Introducing The Clinical Connection

There have been remarkable recent advances in oncogenomics of cancer, which have allowed enhanced understanding of disease pathogenesis. Each issue of Clinical Cancer Research reflects this progress, with original reports describing novel insights into human cancer biology and pathophysiology, usually in the context of a particular disease setting. The goal of our newest feature, The Clinical Connection, which is appearing for the first time in this issue, is to explain and appraise the potential clinical use and relevance of the findings reported in an original research article within the same issue of the journal. For example, it may describe current and future implications of the reported original observations for improved diagnosis, prognosis, and patient selection, or focus on therapy and assessment of mechanisms of response. Specific emphasis will be placed on implications of the original findings for other cancers, with a goal of improved practice of medicine as a result. Progress in one area will be placed into a broader clinical context in order to ensure that advances in one disease setting can be exploited in another, or in cancer more generally. The Clinical Connection will ensure both a broader appreciation of the clinical implications of original findings and fast forward their bench-to-bedside translation. In this issue, Jinushi and Dranoff make the important first connection with their discussion of “the intimate connections between angiogenesis and tumor immunity and highlight the considerable clinical potential for combination therapies” (Jinushi and Dranoff, p. 3762).

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