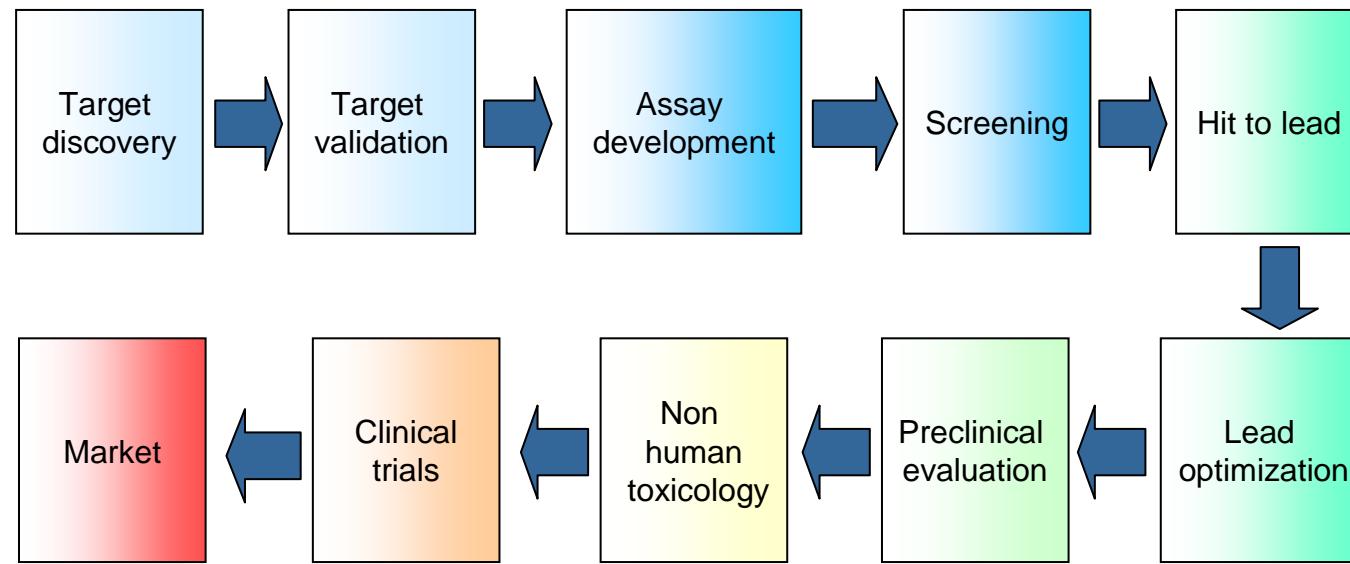


# Identificacion de nuevos farmacos antitumorales

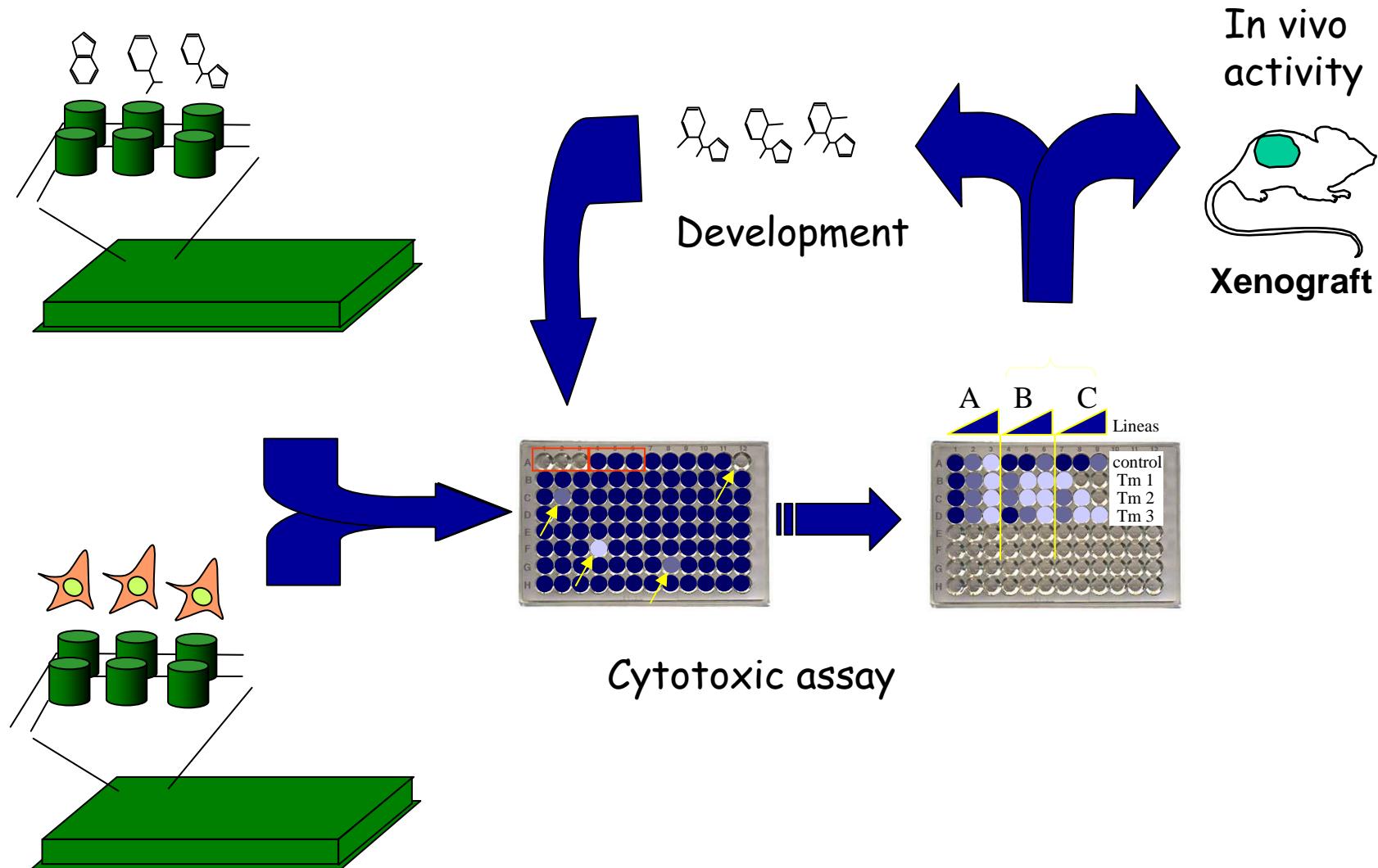


Amancio Carnero  
Experimental Therapeutics  
CNIO

# Drug discovery process



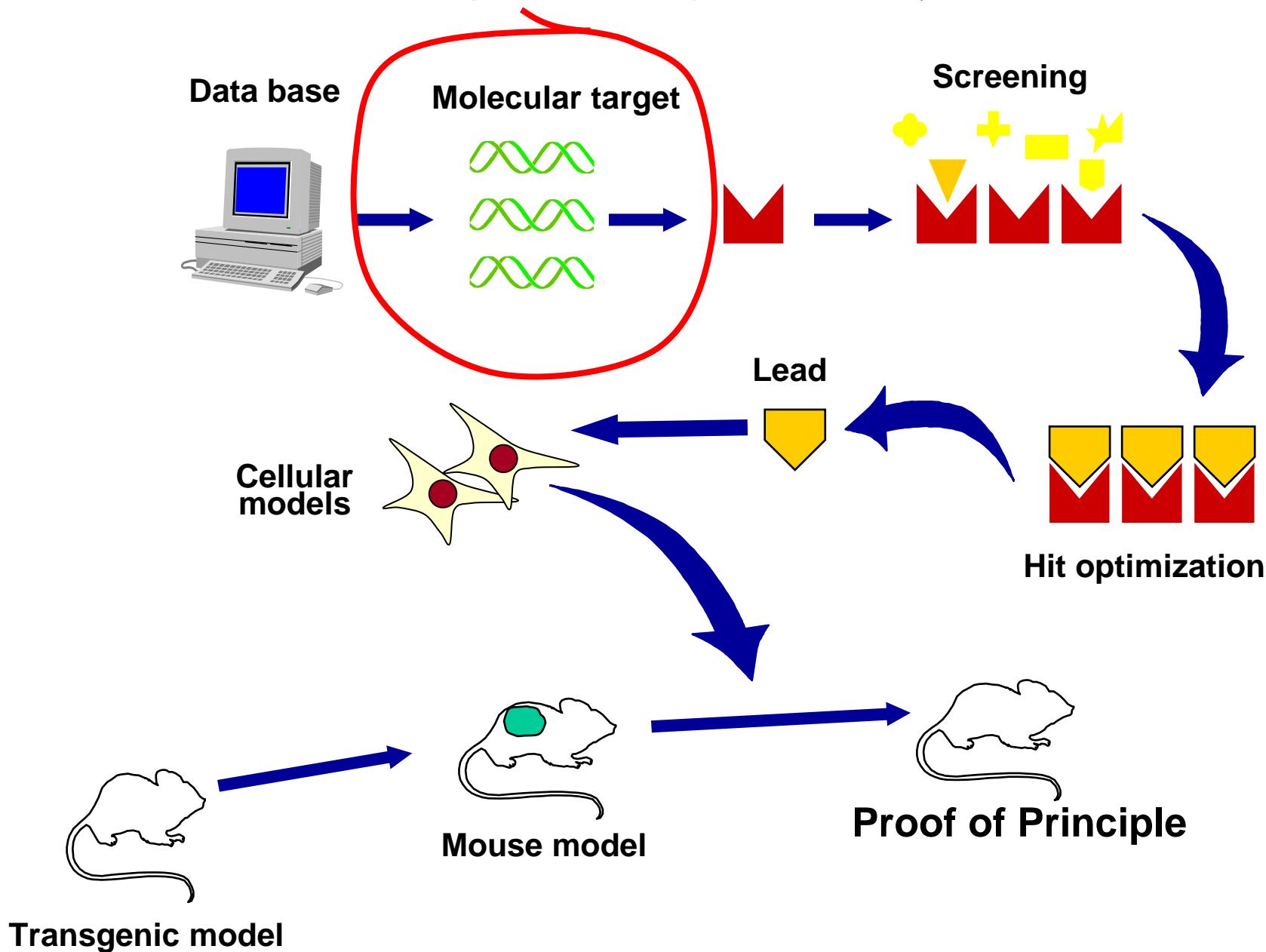
# HTS cytotoxicity



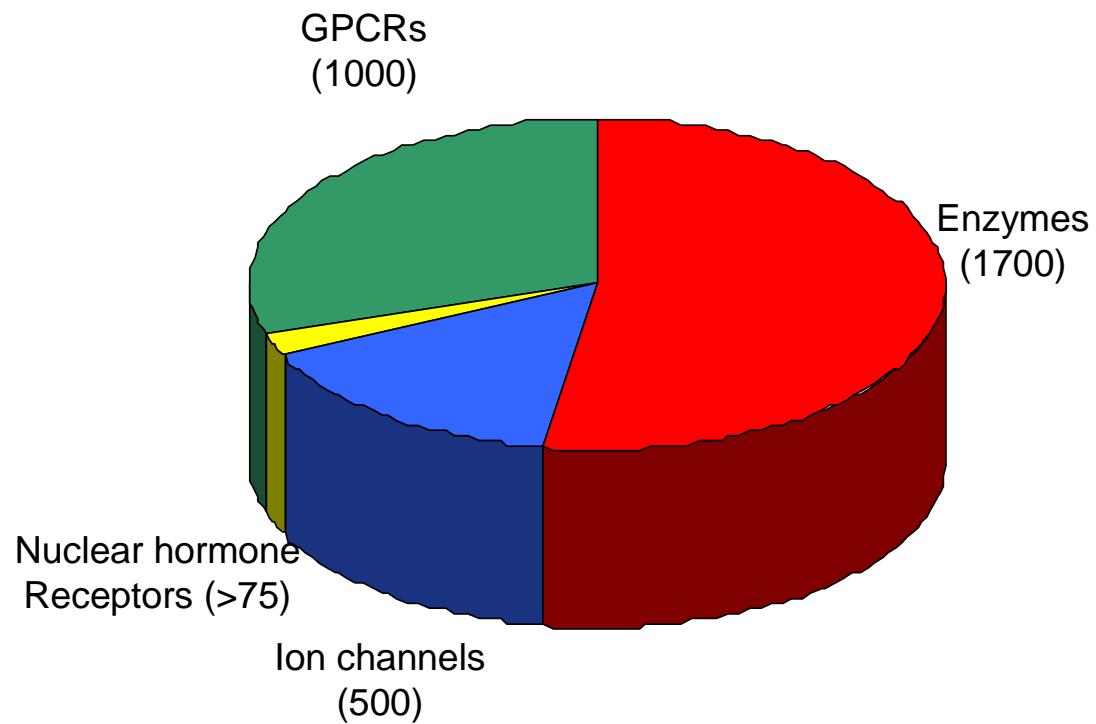
**Table 1 LIST OF NEWLY APPROVED DRUGS AND THEIR TARGETS**

| Trade/Proprietary Name       | Approval | Target           | Classification   |
|------------------------------|----------|------------------|------------------|
| Alimta/Pemetrexed            | 2004     | DNA synthesis    | cytotoxic        |
| Avastin /bevacizumab         | 2004     | VEGF             | antiangiogenic   |
| Erbitux (cetuximab)          | 2004     | EGF receptor     | semi-selective   |
| Bexxar/Tositumomab           | 2003     | CD20             | tissue-selective |
| Velcade/Bortezomib           | 2003     | proteasome       | cytotoxic        |
| Iressa/Gefitinib             | 2003     | EGF receptor     | semi-selective   |
| Eloxatin/Oxaliplatin         | 2002     | DNA (alkylating) | cytotoxic        |
| Zevalin/Ibritumomab tiuxetan | 2002     | CD20             | tissue-selective |
| Gleevec/Imatinib mesylate*   | 2001     | Bcr-Abl*         | semi-selective   |
| Campath/Alemtuzumab          | 2001     | CD52             | tissue-selective |
| Trisenox/Arsenic trioxide    | 2000     | multiple         | cytotoxic        |
| Mylotarg/Gemtuzumab          | 2000     | CD33             | tissue-selective |
| Temodar/Temozolomide         | 1999     | DNA (alkylating) | cytotoxic        |
| Valstar/Valrubicin           | 1998     | DNA (TOPO-II)    | cytotoxic        |
| Herceptin/Transtuzumab       | 1998     | erbB2            | semi-selective   |
| Xeloda Capecitabine          | 1998     | DNA (metabolism) | cytotoxic        |
| Rituxan/Rituximab            | 1997     | CD20             | tissue-selective |
| Intron A/Interferon-a        | 1997     | IFN receptor     | tissue-selective |
| Camptosar/Irinotecan         | 1996     | DNA (TOPO-I)     | cytotoxic        |
| Hycamtin/Topotecan           | 1996     | DNA (TOPO-I)     | cytotoxic        |
| Gemzar/Gemcitabine           | 1996     | DNA (metabolism) | cytotoxic        |
| Taxotere/Docetaxel           | 1996     | microtubules     | cytotoxic        |
| Vesanoid/Tretinoin           | 1995     | RAR              | cytotoxic**      |
| Vinorelbine/Navelbine        | 1994     | microtubules     | cytotoxic        |
| Leustatin/Cladribine         | 1993     | DNA (metabolism) | cytotoxic        |
| Taxol Paclitaxel             | 1992     | microtubules     | cytotoxic        |

# Targeted drug discovery



## Predicted numbers of potential drug targets belonging to different biochemical classes.



# Molecular target

## Ligand inhibition

- Ligand production
- Binding to the receptor

## Receptor inhibition

- dimerization
- Receptor activity
- Binding adaptor molecules

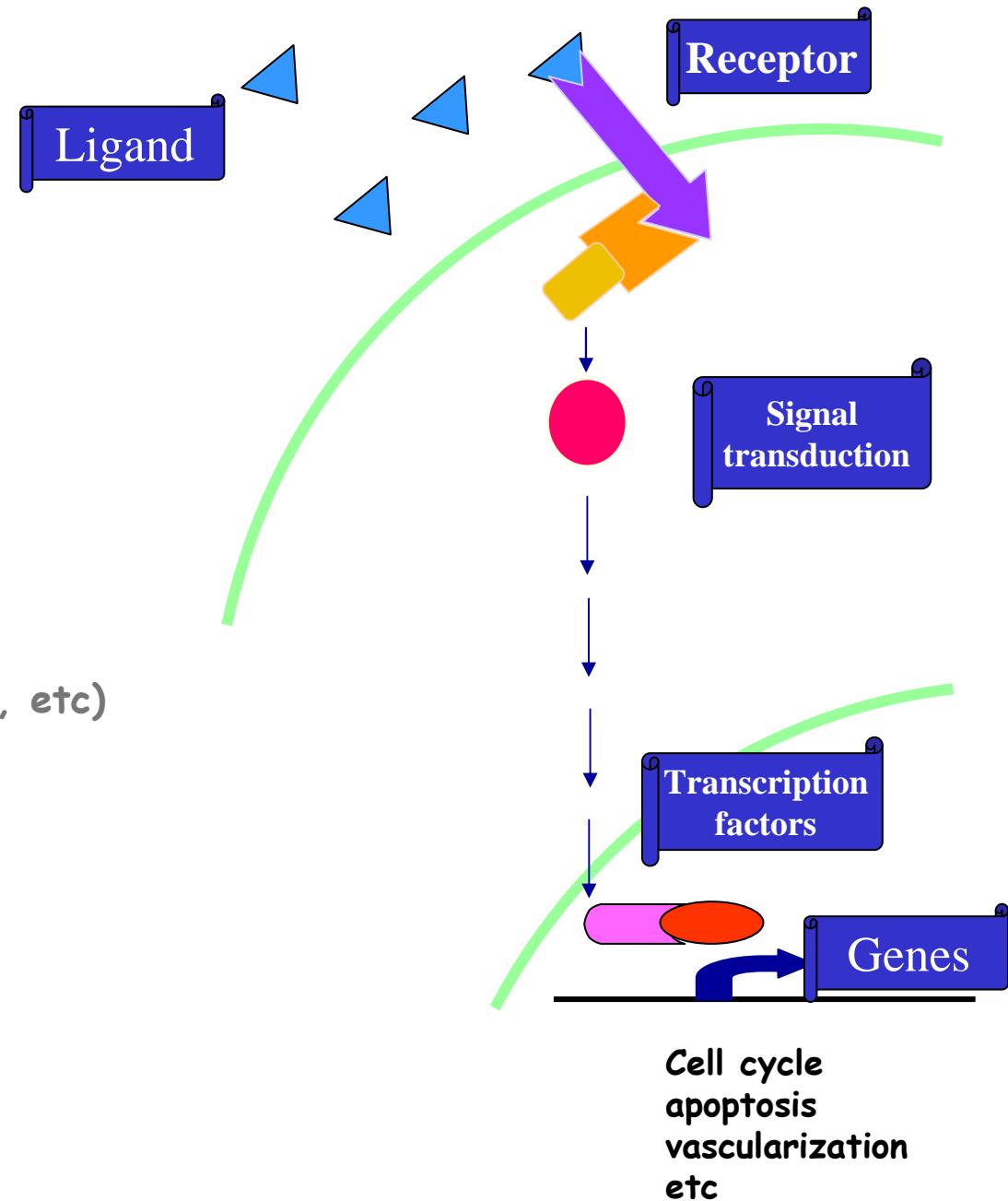
## Signal transduction inhibition

- Binding adaptor molecules
- Binding pathway proteins
- Pathway proteins activity
- Specific localization (membrane, etc)
- Nuclear transport

