the biology of CANCER

SECOND EDITION

Contents

Chapter 1:	The Biology and Genetics of Cells and Organisms	1
Chapter 2:	The Nature of Cancer	31
Chapter 3:	Tumor Viruses	71
Chapter 4:	Cellular Oncogenes	103
Chapter 5:	Growth Factors, Receptors, and Cancer	131
Chapter 6:	Cytoplasmic Signaling Circuitry Programs Many of the Traits of Cancer	175
Chapter 7:	Tumor Suppressor Genes	231
Chapter 8:	pRb and Control of the Cell Cycle Clock	275
Chapter 9:	p53 and Apoptosis: Master Guardian and Executioner	331
Chapter 10:	Eternal Life: Cell Immortalization and Tumorigenesis	391
Chapter 11:	Multi-Step Tumorigenesis	439
Chapter 12:	Maintenance of Genomic Integrity and the Development of Cancer	511
Chapter 13:	Dialogue Replaces Monologue: Heterotypic Interactions and the Biology of Angiogenesis	577
Chapter 14:	Moving Out: Invasion and Metastasis	641
Chapter 15:	Crowd Control: Tumor Immunology and Immunotherapy	723
Chapter 16:	The Rational Treatment of Cancer	797
Abbreviations		A:1
Glossary		G:1
Index		I:1

List of Key Techniques

Apoptotic cells: Various detection techniques (Figure 9.19)
Apoptotic cells: Detection by the TUNEL assay (Supplementary Sidebar 9.2)
Chromatin immunoprecipitation (Supplementary Sidebar 8.3)
Circulating tumor cells: Detection using microfluidic devices (Supplementary Sidebar 14.3)
Comparative genomic hybridization (CGH) (Supplementary Sidebar 11.4)
DNA sequence polymorphisms: Detection by polymerase chain reaction (Supplementary Sidebar 7.3)
Embryonic stem cells: Derivation of pluripotent mouse cell lines (Supplementary Sidebar 8.1)
Fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) (Supplementary Sidebar 11.1)
Gene cloning strategies (Supplementary Sidebar 1.5)
Gene cloning: Isolation of genes encoding melanoma antigens (Supplementary Sidebar 15.11)
Gene cloning: Isolation of transfected human oncogenes (Figure 4.7)
Gene knock-in and knock-out: Homologous recombination with mouse germ-line genes (Supplementary Sidebar 7.7)
Histopathological staining techniques (Supplementary Sidebar 2.1)
Knocking down gene expression with shRNAs and siRNAs (Supplementary Sidebar 1.4)
Laser-capture microdissection (Supplementary Sidebar 13.5)
Mapping of DNA methylation sites: Use of sequence-specific polymerase chain reaction (Supplementary Sidebar 7.4)
Mapping of an oncogene-activating mutation (Figure 4.8)
Mapping of tumor suppressor genes via restriction fragment length polymorphisms (Figure 7.13)
Monoclonal antibodies (Supplementary Sidebar 11.1)
Mutagenicity measurement: The Ames test (Figure 2.27)
Probe construction: The *src*-specific DNA probe (Figure 3.20)
Reproductive cloning (Supplementary Sidebar 1.2)
Retroviral vector construction (Supplementary Sidebar 3.3)
Screening for mutant oncoproteins (Figure 16.25)
Skin carcinoma induction in mice (Figure 11.30)
Southern and Northern blotting (Supplementary Sidebar 4.3)
Telomerase activity measurements: The TRAP assay (Supplementary Sidebar 10.1)
Transfection of DNA (Figure 4.1)
Transgenic mice: Creating tumor-prone strains (Figure 9.23A)

 Can be found on the DVD-ROM accompanying the book.

