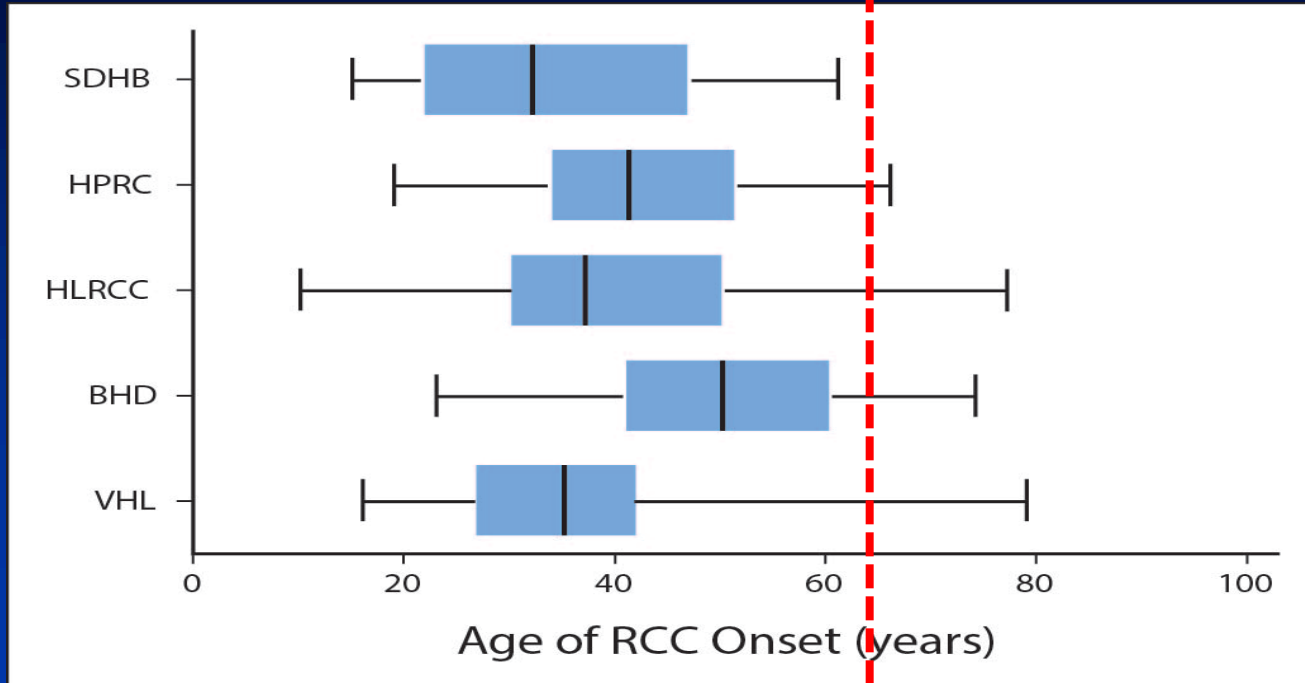


**Chromophobe  
(5%)**

# The age of onset of patients with hereditary RCC syndromes (NCI clinic) is lower than sporadic non-ccRCC histologies



# Age of onset of hereditary RCC syndromes; SEER database mean age of 64



