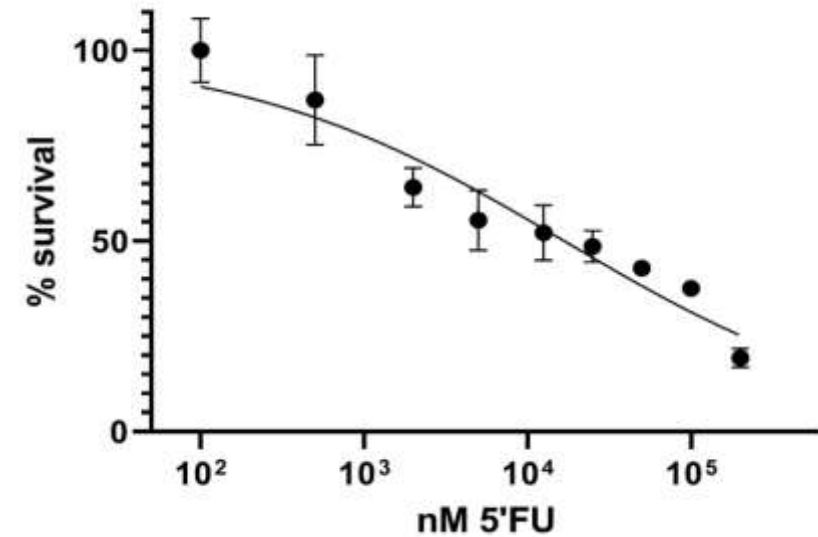
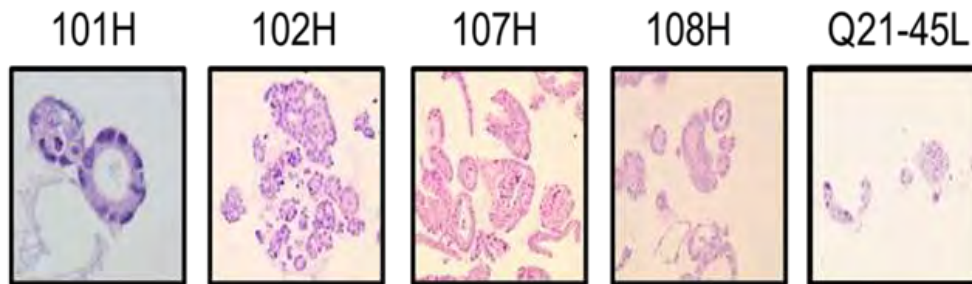


Organoids for Drug Screening

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GI and Liver Pathologist
Assistant Professor
UNMC Department of Pathology

Patient derived organoids from metastatic CRC



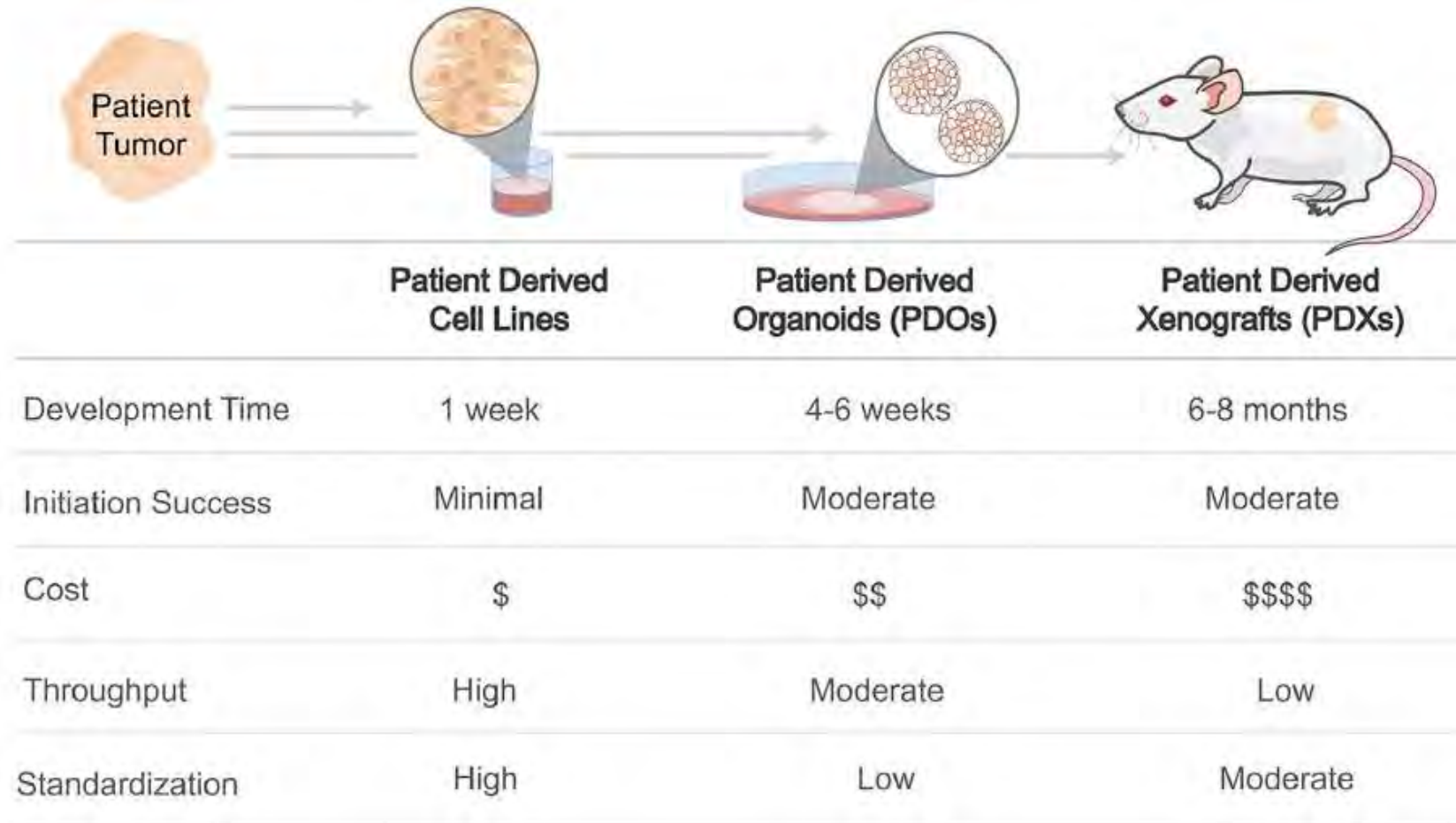
Objectives

1. Describe the most common culture technique for generation of patient-derived organoids.
2. List a few genetic mutations that have been shown in organoids to be targeted by novel therapies.
3. Describe some of the limitations of organoid culture.

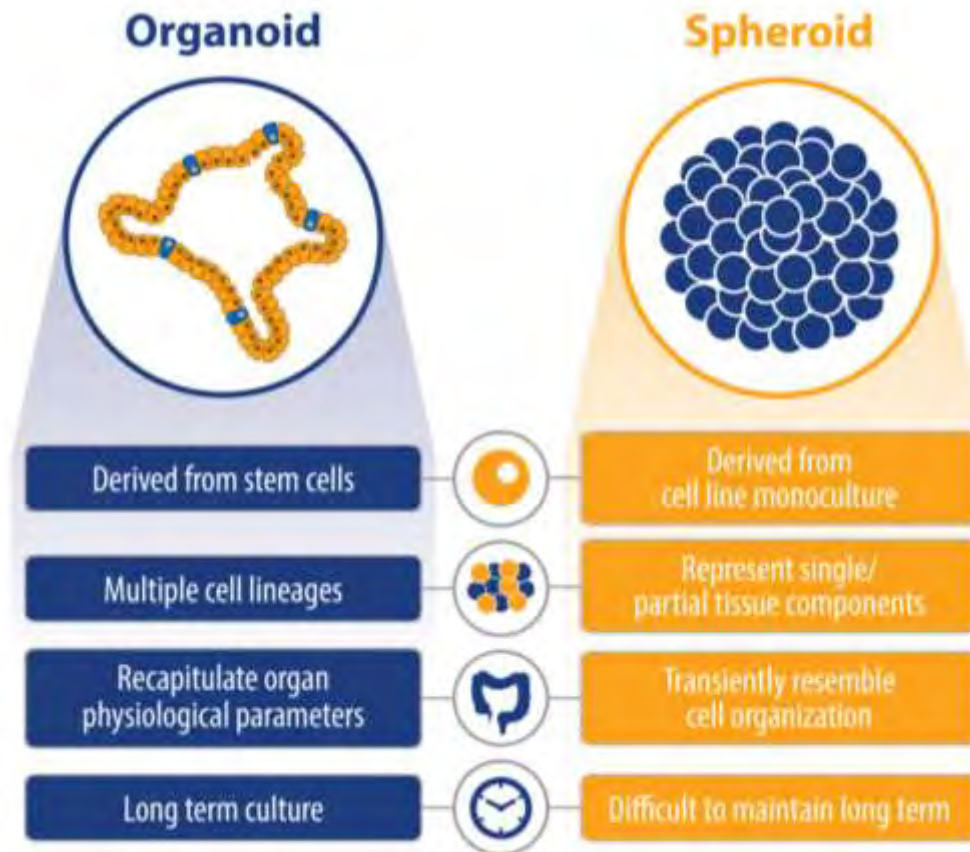
Disclosures: None



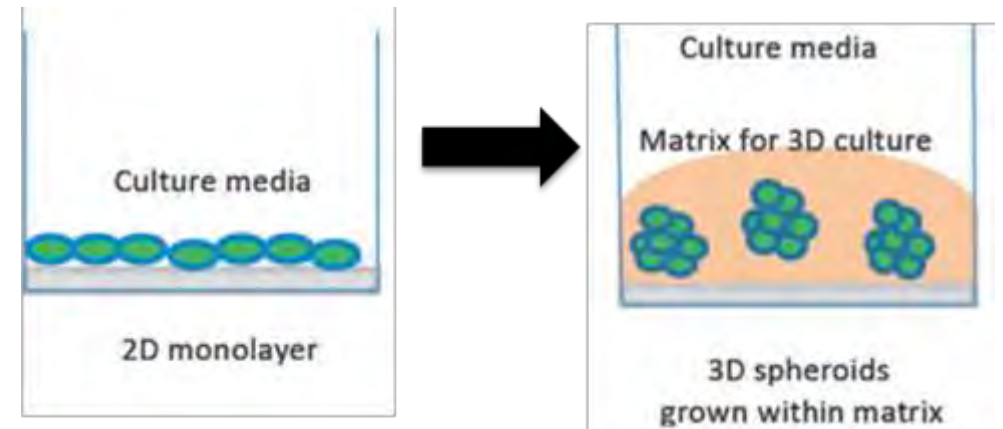
Patient tumors can give rise to cell lines, organoids, and xenograft cultures



