



# Radiation-induced injury responses and tumorigenesis Albert J. Fornace Jr. Georgetown University

- > Low dose studies with γ rays
- > Low dose studies with high LET radiation







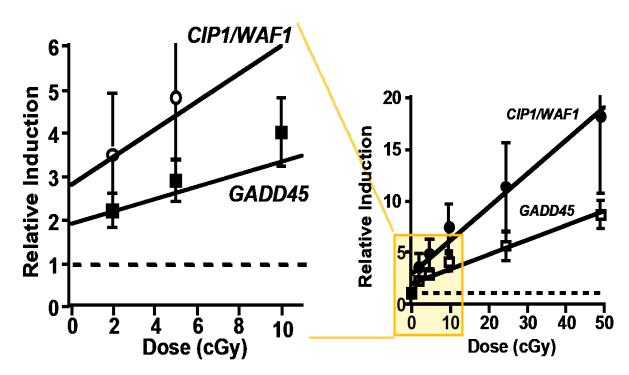




## in vitro and in vivo responses to low dose radiation

# Linear dose response with no threshold in ML-1 cells

Induction of CDKN1A and GADD45A mRNA



#### Metabolic responses

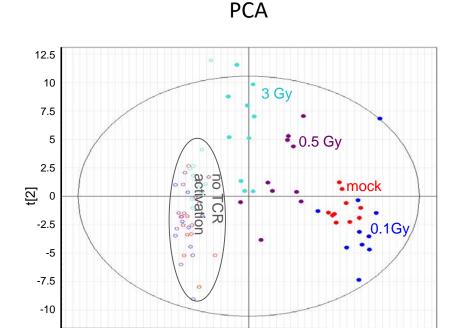
- compromise of energy metabolism
- impacts on anabolic processes
- pro-inflammatory signaling
  - Senescent inflammatory response (SIR)
  - Senescence-associated secretory phenotypes (SASP)
  - Aging-related events
- variety of other perturbations in small molecules

Li et al, 2015 Kumar et al, 2018 and 2019

Amundson et al, 1999

### How does radiation affect metabolism of viable cells? T cell activation

#### Metabolic Differences even at low doses



t[1]