**SDHB**, succinate dehydrogenase B (ccRCC)

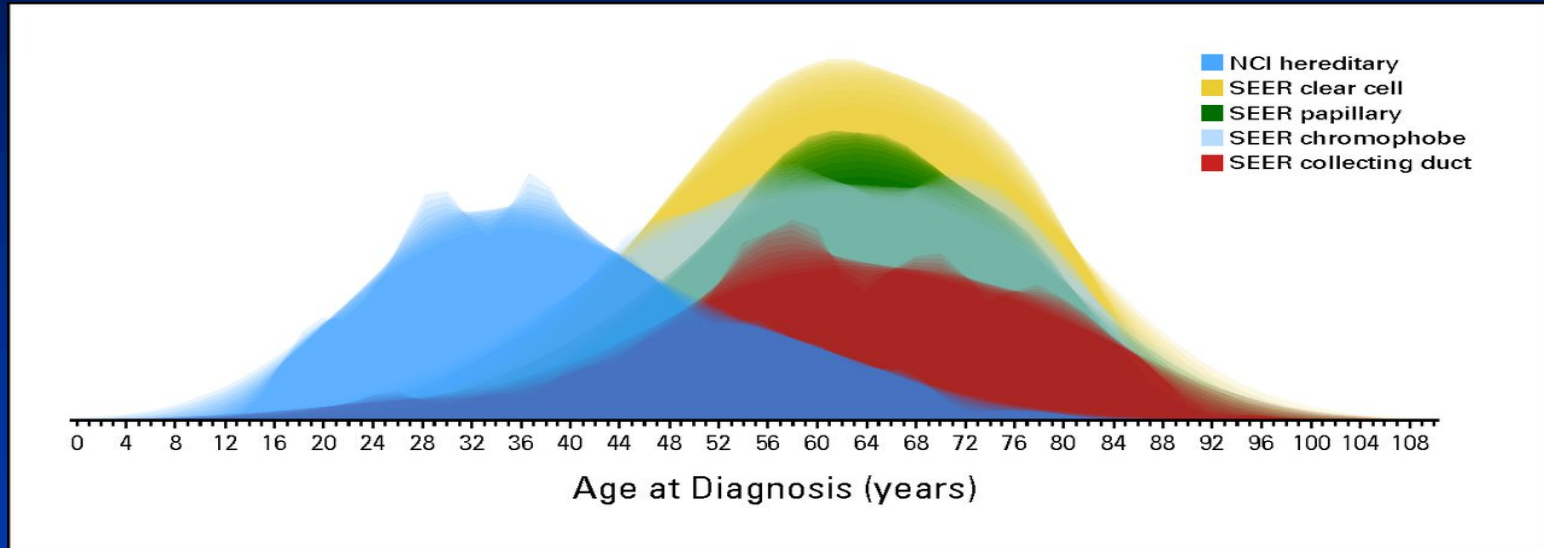
**HPRC**, hereditary papillary RCC (pRCC)

**HLRCC**, hereditary leiomyomatosis and RCC (pRCC)

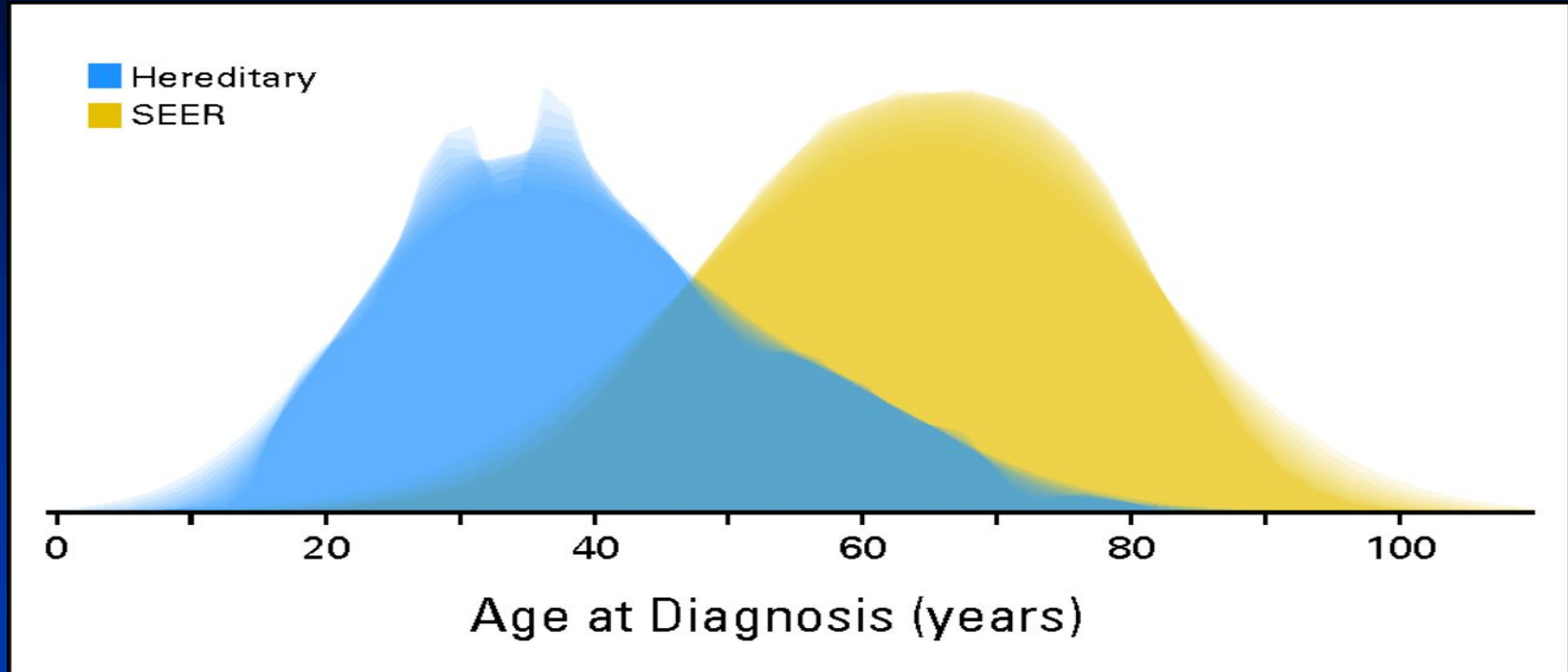
**BHD**, Birt-Hogg-Dubé (oncocytoma /chromophobe)

