

# PancreasFest 2019

Pittsburgh, PA

Session III-C: Basic-Translational: Pancreatic Cancer Research

Modeling the Link between Pancreatitis and PC in Mice:

GEMMS in Pancreatic Cancer Research

Thursday, July 24, 2019

10:30AM

Paul Grippo, PhD

# The Gap between Pancreatitis and PC



# Pancreatitis can promote PC

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## Effects of Cerulein on the Normal Pancreas and on Experimental Pancreatic Carcinoma in the Syrian Golden Hamster

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**Summary:** The effects of cerulein on normal pancreas and on *N*-nitrobis (2-hydroxypropyl) amine (BHP)-induced experimental pancreatic carcinoma in Syrian golden hamsters were studied. Twenty hamsters received a subcutaneous injection of cerulein (20 µg/kg) twice daily for 10 days. The 10 control hamsters received normal saline (1 ml/kg). The results showed that when cerulein was injected subcutaneously for 10 days, pancreatic weight and amylase increased. DNA and the pancreatic weight/DNA ratio were also increased significantly in treated hamsters compared with controls ( $p < 0.02$  versus  $p < 0.01$ ). These results indicated that chronic cerulein injection had hypertrophic and hyperplastic effects. DNA synthesis, as measured by histoautoradiography of tritiated thymidine-labeled tissue, increased in pancreatic acinar cells ( $p < 0.01$ ) and increased slightly in islet cells and in ductal cells. Tritiated thymidine uptake in the pancreas of the treated group indicated a rather selective exocrine gland incorporation by acinar rather than ductal cells. Sixty hamsters received a subcutaneous injection of BHP (500 mg/kg) once a week, while 63 hamsters received BHP (500 mg/kg) plus cerulein (20 µg/kg). Twenty-seven hamsters received cerulein (20 µg/kg) alone. All animals were killed from 8 to 27 weeks later, and no cancer-bearing hamsters were observed during the eighth and ninth week following administration. From the 10th to 14th weeks after administration of BHP and cerulein, 87.9% (13 of 15) had tumors compared with 18.7% (3 of 16) after BHP alone ( $p < 0.01$ ). One of three and two of 13 tumors were adenoma. The earliest appearance of cancer, including carcinoma in situ and intraductal carcinoma, was at the 14th week after the administration of BHP alone and the 10th week after BHP and cerulein. During the 10th to the 14th weeks after administration of BHP and cerulein, cancer was found in 73.3%, which was statistically higher than after the administration of BHP alone (12.5%;  $p < 0.01$ ). All tumors were of exocrine

# CP for PC Induction

Cancer Cell  
**Article**

**Cell**  
PRESS

## Chronic Pancreatitis Is Essential for Induction of Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma by K-Ras Oncogenes in Adult Mice

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### SUMMARY

Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDA), one of the deadliest human cancers, often involves somatic activation of *K-Ras* oncogenes. We report that selective expression of an endogenous *K-Ras*<sup>G12V</sup> oncogene in embryonic cells of acinar/centroacinar lineage results in pancreatic intraepithelial neoplasias (PanINs) and invasive PDA, suggesting that PDA originates by differentiation of acinar/centroacinar cells or their precursors into ductal-like cells. Surprisingly, adult mice become refractory to *K-Ras*<sup>G12V</sup>-induced PanINs and PDA. However, if these mice are challenged with a mild form of chronic pancreatitis, they develop the full spectrum of PanINs and invasive PDA. These observations suggest that, during adulthood, PDA stems from a combination of genetic (e.g., somatic *K-Ras* mutations) and nongenetic (e.g., tissue damage) events.



# The GREAT Divide



Basic PC investigators use pancreatitis  
as a tool to induce what they want:  
**PC**



Especially the mouse model community



Certain level of frustration for those doing clinical work  
and translational research in Pancreatitis

# HB-EGF Tissue Recovery in Severe AP

ARTICLE IN PRESS

**cmgh**

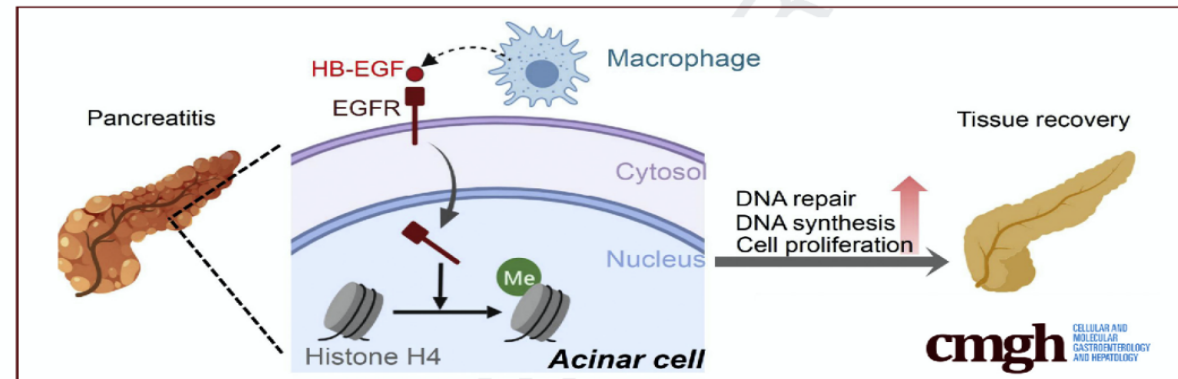
CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR  
GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY

