

# FUND

WEEK 6  
cancer, stem cells,  
cell signaling pathways

HOW I SPENT  
MY BREAK



- THIS WEEK
- AT Intro to Cancer Biology
  - AT Cell Communication Signaling
  - AT Gprotein Coupled Receptors
  - AT P13 Kinase signaling
  - AT Nuclear Receptors
  - AT Stem cells Developmental Biology

# CANCER BIOLOGY

uncontrolled cell growth & proliferation  
a clonal process

## The 10 Hallmarks of Cancer

- 1 sustained prolonged signaling
- 2 evading growth suppressors
- 3 inducing angiogenesis
- 4 avoiding immune destruction
- 5 enabling replicative immortality
- 6 activating invasion + metastasis
- 7 genome instability
- 8 resisting cell death
- 9 deregulating cellular energetics
- 10 tumor promoting inflammation

## STEM CELLS & CANCER: what's the connection?

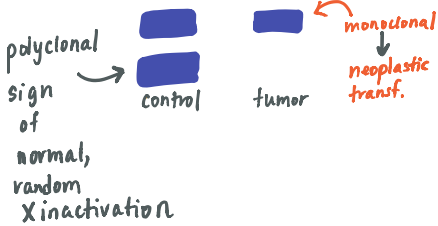
stem cell model of cancer = cancer is a neoplastic transformation of a stem cell and/or progenitor. If the source of cancer resides in quiescent stem cell, chemo agents that selectively target rapidly dividing cells **WON'T WORK** no 100% eradication

cancer is a clonal process = evidence of **MONOCLONAL** = identical genotype among pop'n population of cells indicates one cell early out of control w/ cell prolif → likely **neoplasm**

## Analysis of Clonality

normally polyclonal

- 1) G6PD iso enzyme gel electrophoresis analysis

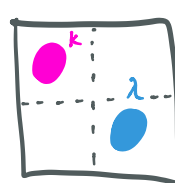


sign that cancerous cell is growing **OUT OF CONTROL**

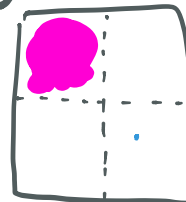
- 2) cytogenetics

look for somatic mutations, translocations  
leukemic bone marrow: 5q<sup>-</sup>

- 3) K or λ chain analysis in lymphoid progenitor cells



polyclonal = normal



monoclonal → neoplastic transf.

# 1 oncogenes

VS

mutation, over expression, or translocation results in neoplastic transformation acts in a dominant - one mutated allele sufficient for phenotype

# 2 tumor suppressor genes

fxn: prevent cellular transformation and/or progression of established tumors (e.g. regulators of cell cycle)

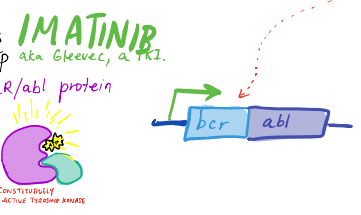
both copies must be inactivated in order for cancer to occur



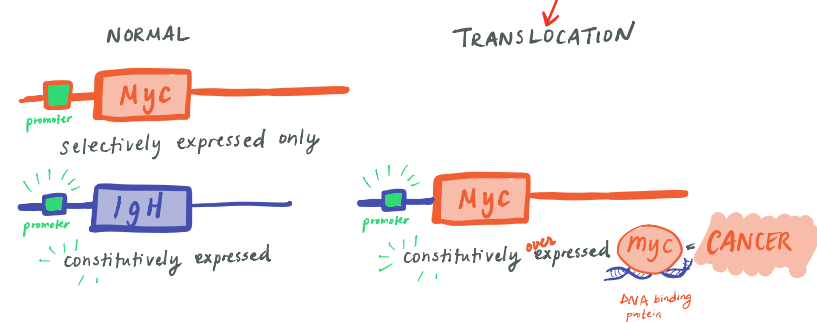
dx: CHRONIC MYELOGENOUS LEUKEMIA  $t(9;22)$

PHILADELPHIA CHROMOSOME

tx: tyrosine kinase inhibitors competitively inhibit ATP for binding site on fusion bcr/abl protein