Detailed Contents

Chapter 1: The Biology and Genetics of Cells and Organisms 1

1.1 Mendel establishes the basic rules of genetics 2
1.2 Mendelian genetics helps to explain Darwinian evolution 4
1.3 Mendelian genetics governs how both genes and chromosomes behave 7
1.4 Chromosomes are altered in most types of cancer cells 10
1.5 Mutations causing cancer occur in both the germ line and the soma 11
1.6 Genotype embodied in DNA sequences creates phenotype through proteins 14
1.7 Gene expression patterns also control phenotype 19
1.8 Histone modification and transcription factors control gene expression 21
1.9 Heritable gene expression is controlled through additional mechanisms 24
1.10 Unconventional RNA molecules also affect the expression of genes 25
1.11 Metazoa are formed from components conserved over vast evolutionary time periods 27
1.12 Gene cloning techniques revolutionized the study of normal and malignant cells 28
Additional reading 29

Chapter 2: The Nature of Cancer 31

2.1 Tumors arise from normal tissues 32
2.2 Tumors arise from many specialized cell types throughout the body 34
2.3 Some types of tumors do not fit into the major classifications 40
2.4 Cancers seem to develop progressively 45
2.5 Tumors are monoclonal growths 50
2.6 Cancer cells exhibit an altered energy metabolism 53
2.7 Cancers occur with vastly different frequencies in different human populations 55
2.8 The risks of cancers often seem to be increased by assignable influences including lifestyle 58
2.9 Specific chemical agents can induce cancer 59
2.10 Both physical and chemical carcinogens act as mutagens 60
2.11 Mutagens may be responsible for some human cancers 64
2.12 Synopsis and prospects 66
Key concepts 68
Thought questions 69
Additional reading 69

Chapter 3: Tumor Viruses 71

3.1 Peyton Rous discovers a chicken sarcoma virus 72
3.2 Rous sarcoma virus is discovered to transform infected cells in culture 75
3.3 The continued presence of RSV is needed to maintain transformation 77
3.4 Viruses containing DNA molecules are also able to induce cancer 79
3.5 Tumor viruses induce multiple changes in cell phenotype including acquisition of tumorigenicity 82
3.6 Tumor virus genomes persist in virus-transformed cells by becoming part of host-cell DNA 83
3.7 Retroviral genomes become integrated into the chromosomes of infected cells 87
3.8 A version of the src gene carried by RSV is also present in uninfected cells 89
3.9 RSV exploits a kidnapped cellular gene to transform cells 91
3.10 The vertebrate genome carries a large group of proto-oncogenes 93
3.11 Slowly transforming retroviruses activate proto-oncogenes by inserting their genomes adjacent to these cellular genes 94
3.12 Some retroviruses naturally carry oncogenes 97
3.13 Synopsis and prospects 99
Key concepts 101
Thought questions 102
Additional reading 102

Chapter 4: Cellular Oncogenes 103

4.1 Can cancers be triggered by the activation of endogenous retroviruses? 104
4.2 Transfection of DNA provides a strategy for detecting nonviral oncogenes 105
4.3 Oncogenes discovered in human tumor cell lines are related to those carried by transforming retroviruses 108
4.4 Proto-oncogenes can be activated by genetic changes affecting either protein expression or structure 113
4.5 Variations on a theme: the *myc* oncogene can arise via at least three additional distinct mechanisms 117
4.6 A diverse array of structural changes in proteins can also lead to oncogene activation 124
4.7 Synopsis and prospects 127
Key concepts 128
Thought questions 130
Additional reading 130

Chapter 5: Growth Factors, Receptors, and Cancer 131

5.1 Normal metazoan cells control each other's lives 133
5.2 The Src protein functions as a tyrosine kinase 135
5.3 The EGF receptor functions as a tyrosine kinase 138
5.4 An altered growth factor receptor can function as an oncoprotein 141
5.5 A growth factor gene can become an oncogene: the case of *sis* 144
5.6 Transphosphorylation underlies the operations of receptor tyrosine kinases 146
5.7 Yet other types of receptors enable mammalian cells to communicate with their environment 153
5.8 Nuclear receptors sense the presence of low–molecular–weight lipophilic ligands 159
5.9 Integrin receptors sense association between the cell and the extracellular matrix 161