**VHL**, von Hippel-Lindau (ccRCC)

# The age of onset of patients with hereditary RCC syndromes (NCI clinic) is lower than sporadic non-ccRCC histologies



# An age of onset of 46 years or younger may serve as a clinical guide for referral for genetic testing

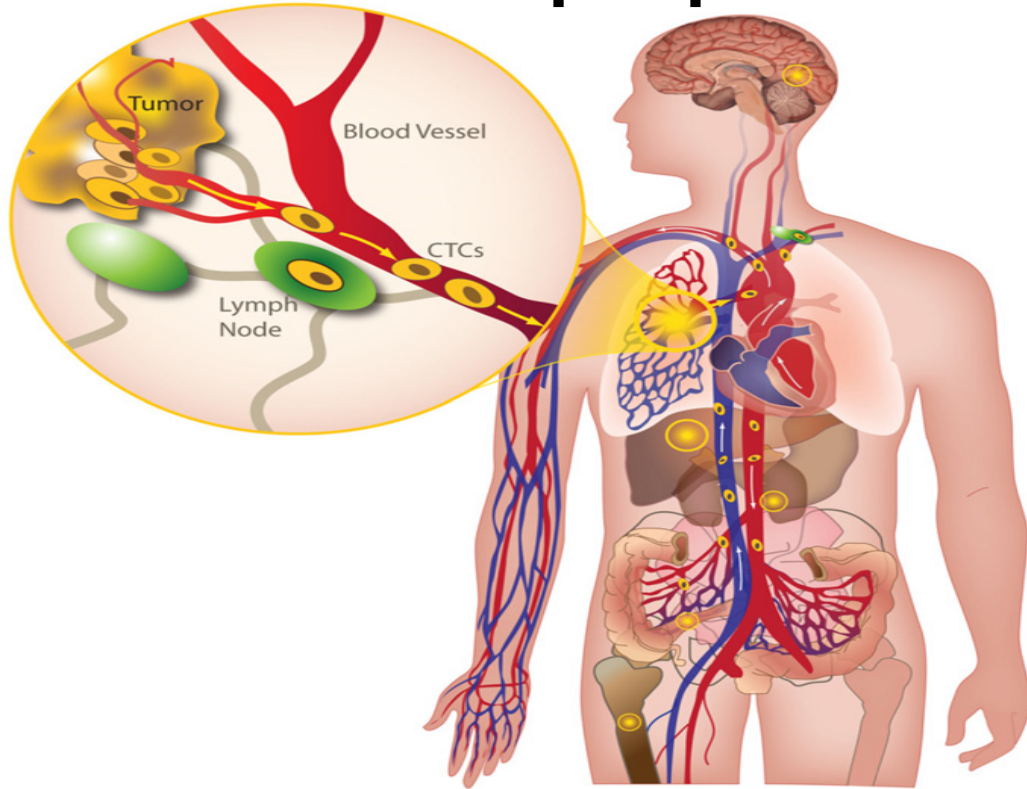


# Individualizing Medicine

- Genetics and Immunotherapy
- Sequencing
- Assessing via CAMLs
- CAR-T Cell Therapy
- PDL1/PD1



