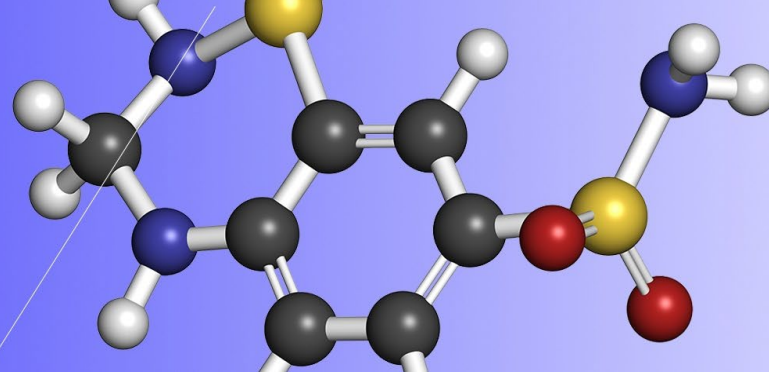


DEPARTMENT OF
**PHARMACOLOGY
& THERAPEUTICS**



McGill

Department of
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Département
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Potential mechanisms of tungsten-induced carcinogenesis

Koren K. Mann

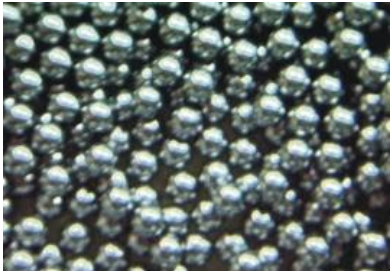
May 4, 2023

Genetic Toxicology Association Annual Meeting

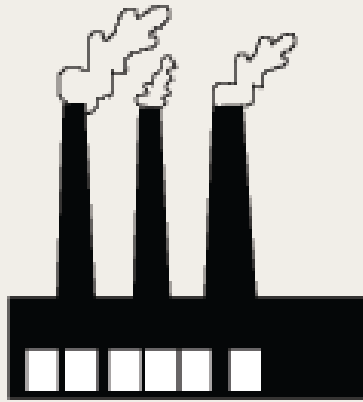
COI

I receive research funding from Recludix for a DLBCL project (unrelated to the current talk).

Tungsten
74
W
183.84



Tungstates



Fallon, Nevada



Fallon, Nevada Leukemia Cluster

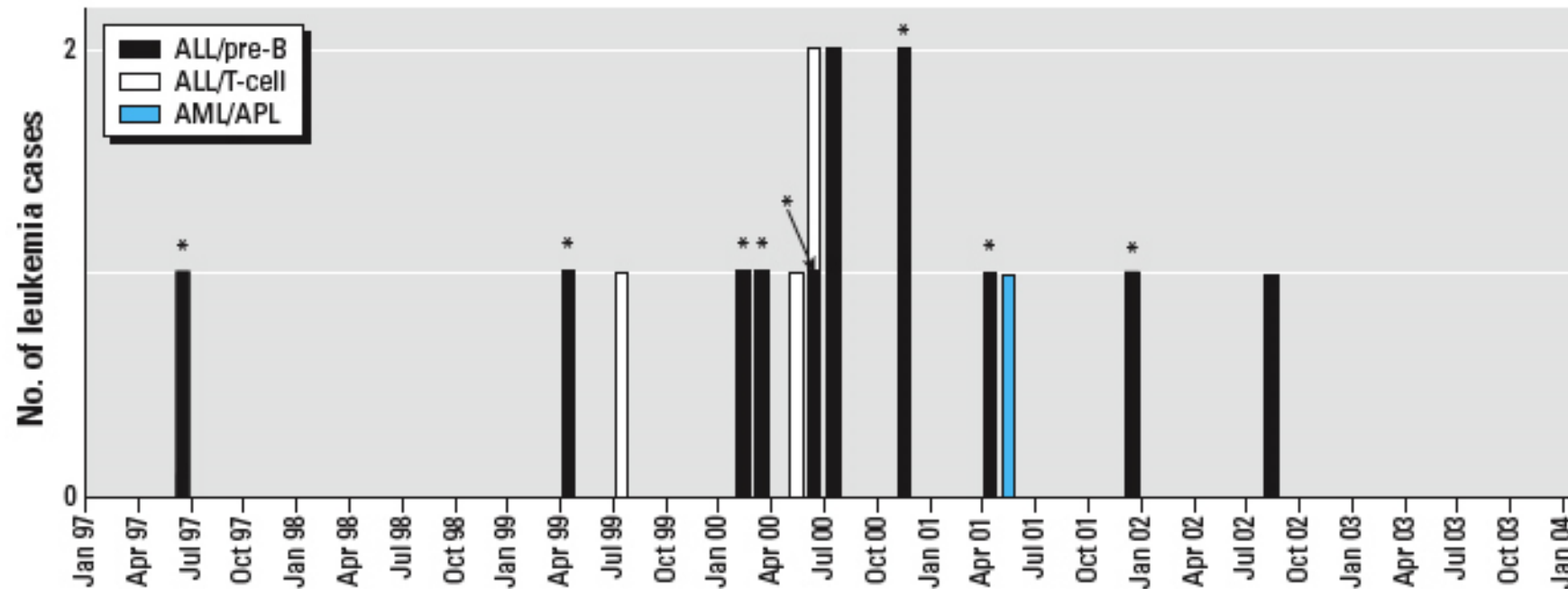
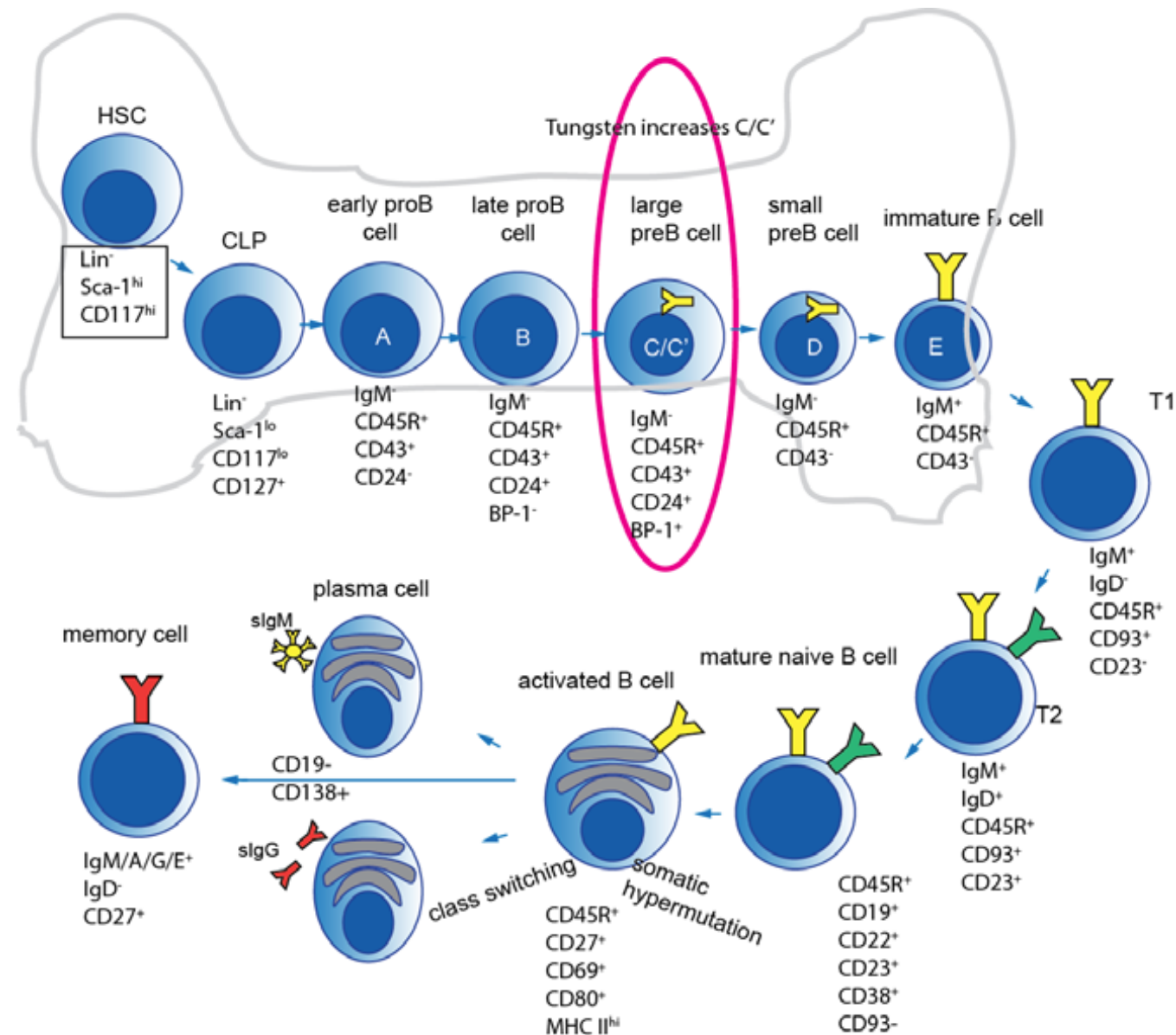


Figure 1. Temporal distribution of the 16 children who had lived in Churchill County, Nevada, and were diagnosed with leukemia between June 1997 and August 2002. Cancer type and cell type are defined. One case declined participation in the study, and one was diagnosed outside the study period. The nine individuals fitting the restricted case definition are indicated by asterisks (*).

B lymphocyte Development

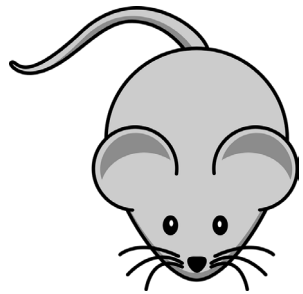


Can tungsten exposure lead to leukemogenesis?

IF....THEN

- B cell development occurs in the bone marrow within the bone after birth. Thus, this compartment should be exposed to tungsten.
- Kids in Fallon, largely had Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia of the preB subtype. So, tungsten would be predicted to have an effects on developing B cell populations.

Tungsten Accumulates in the Bone

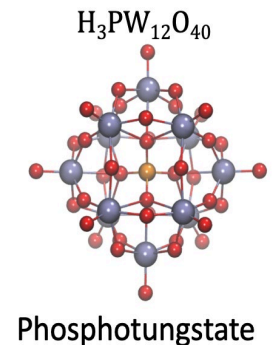
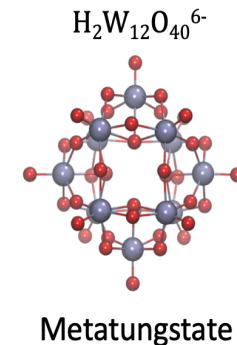
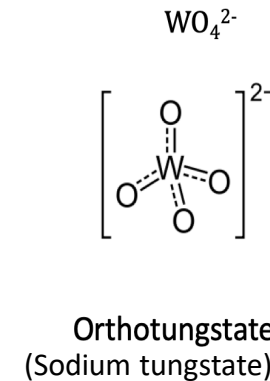
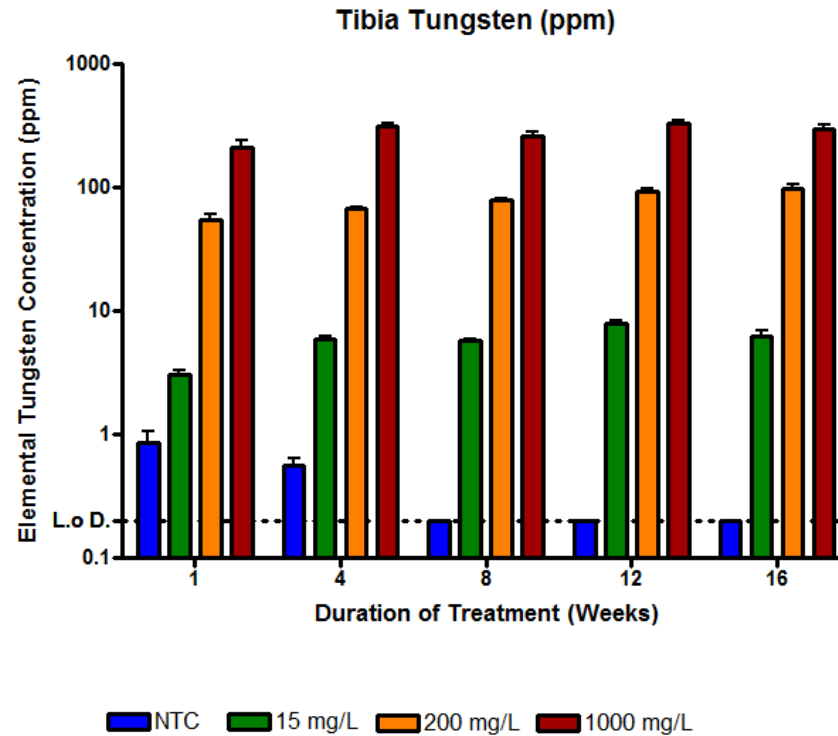