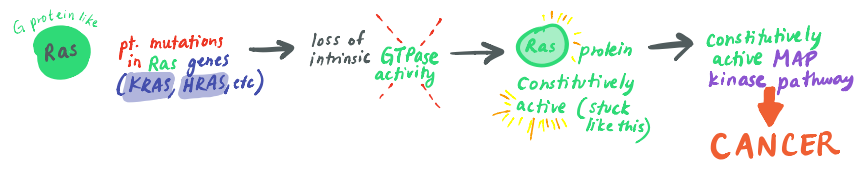


dx: BURKITT'S LYMPHOMA malignant lymphocyte cancer  $t(8;14)$



## Common human ONCOGENES

gene	mutation type	Cancers
RAS	pt mutations	broadly expressed! AML, ALL, multiple myeloma, lung cancer, soft tissue sarcoma, prostate cancer
BRAF	pt mutations, translocations	melanoma, colon cancer, thyroid cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer
EGFR	pt mutations, translocations, insertions/deletions	lung cancer
KIT	pt mutations, translocations, insertions/deletions	Glioma, tumor, germ cell tumors, melanoma, mast cell tumors
PIK3CA	pt mutations	breast cancer, colon cancer, endometrial cancer
ALK	translocations	lung cancer
HER2	amplification, pt mutations	breast cancer, lung cancer, gastric cancer



(normal gene before mutation = "proto-oncogene")

? 32 Y.O female comes in w/ shortness of breath, and coughing up blood. She has no history of smoking. She appears fatigued. The most likely genetic mutation belongs to which class of receptors?

- GPCR
- RTK
- nuclear receptor
- ligand-gated ion channel

? when designing drug targets what are some things to consider to make the most effective drug? Think about how to max - specificity (how not to kill healthy cells) - potency (where in pathway will be most consequential)

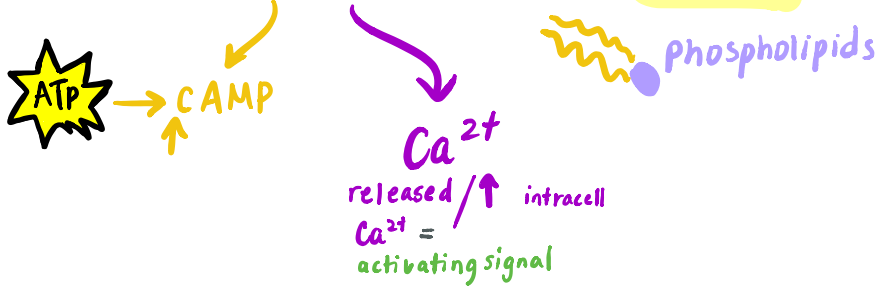
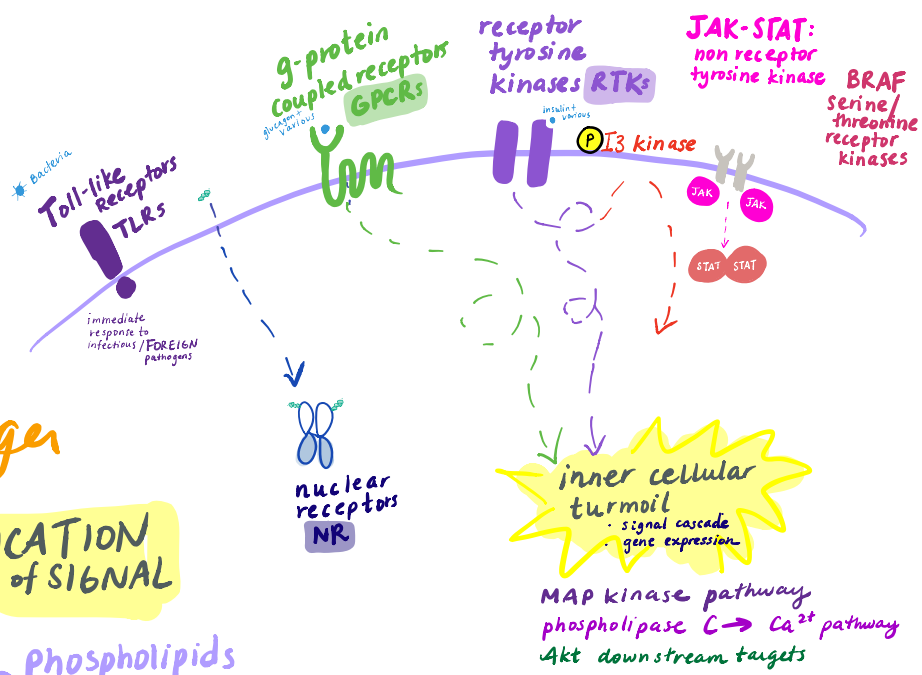
# CELL-CELL SIGNALING