5.10 The Ras protein, an apparent component of the downstream signaling cascade, functions as a G protein 165
5.11 Synopsis and prospects 169
Key concepts 172
Thought questions 174
Additional reading 174

Chapter 6: Cytoplasmic Signaling Circuitry Programs Many of the Traits of Cancer 175

6.1 A signaling pathway reaches from the cell surface into the nucleus 177
6.2 The Ras protein stands in the middle of a complex signaling cascade 180
6.3 Tyrosine phosphorylation controls the location and thereby the actions of many cytoplasmic signaling proteins 182
6.4 SH2 and SH3 groups explain how growth factor receptors activate Ras and acquire signaling specificity 188
6.5 Ras-regulated signaling pathways: A cascade of kinases forms one of three important signaling pathways downstream of Ras 189
6.6 Ras-regulated signaling pathways: a second downstream pathway controls inositol lipids and the Akt/PKB kinase 193
6.7 Ras-regulated signaling pathways: a third downstream pathway acts through Ral, a distant cousin of Ras 201
6.8 The Jak–STAT pathway allows signals to be transmitted from the plasma membrane directly to the nucleus 202
6.9 Cell adhesion receptors emit signals that converge with those released by growth factor receptors 204
6.10 The Wnt–β-catenin pathway contributes to cell proliferation 206
6.11 G-protein–coupled receptors can also drive normal and neoplastic proliferation 209
6.12 Four additional "dual-address" signaling pathways contribute in various ways to normal and neoplastic proliferation 212
6.13 Well-designed signaling circuits require both negative and positive feedback controls 216
6.14 Synopsis and prospects 217
Key concepts 227
Thought questions 228
Additional reading 228

Chapter 7: Tumor Suppressor Genes 231

7.1 Cell fusion experiments indicate that the cancer phenotype is recessive 232
7.2 The recessive nature of the cancer cell phenotype requires a genetic explanation 234
7.3 The retinoblastoma tumor provides a solution to the genetic puzzle of tumor suppressor genes 235
7.4 Incipient cancer cells invent ways to eliminate wild-type copies of tumor suppressor genes 238
7.5 The *Rb* gene often undergoes loss of heterozygosity in tumors 241
7.6 Loss-of-heterozygosity events can be used to find tumor suppressor genes 243
7.7 Many familial cancers can be explained by inheritance of mutant tumor suppressor genes 248
7.8 Promoter methylation represents an important mechanism for inactivating tumor suppressor genes 249
7.9 Tumor suppressor genes and proteins function in diverse ways 254
7.10 The NF1 protein acts as a negative regulator of Ras signaling 255
7.11 Apc facilitates egress of cells from colonic crypts 259
7.12 Von Hippel–Lindau disease: pVHL modulates the hypoxic response 265
7.13 Synopsis and prospects 268
Key concepts 272
Thought questions 273
Additional reading 273

Chapter 8: pRb and Control of the Cell Cycle Clock 275

8.1 Cell growth and division is coordinated by a complex array of regulators 276
8.2 Cells make decisions about growth and quiescence during a specific period in the G_1 phase 281
8.3 Cyclins and cyclin-dependent kinases constitute the core components of the cell cycle clock 283
8.4 Cyclin–CDK complexes are also regulated by CDK inhibitors 288
8.5 Viral oncoproteins reveal how pRb blocks advance through the cell cycle 294
8.6 pRb is deployed by the cell cycle clock to serve as a guardian of the restriction-point gate 298
8.7 E2F transcription factors enable pRb to implement growth-versus-quiescence decisions 299
8.8 A variety of mitogenic signaling pathways control the phosphorylation state of pRb 304
8.9 The Myc protein governs decisions to proliferate or differentiate 306
8.10 TGF-β prevents phosphorylation of pRb and thereby blocks cell cycle progression 311
8.11 pRb function and the controls of differentiation are closely linked 314
8.12 Control of pRb function is perturbed in most if not all human cancers 318
8.13 Synopsis and prospects 323
Key concepts 327
Thought questions 328
Additional reading 329