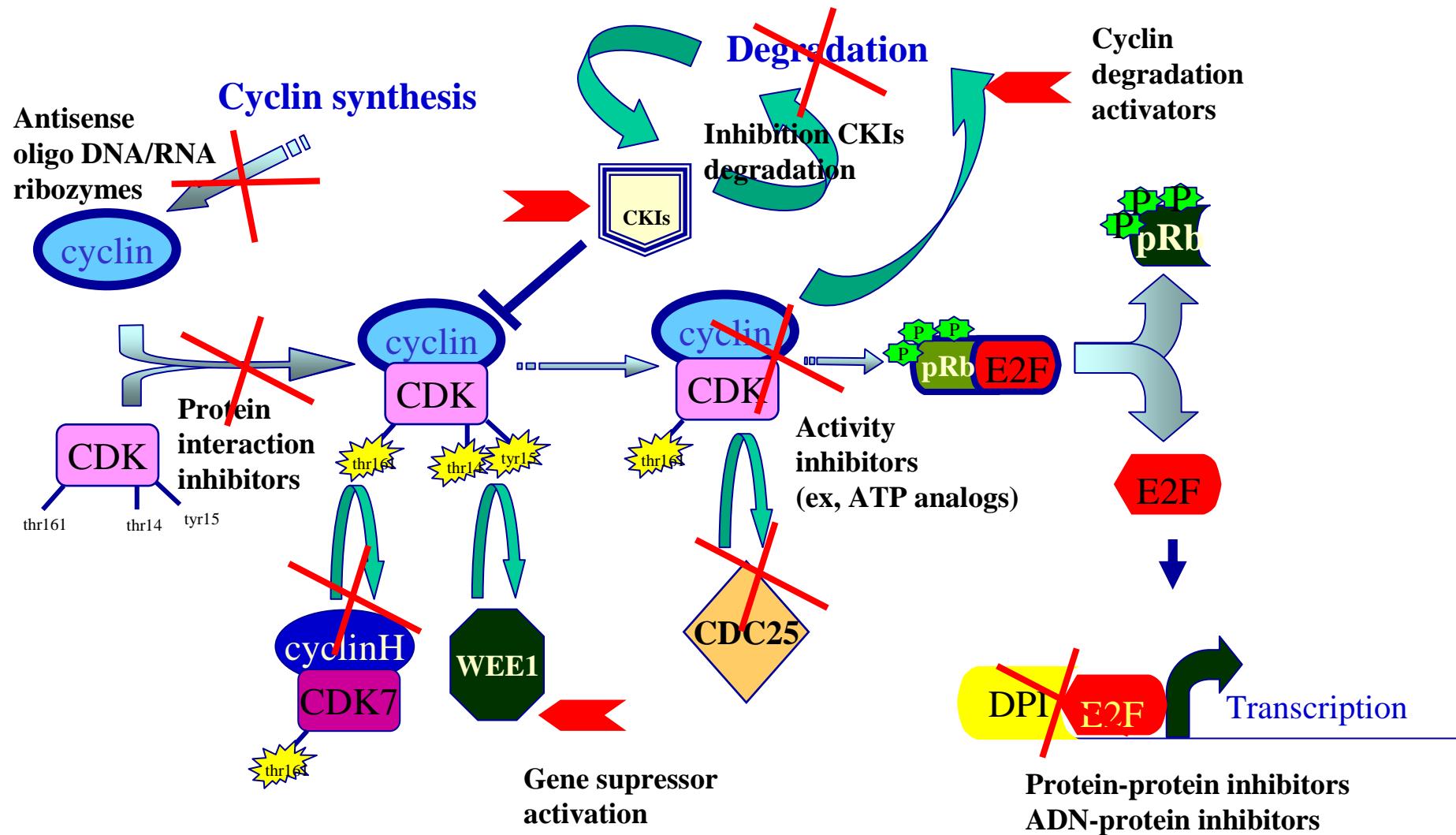
## Transcription factor inhibition

- protein-protein interaction
- ADN-protein interaction

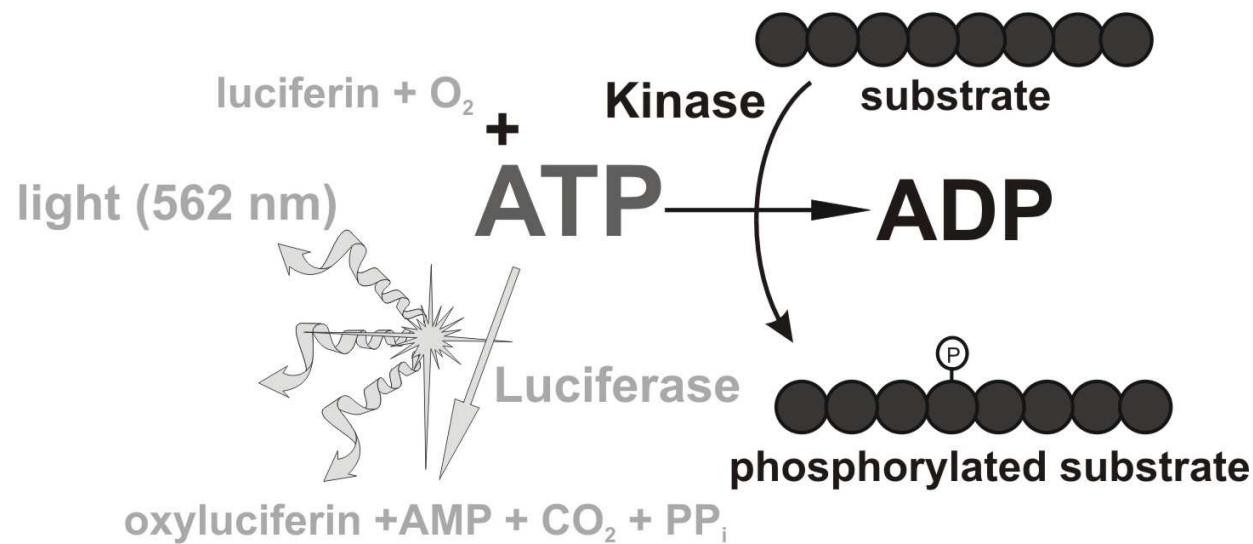
## Effector genes activity



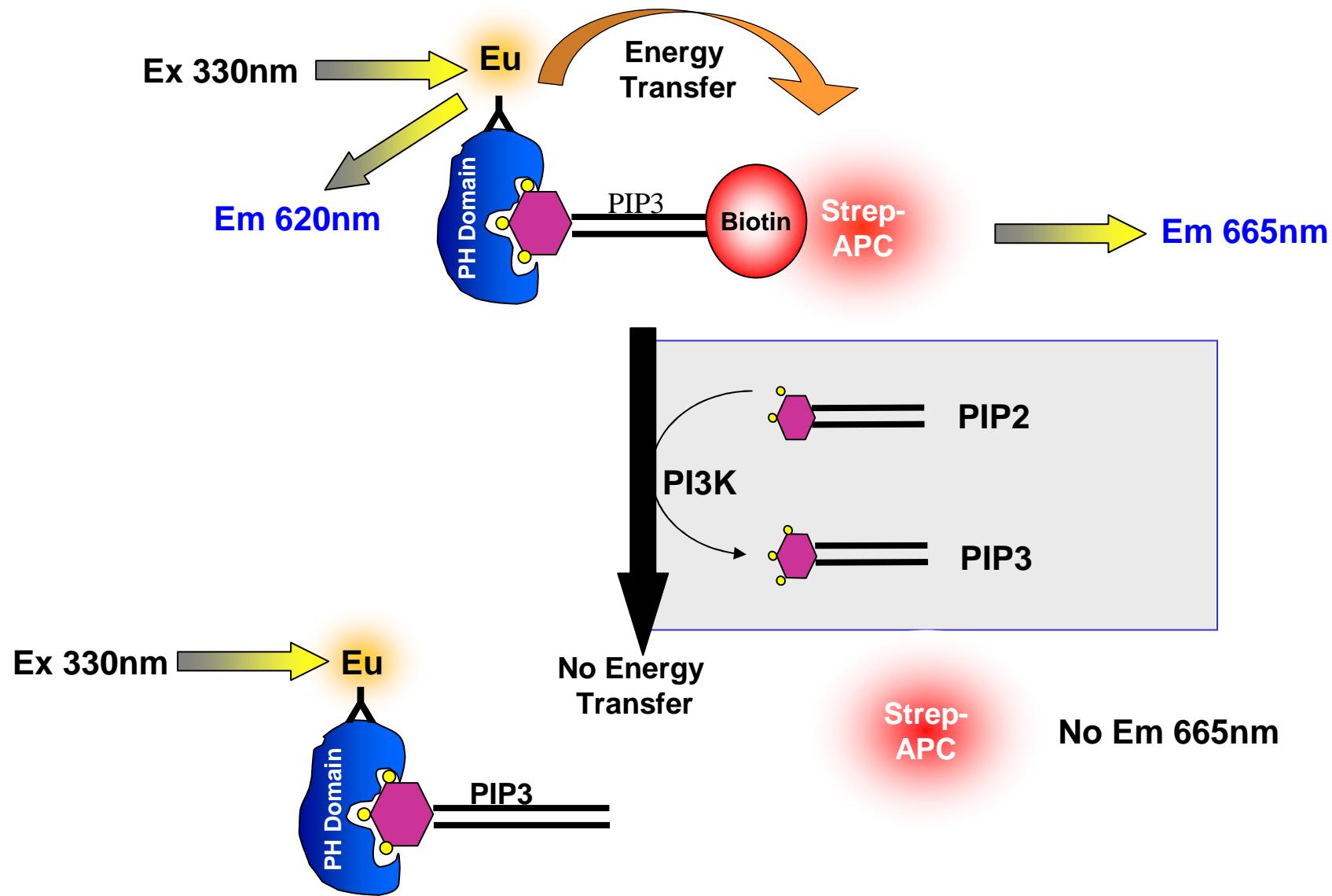
## Ex: Cell cycle targets



## ATP Consumption Assay:

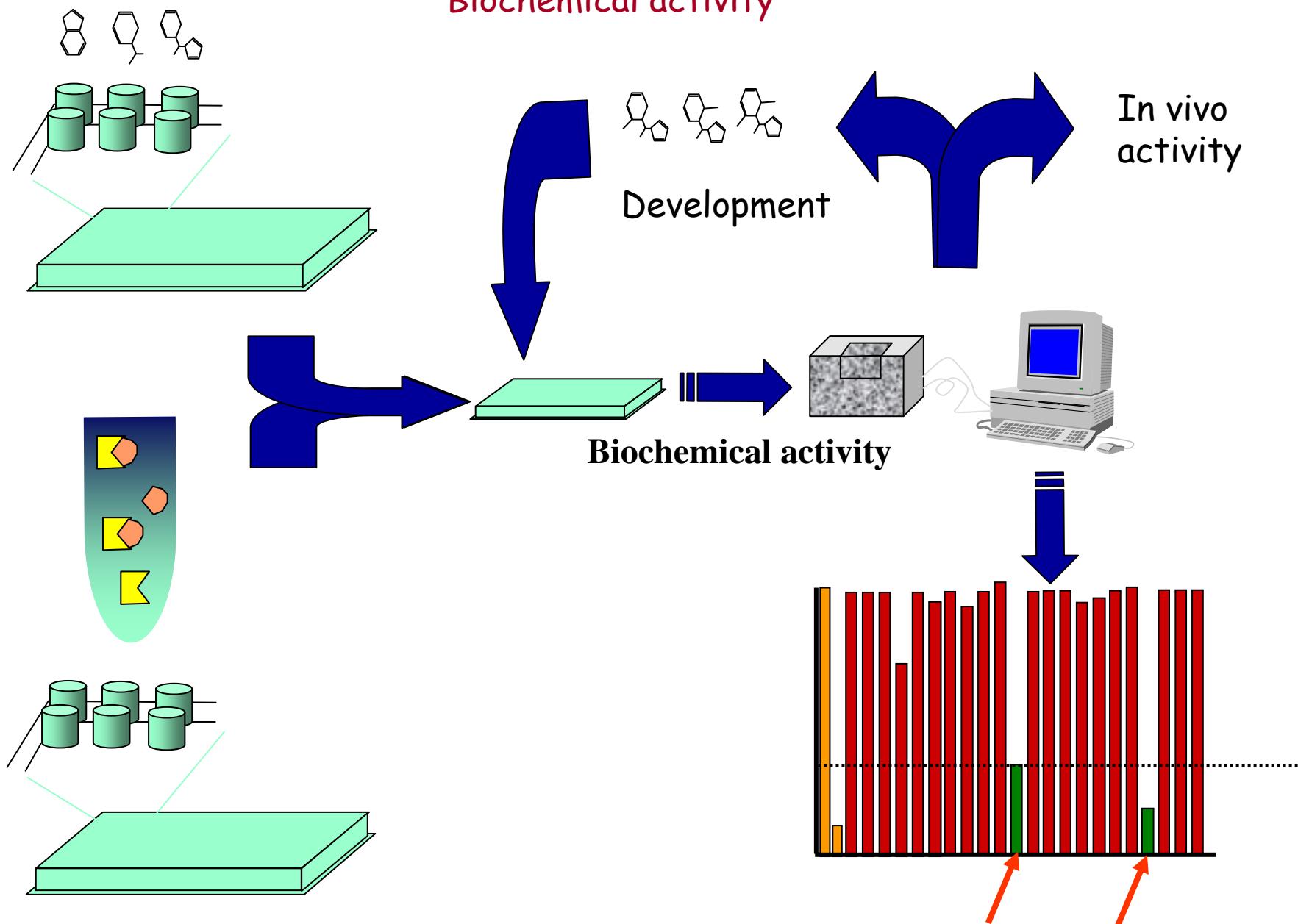


# PI 3-Kinase HTRF Assay



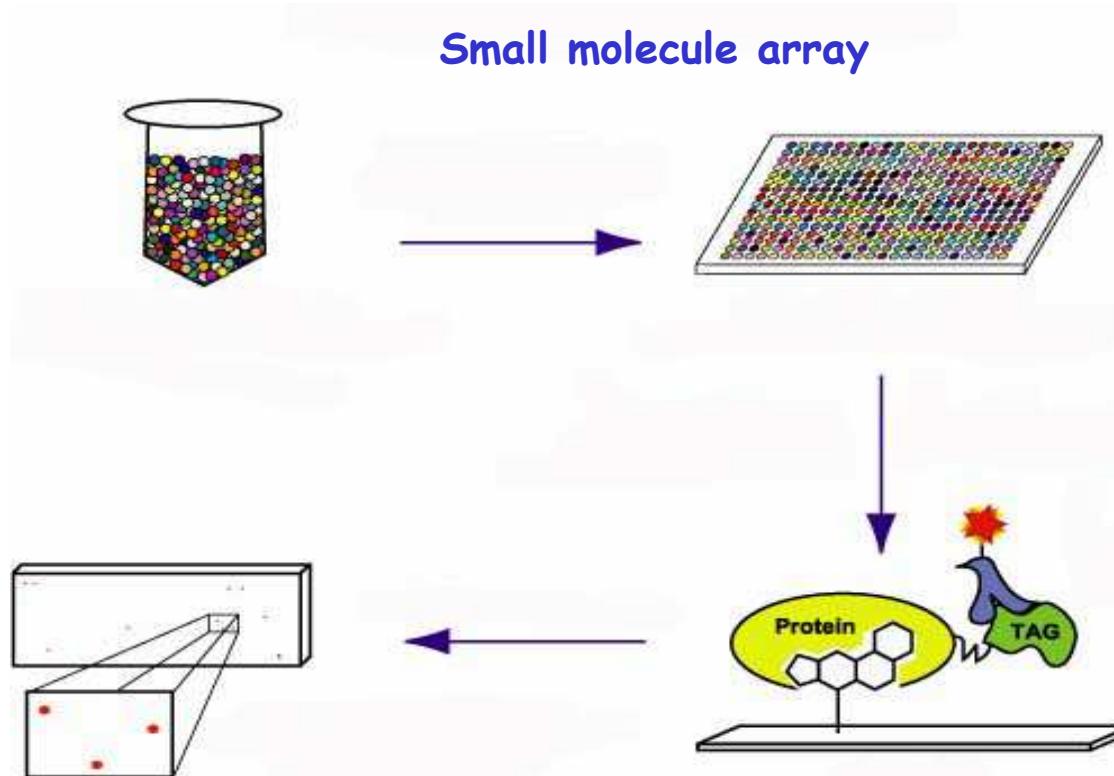
# Molecular targeted HTS

Biochemical activity

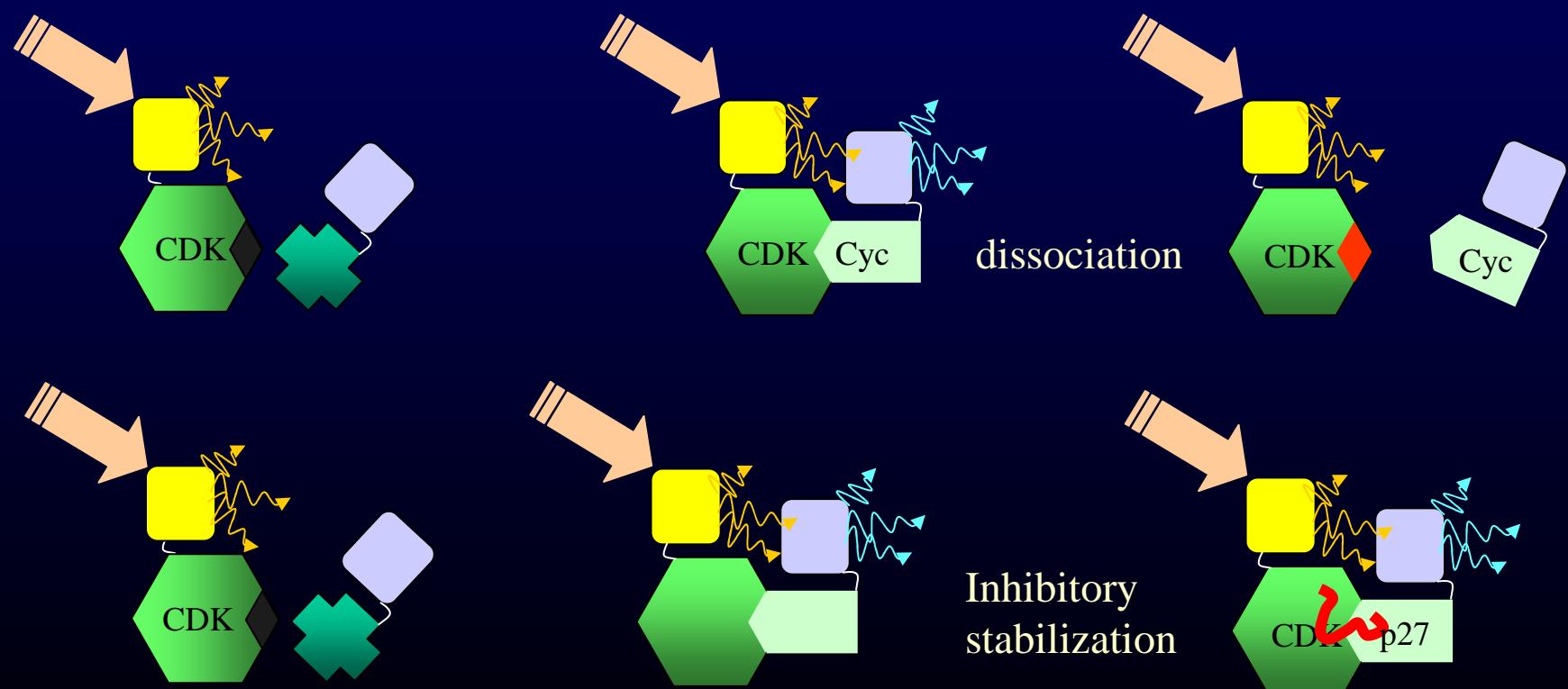
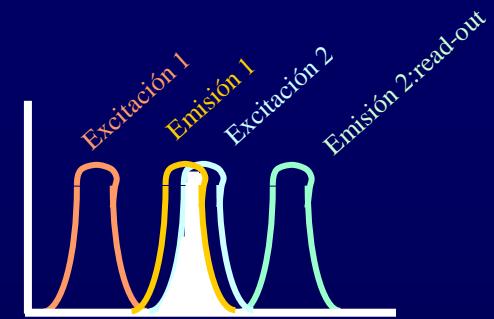
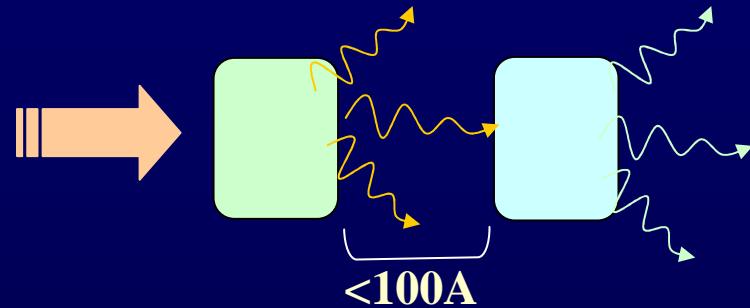