for 72 hrs

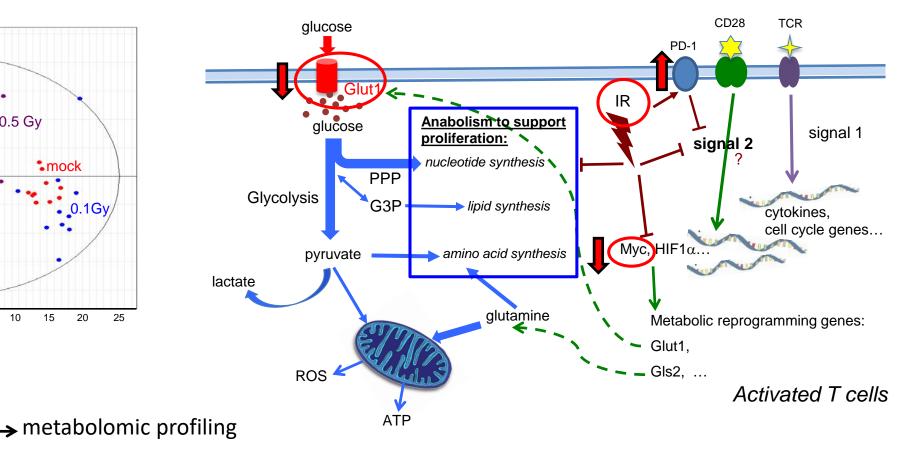
15

-20

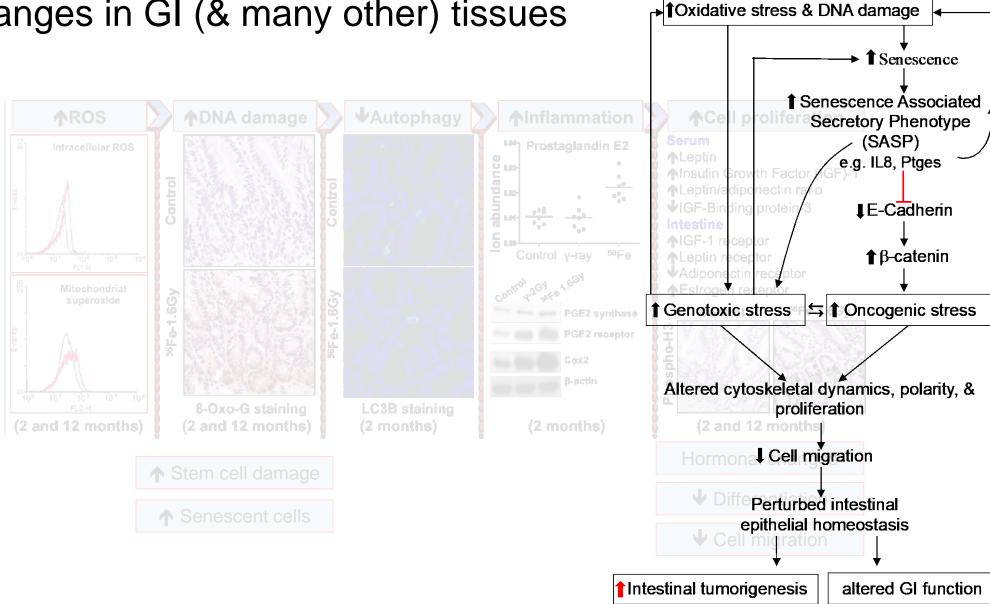
post-IR

-15

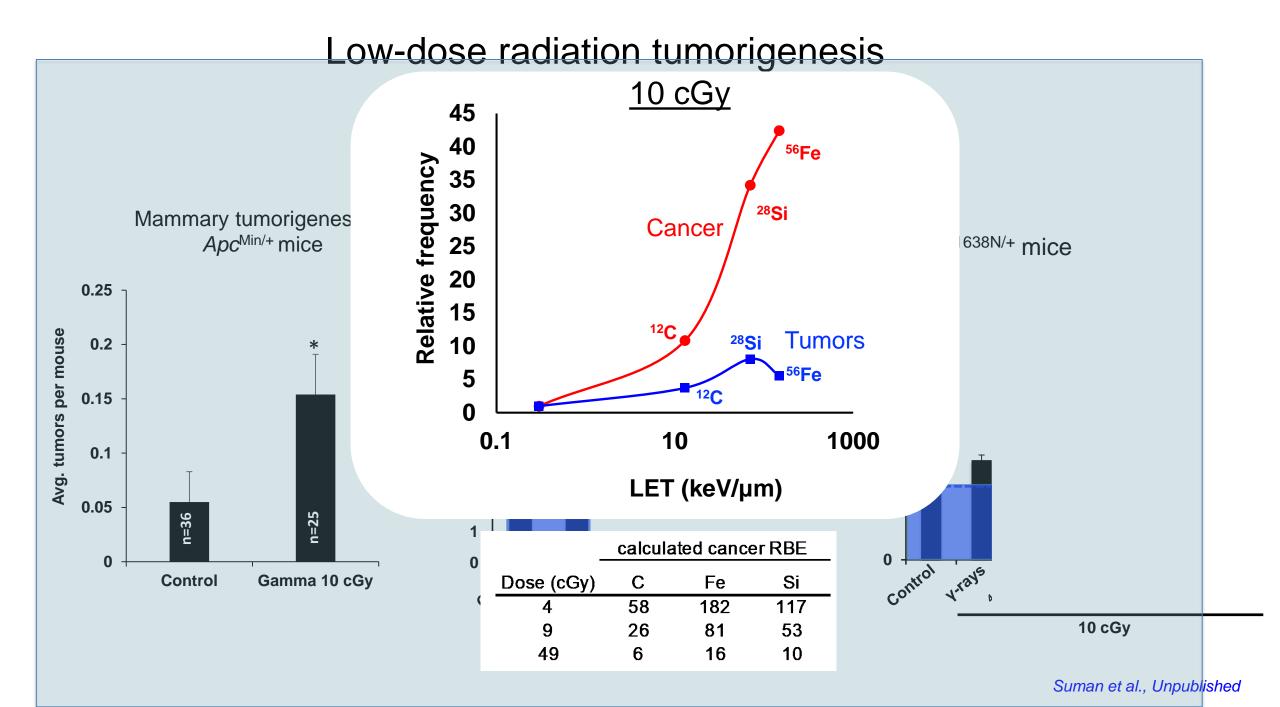
Co-stimulation compromised: decreased Glut1 decreases energy supply



Radiation triggers persistent (long-term) changes in GI (& many other) tissues



ionizing radiation



# Some priorities for low-dose radiation field going forward

- Early responses
  - myriad of signaling pathways to delineate further
  - impact on metabolism
- Long-term responses
  - tumorigenesis
    - initiation
    - progression e.g. conversion from low grade (premalignant lesions) to high grade (cancer)
  - senescent cell signaling
    - positive feedback loop can drive adverse sequelae
      - pro-inflammatory
      - ROS & ongoing DNA damage
      - potential multi-organ and systemic consequences
    - myriad of secreted proteins & small molecules vary with injury & cell type
    - immunologic consequences
  - accelerated aging
  - what other long-term signaling events occur and mechanisms?

FACS sorting of senescent GI stem cells