Chapter 9: p53 and Apoptosis: Master Guardian and Executioner 331

9.1 Papovaviruses lead to the discovery of p53 332
9.2 p53 is discovered to be a tumor suppressor gene 334
9.3 Mutant versions of p53 interfere with normal p53 function 335
9.4 p53 protein molecules usually have short lifetimes 338
9.5 A variety of signals cause p53 induction 339
9.6 DNA damage and deregulated growth signals cause p53 stabilization 341
9.7 Mdm2 destroys its own creator 342
9.8 ARF and p53-mediated apoptosis protect against cancer by monitoring intracellular signaling 348
9.9 p53 functions as a transcription factor that halts cell cycle advance in response to DNA damage and attempts to aid in the repair process 352
9.10 p53 often ushers in the apoptotic death program 355
9.11 p53 inactivation provides advantage to incipient cancer cells at a number of steps in tumor progression 359
9.12 Inherited mutant alleles affecting the p53 pathway predispose one to a variety of tumors 360
9.13 Apoptosis is a complex program that often depends on mitochondria 361
9.14 Both intrinsic and extrinsic apoptotic programs can lead to cell death 371
9.15 Cancer cells invent numerous ways to inactivate some or all of the apoptotic machinery 376
9.16 Necrosis and autophagy: two additional forks in the road of tumor progression 379

9.17 Synopsis and prospects 381
Key concepts 387
Thought questions 388
Additional reading 389

Chapter 10: Eternal Life: Cell Immortalization and Tumorigenesis 391

10.1 Normal cell populations register the number of cell generations separating them from their ancestors in the early embryo 392
10.2 Cancer cells need to become immortal in order to form tumors 394
10.3 Cell-physiologic stresses impose a limitation on replication 398
10.4 The proliferation of cultured cells is also limited by the telomeres of their chromosomes 404
10.5 Telomeres are complex molecular structures that are not easily replicated 409
10.6 Incipient cancer cells can escape crisis by expressing telomerase 412
10.7 Telomerase plays a key role in the proliferation of human cancer cells 417
10.8 Some immortalized cells can maintain telomeres without telomerase 419
10.9 Telomeres play different roles in the cells of laboratory mice and in human cells 423
10.10 Telomerase-negative mice show both decreased and increased cancer susceptibility 425
10.11 The mechanisms underlying cancer pathogenesis in telomerase-negative mice may also operate during the development of human tumors 429
10.12 Synopsis and prospects 433
Key concepts 436
Thought questions 437
Additional reading 437

Chapter 11: Multi-Step Tumorigenesis 439

11.1 Most human cancers develop over many decades of time 440
11.2 Histopathology provides evidence of multi-step tumor formation 442
11.3 Cells accumulate genetic and epigenetic alterations as tumor progression proceeds 449
11.4 Multi-step tumor progression helps to explain familial polyposis and field cancerization 453
11.5 Cancer development seems to follow the rules of Darwinian evolution 455
11.6 Tumor stem cells further complicate the Darwinian model of clonal succession and tumor progression 458
11.7 A linear path of clonal succession oversimplifies the reality of cancer: intra-tumor heterogeneity 463
11.8 The Darwinian model of tumor development is difficult to validate experimentally 467
11.9 Multiple lines of evidence reveal that normal cells are resistant to transformation by a single mutated gene 468
11.10 Transformation usually requires collaboration between two or more mutant genes 470
11.11 Transgenic mice provide models of oncogene collaboration and multi-step cell transformation 474
11.12 Human cells are constructed to be highly resistant to immortalization and transformation 475
11.13 Nonmutagenic agents, including those favoring cell proliferation, make important contributions to tumorigenesis 480
11.14 Toxic and mitogenic agents can act as human tumor promoters 484
11.15 Chronic inflammation often serves to promote tumor progression in mice and humans 486
11.16 Inflammation-dependent tumor promotion operates through defined signaling pathways 490
11.17 Tumor promotion is likely to be a critical determinant of the rate of tumor progression in many human tissues 498
11.18 Synopsis and prospects 501
Key concepts 506
Thought questions 507
Additional reading 508