## ORIGINAL RESEARCH

### Q1 Myeloid Cell-Derived HB-EGF Drives Tissue Recovery After Pancreatitis

Q54 Hui-Ju Wen,<sup>1</sup> Shan Gao,<sup>2</sup> Yin Wang,<sup>3</sup> Michael Ray,<sup>4</sup> Mark A. Magnuson,<sup>5</sup> Christopher V. E. Wright,<sup>4</sup> Marina Pasca Di Magliano,<sup>6,7,8</sup> Timothy L. Frankel,<sup>6</sup> and Howard C. Crawford<sup>1,3,7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology, <sup>3</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, <sup>6</sup>Department of Surgery, <sup>7</sup>Rogel Comprehensive Cancer Center, <sup>8</sup>Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan; <sup>2</sup>Xiangya School of Medicine, Central South University, China; <sup>4</sup>Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, <sup>5</sup>Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, Center for Stem Cell Biology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee



### SUMMARY

Macrophages play a critical role in pancreatitis progression and pancreas regeneration. Heparin-binding epidermal growth factor receptor-like growth factor derived from myeloid cells is not involved in the initiation of pancreatitis, but contributes to pancreas recovery after pancreatitis by promoting DNA damage repair.

in *Egfr<sup>fl/fl</sup>;Ptfr1a<sup>flpO/+</sup>;FSF-Rosa26<sup>CAG-CreERT2</sup>* mice followed by tamoxifen treatment.

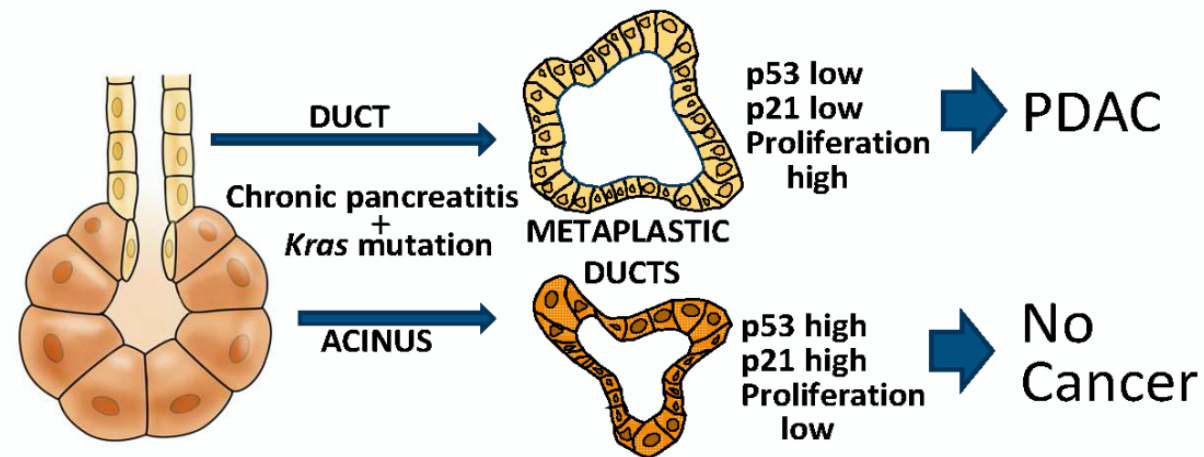
**RESULTS:** Macrophages infiltrating the pancreas in experimental pancreatitis make high levels of HB-EGF. Both depletion of myeloid cells and ablation of myeloid cell HB-EGF delayed recovery from experimental pancreatitis, resulting from a decrease in cell proliferation and an increase in apoptosis. Mechanistically, ablation of myeloid cell HB-EGF impaired epithelial cell DNA repair, ultimately leading to cell

# Different response to $Kras^{G12D}$ in Obstructive CP

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Title: Differential cell susceptibilities to  $Kras^{G12D}$  in the setting of obstructive chronic pancreatitis.

Short title: PDAC development in chronic pancreatitis



Current addresses:

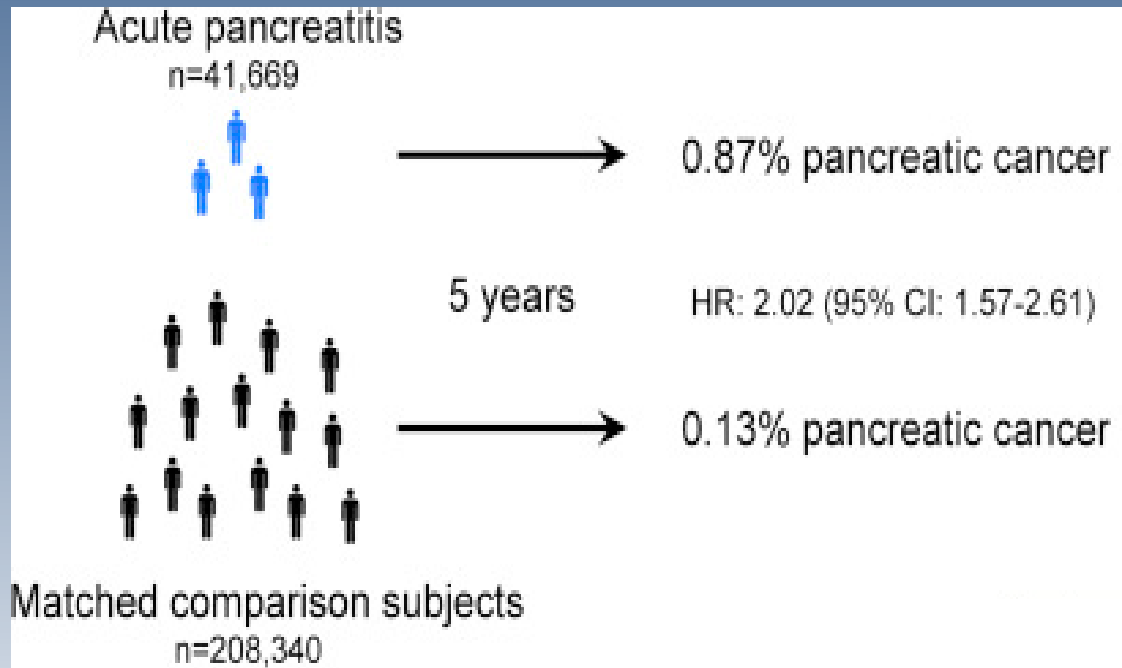
FCP: Dept. of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY.

JNK: Dept. of Internal Medicine-Pediatrics, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA

JLK: Dept. of Cellular & Physiological Sciences, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC Canada.

# Becoming aware of the AP or CP to PC paradigm

## Acute Pancreatitis



*Gastroenterology* May 2018 154(6):1729-36

## Chronic Pancreatitis

Study	ES (95% CI)
Subtotal (I-squared = 87.1%, P = 0.000)	7.96 (2.36, 26.86)
Subtotal (I-squared = 90.2%, P = 0.000)	6.09 (3.79, 9.79)
Subtotal (I-squared = 0.0%, P = 0.476)	16.16 (12.59, 20.73)
Subtotal (I-squared = 82.9%, P = 0.001)	7.90 (4.26, 14.66)
Subtotal (I-squared = 64.3%, P = 0.094)	3.53 (1.69, 7.38)

*J of Gastroenterology* Sept 2017 112(9):1366-72



# From Ignorance to Bliss: CP contributes to PC

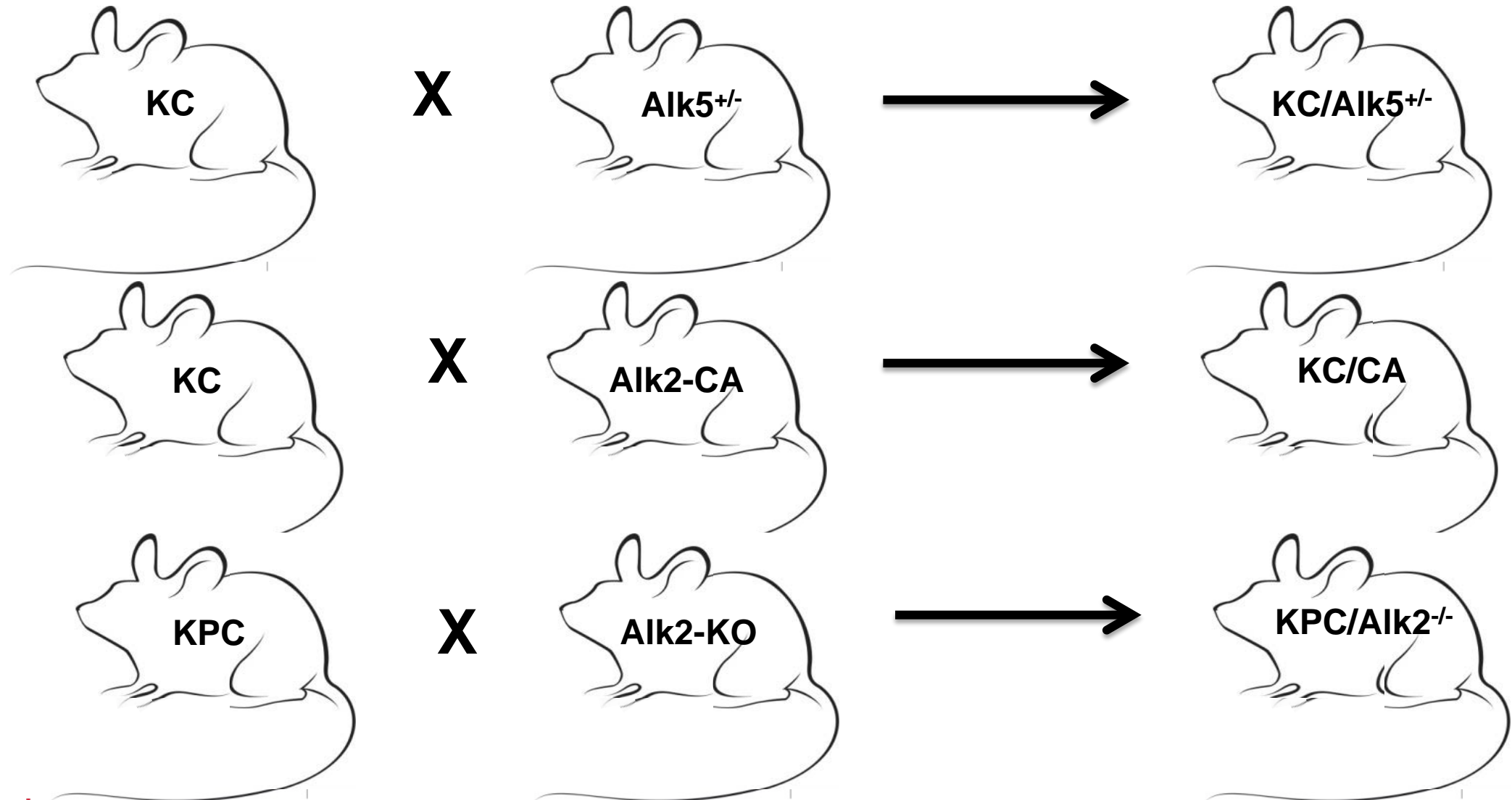
On multiple occasions, two independent pathologists have observed pancreatitis in KPC and KC mice with a second mutant gene - though penetrance has been low