Organoids are not the same as “tumouroids” and “spheroids”



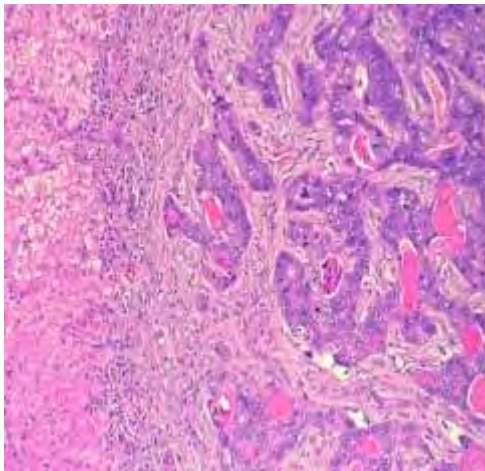
Temporary “Spheroid” Culture



A diverse range of terms for “organoid” cultures exist

- Patient-derived organoids (PDOs) – tumor and non-tumor cultures.
- Patient-derived tumor organoids (PDTOs).
- Patient-derived organotypic tumor spheroids (PDOTS).
- Patient-derived cancer organoids (PDCOs).
- Patient-derived organotypic cancer spheroids (PDOCS).

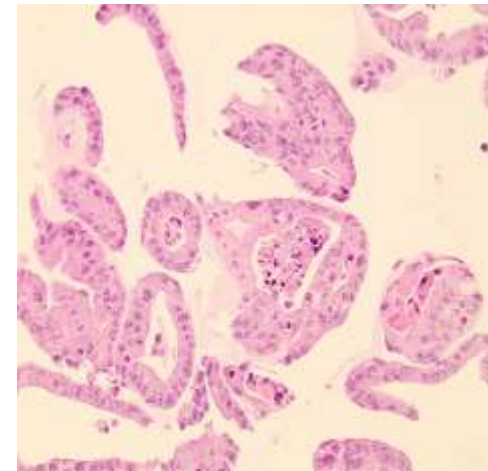
H&E from tumor



PDO in culture



H&E from PDO



Cost is mostly derived from the labor and reagents used for culture



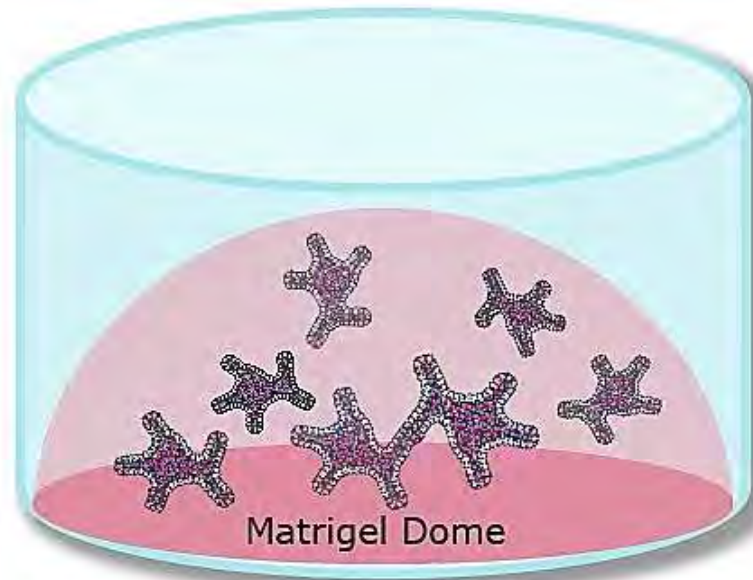
PDOs are embedded in a 3-dimensional matrix that is covered in specialized medium

Matrigel is the original matrix that supports the growth of organoids

- Prepared from Engelbreth-Holm-Swarm (EHS) mouse sarcomas
 - laminin (~60%), collagen IV (~30%), entactin (~8%) and the heparin sulfate proteoglycan perlecan (~2–3%).
 - complex mixture of growth factors.

Many alternative products available

- Base Membrane Extracts with or without growth factor reduction.
- Synthetic Hydrogels with added signaling proteins.



Matrices are liquid when cold (4°C) and solid at room temp and above



Specialized serum free mediums are required for each PDO cell type

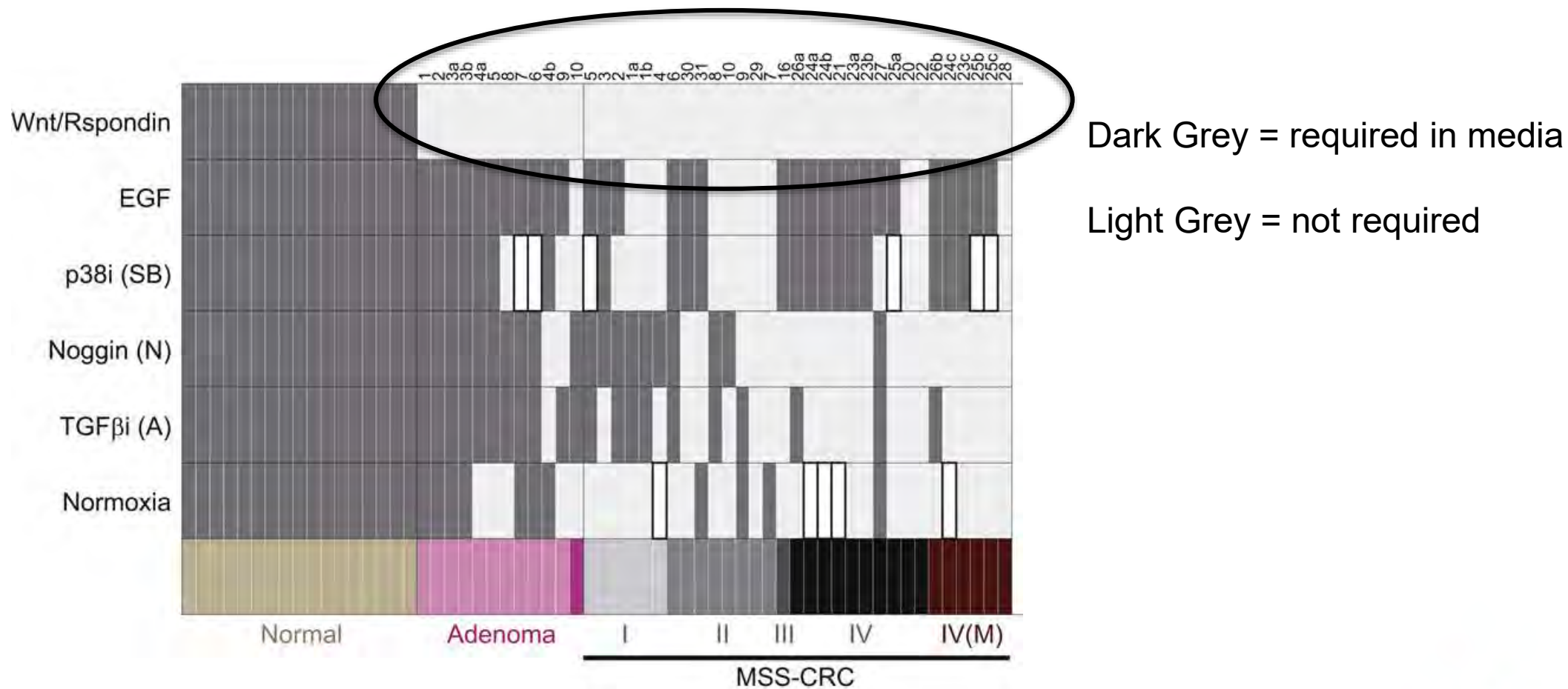
- Micronutrients, amino acids, and glucose supplied by a commercially available medium.
- Requires three proteins: Wnt, Noggin, and R-spondin to maintain stemness.
- A source of lipids.
- Tissue specific growth factors are added.
- Various inhibitors to prevent apoptosis or senescence.