# What cancer-associated cells are present in the peripheral circulation?

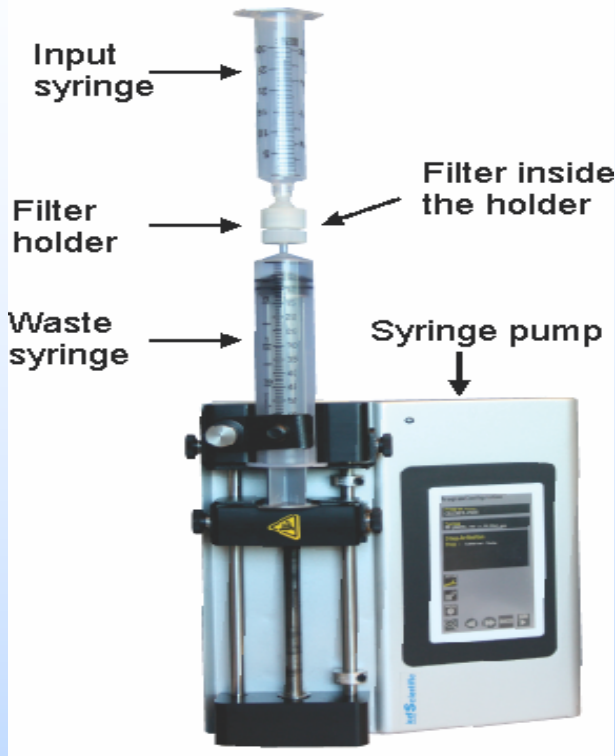


## Cell capture methods

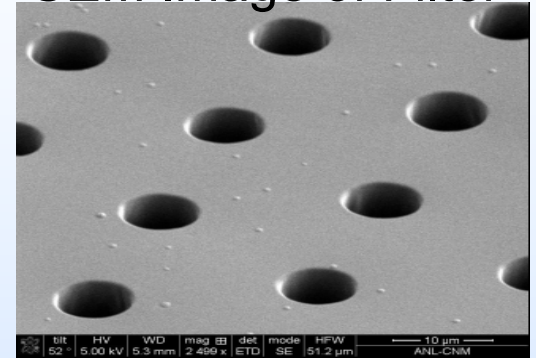
- **Label-dependent**  
(antibody capture)
- **Label-independent**  
(cell size, cell density)