Tap water
with or
without
Sodium
tungstate

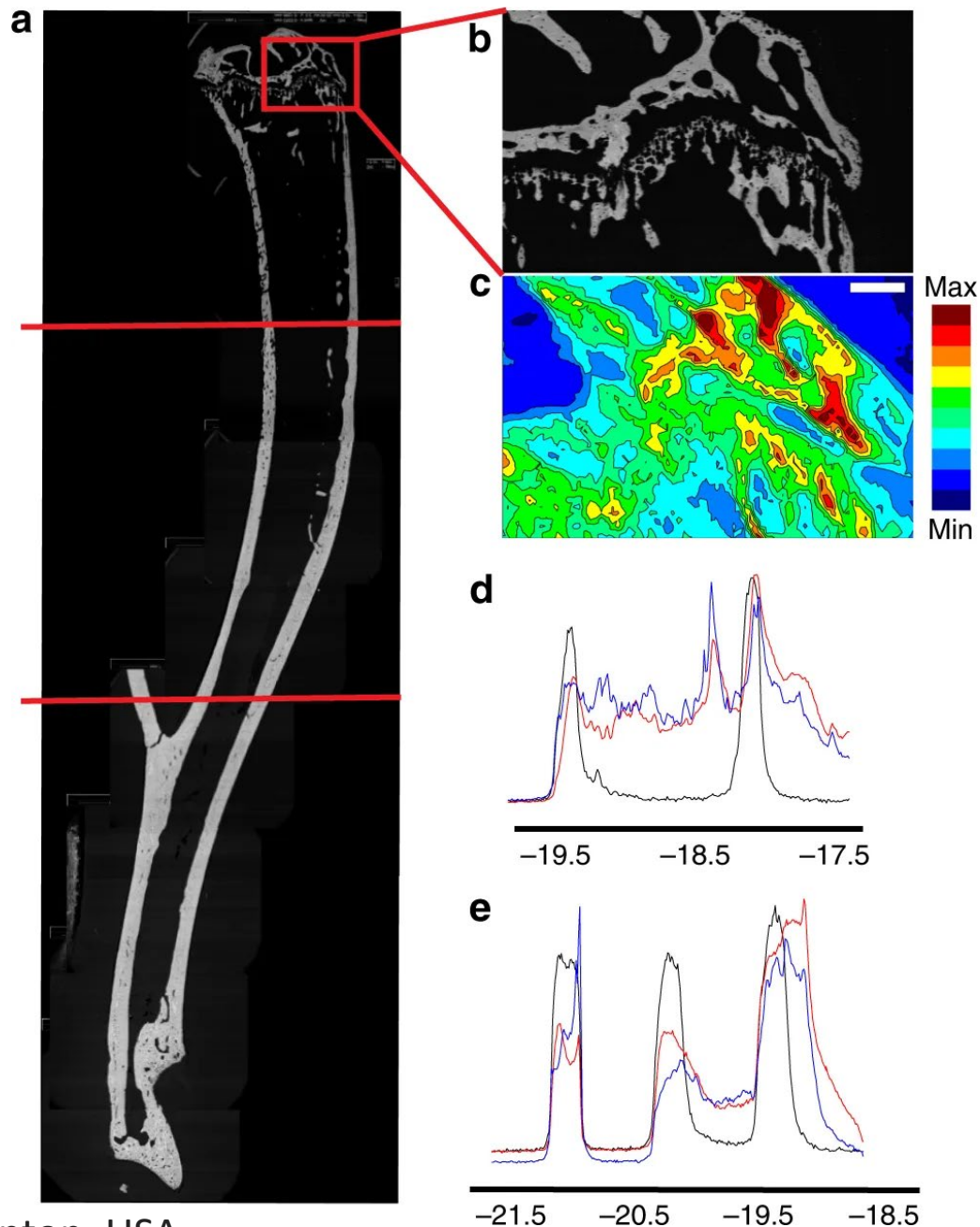


Male C57Bl6/J mice
5 weeks old

ICP-MS



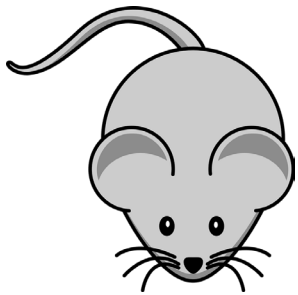
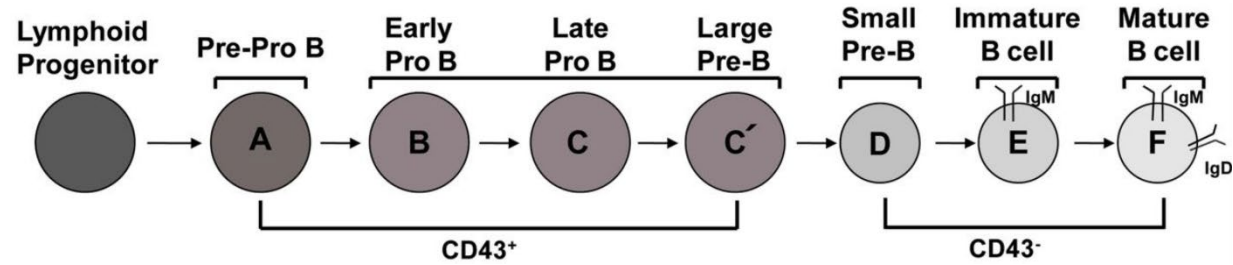
Synchrotron radiation micro X-ray fluorescence (SR- μ XRF) shows tungsten in bone



Black = calcium
Red = tungsten
Blue = zinc

VanderSchee et al. Comm Chem 2018
Canadian Light Source (CLS) in Saskatoon, Canada
National Synchrotron Light Source II (NSLS-II) in Upton, USA