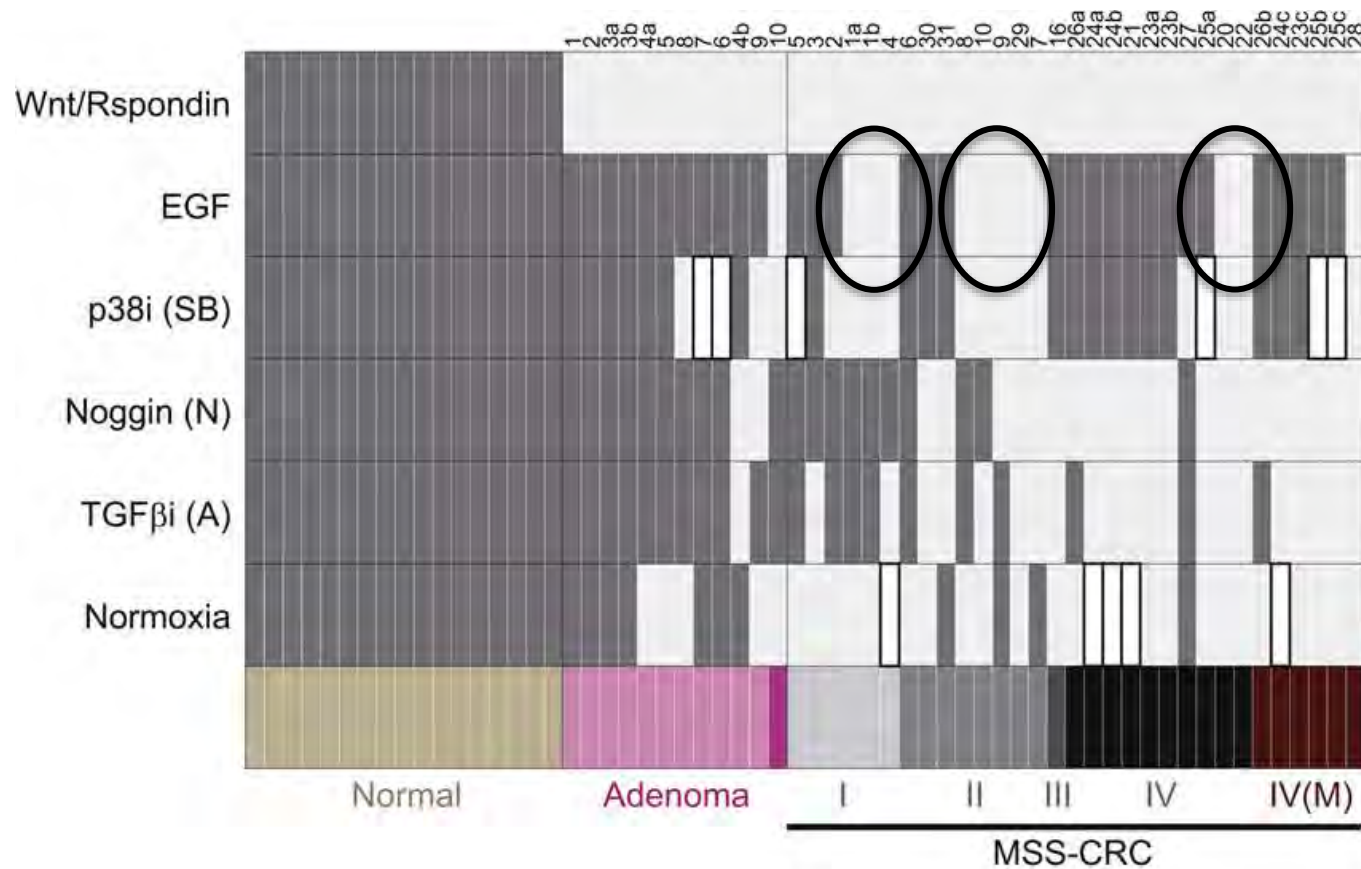
- Complex, but many of the components are similar and shared between different PDO media preparations.
- Specific tumor mutations can eliminate the requirement for some media components.



APC mutations make colon adenomas and adenocarcinomas independent of Wnt ligand signaling



K-Ras mutations make colon adenocarcinomas independent of EGF ligand

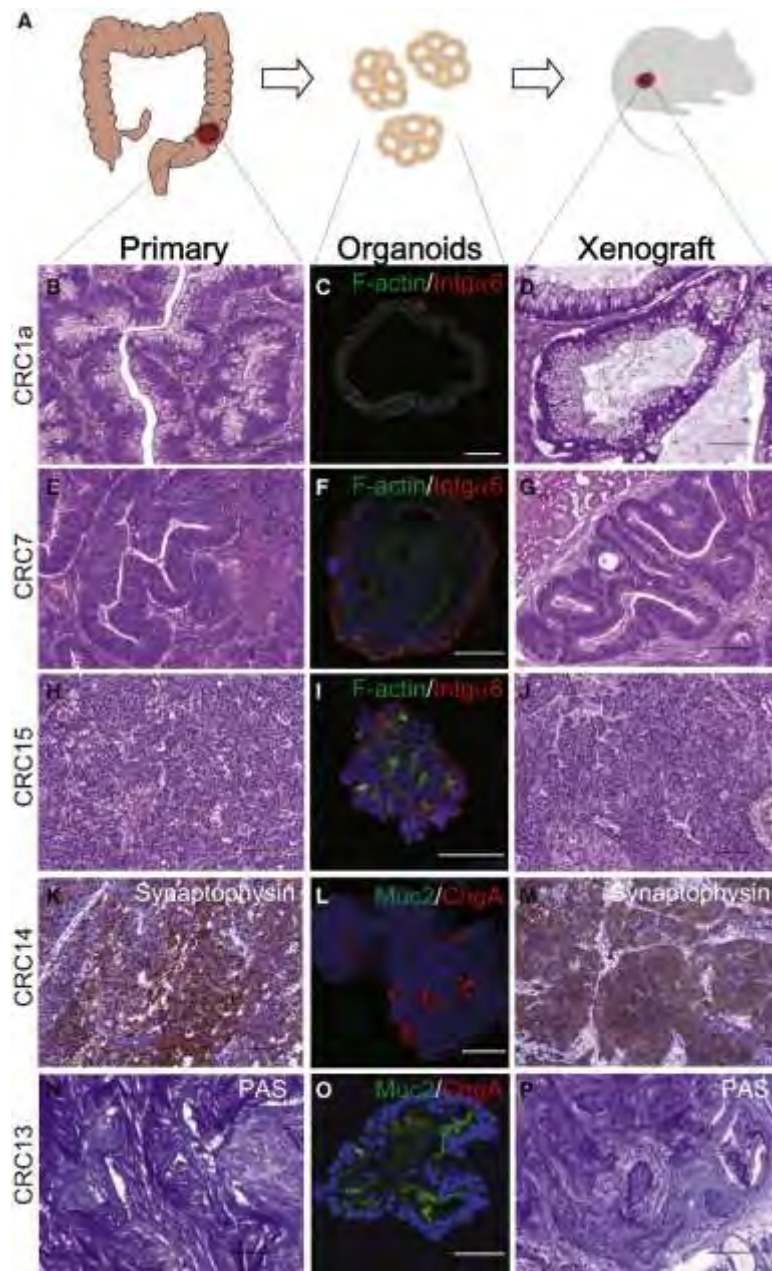


Dark Grey = required in media

Light Grey = not required



PDOs can re-establish histologically identical tumors after re-implantation



Moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma

Moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma

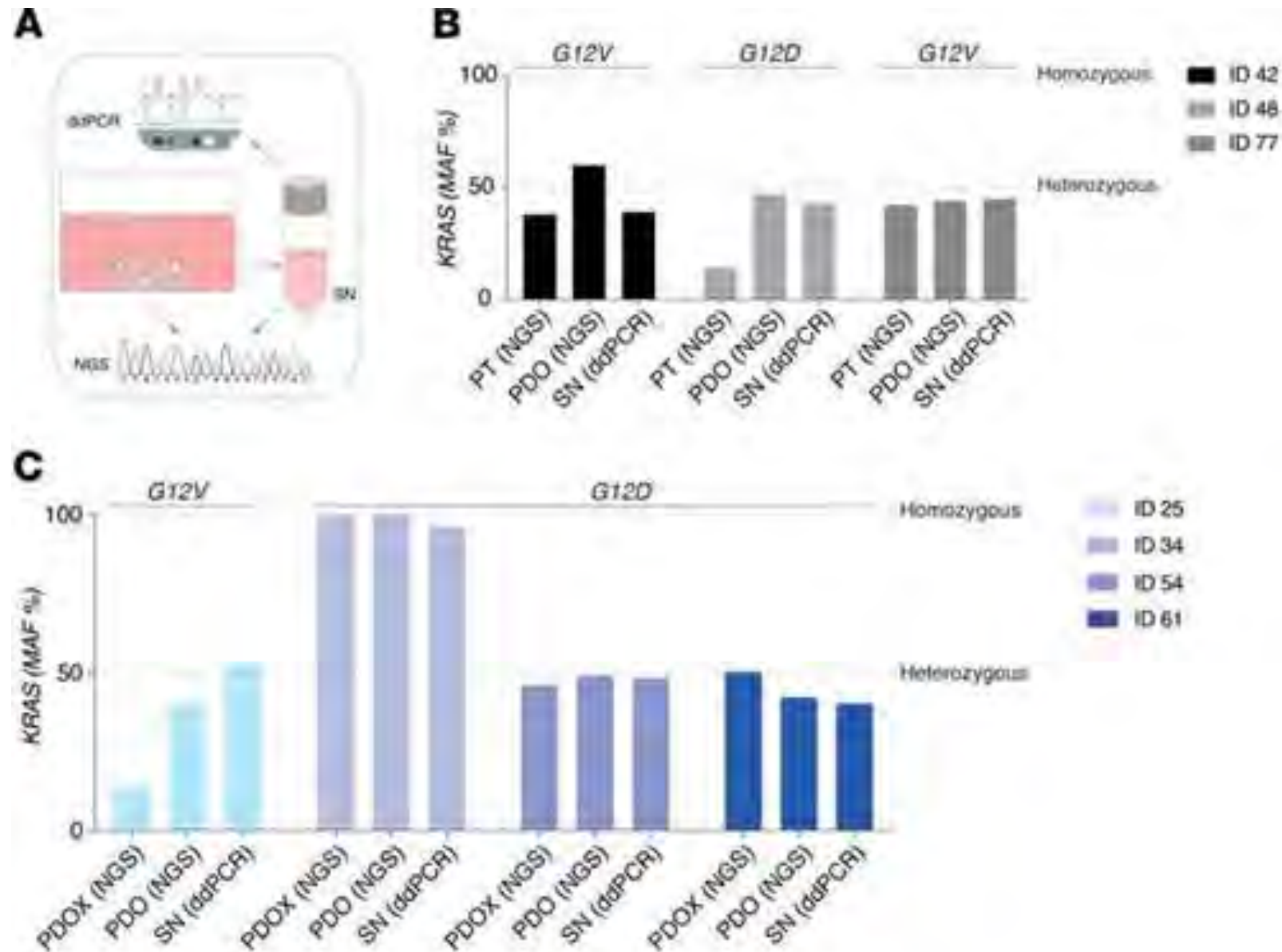
Poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma

