

1 **Concurrent RB1 loss and *BRCA*-deficiency predicts enhanced immunological response**
2 **and long-term survival in tubo-ovarian high-grade serous carcinoma**

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4 Flurina A. M. Saner^{1,2,†}, Kazuaki Takahashi^{1,3,†}, Timothy Budden^{4,5}, Ahwan Pandey¹, Dinuka
5 Ariyaratne¹, Tibor A. Zwimpfer¹, Nicola S. Meagher^{4,6}, Sian Fereday^{1,7}, Laura Twomey¹,
6 Kathleen I. Pishas^{1,7}, Therese Hoang¹, Adelyn Bolithon^{4,8}, Nadia Traficante^{1,7}, Kathryn
7 Alsop^{1,7}, Elizabeth L. Christie^{1,7}, Eun-Young Kang⁹, Gregg S. Nelson¹⁰, Prafull Ghatage¹⁰,
8 Cheng-Han Lee¹¹, Marjorie J. Riggan¹², Jennifer Alsop¹³, Matthias W. Beckmann¹⁴, Jessica
9 Boros¹⁵⁻¹⁷, Alison H. Brand^{16,17}, Angela Brooks-Wilson¹⁸, Michael E. Carney¹⁹, Penny
10 Coulson²⁰, Madeleine Courtney-Brooks²¹, Kara L. Cushing-Haugen²², Cezary Cybulski²³,
11 Mona A. El-Bahrawy²⁴, Esther Elishaev²⁵, Ramona Erber²⁶, Simon A. Gayther²⁷, Aleksandra
12 Gentry-Maharaj^{28,29}, C. Blake Gilks³⁰, Paul R. Harnett^{17,31}, Holly R. Harris^{22,32}, Arndt
13 Hartmann²⁶, Alexander Hein¹⁴, Joy Hendley¹, AOCS Group^{1,16,33}, Brenda Y. Hernandez³⁴,
14 Anna Jakubowska^{23,35}, Mercedes Jimenez-Linan³⁶, Michael E. Jones²⁰, Scott H. Kaufmann³⁷,
15 Catherine J. Kennedy^{15,17}, Tomasz Kluz³⁸, Jennifer M. Koziak³⁹, Björg Kristjansdottir⁴⁰, Nhu
16 D. Le⁴¹, Marcin Lener⁴², Jenny Lester⁴³, Jan Lubiński²³, Constantina Mateoiu⁴⁴, Sandra
17 Orsulic⁴³, Matthias Ruebner¹⁴, Minouk J. Schoemaker²¹, Mitul Shah¹³, Raghwa Sharma⁴⁵,
18 Mark E. Sherman⁴⁶, Yurii B. Shvetsov³⁴, Naveena Singh³⁰, T. Rinda Soong²⁵, Helen
19 Steed^{47,48}, Paniti Sukumvanich²¹, Aline Talhouk^{49,50}, Sarah E. Taylor²¹, Robert A.
20 Vierkant⁵¹, Chen Wang⁵², Martin Widschwendter⁵³, Lynne R. Wilkens³⁴, Stacey J.
21 Winham⁵², Michael S. Anglesio^{49,50}, Andrew Berchuck¹², James D. Brenton⁵⁴, Ian
22 Campbell^{1,7}, Linda S. Cook^{55,56}, Jennifer A. Doherty⁵⁷, Peter A. Fasching¹⁴, Renée T.
23 Fortner^{58,59}, Marc T. Goodman⁶⁰, Jacek Gronwald²³, David G. Huntsman^{30,49,50,61}, Beth Y.
24 Karlan⁴³, Linda E. Kelemen⁶², Usha Menon²⁸, Francesmary Modugno^{21,63,64} Paul D.P.
25 Pharoah^{13,65,66}, Joellen M. Schildkraut⁶⁷, Karin Sundfeldt⁴⁰, Anthony J. Swerdlow^{20,68}, Ellen

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26 L. Goode⁶⁹, Anna DeFazio^{6,15-17}, Martin Köbel^{9,‡}, Susan J. Ramus^{4,8,‡}, David D. L.

27 Bowtell^{1,7,‡}, and Dale W. Garsed^{1,7,‡,*}

28

29 ¹Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

30 ²Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Bern University Hospital and University of Bern,
31 Bern, Switzerland.

32 ³Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, The Jikei University School of Medicine, Tokyo,
33 Japan.

34 ⁴School of Clinical Medicine, UNSW Medicine and Health, University of NSW Sydney,
35 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

36 ⁵Skin Cancer and Ageing Lab, Cancer Research United Kingdom Manchester Institute, The
37 University of Manchester, Manchester, UK.

38 ⁶The Daffodil Centre, The University of Sydney, a joint venture with Cancer Council NSW,
39 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

40 ⁷Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology, The University of Melbourne, Parkville,
41 Victoria, Australia.

42 ⁸Adult Cancer Program, Lowy Cancer Research Centre, University of NSW Sydney, Sydney,
43 New South Wales, Australia.

44 ⁹Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Calgary, Foothills
45 Medical Center, Calgary, AB, Canada.

46 ¹⁰Department of Oncology, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Cumming School of
47 Medicine, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, Canada.

48 ¹¹Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, University of Alberta, Edmonton,
49 Alberta, Canada.

50 ¹²Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Duke
51 University Medical Center, Durham, NC, USA.

52 ¹³Centre for Cancer Genetic Epidemiology, Department of Oncology, University of
53 Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

54 ¹⁴Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Comprehensive Cancer Center Erlangen-EMN,
55 Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg, University Hospital Erlangen,
56 Erlangen, Germany.

57 ¹⁵Centre for Cancer Research, The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, Sydney, New
58 South Wales, Australia.

59 ¹⁶Department of Gynaecological Oncology, Westmead Hospital, Sydney, New South Wales,
60 Australia.

61 ¹⁷The University of Sydney, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

62 ¹⁸Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre, BC Cancer, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

63 ¹⁹Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University
64 of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI, USA.

65 ²⁰Division of Genetics and Epidemiology, The Institute of Cancer Research, London, UK.

66 ²¹Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
67 School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

68 ²²Program in Epidemiology, Division of Public Health Sciences, Fred Hutchinson Cancer
69 Center, Seattle, WA, USA.

70 ²³Department of Genetics and Pathology, International Hereditary Cancer Center,
71 Pomeranian Medical University, Szczecin, Poland.

72 ²⁴Department of Metabolism, Digestion and Reproduction, Imperial College London,
73 Hammersmith Hospital, London, UK.

74 ²⁵Department of Pathology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA,
75 USA.

76 ²⁶Institute of Pathology, Comprehensive Cancer Center Erlangen-EMN, Friedrich-Alexander
77 University Erlangen-Nuremberg, University Hospital Erlangen, Erlangen, Germany.

78 ²⁷Center for Bioinformatics and Functional Genomics and the Cedars Sinai Genomics Core,
79 Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

80 ²⁸MRC Clinical Trials Unit, Institute of Clinical Trials and Methodology, University College
81 London, London, UK.

82 ²⁹Department of Women's Cancer, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women's Health,
83 University College London, London, UK

84 ³⁰Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of British Columbia,
85 Vancouver, BC, Canada.

86 ³¹Crown Princess Mary Cancer Centre, Westmead Hospital, Sydney, New South Wales,
87 Australia.

88 ³²Department of Epidemiology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA.

89 ³³QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

90 ³⁴University of Hawaii Cancer Center, Honolulu, HI, USA.

91 ³⁵Independent Laboratory of Molecular Biology and Genetic Diagnostics, Pomeranian
92 Medical University, Szczecin, Poland.

93 ³⁶Department of Histopathology, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, UK.

94 ³⁷Division of Oncology Research, Department of Oncology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN,
95 USA.

96 ³⁸Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Gynecology Oncology and Obstetrics, Institute
97 of Medical Sciences, Medical College of Rzeszow University, Rzeszów, Poland.

98 ³⁹Alberta Health Services-Cancer Care, Calgary, AB, Canada.

- 99 ⁴⁰Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Institute of Clinical Sciences, Sahlgrenska
100 Center for Cancer Research, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 101 ⁴¹Cancer Control Research, BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- 102 ⁴²International Hereditary Cancer Center, Department of Genetics and Pathology,
103 Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin, Szczecin, Poland.
- 104 ⁴³David Geffen School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of
105 California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, USA.
- 106 ⁴⁴Department of Pathology, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 107 ⁴⁵Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology, Westmead Hospital, Sydney, New South
108 Wales, Australia.
- 109 ⁴⁶Department of Health Sciences Research, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL, USA.
- 110 ⁴⁷Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University
111 of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
- 112 ⁴⁸Section of Gynecologic Oncology Surgery, North Zone, Alberta Health Services,
113 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
- 114 ⁴⁹British Columbia's Gynecological Cancer Research Team (OVCARE), University of British
115 Columbia, BC Cancer, and Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- 116 ⁵⁰Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC,
117 Canada.
- 118 ⁵¹Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, Division of Clinical Trials and Biostatistics,
119 Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA.
- 120 ⁵²Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, Division of Computational Biology, Mayo
121 Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA.
- 122 ⁵³EUTOPS Institute, University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria.
- 123 ⁵⁴Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

- 124 ⁵⁵Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Colorado, Aurora, CO, USA.
- 125 ⁵⁶Community Health Sciences, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, Canada.
- 126 ⁵⁷Huntsman Cancer Institute, Department of Population Health Sciences, University of Utah,
127 Salt Lake City, UT, USA.
- 128 ⁵⁸Division of Cancer Epidemiology, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg,
129 Germany.
- 130 ⁵⁹Department of Research, Cancer Registry of Norway, Oslo, Norway.
- 131 ⁶⁰Cancer Prevention and Control Program, Cedars-Sinai Cancer, Cedars-Sinai Medical
132 Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA.
- 133 ⁶¹Department of Molecular Oncology, BC Cancer Research Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- 134 ⁶²Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology, South Carolina Department of Health &
135 Environmental Control, Columbia, SC, USA.
- 136 ⁶³Department of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health, Pittsburgh,
137 PA, USA.
- 138 ⁶⁴Women's Cancer Research Center, Magee-Womens Research Institute and Hillman Cancer
139 Center, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.
- 140 ⁶⁵Department of Computational Biomedicine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, West
141 Hollywood, CA, USA.
- 142 ⁶⁶Centre for Cancer Genetic Epidemiology, Department of Public Health and Primary Care,
143 University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.
- 144 ⁶⁷Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta,
145 GA, USA.
- 146 ⁶⁸Division of Breast Cancer Research, The Institute of Cancer Research, London, UK.
- 147 ⁶⁹Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, Division of Epidemiology, Mayo Clinic,
148 Rochester, MN, USA.

149

150 *Correspondence to: Dr Dale W. Garsed, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, 305 Grattan St,
151 Melbourne, 3000, Australia, +61 3 855 96512, Dale.Garsed@petermac.org

152

153 †These authors contributed equally to the work.

154 ‡These authors contributed equally to the work.

155

156 **ABSTRACT**

157 **Background:** Somatic loss of the tumour suppressor RB1 is a common event in tubo-ovarian
158 high-grade serous carcinoma (HGSC), which frequently co-occurs with alterations in
159 homologous recombination DNA repair genes including *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* (*BRCA*). We
160 examined whether tumour expression of RB1 was associated with survival across ovarian
161 cancer histotypes (HGSC, endometrioid (ENOC), clear cell (CCOC), mucinous (MOC), low-
162 grade serous carcinoma (LGSC)), and how co-occurrence of germline *BRCA* pathogenic
163 variants and RB1 loss influences long-term survival in a large series of HGSC.

164 **Patients and methods:** RB1 protein expression patterns were classified by
165 immunohistochemistry in epithelial ovarian carcinomas of 7436 patients from 20 studies
166 participating in the Ovarian Tumor Tissue Analysis consortium and assessed for associations
167 with overall survival (OS), accounting for patient age at diagnosis and FIGO stage. We
168 examined RB1 expression and germline *BRCA* status in a subset of 1134 HGSC, and related
169 genotype to survival, tumour infiltrating CD8+ lymphocyte counts and transcriptomic
170 subtypes. Using CRISPR-Cas9, we deleted *RBI* in HGSC cell lines with and without *BRCA1*
171 mutations to model co-loss with treatment response. We also performed genomic analyses on
172 126 primary HGSC to explore the molecular characteristics of concurrent homologous
173 recombination deficiency and *RBI* loss.

174 **Results:** RB1 protein loss was most frequent in HGSC (16.4%) and was highly correlated with
175 *RB1* mRNA expression. RB1 loss was associated with longer OS in HGSC (hazard ratio [HR]
176 0.74, 95% confidence interval [CI] 0.66-0.83, $P = 6.8 \times 10^{-7}$), but with poorer prognosis in
177 ENOC (HR 2.17, 95% CI 1.17-4.03, $P = 0.0140$). Germline *BRCA* mutations and RB1 loss co-
178 occurred in HGSC ($P < 0.0001$). Patients with both RB1 loss and germline *BRCA* mutations
179 had a superior OS (HR 0.38, 95% CI 0.25-0.58, $P = 5.2 \times 10^{-6}$) compared to patients with either
180 alteration alone, and their median OS was three times longer than non-carriers whose tumours
181 retained RB1 expression (9.3 years vs. 3.1 years). Enhanced sensitivity to cisplatin ($P < 0.01$)
182 and paclitaxel ($P < 0.05$) was seen in *BRCA1* mutated cell lines with *RB1* knockout. Among
183 126 patients with whole-genome and transcriptome sequence data, combined *RB1* loss and
184 genomic evidence of homologous recombination deficiency was correlated with transcriptional
185 markers of enhanced interferon response, cell cycle deregulation, and reduced epithelial-
186 mesenchymal transition in primary HGSC. CD8+ lymphocytes were most prevalent in *BRCA*-
187 deficient HGSC with co-loss of *RB1*.