P. Kuhn and K Bethel, *Phys. Biol.* 9 (2012).

# Microfiltration assay based on size exclusion



SEM Image of Filter



Pore diameter: 7  $\mu\text{m}$

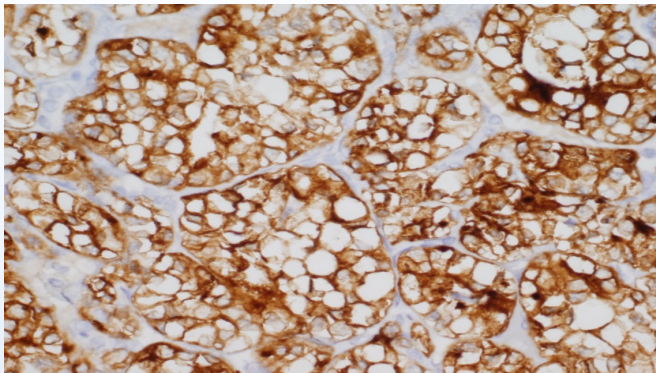
Thickness: 10  $\mu\text{m}$

# CD10 and vimentin (A) IHC in ccRCC and (B) IF in 786-O RCC cell line

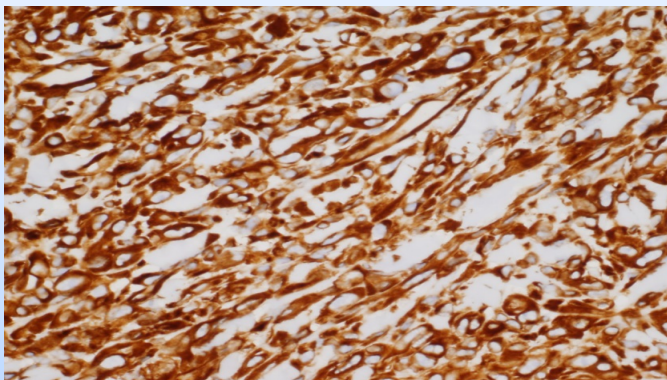
**A**

**ccRCC**

**CD10**

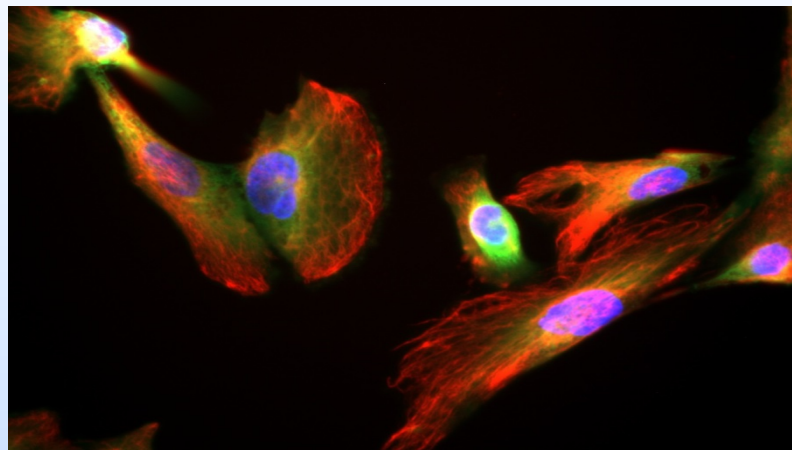


**Vimentin**



**B**

**786-O RCC cell line  
(green-CD10,  
red-vimentin, blue-nucleus)**



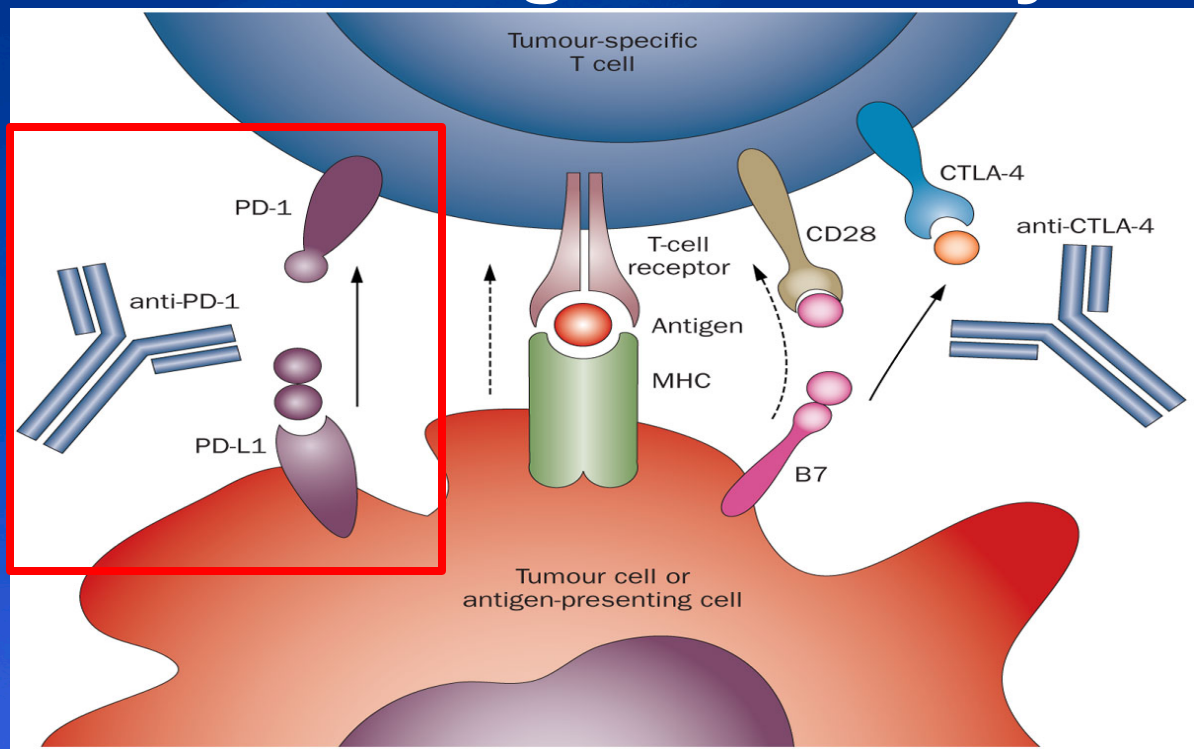
# Individualizing Medicine

- Genetics and Immunotherapy
- Sequencing
- Assessing via CAMLs
- **CAR-T Cell Therapy**
- PDL1/PD1

# Individualizing Medicine

- Genetics and Immunotherapy
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# Emerging role of immune checkpoints in genitourinary cancer



- T-cell activation requires secondary cell surface signals in addition to MHC/antigen complexes
- Tumors have evolved mechanisms that evade immune-mediated destruction by aberrant cell surface receptors (PD-L1)
- Therapeutic antibodies that block PD-1 restore proper immune-mediated destruction