We now have something else to consider – focal pancreatitis, how it develops, and the impact on developing PC

Based on these findings, we want to investigate:

TGF $\beta$  Family of Signals in CP and PC in the same mouse

# Building PC (& CP) Mouse Models





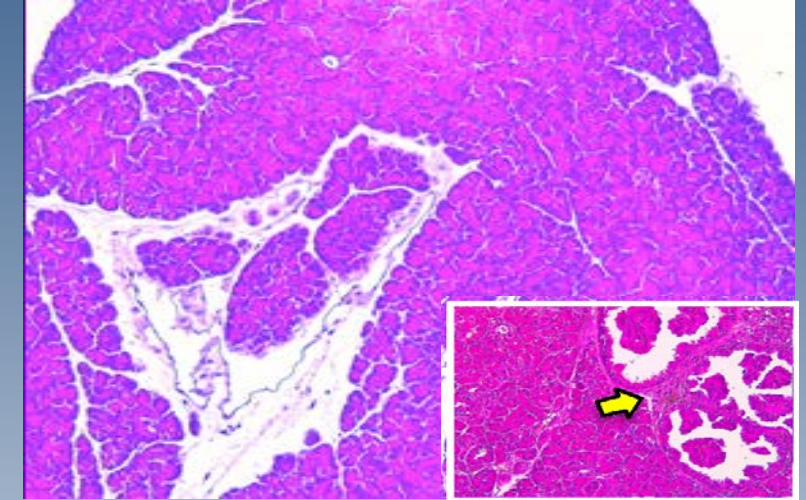
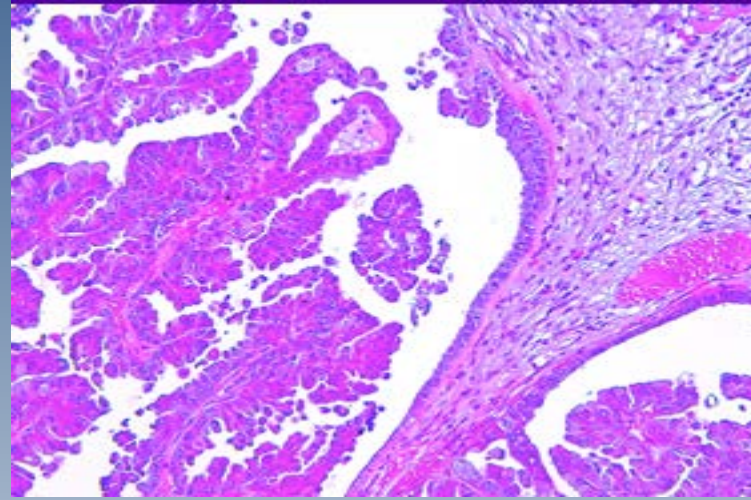
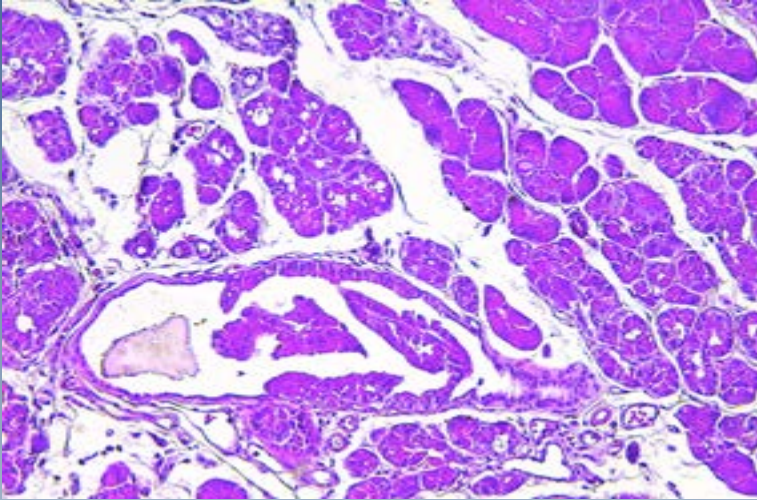
# EL-Kras $\pm$ altered TGF $\beta$ signals