188 **Conclusions:** Co-occurrence of RB1 loss and *BRCA* mutation was associated with
189 exceptionally long survival in patients with HGSC, potentially due to better treatment response
190 and immune stimulation.

191

192 INTRODUCTION

193 Despite a high response rate to primary treatment, the progressive development of acquired
194 drug resistance is common in tubo-ovarian high-grade serous carcinoma (HGSC), a histotype
195 that is associated with approximately 70% of ovarian cancer deaths¹. The frequent acquisition
196 of resistance-conferring alterations in HGSC²⁻⁴ suggests that the development of drug
197 resistance may be inevitable when curative surgery is not achieved in these patients. Countering
198 that view, however, is the observation that a small subset of patients with HGSC advanced

199 disease experience an exceptional response to treatment, survive well beyond a median of 3.4
200 years⁵, and in some cases, remain disease free^{6,7}. Interest in studying long-term cancer
201 survivors is growing as they may assist the discovery of prognostic biomarkers, novel
202 treatments, and approaches to limit the development of resistance⁸.

203 Several clinical and molecular factors that influence treatment response and overall
204 survival (OS) in HGSC have been described. Complete surgical debulking is associated with a
205 more favourable outcome compared to patients left with residual disease⁹⁻¹¹. Molecular
206 subtypes defined by distinct gene expression patterns in primary HGSC are associated with
207 different outcomes¹², including the poor survival C1/mesenchymal subtype that is more often
208 seen in patients where complete surgical tumour resection cannot be achieved¹³⁻¹⁵. By contrast,
209 the C2/immunoreactive subtype is typified by extensive infiltration of intraepithelial T cells¹²,
210 a feature known to be strongly associated with improved survival^{16,17}. Tumours arising in
211 individuals with germline or somatic alterations in *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* genes are typically more
212 responsive to conventional chemotherapy and poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP)
213 inhibitors, whereas those tumours with intact homologous recombination (HR) DNA repair are
214 more often resistant to treatment¹⁸⁻²⁰. Patients with germline *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* pathogenic
215 variants show more favourable survival at five years post-diagnosis compared to non-carriers,
216 with *BRCA2* mutation carriers retaining a long-term (>10 year) survival advantage²¹⁻²³.
217 Although deleterious mutations in *BRCA1*, *BRCA2* and other genes involved in HR DNA repair
218 are associated with a favourable response to treatment, these are not sufficient alone to confer
219 long-term survival and a large proportion of such patients experience a typical disease
220 trajectory. A differential outcome in mutation carriers can in part be ascribed to alternative
221 splicing²⁴ or retention of the wild-type *BRCA* allele in tumours²⁵, both of which appear to limit
222 the effectiveness of chemotherapy.

223 We previously characterised a small series of HGSC exceptional survivors and found
224 that co-occurring loss of function alterations in both *BRCA* and *RBI* were associated with
225 unusually favourable survival^{7,26}. Disruption of the RB pathway is found in many cancer types
226 but with variable impacts on patient outcome. For example, co-loss of *RBI* and *BRCA* is
227 associated with shorter survival in breast and prostate cancer, possibly due to lineage switching
228 and resistance to hormonal therapy²⁷⁻²⁹. A transcriptomic signature of RB1 loss was recently
229 described to be associated with poor outcomes across cancer types³⁰. We have previously found
230 that chromosomal breakage is the most common mechanism of *RBI* inactivation in HGSC³,
231 accounting for approximately 80% of all *RBI* alterations. In addition to its crucial role in cell
232 cycle regulation, RB1 is involved in non-canonical functions in a context- and tissue-dependent
233 manner³¹⁻³³, including HR mediated DNA repair. Loss of RB1 expression in HGSC has been
234 associated with a survival benefit³⁴, including in the context of abnormal block-like p16
235 staining³⁵.

236 Factors underlying the association of RB1 loss with improved outcome in HGSC are
237 unknown. Here, we contrast the pattern and clinical consequences of RB1 loss in HGSC with
238 other epithelial ovarian cancer subtypes, investigate the relevance of co-occurring *BRCA1* or
239 *BRCA2* mutations and RB1 loss in HGSC patients, and explore the functional effects of
240 combined *BRCA* and *RBI* impairment in HGSC cell lines.

241

242 **PATIENTS AND METHODS**

243 *Patient cohorts*

244 The study population consisted of 7436 patients diagnosed with invasive epithelial ovarian,
245 peritoneal or fallopian tube cancer from 20 studies or biobanks participating in the Ovarian
246 Tumor Tissue Analysis (OTTA) consortium³⁶ (Supplementary Fig. S1). Written informed

247 consent or IRB approved waiver of consent was obtained at each site for patient recruitment,
248 sample collection, and study protocols (Supplementary Table S1).

249 Whole-genome sequence and matched transcriptome sequence data of primary HGSC
250 tumours were available from 126 patients from the Multidisciplinary Ovarian Cancer
251 Outcomes Group (MOCOG) study²⁶ (Supplementary Fig. S1). This cohort consisted of 34
252 short-term survivors (OS <2 years), 32 moderate-term survivors (OS \geq 2 and <10 years) and 60
253 long-term survivors (OS \geq 10 years) with advanced stage (IIIC/IV) disease, enrolled in the
254 Australian Ovarian Cancer Study (AOCS), the Gynaecological Oncology Biobank at
255 Westmead Hospital (Sydney) or the Mayo Clinic Study.

256

257 ***Molecular analyses***

258 RB1 protein expression was determined by immunohistochemistry (IHC) staining and scoring
259 of tissue microarrays (TMAs) from formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tumour samples,
260 using our previously described protocol⁷ (RB1 antibody clone 13A10, Leica Biosystems;
261 Supplementary Material). Subsets of HGSC patients had additional molecular or immune data
262 available (Supplementary Fig. S1), including tumour p53 protein expression status previously
263 classified³⁷ as normal (wild-type) or abnormal (overexpression, complete absence, and
264 cytoplasmic), germline *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* pathogenic variant status obtained from OTTA,
265 *RB1* mRNA tumour expression obtained using NanoString (ref³⁴ and unpublished data),
266 transcriptional subtypes of tumours using NanoString³⁸ and CD8+ tumour infiltrating
267 lymphocyte (TIL) density was previously classified³⁹ based on the number of CD8+ TILs per
268 high-powered field: negative (no TILs), low (<3 TILs), moderate (3-19 TILs) or high (\geq 20
269 TILs).

270 The MOCOG whole-genome and transcriptome sequencing dataset of 126 short-,
271 moderate- and long-term survivors was uniformly processed as previously described²⁶, and

272 included detailed characterisation of each tumour sample for inactivating alterations in *RBI*
273 and HR pathway genes, including germline and/or somatic mutations in *BRCA1*, *BRCA2*,
274 *BRIP1*, *PALB2*, *RAD51C* and *RAD51D*, or promoter methylation of *BRCA1* and *RAD51C*.
275 Homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) status was assessed using the CHORD
276 (Classifier of Homologous Recombination Deficiency) method⁴⁰, which uses specific base
277 substitution, indel and structural rearrangement signatures detected in tumour genomes to
278 generate *BRCA1*-type and *BRCA2*-type HRD scores. Primary tumours were classified as either
279 *BRCA1*-HRD & *RBI* altered; *BRCA1*-HRD & *RBI* wild-type; *BRCA2*-HRD & *RBI* altered;
280 *BRCA2*-HRD & *RBI* wild-type; homologous recombination proficient (HRP) & *RBI* altered,
281 or HRP & *RBI* wild-type. For details on differential gene expression analyses, see
282 Supplementary Material.

283

284 ***Cell culture***

285 The AOCS patient-derived cell lines (AOCS1, AOCS3, AOCS7.2 AOCS9, AOCS11.2,
286 AOCS14, AOCS16, AOCS22, AOCS30) were established from ascites drained from patients
287 with HGSC, as previously described⁴. All AOCS cell lines were authenticated against matched
288 patient germline DNA using short tandem repeat markers (STR, GenePrint10 System,
289 Promega). Commercial cell lines OAW28 and CAO3, categorised as likely HGSC⁴¹, were
290 purchased from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), and JHOS2 and OVCAR4
291 were obtained from the National Cancer Institute Repository. Commercial lines were
292 authenticated by comparing STR profiles (GenePrint10 System, Promega) to those published
293 by online repositories (Cancer Cell Line Encyclopaedia, The Cancer Genome Atlas) before use
294 in experiments. Cell lines were confirmed to be free of *Mycoplasma* by PCR at each revival
295 and after finishing experiments. For details on cell growth conditions, CRISPR-mediated gene
296 knockout, and molecular and functional cell line characterisation, see Supplementary Material.

297

298 ***Statistical analyses***

299 Cox proportional hazards models were used to estimate hazard ratios (HRs) with 95%
300 confidence intervals (CIs) using the ‘coxph’ function of the R package *survival* (v3.2-7). Final
301 models were fitted using Cox regression adjusted for age at diagnosis and FIGO stage. A spline
302 function was used for age at diagnosis with degree of freedom (df) 5 to account for the non-
303 linear effect of the continuous variable. Regression models were fitted separately by histotype.
304 The HGSC regression models were also stratified by site of participant recruitment, and sites
305 with fewer than 10 events within the study period were excluded. The ENOC regression model
306 was not stratified by site due to the limited number of overall patients per site. The OTTA
307 survival dataset was right censored at 10 years from diagnosis to reduce the number of non-
308 ovarian cancer related deaths. In the final Cox regression model, there was evidence for
309 deviation from the proportional hazard assumption, but the degree of deviation was not
310 substantial when considered alongside the large sample size and Schoenfeld residuals. The
311 Kaplan–Meier method was used to estimate and plot progression-free and overall survival
312 probabilities, and the log-rank (Mantel–Cox) test used to compare the survival duration
313 between subgroups. In the Kaplan-Meier curves, the number of patients at risk on the date of
314 diagnosis (time = 0) may be fewer than subsequent time intervals, owing to left truncation of
315 follow-up resulting from delayed study enrolment at some OTTA sites. Differences in
316 proportions of categorical features were assessed by either the chi-square or Fisher’s exact test
317 as indicated. Differences in continuous variables were assessed by either a Wilcoxon Rank
318 Sum Test or a Kruskal-Wallis test. All *in vitro* assays were performed across at least three
319 independent experiments, and data are expressed as mean \pm standard error of the mean (SEM)
320 as indicated, from a minimum of three independent measurements. All statistical tests were

321 two-sided and considered significant when $P < 0.05$. Statistical analyses were performed using
322 either Prism (v9.3.1) or R (v3.6.3).

323

324 **RESULTS**

325 ***Loss of RB1 expression is most frequent in HGSC***

326 RB1 protein expression was assessed by IHC in tumour samples from 7436 ovarian cancer
327 patients using TMAs from 20 centres participating in the OTTA consortium (Supplementary
328 Tables S1 and S2). RB1 tumour expression was classified as either retained or lost in 6564
329 samples, with 872 samples excluded that had either subclonal loss ($n = 66$), cytoplasmic ($n =$
330 17), or uninterpretable results ($n = 789$) due to either sample drop out or the absence of an
331 internal positive control (Fig. 1A, Supplementary Material).

332 RB1 loss was most frequent in HGSC (16.4%), followed by endometrioid ovarian
333 cancer (ENOC; 4.1%, Chi-square $P < 0.0001$, Fig. 1B). Loss of RB1 expression was less
334 frequent in all other histotypes (1.8% to 2.8%). *RB1* mRNA expression was also assessed by
335 NanoString in a subset of HGSC tumours ($n = 2552$) and was significantly associated with RB1
336 protein expression (Fig. 1C, $P < 0.0001$).

337

338 ***RB1 loss is associated with longer survival in HGSC***

339 Loss of RB1 protein expression was associated with longer OS in patients with HGSC (HR
340 0.74, 95% CI 0.66-0.83, $P = 6.8 \times 10^{-7}$; Table 1) following multivariate analysis adjusting for
341 stage and age at diagnosis and stratified by study. Patients with HGSC were comparable in
342 terms of stage regardless of RB1 loss or retained expression ($P = 0.9246$), however those with
343 RB1 loss had a younger age at diagnosis (median 59 years versus 61 years, $P = 0.0003$;
344 Supplementary Table S3). Median OS was 4.7 years for patients with RB1 loss compared to
345 3.6 years for those with retained RB1 expression (Fig. 1D).

346 In contrast to HGSC, loss of RB1 expression in tumours from patients with ENOC was
347 associated with advanced stage ($P = 0.0003$) and poorer survival (HR 2.17, 95% CI 1.17-4.03,
348 $P = 0.0140$; Table 1, Fig. 1E, Supplementary Table S4). RB1 loss and abnormal p53 protein
349 expression, which is highly predictive of *TP53* mutation⁴², were strongly correlated (chi-square
350 $P < 0.0001$; Supplementary Fig. 2A). While *TP53* mutation is known to be associated with
351 inferior survival in patients with ENOC^{37,43}, we note that combined RB1 loss and abnormal
352 p53 expression were associated with the shortest patient survival (median OS 3.0 years;
353 Supplementary Fig. 2B), suggesting that loss of RB1 and *TP53* mutation have a compounding
354 negative impact on survival in patients with ENOC.

355

356 ***Combined RB1 loss and germline BRCA mutation is associated with exceptionally good***
357 ***survival***

358 We previously observed that co-occurrence of somatic RB1 protein loss and *BRCA1* or *BRCA2*
359 alteration (somatic or germline) was associated with longer progression-free survival (PFS)
360 and OS in HGSC⁷. Here, germline *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* status was available for 1134 HGSC
361 patients for which we had RB1 IHC data (Supplementary Fig. S1). Consistent with having a
362 younger age of diagnosis, patients with RB1 loss were more likely to have concurrent germline
363 *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* mutations than those with retained RB1 expression (Fig. 1F, Chi-square P
364 < 0.0001). Patients with both RB1 loss and a germline *BRCA* mutation had a 62% reduced risk
365 of death compared with non-carriers with retained RB1 (HR 0.38, 95% CI 0.25-0.58, $P =$
366 5.2×10^{-6} ; Table 1). The median OS of *BRCA* germline carriers with RB1 loss was three times
367 longer than non-carriers with RB1 retained tumours (median OS 9.3 years vs. 3.1 years,
368 respectively), while median OS was 5.2 years for *BRCA* carriers with retained RB1 expression
369 and 4.5 years for non-carriers with RB1 loss (Fig. 1G; Supplementary Table S5).