Tungsten exposure results in increased preB cells



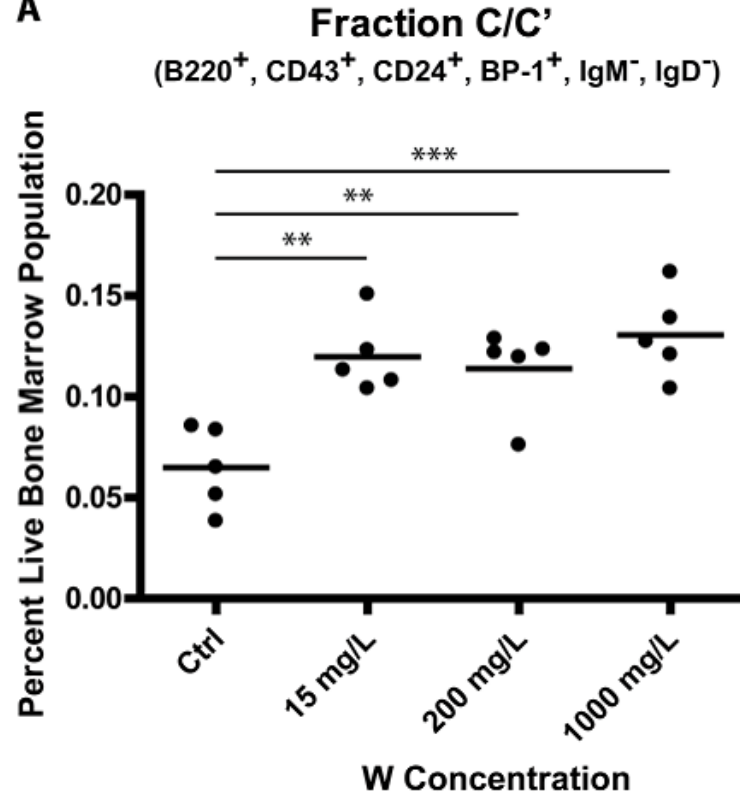
Male C57Bl6/J mice
5 weeks old

Tap water
with or
without
Sodium
tungstate

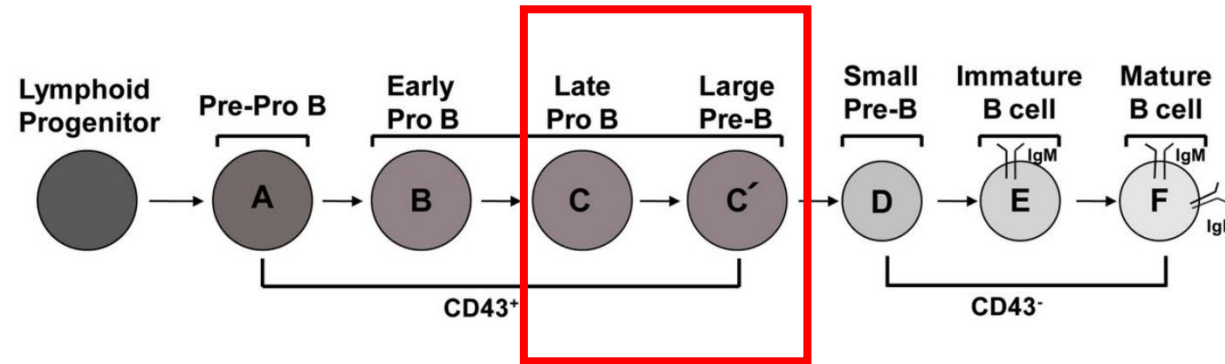


Bone Marrow for B cell
Immunophenotyping by
flow cytometry

A

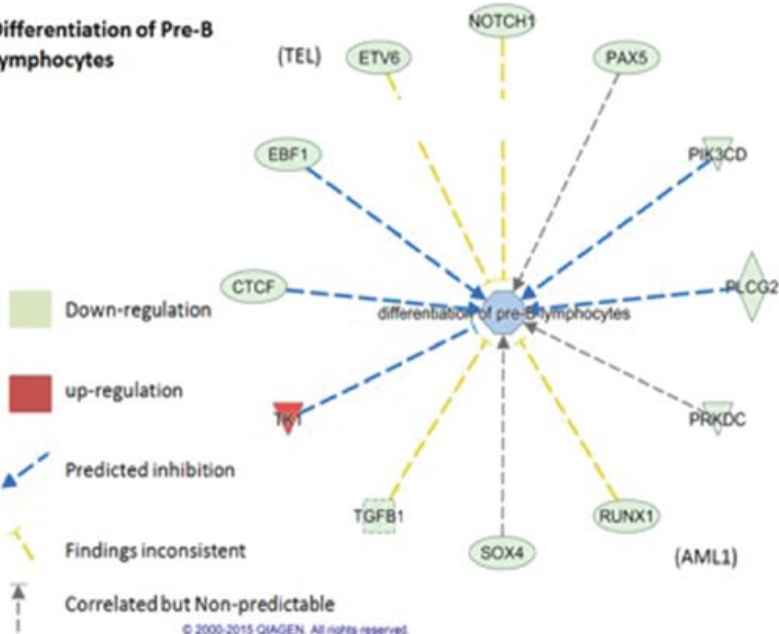


Tungsten-induced changes in preB cells sorted from murine bone marrow

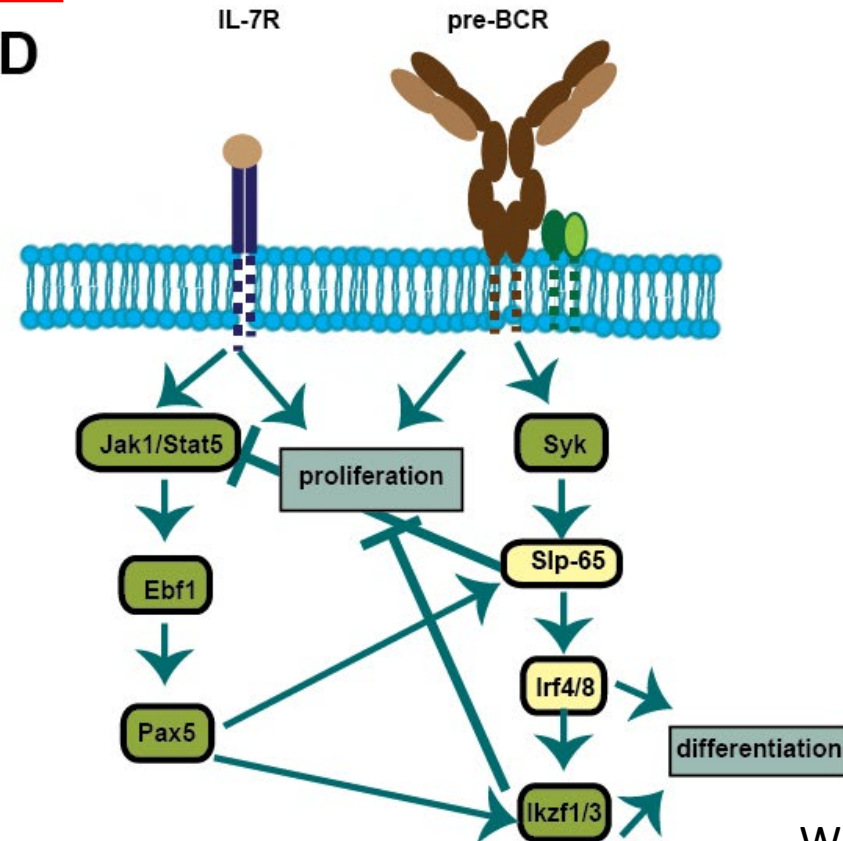


C

Differentiation of Pre-B Lymphocytes



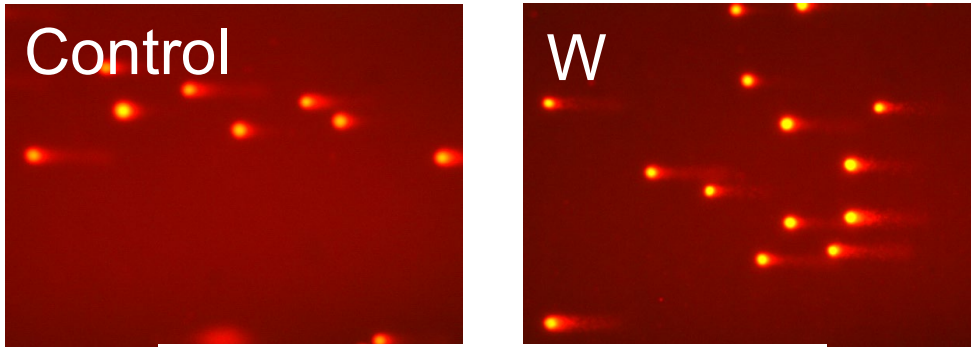
D



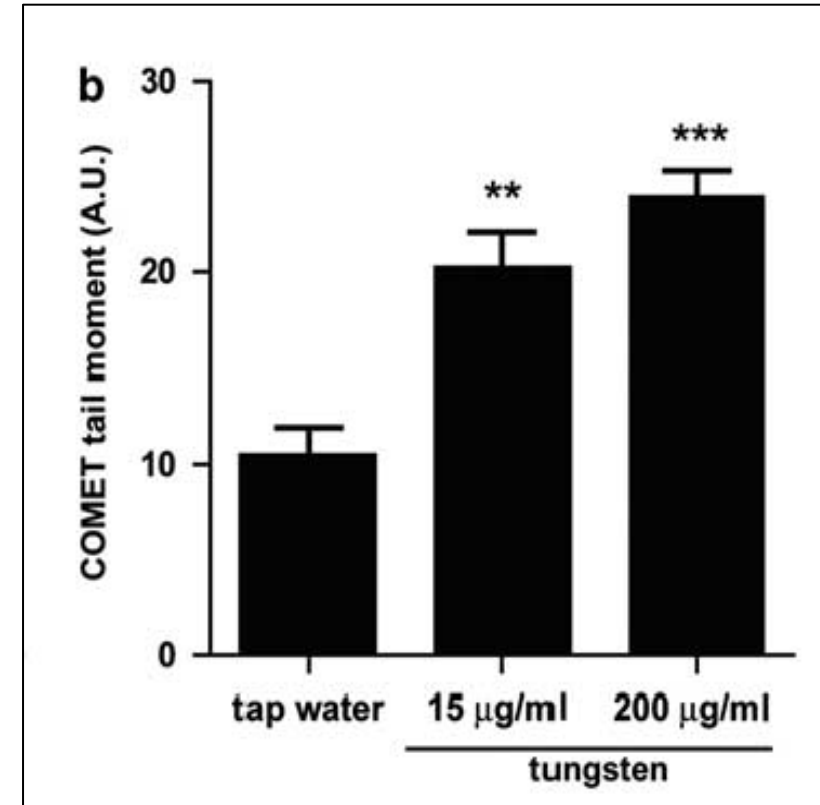
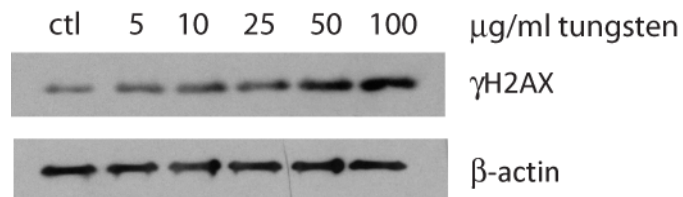
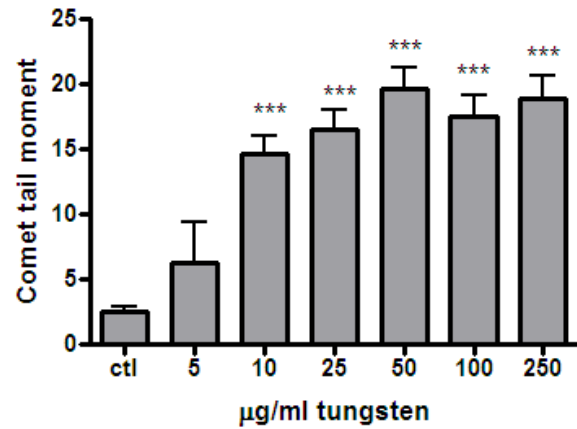
Tungsten exposure increases DNA damage in Developing B cells

In Vitro Whitlock-Witte Cultures

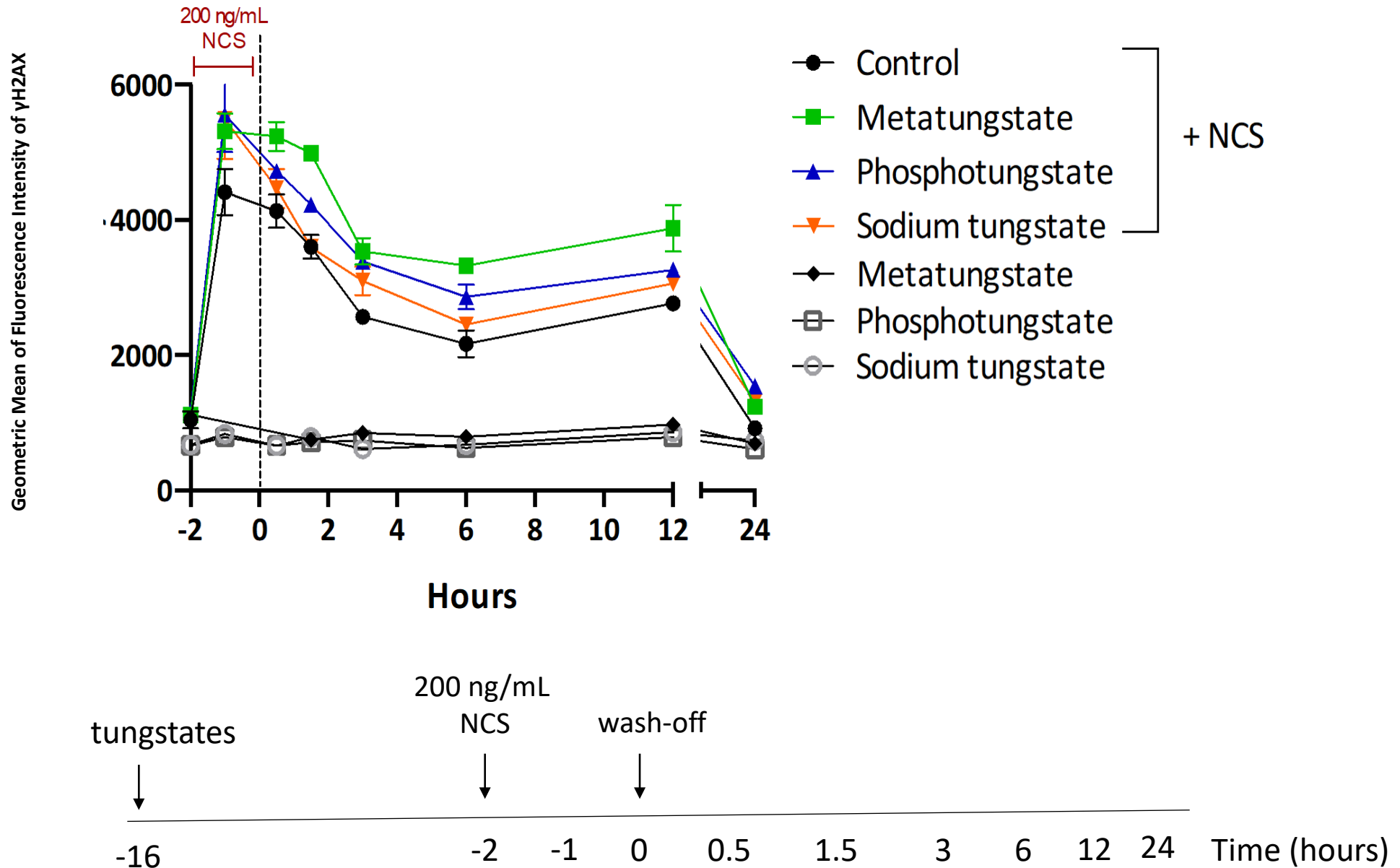
In Vivo Tungsten exposed mouse (8 weeks)



Primary Bone Marrow Culture

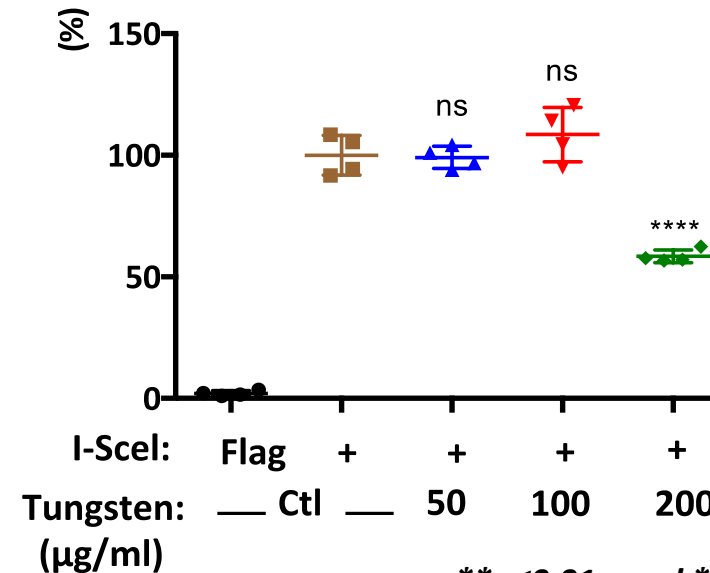
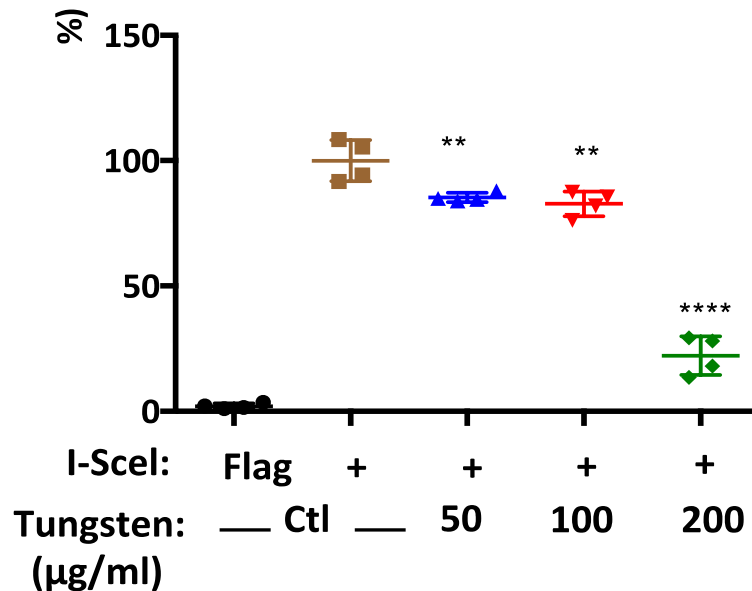
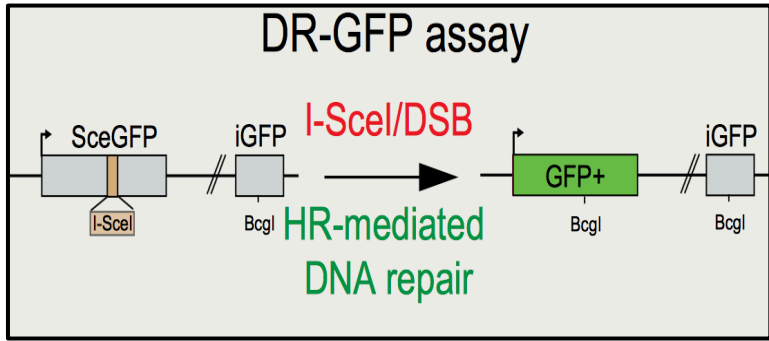