EL-Kras

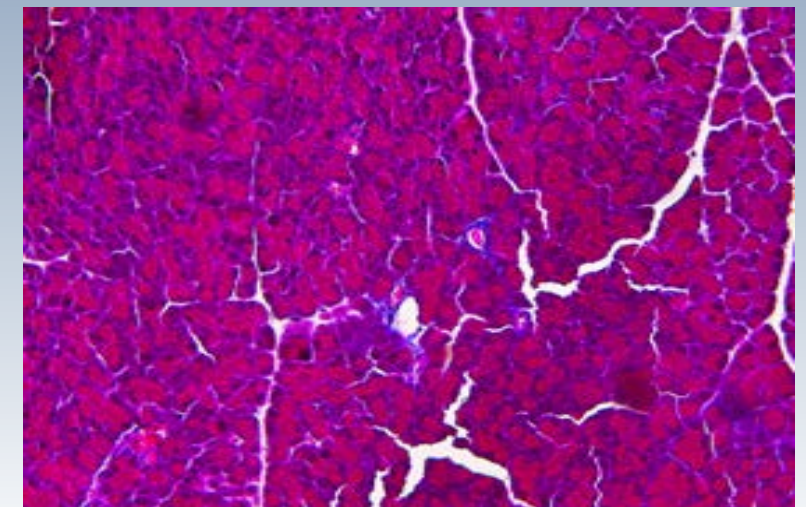
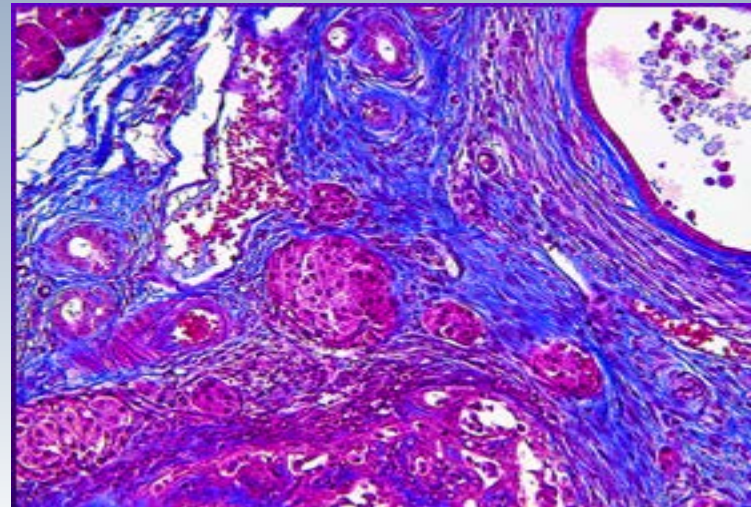
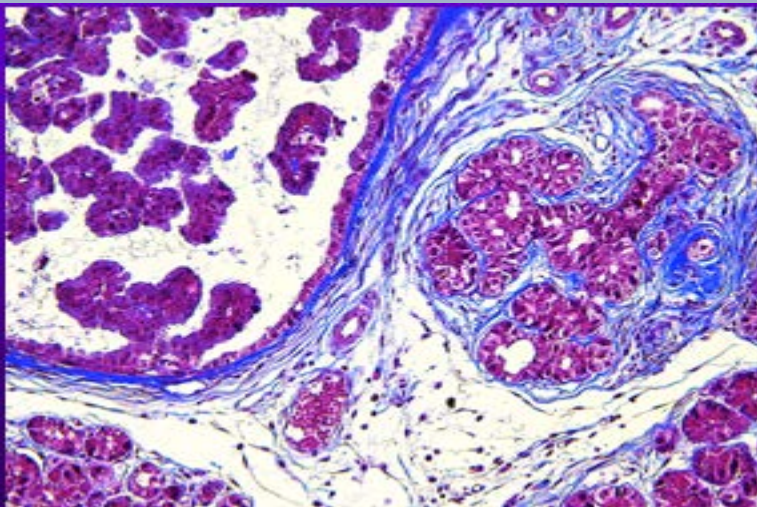
EL-Kras/Tgfbr2