370

371 ***Enhanced response to chemotherapy in cells with impaired BRCA and RB1 function***

372 To investigate whether co-occurrence of *RB1* and *BRCA* alterations enhances sensitivity to
373 standard-of-care ovarian cancer drugs, nine patient-derived HGSC cell lines with confirmed
374 pathogenic *TP53* mutation and known *RB1* and *BRCA* status were treated with cisplatin,
375 paclitaxel and olaparib (Supplementary Fig. S3A-C). AOCS14, the only cell line with a
376 germline *BRCA1* mutation and concomitant loss of RB1 expression, showed the best response
377 to cisplatin and olaparib, and was the second most sensitive cell line to paclitaxel. In contrast
378 AOCS11.2, a line with *BRCA1* promoter methylation and loss of RB1 expression, was
379 relatively resistant to paclitaxel and olaparib. Among cell lines with intact RB1 protein
380 expression and *BRCA* wildtype background, AOCS3 was resistant to cisplatin, paclitaxel and
381 olaparib.

382 Except for the chemo-naïve cell lines AOCS30 and AOCS14, all other lines were
383 derived from patients previously treated with chemotherapy. Since the evaluation of HGSC
384 cell lines with existing *RB1* mutations may have been confounded by their prior, differential
385 exposure to chemotherapy we therefore characterised responses in isogenically matched lines
386 deleted of *RB1* and/or *BRCA1*. We first inactivated *RB1* in two *BRCA1*-mutant (AOCS7.2,
387 AOCS16) and one wild-type line (AOCS1) using CRISPR-Cas9 (Fig. 2A, Supplementary Fig.
388 S4A). *RB1* knockout clones of the *BRCA1*-mutant cell line AOCS7.2 had enhanced sensitivity
389 to cisplatin and paclitaxel compared to *RB1* wild-type clones, which was observed both in
390 short-term drug assays (72 hours, Fig. 2B) and longer-term clonogenic survival assays (12
391 days, Fig. 2C). In this cell line, sensitivity to paclitaxel and olaparib was increased after *RB1*
392 knockout (paclitaxel IC50 92.0 nM versus 11.8 nM, $P < 0.0001$; olaparib IC50 6.1 versus 1.1
393 nM, $P < 0.0001$). Further, significantly fewer colonies grew in this *BRCA1*-mutant cell line
394 after *RB1* knockout upon treatment with cisplatin ($P = 0.01$), paclitaxel ($P = 0.02$) or a
395 combination of both drugs ($P = 0.067$) in a clonogenic survival assay ($n = 3$). This effect was

396 not apparent in the *BRCA*-wild-type line (AOCS1) or the other *BRCA1*-mutant line (AOCS16).
397 Western blot and IHC analysis (Supplementary Fig. S4A) found that AOCS16 lacked
398 expression of p16, which may functionally disrupt the RB1 pathway irrespective of an *RB1*
399 knockout⁴⁴.

400 Given that RB1 plays a central role in the negative control of the cell cycle^{44,45}, we
401 tested whether the enhanced chemosensitivity of *RB1* knockout AOCS 7.2 cells was associated
402 with increased cell division. Live cell imaging showed similar growth rates of *RB1* wildtype
403 and knockout clones of all three isogenically matched HGSC cell lines (Supplementary Fig.
404 S4B). In both *BRCA* wild-type and *BRCA1* mutant cell lines, *RB1* knockout did not alter cell
405 cycle distribution at baseline or after 24 hours of cisplatin treatment (Supplementary Fig. S4C).
406 Paclitaxel treatment resulted in a larger proportion of cells with a tetraploid DNA content in
407 *RB1* knockout cells compared to *RB1* wild-type cells, indicating arrest in the G2 or M phase of
408 the cell cycle. This effect was observed in all cell lines independent of *BRCA* or p16 status,
409 however the arrest was more profound in the AOCS7.2 cell line (AOCS1, G2/M difference
410 $8.59\% \pm 4.73\%$, $P = 0.144$; AOCS16, G2/M difference $8.13\% \pm 4.45\%$, $P = 0.142$; AOCS7.2:
411 G2/M difference $14.49\% \pm 3.99\%$, $P = 0.022$; Supplementary Fig. S4C).

412 We extended our analysis of isogenically matched pairs by inactivating *BRCA1* and/or
413 *RB1* in the chemo-naïve cell line AOCS30. While we were readily able to establish *RB1*
414 knockout lines, all *BRCA1* targeted clones were hemizygous for *BRCA1* deletion and retained
415 *BRCA1* expression (Supplementary Table S6), suggesting that engineered homozygous loss of
416 *BRCA1* was cell lethal, even in a tumour type where *BRCA1* loss is frequently observed⁴⁶.

417

418 ***Genomic and transcriptional landscape of HGSC with combined inactivation of BRCA and***
419 ***RB1***

420 To further understand how *RBI* loss may impact the biology of HGSC with co-loss of *BRCA1*
421 or *BRCA2*, we explored matched whole-genome and transcriptome data of primary HGSC
422 tumours in the MOCOG cohort²⁶ of 126 short- (OS <2 years), moderate- (OS \geq 2 to <10 years)
423 and long-term (OS \geq 10 years) survivor patients (Supplementary Fig. S1). Each tumour genome
424 was classified according to their HRD and *RBI* status, resulting in 6 groups: *BRCA1*-HRD &
425 *RBI* altered ($n = 13$); *BRCA1*-HRD & *RBI* wild-type ($n = 36$); *BRCA2*-HRD & *RBI* altered (n
426 = 8); *BRCA2*-HRD & *RBI* wild-type ($n = 20$); HRP & *RBI* altered ($n = 4$), or HRP & *RBI*
427 wild-type ($n = 45$; Fig. 3A).

428 The cohort had been selected for a long-term survivor study²⁶ and hence was enriched
429 for patients with very long survival. Among *BRCA2*-HRD patients, those with *RBI* alterations
430 had longer OS (median OS 17.0 years) compared with those without *RBI* alterations (median
431 OS 11.7 years, $P = 0.0004$; Fig. 3B). Similarly, *BRCA1*-HRD patients with *RBI* alterations
432 survived longer (median OS 10.4 years) than those with an intact *RBI* gene (median OS 7.1
433 years). There were few HRP tumours with *RBI* alterations, however these patients had a worse
434 survival (median OS 1.4 years) compared to the HRP group with no *RBI* alteration (median
435 OS 2.4 years).

436 Examination of genomic features revealed relatively similar patterns within *BRCA1*-
437 HRD and *BRCA2*-HRD groups, although there were a few discriminatory features identified
438 between those with and without *RBI* alterations (Supplementary Figs. S5 and S6). For example,
439 the *BRCA1*-associated rearrangement signature Ovary_G⁴⁷ was more enriched in *BRCA1*-HRD
440 tumours with *RBI* alterations compared to those without ($P = 0.039$). Among *BRCA2*-HRD
441 tumours, the mutational signatures DBS6 (unknown etiology) and SBS3 (associated with
442 HRD)⁴⁸ were higher in *RBI*-altered tumours compared to non-altered tumours, although this
443 was not significant ($P = 0.082$ and $P = 0.1$ respectively). Concordantly, the average *BRCA1*-
444 type and *BRCA2*-type CHORD scores⁴⁰ were highest in *BRCA1*- and *BRCA2*-HRD tumours

445 with *RBI* alterations respectively, indicating a higher probability of HRD. As described
446 previously⁴⁹, *CCNE1* gene amplifications were absent in tumours with both HRD and *RBI*
447 alterations ($P = 0.0006$; Supplementary Fig. S7).

448 We hypothesised that tumours with combined HRD and *RBI* loss may have unique
449 transcriptional profiles. To explore this, we compared gene expression profiles between each
450 HRD/*RBI* group and the reference set of tumours that were HRP and *RBI* wild-type
451 (Supplementary Table S7, Supplementary Fig. S8). There was significant enrichment of
452 MSigDB hallmark gene sets among genes differentially expressed in *BRCA1*-HRD tumours
453 with *RBI* alterations, the most prominent being interferon gamma response (up), interferon
454 alpha response (up), oxidative phosphorylation (up), and E2F targets (up; adjusted $P < 0.0001$;
455 Fig. 4A). The differentially expressed genes identified between *BRCA2*-HRD / *RBI* altered
456 tumours and the reference set were significantly enriched for the MSigDB hallmark gene sets:
457 E2F targets (up), epithelial mesenchymal transition (down), G2M checkpoint (up), and TNF
458 alpha signalling via NF-kB (up; adjusted $P < 0.0001$).

459 Since enhanced tumour cell proliferation has been associated with long-term survival
460 in HGSC^{7,26}, and loss of RB1 might accelerate proliferation³¹, we evaluated the expression of
461 proliferation markers across the *RBI* and *BRCA* subgroups. *BRCA1*-HRD tumours with *RBI*
462 alterations had significantly higher mRNA levels of the cell proliferation related genes *PCNA*
463 (proliferating cell nuclear antigen) and *MCM3* (minichromosome maintenance complex
464 component 3) compared to *BRCA1*-HRD tumours without *RBI* alterations ($P < 0.0001$,
465 Supplementary Fig. S6). However, there were no significant differences in the proportion of
466 Ki-67 positive cancer cell nuclei ($P = 0.3297$) across the subgroups (Supplementary Fig. S6),
467 which was previously quantified by immunohistochemistry⁷ in a subset of primary tumours (n
468 = 59).

469

470 ***Germline BRCA mutation carriers with somatic loss of RB1 tumour expression show***
471 ***elevated immune activity***

472 Having observed that HGSC with combined RB1 loss and HRD have enrichment of
473 transcriptional signatures associated with an enhanced immune response, we accessed existing
474 immunohistochemical data³⁹ to determine the prevalence of CD8⁺ TILs in HGSC samples that
475 also had RB1 protein expression and *BRCA* germline mutation status ($n = 868$). *BRCA* carriers
476 with RB1 loss had a significantly higher proportion of tumours (79.6%) with moderate and
477 high densities of CD8⁺ TILs, compared to *BRCA* carriers with retained RB1 (64.9%), non-
478 carriers with RB1 loss (72.4%) and non-carriers with retained RB1 (63.6%, $P = 0.0264$; Fig.
479 4B). Tumours with complete absence of CD8⁺ TILs were the least frequent in *BRCA* carriers
480 with RB1 loss (4.1%) compared to the other groups (13.8 % of *BRCA* carriers with retained
481 RB1 tumour expression, 14.6% of non-carriers with RB1 tumour loss, 18.8% of non-carriers
482 with retained RB1 tumour expression).

483 Gene expression-based molecular subtypes^{12,38} also differed by RB1 and *BRCA* status
484 ($P = 0.0271$, $n = 601$; Fig. 4C). As expected, there was enrichment for the C2/immunoreactive
485 subtype, a subtype characterised by the presence of intratumoural CD8⁺ T cells and good
486 survival, in germline *BRCA* carriers with RB1 loss (32.4%) compared to the other subgroups
487 (between 19.8% and 23.4%). Additionally, tumours with RB1 loss were enriched for the
488 C4/differentiated molecular subtype, a subtype characterised by cytokine expression and good
489 survival, regardless of *BRCA* status (45.9% in *BRCA* carriers with RB1 loss, 50.0% in non-
490 carriers with RB1 loss, 39.5% in *BRCA* carriers with retained RB1, 32.1% of non-carriers with
491 retained RB1). *BRCA* carriers with RB1 loss also had the lowest proportion of the
492 C5/proliferative molecular subtype (2.7% versus 17.2% to 20.3% in the other groups), a
493 subtype associated with diminished immune cell infiltration and poor survival^{12,19}.

494

495 DISCUSSION

496 Identifying the determinants of long-term patient survival, particularly in cancers with a
497 generally unfavourable prognosis such as HGSC, may reveal novel therapeutic targets and
498 inform personalised treatment strategies⁸. Improved survival associated with RB1 loss has been
499 described previously in HGSC^{7,34,35,50} but the underlying factors contributing to this survival
500 benefit have not been studied to date. We assessed tumour samples from a cohort of more than
501 7,000 women with ovarian cancer, including a subset with high resolution genomic data, to
502 understand how RB1 loss may impact on therapeutic response and patient survival.

503 Alteration of the RB1 pathway is a frequent event in tumourigenesis, including loss of
504 regulators such as p16, activation of D- and E-type cyclins and their associated cyclin
505 dependent kinases, and loss of RB1 itself (reviewed in ⁵¹). Our study showed that RB1 loss is
506 associated with longer survival in patients with advanced stage HGSC, but by contrast, loss of
507 RB1 in ENOC was associated with a shorter survival, particularly in combination with p53
508 mutation. Similar to ENOC, in endocrine-driven breast and prostate cancer, RB1 loss is
509 associated with poorer survival: early co-loss of *BRCA2* and *RBI* is associated with an
510 aggressive, castration-resistant prostate cancer subtype (CRPC) characterised by epithelial-to-
511 mesenchymal transition and shorter survival²⁹. RB1 loss facilitates lineage plasticity and, with
512 p53-comutation, leads to an androgen-independent phenotype^{52,53} and consequently resistance
513 to anti-androgen therapy. In estrogen-receptor (ER) positive breast cancer, CDK4/6 inhibitor
514 resistance is associated with RB1 loss and cyclin E2 activation^{54,55}.