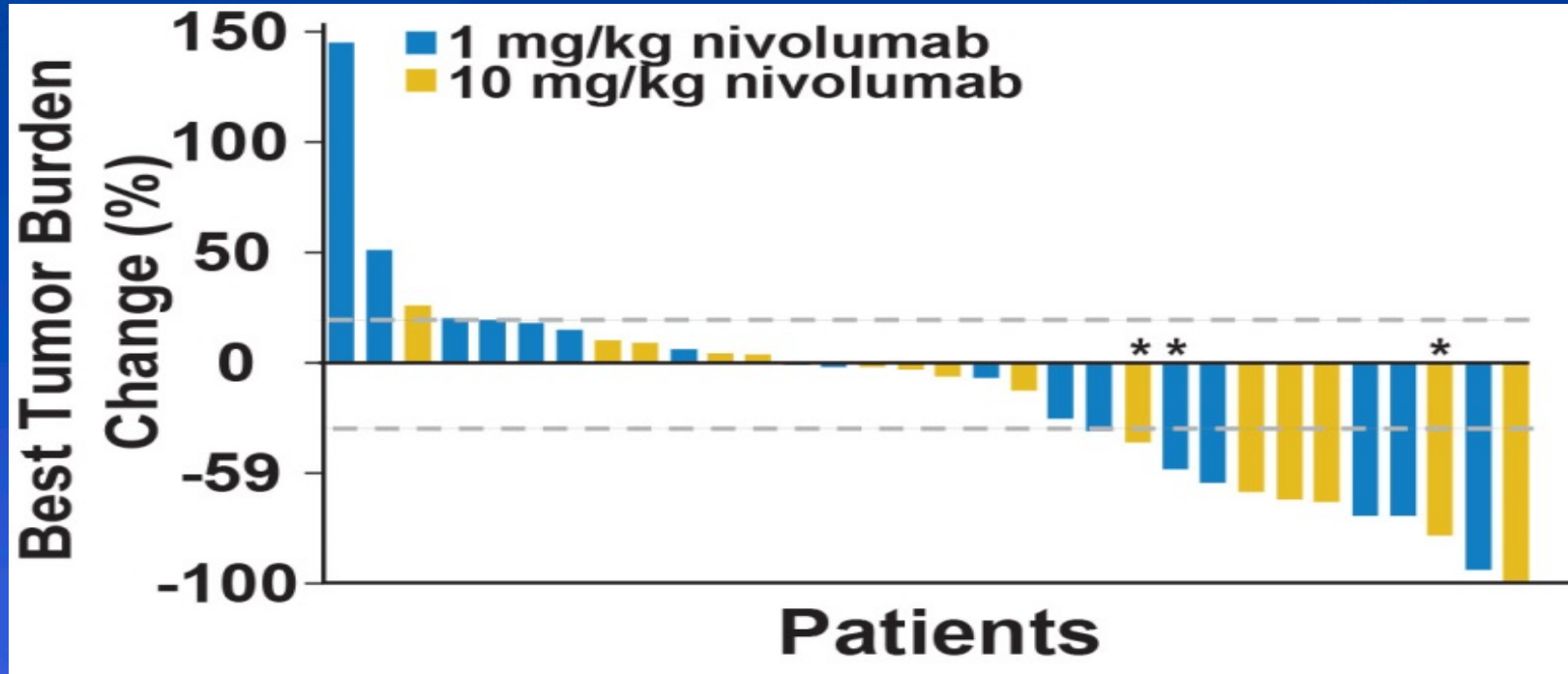
# Phase I dose-escalation of nivolumab in cohort-expansion of metastatic RCC

**Advanced/  
metastatic RCC**



**1,3 or 10 mg/kg  
nivolumab IV Q2  
weeks  
(N=34)**

# Nivolumab has an objective response rate of 29% in metastatic RCC with prior treatment



McDermott DF, et al. (2015) Survival, Durable Response, and Long-Term Safety in Patients with Previously Treated Advanced Renal Cell Carcinoma Receiving Nivolumab. JCO June 2015.