how cells communicate w/ one another

## 1. ligand-receptor binding INITIATION OF SIGNAL

## 2. downstream 2<sup>nd</sup> messenger SYSTEMS

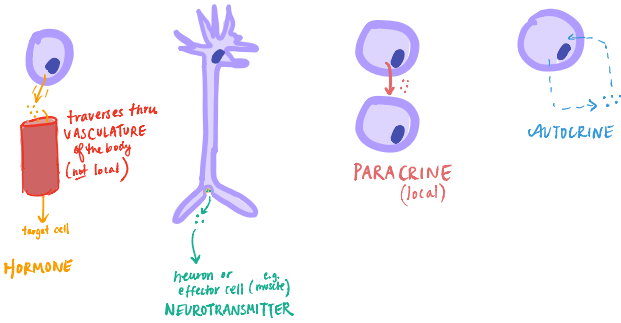
### PROPAGATION and/or AMPLIFICATION of SIGNAL



# ligands

the thing that binds

### FUNCTIONALLY classified



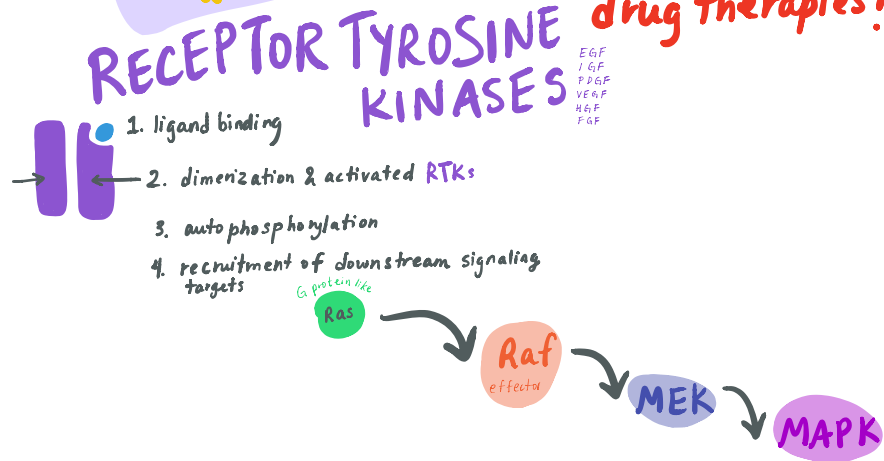
### STRUCTURALLY CLASSIFIED

can be secreted (soluble) or membrane bound

- hormones
  - insulin
  - growth hormone
- growth factors
  - M-CSF
  - TGF-β
- cytokines
  - interleukins
  - interferons
- ephrins
- Notch ligands
- TGF-β ligands (active/inactive)

# RECEPTOR TYROSINE KINASES

many classes have a defined (but complex) pathway  
**THIS CAN HELP US IDENTIFY DISTINCT, POTENT drug therapies!**



# G PROTEIN-COUPLED RECEPTORS

- ✓ 7-pass transmembrane receptor
- ✓ Coupled to heterotrimeric G protein → ion channel regulation, PI3K pathway, gene expression regulation
- ✓ ligand = hormones, amines, light, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, odorants
- ✓ extremely high yield in understanding cell-cell communication (>50% of drugs in development target GPCRs)



## classes of G<sub>α</sub> subunits

- G<sub>sα</sub> activates adenylyl cyclase + cAMP, PKA
- G<sub>iα</sub> inhibits adenylyl cyclase, regulates ion channel by release of βγ
- G<sub>qα</sub> activates phospholipase C (PLC), IP<sub>3</sub>, DAG, ↑ Ca<sup>2+</sup>, PKC
- G<sub>12/13α</sub> activates rho GTPases → cytoskeleton remodeling, cancer
- G<sub>t</sub> activates PDE rhodopsin/vision