EL-Kras/Alk5

H&E



Trichrome



Can Res

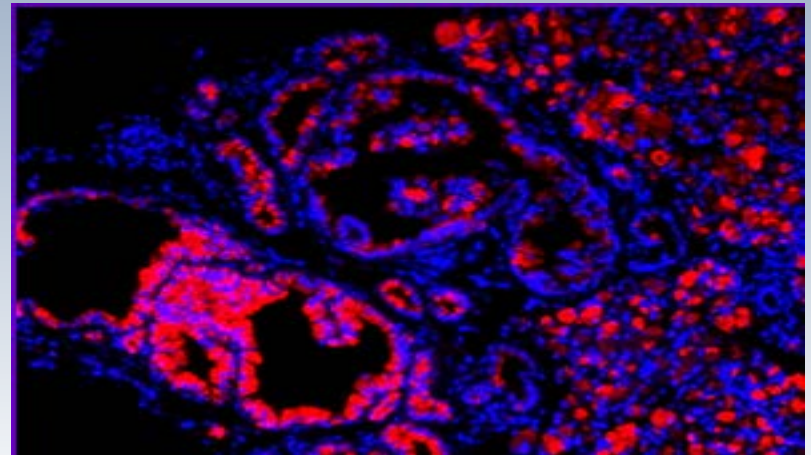
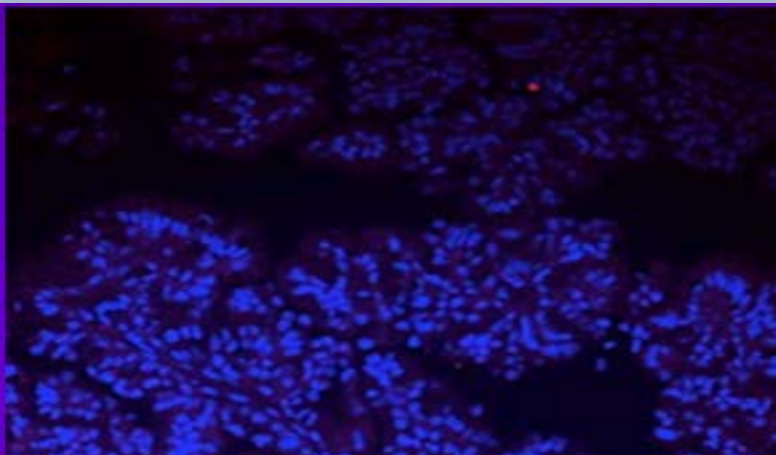
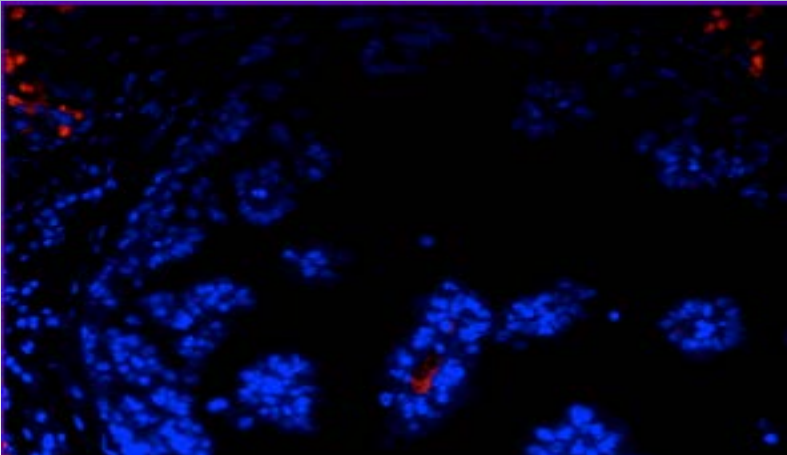
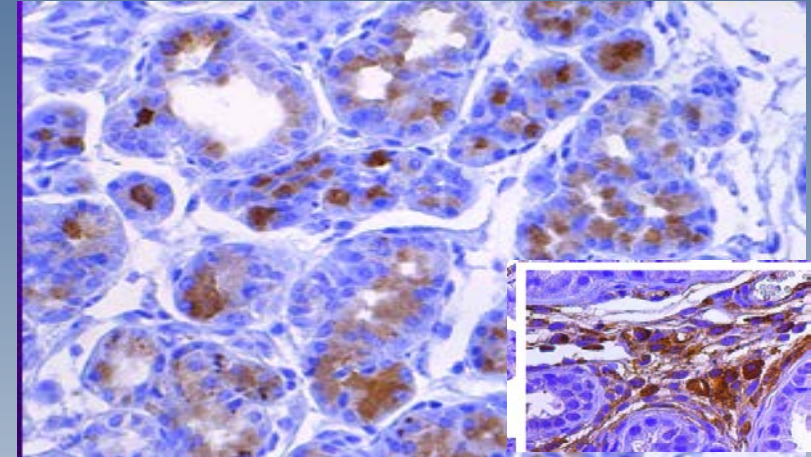
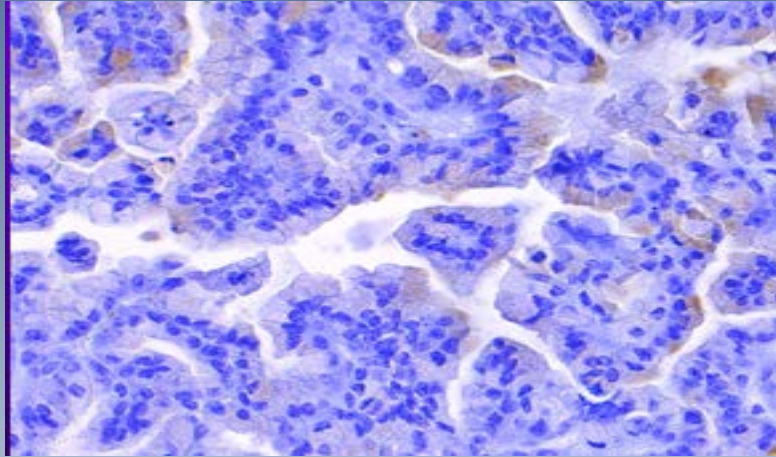
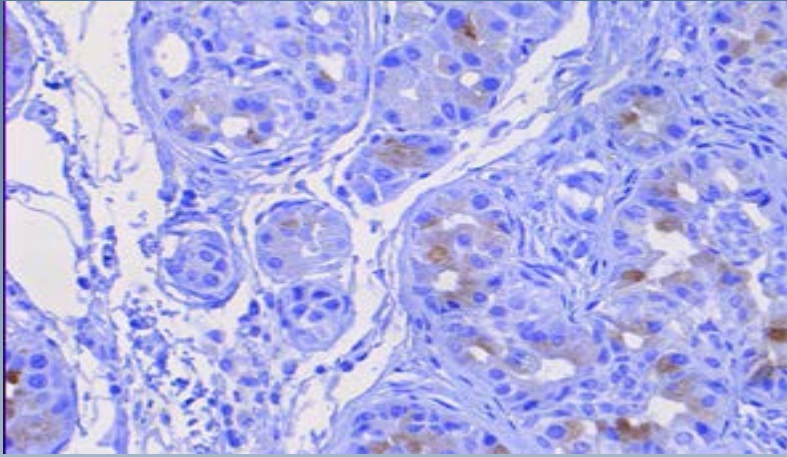