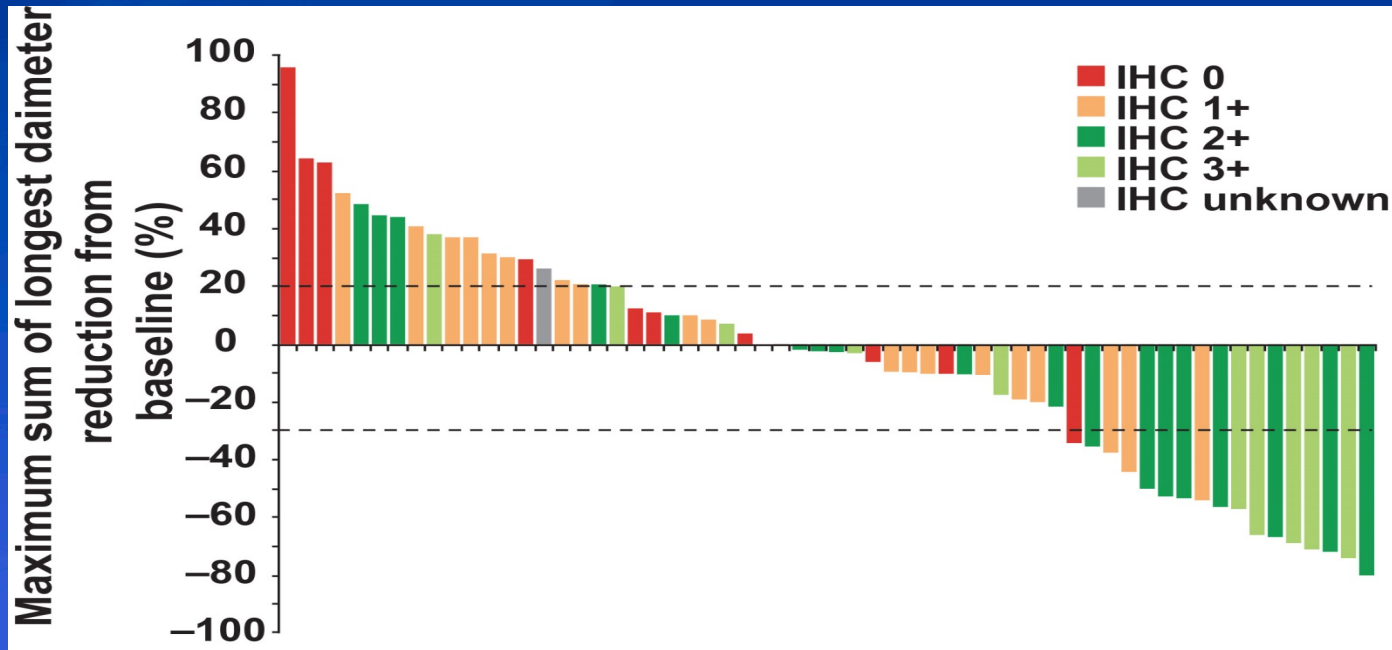
# Phase I of MPDL3280A in cohort-expansion of metastatic urothelial carcinoma

**Metastatic  
urothelial**

**Initial cohort  
restricted to IHC 2+/3+  
(≥5%), then expanded  
to all pts**

**15 mg/kg  
MPDL3280A IV Q3  
weeks  
(N=68)**

# MPDL3280 has an objective response rate of 11-43% in metastatic urothelial with prior treatment



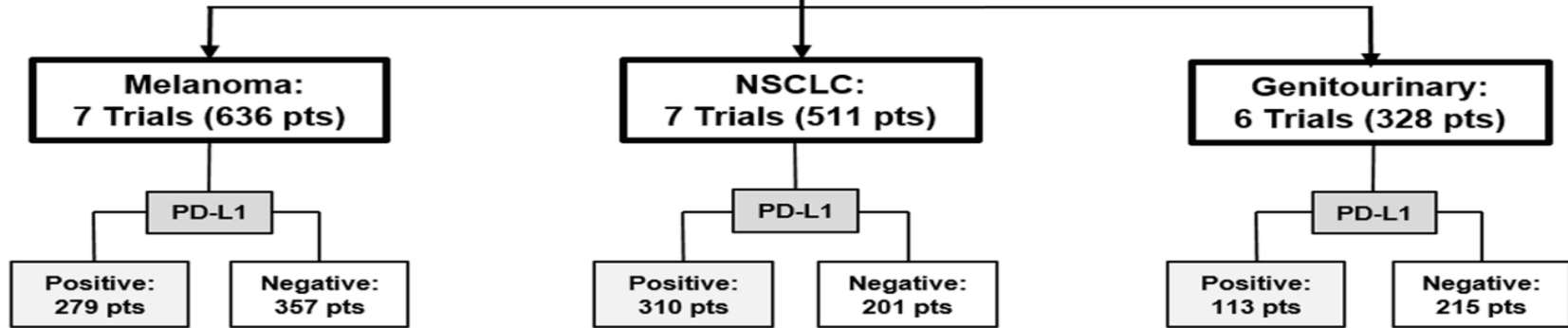
- ORR for IHC2/3 (43%) and IHC0/1 (11%)
- 18.5% with CrCl <60
- Historical ORR of 27.7 for pemetrexed (Sweeney C. JCO)