Tungsten Alters DNA Damage Repair



Tungstates Inhibit HR DNA Damage Repair

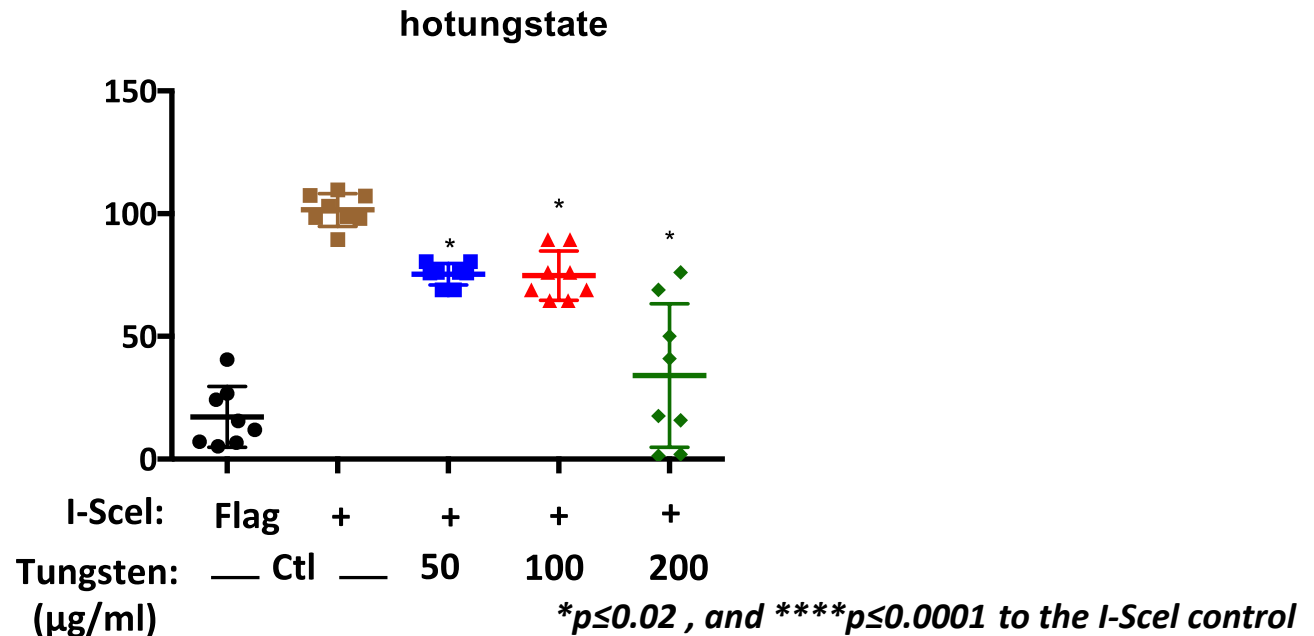
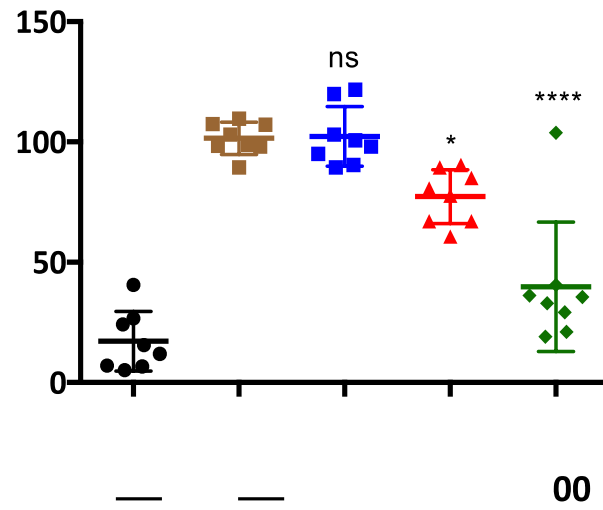
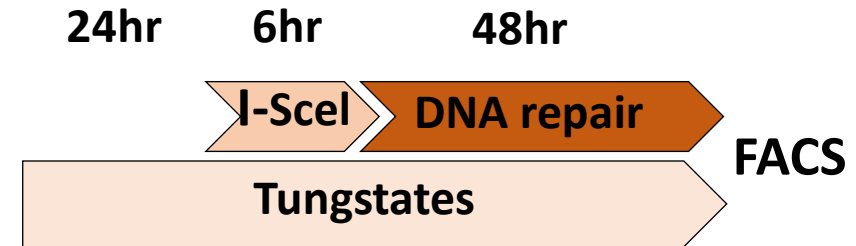
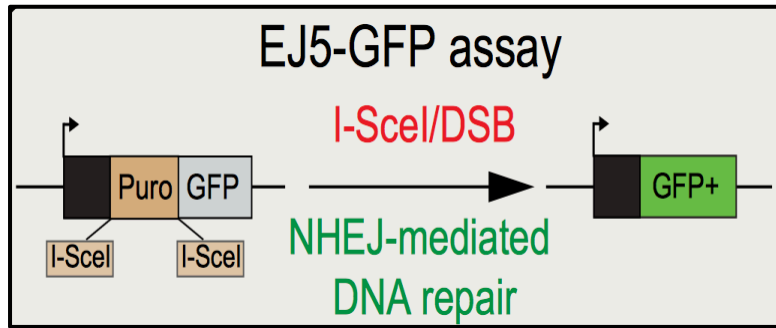
Homology-mediated GFP-based DNA reporter assay



** $p \leq 0.01$, and **** $p \leq 0.0001$ to the I-SceI control

Tungstates Inhibit NHEJ DNA Damage Repair

Non-Homologues End Joining -mediated GFP-based DNA reporter assay



Conclusions

Tungsten may contribute to carcinogenesis by:

- Modulating intracellular signaling leading to an inhibition of differentiation
- Acting to increase DNA damage in the context of endogenous or exogenous damage, although not inducing DNA damage itself.
- Inhibiting DNA damage repair mechanisms, potentially through common NHEJ/HR DDR molecule.

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Riddled With Metal by Mistake in a Study



Ann Johansson for The New York Times

QUANDARY One woman is considering a disfiguring operation to remove tungsten.

By DENISE GRADY
Published: March 21, 2011

Women participating in a study of patients with [breast cancer](#) have been inadvertently left with hundreds of tiny particles of the heavy metal tungsten in their breast tissue and chest muscles. The particles came from a device used during surgery. The device has since been recalled.

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Breast Device Recall Made Most Severe

By DENISE GRADY
Published: April 14, 2011

The [recall of a medical device](#) that left particles of tungsten in women's breasts has been classified as the most serious type of recall, one involving "situations in which there is a reasonable probability that use of these products will cause serious adverse health consequences or death," the [Food and Drug Administration](#) said on Wednesday.

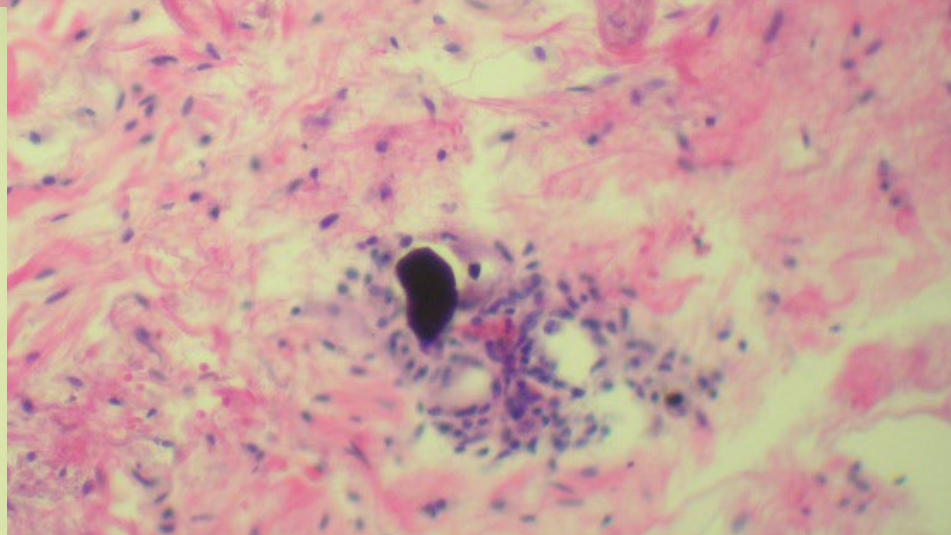
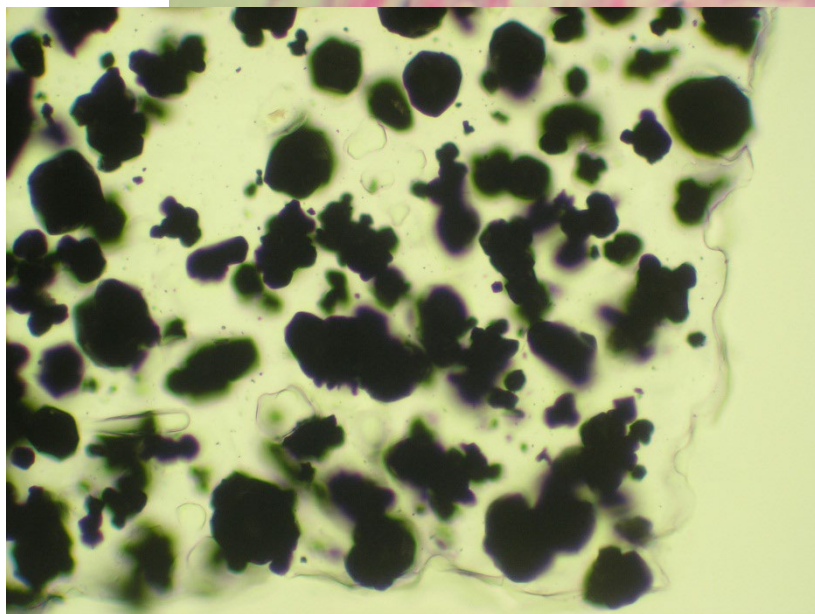
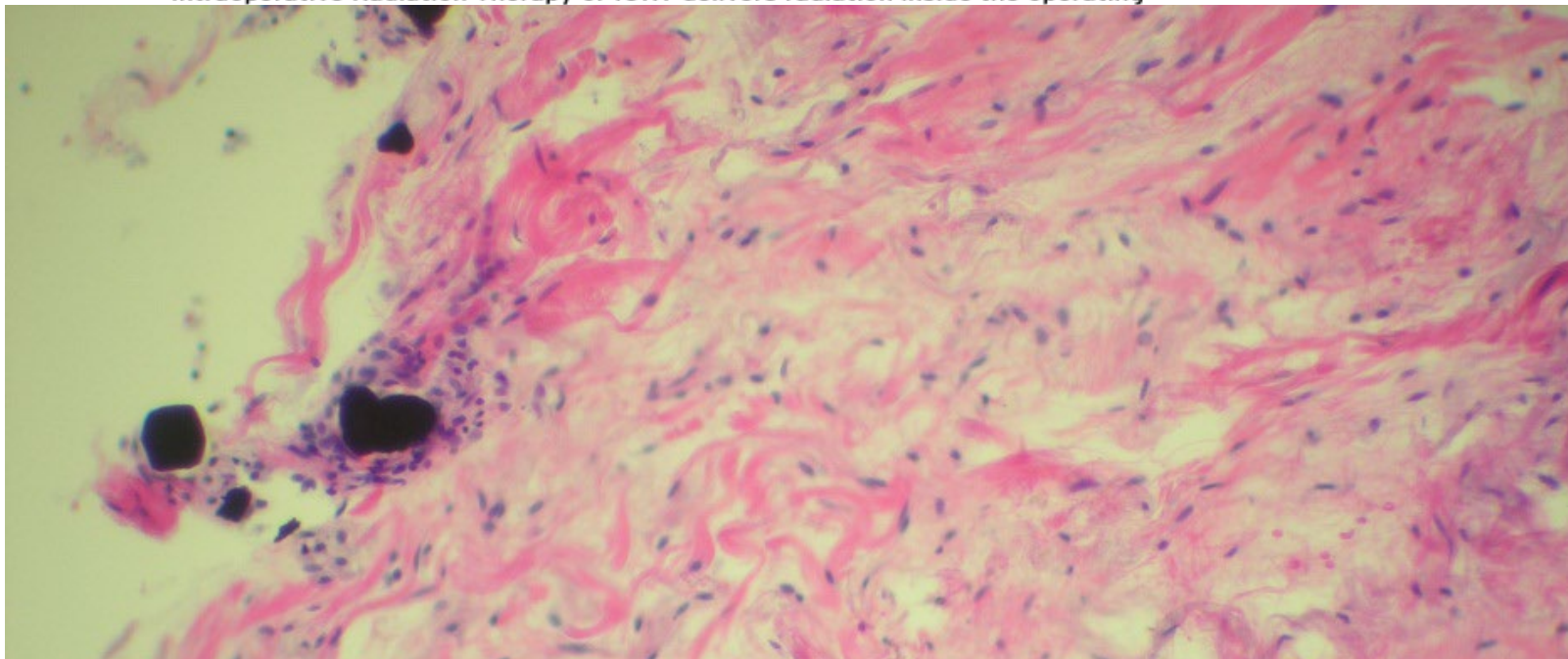
The device, [the Axxent FlexiShield Mini](#), was a pad made of tungsten and silicone rubber that was temporarily placed inside breast incisions during an unusual procedure in which women were given an entire

