

POSTER PRESENTATION

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The *in vivo* function of the p53 target gene TIGAR

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From Metabolism, diet and disease
Washington, DC, USA. 29-31 May 2012

The p53 tumour suppressor inhibits tumour development via various mechanisms such as apoptosis, inhibition of proliferation or the activation of senescence. Recently, several studies have indicated a novel role of p53 in the regulation of energy metabolism. Previously we have discovered TIGAR, a p53 target gene that acts as a fructose-2,6-bisphosphatase. TIGAR therefore can redirect glucose from the glycolytic pathway to the pentose phosphate pathway (PPP), which promotes NADPH production to generate reduced glutathione for protecting against ROS, and also ribose 5 phosphate production for nucleotide synthesis. In order to understand the function of TIGAR *in vivo*, we generated TIGAR deficient mice. We have determined a critical role of TIGAR in rapidly proliferating tissue, either for repair after damage or during tumor development.

Acknowledgements

This work was supported by Cancer Research UK; ECC is supported by a Canadian Institutes of Health Research fellowship.

Published: 1 June 2012

doi:10.1186/1753-6561-6-S3-P12

Cite this article as: Cheung et al.: The *in vivo* function of the p53 target gene TIGAR. *BMC Proceedings* 2012 **6**(Suppl 3):P12.

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