# What is the predictive role of PD-L1 expression on genitourinary cancers?

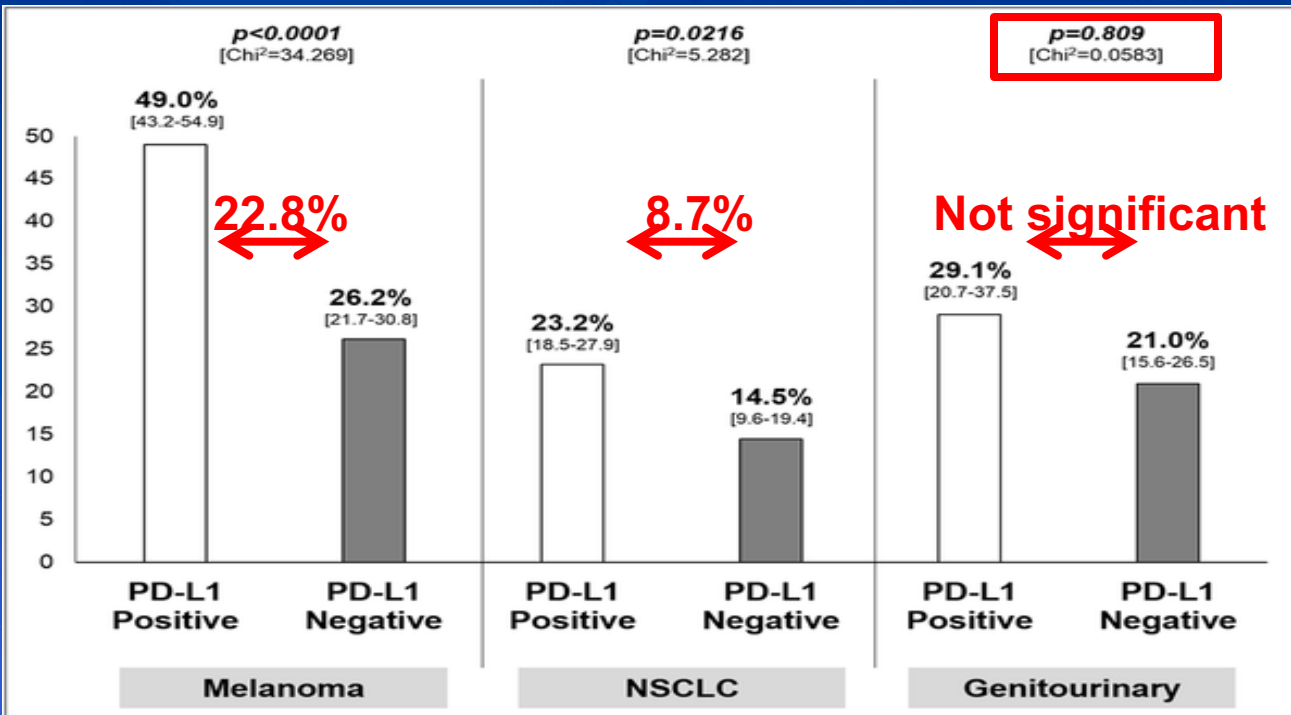
Literature Search using keywords and bibliographies of relevant articles (n=4,755):

- **Database:** PubMed (n=2,930)
  - **Meeting Abstracts:** ASCO (n=1,060), ESMO (n=483), WLCC (n=170), CMSTO (n=112)
- Limits: English-language articles only

1,475 pts (38 Arms) finally included for the ORR Analysis according to PD-L1 expression



# The overall response rate is higher in PD-L1 (+) melanomas and NSCLC, but was not linked to IHC intensity in bladder/kidney tumors



- PD-L1 (+) expression cut-off  $\geq 1\%$  or  $5\%$
- Includes trials of pembrolizumab, nivolumab, and MPDL3280A

# Key points

- An age of onset of  $\leq 46$  may be used as a guide for genetics referral even in the absence of extrarenal manifestations
- The presence of a hereditary RCC syndrome is associated with recurrent and multiple tumors in a lifetime
- Immune checkpoint blockade has activity in phase I clinical trials for metastatic RCC and urothelial carcinoma
- Meta-analyses suggest that PD-L1 IHC negative GU cancers respond to immune checkpoint blockade

# Conclusions

- **Patients 45 or younger with diagnosis of RCC should be considered for genetic testing**
- **Primary genetic profiling of renal cell carcinoma is unlikely to provide information that will alter therapeutic approaches at this time**
- **Many of the key genetic information can be inferred or obtained from IHC studies for additional mutations**
- **Use of CAMLs being developed and refined**

# Conclusions

- **CAR-T cell therapy is the hot topic now**
  - **We may find a combination of “immuno targeting” with a patient derived cells the next frontier**
- **PDL1/PD1**
  - **Ultimately found its origin in RCC**
  - **Will see more use of medications in the future**

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