Chapter 12: Maintenance of Genomic Integrity and the Development of Cancer 511

12.1 Tissues are organized to minimize the progressive accumulation of mutations 512
12.2 Stem cells may or may not be targets of the mutagenesis that leads to cancer 515
12.3 Apoptosis, drug pumps, and DNA replication mechanisms offer tissues a way to minimize the accumulation of mutant stem cells 517
12.4 Cell genomes are threatened by errors made during DNA replication 519
12.5 Cell genomes are under constant attack from endogenous biochemical processes 523
12.6 Cell genomes are under occasional attack from exogenous mutagens and their metabolites 527
12.7 Cells deploy a variety of defenses to protect DNA molecules from attack by mutagens 535
12.8 Repair enzymes fix DNA that has been altered by mutagens 538
12.9 Inherited defects in nucleotide-excision repair, base-excision repair, and mismatch repair lead to specific cancer susceptibility syndromes 544
12.10 A variety of other DNA repair defects confer increased cancer susceptibility through poorly understood mechanisms 549
12.11 The karyotype of cancer cells is often changed through alterations in chromosome structure 555
12.12 The karyotype of cancer cells is often changed through alterations in chromosome number 558
12.13 Synopsis and prospects 564
Key concepts 572
Thought questions 573
Additional reading 574

Chapter 13 Dialogue Replaces Monologue: Heterotypic Interactions and the Biology of Angiogenesis 577

13.1 Normal and neoplastic epithelial tissues are formed from interdependent cell types 579
13.2 The cells forming cancer cell lines develop without heterotypic interactions and deviate from the behavior of cells within human tumors 585
13.3 Tumors resemble wounded tissues that do not heal 587
13.4 Experiments directly demonstrate that stromal cells are active contributors to tumorigenesis 600
13.5 Macrophages and myeloid cells play important roles in activating the tumor-associated stroma 604
13.6 Endothelial cells and the vessels that they form ensure tumors adequate access to the circulation 607
13.7 Tripping the angiogenic switch is essential for tumor expansion 615
13.8 The angiogenic switch initiates a highly complex process 619
13.9 Angiogenesis is normally suppressed by physiologic inhibitors 622
13.10 Anti-angiogenesis therapies can be employed to treat cancer 626

13.11 Synopsis and prospects 634
Key concepts 638
Thought questions 639
Additional reading 639

Chapter 14: Moving Out: Invasion and Metastasis 641

14.1 Travel of cancer cells from a primary tumor to a site of potential metastasis depends on a series of complex biological steps 643
14.2 Colonization represents the most complex and challenging step of the invasion–metastasis cascade 652
14.3 The epithelial–mesenchymal transition and associated loss of E-cadherin expression enable carcinoma cells to become invasive 657
14.4 Epithelial–mesenchymal transitions are often induced by contextual signals 662
14.5 Stromal cells contribute to the induction of invasiveness 669
14.6 EMTs are programmed by transcription factors that orchestrate key steps of embryogenesis 672
14.7 EMT-inducing transcription factors also enable entrance into the stem cell state 677
14.8 EMT-inducing TFs help drive malignant progression 680
14.9 Extracellular proteases play key roles in invasiveness 685
14.10 Small Ras-like GTPases control cellular processes such as adhesion, cell shape, and cell motility 689
14.11 Metastasizing cells can use lymphatic vessels to disperse from the primary tumor 695
14.12 A variety of factors govern the organ sites in which disseminated cancer cells form metastases 699
14.13 Metastasis to bone requires the subversion of osteoblasts and osteoclasts 703
14.14 Metastasis suppressor genes contribute to regulating the metastatic phenotype 709
14.15 Occult micrometastases threaten the long-term survival of cancer patients 711
14.16 Synopsis and prospects 713
Key concepts 719
Thought questions 720
Additional reading 721

