



Fondazione Italiana per la Ricerca sul Cancro

IFOM – Istituto FIRC di Oncologia Molecolare

Publicazioni IFOM 2008

Nel 2008 gli scienziati IFOM hanno pubblicato **110** articoli di ricerca su riviste scientifiche internazionali, con un **impact factor medio pari a 8,664** (calcolato sulle 98 riviste provviste di impact factor) .

Tra le pubblicazioni del 2008, segnaliamo:

- una ricerca condotta da **Pier Paolo Di Fiore**, il cui risultato è stato pubblicato a gennaio sulla rivista Nature (Colaluca IN et al. Nature, 2008. Tipo di pubblicazione: Research Support. Riferimento bibliografico n. 81).

Lo studio ha individuato, con una serie di esperimenti su cellule di tumore umano della mammella, **NUMB**, un nuovo “circuito molecolare” in grado di regolare p53, una delle proteine fondamentali per conservare l'integrità del patrimonio genetico, e cioè per la protezione dell'organismo dai danni genetici che inducono il cancro.

- una ricerca condotta da **Pier Paolo Di Fiore** e da **Giorgio Scita** pubblicata in luglio sulla rivista Cell (Palamidessi A et al. Cell, 2008. Tipo di pubblicazione: Article. Riferimento bibliografico n.XX). Lo studio individua un interruttore molecolare (un complesso formato dalle proteine **RAB5** e **RAC**) che regola la strategia dell'invasione metastatica, aprendo la strada a nuove opportunità farmacologiche contro le metastasi dei tumori.

- una ricerca condotta da **Elisabetta Dejana** pubblicata in¹ luglio sulla rivista Nature Cell Biology (Taddei A et al. Nature Cell Biology, 2008. Tipo di pubblicazione: Research Support. Riferimento bibliografico n.XX).

Lo studio individua, con esperimenti condotti *in vitro* e *in vivo*, un importante meccanismo di stabilizzazione del sistema vascolare riconducibile alla proteina **VE-Caderina**. La ricerca mette in luce anche il percorso tramite cui la VE-Caderina induce la produzione della **Claudina 5**, una proteina che sigilla le cellule dei vasi sanguigni da infiltrazioni esterne. Le implicazioni applicative sono rilevanti non solo per tumori ma anche per infarto, ictus e patologie infiammatorie.

- una ricerca condotta da **Elisabetta Dejana** pubblicata in dicembre sulla rivista Nature (François M et al. Nature, 2008. Tipo di pubblicazione: letter. Riferimento

bibliografico n.XX). Lo studio conferma il ruolo critico di **Sox18** quale gene critico nella formazione, nella corretta organizzazione e nel mantenimento del sistema vascolare linfatico. In particolare, l'inattivazione del gene Sox18 porterebbe manifestazioni di una rara patologia di matrice linfatica chiamata Ipotricosi-linfedema-teleangiectasia.

- una ricerca condotta da **Dana Branzei** pubblicata in dicembre sulla rivista Nature (Branzei D et al. Nature, 2008. Tipo di pubblicazione: article. Riferimento bibliografico n.XX). Lo studio svela la complessa rete dei processi che tutelano la stabilità del genoma (la **sumolazione** e l'**ubiquitinazione**), proteggendolo dalle lesioni che sono alla base delle alterazioni tipiche del cancro. La scoperta costituisce un significativo avanzamento delle conoscenze nella ricerca oncologica e apre uno scenario promettente per l'identificazione di bersagli terapeutici nella lotta contro il cancro. In particolare la caratterizzazione degli enzimi regolati da questo meccanismo di riparazione del DNA potrebbe permettere di studiare farmaci sempre più mirati per combattere le cellule tumorali senza danneggiare il genoma delle cellule sane.

Elenco delle pubblicazioni IFOM 2008 (in ordine alfabetico per rivista scientifica)

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