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Focal adhesion signaling in breast cancer treatment

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Stellingen

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1. Autocrine activation of CXCR3 is important for MTLn3 tumor cell migration and invasion. *Chapter 2*
2. FAK signaling determines cell survival by modulating Fra-1 expression, and thereby mediates a drug resistant phenotype of breast cancer. *Chapter 3*
3. There is a direct relationship between microtubule disruption-induced JNK activation, post-translational modification of focal adhesion-associated proteins and cell contraction. *Chapter 4*
4. The JNK-paxillin axis is involved in growth factor receptor-mediated signaling towards cell migration. *Chapter 5*
5. The serine 178 residue of paxillin is an important player in cell proliferation and migration of metastatic breast tumor cells. *Chapter 5*
6. The anticancer agent vincristine not only affects microtubule organization, but indirectly also other cytoskeletal networks that are essential in the maintenance of cellular physiology. *Chapter 6*
7. The role of CXCR3 is not simply to mediate tumor cell trafficking. Ma X, et al. *Mol Cancer Ther.* 2009; 8(3):490-8.
8. FAK is required for breast tumor cell invasion/migration processes that take place in the early phase of metastasis formation. Van Nimwegen MJ, et al. *Cancer Res.* 2005; 65:4698-706.
9. Fra-1 promotes cell motility by inactivating β_1 -integrin receptor and keeping RhoA activity low. Vial, E., et al. *Cancer Cell* 2003;4: 67-79
10. JNK regulates cell migration by modulating the phosphorylation of paxillin and consequently the formation of focal adhesions. Huang C, et al. *Nature.* 2003;424:219-23.
12. A better understanding of the mechanisms of cell motility and cytoskeletal regulation may provide novel therapeutic strategies that would block metastatic progression. Kedrin D, et al. *J Mammary Gland Biol Neoplasia.* 2007;12:143-52
13. Living and studying in a foreign country is not only about exoticism and novelty, but also about integration and compromise, just like the introduction of Chinese food into the western world.