Chapter 15: Crowd Control: Tumor Immunology and Immunotherapy 723

15.1 The immune system functions to destroy foreign invaders and abnormal cells in the body's tissues 724
15.2 The adaptive immune response leads to antibody production 726
15.3 Another adaptive immune response leads to the formation of cytotoxic cells 729
15.4 The innate immune response does not require prior sensitization 736
15.5 The need to distinguish self from non-self results in immune tolerance 736
15.6 Regulatory T cells are able to suppress major components of the adaptive immune response 737
15.7 The immunosurveillance theory is born and then suffers major setbacks 739
15.8 Use of genetically altered mice leads to a resurrection of the immunosurveillance theory 742
15.9 The human immune system plays a critical role in warding off various types of human cancer 745
15.10 Subtle differences between normal and neoplastic tissues may allow the immune system to distinguish between them 751
15.11 Tumor transplantation antigens often provoke potent immune responses 756
15.12 Tumor-associated transplantation antigens may also evoke anti-tumor immunity 758
15.13 Cancer cells can evade immune detection by suppressing cell-surface display of tumor antigens 761
15.14 Cancer cells protect themselves from destruction by NK cells and macrophages 765
15.15 Tumor cells launch counterattacks on immunocytes 769
15.16 Cancer cells become intrinsically resistant to various forms of killing used by the immune system 773
15.17 Cancer cells attract regulatory T cells to fend off attacks by other lymphocytes 774
15.18 Passive immunization with monoclonal antibodies can be used to kill breast cancer cells 778
15.19 Passive immunization with antibody can also be used to treat B-cell tumors 781
15.20 Transfer of foreign immunocytes can lead to cures of certain hematopoietic malignancies 785
15.21 Patients' immune systems can be mobilized to attack their tumors 786
15.22 Synopsis and prospects 791
Key concepts 793
Thought questions 795
Additional reading 795

Chapter 16: The Rational Treatment of Cancer 797

16.1 The development and clinical use of effective therapies will depend on accurate diagnosis of disease 800
16.2 Surgery, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy are the major pillars on which current cancer therapies rest 806
16.3 Differentiation, apoptosis, and cell cycle checkpoints can be exploited to kill cancer cells 813
16.4 Functional considerations dictate that only a subset of the defective proteins in cancer cells are attractive targets for drug development 815
16.5 The biochemistry of proteins also determines whether they are attractive targets for intervention 818
16.6 Pharmaceutical chemists can generate and explore the biochemical properties of a wide array of potential drugs 822
16.7 Drug candidates must be tested on cell models as an initial measurement of their utility in whole organisms 825
16.8 Studies of a drug's action in laboratory animals are an essential part of pre-clinical testing 826
16.9 Promising candidate drugs are subjected to rigorous clinical tests in Phase I trials in humans 829
16.10 Phase II and III trials provide credible indications of clinical efficacy 831
16.11 Tumors often develop resistance to initially effective therapy 833
16.12 Gleevec paved the way for the development of many other highly targeted compounds 834
16.13 EGF receptor antagonists may be useful for treating a wide variety of tumor types 844
16.14 Proteasome inhibitors yield unexpected therapeutic benefit 850
16.15 A sheep teratogen may be useful as a highly potent anti-cancer drug 855
16.16 mTOR, a master regulator of cell physiology, represents an attractive target for anti-cancer therapy 861
16.17 B-Raf discoveries have led to inroads into the melanoma problem 864
16.18 Synopsis and prospects: challenges and opportunities on the road ahead 866
Key concepts 874
Thought questions 875
Additional reading 875