G<sub>α</sub>: inherent GTP to GDP activity (active to inactive)

## Pathophysiology of some bacteria target G protein activity

dx: CHOLERA

bacterium: *Vibrio cholerae*

M.O.A: targets G<sub>s</sub> subunit

to be locked in ON position

toxin from *Vibrio* causes ADP-ribosylation of G<sub>s</sub> post-transl. mod.

inhibited GTPase activity

constitutively ACTIVE G<sub>s</sub> subunit → sustained CAMP production

sustained opening of CFTR Cl<sup>-</sup> channels

efflux of ions & water from GI tract

watery diarrhea

dx: WHOOPING COUGH (pertussis)

bacterium: *Bordetella pertussis*

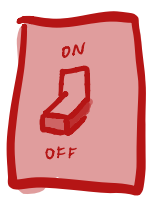
M.O.A: targets G<sub>i</sub> subunit

to be locked in OFF position

toxin from *Bordetella* causes ADP-ribosylation of G<sub>i</sub> post-transl. mod.

inhibited GDP release

constitutively INACTIVE G<sub>i</sub> subunit → sustained CAMP production cannot inactivate adenylyl cyclase nor open potassium channels



## WAYS TO REGULATE ATTENUATE GPCR PATHWAY

1. RGS proteins speed up rate of GTP to GDP hydrolysis in G<sub>α</sub>

2. GRK kinase phosphorylates GPCR, recruits arrestin binding → GPCR removed from P.M. destined for degradation or recycling

# NUCLEAR RECEPTORS

ligand = steroids ..... can traverse plasma membrane

regulate gene expression

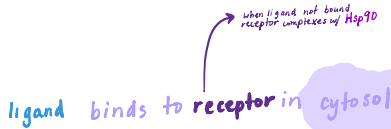
relatively slower, long-lasting effect (vs. signaling cascade) - fast & amplified!

## TYPE I

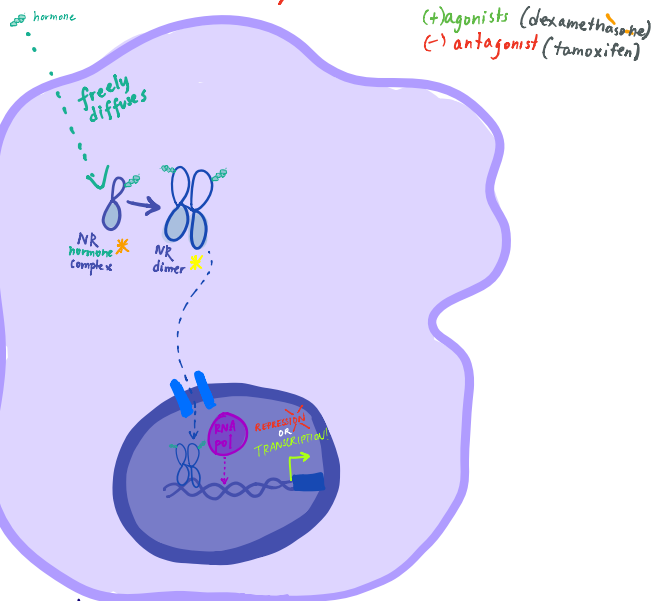
- estrogen receptor ..... estradiol  
sexual development, regulation of reproduction cycles, anti-inflammatory, cognition & behavior
- glucocorticoid receptor ..... cortisol  
inhibit immune system, metabolic effects, development & cognition, fluid homeostasis
- mineral corticoid receptor ..... aldosterone  
salt & fluid (volume) homeostasis
- androgen receptor ..... testosterone  
sexual development, spermatogenesis, body fat, muscle mass, cognition & behavior
- progesterone receptor ..... progesterone  
pregnancy, regulation of reproductive cycles