High grade neuroendocrine carcinoma

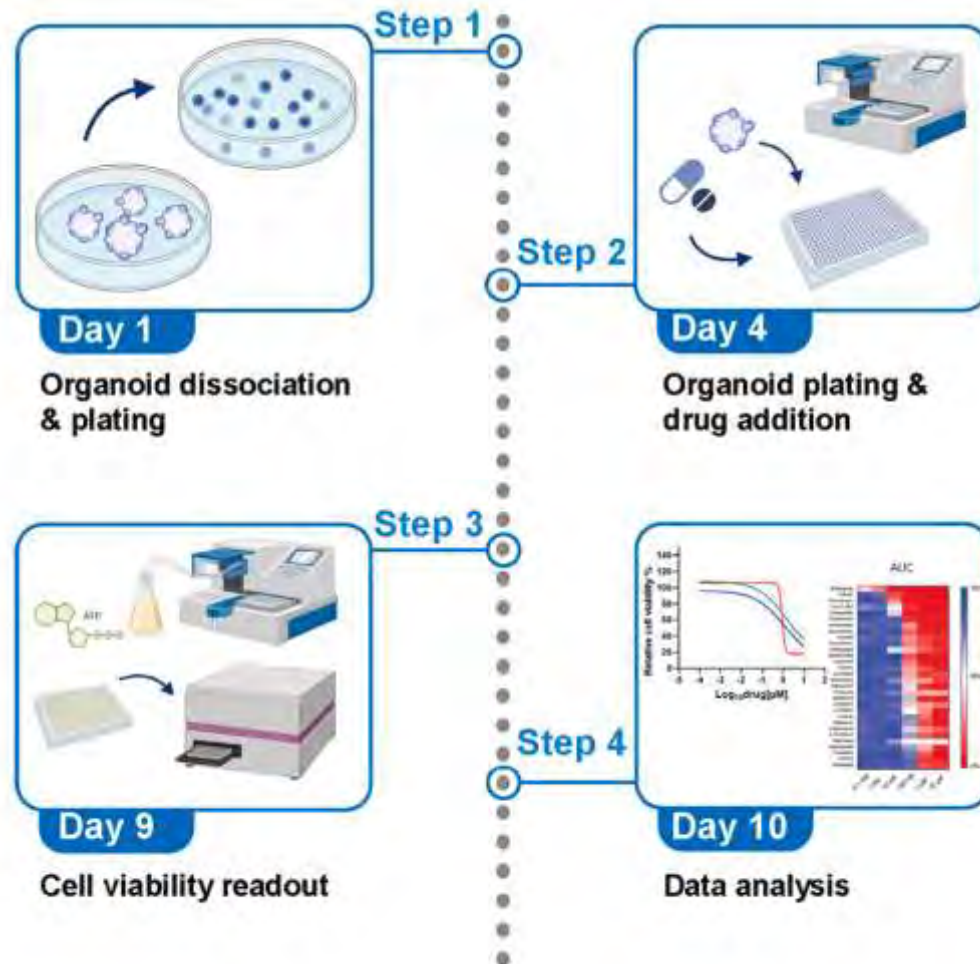
Mucinous adenocarcinoma



Mutation detection from PDO closely aligns with primary tumors



In Vitro drug screening typically measures viability after various doses of drug(s)



Viability determined at the end of the assay

Assess quality metrics

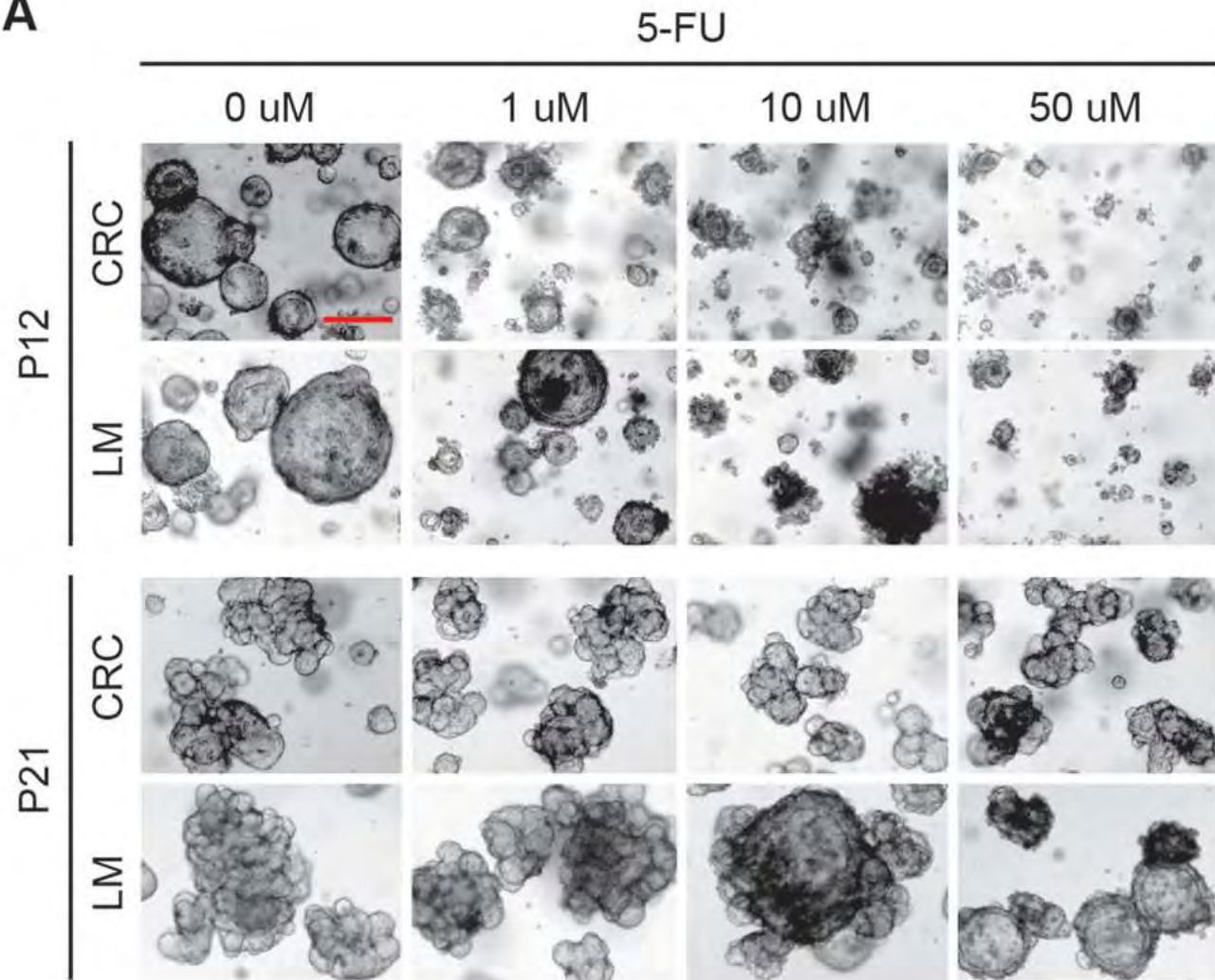
- Did untreated organoids grow appropriately?
- Low deviation between technical replicates?

Plot data and assess the response to each drug compared to other drug in the assay and results from prior assays.



High content measurements typically use microscopy to assess organoid response to treatment

A



More information,
but more complicated data
acquisition and analysis.

PDO responding to
drug treatment

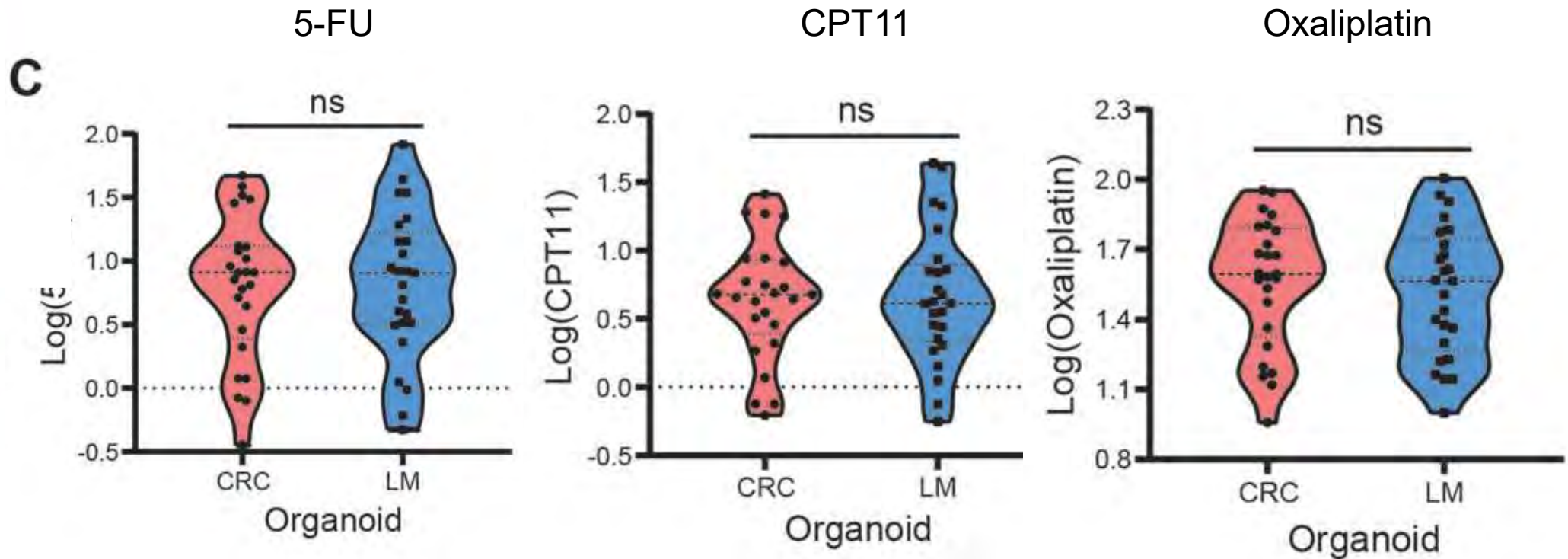
PDO NOT responding
to drug treatment



Retrospective use of PDOs for
the evaluation of patient
responsiveness to standard
chemotherapeutic reagents