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- PRINT
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- SHARE

501 (k) expedited approval!!!

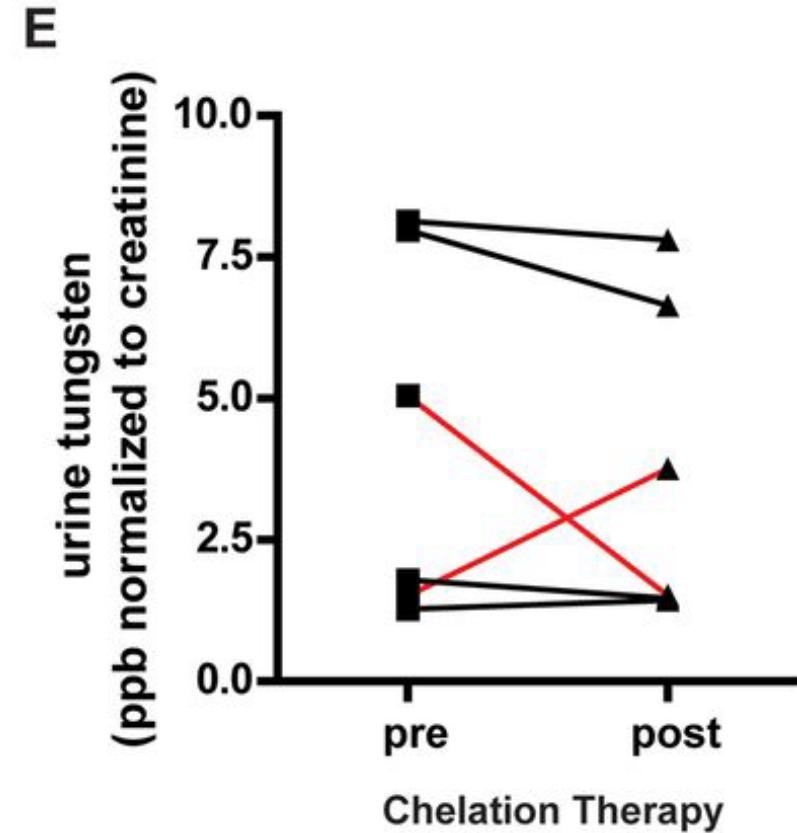
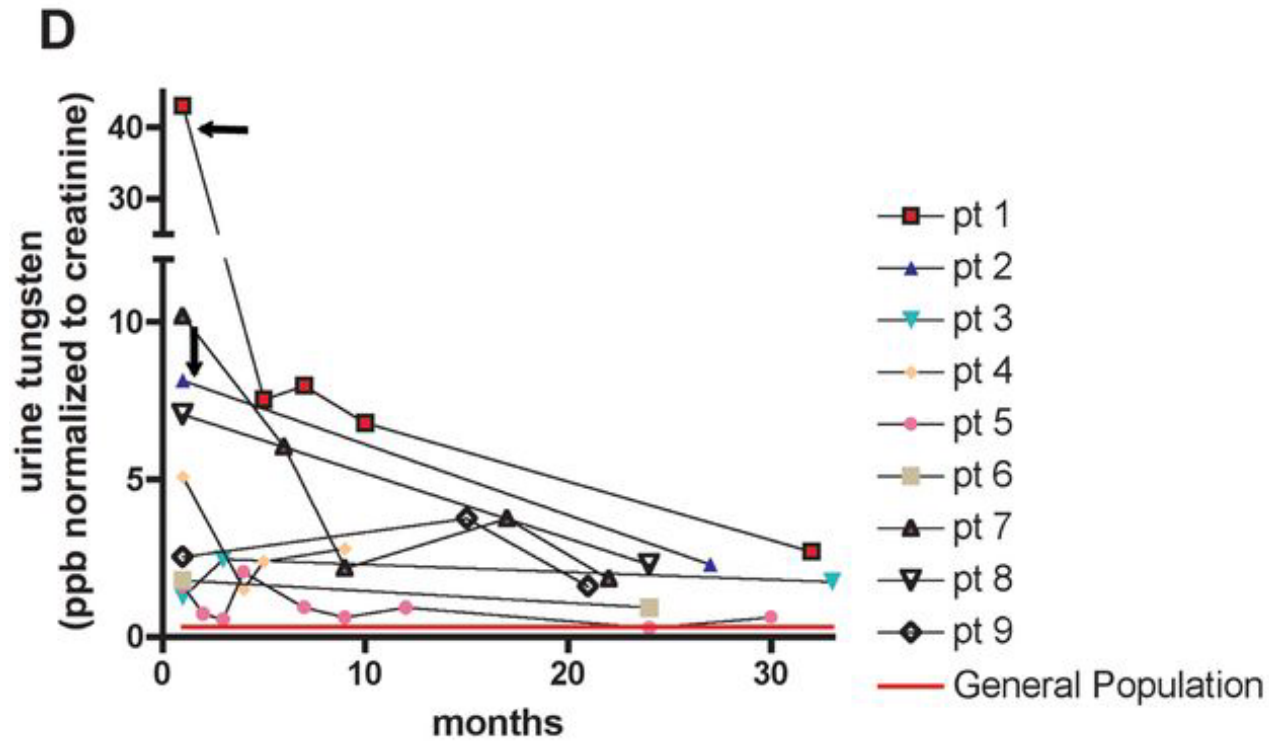
How IORT works

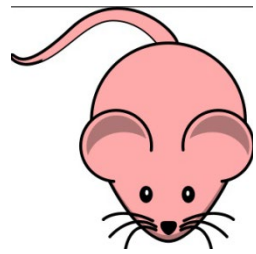
Intraoperative Radiation Therapy or IORT delivers radiation inside the operating



the shield are
incision is
outine procedure.

Breast cancer patients were exposed to tungsten during a recent clinical trial.