# Chemical genomics

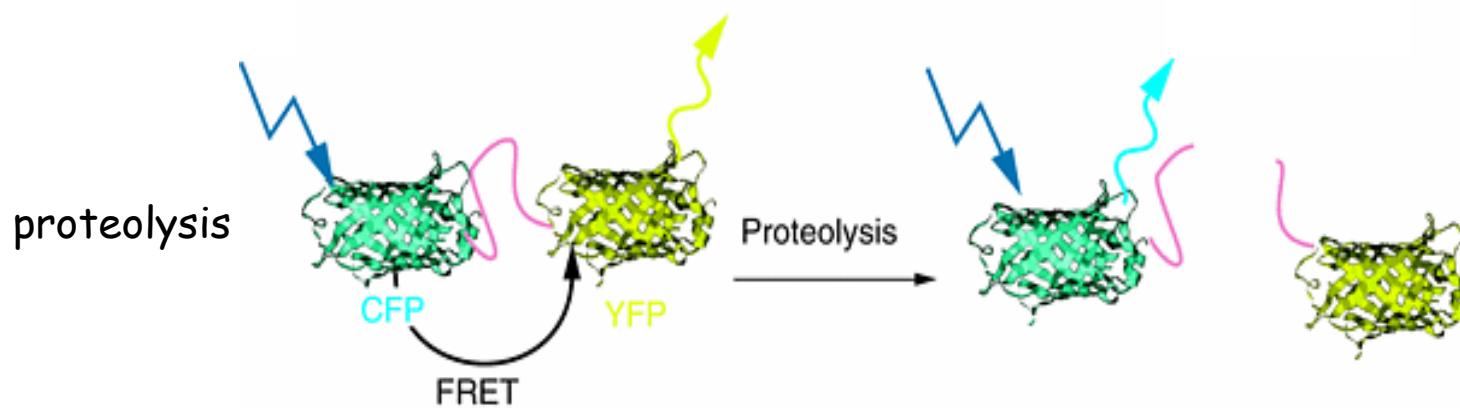
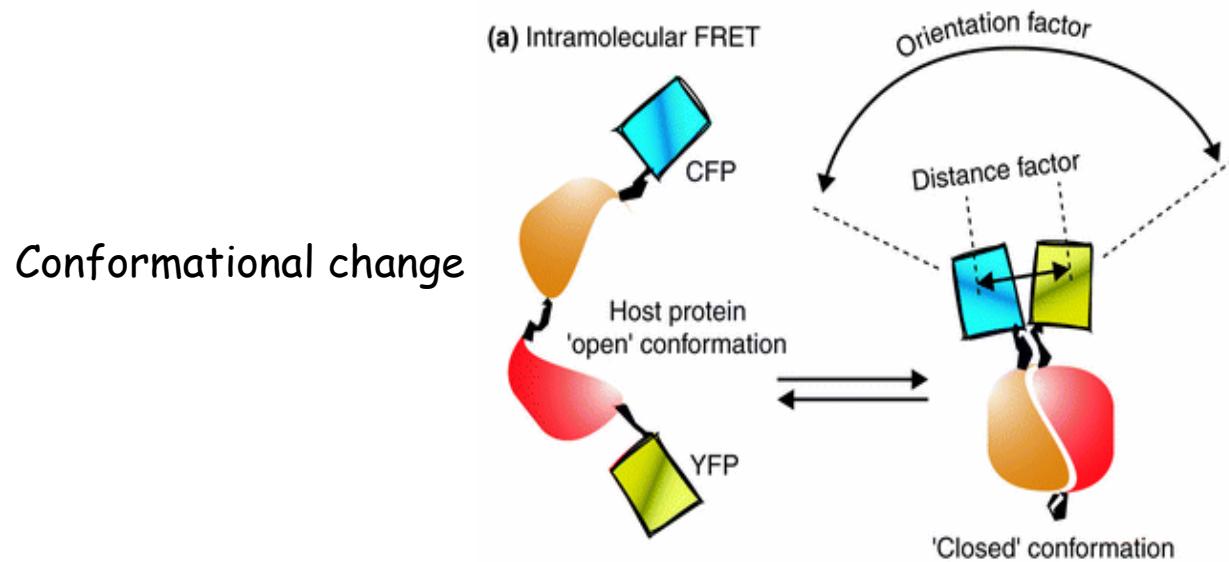
Small molecule partner for every gene product



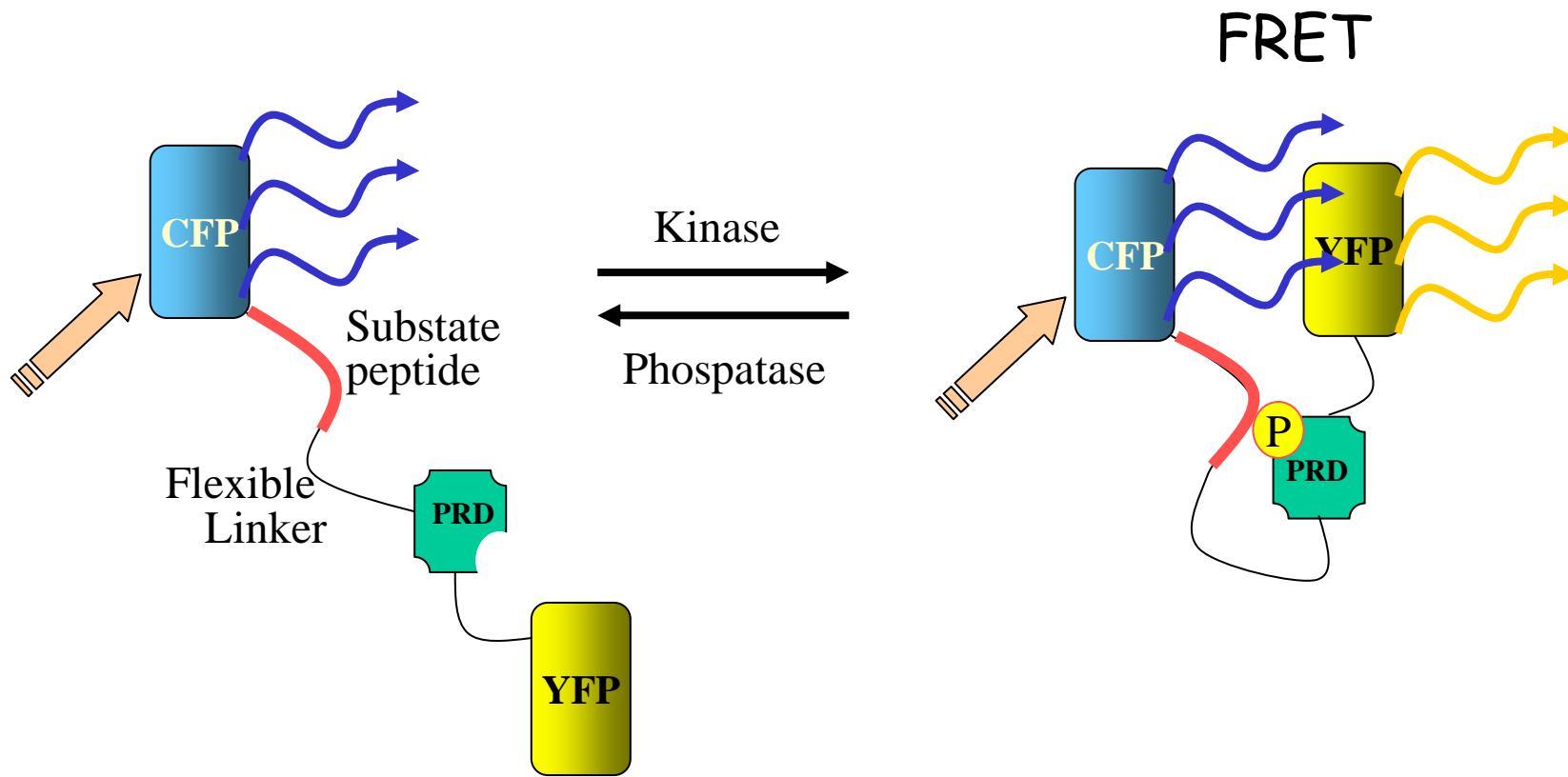
# FRET: Fluorescence resonance energy transfer



# Intramolecular FRET

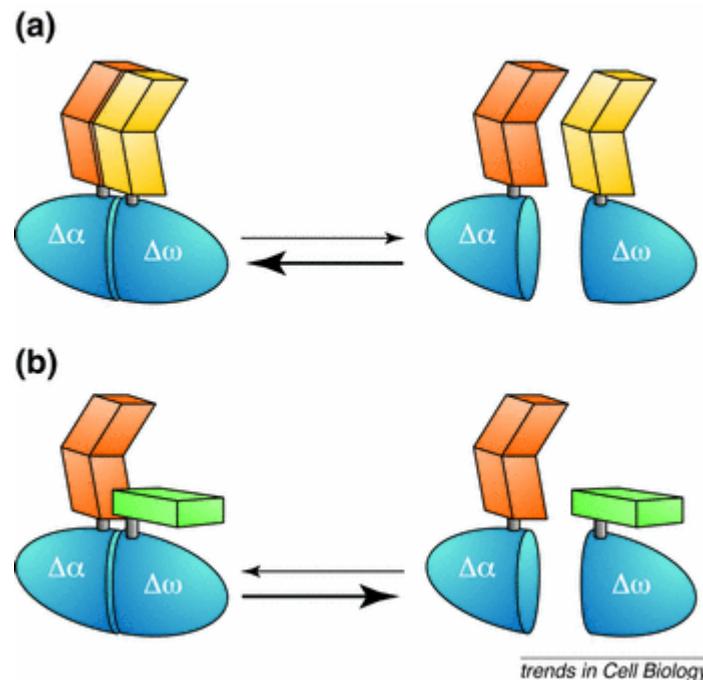


# FRET as read-out for phosphorylation



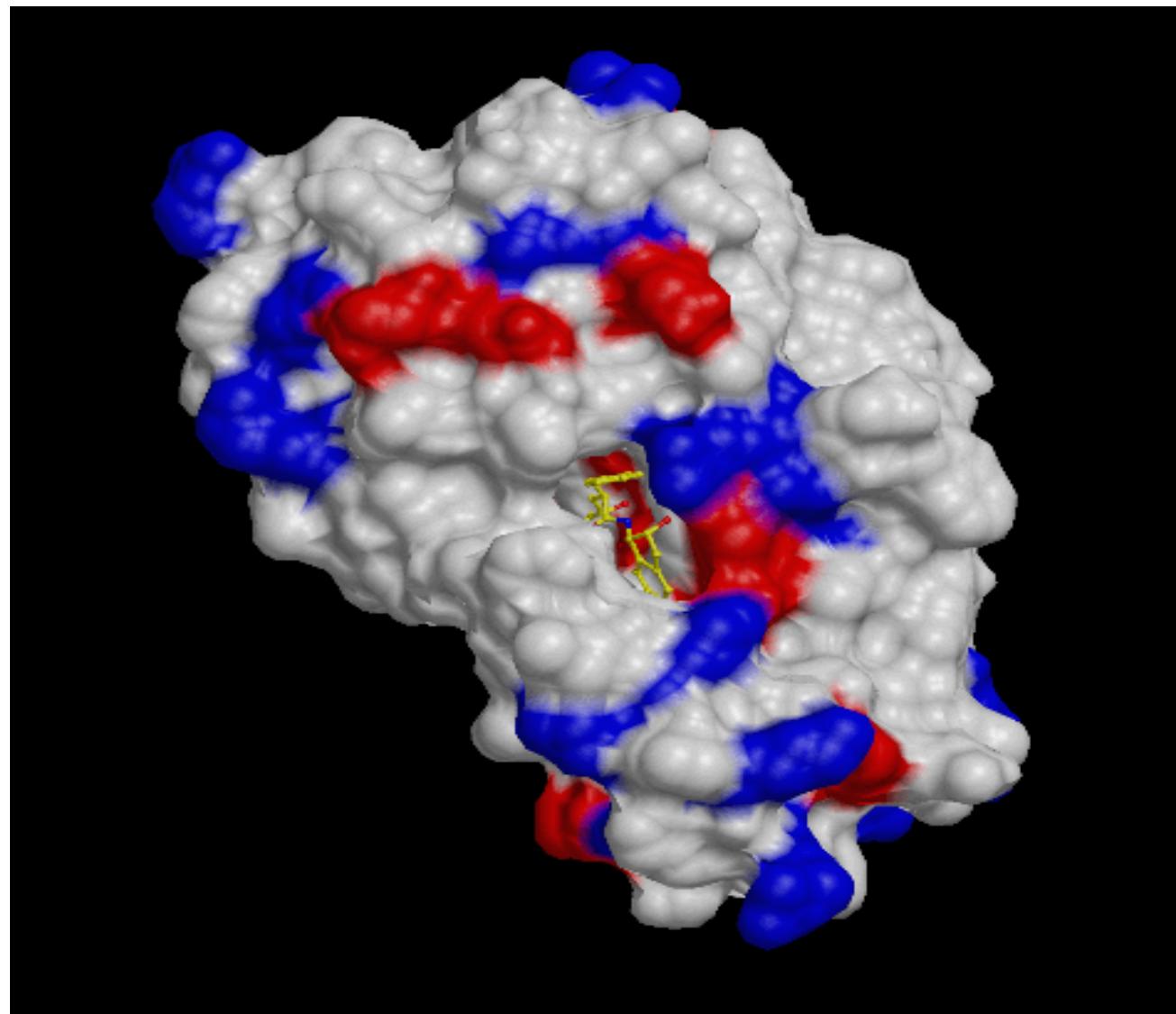
# B-Galactosidase Complementation system