515 Triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) provides an important contrast to the findings for
516 RB1 loss in ER-positive breast cancer. In TNBC, RB1 loss is most common in the basal-like
517 subtype, where *BRCA1* mutation and promoter hypermethylation is associated with frequent
518 *RBI* gene disruption and RB1 loss²⁸. RB1 loss alone, as well as co-occurrence with *BRCA1*
519 promoter hypermethylation, is associated with a favourable chemotherapy response and

520 outcome^{27,56-58}. Notably, TNBC and HGSC are more similar than the cancers that they are
521 grouped with anatomically, sharing gene expression patterns, genetic drivers including *BRCA1*
522 and *BRCA2*, ubiquitous loss of *TP53*, extensive copy number variation, and susceptibility to
523 platinum-based chemotherapy^{59,60}. Taken together, the relationship between RB1 loss and
524 patient survival appears to be dependent on cancer type and molecular context⁶¹.

525 Some, but not all TNBC and early metastatic prostate cancers are associated with
526 germline variants in *BRCA1*, *BRCA2* and other genes involved in HR DNA repair. However,
527 previous tumour studies of RB1 expression have not also defined the HRD status of individual
528 samples. A strength of this study was the known *BRCA* germline status of 1134 of the HGSC
529 patients for which we also had RB1 protein expression, and this revealed the strong association
530 of co-mutation in either *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* and *RB1* with survival. In addition to germline
531 mutations in *BRCA1* or *BRCA2*, germline or somatic mutations, and promoter methylation of
532 other genes involved in HR DNA repair, such as *RAD51C*, can result in a similar molecular
533 phenotype, characterised by distinct genomic scarring²⁶. Using whole-genome sequence data,
534 we determined the likely tumour HRD status in a subset of 126 tumours using an algorithm
535 that recognises genomic scarring associated with HRD (Fig. 3A), rather than simply
536 designating *BRCA* mutation status, which does not account for all mechanisms of HR repair
537 inactivation. Although the number of samples with RB1 loss and HR proficiency was small,
538 the very poor outcome we observed with this group indicated that for RB1 to impart a survival
539 benefit in HGSC, it must occur in an HRD background. Validation of this finding in a larger
540 cohort may further inform how RB1 loss could favourably influence survival in certain
541 histological and molecular contexts.

542 We have previously noted that enhanced proliferation in HGSC is associated with long-
543 term survival^{7,26} and it is reasonable to suggest that RB1 loss may be imparting an effect
544 through deregulating the cell cycle. However, data on the effect of RB1 loss on proliferation in

545 HGSC tumours and cancer cell lines is inconsistent. *RBI* knockout in our HGSC cell lines did
546 not cause cell cycle alterations in the absence of treatment, and despite differences in
547 proliferative markers at the mRNA level, there was no significant difference in the proportion
548 of Ki-67 positive nuclei between tumours with or without RB1 protein expression. In a recent
549 OTTA study, Ki-67 expression was not associated with survival in HGSC; however, there was
550 strong correlation between loss of RB1 and the proliferative marker MCM3⁶², which may
551 provide a more accurate measure of tumour cell proliferation than Ki-67⁶³.

552 In addition to its role in driving progression through the G1 stage of the cell cycle, RB1
553 has non-canonical functions. RB1 has been shown to participate in HR DNA repair through
554 interactions with BRG1 and ATM⁶⁴. A recent pan-cancer study⁶⁵ found that combined loss of
555 *TP53* and *RBI* was associated with a particularly high genome-wide loss-of-heterozygosity
556 score, one of the key elements of genomic scarring associated with HRD. In our whole-genome
557 analysis, HGSC tumours with dual loss of HRD and *RBI* did not exhibit overall higher
558 mutation burden; however, we did observe elevated levels of mutational signatures associated
559 with HRD, which may be evidence of compounding DNA repair defects. It remains possible
560 that the combined inactivation of RB1 and HR genes contribute to enhanced chemotherapy
561 response and/or an impaired ability for tumour cells to develop therapy resistance.

562 When we evaluated a set of patient derived HGSC lines, those with germline *BRCA1*
563 mutation and *RBI* alteration were most sensitive to cisplatin and olaparib. Knockout of *RBI* in
564 the AOCS 7.2 cell line which had a pre-existing *BRCA1* mutation, resulted in an increase in
565 chemosensitivity, consistent with the notion that co-mutation enhances chemotherapy
566 response⁷. Unfortunately, despite considerable efforts, we were unable to generate a larger
567 series of isogenically matched cell lines with combinations of conditional knockouts of *RBI*
568 and *BRCA1* as all surviving clones retained at least one *BRCA1* allele. *BRCA1* loss is embryonic

569 lethal and engineered loss in cell lines has been reported as lethal elsewhere including in the
570 human haploid cell line, HAP1⁴⁶.

571 Our data provides evidence of an enhanced immunogenicity in HGSC with RB1 loss,
572 with higher CD8⁺ TIL counts and upregulated expression of IFN- γ signalling pathways. RB1
573 has been shown to inhibit innate IFN- β production in immunocompetent mice⁶⁶ and RB1
574 deficiency triggered an increased IFN- β and IFN- α secretion. Co-mutation of *RB1* and *TP53*
575 was recently found to be associated with an enhanced response to the immune checkpoint
576 inhibitor atezolizumab in metastatic urothelial bladder cancer⁶⁷. Similarly, a case report
577 described a complete response to atezolizumab in heavily pre-treated, RB1-negative TNBC⁶⁸.
578 This generates the hypothesis that RB1 loss could predict response to such therapies in HGSC,
579 since this tumour type ubiquitously harbours *TP53* mutations⁶⁹. However, a recent biomarker
580 study in ovarian cancer patients treated with atezolizumab or placebo and standard
581 chemotherapy found that deleterious mutations in *RB1* were prognostic for a better PFS,
582 regardless of the addition of atezolizumab⁷⁰. While it appears RB1 loss alone may not be
583 predictive of response to the PD-L1 inhibitor atezolizumab, response rates to PD-1/PD-L1
584 pathway checkpoint inhibitors are generally quite low in HGSC, with the best objective
585 response rates between 8% and 15%⁷¹. Our study has identified a subset of patients with
586 combined RB1 and *BRCA* inactivation who demonstrate exceptional immune responses and
587 may provide clues for the development of new immunotherapeutic strategies for HGSC that
588 extend beyond targeting PD-L1/PD-1.

589 Our work highlights the importance of RB1 loss to treatment response and survival and
590 focuses attention on other therapeutic opportunities in this subset of HGSC patients.
591 Approximately 20 percent of HGSC patients have somatic loss of *RB1* assessed using genomic
592 data^{3,26}, a figure that is consistent with the immunohistochemical results obtained in the large
593 patient cohort described here. Both approaches indicate that RB1 loss is generally clonal,

594 enhancing its value as a therapeutic target if selective inhibitors can be identified. Casein kinase
595 2 (CK2) inhibitors have been reported to enhance the sensitivity of *RBI*-deficient TNBC and
596 HGSC cells to carboplatin and niraparib⁷². In addition, Aurora kinase A and B inhibition is
597 synthetically lethal in combination with RB1 loss in breast and lung cancer cells⁷³⁻⁷⁵.
598 Irrespective of HRD status, *RBI* mutations correlate with sensitivity to WEE1 inhibition in
599 *TP53* mutant TNBC and HGSC patient-derived xenografts⁷⁶, indicating additional treatment
600 options that exploit RB1 inactivation in these tumours. In this study, the *BRCA1*-mutant cell
601 line AOC7.2 with induced *RBI* knockout was more sensitive to olaparib suggesting that RB1
602 loss may also predict responses to PARP inhibitors in HGSC. RB1 staining of tumour tissue
603 by IHC is a relatively low-cost pathology-based assay that could be used in prospective studies
604 to test whether RB1 expression is predictive of responses to PARP inhibitors, either alone or
605 in combination with approved HRD tests.

606

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644

645 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

646 MK, SJR, DDLB and DWG conceived the study design. FAMS, KT, KP, JB and TH carried
647 out experiments, and analysed and interpreted results along with TB, AP, DA, TZ, NSM, SF,
648 AD, MK, SJR, DDLB and DWG. MK assessed and interpreted immunohistochemical scores.
649 All authors contributed through recruitment and consenting of patients, collection and
650 processing of biological samples, clinical care, abstraction and curation of clinical data and
651 maintenance of follow-up. DDLB and DWG supervised the study and together with FAMS
652 and KT wrote the manuscript. All authors contributed to writing, review and revision of the
653 manuscript and approved the final submitted version.

654

655 **COMPETING INTERESTS**

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667

668 **Figure legends:**

669 **Figure 1. Expression of RB1 and survival associations across ovarian cancer histotypes.**

670 (A) Representative images of immunohistochemical detection of RB1 expression in ovarian
671 carcinoma tissues, showing examples of the three most common expression patterns: retained,
672 lost and subclonal loss. (B) Proportion of patients with loss or retention of RB1 protein
673 expression in tumour samples by ovarian cancer histotypes. Chi-square *P* value reported for
674 difference in proportions across all histotypes. HGSC, tubo-ovarian high-grade serous
675 carcinoma; LGSC, low-grade serous carcinoma; MOC, mucinous ovarian cancer; ENOC,
676 endometrioid ovarian cancer; CCOC, clear cell ovarian cancer. (C) Boxplots show *RB1* mRNA
677 expression (NanoString) by RB1 protein expression status; lines indicate median and whiskers
678 show range (Mann-Whitney test *P* value reported). Kaplan-Meier analysis of overall survival
679 in patients diagnosed with HGSC (D) and ENOC (E) stratified by tumour RB1 expression. (F)
680 Loss of RB1 tumour expression is more common in germline *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* mutation
681 carriers than retained RB1 expression. Chi-square *P* value is reported. (G) Kaplan-Meier
682 estimates of overall survival in HGSC patients by combined germline *BRCA* and tumour RB1
683 expression status.

684

685 **Figure 2. Sensitivity to therapeutic agents in *BRCA1*-mutant cell lines with *RB1* knockout.**

686 (A) *RB1* was knocked out using CRISPR/Cas9 in 3 patient-derived Australian Ovarian Cancer
687 Study (AOCS) HGSC cell lines with either wild-type or mutant *BRCA1* background.
688 Representative Western Blots show protein levels of RB1 and phosphorylated RB1 (pRB1)
689 compared to GAPDH loading control in single cell cloned, homozygous *RB1* wildtype (WT)
690 and knockout (KO) colonies in comparison to heterogeneous populations with a scramble
691 single guide RNA (sgRNA). Independent blots were used for RB1 and pRB1. (B) Cell viability
692 was compared between *RB1* WT and KO clones following treatment with cisplatin (72 hours),
693 paclitaxel (72 hours) or olaparib (120 hours). Nonlinear regression drug curves are shown; *P*

694 values of a curve fit, extra sum-of squares F test (ns, not significant; ** $P < 0.01$; **** $P <$
695 0.0001 ; $n = 3$). Error bars indicate \pm SEM; for some values error bars are shorter than the
696 symbols and thus are not visible. (C) Proportion of surviving colonies following 16 days of
697 treatment with cisplatin, paclitaxel or a combination of both (with half of the IC50 determined
698 per drug and cell line respectively) relative to DMF vehicle control ($n = 3$ replicates). Data are
699 presented as mean \pm SEM. Mean values were compared by student's t-test (ns, not significant;
700 * $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.01$). Representative scans of the fixed cell colonies stained with crystal
701 violet are shown for each condition.

702

703 **Figure 3. Genomic landscape of high-grade serous ovarian tumours with co-occurring**
704 ***BRCA* and *RB1* alterations.**

705 (A) Pathogenic germline and somatic alterations in homologous recombination (HR) and DNA
706 repair genes detected by whole-genome sequencing and DNA methylation analysis of 126
707 primary HGSC samples²⁶ are shown, as well as alterations in immune genes and *CCNE1*.
708 Samples are grouped by HRD and *RB1* status (wt, wild-type; mut, mutation). Bars at the top
709 indicate the number of alterations in each listed gene per patient. Patients are annotated with
710 survival group (LTS, long-term survivor, OS >10 years; MTS, mid-term survivor, OS 2-10
711 years; STS, short-term survivor, OS <2 years), tumour CHORD⁴⁰ scores, and the proportion of
712 structural variant (SV) type (DUP, duplication; DEL, deletion; INV, inversion; ITX, intra-
713 chromosomal translocation). (B) Kaplan-Meier estimates of progression-free and overall
714 survival of patients with according to HR status (*BRCA1*-type HRD, *BRCA2*-type HRD or
715 homologous recombination proficient tumours) and *RB1* status (mut, mutation; wt, wild-type).
716

717 **Figure 4. Characterisation of HGSC with co-loss of *RB1* and *BRCA*.**

718 (A) Gene set enrichment analysis indicating up- and downregulated pathways in tumours
719 according to *BRCA* and *RB1* status. HRP, homologous recombination proficient; HRD,
720 homologous recombination deficient; RB1wt, *RB1* wild-type; RB1m, *RB1* altered. (B)
721 Proportion of tumour infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) in HGSC tumours grouped by RB1
722 expression and *BRCA* germline mutation status (Chi-square *P* value is indicated). (C)
723 Proportion of tumours classified as each HGSC molecular subtype¹² grouped by RB1
724 expression and *BRCA* germline mutation status (Chi-square *P* value is indicated; C5.PRO,
725 C5/proliferative subtype; C4.DIF, C4/differentiated subtype; C2.IMM, C2/immunoreactive
726 subtype; C1.MES, C1/mesenchymal subtype).

727

728 **Supplementary Figure S1. Patients and tumour samples analysed in this study.**

729 Number of patients included in each molecular analysis. HGSC, tubo-ovarian high-grade
730 serous ovarian carcinoma; ENOC, endometrioid ovarian carcinoma; OS, overall survival.