tungsten for
one month

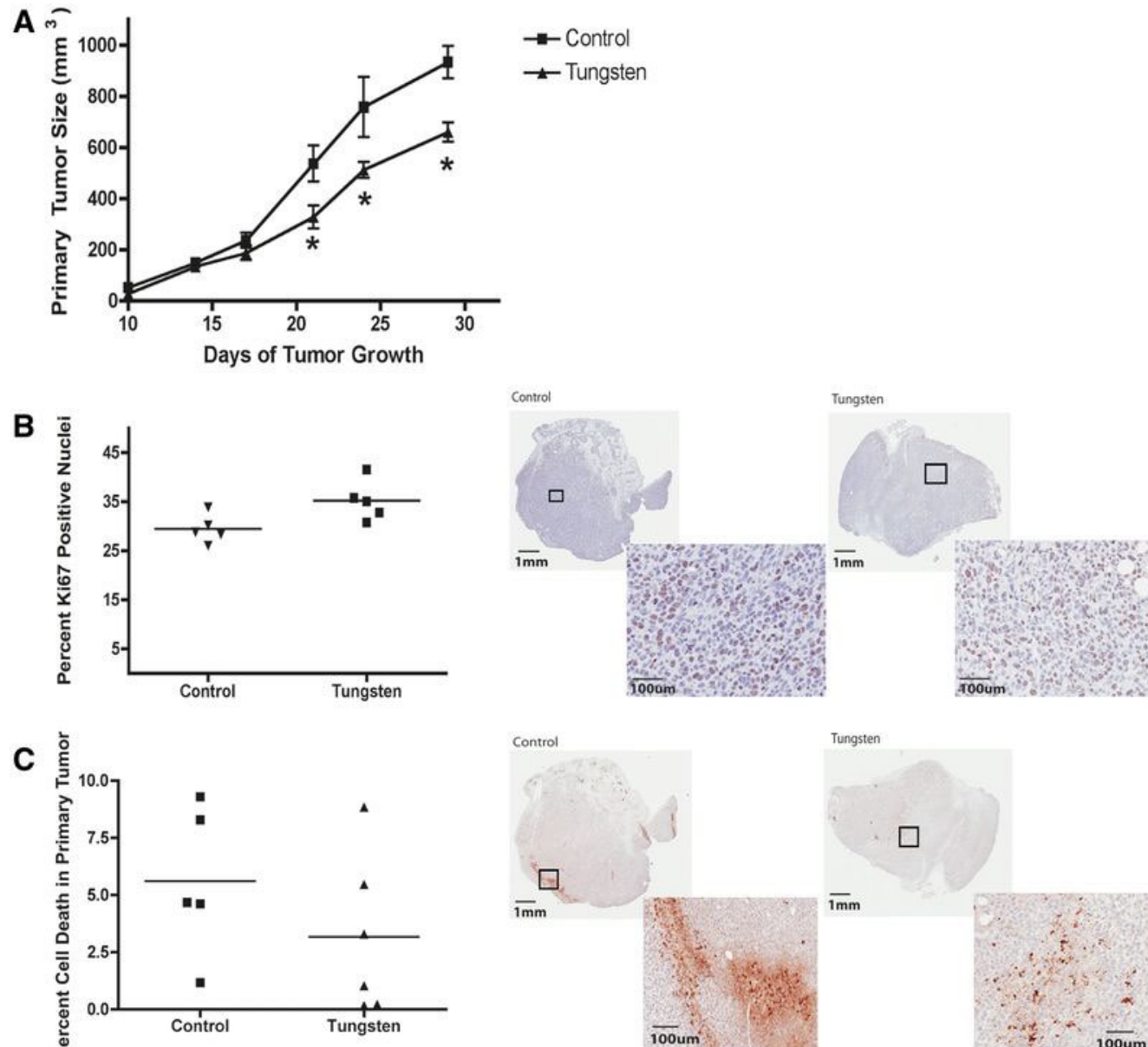


Implant $^{66}\text{Cl}4$
breast tumor

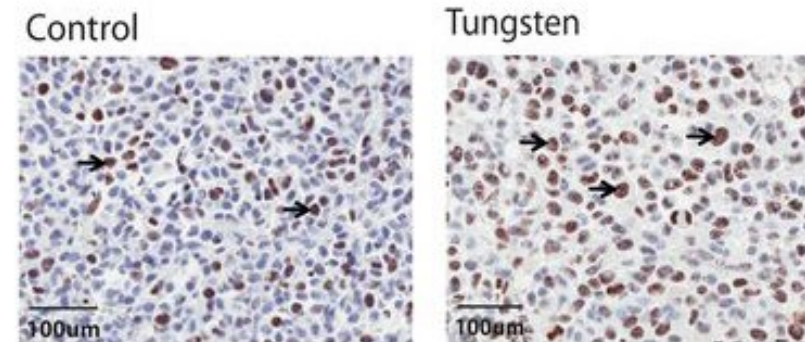
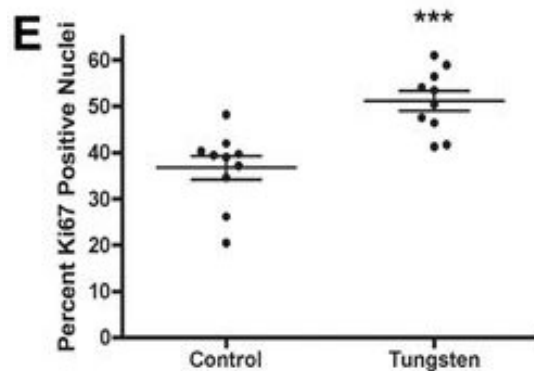
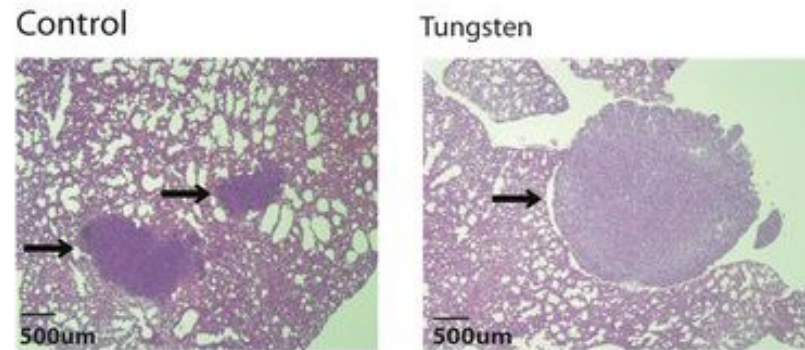
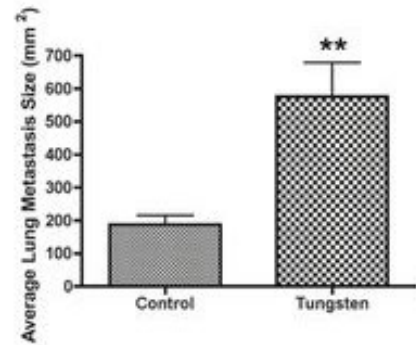
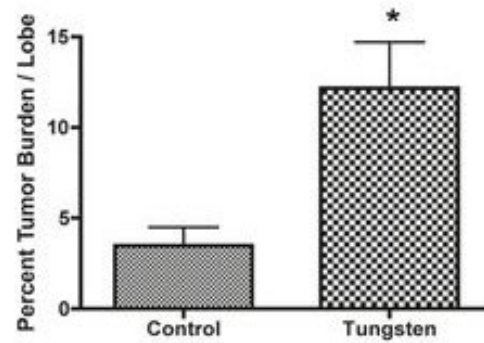
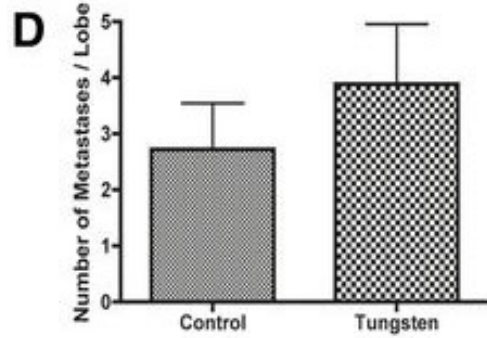


Measure primary
tumor growth and
metastases
in lung

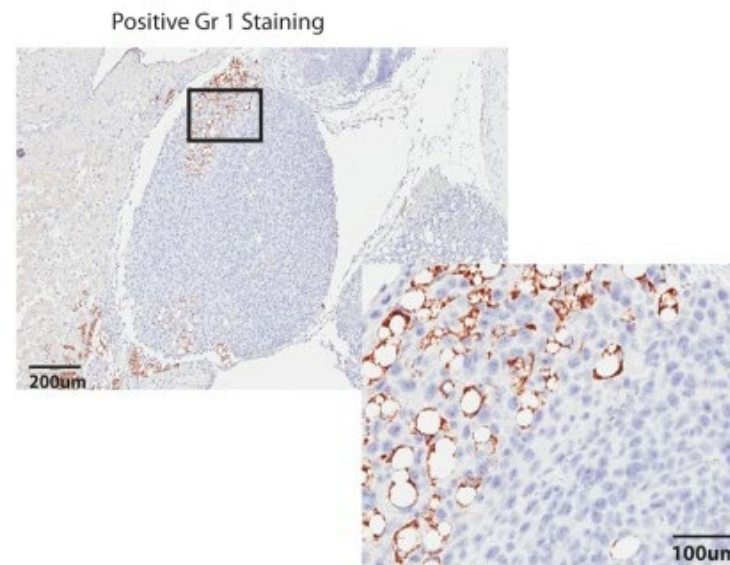
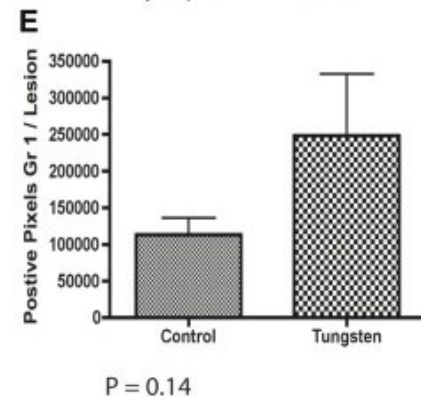
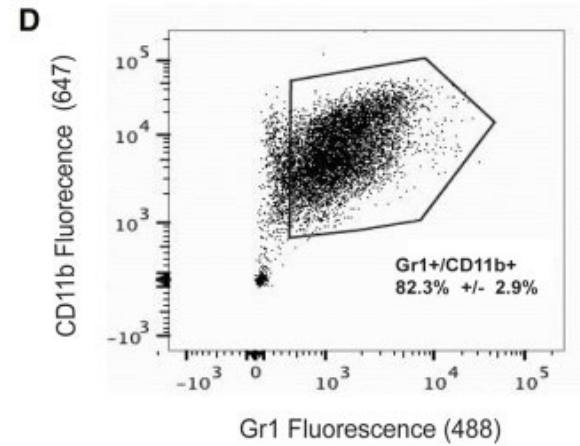
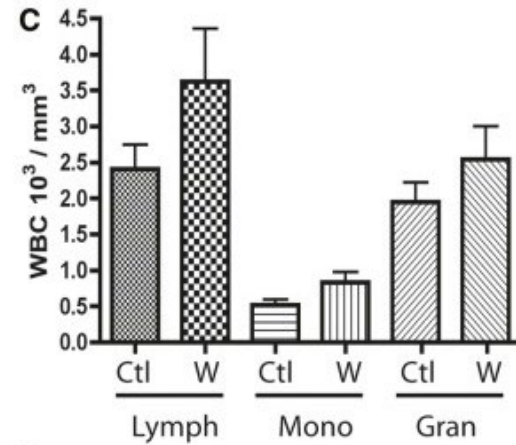
Tungsten does not enhance primary tumor growth



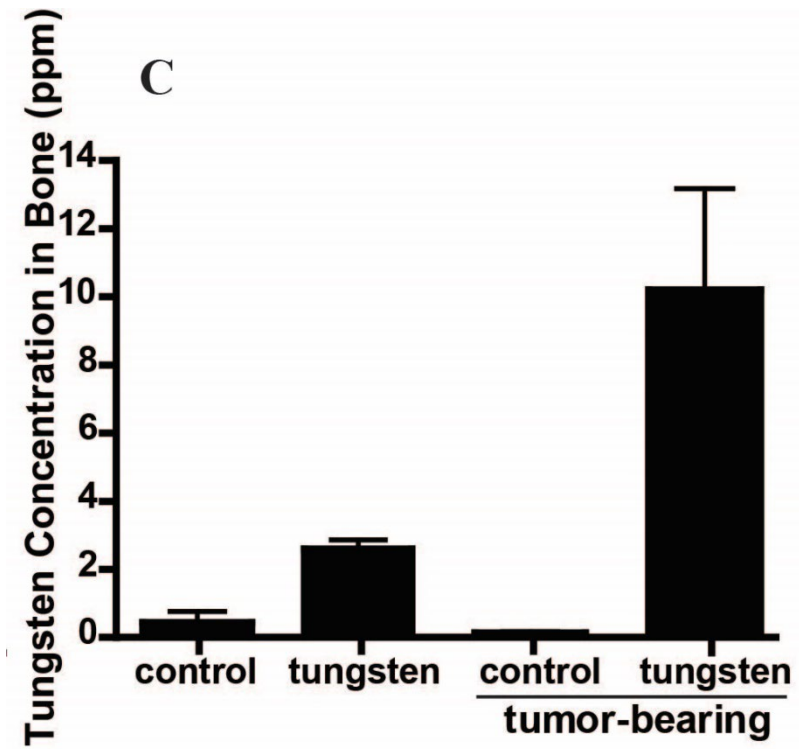
Tungsten does enhance lung metastases



Tungsten increases myeloid-derived suppressor cell number



Tungsten content of the bone is increased in tumor-bearing mice



Conclusions II

Tungsten may contribute to carcinogenesis by:

- Modulating intracellular signaling leading to an inhibition of differentiation
- Acting to increase DNA damage in the context of endogenous or exogenous damage, although not inducing DNA damage itself.
- Inhibiting DNA damage repair mechanisms, potentially through common NHEJ/HR DDR molecule.
- **Modulating the metastatic niche and recruiting repressive immune components.**



**Rowa
Bakadlag**

**Cynthia
Guilbert**

- Lab Alumni
- Alex Benoit
 - **Alicia Bolt**
 - Chris Chiavatti
 - **Hsiang Chou**
 - Sara Ghandour
 - **Alex Kelly**
 - Maryse Lemaire
 - **Sheen Li**
 - Fernando Negro Silva
 - Alessandra Padovani
 - Dany Plourde
 - **Joshua Wu**

Collaborators

- Dr. Fackson Mwale and Dr. Michael Grant (LDI)
- Dr. Scott Bohle and Cassidy VanderSchee (McGill University)
- Dr. Mike Tyers and Caroline Huard (IRIC)
- Dr. Barbara Hales and Lama Iskandarani (McGill University)
- Dr. Brian P. Jackson, Dartmouth College

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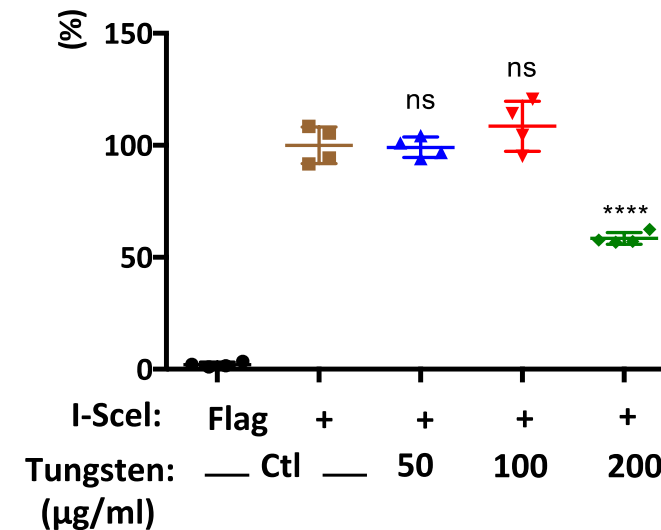
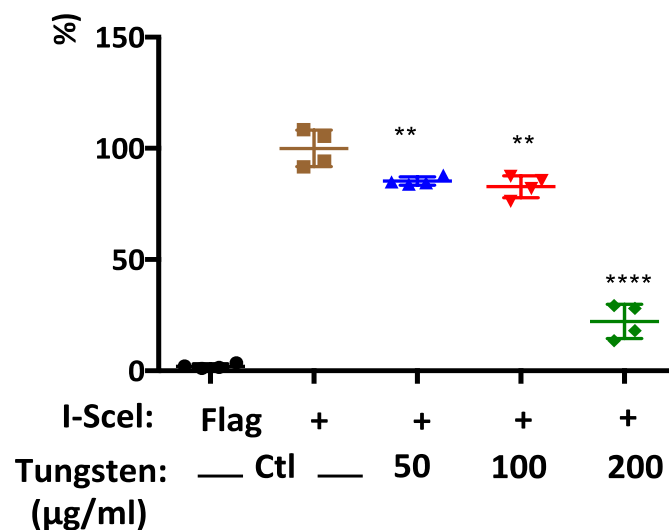
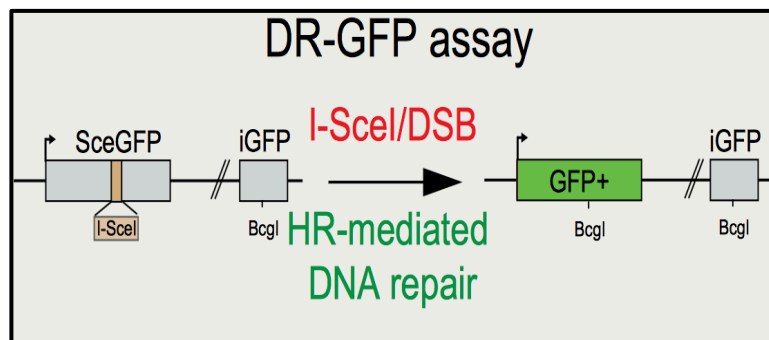