## Effect of partners domain interaction

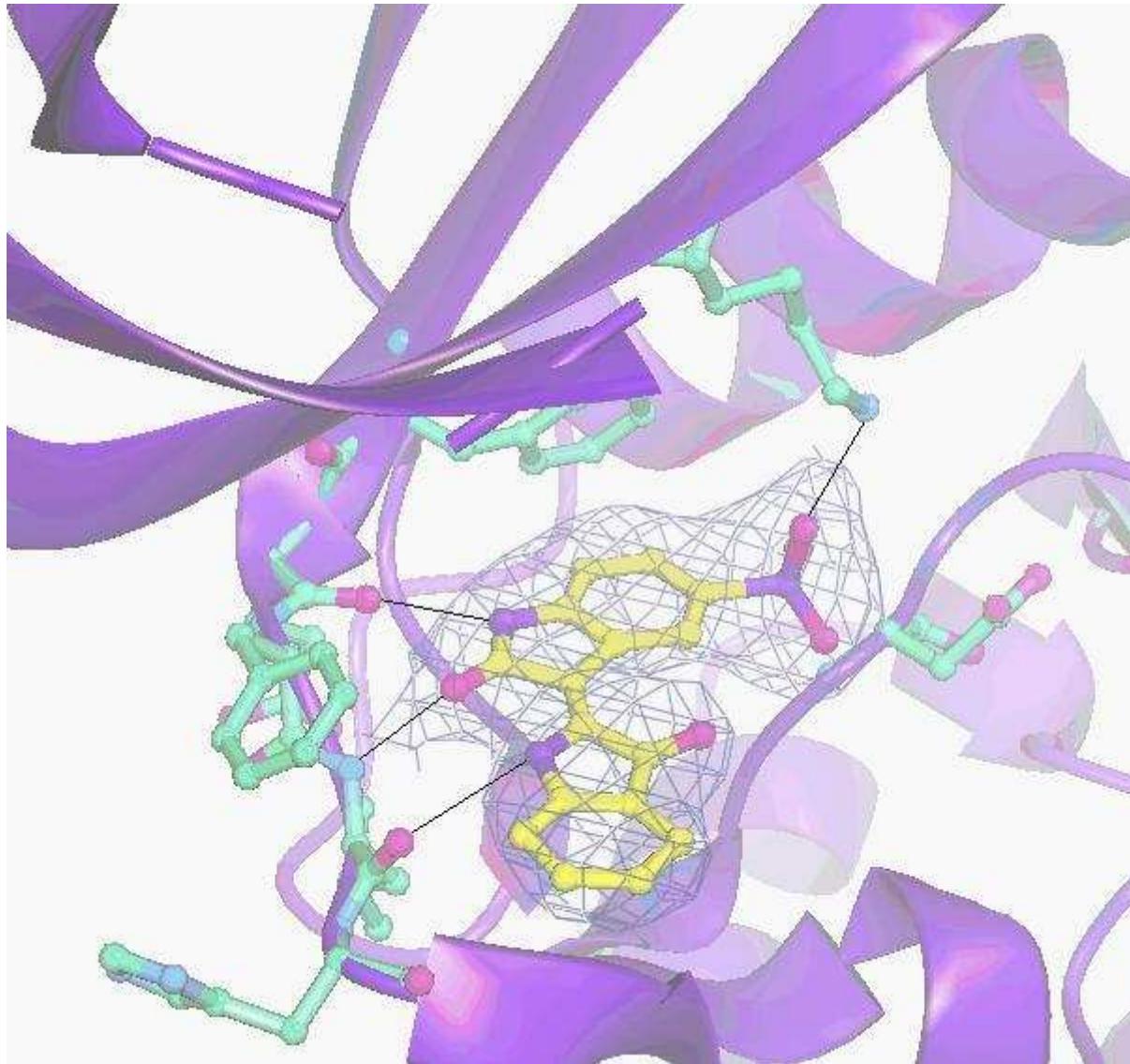


*trends in Cell Biology*

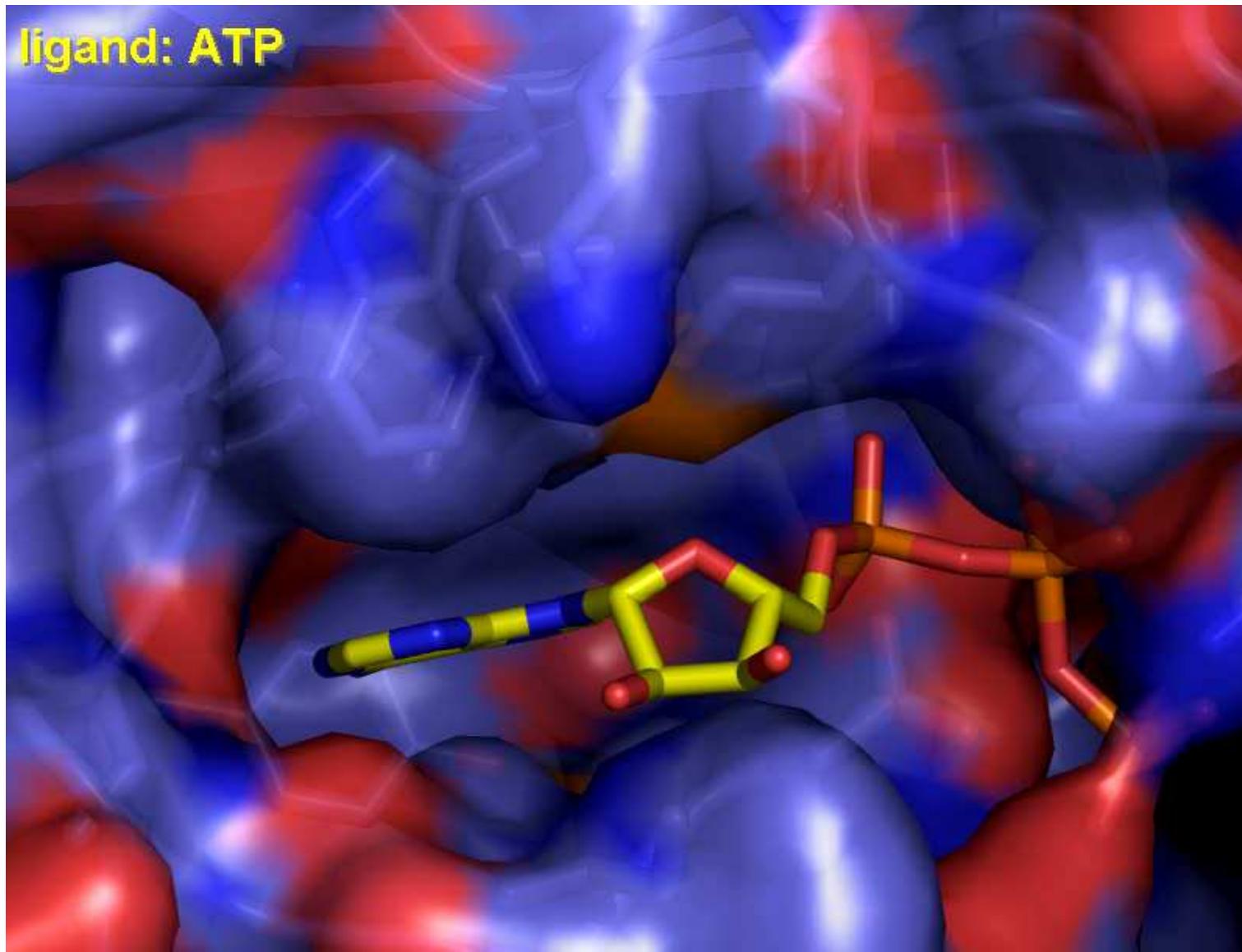
*Going in silico*



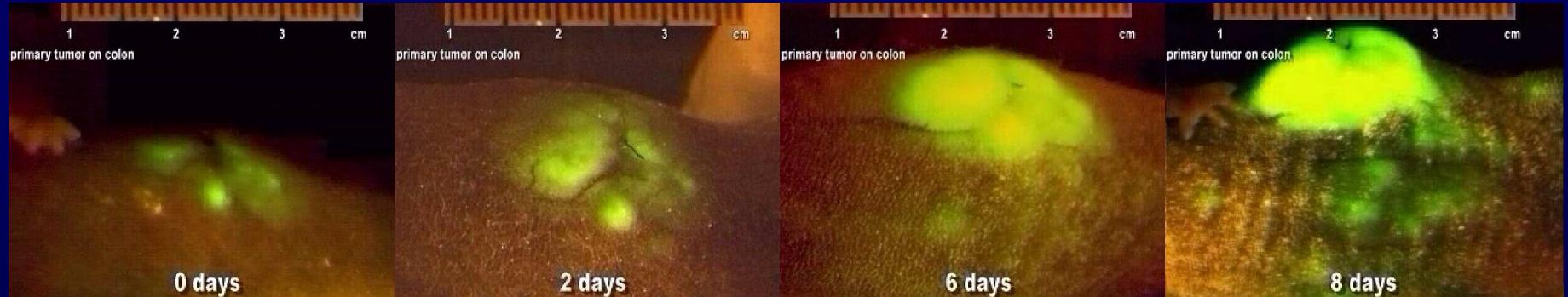
## Mejora de actividad in silico



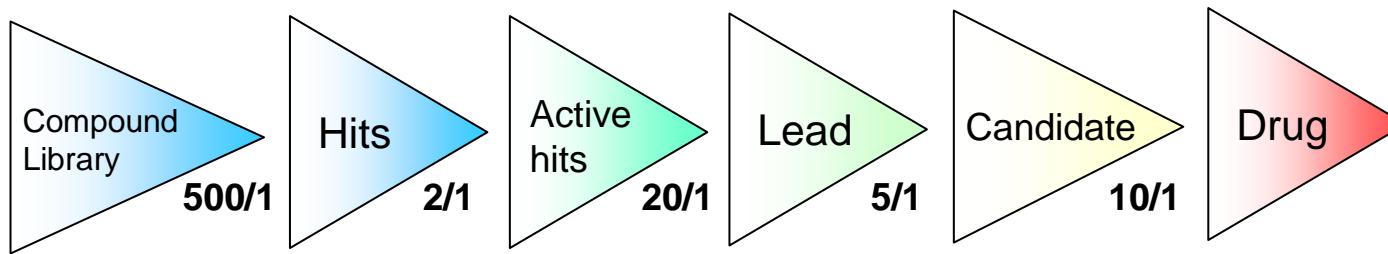
ligand: ATP



## *Going *in vivo*, xenografts*

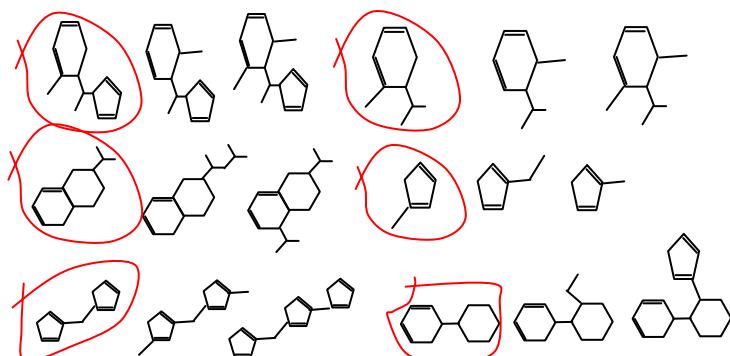


# High attrition rate in drug development

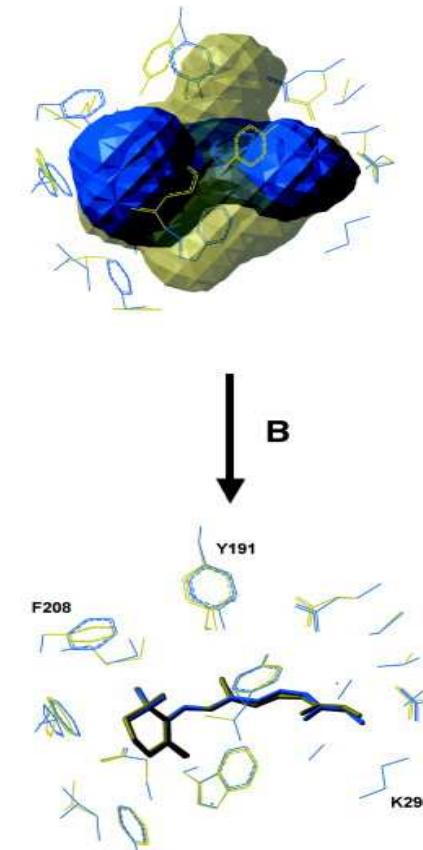


# In silico library selection

**Diversity design** selects a small sub-library from a larger compound library in such a way that the full range of chemical diversity is best represented. When no structural information about the target or ligands is available, the library should be chosen by diversity design. The results of such in silico diversity selections (in silico screening) are smaller sub-libraries of manageable size with a high degree of chemical diversity that are then subjected to HTS in vitro.



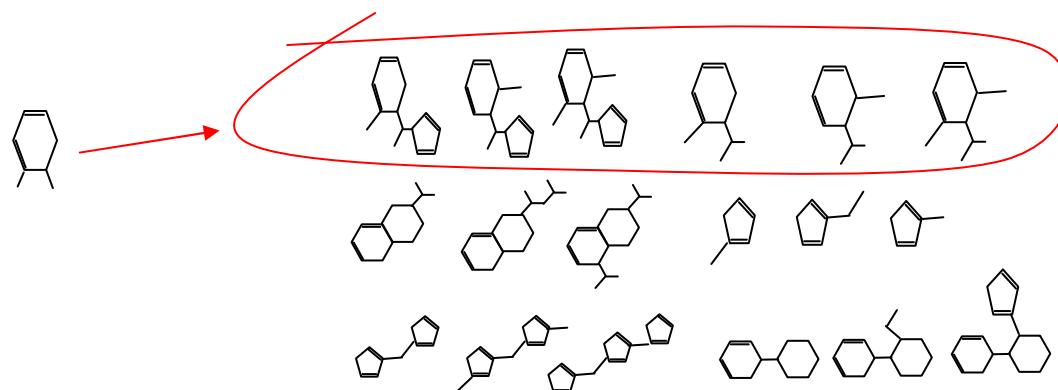
## Virtual screening: pharmacophores



## In silico library selection

**Structure-based library design** requires information of the target structure (X-ray or nuclear magnetic resonance). The goal is to select from existing compound libraries or to design compounds with three-dimensional complementarity (i.e. shape, size and physicochemical properties) to the target-binding site. In this case, new approaches can directly guide the design of virtual combinatorial libraries, which are first screened in silico for target complementarity, thus reducing the number of compounds that will have to be synthesized and tested in vitro. It can be expected that the hit-rate of such focused libraries will be higher than that of diversity screening.

Alternatively, compounds can be selected on the basis of previously known active compounds. The basic assumption for all molecule based hypothesis is that similar molecules have similar activities. This principle is also called Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR).



## Prediction of drug-likeness

Once lead molecules have been identified, they have to be optimized in terms of potency, selectivity, pharmacokinetics (absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion, ADME) and toxicology before they can become candidates for drug development

Lipinski's rule of five can be used indicate whether a molecule is likely to be orally bioavailable (bioactive). In general, an orally active drug has:

- not more than 5 hydrogen bond donors (OH and NH groups)
- not more than 10 hydrogen bond acceptors (notably N and O)
- a molecular weight under 500
- a LogP under 5

Molecules that possess this rule are not automatically drug-like. For classifying a molecule as drug-like or non-drug-like a proper cheminformatic approach should be used, e.g. QSAR.

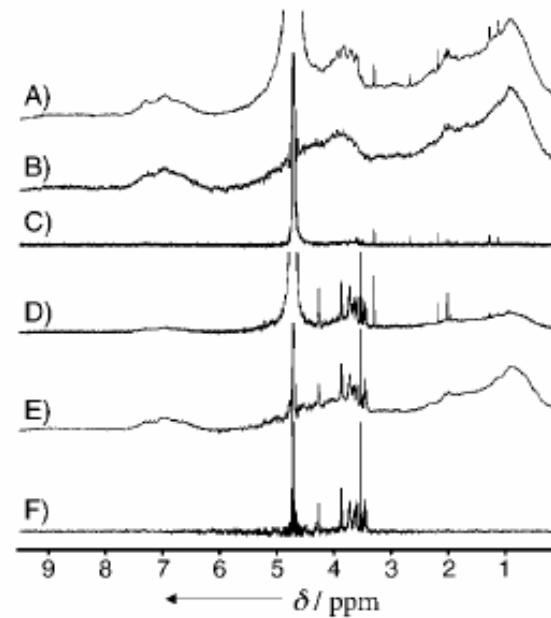
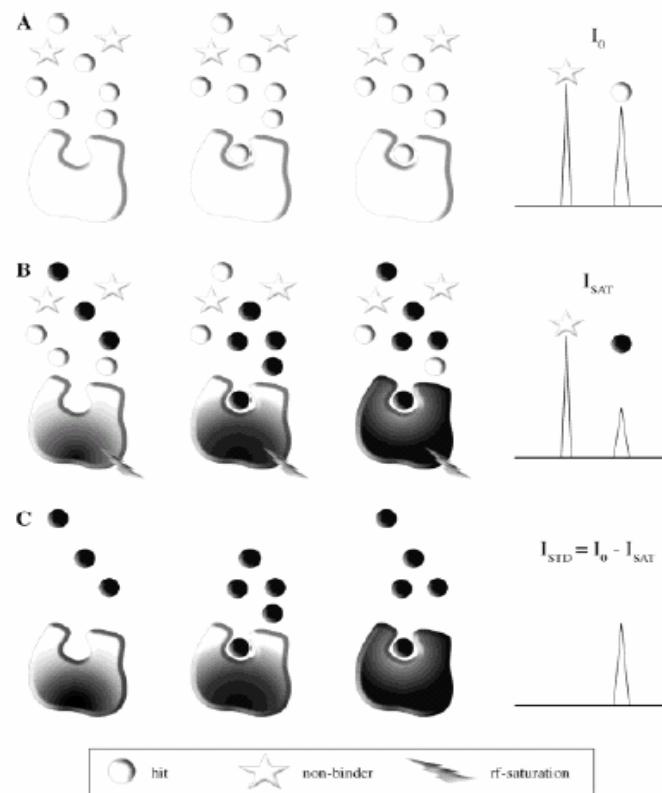
This rule was derived for drugs and not for lead structures, which usually have a lower molecular weight, fewer rings, fewer rotatable bonds, and a lower lipophilicity.

# NMR screening

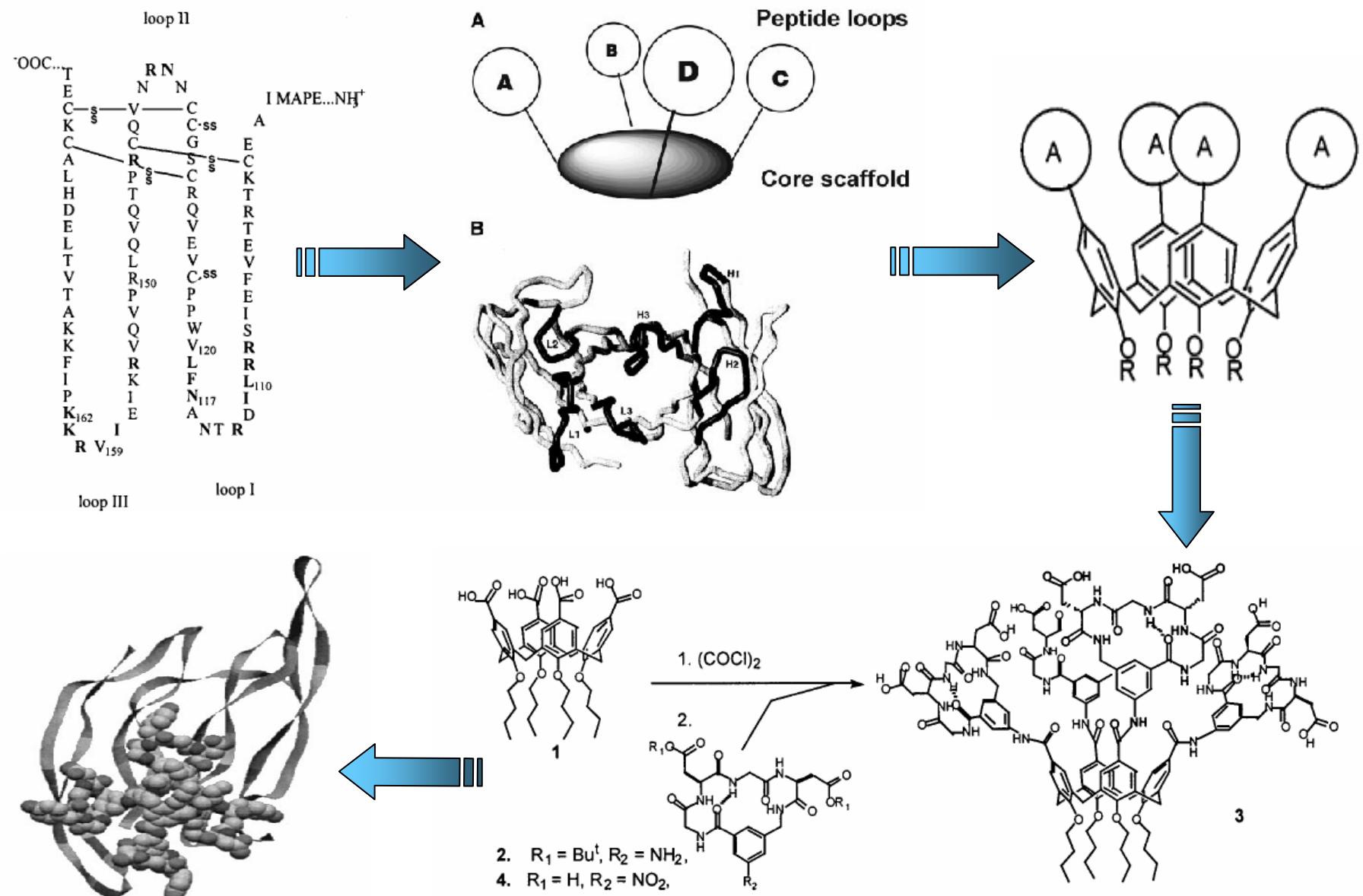
Detection of binders through changes on the ligand signals  
(saturation transfer difference)

- Protein MW > 30 kDa
- No isotope enrichment
- 50  $\mu$ M (0.5 mgr) protein sample, 5 compounds per sample
- 0.5 hour experiment, 50 compounds/day
- $K_D < 10$  mM

- Fragment library
- Limit  $K_D < m\text{M}$  (cut-off at 0.5 mM)
- Not HTS, maximum 25 compounds/day



# Rational Design: PDGF Inhibitor



# Clinically approved kinase-targeted agents

## Small molecules

|                                 |  |               |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Imatinib (Gleevec, STI-571)     | Abl, PDGFR, cKit                         | CML, ALL,GIST |
| Gefitinib (Iressa, ZD-1839)     | EGFR                                     | NSCLC         |
| Erlotinib (Tarceva, OSI-774)    | EGFR                                     | NSCLC         |
| Sorafenib (Nexavar, BAY43-9006) | VEGFR, PDGFR, FLT3<br>cKit, B-Raf, RAF11 | Renal Ca.     |
| Sunitinib (Sutent, Su11248)     | VEGFR, PDGFR, FLT3<br>cKit               | Renal Ca.     |