731

732 **Supplementary Figure S2. Combined p53 and RB1 protein expression in ENOC.**

733 (A) Correlation between RB1 and p53 tumour expression in patients with endometrioid ovarian
734 carcinoma (ENOC). Chi-square *P* value is reported. (B) Kaplan-Meier estimates of overall
735 survival in patients with ENOC by combined RB1 and p53 tumour expression status.

736

737 **Supplementary Figure S3. Drug sensitivity in HGSC cell lines with innate *RB1* and/or** 738 ***BRCA1* alterations.**

739 (A) Summary of the molecular features of innate HGSC cell models, including mutations in
740 key genes (*TP53*, *CDKN2A*, *BRCA1*, *BRCA2*), copy number alterations in *CCNE1*, and protein
741 expression of RB1 and p16. (B) IC50 of high grade serous ovarian cancer cell lines after
742 treatment with cisplatin (72 hours), paclitaxel (72 hours), or olaparib (120 hours). ND, Not

743 determined. (C) Viability of high-grade serous ovarian cancer cell lines after treatment with
744 cisplatin (72 hours), paclitaxel (72 hours), or olaparib (120 hours). Data are expressed as mean
745 ($n = 3$ replicates) \pm standard error of the mean (SEM). For some points, error bars are shorter
746 than the height of the symbol and are not visible.

747

748 **Supplementary Figure S4. Cell proliferation and cell cycle distribution of HGSC cell lines**
749 **with *RBI* knockout.**

750 (A) CRISPR/Cas9 knockout of *RBI* in 3 patient-derived ovarian cancer cell lines with different
751 *BRCA1/2* and p16 backgrounds. The bar graph indicates *RBI* mRNA expression levels
752 determined by RT-PCR ($n = 3$) in single-cell clones confirming *RBI* wildtype (WT) and
753 knockout (KO) compared to heterozygous colonies without gene editing (Scramble).
754 Representative Western Blots show p16 protein levels compared to GAPDH loading controls
755 in each cell line and clone. Images of p16 IHC in AOCs parental cell lines are included
756 confirming the respective p16 status. (B) Proliferative capacity of 3 patient-derived HGSC cell
757 lines (*RBI* wild-type, WT and *RBI* knockout, KO clones) measured by IncuCyte Zoom live-
758 cell imaging. Data represent mean \pm SEM confluency after 20-25% starting confluency from
759 three to six independent experiments. Dashed line denotes 75% confluency. (C) Cell cycle
760 distribution following *RBI* CRISPR knockout. Proportion of cells in G0G1, S or G2/M phase
761 24 hours after treatment with DMF, cisplatin or paclitaxel at half the IC50 determined per cell
762 line and drug, analysed by flow cytometry. Mean proportion \pm SEM of three independently
763 performed experiments are shown. Distribution was compared between *RBI* WT and KO
764 clones using unpaired t test (ns, not significant; $*P < 0.05$).

765

766 **Supplementary Figure S5. Mutational signatures in homologous recombination**
767 **deficiency and *RBI* subgroups.**

768 Boxplots show the relative proportion (y-axis) of genome-wide mutational signatures²⁶
769 according to homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) and *RBI* status. Boxes show the
770 interquartile range (25-75th percentiles), central lines indicate the median, dots represent each
771 sample, whiskers show the smallest and largest values within 1.5 times the interquartile range,
772 red triangles indicate the mean, and dotted lines join the mean of each subgroup to visualise
773 the trend. The Kruskal–Wallis test *P* values displayed are Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted and
774 the signatures are ordered by their significance. Pair-wise Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon test
775 adjusted *P* values are also reported. HRP, homologous recombination proficient.

776

777 **Supplementary Figure S6. Genomic and clinical characteristics by combined homologous**
778 **recombination deficiency and *RBI* status.**

779 Boxplots show numerical clinical and genomic features (y-axis) according to homologous
780 recombination deficiency (HRD) and *RBI* status. Boxes show the interquartile range (25-75th
781 percentiles), central lines indicate the median, dots represent each sample, whiskers show the
782 smallest and largest values within 1.5 times the interquartile range, red triangles indicate the
783 mean, and dotted lines join the mean of each subgroup to visualise the trend. The Kruskal–
784 Wallis test *P* values displayed are Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted and the features are ordered
785 by their significance. Pair-wise Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon test adjusted *P* values are also
786 reported. Features include *BRCA1*- and *BRCA2*-type CHORD (Classifier of HOMologous
787 Recombination Deficiency) scores; mean HRD scores (scarHRD); absolute numbers of
788 structural variants (SVs), including deletions (DEL), duplications (DUP), intrachromosomal
789 rearrangements (ITX), and inversions (INV); relative expression levels of *PCNA* and *MCM3*;
790 proportion of whole-genome loss-of-heterozygosity (LOH); number of predicted neoantigens
791 and variants per megabase (Mb); age of patients at diagnosis; progression-free and overall
792 survival; cancer cell purity and ploidy; absolute CIBERSORTx scores; proportion of Ki-67

793 positive tumour cells were available for $n = 59$ primary tumours as previously measured by
794 immunohistochemistry⁷. HRP, homologous recombination proficient.

795

796 **Supplementary Figure S7. Gene alterations across *BRCA* and *RBI* altered subgroups.**

797 Proportion of tumours with alterations in genes of interest for each subgroup. WT, wild-type;

798 MUT, mutation; HRP, homologous recombination proficient. Genes are ordered by

799 significance using Fisher's exact test; Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted P values are reported.

800

801 **Supplementary Figure S8. Differentially expressed genes.**

802 Bars indicate the number of differentially expressed genes (Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted P

803 value < 0.05) between HGSC tumours grouped by HRD and/or *RBI* status as

804 shown. Differential gene expression analysis was performed using DESeq2 to determine fold

805 change of gene expression between groups (see Supplementary Table 7 for full DESeq2

806 results). HRP, homologous recombination proficient; HRD, homologous recombination

807 deficient; RB1wt, *RBI* wild-type; RB1m, *RBI* altered.

808

809 **Supplementary Table captions:**

810 **Supplementary Table S1.**

811 Details of participating Ovarian Tumor Tissue Analysis (OTTA) consortium studies and ethics

812 approval.

813 **Supplementary Table S2.**

814 Number of patients by study and histotype.

815 **Supplementary Table S3.**

816 Clinical characteristics of patients diagnosed with high-grade serous ovarian cancer.

817 **Supplementary Table S4.**

818 Clinical features of patients with endometrioid ovarian cancer

819 **Supplementary Table S5.**

820 Clinical characteristics of patients with high-grade serous ovarian cancer according to *BRCA*
821 and *RB1* status.

822 **Supplementary Table S6.**

823 Relative expression of *BRCA1* and *RB1* by qPCR in AOCS30 CRISPR knockout model.

824 **Supplementary Table S7.**

825 Differential gene expression analysis comparing transcriptomes of tumours based on *BRCA*
826 and *RB1* alteration status.

827 **Supplementary Table S8.**

828 Summary of cell lines used in this study.

829 **Supplementary Table S9.**

830 Summary of gene alterations and expression found in cell lines.

831 **Supplementary Table S10.**

832 Sequence of single guide RNA used for CRISPR gene knockout.

833 **Supplementary Table S11.**

834 Antibodies and reagents used for this project.

835 **Supplementary Table S12.**

836 List of primer sequences used in the study.

837

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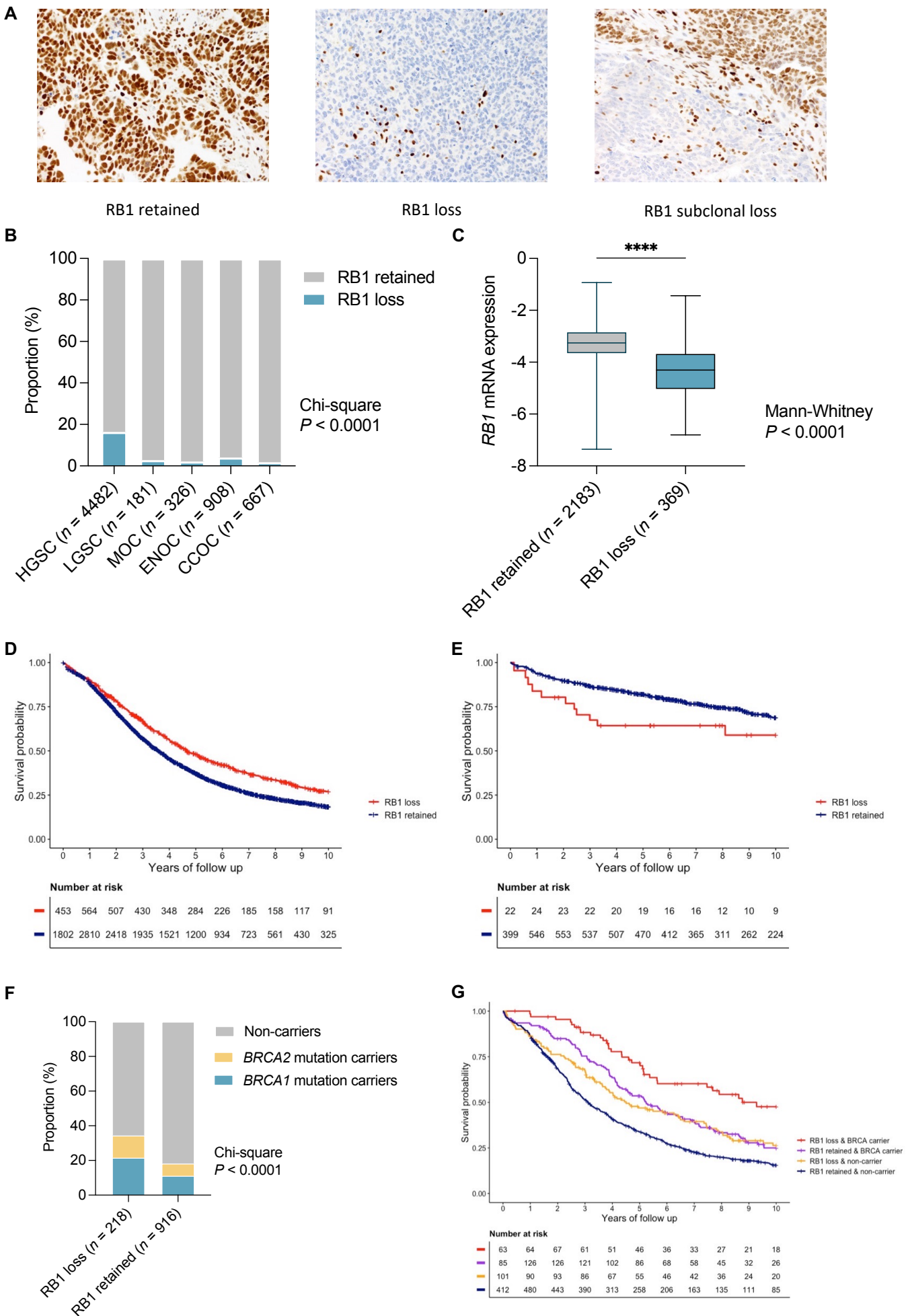


Figure 1.

Table 1. Multivariate analysis of molecular alterations and overall survival in patients with HGSC and ENOC

Histotype	Feature	Category	No. patients (events, %)	HR (95% CI)	P	P for interaction
HGSC ^{a,b}	RB1	Retained	3453 (71.3)	1 [Reference]		
		Loss	686 (61.1)	0.74 (0.66-0.83)	6.8 x 10 ⁻⁷	
ENOC ^a	RB1	Retained	649 (22.7)	1 [Reference]		
		Loss	28 (39.3)	2.17 (1.17-4.03)	0.014	
HGSC ^{a,b}	RB1 and <i>BRCA</i> status	RB1 retained & non-carrier	714 (76.3)	1 [Reference]		0.24
		RB1 loss & non-carrier	135 (60.7)	0.74 (0.57-0.96)	0.023	
		RB1 retained & <i>BRCA</i> carrier	159 (67.9)	0.69 (0.55-0.86)	0.001	
		RB1 loss & <i>BRCA</i> carrier	70 (42.9)	0.38 (0.25-0.58)	5.2 x 10 ⁻⁶	
ENOC ^a	RB1 and p53	RB1 retained & p53 normal	492 (17.5)	1 [Reference]		0.698
		RB1 retained & p53 abnormal	58 (36.2)	2.26 (1.38-3.71)	0.001	
		RB1 loss & p53 normal	11 (27.3)	1.77 (0.56-5.65)	0.332	
		RB1 loss & p53 abnormal	12 (58.3)	5.34 (2.43-11.8)	<0.001	

^aAdjusted for stage and age at diagnosis. ^bStratified by study.

HR, hazard ratio, CI, confidence interval; HGSC, tubo-ovarian high-grade serous carcinoma; ENOC, endometrioid ovarian cancer.