Cancer
Research
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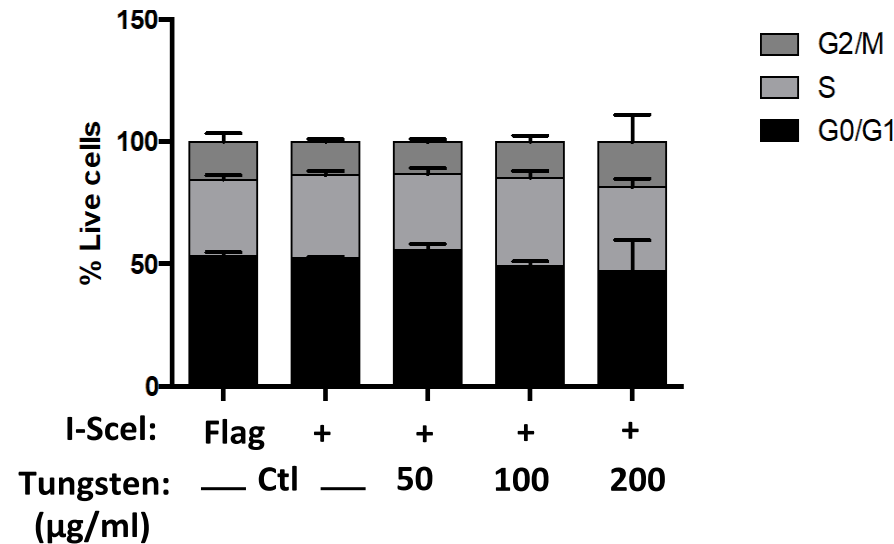
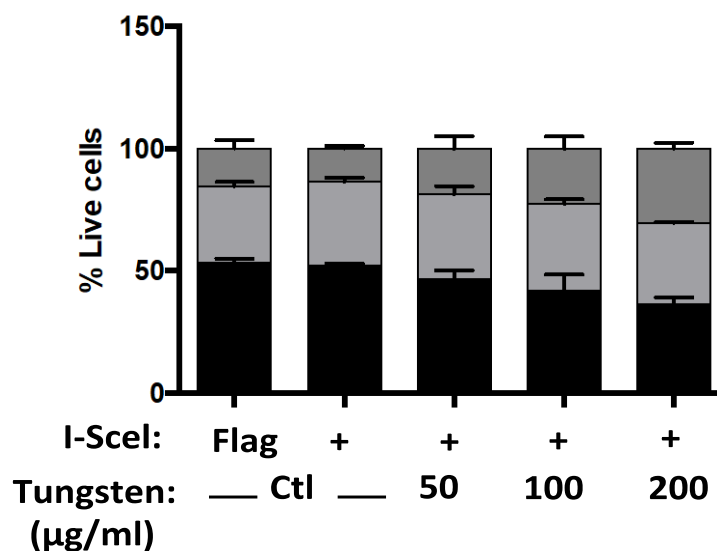
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Tungstates Inhibit DNA Damage HR Response

Homology-mediated GFP-based DNA reporter assay



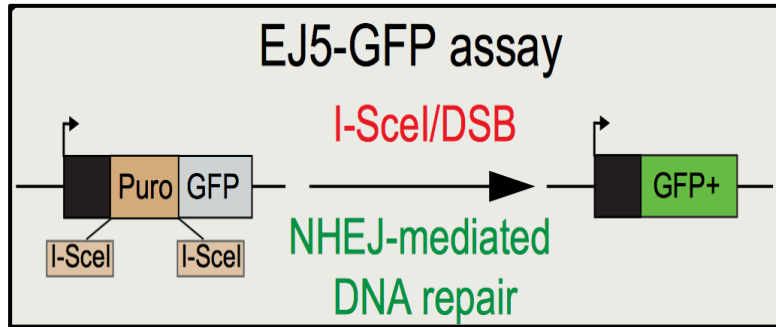
HeLa cells



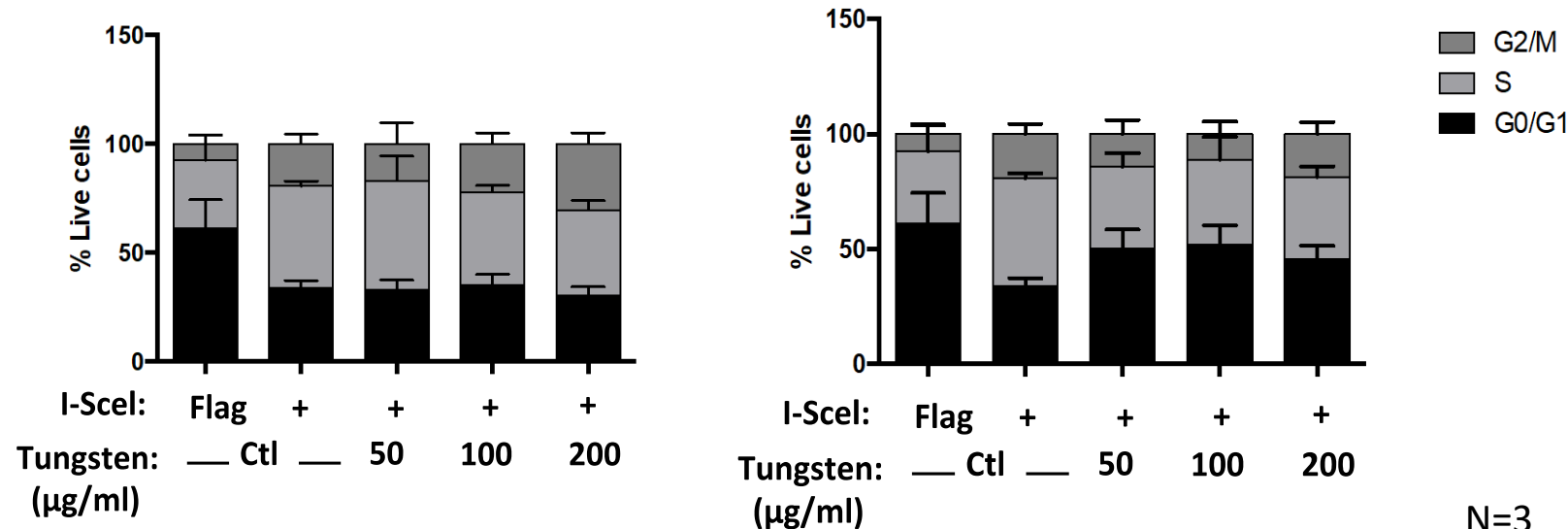
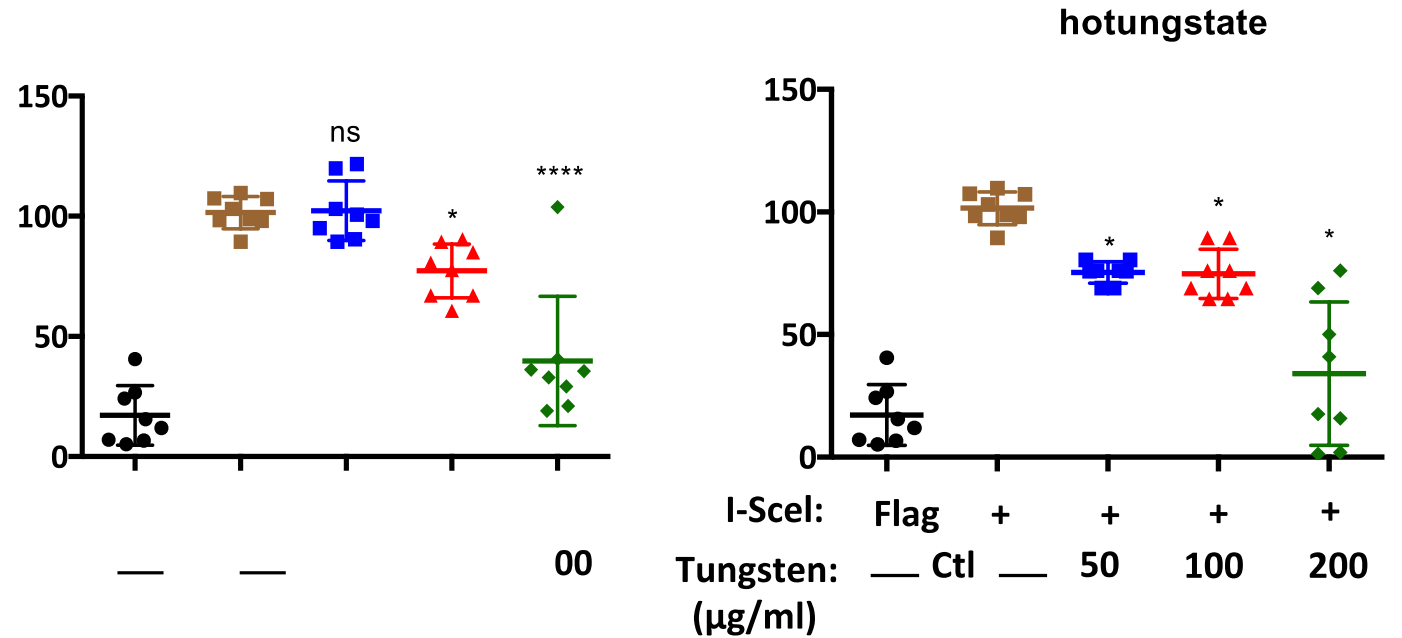
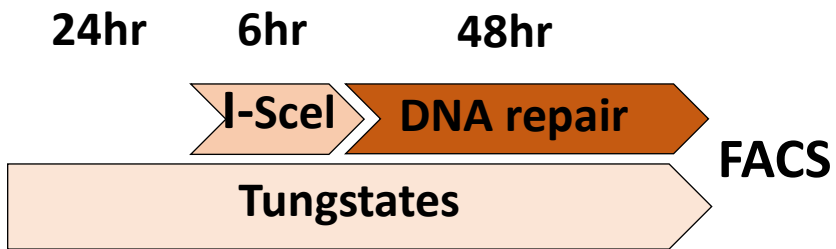
* $p \leq 0.02$, and **** $p \leq 0.0001$ to the I-SceI control