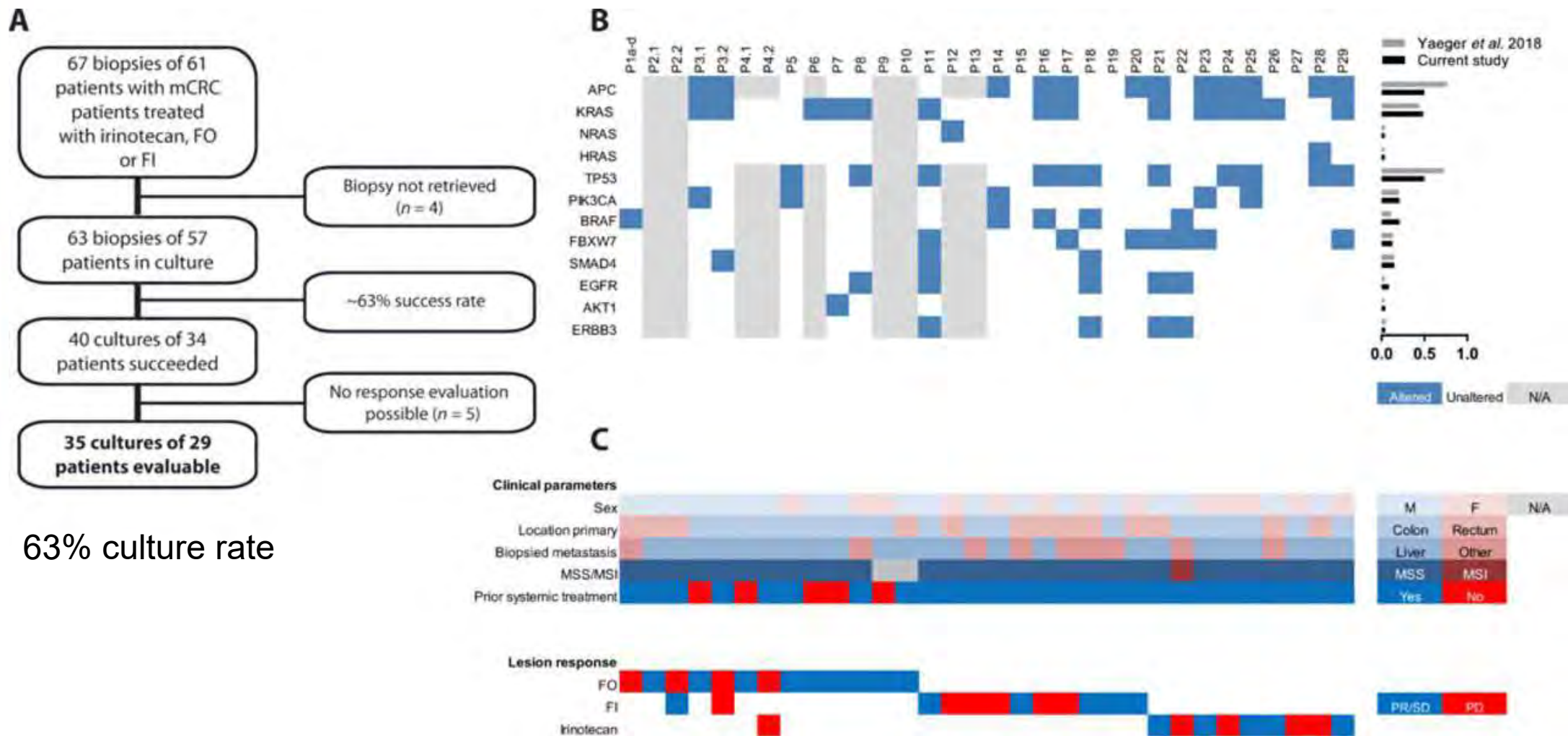
Ex Vivo PDO drug sensitivity is similar in primary CRC tumors and liver metastases



25 matching pairs of primary tumors and liver metastases showed similar sensitivities

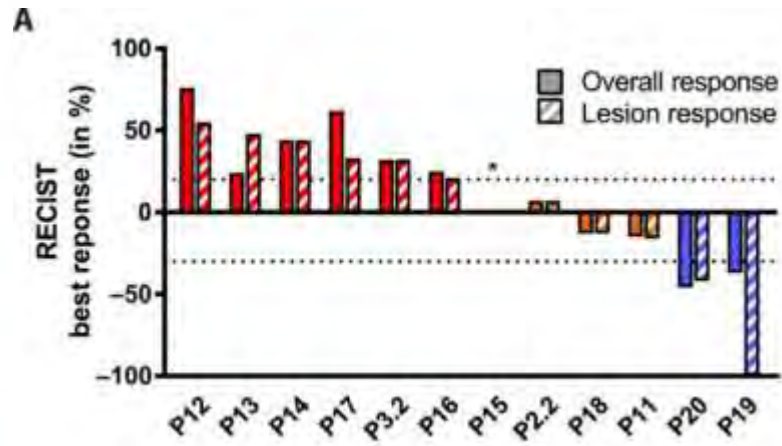


PDOs can predict response to chemotherapy in metastatic colorectal cancer patients

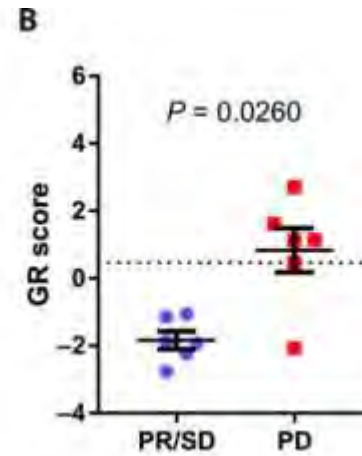


PDOs can predict response to chemotherapy in metastatic colorectal cancer patients

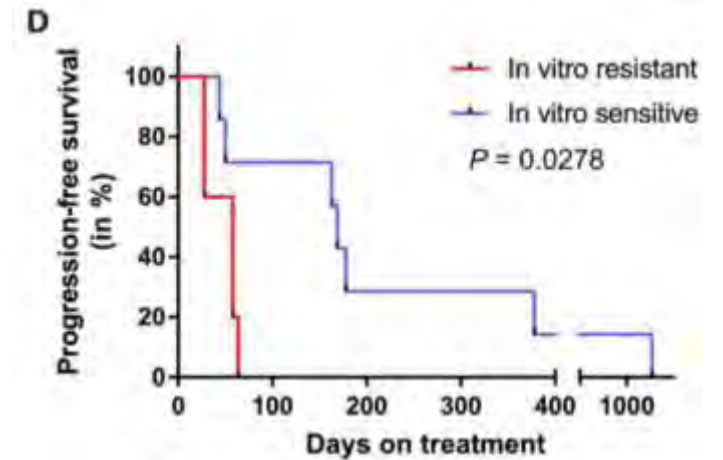
Patient tumor response by imaging



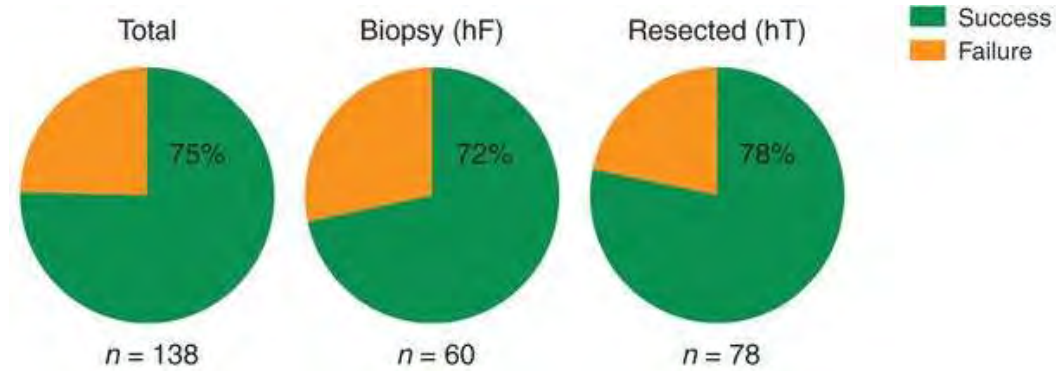
Organoid response to treatment



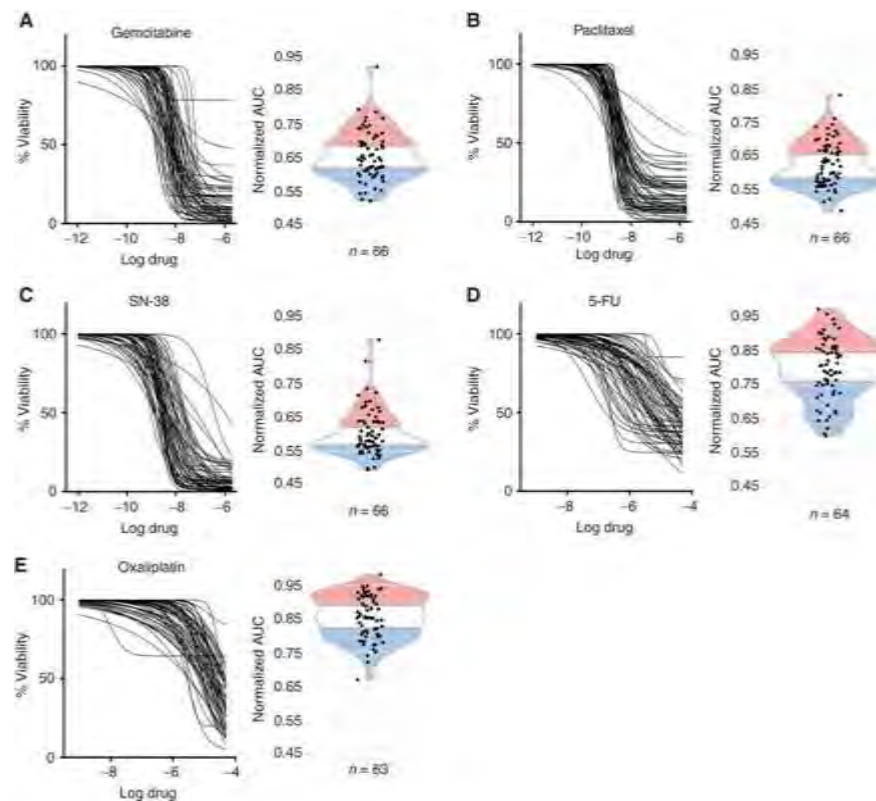
Patient time on treatment



Organoid Profiling Identifies Common Responders to Chemotherapy in Pancreatic Cancer



