#### Paper presentation JC Current Topics in Applied Immunology WS

# Systemically Injected Exosomes Targeted to EGFR Deliver Antitumor MicroRNA to Breast Cancer Cells

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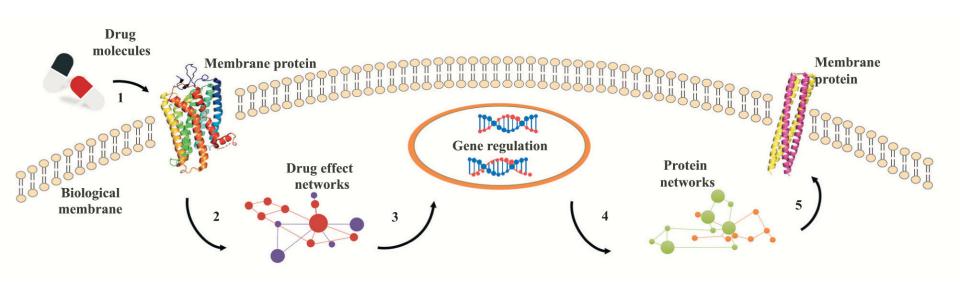
## Exosomes = drug delivery carrier in a model of cancer



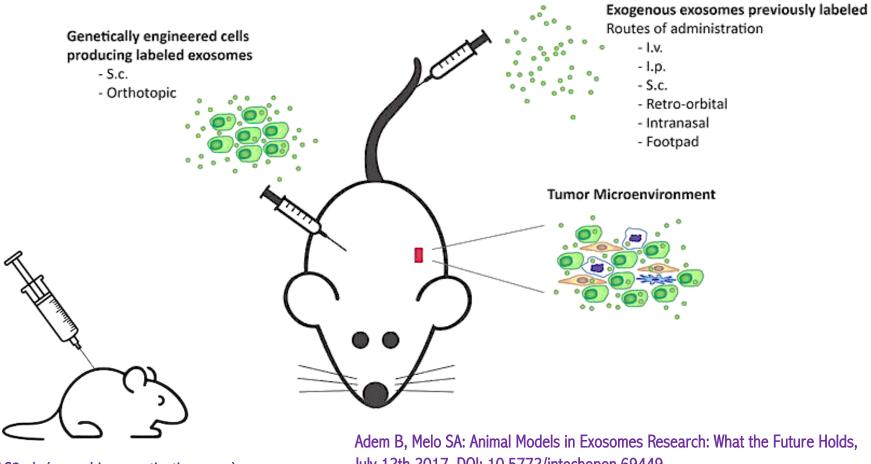
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#### Molecular Therapy (MOL THER)

Year	Bioxbio Journal Impact*	IF	Total Articles	Total Cites
2018/2019	-	8.402	219	16991
2017	-	7.008	216	16013
2016	-	6.688	187	15093
2015	-	6.938	170	14136
2014	-	6.227	189	13077
2013	-	6.425	213	12709
2012	-	7.041	219	12759
2011	-	6.873	230	11679
2010	-	7.149	235	11493



Gong J, Chen Y: Understanding Membrane Protein Drug Targets in Computational Perspective, Curr Drug Targets. 2019;20(5):551-564.



RAG2 -/- (recombinase activating gene) → keine reifen B-/T-Zellen, lymphopen

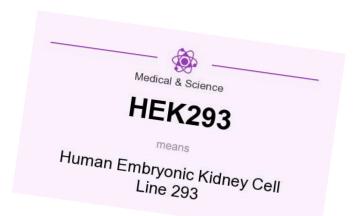
July 12th 2017, DOI: 10.5772/intechopen.69449

## EGFR (epidermal growth factor receptor)

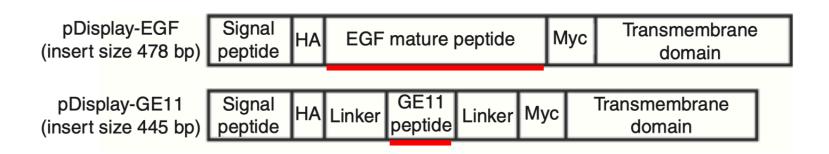
- expression in tumors of epithelial origin
- ligand (EGF) strongly mitogenic / neoangiogenic

- GE11 specifically binds EGFR (less mitogenic than EGF)
  - → expression on exosome plasma membranes by <u>pDisplay vector</u>

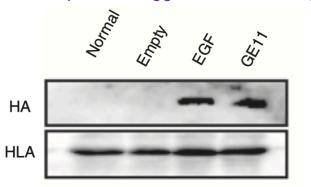
(in-vitro)