Tungstates Inhibit DNA damage NHEJ Response

Non-Homologues End Joining -mediated GFP-based DNA reporter assay

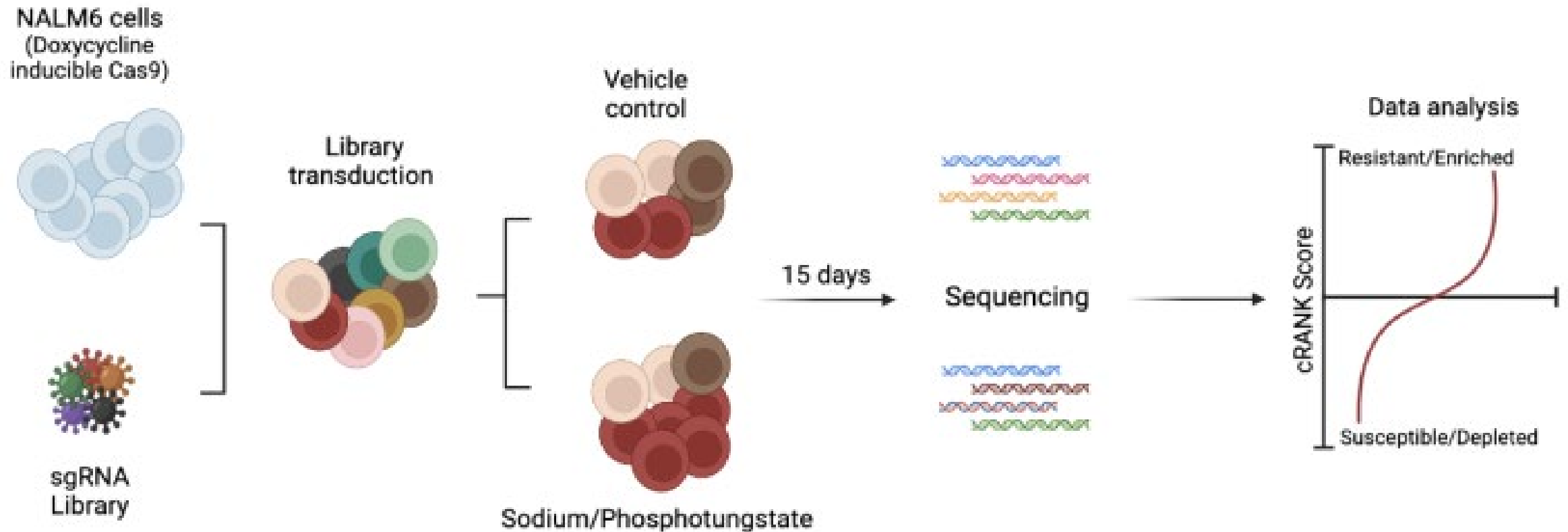


U2OS cells

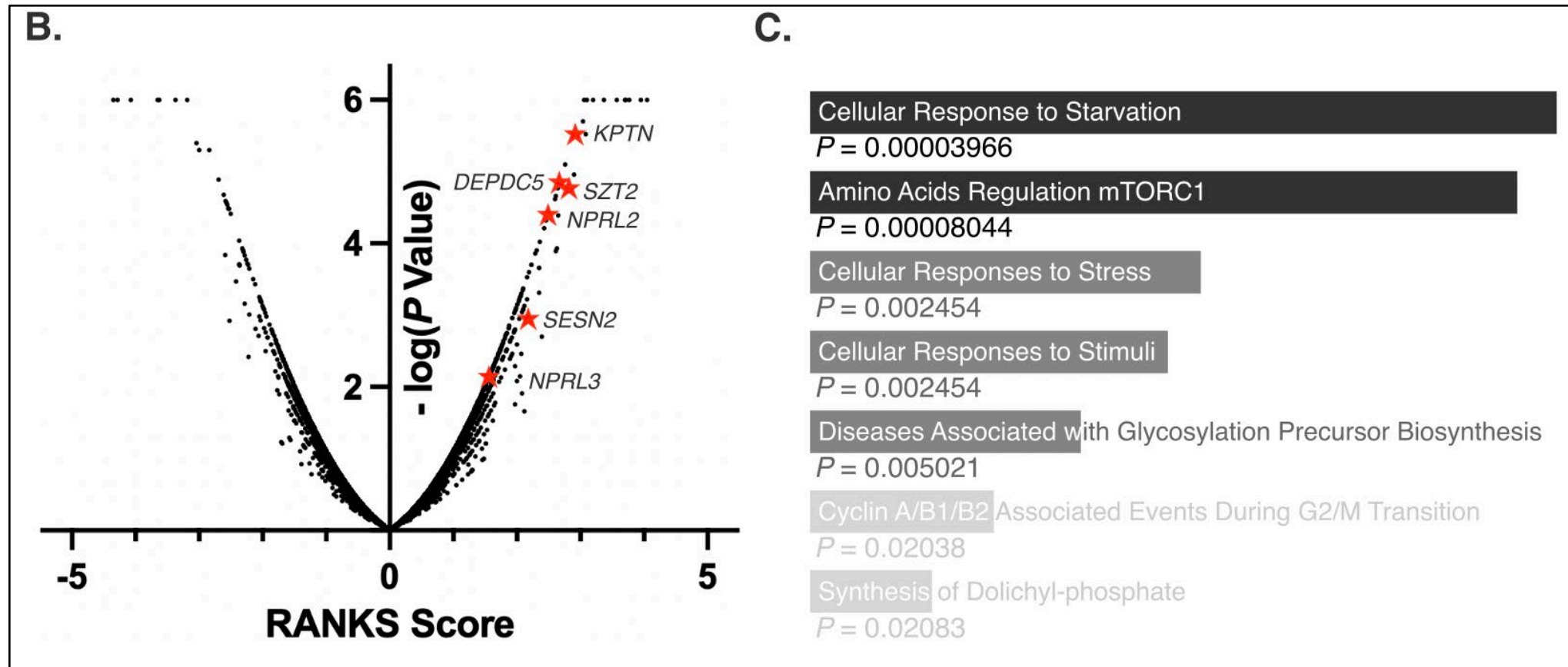


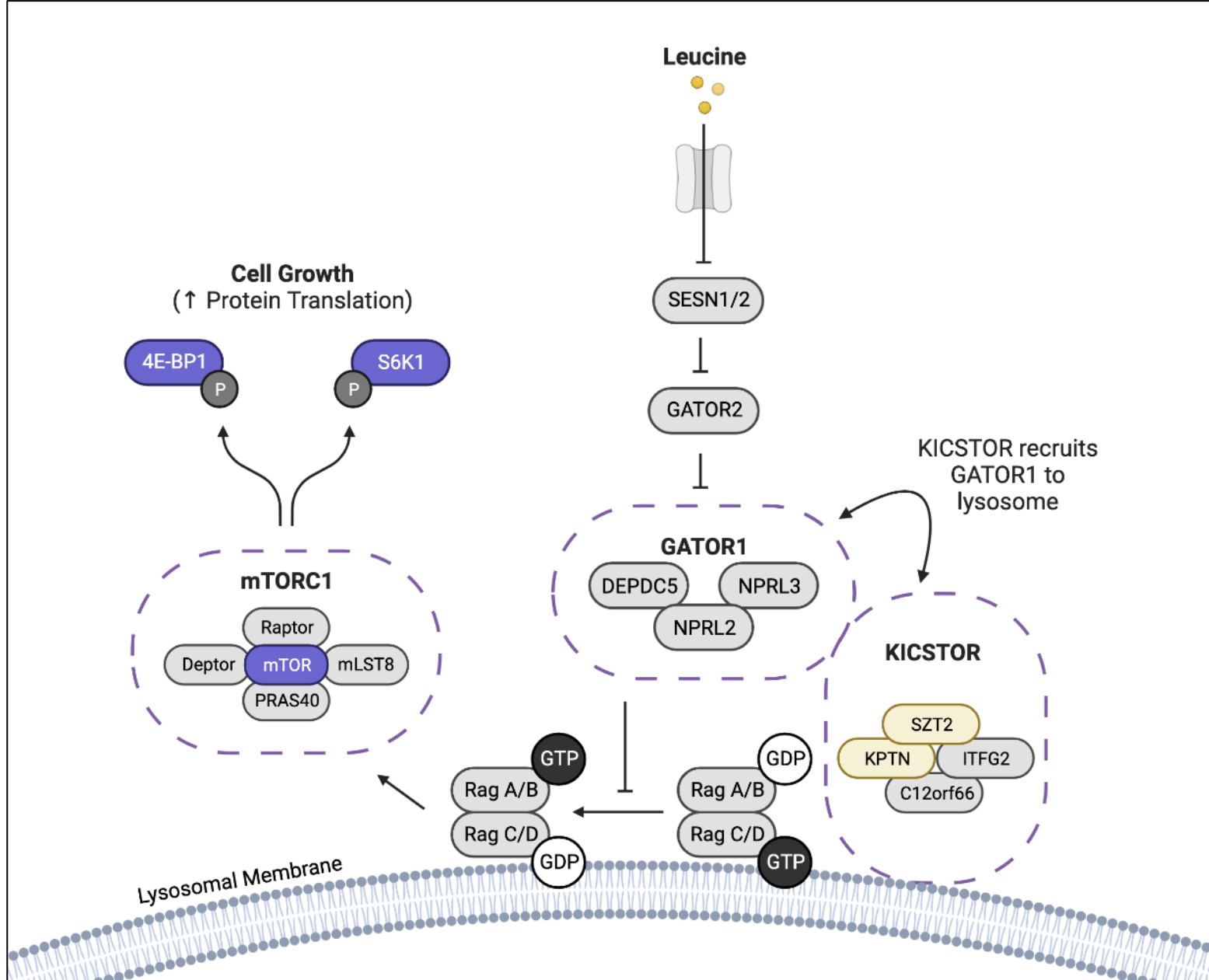
* $p \leq 0.02$, and **** $p \leq 0.0001$ to the I-SceI control

Genome-wide CRISPR/Cas9 Screen in PreB ALL Cells

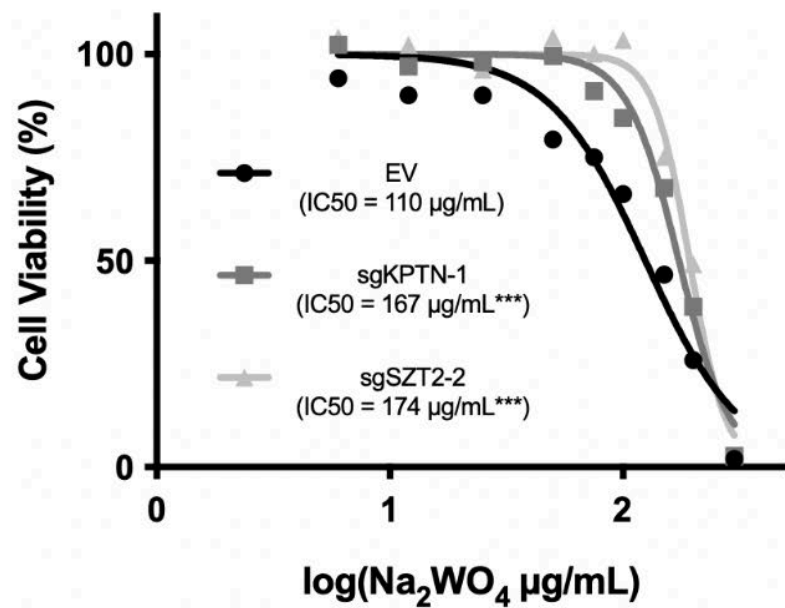


CRISPR Screen Revealed Novel Modulators of Tungstate Exposure

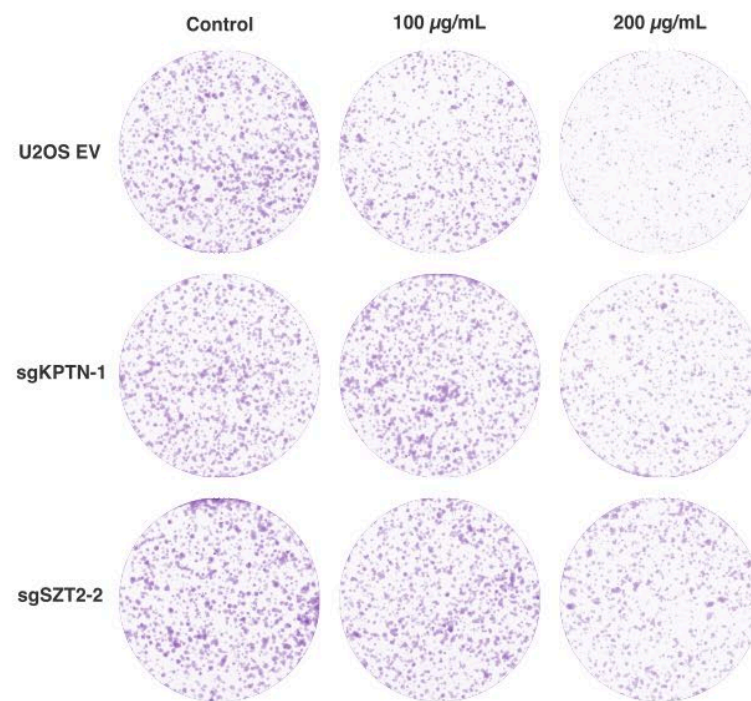




A.



B.



C.

