

Project 4:

Identification of genes linked to aberrant Wnt signaling in melanoma

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Wnt proteins are secreted morphogens that regulate key processes during development and homeostasis. Aberrant regulation by means of overexpression of ligands or signal transducers has been linked to many cancers, including multiple stages of melanoma tumorigenesis.

Nevertheless, the precise role of canonical and non-canonical Wnt signaling in melanoma is still unknown. Therefore, we propose to dissect the cellular processes that are influenced by Wnt in melanoma cells using genetic, biochemical and cell-biological methods.