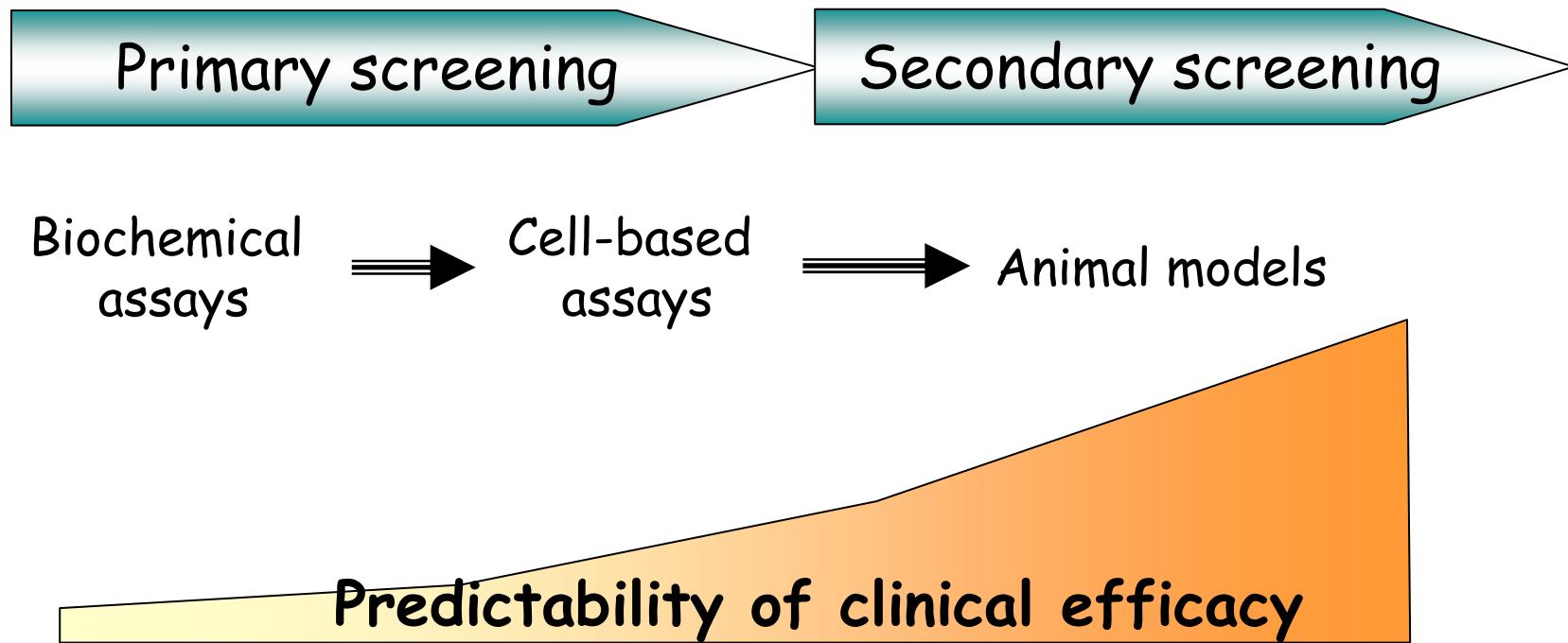
## Biologicals

|                         |      |                         |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| Trastuzumab (Herceptin) | Erb2 | Breast Ca.              |
| Cetuximab (Erbitux)     | EGFR |                         |
| Bevacizumab (Avastin)   | VEGF | Colon,<br>Pancreatic Ca |

**In the pipeline:  
Representative kinase-directed oncology drug targets**

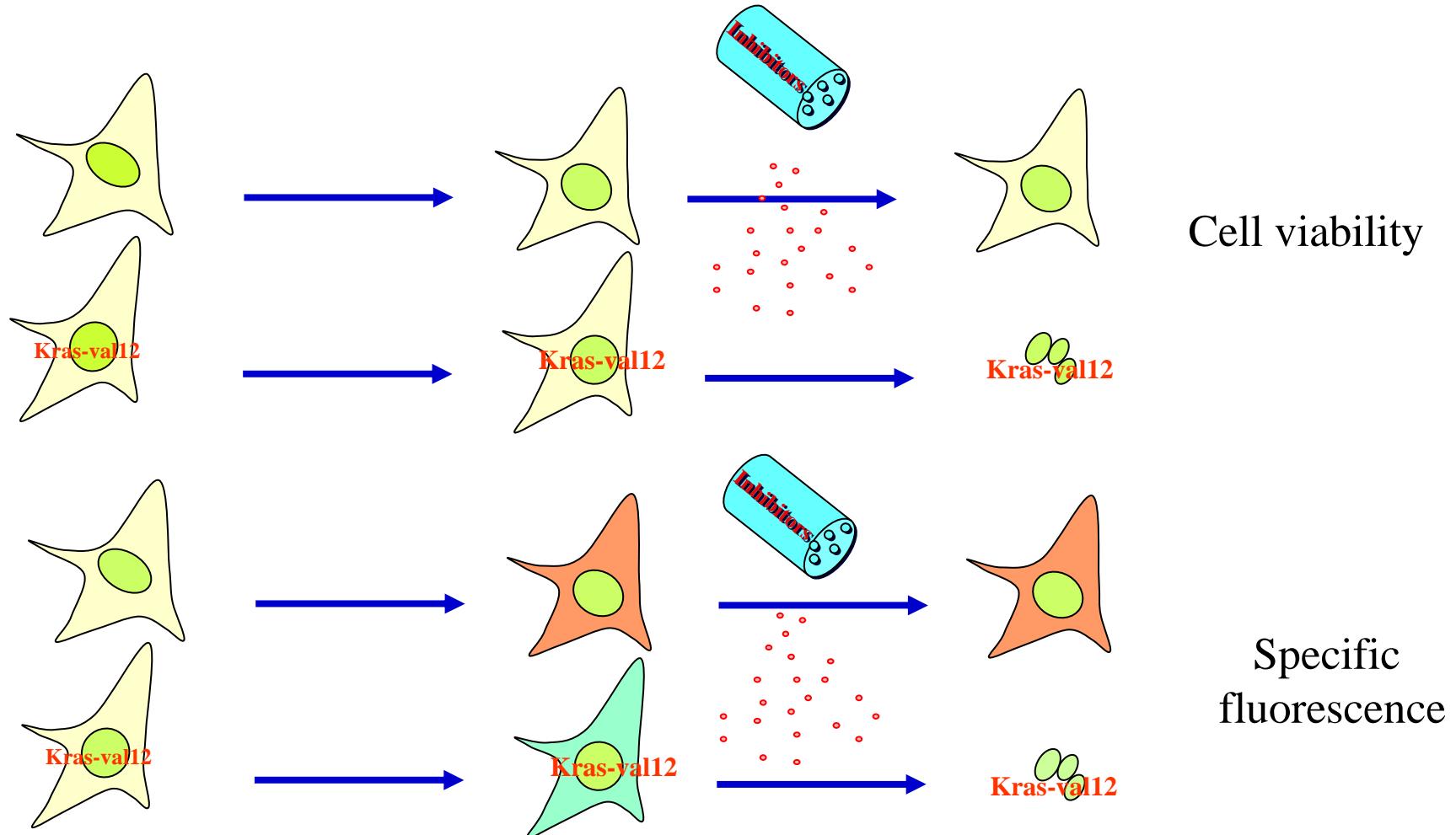
| <b>Kinome branch</b> | <b>known target</b>  | <b>compound</b>     |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| TK                   | VEGFR                | AZD-2171            |
|                      | VEGFR, EGFR          | Vandetanib, ZD6474  |
|                      | VEGFR, PDGFR, cKit   | Vatalanib, PTK787   |
|                      | EGFR,Erb2            | Lapatinib, GW572016 |
|                      | Src, Abl             | BMS-354825          |
|                      | Anti-IGFR (antibody) | CP-751871           |
| Cell cycle           | CDKs                 | Flavopiridol        |
|                      | CDK4                 | PD332991            |
| Signal transduction  | MEK                  | PD0325901           |
|                      |                      | ARRY-142886         |

## Assay development



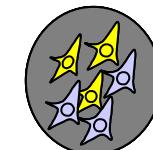
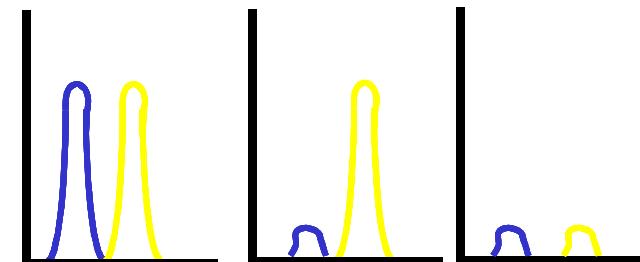
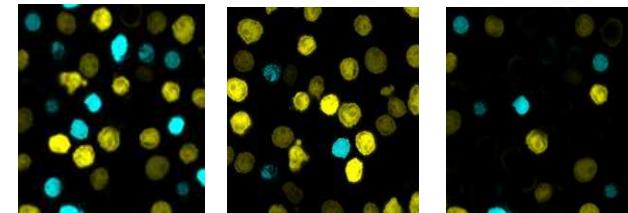
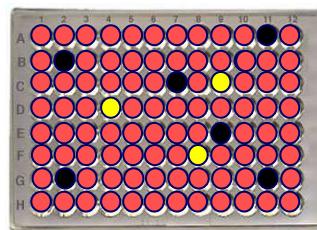
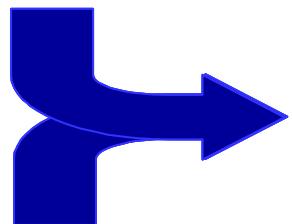
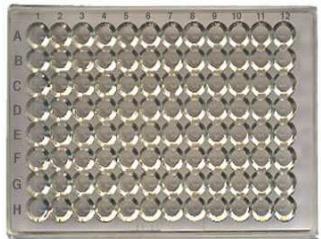
# Molecular targeted HTS

## Mutated cell line specific assays

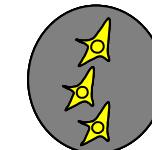


# Pathway bassed screening

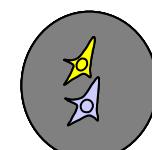
Compuestos



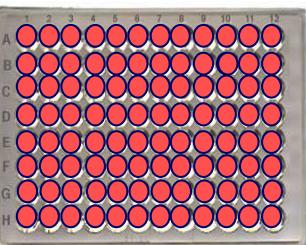
inactivo



activo

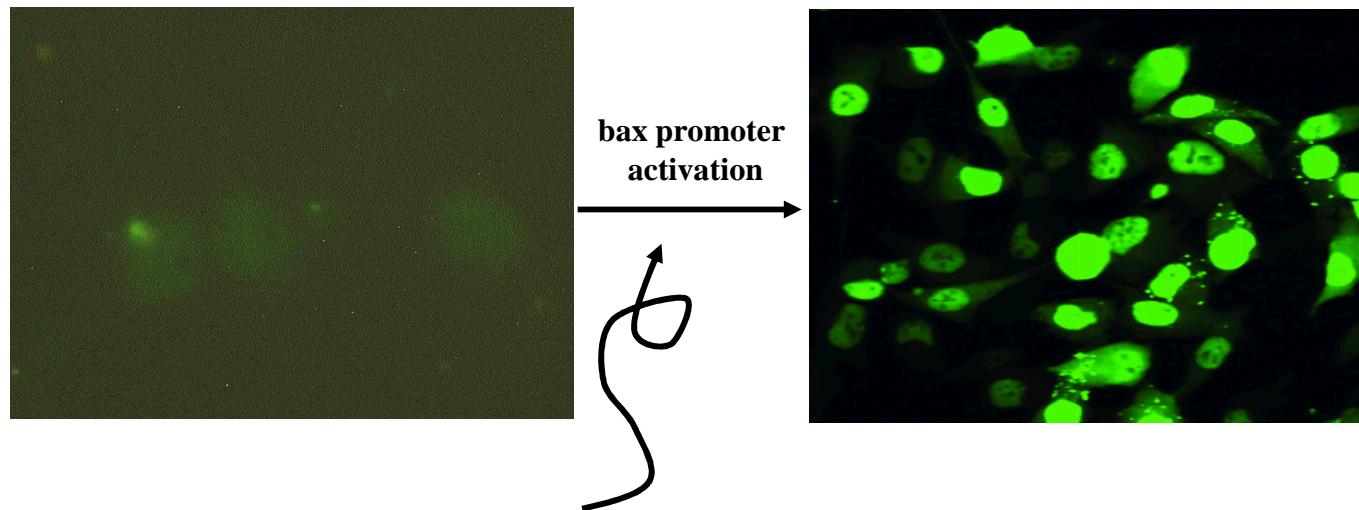
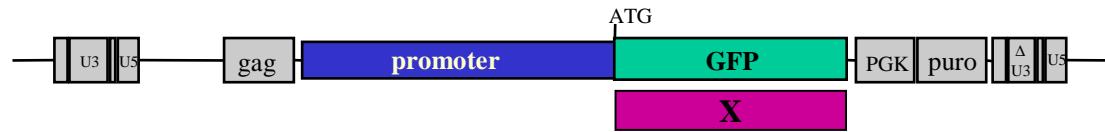


tóxico



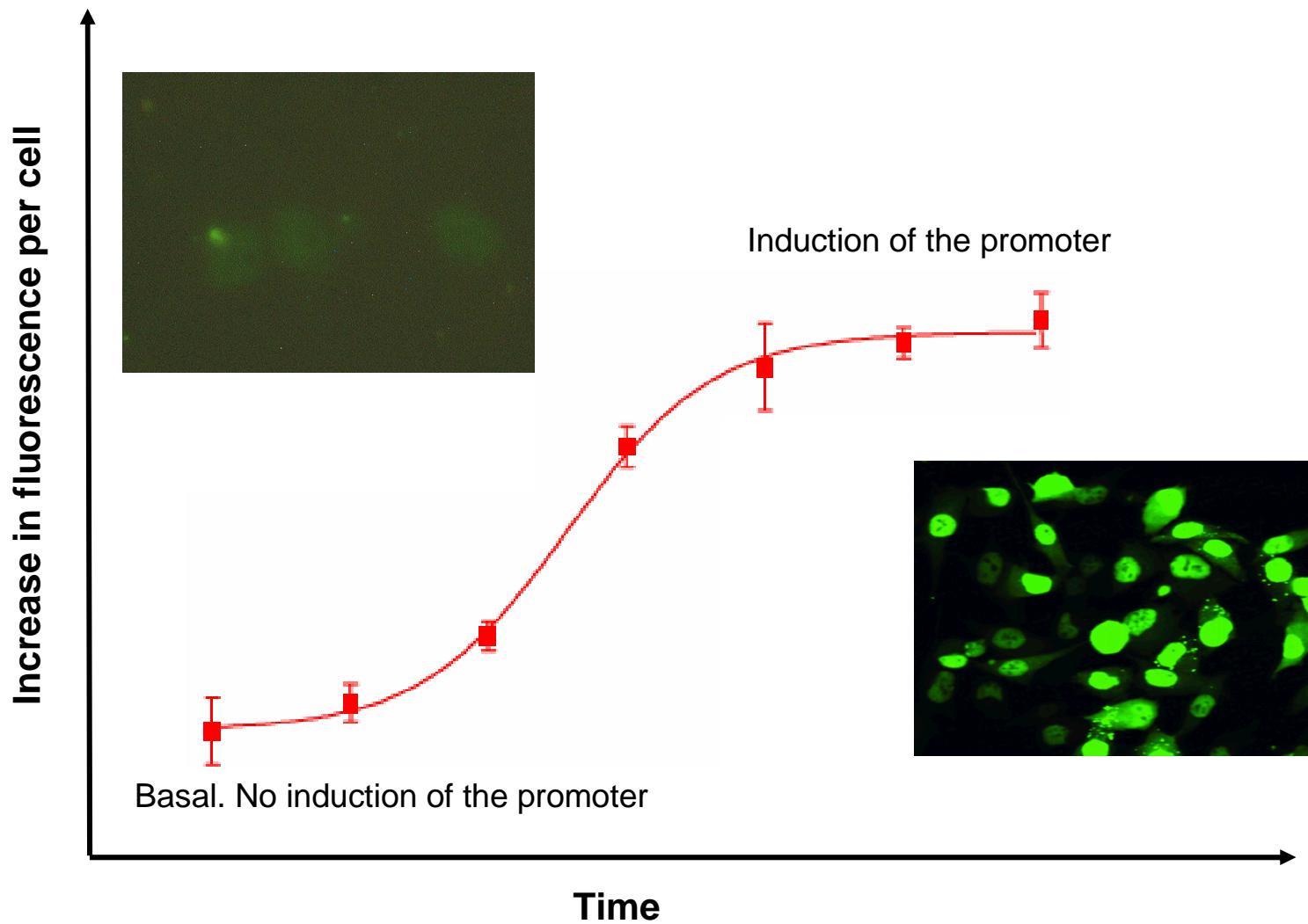
Células

## cell lines with specific-response promoters.



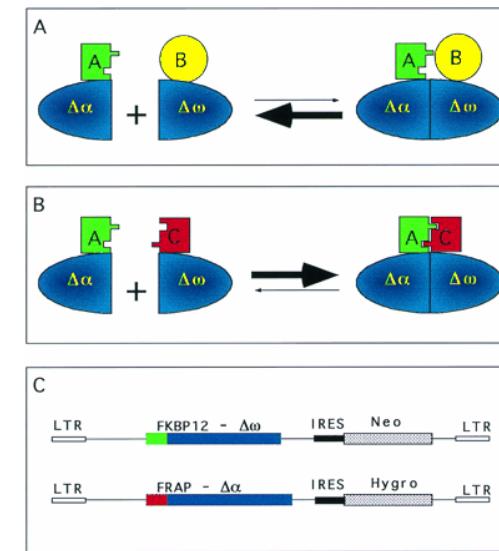
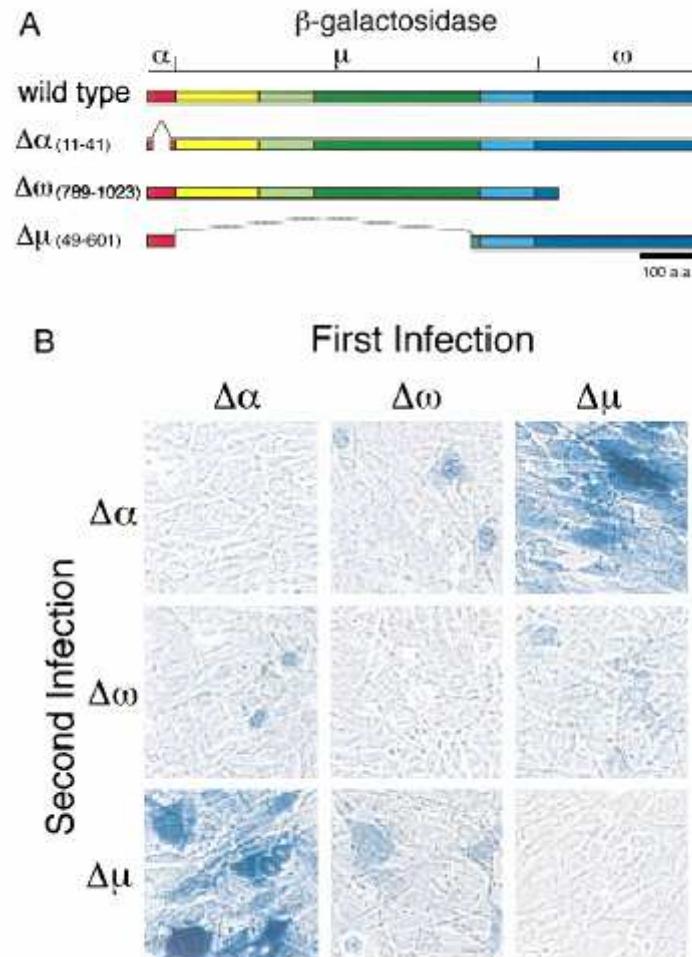
Drug