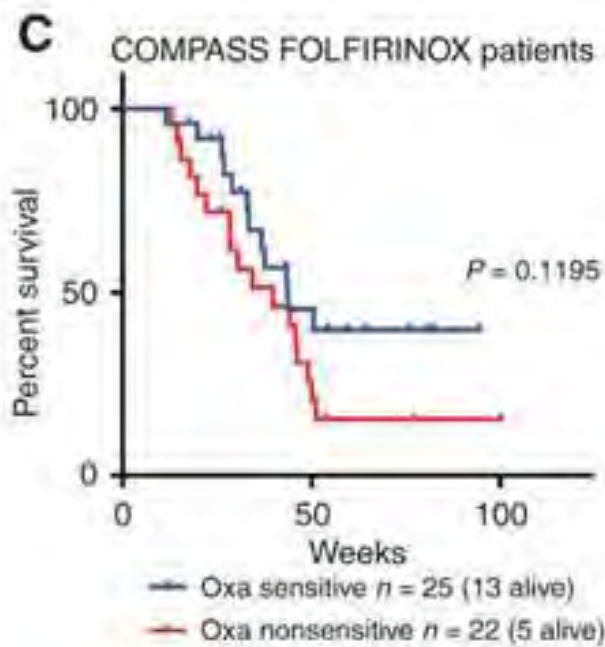
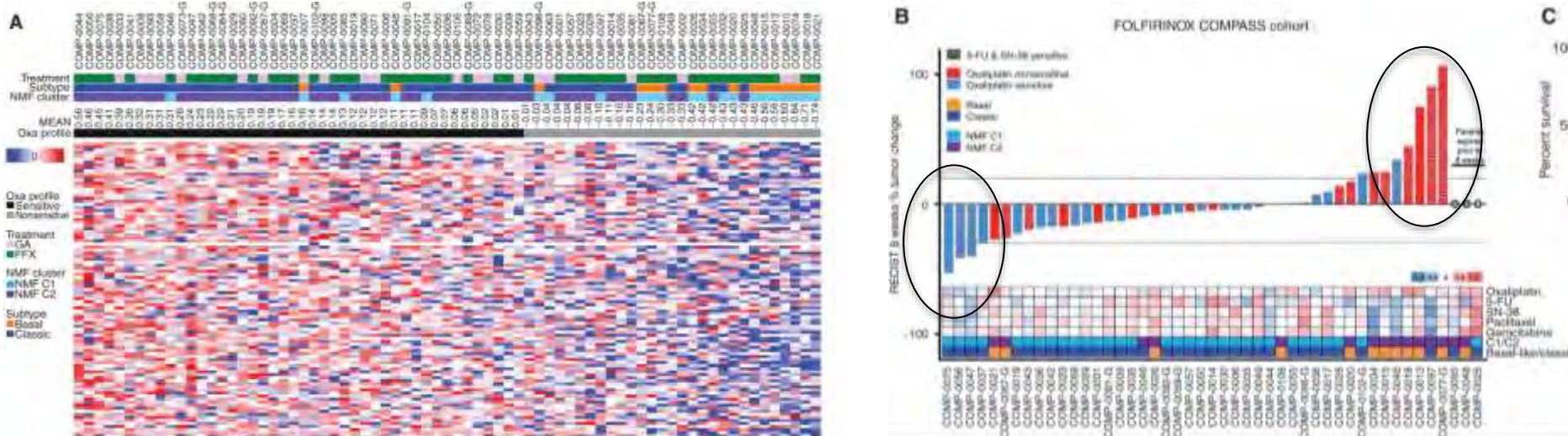
~75% culture rate




Determined the range of drug sensitivities for ~65 PDOs



Development of a gene expression signature for responsiveness using PDAC PDOs

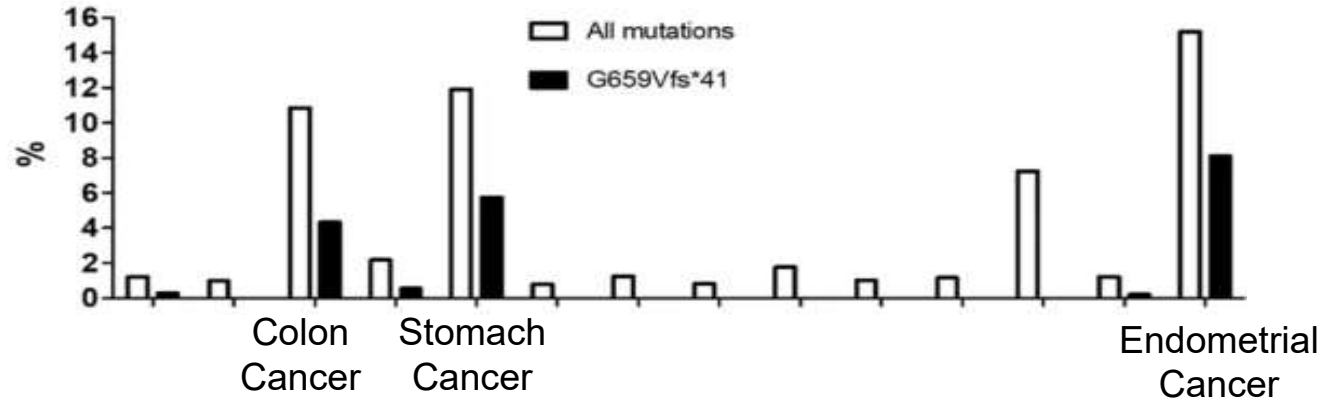




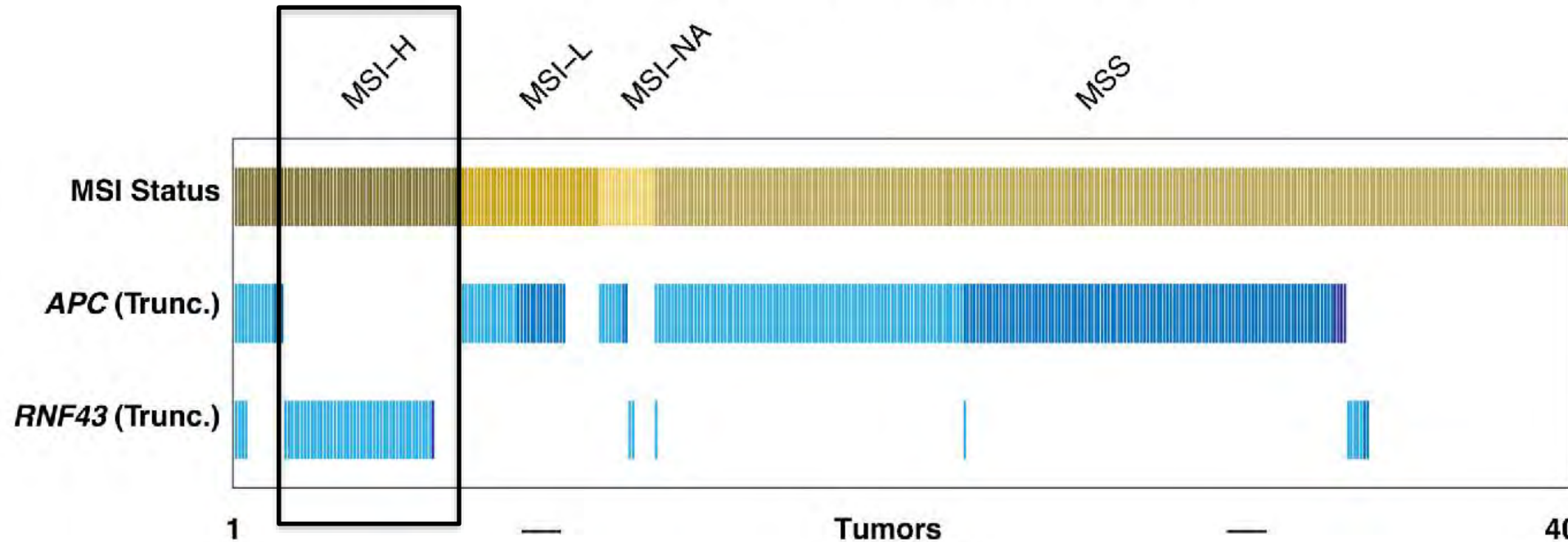
Use of PDOs for evaluation of drug sensitivities to genetic mutations