- HEK293 cell line
  - → transfected with pDisplay encoding GE11 / EGF



- cells cloned
- GE11/EGF-positive exosomes derived from supernatant
- GE11/EGF expression levels
  - → western blot (anti-hemagglutinin antibodies)





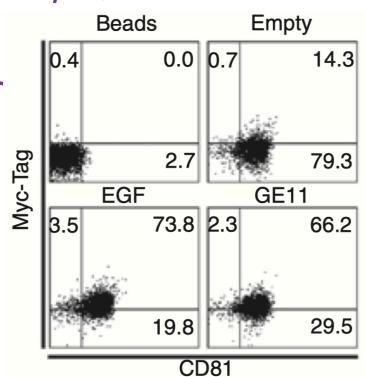
- FACS
  - → confirmed presence of GE11 / EGF

(on the outer membranes of exosomes)

 $\rightarrow$  CD81 = exosomal marker

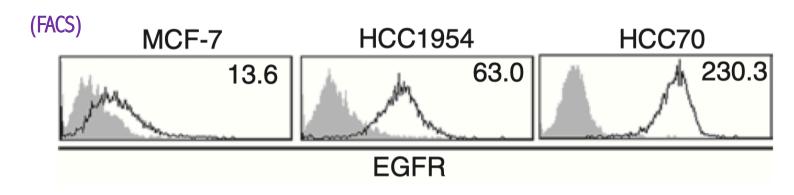
(positive control)

- latex beads = Träger
  - → anti-Myc-tag antibodies to detect exosome-complexes



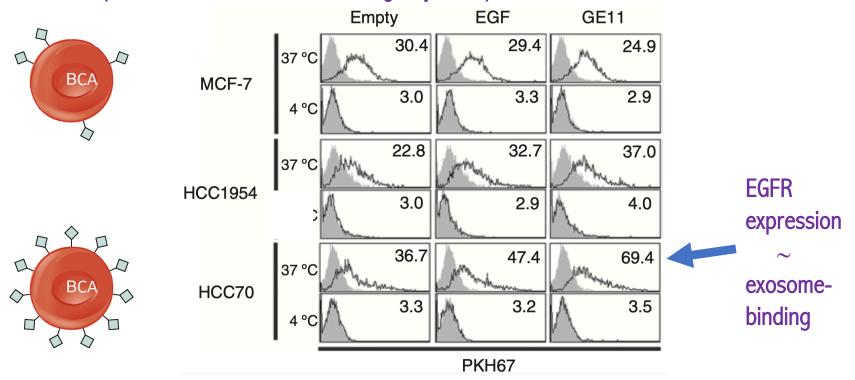
- EGFR-dependent binding of the exosomesupernatant?

- EGFR-expression of 3 human breast CA cell lines



# - <u>labeled</u> exosomes incubated with the CA cell lines

(FACS at 37°C vs. 4°C / non-biologically active)



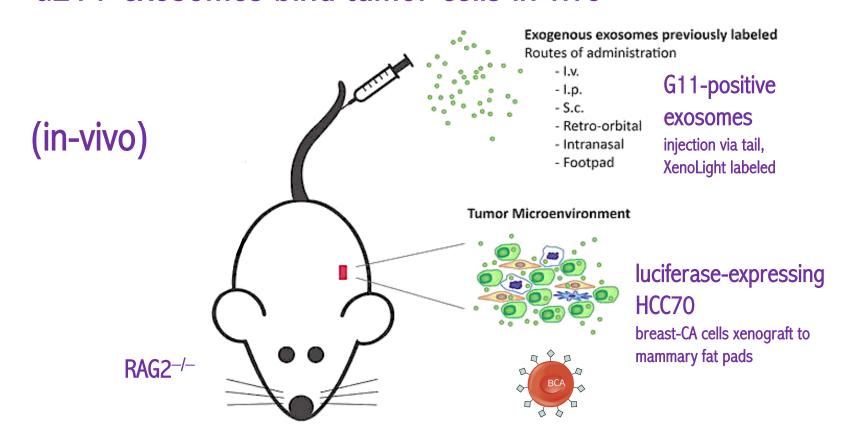
- <u>labeled</u> exosomes detected intracellular

(confocal fluorescence microscopy) Normal HCC70 PKH67-PBS PKH67-labeled PKH67-labeled EGF-exosome GE11-exosome