## TYPE II

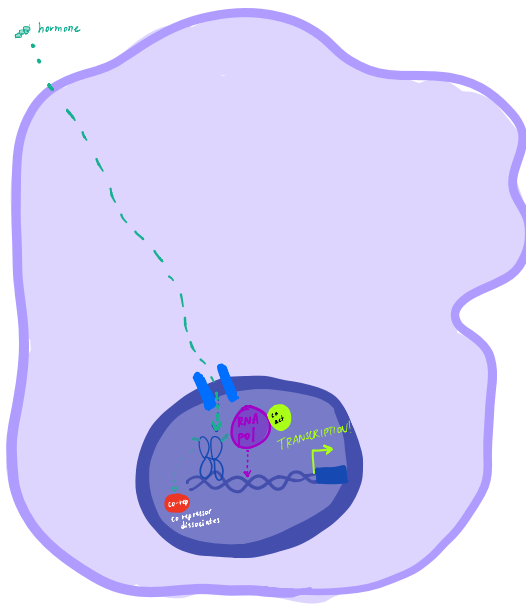
- thyroid hormone receptor ..... T<sub>3</sub> (active form) Thyroid hormone  
fast metabolic rate (metabolism), fat metabolism, fatty acid oxidation, glucose metabolism, P. insulin dependent glucose transport, P. glycogenolysis, P. gluconeogenesis
- retinoid receptor ..... retinoic acid (all-trans = ATRA)  
can be Type II  
HOX gene (development), growth (cancer), dermatitis
- vitamin D receptor ..... 1,25 Vitamin D  
calcium homeostasis, phosphate homeostasis, bone remodeling, immune cell differentiation
- PPAR ..... fatty acids, eicosanoids  
lipid metabolism, glucose metabolism (insulin sensitivity)
- lipid sensors ..... bile acids, oxysterols  
cholesterol homeostasis



causes incr or decr in gene expression



causes incr in gene expression only



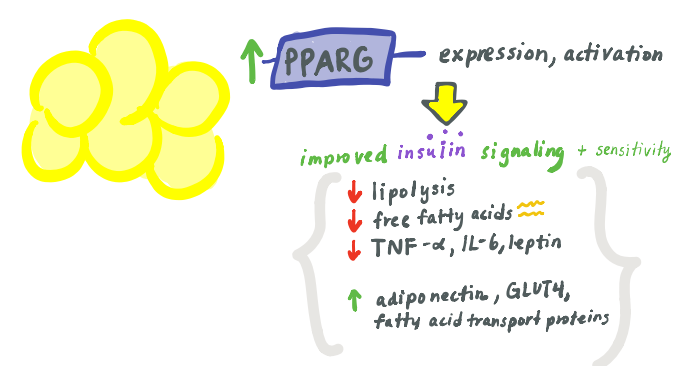
## Background & Context ligands

NUCLEAR RECEPTOR ligands

CORTISOL opposes actions of INSULIN

produced in adrenal glands, the bean of the kidneys

- @ liver: incr. ↑ gluconeogenesis, decr ↓ glucose uptake
  - @ skeletal muscle: decr ↓ glucose uptake, decr ↓ protein intake, incr ↑ proteolysis
  - @ adipose tissue: incr ↑ lipolysis
  - insulin resistance: decr ↓ lipolysis
- ↓ expression of GLUT4 receptor, peroxisome gene



# CUSHING'S vs ADDISON'S

**cortisol excess (adrenal)**

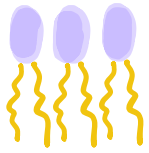
- moon facies
- buffalo hump
- weight gain
- slow wound healing
- thinning of hair on scalp
- thinskin, easy bruising
- muscle atrophy



**cortisol insufficiency (adrenal)**

- bronze pigmentation
- hypoglycemia
- postural hypotension
- weakness
- GI disturbances

**ADRENAL CRISIS**  
 profound fatigue  
 dehydration  
 vascular collapse  
 renal shutdown  
 ↓ Na<sup>+</sup>  
 ↑ K<sup>+</sup> hyperkalemia



