

# Development of novel anti-cancer strategies utilizing the zebrafish $xenograft\ model$

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#### Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift getiteld

## Development of novel anti-cancer strategies utilizing the zebrafish xenograft model

- 1. Macrophages are attracted to lactic acid, secreted by glycolytic melanoma cells, and promote the angiogenic process (Chapter 2).
- 2. Zebrafish embryos provide a fast vertebrate cancer model that can be used to test the administration regimen, toxicity and anti-cancer efficacy of PDT and PACT drugs against conjunctival melanoma (Chapter 3 and 4).
- 3. Injection of malignant cells into the retro-orbital site of eye of zebrafish embryos provides a new orthotopic model for studying conjunctival melanoma (Chapter 3 and 4).
- 4. Upon green light activation, the Ru-based PDT sensitizer TLD1433 inhibits growth of tumour cells *in vitro* and in zebrafish orthotopic and ectopic models for conjunctival melanoma (Chapter 3).
- 5. The ruthenium-based PACT compound ( $[2](PF_6)_2$ ) acquires anti-tumour efficacy in a zebrafish orthotopic model for conjunctival melanoma after retro-orbital administration and light irradiation (Chapter 4).
- 6. Light-triggered liposomal delivery of doxorubicin to engrafted breast cancer cells in zebrafish embryos enhances the targeting of cancer cells and improves the reduction of cancer cell burden (Chapter 5).
- 7. Zebrafish embryo is valid translational model for human diseases as these embryos share a functional homology with 84% of human disease genes (Kerstin Howe, Nature. 2013 Apr 25; 496(7446): 498–503).
- 8. Cell-specific and inducible drug delivery remains a major unsolved challenge for cancer nanomedicine (Jinjun Shi, Nat Rev Cancer. 2017,17: 20–37.
- Increasing our understanding of tumour metabolism is crucial to advance therapy development (Adrian L. Harris, British Journal of Cancer. 2020, 122: 1–3).
- 10. The ability to predict and guide immunotherapeutic responsiveness againt tumours is an unmet clinical need (Mikhail Binnewies, Nat Medicine. 2018, 24: 541-550.
- 11. Successful treatment of cancer without side effects is a dream of any oncologist.
- 12. Fundamental research training of medical doctors improves their clinical performance.

Quanchi Chen, Leiden, 1 September 2020