## Quantification of promoter response using GFP as read-out



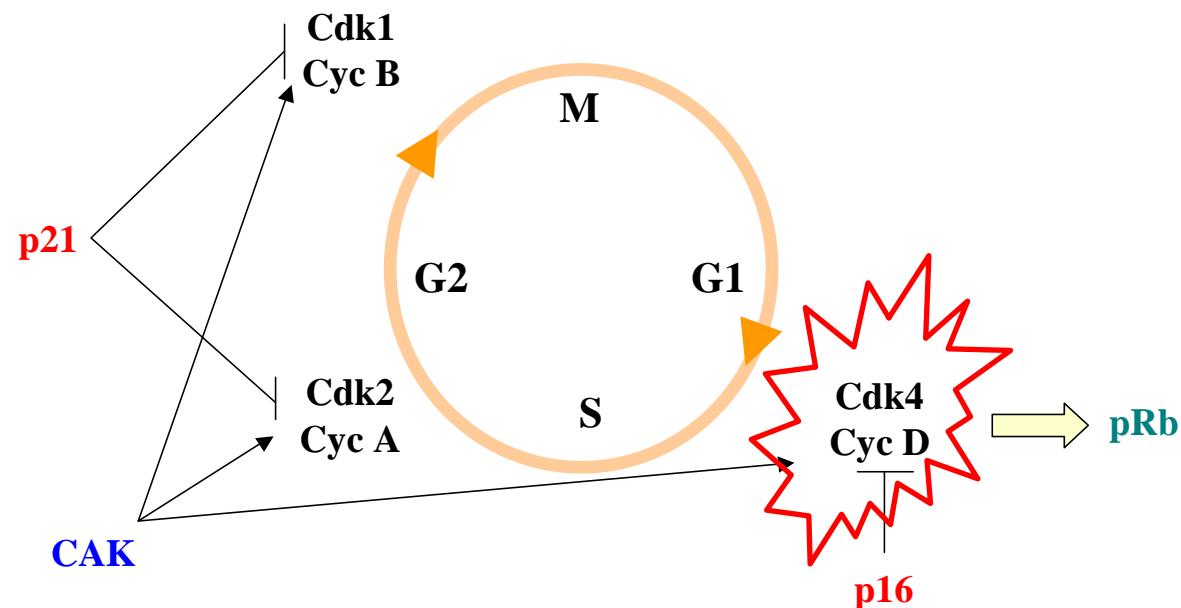
The construct carry a chimaera of a nuclearprotein tagged to GFP under a inducible promoter

# B-Galactosidase Complementation system



# Cell-based models

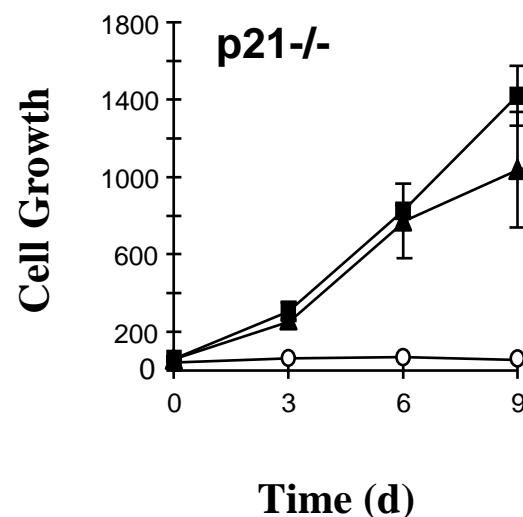
Cell Cycle components selected for our studies



# Engineered mammalian cell lines

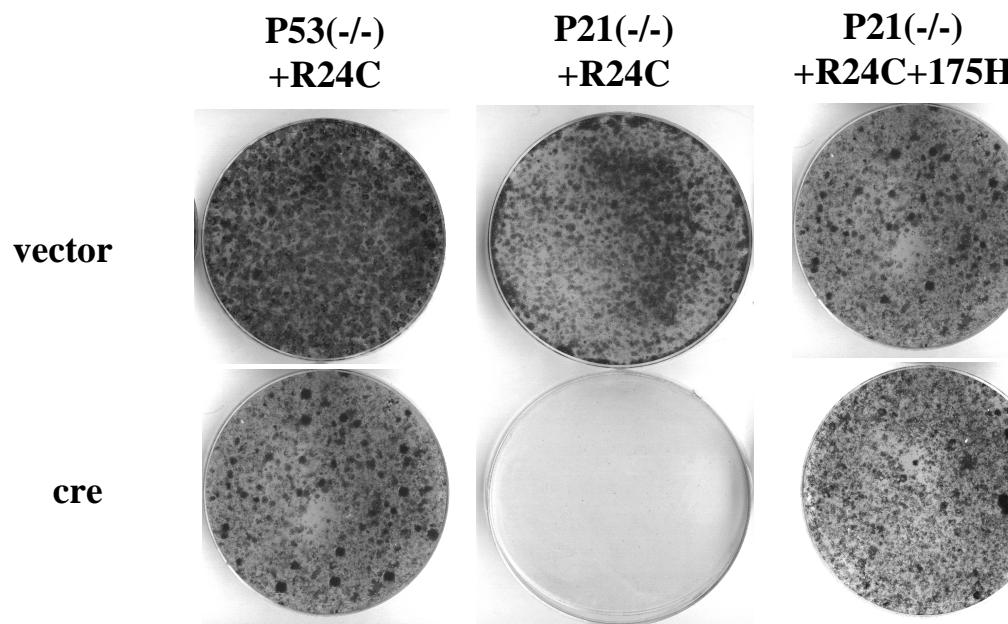
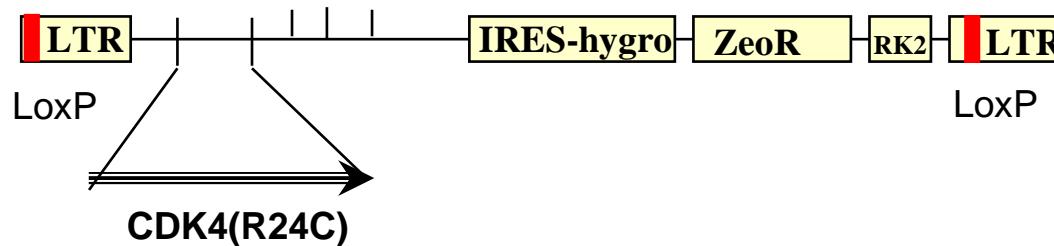
**CDK4(R24C) mutant immortalizes p21 null MEFs**

| Gene       | p21-/-                      |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| Vector     | <b>22<math>\pm</math>14</b> |
| p53(175H)  | + 500                       |
| CDK4(R24C) | + 500                       |

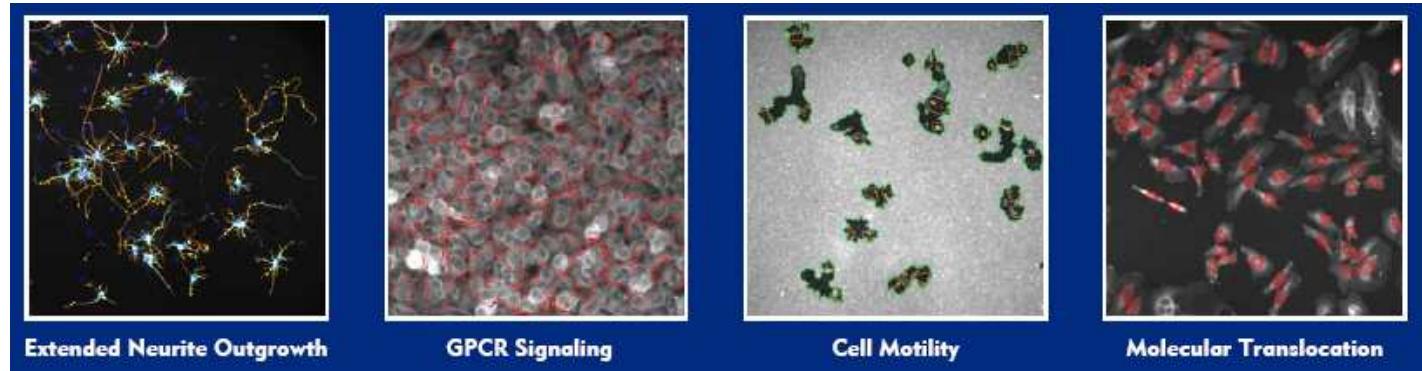


# Engineered mammalian cell lines

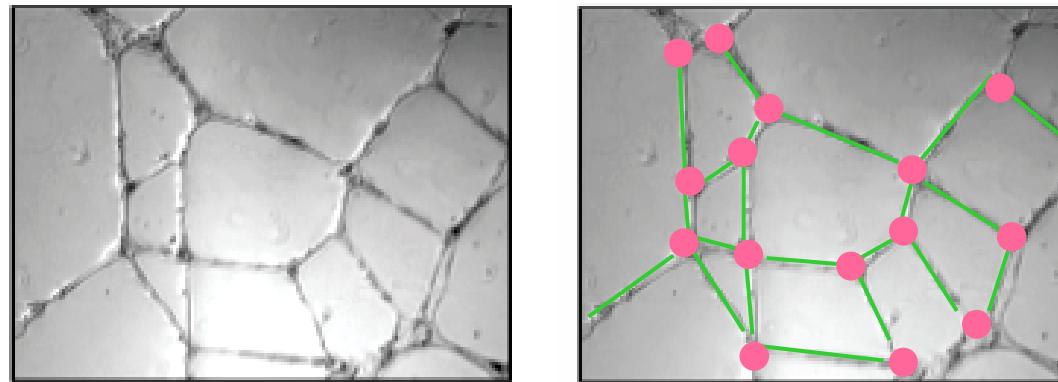
## Dependence of CDK4(R24C) expression for constitutive immortalisation



# High Content Screening

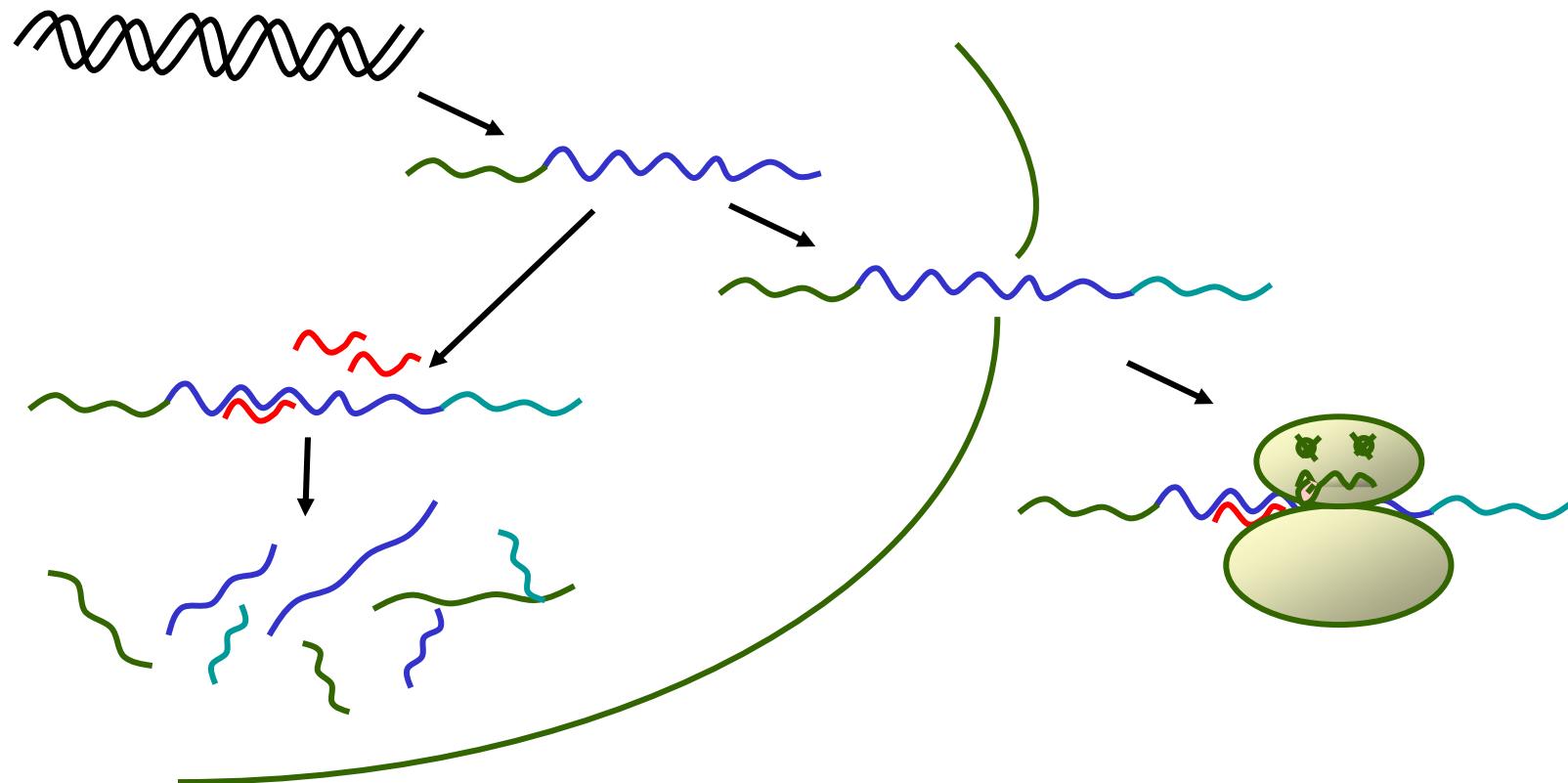


## Inhibitors of neovasculature formation



$$\frac{\text{Total length}}{\text{Total n° nodes}} = K$$

# Nucleic acids



Small oligoDNAs

Small RNAi

RNA antisense

## In clinical trials

Isis 2503

$\alpha$ s- Hras

Fase II: terapia combinada con quimioterapia en  
Cancer de mama metastatico, cancer de pancreas  
NSCLC

Isis 5132

$\alpha$ s- cRaf

Fase I:  
colon, carcinoma renal, pancreas: Estabilizacion 7-10 meses  
Carcinoma ovarico: 97% de casos disminucion del tumor

Isis 3521

$\alpha$ s- PKC $\alpha$

Fase II: Terapia combinada carboplatino/paclitaxel  
NSCLC 83% casos mejora oestabilizacion del tumor,  
50% de casos se observa reduccion del 50% del tamaño  
Aumento supervivencia 8 a 16 meses.  
Primera linea tratamiento para NSCLC en combinacion  
gemcitabine, cisplatino, docetaxel  
agente unico para linfoma non-Hodgskin´s  
Fase III: Tratamiento primera linea en combinacion Carboplatino  
y paclitaxel para NSCLC

## In clinical trials

G3139      { Fase I: 21 pacientes, ninguno remision completa  
αs- Bcl2      2 respuestas parciales, 8 estabilizacion, resto progresion + lenta

OGX-011      { Proteina secretora que se sobreexpresa en respuesta a quimiot.  
αs- clusterin      Responsable de resistencia a drogas  
                    Fase I/II: cancer de prostata refractario a hormonas  
                    como agente unico y en combinacion con docetaxel

αs-cmyb: Fase I leucemias

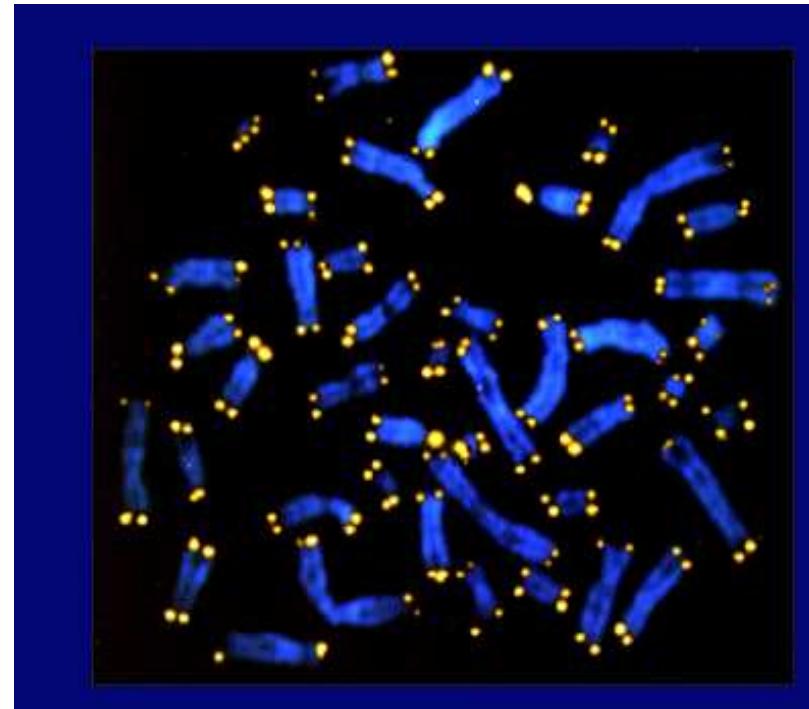
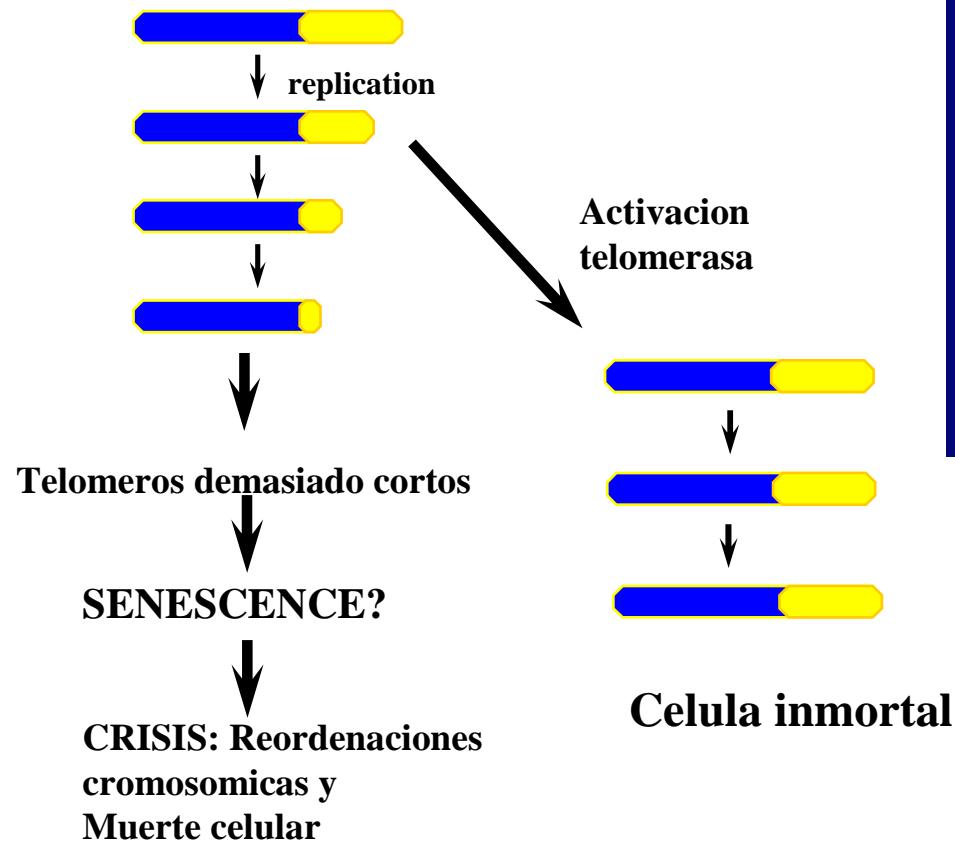
αs-DNMT1: Fase I tumores solidos;