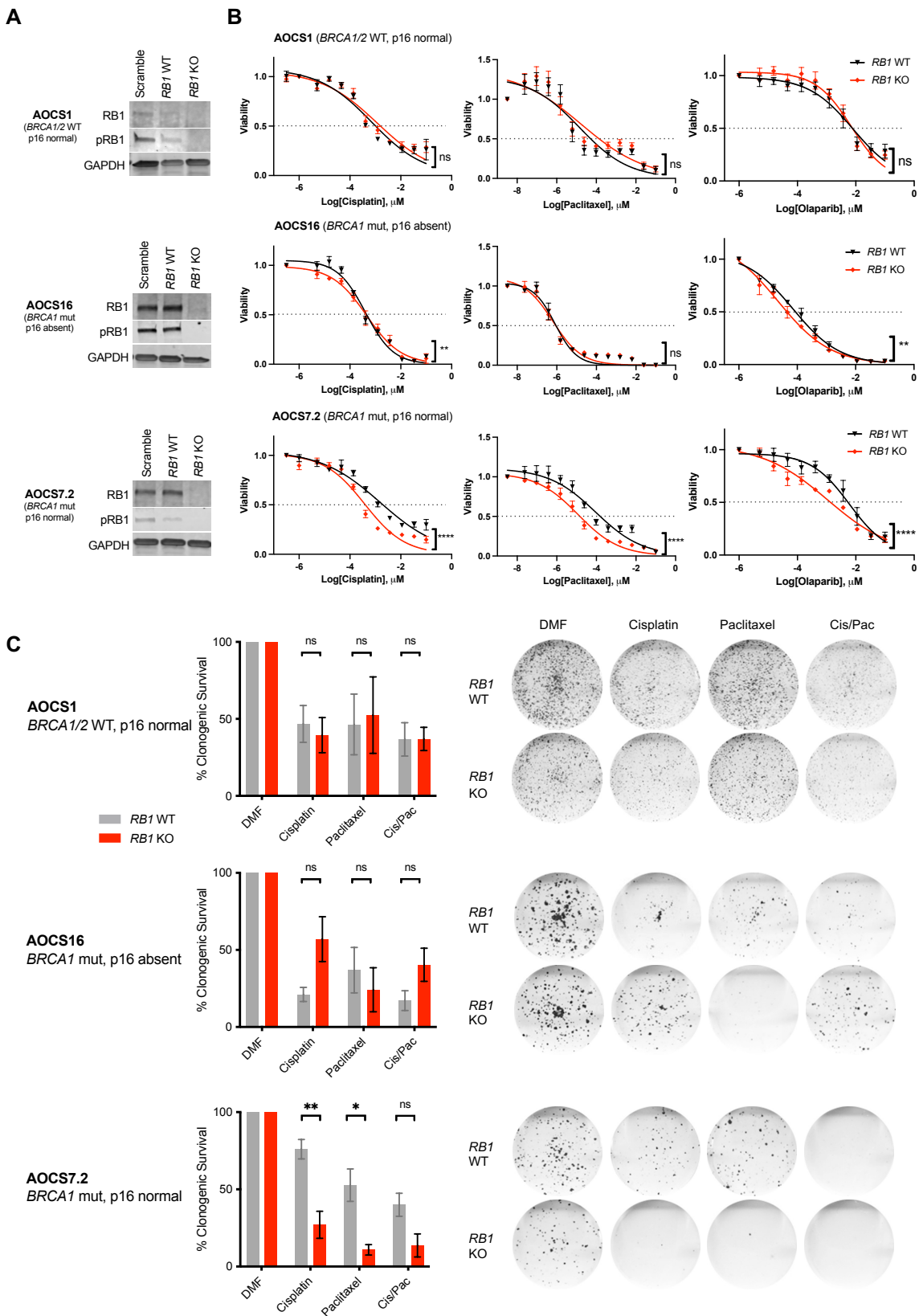


Figure 2.

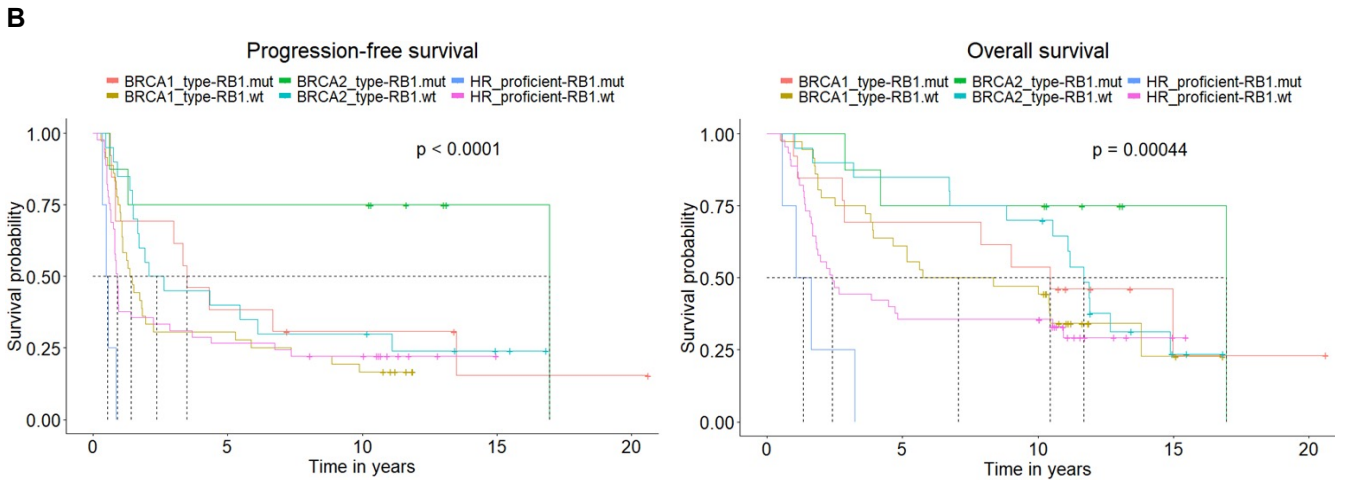
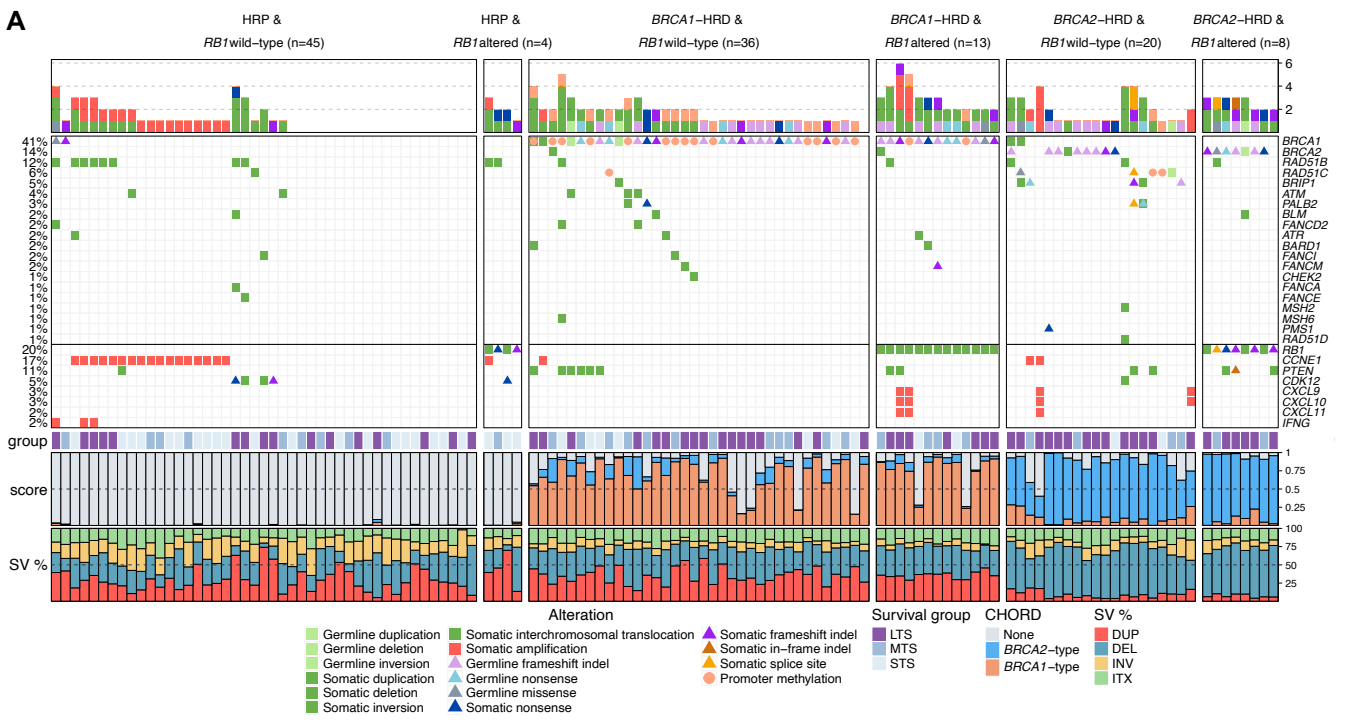
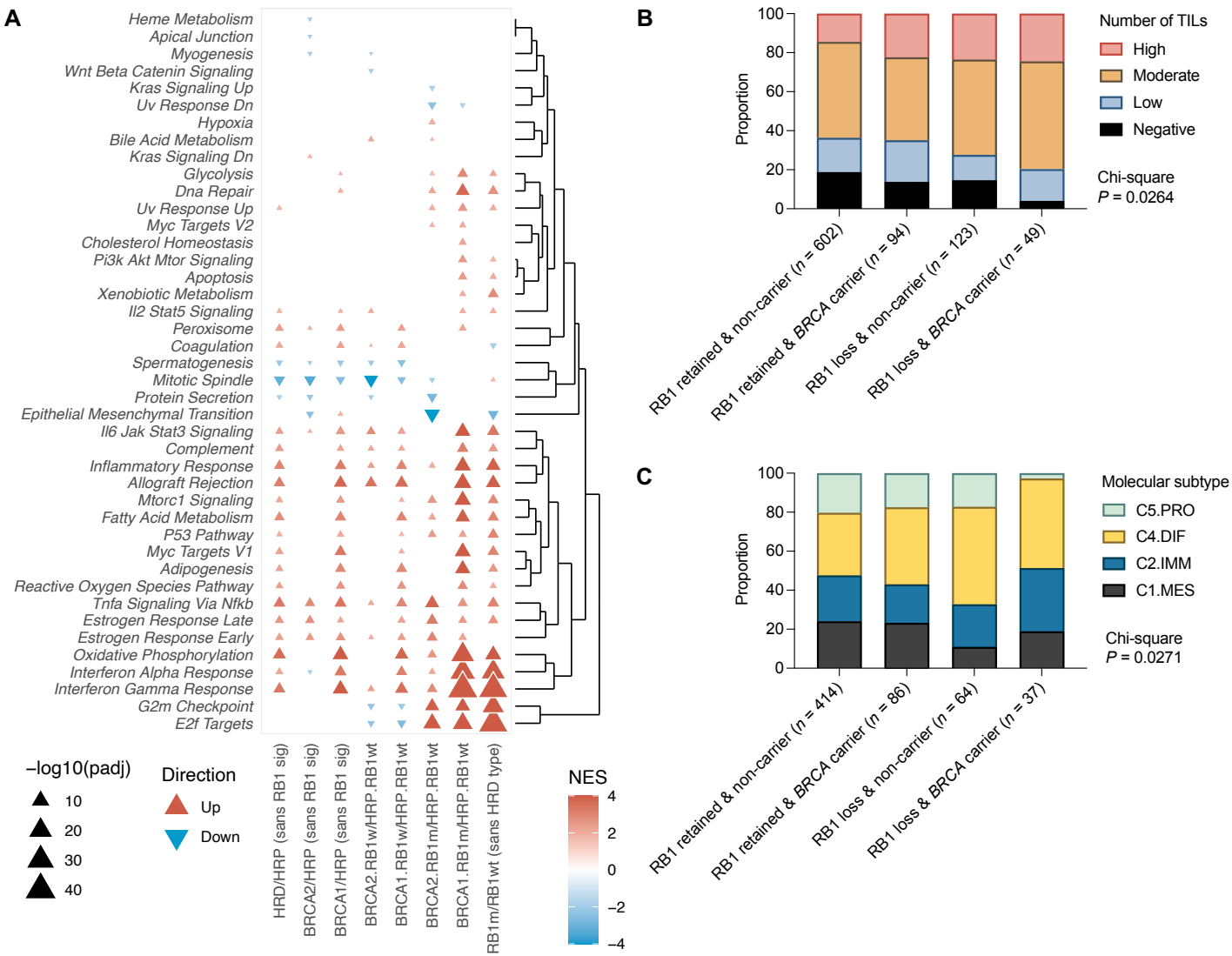
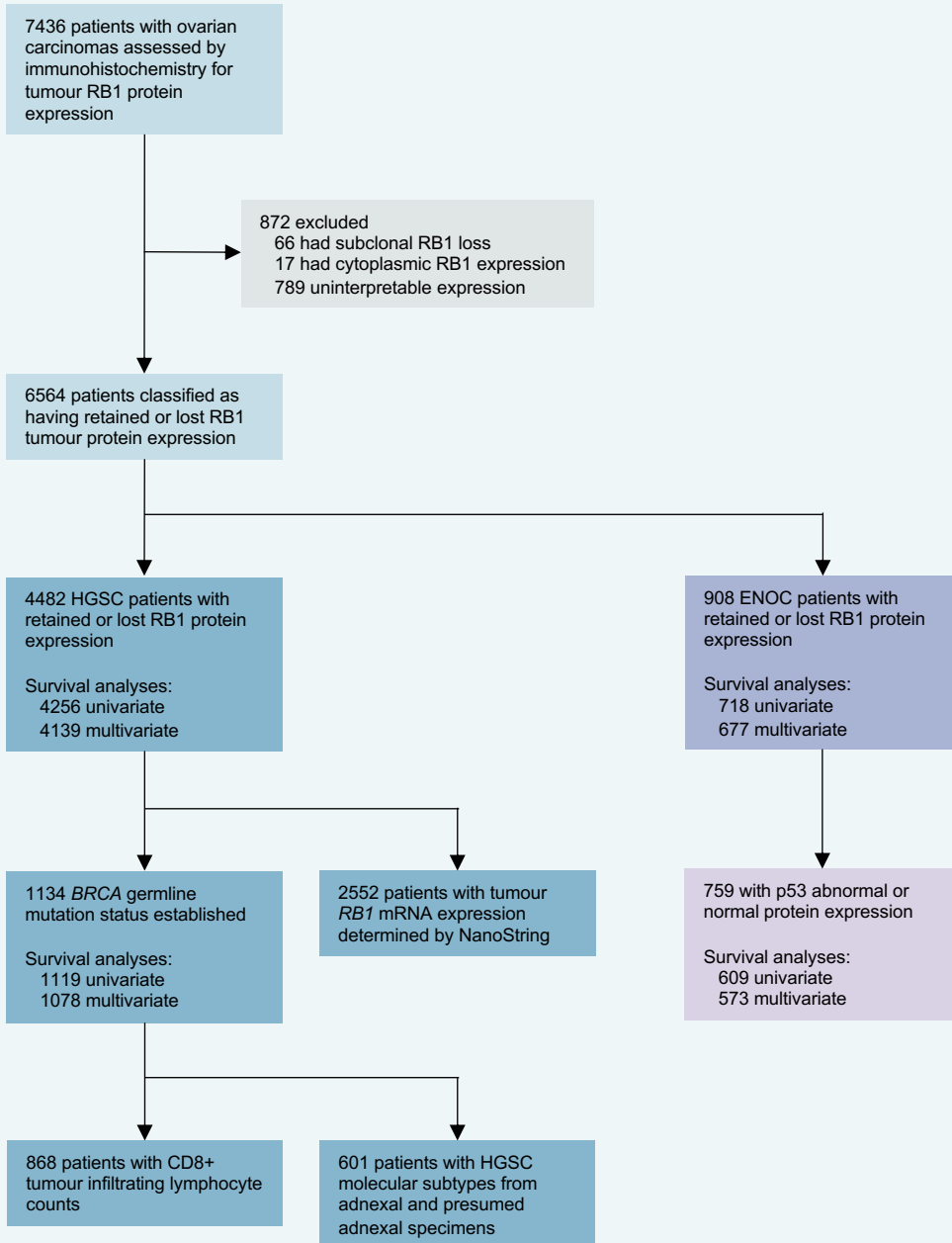