**PI3**

**(PI3K) KINASE signaling pathway**



**mediating effects of insulin**

- tumor cell survival
- cell proliferation
- invasiveness, cell migration
- tumor angiogenesis

implicated in **CANCER** &

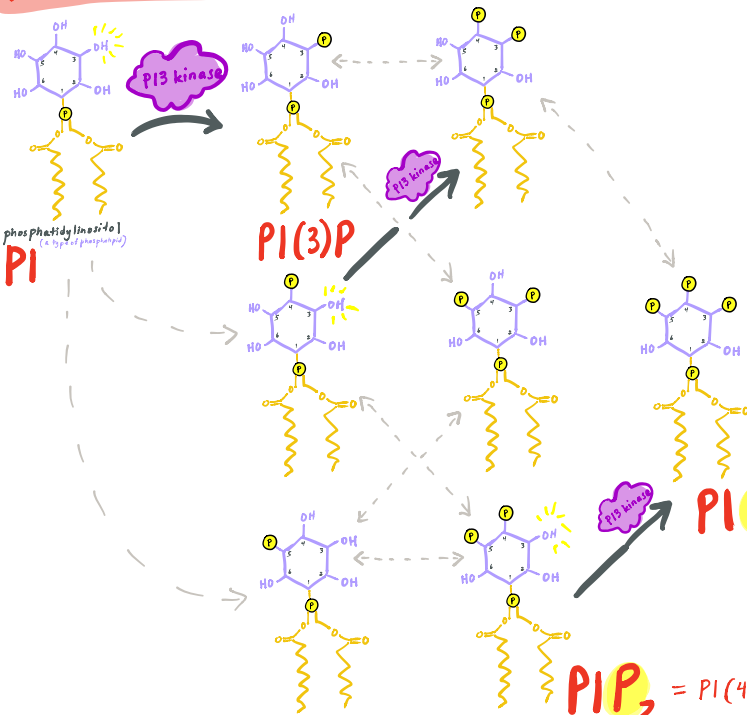
**TYPE II DIABETES**

Some activators of the PI3 signaling pathway: RTKs, cytokine receptors, VEGFR, GPCR