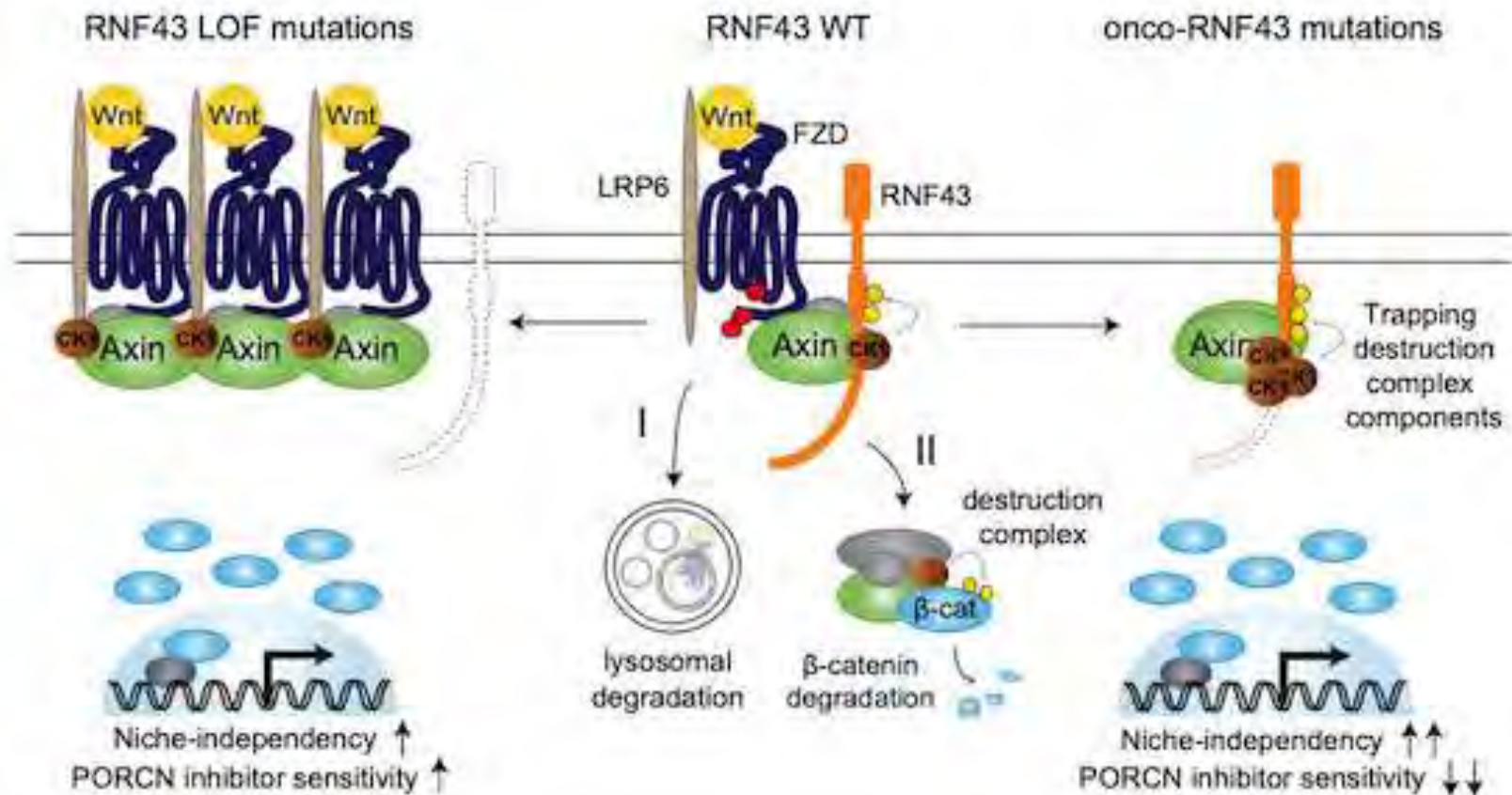
RNF43 mutations occur in the presence of Mismatch Repair deficiency and non-mutated APC



Colorectal Cancer (NHS/HPFS & TCGA sets)



RNF43 mutations promote β -catenin signaling through diverse mechanisms

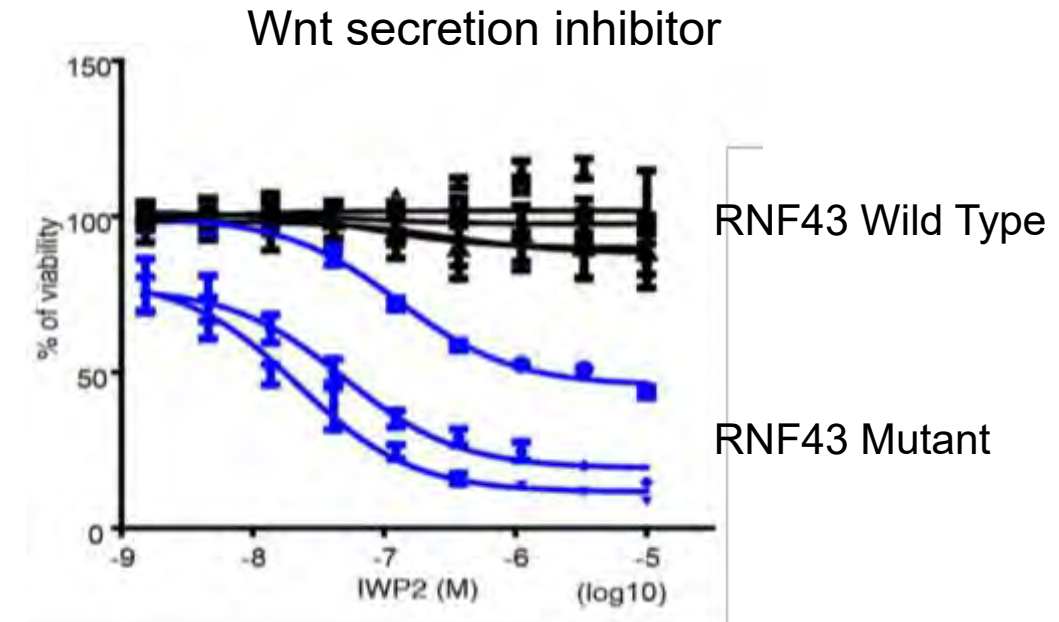
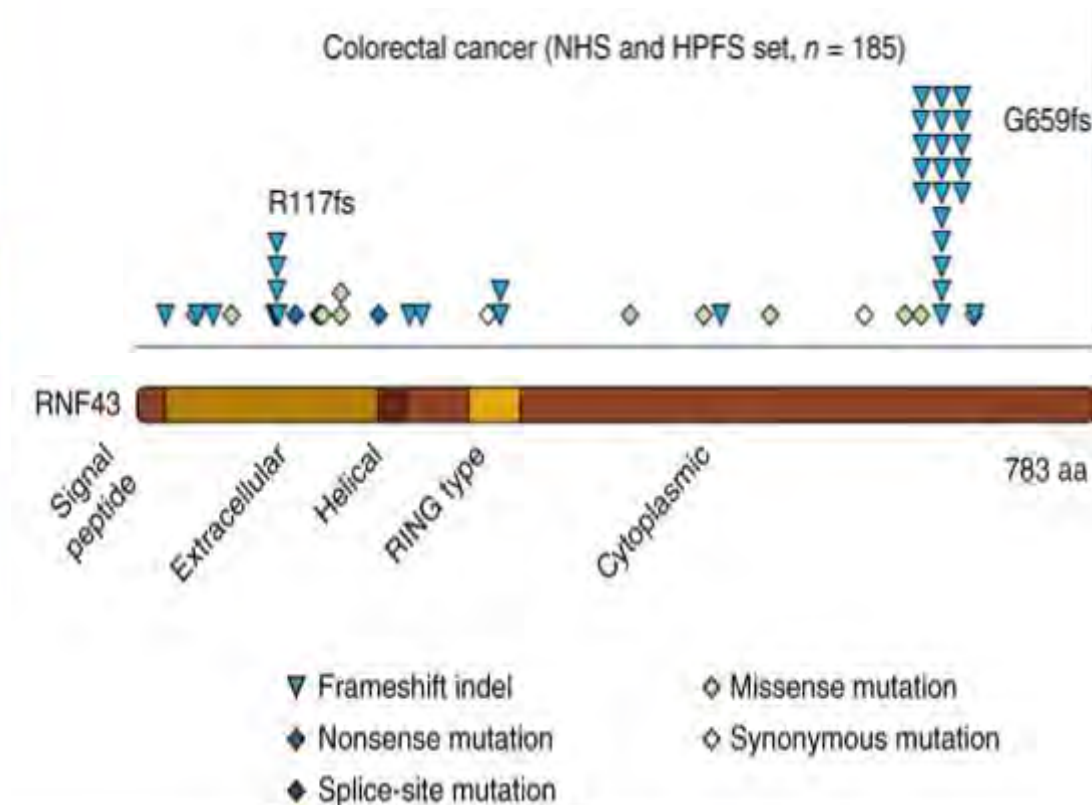


Wnt-ligand dependent

Wnt-ligand independent



RNF43 frameshift mutated organoids show vulnerability for Wnt pathway inhibitors



Intra-tumour diversification in colorectal cancer at the single-cell level.
Nature. 2018;556(7702). doi:10.1038/s41586-018-0024-3

Giannakis M, Hodis E, Jasmine Mu X, et al. RNF43 is frequently mutated in colorectal and endometrial cancers. Nat Genet. 2014;46(12):1264-1266. doi:10.1038/ng.3127