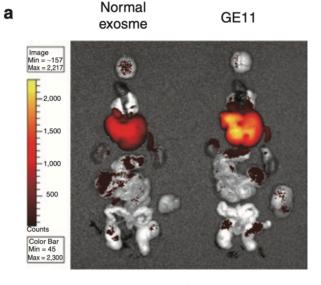
# uptake of modified exosomes into recepient cells

(EGFR-dependent mechanism) None Normal MCF-7 Normal pBABE MCF-7 EGFR/pBABE pBABE **EGF** empty vector **EGFR** /pBABE **GE11** HCC70 **EGFR** PKH67 EGFR-expression injected by uptake of PKH67-labeled EGF-/GE11-positive exosomes retroviral vector

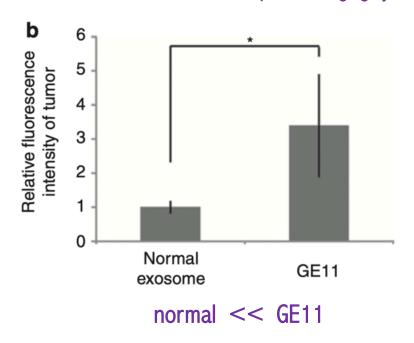
- GE11-exosomes bind tumor cells in vivo



- GE11-exosomes bind tumor cells in vivo (in vivo imaging system IVIS)



detection of migration of fluorescently labeled exosomes

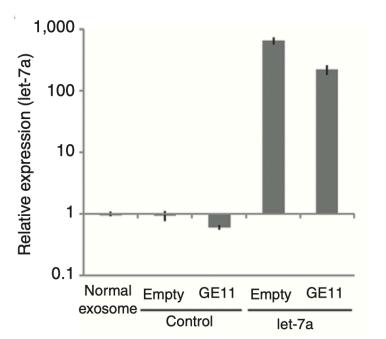


(lipofection/transfection)

- GE11-exosomes (miRNA-loaded) inhibit tumor growth

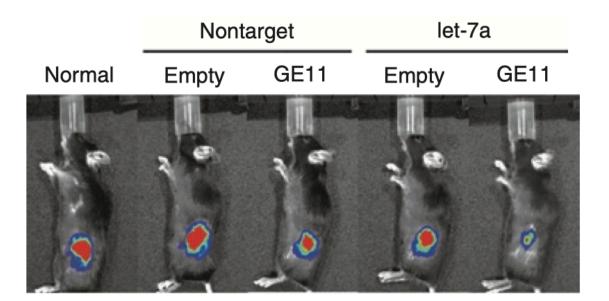
- let-7a (or control miRNA) introduced into GE11-/control-exosomes

HEK293 G11expressing cells transfected with let-7a, exosomes purified from supernatant



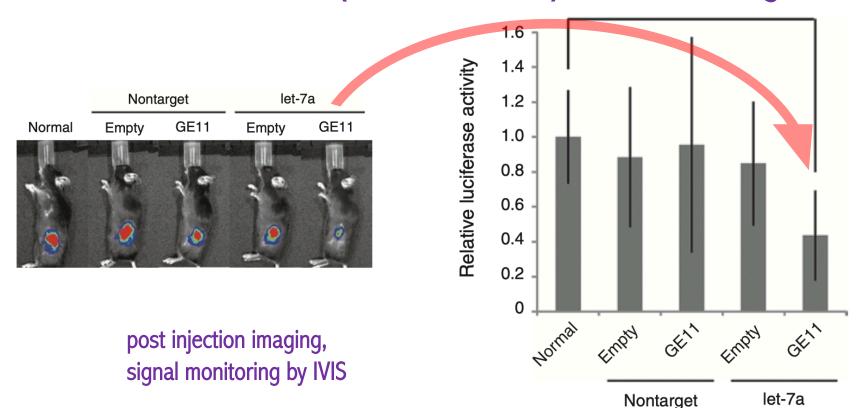
Amount of loaded miRNA determined in exosomes (PCR)

- GE11-exosomes (miRNA-loaded) inhibit tumor growth



post injection imaging, signal monitoring by IVIS

- GE11-exosomes (miRNA-loaded) inhibit tumor growth



# discussion:

#### PROs:

- miRNA replacement = NEW tumor suppressor strategy
- exosomes = natural carriers of miRNA
  - → target EGRF-expressing CAs
  - → GE11-exosomes do not stimulate EGFR signaling (cell proliferation)
- let7a-containing GE11-positive exosomes inhibit tumor growth
  - $\rightarrow$  potential tumor suppressor (HMGA2 expression  $\downarrow$ )

#### Cons:

exosomes as drug delivery largely unkown