                    Fase II carcinoma renal y de cabeza y cuello

αs-PKA: Fase I Prostata en combinacion con paclitaxel

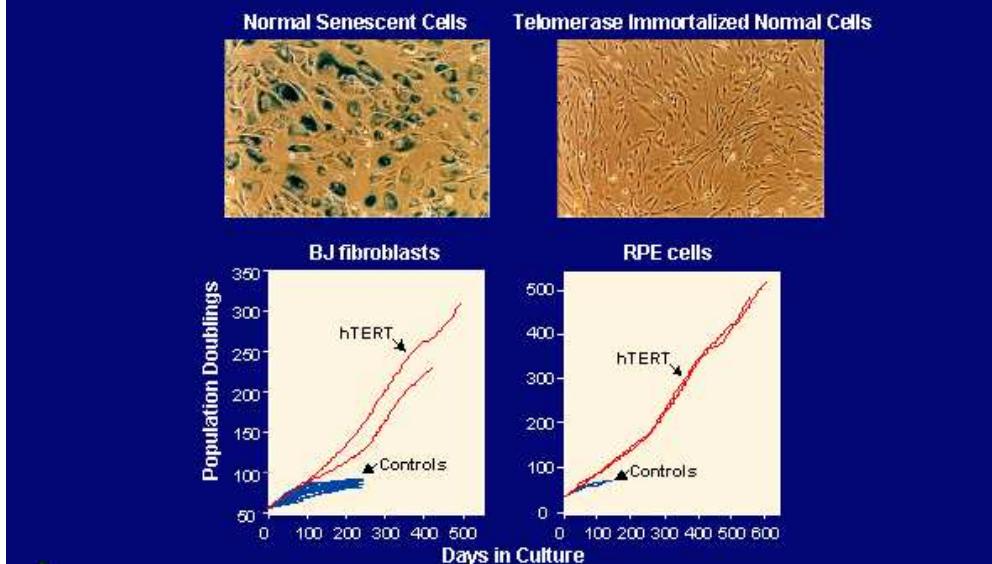
αs-cmyc: Fase I tumores solidos

## Telomerase as an example

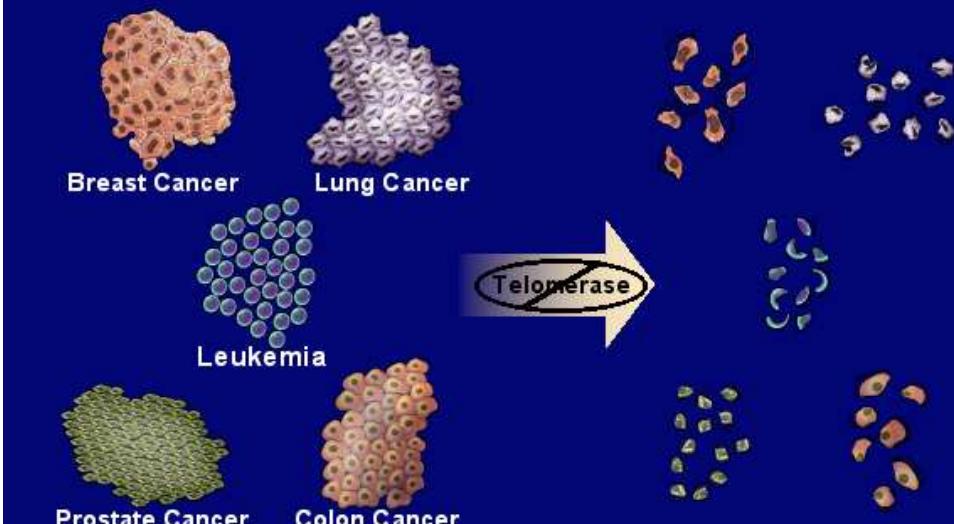


90% tumores presentan telomerasa activada  
10% restante presentan un mecanismo alternativo elongación de telómeros

## Telomerase Activation Extends Cellular Replicative Potential and Prevents Cellular Senescence



## Oncology



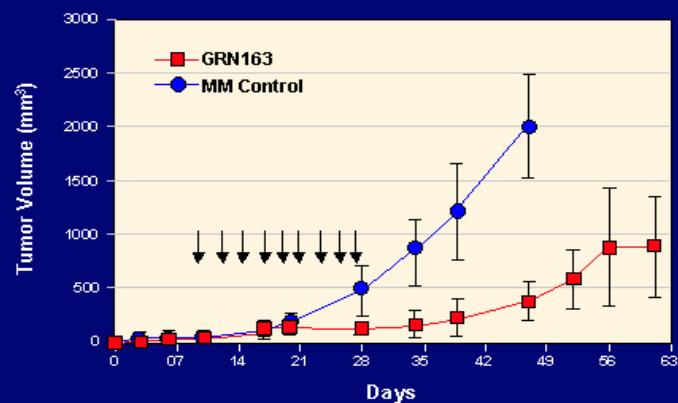
# Drugs to Inhibit Telomerase

## Template Antagonists

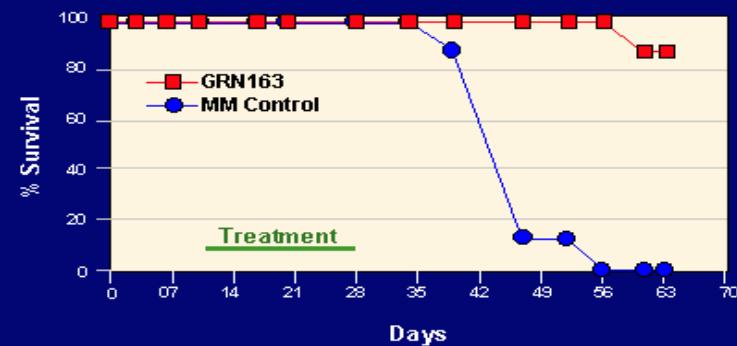
GRN163 - Development Candidate

- A 13-mer oligonucleotide
- IC<sub>50</sub>: high pM to low μM range
- Time to apoptosis dependent on telomere length
- Potent activity against glioblastoma, prostate cancer, myeloma, lymphoma, breast and renal cancers

**Effect of GRN163 on Growth of U-251 Malignant Glioma Tumors *In Vivo* (UCSF Study #3)**



**Survival of Mice With U-251 Malignant Glioma Tumors Treated With GRN163**



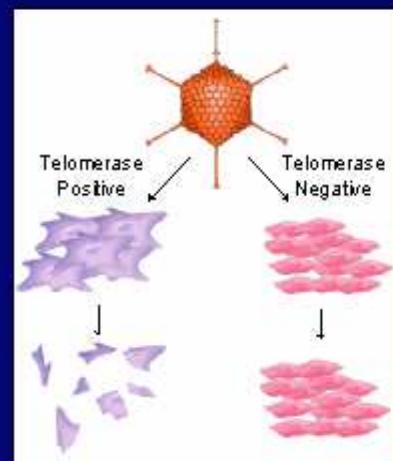
# Drugs to Inhibit Telomerase

## Small Molecule Inhibitors

GRN138098 - Potential Development Candidate

- Equipotent in cell culture to GRN163 template antagonist
- In vivo toxicology and xenograft efficacy studies in progress

## Telomerase Promoter Oncolytic Adenovirus Selectively Lyses Tumor Cells



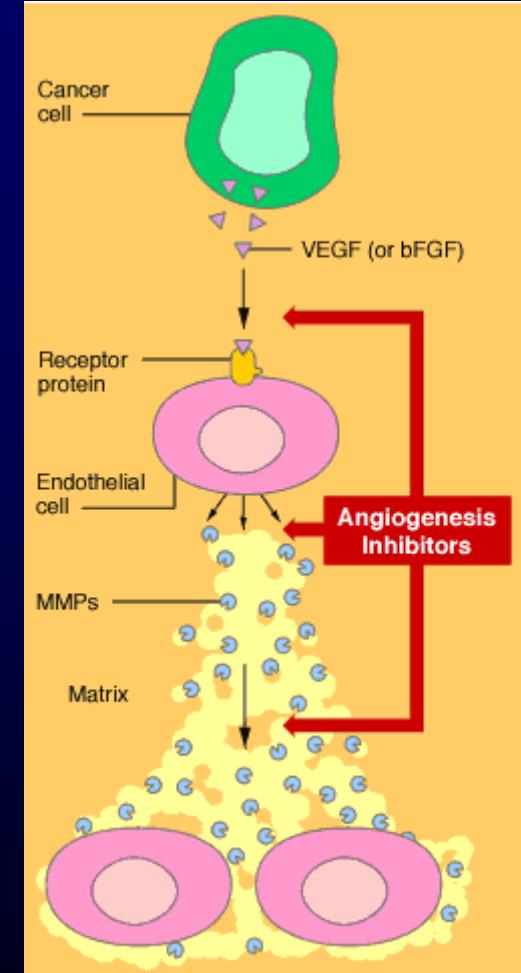
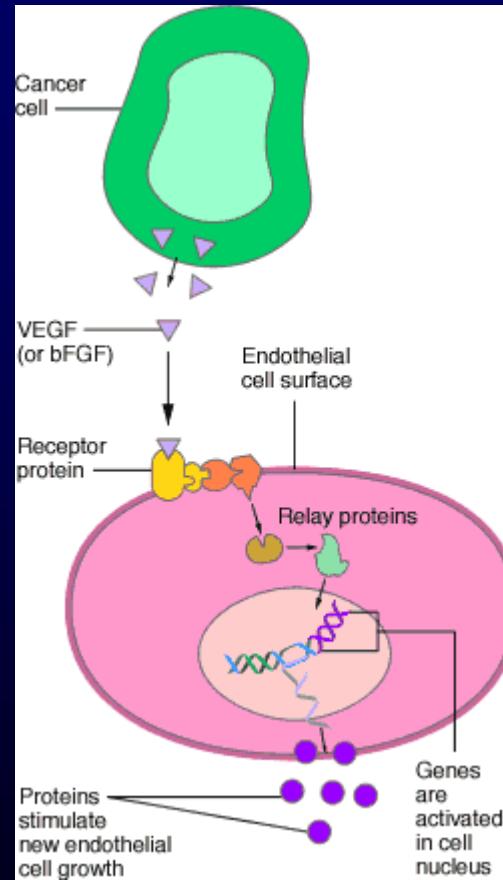
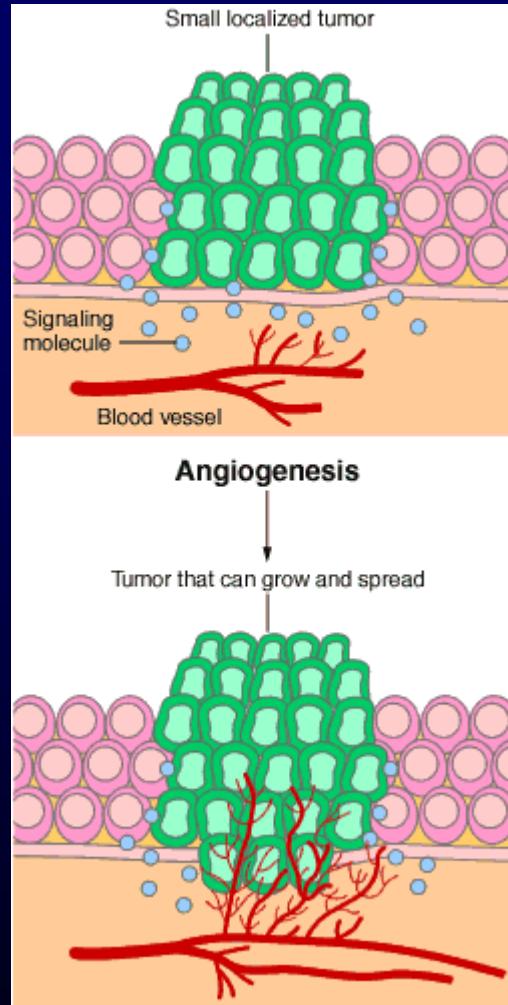
Telomerase  
positive  
tumor cells

Normal  
Somatic cells

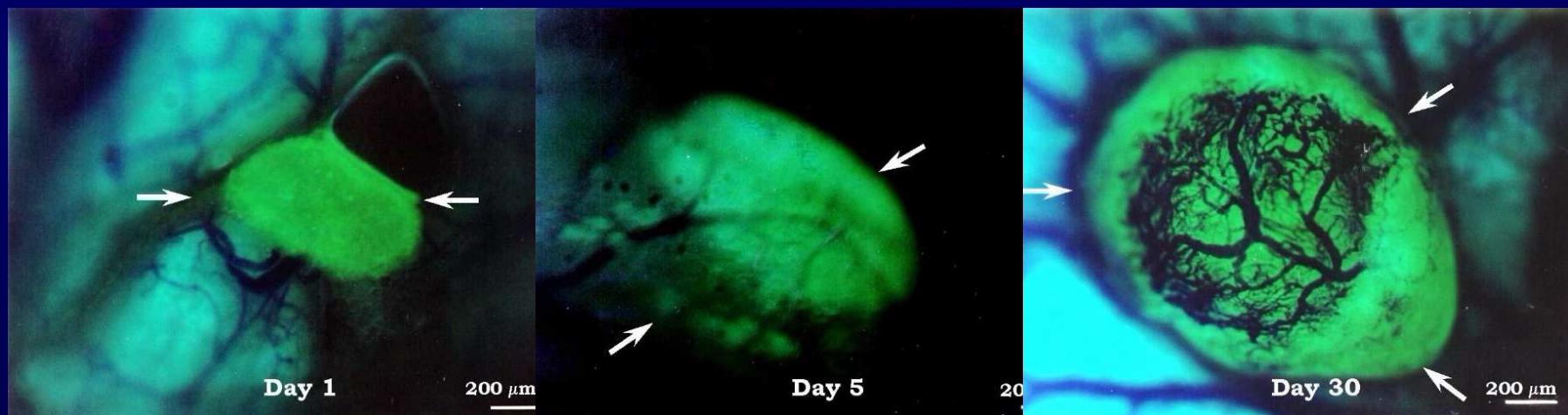
Currently in Animal Xenograft Models

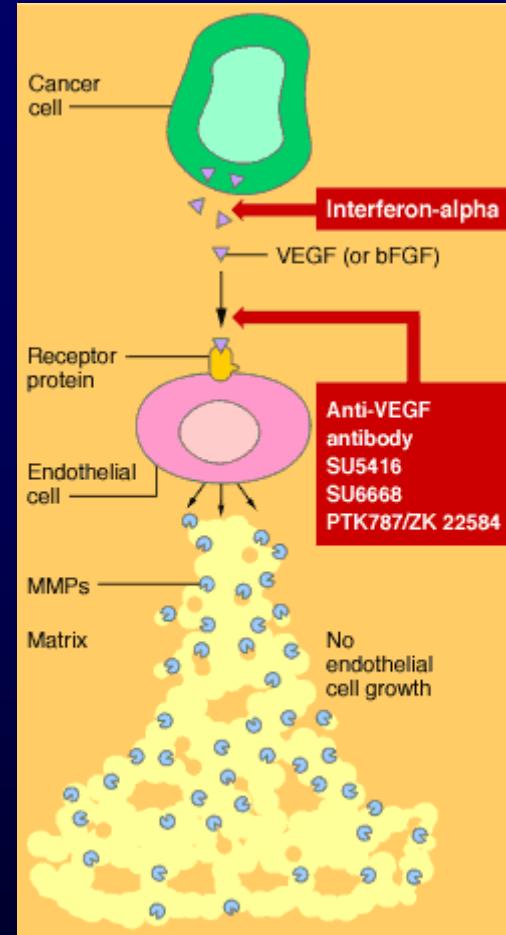
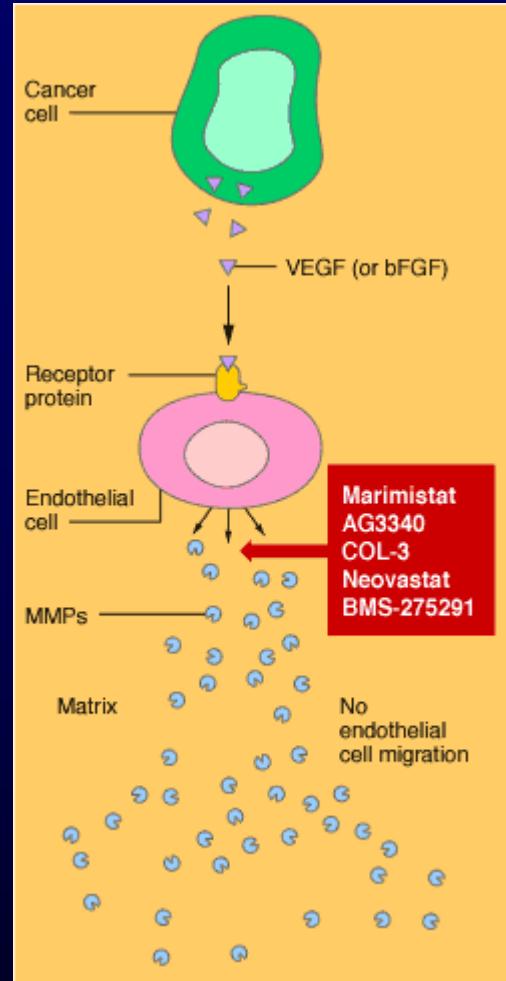
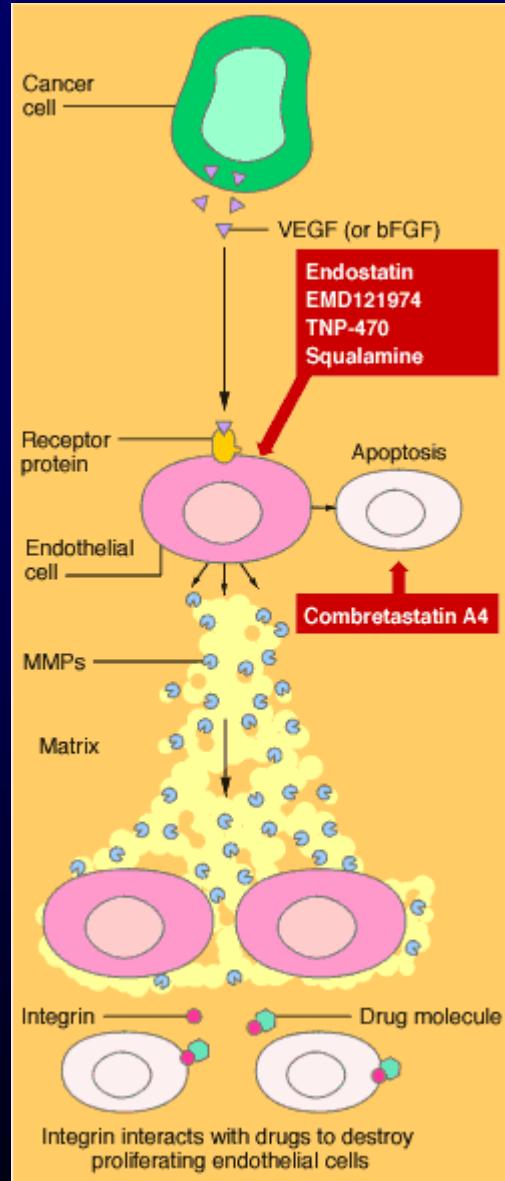


