Project Title:

Counteract Melanoma´s next Move: Characterizing TRIB2-mediated Resistance to Therapies

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Summary: (1000 characters)

Advanced melanoma is the deadliest form of skin cancer for which recently two effective treatment options have improved clinical outcome. However, the majority of patients with metastatic melanoma primarily fail to respond or develop resistance after initial response. Therefore, the identification of molecular mechanisms underlying drug resistance is critical to improve patient outcome and has enormous clinical and economic value. The Link lab has discovered a novel mechanism of resistance to anti-melanoma therapies mediated by the protein TRIB2. With this research proposal, we plan to characterize the molecular mechanisms underlying TRIB2-mediated resistance to anti-melanoma drugs including recently approved MEK inhibitors and determine the clinical relevance of our findings. The execution of the research proposal would lay the groundwork to translate our knowledge into clinically useful tools to improve the treatment of metastatic melanoma.

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