



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Targeted therapy for triple-negative breast cancer

McLaughlin, R.P.

Citation

McLaughlin, R. P. (2018, December 13). *Targeted therapy for triple-negative breast cancer*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/68194>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/68194>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/68194> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: McLaughlin, R.P.

Title: Targeted therapy for triple-negative breast cancer

Issue Date: 2018-12-13

List of Publications

Molecular targeted therapy for triple-negative breast cancer. *Ronan P. McLaughlin, John A. Foekens, John W.M. Martens, Yinghui Zhang, Bob van de Water* (Manuscript in preparation).

A cell cycle-related gene signature is associated with resistance to MEK and Akt inhibitors in triple-negative breast cancer. *Vera E. van der Noord¹, Ronan P. McLaughlin¹, Marcel Smid, John A. Foekens, John W.M. Martens, Yinghui Zhang, Bob van de Water* (Manuscript submitted). ¹Both authors contributed equally.

Blockage of cdc7/CDK9 signalling sensitises triple-negative breast cancer to EGFR-targeted therapy. *Ronan P. McLaughlin, Jichao He, Vera van der Noord, Jevin Redel, Marcel Smid, John A. Foekens, John W.M. Martens, Yinghui Zhang, Bob van de Water* (Manuscript submitted).

Targeting the P-TEFb complex through CDK9 inhibition to combat triple-negative breast cancer. *Ronan P. McLaughlin¹, Jichao He¹, Jessica Karuntu¹, Vera van der Noord¹, Marcel Smid², Annemieke M. Timmermans, Anita M.A.C. Trapman-Jansen, Renée Foekens, Yi Long, Sarah Al Haj Diab, John W.M. Martens, John A. Foekens, Shudong Wang, Yinghui Zhang, Bob van de Water* (Manuscript in preparation).

The synergistic effect of combined P-TEFb and EGFR inhibition on triple-negative breast cancer. *Ronan P. McLaughlin, Jichao He, Jessica Karuntu, Vera van der Noord, John W.M. Martens, Marcel Smid, John A. Foekens, Yi Long, Sarah Al Haj Diab, Yinghui Zhang, Bob van de Water, Shudong Wang* (Manuscript in preparation).

Curriculum Vitae

Ronan Patrick McLaughlin was born on the 11th July 1990 in Edinburgh, Scotland. He attended Holy Rood RC High School from 2002-2008. He subsequently studied Biological Sciences at the University of Edinburgh, ultimately specialising in Reproductive Biology and graduating with a 1st class BSc degree.

Ronan then moved westwards to Glasgow where he began his MRes studies in Molecular Medicine at the University of Glasgow, undertaking a research placement at the Paul O’Gorman Leukaemia Research Centre where he investigated the role of polo-like kinases in acute myeloid leukaemia under the supervision of Prof. Mhairi Copland and Dr. Ross Kinstrie. Ronan subsequently explored the epigenetic signature of glioblastoma stem cells in a collaborative project between the Beatson Institute for Cancer Research and the University of Glasgow, under the supervision of Prof. Anthony Chalmers, Dr. Nati Gomez and Dr. Katherine West.

After receiving an MRes degree in Molecular Medicine with merit, Ronan’s desire to forge a career within cancer research prompted him to seek a PhD position within Professor Bob van de Water’s lab at the Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research in Leiden, The Netherlands. This project revolved around the identification of novel drug targets and combination therapies for triple-negative breast cancer, funded by the European Research Council (ERC).

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Prof. Bob van de Water for granting me the opportunity to contribute to this exciting research project. It's been an honour to have worked in your laboratory. My sincere gratitude goes to Dr. Yinghui Zhang for her unwavering support, expertise, and dedication, without which life would have been infinitely more difficult. A special thanks to Prof. John Foekens, Prof. John Martens and Dr. Marcel Smid at Erasmus MC for their constructive criticism as well as the clinical data used in this thesis. Additionally, I wish to thank Prof. Shudong Wang at the University of South Australia for such a fruitful collaboration and for provision of the CDK inhibitors which became the most exciting aspect of my research.

I would like to thank the Drug Discovery and Safety division for their advice and company during my PhD. Zuzanna, gracias por haberme soportado en los momentos difíciles y por haberme escuchado cuando necesitaba desahogarme. Sin nuestras pláticas hubiera enloquecido. Ha sido un deleite compartir la oficina (y muchos dulces) contigo. Natalia, nuestras pláticas me hicieron reír. ¡Suerte y gracias! To Vera, Jevin, Jessica, and Susan, thank you for letting me guide you in your studies and for all the hard work you put into our research. I'm especially indebted to you, Vera, for the immense amount of hard work and dedication you poured into the projects we worked on together. Sali, thank you for ensuring I had sufficient supplies of carbohydrates and coffee over the last couple of years. Teşekkür ederim!

To my family, thank you for your seemingly endless disposition to listen to my rants (Mum and Dad), your far superior experience with word processing (Hannah), and for your continual love and support (Granny and Aodhán). I thank my friends for always lending an ear (or a glass...) whenever I needed to let off steam. David, no habría llegado a este momento si no te hubiera conocido. Siempre estuve apoyándome a pesar de lo que fuera, incluso en momentos en los que toda esperanza parecía haberse desvanecido. Gracias desde lo más profundo de mi corazón por tu apoyo y amor, porque estos han sido imprescindibles en

convencerme de esforzarme aún más para alcanzar lo inalcanzable y para enfrentarme a los retos de la vida con una sonrisa. Te amo y tengo tantas ganas de pasar el resto de mi vida junto a ti.