main mediator = **Akt2**

Other isoforms:  
 Akt1: cell growth, angiogenesis  
 Akt3: neuronal development

**phosphoinositol structure**



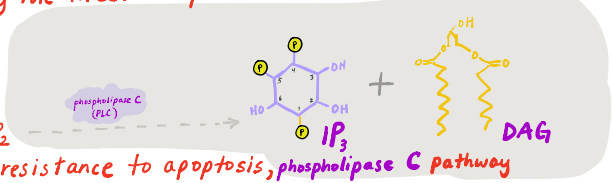
**PI3 Kinase Structure = p110 + p85**

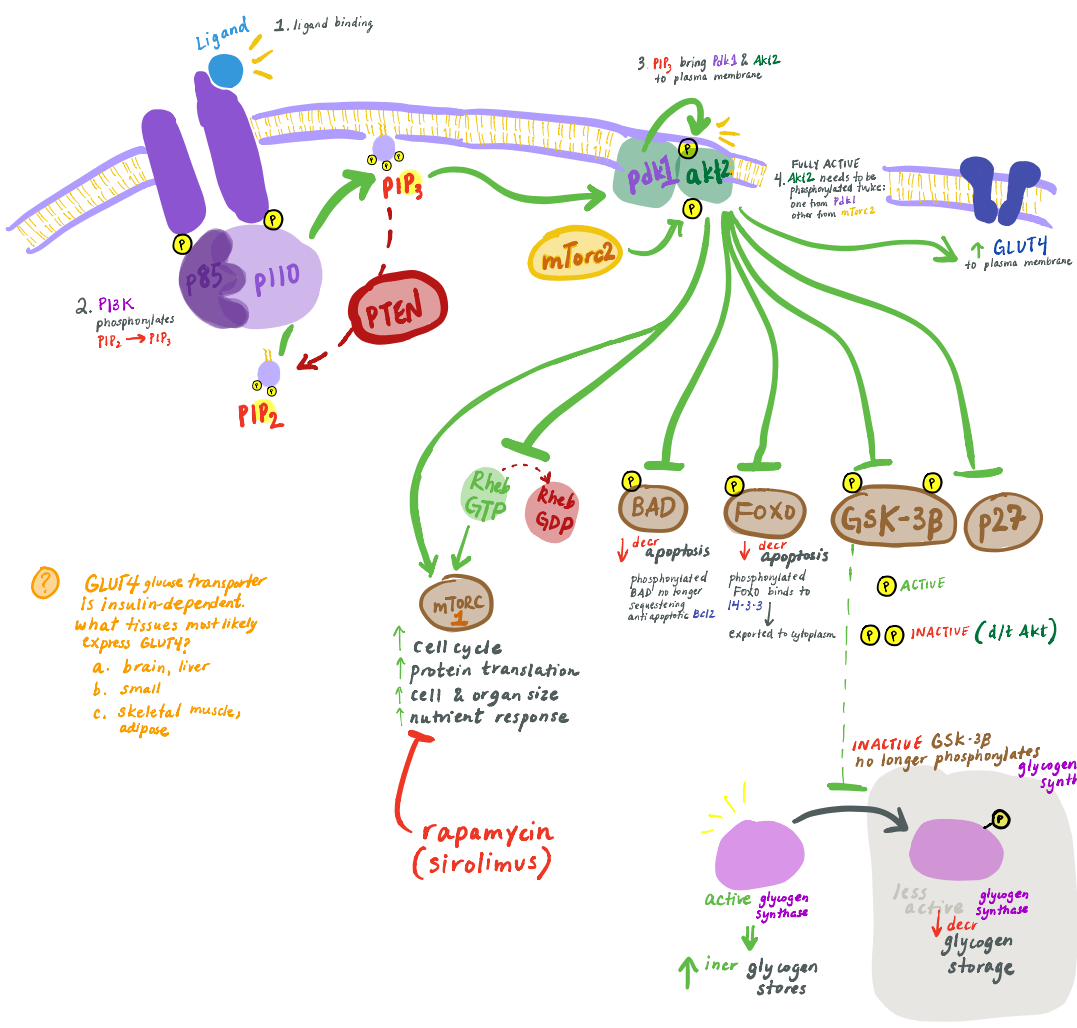


**PIP<sub>3</sub> = PI(3,4,5)P<sub>3</sub>**  
 key role in cellular processes

**PIP<sub>2</sub> = PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub>**

cell proliferation, resistance to apoptosis, phospholipase C pathway





**off switches** **PI3** KINASE PATHWAY

phosphatase

dephosphorylation of RTK

dephosphorylation of  $PIP_3$

dephosphorylation of Akt, Pdk1

dephosphorylation of Akt downstream target proteins

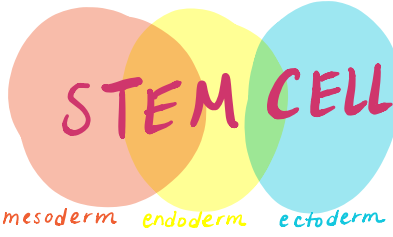
**ACTIVATED** **PI3** KINASE PATHWAY

- ↑ apoptosis
- ↑ cell cycle
- ↑ protein translation
- ↑ cell & organ size
- ↑ nutrient response
- ↑ glycogen storage

too much of this = **Cancer**

? GLUT4 glucose transporter is insulin-dependent. what tissues most likely express GLUT4?

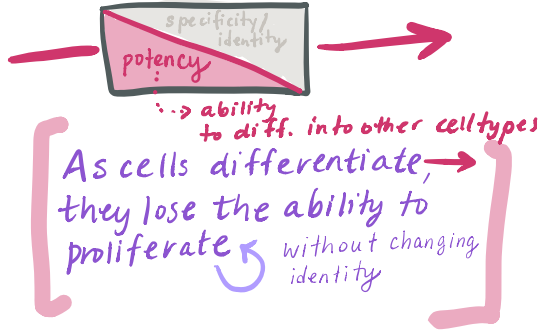
- brain, liver
- small
- skeletal muscle, adipose