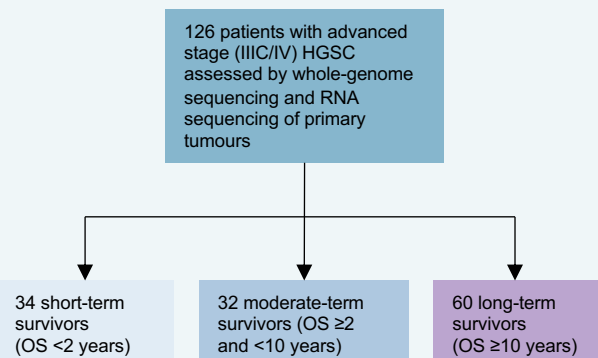
Figure 3.

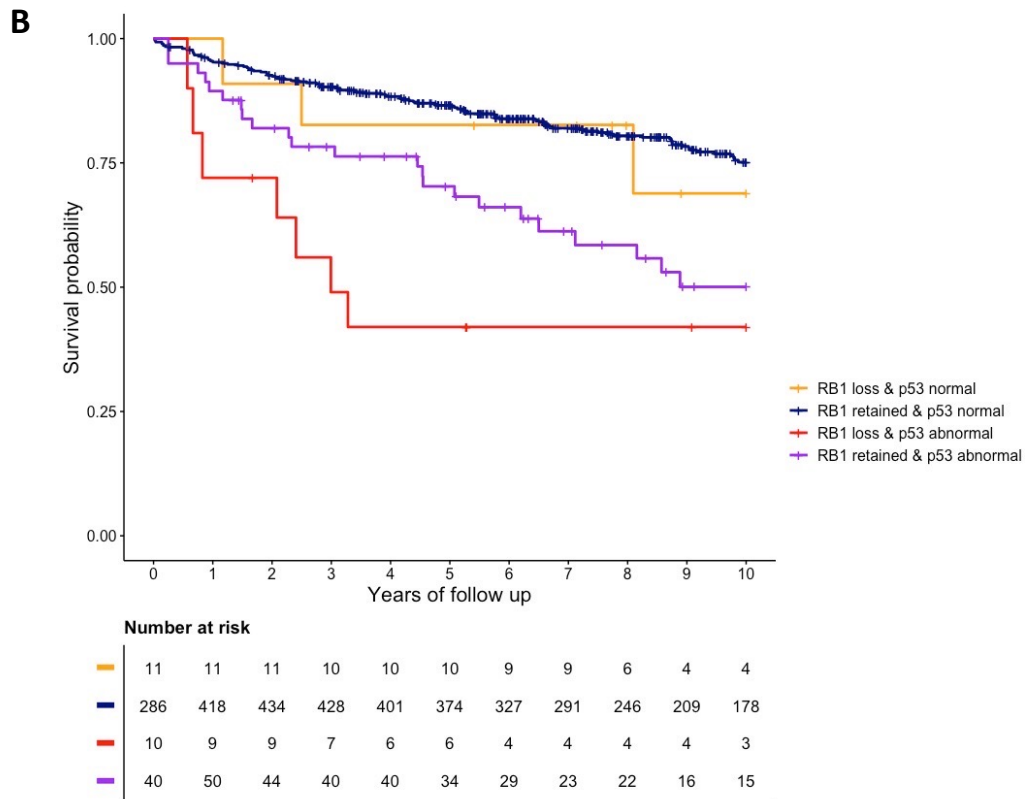
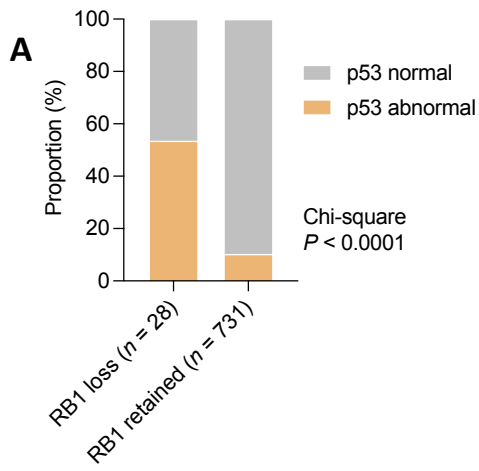


Ovarian Tumor Tissue Analysis (OTTA) consortium



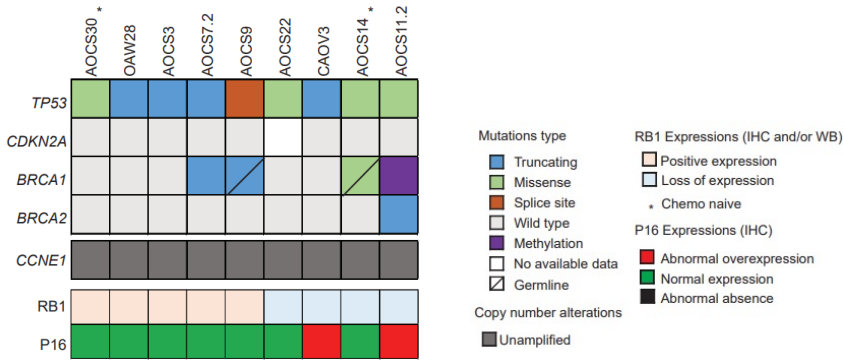
Multidisciplinary Ovarian Cancer Outcomes Group (MOCOG) study





Supplementary Figure S2.

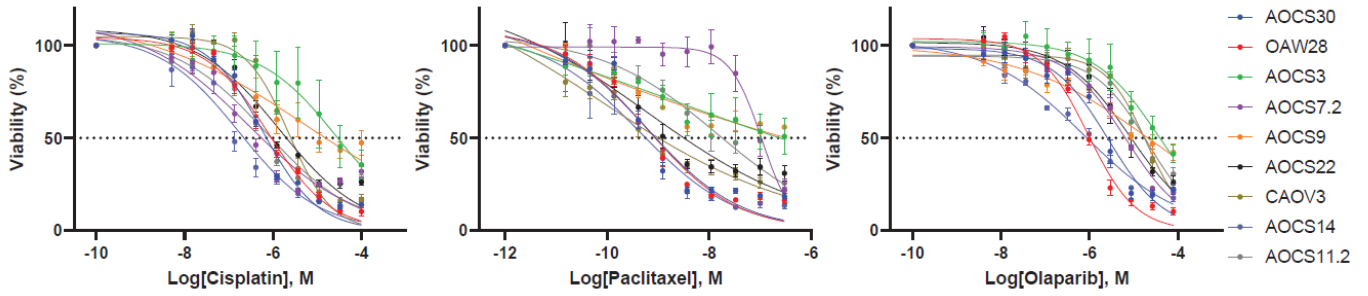
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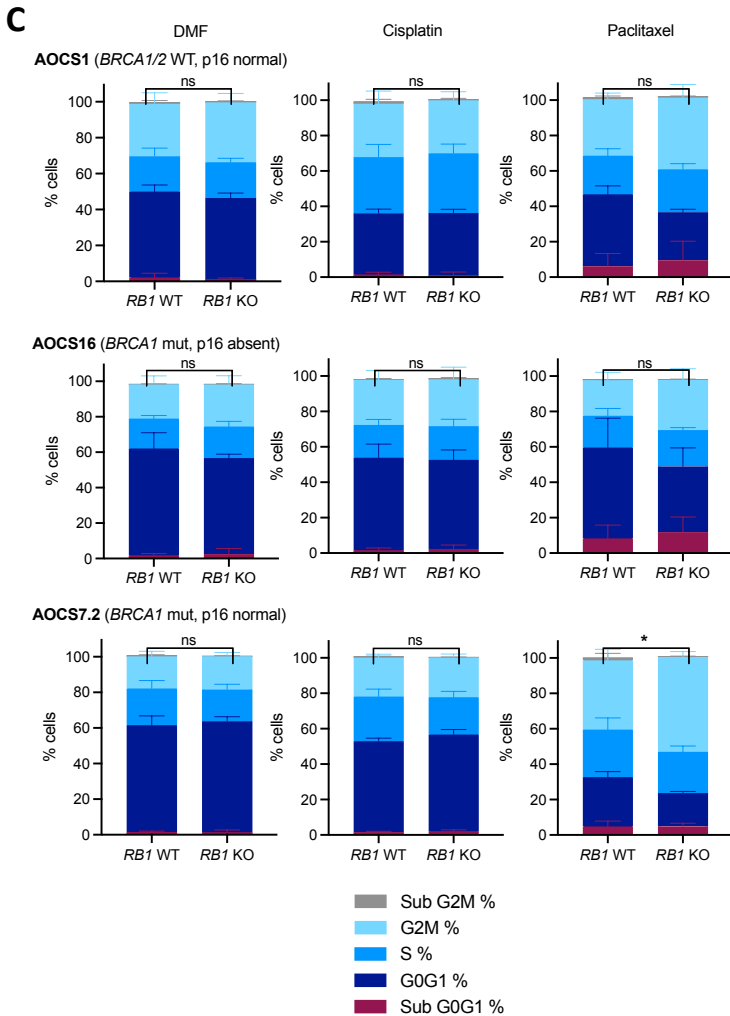
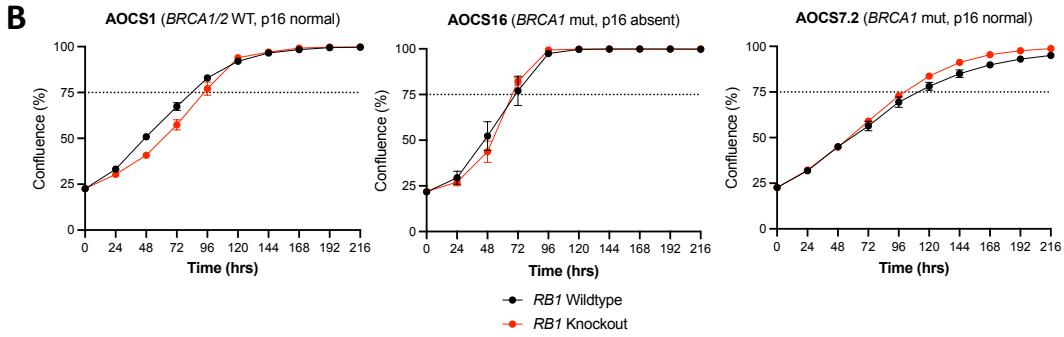
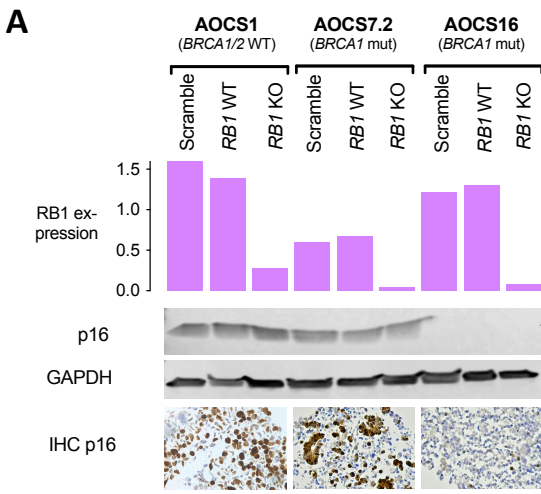
B

<i>RB1/BRCA1</i>	WT/WT		WT/gmut			Loss/WT		Loss/gmut	Loss/ methy
Cell line	AOC30	OAW28	AOC3	AOC7.2	AOC9	AOC22	CAOV3	AOC14	AOC11.2
Cisplatin (μM)	0.5955	0.8069	27.95	0.2933	5.142	1.41	2.303	0.1747	0.705
Paclitaxel (nM)	0.6272	0.6259	ND	107.3	ND	0.6339	0.07528	0.4297	14.23
Olaparib (μM)	2.694	0.9433	36.68	6.654	21.19	8.33	19.86	0.7811	21.23