# ANGIOGENESIS

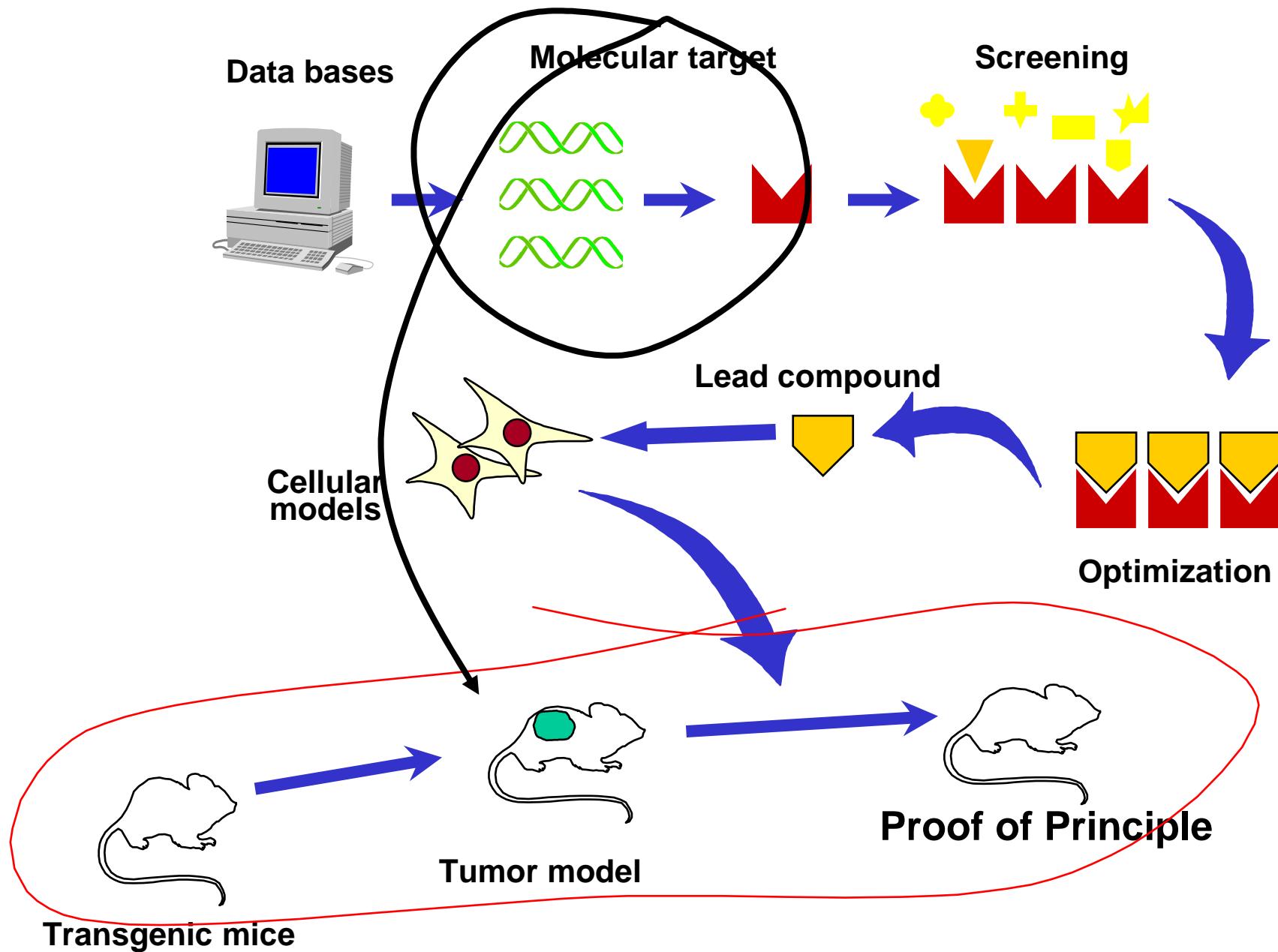


# Tumor angiogenesis



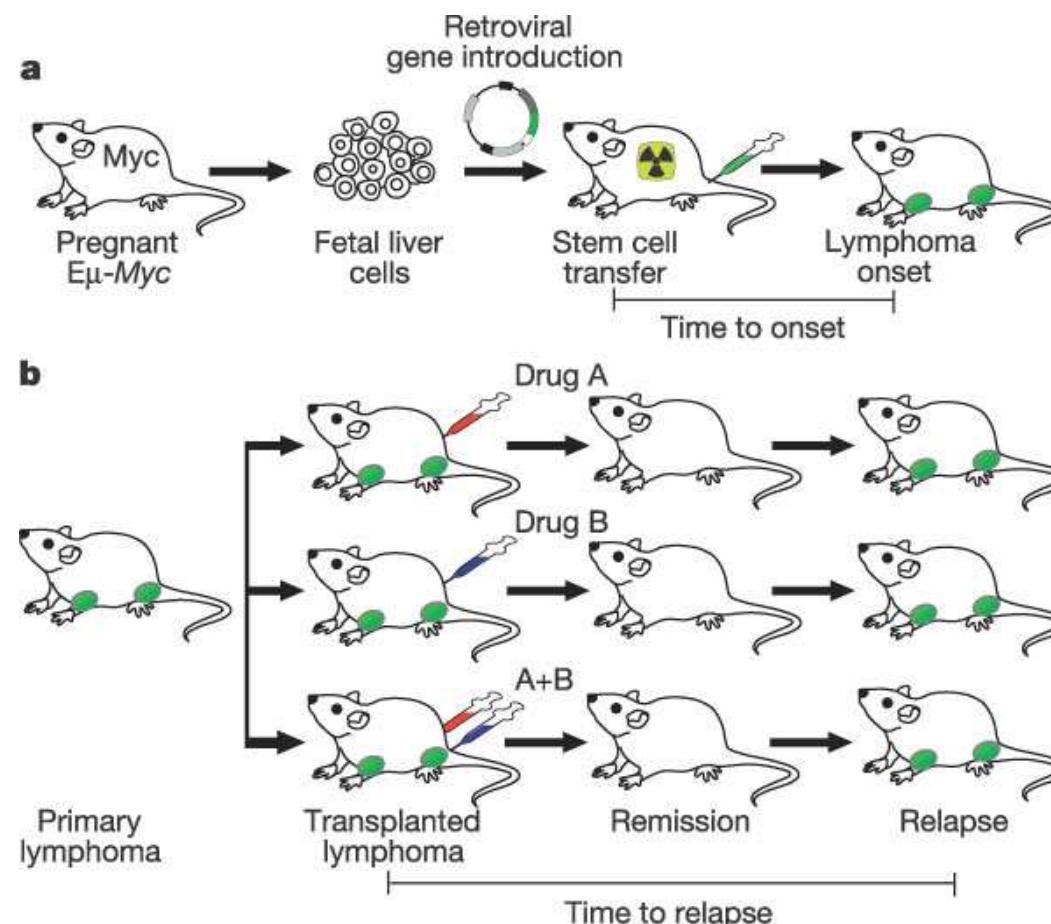


| Drug           | Mechanism                                   |
|----------------|---|
| CAI            | Inhibitor of calcium uptake                 |
| Interleukin-12 | Up-regulation of interferon-gamma and IP-10 |
| IM862          | Unknown                                     |
| Thalidomide    | Unknown                                     |



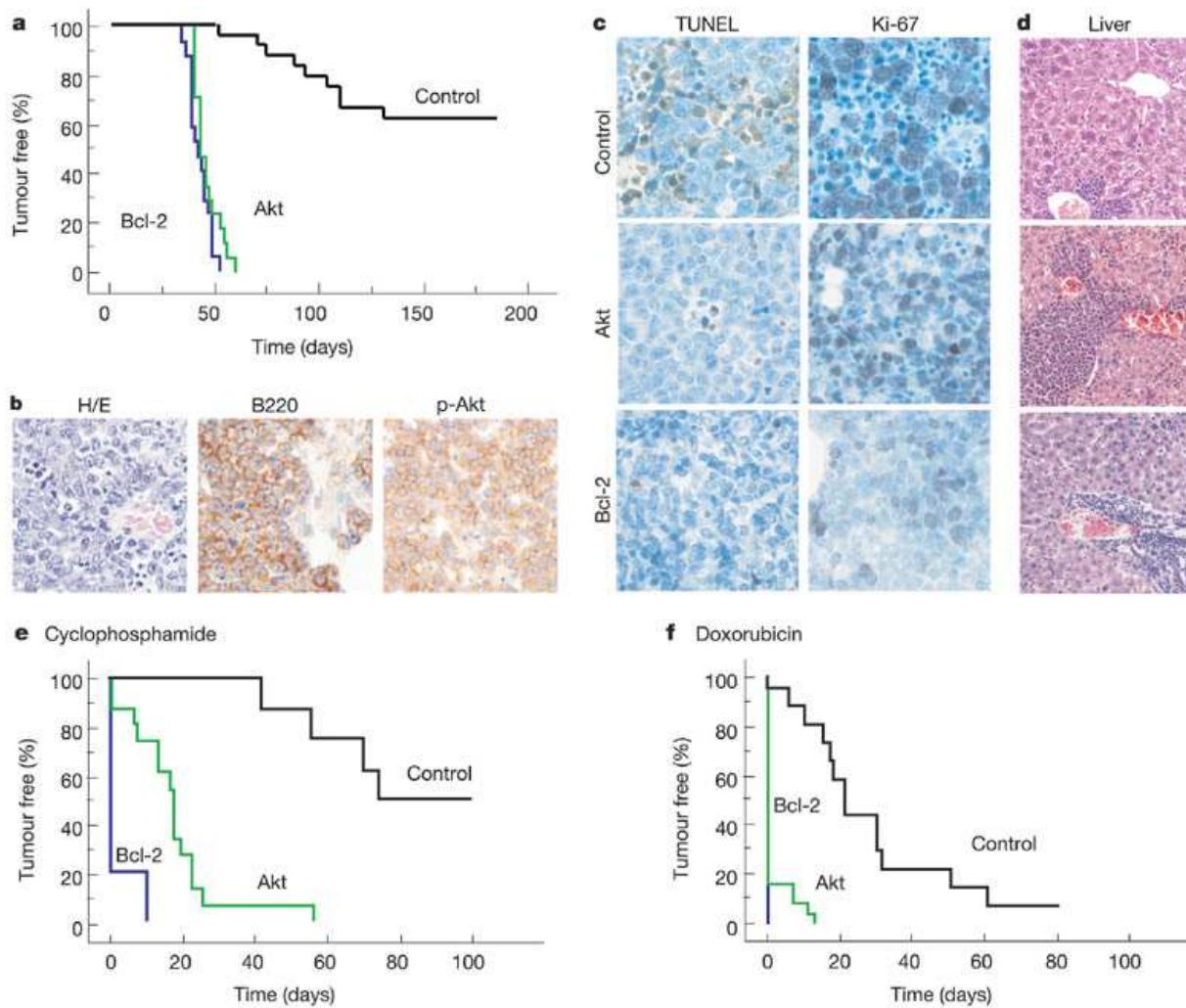
# Mouse tumor models: Em-Myc

- Lymphomagenesis dependent on the molecular target
- Study of the different molecular targets
- Proof of principle of targeted compounds



# Em-Myc model to study molecular targets and proof of principle

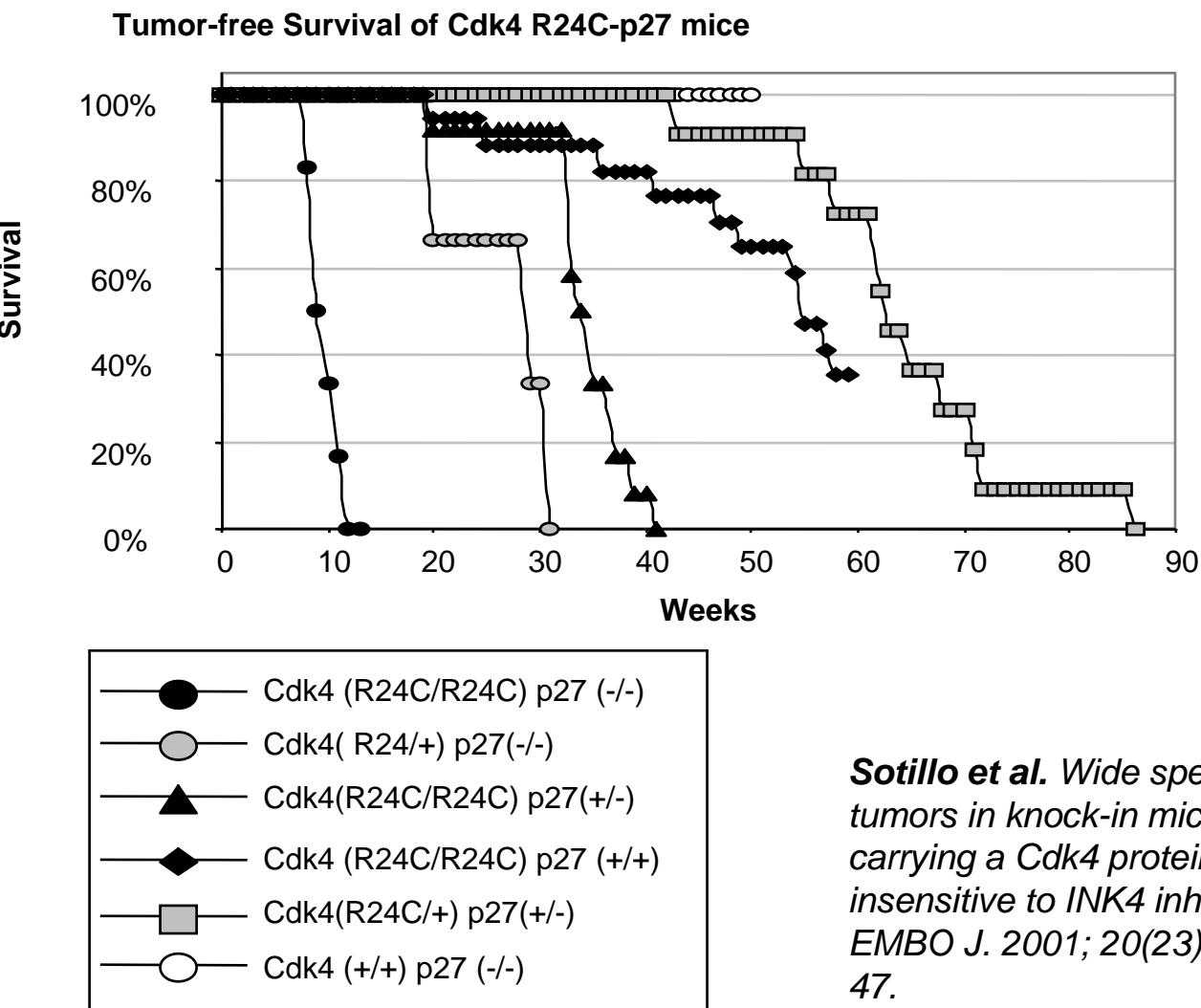
Akt accelerates lymphomagenesis and promotes drug resistance *in vivo*



Wendell et al, *Nature* 428, 332 - 337

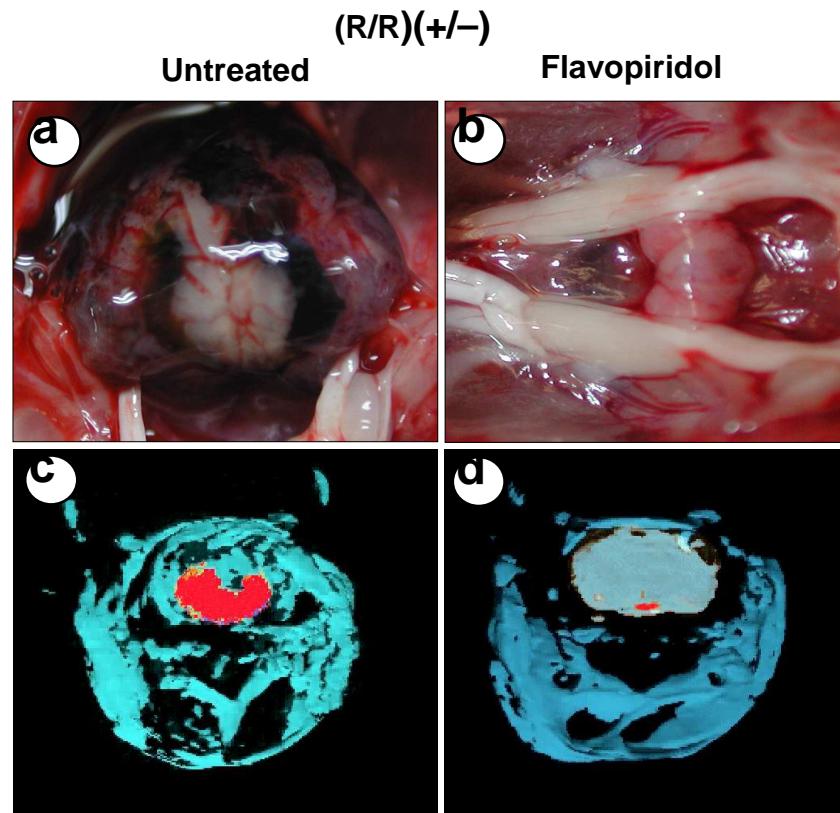
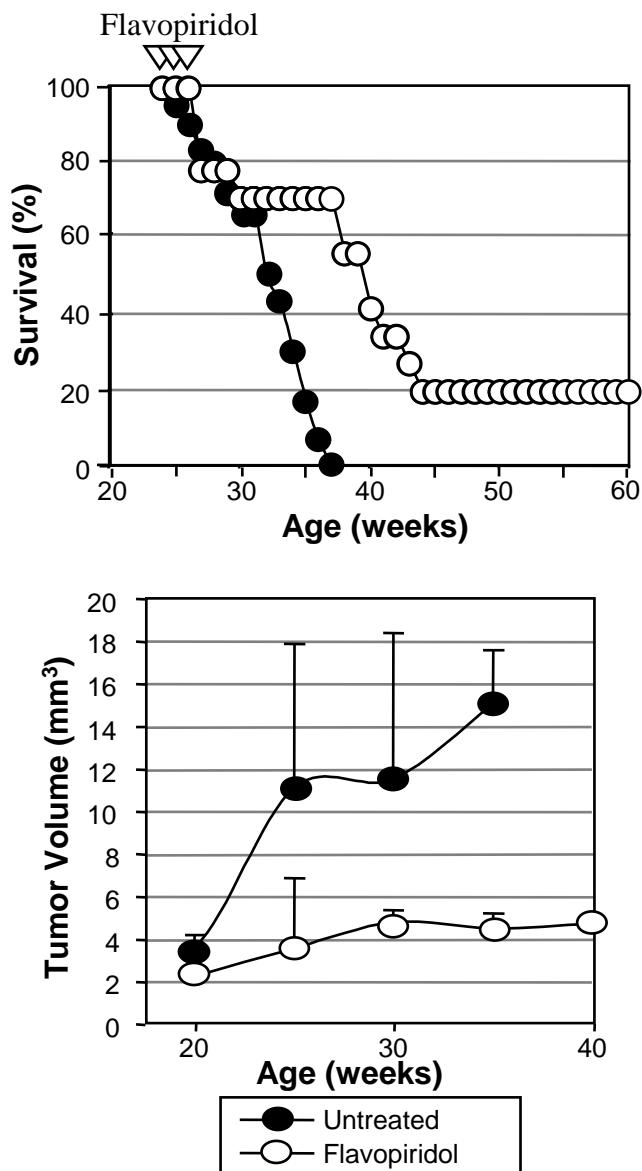
# Mouse model: *Cdk4 R24C / p27* mice

## Survival



**Sotillo et al.** Wide spectrum of tumors in knock-in mice carrying a *Cdk4* protein insensitive to INK4 inhibitors. *EMBO J.* 2001; 20(23):6637-47.

# Effect of Flavopiridol In the pituitary tumors of *Cdk4 (R24C);p27(+/-)* mice



# Tipos de agentes antitumorales en desarrollo

- Pequeñas moléculas
- Péptidos/Peptidomiméticos
- RNAs antisentido/Ribozimas/siRNAs
- DNAs (oligonucleótidos, vacunas génicas)
- Anticuerpos
- Virus (Terapia Génica)
- Células (Células Dendríticas, Inmunoterapia)

# **Procesos desregulados en células tumorales susceptibles de ser usados en desarrollo de drogas**

- Factores de crecimiento/Transmisión de señales
- Ciclo Celular
- Daño en el DNA/Supresores de tumores
- Localización celular de moléculas o proteínas
- Apoptosis
- Proteolísis dirigida por el sistema Ub-Proteasoma
- Senescencia/Elongación de telómeros
- Angiogénesis

## Conclusiones

- Aunque existen muchos mecanismos de aproximación a una terapia antitumoral y muchos más de identificación de compuesto activo, todos están basados en un conocimiento de la molécula diana.
- Un mayor conocimiento bioquímico y molecular de la diana molecular permitirá identificar el/los tipos de antitumorales posibles para dicha diana.
- La identificación de compuestos activos con potencial antitumoral depende del tipo de principio buscado y la estrategia elegida para obtenerlo.