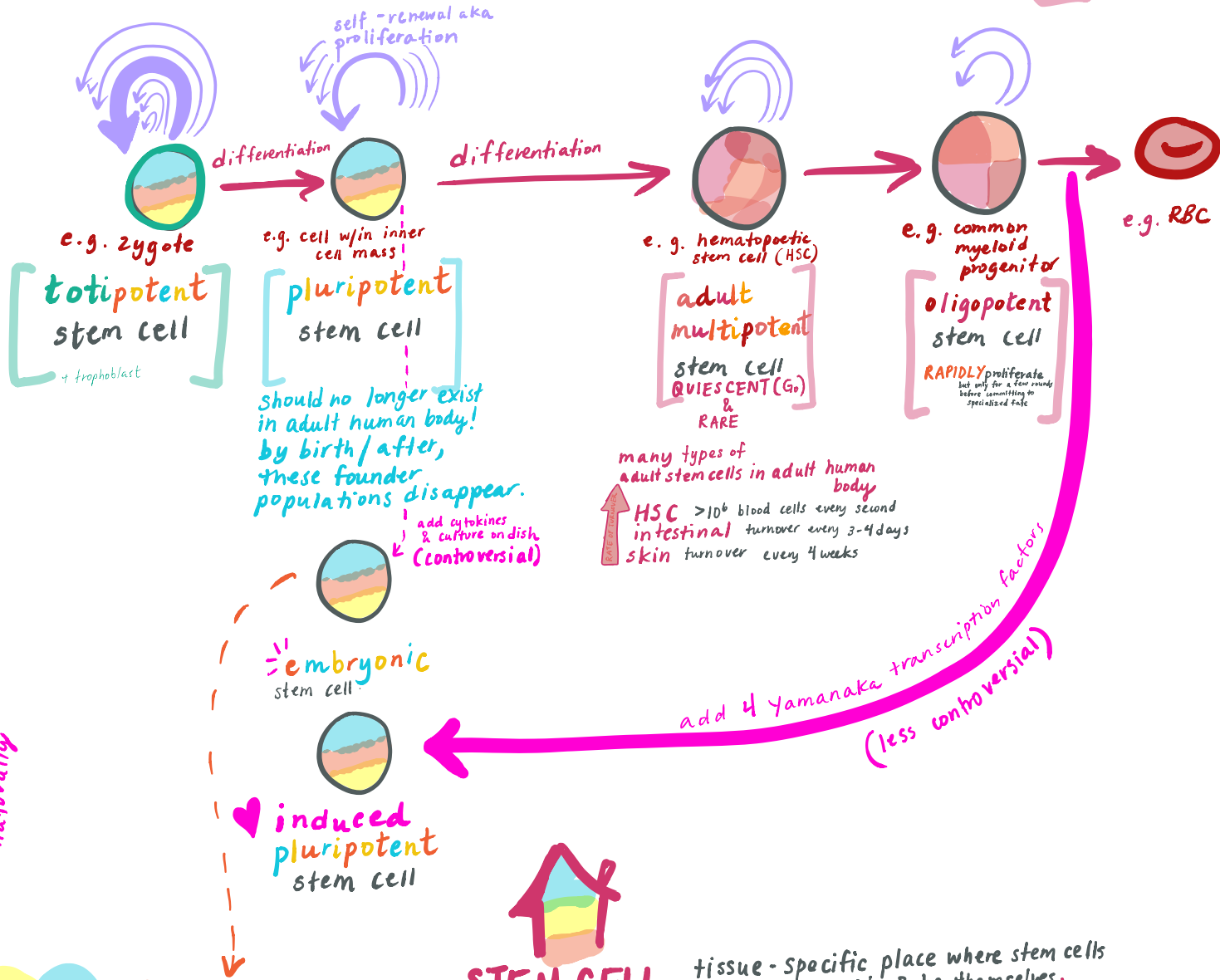
# STEM CELLS

1. can give rise to differentiated cells
2. can replicate itself (self-renewal)

## differentiation



Research Tools → Physiologic Human Dev



## STEM CELLS & Cancer

what's the connection?

### STEM CELL NICHE

tissue-specific place where stem cells can reside & be themselves, factors there maintain potency

- quiescent (G<sub>0</sub>) phase
- capacity for self renewal

stem cell model of cancer = cancer is a neoplastic transformation of a stem cell and/or progenitor. If the source of cancer resides in quiescent stem cell, chemo agents that selectively target rapidly dividing cells **WON'T** WDRK no 100% eradication

cancer is a clonal process = evidence of **MONOCLONAL** = identical genotype among pop'n population of cells indicates one cell evenly out of control w/ cell prolif → likely neoplasm