# Tgfr1<sup>+/-</sup> may increase T-cell Cytotoxicity

EL-Kras

EL-Kras/Tgfr2

EL-Kras/Alk5

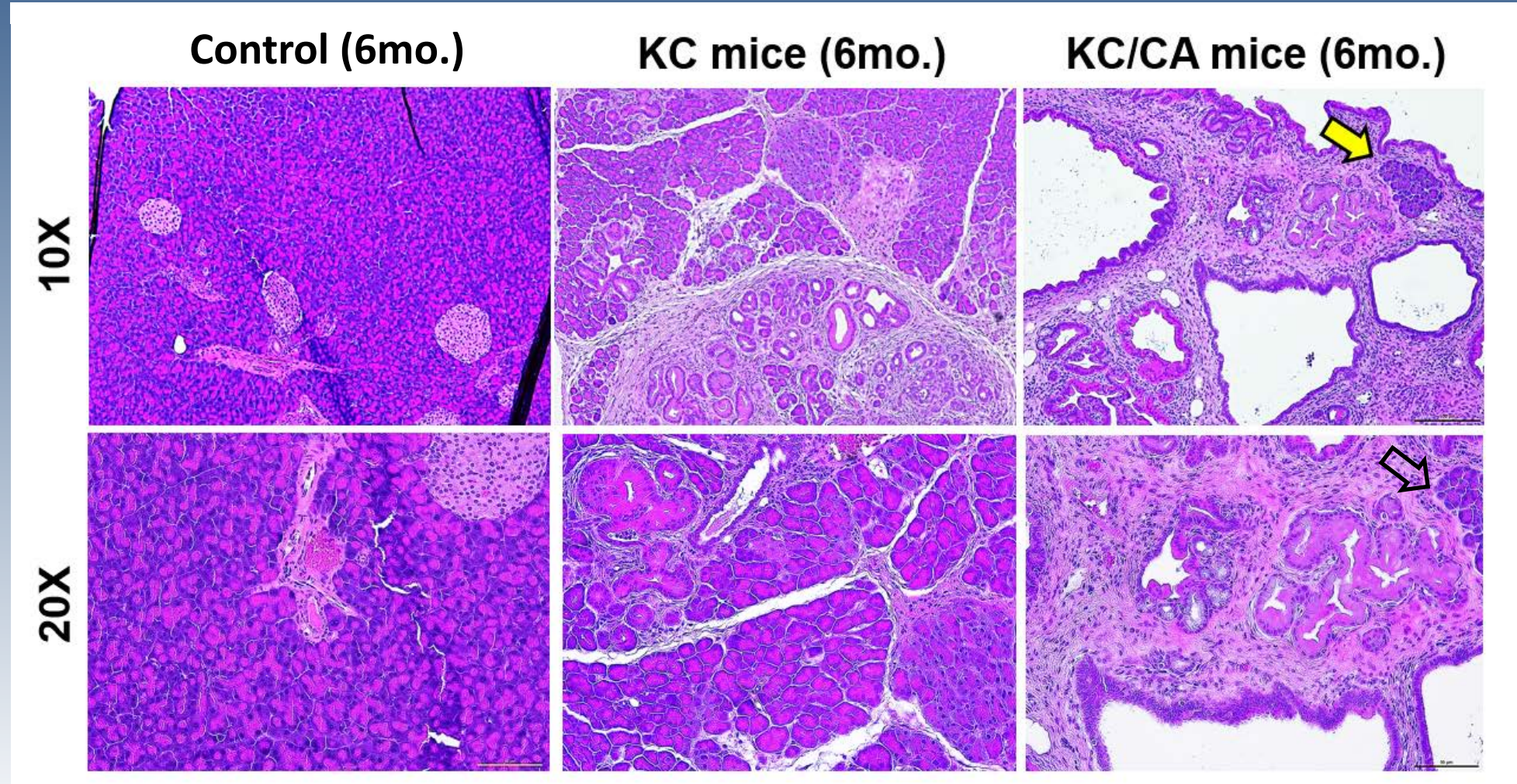


Cleaved Caspase-3

Granzyme B

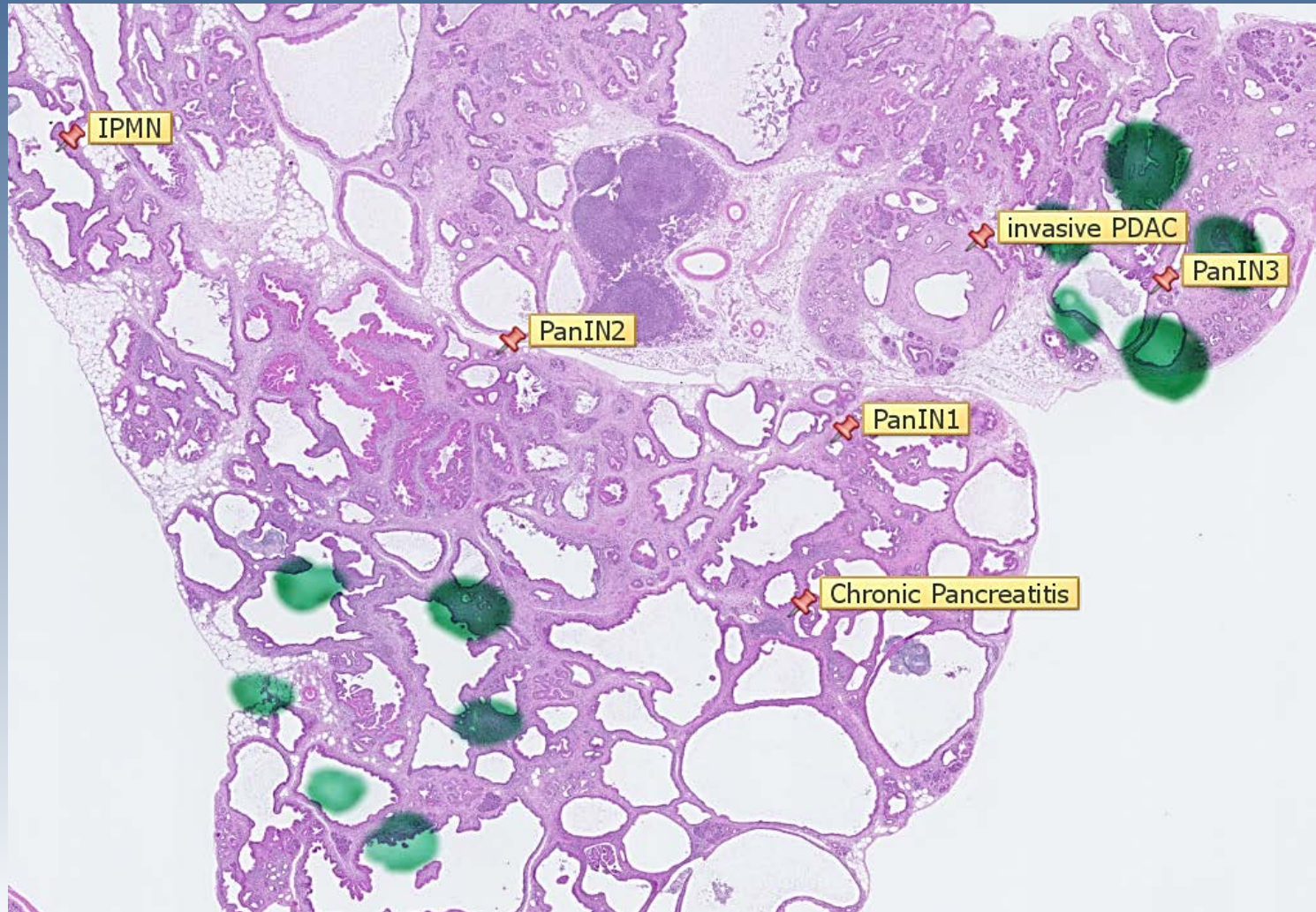


# Lesion Development in KC/Alk-CA mice





# KC/CA mice can develop invasive disease



# Implications

- Certain genetic changes may be relevant to both PC & CP
  - TGF $\beta$  Family signals appear to drive a variety of lesions/CP in the context of mtKras
- Parenchymal vs. mesenchymal pancreas compartments
  - Non-epithelial TGF $\beta$  signals can be more sinister – suppress targeted immunity
- Treatments that work for PC or CP may also work for the other
  - Blocking TGF $\beta$  Family ligands/receptors may serve as more efficacious therapies
- Focal CP may impact PC lesion development
  - Identifying protein expression near regional areas of CP and its potential impact on PC

# Acknowledgements

## Main Collaborators

Dr. Barbara Jung  
Dr. HG Munshi (NU)  
Dr. David Bentrem (NU)  
Dr. Giamila Fantuzzi

## EL-Kras/TGFβ Project

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Dr. Qinghua Zeng  
Dr. Mike Pennison  
  
Dr. Laurent Bartholin (INSERM)

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