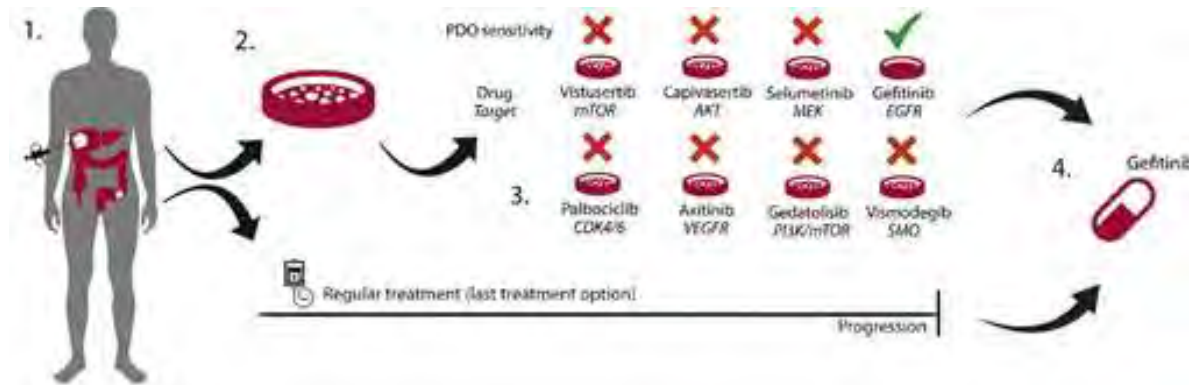
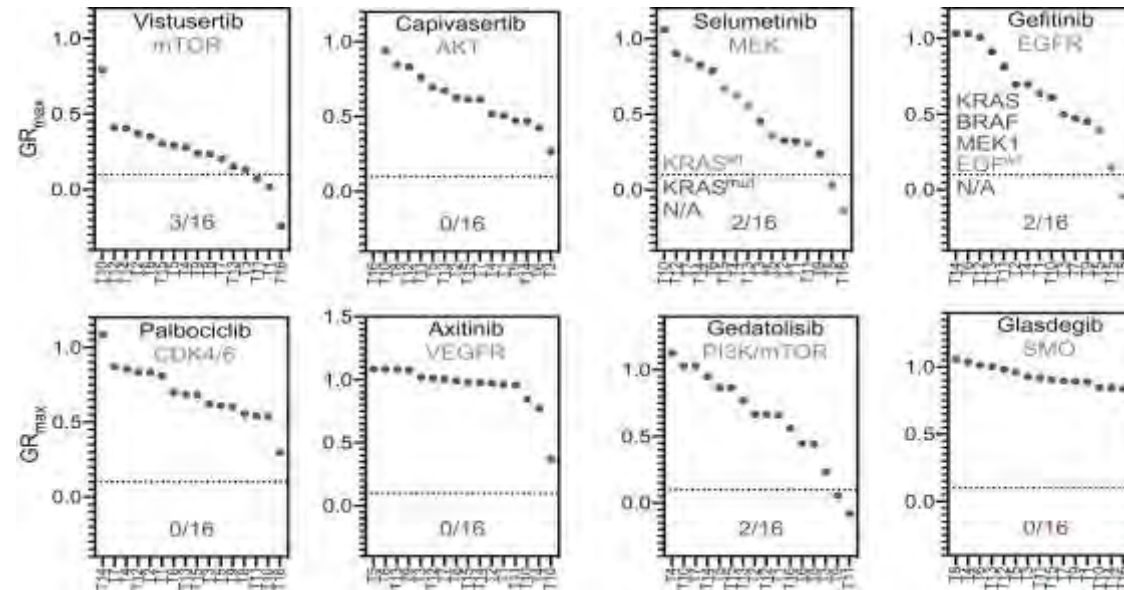


Prospective use of PDOs sensitivities to
assign patients to experimental treatments

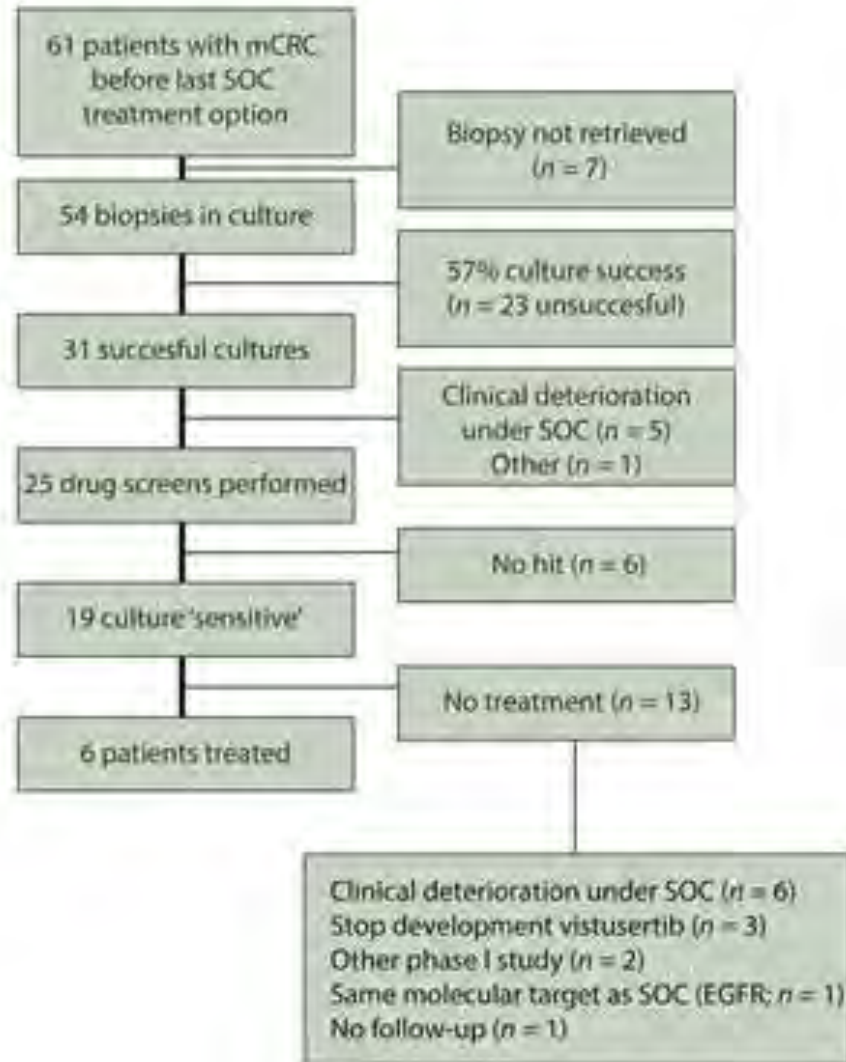


Prospective experimental treatment of colorectal cancer patients based on organoid drug responses
(SENSOR Trial – metastatic colorectal cancer)

Validated screening platform informed by
prior PDO cultures treated with 8 different therapies



SENSOR Trial – Stopped early due to limited benefit and extremely high drop out rate



Trial Stopped at the Interim Analysis

- 6 of 61 patients were assigned to treatment, but saw limited benefit.
- 92% drop out rate.
- 50% of all patients had a successful culture.
- In patients with successful PDO cultures:
 - 24% of those screen had no sensitivities.
 - 35% experienced clinical deterioration.



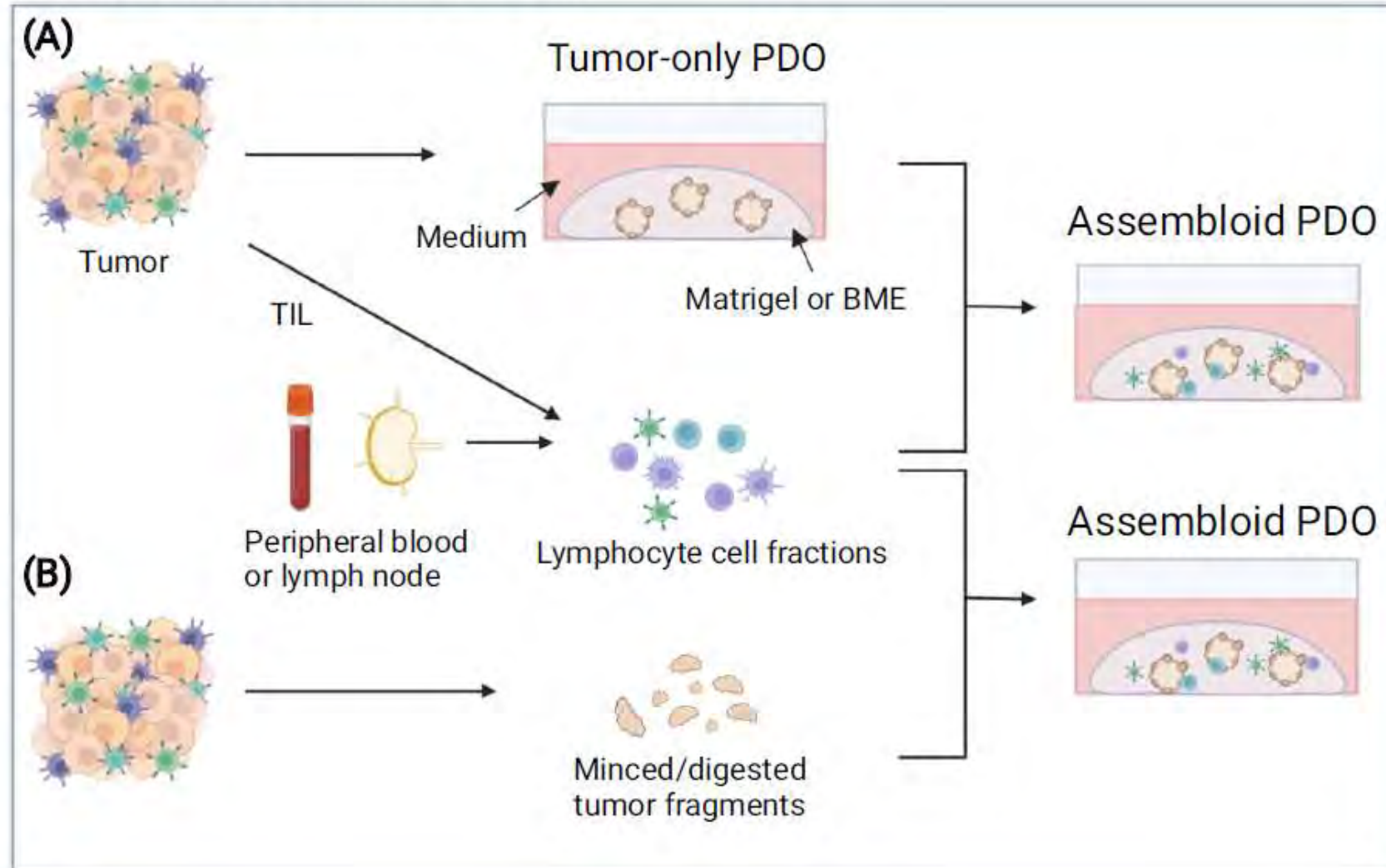


Emerging Techniques in Organoid Culture aim to
model the immune system tumor microenvironment



Low throughput techniques exist for organoid culture that include the immune cells

Reconstituted immune TME



Low throughput techniques exist for organoid culture that include the microenvironment

Native immune TME