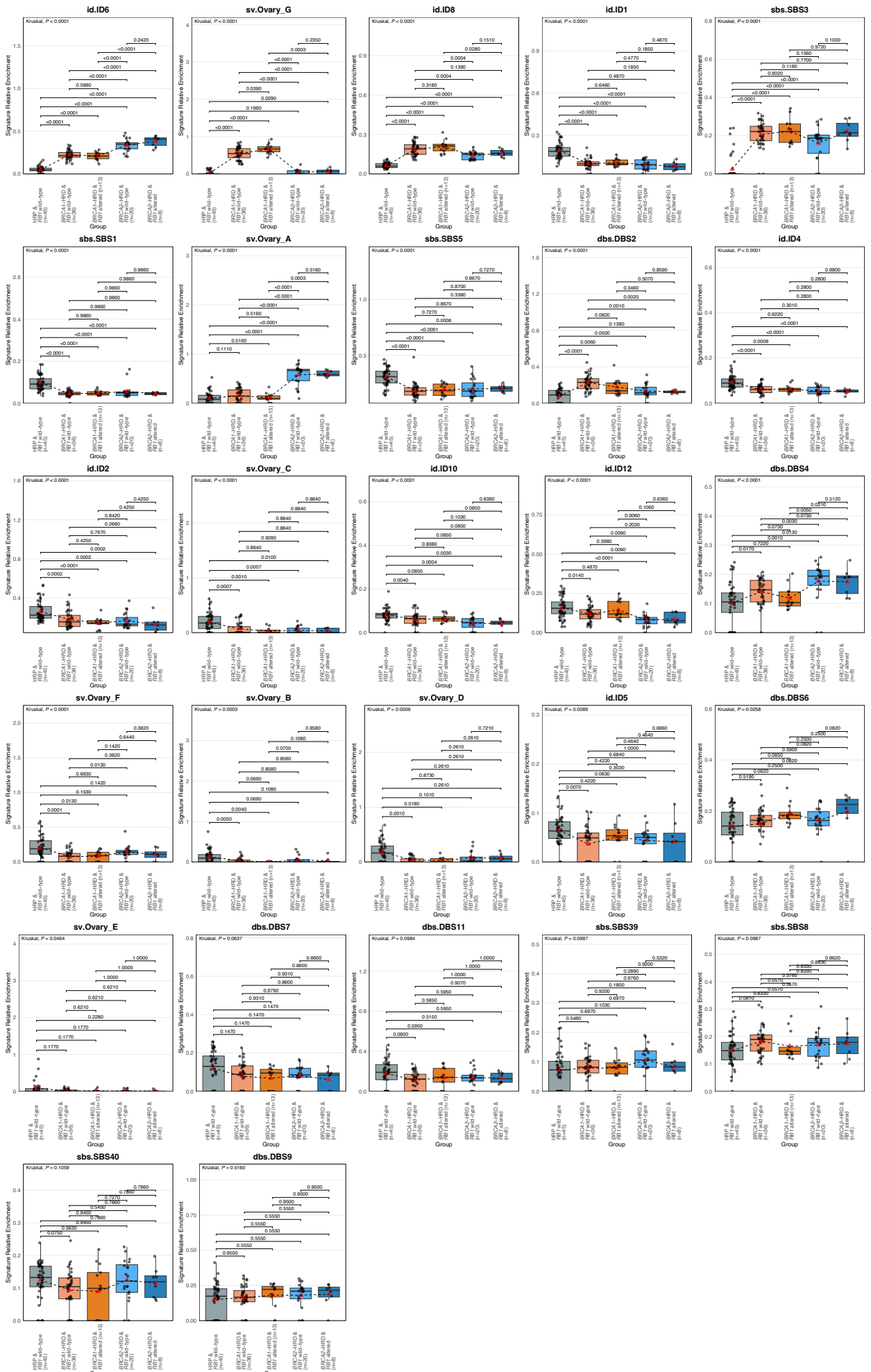
C



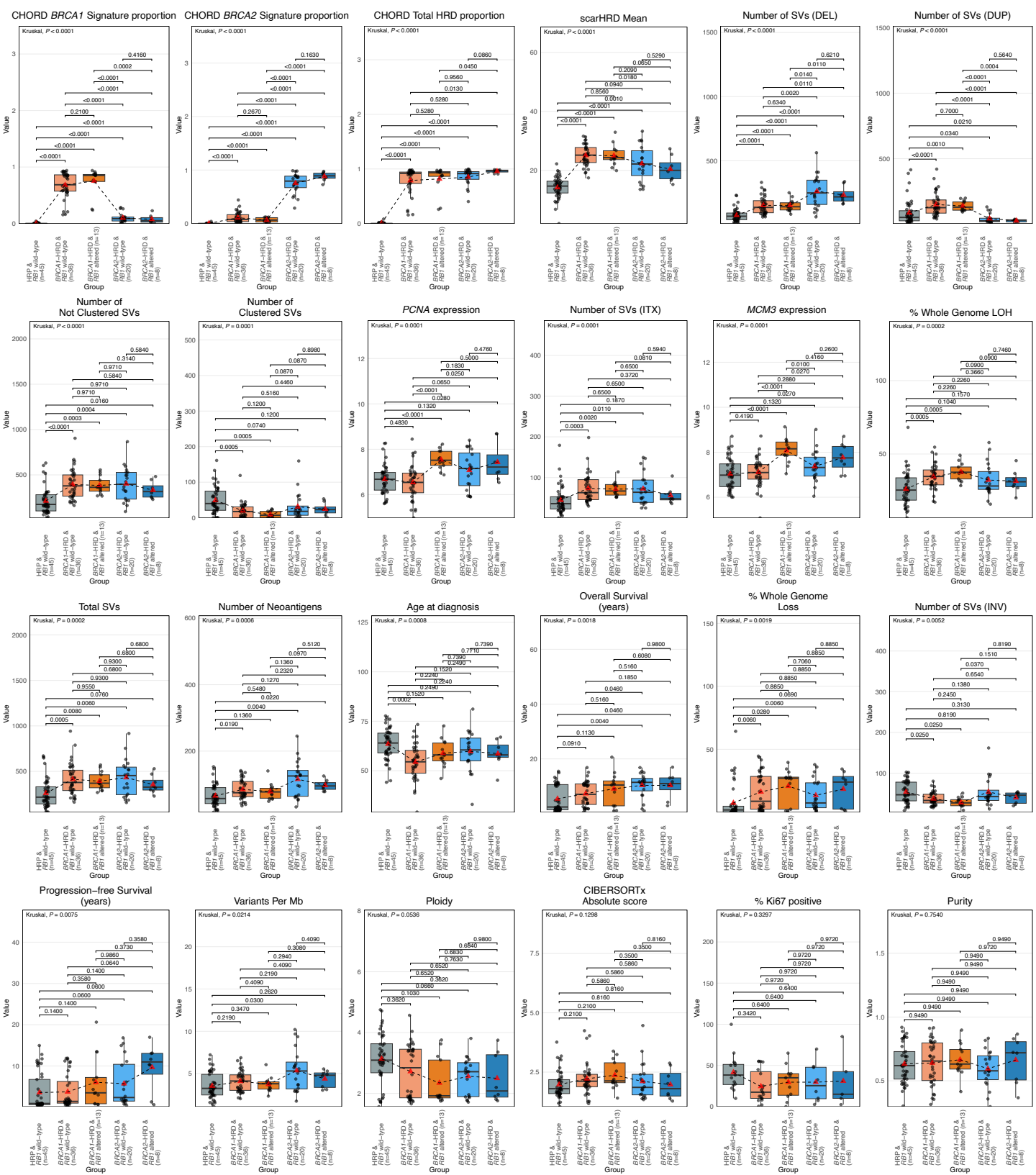
Supplementary Figure S3.



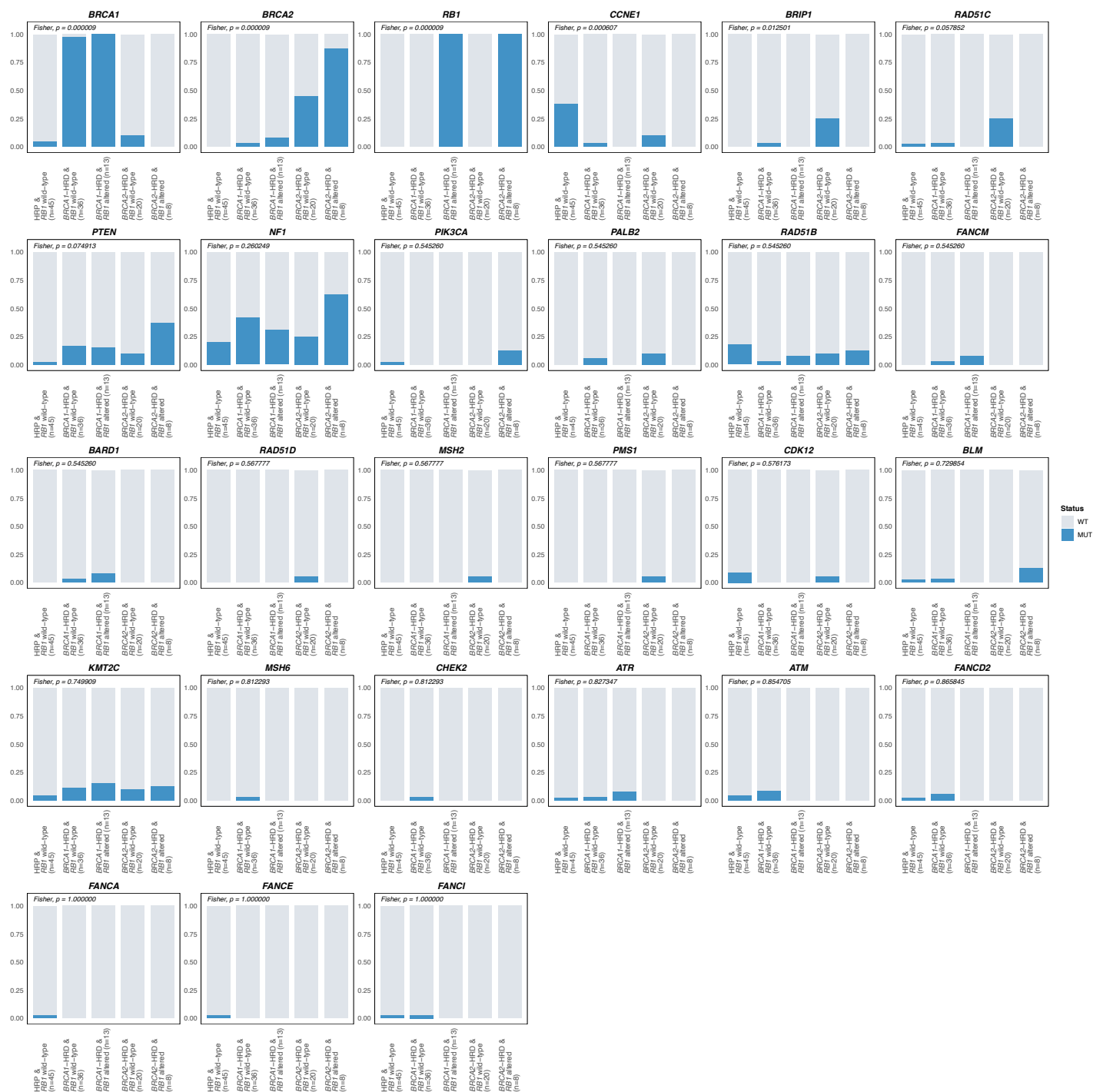
Supplementary Figure S4.



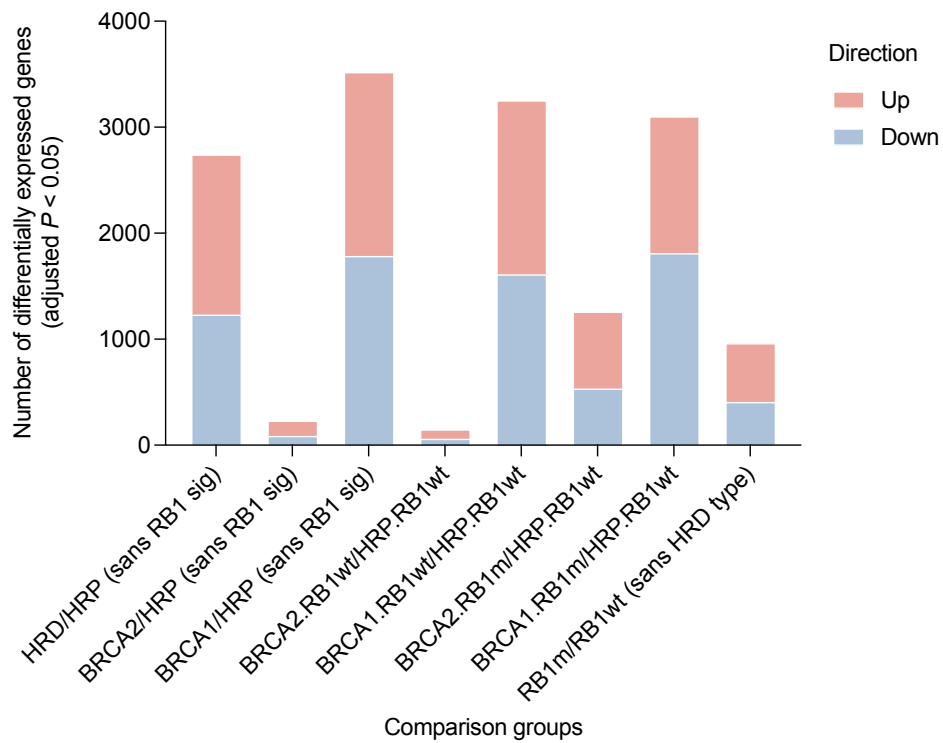
Supplementary Figure S5.



Supplementary Figure S6.



Supplementary Figure S7.



Supplementary Figure S8.